

CONNECTING | IMPACTING | CELEBRATING

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We Are His Hands

A Salute to
Pathfinder
Ministries

Lan Chang, 14
Pathfinder





8

News & Features

8 | A Salute to Pathfinder Ministries

*“Oh, we are the Pathfinders strong,
the servants of God are we,
faithful as we march along ...”*

After nearly 60 years, Pathfinder Ministries is still marching along, making an eternal difference. Learn who started it, how the program works, its size today, and how to start a club. Also, read many personal accounts from current and past members about how this scouting ministry helps shape responsible and God-fearing young people the world over.

Special thanks to Carl Rodriguez, Charles Koerting, and Richard Griffin for helping to plan this issue.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW KARMEI

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About the Cover: Erin Chang, aged 14, is a member of Chesapeake Conference’s Washington Spencerville Korean Hodori Pathfinder Club in Silver Spring, Md. Photo by James Ferry

I Am One of Them

I often hear talk about young people leaving the Seventh-day Adventist Church. While I lament over them and pray for them, I rejoice over the tens of thousands of youth I’ve met who have *not* left. They are engaged in viable ministries, growing in their faith and relationship with Christ, and serving the community. They are Pathfinders, young men and women who—soon after they can walk and talk—learn the pledges, sing the songs, and earn the patches that give them a strong sense of mission.



For nearly 60 years, the Adventist Church has sponsored this co-educational program, which mentors youth through the most exciting—and difficult—years of their life. All that we do is designed to instill the values in our young people that will aid them in their life here and on their journey to the kingdom. I’ve seen it change lives, I’ve seen it improve lives, and I’ve seen it save lives!

Having grown up in Pathfinders, my goals now are to raise awareness of this program and the excellence we espouse, encourage more churches to get involved, and help young people realize that Pathfinders is not a club, it’s a ministry, vital to our church’s future.

I firmly believe that our church will see better days as we prepare for Christ’s coming if we encourage, motivate, and challenge our Pathfinders to be a part of every ministry in the church. More than asking them to distribute flyers for the next church evangelism effort, for example, *they* should conduct the meetings. That’s what happened in Mountain View Conference last year when Pathfinders from the Summersville (W.Va.) church knocked on doors, invited attendees, and preached the sermons. With the support and guidance of their leaders, they proudly introduced thirsty people to the Living Water.

PHOTO BY GENE HAZELL



James Black, NAD Pathfinder Ministries director, pins Geraldine Shepherd, Pathfinder coordinator for Allegheny West Conference’s Victory church in Delaware, Ohio, with a Pathfinder Instructor Award.

TRUE IMPACT

Last summer at the Columbia Union camporee, I stood at attention as thousands of Pathfinders marched by for inspection. In one group I noticed a young man who sums up for me the true impact of the Pathfinder ministry experience. He wore a uniform that had not been new for years. I recognized the “hand-me-down” outfit, because I also wore one at his age. His shirt and pants were faded, and the heels on his shoes were out of style—completely worn down 45 degrees. Remembering my own experience and journey, I felt sorry for him. That is until I took a closer look. That old shirt and pants were perfectly pressed, his old shoes were shined to perfection, and his scarf and every patch were perfectly placed. But most impressive was the look on his face. His head was up, his chest out, and he marched perfectly to the cadence. His presence declared, “I am a Pathfinder, and I know why I am here. Give me a chance, and I will not disappoint you because I will not disappoint God.”

When I see a young person like that, I can only credit the countless leaders who volunteer their time and experience to make certain our Pathfinders grow strong physi-

cally, mentally, and spiritually. Because of their faithfulness, tens of thousands of youth have not left the church but are thriving servants of God. I am one of them.

James Black, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries and Pathfinder Ministries for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, is a member of Allegheny East Conference’s Miracle Temple church in Baltimore.

Allegheny West Conference President to Leave

After completing nearly two terms as president of Allegheny West Conference, **James Lewis** has accepted a call to direct the Office for Regional Conference Ministry (ORCM), based on the campus of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala. According to its website, ORCM “exists to provide coordination, guidance, influence, funding, and advocacy for regional conferences, black institutions, and ministries in North America, ensuring a shared vision and facilitating growth and advancement.”

Lewis has served in Allegheny West since 1988, first as treasurer and then as president. “I came to the Columbia Union in 1962 as a boy, and little



did I know I’d end up in the ministry, much less a conference president,” he said.

“I’ve enjoyed working in the Columbia Union for 35 years now, but I am looking forward to the next ministry challenge.”

Because their next constituency session is not scheduled until May 2009, the conference executive committee will look to fill the position at its meeting later this month. Read a farewell message from Lewis in *Catch the Vision* on page 23.

New Jersey Conference Fills Vacancies

After a six-week search process, the New Jersey Conference Executive

Committee elected **Jim Greene** as vice president for administration (executive secretary) and **Modesto Vazquez** as vice president for



finance (treasurer). Greene, who has served as conference treasurer since

February 2006, replaces **LeRoy Finck**, while Vazquez fills the vacancy left by Greene.

Finck spent the last 12 years of his ministry in the New Jersey Conference as a departmental director, executive secretary, and president. Before officially retiring June 1, he spent several months as interim secretary. “It was hard to say goodbye to LeRoy because he is a real friend,” says president José Cortés. “He is a humble man of integrity, and we worked together and faced challenges side-by-side and shoulder-to-shoulder.”

Of Greene’s appointment, Cortés says, “I was very happy when the executive committee selected him. With his dedication and qualifications, he’s more than capable, and I’m glad we’ll continue to work closely together.”

Vazquez, associate treasurer for the last two years, previously served as treasurer of the Inter-American Division’s publishing



house. “He brings a lot to the table,” notes Cortés. “Besides the fact that he’s very good in accounting, managing finances, computers, and dealing with people, he’s very humble!” Read more in *New Jersey News* on page 35.

Voice of Prophecy Speaker Joins Kettering Leadership

Lonnie Melashenko, speaker/director for Voice of Prophecy (VOP) for the past 17 years, has accepted a call to serve as vice president for Spiritual Services and Missions at Kettering Adventist HealthCare (KAHC) in Kettering, Ohio, beginning this month. “Lonnie brings a wealth of experience in public ministry,” says Frank Perez, president and CEO of KAHC. “He and his wife, Jeanne, will powerfully expand our outreach to the community—locally and abroad.”

The Voice of Prophecy is the oldest, continuous radio broadcast ministry and airs on some 1,500 stations worldwide. While no plans have been announced about its future, North American Division president and VOP board chair Don Schneider released a statement by email: “With the guiding vision of H.M.S. Richards, Sr., still clearly in sight, I take the responsibility for continuing what he started very seriously and ask that you pray that the Lord will guide us as we move forward in faith,” he wrote.



Ben Carson Receives Presidential Recognition

Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., MD, was invited to the White House recently to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush (below). Bush said he was proud to present the medal to Carson “for his skills as a surgeon, high moral standards, and dedication to helping others.”

Established by Executive Order in 1963, the medal is the nation’s highest civilian award and may be awarded by the president to any person who has made an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, or world peace, or cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.

PHOTO BY DAVID BOHRER



Dr. Carson, also a philanthropist, speaker, author, and youth motivator, is president and co-founder of the Carson Scholars Fund, which recognizes young people of all backgrounds for exceptional academic and humanitarian accomplishments. He also co-founded Angels of the OR, which provides grants to assist families with noncovered medical expenses.

“I am extremely grateful that [President Bush] chose to honor me, not only for my work as a neurosurgeon, but also for my efforts to improve the lives of

America’s youth,” Carson said. “I am blessed to have the opportunity to pursue both paths, which I consider equally important.”—*Wendy Mullins*

Whitecoats to Gather for 35th Reunion

Next month Chesapeake Conference’s Frederick (Md.) church will host the 35th anniversary reunion for Operation Whitecoat volunteers. This special military operation came about during the 1950s when hundreds of Seventh-day Adventist men aged 18-26 were drafted into military service. They wanted to serve their country and cooperate with compulsory military service but still be obedient to the Adventist Church’s belief in Sabbathkeeping and noncombatancy. In late 1954, the U.S. Army presented officials of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with a highly unusual proposal: use Adventist draftees for human trials of defensive vaccines and antibacterial medicines.

After committee approval, Operation Whitecoat began. Volunteers were sent to Fort Detrick in Frederick, Md., the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and

the Center Annex in Forest Glen, Md. They served as medical technicians, medical corpsmen, clinical aides, or animal caretakers. During its 19-year-long existence, some 2,300 Adventists participated in the program and were tested with some of the world’s most dangerous biological agents such as Queenland (Q) fever; tularemia; sandfly fever; typhus fever; typhoid fever; Rift Valley fever; Rocky Mountain spotted fever; yellow fever; and eastern, western, and Venezuelan equine encephalitis. Although the volunteers were made seriously ill, none died during the studies nor was there any documented



permanent health damage. Each year, with the support of honorary

Whitecoat veteran **Frank Damazo, MD** (above), they meet to commemorate their service to their country and God. This year’s meeting takes place September 19-21. For more information, call (301) 662-4502 or email thedamazos@aol.com. —*George Johnson Jr.*

From the Pulpit

We don’t know what to do or how to act while all these astonishing things, like fires and floods, are constantly happening on this Earth. God is not seeking to destroy lives en masse but to wake us up! Before He goes around waking up the world, He is trying to wake up the remnant church!—*C.D. Brooks, speaking last month at Allegheny East Conference Camp Meeting, which drew more than 10,000 people each Sabbath.*



PHOTO BY KEITH GOODMAN

What's New?

Book > Better on Paper Robert H. Stewart

First-time author Robert H. Stewart takes readers on a journey by creatively combining prose and poetry based on his personal thoughts and experiences. He desires “to give [read-



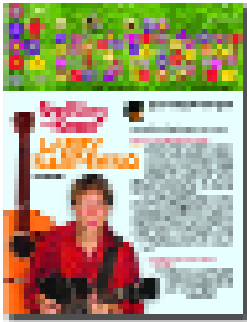
“Better On Paper was written to bless the hearts of people with the stories and the perspectives of a man on a creative journey toward a balanced life.” —Robert H. Stewart

ers] the opportunity to explore the realm of a man who writes with his heart and desires to fill your mind with views with which you can relate.”

The member of Allegheny East Conference’s Miracle Temple in Baltimore reflects on everyday topics such as creativity, determination, love, natural beauty, and friendship. In the poem “Holier,” he contemplates Matthew 4:4: “Temperance at its fullest/The mind free from all pain/‘Christlike’ was the image seen in the mirror/And faith that drew me nearer ... and nearer” To read more, visit betteronpaper.net.

Magazine > KidsView

This *Adventist Review* magazine for children is growing by leaps and bounds. This fall, the editors plan to double its size to



eight pages and send it to every Adventist school in North America. In addition to stories, puzzles, and a colorful calendar, *KidsView* will feature content from the Ellen G. White Estate, Adventist Mission, and the North American Division’s Department of Education. There will also be two pages written for kids, by kids. A new companion website, kidsviewmagazine.org, is also in the works.

“Our goal is to produce a quality, Christian publication for children who will ultimately understand this body of faith,” says managing editor Wilona Karimabadi, a member of Potomac’s Southern Asia church in Silver Spring, Md. For more information, call (301) 680-6633, or email kidsview@adventistreview.org.

DVD > My Story, My Song

Produced by the Hope Channel, this new series features interviews and music from a variety of artists who “talk about how their musical talents bring listeners corporately to a greater experience of worship,” notes Kandus Thorp, who co-directed the DVD with Andrew Hunt.

Featured artists include Joey Davis, Karla Riveria, Denise



Barclay, Jamie Schneider, and several other Columbia Union members. Schneider grew up an atheist, but, after performing at a small Adventist church, became more involved and was converted. She’s now a member of Chesapeake’s Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md. To discover many other inspiring music testimonies, visit mystorymysong.org.

WholeHealth

Prescription to Choose

Research released by Medco Health Solutions, Inc., a leading pharmacy benefit manager, found that in 2007, 51 percent of insured Americans were taking prescription drugs to treat at least one chronic health problem. Surprisingly, the study also noted the rising prevalence of chronic medication use by younger adults. Nearly half of women and one-third of men aged 20-44 are being treated for a chronic condition. Also significant is that treatments for high cholesterol and high blood pressure were the top medications used among all ages.

We want to feel better, have more energy, and be well, but the everyday reality of life leaves us overeating, underexercising, having too little down time, and relying on medication to keep our health risks and symptoms at bay. Yet we can *choose* to change! Choose to eat better, to move more, and to slow down. And choose to make your health a priority by getting the support and resources you need.—Lilly Tryon, MSN, RN, *Adventist WholeHealth Wellness Center*

What You Bring to the Table

Puzzle > Test Your Knowledge of Pathfinders

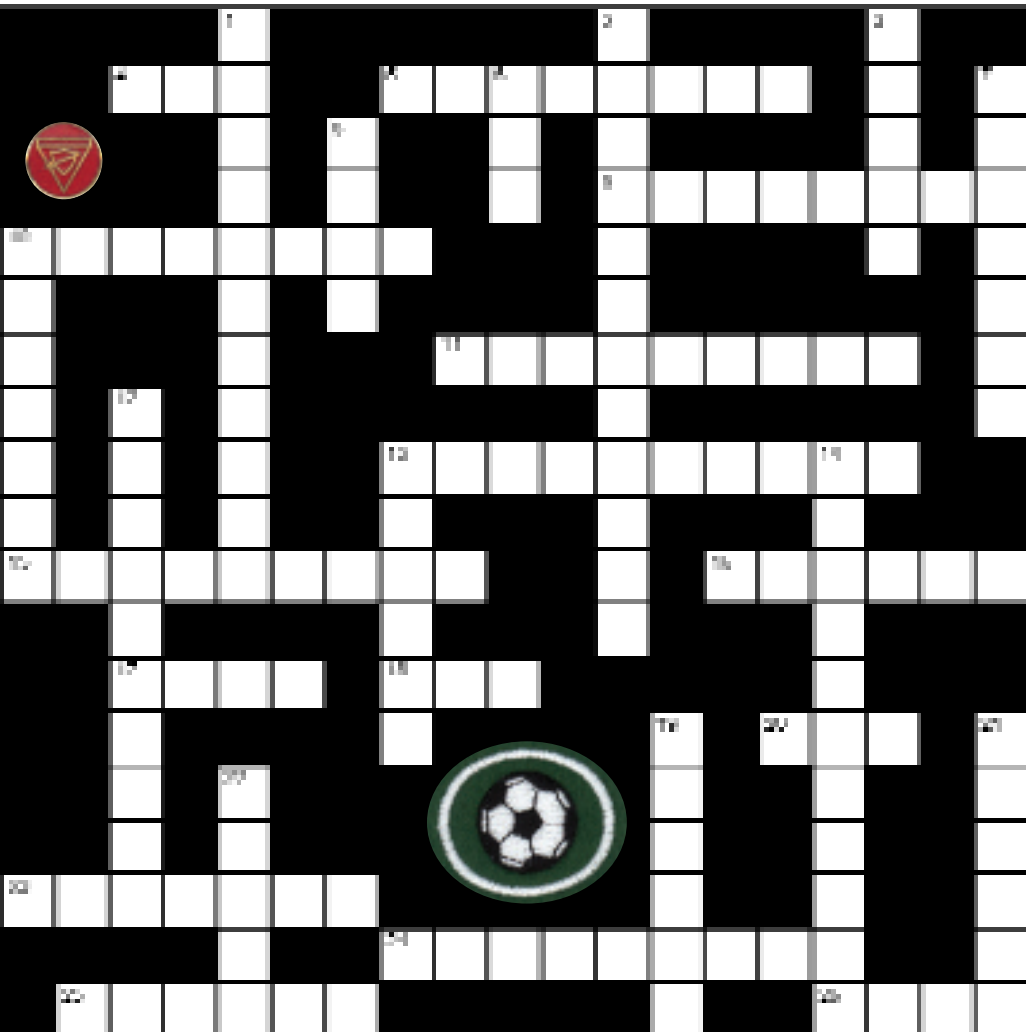
ACROSS

- 4. Continuing instructor education for Master Guide
- 5. Pathfinder class level or rank for age 12
- 9. Pathfinder honor, working with puppets
- 10. Pathfinder honor, using paddles
- 11. Pathfinder honor, roofing with straw
- 13. She made the Pathfinder flag in 1948
- 15. Pathfinder honor, planting and harvesting
- 16. Pathfinder honor, learning to play a sport with a ball and a goalkeeper (Hint: see patch below)
- 17. Pathfinder emblem color that represents loyalty
- 18. Pathfinder emblem color that represents the blood of Christ
- 20. Keep the morning watch, part of the Pathfinder ____
- 23. Site of 2009 NAD Pathfinder Camporee in Wisconsin
- 24. Pathfinder class level or rank for age 11 (Hint: see pin below)
- 25. I will keep the Pathfinder Law, part of the Pathfinder ____
- 26. Pathfinder emblem color that represents excellence

DOWN

- 1. Highest level in Pathfinding
- 2. The three sides of the Pathfinder emblem represents ____
- 3. Pathfinder emblem color that represents purity
- 6. Continuing leadership education for Master Guide
- 7. Pathfinder class level or rank for age 14
- 8. The servants of God are we, Pathfinder ____
- 10. Pathfinder honor that involves campgrounds
- 12. He wrote the Pathfinder song in 1949
- 13. Pathfinder equivalent to badges in Boy Scouts
- 14. Pathfinder honor that involves traveling with a backpack
- 19. Pathfinder class level or rank for age 10
- 21. Symbol on Pathfinder emblem that represents protection
- 22. Symbol on Pathfinder emblem that represents the Bible

For answers, see page 54.



Creating Christian-themed puzzles is a new, “God-given” outreach tool for Chris Sealey. “When I noticed how engrossed people were in solving daily newspaper puzzles, I wondered if I could use crossword puzzles as a fun way to teach stewardship,” says the author and member of Potomac’s Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va. After doing some research, trying various software packages, and publishing a few on his website, he got a great response. “I received a request from a Christian publisher to reprint my puzzles in their stewardship magazine,” he states. Now his puzzles—which have expanded to include “Word Sudoku” and word scramble crosswords—have been published far and wide. Complete his special Pathfinder-themed puzzle, and quench your thirst for more at chrissealey.com/puzzles4christians.htm.—Beth Michaels

THE PATHFINDER STORY

Growing an Army of Youth

Glen Milam

We have an army of youth today who can do much if they are properly directed and encouraged ...” wrote Ellen G. White in December 1892 (GC Bulletin, Vol. 5, No. 2, p. 24).

That challenge to organize and train youth has been met for almost 60 years by the dedicated leaders of thousands of Pathfinder clubs across the Columbia Union Conference and around the world. Here is how it all began:

ANSWERING A NEED

In 1879 two Seventh-day Adventist teenagers from Hazelton, Mich.—Luther Warren and Harry Fenner—organized the first Young People’s Society. Twenty years later, workers in Ohio started a conference-wide program for youth that became the model for the Missionary Volunteer (MV) Society.

Societal changes in the early 1900s led people in many places to realize that an organization was needed to provide leadership training and outdoor skills for young men. In May 1907, Adventist Church leaders met in Switzerland, established the Young People’s Department, and incorporated the MV Society into the world church structure. A monument to this program

stands on the campus of Mount Vernon Academy in Ohio.

In 1911 two Adventist boys clubs—the Takoma Indians and Woodland Clan—were started in Maryland. By 1918 there were more than 1,200 active MV and Junior MV (JMV) societies, with over 24,000 members. A year later, another Adventist group in Tennessee combined aspects of MV and Boy Scouts to form the Mission Scouts in 1919. It would be another 17 years before the name “Pathfinder” was attached to this kind of ministry.

AN ORGANIZATION IS BORN

As the roaring 1920s passed, other foundational pieces of the future Pathfinder ministry were put in place. Harriet Holt, first junior secretary for the world church, with the help of A.W. Spalding, then director of the Mission Scouts, wrote the JMV Pledge and Law in 1921. Under Holt’s leadership, the first JMV classes were introduced in 1922. These included Friend, Companion, Comrade, and Master Comrade. Sixteen merits—later called honors—were introduced in 1928. It was during this same time period that some MV and JMV societies introduced club uniforms.

In 1928 John McKim started a youth group in his home in Anaheim, Calif. McKim loved to tell the story of John Fremont, a famous explorer of the American West whose nickname was “The Pathfinder.” The name quickly transferred to his new youth group, and soon observant area churches initiated similar clubs.

Over the next two decades, more clubs sprouted in Southeastern California and neighboring conferences. In 1946 John Hancock, Southeastern California youth director, designed a triangular logo for the clubs. Three years later, the first Pathfinder Leadership Training event was held at Camp Wawona in Yosemite National Park. That same year Henry T. Bergh wrote the Pathfinder song, “Oh, We Are the Pathfinders Strong.”



As the organization grew, church leadership took notice, and in 1950, officially voted Pathfinders a worldwide ministry. Laurence A. Skinner became the first world Pathfinder director, a position he held until 1963.

The first Pathfinder Fair was held in Dinuba, Calif., in September 1951. Can collecting on Halloween started in Minnesota the same year, and the Comrade and Master Comrade class names were changed to Guide and Master Guide to avoid any appearance of being a communist organization. The first Pathfinder camporee was held at Camp Winnekeag (Mass.) in October 1953. Pathfinder Day was added to the church calendar in 1957, and the first union camporee was held in April 1960 in Lone Pine, Calif.

COLUMBIA UNION SETS THE PACE

Few records appear to have survived the first two decades of Pathfinder Ministries in the Columbia Union. The first New Jersey club started in the early 1950s in the city of Wayne, but little



else is known. In 1963, when Daniel L. Davis (left) became the youth specialist for Allegheny Conference, he found just a few small clubs chartered by A.V. Pikney and Jacob Justiss, former Allegheny youth directors.

They included a combined club at the Alexandria (Va.) and Ephesus (now Dupont Park) churches in Washington, D.C., one at the Ebenezer church in Philadelphia, one at the Glenville church in Ohio, and one at New Jersey’s Newark-Montclair church.

The first Columbia Union camporee was held in 1965 at Swallow Falls State Park in Oakland, Md. Afterward club leaders in Allegheny proposed to showcase Pathfinders at camp meeting in order to display their talents and promote the ministry to churches that did not yet have clubs.

In 1967 Allegheny Conference split, forming Allegheny East (AEC) and Allegheny West (AWC). AEC held their first camporee in Pine Forge, Pa. “It was in April, and it was cold,” recalls Merwyn Arms, past AEC Pathfinder

Federation chair. “Ed Peterson, Columbia Union youth director, was our guest.”

In 1971 AEC made history by holding a 10-day camporee in Bermuda—the first international camporee in the North American Division (NAD).

Meet Your Conference Pathfinder Leaders



Marcia Raglin, Allegheny West Conference
21 Clubs • 350 Members



Mike Stevenson, Ohio Conf./Union Coord.
23 Clubs • 300 Members



Joel Stecker, Mountain View Conference
6 Clubs • 65 Members



Carl Rodriguez, Chesapeake Conference
24 Clubs • 300 Members



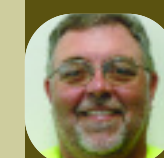
Claude Harris, Allegheny East Conference
48 Clubs • 1,100 Members



Denny Grady, Potomac Conference
40 Clubs • 1,100 Members



Laffit Cortés, New Jersey Conference
35 Clubs • 600 Members



Gary Moran, Pennsylvania Conference
26 Clubs • 300 Members

“These youth are not only the church’s future, but a very important part of today ... As someone has said, ‘Time’s most noble offspring are its last.’”—John H. Hancock

50 Years of Pup Tents and Other Pathfinder Memories

I have been a Pathfinder since 1954 and believe that some kids’ most vivid and favorable memories come from being a club member. At age 10, I was a street urchin disturbing a Friday night Missionary Volunteer meeting. A deacon, Mr. Sievers, invited me to the meetings where I met with other young people. He later helped me with my first memory verse, camping trip, honor, uniform, and investiture.

I remember going to my first camporee in the 1950s. It was made up of a dozen pup tents set up by conference personnel. More than once, the local cow pasture was chosen without notifying the local herdsman. That may not be a big deal for many people, but for us city folk, the first time a 250-pound Bessie comes into your sleeping station in the middle of the night is very alarming. It’s especially disturbing when she gets too curious, steps on the tents, removes stakes, and tries her best to introduce herself.

By the way, Mr. Sievers was also my baptism advisor and the best man in my wedding. I’d have to agree with the popular phrase, “Once a Pathfinder, always a Pathfinder.”—*Master Guide Richard Griffin, Western Region Area Coordinator, Chesapeake Conference (pictured with wife Brenda, receives recognition from Baraka Muganda, Youth Ministries director for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church)*



At about this time, AEC also initiated the concept of a Pathfinder Federation to provide ongoing leadership to their club members.

Euliss Bailey spearheaded AWC’s Pathfinder program. “I took a seminar about Pathfinders and thought, ‘This is what our children need!’” he recalls. “So in 1965, I asked the conference to authorize me to visit churches and promote the program. By the early 1980s, there were 22 clubs and 800 Pathfinders in the conference.”

CAMPOREES TAKE THE STAGE

After three decades of Pathfinding, big changes were in store. In 1979 the term Adventist Youth (AY) replaced the term Missionary Volunteer, and in 1982 new logos and a new uniform were introduced. In 1980, and again in 1984, the Columbia Union held a camporee at Shawnee State Park in Pennsylvania.

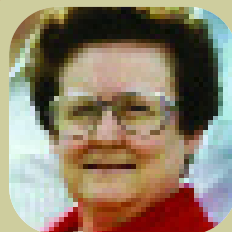
The year 1985 brought a whole new concept to Pathfinders as clubs from around the world trekked to Camp Hale near Leadville, Colo., for the first NAD Pathfinder Camporee. Some 15,000 people spent a week living in a city of tents. The AEC Combined Drum Corp was a commanding presence and helped promote the drum corp ministry within the Pathfinder program.

In 1986 Columbia Union took another leadership role and sponsored a unionwide Pathfinder Coordinators Convention. “Attendees urged leaders to plan another division camporee,” recalls Ron Stretter, union Pathfinder director at the time. “The recommendation went to the union committee who agreed to host a national invitational camporee in August 1989 at the Agape Campground near Somerset, Pa.” Conference club leaders planned and managed this “Friendship Camporee,” which drew more than 13,000 attendees.

Since then the NAD has hosted three international camporees: “Dare to Care” in Morrison, Colo., August 1994; “Discover the Power” in Oshkosh, Wis., August 1999; and “Faith on Fire” in Oshkosh, August 2004.

NEW UNION PROGRAMS DEVELOPED

In 1991 Pathfinder and Youth ministries at the Columbia Union were merged with Children’s Ministries under the leadership of Barbara Manspeaker (right).



In August 1992, under the tutelage of conference youth directors, Manspeaker and the union held the “Discovery Camporee” for more than 3,000 Pathfinders at Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter, Pa. The theme was a tribute to the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus coming to America. During the Friday evening program, the crowd was amazed to watch a flaming meteor make its way across the sky.

Programs developed in the Columbia Union have gone on to influence Pathfinders across the globe. In 1990 Franklin Moses and Glen and Darlene Milam, of the Sligo Pathfinder club in Takoma Park, Md., developed the four-year curriculum for academy-aged Pathfinders. It was then modified and adopted by Potomac Conference as the FLITE program. In 1994 the NAD made further modifications before adopting the program and naming it the Teen Leadership Training program.

In 1995, and again in 1997, the union hosted Pathfinder leadership training events at Mt. Aetna Camp in Hagerstown, Md. More than 300 attended in 1995, and more than 50 classes were taught.

Manspeaker retired in 1997, at which time the union desisted from staffing church ministry positions, including Pathfinders. Since then church members and conference youth directors have assumed the responsibility of putting together camporees. Events have included “Down on the Farm” in August 1997, hosted by Ohio Conference; “Life Beyond Belief” in Front Royal, Va., in August 2002, hosted by Potomac; and “Friends in Christ” in Front Royal, Va., August 2007, co-hosted by Potomac, Allegheny East, and Pennsylvania conferences (see video at columbiaunion.org).

At the “Friends in Christ” camporee, a new concept was introduced. Geraldine Shepherd, Pathfinder coordinator for Allegheny West Conference’s Victory church in Delaware, Ohio, introduced the popular Honor Midway, a fair-like setting to provide fast and plentiful ways for Pathfinders to earn honors.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Pathfinder clubs across the Columbia Union and worldwide continue to find new and creative ways to touch the lives of others. There are now nearly 65,000 Pathfinder clubs in 180 countries, with a total membership of close to 2 million. They are indeed an army trained for service to the Lord. Their next big



The Akron (Ohio) Pathfinder club prepares to march in a Pathfinder parade in Mt. Vernon, circa 1950s.

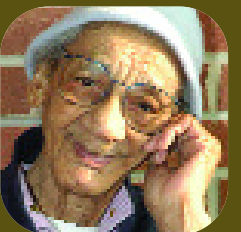
event is the NAD’s “Courage to Stand” International Camporee. Next August, over 30,000 Pathfinders from more than 100 countries are expected to converge again in Oshkosh for the largest five-day Adventist youth event in the world. Read more at camporee.org.

Glen Milam is chairperson for the NAD Pathfinder Leadership Development Taskforce and club director for Chesapeake Conference’s Willow Brook Pioneers in Boonsboro, Md.

Still a Pathfinder at 99

Blanche Jones is probably the oldest living person associated with Pathfinders. She was a club staff member while a “young” woman in her 60s. Her dearest memories of Pathfinders include “sleeping out under the stars and camping in conditions so cold that the eggs froze in their shells and the cooking oil solidified.” Jones still enjoys nature and says, “You can learn a whole lot about God by studying His creation. Nobody can copy it!”

Jones is a faithful and active member of Chesapeake’s West Wilmington (Del.) church, where she still helps with Pathfinder projects whenever possible. Jones will turn 100 next February.—*Charles Koerting*



WHY PATHFINDERS?

Six Key Ingredients of the Church's Scouting Program Defined

Just as Special K Loaf goes with potluck, participating in the Pathfinder program seems to be a natural part of being a Seventh-day Adventist. But some parents, especially new members, often ask, "What is the purpose of Pathfinders, and why should I get my child involved?" Although Pathfinders does share aspects with the Boy and Girl Scouts of America, there are some key differences. Columbia Union Pathfinder leaders define its six core functions as follows:

1 BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHRIST

The central purpose of a Pathfinder club is to lead its members into a growing, redemptive relationship with Christ. Research indicates that if people are going to become Christian, they are far more likely to make that decision before the age of 13. The Bible tells us, "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it" (Prov. 22:6, NIV). Through the study of Scripture, Christian and Adventist Church history, and God's creation, young minds are led to focus on Christ.



3 GROW RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

Just as the Bible says that Jesus "grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:52, NIV), Pathfinding helps youth grow: mentally, physically, and spiritually. The curriculum emphasizes growth in all three areas, and the honors program provides a means with which to apply these skills. Club members progress from learning, to assisting in teaching and planning, to teaching and planning portions of Pathfinder activities.

4 PROVIDE POSITIVE MENTORS

"A key need of today's youth is mentors and role models," reports youth pastor Keith Acker of Chesapeake Conference's West Wilmington (Del.) church. "Seeing successful Christians—especially men—in action is important to youth." Many times during the travel to and from Pathfinder outings, or late at night around a dying campfire, opportunities present themselves for leaders to provide

guidance and stimulate the thought process of club members. Mentoring helps children determine the purpose God has for their lives.

5 BUILD COMMUNITY

Another purpose of Pathfinders is to build community within the club, within the church, and within the sphere of each Pathfinder's influence. They learn how to work with others to accomplish goals, whether it's collecting canned goods, cleaning up a neighborhood, or helping a church member. Churches also have a responsibility to allow Pathfinders to participate in its worship and outreach programs. "Developing a Pathfinder-minded church is important," states Geraldine Shepherd, Pathfinder coordinator for Allegheny West Conference's Victory church in Delaware, Ohio. "It helps Pathfinders understand the church structure and prepares them for leadership."

6 CREATE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

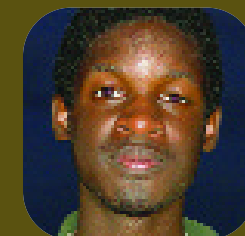
In today's world, providing a safe environment where youth can gather and enjoy each other's company is important. Pathfinder clubs allow youth to interact in positive ways through group activities such as outdoor and camping events, game nights, and lock-ins. There are also conference-wide and unionwide events such as Bible Achievement bowls, camporees, pinewood derbies, and fairs. These allow for fun and fellowship with the larger Pathfinder community.

Through these six ingredients, Pathfinders is growing believers and preparing them for His kingdom. With close to 10,000 Pathfinders around the Columbia Union, our youth are getting a glimpse of how heaven will be—full of people from all nations.

Master Guide Charles Koerting is the Northern Delmarva Area coordinator for Chesapeake Conference. He is working toward a Pathfinder Instructor Award.

What Does Pathfinders Mean to You?

"I looked forward to the Wednesday night meetings so I could be with my friends, learn new honors, and most importantly, get to know God better.



I will never be able to fully express how much the leaders of the club, and the time they spent with me, meant."
—Sergei Armbrister, Graduate, Allentown (Pa.) Soaring Eagles, Pennsylvania Conference Pathfinder of the Year (2006-07)

"Pathfinders gives us opportunity and time to lead our young people to the foot of the cross; to mentor them in leading others to Christ; and to keep

them connected to the Lord. It is more than a club, it's a ministry."

—Rowena Boccheciamp, Deputy Director, Sligo Challengers, Takoma Park, Md., Potomac Conference

"I want the kids and the church to benefit from a Pathfinder club the same way it benefits me:

sharing what they have learned, going where they need to go, and doing what needs to be done without being asked. Most importantly, I hope they know



Christ as their personal Friend."—Betsy Colon, Area Coordinator, Ohio Conference

"I believe Pathfinding is designed to give opportunities for youth to build Christ-centered peer relationships, relationships that will keep the Pathfinder ministry going into the last of all campouts, when Jesus returns to take us home."—Abena-Yolanda Hoard Baskin, Director, Hillcrest Mountaineers, Pittsburgh, Allegheny West Conference



Compiled by Pamela Scheib

SCOUTING 101

A Quick Look at the Programs

Elaine Nieves

Growing up in Pathfinders is what kept me in the church and close to the Lord,” admits Joel Stecker, Mountain View Conference Pathfinder director. “Now I’m living my dream of being a conference director. I try to make sure kids today have the same positive experiences I had.”

The desire to draw more youth to Christ and give them positive experiences led the Seventh-day Adventist Church to create additional programs for youth outside the Pathfinder age (10-15). Those programs are Adventurer, Master Guide, and the newest one, Ambassador. Here’s a brief look at each program:

PATHFINDERS • Pathfinders is divided into classes, or levels, with each designed for a target age and/or grade: Friend (aged 10 or grade 5), Companion (aged 11 or grade 6), Explorer (aged 12 or grade 7), Ranger (aged 13 or grade 8), Voyager (aged 14 or grade 9), and Guide (aged 15 or grade 10).

Each class has educational segments, or topics, to help club members grow into well-rounded, knowledgeable individuals. Those topics are

Spiritual Discovery, Personal Growth, Serving Others, Making Friends, Health & Fitness, Youth Organization, Nature Study, Outdoor Living, and Honor Enrichment. Personal Growth, for instance, helps develop an awareness of personal worth and accomplishment.

Class requirements help Pathfinders learn skills through the guidance of a class instructor. There are also two options for each level: Friend and Trail Friend, or basic and advanced. Once all requirements for a level are completed, an investiture service is held to publicly reward Pathfinders’ achievements. Honor patches, which are different areas of study based on members’ interests, are also distributed at those times.

The Pathfinder program has other activities that help develop life skills. Drilling and marching are great for teaching discipline and get members involved in parades, exhibitions, and competitions. Some clubs also have drum corps, which add a musical dimension. Through camping (hiking, backpacking, fire building, etc.), Pathfinders learn to survive outdoors and be independent. They also attend conference, union, and division camporees.

ADVENTURERS • In order to help children learn more about the Bible, health, and nature, and to help them develop their people skills, the General Conference, in 1939, endorsed the idea of Adventurers (see adventurer-club.org). Today the club is divided into classes as follows: Busy Bee (aged 6), Sunbeam (aged 7), Builder (aged 8), and Helping Hand (aged 9). (The Little Lamb and Eager Beaver programs were added for preschoolers and kindergarteners, respectively.)

AMBASSADORS • The Ambassador program (see youth.gc.adventist.org/ambassador) was unveiled earlier this year for young adults aged 16 to 20+. It was created for those still interested in participating in Pathfinders and not quite ready to associate with senior youth. “Ambassadors is now at the stage of being adopted and adapted by all the divisions,” reports Robert Holbrook, Oklahoma Conference Youth Ministries director and program developer. “It is proactive in that it challenges youth to fill their spare time with things that will expand the window through which they see their role as Christ’s disciples.” (The Teen Leadership Training and Counselor in Training programs prepare youth for leadership positions.)

MASTER GUIDES • The Master Guide program trains individuals, aged 16 and older, for leadership roles in Pathfinders, Adventurers, and other youth ministries. (In recent years, the



Pathfinder Leadership Award and Pathfinder Instructor Award were added as enrichment for those already invested as Master Guides.)

APPLYING THE KNOWLEDGE

No matter the program, all are designed to provide opportunities to share new skills and knowledge through witnessing and community service activities. And that might be one of the most important aspects of scouting—creating a link between the church and community.

Elaine Nieves is an assistant for the Youth Ministries department at New Jersey Conference.

Ready to Start Your Club?

Glen Milam and Darrell Milam

1. HAVE A PURPOSE

The biggest danger when starting a club is to do so for the wrong reason. Scouting is full of activities, but they are only tools that allow leaders to accomplish the ministry’s fundamental purpose: to lead young people to the foot of the cross.

2. PRAY

Actively seek God’s guidance, wisdom, and discernment as you move forward.

3. CONTACT YOUR CONFERENCE OFFICE

The conference youth director will connect you with an area coordinator. They are experienced ministry leaders who typically mentor or consult with five or six clubs in a region.

4. GET APPROVAL

Your local church board needs to approve the formation of a Pathfinder, Adventurer, or other club. They need to



understand, support, and endorse the club’s ministry value. Their formal action makes the club, its leaders, members, and activities legal parts of the church and therefore covered by its insurance. Later the board should also

approve the staff list, meeting schedule, and budget.

5. GET VOLUNTEERS

Finding talented, committed staff is a challenge. Seek adults who exhibit a Christ-like character and who naturally attract the attention of young people. Being a volunteer staff member can take a lot of time, but the program can be broken into reasonably sized tasks. Train the staff and arrange for them to attend conference training events.

6. PLAN EVENTS

Put together your club’s

schedule for the year. Regular meetings tend to follow two formats: every other Sunday for two to three hours, or one night a week for two hours or less. There are also special programs like inductions, Pathfinder or Adventurer Sabbath, investitures, conference fairs, and camporees. Also, don’t forget to plan several club outings.

7. DO THE PAPERWORK

Once completed, send your schedule and club application form to the conference. They will also want a list and completed “Staff Volunteer Service

Form” for each staff member. Additional documents may be required.

8. RECRUIT

Invite a sister club to visit your church and share their experiences. Show the video *The Pathfinders Strong* from adventsource.org. Of course, personal invitations are best.

Glen Milam is director for Chesapeake Conference’s Mt. Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md. His brother, Darrell, is director of Potomac Conference’s Sligo Challengers in Takoma Park, Md.

BETH MICHAELS

Whether you've been a scout since elementary school, or are just considering starting a club, here's help for you:

By Willie Oliver with Patricia Humphrey

Discover everything you need to know about the 2009 "Courage to Stand" international camporee in Oshkosh, Wis. Get updates, watch promotional videos, get fundraising ideas, register, and lots more.



1946 - 1981

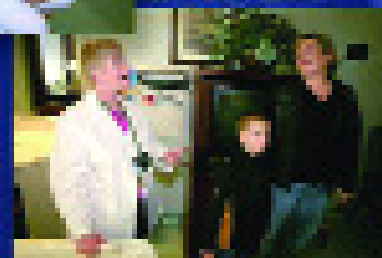
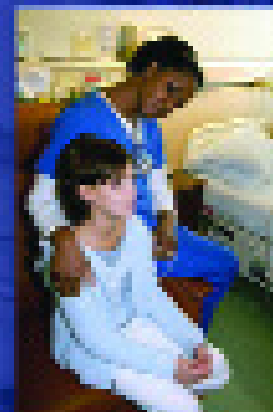
1982 - 1999



Yellow Scarf with
Pathfinder World Logo
Pathfinder Slide
Conference Patch
Pathfinder World Patch
Class Chevrons and/or
Master Guide Star
Club Name Stripe
Pathfinder Triangle Patch
Advanced Class Ribbon Bar
Class Name Stripe
Class Pins
Baptismal Pin
TLT Braid
Honor Sash with Honors
Khaki Shirt or
Blouse with Epaulets
Black Pathfinder
Web Belt with Buckle
Black Slacks or Skirts
Black Dress Shoes

ILLUSTRATION BY GLEN MILAM

Profiles in Caring



**Special
Feature
from
Hackettstown
Regional
Medical
Center:
*Strength
from Althea***

Frequent Haters claim, however, as an outstanding set of skills, to fully drive efficiently requires their way through the streets, through the mountains, up and down the canyons, through the ice dams, and into the state of the Hater's mind. I'm always impressed with their skills when I am there to witness.

I watched carefully what was going on. Finally, I watched her make her way down the corridor, through the doorway, down another corridor, and onto the platform. The fact that she was using a white cane, and that she was doing all this without being able to see what was going on around her, told me how down on her luck I was. I was surprised I was several yards behind her, going through the station and onto the platform, as I was able to see just how well she knew the environment, and was able to move through it.

That is, as we move down the scale, we move the phrasing closer toward the double bar line, applying the closing of the dance, and the toward the extended note ending, "Step back! I love dancing."

1000

There was a man just behind him on the platform. He was about twenty, or possibly not much older than I was. But he had a bewitching smile – he could see exactly where the dangers were and exactly where you could wave away the train. He was young, and he looked like he could be a leader too. He was dressed usually well – dark, and well-tailored, and was, as you might expect, what looked like lovely clothing. It didn't appear that he'd been going to any business or for – the other sort of us, he was just trying to make his ends. But he was very, very handsome.

My sense that the scandalous commitment ended, and the word "Pain" left the air, meant, surely, that he was going to, as it has by the left now, and while purporting to disavow them the search will, I think, surely, not be going to make it."

April 1999 - April 2001

The young man did not make his way down the side staircase empty-handed. The manner subject he had studied needed him, one of those men that are required near the clock and the apple to him. Truly enough, as he would have his (and I heard his, too), I thought, his young, his own hand, and settled into the seat beside his, mature friends.

"It's not embarrassing today. I'm not even get around early as I can get—being early. This is our new neighborhood. Thank you. I told me to let a see much else that—the walkway had made it was to his puller never found

As usual, then, there were quick plans and easy goals, as we realized that our journey together, like a movement we were embedded in, was an all part of the same community. It could have been any of us wanting to get the high work done early to get home for a celebration. It could have been any of us wanting a little extra help from the stronger members. It was all of us, who were inspired in the same positive way by looking outward, toward each other about our goals, goals that were simple to discuss and

That's the nature of community—we move where you are going, in need of, or when it is going to need you. You never know when your contacts will be disrupted by circumstances beyond your control, or when you might be called on to help. But wherever under the sun is, the human family always together, across our platform, reaching together across time.

WILLIAM G. "MI" FORDYARD
 Member/Editor 1974
 Chairman 1975-1976



Our Family Found Strength in Althea

Nancy Howell was scared. She had pneumonia and her doctor had admitted her to the hospital and she was filled with dread. Her family came to be with her as much as they could, and she put on a brave face for them. Her story couldn't be there all the time, and it was disappointing.

She was running a high fever every day, and her blood pressure was also running high. For the last month, on top of being scared—and when the certified nursing assistant (CNA) came to take her vital signs, Nancy lost her composure and openly began to cry.

Althea Howaker was her CNA at The Lutheran Hope and Michael Center (LHMC). When she saw Nancy weeping, Althea put down her blood pressure cuff and she couldn't help it—she began to cry, too. She held Nancy's hand. She needed her here like brought a cool cloth and wiped away her tears. And by the time both of them got crying, they were fast friends.

"Althea and my mother developed an immediate bond," says Nancy's daughter, Patricia. "She understood my mother's humor and would make her laugh. This was paramount in helping my mother. I gazed her from about every visit."

"This bond was strengthened one day when it seemed like all the patients' cell bells were ringing at once and Althea was running constantly. One of the bells was from Nancy, and she seemed like CNA. When Althea came running in, Nancy looked at Althea

immediately stopped running, Nancy confessed in a whisper that she had called herself, and she was so embarrassed and ashamed—the doctor's name anyone to know what had happened, and she was so sorry for all the trouble she'd caused.

Althea right away covered Nancy with a blanket, then set about getting clean supplies, all the while comforting and encouraging Nancy. She knew, "I love my job," she announced. "This is why I came to work every day—to help wonderful people like you."

By the time Nancy was discharged, her family says she didn't refer to her CNA as Althea—she called her "my Althea."

They say it is ironic. Nancy would call Althea to see how her son was doing, Althea found out that he had

quite a bit more. And she also called to encourage Althea to go back to school. She'd discovered Althea had postponed classes to become a registered nurse, and she knew she'd be wonderful at it—but she also knew how disappointed it would be for Althea to make that decision, and she gave her all the support she could.

Some time later Nancy was admitted to LHMC with a kidney stone. "One night Althea made it her mission to make sure our mother was comfortable, calm, and secure," daughter Patricia reports. Althea was, too. Happily, Nancy needed to receive 10 treatments daily. She and her family became very familiar with the staff on the 3rd floor during her treatment. Even on one of the 4th floors that got word of seeing Althea pop in before an appointment to check up on Nancy and make sure her signs were up.

Not long after that treatment ended, Nancy was rushed to the hospital again. "It'll be my mother's way," Patricia remembers, "she was still able to request Althea to come for her." Fortunately Althea was on site, and was able to work her magic of care

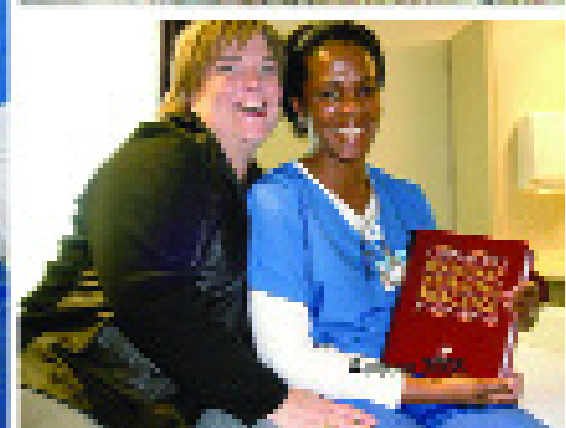
and empathy.

However, on Althea's day off, Nancy's family learned that she had made a medical breakthrough. When Nancy found two clots, she suffered a heart attack. Immediately Patricia asked for Althea. The hospital called Althea with Patricia's phone number, and Althea called back within the hour. "Althea asked permission to have access to my mother," Patricia says. "And our family found strength in knowing that Althea was helping her through the dying process with humor, respect, and dignity."

Nancy died one week later from complications of leukemia. A year later, Althea was surprised to receive flowers sent by Nancy's family to say that her love was greatly appreciated for all she had done for them.

Althea is back in college now. "I made a promise," she explains, "to a very dear friend."

Patricia will never forget another. For when she thinks of the kindness and compassion with which Nancy was surrounded in her final days, she is reminded: "There are angels walking among us." Patricia declares. "Our angel is Althea."



Althea es nuestro ángel

Nunca olvidé cómo me
fue volver a ver a
Tina y a los chicos.
Ella estaba hermosa.
Ella estaba sana.
Ella estaba feliz.
Ella estaba viva.

Se todos os dias fosse sábado, eu estaria
que se passava no Brasil. Se todos fossem
músicos de valor — de tal maneira que
quando se ouvia, se sentia de admirar
você e também eu. Assim, todos, mas eu não posso
falar mais e quero a vida saudavelmente.

Allice Klindler era un militante de infamare al Boerhaaven Regional Medical Center (BRMC). Când Allice vizita un Boerpy în spital, poartă cu ea toate actele medicale pe care le poartă contineau — amparați în moduri și locuri noi. Allice le trimite la mama. Acestea nu pot fi luate dintr-un spital la care și la spitalul lor, înspăimântat. Pentru că nu de omul, înlocuind-o de la un, se înlocuiește în moduri în locurile omului.

"Miles y mil mundos desarrollan una unidad inextinguible", dice Platón, la hija de Hecate. "Comprende el secreto del hombre de momento y lo hincas en: tan fue vital para evolucionar a mil mundos a poner a un lado sus temores con valientes a su única unidad".

En cantidad se instalaban en las cabañas cuando ponían que todos los pacientes estaban padeciendo la fiebre de amarillado al mismo tiempo y él iba a ir a ver cómo iban las cosas para él. Uno de sus hermanos era de Nancy. Nancy quería ver a su hermano de enfermo. Cuando él iba llegó presuroso a su habitación. Él y su hijo se refugiaron con él: así que él se volvió a ir. Nancy le confesó a mamá que había tenido un accidente en la zona y estaba muy apurado y asustado — no sabía que había un accidente de la montaña y estaba apurado por el trabajo que estaba haciendo para él.

[illegible]

Para recordar Henry fue dado de alta, se le permite decir que ya no se refiera a ella como Abby — la llamada "mi Abby".

En consecuencia, en contacto Henry llamó
a Alice por teléfono para preguntarle por el
hijo. Henry se había enterado que el hijo de
Henry había estado desaparecido, también ha-
bía estado para un tiempo pero que estaba en la
cavea. Hubo de decirle que Alice por
mucho tiempo había postergado su deseo de ser
una enfermera registrada. Henry estaba seguro
que Alice era la mejor enfermera en la zona.

para lembrar: vale o exemplo que serve para Althusser logo lá, em que as animações tentam, como podia,

Algun tiempo después, Nancy fue víctima de un secuestro. En un momento en un momento, "Un nuevo África se encargó de que nuestra madre estuviera cómoda, manteniendo y agitando", dice su hijo Patrick. Cuando fue dada de alta, Nancy regresó voluntariamente a su casa. Nancy y su familia regresaron a ser muy cariñosos por todo el personal en el tercer piso durante los días sucesivos de su tratamiento. Todos en el tercer piso también se involucraron en su vida. Nancy, después de haberse ido, que volvió a ser a Nancy y hacer todo lo posible porque estuviera de buena salud.

No mucho después de que terminara su tratamiento, Nancy fue llevada de nuevo al hospital. "Nunca mi madre estaba muy enferma", recuerda Batián, "pero esa vez me pareció que iba a morir. Ella se estaba muriendo". Mientras dormía, Alissa estaba hablando con ella y podía, de nuevo, ver en su mente el mundo a través de ella.

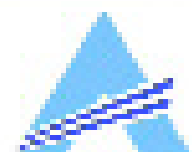
Un día que Alhara se estaba bañando en la familia de Nancy se enteró que tenía leucemia mieloide aguda. Cuando Nancy se acordó de cuál era su condición, buscó un abogado y confirmó. Pese a su enfermedad, propuso por Alhara, el hospital donde se Alhara con el cuidado de Parilla y Alhara llamó de vez en cuando a su



um bom. "Mitos soltão parricida para valer
com mi mamã", disse Patrícia. "Nossa família
é gentil manifestando afeto que difere de
rivalidade existente e não é um laço, respeito e
diálogo".

[illegible]

Político extremo desde sus moedas. Por su modo de plantar en la bondad y la compasión que solamente a Romy se ve. Almas: Dios, no tiene escuela toda. "They speak commonly with meekness", declara Policio. "Worship angel as Allah".

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ALLEGHENY EAST

AUGUST 2008

Exposé

AUGUST 2008

Dupont Park Series Leads to 28 Baptisms

E Dean Peeler, senior pastor at the Dupont Park church in Washington, D.C., recently baptized 28 new members following a three-week Open Bible Crusade. In addition 30 certificates were issued to those completing Bible studies.

The meetings were held five nights a week and each week featured a seasoned evangelist: Calvin Bernard Preston, from the West-End church in Atlanta; Abraham J. Jules, from the Mount Vernon church in New York; and Helvuis Thompson from the Grace Temple in Fort Worth, Texas. While members were encouraged to bring guests; two of them brought 10 guests each.

The baptism was considered so special to Michelle Mvundura's family that they came from near and far to witness it. Her parents traveled from Atlanta, and her grandparents traveled from Zimbabwe to bear witness to the occasion.—*Jerri McLean*



PHOTOS BY JERRE MCLENNAN

NEWS

Adventist Pastor Locked Up

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Pastor Paul Bryant and wanted posters were placed around the local community. His crime? Aiding and abetting those in need. Two police officers found the pastor at his Salisbury (Md.) church and arrested him on the spot. Bail was set at \$3,000.

Pastor Bryant cooperated because the arrest was part of a fundraising drive for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Each year, MDA “locks up community ringleaders” to benefit their Maryland and Southern Delaware chapter. The contributions collected from the posted bail will help in the fight against muscular dystrophy—a disease that weakens muscle tissue—in local healthcare service programs as well as worldwide research efforts.

as worldwide
research efforts.


Pastor Bryant is always planning and strategizing ways to share the Word of God with the community. He and his supporters raised \$824 in donations, which will allow MDA to

send one child to summer camp and assist one child with a diagnostic workup at one of MDA's 235 hospital-affiliated clinics.—*Catherine Bratten*



Grace Members Get Their Hands Dirty

The children's Sabbath School at the Grace Tabernacle church recently began helping to care for the grounds of the nearby Norristown, Pa., treatment facility for women and children.

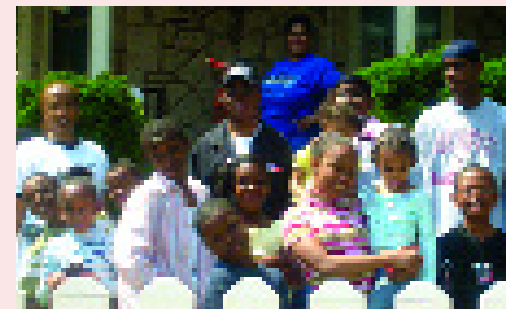


On the first day of work, children and teachers removed weeds and debris, planted colorful plants and flowers, and mowed the lawn. Staff at the facility rewarded their hard work with appreciation, water, lemonade, and ice pops.

"There are very few things more important to a pastor than to serve with a working church. I am proud of my people and inspired by their greed for service to others," says Grace Tabernacle pastor Vernon Waters.

"It's a win-win situation," says Sabbath School teacher Cheryl Langley. She and other teachers said it was a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn to love their neighbors and contribute to the beautification of the community.

Each month Grace church members plan to return to maintain the beauty of the grounds.



Teachers and children at Grace Tabernacle church help others during the summer months.

Trinity Youth Meet Famous Doctors

Two Trinity Temple teenagers, Jumoki Charles and Joshua Stafford, recently met three local heroes at a gala recognizing youth-oriented community service. They met Sampson Davis, Rameck Hunt, and George Jenkins, physicians who made good on their pact as teenagers from inner city Newark to stick together, go to college, and become doctors. The trio have been featured in the media.

Lafayette Trawick, Trinity Temple communication director and a board member for the Three Doctors Foundation, which was founded by the doctors, arranged for the young men to meet and talk with each doctor. He also sponsored Charles' and Stafford's attendance to the event. "These young men have really turned their act around. They have improved their grades and have become leaders in our church," Trawick said. "I wanted to continue encouraging them by exposing them to an atmosphere of education and excellence."



Jumoki Charles and Joshua Stafford met and talked with George Jenkins (center), Rameck Hunt, and Sampson Davis, three local doctors who encouraged them to get good grades and become leaders.

Newport News Teens Visit Wall Street

Twenty young men and their chaperones (below) from the Newport News, Va., area recently toured Wall Street and the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) for a hands-on lesson in becoming good financial stewards. The young men were a part of the church's mentoring ministry, "A

church and those who did not. The group meets monthly with each session structured around a particular theme, one of which was financial education. They also attended a later churchwide financial empowerment weekend.

Before they headed to New York's financial district, Trevor

Kinlock, pastor for the Newport News church, led the group in an early morning session where he taught some financial fundamentals from a biblical perspective. These fundamentals covered tithes and offerings, the laws of giving, credit scoring, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other basic money principles. The hotel

The next stop was the NYSE, which has been closed to the public since 9/11. However, with the help of a friend who works there, CROP was able to enter and get in on the ground floor to view a live trading session. Eric Ryan, director of communications for the NYSE, conducted the tour and explained its inner workings. After the tour and a little more sightseeing on Wall Street, it was finally time to head back to Virginia.

The young men shared their enjoyment of the experience, their interest in investing, and even talked of one day working on Wall Street.—*Keenan Tyler*

CORRECTION: In the June issue of the newsletter, Jack Johnson was incorrectly identified as the executive for Howard County, Maryland. He is the executive for Prince George's County, Maryland.

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New CROP," which stands for Calvary Rites of Passage.

Based out of the historic Calvary church in Newport News, CROP was started to mentor inner city Hampton Roads youth who belonged to the

management was so impressed with the appearance of the CROP young men, who were dressed in business attire, that they allowed them to use one of their conference rooms free of charge.



Be Faithful

It has been my honor to serve the Allegheny West Conference (AWC) in positions of leadership and trust for nearly 20 years. My wife, Sharon, and I, and our son, James III, thank you for your support. I am also thankful for your support of our church, our conference, and, most importantly, your uncompromising support for the cause of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

When I was elected president seven years ago, I recognized that our conference needed to experience growth. Growth—spiritual, not numerical—is still a great need in our conference. Many of our churches have either plateaued or declined for various reasons. Many things have been presented, discussed, and even tried in order to facilitate growth. However, growth will not take place until we are healthy. When a member is spiritually healthy, they will do what needs to be done without waiting for a church board action or significant financial resources. They will be compelled to let others know what God has done in their lives and won't hesitate to build up His kingdom.

As I take my leave, I ask you, the members of this great conference, to do three things for me:

Pray: The AWC Executive Committee will meet August 10 to choose a new conference president. Pray that God will lead in the process and pray for whomever is chosen.

Remember: Remember that secular strategies used to carry out the program of Jesus Christ will never bring about success. One of the tragic characteristics of the Laodicean church was that they sought to accomplish godly things without complete trust in God. Pray for discernment, and purpose in your heart to remain faithful to the leading of the Holy Spirit in carrying out the mission of Christ's church.

Stay Connected: In these end times, nurture your relationship with Christ and prepare for His soon return. Do not let circumstances or people lead you away for Him.

Though this conference just celebrated 40 years of ministry in Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, I believe that the best years are yet to come. God bless you all as you continue to labor in this vineyard for Him!



James L. Lewis
President

Pastors in Transition

Adventism has often been termed a movement, which is appropriate considering that pastors move from time to time. There are now several pastors transitioning to different phases of ministry: Derrick Moffett, ThD, from Shiloh church in Cincinnati to Hilltop church in Columbus; Russell Fields from Bethel church in Cleveland to Temple Emmanuel in Youngstown; Greg Jackson from Erie/Ashtabula District to Bethel in Cleveland.

The conference recently welcomed Elwin St. Rose as the new pastor of Central church in Columbus, and bid farewell and God's most bountiful blessings to Pastor Joseph Harris and his wife, who have worked to populate heaven for 42 years. They have served in the Southwest Region, South Atlantic, Southeastern, and Allegheny West conferences.

Calendar

August

- 1-31** Glenville Church Celebrates 90th Anniversary
- 10** Youth Olympics, AWC Campgrounds, Thornville, Ohio

September

- 5-6** Trailer Owners Retreat, AWC Campgrounds
- 14** Community Service Federation for North Ohio and Western Pennsylvania (NO/PA)
- 26-27** Women's Ministries Retreat, Natural Bridge, Va. NO/PA Youth Federation, Youngstown, Ohio

Camp Meeting Teaches “Victorious Spiritual Warfare”

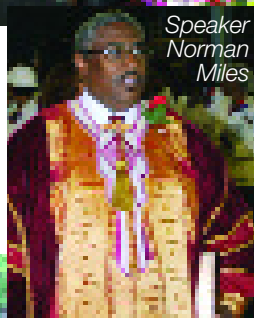
Camp meeting was a true blessing and joy. With the theme “Victorious Spiritual Warfare: Prepare for Battle,” meetings challenged, taught, and spiritually uplifted all those who spent time at the AWC Campgrounds in Thornville, Ohio.



Sisters in the Name of Christ—Cheryl Alli, Jackie Parrish, Denise Coleman, and Leonette Hollingsworth—share special music.



Pastor MyRon Edmonds, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., preaches to the youth.



Speaker Norman Miles



Rose Knight from Danville, Va., plays the saw for special music at Morning Manna.



PHOTOS BY WILBUR YOUNG AND BRYANT TAYLOR

Collin Parkinson, pastor of the Present Truth church in Cleveland and education superintendent for the conference, is ordained.

Catch the Vision is published in the *Visitor* by the Allegheny West Conference ■ 1339 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205 ■ Phone: (614) 252-5271 ■ awcsda.com ■ President, James L. Lewis ■ Editor, Bryant Taylor

THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

AUGUST 2008

Not Defeat, But Development

In the unseen warfare of the spirit, the greatest needs of our lives are deliverance, protection, and growth. While the enemy of God's people seeks to bring us defeat in almost every circumstance of our lives, God seeks to use those same circumstances to strengthen us, build us up, and give us victory.

If we look at the third and final petition of the Lord's Prayer, we will see the heartfelt cry of those who long for God's promise—that we will never be brought into a position where defeat is the only option.

We are reassured in other parts of the Scriptures that “He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it” (1 Cor. 10:13, NIV).

The petition is also a cry of submission that trusts God to bring into our lives that which would test our strength, loyalty, ability for service, and secure our spiritual development.

When commenting on this petition, Ellen White wrote: “God in His great love is seeking to develop in us the precious graces of His Spirit. He permits us to encounter obstacles, persecutions, and hardships not as a curse, but as the greatest blessing of our lives. Every temptation resisted, every trial bravely borne, gives us a new experience and advances us in the work of character building” (*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, p. 117).

All three of the requests of the Lord's Prayer—providing for needs, forgiveness, and deliverance—reflect the one great truth that Jesus labors to impress upon us: we are forever in need. And only as we walk step-by-step in continual dependence upon God can any of these needs ever be adequately met.



Rob Vandeman
President

Baltimore First set for Grand Re-Opening

On August 23 members of Baltimore First church in Ellicott City, Md., will celebrate the grand opening of their new sanctuary, two years after the original was destroyed by fire. Conference and community leaders will join them to mark this special occasion.

While reconstructed in basically the same area as the original, the new sanctuary (below) has an enlarged footprint (375 seats as compared to the original

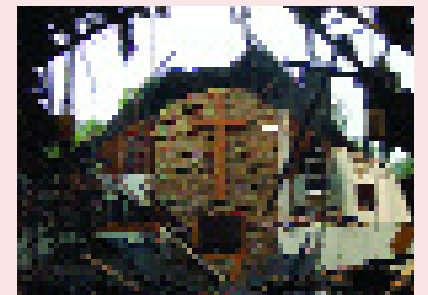
300). The new design departs from the traditional A-frame rectangular structure of the past to a more intimate, fan-shaped setting. The natural lighting produced by the

skylight and large windows is also a noticeable departure from the dark setting of the original worship space.

While the reconstruction of the sanctuary took place, the congregation also seized the opportunity to enlarge the foyer space, create a parent room with direct viewing of the worship space, expand the

gym/multipurpose room, and remodel the kitchen. The entire facility is now barrier free to accommodate those with disabilities. The reconstruction and renovation costs are a pressing \$2.6 million. A large portion will be funded by Adventist Risk Management, and the remainder by a loan from the Columbia Union Revolving Fund.

The grand opening Sabbath will feature Sabbath School at 10 a.m., worship at 11 a.m., a fellowship luncheon, an afternoon recognition and consecration service from 2:30-4 p.m., and then a light supper followed by vespers. Former members and interested fellow believers are welcome to participate in the festivities.



Baltimore First church garnered nationwide attention in June 2006 when its wooden cross would not burn after lightning struck the building and ignited a fire that destroyed the sanctuary.



Singles Retreat “Awakens Hearts”

The Chesapeake Chapter of Adventist Single Adult Ministries (ASAM) hosted single adults from throughout the Columbia Union Conference at its annual spring retreat held at Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center (MACRC) near Hagerstown, Md. The weekend theme was centered on the meaning of the Sabbath.



The featured presenters were Gaspar Colón, who teaches theology at Columbia Union College, and his wife, May-Ellen, who directs Adventist Community Services for the Adventist world church. North American Division ASAM director Andrea Hicks was also in attendance to present

two seminars.

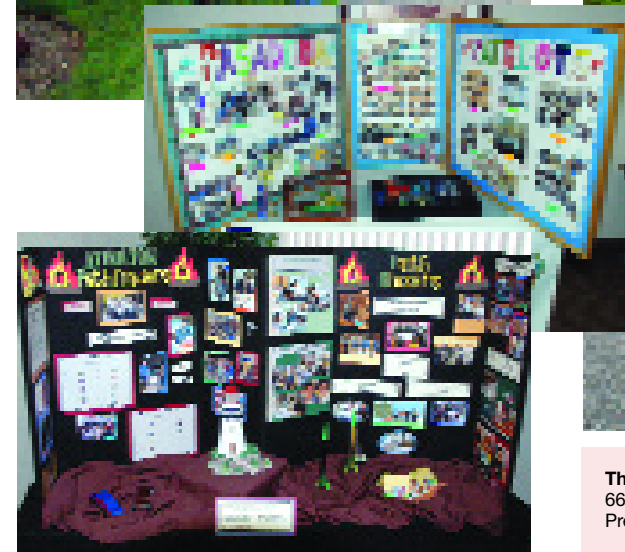
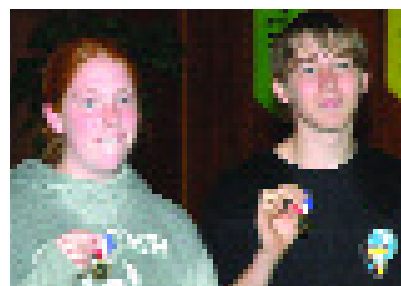
The Colóns (right) led the attendees through a three-part series on the experience of the Sabbath: welcoming it, enjoying it, and closing it. They helped attendees gain a new perspective on the meaning of the Sabbath by sharing how early Sabbathkeepers embraced those sacred hours. In the afternoon Hicks spoke on two topics: “How to Awaken Your Heart After Love Dies” and “Does God Choose Your Partner, or Do You?” The group also enjoyed a Sabbath afternoon nature hike led by MACRC outdoor education specialist Joel Springer.

Planning for their annual fall retreat is underway and will take place at MACRC in October. For more information, visit their website asamchesapeake.com.



Pathfinders Gather for Fun, Awards

Chesapeake’s Pathfinders recently met at the conference office for their annual fair themed “Frontier Days.” They set up booth displays depicting activities of the clubs throughout the year, played team-building games, and enjoyed fellowship-ping. Katie Hewlett of the West Wilmington (Del.) church and Beau Schonberg of the Waldorf (Md.) church were named Pathfinders of the Year.



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Columbia Union College

6600 Martin Road, Columbia, MD 21044 • Phone: (410) 995-1910 • www.columbiaunion.edu

Education Department Receives \$500,000 Grant

Columbia Union College’s (CUC) Department of Education recently received approximately \$500,000 in grant funding that enables the school to offer 15 full scholarships to students enrolling in the new Early Childhood Education program over the next two years.

Awarded by Maryland’s Department of Education Office of Childhood Development, the grants will supply scholarships that will cover full tuition, fees, and books for students while they continue work in their field.

“This gives the department an opportunity to grow and do more outreach while strengthening the schools in the Columbia Union,” said assistant education professor Davenia Lea, PhD. She secured the grant for the department and is excited about the possibilities that the scholarships will bring.

Jeanette Rogers-Dulan, PhD, chair of CUC’s education department, is not only excited for the department but also for the opportunities the grant will offer students.

“Students will not only find support to reach goals specific to their needs, but also find a model of collaboration, determination, perseverance, and caring that is evidenced in our department, faculty, and staff,” said Dulan.

The Early Childhood Education program will start this fall and is offered through the School of Graduate and Professional Studies. Scholarships will be awarded to qualified students who work or intern in the childhood development field, have 56 or more college credits, demonstrate experience in childhood development, and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.75 at CUC.—*André Hardy*



CUC’s education department received a \$500,000 grant for students enrolling in the Early Childhood Education program.

College Participates in Community Parade

Faculty, staff, and students recently participated in the annual Independence Day parade in Takoma Park, Md. College president Weymouth Spence and his wife, Rebecca, also participated. They rode in a red Ford Mustang convertible, near the front of the



parade, with local government officials and community leaders.

The parade, themed “Unity and Diversity,” took participants down the main street of the historic section of the city. Students and staff invited onlookers to grow with the college by distributing seed packets.

Meet Christina Pallas: Student Literature Evangelist

Freshman Music Education major Christina Pallas used her summer to lead others to Christ through literature evangelism as a student colporteur in Augusta, Ga.

Pallas had her first experience as a colporteur when she attended high school in Mexico. She worked with her school's colporteur team and enjoyed the experience. This summer she worked with a team of students to knock on doors in the community.

"I like to minister to others, and this summer I had the opportunity to give Bible studies as a follow-up to their contact with colporteurs," said Pallas, whose number-one goal was to bring at least one person closer to God. Pallas said being a colporteur is a great way to reach others and share her knowledge of Christ.

Pallas offers words of advice to those interested in participating in evangelism: "This is a work all about faith. It is not easy, but at the end of the day you can see how God was with you at each and every step."—Michael Martell



Freshman Music Education major Christina Pallas spent her summer as a colporteur in Georgia.

Student Visits China as International Scholar

Senior Political Science major Berny Jacques (below) spent 12 days in China as part of the International Scholar Laureate Program (ISLP). Jacques was chosen as one of 50 students from the United States, Puerto Rico, and England to take part in the ISLP's Diplomacy and International Relations delegation.



ISLP offers the brightest political science or international relations students from around the world, a first-hand experience learning about the changes that are affecting China's future economic, social, and political environments.

Jacques toured the Chinese cities of Xian, Shangri, and Beijing, met top-ranking Chinese officials at the American Embassy, and attended collegiate lectures at China's Foreign Studies University.

"It was a great experience. What was impressive to me was how content and pleasant the people were," said Jacques, who learned about the Chinese culture and history from the guides and local college students. "Everything was based on protocol and respect for others. It was so unlike the individualism we see in America."—André Hardy

Summer Camps Provide Youth With Skills and Fun



Young participants in CUC's soccer camp learned technical skills and spiritual lessons.

Children aged 6-14 were invited to hone their soccer skills at CUC's annual soccer camp held in June. Daily activities included devotion and prayer, drill, games, breaks, and lunch.

"All services are provided with the intent to give quality instruction for a safe, nurturing, but challenging camp experience," said CUC's head soccer coach, Anthony Ogunsanya.

He taught the young players the same tactical and technical skills that helped CUC's men's soccer team reach the national title game for the U.S. Collegiate Athletics Association.

Women's basketball head coach Todd Fong also led a summer basketball camp for children aged 9-17. That camp helped develop and enhance the campers' shooting, dribbling, and passing skills. Instructors included experienced National Collegiate Athletic Association coaches.

CALENDAR

August

- 20 Freshmen Registration
- 20-26 Gateway '08
- 26 Classes Begin
- 30 CUC Sabbath

September

- 3 Labor Day Holiday
- 4 Last Day to Enter Classes
- 15-19 Week of Spiritual Emphasis
- 26-28 Student Association Spiritual Retreat

The Gateway is published in the Visitor by the Columbia Union College 7600 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 Phone: (800) 835-4212 • cuc.edu President, Weymouth Spence • Director of Marketing and Communications, Vacant • Editor, Tanisha Greenidge



In His Hands

Right now, just a few weeks from the opening day of school, we are scurrying around like mad trying to finish projects and make final preparations. Plans have been laid, personnel have been hired, and students have applied, but there are so many factors Satan uses to interrupt the best-laid plans. I catch myself fretting over the economy and how it could affect families' ability to afford an Adventist education. With construction delays sometimes unavoidable, I wonder if all our projects will be completed on time.

I worry on my bad days, but mostly I am eagerly anticipating a really great year. We have a great faculty and staff, plans are in place, preparations have been made, and everyone is coming back from the summer months with enthusiasm for a brand new year. Each year holds its own special excitement. So when I catch myself worrying about some of the details, I simply have to remind myself that God is in control—always has been, always will be. What peace that brings!

As we begin a new year, won't you please keep us in your prayers? Highland View Academy (HVA), and all schools everywhere, truly appreciate your prayer support.



Sheri Tydings
Principal

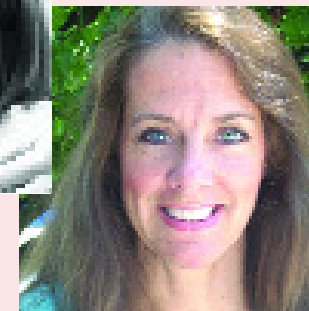
Three New Faculty Welcomed

The HVA family welcomes some new faces to campus. Seth Ellis will be teaching math and computer classes. Ellis moved from Washington state with his new wife, Angela, who will be teaching at Rocky Knoll School in Martinsburg, W.Va. Ellis brings a love for math and for youth to HVA. Connecting with youth and helping them grow spiritually is one of his primary goals.



Seth Ellis (with his wife Angela) will be teaching math and computer classes.

Lynelle Nomura is the new assistant girls' dean and learning resource coordinator.



Lynelle Nomura is joining the faculty as the assistant girls' dean and learning resource coordinator. Nomura is dedicated to helping young ladies grow spiritually, socially, and emotionally. She also has a gift for helping students who struggle academically to build skills and confidence in their abilities.

Jake Villanueva and his wife, Jansie, come from Norfolk, Va., and will be teaching math and science classes. Villanueva is energetic and excited about teaching. In addition to his enthusiasm for teaching, he loves getting involved with all aspects of the school program, including Campus Ministries and sports.

HVA also welcomes two Chesapeake Conference pastors who will teach Bible classes this year: Vladimir Corea, of the campus' Highland View church will teach Bible 4 and Allen Payne of the Frederick (Md.) church will teach Bible 3.



Jake Villanueva will be teaching math and science classes.

Herr Assumes Role of Vice Principal

Stephen Herr recently assumed his new role as vice principal of Highland View Academy. The 1997 HVA graduate has been on staff teaching Bible for the past seven years and has made a tremendous impact as the Campus Ministries director and chaplain. He will continue to teach two Bible classes and act as the alumni director.

During his time at HVA, Herr has instituted a strong Bible curriculum, developed an active Campus Ministries program, and been a wonderful spiritual mentor to the students. He is also well known for his eager participation in the Student Association's Spirit Week during which he has come dressed as his own twin, a refrigerator stocked with food, and as the water for Noah's Ark Day.

"I am thrilled to have Stephen join the administrative team," says principal Sheri Tydings. "His experience here at HVA, his passion for Christian education, and his desire to make HVA the best school possible are real assets."

Herr also added the role of "Daddy" this summer. He and his wife, Jamie, recently welcomed a new baby girl, Savannah Michelle, to their family.



Stephen and Jamie Herr with new arrival, Savannah.

Visitors, Renovations Keep Campus Busy

One might think that the summer months on a boarding academy campus are slow, however, life at HVA has been anything but dull. Over the summer there were some renovations and three groups visited the campus.

A group of eight students from the Bangkok Adventist International School in Thailand and their principal, Ranjan Fernando, visited the campus for six weeks. The students participated in English classes in the morning, language labs in the afternoon, and also toured other parts of the country.



This is the fourth summer that the Children's International Summer Village visited HVA. This year's group of 12- to 14-year-olds came from approximately nine countries. The group's goal is to build global friendships.

The third group consisted of 12 student literature evangelists and leaders. While calling HVA their home base, the group canvassed many sections of the Hagerstown area selling books and magazines.

During this time there were major construction projects underway giving the campus and dormitories some much-needed attention. The boys bathroom and the entrance to the administrative building were renovated.

CALENDAR

August

- 13 Registration for Community Students 5-8 p.m.
- 17 Registration for Dormitory Students 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 18 First Day of School
- 22-23 Commitment Weekend

September

- 1 Student Association Picnic
- 10-14 Home Leave
- 23-24 ITED Testing
- 25-28 Senior Survival
- 29-Oct. 3 Week of Prayer

Highlander is published in the Visitor by the Highland View Academy • 10100 Academy Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740 Phone: (301) 739-8480 • Fax: (301) 733-4770 • highlandviewacademy.com Principal and Editor, Sheri Tydings

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

AUGUST 2008

Mountain View Members Mobilize for Mission

Camp meeting 2008 is now past, but it has left us with unforgettable blessings of fellowship, instruction, prayer, worship, and spiritual renewal. We have come down from the mountaintop to the valleys and plains where human suffering and needs confront us at every turn. As God's anointed, disciplined disciples, we are called to minister with life-renewing energy to make known a Savior who loves us, and cares for all our needs.

This is the world's harvest time for gathering souls into Christ's kingdom (Rev.14:6-14). From the smallest to the largest, our Mountain View churches are involved in evangelism. This year's camp meeting has reminded us to do our part in forwarding the gospel, not only in words, but also in deeds of loving service and unbiased compassion. Our interlinked efforts form us as a conference family into God's wide net to bring weary and wandering souls into His kingdom. Any member's absence from this process makes a breach in the net through which struggling souls may slip back into the wild sea of this world's sin and peril. This solemn thought should motivate us all to be fervent in God's service.

In the short time remaining before Christ comes, won't you join with me and your many brothers and sisters in Mountain View in a whole-hearted recommitment to be laborers together with God? As the Bible says, the work is not easy, but the rewards are infinitely great (Ps. 126:5-6). May God bless you abundantly for your faithfulness to His cause.



Larry Boggess
President

Camp Meeting Starts With Youth Center Dedication

Mountain View's camp meeting started with the dedication of its new youth conference center—the newest building on the 302-acre campus of the Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va.

During the dedication ceremony, Larry Boggess, conference president; Victor Zill, treasurer; Randall Murphy, retired conference president and current camp manager; and others gave thanks to God for the new facility.

Boggess said building this space was important because, "the future of Mountain View lies with young

people, and we wanted to let them know that they matter."

The new building was also desperately needed because youth attending Valley Vista in the summer didn't have a suitable meeting place.

"We were meeting in a rickety old barn," said Geoff Starr, conference youth leader. The barn was too small for the 150 youth that attend camp each year.

The new center features a 200-seat capacity, air conditioning, and a fully-functioning sound system.

Young people said the new building is a great improvement over the old barn.

"Amazing," is how 16-year-old Rebekah Ruediger described the new space. "Last year we were so cramped in the barn; so this is really great."



Left to right: Joel Stecker, conference Pathfinder director; Victor Zill, treasurer; Larry Boggess, conference president; Randall Murphy, camp manager; and Geoff Starr, conference youth leader presided over the dedication of the new youth center.

ShareHim Graduates 70

The camp meeting also included a graduation ceremony for the first 70 people from the conference who participated in the ShareHim boot camps.

Two Pastors Ordained

Daniel Morikone, pastor of the Parkersburg and Toll Gate churches as well as the Health Ministries director for the conference; and Stewart Pepper, pastor in the Lewisburg and Rainelle district, were officially welcomed into the ministry through ordination.

See the next page for pictures from this year's camp meeting.—Taashi Rowe



Left: Leo Schreven spoke to the youth about the power of making right decisions.

Below: Young people used to meet in this old barn.



Above: At the building dedication, long-time camp ranger, Tim Engelkemeir, was recognized for his role overseeing the facility's construction.

Left: A ShareHim graduate



Left: The new youth center seats 200.



David Asscherick was the main speaker for the second Sabbath of camp meeting.

Cheri Peters was one of the main speakers in the youth center.

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The new youth center was officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

SPIRIT

MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

AUGUST 2008

Preparing Students to Discover and Make a Difference

It's the time of year when we find ourselves preparing to welcome new and returning students to Mount Vernon Academy (MVA). Although preparing for another year is routine, recognizing the individuality of each student leads to a challenge ordained by God.

While we help students develop academically and physically, our uniqueness exists through the opportunity to show students how to live in a community where they can share experiences with peers in a safe Christian, Adventist environment. The social and spiritual development that guides students toward living for Christ in a boarding academy atmosphere is one that will positively impact them as they serve Him for a lifetime.

The reward and opportunity we have as faculty and staff is to help our students appreciate the text found in Isaiah 49:1: "Before I was born the Lord called me; from my birth He has made mention of my name" (NIV). MVA has designed a program to help students recognize God has called them. As they realize this simple but life-changing fact, they will not only discover the difference, they will *make* a difference.



David Daniels
Principal

Service Learning Comes to the Classroom

While the entire school family becomes involved in community service on a regular basis, the classroom provides unique opportunities for development of these goals. For the 2008-09 school year, Mount Vernon Academy's curriculum will integrate service opportunities with academic learning objectives. MVA's administration will encourage teachers to use the classroom as an opportunity to link character and service by having students reflect on and analyze the service projects they complete.

Teachers may involve some or all of their students in community service activities. Implementation will depend on strengths and interests of the subject area. Last year students in Leah Daniels' Family and Consumer Science class sewed and donated mittens to local families; this year they plan to make fleece blankets. When asked what inspired this project, Daniels

said, "We live in a small community where there are a lot of people in need. This classroom project encourages students to think of others who are less fortunate."

Spanish III and IV students, under the mentorship of teacher Lissette Wright, taught weekly Spanish lessons to students at the Mount Vernon Adventist Elementary School.

Other service learning possibilities could include the history teacher combining instruction in civic responsibilities with character traits of responsibility and tolerance; the English teacher promoting service through public debate and presentation skills; and the science and math teachers gathering and analyzing information to evaluate current events and assist with local community projects.

Service can become a habit. As the Scottish author Samuel Smiles wrote: "Sow a thought, and you reap an act. Sow an act, and you reap a habit. Sow a habit, and you reap a character. Sow a character, and you reap a destiny." By promoting and modeling service, MVA seeks to ensure a habit of service for future generations and fulfill the character of Christ in every individual.—Linda Taver



MVA students teach Spanish to elementary students.

In The Spirit of Service...

Throughout the school year, MVA engages students in community outreach, mission work, and evangelism as follows:

Community Outreach

MVA provides a variety of activities for students to follow Christ's example while interacting with the community.

Sharing on Sabbath

On Sabbath afternoons, students walk door to door praying with neighbors or sharing information about events at local Adventist churches. Students have also gathered and distributed food, helped in soup kitchens throughout the state, and made dolls to donate.

Nursing Home, Hospital, and Shut-In Visitation

Students visit individuals who are unable or have difficulty leaving home. SONshine bands share God's love through song and prayer; students conduct makeovers and deliver homemade cards. Recently the Cooking Club, founded by student Daniel Graves, baked cookies to distribute.

Family Fun Day

MVA students help make sandwiches and assist with exhibit and activity booths for the United Way of Knox County's Family Fun Day.

Cause Awareness

MVA students have spearheaded efforts to raise money for local leukemia patients through Pennies for Patients, and provided clean water for people in Rwanda. They've also supported staff participating in a Breast Cancer Awareness walk.

Mission Work and Evangelism

The Campus Ministries department provides opportunities for short-term intensive exposure to mission life. Through involvement in local churches, students also discover the importance and rewards of serving.

Mission, Service, and Evangelism Trips

For years, MVA outreach teams have built and painted churches and conducted Vacation Bible Schools in countries such as Peru and Belize (above). Additionally, groups travel within the United States; one group even assisted in building a West Virginia school. Plans are underway for a February 2009 trip to Thailand to conduct evangelistic meetings.

Disaster Relief

Students regularly assist with disaster relief efforts in Ohio and West Virginia.

Children's Church and Puppet Ministry

Under the direction of graduate Samantha Stertz



('08), a small group of students prepared activities and used puppets to help children at the Mount Vernon Hill church learn more about the Bible and witnessing.

Campus In-Reach

Students are proactive in creating and leading ministry opportunities on campus. Students help plan and participate in Bible study and prayer groups, vespers, Sabbath School, and Student Week of Prayer.

Developing character and service as a way of life is a vital part of the educational experience for MVA staff and students. Through Christian service, we hope students will identify with Anne Frank, who says, "Nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

CALENDAR of EVENTS

August

- 14-16 Resident Assistant Training
- 17-19 Freshman Orientation
- 22-24 Service Emphasis Weekend
- 28-31 Senior Survival

September

- 5-7 Bell/Echolier Retreat
- 8-13 Fall Week of Prayer
- 17-21 Home Leave
- 18-21 Spiritual Academy Leadership Training
- 28-Oct. 2 CUC/Government Trip

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Editor, Amy Soper

Conference Elects New Vice Presidents

The conference's executive committee recently filled two vacancies on the administrative team, when they elected Jim Greene as secretary/vice president for administration and Modesto Vazquez as treasurer/vice president for finance.

Greene (right) served as conference treasurer since 2006. Before coming to New Jersey, he served six years as secretary/treasurer for the Rocky Mountain



Conference in Denver and eight years as vice president for finance at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Md.

Vasquez (left) served three years as treasurer for the Western Puerto Rico Conference, five years as Puerto Rico Union treasurer, and six years as the vice president for finance at the Inter-American Division Publishing Association.

"We are confident that Jim and Modesto will bring their years of experience and knowledge to their new positions," said José Cortés, conference president. "Our prayers are that the Lord will continue to bless their home and ministries."



Children Have Fun Praising God at Camp Meeting

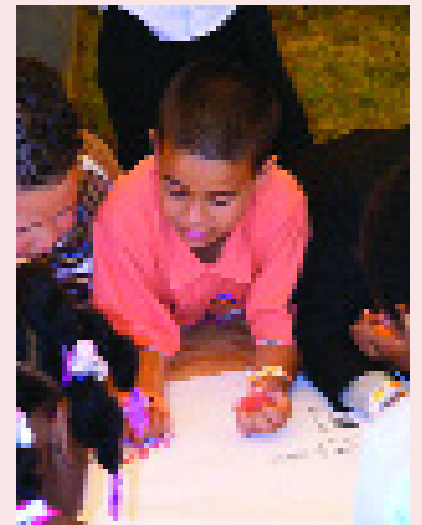


Those who attended this year's children's camp meeting were blessed by the presentations of Je'Zonn Clermont's Tiny Tunes Ministries and Troy Hicks' Divine Creations puppet ministries. They were encouraged to follow two rules: have fun praising God and respect each other. Through fun, hand movements, games, and interactive songs, the children learned about peace, the fruits of the Spirit, and how God can destroy fears.

"Our goal is to present God in a way that is easy for children and adults to digest but powerful enough to stick with them," Clermont said. One of the lessons he taught was that Jesus can destroy all fears. He had them draw out the things they were afraid of and then tore up the drawings to reinforce the message.



PHOTOS BY DAVID TURNER



Young Adults “Take Up the Cross” at Camp Meeting

For young adults who attended New Jersey camp meeting, it was a time to literally take up the cross, sing to the Lord, go deep and wide, and keep it real.

Speaker Damien Chandler, an Andrews University (Mich.) theology student, challenged young adults to really take stock of their walk with Christ and honestly assess where they are with respect to Him.



Take Up The Cross

Ever imagined what it would be like to carry that piece of wood up a hill like Jesus did? Six young people had a chance to do just that. Although no one can really imagine what it would have been like, carrying that heavy piece of wood gave them a moment

to reflect upon the sacrifice that Christ made for the world. It also helped them realize that burdens are much easier to bear when friends help out.

Make a Joyful Shout to the Lord

There is a time to reflect quietly upon the goodness of the Lord, and then there is also a time to sing joyful



songs to God like Jonathan Prado (right). Young adult choirs from Maranatha French in Newark and from Elizabeth English churches led in songs of praise, with beautiful harmonies and a powerful message.



Go Deep! Go Wide!

Marylou Cornago (above), a young adult from the First Filipino church in Plainfield, encouraged young adults not to let fears and excuses keep them from what they must do. In order to be Christ's disciples, she said, they must first be rooted in the Word of God (Go Deep!) and then they will find that they can't help but share God's blessings with others (Go Wide!).

Keeping it Real

Young adults also discussed some of the painful issues they face in the church, such as racial and ethnic divisions. They admitted that worship, as a matter of ethnic tradition, has become a hindrance to the message of Christ's love. They also talked about seeking God's righteousness to help people step away from divisive issues and personal preferences. They agreed to focus on God's love first so they can share His message with others. —John Hakizimana

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Editor, Laffit Cortés

Many Enjoy Camp Meeting Blessings



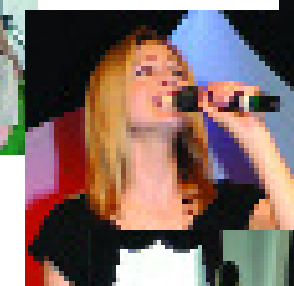
The children's team leads an enthusiastic group of kids who enjoyed meeting outside in the big tent and learning about "God's Big Backyard."



Smuts Van Rooyen presents an insightful study on the biblical book of Philemon.



Jaime Thietten, 2007 IndieHeaven Award Winner, gave an inspiring concert, concluding a week full of God's blessings.



Chris VanDemburgh, Ohio Conference health director, hosts an afternoon "talk show" on health-related topics.



Southern Gospel artists, The Booth Brothers, bring their sweet sounds to hundreds from the local community.



The annual Women's Tea is a special time of friendship and fellowship.



David Taylor inspires the audience with the message "God of Grace and Glory."



The "Biggest Winner" \$10,000 award goes to the Newark church for the greatest health improvements among participants.



The camp meeting choir sings praises to God.



Paul Richardson from the Center for Creative Ministry shares important information on membership retention.

Pennsylvania Pen

AUGUST 2008

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Our Mission: Leading Our Students to Service

Over the summer, as I wandered through the Rockies of Colorado and took in the majesty of our awesome God, I asked myself, "What do we, as Christian educators, want to accomplish this year?" Better test scores? Neater handwriting? Straighter cartwheels? More students on key during the Christmas program? Better attitudes toward learning? Respecting classmates? I wouldn't argue against any of that, but simply put, our mission this year is to provide Seventh-day Adventist education that leads our students into lives of service for God.

So what about you? What is your mission for your child? Cooler fashions? The latest gadget? Days so full of "enriching" after-school activities that your child barely has time to take a breath? Or, is your mission this year for your child to receive an education that leads him or her into a life of service for God? Remember the old saying, "As the twig is bent—so grows the tree."

May God bless you as you ponder His will for you and your child this school year.



Dave Morgan

Vice President for Education

NEWS

School Year Begins With New Principal

After much prayer and searching, a new principal, Rob Gettys, has been selected to join the staff at Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) this fall.

"I'm looking forward to working with the staff to lead students to a greater understanding of Christ's love for them, and His plan for them here on this earth and in life eternal," he said.

Gettys most recently served as principal of Fletcher Academy (N.C.). Previously he was an assistant professor in the education department at Southwestern Adventist University (Texas). He has also taught at Atlanta Adventist Academy, Great Lakes Adventist Academy (Mich.), and Jacksonville Junior Academy (Fla.).

Teacher Retires After 43 Years

For retiring history and religion teacher Duane Ferguson (right), Blue Mountain Academy has played a significant part in some of his life's most important milestones. It was while he was a student here that



he gave his life to Jesus. It was here that he felt the call to ministry, and it was here that he met his wife, Elaine.

Ferguson began his ministry as a pastor, interning at the Shadyside church in Pittsburgh. He then pastored in Pennsylvania Conference's Butler/Leechburg district, before moving to the Carolina Conference. However, his passion for ministering to young people became so strong he left pastoral ministry and began teaching at different academies. He returned to BMA where he has taught classes and served as a guidance counselor for the last four decades.

Ferguson plans to teach and volunteer at BMA part-time and work on a new home just off campus.

His wife, Elaine, serves as the school's business manager; their daughter, Karyl, and son, Dave, are staff members. Another son, Lowell, lives in Orlando. Two of their seven grandchildren are currently BMA students.



Rob Gettys, shown here with wife, Brandy, and children, Trey and Caleb, joins the Blue Mountain Academy staff as the new principal.

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Fall Camp Meeting Themed “Be Ready”

The theme of this year’s camp meeting slated for September 19-20 at Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter is “Be Ready for the Coming of Jesus.” Featured speaker, G. Edward Reid (left), will look at how we can know when Jesus’ coming is near, and how to find hope, power, courage, and all that we need to be ready when He comes.

Reid, the stewardship director for the North American Division, is an ordained minister and licensed attorney. The author of six books, he is certified as a teacher and counselor by Crown Financial Ministries.

The weekend will also include music, prayer, fellowship, and activities for children and young people. Applications are available at paconference.org, in local churches, and in the August issue of the *You Making a Difference* newsletter.

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www.byma.ca

What's happening

August

29-31 Hispanic Youth Retreat
Camp Hebron

September

19-20 Fall Camp Meeting
Laurel Lake Camp

26-28 Community-based
Ministries Training,
Harrisburg

27 Pennsylvania Day of Prayer
and Fasting

October

3-5 Pathfinder Camporee
Adventurer Picnic
Laurel Lake Camp

17-19 BMA Leadership Weekend
Laurel Lake Camp

24-26 Fall Women's Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

25 Fall Youth Leader Training
Harrisburg First Church

Pennsylvania Pen is published in the
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paconference.org ■ President, Ray
Hartwell ■ Editor, Tamyra Horst

Potomac People

AUGUST 2008

It Takes a Healthy Relationship With Him

I recently preached on the parable of the talents, making the connection that a sign of a healthy church is that the church is both faithful (Lordship of Jesus) and fruitful (growing His kingdom). I stood by the door after the service, shook hands, and encouraged the saints to live out their faith through the week. One young man, aged 7 or 8, more serious than most, looked up and asked, “Pastor, what can I do?”

Immediately my mind went to Matthew 18:3: “Truly, I say to you, unless you become as little children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven” (ESV). What a precious young man. What a question! Then my mind went to a passage from *Steps to Christ*, which explains that being a faithful and fruitful Christian is a daily matter. “Each morning consecrate yourself to God for that day. Surrender all your plans to Him, to be carried out or given up as His providence shall indicate. Thus day-by-day you may be giving your life into the hands of God, and thus your life will be molded more and more after the life of Christ” (p. 70).

I’m not sure I gave a “quotable” answer to the young man. However, I do know that first thing in the morning I need to say, “Jesus, I’m yours today. What may I do for You today?”

What makes churches healthy? When each of us has a deep, personal relationship with Christ that spills over every day into the marketplace.



Bill Miller
President

Waynesboro Church Eases Pain at the Gas Pump

The Waynesboro (Va.) church decided to help ease the pain of increasing gas prices by giving free \$10 gas cards to those who drove by the church recently. The biggest surprise to recipients was that there were no strings attached. The church simply decided to help the community without asking anything in return.

Church pastor Will Johns said, “We know it’s just

scratching the surface, but we’re hopeful that this will be a blessing for the families that are feeling the gas price crunch.”

Although \$10 for gas does not go very far anymore, the community was appreciative. Staunton, Va., resident Sherry Trageser explained, “Running back and forth to doctors’ visits, school, work—it’s hard. Every little bit helps.”

The venture yielded more fruit than smiling faces and moistened gas tanks. One gentleman was truly overwhelmed by the gesture. His name was Willis, and he wanted to know what was the catch before he drove off with a gas card. After grilling church members, hoping to expose the hidden agenda, he sat dumbfounded in his car when he found out this was a no-strings-attached gift. As he drove off, he yelled, “See you Saturday!” The following Sabbath, true to his word, Willis was at the church. He told church members that he was grateful because he was out of money, and the gift came at just the right time.

Local TV stations and newspapers covered the giveaway. To see a clip of the coverage, go to pcsa.org, and click on the gas card video feature.



One of the first gas card recipients pulls through the church’s parking lot.

Potomac People

Capital Memorial Food Fair Draws Hundreds

Located in the nation's capital city, Capital Memorial Church (CMC) reflects Washington, D.C.'s diversity. With more than 45 nationalities represented in its congregation, CMC holds an International Vegetarian Food Fair every year.

More than just a method of promoting the health benefits of vegetarianism, the fair is one of the church's major methods of outreach to its community. More than 400 people attended this year's fair; 300 were not members.



Marilda Da Silva gets the enthusiastic response she anticipated when serving a visitor a cup of delicious passion fruit nectar in the Central and South American Room.

Different rooms of the church featured foods from Africa, Asia-Pacific, the Caribbean, Central and South America, North America, and Europe. For one set price, guests could take as many small samples of the food as they liked. Most visitors couldn't get all the way "around the world" before they were full! One area of the North American room was devoted exclusively to vegan food, which proved extremely popular.

Bill and Jane Daly made the trek into the city from Gainesville, Va. "We've come five or six years running," said Bill. "This time, we brought friends. It's such a rare treat."

Josh Mandell of Washington, D.C., said, "We were very impressed with the diversity in the congregation. It very well may be the most diverse group of people I have seen together in a long time."

Church members pray specifically that people who are searching for God will attend and allow members to witness to them. "This year I was impressed by at least four or five people who wanted to know more about our faith and our wholistic approach to health and wellness," said CMC's director of outreach, Viwe Mtshontshi, a native of South Africa who headed up this year's fair.

"Guests who attended were interested in who we are," added Virginia Harter, CMC's finance committee chair. "This gave me and others an opportunity to share our Adventist faith and to extend an invitation to visit our church on Sabbath."—Jacquie Bokow

Orange Church Members, Visitors Get Healthy

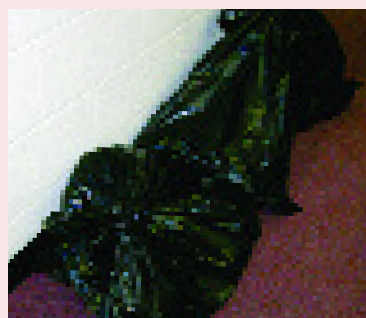
The Adventist church in Orange, Va., recently held its first Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) for the community. Five people attended, including three who were not Adventists. An additional eight program volunteers rounded out the group.

Participants lost weight, dropped cholesterol levels, reduced blood pressures, and cut blood sugars. They also learned how to maintain their new healthy gains through exercise programs and preparing plant-based meals.

A participant named Tom noted the importance of the vegetarian diet: "You showed us how to do it, and that made all the difference. DVDs provided scientific evidence to support what is shown to be the optimal diet."

The Orange church members also found a major fringe benefit—a bonding within the church family. CHIP program leaders are planning another session for September and all three community guests from the first program have volunteered to help.

—Joan Bromme



These garbage bags filled with rocks represent the weight loss of the participants in the Orange church's CHIP program.

Southwest Virginia Camp Meeting Planned

The event will be held September 5-7, at Rural Retreat Fairgrounds (I-81, Exit 60). It will feature guided tours of the interactive "Messiah's Mansion" on display from 1-7 p.m., September 4-14.

Potomac People is published in the Visitor by the Potomac Conference ■ 606 Greenville Ave., Staunton, VA 24401 Phone: (540) 886-0771 ■ pcsda.org ■ President, Bill Miller Communication Director, Don Wood

Spotlight on Spencerville

AUGUST 2008

School Gets SMART Boards, Goes Wireless

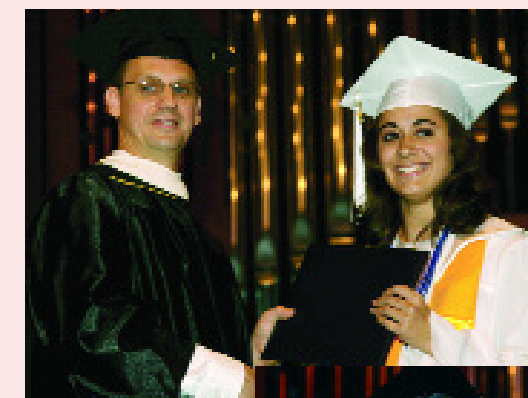
As we approach another school year and feel the anticipation of someday soon entering a new school building, we must not forget how our current facility has and continues to serve us. Amazing things occur within these walls. Although the facility is aging, we still have 21st-century classrooms. We have begun a journey to become a technologically integrated school. Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA) started this process last year when our Home and School organization and several other donors helped us purchase seven SMART boards (interactive white boards). During this summer we have continued to install more SMART boards, new computers, wireless Internet, and new servers. By the end of this school year our goal is to have a SMART board in every classroom.

Beyond the upgrades to the existing building and the hopes for a newer, larger facility, we remember that hundreds and hundreds of students have passed through the halls and classrooms of our current facility. Those of us who have benefited from our predecessors thank them for the vision they had to build this school. As we embark on a new leap of faith, we are forever indebted to the countless hours that volunteers, teachers, parents, and students dedicated to our current school, and we look forward to their continued support through this next phase of Spencerville Adventist Academy.



Brian Kittleson
Principal

Largest Class Graduates



Brian Kittleson, principal, presents class valedictorian Candice Craig with her diploma.



English teacher Carrie Hess gives the Commencement address.

Thirty-three students recently graduated from SAA making them the largest class in the 10 years since SAA became a K-12 school. As a testament to the impact that teachers have on their students, this year's graduating class chose three of their teachers to speak for graduation services. Jim Zeismer, Bible and history teacher, presented the Consecration address. Richie Silié, Spanish, physical education, and gymnastics teacher, spoke for the Baccalaureate service. Carrie Hess, English teacher challenged the class with her Commencement address. Each speaker reminded the graduates of the importance of following God's leading in choosing the right path in life. SAA is proud of its graduating class and wishes them continued success in the future.



LaVona Gillham, from Columbia Union Conference's Department of Education, presents the Caring Heart Award to Melissa Breetzke during the Commencement service.

Church Votes to Move Forward With New Building

A common question on a long road trip is “Are we there yet?” It isn’t much different when you begin a building program. People are eager to see the final destination, but grow impatient with the wait.

Spencerville church and school embarked on a journey to build a new school many years ago. The past five years have been spent working with county agencies to gain approval for our plan. No wonder people have grown weary!

Nevertheless, the Lord has blessed, and we are finally close to reaching that goal. At the time of publication, we are still waiting for the final approval of site work permits. A building permit will most likely be available this summer.

A church business session held at the end of May voted the following: to proceed with the building of the school once permits are received, explore selling the current facility, and raise the necessary funds that will advance the building program without placing the church at risk. SAA is supported, at this time, by a single church constituency, so the congregation is stepping out in faith to achieve these goals.

The church and school have already raised more than \$3 million, and they are committed to raising an additional \$2.5 million before proceeding with construction. Some are giving systematically. Others have pledged to give monthly amounts for three years or longer. Still others are thinking creatively as to how money can be raised to support this project.



An artistic rendering shows the future Spencerville Adventist Academy, which will have a state-of-the-art media center, auditorium, music department, gym, and science labs.

Recently the freshman class at SAA, who plan to be the first graduating class in the new school, gave a \$1,000 contribution from their class trust fund.

The new facility is large enough to house 450 students in grades kindergarten through 12. The building will have a state-of-the-art media center, auditorium, music department, gymnasium, and science labs for both the high school and middle school.

SAA students, teachers, and members can’t wait to walk through the doors of this new school that they have dreamed of, planned for, and contributed to for years. While the trip has been long, the destination will be rewarding.

All have learned that there is still joy in the journey—watching God provide through the years by opening doors, leading in decisions, and impressing hearts.

To contribute to the new SAA building, contact Pastor Jerry Lutz at (301) 384-2920 or principal Brian Kittleson at (301) 421-9101. —Merle Poirier

Calendar

August

- 14 High School Orientation
- 18 First Day of School
- 21-22 Spiritual Retreat

September

- 7 Student Council Beach Day
- 18-21 Spiritual Academy Leadership Training
- 22-26 ITBS/ITED Testing

Spotlight is published in the *Visitor* by the Spencerville Adventist Academy 15930 Good Hope Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20905 ■ Phone: (301) 421-9101 spencervilleacademy.org ■ Principal, Brian Kittleson ■ Editor, Heidi Wetmore

SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY HAPPENINGS

AUGUST 2008

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

Three Teachers Join Staff

Three teachers will be joining the Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) staff when school opens August 17. The first is Lawren Morrison, a native of Minnesota and a 2007 summa cum laude graduate of Andrews University with a bachelor’s degree in theology. She will be teaching Freshman Bible and will serve as assistant dean of girls. “I am looking forward to working with young people and lending influence to their lives,” she says.

Julie Copiz, joins the staff from Takoma Park, Md., and will also serve as assistant dean of girls. She holds a bachelor’s degree in English and liberal studies, and a master’s degree in Children’s Book Illustration from Cambridge School of Arts in Cambridge, United Kingdom. It comes then as no surprise that her interests include art and reading, as well as drama and photography. She looks forward to building relationships with the ladies of Hadley Hall.



Josh Jetter (left) joins the staff as athletic director and physical education instructor. “This is my dream job,” says the 1999 SVA graduate. “I’ve wanted to be athletic director at SVA since I was a kid. I’ve come full circle.”

He is a 2003 graduate of Southwestern Adventist University (Texas) with a bachelor’s degree in physical education and minors in health/wellness and religion. Jetter is a native of Indonesia who has lived in New Market, Va., virtually all his life.

He says he is extremely committed to SVA’s goal of helping kids reach heaven, and is eager to be an influence in their lives.

NEWS

Athletic Fields to be Renovated

Thanks to a donation of \$200,000, SVA’s athletic program will be enhanced by the current renovation of the athletic fields. The old tennis courts have been removed and a new soccer/track field is nearing completion. Work on the new baseball field is expected to be completed by the time school starts.

Plans have been developed for all new athletic fields, including a new softball field, four tennis courts, restrooms, and a concession stand at the fields. A new parking lot will be located next to the fields on the West end of campus. It is expected that current funding will cover all the fields, but the recommended lighting will not be completed at this time.

“I am so happy that we have donors committed to SVA’s athletic program,” says athletic director Josh Jetter.

Students are equally excited about this major improvement on campus.

Dozens of New Students to Attend

Dozens of new students will be joining the SVA family this school year. One of those will be Brittany Owens, an incoming freshman from Washington, D.C., who looks forward to “more independence, the nice campus, and the academics.” She is especially

excited about the dual-credit program and plans to take advantage of the opportunity to enter college with a number of credits already completed. “I also anticipate learning more about Christ, improving my social skills, and making new friends,” she says.

To learn more about SVA, contact Gail Danecker at (540) 740-2210 or visit sva-va.org.



Brittany Owens is one of the many new students who will be joining the SVA family.

Happenings is published in the *Visitor* by Shenandoah Valley Academy ■ 234 West Lee Highway, New Market, VA 22844 Phone: (540) 740-3161 ■ shenandoahvalleyacademy.org Headmaster, Dale Twomley, PhD ■ Email: daletwomley@hotmail.com

www.ta.edu TATODAY

News you can use from Takoma Academy

AUGUST 2008

Our Greatest Desire

As another school year begins, one question fills the thoughts of the staff and teachers at Takoma Academy: What does God want us to accomplish this year? Our only response is that we desire to lead students to a closer walk with Him and prepare them for service in this world through strong academics. At the center of the Bible is Psalm 118:8, which states: "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man" (NIV). We all have to make sure that our trust is in God. As teachers, we must keep our faith strong and learn to trust totally as we lead students to Him. May this school year accomplish our greatest desire for the young people we serve.



C. Dunbar Henri
Principal

NEWS

Students Perform "Cheaper by the Dozen"

For its annual spring play, Takoma Academy students performed "Cheaper by the Dozen" (below). Myrna Candelaria, drama teacher, and Tim Vandeman,



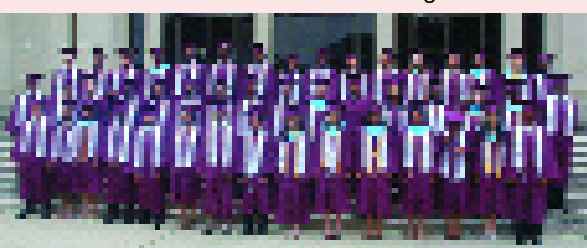
music director, said they achieved their goal of success. The play ran for two showings. It was a success not only because of students' act-

ing skills but also because parents, staff, and other students helped with stage building, painting, set design, providing props, applying make-up, running sound, and taking pictures.

Graduating Class Says Goodbye

Forty-eight students said good bye to TA during the school's 2008 Commencement weekend; 39 students spent all four years at the school.

On Baccalaureate Sabbath, Willie Oliver, Family Ministries director for the North American Division, shared words of wisdom using the class text—James 1:2-4. For



Commencement, Washington Johnson, Jr., editor of *Message* magazine, spurred the class toward success with personal anecdotes.

Alex E. Holness was the class valedictorian, and Rachel R. Hansdak was salutatorian. As a reward for perfect attendance during her senior year Felicia Malin received a car from the school's donation program.

Alumnus Gives Back

Darnell Robin, a junior at TA, recently received a \$1,000 scholarship for tuition from the Mary L. Banks Scholarship Fund. Jason Banks, a TA alumnus (right), provided the funds for the scholarship, which he and his siblings established to honor their mother's memory.

All four of Banks' children, from her union with James Banks, graduated from Takoma Academy: Julie



'87, Jason '88, Lori '91, and Landon '96. Banks died in 1982 and did not see any of her children graduate; however, her memory lives on through them.

Calendar

August

- 15 Making It Count, (All Freshmen) 8 a.m.-Noon
- 17 Orientation Day, 10 a.m.-Noon, Freshmen and Sophomores; 2-4 p.m. Juniors and Seniors
- 18 First Day of School – Noon Dismissal
- 22 Beginning of School Year Dedication Service 7-8 p.m., Chapel
- 23 Student Council Handshake, 8-10 p.m.
- 25 Finance Committee, 3 p.m.; Full Board, 7 p.m.
- 25-29 Week of Prayer
- 26 Back to School Night, 7-8:30 p.m.

TA Today is published in the *Visitor* by Takoma Academy ■ 8120 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 ■ Phone: (301) 434-4700 ta.edu ■ Principal, C. Dunbar Henri

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CHRISTIANHOMEFINDERS.COM (formerly AdventistRealtor.com) is a nationwide real estate referral service, assisting church members and employees in the process of buying or selling homes. We have a network of nearly 300 Seventh-day Adventist realtors—ready to serve you. Call Linda Dayen at (888) 582-2888, or go to ChristianHomeFinders.com. More realtors are welcome!

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David Lee, DDS, FAGD, has practices located in Silver Spring and Ellicott City, Md. He is extensively trained in implant, cosmetic, TMD/TMJ, sedation, and laser dentistry. Dr. Lee is an associate fellow with the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, as well as many other certifications. For appointments, call (410) 461-6655 for Ellicott City or (301) 649-5001 for Silver Spring. Mention this ad and receive 10% discount on all services (excluding third-party payers). Our office is a participating provider with Adventist Risk Management. We welcome new patients.

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"The Garden Island." Kahili Mountain Park is a scenic mountain getaway located at the base of Kahili Ridge. Just minutes from popular Kauai attractions. The park has an assortment of 1-4 room cabins with sleeping for 2-6 persons. See pictures and rates at kahilipark.org. Reservations: (808) 742-9921.

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LEGAL NOTICES

QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE ALLEGHENY EAST CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
Notice is hereby given that the Third Quadrennial Session of the Allegheny East Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene Sunday, September 28, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. in the Myers Auditorium of the Martin Luther King Communication Arts Center at Bowie State University, Bowie, Md. This meeting is called for the election of officers, departmental directors, and committees that may properly come before the session at that time.

Charles L. Cheatham, President
Henry J. Fordham, Secretary

ALLEGHENY EAST CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the legal meeting of the Allegheny East Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the Third Quadrennial Session of the Allegheny East Conference at 2 p.m. on Sunday September 28, 2008, in the Myers Auditorium of the Martin Luther King Communication Arts Center at Bowie State University, Bowie, Md.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect a Board of Trustees of the ensuing four-year period and to transact any other business that may come before the association at that time. The delegates of the Third Quadrennial Session of the Allegheny East Conference are delegates of this session.

Charles L. Cheatham, President
Henry J. Fordham, Secretary

MEETING OF THE PINE FORGE ACADEMY CONSTITUENCY
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Pine Forge Academy will be held in connection with the Third Quadrennial Session of the Allegheny East Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in the Myers Auditorium of the Martin Luther King Communication Arts Center at Bowie State University, Bowie, Md., Sunday, September 28, 2008, at a time that will be called by the chair.

This meeting is called to elect a Board of Trustees for the academy and to transact any other business that may come before the constituency at that time. The delegates of the Third Quadrennial Session of the Allegheny East Conference are delegates of this session.

Charles L. Cheatham, President
Henry J. Fordham, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENTIST SINGLE ADULT MINISTRIES
is sponsoring a retreat at Mt. Aetna Camp, October 17–19. Featured speakers will be: Garland Day (spiritual topics), Anne Woodworth (relationships), and Roland Smith (finances). For information, call Sandy Walcott: (804) 263-6504. You can also visit our website asamchesapeake.com, or email samchesapeake@yahoo.com.

CLASSIC MINISTRIES OF SHARON TEMPLE ADVENTIST CHURCH,
2001 N. Washington Street, Wilmington, DE 19802, invites singles to share in a special Singles Weekend, August 8-10. The Friday night seminar theme is "10 Misconceptions of Singles"; the guest speaker Sabbath is Pastor Paul Graham; a gala on Saturday night, and breakfast Sunday morning. For more information, call Cortea Bess: (302) 981-3006, or write: classicministries@yahoo.com.

SUNNYDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND:
October 2-5. Honor classes: '48, '53, '58, '63, '68, '78, '83, '88, and '98. Activities start with the Silver Showcase, Thursday evening, October 2. For additional information, call (573) 682-2164, or visit sunnydale.org.

The Alumni Association of Blue Mountain Academy

wishes to thank

SPENCER HANNAH

for his 14 years of dedication and excellence as principal and vice principal.

You will be missed.

Bulletin Board

	Aug 8	Aug 15	Aug 22	Aug 29	Sept 5
Baltimore	8:10	8:01	7:52	7:41	7:30
Cincinnati	8:49	8:33	8:23	8:12	8:02
Cleveland	8:43	8:25	8:15	8:04	7:52
Columbus	8:37	8:28	8:18	8:07	7:56
Jersey City	8:03	7:54	7:43	7:33	7:21
Norfolk	8:04	7:56	7:47	7:37	7:27
Parkersburg	8:30	8:21	8:11	8:01	7:50
Philadelphia	8:06	7:57	7:47	7:36	7:25
Pittsburgh	8:26	8:17	8:07	7:56	7:45
Reading	8:09	8:00	7:50	7:40	7:28
Richmond	8:10	8:02	7:52	7:43	7:32
Roanoke	8:20	8:11	8:02	7:52	7:42
Toledo	8:43	8:33	8:23	8:12	8:00
Trenton	8:05	7:55	7:45	7:35	7:24
Wash., D.C.	8:11	8:02	7:53	7:42	7:32

SUNSET CALENDAR

MARYLAND MEN OF FAITH

"Choose You This Day"
October 4, 2008

Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center Hagerstown, Md.

ALL MEN ARE INVITED
young or old, single or married.

Guest Speakers:
Damein Johnson
John Appel
Shane Anderson
Merrill Caviness
Antonio Lopez
Dwight Seek
Mark Walwyn

Registration Fee: \$35
(includes lunch and dinner)
Deadline: Sept. 29

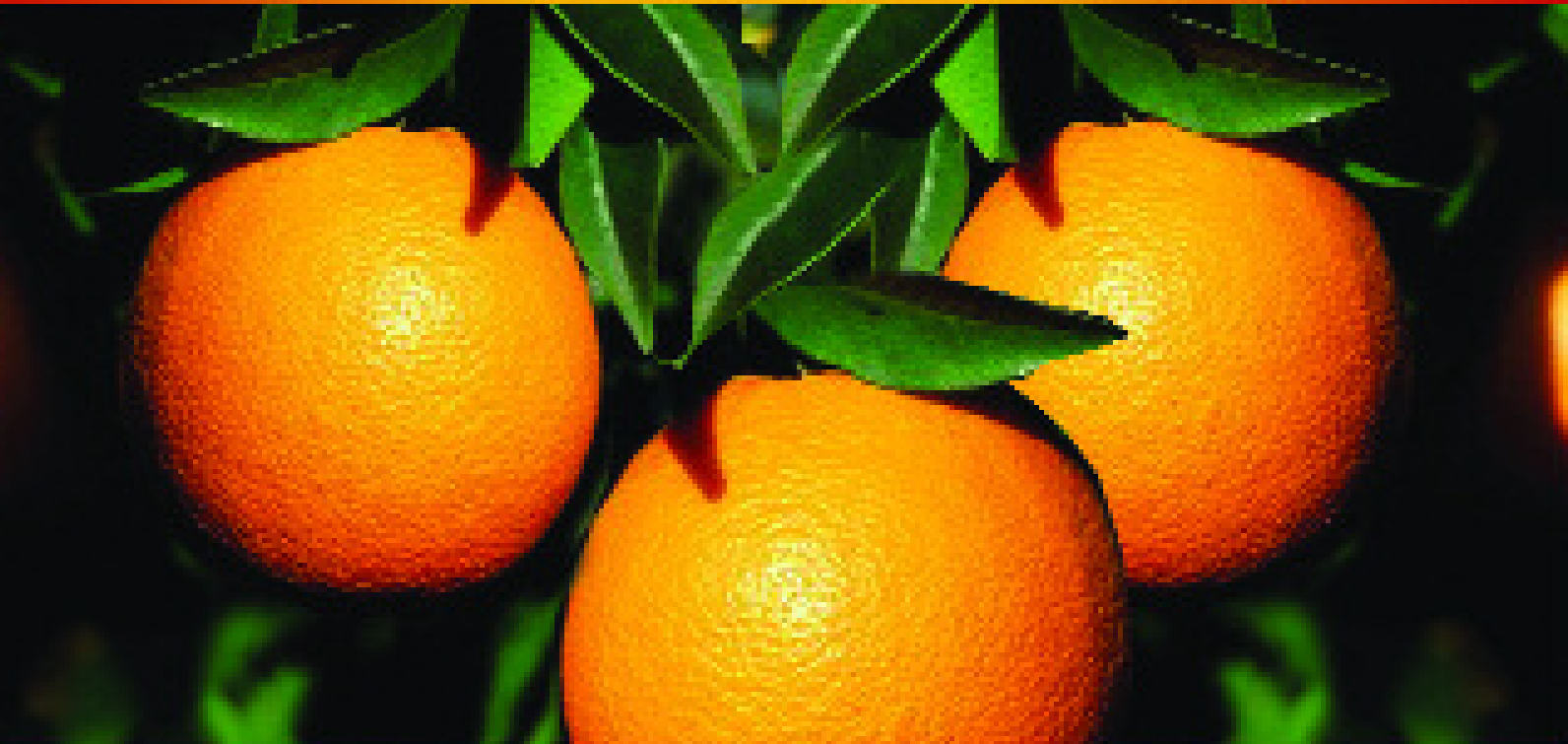
To register, go to:
www.mmof.org
mdmenoffaith@verizon.net
or phone:
(410)-465-6864

Presented by Seventh-day Adventist laymen of the Columbia Union.

BERKELEY SPRINGS CHURCH CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY.
The Berkeley Springs (W.Va.) church will commemorate their 40th anniversary of its founding with special all-day services, including a fellowship luncheon, on Sabbath, August 16. All former pastors, members, and friends of the congregation are especially invited to participate in the fellowship. In addition to attending, if you have any stories, articles, or pictures for a public display, or if you want more information, please contact Denise Mayberry, 99 Brookview Acres Drive, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411; denifrakin@aol.com; hann@pennswood.net; (304) 258-3888.

HEALTH SUMMIT WEST—LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY.
The North American Division, Pacific Union Conference, and Loma Linda School of Health announce the fourth health certification training program, October 17-20. "Tell the World Christ Brings Health and Wholeness" will include featured speakers: José Rojas and Hyveth Williams. Six "train-the-trainer" seminars will be conducted. For more information, visit nadhealthsummit.com.

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