Mary Holt,
A Story
If you had faith no larger than a mustard seed, you could tell this mountain to move from here to there. And it would.

Matthew 17:20 (CEV)

"Mt. Hood from Mt. Adams" photographed by Dennis Gilliland of Ridgefield, Washington.
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Advertising and Copy Coordinator, Desiree Lockwood

Published by the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (ISSN 0746-5874)

Postmaster — send all address changes to:
North Pacific Union Conference
GLEANER
5709 N. 20th St.
Ridgefield, WA 98642
Phone: (360) 857-7000
gleaner@nw.npuc.org
www.gleaneronline.org

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We Don’t Wear Wedding Rings in This Church

BY JERE PATZER

It happened a number of years ago in one of our Northwest Adventist churches. A young professional couple had slipped away from the Lord and from the church. But the Holy Spirit didn’t give up and kept impressing them that they should reconnect. I can only imagine the trauma it must be to come back to worship in a church after you’ve been absent for a significant period of time. But finally this couple worked up sufficient courage to attend.

They were greeted in the lobby by a seemingly friendly person who quickly sized them up and said, “We’re glad you’re here, but… we don’t wear wedding rings in this church”—not exactly the father’s response when His prodigal son returned. They were shocked and devastated and headed for the door. Needless to say they didn’t come back.

Thankfully, after a few weeks they decided to try once more but at a different church. Here they were genuinely welcomed and embraced. They experienced the love of true worship. And over time they became strong, active members.

I had the privilege of making their friendship; it was some time later that they told me about the embarrassing situation which could have kept them out of church permanently.

That incident reminds me of the little girl who prayed, “Dear God, please make all the bad people good and make all the good people nice.” Ever feel like that? Unfortunately, all of us have probably felt the pain of the unkind words from one of the “saints.” Unfortunately, if we were willing to admit it, all of us have probably at one time or another inflicted the pain of unkind words: at work, at church, or more likely, at home.

A familiar quotation from the pen of inspiration states, “If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tender-hearted and pitiful, there would be 100 conversions to the truth where now there is only one.”

In this issue of the GLEANER you will read about different worship elements. The facts are whether we prefer worshipping with the happy clappies (to quote my friend Jac) or the frozen chosen…if our church doesn’t have a warmth of genuine friendliness and unconditional love, then we are worshipping God in vain.

Repulsed by Bible Truth

One Sabbath after preaching I was greeting the congregation at the sanctuary door. A lady shook my hand and handed me a note. I stuck it in my pocket and promptly forgot about it until the next time I wore that suit. Reading her message stopped me cold. This is what it said. “When the need for love and acceptance from the people in the church isn’t met—to hear a sermon about ‘Bible truth’ is repulsive.

“I’m one of the ones who has had a hard time coming to church in the past two years because I’ve felt more lonely in a crowd of people with no love.”

Wow, could that lady be a member in my church? Could she be a member in your church? Let us determine that however we worship it will be done in genuine love and care for those who worship with us.

1. Ellen G. White, Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, 189.
Both colds and flu can range from no symptoms at all to really sick. Adults average 2 to 4 colds a year and about 20 percent of the population catches the flu annually. When people catch a cold or the flu, 29 percent do not take days off; 32 percent take 1 to 2 days; 27 percent take 3 to 5 days; and 11 percent take 6 or more days off.

When they are home sick with colds or the flu, 63 percent of adults say that they sleep, 18 percent watch TV, 8 percent clean house, 2 percent surf the Internet, 1 percent go shopping, and 8 percent don’t know what they do when they get sick.

The unscheduled work absence rate rose to 2.5 percent in 2006, up from 2.3 percent the previous year. Human resources leaders say just 35 percent of sick days are taken for personal illness, 21 percent for family issues, 18 percent for personal needs, 14 percent because of an entitlement mentality, and 12 percent because of stress.

Among workers who have taken a sick day when they were not sick, 49 percent say they did it because they needed a break, 22 percent because of illness in the family and 9 percent ran errands.

At any given time, one-third of Americans are trying to lose weight. About 65 percent of us are overweight or obese. We can’t lose weight because 63 percent of us have slow metabolism; 59 percent don’t exercise; 50 percent don’t have self-discipline; and 49 percent splurge on favorite foods.

Americans eat an average of about 25 pounds of candy a year, about one 8-ounce bar a week.

More than 4.5 billion pounds of French fries are sold annually in the U.S.

More than 40 million people in the U.S. have doctor-diagnosed arthritis, which is projected to increase to 67 million by 2030 as the baby boomer population ages. Twenty-six million women and 17 million men complain of joint pain.

Nearly 50,000 nonsmokers die from secondhand smoke each year, according to a 2006 report from the U.S. Surgeon General.

Most adults (76 percent) say relaxation is very important to overall health and wellness, 21 percent say it is somewhat important, and 1 percent say that relaxation is not important.
Worship is often explained in terms of adoration, reverence, respect, devotion, adulation and veneration. These are relational words, used particularly as we relate to our God. We give Him our respect and adulation, we are devoted to Him, we revere Him, we adore Him... we worship Him! Of course, relationships happen continuously and are not limited to Sabbath mornings. Harold Best speaks about worship being an unceasing, “continuous outpouring of all that I am, all that I do and all that I can ever become” in the light of God. With this in mind Paul describes his own ministry as being like a drink offering, poured out in worship to God (2 Tim. 4:6). And Mary worships Jesus with a liberal anointing of Jesus’ feet with perfume and her tears.

1. Why do we worship?

The reasons for worship include the following:

God is worthy of our praise: In addition to numerous references in the Psalms, the Bible writers frequently call us to recognize God as worthy of our praise (2 Samuel 22:4, 1 Chronicles 16:25 and Revelation 4:11). More specifically, Revelation 5:12 records a choir singing: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!” In the kingdom of God it is appropriate to worship the Sovereign Lord.

As created beings, we are commanded to worship our Creator: Another loud voice is referred to in Revelation 14:6–8, calling: “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and the springs of water.”

Worship naturally follows belief: After Jesus heals a blind man, the man proclaims in John 9:38, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshipped Him. Relationally, we worship (adore) out of love for God, gratefully responding to His love for us. Worship is not so much what happens in a specific place as the heart response to the truth about Jesus as we worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:19–24).

2. What is the purpose of the worship service?

While we recognize that worship is indeed a 24/7 experience—an unceasing outpouring of myself to and for my God—we are particularly concerned with how this happens on Sabbath morning at church. The carefully planned worship service is a way we give the church family of believers opportunity, corporately and individually, to worship God. Milfred Minatrea challenges us to make sure of a fresh worship experience each week by keeping the following in mind:

- God is the focus of worship.
- Worship is experiential.
- Worship is about content, not form.
- Worship is highly participatory.
- Worship planners should allow God to use their creative skills.
- Worship is more than mere words.

3. An overview of the worship service.

C. S. Lewis suggests that we find in the process of worshipping God one way in which He communicates His presence to men. Therefore, as congregational leaders and worship planners eager to advance a sense of the presence of the Sovereign God, we plan a worship service to:

- prepare our hearts for worship that meets with God,
- express our love to God and to one another as we sing, pray, bring offerings and serve,
- learn of His ways as His Word is opened, and
- respond to His Spirit speaking to individuals in the church and the congregation as a church family.

We worship Him because He is Holy, Holy, Holy...
Empowered by the Spirit, music opens the heart so one may be convicted by the words of truth. Through the beauty of song the heart can be drawn into full surrender, to consecration, and to a commitment to obey God as Lord.

Truth set to music is more easily implanted within the heart and mind, providing us courage to face trials and shielding us from sin. Music can open the heart to receive God’s grace, overflowing the heart with gratitude, thanksgiving and praise. Hearts opened to the Spirit, overflowing with love, can truly worship God.

Music that works for our salvation doesn’t just happen. It’s important to train the gifts and organize the educated. Samuel, when establishing the schools of the prophets, set Sacred Music as one of the three required classes.¹

David organized 4,000 Levites for temple worship to praise the Lord in music. He then set apart 228 special people, for the purpose of “prophesying” accompanied with harps, lyres and cymbals.² All were trained and skilled in music for the Lord. So it would follow that today those with large or small musical gifts be trained, and the music of the church be organized, placing it in the hands of capable, spiritual people.

And as the ministers of the spoken word organize their thoughts and plans for the worship services, the ministers of music should organize the music to prepare for, support, and confirm the message of the spoken word.

Training the Gifts + Organization + Dedication to Christ = Beautiful Unified Worship.

How blessed we are when in our churches:

- Music adds beauty and a worshipful atmosphere as people enter the sanctuary.
- The special music is both relevant and inspiring.
- The offertory is artistic and uplifting.
- The congregation sings with spirit and understanding.
- Youth and children can participate in the specials, sharing their gifts in ministry and becoming known and appreciated by the congregation.
- Choir and ensemble members’ hearts become united one to another.
- The music has freshness as well as retaining spiritual legacy.
- The thoughts of the spoken word and the selections of music flow together with common threads, effectively praising God and edifying the congregation.

But to receive music’s greatest blessing, we must abide in Christ and He in us. Works accomplished under the direction and power of the Holy Spirit produce works of eternal value.

Singing is as much a part of worship as is prayer.² But some may question if singing really has benefit. I suggest asking Moses and Miriam, when they led the Israelites in praise after the Lord threw the horse and rider into the sea. Ask David when he composed his psalms. Ask King Jehosaphat when his men’s choir led the army into battle as they watched the Lord defeat the enemy. Ask Paul and Silas when they sang in jail at Philippi. Ask the Reformers who sang while burning at the stake. Ask Jesus who sang a hymn as His last communication with His disciples before Gethsemane. Ask the saints who will sing their praises around God’s throne for eternity. •

¹. Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, 593.
³. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, 594.

Sharon Laughlin Jones, Poulsbo Church music coordinator, performs, teaches piano, voice, choirs and writes from Poulsbo, Washington.
Giving as Worship by Rick Bowes

The notation in the Sabbath morning church bulletin simply says, “Offering.” The elder on the platform stands, shares the specific financial focus for that particular Sabbath, has a prayer, and as the music plays, the deacons move through the congregation to receive the morning offering.

As this typical scene is repeated every Sabbath in thousands of Seventh-day Adventist churches worldwide, it is easy to take it all for granted. But we must always remember that our giving is not just to keep the heaters warming and the lights shining. As we participate in something so seemingly simple as the giving of an offering, we must remember that we are actually entering into the highest activity known to man, and that activity is the worshiping of God.

In a very real sense, our involvement in the offering is a powerful act of worship. It is just as important as singing the hymns or listening to the sermon.

We give our gifts to God, not out of a sense of obligation, but because our gifts to God are an expression of our love and gratitude to God for having, through his Son Jesus Christ, called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

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When we give to God on Sabbath morning it’s all of God’s children coming together and acknowledging, as in the Lord’s Prayer, that our God has given us our daily bread, that He’s forgiven our sins, and that He’s delivered us from temptation, and all kinds of evil. And it is a privilege to give back to Him from hearts overflowing with thanksgiving.

The byproduct of our gift of worship is that as we give God will open the windows of heaven, and we will receive blessings beyond imagination. The blessing we receive may be a material blessing, but in actuality, the true blessing that we are assured of, is the spiritual blessing of drawing closer to our great God.

Rick Bowes, Meadow Glade Church senior pastor, writes from Battle Ground, Washington.
Prayer in Worship by Colin A. Dunbar

She had a hard week. In fact, it had been a hard year. Facing the possibility of divorce, and the reality that their three children would need to attend public school, she prayed, but it seemed as if her prayers were not heard.

One Sabbath morning she went to her home church where supportive members and friends surrounded her. She shared her need for God’s intervention. Within seven weeks, God heard and answered her prayer. She and her husband reconciled and a benefactor offered to pay a year’s tuition for their children.

When I go to church after a tiring week, I am confident that I can share my burdens with those of like mind, knowing that God will act because of our joint prayers. There is a power and advocacy that takes place when members are together in the same place, requesting the same thing. This is why it is imperative that we never leave corporate prayer out of our worship services.

What is your typical response to God during worship? I want to exclaim, “Wow, this is of God” or utter a reverent “Thank You.” When God’s people are conscious of His presence and gather with grateful hearts, prayer will be fervent, heartfelt and natural. In a world where many churches are known for their music, preaching or even humanitarian endeavors, it is awfully tempting for us to forget the power of prayer. Isaiah reminds us that our loving heavenly Father desires His house to be called a house of prayer for all people. I feel comforted when ministering leaders pause in prayer to request God’s presence at the beginning of worship and later pray for the felt needs of their congregation.

As we participate in corporate worship, we enter the presence of God. Prayer is our response to that presence. Through Old Testament sanctuary typology and symbols, I learn that prayer is a part of the preparation of entering the “outer court” and that one of the purposes of the “altar” being in the Holy Place underscores that the way for me to approach my Heavenly Father is through prayer.

Let’s remember that there were only three articles of furniture in the Holy Place: the Candlestick, the Table and the Altar, all representing the interrelatedness and indispensability of our Witness, Bible Study and Prayer, respectively. “Much of the public worship of God consists of praise and prayer, and every follower of Christ should engage in this worship.”

Then, there is a necessity for worship leaders to make the worship deeply spiritual. Worship should enable participants to recognize the presence of God and empower them to respond to His presence and goodness in ways that are contemporary and relevant.

So let your prayer incorporate the principles of the Lord’s Prayer. And if you have to pray on behalf of others, may your prayer come from lips appreciative of God’s blessings. Such prayers would be short, simple, earnest and powerful. Spoken so distinctly that both our Father in heaven is glorified and each listening believer on earth can unite with the petitioner and say: Amen. So let it be! •

1. Isaiah 56:7.
3. White, a paraphrase from “The Importance of Voice Culture,” Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, 383.

The Sermon

by Greg Brothers

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God (2 Corinthians 1:3–4, NIV).

The scripture has been read, the special music sung. Standing in the pulpit, I do the same things I always do before a sermon: arrange my notes, take a sip of water and then smile at my wife in the audience. These things done, it’s time to begin.

This will be the 332nd sermon I’ve preached in this particular church.

And for the 332nd time, I wonder why I’m here.

It’s not enough

To be sure, I’m a pretty good preacher. Not a great preacher. Not a Morris Vendon or a Dwight Nelson, much less a Billy Graham. But give me 12 hours and I can usually come up with the kind of sermon my daughters would give a B+.

Coming from a pair of teenagers, that’s high praise.

Then too, my audience is more than just “pretty good.” No, the people in this church listen to me—and as they listen, they follow along in their Bibles. They pray for me when I stumble or search for the right word. They even remember to turn off their cell phones...most of the time.

No, it’s a blessing to worship with these people—but as I stand in the pulpit, I realize how much I need a blessing in return. They look tired, many of them. They look worried. And some are in so much pain, it is all they can do to listen as I speak.

See the man there? He just found out that his wife’s been having an affair.

The woman behind him? She goes in for a biopsy next week.

The couple to her left? They’ve not seen their daughter—their only child—in 26 years.

So what do I tell these people?

What makes me think my “pretty good sermon” will make a difference?

It’s all I have

In the end, all I can offer my people is a text—a text and a testimony.

The text is my scripture for this morning. The testimony comes from those hours of study and prayer: It is the testimony that this text speaks to others. It speaks to me. And what it says, I now share with them.

When I do this, I am like a P.O.W.—like one of those pilots who are shot down, captured and then locked away in solitary confinement.

No sooner do my guards close the door, however, than I hear tapping on the walls. The tapping forms letters. The letters form words. The words tell me that I am not alone, that I have friends, that whatever help they can give is mine for the asking.

But having heard this message, I must now pass it along to the next cell.

That’s what I do on Sabbath mornings. Slowly, painfully, as best I can, I tap out a message to my people—the message I’ve heard through that text. It is the message that we are not alone. That we have a Friend. That whatever help He can give is ours for the asking.

And no, I don’t always get that message across. Sometimes, I don’t hear what the text is saying. Sometimes, I don’t know how to pass it along.

But until somebody else shows up, I’ll keep tapping away.

That’s why I preach.

Greg Brothers pastors a two-church district on the Oregon Coast. The church members he cited are real, but that doesn’t necessarily mean they exist.

Greg Brothers, Lincoln City/Nestucca district pastor, writes from Lincoln City, Oregon.
Mary Holt, A Story

by Ken Crawford

Mary quietly moves about her kitchen making breakfast. She is feeling every bit of her 73 years this Sabbath morning. Perhaps it’s the cold blustery chilling wind outside, or the temperature that is hovering around minus 20 degrees this January morning.

It is nearly 7 a.m. when Mary bundles up in her warmest winter wear, bids her husband goodbye and steps out into the predawn air. For a moment the wind takes her breath away, but she starts out, briskly walking through the fresh snow.

It is a mile hike to the highway, and she reflects as she walks. It has been 38 years since I found the truth and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and they have been good years. Oh, it was hard, with her husband not being by her side in the faith, and it was doubly hard when they moved 23 miles away from the church with no transportation to get there.

But she had vowed in her heart not to miss the blessing of worship together at church. She reaches the highway and wonders, “Who will pick me up this morning? Who will I get a chance to witness to?” As her hand goes up to hitchhike, her prayer goes up to her Father above. “Lord, use me this day, whoever I get a ride with, please, open their hearts to spiritual things.”

She sees an approaching car and quickly checks her pockets for her ever-present literature, then holds up her hand with her thumb extended. The car flashes by with swirling snow and biting wind, but Mary is not easily discouraged.

The third car slows, and soon Mary is seated in the front seat of the car, warming her hands on the heater. The driver casts a sideways look at her. “Well, Mary, off to church this morning, are you? “How long have you been hitchhiking to church now? He pauses and glances admiringly at this remarkable senior. “Rain or shine, summer or winter. Mary, you are a shining example of dedication to all of us who call ourselves Christians.”

Mary nods to his question. “Yes, I’ve very seldom missed a Sabbath blessing from attending church. I love my time of worship with the other members of my church, perhaps you would like to read this book on why I go to church on Saturday?”

Mary arrives at the church by 8:30 a.m. and lets herself in with her key. She has been fortunate today; no waiting for an hour, no walking for miles after catching a short ride. She bows her head and thanks her Father in heaven for His protection and care, then settles down to study, pray and wait for the Sabbath day’s blessing of worshipping and praising God for His goodness with others of like faith.

Epilogue: Mary Holt was baptized in August 1950 and was a charter member of the Fredericton Church in New Brunswick, Canada, where I was the pastor. She died several years ago, but the legacy of her dedication has been an inspiration to me. Many weeks, in addition to her unorthodox method of witnessing and church attendance, she would hitchhike in once a week to volunteer her services in sorting clothes at the Community Service Center. Her husband never joined the church.

Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president, writes from Anchorage, Alaska.
The last thing I wanted to be when I grew up was a missionary. I couldn’t understand why someone would give up the comforts and security of this country and go to a place where everything is more difficult, where creature comforts are gone, where great distance separates them from their loved ones and where at every turn you are overwhelmed with need.

In 2000 I went on an Upper Columbia Academy mission trip with my daughter Risha. We were support staff to Elder Dwayne McKee, who did a series of meetings in Iquitos, Peru. I thought this would be a great time to do some father-daughter bonding while being involved in some meaningful ministry work. Little did I know!

Before we left for Peru I asked God for three simple things:

1. “I want a God-given love for the people in Peru.” I knew that my ability to love people unconditionally was limited.

2. “Let me be instrumental in bringing one person to Jesus.” This needed to be more than just a glorified vacation.

3. “Send someone to mentor that individual so they won’t fall through the cracks.”

God answered all three requests as an entire family heard the gospel for the very first time. With this amazing outcome I promised to come back and so one year later I returned to Iquitos alone.

My new Peruvian friends and I found 150 people that needed medical attention, whole villages that needed food and parasite medicine, and countless opportunities to preach and teach in the poor communities. All of these efforts were supported by people back home who got excited about saving lives as we took people to the Ana Stahl hospital and paid for their exams, lab work, medicines and surgeries. God used our efforts on that trip to literally save the lives of some dying people and to bring the gospel to those who had never heard.

I became a man possessed! When God gives you a love for a specific work, many of life’s other priorities get rearranged and our family’s focus turned toward full-time ministry in Peru…but how? We owned a small logging company in Eastern Washington and all the financial burdens that go along with it. We had two daughters in academy and no obvious way to transition into the ministry that we felt God was calling us to. Then came the third trip.

Late one night after feeding street children on the plaza I met two little girls that changed my life. Martha and Candy were 8 and 10 years old and had been living on the streets alone for two years since the death of their mother. They were filthy, hungry, filled with parasites and covered with lice. As I knelt on the sidewalk and listened to their story, something happened in my heart that I still can’t explain.

Sponsored by the People of Peru Project, medical personnel from the U.S. volunteer their time to give free medical services to villagers lining up at the Adventist church in a town outside of Iquitos.

People of Peru
by Paul Opp

This is 13-year-old Stephanie and her 1-year-old baby, Nicole. Stephanie was the first girl admitted into the Crisis Center.

Camila is the People of Peru Project’s full-time nurse. Along with her children, she watches as her husband is baptized. This is the family Paul Opp met on his first trip to Peru.
At that moment I knew that Sandi and I would spend the rest of our lives rescuing kids in crisis, and I knew that Martha and Candy would be our daughters. This process is amazing. When you fall in love with someone, everything that stands in your way becomes less significant. We bought a small house in Iquitos on that trip and moved a Peruvian family into the home to care for the girls. From that time on, our energy went toward redirecting our life into full-time service in Peru. We closed our business about three years ago and started the People of Peru Project.

God has used a variety of organizations and individuals to support the work we do in Iquitos. The Little Debbies company purchased our headquarters facility three years ago, and ASI provided the funds to renovate it so that we now have housing facilities for volunteer groups who want to serve in the Amazon jungle.

Community Development, Inc., in Caldwell, Idaho, has given us sponsorship for our administrative costs here in the United States. This has allowed us to channel all other support directly to Peru.

Pacific Press Publishing Association purchased the land for our crisis foster care facility where we have teen girls and babies who have been abused or abandoned. Families from Walla Walla came in December to start the construction of our dormitory with grant money from our local Northwest Chapter of ASI.

More than 20 groups have joined us in the last two years, including Kettering Hospital, whose staff did 65 plastic surgeries, ER doctors from Loma Linda University, and Libby Dental group from Anchorage. We host Washington State University School of Nursing as part of their International Studies Program and have given free medical attention, all totaled, to more than 9,000 people.

Volunteers from Walla Walla, Washington, work on the construction of the dormitory for the Crisis Center located near the village of Santa Thomas, Peru.

The academy groups have come to do medical and dental clinics, Vacation Bible Schools, construction projects, crisis intervention and evangelistic series. This June we will host our first sports camp using volunteer Christian athletes. The groups also go to our jungle facility up the Amazon River to give support to our agricultural engineer. In this primitive village he teaches the children, instructs the adults in agriculture and studies the Bible with families. These humble people are meeting Jesus for the first time.

God has used hundreds of ordinary people to change thousands of lives. I am so humbled to be a part of this work. God gave us the commission to feed, heal, teach and love so we have absolute assurance that this is His work and He will supply the passion and all the resources that it takes to do it.

As a child I never wanted to be a missionary. Now? How I could do anything else?

When we blend our lives with those in need, a tapestry is woven from threads beyond this world. A pattern rich and vibrant eclipses every possible combination that we alone possess.

Read the whole story at PeopleofPeru.org and ask for a free DVD. Be careful, this could change your life! •

Paul Opp, People of Peru Project founder, writes from Caldwell, Idaho.

A new sewing machine delights the girls and staff members of the Crisis Center located near Santa Thomas, a suburb of Iquitos, Peru.
Lay and Satellite Reaping

Bring your friends to reaping meetings to help them make decisions they will be proud of for eternity. If meetings are not scheduled soon then hold your own meetings in a living room or alternate location using DVD or PowerPoint materials. Many churches are hosting an eight-night satellite reaping series from the Seattle area, April 21–28, with Ron Halvorsen Sr., on the Hope Channel.

“Wow! I never understood the importance of the Second Coming of Jesus and the Sabbath until I preached it myself!”

The church youth talked about their Bible meetings that prepared the way for a short satellite series by an experienced evangelist who told fascinating stories and invited the people attending to make decisions for Jesus in every area of their lives. “When I saw the baptism,” one youth said, “I decided to do this every semester if I can.”

Just before his baptism a man shared his testimony. “My co-worker invited me to come to these Bible meetings. I’ve always had questions about death, where the world was headed and how to find a break in a hectic week. I’ve got the Bible answers now, and I found a group of people who have the same hope I’ve discovered. When that preacher on the screen invited me to become one of God’s faithful last-days people, I signed up for baptism.”

There is no substitute for preaching the benefits of Bible truths to people who haven’t heard, then inviting them to make decisions. The New Testament tells us that Jesus preached, the apostles preached, the “seventy” preached, the deacons preached; in fact, every believer preached. Why? Because the only way people will be able to hear and believe the gospel and be saved is through preaching, even if the preaching seems like foolishness.

When Jesus is preached properly, all the Bible doctrines will be covered, including salvation, the Sabbath, the sanctuary, spiritual gifts, the Scriptures, stewardship and the Second Coming of Jesus. And when a Bible doctrine is presented properly, the people will see a beautiful picture of Jesus.1


When are the next reaping meetings scheduled for your church or school? How are you planning to be involved? •

Dan Serns, North Pacific Union Conference ministerial director

Luke Warm heard that his church is going to have some local reaping meetings, then a satellite series for eight nights. “Who’s preaching? If it’s boring then I’m not going,” he says.

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

Victor N. Christ and his missionary partner, Willing Helper, encourage all the people in their small group, as well as other friends, to come to some Bible meetings with them. “These meetings are going to be really important. Would you like me to come by and pick you up?” they ask each person.
When I lived in Tacoma, Washington, an unlikely local hero emerged by the name of Tattoo. Now this basset hound never intended to go for an evening run, but had no choice when the owner clamped his leash in the car door and took off for a drive—with Tattoo in tow.

Police motorcycle officer, Terry Filbert, was driving near North 21st and Adam Street about 7:25 p.m. when he noticed a vehicle that appeared to have something dragging behind it. Filbert described what he saw as a hound dog “picking them up and putting them down as fast as he could.”

Filbert pursued the car to a stop but not before the dog reached speeds in excess of 25 mph and had rolled over several times. The car’s occupants, a man and a woman, jumped out when Filbert told them they were dragging a dog. The couple was distressed and began calling, “Tattoo, Tattoo!” The dog, 8 months old, was uninjured and no citation was issued.

Ever feel like Tattoo—picking them up and putting them down as fast as you can? Racing faster than you could ever run? If so, you’re part of the club. These days it seems everyone is obsessed with speed.

Pastor John Ortberg points out that the most popular pizza maker is Domino’s. The CEO brags, “We don’t even sell pizza; we sell fast delivery.” (If you’ve even tasted a Domino’s pizza, you know that’s true!)

The best-selling shampoo in America combines shampoo and conditioner in one step. Heaven forbid that we would waste time with the old-fashioned rinsing we used to do. We eat at greasy hamburger joints, not because they offer good food, or cheap food, but fast food. In our dizzying quest to get it even faster we invented the drive-thru. Now you don’t have to come to a complete stop before getting your meal. This way, families can eat together in the minivan just like God intended from the beginning of time.


Karl Haffner, Walla Walla College Church senior pastor, writes from College Place, Washington.
Show Moved to Friday
So AJA Students Could Participate

Anchorage Junior Academy’s principal/teacher Ruth Farnsworth is a philatelist (a postage stamp collector). For a number of years, Farnsworth has been introducing her students to the fun of collecting stamps and learning history in the process.

One of Farnsworth’s annual field trips has been a visit to the Anchorage Philatelic Exhibit (APEX) put on by the area club. The junior division of this club had been dwindling with very few junior exhibitors participating in the show. Farnsworth invited Bob and Gladys Spaugy, the Junior Stamp Club sponsors, to come work with her students.

When the Spaugys asked why the kids didn’t participate in the exhibit, Farnsworth explained that the students could not participate in the show because it always took place on Saturday. They offered to ask the club for a special vote to move the event to Friday so that AJA’s students could participate in the 55th annual APEX show.

“This activity has been a genuine learning venture for our students,” said Farnsworth. “Considering this is our students’ first year to display, the judges were quite impressed with the quality of the exhibits.” Of the 14 exhibits shown, 11 were AJA students. AJA students won the “best of show” honors, and each student received a prize for participating.

Community Members Attend Cooking Class

On the icy evening of Thursday, Jan. 25, the Petersburg Church held a cooking class focusing on grains, led out by church member Deloris Herbrandson. Eleven people came; four were visitors from the community who had heard announcements on the radio or had seen a flier about it.

Herbrandson showed how to make a nutritious and wholesome bread with whole-grain flours and some white flour. Class members were able to work the dough and place it into small baking pans. The class also included a demonstration on making different types of granola and a baked oatmeal dish. Participants were offered samples to try at the class or take home.

Attendees were eager to come back for another class. “We are planning to hold a health-related event like this once a month,” said Mark Kubo, Petersburg Church pastor. We hope events like these will bring community members to our church so we can connect and get better acquainted.

NAD-Wide Fly-In Camp Meeting

July 17–22, 2007
Palmer, AK

Plane convoys leave Fargo, ND and Spokane, WA on July 15. More details at www.alaskaconference.org or call 907-346-1004

Deloris Herbrandson discusses and demonstrates how to make granola during a cooking class offered by the Petersburg Church in January.

Caelan and Keonie, two AJA students, check their displays at the 55th annual APEX stamp show in Anchorage. AJA students took “Best of Show” in the junior division of this event which was moved to Friday to accommodate the Sabbath beliefs of the students.

Mark Kubo
Notice is hereby given that the 51st Regular Session of the Idaho Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., will convene in the gymnasium of Gem State Adventist Academy, Caldwell, Idaho, on Sunday, May 20, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports of conference activities since the last Regular Conference Session; and to elect officers, departmental directors, the Conference Executive Committee, and the Articles and Bylaws Committee for the ensuing quadrennium. The delegates will consider proposed changes to the Articles and Bylaws; do strategic planning, receive reports, and make decisions concerning the Gem State Adventist Academy land development; and transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Nominating Committee delegates will be selected by each church district, and will meet on Thursday, May 17, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. at the Idaho Conference Office, Boise, Idaho.

Stephen L. McPherson, President
Donald A. Klinger, Secretary
Family-friendly New Year’s Eve
At The Experience

The Experience brought in the New Year with a focus on outreach, community, fun, and most important, commitment to God. More than 200 people came to this family-friendly New Year’s party, featuring a delicious Italian dinner followed by entertainment and spiritual focus.

So many visitors came from the community that chairs and table space were at a premium, but this challenge was greeted with enthusiasm and excitement about making new friends feel welcome. After dinner, features included Lonnie Swonger, a Christian comedian who has used the challenges of his life to bring joy and hope to others.

Despite a misprint in the Idaho Statesman that said there would be “dancing,” a Christian praise choreography team performed by waving colored flags to inspirational music and sharing their journeys with God. The KTSY Praise Band led in worship music.

Interspersed throughout the evening, Brian Yeager, the Experience pastor, led out in fun games for all ages, including gargling and eating baby food!

Before midnight, Yeager talked about how the fresh start of the New Year is like the fresh start that God gives to us because of Jesus’ amazing gift. He then led everyone in a time of commitment and prayer.

The event was a wonderful outreach to the community and reinforced The Experience’s mission of bringing people into a relationship with Jesus Christ and discipling them as passionate Seventh-day Adventist Christians.

Brian Yeager, The Experience pastor

New Faces
In the Idaho Conference Office

Harold and Janelle Dixon joined our conference family in October. Harold is the new conference treasurer. Prior to coming to Idaho he was treasurer for the Alaska Conference. Dixon worked for many years in the Montana Conference, first as band, choir and voice teacher at Mt. Ellis Academy (Janelle taught piano and organ), and later as treasurer at Mt. Ellis and then assistant treasurer in the Montana Conference.

Their daughter Lara worked for several years at Gem State Adventist Academy and currently lives with her husband in the Portland area.

Paulette Jackson accepted the invitation of the Idaho Conference to be the Superintendent of Schools and started in January. She was the principal at Holbrook Indian School in Arizona. She is not new to the Northwest, having worked at Portland Adventist Academy, Meadow Glade Elementary School and Columbia Adventist Academy. Jackson has more than 25 years of experience in Adventist schools. Her husband, Bob, runs a construction company. They have two adult children, Greg and Shari.

Jeannie Leno is the new Assistant Treasurer for the Idaho Conference. Leno has been the payroll specialist, local church auditor and accountant, and has worked for the conference for the past nine years. She and her husband, Doug, have three adult children.

Don Klinger, Idaho Conference communication director
Central Acres Christian School Math-a-thon to Benefit St. Jude’s

The students of Central Acres Christian School in Billings, Mont., held their annual Math-a-thon fundraiser Jan. 8 through 19 to raise money for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. St. Jude tries to provide the best care for children who have cancer, sometimes at no cost, helping families during this time of need.

For the third year, Central Acres students solicited pledges for solving math problems. The problems are grade-specific and are supplied by St. Jude for this fundraising project. This year, under the direction of Central Acres teacher Teresa Quillin, eight children participated and raised nearly $1,300. The participants were ages 5 to 13. The children are excited to take part in this event and conduct it each year with enthusiasm and energy. •

Sheila Dockter, Central Acres parent

New Year’s Eve Lock-in Fun for Glacier View Students

“...a huge success!” reports Donald McElvain, Home and School leader for Glacier View School in Ronan, Mont. This first-time community fundraiser—locking the kids in on New Year’s Eve and providing a full night of activities—surpassed the expectations of everyone involved. Plans are already in the works to do it again next year.

A total of 23 Glacier View School students and surrounding community church youth gathered in the Glacier View school facility. Younger ones were allowed to stay until 12:30; older ones, of course, all night. The Lock-in began at 7 p.m. It ended New Year’s Day at 7 a.m. after breakfast, which was included.

Many activities were planned to keep everybody interested and busy, including Chicken Bowling, Dodge Ball in the dark, Radar, board games and movies. The favorite activity of the evening was Sumo Wrestling. The apparel for the wrestling and other supplies were donated by Youth for Christ, which benefited from the proceeds from the admission fees. “The behavior of those attending was exemplary,” said McElvain.

The old year ended with a worship and devotion time. At midnight, noisy poppers. The New Year 2007 was welcomed with worship singing. •

Betty Toews, Ronan Church communication leader

Montana Conference Camp Meeting

“The Lord of the Harvest”

June 13-16, 2007
Mount Ellis Academy Campus

Featured Speaker:
Derek Morris

Seminar Leaders:
Art Chadwick
Ty Gibson
Paul Rayne

Mount Ellis Academy is located near Bozeman, Montana in picturesque Gallatin County.

For Reservations:
Call: (406) 587-3101
E-mail: info@montanaconference.org
Write: Montana Conference
175 Canyon View Road
Bozeman, MT 59715
Jeff and Amy Deming Accept Call To Milo Returning With Their Passion for Oregon Kids

The Oregon Conference will welcome back two of its own in the 2007–08 school year. Jeff and Amy Deming will be returning from their work in the Illinois Conference to work with the young people at Milo Adventist Academy.

Jeff Deming, also known as PJ, served as a pastor of the Meadow Glade Church and as an associate youth director in Oregon before accepting the position of Illinois Conference youth director. Amy has experience teaching at several grade levels; currently she is working for Hinsdale Adventist Academy in Illinois.

At Milo, PJ will be teaching religion classes, providing guidance counseling, and serving as a part of the administrative team. The gifts for validating, empowering, and mentoring young people that have endeared him to youth and to their parents in the past will be put to good use in this position. Amy will be calling on her background in English instruction to teach English courses as well as to team with PJ in teaching communication classes.

Why this change in career emphasis? PJ referred to a mission trip that he coordinated over the Christmas holidays. The 51 volunteers included many young people he had met from his Oregon Conference days. On the trip he realized how much he missed getting to see the continued growth of the kids as he could do in an academy setting.

“I’ve redefined my passion,” he says, “from working for kids to working directly with young people, pacing alongside them. I want to work with them in a school setting, providing continued mentoring and counseling. I want to see them walk away from school with Jesus Christ as their companion.”

It was during her college years that Amy discovered her focus—to guide young people in the critically important process of identity formation during the teen years. She loves teaching them the literacy skills that will help them become better communicators.

Together, they are looking forward to being back in the boarding school setting.

The Demings have three children: Robert, a freshman; Sabrina, an eighth-grader; and Tanner, a fourth-grader.

Carol Sumerlin, retired Milo teacher

Megan Stewart and Ryan Kennedy were baptized by Jim Berglund, Valley View Church pastor, on Sabbath, Dec. 16, 2006.

On the evening of the same Sabbath Ryan and Megan were baptized they became Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy.

Megan Stewart and Ryan Kennedy were baptized by Jim Berglund, Valley View Church pastor, on Sabbath, Dec. 16, 2006.

To start their spiritual lives together is very similar to marriage. The commitment to love, cherish, support and forsake all others is the same thing God asks of us in our Christian walk.

Charlie Little, Valley View Church communication staff photographer
Come Meet the Family at Ohana Christian Fellowship!

Where do you go to church?

“At Ohana Christian Fellowship in West Linn.”

“Really, where do you meet?”

“We meet at the West Linn Adult Community Center located at 1180 Rosemont Road.”

“Ohana? What does that mean?”

“It means ‘family’ in Hawaiian, and it also means, “Nobody left behind!”

“Does the conference know about your church?”

“Oh, yes, and they are fully supportive.”

These are the most frequently asked questions when we tell people about the new church in West Linn, Ore. The next question is usually, “How did Ohana get started?” And therein lies a story.

When some local church members realized there were no Adventist congregations in West Linn, Lake Oswego and Wilsonville, Ore., they asked the conference leaders if they would be supportive of efforts to start a new congregation in the area. They were given the “go-ahead,” and soon a small group began meeting to study how to go about starting a church.

After formulating Ohana’s mission and defining its core values, the group began holding public meetings on Friday nights, and Ohana vespers was born.

Eventually, Pastor Doug Franzke and his wife, Kimberly, were interviewed and accepted a call to come to Ohana from the Kelso-Longview Church in southwestern Washington. In September 2006, Ohana Christian Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists was launched and began holding Sabbath School and church services.

The purpose of Ohana is to reach people with the gospel of Jesus Christ and to help them look forward to and prepare for His soon coming. Ohana’s contemporary services are designed to be relevant in teaching and to encourage participation in worship, praise and outreach. Weekly fellowship luncheons and small groups are designed to foster friendships and to connect church members with the local community. Evangelistic meetings held in January and February were designed to introduce people to the beautiful truths of the Bible and to encourage them in healthful lifestyles.

One of our newest and most popular ministries has been dubbed the “Ohana Mamas.” This group of mothers and preschoolers meet twice a month for “play days,” outings, spiritual support and friendship. Papas and other family members are often invited to join in the activities.

Rodelyn Miner expressed her appreciation for this group saying, “What I really enjoy about Ohana Mamas is the opportunity to spend time with friends and make new ones who have children around the same ages as ours. It’s also been wonderful to see our children, Lourdes and Hudson, enjoying just about everything connected with Ohana. Our daughter, Lourdes, has especially been an ambassador for Ohana, suggesting to several family members and friends that they should ‘come to Ohana because you would really like it!’ It’s been a real blessing for my husband, Mark, and me to see our children so excited about Jesus and to meet other families who share the same values.”

The goal at Ohana is for every member to become involved in ministry to our neighbors here in the West Linn area, as well as our neighbors around the globe. Sabbath School and worship services are held each Sabbath morning beginning at 10 a.m. For additional information about Ohana, see our Web site at www.ohanachristian.org. If you are in the area, we hope you’ll come join the family at Ohana.

Nancy Franzke, Ohana Christian Fellowship member

Lourdes Miner enjoys church and is an ambassador for Ohana.

Richard and Suzanne Hervig from Hillsboro, Ore., present their daughter Ava Elizabeth to be dedicated by her uncle, Doug Franzke, on opening Sabbath at Ohana Christian Fellowship.

A small group called “Ohana Mamas” recently went on a winter outing to Snow Bunny.
PAA Constituency Meeting
Results in a Study for Rebuilding School on Current Land

The Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) constituents met on Feb. 25 to make some exciting decisions about the future of PAA.

By 2009, TriMet’s Max light rail system will be in full operation just 100 feet away from the front of the school property. The constituency looked at different ways to deal with traffic and safety concerns while also looking at options for possible land development and much needed building updates.

Discussions with land planners and architects led administration to three options for future research. The advantages and disadvantages of each option were discussed at the meeting.

Given the choice of 1) minor remodel, 2) major remodel, and 3) rebuild, the constituency overwhelmingly voted to look at the feasibility of rebuilding PAA at its present location.

“'The meeting was great, said Dan Patchin, PAA development director. “It allowed each constituent to better understand the challenges before our leaders and to give the very essential direction to resolving the challenges in a way that will strengthen the ministry of our school.”

A report on the study will be presented at the August constituency meeting. “Please continue to pray for PAA as we look to the future,” said Gale Crosby, Principal of PAA.

Prineville Church Sponsors Marathon Clinic

The Adventist Marathon Clinic, an inclusive community health and fitness program, is a new ministry at the Prineville Church. Divided into three levels of 12-week training programs, March 10 marked the start with a free beginner’s seminar at 6:30 p.m. and a free walk/jog orientation at 7 a.m. March 11.

The clinic is a scientific, safe, supervised, modular aerobic exercise program using walking and jogging to improve the cardiorespiratory system of the participants and helping them reach certain health and fitness goals. Originally organized by lay Seventh-day Adventist professionals in Iloilo City, Philippines, in 1982, the clinic was patterned after the world-renowned Honolulu Marathon Clinic.

The current Adventist Marathon Clinic program has been developed over the last 22 years by Fred S. Hosillos, co-founder/director of the Summit Club Marathon Clinic in Iloilo City, Philippines. Hosillos started the Adventist Marathon Clinic in Los Angeles in 1984.

The clinic meets every Sunday morning and participants receive instruction on proper long-distance walking or jogging techniques. Other subjects are proper hydration, diet, stretching and stress management. Class presenters are local allied health professionals.

After each 12-week program, the participants are encouraged to participate in local events such as 5K, 10K, half marathon, or a full marathon, depending on their level of readiness.

The favorite marathon of the clinic is the world-class Honolulu Marathon in December because it is user-friendly to walkers and late finishers.

Since the Adventist Marathon Clinic is open to the community, the Prineville Church members expect the clinic to generate interest in other classes about cooking, quitting smoking and parenting. For further information, call Fred Hosillos at (541) 447-9850.

Fred S. Hosillos is the Adventist Marathon Clinic director in Prineville, Ore.
After nearly eight years, a retired crab boat from Tillamook, Ore., was transformed into a mission boat and is being used in Guyana, South America, to bring medical and dental care as well as the gospel to the people there.

Originally, the crab boat was purchased by Louis Hamilton of Boring, Ore., and his father, John Hamilton of Salmon, Idaho. It was then remodeled as a gill-netter and used on the Columbia River for salmon fishing. Eventually the Fish and Game Department banned fishing on the river so the boat has been drydocked in Louis’ back yard for eight years.

Mel Brass, a retired teacher, who had spent some time in Guyana, saw an opportunity for Guyana Medical Aviation Mission Service (GAMAS) to use this boat on the large rivers there. There are many villages on the rivers that need medical care and a chance to hear the gospel of Jesus.

In February 2005, the Hamiltons donated the boat. It was pulled out of the blackberry bushes and taken to John Ferrier’s machine shop where he rebuilt the 350 Chevy engine. Stan Beddoe and Brass towed the boat to California where the members of the Ukiah Adventist Church took it on as a project, rebuilding and modeling it to serve as a mission launch.

From Ukiah, the boat was towed to Palm Beach, Fla., and put on a container ship bound for Georgetown, Guyana. There it went through customs in three weeks when the normal time is measured in months. The boat, named the Good Samaritan, will be used as a mission launch for evangelism as well as for medical and dental services on the Essequibo River. Dentists and dental students can also help with short-term mission work on the boat. The deck can be used to set up dental equipment as well as to carry supplies or patients. Gilbert and Melissa Sisson, volunteer workers, are based at Bethany, Guyana, and are building and operating a training school.

The school will train high school graduates who want to be involved in evangelism to their own people. Melissa, a nurse, will teach medical care to the students, and Gilbert will teach evangelism methods as they travel through the region.

Many people have contributed time and money to the project. The Ukiah Church, as well as the Sunbelt Health System, and the Salmon, Idaho, Redding and Alturas churches, have helped make this venture possible.

I’m a brain-function specialist,” says Arlene Taylor, “and I help people thrive!” Taylor, who holds doctoral degrees in health and human services and in clinical pastoral counseling, presented “Maximizing Your Greatest Resource” Oct. 6 and 7, 2006, at Gladstone Park Conference Center. The SAGE Oregon-sponsored seminar drew a crowd in excess of 100, including several pastors and teachers, and featured such topics as “The Power of Prayer,” “Cellular Memory,” and “Age-proof Your Brain.” Taylor, a recipient of the American Medal of Honor for Brain Function Education, may be reached at www.arlenetaylor.org.
Sunset’s Outreach Project Receives Award

At Sunset Christian Fellowship in Hillsboro, Ore., reaching out to those in need is a big part of the church’s culture. The first Monday night of each month a group of eight to 12 members go to the Clark Center, part of the Transition Project Inc., to serve a meal to 85 to 90 men. This outreach has been happening for 10 years, and the group has served 10,000 meals. The meal hasn’t changed in those 10 years; it’s been haystaks, or taco salad to the men down there. The Clark Center did a survey in December, and the taco salad meal provided by Sunset was the highest ranked meal.

“The unique part of our ministry,” says project coordinator Bonnie Alexander, “is that we take the time after we serve the meal to sit down and eat with the men.”

The group arrives at 6 p.m. and starts cooking. There are 25 pounds of meat, 18 pounds of tomatoes, 10 pounds of onions and nine heads of lettuce to chop, so there is no time to waste since dinner is served at 7 p.m.

Sunset’s commitment to the Clark Center led the Transition Project Inc. to present the group with an award on Sabbath, Feb. 17, during the worship service. Presenting the award was Emily Coleman, volunteer coordinator, and J. E. “Bud” Clark, former Portland mayor.

“We don’t do this for the awards or the recognition; we do it because we care about others,” said Alexander.

Christie Burks, Sunset Christian Fellowship outreach team member

Jorge at McMinnville Church

The McMinnville Church recently hosted violinist Jaime Jorge in concert. Jorge opened the concert with the song Praise to the Lord, then led into his first story of how God had worked in his life.

He had driven to his second concert of the day and arrived with time to relax a bit before the evening concert. As he got ready to leave for the auditorium to meet with the audio and video engineers, he suddenly had a chilling thought. Where is my violin? He realized he’d left it at the church he’d played at that morning and there wasn’t time to go get it. How could he do a concert without a violin? Many prayers and some phone calls later, a friend agreed to bring the violin for him. He felt so thankful to the Lord for coming through, and it reminded him of how much God loves each of us, even in the small things.

During the concert, two very accomplished McMinnville church member musicians, Jeff Newell, a violinist, and John McMillin, a guitarist, had the privilege of playing Let All Things Now Living with Jorge. This was definitely a highlight of the concert. Jorge continued on with exquisite songs and thought-provoking stories to draw all closer to God and show how God can work in your life if you will just let Him. Use the talent God has given you for Him. Jorge is definitely using his talent as a ministry for the Lord.

Christie Burks, Sunset Christian Fellowship outreach team member

Gary McLain, Oregon Conference assistant communication director
When Jeremy Moore came from Michigan to Spokane to visit his grandpa, Stan Moore, he did not know where it would lead. His two-week stay turned into three months and during this time Jeremy, 19, attended Spokane Countryside Church each week with his grandpa.

One day Bob Wesner, a member of his grandpa’s church, asked Jeremy if he would like to preach in Guatemala. “Sure, I’ll try that,” said Jeremy.

He worked hard, reading through the scripts, rehearsing his talks and practicing with a Spanish interpreter.

The church had already committed to pray for the team traveling to Guatemala and even before Jeremy had come to visit Grandpa Moore, he was already on their prayer list.

The team flew into San Luis, Guatemala. Jeremy, the other speakers, well-drillers and volunteers traveled 20 miles north to Poptun where they worked for six weeks completing reservoirs for a water system at ICAP, an Adventist secondary school. The evangelistic meetings were held during the last two weeks of the trip.

At first Jeremy wondered why he had signed on to do this. But he kept on preaching and when the meetings had to be moved to a new location he did not get ruffled. He was praying and studying every morning, working hard to do his part. One of the chief well-drillers, Lynn Bartholomew, kept a close eye on Jeremy. He knew that Jeremy hadn’t been baptized yet. “I was a bit concerned with taking a young man who had never been baptized down to Guatemala to preach sermons,” said Bartholomew. “I did not want people to be offended. Jeremy had not been attending an Adventist church before coming to visit his grandpa. Halfway through the meetings the local pastor discovered Jeremy had not been baptized. So he asked him if he would like to be baptized with some others. Jeremy said, “When I started giving the evangelism meetings, they helped me to grasp what I needed to know.”

The words he preached made their way into his heart and Jeremy was happy to say, “Yes,” to the local pastor’s question.

It was a high Sabbath when 38 people, including the evangelist, were baptized—making their decisions through the meetings held in five locations near San Luis. Jeremy now wants to attend evangelism school. His parents were surprised, but excited to learn of his baptism.

The trip was part of an ongoing effort started by the Bartholomew brothers to bring water to International Children’s Care in Guatemala. Over the years, their ministry has grown and is committed to bringing not only water, but the water of life to the people.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

John Deming, principal of Walla Walla Valley Academy (WWVA) for the past 14 years, received the Excellence in Leadership Award at the Alumni Awards Celebration, Feb. 24, in Scottsdale, Arizona. He was recognized for his genuine caring and strong leadership.

One senior student shared his appreciation of Deming’s dedication to the students and his spiritual involvement. “Mr. Deming comes to work early and prays for each student before the day begins.” Others mentioned how he is faithfully at every school function. Parents appreciate his conscientious efforts to keep them informed.

During his administration, WWVA has developed a strong Alternative Learning Program, a new science wing has been added, and soon the orchestra recital hall will be completed.

Angela Oetman, WWVA GLEANER correspondent
Musical Horizons Expand at UCA
Students Share Talents With Others

Curtis Anderson, music department chairman, and Dean Kravig, band instructor, together with the administration, have added a strings program through the Spokane Youth Orchestra to Upper Columbia Academy’s (UCA) music options. Private string lessons have been offered at UCA for many years, but this is the first year credit has been given for participating in the orchestra.

Every Monday night a group of five UCA students go into Spokane and participate as members of the orchestra, playing violins, the trombone and cello. “We are thrilled to offer this option for serious young musicians,” says Anderson.

Students are still members of UCA’s band and choristers; they just add this orchestra experience to their growth.”

The director of the orchestra, Verne Windham, is very knowledgeable concerning the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, which means all Sabbath performances and practices are optional. “This is such a great way to broaden the musical experience of our students, and one that will last a lifetime,” says Kravig.

For example, the orchestra recently took part in the opening and closing ceremonies of the US Figure Skating Championships held in Spokane in January.

The program has also helped bring students to UCA. One string player, Chris Patchett, lives with his family in Wisconsin but last year chose to attend UCA over closer academies because of the great opportunities in academics and music. Each week he takes a violin lesson in Spokane to continue his studies. He and his sister were recently featured on 3ABN’s Christmas holiday special held in Orlando, Fla. His reward for the many hours of practice comes from knowing that he’s reaching people around the world for Jesus.

Carmen Slavens, UCA GLEANER correspondent

From the Pulpit to the Pool
Service Leads to Baptism for Inchelium Youth

Last January, Nathan Wehr, 15, traveled with a group from the Young Disciple Ministries to conduct an evangelistic series in the Philippines. One night before he got up to speak, his throat was sore and he was losing his voice. He prayed, asking God to empower him and help him deliver the message for the evening. “I felt the presence of God right there beside me,” Wehr said later, and he came back with a desire to make evangelism and missions a permanent part of his life.

“It was so rewarding to see the changes that took place in people when they accept Jesus into their lives,” said Wehr, who was baptized in the Inchelium Church on the weekend of his 16th birthday.

His sister, Laura, sang a song of dedication, All That I Am. Wehr was baptized by George Harsha, a retired Adventist pastor living near the Wehr family in Rice, Wash. Harsha had studied with Wehr in preparation for baptism.

Wehr has a determination to make a difference by helping people understand that Jesus is coming soon and that we need to be ready by spending time in God’s word every day.

He shared his convictions as he preached a sermon on religious liberty shortly after his baptism. In February of 2007 Wehr left again for the Philippines to preach in another evangelistic series.

Kathy Marson with Joyce Depner, a family friend

Nathan Wehr, 15, preaches an evangelistic sermon in the Philippines.

Carmen Slavens, UCA GLEANER correspondent
UCC SkiFest
Youth Find Fun, Fellowship and Faith in Chewelah

If you enjoy skiing/snowboarding with Christian friends, and like to experience the fun side of being a follower of Jesus, then the annual UCC SkiFest is where you want to be. The Chewelah (Wash.) Church was host for this year’s event held Jan. 19–21. The weekend of music, fellowship, service and skiing brought together 80 young people.

“This event provided a great opportunity for our young people to meet other believers in our area,” said Chewelah youth department co-leader Anthony Ward.

Tye Davis, Taskforce Youth Ministries, and Richard Parker, Upper Columbia Conference Youth Ministries director, put together a super weekend, which included Bryan Del Valle, guest speaker from Monterey Bay Academy, a talented group of musicians from Walla Walla College, outreach activities, games, and an awesome day of skiing at 49 Degrees North.

On Friday evening the group got to know each other with “ice breaker” games and snacks. During Sabbath School, an interactive demonstration on “hearing the right voice” kept the participants engaged, followed by Del Valle’s powerful message on overcoming fear.

After lunch, the group went out in smaller groups for community outreach activities, including singing at area nursing homes and random acts of kindness such as giving out homemade cookies and shoveling sidewalks.

The Sabbath hours concluded with another inspiring message from Del Valle, followed by volleyball, basketball, games and a video. Sunday morning the group headed to 49 Degrees North for an enviable day of skiing in near perfect conditions.

“I especially enjoyed the worship music, seeing old friends, and snowboarding,” said Chewelah youth member Cory Cook. “And I was totally inspired by Pastor Bryan. I definitely plan to participate in the 2008 SkiFest.”

Lisa Ward, SkiFest participant

Dedication of Production Studio
He’s Alive Television, KHBA Channel 39

Sitting behind a camera, I was excited to witness and videotape the dedication for the new production studio for He’s Alive Television, Sabbath, Feb. 3. I was looking at a mission field—the set of the new production studio—beginning to perform the work of God in the lives of many who hold His trust dear to their hearts. Pastors and directors, elders and musicians all came into focus through the camera lens. It reminded me of what Paul said, “We are the theater of the universe,” because from behind the camera you kind of get that other world feel, if you think about it.

I heard the story of how God has led He’s Alive Television in the past from Marlo Fralick, one of the founding board members. The miracles of God have been plentiful, and they reminded me of my family’s experience. We were led back to Christ through Christian television when we were too embarrassed to return to church.

For the dedication, Spokane East Central Church pastor Colin Dunbar requested that the elders and pastors from the constituent churches come forward and kneel. We could feel the Holy Spirit descend on the production studio as Dunbar asked specifically for God’s blessing and direction for the station. He prayed for those who won’t yet walk into a church—the homebound, the unchurched, the drug addicts and others.

Ross Brower, Spokane Valley Church member and He’s Alive Television volunteer
If you’ve ever attended a men’s conference, you’ll understand why I decided to make the five-hour drive from northwest Montana over to Camp MiVoden in Northern Idaho for the Upper Columbia Conference Men’s Retreat on March 16–18. This was my first visit to the camp, and I was pleasantly surprised at the outstanding camp facility and the idyllic location Hayden Lake provides.

But the beauty of Camp MiVoden took a back seat to the warm fellowship, good food, great music, and stirring messages presented during the annual event. Neil Nedley, M.D., from Ardmore, Okla., was the keynote speaker for the weekend. He has a gift for bringing together information from the Bible, Spirit of Prophecy, and relevant clinical data in an inspiring and light-hearted way. Paul Opp, of Caldwell, Idaho, also made a powerful presentation about how the Lord took him from being a logger to running a full-time ministry in Peru.

Personally, I especially appreciated the small group discussions that happened after each meeting. More than 170 men attended the retreat, and we broke up into groups of 12 to 15 after each presentation. There were opportunities to share personal testimonies, seek guidance, and pray together as we got to know each other.

Another special aspect of the weekend was the prayer wall—a spot where men could post their prayer requests. The whole group would pray for several requests at the start of each meeting.

Mark Bond, Swan Valley Church (Condon, Mont.) head elder

Sewing for the Lord

Ginger Brockman, retired teacher and member of the Newport Church, is “sewing for the Lord.” Her love of sewing started as a youngster when she sewed clothes for her dolls on her mother’s treadle sewing machine.

Several years ago Brockman learned that orphan boys and girls in Bangladesh needed clothing. Some were wearing rags, a bed sheet, or nothing at all. Before undertaking a sewing project like this, her prayer was, “Lord, if you want me to sew, provide the fabric.” She has received so much fabric and notions (zippers, elastic, bias tape, seam binding, buttons) that she didn’t know if she could use it all.

Starting in May of 1998, she sent 180 garments to the Adventist orphanages in Bangladesh, specifically BCSS (Bangladesh Christian School Sponsors) directed by David and Beverly Waid. She was happy to see a picture in the Adventist Review (January 1999) of editor Johnsson’s visit to the Bijatpur orphans, who were wearing the clothes she made.

Through the years she has continued sewing clothes—probably 1,000 garments in the last eight years. Last fall, Brockman decided to see if she could use up all of her fabric, cutting out nearly 400 outfits, and only made a dent in the inventory. She has worn out her old Bernina sewing machine as well as five Wal-Mart machines. She decided recently to purchase a new Bernina and has just completed another 110 dresses. She loves to let her creative juices flow, transforming the fabric into designer originals while listening to Christian television.

Neil Nedley, M.D., shared principles for living lives as godly men. He drew from scripture and Spirit of Prophecy as well as his medical background.

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Ginger Brockman displays the most recent 110 dresses she made for the orphans in Bangladesh.
WASHINGTON

Jerry S. Russell
Is New Vice President for Finance

Washington Conference welcomed Jerry S. Russell as vice president for finance in March. Russell is coming to Western Washington from the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference where he served for more than 20 years, first as assistant Adventist Book Center manager and then as associate treasurer.

Russell was born in New York City, grew up in South Lancaster, Mass., attended Takoma Academy in Maryland, and graduated from Southern Adventist University in 1986. His wife, Sharon (Kenerson), is a registered nurse certified in lactation consulting. The Russells have three daughters: Brittany, a freshman at Southern Adventist University; Kirsten, a freshman at Madison Academy; and Haley, a fifth-grader. The Russells enjoy the outdoors, camping and traveling.

“It is an honor for Washington Conference to have Jerry Russell join our team,” said John Freedman, Washington Conference president. “The Russell family has a rich history of serving the church, and we welcome his financial leadership.”

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication intern

Under New Management
Everett Indonesian Purchases a Church Home

Everett Indonesian Church members understand the admonition to “seek and you will find.” Within days of seeking and praying last October, church leaders found a possible church location just off Interstate 5 at exit 193. After the sale finalized in December 2006, church members began facility renovation. Alex Rantung, the church pastor, said members often worked late into the night to prepare the facilities for the grand opening ceremony in mid-February.

The congregation began in partnership with the Everett Forest Park Church and school. Continued growth led to the establishment of the Everett Indonesian Church, which continues to thrive and grow. Dual services in Indonesian and English are now offered.

John Freedman, Washington Conference president, commended the congregation for establishing a home and taking the next step in their church growth. “As you transform this church physically, recognize something bigger: The transformation of the heart is greater than physical transformation.”

The church is located at 2919 Everett Avenue in Everett, Wash. •

Heidi Martella

Teen Heroes
Honored for Leadership

Washington Conference recently recognized eight teens for their leadership at “Heart of a Hero” Pathfinder teen retreat. Bremerton Bulldog leaders like the quiet, perceptive leadership of Katie Juergens. Cascade Eagle, Victoria West, enjoys “going on God’s errands” and participating in Bible Achievement.

Chehalis Mountaineer, Jennifer Milliren, went on a Peru mission trip and presented a sermon during a student impact weekend. She’s also a Bible Achievement team member.

Amy Smith, from Bonney Lake Ocelets, provides childcare so parents can visit, helps with street feed and is active in her Bible study class.

Sequim Pathfinder, Jennifer Dille, regularly shares her faith at her public school. Club leaders applaud her can-do attitude.

Northside Voyagers leaders appreciate Elaina Christensen’s involvement in event planning and her helping hands and friendly spirit.

Blake Curtis, a Capital City Ambassador, volunteers with his church’s music team and helps in church and club projects.

Centralia Pathfinder, Richard Medeiros, likes to share God with his school friends, often inviting them to attend Pathfinders and church. •

Heidi Martella
A Page in History
Parousia Congregation Officially Organized as a Church

The Russian-Ukrainian Parousia congregation in Auburn, Wash., officially became an organized church of Washington Conference in February.

The historical impact is significant for both the congregation and the conference. This is the second Russian church to organize in western Washington, and a third organized church in Tacoma is soon to follow.

Leaders in the Russian community hope to soon begin a church in the Everett area.

“Russian is the third most often spoken language in the Puget Sound region behind English and Spanish,” said Bruce Koch, ministerial director. “Some sources indicate that there are upward of 100,000 Russian-speaking people in this area.”

In the 1990s, Roland and Leslie Lehnhoff, after simultaneously translating her recollections of the Parousia church growth, Leslie Lehnhoff translates as Oleg Reznichenko presents a pictorial history of the congregation.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication intern

“Count Me In”
Volunteers Count Homeless in Greater Seattle

Seven people from the Highline Church in Burien, Wash., joined the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness for One Night Count to help count homeless people in King County.

The Adventist volunteers were a part of 735 total volunteers—or counters—who worked in 100 teams in eight areas between Seattle and Federal Way. Between 2 and 5 a.m., counters traveled night-owl bus routes, contacted homeless shelters and walked or drove around to designated areas to count people under bridges, in doorways, or in cars or makeshift structures. In all, the January night count yielded a minimum of 2,140 people who were trying to survive without housing or shelter throughout King County.

“I’m not a night person, so I thought I’d be tired and grouchy,” said Highline Church volunteer Joyce Moore. “The energy and excitement of the volunteers at 2 a.m. perked me up and made the cold and late night worth it. We all knew our job: to seek out people and raise awareness.”

A press release from the Homelessness Coalition indicates that the numbers from One Night Count only offer a snapshot on homelessness and that the actual number of homeless people is at least three times higher. A reduced number of point-in-time homeless counts for 2006 and 2007 indicate a community plan, aiming to reduce area homelessness in 10 years, is gradually working.

We wish to thank the mother church—Auburn City—for their patience, kindness, love and help,” said pastor Victor Krushenitsky. “This is what a family is for.”

Conference leaders encouraged the congregation to be a lighthouse to the community, to seek a permanent sanctuary and to continue supporting Adventist Christian education.

Heidi Martella
Journey of Service

SAGE Volunteers Aid National and International Construction Projects

Seniors in Action for God with Excellence (SAGE) in Washington has a reputation for giving back to the community through various local and international service projects.

Right after Christmas 2006, a group of 25 volunteers from Washington state traveled to La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif., to work on a landscaping project called “Path of the Just.”

The concept for “Path of the Just,” according to Charles Teel, religion professor and director of the Stahl Center and Museum, developed a dozen years ago as a garden walkway to honor local and global humanitarians and to inspire students to altruistic service.

SAGE Washington volunteers constructed the patio for South America, honoring Ana and Fernando Stahl, pioneer missionaries to Peru, who created a school system for indigenous peoples near Lake Titicaca; and for Africa, honoring Archbishop Desmond Tutu, human rights advocate and Nobel Prize winner. Other continent patios will honor additional heroes.

“These days most of our students are not acquainted with the heroes of the past,” La Sierra University president Lawrence T. Geraty told the Riverside Press-Enterprise.

“Having continents and trees planted in the name of specific individuals is a way of helping students think about what they can do to change the world.”

After two weeks in Southern California, volunteers continued their journey of service in Ecuador where 45 volunteers built a new church—from start to finish—in a suburb of Santo Domingo.

Team members also painted six churches in neighboring areas, held evangelistic meetings and two Vacation Bible Schools, treated more than 100 people per day in a medical clinic and witnessed 25 baptisms at the church dedication service.

Students Challenge Mediocrity

During Spiritual Emphasis Week at AAA

On fire for God or settling for mediocrity?

Twenty-four student presenters at Auburn Adventist Academy challenged their peers with this theme during a spiritual emphasis week. Through honest, inspiring and powerful presentations, the students shared from their hearts and moved other hearts.

“All of us have a story to tell. You get to decide what’s written. Stand up for Jesus. Don’t be mediocre.”

Over and over, student speakers encouraged their friends to put their trust and hope in God. In response, four young people made decisions for Bible study and baptism and many others recommitted their lives to Christ.

“God wants you to be on fire for Him,” said Laura Hanes, Associated Student Body president. “All of us have a story to tell. You get to decide what’s written. Stand up for Jesus. Don’t be mediocre.”

“Hearing from your peers really grabs your attention, and it is encouraging to hear them share about their spiritual journey.”

Campus chaplain Mark Weir was responsible for planning the 12 spiritual emphasis sessions. “It’s reassuring and encouraging to see students’ desire to be real for God, to want the world to know they follow Jesus, and to truly make Christianity the most important part of their lives.”

Another week of spiritual emphasis is planned to correspond with the conclusion of the first Momentum evangelism cycle in April. Many academy students are also involved in training to give Bible studies.

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Add my name to the conference e-mail list.
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Attn: Camp Meeting Registration
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Federal Way, WA 98001
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http://washingtonconference.org
The Walla Walla College (WWC) chapter of Amnesty International knows what can happen when a small group has a big idea to share.

It started last year when Rachel Davies, a senior theology major, served as a student missionary in Calcutta, where she was able to interact with the children of prostitutes in the city’s infamous red light district. There she met Urmi Basu, who had started an organization called New Light to help these children find a better life. The organization soon expanded to provide a home for older girls who would eventually be forced into prostitution. The home, named Soma in honor of a little girl born out of prostitution who died needlessly, is dedicated to protecting, educating, and empowering these children while offering them the hope of a new life.

However, Rachel soon learned that the lease on Soma home was about to expire and the organization needed to raise $10,000 to purchase the building. That’s when Rachel approached me, a senior history major and president and founder of WWC’s Amnesty International chapter, about taking on the project. I started making plans and called a chapter meeting early in January. More than 25 people crammed into my small basement apartment, and serious excitement filled the air. One idea led to another, and Project Red Light fell into place.

Our chapter showed the film “Born Into Brothels” once in mid-January and the students, faculty and staff in attendance emptied their wallets, giving over $600 that evening. A second showing had students crammed in the aisles, lying on the floor, propped against each other, and spilling out into the hallways, where they stood for two hours watching the film of children in the brothels fighting to change their hopeless circumstances. That night, attendees gave over $1,500.

I was amazed. In less than a week, we had over $4,000, mostly donated by students. Student-led worship service, The Awakening, took on the project, as did the college’s Improv Church, the girls’ dorm, several Sabbath School classes, and the Sassy side Church in Portland, Ore. Amnesty International members and other volunteers kept plugging away at their own projects—handing out buttons and informational fliers in the college hallways, making their own “Stop Child Prostitution” t-shirts, writing letters to the children of Soma, and holding their own fundraising events.

In a month and a half, our small group has had a tremendous impact on the campus, and on the children in Calcutta. More than $10,000 has been raised, and funds keep pouring in to ensure that Soma home will be taken care of in the future and to sponsor children to attend.

Now 36 children have the chance at a life away from prostitution. And now I have faith in the passion of a unified body of hearts that rise up and take action.

To find out more about Project Red Light, contact Amnesty_International@wwc.edu or (509) 527-2656.

Jen Drake, WWC senior history major
It might happen on the way to a patient’s home, or on the way back. But sometime, somewhere, Nina Summers, R.N., will say a prayer. Not a long one, and maybe not even consciously or out loud. But she’ll ask God to give her wisdom and strength to meet the needs of every person in her care that day.

That assurance of divine guidance helps this Mission Achievement Award recipient from Walla Walla General Hospital (WWGH) excel at a job that is always unpredictable and endlessly challenging. As a nurse with Adventist Health/Home Care Services, she takes her skills and compassion on the road—driving within a 50-mile radius to care for as many as six patients in their homes or other settings each day.

Living the mission

Her clients range from the very young to the very old, and Nina provides everything from wound care and pain management to nutrition counseling. She might start an IV, change a dressing or evaluate possible medication interactions. She’s part nurse, part teacher, part friend—patiently meeting people where they are and carefully assessing their needs.

“The greatest thing about Nina is that she portrays the hands of Christ in a very real way,” said Bernie Hartnell, WWGH Home Care Services director. “She has such a gentle and engaging manner about her.”

While she’s disarming patients with questions about grandchildren or pets, she’s really watching their mobility or gauging their pain. “And when it comes to solutions, she’s not preachy at all,” added Hartnell. “She just lives the mission.”

A legacy of care

Ever since she was 10 years old, Nina knew she wanted to be a nurse. Her grandfather was one, and everything about the profession fascinated her. Like other young women of the time, she devoured the book “A Nurse Called Tommie,” and a pre-college summer experience working in a nursing home cemented her career choice. “I just liked taking care of people,” she said.

More than three decades have elapsed since then—time filled with both exhilarating successes and unbearable heartaches. Just two years ago, she lost a teenage son in a tragic accident and recently her mother passed away. Despite the pain, her unwavering faith in God continues to sustain her. “I just read my Bible and gain strength from knowing He’s in control even when bad things are happening,” she said.

Co-workers are amazed at her positive spirit and resilience in the face of such devastating personal loss—especially at the way she’s channeled her grief into caring for her patients. “Through it all, she’s maintained an incredible ability to serve others,” stated Hartnell. “It’s been absolutely unbelievable.”

Today, Nina watches the power of God at work—patients near death who miraculously improve, life-threatening wounds that unexpectedly heal—and that inspiration takes her to another home. Another prayer. Another patient or family member with needs aching to be met. “I just try to promote health and peace as Christ would do,” Nina said. “Seeing people get better and find peace in their lives is the greatest reward of all.”
Last July Hazel had a stroke and is now residing at Ashley Manor. Her husband of 70 years (John) is living alone in their home but spends as much time as he can with her.

The Dupper family includes Aldean Warren of Cleona, Penn.; Lavenia and Don Casey of Hermiston; Gilbart and Minni Dupper of Redlands, Calif.; Charles Dupper (deceased); Lee and Sherry Dupper of Tucson, Ariz.; Robert Dupper of California; 27 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren.

Hieb 60th

Archie and Lyndel Hieb celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Dec. 17, 2006, at a reception at the Village Church with family and friends.

Archie H. Hieb married Lyndel R. Peterson on Dec. 23, 1946, in Minneapolis, Minn. Lyndel met Archie while teaching at a one-room grade school near Cleveland, N.D. They raised their family, farming the homestead outside of Cleveland, N.D., until moving to College Place, Wash., in 1974. Since then Archie has been involved in real estate properties, and Lyndel continues to be a full-time homemaker.

The Hieb family includes Jon and Michael Hieb (both deceased); Bruce and Patti Hieb of Loveland, Colo.; Randi and Susan Hieb of Las Vegas, Nev.; Brian Hieb of College Place; Kris and John Christensen of College Place; Kandyce and Keith Hallum of Auburn, Wash.; Kendra Cleveland of Vancouver, Wash.; 17 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Newman 70th

Harry and Ethel Newman celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in their home on Dec. 12, 2006.

Harry W. Newman married Ethel F. Graham on Dec. 12, 1936, in Silver Creek, British Columbia, Canada. The couple later moved to the United States to raise and educate their growing family. The Lord has richly blessed their lives.

The Newman family includes Audrey and Don Rice of Boise, Idaho; Donna Harding of Yakima, Wash.; Arlene and Larry Wright of Hermiston, Ore.; Verla and Doug Maticac of Lacombe, Alberta, Canada; 11 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Rasmussen 100th

Ethel Rasmussen was not blessed with any children of her own, but her 100th birthday was celebrated with her many generations of nieces and nephews at a potluck reception at her home church, the Mt. Tabor Church in Portland, Ore. Ethel still walks to church most Sabbaths.

Ethel Ruth Emery was born Dec. 14, 1906, in Pipestone, Minn. Her family moved to South Dakota where she grew up with one sister and three brothers. The family’s next move brought them to Oregon where Ethel met and married Ray Rasmussen. Soon after the wedding, Ethel and Ray moved to California where they took nurses training at St. Helena Hospital. After training, they returned to Portland, and Ethel worked at Good Samaritan Hospital for a short time.

When Ray was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, Ethel worked as a special duty nurse at Portland Sanitarium and Hospital. This allowed her to arrange her schedule around her care of Ray for the next 17 years until Ray passed away. Ethel continued her nursing career in Portland until her retirement.

Warden 50th

Jim and Dee Warden celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 24, 2006, with a quiet family dinner in the home of their grandson, Shawn Iverson.

James M. Warden married DeLora N. Henderson on Dec. 19, 1956, in Topeka, Kan. Jim was stationed at Forbes Air Force Base in Topeka. He left the Air Force in November 1959 and then worked as a literature evangelist in Kansas. In 1969 they moved to Portland, Ore., to work at Portland Adventist Hospital. He later was self-employed in maintenance work. Dee retired from Portland Adventist Medical Center in 1995. They moved to Garden Valley, Idaho, in 2003, where they still reside.

The Warden family includes Ron and Carla Warden of Auburn, Wash.; Susan and Kevin McCarty of Emmett, Idaho; Connie Iverson of Loma Linda, Calif.; Sandie and Rick Webster of Garden Valley; 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.
**Family BIRTHS**

**ALLEN**—Tiegan A. was born Dec. 26, 2006, to Jeremy and Nicole (Darcy) Allen, Walla Walla, Wash.

**ALVAREZ**—Mark A. was born Feb. 10, 2007, to Angel and Vicki (Sturgeon) Alvarez, Medford, Ore.

**BANIK**—Jiban B. was born Oct. 20, 2006, to Janajiban and Sarmily (Dikshit) Banik, Hillsboro, Ore.

**BANIK**—Jyoti S. was born Oct. 20, 2006, to Janajiban and Sarmily (Dikshit) Banik, Hillsboro, Ore.

**BIGLER**—Grace was born Sept. 6, 2006, to Eric and Jane (Harvey) Bigler, Portland, Ore.

**CHAI**—Mia Toyoko was born Nov. 30, 2006, to Isak and Taniya (Taniguchi) Chai, Everett, Wash.

**CUCCIA**—Vincenzo S. was born Oct. 25, 2006, to Anthony and Gina (Stelling) Cuccia, Bonney Lake, Wash.

**ENSLOW**—Brooklyn LeOrla Rayne was born March 18, 2005, to Erik M. and Sonia L. (Garrison) Enslow, Post Falls, Idaho.

**ENSLOW**—Rilee Morgan Mycheyle was born Nov. 24, 2006, to Erik M. and Sonia L. (Garrison) Enslow, Post Falls, Idaho.

**EVERT**—Caleb Thomas was born May 12, 2006, to Ted and Christina (Boyd) Evert, Incheholm, Wash.

**GEBHARDT**—Sara Lorayne was born Feb. 10, 2007, to Joshua W. and Nancy L. (Dick) Gebhardt, Bremerton, Wash.

**GINN**—Sasha K. was born Nov. 13, 2006, to Sam and Kristina (Malolua) Ginn, Forest Grove, Ore.

**HENRIQUES**—Jackson Cole was born Jan. 1, 2007, to Joel and Shannon (Jackson) Henriques, Portland, Ore.

**HENRIQUES**—Tess Magnolia was born Jan. 1, 2007, to Joel and Shannon (Jackson) Henriques, Portland, Ore.

**HOOD**—Kami L. was born Sept. 11, 2005, to Denny and Julie (Anderson) Hood, Fort Mohave, Ariz.

**KOVA**—Aaron Sire was born Feb. 7, 2006, to Varo and Mi Mi (Damino) Koga, Vancouver, Wash.

**LARSON-BOTTJEN**—Ezekiel Kiawe was born June 13, 2006, to Philip L. and Nicole (Larson) Bottjen, Rhododendron, Ore.

**LARSON-BOTTJEN**—Daniel T. J. was born Jan. 31, 2006, to Gregory and Lorrie (Greenlaw) Thornton, Salem, Ore.

**MILLER**—Leverett Ethan was born July 31, 2006, to Leverett “Troy” and Beth (Schelske) Miller, Beaverton, Ore.

**NEUFELD**—Gareth L. was born May 4, 2006, to Corie and Jody (Wearner) Neufeld, Portland, Ore.

**OLSON**—Haylee was born Oct. 23, 2006, to James and Jacenda (Harvey) Olson, Portland, Ore.

**PEREIRA**—Conner was born Aug. 29, 2006, to Austin Pereira and Theresa Vanhove, Portland, Ore.

**PETERSEN**—Dane Bauer was born Aug. 13, 2006, to Kevin and Devi (Judd) Petersen, Portland, Ore.

**PETERSEN**—Jane Dorothy was born May 15, 2006, to Keith and Emily (Litscomb) Petersen, Portland, Ore.


**SAUSER**—Wyatt Pierce was born Oct. 10, 2006, to Kevin and Jessica (Stuck) Sauser, Battle Ground, Wash.

**THORNTON**—Daniel T. J. was born Jan. 31, 2006, to Gregory and Lora (Greenlaw) Thornton, Salem, Ore.

**TIDMORE**—Hayleigh Jordynn was born Nov. 1, 2006, to Warren and Diana (Cleveland) Tidmore, Murchison, Texas.

**UNTEANU**—David Bogdan was born Jan. 13, 2007, to Bogdan and Christina (Hornaday) Unteanu, Medford, Ore.

**WANG**—Brandon Aaron was born Feb. 9, 2007, to Aaron and Rebecca (Cha) Wang, Portland, Ore.

**WANG**—Holland Annalise was born Jan. 26, 2007, to Andre and Lisa (Holland) Wang, Gresham, Ore.

**WHITE**—Landon R. was born Oct. 26, 2006, to Matthew and Carrie (Biegel) White, College Place, Wash.

**WHITE**—Liliana J. was born Oct. 26, 2006, to Matthew and Carrie (Biegel) White, College Place, Wash.

**WIEDEMANN**—Carter James was born Feb. 7, 2007, to Martin and Amanda (Thor) Wiedemann, Tillamook, Ore.

**BIRTHS**


**BAZE**—Herbert C., 77; born Nov. 7, 1928, Vale, Ore.; died Sept. 11, 2006, Shelton, Wash. Surviving: wife, Nina Mae (Davis); sons, Herb and Ben, both of Shelton; Jeff, Salem, Ore.; daughters, Armita Maxwell, Salem; Kim Beckman, Shelton; 15 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**BECHTEL**—David C., 84; born Jan. 12, 1922, Madison, Tenn.; died Dec. 28, 2006, Talent, Ore. Surviving: wife, R. Arlean (James); sons, Ron, Medford, Ore.; John, Freemont, Calif.; Don, Clackamas, Ore.; brother, Jim, College Place, Wash.; sisters, Alice Palmer, Battle Ground, Wash.; Virginia Sparks, Jamul, Calif.; 5 grandchildren, 15 step-grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 5 step-great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.


GOETZ—Marjorie M. (Crippen), 95; born May 20, 1911, Swan River, Manitoba, Canada; died Dec. 31, 2006, Anchorage, Alaska. Surviving: daughters, Vivian Springer and Donna Strike, both of Anchorage; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.


HUKILL—Bernard H., 76; born June 11, 1930, Medford, Ore.; died Jan. 6, 2007, Medford, Ore. Surviving: wife, Janice (Brown), Eagle Point, Ore.; sons, Bernie Jr., Eagle Point; David Lane, Crescent City, Calif.; James Lane, of Arizona; daughters, Rose Tiffany of California; Vonny Jones, Medford, Ore.; Colleen Freet, San Francisco, Calif.; stepdaughters, Tracy Juber, Phoenix, Ore.; Kitten Huikill and Jamie Steele, both of Arizona; Cindy Dean of Florida; Debbie Komedy, Eagle Point; brother, Arlen Huikill, Corvallis, Ore.; 16 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.


MCADAMS—Daylene D. (Belts), 67; born Dec. 22, 1939, Billings, Mont.; died Jan. 14,
Wish.; and 12 grandchildren.


**SCHULZE**—Gerald C., 73; born July 5, 1933, Brookings, S.D.; died Oct. 7, 2006, Kalispell, Mont. Surviving: wife, Genevieve (Warkins), Columbia Falls, Mont.; daughters, Roxanna Menish, Kalispell; Melinda Schulze and Melanie Schulze, both of Great Falls, Mont.; brothers, George, Kalispell; Roger, Lemere, Calif.; Elmer, Kalispell; sister, Debra Wallette, Kalispell; and 4 grandchildren.

**SOUTH**—Donald F., 85; born Jan. 31, 1921, Auburn, Neb.; died Aug. 15, 2006, Central Point, Ore. Surviving: wife, Shirley (Elliott); son, Lowell, Central Point; daughter, Lynell South, Central Point; brother, Vern, Helena, Mont.; and a grandchild.


**STROBEL**—Roger W., 71; born Sept. 10, 1935, Terry, Mont.; died Jan. 12, 2007, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Dorita (Wagner); sons, Rand, Maple Valley, Wash.; Rodd, College Place; daughters, Tamara Jones, Battle Ground, Wash.; Trudy Strobel, College Place; brother, Vance Strobel, Mattawa, Wash.; sisters, Ellen Strobel, Kennewick, Wash.; Barbara Walters, Mattawa; and 3 grandchildren.


**TREFZ**—Jane M. (Breese), 85; born Aug. 15, 1921, Syracuse, N.Y.; died Dec. 26, 2006, College Place, Wash. Surviving: sons, Gary and Terry, both of Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; daughters, Betty Mattison and Kathy Dybdahl, both of College Place; 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.


ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offerings
April 7—Local Church Budget; April 14—World Budget; Christian Record Services*; April 21—Local Church Budget; April 28—Local Conference Advance.

*Special Materials Provided

Special Days
Curriculum Focus for the Month—Stewardship+
April 7—Missionary
Magazines (Signs, Message, El Centinela, La Sentinelle)*;
April 14—Stewardship Sabbath;
April 21—Literature Evangelism Sabbath*; April 28—Education Sabbath.*

* Special Materials Provided
+ Curriculum resource materials are published in NAD church resource journals—Sabbath School Leadership, Celebración, Célébration, Kids’ Ministry Ideas, and Cornerstone Youth Resource Journal.

Open House
May 27—The North Pacific Union Conference staff is inviting members from area churches and the community to an open house with tours of their new building in Ridgefield, Wash., from 2–5 p.m. Driving directions are available at www.npuc.org or call (360) 857-7000.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE

Calendar of Events
April 1–3—College Days;
April 15—North Pacific Regional Robotics Challenge; April 26–29—Homecoming Weekend. For a complete schedule of weekend events, and to register, visit alumni.wwc.edu or call (509) 527-2631.

IDAHO

Biblical Concepts in Counseling
April 20–22—Extreme Marriage, a marriage seminar that utilizes proven techniques to restore or renew any relationship! This message has saved marriages and changed lives; it can change yours too. Give your relationship a makeover and join us in Boise, Idaho. For more information and to register, go to www.BoiseExtremeMarriage.org or call (208) 362-9663.

Missing Caldwell Members
The Caldwell (Idaho) Church is missing some members. If you have any information regarding the persons below, please contact Carol Forshee at the Caldwell Church, 2106 E. Linden St., Caldwell, ID 83605: Joyce Hupe, George W. Nourse, Allen J. Laurel, Daniel O’Dell, Allura McGhghy, Anna McCart and Myra Jean Bartell.

OREGON

Retired Workers’ Fellowship
April 3—Come at noon for the monthly potluck of the Oregon Retired Workers’ Fellowship. Leon Chaney will be sharing slides and telling of his experience at the base camp of Mt. Everest and the surrounding area. We encourage and welcome all retirees to bring their food and join us. We meet in the cafeteria on the Gladstone Campground, 19800 Oatfield Road, Gladstone, Ore. For more information or any suggestions, call the Jorgensons, (360) 423-1612.

April Events at Sunnyside Church
April 6—Service of Darkness. Magnifying those moments from the Last Supper to the Cross, at 7 p.m. April 7—Leonardo da Vinci’s Last Supper dramatization. Sunnyside Church will portray a unique presentation of this famous painting as Jesus and His disciples “come to life” and share their thoughts at this pivotal moment in biblical history. Those who attended last year expressed how much they were blessed from the experience. Come for an evening of music and the spoken word that will end with a special Communion Service at 7 p.m. April 8—Resurrection Service, 10 a.m. April 14—Religious Liberty Seminar, 2:30 p.m. Sunnyside Church is located at 10501 S.E. Market St., Portland, Ore., (503) 252-8080.

CAA Alumni Homecoming
April 6–7—Columbia Adventist Academy invites all alumni to join us on campus for Alumni Weekend. The graduating classes ending in “7” will be honored, along with the graduating classes of ’32 and
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Creation and Evolution Seminar
April 7—Issues regarding creation and evolution will be addressed by Frank Sherwin, zoologist and researcher at the Institute for Creation Research in San Diego, in three hour-long sessions at 4, 6, and 7 p.m. at the Grants Pass Church, 1360 N.E. Ninth St. A complimentary light supper will be served at 5 p.m. Sherwin lectures around the world at Christian schools and churches. He is also a frequent guest on a weekly radio program “Science, Scripture, and Salvation.” An offering will be accepted. For more information, call (541) 476-6313. Home school families offering will be accepted. For information, please contact Debbie Clark at (503) 632-4853.

CHIP Seminar
April 15—The Lebanon Church is presenting the CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) seminar. For information call Pat Clarkson at (541) 258-7454.

Come Experience Milo
April 15–16—Eighth-graders who are looking forward to starting high school next year, come experience Milo. Fun activities, tours, meetings, meals, friends, awards and prizes. Contact your school, church or Milo for reservations. For more information, call (541) 825-3200, Ext. 3317 or e-mail steve.rae@mioloacademy.org. See our Web site at www.mioloacademy.org.

Adventist Singles Adult Ministries (ASAM)
April 21—Singles potluck at Beaverton Adventist Church, 14645 S.W. Davis Rd., Beaverton, Ore., at 12:30 p.m. Please bring a picnic lunch. After church we will carpool to Rowena: Bloom with a View. Tom McCall Preserve at Rowena Viewpoint, 70 Miles (1.5 hours) east of Portland. What to bring: Windbreaker, hiking boots, water, camera, flower identification guide. For information, contact Tom Terry at (503) 684-7971 or tom.te@verizon.net; or Charlotte at (503) 579-9549; www.beavertonsda.com, then to the Singles Page. Maps will be made available in the Beaverton Church foyer and at the potluck. Save May 19, 2007, for a hike at Falls Creek Overflow.

Missing Estacada Members
The Estacada, Oregon church seeks information regarding the following missing members: Shannon R. Ellis, Bonnie Hayes, Jennifer Henley, Leanne D. Hodge, Teresa S. Carr, Jeffrey B. Kelley, Kathleen Kelly, Josie Kline, Michael J. Kline, Donna Kline, Cynthia S. Kocoure, John R. Meighan, Katrina Mowrey, Michael L. Mowrey, Stephanie A. Mowrey, Diane L. Ranson, James M. Richards Sr., Rebecca Schoneger, Wendy D. Sexton, Jack B. Smith, Don Snow, Rebecca Snow, Aaron Snow, Marlene A. Tripplett, and Pansy Walter. If you have information regarding these members, please contact Debbie Clark at (503) 632-4853.

RRA/RVAS Alumni Homecoming
May 4–5—Rogue River Academy and Rogue Valley Adventist School alumni and friends are invited to attend their alumni reunion in Medford, Ore. Friday evening vespers and Sabbath activities will be in the school gym. For information about the cost of the catered Sabbath dinner, contact Delores Mae Donald at (503) 538-5011, 625 S.W. Ninth St., Apt 28, Dundee, OR 97115.

UPPER COLUMBIA
Pathfinder Teen Extreme Rock Climbing
April 13–15—Teen Extreme Rock Climbing Event in Goldendale, Wash., is designed to bring home spiritual lessons in a very vivid manner. This event is open to teenage Pathfinders in the Upper Columbia Conference. Clubs may contact Rick Pummel for more information at teenevents@charter.net or (509) 529-1744.

Vacation Bible School Workshop
April 15—The Vacation Bible School Workshop will be held at the conference office. The special guest speaker will be Candy LeVore from Pacific Press Publishing Association. For more details, contact Cheri Corder at cheric@uccsda.org, or by phone at (509) 838-2761, ext. 621.

Missing Eastgate Members
The following is a listing of names that we have been unable to make contact with: Caryn Boyd, Amy Briley, Nathan Cokenour, Karen Pederson, Rhonda Robinson, Shawna Rogers, Mindy Tate, Caroline Ullrich, Kathleen Vance, Jenile Wolf, Todd Wagner, Debbie Fredrickson, Elenore Slussen and Sheila Vails. If you have any information, please contact Yvonne E. Jackson, church clerk, Walla Walla Eastgate Church, 380 Tausick Way, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

UCA Alumni Weekend
May 4–5—With pleasure, Upper Columbia Academy welcomes back all former faculty and students, along with their families and friends to the 61st Annual Alumni Homecoming Weekend. Honored classes end with a “7” along with the class of 1982. Friday’s activities include a morning Golf Tournament and a Welcome Back Reception and Sundown Vespers in the evening. Sabbath events include a worship service featuring members of all honor classes, a buffet lunch, campus tours and reserved rooms for honor class fellowship and official pictures. For more information, check the UCA Web site at www.uca.org or contact Linnea Torkelsen, alumni director, at (509) 245-3692 or alumni@uca.org.

2007 NW Singles Conference/Retreat
May 25–28—Harvey and Kathy Corwin will present “Secrets of Intimate Relationships.” This conference at MiVoden Summer Camp and Retreat Center, Hayden Lake, Idaho, is recommended for adult singles. Located minutes away
from Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, and 55 miles from Spokane International Airport. Check-in starts at 3 p.m., Friday, May 25. Checkout by 11 a.m., Monday, May 28. Register before May 1 to get early bird rates; after May 1, regular rates; after May 15 no refunds (you may have someone take your place if you are not able to make it). Sunday Cruise around Coeur d’Alene Lake (pay at dock). Bring bedding/pillow, towels, swimsuit, warm coat, hiking shoes, Bible, camera, and your musical instruments and talent. For information about registration and costs, contact Terrie Leen at t llen@msn.com or (541) 938-3767.

**SAGE Upper Columbia**

**June 6–7** — SAGE Upper Columbia Conference to conduct Hell’s Canyon River Trip along with multiple museum visits.

**June 16** — annual camp meeting strawberry/ice cream feed on College Church campus, 5:30 p.m. May 17–21 — camping and birding at Melheur Lake. May 28–31 — Camp Mivoden Spring Project. **April 22** — one-day bird outing at Soap Lake area. For details, go to www.sageucc.org, or contact Jacque Goodhew at (509) 522-2387 or lgoodhew@surfing.com.

**WASHINGTON**

**Missing Members**

Washington Conference is seeking the following missing members: Marcela Centeno, Selene Centeno, Olivia Cerventes, Mario Cevera, Jose Chaires, Liliana Chajud, Maria Chavez, Sergio Chavez, Xochile Chavez, Rosalina Chinchilla, Beatriz Cobarrubias, Karen Conley, Imelda Cordova, Ana Corea, Edwin Corea, Elvin Corea. If you have information regarding any of these missing members, please contact Janeth Carnluff at (253) 681-6008.

**Easter Drama**

**April 7** — Join the Kent Adventist Church for a contemporary Easter drama. The service centers around a bridge, which becomes a symbol of forgiveness and reconciliation. The service starts at 10:45 a.m. Call (253) 852-3883, e-mail kentsda@comcast.net, or visit our Web site at http://kentsda.org. The church is at 25213 116th Ave. S.E., Kent, WA 98030.

**Women’s Spring Day**

**April 21** — Presenters for “Just One” women’s ministry spring day event are Chris Oberg, Carolyn Brown, and Betsy and Liz Staf. The event is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Grace Community Church in Auburn. Early-bird registration rates available. Please bring a donation of socks, gloves and/or warm hats for a service project. Details online at www.washingtonconference.org or by calling (253) 681-6008.

**SAGE Washington**


**World Church**

**Adelphian Academy Homecoming**

**June 8–9** — Alumni, faculty and friends of Adelphian Academy are invited to the Annual Homecoming Weekend. Randy Roberts will speak during the Sabbath worship service. The classes of ’57, ’67 and ’82 will be honored. For more information, go to www.adelphianacademy.com or call Clarence Brummett at (909) 796-8593.
Sunset Schedule

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RV'S! Adventist owned and operated RV dealership has been saving Adventists money for over 25 years. $8 million inventory—over 30 brands in stock. Courtesy airport pickup and on-site hookups. Satisfied Adventist customer list. Call toll-free 888-933-9300; ask for Adventist discount pricing. Lee's RV City, Oklahoma City: e-mail LeesRVs@aol.com.


EMPLOYMENT WANTED: Missionary minded person who loves children to work in Adventist daycare in Port Hadlock, Washington (near Port Townsend). For more information, contact Carol: 360-379-9460 or carol@olympus.net.

RN’S PHYSICAL THERAPISTS, Occupational Therapists, Respiratory Therapists, and Managers are invited to join the caring team at Howard Memorial Hospital, Willits, Calif. The hospital is part of Adventist Health and has high patient and staff satisfaction, with low turnover of health care professionals. Willits is located 36 miles east of the Mendocino coast and is known as the gateway to the Redwoods. Call Julie Harris: 707-456-3015; Web site www.HowardHospital.com.


GROWING ADVENTIST COMPANY located in Western Washington is seeking candidate(s) to fill the following positions. Dump Truck Driver: CDL required. Experienced pup-trailer and transfers. Experience hauling heavy equipment a plus. Heavy Equipment Mechanic/Welder experience desired, CDL a plus. Interested parties are encouraged to send their resume and letter of interest to: RCA, PO Box 896, Auburn WA 98071.

PRACTICE DENTISTRY in rural southern Washington, the beautiful Columbia River Gorge. Seeking younger dentist to share our busy practice with. K-10 Adventist school and churches nearby. Country living with opportunities for service, unlimited outdoor recreation, and a great climate. For more information, phone 509-493-1463 evenings.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY School of Social Work seeks applicants for tenure-track position (½ teaching; ½ coordinator) in Billings, MT for 2007-08 school year. See details at http://www.wwu.edu/services/. Contact: Pamela Keele Cress, Dean, School of Social Work and Sociology, Walla Walla University, 204 S College Ave, College Place, WA 99324; crespa@wwc.edu.

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First-Time Advertisers—Advertisers who are members of the Seventh-day Adventist church must submit a letter of endorsement from their pastor or from the local conference communication director along with their first submission. Other first-time advertisers must submit references from business members of their community, a credit bureau and/or any other references requested by the editor. All references must be on official letterhead stationery and received at the GLEANER office by the deadline date of the issue desired for publication. References do not render unnecessary the approval of the GLEANER editorial committee.

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