A STORY
OF FAITH
RENEWED
at
Lowest Ebb
A STORY
OF FAITH
RENEWED
He is your praise; He is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

Deuteronomy 10:21 (NIV)

“Winter Wonderland” photographed by Kay Prunty of Buckley, Washington.
The true spirit of Christmas and a renewed faith in the providence of God in the midst of challenging times is mirrored in our feature story taken from Christmas in My Heart, Volume 11, edited by master storyteller, Joe Wheeler.
Remembering Jere

“A prince in Israel has fallen! He left like he lived. Quietly. Graciously. With gentle dignity. Without demands or harsh words or even a frown, he surrendered himself, a tired gentleman and statesman, into the waiting arms of his Savior. Good-bye, Jere! See you in the morning!”
—Lonnie Melashenko, The Voice of Prophecy

Servant
“In his book *The Road Ahead* Jere Patzer described the ideal Adventist leader: someone who is deeply spiritual, who has a passion for mission, who serves others with love, and serves God with uncompromising integrity. These are the principles I saw defined in the life of my friend and colleague, Jere.”
—Jan Paulsen, General Conference president

Friend
“Jere literally saved our Christian lives as we were teetering on the edge those many years ago. He is one of the greatest men I have ever known. The world, my world, is a lesser place with him gone.”
—Ty Gibson, Lightbearers Ministry

Unselfish
“Even with trials of his own, he unselfishly reached out and blessed those around him. I hope to one day be as faithful a servant of Christ. I loved him dearly and won't stop missing him until Jesus comes to take us all home.”
—Danielle Schull, Upper Columbia Academy student

Connector
“Jere was positive, a friendly connector, and a strong spiritual leader; tenacious in his convictions, and a powerful soul winner. His legacy includes thousands of church members inspired to greater service. Few in the history of the church will be missed more than Jere.”
—Don Livesay, Oregon Conference president

Dedicated
“Jere’s leadership has been consistently marked by high dedication and high energy. And, I would add, high touch. His personal interest was always evident. He cared.”
—John McVay, Walla Walla University president
Passionate
"Jere Patzer had a passion for Jesus. He stands among the great pioneers of the Adventist movement. Jere leaves a legacy of gospel proclamation, not only by personal example, but also by casting a worldwide vision, relentlessly advocating and enabling a church culture of mission involvement.”
—Mike Ryan, General Conference general vice president

Kind
“He was a mirror of the kindness, gentleness, intelligence, caring and faith that has only One Source. God blessed and encouraged me through him.”
—Kami Borg, NPUC executive committee member

Fearless
“Jere was a ‘fearless leader’ not because of innate ability, but because of his deep connection with the One who knows no fear. He was undaunted by the sometimes unpleasant tasks of leadership because of his willingness to allow Jesus to lead through him. Jere was a friend of Jesus and that led him to be a friend to others.”
—Phil White, Calhoun, Georgia, Adventist Church senior pastor

Mentor
“If anyone would have had an excuse to be too busy it could have been Jere. But what I saw was a Dad who showed up; intramurals, concerts, plays... Jere and Sue found a way to be there and support their kids; and be visibly—and rightly—proud of them. In a world crying out for Godly men, they have been mentored by one of the best.”
—Cynthia Voortman, Upper Columbia Academy former teacher

Leader
“I’ve had the privilege of knowing many church leaders in my lay ministries. Jere, in my opinion, stood at the top of the list.”
—Bob Paulsen, NPUC executive committee member

Example
“I looked upon Jere as one of God’s true soldiers. I observed his unflinching integrity on many occasions. He was someone I want to be like.”
—Dan Jackson, Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada president

Communicator
“Jere Patzer—a gifted Adventist leader, was always sharp, always articulate, always passionate about the evangelistic mission of the church. Jere Patzer—consummate communicator. Jere Patzer—true to family, true to duty, true to God. I have lost a good friend.”
—Gordon Retzer, Southern Union Conference president

Read other comments from the around the world, and add your own tribute at www.jerepatzer.blogspot.com.
The year was 1944. World War II was raging, and the prospect of a Merry Christmas for many Americans was bleak.

Hugh Martin, not yet 30 years old, was collaborating on the music for *Meet Me in St. Louis*, Judy Garland’s classic film. Hugh wrote a few bars for a Christmas song but in frustration gave up and threw it in the trash.

Later he retrieved it and tried again. When it was nearly complete he shared it with Judy Garland, who thought it was depressing and responded, “People would hate me if I sang such a sad song.” After thinking about it for a while Hugh decided to compromise and revised the song.

The song now ended on a positive note—“Someday soon we all will be together, if the fates allow.” And, with a suggestion from Frank Sinatra, he added the line, “Hang a shining star upon the highest bough.”

Sometime later Hugh was hospitalized in Birmingham, Alabama, and shared a room with an Adventist pastor by the name of William Lester who shared his faith about the real meaning of Christmas. Hugh gave his heart to the Christ of Christmas. Previously he had listened to the Voice of Prophecy and subsequently became a friend and accompanist for Del Delker at the Camarillo Adventist Church.

After becoming an Adventist he said he was no longer happy with the phrase, “if the fates allow.” He changed the wording to “should the Lord allow” (a change that unfortunately is not included in most contemporary versions of the song).

But now the words appropriately read:

Through the years we all will be together, Should the Lord allow, Hang a shining star upon the highest bough, And have yourself a merry little Christmas now.

This year as you listen to this popular song let it be a testimony to the fact that He who had the power to change lives 2,000 years ago has the same power today.

Merry Christmas from your friends at the North Pacific Union Conference.

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**Editorial**

Throughout his battle with lymphoma, Jere Patzer, NPUC president, continued to write GLEANER editorials. This is the story he submitted just a few weeks before his death. This is what he wanted to leave with you as we enter the Christmas season of 2008.

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**Jere Patzer**

North Pacific Union Conference president 1996–2008
Interesante, trabajando en un restaurante rodeada de comida, pero teniendo un hambre que la comida no puede satisfacer.

- Elvira Betánces

Día tras día Elvira Betánces entraba y salía del restaurante Time for Soup en el área de Bellevue. Como empleada de este restaurante ella estaba acostumbrada a tratar con mucha gente. Muchos de los clientes del restaurante la conocían. Cada día hacia lo mismo. Parecería que su vida era una simple rutina de levantarse temprano en la mañana y dirigirse al trabajo para el día siguiente hacer lo mismo. Pero este día no fue igual. De aquí en adelante todo iba a cambiar.

Después de trabajar todo el día en el restaurante y servir a sus clientes ella salió al estacionamiento, subió a su auto y de repente se encontró frente a un hombre que le hablaba de Jesús y de la biblia. Ella quedó perpleja, porque reconocía que ya hacía varios días que venía sintiendo la necesidad de buscar a Dios. Ella se acordaba de que cuando era pequeña su padre la llevaba a la iglesia y pasaba lindos momentos alabando al Señor. Ahora se encuentra con un completo extraño que le ofrece visitarla para darle estudios bíblicos. Sin darse cuenta porqué lo hacía Elvira le dio a este extraño, el hermano Victor Infantes, su dirección y teléfono. Comenzaron los estudios bíblicos y aceptó venir a la iglesia a un ciclo de conferencias. Cuando le pregunté a Elvira porque aceptó la invitación de un extraño para estudiar la biblia, ella me dijo: “Porque yo tenía hambre de buscar a Dios.” Interesante, trabajando en un restaurante rodeada de comida, pero teniendo un hambre que la comida no puede satisfacer. Tal vez por eso es que la Palabra de Dios dice: “No sólo de pan vivirá el hombre, sino de toda palabra que sale de la boca de Dios.” Ahora Elvira se siente satisfecha porque ha comido del pan de vida. Ella fue una de las 12 personas que entregaron sus vidas a Jesús durante la campaña evangélica “Secretos de la Vida” presentadas por el pastor Canals en la ciudad de Bellevue. Cada noche cerca de 30 visitas venían a la iglesia a escuchar la Palabra de Dios. Muchos de ellos al igual que Elvira con hambre de conocer el plan que Dios tiene para sus vidas. Dios también tiene un plan para tu vida. El te está dirigiendo por medio de su Santo espíritu. Permítele llenar el vacío que hay en tu corazón.

Ramon Canals, vice/presidente Ministerios Hispanos
at

Lowest Ebb

A STORY
OF FAITH
RENEWED
It was a bleak Christmas that year for the young pioneer minister and his wife. The money was gone, and even the well had given out. God, it appeared, had completely forgotten them.

But someone had forgotten to tell this to little Ruth.

I remember a day one winter that stands out like a boulder in my life. The weather was unusually cold, our salary had not been regularly paid, and it did not meet our needs when it was.

My husband was away much of the time, traveling from one district to another. Our boys were well, but my little Ruth was ailing, and at best none of us were decently clothed. I patched and repatched, with spirits sinking to the lowest ebb. The water gave out in the well, and the wind blew through cracks in the floor.

Each Family Was Struggling

The people in this frontier parish were kind, and generous too, but the settlement was new, and each family was struggling for itself. Little by little, at the time I needed it most, my faith began to waver.

Early in life I was taught to take God at His word, and I thought my lesson was well learned. I had lived upon the promises in dark times until I knew, as David did, “who was my fortress and deliverer.” Now a daily prayer for forgiveness was all that I could offer.

My husband’s overcoat was hardly thick enough for October, and he was often obliged to ride miles to attend some meeting or funeral. Many times our breakfast was Indian cake and a cup of tea without sugar.

Christmas was coming; the children always expected their presents. I remember the ice was thick and smooth, and the boys were each craving a pair of skates. Ruth, in some unaccountable way, had taken a fancy that the dolls I had made were no longer suitable. She wanted a nice large one and insisted on praying for it.

I knew it was impossible but, oh, how I wanted to give each child a present. It seemed as if God had deserted us, but I did not tell my husband this. He worked so earnestly and heartily I supposed him to be as hopeful as ever. I kept the sitting room cheerful with an open fire, and I tried to serve our scanty meals as invitingly as I could.

The morning before Christmas James was called to see a sick man. I put up a piece of bread for his lunch (it was the best I could do), wrapped my plaid shawl around his neck, and then tried to whisper a promise as I often had, but the words died away upon my lips. I let him go without it.

That was a dark, hopeless day. I coaxed the children to bed early, for I could not bear their talk. When Ruth went, I listened to her prayer. She asked for the last time most explicitly for her doll and for skates for her brothers. Her bright face looked so lovely when she whispered to me,

“You know, I think they’ll be here early tomorrow morning, Mama,” that I thought I’d be willing to move heaven and earth to save her from disappointment. I sat down alone and gave way to the most bitter tears.

Before long James returned, chilled and exhausted. As he drew off his boots the thin stockings slipped off with them, and his feet were red with cold.

“I wouldn’t treat a dog that way, let alone a faithful servant, I said. Then, as I glanced up and saw the hard lines in his face and the look of despair, it flashed across me; James had let go too.

I brought him a cup of tea, feeling sick and dizzy at the very thought. He took my hand, and we sat for an hour without a word.
I wanted to die and meet God and tell Him His promise wasn’t true. My soul was so full of rebellious despair.

**It was a Wonderful Box**

There came a sound of bells, a quick stop, and a loud knock at the door. James sprang up to open it. There stood Deacon White. “A box came by express just before dark. I brought it around as soon as I could get away. Reckoned it might be for Christmas. ‘At any rate,’ I said to myself, ‘they shall have it tonight.’ There is a turkey my wife asked me to fetch along, and these other things I believe belong to you.”

There was a basket of potatoes and a bag of flour. Talking all the time, he carried in the box, and then with a hearty goodnight he rode away.

Still without speaking, James found a chisel and opened the box. He drew out first a thick red blanket, and we saw that beneath was full of clothing. It seemed at that moment as if Christ fastened upon me a look of reproach. James sat down and covered his face with his hands. “I can’t touch them!” he exclaimed. “I haven’t been true, just when God was trying me to see if I could hold out. Do you think I could not see how you were suffering? And I had no word of comfort to offer. I know now how to preach the awfulness of turning away from God.”

“I knelt down, and my heart broke. In an instant all the darkness, all the stubbornness, rolled away.

James,” I said, clinging to him, “don’t take it to heart like this. I am to blame; I ought to have helped you. We will ask Him together to forgive us.”

“Wait a moment, dear, I cannot talk now,” he said. Then he went into another room.

I knelt down, and my heart broke. In an instant all the darkness, all the stubbornness, rolled away. Jesus came again and stood before me, but with the loving word “Daughter!”

Sweet promises of tenderness and joy flooded my soul. I was so lost in praise and gratitude that I forgot everything else. I don’t know how long it was before James came back, but I knew he too had found peace.

“Now, my dear wife,” he said, “let us thank God together.” And he then poured out the words of praise—Bible words, for nothing else could express our thanksgiving.

It was 11:00, the fire was low, and there was the great box, and nothing touched but the warm blanket we needed. We piled on some fresh logs, lighted two candles and began to examine our treasures.

We drew out an overcoat. I made James try it on—just the right size. And I danced around him, for all my lightheartedness had returned. Then there was a cloak, and he insisted in seeing me in it. My spirits always infected him, and we both laughed like foolish children.

There was a warm suit of clothes and three pairs of woolen hose. There was a dress for me and yards
of flannel, a pair of Arctic overshoes for each of us. In mine was a slip of paper. I have it now and mean to hand it down to my children. On it was written Jacob’s blessing to Asher: “Thy shoes shall be iron and brass, and as thy days so shall thy strength be.” In the gloves (evidently for James) the same dear hand had written: “I, the Lord thy God, will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee: Fear not, I will help thee.”

Dreading Nothing so Much as to Doubt

It was a wonderful box and had been packed with thoughtful care. There was a suit of clothes for each of the boys and a little red gown for Ruth. There were mittens, scarves and hoods. Down in the center was a box. We opened it—and there was a great wax doll. I burst into tears again. James wept with me for joy. It was too much. And then we both exclaimed again, for close behind it came two pairs of skates. There were books for us to read (some of them I had yearned for), stories for the children to read, aprons and underclothing, knots of ribbon, a gay little tidy, a lovely photograph, needles, buttons, and thread, and a muff, and an envelope containing a $10 gold piece.

At last we cried over everything we took up. It was past midnight, and we were faint and exhausted with happiness.

You should have seen the next morning! The boys raised a shout at the sight of their skates. Ruth caught up her doll and hugged it tightly without a word. Then she went into her room and knelt by her bed. When she came back, she whispered to me, “I knew it would be here, Mama, but I wanted to thank God just the same, you know.”

My husband then said, “Look here, wife, see the difference?”

We went to the window, and there were the boys out of the house already, skating on the ice with all their might.

My husband and I both tried to return thanks to the church in the East that had sent us the box and have tried to return thanks unto God every day since. Hard times have come again and again, but we have trusted in Him, dreading nothing so much as to doubt His protecting care. Again and again, we have proved that “they that seek the Lord shall not want for any good thing.”
Volunteers Feed Nearly 1 Million

In a single afternoon, volunteers throughout the Inter-American Division provided meals for nearly 1 million people in need. The event was organized to reflect the United Nations’ World Hunger Day. Donations of less than $2 from nearly 1 million church members helped fund the project. In addition to the free meal, volunteers also offered access to shower facilities, haircuts and medical attention.

**SOURCE:** Adventist News Network
**NORTH KOREA**

**Aid Agency Ships Food**

Nearly 900,000 North Koreans are suffering from food shortages. As a result, the U.S. humanitarian agency, USAID, shipped more than 55,000 pounds of food to the area. Five humanitarian agencies, including three Christian groups, will distribute the food in North Korea. Severe flooding and rising global prices for rice and maize have contributed to the shortage.

**SOURCE:** www.christianpost.com

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**INDIA**

**ADRA Provides Relief Following Floods**

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency is responding to heavy flooding that is affecting nearly 5 million people in northeastern India. ADRA is distributing emergency kits, containing food and nutrition items for the flood’s most vulnerable survivors. In addition, ADRA is working to provide supplies and services for families located in government-run camps, some of which face overcrowding.

**SOURCE:** Adventist News Network

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**PHILIPPINES**

**Traveling Bible Promotes Scripture Study**

A Bible is traveling around the world in anticipation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s 2010 General Conference session. Written in 66 languages, the Bible began its journey in Manila, Philippines, during the 2008 Annual Council. It will travel to six continents and is scheduled to be read in scripture rallies, villages, hospitals and universities.

**SOURCE:** www.christianpost.com

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**IRAQ**

**Christians Flee Mosul Amid Violence**

During October, more than 15,000 Iraqi Christians were driven out of the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. During recent attacks, at least 13 Christians were killed and three homes bombed. It is unclear who is behind the attacks. Mosul is believed to be the last urban stronghold of Al-Qaeda. At least one member of the Iraqi parliament has accused the Kurds of organizing a campaign to shift the demographic balance in Mosul by driving Christians out. The World Council of Churches and International Christian Concern have called for a stop to the persecution of Christians in Mosul.

**SOURCE:** www.christianpost.com
Low-cost Technology Brings Gospel to Bush Alaska

Judi and Gavin Thompson have a passion for getting the gospel into Alaska’s Native villages—a vast mission field crying for hope within North America. Alcoholism and suicide are rampant in remote villages accessible only by air. And, with more than 250 villages in bush Alaska with populations less than 1,000, it would take close to two years to visit them all, even if you flew to a new village every other day! Furthermore, fuel prices as high as $10.00 per gallon, make that prohibitive. Fewer than 10 of these villages have any known Adventist presence.

Before the Thompsons came to the U.S. from New Zealand two years ago, they had been toying with the concept of 5-watt radio stations in small villages that could broadcast continuous pre-recorded Adventist programming with very little human oversight. When they moved to Dillingham, Alaska, where Judi was employed to teach in the Adventist mission school where none of the 14 students are Adventist, the opportunity to develop their radio-ministry dream was realized.

After brainstorming ideas for a while, they began to assemble their first radio station. It would be self-contained and small enough to be mailed to a village where someone locally could erect the simple antenna and plug it in to have it run continuously for an extended period of time. The concept includes having a local person available to receive the package, follow the simple setup directions and periodically receive and load additional programming. The total cost of the 24/7 gospel radio station powerful enough to cover a whole village is only about $500!

Excitement about their first station spilled over into Thompson’s third- to fifth-grade classroom and her e-mail contacts. Her classroom began to assemble a scrapbook of information about each village. At camp meeting in July, the Alaska Conference began a conference-wide prayer initiative.

Recognizing the power of prayer, Thompson e-mailed everyone about the project, asking for financial support of the project as well as inviting them to select one of the villages and specifically pray for them each day. The response was gratifying. The list of villages receiving prayer is increasing. Financial support is growing. Soon three radio stations became operational, and material was purchased for two more.

“This initiative is much bigger than just 250 radio stations,” exclaims Thompson. “This is about sharing the good news of hope to a dying world.” For more about the Share the Light ministry project, visit the Alaska Conference Web site at www.alaskaconference.org. •

John Kriegelstein, communication director
Eagle Church Marks
100 Years

On July 25 and 26 the Eagle Church celebrated their 100th anniversary. The following pastors were present: Don and Janece Kindig from Pasco, Wash., who pastored during the 1970s; Keith and Linda Hanson, also from Pasco, who pastored during the 1990s; Dennis and Geri Parks, from Eagle, Idaho, who pastored in the 1960s and again in the 2000s; and Tim and Karen Roosenberg, current pastoral family. Besides these former pastors, there were former and current teachers in attendance.

On Sabbath morning, Phil Bandy, Eagle City mayor, presented a U.S. flag that had been flown over the U.S. Capitol to Tim Roosenberg, Steve McPherson, Idaho Conference president, and Don Hutchison, head elder. His comments included: “Congratulations to you on your first 100 years and best wishes for the next 100 as you and your church continue to promote health and education, provide humanitarian aid, protect the environment, and advocate for religious freedom, both in our community and throughout the world.”

A letter was also read from George W. Bush, president, congratulating the church on its many years of service to the community.

One highlight of the service was when Gene States was baptized. States is an 86-year-old former attendee of Eagle Adventist Christian School who wanted to come back to his home church to be baptized. Many members from throughout the Northwest attended. Newton and Esther States, State’s younger brother and his wife, along with their boys, sang during evening vespers.

Lincoln Steed, Liberty magazine editor from Hagerstown, Md., was the main speaker.

Another highlight of the weekend was the Eagle Christian School Choir, which began in the 1960s directed by Alvin Kurtz. Fran Venable continued with the choir for many years, then Arlene Garner lead out. Currently, Jaunita Pitcher leads the school choir. Pitcher directed the choir, which was made up of current and past school students, as well as others. Jodi Giem assisted on the piano.

Other former and current members provided special music and stories from the past.

Myrna Ferguson, reunion coordinator

In honor of the Eagle Church 100-year anniversary, Phil Bandy, Eagle mayor, presents an American flag to Don Hutchison, head elder, and Steve McPherson, Idaho Conference president.

Mothers, Daughters Join
At Women’s Retreat

The annual Christian Women’s Retreat in the Idaho Conference was a special event for two ladies and their daughters. This year’s retreat was held Sept. 5–7 in McCall, Idaho. Among the 120 women in attendance were Teri Bonson and Charlan Heid, who had both been pregnant when they attended the retreat 21 years ago with their friend, Teresa Gonzales (all from Vale, Ore.). This year, they returned with their daughters, Becky Bonson and Kandi Heid, who attended for the first time.

Joan Green, Idaho Conference administrative assistant to the president

This year’s retreat held an extra blessing for the following participants, from left: Kandi Heid, Charlan Heid, Teresa Gonzales, Teri Bonson and Becky Bonson.
Bozeman Box City
Raises Awareness for the Homeless

Several Mount Ellis Academy Church members slept overnight Oct. 3 in cardboard boxes in the city park as participants in the second annual Cardboard Box City in Bozeman, Mont.

Family Promise of Gallatin Valley, an interfaith hospitality network, designed the event to raise awareness of the plight for the homeless and to raise funds to help Family Promise continue to help families get back on their feet.

Nearly 100 people arrived in the park with refrigerator boxes, duct tape and tarps. They also decorated their boxes to compete for prizes for the most original box. People of all ages participated—from preschool to 80 years old.

For the “privilege” of sleeping in a box, participants paid $100 and also tried to raise more donations. Free pizza, cookies and hot drinks fed the one-night homeless, and a live local band entertained until bedtime. The event continues rain or shine, sleet or snow, just like actual homeless living in Montana, where October can bring almost any weather.

Featured speakers included several Family Promise guests who told their unique stories of misfortune and how the program gave them a hand. One guest said, “This program is the best thing that could have happened to us in our time of need. Thank you so much for the opportunity to meet such great people and the opportunity to see that there is help. There are people who are filled with God’s love for other human beings who are in need and don’t know what they are going to do next. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!”

Family Promise is a nonprofit national organization that goes beyond the immediate needs of food and shelter. In the Gallatin Valley, 20 churches of all denominations, including Seventh-day Adventist churches, provide the 775-volunteer base for the program.

A professional social worker follows the families to develop and implement a personal plan for success, ultimately assisting in their return to stable lives. More than 80 percent of families completing the 90-day program have successfully attained stable housing and employment.

If you would like to know more about this opportunity for ministry, go to www.familypromise.org.

Debbie King, Adventist volunteer coordinator

Record Number Join
the Kalispell Church

Evangelists Richard and Mary Halversen presented Revelation the Prophecy Seminar—In a Relaxed Atmosphere in early September. More than 120 visitors attended the five-week series at the Kalispell (Mont.) Church.

Every evening, one family was given a large family Bible. The series was coordinated by Casey Higgens, senior pastor, with Tom Glatts, associate pastor, as well as a dedicated team of church members. Many others faithfully prayed for each person attending. On Oct. 3, at the close of the series, 26 new members joined the Kalispell Church through baptism and profession of faith.

Leala Bowman, Lori Middleton and Danielle Kimbrell, Kalispell Church members
Oregon Conference Active in Hurricane Ike Recovery

A heart for mission takes many across the globe to share the life-saving news of Jesus Christ. But a group of Oregon Conference members found a need closer to home. On Oct. 1, Sam Pellecer, of Hood View, Ore.; Dan Patchin, of Lents, Ore.; Marvin Fernando, of Meadow Glade, Ore.; Kathy McCracken, of Grants Pass, Ore.; and David Ames, also of Grants Pass, were the first Adventist Community Service Disaster Response team to volunteer for two weeks on the front lines in Houston and Galveston, Texas, performing hurricane relief work for thousands of survivors.

One week prior, the ACS team collected 9,500 pounds of goods, which were sorted, organized and then loaded into a Texas Adventist Conference semi-truck. Sam Pellecer, Oregon’s ACS head, spearheaded advertising, donations and worked with ACS coordinators scattered throughout local congregations in the conference.

“When we got to Texas, we were surprised to see we were distributing the very items people had sent on the truck from the Oregon Conference,” reports Pellecer.

People are so happy for the help. Marvin Fernando, volunteer, relates this story, “There was one lady—the very last house on the corner—she was sitting there with her head down. I saw her and thought, ‘This lady is in bad shape.’ She was cleaning a screwdriver, trying to recover her tools because they were rusting from the saltwater. I said, ‘Hello’ and she suddenly started crying and crying. She held me and said, ‘God sent you to me.’ She kept on holding me and crying. She had just been talking to God and saying, ‘Why is this happening to me? I’ve lost my home. I’ve lost everything. If you’re really out there, God, just give me a sign. Just do something for me so I know you are there.’ And that’s just when I said, ‘Hello.’ It was pretty neat. She lost her husband a year before the storm and had moved to this town so she would be closer to her daughter. Both their homes were destroyed.”

Kathy McCracken, ACS volunteer, recalls an Adventist pastor who was so glad to see their team. “He thought they had been forgotten. Every time we started talking he would cry. We helped people who didn’t know there is a Seventh-day Adventist church in Galveston. They do now! I think they will be going to that church in the future,” continues McCracken.

If you are interested in learning more, contact Rhonda Whitney at the Oregon Conference, 503-850-3500.

Glenn Wachter, Oregon Conference communication department freelance contributor

For many hurricane survivors, it feels like the country has moved on and forgotten the tragic events and aftermath of Hurricane Ike.
RVAS Students
Plan and Lead The Revelation

One idea and one group of committed Christian student leaders of Rogue Valley Adventist School resulted in a memorable night of praise, worship and community outreach.

The Revelation program was held at Bear Creek Park Sept. 20. With weeks of planning, practicing and advertising, the team was ready to come and share Jesus with the youth of the valley. They handed out fliers and posters, and advertised at many locations around Medford, Ore., including area Christian schools, the shopping mall and movie theaters.

Caleb Fjarli says, via MySpace, of one experience: “So we sat down in the courtyard in front of the theatre for like an hour talking with this guy named Chris. He is super nice and very intelligent. He is from a pretty rough family but is doing well. Circumstances made him unable to make it to The Revelation, but he has been coming to our church for the last few weeks. Everyone has been really impressed with how interested he is in our religion. Everyone in the adult Sabbath School is amazed by his intelligence. Apparently he taught himself Greek.”

It’s times like these that make the whole process worth it. “Our goal was to lead someone to God,” Fjarli says. “Even if it was only one, we were successful.” During the altar call nearly 20 people came up to the stage and publicly committed or recommitted their life to Christ.

Among those who worked with Fjarli were Ray Mitchell and Jez Kline on the sound system; Gabby Fernandez and Katie Cole, along with Fjarli, contributed some personal testimonies; Rachel Allen, Allison Cool, Josh Alvarez and Ryan Moore played music alongside Fjarli; Jessica Wold coordinated the advertising; and Brad King helped put together the posters and fliers.

Robert Denton, RVAS junior

50 Attend Brookings Cooking Class

The Brookings Church members invited their community to join them on the afternoon of April 20 for a vegetarian cooking class.

More than 50 guests and members participated in an interactive program called We All Cook Vegetarian. Jann Biegel, nutrition education specialist, introduced the program and Sheryl Skinner, a nurse, presented a health talk. Team members Mary Kirk, Bev Rigby, Lyn Shiffer and Pat Wilson guided the participants as they prepared food from five categories, including appetizers, main dishes, breakfast, desserts and salads.

Then taste testing was offered, and guests could try foods from the cooking stations. Recipe compilations from the class were available.

“IT was very educational, you learn faster with a hands-on approach,” comments Sheila, a participant in the program. As a result of this outreach effort a family of six attends the Brookings Church regularly.

Jann Biegel, health and temperance committee member

Sheryl Skinner and Mary Kirk prepare salads.
County Fair Booth
Reaches Community

The Coquille Church sponsored a booth at the annual Coos County Fair in Myrtle Point, Ore., to promote the KLYF-FM radio station. Their mission was to share the blessing of the programs from the 3ABN satellite downlink at the church with others in the community. Pens, books, magazines, Panorama of Prophecy CDs, Bibleinfo.com CDs and other materials were available for the public. Nearly 38 people signed up to receive Bible study guides.

There was also a drawing for a free Glorystar Satellite Home System and a set of The Bible Story books.

Allan Cram, one of the booth volunteers, reports that fair goers were very friendly, and it was a positive experience. Juanita Backman, who also volunteered, reports that people were very receptive to the materials. Her favorite part was giving CDs and DVDs to the children.

Betty Kramer, Coquille communications leader

Sharon Church Pantry
Helps Area Families

When the Oregon Food Bank determined there was an unmet need for food toward the end of each month, the Sharon Church stepped up.

Their pantry operates under the direction of Sharon Ewers, community services coordinator, who has a team of volunteers, including an elder to assist with spiritual needs. It is open on the last two Saturdays of the month from 2–4 p.m. The pantry is available then because the Oregon Food Bank says that is a time when food stamps are depleted and many other local food programs are closed.

When a family comes to the food bank, they are interviewed briefly. Based on their size and individual need, they are given a suggested shopping list. They then enter the pantry with a shopping cart and select items. Currently, the program serves 25 families a month, which is about 50–60 people.

“We try to develop a personal relationship with the recipients,” says Ewers, “and they respond in a very positive manner to this system.” Recently, a women asked if the pantry was for homeless people. “Yes,” Ewers said, and then helped the lady pick items from the shelves that would not require cooking or refrigeration.

If you would like to help, items needed are: laundry and dish soap, toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Donations can be made online at www.sharonsda.net or directly to the church.

Linda Foxworth, Sharon Church communication department

Volunteers join together to pray before the opening of the food pantry.
Riverside Father/Child Campout

Sparks Closeness


Children were able to spend quality time with fathers, sing songs and discuss the five love languages (by Gary Chapman): quality time, touch, words of affirmation, acts of service, and gifts. Over the weekend participants looked for examples of each love language.

The group went on a hike on Sabbath afternoon up to a steep peak with a beautiful view. On Sunday some of the mothers and grandmothers joined the group for brunch. Participants say there was a lot of learning that weekend and some are still observing and talking about the five love languages at home and at school.

CAA New Building Project

Reaches Halfway Mark

Construction of Columbia Adventist Academy’s new classroom and administration building has passed the halfway mark of completion.

The building (being funded by the Next Century Campaign) has taken its shape, with roofing and windows placed. The speed of construction has been fast-paced, and the building has changed almost daily since July. The staff is told now that the outside shape is mostly complete, things will seem to slow down considerably. That is because the majority of changes from now on will take place inside and out of sight.

However, some important work is yet to be done. The building is large and impressive and the inside will soon also reflect what CAA stands for. The inside is where students will learn, socialize, and most importantly, worship.

The CAA Class of 2007 was the 100th class to graduate from the school. The new building will enable the school to carry on the mission and the vision of CAA as they have moved into their second century of educating young people in a positive, Christ-centered atmosphere. They are confident the next 100 years will bring many more lessons, blessings and memories, and they will turn out even more students who are excited to go out and change their world with the skills learned. The “Next Century” has begun.


For more information, please visit our Web site at www.caaschool.org. To schedule a tour, contact Lara Dowie at (360) 687-316, ext. 17.

Lara J. Dowie, CAA GLEANER correspondent

The speed of construction has been fast-paced, and the building has changed almost daily since July.

Mayson Ellis, trip participant
UCC Women’s Retreats
Celebrate 20 Years

A lot of ministry has happened in 20 years at UCC Christian Women’s Retreats, and this 20th anniversary year was no exception. More than 150 women attended this year’s retreat at Camp MiVoden, which focused on how to be healthy and prosper. One participant says, “The speaker had the background to help me with exactly what I needed at this time of my life.”

The Friday night presentation was given by Shelley Theil, ear, nose and throat surgeon in Pasco, Wash. Theil also held “Ask the Doctor” workshops on Sabbath. Constance Corbett, wife of the Spokane Valley Church pastor, shared a story of transformation from compulsive eating and sugar addiction. Sunday morning, Patty Marsh, UCC community services/Sabbath School and children’s ministries director, challenged participants to share the blessings of the weekend and witness to others. Workshop topics included health transformation, healthy relationships, healthy attitudes, body image, aging gracefully, along with legal issues relating to caring for the elderly, power of attorney concerns, and instruction in healthy food preparation. Workshop presenters included Dianne Dempsey, Kimberly Fisher, Valerie Glauser, Carol Waggoner and Gretal Cromwell.

One highlight of the weekend occurred Saturday afternoon when Mable Dunbar, UCC women’s ministries director, shared new developments with women’s ministry in the conference. Since Cookies Retreat has relocated to College Place, Wash., there is still a great need for women’s healing centers in the Spokane area. God answered this prayer and the use of three houses have been donated for the Women’s Healing and Empowerment Network (also known as Polly’s Place Network). A special offering was taken to assist women who live at these centers and to fund a scholarship for women to be able to attend the retreat.

Also, on Saturday afternoon, the powerful story of Patty Malosh’s fight with cancer and domestic abuse was shown through a short documentary. Cookies Retreat was her safety net from a troubled marriage. Before Malosh died she went on camera to share her story with other women so they might receive help before it’s too late. The new shelters will be called Patty’s Healing Centers in honor of Patty who volunteered for Polly’s Place Network. There was also a special testimony and praise service outlining the ministry of the sanctuary service and its relationship to the plan of salvation. Saturday evening’s activities included a fashion show, birthday party, story time, movie, crafts, swimming and table tennis.

Women helping women is the purpose of the annual Christian Women’s Retreats. We need each other—to laugh, to cry, to share and to carry each other’s burdens. This was accomplished during this 20th celebration.

Kathy Marson, UCC communication administrative assistant
Cyndee Perez and best friend Cherie Parker have been attending retreats for 19 years.
WWVA Graduates Join Teaching Staff

Walla Walla Valley Academy welcomes three former graduates to their faculty this year. Tyler Anderson, a 1992 graduate, joins the staff teaching history. Chuck Morrison retired this summer after teaching history for the past 20 years. Anderson, his wife Stephanie, and their son came to College Place from Paradise Adventist Academy where he taught the past year. Before that, they were at Redding Adventist Academy for 10 years. “I like being a teacher because it is exciting to help students prepare to impact the future,” says Anderson. Jeremy Irland, a 1999 graduate, is serving as choir and band instructor. Irland completed his master’s of music in vocal performance from the University of Washington in 2008. He is excited to be back in the Walla Walla Valley. Irland’s goal at WWVA is “to create music that they will be able to remember for the rest of their lives.” Karalee Wagner, a 1992 graduate, fills the position of administrative assistant, previously done by Patty Nelson. Wagner previously served on the Walla Walla Chamber of Commerce. WWVA welcomes back these graduates for a great school year.

Chloe Lyn Johnson, a junior at Upper Columbia Academy, won the grand prize in the Washington Apple Education Foundation’s 13th annual Year of the Apple art contest. Representatives from the WAEF presented the prize at a student assembly at UCA in front of an audience of more than 200 classmates and family. She was given a ceremonial “big” check for her prize. Her winning oil painting showcases Gala and Golden Delicious apples that she painted during her sophomore year at UCA. In addition to her prize money, the UCA art department received a $100 grant for art supplies.

“Troy Patzer, principal, and Karen Mann, teacher, help hold up the check.”

UCA Student Artist Wins Award

Chloe Lyn Johnson receives a $1,000 check from the Washington Apple Education Foundation for her winning entry in the Year of the Apple art contest. Troy Patzer, principal, and Karen Mann, teacher, help hold up the check.
UCA Students
Team up to aid Hurricane Survivors

Twenty-three Upper Columbia Academy students collected over 1,500 pounds of food for Hurricane Ike survivors. The food drive was entirely student-led and student-executed at four Spokane, Wash., grocery stores in September.

UCA cooperated with Spokane’s Second Harvest Food Bank, which had already sent more than two-thirds of its supplies to Texas and needed to restock.

Just four days before the food drive, Logan Villarreal, UCA senior, was inspired to help the hurricane survivors. He began making phone calls, designing fliers and organizing student teams. “It all happened very fast, and without the staff’s support it could never have gotten off the ground,” says Villarreal.

Sunday morning, each team set up shopping carts at the entrances to four Spokane grocery stores. Students handed out fliers explaining the food drive and helped shoppers carry groceries to their cars. The community’s generosity was overwhelming. In just three hours, students collected a combined total of 16 shopping carts overflowing with donations.

The donations went to the Second Harvest Food Bank in Spokane. The food collected helped replenish the food bank’s shelves so they could continue aiding Hurricane Ike survivors.

Danielle Shull, UCA student

Kettle Falls Welcomes Family of Three

It was the result of friendship evangelism. Shahbaz and Sara Bakhshnia became friends with neighbors Jeff and Mariko Camp and their teenage son Jonathon. As their friendship continued to grow over the past two years, the Camp family had lots of questions for the Bakhshnias. Their answers seemed just what the Camps were looking for and on Aug. 30 they were baptized into the Kettle Falls (Wash.) Church by Lee Roy Holmes, a retired pastor and member of the church.

The Camps and Bakhshnias live near Orient, Wash., which is about 25 miles north of Kettle Falls. Since a number of Adventist families have located in the area, a group has been organized, and the plan is to start regular church services at the Orient Community Church soon.

Lee Roy Holmes, communication leader

Jeff and Mariko Camp and their teenage son Jonathon were baptized as the result of friendship evangelism in the Kettle Falls (Wash.) Church by Lee Roy Holmes, a retired pastor and member of the church.
Puget Sound Students

Connect With God

Students at Puget Sound Adventist Academy bonded during Connect 2008, a recent three-day spiritual retreat at Rosario Beach. The retreat is an annual time for students and staff to connect with each other through community service, team-building exercises, social activities, and God-focused interaction.

Connect 2008, organized by Tyler Stewart, chaplain, began with a day dedicated to community service projects. Working together in groups, students and staff volunteered in Forest Park and at Hope Link. Some students also stayed to help with the renewing of Kirkland Elementary and Puget Sound Academy campuses.

Once at Rosario, students and staff continued with an obstacle course, beach activities, mountain biking, hiking, sports, and more. What students and staff like best is how new students are integrated into the student body and how the school grows closer together.

Connect also features a greatly loved tradition: an agape feast where students and teachers participate in the Last Supper, including the traditional foot washing experience. Many students stayed for an afterglow to reflect and share God’s work in their lives.

Thanks in part to the retreat, PSAA’s student body is connected for the rest of the academic year and beyond. As some students summarized, “Connect brought students together to start off a good year and bring us closer to God.”

Maddy Cleveland, Meghan Kay and Ellie Manley, PSAA students

Each year Puget Sound Adventist Academy hosts a weekend retreat for students to bond with each other and to connect with God.

Churches Host Party for Seniors

Friday Harbor and Orcas Island churches worked together recently to plan and host a birthday party for senior residents in their community.

During church they organized themselves and transported their potluck to the senior residence, where they strung balloons, put out a birthday cake, and enjoyed a delicious potluck meal. Residents were very thankful and delighted to see so many young faces joining them for the afternoon.

The event was one of several ways the Friday Harbor Church is reaching out to the community.

William Hurtado, Friday Harbor and Orcas Island Church pastor

Friday Harbor and Orcas Island churches team together to host a birthday party for area senior residents.
Auburn Adventist Plans
One Person, One School, One Church

On Sept. 17, the Associated Student Body of Auburn Adventist Academy announced a plan to build a One-Day Church in Mozambique. After learning about the mission project through ASI and 3ABN, AAA’s student leaders were eager to get involved.

“We are excited to take on this project,” says Karsten Cook, ASB president. “We want to reach out and help our brothers and sisters in Christ.”

“Our goal is two-fold,” says John Spano, ASB sponsor, as he shared the school’s plan for the project. “First, we want to raise $1,500 by Christmas.”

Our second goal is to have 100 percent participation of our school family.”

Since the launch of the fundraiser, students have contributed nearly $500 toward the mission. Once money has been raised, it will be matched dollar for dollar by a donor. The money will then be used to build the structure and roof of the church in just one day.

“I am excited about this project because it is within the reach of every student,” says Spano, when asked why he felt the One Person, One School, One Church ministry would make a positive impact on campus. “It is a project where we get to see our investment making a difference in other’s lives.”

Jondelle D. McGhee, AAA GLEANER correspondent

Grays Harbor Food Bank
Prays for One Freezer

When the Grays Harbor Food Bank freezer stopped working, Wilma and Bob O’Day, food bank coordinators, weren’t sure how they would find the money for a new one.

But even as they were puzzling about what to do next, God was already at work in the community with a solution.

Penny Palolo, a local church member, cares for Dorothy Lewis. Lewis’ husband, who enjoyed fishing, had a freezer he used for the fish he caught. After his death, Lewis announced one day to Palolo, “I must do something about that freezer, it’s just sitting in the garage.”

Palolo mentioned the Adventist Food Bank’s need of a new freezer. Lewis remembered how the church members had brought her flowers and a sympathy card after her husband’s death. She was touched by their kindness, and decided to not only donate the old freezer, but to also donate a brand-new freezer.

Today, the food bank has five refrigerators and seven freezers, all generously donated. Food bank staff are convinced now more than ever that God’s promise of providing “exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think” is true.

The church members prayed for one freezer, but God provided seven. From left: Dorothy Lewis, who donated a freezer; Bob O’Day, food bank coordinator; Penny Palolo, a church member; and Wilma O’Day, food bank coordinator.

The food bank opened in 1998 under the direction of John Hughes, it has steadily grown to help an average of 275 families every month.

Doris Tsuba, Grays Harbor Church communication leader
Adventists Give and Receive Honor

Seventh-day Adventists in Puyallup, Wash., honored six public servants this fall during a Sept. 11 memorial concert at the Puyallup Fair.

“All of us remember the oneness of spirit, unity and patriotism in the days and weeks after 9/11,” says Keith Noll, Puyallup Church pastor. “In our concert and in our recognition of six public servants, we want to perpetuate that spirit of unity.”

The concert combined patriotic songs performed by a 50-voice choir and brass ensemble with awards and recognition. Don Maloy, Puyallup mayor, offered a few remarks saying, “We’re coming together at this time and this date to say we do remember our heroes in the past and the heroes in our presence.”

The public servants recognized were Mark Ketter, City of Puyallup police officer; Sergeant Todd Karr, Pierce County detective; Eric McNealley, City of Puyallup firefighter/paramedic; Bryan Denman, Pierce County firefighter; Rozalia Jones, U.S. Navy petty officer; Harry D. Tunnell IV, U.S. Army colonel; and Jerrell Gosvenor, airman first class. In addition, Johnny Evans, WWII veteran, was recognized.

Educators Recognized
Earlier this year in August, 150 Washington Conference educators spent an afternoon serving the community. The City of Federal Way expressed their appreciation to the teachers by inviting representatives to attend a city council meeting in October to receive recognition.

“We’ve been talking [on City Council] about the importance of volunteering and giving back to the community,” says Jack Dovey, Federal Way mayor, adding how the city was impressed with how the teachers stepped forward to make a difference in the community.

Design Recognition
In mid-October at the Society of Adventist Communicators in Denver, Colo., Washington Conference’s redesigned tithe envelope was recognized as an “Award of Excellence finalist.”

The envelope—in English, Spanish and Korean—uses a warm, conversational format to share principles of tithing, offering and stewardship.

The initial English-version design was crafted by Heidi Martella, Washington Conference associate communication director, with designers at Color Press in Walla Walla, Wash., handling the design updates for the Spanish and Korean versions.

Feedback about the redesigned envelope from pastors, treasurers and church members has been positive. “The church leaders tell me ‘It’s about time,’ to have a tithe envelope like this,” says Donna Dickerson, Washington Conference treasury clerk, who handles envelope distribution to churches. •

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference associate communication director

The City of Federal Way recognizes Washington Conference teachers for making a difference in the community.

Puyallup Church honors six public servants during a Sept. 11 remembrance concert at the Puyallup Fair.
In September, a team from the Walla Walla University chapter of Engineers Without Borders traveled to Honduras to visit and help a school in Luis Garcia, as well as the community.

“The trip was a great technical success,” says John Hawkins, president of the WWU EWB chapter. “We collected helpful data and made personal connections crucial to the success of our project.”

The community of Luis Garcia is located 16 miles south of San Pedro Sula, the second largest city in Honduras. Its population is mostly factory workers and their families who located there when their homes were destroyed by Hurricane Mitch in 1998.

The Luis Garcia School hosts more than 300 students, far exceeding the practical capacity of the five existing classrooms. Due to the tin roofs, classes cannot be held during rain storms, and the kindergarten class meets in a building made entirely of tin, making summer days unbearably hot.

Classroom facilities aren’t the only concern on the school grounds. Sanitation is also an issue. The facilities are not adequate for the large student population. Runoff water flows through the schoolyard almost continuously, exposing the children to disease and parasites.

In March, the WWU EWB chapter plans to return to repair and expand the school with the help of local laborers. Plans are underway to construct four new classrooms, a cafeteria, and a functional sanitation system.

They also hope to build a fence around the schoolyard for added security.

“Everyone who went on this trip agrees the best part was meeting the people,” says Hawkins. “The excitement, gratitude and determination in the eyes of the villagers told us exactly why we were there. We can’t wait to get started on this project.”

While they were in Honduras, the team also scouted for projects. One possible project is to start a school feeding program to increase attendance and promote student health.

Engineers Without Borders–USA is an organization consisting of engineers and other interested parties with different skills from around the world. Local chapters are assigned engineering projects; sometimes abroad, sometimes locally. WWU’s EWB chapter was formed in 2007, and it currently has 25 members.

In October, the group held their first meeting with the design team for the project. Four senior civil engineering majors are making this their senior project, with the assistance of two faculty advisers.

For more information on how you can get involved with the EWB program at WWU, e-mail info@ewb-wwu.org, or visit www.ewb-wwu.org.

Becky St. Clair, University GLEANER correspondent
Deryl Jones Retires From Adventist Medical Center

“At the close of the year, Deryl Jones will say goodbye to Adventist Medical Center. After 22 years in the organization, the president and CEO announced his retirement plans in October.

According to Larry D. Dodds, AMC board chairman, executive vice president and COO of Adventist Health, Tom A. Russell, AMC senior vice president will succeed Jones in the role.

“It has been my privilege to serve this organization,” says Jones. “I have appreciated the opportunity to work with an outstanding team of physicians and a family of employees committed to meeting the health care needs of our community. However, it is now time for me to focus my attention on my family.”

“During his tenure at AMC, Deryl has been a tremendous asset to the hospital, its community and to Adventist Health as a whole,” says Dodds.

“In addition to his many accomplishments and administrative acumen, Deryl brought both intelligence and integrity to the position of CEO. We regretfully accept his decision to retire, but wish Deryl well as he begins this new chapter in his life.”

Under Jones’ leadership, the hospital constructed a four-story, 181,000-square-foot pavilion to house patient care services and an expanded emergency department, due to open next spring. Also during his tenure, the hospital opened Gresham Imaging Center, established the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine program and expanded its roster of medical clinics and physician affiliations. Jones was also instrumental in establishing endowments and philanthropic growth.

In addition, AMC received numerous awards including the 100 Best Companies to Work For (Oregon Business Magazine); Cleverly & Associates Community Value 5-Star Hospital and Top 100 Hospital; the California Award for Performance Excellence Eureka Award; HomeCare Elite Award; and more.

Jones has worked in health care for more than 35 years. President and CEO of AMC since 1998, he worked previously as the hospital’s COO after being promoted from senior vice president. Jones also served as president of Tillamook County General Hospital.

“Shawna Malvini, Adventist Health correspondent

Deryl Jones, president and CEO, will say goodbye to Adventist Medical Center.”

Deryl Jones takes a spin in the earth mover at the Pavilion groundbreaking event.

Health. As a member of the Sunnyside Church, Jones serves on the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee, on the board of trustees for the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, and on the governing board of Tillamook County General Hospital.

Deryl Jones and Steve Kinzer, Medical Group CEO, serve lunch at an annual employee recognition event.
Walla Walla University has been accepted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. The application was approved by the NAIA Council of Presidents in September.

The NAIA is the governing body for athletic programs at nearly 300 colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada. NAIA Champions of Character is the association’s innovative flagship program designed to instill character values in student-athletes, coaches and youth in the communities it serves.

“We are very excited to be part of the NAIA,” says Tim Windemuth, WWU athletics director. “The Champions of Character program they have philosophically goes right along with what we want as a Christian university. I think this membership will really enhance our program at WWU.”

The National Religious Broadcasters Network has added several Adventist shows to its lineup. 

The Evidence, featuring Dwight Nelson, airs Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. EST, and Keeping The Faith, a show about women’s issues, featuring Connie Vandeman Jeffery, will begin Wednesday, Jan. 7th, 2009, at 10 a.m. EST. In addition, all three Adventist-produced Christmas dramas, All Is Bright, Love’s Pure Light and Christmas at Cadillac Jack’s, will air this holiday season. Times and dates are to be announced.

The NRB Network is included in DIRECTV’s base package (TOTAL CHOICE) on Channel 378, which reaches 17.5 million homes.

The Center for Secular and Postmodern Studies, a division of Adventist Mission, seeks to explore the potential for authentic Adventist ministry in today’s rapidly evolving postmodern culture. They provide training and resources to equip pastors and lay members to understand this culture and how to develop and implement biblically faithful forms of mission designed for contemporary postmodernists. You can find their resources online at www.reframe.info.

Brad Brown left the Washington Conference Dec. 1 to become pastor of the Billings and Bridger (Mont.) churches.

Rick Casebier left his associate pastor position at the Kelso-Longview (Wash.) Church to become senior pastor of the Olympia (Wash.) Church.

Steve Cook is leaving his position as an Oregon Conference evangelist to accept a call at Wildwood, a supporting ministry near Chattanooga, Tenn., to provide leadership in evangelism training.

Pat Milligan became pastor of the Lents Church in October.

Jesse Sacdalan became pastor for the Ferndale, Everson and Lummi (Wash.) churches in December.
**Ames 65th**

Alvin and Evelyn Ames celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with a weekend with their children and grandchildren at their home in Battle Ground, Wash.

Alvin Ames married Evelyn Zundel on Aug. 30, 1943, in Spokane, Wash. Alvin and Evelyn lived in Tampa for 44 years. Alvin was employed with Burrill Lumber Co. and worked there until he retired in 1986.

Evelyn was a nurse’s aide at the Portland Sanitarium prior to marriage. She continued working in nursing and as an order clerk at a wholesale house while in Tampa. Evelyn was a homemaker after moving to Medford.

After retirement, they enjoyed traveling around the Northwest and Midwest in their RV, visiting national parks and monuments and also visiting children and grandchildren. They moved to Battle Ground, Wash., in 2001 after 44 years in Medford, Ore.

The Ames family includes Berta and Dan Ewert of Logan, Utah; Becky and Rocky Parker of Bonney Lake, Wash.; Shirley and Mick Davis of Tacoma, Wash.; Tony and Verna Ames of Battle Ground; Yvonne and Dwayne House of Veradale, Wash.; Connie Ames of Portland, Ore.; 9 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**Craft 50th**

Marty and Kathy Craft celebrated their 50th anniversary at a reception with their church family in Airway Heights, Wash., on Aug. 7, 2008. On Sept. 27th, they also celebrated with family and friends at a reception in their honor at the 100th year celebration of the Oroville (Calif.) Church, followed by a trip up the California-Oregon coast with their three daughters.

Marty Craft and Kathy Atkins were married Aug. 3, 1958, in Paradise, Calif. For most of his life Marty owned his own trucking and construction industries. He is semi-retired and enjoys part-time work with his 10-wheeled dump truck.

Kathy counts it a privilege to have been able to be a stay-at-home mother. In 1978, she began a second career in office and financial management. She currently is the financial manager/treasurer for Spokane Junior Academy. In the 1990s, Marty and Kathy enjoyed four years of service at Leoni Meadows, the Adventist retreat and summer camp in California. Marty served as shop manager and Kathy as food service director.

They make their home near Spokane, Wash. They enjoy working in the newly established Airway Heights Church, gardening, and spending as much time as possible with their family. Marty has served as elder and head elder and Kathy as Sabbath School division leader or superintendent, deaconess and secretary in many of the churches they attended in the California, Washington, Idaho and Upper Columbia conferences. Their passion for the Lord’s work has been evident in the many lives that have been touched by their friendship through the years.

The Craft family includes Debbie Craft of Eugene, Ore.; Kelly and Ray Veilleux of Waterville, Maine; Gary Tom, deceased; Kim and Don Bryan of Eugene, Ore.; 3 grandchildren, 6 step-grandchildren and 14 step-great-grandchildren.

**Iverson 90th**

Cleta May Iverson celebrated her 90th birthday at an open house on May 18, 2008, held at her own home in Salem, Ore.

Many of her friends shared this special time with her.

Cleta was born in Beach, N.D., on May 21, 1918, and married Clyde Iverson in Helena, Mont., on Oct. 12, 1941. She spent many years in Montana.

When she was in her late 50s she moved to Pendleton, Ore., near her son’s home. Later she moved to Salem, Ore., and has spent many years as a member of the Salem Central Church, where she loved to tell the children’s story in the church service and served as a greeter.

Her family includes Clydetta O’Dell, New Brunswick, Canada; Clyde Iverson, Division Headquarters in Korea; 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**Junghans 100th**

Ethel May Junghans celebrated her 100th birthday on Sept. 21, 2008, in Medford, Ore., with a party hosted by her family. Ethel May Foster was born on Sept. 18, 1908, in Medford, Ore. Her father was Woodson Alexander Foster, descendant of the musician Steven Foster.

Ethel May, the youngest of four children born to Chris and Marie Hanson. She graduated from Loma Linda Adventist College. She married Francis H. M. S. Richards, Sr., in 1953.

Ethel May worked as a manager in a portrait studio until she was introduced by a co-worker to the Seventh-day Adventist message and baptized in 1943. She then moved to work at Boulder Sanitarium in Denver, Colo. Ethel May was called to be a receptionist for four doctors in the Glendale (Calif.) Hospital.

There she met Alvin Junghans, an orthotist. They were married in the home of H. M. S. Richards, Sr., in 1953.

Ethel May and Alvin lived in South Pasadena and Yucaipa, Calif., until his death in 1986. She then lived with her daughter Mary Lou in Loma Linda, Calif., for 17 years. In 2004, Ethel May moved to Medford, Ore., to be close to her son Louis.

As part of her 100th birthday celebration, Ethel May wanted to be re baptized. Dan McCulloch, pastor, assisted by Randy Hill, pastor, performed the ceremony on Sept. 20, 2008, in the Medford Church.


**Lang 100th**

Viola (Hanson) Lang, born Dec. 19, 1907, celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends at the Marquis Care Center in Forest Grove, Ore.

Viola Hanson was born at Mt. Home, Idaho, the youngest of four children born to Chris and Marie Hanson. She graduated from Laurelwood Academy in 1925 and then attended Sierra College and Walla Walla College.

She married Francis
Viola Lang


Leiske 70th

Tillman “Jim” and Erma “Aggie” Leiske celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Oct. 19, 2008, with a reception at Richland, Wash., hosted by their children. They are members of the Kennewick Church.

Tillman Leiske married Erma Schultz on Oct. 24, 1938, in Mt. Shasta, Calif. Jim and Aggie (as they are affectionately known by friends and family) have spent most of their 70 years of marriage in the Yakima Valley. They presently live in Kennewick, Wash.

Tillman and Erma Leiske

Tillman worked in the timber industry during the WWII era. He was also a farmer. However he is best known for his ability in sales. He retired from the industrial hardware business in 1986. Erma is best known for her amazing ability to keep Tillman out of trouble.

Schlaman 50th

Bill and Barbara Schlaman of Days Creek, Ore., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 17, 2008, at the Campus Hill Church in Loma Linda, Calif., by having a dinner and a slide show with family and friends.

Bill Schlaman and Barbara Thacker were married Feb. 9, 1958, in the South Chapel of the La Sierra College campus and made their home in Loma Linda. Bill was the first paid fireman with the Loma Linda Fire Department. Barbara worked as ward secretary on the surgical floor of the Loma Linda Hospital. After their two children were in school she worked as a secretary at Loma Linda Elementary School.

Bill took a job driving a truck for Thunderbird Furniture the summer of 1974, which moved them to Milo Adventist Academy. In 1975 Bill went back into the fire service, working for the state of Oregon as Deputy State Fire Marshal. He was assigned Douglas County, eventually being transferred to the Oregon State Police district office in Medford, Ore. His work included Douglas, Jackson, Josephine and Curry counties, eventually retiring out of the Roseburg OSP office in 1998.

Barbara worked as an accountant for Milo Adventist Academy for 25 years, retiring in 1999.

They have spent the last few winters in California and Arizona. They also enjoy volunteering for Canyonville Adventist Community Services. They live across the river from Milo Academy and are active members of the Milo Academy Church.

The Schlaman family includes Don and Judy Schlaman of Yakima, Wash.; Terri and Steve Behrens of Nipomo, Calif.; and 4 grandchildren.

Wiser 60th

Chuck and Gwen (Detamore) Wiser celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their children. They enjoyed four days at Zig Zag River Cabins with trips to Mt. Hood and surrounding areas. Ron and Cathy Smith and family joined them on Sabbath for a celebratory dinner.

Chuck and Gwen met at Pacific Union College in 1947 and were married Sept. 5, 1948, after serving in the U.S. Army. Gwen is a retired nurse and Chuck was a hospital controller and administrator for 32 years in California, Florida and Guam. They enjoy retirement in their home in Cloverdale, Ore., overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The Wiser family includes Myrna and Ron Sorrels of Camarillo, Calif.; Lois and Richard Peifer of Corinth, Texas; 4 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.
BERTHELSHEN—Abigail Cherie was born Aug. 27, 2008, to Tim and Sherah (Arthur) Berthelsen, Portland, Ore.

CLUM—Iris E. was born Sept. 25, 2008, to Morgan and Laura (Rozen) Clum, Medford, Ore.

HALVORSEN—Ellie Bianca was born Sept. 16, 2008, to Chad and Emily (Ashlock) Halvorsen, Ridgefield, Wash.

JOHNSON—Ashlyn Marie was born Aug. 23, 2008, to James and Rebekah (Phillips) Johnson, Springfield, Ore.

TILBY—Hayden James was born Sept. 20, 2008, to Brandon and Michelle (Retzlaff) Tilby, Eugene, Ore.

WHITE—Tristan D. P. was born Sept. 26, 2008, to Jason and Tasha (Cardwell) White, Central Point, Ore.

WILTENBURG—Ayla L. was born July 22, 2008, to John and Amy (Matson) Wiltgen, Medford, Ore.

YOUKER—Samuel Gerald was born May 12, 2008, to Jeff and Jennifer (Chittenden) Youker, Loma Linda, Calif.


DEVITT—Roger Conrad, 90; born April 5, 1918, Lisbon, N.D.; died July 24, 2008, Redmond, Ore. Surviving: wife, Marjorie (Palmer) Del; daughters, Nancy Cross, College Place, Wash.; 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.


HILDE—Barbara Jean (Hampton), 84; born Jan. 5, 1924, Wenatchee, Wash.; died Sept. 16, 2008, Sunnyside, Wash. Surviving: husband, Luvene; sons, Kevin, College Place, Wash.; Keith, Richland, Wash.; Jeff, Auburn, Wash.; daughters, JoAnne Rea, Billings, Mont.; Beth Peterson, Elburn, Ill.; Sue Underwood, Grandview, Wash.; Pam Baumgartner, College Place; Patrice Carcagno, Outlook, Wash.; brother, Karl Hampton Jr., Big Fork, Mont.; 26 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

JESSEL—John T., 87; born Nov. 6, 1920, Humbolt, Saskatchewan, Canada; died Oct. 7, 2008, Springfield, Ore. Surviving: wife, Margaret (Paulson); son, David, Springfield; daughter, Marie English, Fort Worth, Texas; 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.


OLIVER—Stephanus “Steve” Petrus, 81; born April 2, 1927, East London, South Africa; died Aug. 1, 2008, Boring, Ore. Surviving: wife, Wretha (Hanson); son, Rodney, Toutle, Wash.; daughters, Melody Oliver, Seattle, Wash.; Rene Hart-Judd and Lynette Austin, both of Boring; Beverly Oliver, Scottsdale, Ariz.; brothers, Lodewickus, Cape Town, South Africa; Andries Jr., Bloemfontein, South Africa; Merwe, Bothasig, South Africa; Benjamin, Pretoria, South Africa; sisters, Judith Tuoker, Merwe, Bloemfontein, South Africa; Andries Jr., Lodewickus, Cape Town, South Africa; and a great-grandchild.

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NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offerings
Dec. 6—Local Church Budget; Dec. 13—World Budget; Inner City*; Dec. 20—Local Church Budget; Dec. 27—Local Conference Advance
*For Adventist Community Services offering on Dec. 13 you can download a bulletin insert by going to www.communityservices.org that includes information about the ACS Offering. Please encourage members to put their offering in a tithe envelope marked “ACS.”

Special Days
Curriculum Focus for the Month—Christian Hospitality*
Dec. 6—Bible Sabbath* +Curriculum resource materials are published in NAD church resource journals—Sabbath School Leadership, Celebración, Celebración, Kids’ Ministry Ideas, and Cornerstone Youth Resource Journal.
*Special Materials Provided.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY
Dec. 6, 7, 11, 13, 14—WWU drama production of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley.” All shows are at 8 p.m. in Village Hall. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (509) 527-2158. Dec. 12—Christmas Concert, 6 and 8 p.m., University Church. Free admission. For more information, call (509) 527-2561.

IDAHO
Third Annual Living Nativity
Dec. 20—21—Bring your family and friends to experience the “Reason for the Season.” The third annual Living Nativity at the La Grande Church, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., features live-costumed actors and animals in both an outdoor and indoor Bethlehem town replica. Free admission.

Following your stroll through Bethlehem, you are invited to enjoy a hot drink and live Christmas music in the La Grande Church fellowship hall, 2702 Adams Ave., La Grande, OR 97850. For more information, call (541) 963-4018.

OREGON
Milo Candlelight Concert
Dec. 13—Milo Christmas Candlelight Concert is at 7 p.m. in the Milo Adventist Academy Church. The concert will feature a living wreath dramatizing the nativity with handbells, choir, brass and string instruments. For further information, call (541) 825-3200.

Adventist Single Adult Ministries (ASAM)
Dec. 20—Church fellowship dinner begins at 1 p.m. Bring a dish, enough for yourself and a little extra. Then sing with us at a local facility and meet back at 5 p.m. at the Beaverton Church fellowship hall for a gift exchange and potluck. Bring a holiday dish or dessert. Then let the fun begin with the gift exchange. Bring a $5 to $10 wrapped-white elephant gift. There will also be an offering for FETCH—India Mission Trip.
For more information, contact Tom at: (503) 684-7971; e-mail tom.te@verizon.net; or Charlotte at: (503) 579-9549. This event is open to all singles. Your supervised children are welcome. Go to www.beavertonsda.com and then to the singles page.

WASHINGTON
Sing-Along Messiah
Dec. 13—Chehalis Church invites you to the annual Sing-Along Messiah at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Singers are especially needed. Books can be checked out. For information, contact the church at: (360) 748-4330; e-mail chehalis7thday@compprime.com; or Web site www.chehalissda.org.

SAGE
Feb. 15—SAGE Valentine Banquet—Western Style at La Quinta Inn, Tacoma, Wash., from noon to 3 p.m. $25 per ticket. May 8–10—SAGE Retreat in the Victorian seaport of Port Townsend, featuring Karl Haffner and Carl Wilkins. Lodging at Harborside Inn with a view of the harbor from every room. Meetings and meals at nearby historic military Fort Worden. Also, optional boat cruise to Protection Island with plenty of bird watching, limited to 70 passengers. For more information, call (253) 681-6018, e-mail joan.libby@wc.npuc.org, or on the Web www.washingtonconference.org. 32229 Weyerhaeuser Way South, Federal Way, WA 98001.

Love Takes Time Seminar
Feb. 27–March 1—You are invited to a Love Takes Time marriage seminar with marriage and family educators Harvey and Kathy Corwin at the Graham Church, 23910 70th Ave. East, Graham, WA. The seminar is for both couples and singles. To register, call (253) 847-1759. More information available at: www.LoveTakesTime.com.

WORLD CHURCH
Alumni Homecoming Weekend and 85th Anniversary
March 13–15—Rebuilding the Bridge alumni homecoming weekend and 85th-anniversary celebration. We’re looking for all former students of Lynwood Elementary and Academy, Los Angeles Academy (35th and Naomi), Los Angeles Union Adventist School and Los Angeles Adventist Academy. For more information, call: (323) 321-2585 or e-mail laahomecoming@aol.com.

La Sierra Academy ‘09 Alumni Weekend:
April 24—Golf tournament.
April 25—Alumni Sabbath—Honor classes ’49, ’59, ’69, ’79, ’89, ’99, ’04—Keynote speaker Lewis Walton. Come celebrate friends and memories on the LSA Campus. Contact alumni office (951) 351-1445 ext. 244 or Isalalumni@lsak12.com to update personal information, find missing class members, and share news and class reunion gatherings. A large selection of back yearbooks are available for purchase.

Seeking Musicians
The North American Division seeks talented musicians to perform at the 2010 GC Session in Atlanta, GA. To apply, visit www.gcsession.org/music. Applications must be received by Jan. 31, 2009.
Easy Ways to Decrease Stress

Stress can be debilitating and cause chronic headaches, insomnia, ulcers and heart attacks. Here are some ways to relax:

- Take a mental vacation. Picture yourself at your favorite place or doing your favorite activity.
- Have a change of pace. If you’ve been resting, do something active. If you’ve been working hard physically, do something restful.
- Do neck exercises by turning your head left and right, forward and backward, and side to side—holding each for six to seven seconds. Do not do neck rolls.
- Breathe deeply. Take 10 breaths of fresh outdoor air.
- Relax your jaw. A lot of stressed people clench their teeth. So open your jaw wide.
- Meditate on scripture.

Read more at: www.wellsource.info/handouts/ReduceStress.pdf.

Stay Active During Northwest Winters

It’s important to keep up with your walking program even on rainy, windy, snowy, cold winter days. Invest in a water-resistant windbreaker or vest. Avoid wearing a rubberized or vinyl rain slicker, which tends to trap perspiration inside. If you exercise in them, you’ll be as wet from sweat as you would be with no jacket at all! Dress in layers using fabric that keeps you warm even if wet, with a reflective or brightly colored jacket for the outside layer. Avoid cotton—it dries slowly and gives no warmth if wet. If you have trouble keeping your feet warm, wear two layers of socks—with moisture-wicking socks next to your skin. And be sure to wear warm gloves, a cap or hat, and a scarf around your neck.


What to Do About Food Intolerance

Most Americans who believe they have food allergies actually suffer from food intolerance. While it can be uncomfortable, it’s not life-threatening. If you suspect you are intolerant to a particular food, eat the food two to three times in a row. Keep a food journal of what you eat and your reaction, if any. If it’s a small problem, eat the food in smaller amounts or less frequently. If it’s a larger problem, try the food in a different form. For example, many lactase-intolerant people can eat yogurt. It is almost impossible to be allergic to an entire food group. If you find you’re sensitive to walnuts, try almonds and Brazil nuts. If you have bloating and gas from eating red beans, try white beans.

Ask the Wellness Doctor

Q: How can I keep from gaining weight over the holidays (and don’t tell me to not eat pie, because I know I will)?
A: Check out: www.wellsource.info/wn/ask-holidays.pdf to learn how to enjoy the holidays without putting on unwanted pounds.
Does God really expect me to do what He asks?

I think about the dad who had something to give his young son and asked him to hold out his hand. “Why?” asked the little boy with his hands firmly clasped behind his back. The father repeated his request, but the son kept asking “why”—and missed out on the treat his dad wanted to give him.

The Bible says in James 1:17 (NIV) “Every good and perfect gift is from...the Father.” But we sometimes worry that He might ask something of us that we are not going to like.

There’s the story in Luke 18 about the rich young ruler who thought he’d done everything necessary to get eternal life. But when Jesus asked him to share everything he had with others, he went away very sad. He thought it was too hard.

There are two things that Jesus asks of me and you: Two commands from Luke 10:27 (NIV) “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all of your soul and with all your strength and all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself.”

I believe Jesus does expect us to do what He asks. When we think of what He did for us on the cross, is it really too much to love Him and those who live around us who are saved by His same love? God bless you. Keep looking up!

P.J. Deming, Milo Academy pastor/chaplain

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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is accepting resumes for a full-time assistant professor of computer science. Required: Ph.D. in Computer Science, must have a strong commitment to teaching excellence at the undergraduate and graduate level. Must be a Seventh-day Adventist in good and regular standing. Submit resumes to stthoman@andrews.edu.

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Sunset Schedule

December

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</table>

Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.
Daylight Savings time March 11.
“While tuning my radio one night, I found your program and it attracted me. Now I drop everything when it comes on.”

Listener in Asia

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Adventist Community Services
Helping communities in Christ’s name.

Adventist Community Services Community Development Programs provide vital help to families who are unemployed, working-poor, uninsured, disadvantaged, and affected by uncontrollable events throughout the United States and Bermuda.

Give generously on December 13 toward the ACS Offering, and let God use you to help His children through our six programs:

- Inner City/Urban/Suburban Ministries
- Youth Empowered to Serve
- Disaster Response
- Elder Care
- Crisis Care
- Tutoring & Mentoring

For more information or to give, call 1-800-381-7171 or visit www.communityservices.org

Changing Lives Begins With You

RX Inner City Offering Day
December 13, 2008

The legislation implementing the “bailout package” contains important provisions relating to charitable giving. An important feature in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 extension of certain portions of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 that expired on December 31, 2007. From a planned giving perspective, the key feature is the two-year extension of the IRA Charitable Rollover. The ability to make outright gifts from IRA funds has been extended through December 31, 2009. Tax-free rollover gifts could be $1,000, $10,000 or any amount up to $100,000 in any one year. The rules are the same as for IRA gifts made in 2006 and 2007.

Would you like to use this rollover window of opportunity? Here two ways:

• An individual would contact the custodian (manager) of their IRA and request an amount to be sent directly to their charity. The amount may be part of, all of, or in excess of the required minimum deduction. The custodian would disburse the funds to the charity either restricted or unrestricted.

• An individual may have already given gifts to a charity up to the federal limit, which is generally up to 50 percent of the adjusted gross income. You can still make charitable gift from the IRA without exceeding federal limits or increasing taxes. The IRA distribution will not increase taxable income as it is disbursed directly to charity and the charitable contribution is not counted against the 50 percent ceiling.

Please check with your tax adviser to learn about your IRA charitable rollover benefits. Contact your conference Planned Giving & Trust Services department or the North Pacific Union Conference Association at 360-857-7022; e-mail gary.dodge@nw.npuc.org for more information.

Gary W. Dodge, NPUC director of planned giving
Christmas at Cadillac Jack's

A special holiday treat presented by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America

An unexpected road trip to find a long-lost daughter becomes an unforgettable Christmas Eve.

Join Joe and Rose for a heartwarming, freshly prepared serving of love, reconciliation and forgiveness.

Call your NBC affiliate for date and time in your area. Watch it on TBN (check local listings for date and time)

Check www.nadadventist.org or call 805-955-7681 to find a station in your area
If you’ve been praying to make a difference…

Here’s your chance.

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Gleaner
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www.GleanerOnline.org
What is HBOT?
Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) has been shown to be effective in treating many neurological, cardiovascular, and autoimmune conditions. HBOT is a method of administering pure oxygen while the patient is at greater than atmospheric pressure. Oxygen, when delivered under pressure, is 10-15 times more effective than when delivered at normal atmospheric pressure.

What does HBOT treat?
There are over 65 indications, which may not be covered by insurance, that have been employed around the world using HBOT.

The following is a partial list:
- Autistic Disorders
- Stroke
- MS
- Fibromyalgia
- Vegetative Coma
- Cerebral Palsy
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
- Bell's Palsy
- Parkinson's Disease
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Lyme Disease
- Migraine
- Meniere's Disease

Indications for HBOT
Currently, Medicare and private insurance have approved HBOT for patients with the following medically established criteria:
- Acute Carbon Monoxide Intoxication
- Decompression Illness
- Gas Gangrene
- Gas or Air Embolism
- Acute Traumatic Peripheral Ischemia
- Crush Injuries
- Progressive Necrotizing Infections
- Chronic Refractory Osteomyelitis
- Osteoradionecrosis
- Soft Tissue Radionecrosis
- Cyanide Poisoning
- Actinomycosis
- Diabetic Wounds
Perhaps they had spent hours together swapping stories and experiences, carpenter stuff like mortise and tenon joints. Maybe Lazarus was pretty handy with tools too.

Whatever the history, when the Master stood before the tomb, my Bible simply says, “Jesus wept.” The Life-giver stood in the presence of death, overcome with great, racking sobs.

I wonder if He felt that pain when my friend Jere died, or when your spouse, your child, your father or mother, your dearest friend took their last breath? I’m pretty sure He did, because there at Lazarus’ tomb He saw the weight of all that would happen in the days, years and centuries to come. He saw pain and suffering extended almost beyond what He could bear.

That’s why He wept. He didn’t cry for Lazarus. He cried for us.

He cried for everyone who, in the crosshairs of a sinful world, has discovered suffering is no respecter of persons. Our Creator wept because He understood.

I don’t know why Jesus immediately raised Lazarus and not Jere, or why a reprieve is granted to some but not others. But I do know where to direct my anger in this great cosmic controversy—not at the Man with the tears on His face, but to the loser back in the shadows, the one with the evil grin whose time is running short.

And I do know sleep is not the worst thing when you’re confident the morning will bring renewed energy and hope of victory.

Jere e-mailed me a day or so before he died. He’d been suffering with chemo-related side effects, but was hopeful. “We took a beautiful drive in nature last Sabbath,” he said. “I would love to be able to do that again.”

The fall colors he saw that Sabbath are mostly gone now. The branches are bare, in protective mode, conserving strength for the winter ahead. If I didn’t know about the coming spring, I’d be sad. But I believe the promise of new life paid in full by the Man who wept. I’m guessing Jere will be one of the first up when the divine alarm clock rings at the crack of a better dawn, ready to cash in those frequent flier miles for a stellar ride in nature.

The words to an old song play in my mind: “Rest, rest for the weary, peace, peace to the soul. Though life may be dreary, earth is not thy goal...” I think of Immanuel, who wanted to be with us, so we could be with Him.

And I say a prayer, thanking God that Jesus wept. •
We’ll put together a financial package that reflects your circumstances and meets your need, no matter how great. What makes it possible is a partnership—generous scholarships, need-based aid, student employment, family contribution and God’s help.

Explore your options at a free, one-session **Financial Solutions for College** workshop this winter.

**WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

Auburn Adventist Academy  
*Saturday, February 21, 6 pm*

Cascade Christian Academy  
*Thursday, February 19, 7 pm*

Columbia Adventist Academy  
*Tuesday, February 17, 7 pm*

Gem State Academy  
*Saturday, January 31, 6:30 pm*

Livingstone Adventist Academy  
*Thursday, February 12, 7 pm*

Milo Adventist Academy  
*Saturday, January 24, 5:30 pm*

Mount Ellis Academy  
*Took place in November*

Portland Adventist Academy  
*Monday, February 2, 7 pm*

Puget Sound Academy  
*Tuesday, February 10, 7 pm*

Rogue Valley Adventist School  
*Sunday, January 25, 10 am*

Skagit Adventist School  
*Wednesday, February 25, 7 pm*

Upper Columbia Academy  
*Saturday, February 28, 6 pm*

Walla Walla Valley Academy  
*Wednesday, February 18, 7 pm*

**Financial Solutions for College workshops** show families like the Bells—Brenden, Ashley and Jordan—how to make their higher education dreams come true.
The Lost Girl

She Thought:
I am empty
I know I am worthless
I can’t do anything right

She Discovered:
I am loved
I know my worth
I can accomplish... anything with God

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