NPUC-sponsored Groups Head to Dominican Republic

Nearly 60 adult and student members from around the Northwest have converged on San Pedro de Macoris in the Dominican Republic. They are there to conduct evangelistic reaping meetings March 16–24 with a combined worship and baptismal service on March 24. Ramon Canals, North Pacific Union Conference Hispanic ministries director, has been on site for a week preaching the initial series of meetings. Student-led series begin this evening. Northwest Adventists are partnering in this project with the Inter-American Division, Dominican Union Mission and the East Dominican Conference. This particular area of the Dominican Republic is famous for producing the greatest number of Major League baseball players. Pray for those who will be presenting the gospel during these meetings, and for those considering eternal decisions.

Valdez Women Help Victims of Domestic Violence

The Valdez (Alaska) Church women’s ministries is working with the Advocate for Victims of Domestic Violence Agency in their community to provide hand-quilted blankets for children and women who are victims of abuse. Women who have ended up in a shelter for their safety are given a blanket along with toiletry and personal effects items. In addition, the Alaska Adventist Community Services and women’s ministries departments help provide blankets for victims of community disasters such as fire or flooding. The Valdez radio station contacted the women after hearing about their efforts in the community and plans to provide ads requesting donations for the project. Read more from the Alaska Conference website HERE.

American Mosques Show Rapid Growth

The number of mosques in America has jumped 74 percent since 2000, and the majority of these espouse a less-than-literal approach to interpreting Islamic doctrine. These are some of the findings of a major new survey of American mosques that was released Feb. 29. "Islam," says David Roozen of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research, "is one of the few growth spots in America's religious mosaic.” The survey, "The American Mosque 2011,” counted 2,106 mosques in the nation, and a spike in the number of people who attend

Looking Ahead

March
17: Ministry Feast South
22: May Ad/Article Deadline
24–25: Vegfest 2012
30–April 1: Ore. Conference Prayer Retreat

April
13–15: NW Prison Ministry Retreat
14: OAMC Spring Festival
19: June Ad/Article Deadline
26–29: ASI NW Convention

May
9–13: SAGE Creation Retreat
17: July Ad/Article Deadline
17–20: NPUC Regional Convocation
18–20: Tillamook (Ore.) Adv. School Alumni Weekend

June
9–16: Alaska Camp Meeting
12–16: Idaho Camp Meeting
13–16: Mont. Camp Meeting
13–16: UCC Camp Meeting
14–23: Wash. Camp Meeting

July
17–21: Ore. Camp Meeting

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Eid prayers, the Muslim holy days that tend to attract more people than any other. In 2011, the survey found 2.6 million people had gone to Eid prayers, up from 2 million in 2000. Read more of this report from the Religion News Service online at the Adventist Review HERE.

**Israeli Postal Workers Balk at Delivering Bibles**
Dozens of Israeli postal workers are refusing to deliver thousands of copies of the New Testament and other Hebrew-language Christian materials. The workers, who deliver mail in the city of Ramat Gan, east of Tel Aviv, assert that delivering the items would be tantamount to proselytizing and therefore a violation of Jewish law. Proselytizing is a sensitive issue among Jewish Israelis, who feel the Jewish people have already lost too many adherents to the Spanish Inquisition, the Holocaust and other times of Jewish persecution. Israel's anti-missionary law prohibits offering people monetary incentives in order to convince them to adopt another faith. It also bans proselytizing to minors. It does not prevent the dissemination of written material. Read more from the Religion News Service HERE.

**Northwest Mission Institute Unveils New Website**
If you’re passionate about sharing Jesus with your world, but want to learn how to do it better, look no further. The Northwest Mission Institute (NMI), sponsored by the North Pacific Union Conference and directed by Jason Worf, has launched its new website. There you will find additional information on how to sign up for NMI Boot Camp beginning in June, or NMI Complete beginning in September on the campus of Walla Walla University. Read more on NMI HERE.
Valdez Women Help Domestic Violence Victims

Jean Francis-Gobah, Alaska Conference Women's Ministries Director

The Valdez Seventh-day Adventist church women’s ministries adopts “Advocate for Victims of Domestic Violence Agency” in their community and is working with the agency in reaching out in various ways by providing hand quilted blankets and for the children and women who are victims of domestic violence in their community. Thanks to the annual NAD “July Women’s Ministry” offerings through our various churches which helped to get this project started back in 2010 when Women’s Ministries director Jean Gobah met with the director of the agency and church member Debs Campbell and Sharon Mills contacted Jean about starting the project. Church member Sharon Mills stated “this is my vision to help out in the community” The ladies meet once a week to make hand quilted blankets called “It’s My Very Own” for the Bags of Love along with personal items which are provided to the mother and child at the shelter.

In addition, Bags of Care are provided to the women who are faced with domestic violence issue and have ended up in a shelter for their safety, a blanket and toiletry, personal effects items are provided to the agency to help the women.

Bags of Comfort is a joint effort with Alaska Adventist Community Services department and women’s ministries to provide fleece non stitched blankets for victims of disaster in the community like fire, flooding which force them to leave their homes. The items made by the women are also sent to Cordova to help in their community as well. The Valdez radio station contacted the ladies after hearing about their efforts in the community and plans to provide ads for requesting donations for the project.
The number of mosques in America has jumped 74 percent since 2000, and the majority of them—56 percent—espouse a less-than-literal approach to interpreting Islam's holy texts.

These are some of the findings of a major new survey of American mosques that was released February 29, the third study produced by a coalition of Islamic civic groups and Muslim and non-Muslim religion scholars. "Islam," said David Roozen of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research, part of a Protestant seminary, "is one of the few growth spots in America's religious mosaic."

Leaders of the institutions that sponsored the survey offered it as a counterargument to the currents of Islamophobia that they say have tainted much political and personal discourse during the past 10 years. The report, they said, shows a strong willingness on the part of mosque leaders to encourage worshippers to engage in American society, including its politics.

"Post-9/11, I was really afraid of the new negative attitude Muslims were receiving," said Safaa Zarzour, secretary general of the Islamic Society of North America. "It made me feel that Muslim communities would feel marginalized from American society, and that to me is where things can become dangerous."

But that did not happen, he continued. "We see outreach and engagement among mosques -- mosques with food pantries, medical clinics. You have people who can look at mosques in their neighborhood and see Muslims as people who can help, not people to be feared."

The survey, "The American Mosque 2011," counted 2,106 mosques in the nation, and a spike in the number of people who attend Eid prayers, the Muslim holy days that tend to attract more people than any other. In 2011, the survey found 2.6 million people had gone to Eid prayers, up from 2 million in 2000.

That last figure challenges many previous estimates of the U.S. Muslim population, which generally fall well below 3 million. Given the number of Muslims who do not pray the Eid prayers, the total number of Muslims in the U.S. likely exceeds 3 million, perhaps by more than a million, the study's authors conclude.
Israeli Postmen Refuse to Deliver Hebrew-language Bibles

BY MICHELE CHABIN

Israeli postal workers outside Tel Aviv are refusing to deliver thousands of copies of the New Testament and other Hebrew-language Christian materials.

Israel media reported March 6 that dozens of religious and secular Jewish mail deliverers jointly informed their supervisors that disseminating the materials goes against their religious beliefs.

The workers, who deliver mail in Ramat Gan, assert that delivering the items would be tantamount to proselytizing and therefore a violation of Jewish law.

It was not immediately clear who is mailing the materials.

Proselytizing is a sensitive issue among Jewish Israelis, who feel the Jewish people have already lost too many adherents to the Spanish Inquisition, the Holocaust and other times of Jewish persecution.

Israel's anti-missionary law prohibits offering people monetary incentives in order to convince them to adopt another faith. It also bans proselytizing to minors. It does not prevent the dissemination of written material.

The Israel Postal Company told Ynet News that it is "a governmental company operating in accordance to the Postal Law, which obligates us to distribute any mail it receives. The Israel Postal Company has no right or ability to choose what it can or cannot distribute. Therefore, the mail will be distributed according to the law."
Who We Are

The Call

Two thousand years ago, Jesus called you to go tell your world what He's done for you.

What are you waiting for?

Your mission field starts with the people right where you are: your home, your neighborhood, your city.

We'll help you reach them starting today.

Our School

Located on the campus of Walla Walla University, Northwest Mission Institute is uniquely positioned to provide you with academically excellent training AND real-world experience.

Learn from outstanding professors, theologians, and ministry professionals with years of field experience. You’ll leave equipped and confident to answer God’s call.

Get Involved

Pray for NMI. Our training and evangelism efforts require the Holy Spirit to be successful.

Apply to be a student at NMI.

Donate to support a worthy student, and help train the next generation of evangelistic outreach professionals.
What's New

News and Updates (http://missioninstitute.org/category/news-and-updates/)

NMI is Online! (http://missioninstitute.org/nmi-is-online/)
A website for NMI! Wow, it's not been very long since this Bible Worker Coordinator and Magabook Leadership school was …

Job Opportunities (http://missioninstitute.org/category/job-opportunities/)
Caldwell Seventh-Day Adventist Church – Outreach Trainer (http://missioninstitute.org/outreach-trainer/)
Position Description Position: Outreach Trainer Location: Caldwell Seventh-day Adventist Church, Caldwell, Idaho Length of service: 1 year contract Position Begins: …

Ministry Jobs (http://missioninstitute.org/ministry-jobs/)
Do churches really hire NMI graduates? It’s a question you have to be asking yourself right now. What’s the point …

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An Unfaithful Stove (http://missioninstitute.org/an-unfaithful-stove/)
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My Way or the Highway (http://missioninstitute.org/my-way-or-the-highway/)
My wife says I’m a little bit of a control freak. I don’t know, maybe she’s right. For years I’ve …