Images of Creation

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you!
ISAIAH 26:2–4 (NLT)

Features

Reluctant Miracles

It’s about giving hope and direction to a troubled life.

Does God Still Perform Miracles?

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Editorial

Turning Visions Into Reality

Fresh Start

Home Where We Belong
I met Rachael* at a week of prayer...

News

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For a finishing touch with flourish, the girls at Project PATCH, near Garden Valley, Idaho, add a silk hat to the gigantic snow man they built. Photo by Jennifer Toews.

S U B M I S S I O N S — T i m e l y a n n o u n c e m e n t s , f e a t u r e s , n e w s s t o r i e s 
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Twenty years ago, a young pastor named Tom walked into my office at the North Pacific Union Conference where I was the youth director. In the next few minutes he articulated a vision. This in itself was not noteworthy. Lots of people have visions. “If you could just give us $50,000,” they say, “we could do this and that...” and maybe they could. There is an old Japanese proverb that says, “Vision without action is a dry desert.” (I’ve met people with that malady.) But the proverb goes on, “Action without vision is a nightmare.”

Tom was different. He wasn’t just there to ask for dollars. He was there to enthusiastically cast a vision and act upon it. And there was a certain determination about him that exuded confidence and encouraged support. Enthusiasm is an old word, the root meaning of which is “being infused with spirit.” In his case, I believe it was infused with His Spirit.

Now, two decades later, that vision has become a viable reality with a track record of successfully helping 2,081 challenged kids know that God loves them and has a plan for their lives (see page 6).

I can only begin to imagine the amount of hard work, frustrations, faith and prayers that have made this venture successful. The full results will only be realized in heaven.

So to Tom Sanford, his staff members and each person who has supported Project PATCH as a volunteer or financial sponsor over the years, we offer congratulations for making this incredible vision a success.

A Challenge
To other readers who may have a dream that you believe God has given to you—a vision to do something great with eternal consequences—I challenge you, too, to step out in faith. What if Tom and his colleagues had ignored God’s call? Oswald Chambers, that great inspirational man of God, wrote, “It is easier to work for God without a vision and without a call because then you are not bothered by what He requires.”

Is God, by His Spirit, requiring you to transform your vision into a reality? If so, why not respond? God is still in the business of helping make visions become realities. •
The Voyager probes
(launched in 1977) yielded some surprising information about Jupiter’s moons. The most surprising discovery was that one of the moons, Io, is covered with active volcanoes spewing ice and sulfur compounds into space. Io was the first celestial body other than Earth found to be geologically active.

Fast Facts

☆ Earth’s galaxy, the Milky Way, contains about 400 billion stars. There are hundreds of billions of other galaxies in the universe, some of which are much larger and contain many more stars than the Milky Way.
☆ Astronomers have discovered dozens of planets orbiting stars other than the sun. We know of many more planets outside our solar system than inside.
☆ Mercury and Venus are the only planets in Earth’s solar system that don’t have moons. The number of moons varies a lot from planet to planet. Earth has only one, but astronomers have counted 16 moons floating around Jupiter.
☆ The surface temperature on Venus is hot enough to melt lead, which melts at 328°C (662°F).
☆ Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune all have rings.
☆ Jupiter is huge! If Jupiter was hollow, you could fit about 1,400 Earth-sized planets inside with a little room to spare.
☆ Major storms are common on Jupiter. Its most famous storm is the Great Red Spot, which has been raging since telescopes were first aimed at the planet centuries ago. The spot is so big that about two Earths could comfortably fit inside it. Astronomers think that the storm is more than 300 years old!
☆ Mars is home to the largest known volcano in the solar system, Olympus Mons. It is 26 km (16 mi) high (almost twice as high as Earth’s Mount Everest) and covers an area about as large as the state of Arizona.
☆ Neptune has the fastest winds in the solar system, reaching speeds of 2,000 km/hr (1,200 mi/hr).

Source: Encarta.msn.com
IT’S NOT EASY TO step out in faith, especially when it not only forces a career change but affects a regular salary and medical and many other benefits. If I was the only one involved it would have been a different story, but I had my wife, Bonnie, and two children to think about.

But out of just such a step was born Project PATCH (Planned Assistance for Troubled Children). I felt reluctant for the task ahead, but I had four loyal supporters in God, Bonnie and our children. God knew the need, and Bonnie saw it, too. Kelly and Craig were always ready for an adventure, and I—well I got the message loud and clear from all of them.

My superiors assured me once I got all this “foolishness out of my system” I could return to pastoring. They were convinced that even if there were enough young people needing help, there would not be enough people and donations to support the program. That was 20 years ago, and I have never looked back.

In 1984 Project PATCH started out as a resource and referral service to assist families whose children needed an environment that would revitalize their perspective on life. We had some very wonderful foster homes. Some were just short-term stays when many single parents or grandparents wanted some help with a “high energy” child for just the summer, and others lived with their surrogate families until adulthood.

To be creative with the needs and interests of these young people was no small task. Young people were placed on ranches and homes in city or urban areas. Some were sent to academies, others to work at summer camps and job corps. One youth who

Quiet time in the wilderness gives teens an opportunity to grow and get away from life’s disruptions and distractions.
was interested in being a fire-lookout ranger was sent to the heart of British Columbia to get a feel for his career goal.

There were times it seemed important to put a particular group of young people together. One summer we recruited a family to take six young people to Montana to learn rock climbing and wilderness survival. Another summer Bonnie and I took four citified young men to Alaska to spend the summer with a family on an island.

The biggest boost to Project PATCH in helping at-risk youth was the gift and purchase of land in 1989 from Dan and Margie Rotthoff of Garden Valley, Idaho. It was almost as if God had young people all lined up to come. The summer of 1990 kids showed up from all over the Northwest. Even though buildings were under construction, summer programs took place in 1991 and 1992.

A total of 285 young people have come and gone from the PATCH Ranch since 1993, each with their own story to tell, most of them having arrived there reluctantly. Some came with a story of a lost childhood, a tragedy too sad to tell. Others were rebellious and out of control. Many had no focus or purpose in life and, therefore, no reason to live. Some came feeling abandoned and forsaken because their parents sold them out for busy careers. Those young people had migrated to negative peers and influences.

Divorce affected the lives of many children. For some, it wasn’t the divorce

Learning to get along with each other and working as a team, these boys built a log raft and tested it on the pond at Project PATCH. While it did act much like a submarine, it actually never sank.
The Project PATCH experience gives students the opportunity to make life-long decisions. Bruce Biggs, former chaplain, baptizes Megan G. in the swiftly flowing south fork of the Payette River, which borders the Project PATCH Ranch.

Not afraid to get their hands really dirty, Cassidee and Jamie along with maintenance director Adam Slippy service the vehicles of Project PATCH.

IT'S ABOUT GIVING HOPE AND DIRECTION TO A TROUBLED LIFE.

that was so bad as it was the step-parent who either wanted nothing to do with the child and sent them away to make a life on their own or abused them. Those survived as best they could until they came to PATCH. Others got jobs and apartments but, because they were too young to be alone, got into trouble. All were hurting and vulnerable. Some young people were rescued by caring friends until they could get to PATCH.

Then there were those young people whose parents died or were sent to prison. Some had absolutely no family to turn to. Now, there’s a feeling of abandonment to the 10th degree! Some, while at PATCH, lost their only parent. Can you even begin to imagine what

Supervised by staff members but living a solitary life for several days or several weeks in the wilderness gives troubled teens the opportunity to sort things out and make life-changing decisions.

it’s like to have the entire hope of home come to a screeching halt?

Scores of young people came with abuse issues. To be sure, the most obvious are the physical and sexual, but how about the one who not only suffered from those two but endured horrible psychological torture as well? That kid could do nothing more to protect himself than wet his bed by night and mess his pants by day just to

KEYWORD
miracles
www.ghaneronline.org
A special work crew uses muscle power to dig a stump on the campus of Project PATCH.

protect himself from an offender who was no longer in his life.

Project PATCH is about restoring children. It’s about giving hope and direction to a troubled life. It’s about turning negative behavior into healthy behavior. It’s about staff members who care so much about a child that they are willing to suffer the hardships of a wilderness trek along with the child to help them focus and believe in themselves and others again.

Project PATCH Ranch is an accredited alternative school and has provisional accreditation through JCAHO (Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations). The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare licenses both the facility and the wilderness program.

PATCH isn’t finished yet and it won’t be until the Lord comes. For that reason PATCH is taking on other challenges and opportunities to help more troubled children and families in crises.

Last year, PATCH received a gift of 320 acres and purchased an additional 160 acres from Clarence and Elsie Tupper and Margie Wentland of Goldendale, Washington. Plans are still being formalized to make this a facility to help at-risk families.

Twenty years ago, no one could imagine the need and the scope of heartache and tragedy children were and are experiencing. This year, the 20th anniversary of Project PATCH, a special thanks must go to you who have supported PATCH through your gifts, prayers, time and energy. You, along with the staff and the board of trustees, have made a wonderful difference in the lives of all these children—many of whom were reluctant miracles.

Tom Sanford founded and directs Project PATCH. He writes from Portland, Oregon.

IT’S ABOUT STAFF MEMBERS WHO CARE SO MUCH ABOUT A CHILD THAT THEY HELP THEM BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES AGAIN.

The secondary education program at Project PATCH teaches life skills, is highly individualized and is tailored to each student’s needs and abilities. Core subjects include Bible, English, math, science, history, physical education and many outdoor activities.
I met Rachael* at a week of prayer. After the final meeting she tentatively approached me and asked, “Pastor Haffner, may I speak to you?”

The first thing that struck me about this 10-year-old was her sweater. It was a blistering hot day—not the kind of day when you’d expect to see a sweater. “Sure,” I smiled, “I’d be glad to talk to you. What’s on your mind?”

I was not emotionally prepared for her story.

“Well,” she dropped her gaze and began, “I’m very sad because my best friend threw herself in front of a truck because she didn’t want to live anymore. Her classmates nicknamed her Hippo Hillary.* She didn’t like being fat so she jumped off a bridge into a truck. It happened last year, and I’ve been very sad ever since. I really miss her.”

You can understand how my heart hurt for Rachael. I asked if she had good support in her family.

“I don’t know,” she shrugged. “My dad is never home, and my mom just tells me to grow up and get over it. My brother drinks a lot. We’re not very close.”

“How about friends at school?” I probed.

“Well, Hillary was my best friend. When she died it was like I didn’t have any close friend to replace her.”

“What about at church? You have any friends who can help you through this at your church?”

“I don’t go to church.”

“You feel alone?”

She nodded and stared at her loafers.

For the next two hours we talked. I assured her that deep feelings of despair were not unusual given her life experiences. I promised to follow up with some resources she might find helpful. But mostly I just cried for her and told her how much God loves her.

“Rachael, all your friends and family may ditch you,” I said, “but Jesus will never leave you. Whatever you’re going through, He’ll be there for you.”

Toward the end of our conversation she made an unusual comment. She intimated that her hobby was hurting herself. A few questions later she pulled up the sleeve of her sweater.

I gasped. Her arm was a spider web of cuts.

“Whenever I cry, I cut myself until I can’t feel the tears anymore.”

Rachael is not someone I will soon forget. Her story reminds me of how vital it is for us all to know that we belong. We belong to God. We belong to our family. We belong to our friends. The deepest longing of every person is to belong. When we’re clear on this one, we begin to see how valued we really are. Our self-worth soars. And our purpose in life becomes focused.

While I did what I could to arrange for local teachers to support Rachael in appropriate ways, I knew that in some ways the scars would mark her until the day when Jesus comes and makes all things new. On that day we will at last be home where we belong.

* Pseudonym

Karl Haffner writes from College Place, Wash., where he serves as senior pastor of the Walla Walla College Church.
Nome Students Valued
by Major Store

In Nome, Alaska, even the local store manager values Adventist education. “I am very impressed with the students from Nome Adventist School,” said Bill Cash, manager of Nome’s Alaska Commercial Company (AC) store. Cash has been using upper-grade students from the school since 2001. Students work as inventory clerks alongside regular store employees to count the $1.7 million inventory three times a year. Cash appreciates the reliability of the students and reports they are faster and more accurate than most groups. “They show up, are dedicated and are focused on the job,” Cash said. “It’s nice to have kids on the floor of the store that I know will not be an offense in dress or words to the public we serve.”

When AC’s main office in Fairbanks scheduled the inventory to include a Saturday, Cash insisted that the dates be changed so that he could use the students from the Adventist school. The students must earn the privilege to spend two days doing the inventory by keeping their schoolwork current and maintaining good grades. Students raise approximately $1,500 during each inventory cycle, money which primarily goes toward the annual upper-grade educational trip outside of Alaska. Some of the students would never get outside of Alaska without such an opportunity.

Cash likes knowing that he is helping his community by contributing to such projects. He has watched the students from the Adventist school over the years. “Those kids get a
Hand Bell and Chimes Festival
Sells Out

Groups of laughing fifth-through eighth-grade students crowded the music building as registration for the second Cool Ringings Hand Bell and Chimes Festival began. With more than 100 students registered well in advance from private, home and public schools, last minute festival hopefuls lined up at the door eager to get one of the last spots available. Kids from Utah, Pocatello (Idaho), La Grande (Ore.) and everywhere in between made up the bell and chimes choirs.

During an intense two-day clinic, Phyllis Tincher, a professional hand bell teacher and soloist, taught kids bell-ringing basics with games and fun exercises to enhance musical skills. “The campus was full of giggles and activity as participants roamed the campus,” said one teacher. “It was awesome.”

Scores of proud parents were on hand Sabbath, Jan. 24, for the final concert. Students got a chance to display their new skills and played several pieces. “The festival was hands-on learning at its best,” said Ben Purvis, Gem State music director. “We look forward to raising a generation of hand bell and chimes players through the festival in the years to come.” •

Debra McCarver, GSA
GLEANER correspondent

Dedication Expands Into Multi-cousin Event

When David and Nid Moody and their two children from Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, were visiting their family in John Day, Ore., they heard that their nieces were to be dedicated the next Sabbath. Instead of returning home Friday as planned, the Moo dys decided to stay for the weekend and have their two boys dedicated with their cousins. When David’s brother learned of the event, he and his wife decided to add their little boy to the dedication. Rod Bieber, John Day Church pastor, had the joy of dedicating these five cousins together during the church service on Nov. 8. •

Acynthia Sanford, John Day Church communication leader

Member Returns
After 38 Years

Wayne Cox had thought of coming back to church many times, but every Sabbath morning there was always something else that came up so he wouldn’t go. Maybe some other time, he thought.

As he awoke one Sabbath, he lay in bed a few minutes and thought of what he was doing that day. Nothing, he thought. Then what’s to keep me from going to church? He’s never missed a Sabbath since.

I visited him and reviewed God’s message and asked if he had thought of being baptized again.

“Yes, I have,” said Wayne.

“You have a birthday coming up real soon. Let’s plan it for that day,” I suggested.

Wayne said, “I couldn’t think of a better birthday gift for Jesus than to rededicate my life to Him on my 81st birthday.”

He was baptized on Dec. 6. Friends had stayed in touch with many visits and telephone calls through the years, along with Signs of the Times being sent by Ray Trees every month to keep Wayne in touch with the Lord as well as with the church. •

George Harsha, New Plymouth Church communication leader

Photo by Acynthia Sanford

From left: Krystal Bolender, Bethany Lang, Matt Leake and Chris Nelson try on their new gloves.

George Harsha invited Wayne Cox to come back to the church after he had been away for 38 years.
North Valley Church Dedicated

The North Valley Church (Columbia Falls, Mont.) was dedicated Dec. 6, 2003, after 20 years of service. The dedication service, led by John Loor Jr., Montana Conference president, included Myron Iseminger, Montana Conference secretary-treasurer, Tom Glatts, current North Valley pastor, Gerald Schultze, previous pastor, and local member Steve Wallace, with music by Mark and Conna Bond. Louise Steppe gave a brief history on how the church came to be.

For a number of years, the Steppe family and others traveled from Columbia Falls to the Kalispell Church each Sabbath for church services. The Columbia Falls group decided to start a branch Sabbath School in the upper level of their police station.

Over time, the group met in the LaSalle Grange Hall and the Methodist and Pentecostal churches. Each place had its challenges, but they were a determined group.

In their nomadic moving, the Lord saw their determined efforts to have a permanent sanctuary. Finally, the group’s prayers were answered. A non-Adventist, Martha Ford, wanted her home and property to go to the people whose religion was like Roy Flint, a long-time church member, because of the helpful and Christian attitude that he had shown her.

Charter members worked hard to renovate the property to include a church. Even before the church was completed in January 1983, they started having worship services in the building.

Twenty years later, the congregation is looking forward to how God will continue to lead their church in the future.

Michelle Bales

Choteau Church member Dan Nelson built this sign from the ground up in his home workshop.

Choteau’s Prayers Are Answered

The small Choteau (Mont.) Church congregation saved and searched for an official church sign they could afford until Dan Nelson agreed to make it for a considerable savings.

Nelson cut each brass letter and the logo and welded the rest of the sign in his farm shop during the winter slowdown. The finished sign sits on concrete posts buried three feet deep, ensuring that the sign can withstand wind up to 100 mph. The sign replaces an old one that Ray Nelson, Dan’s father, made 40 years ago. Ray, now 89, even dug one of the post-holes for the new sign.

The sign is not the only answered prayer for the church. For many years member Christy Nelson prayed, “God, send a family to Choteau with kids that are the ages of mine...My kids need church friends.”

Far away in Pennsylvania, Darrell and Bonnie Taylor didn’t realize they were God’s answer. Darrell knew he wanted to take his family out west, away from the influences of the city, but Bonnie was not so easy to convince.

Darrell found property in Fairfield, Mont. He also found a buyer for his business, but Bonnie set her foot down. “We are not going unless we can sell our house for full price within two months.” The house sold within the first week, so they headed west where they became involved in the Choteau Church.

“The Taylor family is the answer to my prayers” Christy said.

Arlene Harris

At the dedication service, 20 years later, charter members included, from left: (front row) Louise Steppe, Dot and Nestor Framness, Luella McFadden, Jesse Sandness, Dan Framness, (back row) Jack Janetski and Roger McFadden.
Wish Comes True for Gaston Teen

When Rebekah Walsh, a Laurelwood Academy junior, walked into Doernbecher Children’s Hospital on May 13, 2003, she didn’t realize she would be leaving months later, confined to a wheelchair. She was admitted just a few days before her 17th birthday to see what a mass in her pelvic area was. It had been causing her pain since a mission trip two months earlier.

Walsh was diagnosed with a rare cancer and spent the next five and a half months at Doernbecher, enduring rounds of chemotherapy and physical therapy.

After a few weeks in the hospital, Make-A-Wish Foundation representatives met with Walsh, who had no second thoughts on what she wanted her wish to be—a laptop computer with all the works for playing games and, particularly, for writing stories and poems.

Walsh’s wish came true as an early Christmas gift when the laptop arrived on Dec. 21. Portland-area businesses added to the surprise by providing a few extra gifts.

Walsh, a Gaston ( Ore.) Church member, is now recovering at home. She has a Web site where family and friends can check on her progress. For more information and the Web site address, please e-mail michaelandcherry@msn.com. • Cherry A. Walsh

T-shirts Share Gospel

While many schools have difficulty regulating objectionable and offensive slogans and mottos on T-shirts worn by their students, Portland Adventist Academy wishes that more of their students would emulate the slogans worn by student Jon Schaffer—slogans such as “Hardcore Christian,” “Awesome Powers, The God That Saves Me,” “Creation,” “Saved 1” and “I’m the Christian The Devil Warned You About.”

Schaffer, junior class president, has been wearing shirts such as these for years. He finds that they are a great way to open dialogue with strangers about his beliefs. He cites the example of standing in a checkout line at a neighborhood grocery store and feeling someone tugging on his T-shirt. Apprehensive, he turned and found that the person was only trying to read the Bible text on his back.

On another occasion, while leaving a ski movie, the movie’s producer, Warren Miller, asked him if he was really a “Hardcore Christian.” Schaffer had the opportunity to assure Miller that indeed he considered himself truly that. Schaffer can relate many such instances of others taking notice of this, his public acknowledgement of his relationship with his personal Savior. Schaffer points out that, at his baptism this past summer in the youth tent at Oregon Camp Meeting, he was wearing his favorite shirt proclaiming his “Saved 1” status.

He estimates that he has about 12 of these T-shirts. He received a striking new one as a Christmas gift from one of his classmates. It proclaims in bold and colorful print, “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him” (John 3:17, NIV). On the front of the shirt is a cross, brilliantly glowing clouds and three nails. Schaffer was anxious to get back to school after the holidays to get the response of his classmates to this new shirt.

Jon Schaffer wears what he believes.

Schaffer believes that what one wears really does reflect on what Christ means to the individual. • Dan Patchin, PAA GLEANER correspondent
India Receives Springfield Members

The Springfield (Ore.) Church had a special service in October to ask God’s blessing on lay workers preparing to work for Christ, including a group heading to India. Church-sponsored fundraisers and private donations added to the lay workers’ own funds for trip expenses and 3,500 Bibles printed in the local language of the area they visited in India.

The Springfield team took evangelistic and health outreach presentations to small Indian villages where churches had been planted by Indian Global Mission Pioneers. The New Beginnings visuals, texts and scripts were presented in the local language.

Praising, singing and shouts of “alleluia” marked the tone of the gatherings. Team members were pressed by crowds to lay on hands, anoint with oil and pray for blessing and healing. Members led out in church dedications and visited homes. The Springfield team’s efforts, combined with that of four other teams in the area, resulted in more than 3,000 baptisms.

As team members visited villagers, they encountered a man and his wife who requested prayer. As one team member laid his hands on the woman to pray, a demon manifested itself. As the woman fell, the team members kept praying, and the woman became quiet. She accepted the invitation to the meetings with joy.

Another encounter involved a newly-baptized farmer and his sick ox, which couldn’t stand and was near death. A team member laid hands on the farmer’s only means of livelihood and prayed for God’s blessing. As they turned to go the ox stood, healed.

The Indian pastors and Pioneers live on $40 per month. Some of the team forfeited the opportunity to buy souvenirs and gave their spending money to the pastors instead.

The Springfield Church has been blessed immeasurably by the efforts of their lay evangelists. They radiate a special joy that permeates the entire church, having seen the results of doing the Lord’s work firsthand.

Cheryl Whitsell, Springfield Church communications leader

Springfield Church Holds Lay Evangelistic Seminar and Classes

Lay people from many walks of life worked together in October to present an evangelistic effort at the Springfield (Ore.) Church.

Joe Bovee, a shipper by trade, answered the call to organize and lead a local lay evangelistic effort in the Springfield area. The New Beginnings seminar materials were used with visuals, texts and scripts for lay presenters. The idea was for regular folks to present simple and beautiful Bible truths to regular folks. Presenters included a technology consultant, a contractor, a retired marketing consultant and a personal trainer.

Lay members also served as the main means of marketing the meetings by inviting their friends, neighbors and family members. Special invitations were sent to people who had shown past interest. The meetings are being followed by special Sabbath classes expanding on the basic truths of the Adventist Church. Lay presenters and Chuck Burkeen, pastor, use visuals, skits and dialogues to enhance understanding at the classes.

Two baptisms and a number of commitments have resulted from this special effort. Other decisions are expected as the classes continue.

Cheryl Whitsell, Springfield Church communication leader
Milo Food Service Director
Wins Hero Award

Every great production or establishment has individuals behind the scenes assisting in ways that are immeasurable to the project as a whole. Unfortunately, these people often aren’t recognized for the heroic efforts donated to helping the project succeed.

The Unsung Hero’s Award is a way to recognize those who don’t receive recognition and to bring to light their incredible service. Sponsored by the Cascade Community Credit Union, the Unsung Hero’s Award is given to individuals working in schools within Douglas County. It is based on nominations from fellow employees and extraordinary service to their school’s students and workers. Receiving this award is truly an honor.

This year’s recipient was Gerry Bliven of Milo Adventist Academy. As the academy’s food service director, his task is not an easy one. He feeds 160 people three times a day without becoming repetitive in his menu or lackadaisical about the nutritional content of the meals. He goes out of his way to prepare meals early if needed, and he’s in charge of taking food to functions like Senior Survival and sporting events. Bliven works with students on an individual basis to accommodate special dietary needs, and he has mostly eliminated MSG from his meals.

In a state health inspection, his was declared the cleanest cafeteria in the county. Throughout his 32 years of managing in the food service industry, he has worked in many places and has made a lasting impression on both employers and employees. He has won many service awards, but this award took him completely by surprise.

Summer Coggins,
Milo sophomore

Portland-area Schools Cooperate in Marketing Campaign

Portland-area Adventist schools have formed a partnership called RockSolid Schools to work together for their mutual benefit.

A year ago Oregon Conference administrators, educational superintendents and principals from Hood View Jr. Academy, Portland Adventist Academy, Portland Adventist Elementary, Rivergate Adventist Elementary and Tualatin Valley Jr. Academy met to explore means of cooperation among the schools in the greater Portland area. The original group of schools later expanded to include Columbia Adventist Academy and Meadow Glade Adventist Elementary in Battle Ground, Wash., and Livingstone Adventist Academy in Salem, Ore.

Monte Knittel, Adventist Medical Center marketing director, met with the group and shared his vision for marketing. From that meeting, a joint commitment evolved to focus the group’s efforts the first year on marketing their educational system.

A Web site, www.rocksolidschools.com, was created to provide information about each school, including direct links to each participating school’s Web site. Next the group embarked on a joint “RockSolid Schools” radio advertising campaign on KEX-AM. They operated information booths at expos and had students carry a banner in the Portland Rose Festival children’s parade.

As RockSolid Schools enters its second year, the focus will continue on marketing within local churches and the community.

Committees are being formed to explore joint purchasing and fund raising for scholarships. As they explore new areas for cooperation, Portland-area schools will continue to work cooperatively in an effort to introduce Christ into the education of our children.

Robert McDonald,
RockSolid Schools chairperson

Katie Peters (left) and Mackenzie Krebs display the RockSolid Schools banner that was featured in the Portland Rose Festival children’s parade.
“What Do You Want Me to Do for You?”
CAA Students Ponder Christ’s Question

Freshman students in David Allen’s Bible class were studying about blind Bartimaeus just before Christmas. They were intrigued by the question that Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The students were encouraged to put themselves in Bartimaeus’ place in the story and to think of what they would have asked for if Jesus asked that same question of them. The variety of thoughtful responses demonstrates the depth of that question in the students’ thinking.

“If I were to ask Jesus for anything—I would make a request for love, purity, and to have Christ number one in my life.” Vera Gereg

“I would ask Jesus for every person on this earth to decide to want to go to heaven. It would be so awesome to have every person there. All of my family would be there and all my friends. Even my enemies would be there, and I could become good friends with them.” Jacob Davis

“My request would not be for me or my family or friends. I would have God take out all the pain and rage of everyone that has been hurt by other people.” Tiarra Wood

“If God asked that of me, I would tell Him I want every single person to have joy around the holidays. There are so many homeless and uncared for people that don’t know the joy of having friends and family around the Christmas tree. They don’t know what it’s like, sitting around a dinner table, laughing and talking. I’ve always wondered how many of them are cold when it snows... If everyone had joy, then just maybe, they would start to believe in God. They would know that God’s Son came to this earth to save each and every one of them. And that is, after all, the real joy of Christmas.” Caitlin Perry

“The one thing I would probably ask for would be to have Jesus come right at that moment. To have Him come in all His glory and save all of us would be the ultimate prize... I really want to go to heaven and get away from all this sin... I want Him to come so bad. To have Jesus come and be able to talk to God in heaven would be the greatest, most wonderful wish I could ever have... I can’t wait to get there.” Nickele Prah

Christian education—still the priceless gift that changes one heart at a time.

—David Allen, CAA Gleaner correspondent
Two Conferences Join
For Ministerial Retreat

Ministers from the Montana and Upper Columbia Conferences joined together in early January for a retreat at Camp MiVoden near Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. Ben Maxson, General Conference (GC) stewardship department director, was the keynote speaker at the four-day gathering. Many of the ministers enjoyed reconnecting with Maxson, who served in the early 1990s as the Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) ministerial department director.

Maxson’s emphasis on a daily relationship with Jesus and discipleship as the foundation of stewardship education met with a positive response by the ministers. He pointed out that our faithfulness in using our talents as well as returning tithe and giving offerings must be motivated by our love to God.

John Loor Jr., Montana Conference president, like Maxson, enjoyed reconnecting with the UCC ministers. Before working in Montana, he served as UCC’s assistant to the president and communication director.

Ministers from the two conferences presented the daily devotionals and taught afternoon seminars. Topics for the seminars ranged from preaching to Bible studies. Max Torkelsen II, UCC president, gave the closing presentation and shared ideas for running effective churches.

Though the ministers found it hard to pull away from their many responsibilities with their churches, they enjoyed the retreat that included opportunities for spiritual and professional growth as well as networking with fellow pastors.

Doug R. Johnson, Upper Columbia Conference assistant to the president for communication

Coeur d’Alene Plants
Another New Church

Once again, approximately 35 members of Idaho’s Coeur d’Alene (CDA) Church are setting off in faith to plant the LifeSource Community Church. This is familiar territory for the members at CDA who, three years ago, sent out about the same number of people to plant the Hayden Church, which now has 120 members attending.

They held a joint service on Dec. 13 consecrating the planting pioneers with music and much prayer asking God to bless them in all the work that He has set before them.

LifeSource Community Church is pastored by Phil Muttersbaugh and his wife Debbie and will offer the community a contemporary service designed specifically to reach unchurched people for God. Their mission is to “create a community that invites and enables people far from God to grow into fully committed followers of Jesus Christ.” The characteristics of LifeSource are to provide a welcoming environment, small-group Bible studies and fellowship while keeping prayer at its core and actively involving the youth.

They are temporarily renting space at the Community United Methodist Church. The address is 1470 W. Hanley, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho 83815. Sabbath morning fellowship begins at 10:00 a.m. with praise and worship at 11:00 a.m.

Please pray for blessings and guidance for the LifeSource Community Church as they share the good news.

Stacie Sachs, Coeur d’Alene Church communication leader, and Linda Wilson, assistant communication leader

Prayer time by Lloyd Perrin, CDA pastor, and the CDA elders blessed and dedicated each one of the members that are in the church planting group.
Brewster Blazers Unveil Vietnam Wall

The Vietnam Wall has a special connection for five members of the Brewster (Wash.) Blazer Pathfinders with reminders of courage, dedication and service, according to Merlin Ekvall, their director. When the traveling replica of the Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. came to nearby Bridgeport, Wash., last fall for a six-day display, the Pathfinder Club was invited to send representatives who, along with three Boy Scouts, unveiled the two long walls at the opening ceremony.

Gordon Smith, Brewster pastor, was one of four speakers for the interdenominational service, “Healing from great loss,” he shared, “can come only as one leaves the difficult ‘why?’ questions to be answered some day by God.” Several other members of the local congregation were among volunteers reading aloud the wall’s more than 55,000 names of service people, most of them young, who never came home from the Vietnam War.

Special events during the showing included a ceremony honoring area residents currently or recently serving their country in the military and dinners honoring all area veterans. Three men active in the local Adventist church are among those who served in Vietnam.

Students of Brewster Adventist School touched history as they, too, visited the wall before closing ceremonies. Among the dignitaries at the welcoming ceremony was Washington state senator Linda Evans Parlette who noted the exhibit is a way of giving thanks to the Vietnam veterans—a reminder, too, that the cost of freedom and peace can be high.

John Devitt, himself a Vietnam veteran, originated the idea of the traveling exhibit and was in Bridgeport for the showing at the invitation of three area American Legion Posts. His organization has two replicas that are exhibited in about 24 different locations in a year.

Verona Schnibbe, Brewster Church communication leader

UCA Selects Students as Week of Prayer Speakers

This year’s UCA student week of prayer speakers were, from left: (front row) Brandon Glovatsky, Ryan Yeo, Dustin Billington, Aaron Vizcarra; (middle row) Philip Sherwood, Danelle Smith, Emily Wilkens, Danny Lambert; (back row) Tommy Cutting, Philip Cordis, Philip Byrd and Brent Davis. Faculty sponsors were Fred Riffel and Marvin Thorman. After being chosen by their peers, these students were mentored by their sponsors over a weekend at Camp MiVoden—visioning and praying about what they wanted to see God do on their campus. There’s a special power in students hearing from their peers during their week of prayer.

Kristen Johnson, UCA campus ministries Task Force worker
International Food Fair Celebrates Vegetarianism

Yakima Adventist Christian School (YACS) held its sixth annual Vegetarian International Food Fair at the school on Jan. 11. The YACS Home and School organized the event, while parents, students and local church members helped by running booths and preparing the delicious vegetarian food.

The attendance this year was especially large, partly due to the recent news of a case of “mad cow disease” in the Yakima Valley. Local media publicized the event and came to interview organizers and visitors alike. While the school was careful not to criticize meat-eaters and especially the beef industry, they were able to emphasize the healthy benefits of a vegetarian diet.

More than 400 people, the majority from the community, came to YACS to sample many of the different vegetarian foods offered. This year the school also provided an opportunity to get a blood pressure check, to talk to a dietician and to purchase a cookbook filled with recipes from the school. Many booths offered samples of the cookbooks’ recipes. Vegetarian dishes from Argentina, Puerto Rico, Mexico, the Yakama Nation, Germany, India, Sweden, Pakistan, Lebanon, Alaska, Italy, Korea, Iceland and the United States filled booths around the gym.

The Vegetarian International Food Fair has been a fun outreach to our community and YACS plans on continuing this annual event. If you would like information about the school’s vegetarian cookbook, Sharing Our Best, contact Susan Bailey at (509) 966-1933, or visit their website YACS-sda.net. •

Susan Bailey,
YACS administrative assistant

Spokane ABC Gains Publicity from Mad Cow Disease

Soon after the media announced that the first case of mad cow disease in the United States had been discovered in eastern Washington, the manager of the Spokane Adventist Book Center, Herman Schreven, made arrangements for a billboard to be put up in Spokane. Since he ran a billboard on mad cow disease during Great Britain’s outbreak several years ago, he asked the company to use the same message on the billboard. Fortunately, they were able to get it up in less than 24 hours.

The Adventist Book Center’s billboard in Spokane on mad cow disease resulted in positive television coverage on the evening news.

The billboard, which was placed above a Wendy’s fast-food restaurant, featured a strange-looking cow with the words, “Is meat starting to scare you?” A reporter from KREM, a CBS affiliate in Spokane, saw the billboard and did an interview with Schreven that was featured on the six and eleven o’clock news reports as well as the morning news the following day. The news report, which followed a general report on mad cow disease, resulted in positive coverage for the Adventist Book Center and its vegetarian foods. •

Doug R. Johnson, Upper Columbia Conference assistant to the president for communication
Auburn Adventist Academy students pile out of the vans and fill their arms and pockets with the “supplies” necessary for their Sabbath afternoon excursion. It is January in Seattle but somehow the sun is shining on the soggy streets. At first, the students go unnoticed amid locals milling around enjoying the inevitably short-lived sunshine.

The supplies they carry may seem simple but soon undergo drastic transformations as they are distributed and begin to draw attention to the energetic crew. Water bottles are recognized as treasures when given to those who haven’t recently enjoyed the taste of clean water. The students hope the recipients read the note attached to each bottle, which encourages those who drink it to seek the water that will quench their eternal thirst.

Miniature versions of Steps to Christ, titled Happiness Digest, are prized by someone who doesn’t have another book to call his own. Once opened, he may find a dollar bill cleverly tucked inside. The students pray he will take interest in the message written there, which they hope their actions reflect.

Stacks of quarters are for the people too busy to enjoy a Saturday afternoon at home with their family. They fill the parking meters of the ones who are used to living in a world where people have no time for anyone else, a world where no one they know would help a stranger—a world these students are out to change. Into parking meters go the quarters, and the kids smile thinking of the relief the beneficiary will have to find not a parking ticket but a small book about happiness under their windshield wiper.

The gloves and bags are to collect the garbage that clutter the cold streets. Despite this unpleasant task, there is somehow a feeling of goodwill as the young workers look back at their contribution to this otherwise uninviting avenue—clear sidewalks for all to enjoy and Steps to Christ on every newspaper stand for any who are curious.

As the students return to their vans, many reflect on the events of the last two hours. There was the cute skateboarder who took a small book, the dirty-handed beggar who seemed so truly thankful for the water, and the owner of the little Honda who wouldn’t be lamenting his ticket later but might be reading about Christ’s love.

What had just been accomplished? What was it about those simple “supplies” that now seems so valuable? Perhaps for those who received them, the value of the gifts came from the warm hand and loving encounter brought with them. A sincere smile and kind word may have made these small things so priceless.

Having thoroughly enjoyed themselves, the students climb back into the vans empty-handed but fulfilled. They had not brought much to the streets that day. But they realize as the rain begins to fall, they may have brought a glimpse of everlasting “sonlight” into someone’s life forever.

Amber Serns, AAA GLEANER correspondent
Year of Evangelism
Kicks Off in Washington

It happened in Auburn. It happened in North Bend. It happened in Everett. It continues to happen throughout the Washington Conference.

In January many different locations throughout the conference kicked off plans to reach out to friends and neighbors as a way to be involved in the Year of Evangelism.

Roland Lenhoff, Auburn City Church pastor, along with his pastoral staff, started planning almost two years ago with evangelist Jac Colon to hold a series in the Auburn area. On opening night Jan. 16, there were 450 people in an auditorium that could seat 450. In that overflow crowd were found not only those who spoke English but also those who spoke Russian or Spanish. The crowds remained strong as Jac Colon presented the clear message of the remnant church. When the meetings were moved to the church, a major electrical problem tried to cause havoc. However, with faithful members working hard to install generators to run the most-needed electrical equipment and lights, the meetings went on. A rich harvest is expected from these meetings.

Wilma Bing, along with the women’s ministries committee, conducted a training event in North Bend on Jan. 17 that featured Nicolet Brise from the Southeastern Conference. The focus of the training event was outreach and evangelism. Following the theme “Go Light up Your Corner,” the women were encouraged to know their spiritual gifts, and then they discovered that every gift is to be used to reach out and win people to Christ. The women were shown how everyone can be involved in a series of evangelistic meetings. One women’s group has already planned to hold their own series of meetings in July 2004.

John Freedman, Washington Conference president, who spoke Russian or Spanish. The crowds remained strong as Jac Colon presented the clear message of the remnant church. When the meetings were moved to the church, a major electrical problem tried to cause havoc. However, with faithful members working hard to install generators to run the most-needed electrical equipment and lights, the meetings went on. A rich harvest is expected from these meetings.

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John Freedman, Washington Conference president, along with Shane Anderson, a pastor, opened a series of meetings on Jan. 30 in Everett. Two sessions each evening found more than 120 visitors ready to hear the clear message of the second coming that is found in prophecy. The wonderful team from the Everett Forest Park church certainly prayed, planned and prepared to help these meetings be a success. People will be in the kingdom of God because of these meetings.

The Tacoma area will be the first site where the Saw One Billion program will be used. Bruce Koch and the area pastors and churches are mobilizing to use both billboards and mass mailing to enroll people into Bible studies. Tacoma was chosen because of its recent designation by USA Today as the most stressed-out large city in the United States.

Yes, the Year of Evangelism is happening in the Washington Conference. Let us pray that evangelism and outreach become a way of life every year until Jesus comes. •

Doug Bing, Washington Conference vice president

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.
MATTHEW 24:14, KJV

Evangelist Jac Colon shared the gospel at the Auburn City Church.

John Freedman, Washington Conference president, answers questions after his opening meeting in Everett.

Nicolle Brise shared how to reach out at a special training event for women.
Monroe Feeds 110
At Community Christmas Dinner

A community Christmas dinner, sponsored by the Monroe (Wash.) Church members, was given on Dec. 25 to reach out to those in the community who would otherwise be alone for the holidays.

More than 110 people were fed during the dinner and many more meals were sent home with people. A complete meal for about 10 people was also sent to Casa Ministries for those unable to attend.

What made the dinner a success was not so much the attendance and the number of people fed, but the outpouring of volunteer help for the event. People who were not going to be available to help on that day donated most of the money needed for the dinner. More than 50 volunteers helped with preparing and cooking the food, serving the dinner, waiting on tables, greeting, entertaining, decorating and cleaning up.

Many of the guests commented on how much they appreciated having a place to go. Other guests thanked various volunteers for their part in the dinner.

Alyssa Reiswig, Gina Mellon and Angie Stickney peeled 100 pounds of potatoes for the dinner.

Several different people stated that if they had not had this dinner they would have been alone for Christmas. Several volunteers from the community just showed up at the dinner and wanted to be put to work.

“It truly was a special Christmas Day,” said Brenda Maldonado, who inspired and coordinated the project.

Debbie Beierle, Monroe Church communication leader

Conference Welcomes Revival
And New Assistant

Do you sense that the Spirit of the living God is at work among us, challenging, reviving, renewing the hearts of the members here in the Washington Conference?

You may be aware by now that the conference executive committee has requested Dave Wolkwitz, in addition to his duties as trust director, to serve as assistant to the president for prayer and revival.

Wolkwitz has begun his work with a four-night revival series in local churches combined with a Holy Spirit seminar, as requests have come. Prayer and revival series have been held in the Bellingham and Everett Forest Park churches, where God’s Spirit has been mightily at work. The meetings were primarily for the local members and wonderful has been the impact that God has wrought!

An individual who had been somewhat on the periphery of meaningful church experience gave her testimony at the end of the meetings. She concluded with tears in her eyes, “I have not been active and [have been] quite bitter against many of you as well. But God has shown me my personal need. Please forgive me for my words and feelings!”

Testimonies like this make it all worthwhile. Let’s pray that the spirit of revival will silently grow and swell all across our conference “like a mighty rushing wind” so we will be ready for Jesus to send the fullness of His latter rain of the Holy Spirit—right here on us—really soon!

Doug Bing, Washington Conference vice-president and communication director
Walla Walla College’s Positive Life Radio listeners donated thousands of dollars for the second year to help feed people affected by drought and flooding in Cambodia. Positive Life Radio teamed up with Musicianaries International Inc., an organization founded by Christian recording artist Bobby Michaels, to purchase and distribute tons of rice to needy Cambodian families.

The rice was purchased with money raised from benefit concerts performed by Michaels and donated by the generous listeners of Positive Life Radio, who gave more than $32,000 in one month. Cambodia, also known as Kampuchea, endured the genocidal regime of Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s, during which more than one million displaced people were executed or died from enforced hardships. The country has only recently attained political stability after a coalition government was formed in 1998, bringing an end to nearly 20 years of fighting between political groups. The struggle for a normal existence in Cambodia continues, however, with severe droughts and flooding causing extreme hardships during the last several years.

Every year, the Mekong River, which runs through Cambodia, overflows and floods the surrounding countryside during the later months of the rainy season. Farmers and fishermen depend on this for irrigation and to provide the necessary habitat and food for fish. However, when the floods are irregular, or the dry season droughts are unusually severe, millions of people are affected.

This has been the case since 2000, when 388 people died and 13,000 homes were destroyed. Many people had not fully recovered when flooding occurred again in 2001 and 100,000 families had to be evacuated. Years of this devastation have destroyed rice crops, caused massive food shortages and left many homeless. In June, Musicianaries was able to purchase enough rice seed to reseed the provinces of Batdambang and Kampong Chhnang.

Thousands of hungry families will be fed thanks to their efforts. But they do not stop at feeding the physical body; they feed their spirits, as well, giving them the Gospels of John and Luke in the Khmer language, sharing their personal testimonies and performing concerts. Though 95 percent of Cambodians are Theravada Buddhists, they seem eager to hear about Christianity. “I think because they’ve never heard of something for nothing,” says Michaels.

Musicianaries International was made aware of the opportunity to help in Cambodia by Setan Lee, who miraculously survived the killing fields, and is founder and director of Kampuchea for Christ, a Christian evangelistic group.

During the June 2003 trip, Lee, Michaels and other members of the Musicianaries team presented Cambodia’s King Norodom Sihanouk with 30 tons of rice at a formal ceremony. Though King Sihanouk is a Buddhist, he requested a copy of the New Testament in Greek and endorsed the work of Musicianaries, thanking them on behalf of his people.

Tara Jeske, WWC GLEANER correspondent
It has often been said that it takes a village to raise a child. Children born at Tillamook County General Hospital (TCGH), located in the rural community of Tillamook on the Northern Oregon Coast, begin their village experience early. The newborns receive gifts and mementos donated by hospital staff and volunteers, as well as community residents and members of local churches. TCGH delivers these gifts, wrapped inside new diaper bags, to each mother.

Inspired to Give

Two years ago Brad Smith, pastor of the local First Baptist Church, spotted an advertisement offering Christian lullaby CDs for half-price. Excited by the great deal and inspired to somehow put the idea to work in ministry, he contacted Susan Chelone, an LPN working in the Family Birthing Place at TCGH. Chelone agreed the CDs would be a wonderful addition in the diaper bags, so Smith placed an order for 100. Today, Smith’s church is still purchasing and donating the CDs. They have proven to be very popular gift bag items.

“It is such a joy to see the looks on a mother’s face when she opens her gift bag,” said Chelone, “and to know that you assisted in giving such a helpful present.”

Other gift bag items include knitted caps, TCGH infant spoons, engraved, stretch name-bracelets, Noah’s Ark baby shirts proclaiming “We Deliver Only the Best,” TCGH sippy cups, rubber ducks, Tyco bears in pink or blue, and children’s books. Free samples and information packets are included for the mothers, too. Finally, TCGH chaplains place small children’s Bibles, either Spanish or English, on the top to complete each bag.

Labor of Love

Some mothers are unprepared and have little or nothing to take home with their new babies. These mothers need extra support. The layette program from Adventist Community Services (ACS) makes a difference. Layettes are sets of clothing and bedding for the newborns, given out in addition to the gift bags.

The layette program started about 10 years ago when Carol Gorton of ACS donated a few homemade quilts to mothers in need. Where better to find those mothers, she thought, than in the local hospital?

Since then, Elthaleta Williams joined ACS as a volunteer to hem the quilts. ACS began adding to the bags with donations of its own. Community residents and members of local church groups sent donated items as well. Now, the layettes include all the basics—diapers, diaper pins, plastic pants, nightgowns and receiving blankets in addition to the soft, homemade baby quilts.

“Outreach efforts, like the diaper bags and layettes, bring a sense of community to what we do here,” said Melody Ayers, TCGH development coordinator. “These gifts are a direct tie-in with our mission to value each other as members of a caring family. Every mother who gives birth at TCGH becomes a part of our family. This is a perfect way to share God’s love with them.”

Hannah Clegg
Where Jesus Walked

If Jesus were to return to the places he knew as a child and adult, what would He say? Would He tear down the concrete and wire fortifications that separate communities, just as He chased the sellers and money changers from the temple? Would anyone dare follow Him today, in the face of car bombs and suicide bombers? If Jesus walked in Israel today, where would He go? Where would He worship? The temple in which He worshiped while on earth no longer stands, replaced centuries ago by a mosque.

Among the Lowly
Jesus sought out the lowly and healed the sick and hurting. If Jesus walked in His homeland today, He would still seek out those who need His love and encouragement. Perhaps He would visit a crowded hall where Romanian believers would welcome Him. Perhaps he would walk down the street to a storefront, where Filipino believers gather to worship. Or perhaps He would slip into the West Bank or Gaza and find just a handful of believers worshiping in a simple living room. But He would not find Adventist churches. He would find congregations dotting the cities, towns and villages, but He would not find signs to direct Him to their places of worship.

Israel’s Adventists meet in halls, storefronts and homes but do not go unnoticed. Recently a full-page article featuring Adventist believers and their faith appeared in the weekend edition of the largest newspaper in Israel. Most of these Adventists are immigrants who have come to work for a few weeks, a few months, maybe a few years, to survive on. Nothing is left to build churches.

Growing Rapidly
After decades of near-stagnant numbers, the Adventist Church in Israel is growing rapidly today. Most of the growth is among the immigrants who share their faith with fellow workers and with their Jewish employers. As part of a strategic plan to enable the Adventist Church in Israel to grow, leaders have set out to establish new congregations throughout the country, in both Jewish and Arabic regions. In addition, two young congregations that have just been established will be strengthened through the funds given on Thirteenth Sabbath.

If we help, many dreams will become reality. East Jerusalem and Nazareth will have Palestinian congregations, and the Ethiopian Jews of Rehovot will have a place to meet. Jews of Nazareth, Tiberias and Tel Aviv will have churches.

If Jesus were to return to His birthplace, would He find faith? That answer depends, at least in part, on you and on me. Do we care enough to support the work in Jesus’ homeland? Do we care enough to give generously this Thirteenth Sabbath—March 27—to make thousands of people’s dreams for a church a reality?

Charlotte Ishkanian, Mission editor
Cutting-edge Technology Captures Ancient Story

The Adventist Communication Network (ACN) and It Is Written Digital Media Group (IIWDMG), Vancouver, Wash., partnered to capture authentic images of Bible characters in a project called FACES:Biblical Folks that will bring new artwork for pastors, teachers and lay people to use in telling the old, old story. “Pastors from across the North American Division have been begging for fresh, contemporary photographs illustrating Bible stories,” said Dave Gemmell, project director.

The project used the absolutely latest digital cameras to capture the faces of ancient history-makers for one November week in the desert near Las Vegas. “ACN is impassioned to provide the very latest digital resources for growing healthy congregations,” said Jere Wallack, project producer.

Irony reigned throughout the project. The archaic faces of the Bible were digitized on microchips. Today’s everyday folks became the authentic people of scripture. The desert of ultra-modern Las Vegas—“Sin City”—brought to life the timeless story of righteousness. The Las Vegas wash became the cleansing Jordan River, and man-made Lake Mead became the God-used Sea of Galilee.

Scores of members from the Mountain View Church in Las Vegas lent their faces to the project. Often the day started at 3:15 a.m. as these volunteers drove to the shoot location and rushed through wardrobe, make-up and props.

Photographer Erik Stenbakken used his artistic skills to capture the faces of Biblical folks with his 11-megapixel digital camera, resulting in nearly 35 gigabytes of photos.

Why would people take off work to subject themselves to sleep deprivation, endless waiting and face plastering? “It was a profound spiritual experience!” said Rachel Handley as she tearfully relived the story of Naomi and Ruth.

Many more tears flowed freely as the crucifixion was graphically recreated. “This experience changed my life,” said Dave Everts, after he allowed his head to be shaved in order to relive the troubles of Job and the agony of the thief on the cross.

The volunteer models pray that their faces will draw thousands of people to God’s love as viewers see how heaven graciously accepted every character of the Bible. The first images will be released later in 2004.

However, the impact on many unchurched individuals was immediate. Actor Andrew Curby learned for the first time the story of Jesus as he portrayed the healing of the sick, feeding of 5,000 and hung on the cross. Peter Field Peck, a freelance photographer from New York, was so captured by the irony of the project that he flew to Las Vegas to shoot a documentary of Stenbakken doing his work.

“The week was filled with miracles,” said associate producer Stacia Dulan. “We had ideal weather, picture-perfect sunrises and sunsets, and a great team of models.”

The ACN/IIWDMG team was hoping for 200 to 300 photographs, but more than 6,500 images were captured. “These are awesome, story-telling pictures,” says Wallack. “They will make an impact for God for many years to come.”

Jere Wallack, NAD associate communication director for ACN and Dave Gemmell, ACN associate director

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DOES GOD STILL PERFORM miracles? Ask members of the Orchards Church in Vancouver, Washington, that question and their reply will be a resounding, “Yes!”

Retired member Otis Edwards and I met with Bob Robinson, Southern Asia Division administrative assistant for development, during the summer of 2002. Bob extended an invitation for us to conduct evangelistic meetings in India. Financial estimates were realistic but added up to more than $25,000 for one or two people to conduct a single series of evangelistic meetings. The amount seemed overwhelming to us, but Bob urged us to come to India with whatever amount we could raise.

Several weeks later, we invited church members to attend a Sabbath afternoon meeting and discuss the possibility of sending an evangelistic team to India. More than 40 individuals expressed interest in participating in this trip, and about 10 were willing to preach. We had enough people to do more than one series of meetings, but funding, an obstacle from the beginning, looked even more impossible. The meeting closed with various individuals issuing calls to faith and reminders that when God asks us to do something, He always provides a way to do it.

Several people began to plan a fund-raising campaign called “Give a Heart for Jesus.” Church leaders in India had determined that the average cost for each baptism was $10. Brightly colored paper hearts, each representing $10 given for the cost of the project, soon lined the church lobby. The campaign raised $20,000.

Other fund-raising projects included an auction, a dinner with “Indian Cuisine,” a benefit vesper’s concert, and appeals to anyone who came within reach. The India funds began to grow.

We set our goal for four simultaneous meetings with two

Otis Edwards, Orchards Church member, had the job of coloring in the roof of the “Churches for India” goal device. The Orchards Church raised enough money to build 20 churches.
speakers, a health lecturer and other personnel for each site. Teams of six were organized and began to plan. Church members unable to travel to India organized themselves as “prayer partners” and vowed to pray every day for those of us who went.

The New Beginnings DVD series of evangelistic sermons were selected as the format for our sermons, and the speakers each took one church service in our church to practice preaching a sermon.

The miracles continued when 24 people traveled to Kurnool, India, in late January 2003. Only three months earlier there were virtually no Adventists in the region. Meetings were held in four sites and drew people from 20 villages where Bible workers had been working. During the course of two weeks, we were privileged to observe 2,245 individuals publicly dedicate their lives to Jesus through baptism. We returned home sensing that we had somehow been given the opportunity to live through a replay of the story of Acts, chapter two.

The time for miracles was not over. We had raised enough money to cover our travel expenses, hire the Bible workers, conduct evangelistic meetings, give gift Bibles to each person baptized and build churches in 10 villages. As we traveled home, the need for churches in the other 10 villages became a topic of conversation. It would require another approximately $35,000.

Before long we found ourselves agreeing that it needed to be done. The group returned from India in mid-February determined to see the task completed. Fortunately, our church agreed with us. Another goal device was created and throughout the year, we continued to bring our offerings. On January 17, 2004, we celebrated reaching our goal. It was a wonderful day of worship and thanksgiving.

I’ve learned some lessons through this process. Perhaps the most important is that God is still in the business of saving people and blessing them with His grace. That was most obvious as we watched the baptisms of new believers with a culture and language much different than ours.

Perhaps equally as important and closer to home is what God did for us. Most of our mission team had little international travel experience, and only a couple of us had participated in a mission trip before. We were definitely out of our comfort zone while dealing with airplanes, customs officials, unknown traffic rules, food and foreign customs. The language barrier was very real. A group of Americans used to hopping in their cars and going where they wished became dependent on others to take them everywhere. Most of us couldn’t have found our way or even asked for directions. To preach in these conditions can be truly intimidating. I was amazed at the ease with which group members approached and dealt with these things. We learned that commitment to doing God’s work, an adventurous spirit, and a good dose of God’s grace enabled us to do what would otherwise appear impossible.

Our church budget isn’t any richer than any other. We sometimes struggle to meet our goals. During the past year and a half, our church treasurer receipted offerings for our India project that were roughly the same as our church budget. During the same time giving to our combined church budget account totaled slightly more than we had planned, and tithe is up as well. We’ve learned that God blesses and cares for those who step out of their comfort zones and respond to His call to service.

Will we do it again? It depends on God’s will. But, as I write this, a group of five
ANDERSON 60th Correction

Arnold and Marguerite Anderson celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 17 at their son’s home in Issaquah, Wash. They are members of the Auburn (Wash.) City Church.

Arnold Anderson married Marguerite Lee on Nov. 15, 1943. They worked for Boeing for a total of 40 years. Besides teaching school in Alaska and Nebraska, Marguerite has been the assistant publishing secretary for the Nebraska Conference and a secretary in the Washington Conference education and youth departments.


DE FEHR 60th

Stan and Cathey DeFehr celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Nov. 27, 2003, with their family in the Silverton (Ore.) Church fellowship hall where they have been members since 1971.

John Stanton DeFehr and Catherine Wilson were married on Nov. 28, 1943, in the New Hayward (Calif.) Church by A. O. Sage. The family moved to Salem in 1962 so John could complete his education. He received his master’s degree from Willamette University in 1966.

Using his educational skills, he worked with troubled youth, retiring in 1987 as regional youth director for the state of Oregon. While raising their two daughters and afterward, Cathey was a dental assistant until her retirement in 1987.

The DeFehr family includes Lanelle and Jerry Northrop, Salem, Jan and Randy Blom of Silverton, 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

GIENGER 50th

Ed and Allegra Gienger celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends in College Place, Wash. They are members of the Walla Walla City Church.

Ed Gienger married Allegra Lang in Gackle, N.D., on Nov. 26, 1953. They were baptized in 1954 after studying with Max Torkelsen Sr. and were teachers in North Dakota until 1959 when they moved to Andrews University for Ed to study ministry. He pastored for 43 years in the Midwest, Tennessee, Washington and Oregon. Since retirement in 1999, he has served as interim pastor in several churches. Allegra taught elementary school for 25 years and, in retirement, continues as a substitute teacher in the Walla Walla area.


KELLN 75th and 100th

Margaret and Dave Kelln celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary and Dave’s 100th birthday with a celebration in their honor hosted by their children at Merrill Gardens in Monroe, Wash., where they are now residents. They are members of the Monroe Church.

The Kellns were married on Aug. 28, 1928, in College Place, Wash. Dave was born on Oct. 20, 1903. Dave graduated from Walla Walla College, and Margaret attended a business college. Dave worked at a dairy farm in College Place for a number of years. In 1962 they moved to the Monroe area where Dave started building houses.


WELLMAN 60th

Ellsworth and Marilyn Wellman celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a reception hosted by their children in the Yakima (Wash.) 35th Avenue Church social hall where they are members.

Ellsworth Wellman and Marilyn Cunning were married on Nov. 19, 1943, in Seattle while Ellsworth was home on a four-day leave from Camp Barkley, Texas, where he was training as a medic. Two days after the wedding, he left for two years of military duty in the South Pacific. When he returned, the couple attended La Sierra College where Ellsworth majored in theology. He was hired by the Southeastern California Conference where he pastored for eight years before being called to the Washington Conference in 1957. The last few years of his ministry, Ellsworth was assistant manager of the Washington Conference Adventist Book Center. Marilyn returned to college in 1968 and became a nurse to help educate their children. She worked for 25 years in hospitals where they resided.

The Wellman family includes Claudia and Del Griebel of Bend, Ore., Cathie and Cliff Kruse of Sequim, Wash., David Wellman of Portland, Greg and Debbie Wellman in British Columbia, Canada, Nancy and Steve Mack of Yakima, 10 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.
Leonard and Elva Winn celebrated their 70th anniversary at a family dinner on Dec. 14, 2003. They are members of the Walla Walla College Church.

Leonard Winn and Elva Perry were married Dec. 12, 1933, in Pocatello, Idaho. Leonard was a miner in Butte, Mont., and subsequently worked in the dairy at the Montana State Hospital.

Leonard and Elva Winn

in Warm Springs. Elva’s entire career was as an LPN at the same hospital.

The Winn family includes Royce Winn (deceased), Hugh and Betty Winn of Newbury Park, Calif., and Ted and Pat of College Place, Wash., 6 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.


CLOUSE—Krislyn Denae was born Dec. 4, 2003, to Jeff and Anita (Byers) Clouse, Portland, Ore.

DIETRICH—Madison Nicole was born Dec. 18, 2003, to Brad E. and Melissa (Flemmer) Dietrich, Battle Ground, Wash.

DONALDSON—Kylie Marie was born April 5, 2003, to Derrick Donaldson and Monica Messenger, Aloha, Ore.

DONALDSON—Steven David was born Nov. 2, 2003, to David and Kristy (Wheeler) Donaldson, Forest Grove, Ore.

FARRELL—Dylan Riley was born Oct. 7, 2003, to Brandon C. and Deborah (Gibson) Farrell, Vancouver, Wash.

GAMMEL—Samantha H. was born Jan. 3, 2004, to Darrick and Nancy (McFarland) Gammel, Klamath Falls, Ore.

HASKIN—McKenzie R. was born July 9, 2003, to Gary and Marilyn (Stroh) Haskin, Salem, Ore.

JOHNSON—David F. was born Oct. 18, 2003, to Daniel and Lydia Johnson, Prineville, Ore.

KINCAID—Jedediah was born Nov. 3, 2003, to James and Wendy (Warren) Kincaid, Sprague River, Ore.

KING—Emily was born Nov. 24, 2003, to Del King and Luisa Fisher, Pasco, Wash.

MARCO—Pasquelle was born Jan. 9, 2004, to Jeremy and Kiron (Miller) Marco, Oak Harbor, Wash.

MILLER—Karrlyne EmmaLee Nalani was born Jan. 9, 2004, to Jeff and Kim (Miguel) Miller, Days Creek, Ore.

OLIVER—Wesley Garrett was born Nov. 16, 2003, to Charles and Tanya (Marsa) Oliver, Tacoma, Wash.

PETERSEN—Keira Laurenae was born Dec. 19, 2003, to Keith and Emily Petersen, Portland, Ore.

STATEN—Kened Allen was born Dec. 24, 2003, to Trevor and Marissa (Calzada) Staten, Eagle Point, Ore.

RODRIGUEZ—Pablo A. was born Nov. 12, 2003, to Pablo and Tina (Pound) Rodriguez, Klamath Falls, Ore.

THOMAS—Caitlin K. was born Jan. 15, 2004, to Jeremiah and Danielle (Broadgate) Thomas, Bow, Wash.

UNRUH—Ethan Michael was born Jan. 2, 2004, to Michael and Kari (Oksenholt) Unruh, Gresham, Ore.

WILLIAMS—Zachary Lee was born Aug. 5, 2003 to Matt and Bekki (Benson) Williams, Post Falls, Idaho.

BELL—Clarine E., 70; born April 29, 1933, Baker City, Ore.; died Nov. 29, 2003, Mesa, Ariz. Surviving: daughters, Jan Diorio, Loveland, Colo., Marilyn Inturis, Riverside, Calif.; mother, Edith (Wallace), and sister, Dorothy White, both of Mesa; 8 grandchildren.


CREECH—Roger Marvin, 58; born Oct. 3, 1945, Kirkland, Wash. Surviving: wife, Roberta (Mock); sons, Andrew, Brian and Peter, daughter, Rebecca, and parents Marvin and Bertha (Dinkmeier) Crecch, all of Port Orchard, Wash.; brothers, David and Calvin, both of Seattle, Daniel, Port Orchard, Loren, Bayside, N.Y.


PAULL — Sally (Man), 65; born Nov. 27, 1930, Marysville, Calif.; died Nov. 28, 2003, Hood River, Ore. Surviving: husband, Wesley, daughter, Angela Pietrok, Troutdale, Ore.; brother, Fred Mann, Salem, Ore.; sister, Fern Osborne, The Dalles, Ore.


SALTER — Gladys (Carpenter), 100; born Nov. 12, 1903, Palestine, Texas; died Dec. 19, 2003, Albany, Ore. Surviving: sons, George, Klamath Falls, Ore., Merlyn, Santa Barbara, Calif.; daughter, Lorene Seltzer, Albany; 5 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.


THOMSEN — Harry L., 79; born April 7, 1923, Neosho, Mo.; died Sept. 7, 2002, Bellevue, Wash. Surviving: wife, Lyndell (Nottow); daughter, Karin Thomsen, Bothell, Wash.; brother, Henry, Keene, Texas; sister, Jessie Dwyer, College Place, Wash.


WATSON — Vera G. (Barkdoll), 94; born June 17, 1909, Norway, Ore.; died Sept. 24, 2003, Sisters, Ore. Surviving: son, Terry; sisters, daughter, LaDonna Watson, Redmond, Ore.; 2 grandchildren.

WAY — Stanley M., 83; born May 16, 1920, Grandview, Wash.; died Aug. 6, 2003, Clarkson, Wash. Surviving: wife, Eileen; sons, Ken and Larry, and daughter, Kathi, all of Clarkson; brother, George, and sister, Velma Katzdon, both of Plummer, Idaho.


NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offerings
March 6 — Local Church Budget; March 13 — Adventist World Radio; March 20 — Local Church Budget; March 27 — Local Conference Advance; 13th Sabbath: Trans-European Division. April 3 — Local Church Budget.

Special Days
March 6 — Women’s Day of Prayer; March 7–13 — Adventist Youth Week of Prayer; March 20 — Disabilities Awareness Sabbath. April 3 — Missionary Magazines.

Shine NW for Public Collegiates
Hosted by the Oregon State University (OSU) Adventist Collegiate Fellowship (ACF) club and the Corvallis Church, Shine Northwest will take place April 2–3 on the OSU campus in Corvallis, Ore. The event begins with vespers Friday night and continues through Sabbath, ending Saturday night with a concert by Nick and Ben Zork and Elias King, graduates of Andrews University. All Adventist students at public community colleges and public universities are invited to see an expanded news story, go to the Oregon news section of the March GLEANER at www.gleaneronline.org. For information and to register, contact Adriaan Smit at aac@oregonstate.edu or the Corvallis Church at (541) 757-9893.

Northwest ACF Spring Fellowship
Northwest ACF (Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries) is holding its Spring Fellowship weekend, April 29–May 2 at the newly transformed Sun Valley Resort and Convention Center in spectacular Sun Valley, Idaho. This year’s featured speaker is Doug Bachelor of Amazing Facts. Learn how you can share Christ in your marketplace. Join us for an exceptional weekend of inspirational speakers, uplifting testimonies, practical seminars, five-star vegetarian cuisine and a full array of resort activities. In addition, Northwest ACF provides a comprehensive children’s missions program. Renew your commitment to a closer walk with Jesus Christ. Come and witness firsthand how ASI members in action are making a difference in their local communities and worldwide mission fields. If you have ever considered finding out more about ASI, don’t miss this weekend in Sun Valley. For additional information, call Dan Ross, Northwest Chapter ASI president, at (208) 938-8488. Watch for registration information in next month’s GLEANER.

Faith-building Travel
British Reformation tour through England, Scotland and Wales June 17–30. Two hours academic credit available from Walla Walla College. Sponsored by North Pacific Union. Contact Sue Patzer at Sue.Patzer@nw.npuc.org or (360) 816-1426.

Annual Singles Retreat
Singles from all over the Northwest, California and Canada, come to Camp MiVoden, Hayden Lake, Idaho, for a spiritual, fun weekend in the sun reconnecting with old friends and meeting new ones. Activities include mingling at the After Hours Café, playing games, singing songs, going on a moonlight boat ride, and snacks. The Memorial Day weekend ends with a banquet and a grand march led by Wayne Hicks. If you would like to know more about the NW Singles Retreat for Memorial Day Weekend 2004, contact Terrie Leen, UCC MiVoden Memorial Day Weekend Coordinator, at (541) 276-2043 or tleene@yahoo.com. To see the expanded news story about this event, go to the Upper Columbia news section of the March GLEANER at www.gleaneronline.org.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE

Calendar of Events
March 6, 7, 11, 13 — www.cdra.com: Festival of One-Acts, 8 p.m., Village Hall; March 18 — Spring Break begins.

ALASKA

Evangelistic Meetings
Revelation Now, an evangelistic series of meetings with Jac and Lena Colon, is coming to the Fairbanks Church. The meetings will open on March 5 at 7:15 p.m. at the Chena River Convention Center, 109 Clay St., Fairbanks, Alaska. You are welcome to come and invite your friends and relatives.

IDAHO

Gem State Homecoming
Gem State Academy homecoming celebration is April 2–3. Alumnii and friends will want to be present for the Welcome Home Gospel Festival featuring former music faculty and professional alumni musicians. Singers are urged to join the mass choir. Classes to be honored include ’34, ’44, ’54, ’64, ’74, ’79, ’84 and ’94. For more information, contact the alumni office at (208) 459-1627 ext. 158 or alumni@gemstate.org.

OREGON

Retired Workers’ Fellowship
Students from the Scappoose ( Ore.) Adventist School will perform Acro Sports Gymnastics at the Tuesday, March 2, meeting of the Oregon Retired Workers’ Fellowship (RFW). The RFW meets monthly for a noon potluck meal and program in the multipurpose room of the Oregon Conference office in Clackamas. Attendees are asked to come at 11:45 a.m. and bring food and table service. For information, contact Mort Jurgens at (503) 618-8464.

Grand Opening of The Gathering
Are you in that 20 to 30+ single age group that’s looking for something with Christian atmosphere that’s new and fresh? You won’t want to miss the grand opening of The Gathering at Center Point, located right next door to Meadow Glade Church in Battle Ground, Wash. This young adult meeting place will feature a bistro-style café with atmosphere. Opening March 5, 8 p.m., with a Christian contemporary jazz concert featuring Steve Darnody and Jennifer LaMountain. (Restricted to young single adults only.) Call Darren for directions at (360) 798-3778.

Festival of the Bells
Ring of Fire director Jason Wells will conduct adult and youth hand bell choirs from Oregon and Washington in the Festival of the Bells on Sabbath, March 6, at 5:30 p.m. at Sunnyside Church, 10501 SE Market St., Portland.

Busyday and Overload Seminar
Have you ever felt emotionally spent? If so, you’re not alone. George Gallup has concluded that Americans are nearing the end of their emotional resources with unprecedented levels of busy in everyday life. On March 6, Harvey and Kathy Corwin, Oregon Conference family and Sabbath School ministries directors, will deal with the topic, “Overload—The Disease of the 21st Century.” Starting at 11 a.m. with “Love Takes Time,” they will continue at 2 p.m. with these topics: “Hyper Living: Operating Beyond Your Limits,” “Prescription for Restoring Margin” and “Charging Your Batteries.” This event is sponsored by Turning Point and will be held at the Roseburg Jr. Academy, 1653 NW Troost, Roseburg, Ore. For information, call GLEANER at (541) 672-8845.

Milo Concert Schedule
March 5 — The Chamber Singers will be in concert at 7 p.m. in the Coquille Church, Hwy. 42, Coquille, Ore.; (541) 396-3890; March 6 — The Chamber Singers will be presenting the church service in the Coos Bay Church, 2175 Newmark Ave., Coos Bay, Ore.; (541) 756-7413; March 6 — The Chamber Singers will be in concert at 5 p.m. in the Grants Pass Church, 1360 NE 9th St., Grants Pass, Ore.; (541) 476-6313.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Weekend Revival
March 12–13—Pastor Richard O’Fill speaks Friday at 7 p.m., Sabbath at 11 a.m., 2–5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Monitor Church. Bring a dish and join us in a potluck lunch and potluck fruit supper. For directions or more information, call (503) 266-7211.

Singles Retreat
The singles retreat Building Life Relationships will be held March 12–14 at the Harrison St. Inn in Cannon Beach, Ore. Harvey and Kathy Corwin will speak on communication tools, conflict resolution, love languages and time management. Pre-registration is required. Contact Michelle at the Beaverton Church, (503) 646-9828, for more information and to register. Or visit www.beavertonsda.com and follow the prompts to the singles section. For additional Oregon Conference singles ministries (OCSM) activities and information, call the singles’ hotline at (503) 654-6054 opt. 4, visit www.orsingles.org or e-mail info@orsingles.org.

Coronal Health Improvement Project
Free preliminary informational sessions for an April four-week health improvement seminar called CHIP will be held at the Hood View Church in Boring, Ore., March 25, 27 and 30, each at 7 p.m. This Coronary Health Improvement Project aims to prevent or reverse a variety of prevalent diseases. The regular program will meet four nights a week 6:55–9:05 p.m. from April 4–29. Health screening by volunteer medical personnel will take place April 2 and April 30, with graduation on Sunday, May 2. For information and to register, call (503) 658-2329.

Four Hands for His Kids
Classical piano concert at Sunnyside Church sponsored by SAGE Oregon and International Children’s Care. Thursday, March 25, 3 and 7 p.m., will feature renowned piano duo Miguel Sosa and Satoko Hojo. For free tickets, call (800) 422-7729.

Columbia Adventist Academy’s Alumni Weekend events will start with a vespers program by the class of ‘94 on Friday evening, April 2, at 7:30 in Meadow Glade Church. Sabbath School by the class of ‘84 will start at 9:15 a.m. in the gymnasium. Immediately following the church service by the class of ‘79, there will be a potluck in the school’s cafeteria. At 3:30 p.m. the class of ’54 will provide a music and reminiscing time in the Meadow Glade Church. The gym will open at 7 p.m. Saturday night for those wishing to play and cheer for the traditional alumni vs. varsity basketball games.

Christian Concert
See Nick and Ben Zork and Elias King, graduates of Andrews University, in concert April 3 at 7 p.m. in the La Sells Stewart Center at Oregon State University. For information, contact Adriaan Smit at afc@oregonstate.edu or (541) 757-8983.

Milo Class of ’64 Reunion
The 1964 Milo Adventist Academy graduating class announces their 40th reunion at the Milo campus on April 2–3. All classmate are invited to attend our class-sponsored Friday night vespers and all-day Sabbath activities, followed by a fun Saturday night ‘60s party with old-fashioned shammers, root beer floats and ‘60s lip-syncs. For further information, contact Kathy (Koenig) Corwin at (503) 654-6054.

Missing Oregon Conference Members
The Oregon Conference is looking for addresses for the following people: Antonio Marquez; Maria Marquez and daughter Maria Marquez; Rickard and Jenelle Mashek; Samuel Matkin; Richard May; Tyronne McDermott; Andrea McKenzie; Kathy McKown; Baron and Terri Messier; Michael Mohr; Anna Monico; Francisco and Leticia Montero; Rafael Delia and Rafael Jr. Monzon; Abigail, Erubiel and Gricel Morales; David C. Morgan; Barbara Mounce; Kimberly Mulinenx; Arthur, Gladys and Robert Murray; Lyle W. Nelson; Don, Terry and Joseph Nichols; Josh Norris; Cristina Nunes; Euclides Nuñez; Luís Ochoa; Jodi Oedell; Janie Olmos; and Howard, Geraldine and Traci Osbon. Please contact the membership Cerk at (503) 652-2225 ext. 461 or maryjane.zollbrecht@oc.npuc.org.

Molina Vesperas
April 3—Come and enjoy a musical vespers program featuring singing by Mike Bishop and family and friends at 6 p.m. April 17—Members of the Romanian Church will present a sacred vespers program at 6:30 p.m. You are also invited to participate in a potluck supper beginning at 5:30 p.m. Menu: potato or lentil soups, breads and salads. The Molalla Church is located at 825 N. Molalla Ave., Molalla, Ore.

Hood River School 75-Year Reunion
The Hood River Mid Columbia Adventist School is celebrating its 75th year by hosting a reunion for all former students and teachers on May 1. Church services will be held in the school gym, starting at 9:30 a.m. There will be a potluck lunch at 1 p.m., and a salad supper will follow the afternoon program. All are invited to share in the celebration of past experiences and to bring pictures or other memorabilia to share at the 3 p.m. Memories of the Past program.

This is also the Blossom Festival weekend for Hood River County, so plan to take a drive around the valley to enjoy the sights and smells of the orchards in bloom. More information is available by contacting Dale Milam, principal, at (541) 386-3187 or 4dmilam@gorge.net.

Upper Columbia Conference

Upper Columbia Academy Events
April 2–3—Grandparent Weekend: mission reports, music, student speakers and Music-A-Rama on Saturday night with free-will offering; April 13—Academy Day, 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., awards/prizes/scholarships, gymnastic show, contests/games, mini music concerts, free meals, tours and free T-shirt. For more information, contact Ron Turner at (509) 245-3680 or rtturner@ucaa.org.

Harris/Pendleton Jr. Academy Reunion
The Pendleton Church will be hosting a Harris/Pendleton Jr. Academy reunion along with the church’s annual homecoming weekend Sept. 3–4. The event begins with vespers Friday at 7 p.m. and continues with a special church service on Sabbath, potluck dinner, afternoon program and Saturday night social. Guest speakers will include Carl and Teresa Appley Wilsen who will be telling stories from 12 years of mission service in Africa. For information, contact Kelli Engelhart Leen at (509) 526-9642 or lkleen@pocketnet.com.
WASHINGTON
Washington Conference Public High School Retreat

The Fast and the Curious with Vince Dehn is a Jesus-centered retreat for teenagers held March 5-7 at beautiful Sunset Lake Camp. We will have a time of spiritual refreshment, fellowship with others and, of course, fun! The cost is only $45 for the whole weekend, food and all! All public school, non-Adventist private school and home school students are welcome (also academy students who bring a friend from public school). Please call the Washington Conference youth department, (425) 481-7171, for an application and information.

1888 Message Seminar

The Ferndale Church will be holding a five-day series on the 1888 Message from March 17-21 at 7 p.m. each evening. Robert Wieland and R.J. Gravel will present an in-depth study on the many aspects of the righteousness-by-faith message that was given at the General Conference Minneapolis meeting in 1888. The church is located at 2488 Mountainview Rd., Ferndale, Wash. For information, call (360) 384-1526.

Poulsbo Celebrates Centennial

Former pastors, former members and everyone with an interest in the Poulsbo Church are invited to attend its centennial celebration April 10. Sabbath School starts at 9:15 a.m. Worship hour at 11 a.m. will feature John Friedman, Washington Conference president. Fellowship lunch at 12:30 p.m., will be followed by the Memory Lane service at 2:30 p.m. A groundbreaking ceremony for the new Poulsbo Adventist Church School will follow at 4 p.m. Items of church history, anecdotes, church family incidents, dates of attendance and/or membership, etc., should be sent or phoned to Kathy Aus, church secretary, at 14185 Frontier Drive NW, Silverdale, WA 98383 or (360) 697-6085. Poulsbo Church is located at 1700 NE Lincoln Road, Poulsbo, Wash.

Living Last Supper

Living Last Supper presented by the Kent Players at Kent Church, 25213 116th Ave. S.E., Kent, Wash., April 9 and 10. You won’t want to miss this dramatic reenactment of the Lord’s Supper as seen through the eyes of Leonardo da Vinci. You will have opportunity to meet the disciples and listen to testimony of Jesus’ effect on their personal lives. Friday night supper at 6 p.m. and program at 7:30 p.m. Sabbath breakfast at 9 a.m.; program begins at 10:30 a.m. Call the Kent Church at (253) 852-3883 for directions.

Women’s Spring Day Event

Women's ministries: Do you like to open a gift? Come open the special gift God has given you Sabbath, April 17, at the Washington Women’s Spring Day Event held at Grace Community Church in Auburn. Bring a friend and enjoy a day of fun and fellowship with our special speakers, Mary Richards King and Esme Branner. Contact Wilma Bing at (206) 963-7011 for registration information.

Washington Conference Church Missing

The Washington Conference is seeking the following missing members of the Washington Conference Church: Raul Aguilar, Dena M. Aiona, Harold M. Andrews, Sophia Acaya, Luni Auelua, Elena Aumave, Iva Aunavue, Molly J. Benshoof, Cathryn A. Bentz, Linda M. Bird, Esther Boggess and Jason M. Branson. If you have knowledge of how to contact these people, please contact Doug Bing at (425) 471-7171.

Western Washington Youth Challenge 2004

With such an army of youth rightly trained, how soon would the message of Jesus be preached? Do you want to make a difference? Do you want to be a part of something bigger than yourself? SERVE GOD.

TIPS FOR AUTHORS:
How to Submit an Announcement for Publication in GLEANER or GLEANERonline.org

Announcements are published for churches, schools and organizations free of charge. Announcements from individuals will be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if they are promotional and should be considered classified ads.

See the advertising deadlines that are published in the advertisements section of every issue for the latest date you can submit announcements for any given issue. Plan to submit your announcement at least six weeks before your event for print publication. Announcements for online publication should be submitted at least two weeks before the event to give our Web readers enough time to see the announcement.

Type your announcement in paragraph form in as few words as possible, as space is limited. The editors reserve the right to edit announcements.

These free announcements may not contain dollar figures for registration fees, entrance fees, etc., but may inform readers that there is a fee and give information about how they can find the fee amount somewhere else, like a Web site or phone number. If you wish to publish the cost, you may submit a paid classified ad.

It is assumed that musicians who have CDs will make them available after their concerts, so it is not necessary to say that in your announcement.

Don’t forget to include complete contact information at the end of your announcement, preferably in this order: name of contact person; organization (optional); telephone number (including area code); e-mail address; Web site; street address.

The preferred method of submission for announcements is by e-mail. Send it to gleaner@nw.npuc.org. Or you may mail your typewritten announcement to GLEANER Announcements, P.O. Box 871150, Vancouver, WA 98687-1150. Please, no handwritten announcements.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Challenge is more than a summer job—it’s a mission. Young people form teams to go door-to-door with magabooks, participate in practical evangelism and share Christ with others. It’s focused, purposeful, exciting and fun! Call the Washington Conference youth department for an appointment at (425) 481-7171.

WORLD CHURCH Request your assistance!

I’m putting together a devotional book entitled “Military Moments with God,” for Adventists currently serving in the U.S. military. I wish to solicit stories from current and former military personnel about an experience they had while in the service where God moved in a very real way. I wish to: showcase stories of faith of our Adventist military members (current/former active-duty, reservists and National Guard), raise the level of awareness regarding our Adventist church members in uniform and promote the Adventist National Service Organization (NSO). Feel free to contact me, Michael Hales, at mm_hales@yahoo.com.

CUC/PAA Alumni Chapter Meetings

Canadian University College/ Parkview Adventist Academy Alumni Association presents the CUC Legacy Quartet, an alumni southern gospel group, in concert in Portland, Ore., at the Center Point next to Meadow Glade Church on March 10, and in Walla Walla, Wash., at the Village Church chapel on March 11. Both concerts begin at 7:30 p.m., and everyone is welcome to attend! A freewill offering will be taken. Prior to both concerts, at 5:30 pm, alumni and friends of CUC/PAA are invited to dinner and an alumni chapter meeting. For more information, contact the CUC/PAA Alumni Office at (800) 661-8129 ext. 8 or alumni@cauc.ca. Please join us at either location!

Spring Valley Academy Homecoming

Homecoming Weekend, April 16–18. Jeff Brown, class of ’74, is the featured speaker. Classes to be honored include ’74, ’79, ’84, ’89, ’94 and ’99. For more information, visit www.springvalleyacademy.org or contact (937) 433-0790 or dahill@sva.pvt.k12.oh.us. Your friends are coming, so you should too!

Adelphi Academy Alumni Reunion

Adelphi Academy class of 1974 will be meeting in Holly, Mich., June 11–13 for their 30-year class reunion. We’d also love to see our friends from other classes and faculty from those years. For information, please contact Mitzi Lipscomb at (540) 896-3207, lhkoolmom@aol.com or 4324 Springdale Dr, Timberville, VA 22853.

Recognize Distinguished Women

The Association of Adventist Women (AAW) is soliciting nominations for its 2004 Women of the Year Awards that will be presented at the annual AAW conference to be held at Andrews University, Oct. 13–17. “Too often the enormous contributions of Seventh-day Adventist women are overlooked,” says Toini Harrison, last year’s coordinator of the Women of the Year Awards. Nominees should be Adventist women who have made outstanding and unique contributions to home, community and/or professional life. The deadline for submitting nominations is May 24. If you wish to nominate someone, request a nomination form by e-mail at lvkowkim@comcast.net (preferable) or write to: Women of the Year Awards Coordinator, Association of Adventist Women, PO Box 25025, Seattle, WA 98165-1925.
ADULT CARE

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HR ASSISTANT Adventist Medical Center, Portland, OR, is seeking a qualified candidate for an HR Assistant. AS degree in Secretarial or similar degree required; BS degree preferred. Minimum of 3 yrs office exp. in a position of responsibility. Working proficiently in Word & Excel and typing speed of 60 wpm. Candidate must have excellent communication skills. This is a full-time, benefited position. For more information please contact recruiting 503-261-6834 or e-mail: amcjobs@ah.org; www.adventisthealthww.com.

UNION COLLEGE announces its search for a professor of Composition and Rhetoric, beginning Fall 2004. Desirable qualifications: experience in teaching composition, willingness to serve as campus writing coordinator, a record of scholarship. Ph.D. strongly preferred. Apply: Humanities Division, Union College, 3800 South 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506, or e-mail evcrnfr@ucollege.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks professor for School of Journalism & Communication. PhD strongly preferred but a MA and significant relevant experience will be considered. Teaching responsibilities will be split between journalism/writing and other communications courses. Position opens July/August 2004. Send resume to Volker Henning, Dean, School of Journalism & Communication, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. Email: henning@southern.edu; phone: 423-238-2733.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking Vice President for Advancement. Bachelor’s degree in related area required. Advanced degree preferred. Must have proven experience in fundraising and administering a multifaceted fund raising program including capital campaigns. Send letter and resume to Dr. Gordon Bietz, President, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; email: bietz@southern.edu; phone: 423-238-2800.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE School of Nursing seeks applicants for full-time tenure-track position to teach beginning nursing majors on the College Place campus beginning Fall, 2004. Applicants must have at least a master’s degree in Nursing; previous teaching experience preferred. See full job description at www.wwc.edu/services. Interested Adventists contact Trudy Klein, Associate Dean, School of Nursing, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324; kleit@wwc.edu.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE seeks applicants for tenure-track position in Billings, MT, beginning September, 2004. Doctorate in social work or related area. MSW degree and two years post-MSW experience required. Details at www.wwc.edu/services. Interested Adventists contact Wilma Hepker, School of Social Work, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Avenue, College Place, WA, 99324.

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And think about the extraordinary challenges facing our missionaries today. It is still our mission to take the gospel to the whole world. Think about the millions who don’t know about His grace and salvation.

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For God
has not given us
a spirit of fear, but
of power and of
love and of
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2 TIMOTHY 1:7, NKJV

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7, NKJV
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ABC's

Bringing you
great savings for the
Body...and the Soul!

It's All About Him
by Lee Venden
Reg. $12.99  Sale $9.75
You know you need Jesus. But do you know how much Jesus needs you? The One whose mercies are new every morning wants your friendship.

Graffiti in the Holy of Holies
by Clifford Goldstein
Reg. $12.99  Sale $10.99
This book affirms the biblical foundation of the sanctuary message and the importance of how this message expands our view of the gospel message.

If With All Your Heart
by Richard O'fill
Reg. $12.99  Sale $10.99
Revitalize your prayer life as you seek to surrender, trust, and to pray with all your heart.

Please, refer to your ABC's Spring Sale brochure for sale dates, listings of other sale items, and delivery schedule.

IDAHO  MONTANA  OREGON  UPPER COLUMBIA  WASHINGTON

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worthington</td>
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<tr>
<td>FriChik</td>
<td>12/12.5 oz.</td>
<td>Sale $23.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>FriChik Low Fat</td>
<td>12/12.5 oz.</td>
<td>25.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>FriChik BBQ</td>
<td>12/15 oz.</td>
<td>27.97</td>
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<td>Vegetable Skallops</td>
<td>12/20 oz.</td>
<td>29.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetarian Burger</td>
<td>12/20 oz.</td>
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<td>Veja-Links</td>
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<td>Morningstar Farms</td>
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<td>Chik Patties</td>
<td>4/12 pk</td>
<td>24.97</td>
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<td>Grillers</td>
<td>4/12 pk</td>
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<td>Loma Linda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Franks</td>
<td>12/20 oz.</td>
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<td>Big Franks Low Fat</td>
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<td>31.97</td>
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<td>Fried Chik’n</td>
<td>12/13 oz.</td>
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OR CALL: 1-800-765-6955