Delegates Reelect Oregon Officers

At the Oregon Conference Constituency Session held Sept. 15 at Portland Adventist Academy, delegates elected the following officers for another four-year term: Al Reimche, president; David Allen, vice president for administration; David Freedman, vice president for finance; and Gale Crosby, vice president for education. Four congregations were officially accepted into full church status: Cascade Church in Bend, Ohana Christian Fellowship in West Linn, Samoan Church in White City and TurningPoint SDA Community Church in Roseburg. Delegates approved a rare action that merged three churches into one combined church. Congregations previously identified as the Columbia Gorge, Open Arms and Gresham churches, are now meeting together as the Healing Hope SDA Fellowship. Read the full report at gleaneronline.org.
ACS DR Seeks Help for the Colorado Flood Victims

Devastating Colorado flooding has destroyed or damaged more than 1,500 homes. Thousands of survivors have been evacuated. The rescue effort has been the largest since Hurricane Katrina. Adventist Community Service Disaster Relief (ACS DR) personnel are working with Loveland, Colo., agencies to open a Collection/Distribution Center. ACS DR is collecting much needed emergency supplies and distributing them to the flood survivors. Survivors may not be able to return to their homes for months. They will not only need emergency supplies, but they will need supplies to help them with living in temporary housing until they can return to their homes or until their homes can be repaired or rebuilt. Your generous donations to ACS DR will enable this compassion ministry to help these survivors through this difficult time.

Adventist Health CEO to Retire

Robert G. Carmen, Adventist Health president and CEO since 2007, has announced his retirement. On April 1, 2014, Carmen will conclude his 44-year career with the health system which spans the states of California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. The Adventist Health board of directors regretfully accepted Carmen’s decision during regular meetings held this week and has initiated a process to select his successor. That decision is expected before the end of the year. An occupational therapist by training, Carmen’s four decades of service include stints as president of White Memorial Medical Center, Glendale Adventist Medical Center — both in California — and also Castle Medical Center in Kailua, Hawaii. Read more from Adventist Health.

NAD College Fair Visits Northwest Schools

Melissa Rae, Walla Walla University associate director for recruitment (pictured here), is coordinating the North American Division College Fair Tour 2013. Representatives from eight to 10 Adventist colleges and universities are currently visiting academies across the Northwest. At the college fair, each college or university has a representative at a booth to discuss campus life, the application process, social and spiritual growth opportunities, and answer any questions prospective students may have. Between now and Sept. 27, the fair will visit several academy locations to which other Adventist schools are invited. For more
Idaho Women Gather in McCall

The annual Idaho Conference Women’s Retreat was held Sept. 6–8, at Camp Ida-Haven in McCall, Idaho. Organized by Cheri Gatton, Idaho Conference women’s ministries coordinator, the retreat themed “Get Real: It’s An Action Verb” featured Lisa Marie Buster, well-known Adventist musician and speaker. A silent auction benefited the Jean Coneff Scholarship Fund to help create assistance for women who otherwise would be unable to attend the annual retreat.

Did Jesus Visit Here?

An ancient town has been discovered on the northwest coast of the Sea of Galilee. Some scholars think it may the area of Dalmanutha described in the gospel of Mark where Jesus went after his miraculous feeding of 4,000 people by multiplying fish and loaves of bread. The Pharisees came to him there and asked him for a sign from heaven. He replied “Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to it.” (Mark 8:10–13) The newly discovered town lies just a few hundred yards from the site of another ancient town known as Magdala. [Read more online.]

Walla Walla General Reaches Rarified Air

The cardiology program at Walla Walla General Hospital (WWGH) is one of only four in Washington state to provide 100 percent of patients suffering STEMI (the most serious form of heart attacks) the critical care needed in less than 90 minutes from their arrival. New health care benchmarks encourage hospitals to provide “door to ballon” times (from the time the patient arrives at the emergency room to when the inserted catheter crosses the blocking lesion) of no more than 90 minutes. The WWGH average for risk adjusted mortality was zero percent.

September 22 is Moving Day!

Adventists InStep for Life was created by the North American Division (NAD) to assist Adventist churches, schools and health care organizations in tackling the challenge of childhood obesity. Pathfinder clubs, students and members all across the Northwest will be part of this important goal as they take part in Let’s Move Day, a national initiative on Sept. 22. If you are uncertain how you can get involved, check out the Adventists InStep for Life website and a video from James Black, NAD youth director. And then let every day be a moving day, for your health.
Looking Ahead

September

27–29: Montana Men’s Summit
27–29: DiscipleShip
27–28: Native American Camp Meeting
28: Heritage Singers Concert & Prayer Rally

More Events

A new General Conference-sponsored project will communicate principles of *The Great Controversy* through social media. *The Record Keeper*, a web-based video series, is scheduled to be made public by early 2014. Go behind the scenes in an exclusive interview with series producers in the September GLEANER.
Oregon Conference Constituency 2013

While you were home watering the garden or in front of the television, cheering on your favorite football team, nearly 500 hundred hardy souls instead spent several hours bonding with hard metal folding chairs. They were your carefully chosen delegates to the Oregon Conference Constituency session held Sunday, Sept. 15, in Portland Adventist Academy’s gymnasium.

The most prominent business of electing conference officers was completed relatively quickly, efficiently and with little dissent. Using wireless handheld voting devices, the delegates efficiently approved the nominating committee’s recommended list of the following officers for another four-year term: Al Reimche, president; David Allen, vice president for administration; David Freedman, vice president for finance; and Gale Crosby, vice president for education.

Allen acknowledged the challenging nature of membership and attendance in Oregon Conference which mirrors trends seen throughout North America. Conference Sabbath attendance has averaged less than 50 percent of membership during the past several years. He encouraged delegates to work within their local churches to increase member connections to each other and to the collective mission.

Freedman showed an encouraging financial picture with slight but definite gains with determined effort by the conference to positively respond to town meeting mandates for a balanced budget. In addition, the conference is committed to increase funding for evangelism, student scholarships and depreciation funding.

Reimche encouraged delegates to embrace the ongoing theme of the session, Called by God to Go. “We are an organic church, he said. “We’re not just a collection of facilities, we are a movement.” He shared three short videos which stressed this theme and the ongoing emphasis within the conference of “members in ministry.” The videos portrayed an attorney who sends a personal letter and Bible study to his clients each Friday evening; a mother who is the catalyst for a community service outreach through her local church; and a physician who, when patients are open to spiritual things, connects them with the local pastor and his wife.

“These are all miracles,” said Reimche, “reminding us that God is working in our midst, and that we are all called to go, to represent Him to our neighbors and within our communities.”

Come to think about it, that’s a message good enough, not just for delegates on metal folding chairs, but for some of us at home in front of the TV.

Steve Vistaunet, GLEANER editor
Flooding of great magnitude has hit Colorado. Relentless rains poured down for days and flash flooding ensued, crashing down canyons and flooding everything in its path. Over 1,500 homes have been destroyed or damaged, and thousands of survivors have been evacuated. The rescue effort has been the largest since Hurricane Katrina. Sections of roads have been washed away, and the residents who live up in the high country are not able to get down to safety, and are being rescued by helicopter. Once brought out, they will not be able to return home until the roads are rebuilt, which may take up to 12 months or more.

Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS DR) volunteers are responding to this disaster with compassion. They are quickly working in cooperation with cities, counties and the state with donations management. ACS DR is collecting much needed emergency supplies, such as cleaning supplies (flood buckets), personal care items, blankets, along with other items, and distributing them to the flood survivors. Even if the survivors have not lost everything to the floods, they may not be able to return to their homes for months. They will not only need emergency supplies, but they will need supplies to help them with living in temporary housing until they can return to their homes or until their homes can be repaired or rebuilt.

ACS DR personnel are working with the City of Loveland to open a Collection/Distribution Center.

Please donate generously to ACS Disaster Relief, so that ACS DR can continue this compassion ministry to help these survivors through this difficult time.

You may donate in several ways:

Mark offering envelope: “ACS Disaster Response”
Go to: www.communityservices.org
Call 1-800-381-7171
Send check payable to NAD ACS
12501 Old Columbia Pike | Silver Spring, MD 20904

Thank you for your generosity!

Bulletin Insert

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ACS Disaster Response Ministry Video
Donation Center Set to Open in Loveland
September 17, 2013 (Roseville, CA) – Robert G. Carmen, President and CEO of Adventist Health, has announced his retirement, according to Ricardo Graham, chairman of the board. On April 1, 2014, Carmen will conclude his 44-year career with the health system which spans the states of California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington.

The board of directors for Adventist Health regretfully accepted Carmen’s decision yesterday and has initiated a process to select his successor. That decision is expected before the end of the year.

“Bob is a leader who has successfully navigated many challenges and shifts within this industry. Adventist Health has proved itself a dynamic organization, which has benefited from Bob’s lengthy tenure. He has made tremendous contributions to Adventist Health and to his credit has assembled an accomplished senior leadership team to continue this legacy of service,” states Graham.

Carmen assumed his current position October 2007, after serving as executive vice president/COO for the Roseville, California-based system since 1999. Previously, he was president of Adventist Health/Southern California, where he oversaw the operations of five hospitals and a medical foundation. Simultaneously, Carmen was the president of White Memorial Medical Center and Glendale Adventist Medical Center in the Los Angeles area. Prior to that, he was vice president of Region I, which encompassed Adventist Health’s Central California hospitals. He also served as president of Castle Medical Center in Kailua, Hawaii. An occupational therapist by training, he began his career in rehabilitation services.

Carmen has played a direct role in many organizational milestones. During his six-year tenure as president, Carmen has championed rural health clinics, innovation, quality and growth. However, the most visible legacy of Carmen’s leadership will be the shift towards ambulatory services. This includes the formation of Adventist Health Physician Services and the clinics as well as out-patient services. These sites which are now in excess of 180 are bringing more health care and preventive services to hundreds of communities across four states.

Carmen is a graduate of Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California, on whose board he presently si
He also holds a master’s degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Health Care Administration from the University of Colorado, Denver. In addition, he is affiliated with numerous professional organizations, including the California Hospital Association and sits on the CHA board of trustees as well as the CHA executive committee.

In addition to his many professional accomplishments, Carmen, a resident of Loomis, California, and his wife, Cindy, have two adult children as well as two grandchildren.

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Adventist Health is a faith-based, not-for-profit integrated health care delivery system serving communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Our workforce of 28,900 includes more than 21,200 employees; 4,500 medical staff physicians; and 3,200 volunteers. Founded on Seventh-day Adventist health values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 19 hospitals, more than 180 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 14 home care agencies, seven hospice agencies and four joint-venture retirement centers. Visit AdventistHealth.org for more information.

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WWU Tours the Northwest

By: Rachel Wood

Melissa Rae, associate director for recruitment at Walla Walla University, is coordinating the North American Division College Fair Tour 2013. Representatives from eight to 10 Adventist colleges and universities will visit academies across the northwest. (Schedule listed below.) At the college fair, each college or university has a representative at a booth to discuss campus life, the application process, social and spiritual growth opportunities, and answer any questions prospective students may have.

To provide a faster and more efficient college planning experience, representatives are using new technology at this year’s college fair. WWU has coordinated with the company College Fair Automation to help speed up the student inquiry process, providing more time for quality conversations with recruiters and less time spent filling out information cards.

To use this new technology, prospective students can register for free on College Fair Automation’s homepage at www.gotocollegefairs.com/index.asp and fill out a general, universal information form. After the information has been submitted, a student will have a profile on the website and a personal barcode.

Once the student has obtained his or her personalized barcode, it can be printed and taken to college fairs. Recruiters from colleges and universities participating in this technology are equipped with a scanner to scan the barcode. Students wishing to receive more information about a college or university simply present their barcode to be scanned by the representative. This provides all the information the recruiter needs to assist that student in preparing for college and gaining further details on majors, admissions, and financial aid. The additional information the student requested will be mailed to them within a few weeks.

Any student in grades 9-12 can sign up to receive more information from a college or university that they are interested in. Only high school seniors are allowed to fill out an application to a college or university that they are interested in attending.

For details about College Fair Automation, visit: www.gotocollegefairs.com/how-it-works.asp

Northwest Tour: September 17 – 27, 2013

September 17, Tuesday• 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.: Parkview Adventist Academy, Lacombe, AB, Canada • 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.: Chinook Winds Adventist Academy, Calgary, AB, Canada

September 18, Wednesday• 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.: Fraser Valley Adventist Academy, Aldergrove, BC, Canada • 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.: Deer Lake Adventist School, Vancouver, BC, Canada

September 19, Thursday• 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Auburn Adventist Academy, Puget Sound Adventist Academy, Orcas Christian School, Skagit Adventist School, Auburn, WA

September 20, Friday• 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Mount Ellis Academy, Bozeman, MT

September 23, Monday• 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Milo Adventist Academy, Rogue Valley Adventist Academy, Days Creek, OR

September 24, Tuesday• 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.: Portland Adventist Academy, Lincoln City Adventist School, Columbia Adventist Academy, Livingstone Adventist Academy, Portland, OR

September 25, Wednesday• 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.: Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, WA

September 26, Thursday• 10:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Walla Walla Valley Academy, College Place, WA

September 27, Friday• 9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.: Gem State Adventist Academy, Caldwell, ID
Published September 10, 2013.

<- Back to: News
Dr. Ken Dark

Roman column fragments, along with the top of a rotary quern (for grinding), lying on the side of a road in the modern-day town of Migdal and believed to be part of a newfound ancient town.

A town dating back more than 2,000 years has been discovered on the northwest coast of the Sea of Galilee, in Israel's Ginosar valley.

The ancient town may be Dalmanutha (also spelled Dalmanoutha), described in the Gospel of Mark as the place Jesus sailed to after miraculously feeding 4,000 people by multiplying a few fish and loaves of bread, said Ken Dark, of the University of Reading in the U.K., whose team discovered the town during a field survey.
The archaeologists also determined that a famous boat, dating to around 2,000 years ago, and uncovered in 1986, was found on the shoreline of the newly discovered town. The boat was reported on two decades ago but the discovery of the town provides new information on what lay close to it.

The evidence the team found suggests the town was prosperous in ancient times. "Vessel glass and amphora hint at wealth," Dark wrote in an article published in the most recent edition of the journal Palestine Exploration Quarterly, while "weights and stone anchors, along with the access to beaches suitable for landing boats — and, of course, the first-century boat … all imply an involvement with fishing." [Photos: 4,000-Year-Old Structure Hidden Under Sea of Galilee]

The architectural remains and pottery suggest that Jews and those following a polytheistic religion lived side by side in the community. In addition, the researchers found that the southern side of the newly discovered town lies only about 500 feet (150 meters) away from another ancient town known as Magdala.

The archaeological site was in one of the fields between the modern-day town of Migdal and the sea coast, archaeologists found pottery remains, cubes known as tesserae and, in the modern town, architectural fragments indicating a town flourished in the area from the second or first century B.C. until after the fifth century A.D.

Architecture and pottery
Fields between the modern-day town of Migdal and the sea coast contained hundreds of pottery pieces dating from as early as the second or first century B.C. to up to some point after the fifth century A.D., the time of the Byzantine Empire, the archaeologists found. The artifacts suggest the town survived for many centuries.

Also among their finds were cubes known as tesserae and limestone vessel fragments, which were "associated with Jewish purity practices in the early Roman period," indicating the presence of a Jewish community in the town, Dark told LiveScience in an email.

Some of the most impressive finds, however, were not made in the fields but rather in modern-day Migdal itself. The archaeologists found dozens of examples of ancient architectural remains, some of which the modern-day townspeople had turned into seats or garden ornaments, or simply left lying on the ground. In one instance, the researchers found more than 40 basalt ashlar blocks in a single garden.
After talking to the local people, and trying to identify the source and date of the findings, the researchers determined that many of the architectural remains came from the local area and likely were part of this newly discovered town. [Photos: Amazing Ruins of the Ancient World]

These remains included a number of ancient column fragments, including examples of capitals (the top of columns) carved in a Corinthian style. "This settlement may have contained masonry buildings, some with mosaic floors and architectural stonework," Dark wrote in his paper.

The finds also included a pagan altar, made of light-gray limestone and used in religious rituals by those of a polytheistic faith, Dark said.

Is it Dalmanutha?
In the New Testament, Dalmanutha is mentioned only briefly in the Gospel of Mark.

The gospel says that after feeding 4,000 people by miraculously multiplying a few fish and loaves of bread, Jesus "got into the boat with his disciples and went to the region of Dalmanutha. The Pharisees came and began to question Jesus. To test him, they asked him for a sign from heaven. He sighed deeply and said, 'Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to it.' Then he left them, got back into the boat and crossed to the other side." (Mark 8:10-13, New International Version)

Dark isn't certain the newly discovered town is Dalmanutha, but there is evidence to support the idea. From the remains found, researchers can tell the newly discovered town would have been a sizable, thriving location in the first century A.D., and the name Dalmanutha has not been firmly linked to a known archaeological site.

It's likely that the newly found town's name is among the few place-names already identified by other researchers relating to the Ginosar valley shore, and one of those places is Dalmanutha, Dark said.

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Discuss