Adventist Native Leader Heads Tribal Journey Celebration

Rain failed to dampen the spirits of hundreds of spectators at the Swinomish reservation's waterfront near La Conner, Wash., on July 25, for the Paddle to Swinomish Canoe Journey. Brian Cladoosby, Lummi Adventist Church elder was an important participant. As chairman of the Swinomish Tribe and president of the Associated Washington Tribes, Cladoosby is a highly respected Native leader. Along with his wife, Nena, he is pictured here at the event with Christine Gregoire, Washington State governor. Monte Church, North Pacific Union Conference Native ministries director, was also on hand to witness more than 100 canoes from Oregon to British Columbia, including one filled with Adventist members, as they paddled in for a week of celebration.

Atlantic Union College Plans Staff Layoffs

Atlantic Union College based in South Lancaster, Mass., plans to lay off its entire staff of 97 full-time employees on July 31 because of a delay in a partnership proposal of the institution with Washington Adventist University (formerly Columbia Union College) in Maryland. Both institutions are seeking permission from Massachusetts' education authorities to operate AUC as a satellite campus of WAU following the loss of accreditation. Plans are in place to enable current and prospective AUC students to attend WAU during fall semester. Nearly 450 current AUC students were affected, says William Jackson, WAU marketing and recruitment director. Read more from the Adventist News Network HERE.

Upper Columbia Releases New Adventist Directory App

Looking Ahead

July
30: Arctic Mission Offering

August
3-6: National ASI Convention
11: Oct. Ad/Article Deadline
27: WWU Alumni Rosario Sabbath

September
11: NPUC Constituency Session
11: WWU Constituency Session
15: Nov. Ad/Article Deadline
16-18: WWVA’s 125th Reunion
18-24: WWU JumpStart
23-25: Mont. Men’s Summit
26: WWU Autumn quarter begins

October
7-9: Mont. Women’s Retreat
20: Dec. Ad/Article Deadline

GLEANER Blogs

- Cheri Corder
- Cindy's Garden Blog
- Dear Counselor
- Let's Talk
- Mike Jones
- Monthly Archival Photo
Upper Columbia Conference has just released a new mobile Adventist directory app for Android and Apple devices. The app helps people quickly locate Adventist churches, schools and institutions. Users can easily find the nearest Adventist organizations based on their current location. The app provides basic phone, Web contact information and directions to specific sites. While the app currently provides information on Adventist organizations in portions of Oregon, Idaho and Washington, it is capable of adding information from other Adventist conferences in North America upon request. Conferences interested in adding information for their organizations should contact Jay Wintermeyer at the Upper Columbia Conference.

Bring a Generous Offering this Sabbath
July 30 special offerings are designated to go to help the Alaska Arctic Mission Adventure project which seeks to place an Adventist presence in more than 200 arctic villages by radio, online Bible studies and passionate Adventist volunteers. While this is a North American Division-wide offering, it should be a special focus of Northwest members. This is our opportunity to help advance an initiative that will significantly impact our very own mission field, right next door. Take a generous offering to church this Sabbath and designate it on the tithe envelope for Arctic Mission Adventure.

Hope Channel Announces New Programs
Beginning Sept. 12, Hope Channel will start phasing in two new live, interactive evening programs. Monday through Thursday, Let’s Pray will air live from 8 to 9 p.m. Pacific Time. It will be followed at 9 p.m. by Great Bible Discoveries, a live, interactive Bible-study hour, led by Shawn Boonstra. “Let’s Pray will help viewers develop a dynamic prayer life and find strength, peace and hope,” says Kandus Thorp, vice president. Viewers will be invited to share their prayer requests live via phone, email, and through social media. Also coming this fall are Higher Ground, hosted by retired U.S. Navy Admiral Barry Black, chaplain of the United States Senate; Prophecies Decoded, the North American Division’s full-message evangelistic series with Dr. Ron Clouzet; and Single Creek, a documentary television event for singles.

Revising Church Plant Strategy — A Case Study
Roger Walter, Adventist Community Church (Vancouver, Wash.) senior pastor, writes in the July 14 Adventist Review about his experience with a successful church plant in Colorado. He determined “until we understand that Adventism grows differently, we will continue to see churches that baptize few people every year and (show) unchanging attendance.” He concludes, “I used to think that if you created a contemporary worship model, people would flock to church. It didn’t happen. Let’s keep innovating, let’s keep experimenting, but let’s also focus on what is effective and do that!” Read his full story at the Adventist Review.
Cindy's Garden Blog
He takes a modest salary and donates his income back to his company for an employee emergency fund. Occasionally he fills in cleaning an airplane, tags suitcases, or subs as a flight attendant. He sounds like the newest employee or company grunt worker. Instead, he is a CEO, founder, visionary entrepreneur, and "arguably the most innovative figure in modern-day aviation." Who is this modern tithe-payer? See Cindy's Garden Blog this week to find out.
AUC to lay off all staff as partnership with WAU delayed
Arrangements made for Mass. students to attend WAU, other schools

26 Jul 2011, Silver Spring, Maryland, United States

ANN staff

The Seventh-day Adventist Church's oldest educational institution, Atlantic Union College, plans to lay off its entire staff of 97 full-time employees on July 31 because of a delay in a partnership proposal of the institution with church-run Washington Adventist University in Maryland.

Leaders of both institutions have been working to secure permission from Massachusetts' education authorities to operate AUC as a satellite campus of WAU following the loss of its accreditation from a regional accrediting agency effective July 31. The New England Association of Schools and Colleges cited financial reasons in its decision.

Meanwhile, plans are in place to enable the current and prospective AUC students to attend WAU during fall semester. About 450 current AUC students were affected, said William Jackson, director of marketing and recruitment at WAU.

In March, both Adventist-owned institutions signed a "memorandum of understanding" meant to allow WAU to establish a satellite location on the South Lancaster, Massachusetts campus.

In a July 14 press release, WAU officials said that the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education has not processed the university's application to establish a satellite campus at AUC as school officials had planned. The proposal could take "up to a year," said Katy Abel, associate commissioner for external affairs for the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education.

"We're working through the process and are optimistic that we'll be able to operate after permission is granted by the commonwealth," WAU President Weymouth Spence said in the release.

"Fortunately, WAU has already been working with our students to provide a smooth transition to the Takoma Park campus," AUC President Norman Wendth said in the release.

5 Comments

Jesus is the only sure foundation! I believe it's full-time we get back to God's divine plan for our schools. The current sentiment of the world is to go against God's order why are we hungering for it's approval, we know how it all plays out.--read The Great Controversy again!

Grace | July 28, 2011 6:19 PM | Reply

AUC should substantially reduce its operating cost and overhead, especially now that they've dropped the ball on their only major institution: Atlantic Union College.

Why not escrow the approximate $1.7 Million dollar annual AUC subsidy money for the next 3-5 years, re-group and reopen as an independent, improved college that truly serves the Lord's mission and work in the northeast?

There are more accrediting bodies than NEASC that are likewise recognized by the US Department of Education (i.e. college's students would be eligible to government student financial aid programs). Why not seek accreditation to a group that is friendlier towards small, Christian private colleges... such as perhaps the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools ???

http://www.tracs.org/

AUC should NOT lose title to the AUC assets, including real estate and SDA historical items. AUC should focus its full resources on soul-searching solutions to remedy AUC's problems and rededicate itself to diligently upholding the Lord's mission and work for the Constituency and territory.
AUConference should not be costing 44% of the sacred tithe funds entrusted to it for operations. AUConference should channel more of its sacred tithe funds towards AUC, evangelism, mission, etc.

Let us not sell our birthright for a half-filled bowl of cold lumpy porridge. Let us repent and rededicate ourselves and our resources to the Gospel mission and the Three Angels Messages.

John C. Schumacher-Hardy | July 29, 2011 8:04 AM | Reply

This is heartbreaking news! Two of my family members either attended AUC or taught at AUC, and I feel we are losing a very important part of our Adventist Heritage!!!

Clarine Kennedy | July 29, 2011 5:20 PM | Reply

Duh! The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education operates how many universities in competition to AUC? As I see it MDHE moved the goal posts that they gave AUC to be accredited in the first place, and caused AUC to die. As a business, MDHE should be charged for the upkeep of the campus for a year and the loss of revenue due to their not acting in good faith.

Edward | August 3, 2011 4:00 PM | Reply

I wonder if AUC’s problems was part of the reason that Andrews University was once considering an offer to merge with or assume ownership of AUC back during the 1990’s.

Glenn Whitt | August 3, 2011 4:47 PM | Reply
By Roger Walter

Sunday evening Shane and Amy’s small group laid hands on Shane and pleaded with God to give him a different job. He worked as a sales representative for Pepsi, but delivering those cases of pop was killing his already-bad shoulders. He was their top salesperson, winning yearly awards for sales, etc. But Shane just couldn’t continue—and yet he didn’t know what else to do.

He had a family to support and couldn’t afford to be off work. For Shane, the love and support of his small group that evening were a gift.

The next day when Shane arrived at work at 5:00 a.m., his boss called him into the office and fired him. Although a bit confused as to why the company would fire a longtime, model employee, he walked out with a smile on his face, thinking, *I wonder what God is up to?* Getting Shane to that place of comfort in the midst of the storm was quite a journey.

Firstfruits

It all started in the spring of 1998. I received a call from the Rocky Mountain Conference to do something I was very passionate about for nearly six years: to plant a church in northern Colorado with an evangelistic approach. It was an opportunity to see if what I said either worked or didn’t work.

I had been on the development team of two other church plants, and as a kid was baptized in a church plant. But I wasn’t sure what to expect.

Church planting turned out to be the hardest thing I’ve ever done (think construction worker, backhoe operator, youth/young adult pastor, and senior pastor all in one!). I didn’t have my approach all mapped out—and this was a good thing, because we had far more failures than successes.

My goal was to create a church that would reach a new generation of people. Could we create a church that would speak to them? Could we do something that would be sustainable, creative, and relevant to the people in my generation who were unchurched?

In July that year my family and I moved to Colorado. God blessed our efforts, and we grew from zero to more than 240 in weekly attendance, on two campuses, with an average age of 32.¹ At one point we had three pastors on staff, and we were growing people deeper and the church larger. When I left in February of 2009, after nearly 11 years of ministry at The Adventure in Colorado, 65 percent of the church was having regular daily devotions. About 50 percent of the church was involved in a small group for discipleship. A large share were new converts to Adventism and Christianity.

One Basic Philosophy

The questions always come up: What worked and why? What made the difference? I believe it comes down to one basic philosophy that’s articulated well in this brief exchange.

When my associate first came to work with us, he said to me, “Rog, I always heard The Adventure
was so cutting-edge. I heard that your music was cutting-edge, your sermons were, etc. But you aren’t that cutting-edge. What’s up?”

My response was simple: “My goal in starting this church wasn’t to be cutting-edge. My goal was to be effective.”

So with that effectiveness mind-set in place, allow me to share some of what we learned along the way and some of what we did right that made us effective. This isn’t just about church planting—it’s about creating a working, outreach mentality for any church in any setting.

Funding Outreach
The first thing we did right was that we dedicated between 35 and 40 percent of our monthly income toward outreach and evangelism. This allowed us to continue to do all kinds of things in the area of reaching people with the message we hold true and dear.

Our highest value was this: “Lost people matter to God; therefore, they matter to us.” I never once stood in front of my congregation and asked for money. I never said, “We’d really like to do evangelism, if only we could get the money. Will you please give?” We simply made sure the money was there.

Effectiveness, not Innovation
This idea took root slowly. Within just a few months we grew to more than 100. But then, for nearly three years, we got stuck at approximately 100 people in attendance.

GO TEAM!: The pastoral staff of The Adventure (left to right) during a planning session: Amy and Shane Del Vecchio, Ingrid and Jim Moon, Gail and Roger Walter.

We were facing a turning point—grow, or become part of a district of churches. I gave an impassioned speech one evening to my leadership team, saying, “We have $60,000 in the bank. We’ve spent money on equipment (sound, video, etc.); we’ve done a lot of creative things. But we’re not growing. Let’s stop spending money on ourselves, and let’s spend what we have on reaching people for the kingdom.”
They agreed and we brought in an evangelist to do a traditional series. We rented the only place in
town that would work, but it held 850 on the main level and more on the upper levels. We
expected about 350 to show up on opening night and were afraid of being swallowed up with too
many open seats.

God surprised us on opening night with almost 800 in attendance! In the end we spent every dime
we had in the bank, and afterward we still had $90,000. Go figure. We baptized 50 people, half of
whom went to a neighboring church that was helping us, but our attendance went up by 70. Go
figure. God’s math didn’t make sense to us, but we enjoyed it anyway.

During the next few years we conducted one to three evangelistic seminars per year, and we
baptized 25 to 40 per series and maintained a retention rate near 70 percent. We also followed up
each seminar with classes or small groups to back up the teaching. Without a budget, most of those
were smaller and in homes or once a week at church.

During the last three or four years I was there, we spent about $40,000 to $60,000 per evangelistic
series; and we were spending about $100,000 per year. We were able to do this because we had
done our budget correctly.

As we crunched the numbers, we discovered that even though we spent that kind of money, it was
the most cost-effective thing we did to reach people. We simply put our money where our mouth
was to do not what we “liked,” but what worked.

Focusing on Mission
Some churches focus on mission for a while, but eventually begin to drift toward maintenance
mode. We stayed focused on our mission, which was both evangelism and discipleship.

I preached about the mission regularly; the board and leadership teams talked about the mission as
the reason for our existence. No one seemed to want to go into maintenance mode. Everyone
wanted to keep us growing and learning, but also making sure everything was going well. Our
budget mantra was: “Money follows vision!” And it did.

Grace—Front and Center
Grace. My personal paraphrase of Titus 2:11-14 is this: Grace saves us and grace changes us. We
sought to teach that God loves us no matter what (grace), but because of that love, we are changed
into His image. God’s grace will never leave us as we were. Grace saves, grace changes.

We never had a fight on the church board. We never had a disagreement about the color of
carpeting, the music, or the direction of the church. We never met someone at the door of the
church and told them to go home to change their clothes.

One of our core values was to love everyone and encourage them along their walk. Our example
was the woman caught in adultery. Jesus sent the accusers home, then told her that He didn’t
condemn her, but to go home and stop doing the things that got her there.2

That attitude of grace permeated everything we did as we dealt with people. But it never got
boiled down to cheap grace, in which people are given a license to do whatever they want. So many churches teach about change, but no grace. Others teach about grace, but no change. We believed simply—and taught—that Adventism had the complete picture.

Running the Show
The Adventist Church has traditionally provided pastors for their churches at a ratio of about 1:250 people. This seemed to work well in a generation gone by, when we could systematically add staff as the growth happened.

Today’s church-growth literature tells us that each pastor should “pastor” only about 150 people. The second and subsequent pastors need be added before the growth will happen. In other words, when you get to about 125-150, you add the next pastoral position—and every 100-150 people thereafter.

We had the opportunity to put this to a test when the Mid-America Union provided funding for a half salary over a span of five years. We provided the other half salary out of our local funds.

About the same time we received funding for the second pastoral position, a church member significantly helped us financially. With that money we hired a local person as our third pastor, who is now also in full-time ministry.

This provided us the flexibility not only to pastor the people we had, but to grow the church with more ministry, more opportunities to serve, and more staff to help people get involved in ministry as needed.

Within a year after hiring the extra staff, we grew by an amazing 60 percent. We saw three key things above the norm that helped us grow like this. First was our commitment to evangelism. Second was our commitment to staffing for growth. Finally, in the same year, we launched our second campus.

Different Locations
We figured that we had people driving 45 minutes to church—and we needed a second service—so rather than create a 9:00 a.m. service, we started a service on Saturday evenings. For the next four years we drove to church in the morning, then again in the evening to another local city. We had the same structure, the same finances, the same leaders, the same music, the same mission and vision, but two rented buildings at less cost than it would have been to have a single facility of our own.

This second campus, meeting in the evenings, grew to a high in attendance of about 90 to 100. Because so many non-Adventist churches have Saturday evening services, that time slot had one less cultural barrier for new people to cross. That single service was 70 to 75 percent non-Adventist, until that balance shifted after another of our evangelistic series.
Looking for New Ways

We can read all the church-growth literature we want, but until we understand that Adventism grows differently, we will continue to see churches that baptize few people every year and unchanging attendance. Our theology and our practice demands that we research new models of ministry. We can use what others have tried, but we will always need to adapt that to meet the needs and growth of our own congregations within the context of Adventism.

Shane and Amy had come to Christ and Adventism through an evangelistic seminar while they lived in Idaho. But over time they had become less involved. When The Adventure started, they made the decision to become part of the core of the church. Even then, however, they’d have to be called on some Sabbath mornings so they could get up in time for church.

Through the years, Shane and Amy put their roots down deep and grew significantly. One evening during social time at their house, I told Shane that God was calling him to the ministry. He turned white as a sheet, walked out of the room, and didn’t return. But when Shane was fired, I went to visit him and told him that I hoped he didn’t leave because he was so valuable to me, to the church, and to God. I felt that God might’ve been opening the doors for him to enter ministry.

Shane was agreeable, and we talked about what that would mean to go to school, what it would do to his family, etc.

About three days later Shane called and said, “Could I go with you to work today?” We spent the day visiting people, giving a couple of Bible studies, praying together, talking about the vision to reach people for God’s kingdom. At the end of the day, when we pulled up to his car, we both spoke at the same time: “Why don’t you hire me, Rog?” “Why don’t you come to work for me, Shane?”

The next Sabbath a church member, impressed with our evangelistic vision, asked me, “Pastor, what do we pay for rent a month?” I told him what we paid, and he then asked, “Would it be OK if I paid the rent for the next two years?”

My response: “Would it be OK if I told you our rent was more than what I just told you?” By his paying our rent, we took our current allocation and hired Shane. Three years later Shane went to work for the Upper Columbia Conference. He now pastors there—building another church with an evangelistic mind-set.

Our focus should be on finding what we do well and getting better at it. I used to think that if you created a contemporary worship model, people would flock to church. It didn’t happen. Let’s keep innovating, let’s keep experimenting, but let’s also focus on what is effective and do that! And let’s do the work of the kingdom!

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1 The average age of Adventism has been well documented, as quickly approaching 60, by such experts as Monte Sahlin.
2 See John 8:1-11.
3 A note about staffing: This is an unsustainable formula within the current context of Adventism. If we are going to continue under the current pay structure and tithe distribution method, we simply cannot continue to add staffing at the same rate that many evangelical churches do. I suggest the model Wayne Cordeiro in Honolulu has discovered (www.enewhope.org). Cordeiro has captured the heart of volunteerism. He staffs his church, now more than 12,000 strong, with one employed staffperson at 1:250. This is the same ratio acceptable in Adventist churches. Cordeiro has learned how to harness volunteers. For example, he has a full-time personal secretary who works between 40 and 50 hours a week as a volunteer. She understands that this is a way she can help people learn about God.
4 My kids loved going to church twice to see a different set of friends and to enjoy God with others. Greeley and Fort Collins are about 20-30 minutes apart.
5 The number of church plants that have tried just that and are languishing at approximately 30-40 people is a very telling testimony.
Roger Walter writes from Vancouver, Washington, where he is the senior pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Community Church—and where he and his wife, Gail, are raising their seven children. This article was published July 14, 2011.
Quaker Oats

Quaker Oats
Story by Cindy R. Chamberlin

In 1881 he bought the “bankrupt Quaker Mill at Ravenna, Ohio, and its most important asset, the brand name – Quaker.”1 Quakerism was synonymous with scrupulous honesty, simplicity of life, purity of character, and dealings of fair trade — all of which embodied Crowell who is said never to have compromised principle even when it would have been clearly in his advantage to do so. (The original Quaker Man was a registered trademark emphasizing purity so much it carried a scroll with the word “pure” inscribed upon it.)4 Within ten years, Quaker Oats was a household word to millions.1

Breakfast Autocrat

Henry Parsons Crowell, (1855–1943) founder of the Quaker Oats Company, called “the autocrat of the breakfast table,” or “the man who invented breakfast,” changed what Americans ate, reinvented the way storekeepers stocked shelves, and revolutionized modern marketing and merchandising methods respected even today.

His father, brothers, and he contracted tuberculosis. Sadly, they died. He lived, but spent seven years under doctor’s orders rebuilding his health outdoors in a moderate climate. He was left with a large inheritance and could easily have had a life of luxury, but instead chose hard work.

A life-changing moment occurred for Crowell when he went and heard Dwight L. Moody speak. Moody said, “Do you ever think big things for God? The world has Good Businessman yet to see what God can do with and for and through and in a man who is fully and wholly consecrated to Him.”1

This resonated with Crowell and he prayed, “Lord, by your grace and with the help of the Holy Spirit, I’ll be that man! I can’t be a preacher, but I can be a good businessman. God, if you will let me make money, I will use it in your service.”1

Without a college education, but showing trade acumen, Crowell strived to be the best possible businessman. Up until this time, American store owners ordered what they thought would sell, from wholesale vendors. Rather than convince storeowners to buy his product, Crowell believed he could go directly to buyers with his product. Whereby, he created his own consumer. “Advertising to the consumer was considered a crazy idea … even more, no one knew what might happen if someone tried to sell a legitimate product with honest claims.”6
Crowell saturated the country with Quaker Oats advertising. He ran a train with boxcars covered with the Quaker Oats name from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to Portland, Oregon. He “sponsored exhibits at fairs and expositions where salesmen offered and prepared oatmeal and cereal samples in their booths and explained the production process through fancy displays.”

In the 1800s, shoppers got their food out of bulk bins (like bulk sections). Crowell was the first to product package, wrapping his oats in bright papers, featuring the Quaker Man logo. (The Quaker Man was the first American advertising icon placed on a food product). He also introduced the first-ever “trial-size samples. “The 1/2 oz. Quaker Oats samples were delivered to every mailbox in Portland.” These were new concepts and the public loved them.

Crowell Trust

In 1926 the company purchased Aunt Jemima; in 1961, Life Cereal; in 1963, Cap’n Crunch; in 1965 Quisp Cereal; in 1978 Cinnamon Life; in 1983 Stokely-Van Camp (who owned the Gatorade brand); in 1986 the Golden Grain Company (makers of Rice-A-Roni); and in 1994 the Snapple Beverage Company. In the 1980s they branched out into Chewy Granola bars. In 1946, 1955, 1958, 1970, 1972, elements of the Quaker Man trademark were redesigned, but for the most part, the company has stayed true to the original image.

Crowell was a non-denominational Christian, who “made the business a part of his daily prayers.” Although he had a “great capacity for creating wealth,” he used it solely to advance the kingdom of God. The most recurrent and unified theme summarizing his life is this:

“Henry Parsons Crowell, Quaker Oats founder, was one of the wealthiest men of Chicago. When he died, he had given away nearly 70 percent of his earnings for more than 40 years. But Crowell viewed all things as a stewardship from God — including influence. Over the years, one businessman after another would comment on how he came to know Christ personally because of the life of integrity lived by Henry Parsons Crowell.”

Prior to his death, Crowell chaired the Moody Bible Institute’s Board of Directors. He “set up a wisely administered trust as a vehicle to be used to faithfully serve God’s work in perpetuity.” Today, the Crowell Trust continues his legacy and grants to organizations dedicated to “the teaching and active extension of the doctrines of Evangelical Christianity.”

Upon the businessman’s death, it was said: “The world has indeed seen what God can do through a man who is fully and wholly consecrated to HIM.”

Sources:
1 ^a, b, c, d, e, Unknown. Dr. Tan’s Encyclopedia. Bible Communications. Timeless Truths for Transient Times. Sermon Illustrations. Bible Communications Inc. Web.
2 Welcome to Quaker Oats. Web. 16 June 2011.
4 Cooper, William A. The Testimony of Integrity in the Religious Society of Friends. Wallingford, PA: Pendle Hill


This entry was posted on Thursday, August 25th, 2011 at 12:06 pm and is filed under Cindy's Garden Blog. You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0 feed. You can skip to the end and leave a response. Pinging is currently not allowed.

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