July 11: Krueger Accepts New Radio Role in DC

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This Week: Krueger Accepts New Radio Role in DC; Impact South Africa Gathers Global Youth; and more!

This week's enewsletter is sponsored by Barefoot Media Ministries.

Krueger Accepts New Radio Role in D.C.

Kevin Krueger, KGTS general manager since 1988, will leave Walla Walla University’s radio station and Positive Life Radio Network (PLR) in August for a new role on the campus of Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md. There he will serve as vice president and general manager for WGTS 91.9 FM, an Adventist-owned and operated contemporary Christian radio outreach to more than 600,000 listeners each week. Under Krueger’s longtime leadership, KGTS in College Place, Wash., has grown from a single station to a regional network with outlets in 15 Northwest cities serving more than 120,000 listeners. He is also currently the general vice president for the Society of Adventist Communicators. A search for a new leader at KGTS and PLR is underway. Read more about Krueger’s experience and work in Northwest radio online.

Impact South Africa Gathers Youth from Around the Globe

Over 3,000 youth from 97 different countries, including 22 from the Pacific Northwest, have gathered in Pretoria, South Africa, for the Impact South Africa: 3rd World Conference on Youth and Community Service. Many of the attendees spent the first week of July serving 60 different projects around Capetown, Soweto and Pretoria. The main meetings which began July 8, include general sessions, music and nightly devotionals from David Asscherick. The musical performances feature Reality 7, a group of South African men who grew up in a childrens welfare home. “I’m very amazed,” said Janina Betlinski, from Oregon as she watched an African choir perform. “I didn’t think it would be quite like this — all the colors and music. It’s wonderful.” Many of the programs are being streamed live, as well as archived for later viewing. Read more from Adventist News Network about the opening week of service and the evening meetings.
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Yvonne House Retires from UCC
Longtime Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) Corporation treasurer Yvonne House has retired. House, who grew up in the Northwest, served the Adventist Church for more than 40 years in financial management. After graduating from Walla Walla University, she served at the North Pacific Union Conference office, followed by some time in Southern California and then back to UCC. House has been replaced by Jimmy Johnson, formerly the corporation assistant treasurer. Read more about her service at UCCSDA.org.

Insight Magazine Gets New Editor
Omar Miranda, a trained counselor, has been named the new editor of Insight Magazine. Miranda, who came to youth ministry from a career as a youth and family counselor, has a heart for young people and understands the struggles that many face. He is not new to Insight as he has been writing an online column for several years. Miranda's new title, Director of Insight Ministries, reflects a desire to expand the ministry beyond simply a magazine. He plans to make the website, InsightMagazine.org, more immediately responsive to teens' questions and prayer requests as well as envisions training events for youth workers and parents to better connect to youth. Miranda takes over as editor from Dwain Esmond, who is now Review and Herald vice president of editorial services. Read more about Miranda from the Review and Herald and a message from him at InsightMagazine.org.

Melashenko, Early VOP Quartet Member, Dies
Joe Melashenko, longtime singing evangelist throughout North America, died recently at the age of 91 after a long battle with cancer. Melashenko sang with the King's Heralds quartet as part of the Voice of Prophecy broadcast from 1948–1950. For the next several decades he served as teacher, pastor and evangelist — more than a decade of that for the Voice of Prophecy. He and his wife, Anne, often featured their family of five sons as part of the Melashenko Family Singers for musical ministry during their many series of meetings. One son, Joedy, served for a time as pastor within the Oregon Conference. Another, Lonnie, was Voice of Prophecy speaker/director for a number of years. Services for Joe Melashenko will be held in Paradise, Calif., on July 21. Read more about his years of service on the North American Division website.
July 11: Krueger Accepts New Radio Role in DC

Looking Ahead

July

11–13: Oregon Hispanic Camp Meeting
16–20: Oregon Gladstone Camp Meeting
23–27: Alaska Camp Meeting
23–27: Northeast Washington Camp Meeting
24–28: Montana Youth Conference
31–Aug. 3: Walla Walla Camp Meeting

More Events

July

In the last year, nearly 400 Hispanic students received scholarships to Northwest Adventist schools. This month's GLEANER focus is on Adventist Education in the Northwest and how those Hispanic scholarships are providing help to families. Read more about it in the July GLEANER!
Krueger to Lead Radio Station Serving Washington, D.C., Region

General Manager Began Radio Work As a Student Announcer

By: Rosa Jimenez

Kevin Krueger, general manager for KGTS 91.3 and Positive Life Radio Network at Walla Walla University, has accepted a position with a radio station in Takoma Park, Md.

Krueger will become vice president and general manager for WGTS 91.9 FM, a radio station operated by Washington Adventist University. The station serves the Washington, D.C., area, broadcasting contemporary Christian music to over 600,000 listeners.

“It’s an honor to be invited to guide the team at an industry leading station and ministry. KGTS/PLR and WGTS have a long rich ‘sister station’ history that I plan to continue. I anticipate many wonderful opportunities to serve the people in our nation’s capital just as we have served those in the Inland Northwest. Whatever the scale or location, it really boils down to service – one person serving another,” says Krueger.

Krueger began working as a student announcer at Walla Walla University's radio station in 1982. After graduating from WWU in 1987 with a communications major, he became program director. After one year in that position, Krueger was named to his current position of general manager.

The station, which marked its 50th anniversary this year, serves as a training ground for students in communication and other academic areas. “Working with and mentoring students has been one of the most meaningful aspects of my work here,” says Krueger. Under Krueger's leadership, the station has grown from a single local station into a regional Christian radio network with 120,000 listeners. Stations in the Positive Life Radio network are based in 15 cities in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

Krueger initiated a program at Positive Life Radio called the Hands & Heart ministry to facilitate listener participation in community service projects. Projects include the regional Christmas in July food drive and Days of Compassion, a child-sponsorship program.

Krueger launched the Rice for Cambodia program, inviting listener donations that would provide necessary rice to starving people in the Asian country. Since then, listeners have donated more than $1.3 million to this cause. In May, the Cambodian government honored this effort, conferring a medal on Krueger and the Positive Life Radio Network. The medal is designated for foreigners who have rendered distinguished services to the people of Cambodia.

Krueger is also a recognized expert in his professional field. He shares his expertise by serving as a programming and fundraising consultant to Christian radio stations throughout the country. Krueger is also general vice-president and incoming president of Society of Adventist Communicators and has served as president of Adventist Radio Broadcasters Association.

“I’m humbled by what lies ahead. The opportunities to serve others and share Christ are huge. I feel fortunate to be joining a team of professionals and student interns that know their craft. The change is a hard one, we have deep roots in the Inland Northwest, but it’ll be good to take all I’ve learned here and take it to our nation’s capital to encourage and bless people,” says Krueger.

Krueger will be relocating to the East Coast with his wife, Lisa, and their two children.

Published July 8, 2013.

<- Back to: News
Australian Samantha Lee spent last week here in South Africa working in a home for orphaned and homeless kids, saying the week of service was her treat to herself – a trip to celebrate her 21st birthday.

Samantha Lee, 21, from Sydney, Australia, volunteered last week with friends to teach kids at the Christian Crisis Centre in Kameeldrift, South Africa, as part of the Adventist world church's youth conference. "The kids loved the camera," she said.

“I wanted to go somewhere to help someone, not just have a holiday for myself,” she said.

Lee, who spent the week with friends working at the Christian Crisis Centre in Kameeldrift, is one of more than 1,000 Adventist young people who came here from around the world for the opening week of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s world youth conference.

The “Impact South Africa: 3rd World Conference on Youth and Community Service” runs from July 8 to 13 and features a week of service projects, followed by this week of general sessions and evening devotionals.

Last week, volunteers served in 60 different projects throughout Capetown, Soweto and here in the capital, Pretoria.

“People had a wonderful time serving and making a real impact throughout the country,” said Adventist Youth Ministries Director Gilbert Cangy.

Daniela Noriega, right, a 24-year-old lawyer from Venezuela, volunteered last week with friends to gather clothes and food for people in need in Heidelberg. She was one of more than 1,000 Adventist young people working in 60 community service projects as part of the Adventist world church's youth conference.

Simone Thiel, 18, from Germany, described the experience as the “best week of my life.” She said she and a group from Germany painted a church in Dobsonville, Soweto, and worked in an orphanage. The best part, she said, was staying in the home of church members. “In Germany it’s impossible that 50 people would eat in one room. It’s too small there and we usually like our space.”

Lindsay Foolchand, a 30-year-old tour guide from Mauritius, worked in Soweto to cook and wash clothes at a home for the disabled. He especially enjoyed the local Adventist style of worship songs. “It was so intense, from the heart. Very different from what we are used to,” he said.

Stefania Sandoval, a 25-year-old engineer from Venezuela gathered clothes and food for needy families and repaired floors in a school dorm in Heidelberg. “It was our first time,” she said of laying tile flooring. “We had to learn. But everyone was happy.”

Tapuwa Taps Mathiba, 16, from South Africa, worked with a group to produce a Vacation Bible School for 30 kids in the city of Tembisa. He also helped to remodel a decaying home in Mamelodi. “I don’t think anyone could live inside such a home,” he said of a two-room home that housed a family of eight.

Armando Miranda, an Adventist world church vice president, supervised 11 projects in Capetown. He said a group of Australians, Canadians and Russians worked together to clean up a poor area of town and teach kids how to keep the area clean. “It was really important because they involved the community,” Miranda said. “It was a wonderful experience for everyone and they made a lot of friends.”

A choir performs "Oh Happy Day" on July 8 at the opening of "Impact South Africa," the Adventist Church's world youth conference. More than 3,000 people from 97 countries attended the opening ceremony at the Saint George Hotel & Convention Centre in Pretoria.

Tonight’s opening ceremony brought together some 3,100 youth from 97 countries to the Saint George Hotel & Convention Centre. The evening opened with a parade of nations, with each country represented by a flag bearer wearing national dress. Attendees in the packed auditorium strained to see, many holding up cameras and tablets to capture the action on the stage.

In the back of the hall, as an African choir performed “Amen” with rhythmic movements, 32-year-old Janina Betlinski, from Oregon, United States, watched from a ledge. “I’m very amazed,” she said, “because I didn’t think it would be quite like this – all the colors and music. It’s wonderful.”

Attendees were greeted by Irvin Khoza, chair of the Premier Soccer League in South Africa, who expressed his gratitude to the Adventist Church for his upbringing. Former Youth Ministries Director Baraka Muganda, originally from Tanzania, was honored for his service. And Mayor Kgosiemtsa Ramokgopa of the city of Tshwane invited attendees to keep in their prayers former president Nelson Mandela, whom he said is in a hospital
Cangy, the Youth Ministries director, addressed attendees, citing the meeting’s theme: “Jesus is in the city because you are in the city,” he said, before declaring the conference officially open.

**Youth**

The church’s Youth Ministries department seeks to motivate young people to take an active role in Adventist ministry, service and outreach. Through clubs such as Adventurers and Pathfinders, Adventist young people have opportunities to learn practical skills, impact their communities and build relationships for eternity.

**Timeline:**

- 1890: Young Adventists help raise money to send the missionary boat SS Pitcairn to the South Pacific
- 1909: Junior Missionary Volunteer Society is established, later called Pathfinder Club
- 1953: The first issue of Guide magazine is published
- 1969: First world youth congress held in Switzerland
- 1999: Adventist youth establish a new world record for Bible writing from memory

**Recent Photos**
At world youth conference, Asscherick, ‘Reality 7’ bring evening messages

Ansel Oliver/ANN

David Asscherick, the self-described former purple-haired punk rocker, is bringing spiritual messages each night to more than 3,000 young Seventh-day Adventists attending the denomination’s world youth conference in South Africa and those watching via live streaming.

David Asscherick preaches about "non-negotiable truths," chiefly that "God is love," on Tuesday, July 9. He is preaching each evening this week at the Impact South Africa world youth congress that the Adventist Church is holding in Pretoria, South Africa. [photos by Ronald Pollard]

Asscherick became a Seventh-day Adventist at age 23 after reading the book, “The Great Controversy,” which was authored by Adventist Church co-founder Ellen G. White.

"Is it good news that there is a God?" he asked the audience at the opening of his sermon this evening, the second night of the conference.

"It depends," he said, going on to describe a view of God that some Christians had tried to teach him before he became a Christian himself.

Some Christians had told him God would send someone to hell if they didn’t accept Jesus Christ as their savior. Asscherick would challenge them to consider those who might not ever hear about the Christian gospel and be given the option to choose. He later came to the conclusion that, "If there is a God who allows people … to suffer unending, conscious torment for something that they never even had the chance to know … I would rather choose atheism."

His evening devotionals have focused on what he says are “non-negotiable” truths that should be on the table – chief among them, he says, is that “God is love.”

"If God is … as described in First Corinthians 13," the love chapter, "then I suggest this is the best possible news in all the universe," he said.

Asscherick is the co-founder of ARISE, a supporting ministry of the Adventist Church. He also became co-director of Light Bearers when the two ministries merged in 2011.

The a cappella group Reality 7 performs Tuesday evening at the Saint George Hotel & Convention Center in Pretoria, South Africa. The group is a featured act at the Adventist Church’s world youth congress this week.

Evening devotionals of the global youth conference are being streamed on Facebook.com/ImpactSA2013 and Facebook.com/AdventistNews.

Attendees of the world youth conference are also treated to nightly musical performances by several groups, including the featured South African a capella singers, “Reality 7.”

The six-member group was founded in 1992 by men who were raised in a children’s welfare home. The group performs fulltime ministry by singing South African gospel music at hospitals, schools and church events. On weekdays, several members mentor youth through the Abalindi Welfare Society Home in Inanda, KwaZulu-Natal.

“It’s an honor for us to perform here, to show our international guests the African way of praising God,” said Themba Nkosi, the group’s manager. “It’s our prayer that God uses us.”

As the group performed their final song this evening, “I Feel Like Traveling Home,” two 24-year-old men from Botswana danced and waved their arms along with the song in the back of the hall.

“We like this group so much,” said Tshwaragano Aupiti, a nurse. “We just enjoy dancing, it blesses us,” he said with a huge smile. “When they sing I can feel the Holy Spirit.”

“They are singing the African way,” said Thubelihle Neube, who works at a Safari park.

At the end of the song, many in the audience applauded, shouted “Amen,” and 16-year-old Enzo Bocchino from Australia offered his appreciation with a short blast through an orange vuvuzela.

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Yvonne House has worked for the Adventist Church for more than 40 years.

Jimmy Johnson will now be the Corporation Treasurer.

"It has been a pleasure to work with Yvonne," says Andrew McCrary, UCC trust services director. Her dependable, conscientious care for God's finances and heart for ministry have been an enormous blessing through the years.

In May, the Upper Columbia Conference executive committee voted to ask Jimmy Johnson to serve as the conference corporation treasurer. Johnson has worked with UCC for many years as the corporation assistant treasurer.

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NEWS

New Editor Brings Counseling Skills to Insight

For the first time, the editor of the church’s weekly youth magazine, *Insight*, will be a trained counselor. Omar Miranda came to youth ministry from a career of counseling adolescents and their families. He has seen it all. “My heart breaks for our youth,” he says. “Many times our youth are getting themselves wrapped up in bad habits, sinful behaviors, and deadly addictions all because they don’t know Jesus.”

Omar speaks from experience, telling how he “went off the deep end” as a teenager. “I was raised in the church, but turned my back on my family, my church, and my God,” he says. Research indicates that about half of children in the church will leave in their twenties.

“I find it interesting that Jesus knocks on the doors of our hearts,” says Miranda. “But many times His call to us is drowned out by all we think the world has to offer: money, sex, power, position, and prestige.”

“It’s important that we give youth the truth that they can only find what they truly desire and need in God alone.”

“I’m excited about Omar leading this ministry because first and foremost he loves the Lord,” says Dwain Esmond, the former editor of *Insight* who now is vice president of Editorial Services at the Review and Herald. “He knows youth ministry. He has a special gift for reading young people and passion to see them saved.”

“Omar’s vast experience counseling teens provides him with a street-level view of their deepest needs,” adds Randy Fishell, editor of *Guide* magazine.

Miranda says his title will be “Director of *Insight* Ministries” instead of simply “editor,” which indicates a more broad-based effort than just producing the magazine. He plans to make the Web site InsightMagazine.org more immediately responsive to teens looking for answers to specific questions or affirmation of their prayer requests. He envisions training events to coach parents and youth workers on how to better connect with youth.

*Insight* magazine features stories to help teens grow close to God. Advice columns help them find answers to their deepest questions and give them wise solutions to big problems. Miranda wants to put a special emphasis on practical Christianity—the experience he missed as a young man. “It is simple,” he says. “Our mission is to help kids know Jesus, love Jesus, and live Jesus.”

“I truly believe if our youth truly understood the significance and power of knowing Christ and being found in Him,” says Miranda, “they would be standing in line to get into church the way people do to get the newest iPhone!”
6-26-13 Death of Pastor Joseph Melashenko

January 10, 1922 - June 21, 2013

Long time evangelist and Gospel recording artist Elder Joe Melashenko died on Friday, June 21, 2013 in Paradise, California at the age of 91. Memorial services take place in Paradise on Sunday, July 21 at 4:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Voice of Prophecy or Quiet Hour radio broadcast ministries.

During the 1940s Canadian radio broadcasters dubbed Joe "The Voice of the Deep" as audiences nationwide thrilled to hear his unique bass voice during live call-in shows raising money for Tuberculosis during World War II. Raised on a farm in Saskatchewan Joe recalls milking a dozen cows and keeping time in ¾ or 4/4 rhythm as he sang. "The cows seemed to produce more milk as a result of my singing."

From 1948 to 1950 Joe sang bass with the King's Heralds Quartet on the "Voice of Prophecy" international radio broadcast in Glendale, California. Throat surgery forced him to make a difficult decision and move his growing family of five sons back to Saskatchewan where he taught public school and farmed his parents' homestead and wheat farm. However, in 1957 Joe was called into singing evangelism ministry in Massachusetts. He was ordained in 1961 in Bermuda, after which he pastored in Hagerstown, Maryland and Rialto, California. In the 1970s after serving with Evangelist Byron Spears as singing evangelist for Voice of Prophecy, Joe and his wife Anne formed their own evangelistic team for VOP and for a dozen years traveled extensively throughout the western hemisphere conducting evangelistic campaigns in Joe’s unique, inimitable way: sermons-in-song. As often as he could, he and Anne featured their five sons in their family’s septet which included Lonnie, Joedy, Dallas, Eugene and Rudy.

Joe Melashenko, always proud of his Canadian heritage and passport, arranged for many of his evangelistic campaigns to be conducted in Canada, with Ebenezer stretching from British Columbia across all the provinces to the Maritimes.

Joe's teaching career began following matriculation at Canadian Union College and Saskatoon Teacher's Institute at the University of Saskatchewan. Besides teaching in Regina public schools, he taught in a number of small one-room schools in the farmlands west of Saskatoon as well as Rosthern and Arelle.

Joe and Anne together with their five sons emigrated to the United States and moved to the Atlantic Union Conference in the summer of 1957 when Joe was called by Merle L. Mills of the Southern New England Conference to be a singing evangelist for Elder Dan Sherman Harris. They settled in Springfield, Massachusetts for two years while Joe traveled Conference-wide with a number of outstanding evangelists including Walter Schubert, Elman J. Folkenberg and Garnet Williams.

They moved to Taunton in 1959 to be closer to a major campaign in Providence, Rhode Island during which Joe served as pastor of the Foxboro-Brockton district. In 1960 the Bermuda Mission requested that Joe and his family move to Hamilton for major campaigns with George E. Vandeman, Roland K. Cemer and other evangelists. Conference President H. Reese Jenkins subsequently asked him to pastor the St. George church, during which time he was ordained to the ministry in 1962 – the very first Seventh-day Adventist pastor to be ordained in the islands of Bermuda because of British law and the state church’s (Anglican) historic policy. Joe developed radio and television programs as "The Bermuda Gospel Singer" heard island-wide every Sunday evening during live broadcasts.

Chesapeake Conference A.B. Butler invited Joe to move to Hagerstown, Maryland in 1963 to serve as senior pastor of the Hagerstown district which included the Pondsville and Smithsburg churches. For the next year Joe tirelessly launched several evangelistic campaigns in his three churches, while also assisting in other evangelistic endeavors throughout the conference. His family performed numerous times at musical concerts, evangelistic campaigns, programs at the Union office and world headquarters in Washington D.C.

In the summer of 1964 Elder John Osborn, President of Southeastern California Conference called Joe to join Elder Don Gray as a newly formed evangelistic team located near Loma Linda. Together they worked with Elder Lloyd Wyman at the newly purchased Azure Hills Country Club to conduct meetings and plant a brand new church in the Inland Empire. Subsequent campaigns throughout the conference resulted in thrilling experiences until Joe was asked to pastor the Rialto Church. Membership zoomed as Joe’s magnetic personality and giant Russian bear hugs charmed people into the church. Joe thought of innovative ways to involve church members in drama presentations and creative expressions of worship. He once climbed aboard an 18-wheeler to accompany a truck driver Bible study "interest" who was having difficulty kicking the smoking habit. Joe rode to the East coast and back in order to assist him in a personalized 5-Day Stop Smoking clinic – and baptized him when they returned from the East Coast.
Tribute to Joe Melashenko, Singer, Evangelist

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