This Week: Tillamook Hospital to Change Name; WWU Students Teach Hands-on Math and Science for Gradeschoolers; and more!

Tillamook Hospital to Change Name
Tillamook County General Hospital in Tillamook, Ore., will change its official name to Tillamook Regional Medical Center, effective June 3. The hospital, first opened in 1950, has operated under a lease arrangement with Adventist Health since 1973 — an agreement recently extended to 2045. The new name will more effectively reflect the hospital’s expanded services, including five rural health clinics, four locations with 24/7 Advanced Life Support ambulance services, and home health and hospice care in patient homes throughout Tillamook County. “This name change represents our confident looking forward to the advancing future of health and wellness services in our region,” says Larry Davy, hospital president. Read more about the change at the hospital’s website.

WWU Students Teach Hands-on Math and Science for Gradeschoolers
Engineering students from Walla Walla University (WWU) volunteered their time to teach science crafts at Davis Elementary School in College Place, Wash., during Force and Motion Day. Nearly 100 kindergarten through third graders build balloon rockets, mixed pigments and designed rubber-band planes. "The students seemed to enjoy seeing the practical applications of science and math, and the teachers were glad to have reinforcement that math is good," says Ralph Stirling, WWU engineering professor. Read more at WallaWalla.edu.

UCA Senior Featured in Spokane Newspaper
Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) senior Cheyanne Welch was recently featured in the Spokane, Wash., newspaper, The Spokesman-Review. Welch, the oldest of three from...
Victoria, British Columbia, wants to devote her life in service to others. UCA's mission focus has helped shape her goals. Mission trips to India and Mexico have made a huge impact on her life. “There was a lot of poverty, violence and drinking, a rough place where it was difficult to preach. Yet our site had the most baptisms out of the three villages where we went,” says Welch of one trip. With college now ahead of her, she plans to focus on business communication and international relations with the goal of working overseas for World Vision. “I'm interested in helping people establish self-sufficient communities.” Read more about Welch at Spokesman.com.

The Four Most Important Evangelists
Some church growth surveyors report that local churches have roughly SEVEN minutes from the time a guest pulls into the church parking lot to make them feel welcome and give them a compelling reason to come back. With that in mind, Adventist pastor Chad Stuart, picks out what he calls “The Four Most Important Evangelists in the Adventist Church.” You might be surprised at his choices. Check out his blog post at Outside the Pulpit.

Alaska Men's Retreat
Each year, for the past eight years, men from around Alaska and beyond gather for a men's retreat weekend. Last year, Todd Gessle was there to film for the program "My Alaska with Ken Crawford." The retreat is held each year at a retired rural gold-mine, accessible via airplane, four-wheeler, or, for the adventurous, four-wheel-drive truck. With grizzly bears and moose nearby, fossil beds just up the river, and miles from any power lines, phones or lights, the weekend is a time to reflect and reconnect with God. Contact the Alaska conference if you would like to attend this year. Watch a preview of the adventurous weekend in episode 7 of "My Alaska with Ken Crawford."

Big Lake Youth Camp Wins Best Overnight Camp
In a recent contest organized by Northwest Kids Magazine, readers voted Big Lake Youth Camp as Portland's Best Summer Camp — Overnight. The contest was based on camps that were nominated by readers in early April, followed by public voting from April 16–30. If you don't have plans yet for the summer, now is great time to see what camps Big Lake offers! Review a list of all the winners at NWKidsMagazine.com.
Looking Ahead

June
- 11–15: Idaho Camp Meeting
- 12–15: Montana Camp Meeting
- 14–15: Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting
- 19–22: Upper Columbia Camp Meeting
- 20–29: Washington Camp Meeting

July
- 2–7: AHA Cowboy Camp Meeting
- 11–13: Oregon Hispanic Camp Meeting
- 16–20: Oregon Gladstone Camp Meeting
- 23–27: Alaska Camp Meeting

More Events

We used to think people who left the Adventist Church did so primarily because of poor interpersonal relationships within the church. A new study suggests that differences in belief are now the main reason. In this month's feature story, Andy Nash, Southern Adventist University journalism and religion professor, explores why Adventists are leaving the church, and what can be done to bring them back. Read more about it in the June GLEANER!
Hospital Announces Name Change

May 16, 2013
Tillamook, OR

Tillamook Regional Medical Center

At the dedication of the new Tillamook Medical Plaza, Hospital president Larry Davy announced that effective June 3, Tillamook County General Hospital will change its name to Tillamook Regional Medical Center. This new name better reflects the growth in service area and scope of services now being offered throughout Tillamook County and beyond.

In 1950, the citizens of Tillamook County opened their new hospital at its current location. Over the next 62 years, the services provided by the hospital have evolved to meet the needs for quality primary and specialty health care along this region of the Oregon coast. A lease agreement with Adventist Health, signed first in 1973 and subsequently renewed through 2045, provides professional management by a local team of health care operating with not-for-profit status.

Adventist Health services in this region now include much more than the hospital, with a continuum that provides health and wellness from birth through elder care. There are five rural health clinics located in Tillamook and Lincoln Counties, Advanced Life Support (ALS) level ambulance services staffed 24/7 in four locations throughout Tillamook County, home health and hospice services provided in patient homes throughout Tillamook County, as well as cardiac services through the Northwest Regional Heart Center.

In 2012, Hospital leadership met with focus groups from around Tillamook County, through which consensus grew in support of the name Tillamook Regional Medical Center. The term Medical Center speaks to the wider range of services than just a hospital, with the term Regional embracing residents throughout Tillamook County and beyond.

“The input of so many community members and leaders in this process is deeply appreciated,” stated Davy. “This hospital that belongs to all of us has evolved to be so much more than just a hospital in the past several years. This name change represents our confident looking forward to the advancing future of health and wellness services in our region.”

1000 3rd Street, Tillamook, Oregon 97141 503-842-4444

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WWU engineering undergraduates volunteered their time by doing educational science-related crafts with Davis Elementary School students in College Place during their Force and Motion Day in March. Approximately 100 students in kindergarten through third grade learned physics principles by making balloon rockets, mixing pigments, and designing rubber-band planes.

Ralph Stirling, a WWU engineering professor, demonstrated rocket propulsion mechanisms via a robotic balancing system. Children were able to touch a rod and watch the machine immediately adjust itself; the same machine is used in upper-division engineering courses. Stirling says, "The students seemed to enjoy seeing the practical applications of science and math, and the teachers were glad to have reinforcement that math is good."

"The most positive thing was to see the little kids get excited," said WWU engineering professor Don Riley, a key coordinator of the event. "The kids could see rocket science, if you will, and yet actually physically do the same thing...then watch a computer do it. It's a nice hands-on connection for 'Force and Motion.'"

Carla Houchin, a kindergarten teacher at Davis Elementary School, says "I am so pleased that we could coordinate this event and provide an opportunity for our students to work with your students. It was a huge success."

May 2, 2013
Upper Columbia student eyes World Vision in her future

Cheyanne Welch has known what she wanted to do since she was pretty young – and that was to live a life in service to others.

There was some thought of marine biology when she was really little, but she realized pretty quickly – as a matter of faith and heart – that for her, it was all about helping other people live better lives.

About to graduate from Upper Columbia Academy, the private Christian academy operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Spangle, the 18-year-old Canada native counts among her fondest memories the old-fashioned, five-family fruit-canning parties she was part of growing up, helping at the free store at her church, participating in work bees for shut-ins, cooking for friends and neighbors who were ill, and going on missions with her parents.

She was born in Alberta and spent her earliest childhood in Cairo, where her parents were doing missionary work. Now living outside Victoria, B.C., she and her parents and sisters Jasmine, 16, and Kiara, 14, are committed to lives of service through their church.

Welch first came to Upper Columbia Academy two years ago for a cousin's graduation and just loved the campus in Spangle and the sense of shared purpose she found at the school.

"God told me I could grow here," she said, and so she has spent the final two years of high school as a resident student, this year serving as an assistant in the girls dorm. She's participated in volleyball and is the principal saxophone player in the band. In the summers, she has been a camp counselor in Alberta.

But her main focus remains on service through her faith. In 2010 she went with other
students and a few parents to Tizimin, Mexico, bringing paint and other supplies to local churches and businesses. She helped run the vacation Bible school. This past spring break, she went to Miryalaguda, India, on an evangelical mission.

"It was incredible to see how God worked with people in the area," she said. "There was a lot of poverty, violence and drinking, a rough place where it was difficult to preach. Yet our site had the most baptisms out of the three villages where we went."

She said she feels she learns as much as she teaches when she makes such trips, coming to understand cultures and the lives of people everywhere. She did not grow up wealthy, so she often fundraises to help pay for her mission trips abroad.

Welch hopes to earn a college degree in business communications and international relations with a goal of working for World Vision as a missionary, interested in focusing on programs that teach basic health, how to keep water supplies clean and grow good gardens. “I'm interested in helping people establish self-sufficient communities.”

Her parents – Derrick and Rosemarie Welch – are pleased with her career plan to dedicate her life to helping others. “I'm so excited for the future; I'm so ready for this,” she said.

And although she will be leaving Upper Columbia Academy, another Welch sister is arriving this fall, when Jasmine will enroll. There appears to be a family tradition developing.
Outside the Pulpit

Faith, Family, Church, and a Little Bit of Randomness

The Four Most Important Evangelists in The Adventist Church

On May 21, 2013 by Chad Stuart

If you follow the world of Adventist Evangelism you are familiar with ministries such as It Is Written, Amazing Facts, Breath of Life, & Voice of Prophecy. You’re also familiar with the great evangelists of Adventism, some of y’all have seen them so many times on 3ABN or The Hope Channel that you almost feel like they are your own personal friends, Doug Batchelor, Shawn Boonstra, Mark Finley, Alejandro Bullon, John Bradshaw, Carlton Byrd, and more. But of all the evangelists in our denomination, The Seventh-day Adventist Church, which ones are the most important, the most vital to the growth of our church?

I’m going to give you my top four. They are...

1. Parking Lot
2. Groundskeeper
3. Janitor
4. Greeter

These three individuals & one inanimate object are far more important to the growth of your church and thus the growth of Adventism at least here in North America than any of the names I mentioned above. Why do I say that? Because these three evangelists have a weekly impact on the growth of your church that the other three do not have (unless of course one of them is your Pastor!).

Pastor Nelson Searcy and other church growth surveyors report that churches have roughly 7 minutes from the time a guest pulls into your church parking lot to make them feel welcome and give them a compelling reason to come back. Now a lot of folk may be skeptical about that statement, but if you’re a church goer then that disqualifies you from being able to speculate on the mind of the un-churched. The un-churched don’t think like church folk or act like church folk or talk like church folk, but they are the folk we need to reach, which is why these four evangelists, parking lot, groundskeeper, janitor, and greeter are so important to the life and growth of a local church!

Let me tell you about the value of each one:

Parking Lot

Church growth studies state that if a parking lot that is more than 80% it is a deterrent to guests. When I first read this in a book by Russell Burris I was skeptical, but I’m a pastor which makes me even less qualified than the average member in the pew to analyze the thoughts of an individual searching for a church, so I took the study to the church Elders and there in our meeting one of our Elders raised his hand. He said, “Pastor 8 years ago when my wife and I first move to the area we came to this church; we pulled into the parking lot and didn’t see any openings. The place seemed too crowded so we drove to another church in town.” They weren’t even here 7 minutes and they left. Praise the Lord they gave us another chance, they have been a great asset to our church! But we could have lost them because the evangelism of our parking lot dropped the ball! How can we help with the evangelism of the parking lot? Well first off pastors we can actually pay attention to it. One thing we did prior to moving to two services in Visalia, as our church grew, we not only paid attention to how many people were sitting in the seats but we also sent a Deacon to count the empty spots in the parking lot. When we were getting to full we began to ask our members to park elsewhere. There was a parking lot next door and we got permission to use it, we also had members park out on the street at the curb.
Our church having the evangelistic heart that they do comply and our parking lot was once again ready to be an evangelist to our guests.

Groundskeeper

Are your bushes trimmed, is your lawn mowed & green, do you have flowers blooming? The first thing that people see when they pull up to your church are these things and whether we pay attention to it or not, it is noticed by guests. If you don’t believe me think about the last time you pulled up to a persons house whose yard was falling apart. Did you notice? Of course you did! Especially if you were about to go inside. In fact you probably thought in your head, “If this is what the outside of their house looks like, I wonder what the inside looks like?” We’ve all thought it (if you haven’t you may be the one with the ultra shabby yard:)). Well do you think folk pulling into a church think any different? NO! And what is one of the most important rules of evangelism? Start by focusing on the positive. What do most our main stream evangelists start their meetings with? Daniel 2. Why? Because they want folk to see the credibility of the scriptures and honestly probably the credibility of us, in that we were so “smart” to show them the meaning of Daniel 2 (sorry mild sarcasm there:)). But this is a positive message for a positive start. It is no different each Sabbath morning, we want to start things off on the positive. And the positive is a green mowed lawn, trimmed bushes, and flowers blooming. Pastors are you paying attention to the evangelism provided by your groundskeeper?

Janitor

Really this evangelist follows in the same line as the previous. If your church is unkempt and dirty you are communicating a message you don’t want to communicate. Bathrooms need to be clean! If they are like ours in Visalia (literally the worst church bathrooms ever) then you really have to go out of your way to make them as useable as possible! Papers should not be lying around, the walls should be clean, the tables at potluck should be clean. I was once speaking at a small church in the Southern parts of these here United States, I was the guest so I showed up early that gave me the opportunity to stand in the foyer and look around while I waited for the Sabbath Schools to finish, what I noticed made me wonder how many guests came back. There was a coat rack that probably had half the coats hanging on the rack and the other half were lying in a heap on the floor. Sitting on top of the coat rack were stacks of what appeared to be old Adventist Review magazines along with other various papers. Everything just looked disheveled. We don’t get points if the outside is beautiful but the inside it is a filthy mess, either Spiritually or as a literal church structure. Your janitor evangelist is important!

Greeters

This evangelist may be the most overlooked because most people consider their church friendly. But just because we as members think our church is friendly doesn’t mean that is what your guests experience. And unfortunately what has been discovered is that members almost always rate themselves higher on the “friendly” meter than guests do. All the other 6 1/2 minutes of a guests first encounter with your church are important but the first 30 seconds that a guest steps inside your church are the most vital and will leave an impression of your church that can be very hard to shake! I’ve found within Adventism that most greeting ministries are the same. Hand-out a bulletin and be done with it. In some churches that is even an overreach of expectation. One of my associates went to preach at another church in our area, when he walked into the church foyer there was no greeter. There was a table though with a stack of bulletins. My associate greeted the table and took a bulletin. To be a greeter is not to be a bulletin dispenser. A greeter is an evangelist! Every pastor should do training sessions with their greeters. Have a plan for how to greet and where to greet. Yes, where matters. Guests should not have to come to the greeters, I can not count how many times I have had to tap a greeter on a shoulder in a church I was visiting and ask for a bulletin. One pastor friend told me how at a church he was serving at the greeters refused to come out from behind the hospitality table, they said if the people wanted something it was clear where they needed to go. Sounds so hospitable! 😞 I find the greeting ministry of our church to be one of the ministries I spend the most time thinking about and praying over!

So there are your four “most important” evangelists in Adventism! From personal experience and observation I believe if a pastor will take a little more time focusing on even just these four areas, he or she will see the retention of their guests increase.
The Four Most Important Evangelists in The Adventist Church | Outside ...