

VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

OCTOBER 2014 • VOLUME 119 • ISSUE 10

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Master Guides

Plus:
How Small
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Servant of God
Friend to Man



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Servant of God, Friend to Man

V. Michelle Bernard

Pulling weeds and packing lunches may seem menial, but they meant a lot to those who benefited from these outreach activities Pathfinders performed at the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee. Discover the other ways these do-gooders made an impact in Oshkosh, Wis.

Ready? Set. Pack!

Daniel Granderson

Natural disasters can leave individuals, cities and full coastlines recovering for years. As we enter another hurricane season, learn how we can all be better prepared for future occurrences.

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About the Cover: Kiralin Francis-Williams and Ruth Francis—mother and daughter from the New Hope Night Hawks Pathfinder Club from the New Hope church in Fulton, Md.—share a moment after being invested as master guides at the “Forever Faithful” International Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., Aug. 11-16. Photo by Bryant Taylor.

ON THE WEB

A MASTER GUIDE AT LAST

Gloria Dixit, a leader in the New Hope Night Hawks Pathfinder Club, from Chesapeake Conference’s New Hope church in Fulton, Md., has dreamed of being a Master Guide for more than 60 years. She realized that dream at the age of 78 while at



the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis. Read more at columbiaunionvisitor.com/masterguide.

SEE THE PATHFINDERS STRONG

Want to see more of what took place at the camporee? Watch our slideshow at columbiaunionvisitor.com/foreverfaithful.



PREPARATION IS KEY

Benefit from the wisdom disaster response leaders around the Columbia Union have gained from their many hours helping disaster victims. Their pointers could help you prepare for the next natural event. Read more at columbiaunionvisitor.com/prepare.

WHO LEADS?

Have you read Andrews University’s seven-page statement on headship? It has garnered buzz, and we want to hear your reactions. Share with us at facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor.

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October starts the most delicious and fattening time of the year! To counter the indulgences, send your low-carb, healthy recipes to visitor@columbiaunion.net. We just might publish your recipe in November!

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The *Visitor* provides news and information, inspiration for effective ministry, and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help engage members in experiencing the mission.

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Volume 119 ■ Issue 10

It Could Be Me

The tall woman with silver hair, starched blue and white uniform and mirror-shined white oxfords commanded our attention as she entered the conference room. She was a public health nurse about to address second-year nursing students of a large Jewish hospital in Pennsylvania. Fifty years later, I still remember her words: “You will see and hear things in this clinic that you never before imagined. As you are assigned each case, remember this: ‘But by the grace of God, there go I.’”



Her words helped shape my perspective and guided me during the next 34 years of a very rewarding nursing career. It also spilled over like a bubbling brook into my personal interactions with people everywhere.

I wonder if that’s what the Good Samaritan of Matthew 25 thought as he cared for the man by the side of the road. Is that what Ellen White was thinking when she said, “Millions upon millions of human souls ready to perish, bound in chains of ignorance and sin, have never so much as heard of Christ’s love for them. Were our condition and theirs reversed, what would we desire them to do for us” (*Desire of Ages*, p. 640.3)?

WALKING IN OTHERS’ SHOES

My world had yet another awakening in 1983 when I heard the late Elder W.W. Fordham, a retired administrator who had recently accepted the pastorate of our small congregation in Coatesville, Pa., say, “I will not pastor



a church that keeps its doors locked all week.” He recognized the plight of perishing souls all around us, and expected that the light beams flowing from the open door of God’s “light-house” would draw all men to safety.

In response to the ensuing community assessment that members conducted, we transformed our Sabbath School rooms into a shelter for individuals and families five days per week and offered other vital community ministries. Later we developed 18 apartments and transitional and permanent townhomes that offered affordable housing to individuals and families with a low to moderate income. The church also sponsored a vibrant community health center.

The bold, open-door policy of this pastor has continued to cause many individuals to experience God’s love and the amazing joy of living a Christ-centered life, all because members dared to put themselves in others’ shoes.

As we prepare to respond to weather-related disasters that this hurricane season could bring, many opportunities might also be presented to rescue perishing souls from fatal and eternal destruction. An estimated 62 million people live within the Columbia Union territory, many of whom have not heard of Christ’s love. With each encounter, let us prayerfully consider, if our condition and their’s were reversed, what would we want them to do? Because, but by the grace of God ...

Minnie McNeil is the Adventist Community Services/Disaster Response coordinator for the Columbia Union Conference and director for the Allegheny East Conference.

UNION GIVES \$25,000 TO HELP FIGHT EBOLA

Last month at the Columbia Union Conference Executive Committee meeting, the committee voted to donate \$25,000 to the Seventh-day Adventist Cooper Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia, matching a General Conference donation. The union has maintained a relationship with Cooper Hospital for a number of years. The funds will be used to help the hospital continue to treat people with Ebola, as they are one of the few hospitals still open in the area.



Terry Forde (left), president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare, based in Rockville, Md., and Timothy Ko (right), CFO/vice president of finance at Kettering Physician Network in Kettering, Ohio, pray with Seth Bardu, Columbia Union Conference treasurer, a son of Liberia.

UNION, CONFERENCES PLAN URBAN OUTREACH

The world's cities present a formidable challenge for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and it is expected that 70 percent of the world's population will be urban by 2050. The Mission to the Cities initiative is the church's five-year plan to take the gospel to the world's great urban centers. The initiative includes the efforts of the eight unions across the United States to focus on a city in their region in 2015.

The Columbia Union Conference will participate by partnering with three of its eight conferences—Allegheny East, Chesapeake and Potomac—to share the love of Jesus and the hope of His soon return to people in the Baltimore-Washington metroplex through their 2015 initiative Living With Hope. This metropolitan area of approximately 10 million people is the global center of political influence. It is also the fourth largest marketplace in America. Living With Hope

launches April 11 and is a holistic approach that will include a variety of community events, seminars, small groups and reaping events.

“If we hope to impact the world with the gospel in the 21st century, the great cities like Baltimore and Washington, D.C., will be its launch-



ing pad,” says Frank Bondurant (pictured), vice president for Ministries Development and organizer of the event.

“I am certain that each of our churches in the Baltimore and Washington area will want to be a part of this unprecedented evangelistic outreach project.”

For more information, visit hopeinprophecy.org/evangelism.

TEACHERS PILOT LITERACY SCREENING

There are 41 teachers in schools

across the Columbia Union who are piloting the PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) program this school year. PALS consists of three instruments: PALS-Pre-K (for preschool students), PALS-K (for kindergartners) and PALS 1-3 (for students in grades 1-3). The program assists classroom teachers in ascertaining which students may need additional reading instruction. PALS also provides teachers with detailed information about what their students know regarding literacy fundamentals to help guide their teaching and differentiate instruction.

“I’m excited to see that so many of our teachers are interested in PALS,” says Evelyn M. Sullivan, the union’s associate director for Early Childhood Education and Care. “Teachers have begun online professional development training and will soon begin assessing their students. The data collected during this school year will help us improve overall quality of classroom instruction by using PALS reports to monitor individual student growth over time.”

UNION MEMBERS ATTEND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY SUMMIT

Thirty-five religious liberty advocates (some pictured during their visit to the nation’s capital), including 11 from churches around the Columbia Union, travelled to Silver Spring, Md., last month to attend the annual Religious Liberty Summit. Sponsored by the North American Religious Liberty Association (NARLA), the annual event provides attendees with an opportunity to study, worship and mobilize in



the name of religious freedom.

The four-day event included an afternoon of legislative office visits on Capitol Hill. Constituents participated in meetings with staffers for five members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in support of H.R. 4653, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2014.

Read more at columbiaunionvisitor.com/NARLA.

FORMER PENNSYLVANIA, WAU PRESIDENT DIES

William A. Loveless, who served as the president of the Pennsylvania Conference from 1976 to 1978 and then Washington Adventist University (WAU) from 1978 to 1990, died last month.

“William Loveless was an extraordinary influence on this university,” says Weymouth Spence, current WAU president. “Under his leadership, this university was among the first in the nation to launch an evening program designed specifically to meet the needs of



working adults. That program today is known as our School of Graduate and Professional Studies.”

Loveless was also the first to suggest that a student missionary program be established at the university, which started in 1959. In addition to his years as university president, Loveless pastored two of the largest congregations in the Adventist Church in North America: the WAU campus’ Sligo church in the 1960s and the Loma Linda University church in Loma Linda, Calif., in the 1980s. His former colleagues report that, as a pastor, he was a compelling preacher and extraordinarily gifted at relating the Bible to contemporary life.

Read more at columbiaunionvisitor.com/loveless.—Story by WAU staff



PHOTO BY DANIEL MORIKONE

870 GRADUATE FROM DISCOVER BIBLE SCHOOLS IN MOUNTAIN VIEW

After mailing Voice of Prophecy (VOP) Discover Bible Study cards to 900,000 people living in the Mountain View Conference territory, conference volunteers celebrated their efforts last month with three VOP graduation and praise services. Here, Douglass Carr, Bible school graduate, shares his testimony as Naomi Tricomi, a Bible worker, and Lois Gallagher, a Discover Bible School instructor for the East Pea Ridge church in Huntington, W.Va., look on. For more details, see page 25.

BY THE NUMBERS:

Pathfinder Camporee

1,639 Number of registered Allegheny East attendees, the union’s largest representative conference

4,000

Approximate number of ears of corn sold by volunteers from Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon, Ohio

6,181

Tickets sold to Columbia Union Pathfinders

100+ Countries represented

46,000

Number of attendees to the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis.



LA UNIÓN PLANIFICA ALCANCE URBANO

Las ciudades del mundo presentan un desafío formidable para la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día, y se espera que el 70 por ciento de la población mundial sea urbana para el año 2050. Mission to the Cities (“misión a las ciudades”) es una iniciativa de cinco años de la iglesia para llevar el evangelio a los centros urbanos en el mundo. La iniciativa incluye el esfuerzo de las ocho uniones en los Estados Unidos de enfocarse en una ciudad en su región durante el 2015.

Columbia Union participará juntamente con tres de sus ocho asociaciones—Allegheny East, Chesapeake y Potomac—para compartir el amor de Jesús y la esperanza de su pronto regreso con aproximadamente 10 millones de personas en la metrópoli de Baltimore-Washington. La iniciativa, titulada Living With Hope (“vivir con esperanza”), se lanza el 11 de abril, y es una estrategia integral que incluirá una variedad de eventos comunitarios, seminarios, grupos pequeños y eventos de cosecha.

“Si esperamos impactar al mundo con el evangelio en el siglo 21, las grandes ciudades como Baltimore y Washington, D.C. serán nuestra plataforma de lanzamiento”, dice Frank Bondurant, vicepresidente para el desarrollo de ministerios y organizador del evento. “Tengo la certeza de que cada una de nuestras iglesias en el área de Baltimore y Washington querrán ser parte de este proyecto de alcance evangelístico sin precedentes”.

Para más información visite hopeinprophecy.org/evangelism.

IGLESIA HISPANA SE INICIA EN TOLEDO

Con la ayuda de 10 miembros del grupo, Sergio Romero, director de ministerio multilingües de Allegheny West Conference, plantó recientemente la iglesia Jesus is Victory [Jesús es victoria] en Toledo, Ohio. El pastor Eleazer Rodríguez, quien dirige la nueva congregación, dice: “El entusiasmo del grupo es justo lo que se necesitaba para un proyecto ambicioso y desafiante”. Lea más en la página 19.—*Bryant Taylor*

VEA A LOS FUERTES CONQUISTADORES

Vea más fotografías del camporí internacional de Conquistadores “Forever Faithful” en columbiaunionvisitor.com/foreverfaithful.

ARTÍCULO ESPECIAL DE VISITOR: Siervo de Dios, amigo de la humanidad

Los miles de participantes en el camporí internacional de Conquistadores “Forever Faithful”, que se llevó a cabo este verano en Oshkosh, Wis., tomaron parte en muchos eventos de alcance y servicio comunitario además de intercambiar botones, obtener los honores, explorar las grandes salas de exposiciones y participar en numerosas otras actividades. Más de 5,000 Conquistadores y miembros de la directiva hicieron manualidades con los niños locales, sirvieron como voluntarios en la biblioteca pública Neenah Public, limpiaron la costa del lago Winneconne, sirvieron como voluntarios en Lutheran Homes and Health Services de Fond du Lac, y en numerosos otros proyectos. Algunos clubes también realizaron asesoramiento en la comunidad para ayudar a las iglesias locales a satisfacer mejor las necesidades después de acabado el camporí. Lo hicieron todo en su esfuerzo por ser un “siervo de Dios y amigo de la humanidad”, cumpliendo así la promesa del Conquistador durante su tiempo en Oshkosh.

Laarni Flores, director del club Piscataway Eagles de New Jersey Conference, de la iglesia Lake Nelson, dice que ser voluntario es importante para los Conquistadores porque, a una temprana edad, aprenden a ayudar a las demás personas. Flores ha sido un miembro de la directiva del club por más de cinco años y señala que los miembros que en el pasado estuvieron bien involucrados en servir, aún hoy están involucrados. “Ya forma parte de su vida”, dice ella.—*V. Michelle Bernard*

Miembros del club de Conquistadores Army of the Lord (ejército del Señor), de la iglesia North Plainfield (N.J.), disfrutan tiempo juntos en el camporí internacional de Conquistadores “Forever Faithful” en Oshkosh, Wis.



PHOTO BY JENEAN JOHNSON

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Underscore

ELIZABETH ANDERSON

Small Groups Boost Church Membership. What's the Science Behind Their Success?

Some call them growth groups. Others dub them lead groups, life groups or home churches. Names and evangelism approaches vary, but the end goals are the same—small groups, as they are most commonly known, multiply church membership.

José Esposito should know. His Hispanic Ministries Department at the Potomac Conference started developing a plan for small groups in 1997. Now there are 350 groups within his conference that meet each week. He credits these gatherings with boosting membership and notes that, through the years, “we have baptized more than 12,000 people and organized a total of 49 churches, 13 companies and nine mission groups.” He says local church tithes and offerings also blossomed,

despite the 2008 financial crisis.

José Cortés, New Jersey Conference president and author of *As Jesus Did It*, a book on the topic, dittos Potomac’s success. Thanks to small group evangelism and fellowship groups, his conference’s membership has blossomed during the past seven years—from 11,718 to 15,239, as of September 2014 (see the graph). Cortés prays their membership will top 16,000 by December 31.

Cortés says it’s simple math. In one-on-one studies, church members might spend about an hour with one person in Bible study. When that person is baptized, “you are adding to the church,” he says. On the other hand, “when you do small groups ... you multiply.” Cortés says this is because

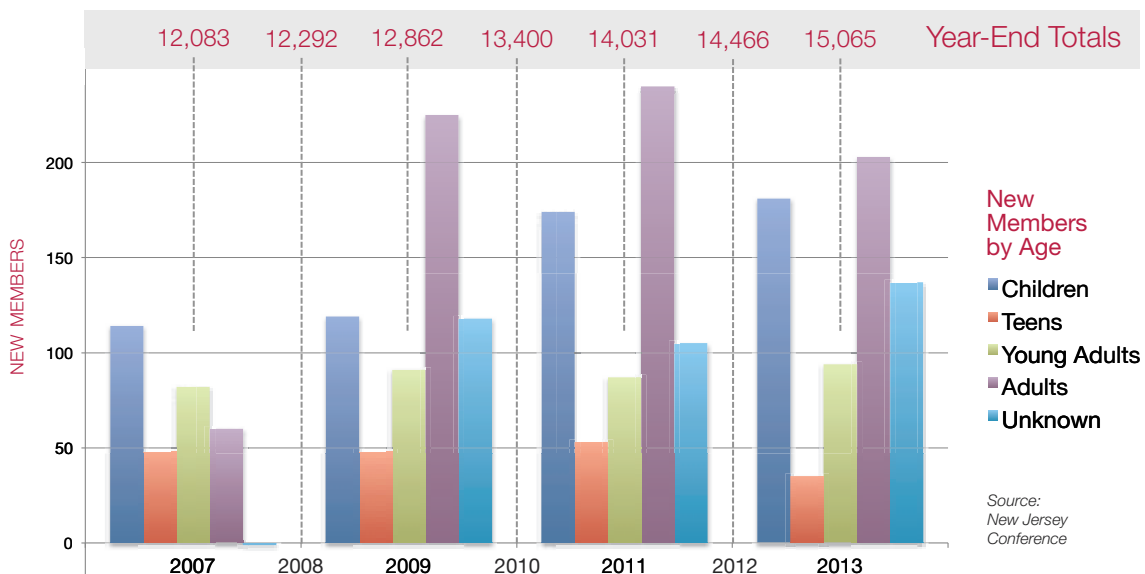
members are ministering to 12 people or more at once. “In a mathematical sense, you would see why small groups grow the church explosively,” he notes.

One way they expand their reach is by engaging “the extended church,” which includes inviting a member’s family who isn’t Seventh-day Adventist. “We invite these people to come to the small groups because they live in the same house. It’s another way to bring people to the Bible study,” says Cortés.

WHY THEY WORK

Most leaders agree that one reason these intentional, lay-led meetings work is because they deepen and expand the ministry of a congregation and build an

Small Groups Grow New Jersey Membership



extended community. They are “very good for the society we live in right now,” says Cortés. He explains that people aren’t “looking for a pastor or a priest, but they are looking for a group of friends. They love the sense of belonging.”

Peter Casillas, Potomac’s associate director for evangelism and church planting, adds that small groups provide a safe space for people to openly grapple through their uncertainties about God, biblical doctrines and other topics. “The small group ... provides that comfort place where a person can just be,” he says.

Casillas adds that involvement in small groups provides opportunity for everyone in the church to engage in outreach. He adds, “Members who become active in sharing the Jesus message, who become active in blessing and becoming a positive influence in the community, the result of that is a growing community.”

Cortés agrees and notes that Jesus was the director of a small group. He trained His 12 disciples and sent them to preach the gospel. By following His example, “our groups accomplish both ... evangelism and fellowship.” He also notes that balance is integral to success. When groups focus on fellowship without evangelism, they won’t work, he says. Conversely, when groups focus on evangelism without fellowship, they will also fail.

Casillas says small groups are definitely important to the health of a church, although he doesn’t pit that approach against traditional church meetings. “I think each one has its purpose,” he says. He also hopes people will remember that the church and small groups should work in tandem and not against each other. “I think that they should be connected,” he suggests. Even if a church is healthy, “[it] needs the small groups, because in a church of 400, a person can get lost,” he says.

ONE SIZE DOESN’T FIT ALL

The types of small groups vary along with interests and needs of

specific congregations. There are accountability groups, social groups, sports groups and Bible study groups, among others.

Potomac’s Seabrook (Md.) church, chiefly started “growth groups” to help connect new members with other congregants. “We felt like this would help close that back door of new members coming in, not becoming established in the church because there are no relationships that have formed,” explains Damein Johnson, senior pastor. “So now, as people are baptized or new members are coming in, we highly recommend they join. They’re in that growth group for 10 weeks with other members, and relationships are formed. We believe that’s what will root them in the church.”

Steve Leddy, pastor of the Connections Community congregation, a new Chesapeake Conference church plant in Laurel, Md., says churches can also use one of the newest methods called the free market approach, where group leaders choose what type of small group to start. The church helps group leaders advertise their groups, but it’s up to the leaders to grow their groups, Leddy says.

Within the groups, members use “nudge evangelism,” a nurturing approach that doesn’t aim for a definitive commitment to Christ within a three or four month meeting term. Leddy says their goal at Connections is to foster growth and warmth toward Christ. They then use a modified Engel Scale to help identify a person’s inclination toward Christ. The scale ranges from -10, which signifies a person with an antagonistic view of Jesus, to +10, which signifies the opposite. Zero is the midpoint, “which is where people would come to Christ,” he says.

The goal of nudge evangelists is to nurture group attendees to warm up to Christ, accept Christ or grow in Christ. “A lot of times we try and create evangelistic models where we’re trying to get everyone to the same place, but not everyone is at the same place,” Leddy explains.

“So, we’re trying to create a model that works with a much broader range of people.” He says he has had success with this model at churches he’s pastored around the United States.

Casillas says that, no matter which approach a church follows, they should remember the main goal: to bring sinners to Christ. Among Hispanic churches in his conference, evangelistic groups accomplish this through three actions: meet the needs of those attending the small group—“whether it’s food, clothing, things like that”—share the Word through Bible studies and “provide a safe community, a safe place to be.”

Cortés challenges congregations who haven’t yet embraced small group evangelism. “I challenge everybody to try it. Do it well and you *will* see the results.”

3 Practices of Successful Small Groups

Our professionals offer ideas on how to keep small groups healthy:

■ **Train Group Leaders.** The health of small groups hinges on the group leader; therefore, it’s important for pastors to train them. Group leaders should also regularly consult with fellow leaders and share experiences.

■ **Become Family.** There is more to small groups than showing up each week. Each member should see the others as family and commit to make it work.

■ **Make the Lost Your Number-One Priority**—otherwise the group will probably plateau or die. Although small groups do grow members’ spiritual walks, the focus needs to be on gaining members through friendship or relational evangelism.



Servant of GOD Friend to MAN

Pathfinders put their pledge into practice at the international camporee and leave inspired to make a greater impact in their communities

V. MICHELLE BERNARD

They crawled around the yard looking for weeds, about 50 of them. Every few pulls, they'd wipe sweat from their foreheads. They repeated this for an hour then moved inside to help pack sack lunches for 750 less fortunate residents in the area. After a short snack to rest and refuel, they helped unload produce and baked goods for the next day's meal, then returned to weeding—all of this before noon.

These do-gooders were Pathfinders and their leaders out and about, away from the packed fairgrounds of the "Forever Faithful" International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., this summer. In between pin trading, earning honors, exploring the massive exhibit halls and numerous other activities, Potomac Conference's Patriots from the Fredericksburg (Va.) church and Orange Prayer Warriors from the Orange (Va.) church (some pictured, above and right) joined Pathfinders from Colorado and New York to volunteer at the Salvation Army Community Center in Fond du Lac.



Camporee Volunteers in Focus

Countless hours go into planning and running the international Pathfinder camporee every five years. Here is a glimpse of some of the Columbia Union volunteers that helped make this year's event a success:

Gwendolyn Beck, 81, has been a staff member with the Central Crusaders club from Allegheny West Conference's Central church in Columbus, Ohio, for more than 20 years. What keeps her motivated to help, she says, is "I love the outdoors, camping, children and like having them involved in so many activities."



Keyla Gonzalez, 19, Teen Leadership Training volunteer with Potomac's Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va., says she volunteers because "it's fun, and I like to learn new things and try new things." She adds, "Sometimes it's tough because the kids are rowdy, but I love them, which makes it easier."



Janesta Walker, vice principal of Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon, Ohio, helped sell food to raise funds and awareness for the academy. She says she volunteered because she supports Pathfinders and Christian education. She adds, "I think they are our two most important ministries."



Their tasks may seem menial, but they meant a lot to the Salvation Army staff. When they unloaded a truck full of seasonal supplies for Michael Detert, thrift store manager, it saved his staff nearly two hours of work. And, pulling weeds would have taken a single staffer more than four hours, says Connie Millard, community development director.

"As the weeds grew, people would walk past and wonder if things are okay, is there life happening there," says Millard about their facility's unkempt yard. "[The Pathfinders] allowed us to do what we need to do and still make [our office] beautiful," she says. "It shows our neighbors we are here and care. It allows us to put forth our best to the community."

But, service projects like this one do more than help a community; they also help the Pathfinders. "Pathfinding isn't just about having fun but serving others," says Shawna Patterson, Orange Prayer Warriors director. "It really encourages them and makes them happier."

That mindset was obvious and the Salvation Army staff noticed.

"Kids don't necessarily want to spend a hot summer day like that, but they did it cheerfully. Two girls even came over and gave me hugs when they introduced themselves," says Millard. She adds, "The biggest impression I'm left with is the cheerful hearts. That makes this group wonderful ambassadors. They've reached more than the community; they've reached hearts. That is something the organizers of the camporee should be proud of."

Going on God's Errands

Their outing was one of the many community service and outreach events planned during this year's camporee. Church leaders intentionally made service a large focus this year. More than 5,000 Pathfinders and staff members made arts and crafts with local children, volunteered at the Neenah Public Library, cleaned up the Winneconne lakeshore, volunteered at the Lutheran Homes and Health Services in Fond du Lac and numerous other projects. Some clubs also

conducted needs assessments to help local churches better meet needs after the camporee ended. They did it all in an effort to be "a servant of God and a friend to man," fulfilling the Pathfinder pledge during their time in Oshkosh.

"We do fun stuff as Pathfinders for one week and then it goes back to normal. We wanted to give some tools to the local churches where they basically can get more involved and integrated in their local community," says Seán K. Robinson, Adventist Community Services (ACS) disaster response director for the North American Division, who coordinated the on- and off-site projects and community service honors for the camporee.

During the camporee, ACS and ADRA co-sponsored a project in which Pathfinders helped fill 3,000 buckets with cleaning supplies, which will be sent to churches around North America as they prepare to respond to the damage caused by natural disasters. More than 820 of those buckets are headed to the Allegheny East, Potomac, Chesapeake, Pennsylvania and New Jersey conferences to be distributed to local churches.

ACS also offered the Refugee and Feeding Ministry honors, which 3,000 Pathfinders signed up to earn, including members from the Good Hope Guardians from the Washington-Spencerville Korean church in Spencerville, Md. Ashley





Above: Ashley Kim, Minha Yang, Taehyung Kwon and Caleb Kim, members of the Good Hope Guardians from the Washington-Spencerville Korean church, learn new ways to help in their community. Above, right: Fredericksburg Patriots help unload donations for the Salvation Army Thrift Store. Below: Jaylin Nogales, a member of the Metro Nova Spanish church and Pathfinder club, uses a mallet to close her ACS bucket filled with cleaning supplies to aid families in a disaster or emergency.



Kim, one of Spencerville's Pathfinders, says filling the ACS buckets and earning the honors really brought her club closer together. "We all have a little part of us where we want to help somebody. So, our goal is to try to help as many people as we can. Doing the honors and hearing about refugees and how they don't have the food and resources, makes me realize how much we take for granted," she adds.

Although she already regularly volunteers in her Maryland community, the camporee activities have encouraged her to do even more, says Kim.

Changing the World

Helping others certainly isn't new to Pathfinding. "Inherent in Pathfinders is community service," notes Nadine Hoston, a counselor in the Seabrook Seahawks club from Potomac's Seabrook church in Lanham, Md. Her club regularly volunteers at shelters and feeds the homeless, among other service activities. "It just isn't about teaching kids how to do various skills and have fun, but it is about serving others, whether it be in our church community or our larger community in general," she adds.

Fifty members of New Jersey

Conference's Piscataway Eagles club from the Lake Nelson church, continued that tradition during the camporee by volunteering twice—doing yard work at the Riverview Gardens in Appleton and participating in Project Roar, where clubs went door to door and distributed copies of *Real*, a magazine that shares character-building lessons featuring the life of Daniel—the main character in the camporee's nightly meetings.

Laarni Flores, Eagles director, says volunteering is important to the Pathfinders because, at a very young age, they learn how to help other people. Flores has been a staff member for more than five years and notes that her members who were really involved in service in the past are still involved today. "It is part of their life already," she says.

Her member Ben Hiramoto is a great example. Hiramoto, 16, regularly joins fellow club members in distributing food and clothing in the community, and he plays music for residents of a local nursing home. At the camporee, in addition to the group projects, Hiramoto donated his free time to help fellow Pathfinders.

"With Ben, when he does something, he does it [with] heart," says Flores. "He even missed meals to volunteer in the honors booths. Our

leaders told him to come eat, but he said he had to stay and clean up," she says.

Hiramoto didn't mind. "Many people say the youth are the future of the church, but we are the church. It is our duty as Pathfinders to serve the local community and represent what God truly is through our work," he says with tears welling up in his eyes. "It makes me feel more thankful for what I have. ... I should share with others through service."

That's the mindset Robinson hopes all Pathfinders adopt. "What I'd like [these kids] to know is that they don't have to become adults to change the world," he says. "They can change the world today when they partner with God and they show an interest and get involved in their communities. ... Sometimes we think of needs as something that happens in other parts of the world, but even in our neighborhoods we can make a difference."

Jeanne Riano, Benjamin Hiramoto and May Namisato, members of the Piscataway Eagles club from the Lake Nelson church, regularly volunteer at home in New Jersey.

You Can Get an Honor for That?

Did you know there are nine community service honors for Pathfinders in North America to earn: crisis intervention, community improvement, tutoring, rural development, refugee assistance, feeding ministries, serving communities, disaster ministries and identifying community needs. • Joe Watts, Adventist Community Services/Disaster Response national coordinator, helped update the community service honors a few years ago and says they are tools to help the Pathfinders become more aware of their communities.

Visit columbiaunionvisitor.org/honors to learn more.



Ready? Set. **PACK!**

Learning the Skill of Disaster Preparedness

Daniel Granderson

Twisted metal, flooded streets and a displaced populace in need of a helping hand. These are the memories many Americans will forever carry after Superstorm Sandy terrorized the New Jersey coastline in October 2012 and brought with it the most destructive natural disaster to ever decimate the Garden State. ● “Sandy was a wake-up call,” says Robert Smith, pastor of Allegheny East Conference’s (AEC) Newtonville First, Seashore and Boardwalk Community Fellowship churches in South Jersey. Indeed, nearly two years after the storm, repairs of the damage are still being undertaken. ● Joe Luste served as the government liaison officer during Superstorm Sandy and is the southern area coordinator for New Jersey Conference’s Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS/DR). He spearheaded the distribution of food, clothing and personal care products to victims immediately after the storm. He also continues to play an integral role in the post-Sandy cleanup and in raising community awareness about disaster preparedness. ● Luste anticipates it will require at least two or three more years before New Jersey is returned to its pre-Sandy condition, as the state government deals with bureaucratic “red tape” to secure funding for ongoing renovations. “Cleanup is a real issue, and costly—very, very costly,” he says.

Christian Duty in End Times

Seventh-day Adventists see connections between disasters and signs of the end times. The realization of this only further underscores the importance of disaster preparedness. “As a church that knows a lot of the ecological events that will occur according to prophecy, every family needs to have supplies in their homes and churches to help people. There is a need to be proactive—not reactive—to disaster relief,” says Smith.

Minnie McNeil, ACS/DR coordinator for the Columbia Union and director for Allegheny East, sees disaster relief as a ministry that Adventists are called upon to share with the world. “When we are personally prepared and trained to respond in times of disaster, we become the hands, feet and heart of Jesus. We reach out to help community members, often far distances away, recover from disaster when they cannot help themselves,” says McNeil.

Members of the Boardwalk Seahawks Pathfinder Club at Smith’s Boardwalk Community Fellowship church in Atlantic City lived that charge when they opted not to attend the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., this summer. Instead they raised money to aid with Sandy recovery. “They are on the disaster relief agenda, putting the community back into community service,” notes Smith.

Taking a Proactive Approach

ACS leaders and volunteers respond to disasters wherever they happen in North America. Leaders also provide disaster response training to local volunteers. Their ministry is supported by an annual offering collected each May by the North American Division (NAD) ACS office, based in Silver Spring, Md., and through financial donations given during a crisis.

This year the NAD ACS office proactively purchased 3,120 empty, five-gallon buckets that they are making available to conferences to provide to their local churches. The

A Bucket of Fundamentals

To be prepared to help community members clean up quickly after a disaster, the NAD suggests that each church fill 10 or so buckets with the following supplies, then store them in a cool, dry location:

- bleach
- scouring pads
- sponges
- a scrub brush
- cleaning towels/ reusable wipes
- liquid laundry detergent
- household cleaner
- disinfectant dishwashing soap
- a clothesline
- clothes pins
- dust masks
- latex or non-latex gloves
- work gloves
- heavy-duty trash bags
- insect repellent spray
- air freshener

For more specific instructions (like sizing and quantity), go to columbiaunionvisitor.com/cleanupkit for a PDF download.



churches then fill the buckets with a list of suggested cleaning supplies (see the sidebar).

McNeil notes that there was a rationale for being proactive. “Typically when disasters happen, we make an appeal to our churches, they respond generously and *then* the buckets still have to be disseminated,” she explains. “Prepared buckets already strategically placed will be a more efficient use of resources and will enhance response time.”

Because the bucket supplies will be used in homes most likely affected by fire, wind or water, the ability to mobilize relief quickly can often mean less long-term property damage and deterioration from mold and similar nuisances. A quick cleanup also aids in a healthier post-disaster environment, preventing illness and the invasion of rodents.

The Columbia Union Conference is working with the Allegheny East, New Jersey, Potomac and Pennsylvania conferences to ship the buckets during the first round of their manufacturing this fall. McNeil expects the Chesapeake Conference to join the effort at the next opportunity. The only expense to the conferences is the shipping cost of the buckets from the factory, while the NAD ACS office pays for the actual buckets. McNeil reports that the NAD is also channeling funds through the conferences to help churches purchase the contents for each bucket.

Ultimately, the NAD’s effort to better prepare conferences and churches in handling disaster relief is one of the more prudent ways to live in these uncertain times. “I’m a believer in Murphy’s law, that things will eventually go wrong somewhere in the world,” says Luste. “However, the antithesis of Murphy’s law is [to] be prepared. Can the worst happen? Yes, but if we’re prepared, it won’t matter.”

Daniel Granderson is a member of Potomac Conference’s Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md.

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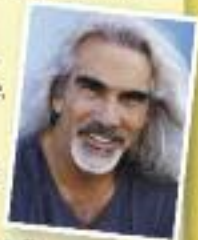


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NEWS

Pine Forge Principal Outlines New Goals

Although still new to the job, Nicole Falconer, Pine Forge Academy (PFA) principal, is starting the 2014-15 school year strong. She has already set a five-point plan for the school:



- Establish a healthy and effective school team by creating organizational clarity.
- Enhance the alignment of school programs and instructional approaches to college and career readiness.
- Build systematic, sustainable and scaffolded marketing and branding goals, plans and initiatives.
- Develop a talent and leadership pipeline.
- Secure a sound fiscal strategic plan that includes robust and multipronged fundraising, donor cultivation and alumni engagement.

“God has already blessed this phase of Pine Forge Academy by bestowing the school with \$40,000 in donations to restore the dorm bathrooms,” says Falconer.

For more information, watch PFA videos and photos on facebook.com/theofficialpineforgeacademy.

Conference Chooses New Communication Director

The Allegheny East Conference (AEC) Executive Committee recently selected LaTasha Hewitt as the new communication director. Hewitt replaces Robert L. Booker, who retired October 1.

Hewitt graduated with a bachelor’s in English from Oakwood University (Ala.) and a master’s in English and publishing from Rosemont College (Pa.).

Hewitt was previously employed as an administrative assistant in the conference’s youth department and is the current host of *AEC Today*, a video series covering the news and activities of the AEC, available at visitaec.org. Hewitt and her husband, Andre, have two daughters.



PHOTO BY ROBERT L. BOOKER

Shekinah French Baptizes 4 Young Adults

Four young adults between ages 14 and 20 chose to get baptized after a recent evangelistic series at the Shekinah French church in Philadelphia. Charles C. Richards III, a special guest, preached at the event, which the youth organized and themed “Decisions.”

During the worship service, church leaders gave the new members a Bible to help them “pursue their mission to preach God’s word in Philadelphia and all over the world,” says Jean Milca Fenelon, pastor. —*Johnispen Saint-Sauveur*



Hansley Ceasar and Khalid Brame wait to be baptized.

Ebenezer Member Keeps Pathfinders Looking Sharp

Melcher Monk is a teacher by trade, but he also loves serving through his other passion—sewing. Monk has been sewing since he was at least 13. “I’ve always enjoyed it. It is just a talent the Lord has given me, and I’m looking forward to using it,” he says.

During the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., Monk, a volunteer with the Ebenezer Warriors Pathfinder Club from the Ebenezer church in Philadelphia, sewed countless patches on sashes and uniforms for Pathfinders in the Allegheny East and West conferences and across the country. He even created a new banner for a club that forgot theirs at home.



During the camporee, Monk had to move his sewing machine to a larger tent to accommodate all of the sewing projects and Pathfinders. During the moving process, a Pathfinder dropped and cracked a

piece of the machine, making it unusable. That didn’t stop Monk. He drove about 70 miles to the closest repair shop, only to discover the needed part wouldn’t arrive until the camporee was almost over. But, he was able to find a floor model embroidery machine—something he had wanted to purchase before the camporee—at a third of the normal price, and continued sewing.

Monk isn’t sure how many Pathfinders came through his tent, but says he spent five or six hours most days sewing. He’s looking forward to using his new machine at future camporees.



Consecration Gets Dupont Park School Ready for Year

Students at the Dupont Park Adventist School in Washington, D.C., began the 2014-15 school year with a special consecration and anointing service at the Dupont Park church. Pastors, elders and conference

officials gathered with the children, faculty and parents to pray for God’s blessings during the upcoming academic year. Chris Gibbons, an elder at Potomac Conference’s Restoration Praise Center in Bowie, Md., gave students a special charge. He encouraged the scholars to “believe in their talents and abilities, and elevate their minds from those who would doubt in their potential to succeed ... and strive for excellence and, above all else, trust God even when there seems to be no answer in sight.”

Parents and family members joined their children and teachers at



Madison Poole, a first-grader, enjoys the ceremony.



PHOTO BY CASSANDRA ARNOLD

the front of the church as the students received special prayer and anointing. “Consecration was cool! It felt good to be anointed with my classmates,” says Chloe Henry, a seventh-grader. Parents echoed similar sentiments. “This consecration service is a wonderful idea,” says Janice Allen. “Anointing each student also added another layer. It is clear the administration wants to do God’s will. How can our students not be blessed?”

—Tanya McInnis

New Hispanic Church Opens in Toledo



The Bible says the gospel will be preached to every nation, kindred and tongue and people (see Rev. 14:6). Sergio Romero, the conference's Multicultural Ministries director, wants to make sure that happens in Toledo, Ohio. Romero recently planted the Jesus is Victory church with the help of 10 charter members. Sixteen adults and 15 children attended the opening Sabbath service.

Pastor Eleazer Rodriguez is leading the new congregation. "The enthusiasm of the core group is just what is needed for such an ambitious and challenging project," he says. "We want to spread and share the gospel with the Hispanic community in the city of Toledo."

Members of the Jesus is Victory church show pride for their new church.

Shiloh Church Celebrates Disabilities Day

The Shiloh church in Cincinnati recently hosted a Disabilities Day. Catherine Burks, interim Disabilities Ministries coordinator, planned the event and Sharon L. Bowen, director of Disabilities Ministries at the conference, gave a sermon titled "Promises are Made to be Kept," a message about how King David showed kindness to Mephibosheth, who had a disability.

The celebration continued with a skit set in a courtroom where the audience served as the jury and found the defendant guilty for being insensitive in dealing with peoples with disabilities. The punishment was mandatory attendance at sensitivity classes.



Sharon Bowen (back row, third from right), pauses with members of the Shiloh Disabilities Ministries Department.



Harcourt and Cynthia King join Sharon Bowen (back row, left to right) and visiting guests.

Burks says the event encouraged her. "It was a joy to see full participation of disabled members and the elderly," she says. "Disabilities Ministries will encourage churches to raise funds to provide equipment to meet the needs of persons with disabilities and encourage them to accept church offices and take the lead in planning their own programs," she adds.

Harcourt King, pastor of the church, shared that "every one of God's children has gifts and talents, and deserves a chance to develop and share them." He also challenged the congregation to raise funds for an elevator for the elderly and disabled.

Adult Store Owner Sells Business After Church Meetings

The Temple Emmanuel church in Youngstown, Ohio, recently held Live Life to the Fullest Bible Conference. Bryant L. Smith, church pastor, hosted, and William T. Cox, Jr., conference president, served as evangelist for the three-week series.


The church advertised through radio spotlights on the *Steve Harvey Morning Show*, and the church provided meals on Tuesday and Wednesday nights to make it easier for families to attend. The church also offered anointing services for the sick and burdened on Friday evenings.

Cox's presentations taught spiritual, financial and relationship truths on abundant living that changed many lives, say organizers. One attendee owned an adult entertainment store but was impressed to sell the business after the meetings. He is currently developing a Christian lounge with a smoothie bar. He along with 21 others were baptized!



Attendees approach the altar for prayer and anointing.

Smith says, "The meeting was a great success, and the church is excited about where God is leading us."



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THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

OCTOBER 2014

Finding Lasting Value

According to public records in Bolivia, Carmelo Flores Laura is the oldest living person ever documented and is 123 years old. He lives in a straw-roofed, dirt-floor hut near Lake Titicaca, walks without a cane and doesn't wear glasses. However, all his teeth are gone.

While we may be impressed by Laura's longevity, it falls far short of the eternal nature of God. From everlasting to everlasting, God endures. But, unlike us, God does not change with the passage of time. "For I am the Lord, I do not change," He promises in (Malachi 3:6, NKJV). We can rely on the constancy and consistency of our God. For all of the changes that come in our lives and in this world, there is a reliable faithfulness about God.

This consistency extends to God's Word as well. "Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven" (Ps. 119:89). We can have complete confidence, that, whatever God has said in the past, will remain true today and tomorrow.

The psalmist devotes the longest book in the Bible to the theme of the reliability of God and His Word. The result is a great benefit to us. "I have remembered Your judgments of old, O Lord, and have comforted myself," writes David (Ps. 119:52). Our assurance and security is based on the solid foundation of Jesus in the Scriptures. It only makes sense for us to join the psalmist in embracing the observance of the word. "So shall I keep Your law continually, forever and ever" (Ps. 119:44).

When everything is changing around us, when the politics, economics, cultural norms and technology seem to change every day, there is a place of certainty. We can commit to following the words of an unchanging God. It is there we find lasting value.



Rick Remmers
President

NEWS

Spencerville Member Works for Human Rights, Ending Abuse

This spring Amanda Rodriguez, an attorney and member of the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., became the advisor on human trafficking policy for the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. More recently, Rodriguez was promoted to oversee policy development on domestic violence statewide in addition to her work in human trafficking. She is actively involved at Spencerville and recently participated in the church's enditnow Abuse Prevention Emphasis Sabbath.



Amanda Rodriguez is pictured with husband German Rodriguez, also an attorney, and son Benjamin.

Spencerville Member Appointed Honorary Health Director

The Seventh-day Adventist world church recently appointed E. Albert Reece, also a member of the Spencerville church, as an honorary associate director of Health Ministries. Reece will consult for the department on chronic diseases, which he says consume nearly 80 percent of healthcare funds. Reece is a distinguished professor and dean of the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore.—Ansel Oliver



Upcoming Events

October 10-12

Adventist Singles Retreat

Mount Aetna Retreat Center, Hagerstown, Md.

Eli Rojas, keynote speaker

October 18

Grow! Reach! Thrive! Women's Retreat,

Spencerville Adventist Academy, Spencerville, Md.

Raquel Arrais, keynote speaker

To register, visit ccosda.org, or call (410) 995-1910.

Pathfinders Blend Faith and Fun at Camporee

Some 800 Chesapeake Conference Pathfinders and staff were among the 46,000 attendees at the recent “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis. The clubs were generous in helping each other—transporting equipment, sharing food and tents—and worshipped together as a community each morning of the event, reports Carl Rodriguez, conference Youth Ministries director. Below are some highlights. View more photos and video online at facebook.com/chesapeakeconference.



Members of Testify, the Willow Brook Pioneers' drama team, based in Boonsboro, Md., and their co-leader, Darlene Milam (front, left), gather for a rehearsal.



Rick Remmers, conference president, baptizes Ann Goncalves, 10, a member of the Capital Brazilian Falcons Pathfinder Club from the Capital Brazilian church in Fulton, Md. She and her older sister, Sarah, were among 20 Chesapeake Conference youth baptized during the event.



Doug Miller (right), director of the Dover Diamonds Pathfinder Club from the Dover First church in Dover, Del., and club member Jacob Cornell enjoy interactive exhibits near the main meeting place.

PHOTOS BY EDSON TANAKA, JENNIFER MILLER AND GLEN MILAM

Triadelphia Fosters Friendship at County Fair

At the recent Howard County Fair in West Friendship, Md., some 100 visitors lingered at the Triadelphia church's booth to take the Test Your Bible Knowledge Quiz.

“The Bible quiz is an entry point for spiritual conversation,” says David Park, a member of the Clarksville, Md., church. In many instances, Park was able to answer questions, explore Bible passages and share literature with those who expressed interest.

Tony Williams, another Triadelphia member, had a 40-minute conversation with a woman who saw the movie *Noah* and posed questions about its biblical accuracy. The conversation moved to the second coming. “Clearly the Holy Spirit led in this conversation,” says Williams, who silently prayed for guidance. “I had no idea how we’d ever move from Noah.”

Thirty-four volunteers manned the booth and distributed more than 500 DVDs donated by Hope Channel. Kids received goody bags and adult visitors took home books and literature on biblical topics, parenting and healthful living. A highlight of the experience took place the following Sabbath when Debbie, a woman who had stopped by the church's booth, visited the Triadelphia church and attended Sabbath School and stayed all the way through the afternoon for a picnic.—Joyce Ludy



Volunteers Sharon Tallon and Carol McHenry manage the Triadelphia church booth at the Howard County Fair.

PHOTO BY MAY-ELLEN COLÓN

New Instructors Bring Math, History Enthusiasm

April Grube Lutz (below) joins Highland View Academy (HVA) as the World History and American History teacher and newspaper sponsor. Lutz earned a bachelor's in history from Andrews University (Mich.). She also holds a master's in American West History with an emphasis in memory and masculinity from Washington State University (Wash.). While earning her master's, Lutz taught college history classes and worked as a long-term substitute teacher. Her husband, Jarrod, teaches English at Spencerville Adventist Academy.

Lutz says she is excited to be part of the close community at a boarding academy. She looks forward

to piquing students' interest by showing them that history is interesting. Lutz's teaching focuses on helping students understand the importance of interpreting history in order to understand themselves.

Lisa Peters Norton joins HVA faculty as the math and computer teacher and informational technology technician. Norton earned a bachelor's in mathematics from Southern Adventist University (Tenn.) and a master's in



mathematics from Eastern Washington University (Wash.). She previously taught math classes at Southern, Eastern Washington and at the Community Colleges of Baltimore County in Maryland. She also taught grades 1-8 while serving as a student missionary in the Marshall Islands. Most recently Norton worked as an authorization specialist for The Johns Hopkins Hospital (Md.) and assisted in upgrading their scheduling system from being DOS-based to Windows-based. Her husband, Michael, works in software development.

Norton says she is excited to teach at an Adventist school. Referring to herself as a "math missionary," she tries to pass her enthusiasm for math on to her students. She loves to tutor students of various age groups and abilities in math, and looks forward to having the opportunity to work for an entire year on one subject with students. Norton also enjoys working with colleagues who share similar interests and values.



Principal, Church Youth Pastor Take on Ice Bucket Challenge

Malcolm Hutchinson, principal, and Matthew Master, Highland View church youth pastor, are doused with buckets of ice water as part of the hugely popular ALS Ice Bucket Challenge to raise awareness about the neurodegenerative disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Hutchinson and Master also made monetary donations to the ALS Foundation.

Campus Recovers From Summer Storm Damage

This summer storms crossing the Maryland panhandle made local and national news when they caused a tragic death at a Christian summer camp and major power outages area wide. What did not make the news was the tens of thousands of dollars of damage to Highland View Academy. School leaders are grateful to God that no one on campus was injured, as the men's dorm was being rented to an outside group at that time. The summer storm marched across the campus and directly hit the men's dormitory, causing major damage to all things electrical.

High winds took out numerous trees and downed electrical transmission lines, causing the school to go without power for days. The loss of power caused refrigerators and freezers to fail, resulting in loss of food for faculty, which reminded everyone just how dependent we are on electrical power.

As the days passed, power company linemen from out of state repaired the damage and got HVA back to normal, only to have additional storms take out more trees the very next day. A power pole installed the day before snapped, resulting again in loss of power. Summer maintenance plans went by the wayside as they redirected resources to storm damage control and mitigation.

Faculty homes on campus needed to be dried out, trees cleaned up and roads reopened. The school's short-term dorm renters were understanding and worked with HVA as they weathered the storms'



Out-of-state electrical technicians work to restore power.



Summer storms knock down numerous trees on campus.



Trees fall across power lines, resulting in loss of power throughout campus.

aftermath with no electricity, lack of air conditioning and creative meals from food service. But, faculty and staff demonstrated resiliency and life returned to normal. The summer of 2014 proved challenging and costly to Highland View Academy, but the school continues to clear storm damage and to take preventative measures to protect the campus from future storms.

—Malcolm Hutchinson

Calendar

October

19 STEMfest

November

9 Talent Show

9-10 Academy Days

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

OCTOBER 2014

870 Graduate From Discover Bible Schools

This fall the Mountain View conference celebrated the 870 graduates from their recent Discover Bible Study campaign. Graduates, volunteers, Voice of Prophecy (VOP), conference and Columbia Union Conference leaders joined the graduation and praise services in Charleston and Bridgeport, W.Va., and in Oakland, Md.

The King's Heralds quartet provided the music and VOP leaders Kurt Johnson and Jordana Ashburn, as well as speaker/director Shawn Boonstra, led the program. Baptisms also took place in Charleston and Oakland.

Many of the graduates are now taking more Bible studies, some are attending church and some have become members of local Adventist congregations. Bessie Stewart, a 73-year-old graduate from the Toll Gate Church's Discover Bible School (DBS) in Pennsboro, W.Va., says, "I finished the first set [of lessons] and I liked it so much that I began the next series called Focus on Prophecy. I've been a Christian since the age of 14 and I'm still learning [from the Bible]."

During the last two years, VOP sent Discover Bible Study cards to more than 900,000 households in the



The audience in Bridgeport, W.Va., commit their lives to Jesus Christ as Shawn Boonstra closes his evening message.



Shawn Boonstra, VOP speaker/director, congratulates Tia Patton as she receives her KidZone Bible studies completion certificate at the Charleston, W.Va., graduation service.

conference's territory. The conference pastors, three Bible workers and active church members worked hard to respond to and visit the more than 10,000 people who requested studies because of the mailings.

"It was a joint effort and the transformation was remarkable," say conference leaders. "Lay members who thought they were too shy and untrained to give Bible studies learned that, with the Holy Spirit's help, they could do all things."

Joan Skinner, a DBS instructor from the Marlinton (W.Va.) church, shares another bonus of volunteering: "I'm spending more time reading God's Word. What a joy."

The recent successes are the result of the Holy Spirit's moving and planning that started at a visioning meeting with conference members and leaders in 2009. That meeting resulted in a plan to encourage members to give Bible studies through weekend training seminars led by ShareHim and Lillian Torres, the Pennsylvania Conference and Columbia Union Bible worker. In 2013 a team from the VOP taught members how to operate a DBS in their church and how to obtain personal studies from the interest cards.

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

Mountaintop Members Share Health Message in Community

After receiving the alarming news that John Rodeheaver had two cancers in his colon and more than 40 polyps, he and his wife, Renata, asked the Lord for guidance with their next steps.

In their search for the best course of action, they found and registered for a 10-day wellness program at the Lifetree Wellness Institute of Natural Healing in Idaho.



PHOTO BY CHERYL IDEN

The Rodeheavers were so impressed with the information they gleaned and the meals that were served during the program that they wanted to share it with their community at home. Elena Muraviov (pictured), the center's cook, agreed to give a seminar at the

Pleasant Valley Community Center in Oakland, Md.

Thirty to 50 people attended the 10-day seminar. Muraviov gave health tips and demonstrated how to make healthy dishes like Thai wraps, a tamale casserole, kale chips, garbanzo foo young and many other dishes. Attendees were further encouraged to attend with door prizes and nightly quizzes.

Members from the Mountaintop church in Oakland, Md., Cheryl Iden, Christy Trembly, Kathy Ridder and Madeline Sines helped run the seminar that provided a friendly atmosphere to visitors.

"It was an exciting way to connect with the community by sharing the gospel through the health message," says Renata.

Pathfinders Enjoy "Forever Faithful" Camporee



PHOTO BY BETH ACKMAN

Walter Cardenas, conference youth leader, and Courtney Ackman, a member of the Toll Gate Trail Blazers Pathfinder Club from Pennsboro, W.Va., rejoice over Ackman's baptism at the "Forever Faithful" International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis. Ackman became a member of the Toll Gate church.

How is Prayer Important to You?



Prayer is a way of communicating, not only by me asking but by listening, and this two-way communication is the developing of a vibrant and meaningful relationship between me and my Savior.—Sue Patterson, is a member of the Valley View church in Bluefield, W.Va.



PHOTOS DANIEL MORIKONE

To me, prayer means sharing my heart with God. Sometimes I share my deepest needs; sometimes I share the needs of others; sometimes I just give thanks for His constant generosity.—Joel Stecker is a member of the Elkins (W.Va.) church



PHOTO BY ART CALHOUN

Pathfinders from the Toll Gate and Parkersburg (W.Va.) clubs enjoy a tight bond after camping in the rain, eating together and enjoying a wonderful time at the camporee.

SPIRIT

MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

OCTOBER 2014

Teach Me to Wait

I hate waiting! I drive out of my way to avoid traffic lights because I hate to wait. Life is made for moving, exploring, learning and growing—not for waiting. Yet, God calls us to wait, be still and stop our “doing.” He waits to renew our strength, to fill the vacant spaces in our lives with desire, passion and hope. My challenge remains to slow down, pause and watch the Son. Let our prayer be, “Teach me to wait upon you, Lord, for I need Your strength.”



Dan Kittle
Principal

What I've Learned About Waiting and Praying

If you've been praying and praying, now it's time to wait. While you wait for your answer, don't lose hope if it doesn't come instantly. A change is coming. In the meantime, practice “on your mark, get set ... wait and pray.”

On your mark. Don't dare underestimate Him! He's all you could ever imagine, and so much more. But, more importantly, He's willing to help you in any and every way possible! He's in control of everything.



Get set. Delight yourself in the Lord for He will give you the desires of your heart. Try it, delight yourself in the Lord and slowly, sometimes very slowly, you'll find yourself getting things you really want or need.

Wait. Rethink what prayer means to you. It's not all about going through your wish list, nor is it about saying thanks. It's really about having a conversation with God. You may not hear Him talk back, but He loves hearing from you! It doesn't matter what you talk about. He's all knowing. His ears are always tuned in to you!

Pray. On your mark. Get set. Go spend some personal time with God. He's anxious; don't keep Him waiting.”—*Angel Crutcher ('15)*

School Eagle Gets a Face-Lift

The Mount Vernon eagle, perched on the globe just outside of the administration building, is getting a face-lift this fall. The eagle was a gift from Albert and Thelma Moore of Columbus, Ohio, in 1935. It originally topped the Mason Monumental Works building in Columbus. The eagle is a source of pride for Mount Vernon Academy alumni. However, it was suffering from years of exposure and in bad need of repair.

Janesta Walker, vice principal and art teacher, along with the help of Dan Kittle, principal, washed, sanded and primed the sculpture and gave it a fresh coat of paint. Although it is a work in progress, students, staff and alumni have expressed gratitude for the restoration of this symbol of the school they love.



SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY (1961)

CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

OCTOBER 2014

Beloved Registrar Retires After 30 Years

When Diann Ring began working as the registrar at Spring Valley Academy (SVA) in 1984, little did she know it would turn into a 30-year career! During this time, she has worked under a total of six principals, beginning with John Wheaton and including J.D. Mutchler, Brad Durby, Jeff Bovee, Vern Biloff and Darren Wilkins. She also witnessed the graduation of 870 seniors!

Throughout the years, Ring has been a faithful employee and trusted friend to students, teachers and staff alike. Recently Wilkins acknowledged Ring's years of service with the presentation of a beautifully engraved clock (pictured) for her retirement. The leadership team wishes Ring all the very best and prays that God continues to bless her and Ted, her husband, as they start their retirement years.



Senior Selected for Competitive Science Program



high school students to careers in the health sciences.

Morgan Mainess, a Spring Valley Academy senior, was one of 15 junior students nationally selected to join the Minority Introduction to the Health Sciences (MITHS), a challenging three-week summer program designed to introduce black Seventh-day Adventist

The program is sponsored jointly by the Black Alumni of Loma Linda and La Sierra universities, as well as Loma Linda University, all based in California.

The entities chose Mainess based on her academic standing, performance in science and math courses, citizenship, leadership, and participation in school activities and community service, as well as her interest in a career in the health sciences. The MITHS experience prepares students for their senior year and helps them develop time management and study skills for college. Mainess shares, "MITHS really opened my eyes to see what I had the ability of accomplishing." She is the daughter of Ronald and Krista Mainess of Waynesville, Ohio, and plans to attend an Adventist university next year.

Senior Wins Regional Golf Tournament

Alec Velasco, a Spring Valley Academy senior, recently won the Boys 14-19 division of the Wetherington Tournament held at the Wetherington Golf and Country Club in West Chester, Ohio. He scored seven under par, and achieved the lowest two-round total in the boys' older division of the Midwest region of the Golfweek Junior Tour. Velasco is the son of Mark ('86) and Shannon ('87) Velasco of Centerville, Ohio, and the grandson of Diann Ring, retired SVA registrar.



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Phone: (937) 433-0790 ■ springvalleyacademy.org ■ Principal, Darren Wilkins ■ Editor, Vicki Swetnam

NEWS NEW JERSEY

OCTOBER 2014

Drive the Youth With Care!

I recently saw a traffic sign in Lawrenceville that caught my attention. It said, “We have so many children, and we love all of them. Please drive carefully.” I immediately applied this to our church and thought, “We have so many children in our churches, and we love all of them. We need to drive them carefully.”

After reviewing the church board records of a dying church, I found the reason for its imminent demise. They voted not to baptize anyone younger than 14 years old. Can you believe it? It is one of the most glaring crimes that a church can commit against its children. Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 19:14, NKJV). What right does anyone have to shut the door leading into the kingdom of Heaven to one of these little ones?

Good intentioned adults blandly say, “We need to pray for our youth; they are for the most part a little crazy and need to be held in check.” But, I know many adults who are half or totally crazy. These are too often the ones who try to expel or control our youth.

Let’s try to stop stuffing cake in their mouths. Instead, let’s invite them to the kitchen where they can learn to bake for themselves and others. Our youth need to be at our sides, finishing the work! Our youth must actively participate in the important matters of the church.

Remember, we have so many children, please drive them carefully!



José H. Cortés
President

Lakewood Spanish Evangelizes With Adventurer Club



Lakewood Adventurer Club staff and children enjoy their time at a conference adventure.

Passing the torch of truth to the younger generations can be a daunting task. However, Jesus’ Warriors from the Lakewood Spanish church in Lakewood prove that Adventurer clubs are excellent tools for sharing the evangelistic message.

Four people have already surrendered their lives to Jesus because of the club, which began in 2011 under the leadership of Zaida Figueras. Since then many more started attending the church because of the club. José Guevara, pastor, says that one of the people attending says his former church of another denomination had a beautiful building, comfortable environment and many members, but no programs for children.

Although young, the club won first-place trophies from the conference in 2012 and 2014 while under the leadership of Nina Howard. “We are proud of our club, and we share their joy, but we also are really pleased to know that the seed of Christ’s salvation has been planted in many hearts,” says Pastor Guevara. “Our prayer is that many churches start using all the programs that God has given us to bring people to Him.”

“I Traded Partying for Prison Ministry”

I was not always a Seventh-day Adventist. I first heard the Adventist message in my early 20s when I started working with an Adventist who shared the truth about Jesus and the Bible with me.

When I first heard these truths, I wasn't interested. I was young and wasn't ready to give up partying. But day after day, my co-worker talked about Jesus, the Bible and praised God, and I eventually became interested in learning more. I started to ask questions about the Sabbath, the state of the dead and angels. My friend always answered with Bible verses. But, he challenged me to check the Bible to see if what he was saying was true. I did, and was amazed to see what the Word of God said.

I soon went to my first Bible study, and a year later was baptized into the Robbinsville church. By the grace of God, I was able to make some major changes in my life and got involved in the church right away. In less than a year after being baptized, I went on my first mission trip. When I came back, I started teaching Sabbath School and became a deacon. I went on another mission trip, then joined the prison ministry and became the Personal Ministries and Prison Ministries leader at church. I'm now on my way to becoming an evangelist. It was by the guidance of the Holy Spirit and a willing heart to serve that I was able to do these things. If God can take a sinner like me and do these wonderful things, how much more can He do for you?—Anthony Ponteiro



1,000 Represent Conference at International Camporee

More than 1,000 people from the New Jersey Conference recently attended the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis. Out of the 38 clubs in the conference, 37 attended the event.

“It was really a blessing seeing the youth enjoying their time and learning about how to be forever faithful,” says Jorge Coxaj, assistant youth director for the conference and pastor of the Rockaway church.

“It was awesome! Beautiful! Amazing! Something that I will never forget,” adds Luiz Ruiz, a member of the Edison Spanish church in Edison.

“It was the best experience of my life!” says Paula Macena, 12,

Paulo Macena, New Jersey Conference youth director, baptizes Ethan Nieves from SWAT Team Pathfinder Club from the Robbinsville (N.J.) church.

who represented New Jersey on the camporee stage reciting “Jesus in the books of the Bible.” She adds, “I can't wait to be back for ‘Chosen’ in 2019.”

There were many highlights from the camporee, but the most special one was when more than 30 New Jersey Pathfinders got baptized.



Jorge Coxaj, pastor of the Rockaway church, baptizes Danny Sachno, a member of the Rockaway Guardians Pathfinder Club.

Cleveland Church Welcomes New Members, Community

Members of the Greater Cleveland church, formerly the Greater Cleveland Ghanaian church, felt strongly they should open their doors, not only to their Ghanaian community, but also their entire neighborhood. Earlier this year, they conducted a survey in their local community to see what needs were present. Fifty people requested regular prayer and 15 signed up for Bible study lessons.

The church then started 40 days of prayer and fasting “for the Holy Spirit to transform and empower the church for the gospel commission,” says Emmanuel Kusi Yeboah, associate pastor of the Cincinnati Ghanaian church. Yeboah and members visited, called, prayed and gave studies to community members. Kim Russell, a Baptist pastor mentioned in last month’s *Mission Ohio*, was among those who responded to the invitation. Richard Danso, who had been attending but was not yet baptized invited Russell.

That first Sabbath was a turning point. “As I entered and walked through the doors, something happened,” says Russell. “The presence of the Lord was here.” It



Emmanuel Kusi Yeboah, assistant pastor (fourth from the right), celebrates with the baptismal candidates.

was then she saw Yeboah in the first pew, who turned and looked back at her with “a smile on his face,” she says. Yeboah approached Russell and said, “Oh, my sister, for some reason, the Lord has spoken to me to help you any way that I can. Hold on to my coat and don’t let go.” During the service, she heard “God’s powerful message on stewardship” by Oswaldo Magaña, the conference’s secretary and director of clergy care and leadership development.

After that Sabbath day in March, Russell and others continued to study with Yeboah, primarily over the phone since he lives in Cincinnati. As she learned from her studies with Yeboah, Russell struggled to stay employed as a Baptist minister. “I heard a voice from Jesus saying the door is open,” she says. “My heart said you cannot serve two masters.” She adds, “Running from church to church begins to wear old after awhile, especially when you go out the same way you went in—only wanting to do the will of God.”

In August Russell chose to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, along with her friend Danso and several others. “I felt as if I rested in His arms,” she says. Magaña returned to deliver the sermon and witness her baptism.

Afterward six others requested baptism, including Russell’s sister, Karen. “Oh what a happy day!” exclaimed Russell.

Russell is no longer employed as a Baptist minister and has faith that God will show her where she is to serve Him next.

PHOTOS BY OLANYI MAGAÑA



Kim Russell is excited to be a new Seventh-day Adventist.

North-Central Ohio Churches Become Fishers of Men

The North-Central Ohio district of Marion, Bucyrus, Blooming Grove and Galion had plans to baptize five new members into their local congregations, says Marcellus de Oliveira, district pastor. But, God had something extra in store.

Earlier this summer, Jason Williams, Mount Vernon Academy's associate literature ministry director, coordinated a MagaBook canvassing of the region. Over the course of several months, Williams and his team of students made connections with dozens of individuals, many of whom requested Bible studies. Richard Brady, from the Galion area, was one of these individuals who ultimately made the decision for baptism.

The late summer baptisms took place at Candlewood Lakes, a local gated community. Oliveira felt "impressed to speak on the biblical fact that we are witnesses to the world [about] the transforming power of Jesus Christ," he says. After the last of the five scheduled baptisms, Oliveira made an appeal for next year's baptism when two people from the church raised their hands. That is when "the Spirit of God manifested Itself," says Oliveira.

PHOTOS BY CISA DE OLIVEIRA



Irene Morris celebrates her baptism.



Pastor Marcellus de Oliveira (center) celebrates the baptisms of Paul Shuster and his granddaughter, Jaide Shuster, from the Marion church.

Michael Sherman, who was fishing 150 feet away, shouted that he would like to be baptized. Sherman shared with Oliveira that he and his daughter, Kiley Sherman Kinsey, had discussed that very morning their desire to be baptized since they had "already accepted Jesus into their lives." Kiley confessed that she loves Jesus, and everything He has done for her and her husband, including allowing them to be pregnant." When this article went to print, Oliveira planned to visit and possibly study with Sherman, Kiley and her husband.

That special day was also a day for family reunions. A mentally challenged young man had been visiting the Galion church for several months. After the baptism, members learned that this young man's grandmother, Irene Morris from Blooming Grove, was one of those newly baptized. The families had been estranged for years, but have reconnected.

Conference Plans the Health and Wellness Retreat

Interested in learning more about health and wellness? Want to enjoy a quiet, secluded retreat location in the middle of fall? Then mark your calendars for the weekend of October 24 to 26 at the Mohaven Retreat and Conference Center in Danville.

Weekend highlights include seminars on health, cooking demonstrations, breakout sessions and special screenings of health documentaries *Forks Over Knives* and *Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead*. Additional details are available through your local church, at ohioadventist.org or by contacting Dan Thorward, Ohio Health Ministries coordinator, at rdthorward@gmail.com.

The price for the weekend is only \$150 per person and includes six meals and materials. Lodging is additional; lodge or bunk rooms may be booked directly through Mohaven by calling (740) 599-6111 or emailing robinson@ohioadventist.org. Call early for best availability.

Pennsylvania *Pen*

OCTOBER 2014

20 Clubs Attend International Camporee

More than 390 Pennsylvania Pathfinders, representing 20 clubs, attended the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee held on a 500-acre campground in Oshkosh, Wis.

The six-day event was filled with pin trading, doing community service projects and earning honor patches. Each evening Pathfinders were reminded to live “forever faithful,” the event theme, as they watched a play about the life of Daniel. Another highlight was the Pittsburgh Steel City Pathfinder drill team earning second place in their first camporee drill team competition.

Three Pennsylvania Pathfinders were baptized during the event—Hampden Hawk’s Lindsey Reese (pictured with Pete Maldonado, pastor of the Hampden Heights church in Reading, and her dad, Michael Reese), Gettysburg Brigade’s Ben Kiessling and Pittsburgh Steel City’s Stephen Erstfeld.



Laurel Lake Camp Celebrates 60 Years of Ministry

Kris Eckenroth, pastor of the Grace Outlet church in Reading, remembers his first year as a camper at the Laurel Lake Camp (LLC) in Rossiter. At age 7, he spent a week earning Pathfinder honors in horsemanship, archery, nature, swimming, waterskiing, model rocketry and canoeing.

That summer changed his life. “I would go on to attend Laurel Lake as a camper for nine straight summers. Later I would become a staff member for the next eight summers,” he recalls. “Mentors like Don Baker and David Ferguson were used by the Lord in this setting to impact my life for eternity. The camp ministry here in Pennsylvania has impacted so many lives over the years.”

LLC celebrates 60 years of ministry this year. Purchased in 1954, the camp was originally the 150-acre Painter Farm. The first summer camp program was a four-day community camp for 30 boys held in 1956. By 1957 the camp offered weeklong programs for kids aged 8-11 and 12-16, in addition to the community camp, which was held each year until 1960.

Throughout the years, camp leaders purchased additional land, built new buildings and made improvements. They completed the lodge in 1988 and named it Baker Lodge in 1991 in honor of Don Baker, who was instrumental in its construction and who served as conference youth director and summer camp director for many years. LLC continues to change and impact lives through four weeks of summer camp, Camp Can Do for the blind and visually impaired, Pathfinder events, outdoor schools, and various retreats and events planned for adults.



Luke Lebo, a Laurel Lake Camp staff member, introduces campers to Alvin the Alligator.

BMA Begins New School Year

Staff and students at Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) are excited about the school year. “Students approached me about how to get involved and take an active role to enhance the spirituality of the campus,” says Dave Morgan, principal. “The staff is invigorated and eager to support students and collaborate in meeting our mission of providing a Christ-centered education,” he adds.

Each year generous donations make it possible for students and staff to have these experiences. For the 2014-15 school year, a donor gave \$25,000 for students in need of financial help. That gift grew to more than \$70,000 after additional donors matched the funds. Worthy student funds are contributed by alumni, churches, conference members, relatives and the summer work program. One student even has 16 sponsors to help pay their bill.

Sharyl Cubero, a member of Maranatha Hispanic church in Philadelphia, paid her registration costs by working in the recruiting office this summer. The junior says she wanted to come to BMA to continue her Christian education. “I’ve gone to Adventist schools from pre-K until now. I saw a lot of opportunity for me here,” says Cubero.



The new school year always begins with a handshake where staff and students meet each other.

Correction: In the September *Pen* story “Members Feel Transformation During Mission Trip,” Celica Galeano is quoted, but the picture that identifies her is actually Julia Clark, who was also a part of the mission trip team. Our apologies to Galeano and Clark for the mistake.

EQUIPPING MINISTRY LEADERS FOR MISSION

Equipping University is a powerful gathering of Pennsylvania Conference church leaders who love Jesus, see things missionally, and feel a burden for equipping our churches to be more effective at preparing as many people as possible for the second coming of Jesus Christ.

At **Equipping University One-Day**, Dr. Tim Madding will examine the subject of strategic planning and how as a church, once we understand where we are today and where He is calling us, we can allow God to work through us in the planning and execution of His mission in our communities.



Join us at EU1Day:
November 9, 2014, Harrisburg, PA

Registration: 8:00 AM Event: 9:00 - 5:00 PM
Early Bird, \$59.00 After Sept. 27: \$69.00

Harrisburg First Seventh-day Adventist Church
424 N Progress Av., Harrisburg, PA 17109-1040



Visit www.EU1day.com for more information and to register.

Potomac People

OCTOBER 2014

Richmond Academy Dedicates New Campus

This is not one person's school or one church's school; we all have a piece of it," said Robert Fetters, Richmond Academy (RA) principal, at the opening ceremony of their new facility. "This school is a collaborative investment in quality, Christian education supported by the region's [Seventh-day] Adventist community."

For several years, the academy, based in Richmond, Va., felt like it was bursting at the seams, particularly as



Robert Fetters, principal, cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of Richmond Academy's new campus. Offering their support are (left to right) Bill Miller, conference president; Seth Savoy, RA business manager; Ryan Brossfield, school board chairman; Nancy Melashenko, associate superintendent for education; and Keith Hallam, Potomac's vice president for education.



During the prayer walk, attendees pray over teacher Brody Wiedemann.

their Connect School Program grew, which offers real-time video conferencing instruction to other schools.

School leaders found a new campus, complete with an existing building, eight miles down the road. In late June, volunteers worked together to move to the new facility, and then ensured the school was ready for its opening in August.

The building holds 14 classrooms, is set up with technology that will aid in their Connected School program, and has plenty of space for activities and future growth.

School leaders invited grand opening attendees to participate in a prayer walk through the new building.

Far West End Members Discover Blessings at FitFest

After unexpectedly receiving \$9,000 of free booth rental space at FitFest, a two-day fan appreciation event held by the Washington Redskins, members of the



Children play games, color and enter to win free prizes in Kids' Zone.

Far West End church in Richmond, Va., began preparing. With 20,000 people expected to attend, the 40-member health ministry team planned to give away health books, brochures, recipes and promotional material for upcoming events. They also prepared to give health presentations and offer health tests, lifestyle counselling and a Kids' Zone.

As the event kicked off, members had to rethink their plan. "There were far less visitors than anticipated, but opportunities arose because of the smaller number," says Laurie Baier, Health Ministries leader. "We were able to pray with several people who came to our booth.

Several volunteers were also able to talk and pray with the other vendors. After sharing some of her struggles, one vendor said, "I know everything will be okay because you prayed for me."

Baier says, "Our desire to help people in their wellness includes their spiritual health. We were able to really hone in on that factor at this event."

Potomac People

Six Schools Welcome New Principals

We are excited to welcome six new leaders who will continue to build on the legacy of our schools,” says Nancy Melashenko, associate superintendent for education. “The Lord is opening a new chapter for us, and we’re looking forward to the journey.”

L. Roo McKenzie is principal at the Sligo Adventist School in Takoma Park, Md. He has a passion for developing biblical framework for educating children. McKenzie started his ministry as a pastor and evangelist, and later served as a principal and teacher at several institutions.

“I want to reveal God’s character of love to a world in need of salvation,” he says.



Timothy LaPierre returned to familiar ground to guide Shenandoah Valley Academy Elementary in New Market, Va. From 2004 to 2011, he worked at Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA). LaPierre also served as principal at Desert Adventist Academy (Calif.)

“At a young age, I knew I would devote my life to bringing young people to Christ,” he says. “It’s my desire to help students reach their highest potential by providing a safe, Christ-centered academic environment.”

Kelly Wilkinson now heads the Manassas Adventist Preparatory School in Manassas, Va. Her goal is to help students hone skills and identify their God-given talents. She has a heart for math and science and enjoys transferring interest into these subjects by finding real-world illustrations.

“Once you’ve sparked a student’s curiosity, they become so internally motivated to reach a goal, little can derail them,” she says.



“If I have not integrated faith into my teaching, then I have failed to impart true education,” says **Subir Dass**, new principal at C.F. Richards Academy in Staunton, Va.

Dass comes from a diverse background, having taught in India, the Philippines and various locations within the United States. He has a passion for integrating technology into the classroom to help students learn effectively in face-to-face and virtual settings.



Robert Fetters, Richmond Academy’s (RA) new principal, enjoys sharing his passion for enhancing curriculum through technology. He was integral in launching RA’s Connected School program while serving as math and science teacher.

Fetters seeks opportunities for spiritual application in all subjects. “I believe God is using Adventist educators to make life-changing experiences in students.”

John Wagner (who was already introduced in the July issue of the *Shenandoah Valley Academy Happenings* newsletter) returns to his alma mater (‘57). Wagner also worked in the Potomac Conference as the pastor for administration at the Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., from 2007 to 2011.

“Being back at SVA elicits fond memories of lifetime friendships and dedicated faculty,” he says. “These profound influences continue to be a north star in my life—that same dedication exists among SVA’s faculty with whom I am blessed to serve now!”





HAPPENINGS

OCTOBER 2014

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

School Year Begins With Impactful First Week

Shenandoah Valley Academy's (SVA) 2014-15 school year recently kicked off with new student registration. Incoming freshmen and transfer students arrived with their families, eager to join the ranks of SVA students.

The New Market (Va.) church welcomed the new students during the divine service on Sabbath, after which the students enjoyed a stroll in Luray along the river at the Hawksbill Greenway. Students and faculty used the time to get to know each other better.

Returning students arrived for registration on Sunday, creating a scene of seemingly long-lost friends running to each other and embracing in I-haven't-seen-you-since-May hugs.

Classes started the next day with students adjusting to the newly established block schedule. The Student Association Handshake took place Monday evening.

As in years past, SVA's international program is strong, with 18 students from Brazil, Korea, Zimbabwe, Columbia and Angola. In addition to ESL support classes, they take regular classes that prepare them for a high school diploma. And, American students have already begun learning different languages from their international counterparts.

Students continued to arrive throughout the week, including those returning from the "Forever Faithful" International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis. Other latecomers, originally unsure they would be able to attend due to financial concerns, beamed as they learned that gifts from generous donors provided just the amount they needed to join SVA's student body.



Returning and new students greet each other during the SA Handshake.



Exchange students from Brazil enjoy the ice scream social and hanging out with Mimi DeSpirito, international liaison.



John Wagner, principal, takes on the ALS Association's Ice Bucket Challenge during the first day of school.

Students conducted a prayer walk through the campus Friday evening to welcome the Sabbath and to ask for God's blessing and guidance on the school.

The week ended with Hideaway Sabbath. After the church service, students and faculty boarded buses and traveled to Shenandoah River State Park for lunch, a nature walk and skits of Bible stories that dealt with nature.

Additional students who apply for second semester will attend in large part due to donations from individuals who see the need for a strong, Seventh-day Adventist, Christian education. To learn more about the Open a Door student fund, contact Christopher Simons, director of advancement, at chris.simons@sva-va.org or (540) 740-2202.

Shadow Day Inspires a New Generation of Achievers

One of the hallmarks of any successful business career is having a mentor. That same philosophy has not been lost in the education realm as demonstrated by Takoma Academy's (TA) highly successful Shadow Day program.

Shadow Day allows TA students to spend a day with a person who is currently in an occupation they would like to pursue. Senior Ivan Williams, Jr., plans to become an orthopedic surgeon and landed a prized opportunity to shadow TA alumnus Jaysson Brooks ('03), who is an orthopedic surgery resident at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

What Williams says he found most valuable about the experience was "that I got to see the field of work I would like to pursue and what all goes on throughout a day of an orthopedic surgeon." He adds, "I really appreciate what [Dr. Brooks] does for people and for allowing me to have such an amazing experience."

Dr. Brooks also touts the value of the program: "It was exciting for me as a Takoma Academy alumnus to



Williams snaps a photo during his day of shadowing an orthopedic surgeon.



Senior Ivan Williams is scrubbed up and ready to observe a surgery at The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

have Ivan shadow me as I went through my normal day. I distinctly remember walking the halls of TA with many dreams and aspirations, not knowing whether I would be able to attain any of them," he recalls. "I didn't really have an opportunity to shadow any surgeons at that time. Seeing the excitement in Ivan's eyes, and hearing the extremely intelligent questions he had about the different aspects of patient care during rounds and surgery, reassured me that TA is still producing academically curious students who will continue to become leaders in their various fields. I am not sure if Ivan will eventually choose to go into medicine or even become an orthopedic surgeon, but I am sure that his future is very bright."

Junior Angela Stewart found great excitement and newfound respect for the CEO of Next Day Pressure Washing, Daniel Stewart. First because the company is owned by her father, and second because she did not realize all the many facets that go into owning and operating a company. She did a full day of hard work for her dad, including helping clean up some of Maryland's most traveled roads—ranging from the drive-through at Chick-fil-A to cleaning buildings. Stewart states that she had "no idea the great amount of effort and precision it takes to thoroughly clean a road or buildings."

We are Pressing Forward

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* recently reported that the financial crisis of 2008 has placed extreme pressures on the budgets of higher education institutions across the country. An extensive survey of chief financial officers, conducted by the same journal in June 2014, found that at least half think that the current financial model of higher education is broken and that a significant shift in course is needed. The report pointed out that net tuition revenue, the cash colleges have on hand after giving out financial aid, is either flat or declining at three out of four institutions, according to Moody's Investors Services.

At Washington Adventist University (WAU), we have adopted the apostle Paul's strategy "to press on toward the mark" (Phil. 3:14). Every day we look to Jesus while leading, teaching and planning our school's future. We keep Him in our view and follow Him because He is our forerunner.

We will be persistent in pressing on toward the mark to model the life and teachings of Jesus. We will press on toward building trust among and between WAU's constituencies and engage them in discourse about the future as we make the difficult decisions that transform WAU from surviving to thriving. It is a blessing to be of service in a faith-based institution that depends on divine support and guidance.

This is Washington Adventist University!



Weymouth Spence
President

Mission Teams Baptize More Than 140

Teams of Washington Adventist University missionaries led mission trips and humanitarian efforts this summer that resulted in many baptisms.

Baraka G. Muganda, vice president for ministry, led a team of missionaries that set up seven evangelistic satellites in the city of Davao, Philippines. By the end of the two-week trip, 141 individuals chose baptism. During the trip, the missionaries also attended the Southern-Asia Pacific Division Sabbath School Congress, which 10,000 delegates attended.

Kaneil Williams, WAU missions director, and Regina



The WAU team poses with new friends in a spot overlooking the city of Salvador, Brazil.



Kaneil Williams, director of missions, works on a renovation project as part of a humanitarian mission trip to Brazil.

Johnson, chaplain of ministry, led another mission trip that was primarily a humanitarian effort. The missionaries spent two weeks working on a variety of projects, which included renovating a facility for recovering drug addicts called Provida (Pro-Life) in Cachoiera, Bahia, Brazil. They also spent time at an Adventist community center in downtown Salvador, where they conducted a mini Vacation Bible School. In addition, they helped a local resident mix cement and apply it to the walls of the home he was building for his family.

Toward the end of their time in Salvador, the WAU team attended SuperMission Caleb, an event where 14,000 youth engaged in community service projects throughout the city. The WAU missionaries also distributed copies of *The Great Controversy* and gave away free hugs.

New STEM Grant Supports Student Success



Melinda Villanueva, chair and associate professor of biology and chemistry, launched a new STEM U program to enhance the academic success of students majoring in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, computer science and mathematics. The new program provides student mentors, workshops, reading support and residential and nonresidential learning communities all focused on helping students achieve better grades and greater success in their fields.

The program will increase academic standing for students in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. It is supported by a \$55,834 Maryland College Access Challenge Grant that was awarded to WAU last spring.

“I’m really excited about this program,” says Villanueva. “Students who take advantage of the opportunities in the STEM U program will be better prepared to compete nationwide for top spots in graduate and professional programs.”

For more information about the program, visit wau.edu/stem-u.

Campus Mourns the Passing of Former President

The Washington Adventist University campus family in Takoma Park, Md., is mourning the death of William A. Loveless. Loveless served as the university’s president 1978 to 1990, when the institution was known as Columbia Union College.

“William Loveless was an extraordinary influence on this university,” says Weymouth Spence, current WAU president. “Under his leadership, this university was among the first in the nation to launch an evening program designed specifically to meet the needs of working adults. That program today is known as our School of Graduate and Professional Studies.”

Loveless was also the first to suggest that the university establish a student missionary program. He posed the idea in 1959, when the school was still known as Washington Missionary College. At that time, Loveless was senior pastor at the Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., and his suggestion was considered by some to be a radical idea. It was eventually accepted and Marlin Mathiesen was sent as the first student missionary to Mexico. Since that time, programs at Adventist colleges and universities have sent thousands of student missionaries to countries around the world.

He was also well liked. “He was a genuine person. You never felt that he was putting on airs. When he spoke, it was with authenticity and he had an amazing

sense of humor,” says Sharon Conway, WAU director of Student Financial Services. “He loved a good, clean joke. He was a visionary and very persistent.”

President Spence attended the memorial service for Loveless to pay tribute to him and the legacy he left at WAU.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY CHURCH



Profiles in Caring

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Mission Moment ~ The We Factor

It was a privilege for me earlier this year to address a leadership group at Adventist HealthCare and discuss our Mission, Vision, and Core Values. One of the questions I asked was, "Who are the 'We' in our statement of mission?" It's an important question.

The word "we" shows up 17 times in the statement of our Mission, Vision, and Core Values. "We" clearly refers to the approximately 6,000 employees and staff that make up our Adventist HealthCare family, but it also includes the many physicians and others who work closely with us to deliver excellent results and "compassionate and attentive care." I think it also includes the 100+ partners with whom we work very closely, and whose commitment to excellent service parallels our own.

Right in the middle of "RISES," the acronym we use to prompt our recall of our core values, is the letter "S" for "Service." It is our description of service that I quoted from in the paragraph above, and want to state in its entirety now: "We provide compassionate and attentive care in a manner that inspires confidence." I think this one of the strongest statements we can make.

The benefits of service are so numerous that many books have been written on the topic. As it relates to Adventist HealthCare, at least four things happen when we approach our work with an attitude of serving one another along with our patients and community.

First, we refocus on seeing the things we hold in common and addressing shared needs. Being a part of the Adventist HealthCare "we" means expanding our understanding of how we do better together than by ourselves.

Second, the combination of perspectives allows us to evaluate our own unique situation with the fresh insights gained from the talents, experiences, and perspectives of our peers who are working in parallel circumstances.

Third, coming together as a team helps us have a better idea of how the organization prioritizes resources and how we can be even more intentional in the effective pursuit of our shared mission. (Read more about how our organization is coming together through our new branding effort on the next page.)

And fourth, being "we" instead of "me" strengthens both the opportunity and capacity to serve our patients and community with compassion and attentive care. The "We" factor blesses us through expanding and empowering the Adventist HealthCare ministry of healing.

I'm proud that the Adventist HealthCare "we" includes me. How will this wonderful team be called upon to even greater service in our future?



Terry Forde

President & CEO of Adventist HealthCare

We Are Adventist HealthCare

When it comes to your health, we know you want the best medical experts, the highest quality and compassionate care, and a personalized experience offered in a convenient, comfortable

environment. Adventist HealthCare not only provides all that but has a long-standing mission of improving the health of people and community. We fulfill our mission each day by providing for and promoting your health and wellness—mentally, physically and spiritually.

As the national health care system evolves, Adventist HealthCare continues to deliver on our mission while ensuring we are making the appropriate changes that best serve our patients and communities. We are excited to share the news that this fall, Adventist HealthCare is updating its logo (above) and is bringing its entities under the Adventist HealthCare name. In addition, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital will become Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center to reflect the growing services on the campus. Here is some more information about our changes.

A New Look for a Bright Future

Adventist HealthCare is the first and largest health-care system in Montgomery County. As the world of health care has changed, so have we. We are still the same system that first opened its doors in the county 107 years ago. Yet, today, we are bringing together the diverse and comprehensive services that are all part of our organization in order to offer coordinated and connected care to the entire community. To better represent this, we are excited to launch a refreshed logo for our entire system.

What's In an A?

Adventist HealthCare has been represented by an A for many years. When you see the updated Adventist HealthCare "A," we hope you will know that it stands for excellence, strength and trust. The new "A" incorporates a flame, which is a symbol of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. For us, the flame stands for our deep connection to faith, caring and compassion in all that we do. The blue and orange colors stand as a visual representation of brightness, vitality and good health.

Connecting as a System

All of our facilities also now incorporate the "Adventist HealthCare" name. Our system includes locations around Montgomery and Prince George's counties and serves patients from throughout the region. The change is intended to



connect the many aspects of our health system. So whether you're having your heart cared for at Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital, delivering your baby at Adventist

HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center (which is changing its name) or receiving personalized, in-home care from Adventist HealthCare Home Care Services, you'll see the Adventist HealthCare name and know you can count on the best medical experts providing you the highest-quality health care. We are your local comprehensive resource for health and wellness services.

Adventist HealthCare Over the Years

Here's a brief history of Montgomery County's first and largest health care provider.

- 1907** - Washington Adventist Hospital begins as the Washington Sanitarium in Takoma Park, Md.
- 1916** - Washington Adventist offers first maternity services in Montgomery County.
- 1949** - Washington Adventist opens the first behavioral health unit in Montgomery County.
- 1971** - The first open heart surgery in Montgomery County is performed at Washington Adventist.
- 1973** - Adventist Home Care Services begins bringing quality care into homes throughout the region.
- 1979** - Shady Grove Adventist Hospital opens in the Rockville/Gaithersburg area, the first hospital in upper Montgomery County.
- 1996** - The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Shady Grove Adventist opens.
- 2000** - Adventist Behavioral Health, originally Potomac Ridge Behavioral Health, joins Adventist HealthCare.
- 2002** - Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital of Maryland, originally Kessler Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital, joins Adventist HealthCare.
- 2006** - The Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center opens in Germantown.
- 2006** - The Reginald S. Lourie Center for Infants and Young Children joins in 2006.
- 2011** - Adventist Medical Group, an affiliate of GW Medical Faculty Associates, is established with physician offices located throughout Montgomery and Prince George's counties.
- 2013** - The Aquilino Cancer Center opens on the Shady Grove Adventist campus.
- Oct. 2014** - Adventist HealthCare launches new system logo and new names for some facilities. Shady Grove Adventist Hospital becomes Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center.
- 2014/2015** - Adventist HealthCare partners with Centra Care to open Urgent Care Centers in Germantown, Rockville and Laurel, Md.

Adventist HealthCare in the News

Shady Grove Cancer Program Receives Accreditation with Commendation

The American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC) has recognized Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center's cancer program at the highest level, granting it accreditation with commendation. Shady Grove's cancer program is one of only 1,500 in the nation to hold CoC accreditation, highlighting excellence and quality of cancer services.

"At Shady Grove, it is our top priority to provide high-quality, whole-person care to patients and their families," says John Sackett, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Adventist HealthCare and president of Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center. "We are pleased to receive this designation for the sixth time from the American College of Surgeons, representing our ongoing commitment to improving the health of our community."

To receive this distinction, the hospital must undergo a rigorous evaluation process and performance review every three years that evaluates how well the facility conforms to the quality-of-care standards for cancer programs.

This year, Shady Grove achieved Silver Level for obtaining commendation in six out of seven categories. "We follow these standards to ensure we are performing at our highest in quality and service of cancer care," says Kevin Smothers, M.D., chief medical officer.

Shady Grove first achieved CoC accreditation with commendation in 1998. In the most recent review, surveyors praised the hospital's clinical trial program and multidisciplinary

approach. Surveyors also made special mention of the comprehensive community needs assessment as a best practice model.

Last year, the Aquilino Cancer Center opened on the Shady Grove campus. The Center is the first of its kind in Montgomery County, offering personalized, expert care, with state-of-the-art technology and support services to treat various forms of cancer.

Shady Grove President adds duties to current role

John Sackett, president of Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center since April 2013, has added the title of executive vice president and chief operating officer of Adventist HealthCare to his current responsibilities.

As part of his new duties, Sackett will oversee Adventist HealthCare's rehabilitation, behavioral health and home care services to ensure each organization continues to provide exceptional care to its patients and expands services to the community.



John Sackett

Sackett will also serve as chair of the governing boards of the three organizations. "John's years of experience as a health-care leader and a team builder will help Adventist HealthCare and its entities provide even better coordinated care for our patients," said Terry Forde, president & CEO of Adventist HealthCare.

Sackett was named president of Shady Grove after serving for 24 years as the

president and chief executive officer of Avista Adventist Hospital.

Adventist HealthCare Accepts 'Buy Local' Challenge



Adventist HealthCare participated in the 2014 Buy Local Challenge, which encourages all Marylanders to eat at least one locally grown or raised product each day during the last full week of July.

The challenge was created by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission. During the challenge, Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital's cafeteria served meals featuring locally grown produce. In addition, Adventist HealthCare Executive Chef Randall Smith won a spot at this year's 7th Annual Maryland Buy Local Cookout, hosted by Governor Martin O'Malley in Annapolis.

Thank you to Chef Randall Smith; Ken McWatt, director of Nutrition Services at Washington Adventist; Rick Culzac, production/catering manager at Washington Adventist; Peter Costa, retail manager for Shady Grove, and Marc Bloom, executive director of Support Services and Community Relations for Washington Adventist, for representing the organization at this great event.

Somos Adventist HealthCare

Cuando se trata de su salud, sabemos que desea a los mejores expertos en medicina, la mayor calidad y atención compasiva, y una experiencia personalizada ofrecida en un entorno cómodo y confortable.

Adventist HealthCare no solo ofrece todo eso sino que también cuenta con una antigua misión de mejorar la salud de las personas y la comunidad. Cumplimos nuestra misión todos los días al mantener y promover su salud y bienestar—ya sea mental, física y espiritual.

Mientras el sistema de atención de la salud nacional evoluciona, Adventist HealthCare continúa cumpliendo nuestra misión a la vez que asegura que estemos efectuando los cambios adecuados que sirvan mejor a nuestros pacientes y comunidades. Tenemos el agrado de anunciar la noticia que este otoño Adventist HealthCare actualizará su logotipo e incorporará a sus entidades bajo el nombre Adventist HealthCare. Además, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital se convertirá en Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center para reflejar lo crecientes servicios en las instalaciones. He aquí más información sobre nuestros cambios.

Un nuevo aspecto para un futuro brillante

Adventist HealthCare es el primer y más



“Adventist HealthCare es el primer y más grande sistema de atención de la salud en el Condado de Montgomery.”

grande sistema de atención de la salud en el Condado de Montgomery. Como el mundo de la atención de la salud ha cambiado, nosotros también. Aún somos el mismo sistema que abrió sus puertas por primera vez hace 107 años en el condado. Sin embargo, hoy reunimos los diversos servicios integrales que forman parte de nuestra organización a fin de ofrecer una atención coordinada y conectada a toda la comunidad. A fin de representarla mejor, tenemos el agrado de lanzar un logotipo renovado para todo nuestro sistema.

¿Qué significa una A?

La A ha representado a Adventist HealthCare durante muchos años. Cuando vea la “A” actualizada de

Adventist HealthCare, esperamos que sepa que significa excelencia, solidez y confianza. La nueva “A” incorpora una llama, que es un símbolo de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día. Para nosotros

la llama representa nuestra profunda conexión con la fe, el cuidado y la compasión en todo lo que hacemos. Los colores azul y naranja constituyen una representación visual de brillo, vitalidad y buena salud.

Conectados como un sistema

Todos nuestros establecimientos ahora incorporan el nombre “Adventist HealthCare”. Nuestro sistema incluye centros en los condados de Montgomery y Prince George, y atiende a pacientes de toda la región. El cambio tiene como fin conectar a los numerosos aspectos de nuestro sistema de salud. Por lo tanto, ya sea que lo atienden del corazón en Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital, su hijo nace en Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center (que cambia su nombre) o recibe atención domiciliaria personalizada de Adventist HealthCare Home Care Services, usted verá el nombre Adventist HealthCare y sabrá que podrá confiar en los mejores expertos en medicina que le proporcionan atención de la salud de la mejor calidad. Somos su recurso integral local para servicios de salud y bienestar.



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EMPLOYMENT

WEB PRESS OPERATORS

WANTED: Pacific Press Publishing Association seeks Seventh-day Adventist web press operators for head press operator and 2nd press operator, full-time positions. Applicants should have four years of experience showing mechanical aptitude and the proven ability to lead employees in a production process. Hourly rate based on experience. Contact Ms. Alix Mansker, HR Director, POB 5353 Nampa, ID 83653. Phone (208) 465-2567, fax (208) 465-2531, email aliman@pacificpress.com.

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seeks Seventh-day Adventist experienced in K-8 education and eligible for Nebraska certification to teach curriculum and instruction courses and supervise student teachers. Doctorate strongly preferred. Effective summer 2015. Email letter of interest and CV to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development, dewhite@ucollege.edu.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE

is seeking a full-time faculty in the Nursing and Health Sciences Department-Emergency Services/Nursing to begin during the 2014-15 academic year. Ideal candidate will possess a master's degree in nursing or related field, a current RN license, and a current National Registry EMT certification and/or paramedic license with at least two years of pre-hospital experience. For more information or to apply, call (707) 965-7062, or visit puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings.

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST

UNIVERSITY seeks nursing program administrator. The successful candidate will be a quality, team-oriented person who will positively impact and revitalize our program.

The Department of Nursing is committed to excellence in teaching, continuing professional development and involving students in hands-on experience. Experience in academic leadership and higher education accreditation (specifically with external nursing accrediting agencies). View full requirements and apply, wau.edu/careers.

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST

UNIVERSITY seeks nursing faculty. Candidates will be experienced individuals with a passion for teaching. There are multiple openings for full-time instructional faculty, as well as openings for adjunct graduate faculty and clinical adjunct faculty. MSN required, doctorate in nursing preferred for full-time and graduate adjunct faculty. View full requirements and apply, wau.edu/careers.

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST

UNIVERSITY seeks a chair of the Department of Religion. In addition to chairing the department, the successful candidate will also teach courses within her/his area of expertise, teach general education courses and administer the academic aspects of the Master of Arts in Religion. The successful candidate should have a rich experience in fostering the best of Adventist biblical and theological scholarship and have demonstrated the commitment to the global mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Doctoral degree required. Minimum of 5-10 years of teaching experience at an Adventist college/university, pastoral experience and ordination/commission required. For other requirements and to apply, go to wau.edu/careers.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST

UNIVERSITY advancement office seeks full-time vice president. Responsibilities center primarily in development, in addition to PR/marketing and alumni. Minimum

bachelor's degree and two years of advancement experience required, master's degree preferred. Anticipated begin date is January 2015. Submit cover letter and CV/résumé to human resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu.

ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA)

INTERNATIONAL in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time staff auditor, CPA required. Responsibilities include preparation of reports; evaluate internal control systems, procedures, and best practices, applications of GAAP, GAAS, and donor compliance rules and regulations. For more information, go to adra.org.

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in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time Senior Accountant II. Responsibilities include review reconciliations, wire transfer requests, grant loans/advances, and prepare reports to government agencies. Record questioned cost, review GIK documentation, and compile budgets for cost centers. For more information, go to adra.org.

ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA)

INTERNATIONAL in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time senior program finance manager. Responsibilities include providing day-to-day support to implementing field offices on financial management processes, compliance, policies and adherence to donor regulations. Field experience preferred. For more information, go to adra.org.

ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA)

SUDAN in Sudan, is seeking a full-time finance director. Responsibilities include preparation of all financial reports, process disbursement of funds, review of financial statements, bank and journal vouchers, project budgets, and maintenance of accounting records. For more information, go to adra.org.

NEWSTART Medical Group of

Weimar, Calif., is seeking midlevel providers; RNs; X-ray, ultrasound and lab techs to staff a rural health clinic and urgent care center. Candidates must have interest in, and reflect, the values of Weimar Institute's NEWSTART lifestyle. Call (615) 604-0142 or email r61@me.com.

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MARYLAND ADVENTIST

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Sunset Calendar

	Oct 3	Oct 10	Oct 17	Oct 24	Oct 31
Baltimore	6:47	6:36	6:26	6:16	6:07
Cincinnati	7:19	7:08	6:58	6:48	6:39
Cleveland	7:07	6:55	6:44	6:34	6:24
Columbus	7:13	7:01	6:51	6:41	6:32
Jersey City	6:37	6:25	6:14	6:04	5:55
Norfolk	6:47	6:37	6:27	6:18	6:10
Parkersburg	7:07	6:56	6:46	6:36	6:27
Philadelphia	6:41	6:30	6:20	6:10	6:01
Pittsburgh	7:00	6:49	6:38	6:28	6:19
Reading	6:44	6:33	6:22	6:12	6:03
Richmond	6:51	6:41	6:31	6:22	6:14
Roanoke	7:01	6:51	6:41	6:32	6:24
Toledo	7:14	7:03	6:51	6:41	6:31
Trenton	6:40	6:28	6:18	6:08	5:59
Wash., D.C.	6:49	6:38	6:28	6:19	6:10

LEGAL NOTICE

FIRST TRIENNIAL CONSTITUENCY SESSION OF RAMAH JUNIOR ACADEMY:

Notice is hereby given that the Ramah Junior Academy Constituency will convene at 10 a.m., Sunday, November 9, 2014, at the Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1443 Addison Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44103. The purpose of this meeting is to transact business that may properly come before the session at that time. The six constituent churches are representatives to this session.

William T. Cox, *President*
Marvin C. Brown, III, *Executive Secretary*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SABBATH SUNDOWN SERENADE CONCERTS at the Hagerstown church are designed to lift the heart of every listener. Everyone is welcome. October 11 at 6 p.m., Victor Clairmont, from Princeton's Westminster Choir College, will perform; Oct. 18 at 6 p.m., Moses and A'Lisa Andrade, plus their four daughters, will present an interactive, multigenerational musical sundown concert; and, Nov. 29 at 4 p.m., Karla Rivera Bucklew will introduce the special

Christmas season with a collection of Bethlehem story favorites.

THE PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE CHURCH, located at 4010 Belt Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20743, cordially invites you to their 70th Anniversary Celebration Friday, October 17 at 7 p.m., and Saturday, October 18 at 10 a.m., with a praise and worship concert at 5 p.m. Refreshment and lunch will be provided. We look forward to seeing you!

SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST COMMUNICATORS

CONVENTION: Join the Society of Adventist Communicators in Jacksonville, Fla., October 16-18, to celebrate 25 years of communication excellence. This annual convention for communication professionals and university students provides networking, learning and spiritual renewal opportunities. Find convention details online and register at adventistcommunicator.org.

OBITUARY

WASTLER, Charles, born July 6, 1926, in Hagerstown, Md.; died June 25, 2014, in Hagerstown. He was a member of the Hagerstown church. He is survived by his wife, Eva; a son, Dean Wastler; and two daughters, Faye and Bonnie.

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