“WHAT WOULD Dorcas DO Today?”

www.GleanerOnline.org
The Lord will keep you from all harm—He will watch over your life.  
Psalm 121:7 (NIV)

“Community service is not just something we should do. It’s something we should become, from the inside out.”

What are we doing to make a tangible difference in the communities in which we live? If the doors of the Seventh-day Adventist church were locked tight and closed indefinitely, would anyone in your town notice? When your county reviews its plans for dealing with a natural disaster, do they include the local Seventh-day Adventist church and school on the list of responders? Does your church have a food bank, a clothing bank, support group for people struggling with addictions, divorce recovery program, or community health programs? Are you involved in some of the programs associated with Adventist Community Services? And by the way, Adventist Community Services is not an exclusive organization limited to people over the age of 60. You will be welcomed with open arms even if you are only two or three decades old. They won’t hold your youth and inexperience against you.

This is not an issue of small consequence. The Desire of Ages vividly portrays the great judgment day. “When the nations are gathered before Him, there will be but two classes, and their eternal destiny will be determined by what they have done or neglected to do for Him in the person of the poor and the suffering.”

That is a startling statement. Eternal destiny determined by what I have done for the poor and suffering. How about today, this week, this month? What have we done for those who have needs in our very own neighborhoods?

Adventist Community Services is doing a lot, and they could use your help. Volunteer today to relieve suffering and make this world a better place as we wait for the soon return of Jesus. Look for ways you can help in your community, or even with your next-door neighbors.

Community service is not just something we should do. It’s something we should become, from the inside out.

“In that day Christ does not present before men the great work He has done for them in giving His life for their redemption. He presents the faithful work they have done for Him. To those whom He sets upon His right hand He will say, ‘Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry, and ye gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and ye visited Me: I was in prison, and ye came unto Me.’ But those whom Christ commends know not that they have been ministering unto Him. To their perplexed inquiries, He answers, ‘Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.’”

1, 2 Ellen G. White, Desire of Ages, 637.
This rigorous research, conducted at La Sierra University, is validating what parents, teachers, and students involved in Adventist education have known for years—Adventist school students perform better than the national average.

Not only do students who attend Adventist schools achieve half a grade level higher in all subjects than predicted based on their ability scores, but they also gain the benefits of Adventist education shown by other research—strong spiritual lives and healthy lifestyle choices.

CognitiveGenesis (www.cognitivegenesis.org) is a 4-year study of 30,000 students, grades 3–9 and 11, enrolled in Adventist schools across North America.

Adventist Education

CognitiveGenesis

73rd percentile

AVERAGE 8TH-GRADER’S ACHIEVEMENT AFTER ALL 7 PREVIOUS YEARS AT ANY ADVENTIST SCHOOL

ADVENTIST SCHOOL STUDENTS ON AVERAGE ACHIEVE HALF A GRADE LEVEL ABOVE THEIR PREDICTED ABILITY IN ALL SUBJECTS—NO MATTER WHAT THE SCHOOL SIZE

AdventistEducation.org
“WHAT WOULD Dorcas DO Today?”

When she died, the whole town wept. Her life had been rich with unselfish service to her neighbors—whatever the need, she found an answer. Her death left a hole almost more than they could bear. But then, unexpected drama, in a summons with her Hebrew name. “Tabitha, arise,” commanded the apostle Peter. And heartsick loss turned into unbounded joy.

We most often remember her name as it is in Greek: Dorcas, meaning “gazelle,” a fitting description of her boundless energy in serving those around her. She inspired countless people through succeeding centuries toward acts of service.

Our own corporate commitment to community service connects closely with this story. In 1879 the Adventist Church officially recognized its own Dorcas Society to address the needs of people and communities across North America. And that name has endured through the various changes the organization has made over recent decades (see this feature’s sidebar on page 9).

STUCK ON A STEREOTYPE

To some members, however, the “Dorcas concept” has become a stereotype potentially limiting its power to do good.

Adventist community service is often perceived as something we “outsource” as Adventist Community Services to a small group of volunteers with time on their hands. If a room of women sewing quilts is your picture of Dorcas, you’re seeing a critical slice of our church’s outreach—but only a slice.

Dorcas exemplified the work of Christ. And more than a century ago, Ellen G. White penned the familiar words which have since challenged Adventists to consider Jesus’ unique method of ministry: “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’”

Tracing Jesus’ life and ministry through the gospels reveals an intentional mingling of physical, mental and spiritual efforts. It was personal ministry for Him, not something He DID but something He WAS.

REALITY BIGGER THAN PERCEPTION

And that sort of commitment today includes quilts, canned goods and mended clothing—indeed. However it is also much more, and as varied as the spiritual gifts within each of us.

Adventist Community Service volunteers are actively changing their communities in amazing ways. When floods, hurricanes or other disasters strike, they’re involved alongside with other relief agencies in the nitty-gritty details in the most difficult places.
Food, clothing and in some cases medical services are provided at ACS centers throughout the Northwest and beyond. In just one metro area, Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS) serves more than 200,000 people and distributes in excess of a million pounds of food each year.

Yet those who work within these nonprofit extensions of the church do so with an uncommon dedication that positions them for a common malady of most volunteer-based organizations—burnout. The numbers of those who have for years sewed quilts are dwindling with age. Those who sort clothes, manage food distribution, pick up donated items, and administer indigent health care are increasingly swamped with growing needs and little relief in sight.

Frankly, our church’s relief agency is in need of relief itself. The ACS army needs hundreds if not thousands of new recruits—and not just in the Dorcas rooms and community service centers, but throughout the communities and neighborhoods where we all live. Jesus’ ministry wasn’t confined to a room or a building. He ministered to people wherever He found them. And He coupled His outreach with an evangelistic call—He invited them to “Follow Me.” To unabashedly lean on a cliché, He offered not only a hand out, but also a hand up.

**KINGDOM ASSIGNMENTS**

The vision is growing. In March, the Upper Columbia Conference hosted an important rally under the guidance of Patty Marsh, community service director, called “Impact: Unleash the Power of Kindness.” Its focus: helping to develop church communities that reach people the way Jesus did.

David Jamiesen, keynote speaker and Aldergrove Church (British Columbia, Canada) senior pastor, asked the several hundred in attendance: “How do ordinary individuals—housewives, mechanics, teachers, nurses and businessmen—become inspired to do something significant to touch the lives of those around them?”

The answer, he said, is in understanding the concept of “Kingdom Assignments.”

Jamiesen shared how he challenged Aldergrove members with a mission to prayerfully seek “Kingdom Assignments.” He invited 30 willing members to take a $100 bill and ask God to show them how to multiply it in order to do an act of kindness for someone outside the walls of the church during the next 90 days. The following week, he challenged 50 more members to sell a treasure valued at $100 or more and bring the funds to the church to use toward a community service project.

The result? As the 90-day reports came in, these investment projects not only touched a community and brought many into church contact, but that $3,000 investment had increased in value to more than $50,000.

Ten churches within the Oregon Conference have already begun their own “Kingdom Assignments” plan, according to Rhonda Whitney, conference outreach director. One family is using their $100 investment fund to buy seed for an organic community garden and inviting their neighbors to garden with them. A 9-year-old girl is working with her family to start a children’s visitation ministry for hospitals and the elderly. This summer’s Oregon Conference camp meeting will feature full reports of these and many other “Kingdom Assignments” stories.

Whitney says, “It’s so natural for us to ask for a list of things to do. But Jesus’ method is not a ‘program.’ It’s not something we do, but rather something we become as we realize outreach is not simply behavior, but rather an attitude of love that produces acts of kindness.”

Greenlake (Wash.) Church members use the Christmas season to connect with needy community children.
The Vision Is Catching

For some of us who have grown accustomed to community service “outsourced” to a select group of volunteers, here’s a News Flash: Each one of us is called to “brighten the corner” right where we are.

Richard and Laurie Olson are relatively new members in Oregon. They’re living this journey. Laurie runs an outreach for community children in her home. When Hurricane Ike hit Texas, Richard hooked a trailer up to his truck and headed out to be part of the support teams. They are living by faith, exploring the promises, and learning what it means to be on a full-time “Kingdom Assignment.” Their story is highlighted in this quarter’s NW Spotlight on Mission, which can be seen in your church or online at www.npuc.org.

So, What Would Dorcas Do?

Dorcas inspired an entire community with her spirit of kindness, her unselfish giving. It’s human nature to take an example, create a formula for service and copy it. But when you really get to know Jesus you’ll ask Him to give you a love for people, and to impress you with what you personally can do to make a positive impact right where you are. You may never make the headlines, but you will make a difference, one life at a time.

That is the critical element at the core of Adventist Community Services, whether it’s done through a local ACS center, or right next door. It starts with an individual, blessed by God and inspired to accept a “Kingdom Assignment” to make a difference for Him. It’s the essence of what Jesus came to do. It’s the task He left for us. It’s what Dorcas would do, today.

Steve Vistaunet, North Pacific Union Conference assistant to the president for communication

1 Ellen G. White, Ministry of Healing, 143.

Where in the World Is ACS?

Since the Dorcas Society was officially recognized in 1879, Seventh-day Adventist humanitarian efforts have evolved as those challenges have grown. Here are several points clarifying the relationship of our church’s organized efforts in domestic and international outreach.

International Outreach—ADRA

• 1956 Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service (SAWS) organized to strengthen Adventist relief efforts, with shipments valued at nearly $500,000 in 1958.
• 1973 Name changes to Seventh-day Adventist World Service (SAWS), as mission broadens from disaster relief to long-term development.
• 1983 Brought another name change to Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International.

In 2004, ADRA assisted nearly 24 million people with more than $159 million (U.S. dollars) in aid.

Domestic Outreach—ACS

ACS coordinates more than 1,100 outreach centers in cities across the U.S. and provides services such as disaster response, crisis care, the Youth Empowered to Serve program, tutoring and mentoring, and elder care and inner city ministries.

Here’s an important “HEADS UP:” Funds given to ADRA or for disaster relief are used primarily for ADRA’s international mission and provide little help for domestic relief efforts.

Those who wish to donate for ACS outreach projects within the U.S. should clearly mark their offerings for “NAD ACS.” Oregon Conference members may use the “Humanitarian Services” line on their tithe envelopes.

Each local conference has its own ACS director. Doug Venn coordinates disaster response needs for the North Pacific Union Conference.
JAMAICA

University Receives Radio License
Eight years after applying for a license to operate a radio station, the Seventh-day Adventist-run Northern Caribbean University is preparing to go on the air. The government has granted a license for the student-run station. “We will pull ourselves together and set the pace for the highest caliber of programming in radio,” says Herbert Thompson, university president.

SOURCE: Inter American Division

ARGENTINA

Aid Groups Target Flood Survivors
The Adventist Development and Relief Agency is providing aid for residents of Argentina who have been affected by recent flooding and mudslides. ADRA has distributed supplies, including tents, clothing, shoes and medicine to 1,500 survivors. In addition, the agency is providing psychological assistance for 6,000 children between the ages of 4 and 13 in five local schools.

SOURCE: ADRA

GUATEMALA

Adventist Pastor Murdered
Church members are mourning the loss of a pastor who was gunned down in Guatemala’s southern region. Erick Cerritos is one of 12 Adventist church members who have been murdered in Guatemala since 2008, according to a report by the church’s communication director for the region. Guatemala is facing an increase in violence as drug cartels flood into the country from Mexico.

SOURCE: Adventist News Network
PHILIPPINES

First Woman Earns Ministry Doctorate
A former engineer has become the first Seventh-day Adventist woman in the Philippines to earn a ministry doctorate and practice as a field pastor in the country. Jadaza Hintay was awarded the degree from the Adventist International Institute of Advance Studies in Silang Cavite, Philippines. Hintay’s doctoral project researched how church growth principles could be applied to Chinese-Filipino churches in Manila. She now plans to implement the findings from her project.

SOURCE: Adventist News Network

GERMANY

Hope Channel Begins Local Broadcast
The flagship broadcast television network for the Seventh-day Adventist Church is now transmitting in Germany. Hope Channel received their license and began broadcasting in January. The station is available 24 hours a day through satellite provider Astra, and live streaming is available on the Web site www.hopechannel.de.

SOURCE: Adventist News Network
En la Convocación Hispana de la Conferencia de Washington, el 10 de Enero, se registraron 145 familias para participar en los proyectos de grupos pequeños y campañas satelitales en preparación para la Red 2009. En Febrero 21, la Iglesia Hispana de Renton tuvo una marcha, inaugurando y dedicando doce Grupos Pequeños. Cada Grupo marchó con su banderín y su nombre. Dieron reportes de visitas alcanzadas, estudios bíblicos y metas por lograr. Se les entregó los materiales que usarán los próximos 7 meses y 100 volantes por grupo con la dirección de cada lugar de reunión para ser distribuidos entre sus vecinos. Hasta ahora ha sido un gran éxito, porque cada grupo ha tenido un buen número de visitas regulares. Asistiendo a una de esas reuniones escuché el testimonio de una visita que dijo: “No pensaba que una iglesia se interesaría por nuestro vecindario. Ustedes están haciendo una obra increíble.” Para cada grupo pequeño de la Conferencia de Washington le hemos puesto un blanco de 3 bautismos. Este es el plan de Dios que debiera ser practicado por todos. Con alegría seguimos marchando a nuestra Patria Celestial y nuestro próximo proyecto es abrir una nueva planta de iglesia en Olympia, en agosto del 2009. Necesitamos sus oraciones.

Pr. Omar Grieve
Torkelsen Gets a Firsthand Look

When Max Torkelsen, North Pacific Union Conference president, arrived in Anchorage, Alaska, on a warm spring weekend recently, his first comments were “this beauty is amazing. I want to see a moose!”

After preaching at the Northside Church, Torkelsen talked with conference leaders about the challenges and needs of Alaska. Unfortunately, his quest to see a moose was fruitless.

On Sunday he met with the Alaska Conference executive committee. Accompanied by Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president, and his wife Colleen, Torkelsen’s next stop was the front line of the Iditarod in Willow where 67 dog teams began the 10-day, 1,050-mile journey to Nome. Melissa Owens, a young Adventist girl from Nome, ran her second race.

From there, the group landed on the Susitna River and spent a few moments at a local lodge on the trail. Then it was back to Anchorage to catch a flight home.

Oh, and yes, Torkelsen saw more than 20 moose from the air.

Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president

Max Torkelsen, NPUC president, pauses with pilot Steve Libby (left) and Colleen Crawford during his flying tour of a small slice of Alaskan beauty.

Max Torkelsen, NPUC president, (right) checks out the local color at the start of the 2009 Iditarod dog sled race.

Alaska Conference presents
Camp Meeting 2009
July 14-18

God of the Impossible

FEATURED SPEAKERS:
Fred Hardinge  Anthony Kent  Max Torkelson  Lee Venden  Jeff Wilson
Kuna Church Connects With the Community

Beginning Jan. 3 and continuing through much of February, the Kuna Church held a series of public evangelistic meetings called Community Conversations LIVE. For seven weeks, on Sabbath mornings and Wednesday nights, Randy Maxwell, pastor, attempted to engage the seeker, the skeptic, and the unchurched in a dialogue about faith that matters today.

Sabbath morning presentations were followed with a fellowship meal. Wednesday night meetings were classroom-style, designed to give guests an opportunity to dialogue and process questions related to the presentation the previous Sabbath.

“On Sabbaths we engaged the subject matter through proclamation, and Wednesday nights, we dug deeper through conversation and interaction with the Word,” says Maxwell. The public meetings were the culmination of earlier attempts to connect with the community through monthly Community Conversations teleconferences that began last fall. Every fourth Tuesday the church hosts an hour-long telecast advertised in the local paper and on various Web sites. People are invited to call in and listen to Maxwell and guest presenters discuss spiritual issues. “I love how the Community Conversations LIVE fits our church’s personality and talents,” says Aileen Andres Sox, longtime Kuna member and Our Little Friend and Primary Treasure editor. “The people I’ve met who visited us for the first time during these meetings are enthusiastic to hear more of what the Bible teaches about the times in which we are living.”

The public meetings were designed to be “seed-sowing” with a goal of generating new friendships and Bible studies. During the seven-week series, three new home-based Bible study/prayer groups organized. These “Homes of H.O.P.E.” (Houses Of Prayer Everywhere) are led by Kuna Church members. “And what is awesome is almost 100 percent of the new friends who came consistently during the series are still attending regularly on Sabbath and are involved in a Home of HOPE,” says Maxwell, who reports three additional groups slated to launch soon.

Sean and Lisa Carrick of Kuna are among those attending the meetings. “The Community Conversations were tremendously helpful to me as I wanted—no, I needed to know the truth about hell, death and the Sabbath,” says Sean. “Now that I have some understanding of our living souls, I am living a healthier lifestyle. The home group has been a great support as I am getting lots of grief from family over our decision to become Seventh-day Adventists.”

Church leadership has already given the green light on future meetings like these, and is planning to use the DVD and audio recordings from the first meetings in ongoing outreach to the Kuna community.

Randy Maxwell, Kuna Church pastor
Montanans Minister in the Dominican Republic

San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic, was the destination for 17 people from Montana in March for evangelistic meetings with the 2009 North Pacific Union Conference mission team. Members from Bozeman, Hamilton, Libby, Missoula and Mount Ellis Academy made up approximately a third of the team. Seven of the members were teenagers from the Missoula Church.

Through their work, team members learned total dependence on Jesus and an increased passionate love for those eternally lost. Many experienced their own personal spiritual revival and came away having a greater appreciation of what they have at home.

Alvaro Sauza, Missoula/Superior (Mont.) district pastor observes, “Our youth overcame their fear of public speaking by allowing the love of Jesus to abide in their hearts; as the scriptures say, ‘...perfect love casts out fear...’” (1 John 4:18).

The Lord blessed with several hundred baptisms at the sites where all of the international evangelists were serving. Those who went now eagerly await Jesus’ soon return to be reunited with their new Dominican Republic friends.

Montana Conference ministerial director

Members from Montana and the Northwest teach Dominican children in a Sabbath School class.

Ciara Roberts of the Missoula Church presents one of the evangelistic messages with the help of an interpreter during the March Dominican trip.

Montana Conference Camp Meeting

“Bring the Harvest Home”

June 17-20, 2009
Mount Ellis Academy


Brian McMahon, senior evangelist with Amazing Facts

Featured Speakers:

Frank Bonderant - Outreach/Witnessing
Paul Dybdahl - Biblical Study
Don Hall - Health
Doug Venn - Disaster Preparedness

Seminar Leaders:

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

For Reservations:
Call: (406) 587-3101
Meadow Glade Church Burns Bank Note

On Sabbath, March 21, a large group filled the sanctuary at the Meadow Glade Church, in Battle Ground, Wash., to celebrate a momentous occasion. A large glass bowl sat on a pillar in the middle of the platform. A single piece of ivory paper sat in the bowl. A red fire extinguisher was placed next to the pillar. On the other side an easel stood with a large piece of paper.

In the glass bowl was the church’s promissory note; members had paid the church expansion project off—all $2.4 million of it. In fact, they had paid it off much sooner than anyone thought possible. The families of the Meadow Glade Church, many of them young, had worked together to pay off the expansion project. Special guests came to help celebrate the occasion, including Mike Ciraulo, Battle Ground, Wash., mayor; Elder Max Torkelsen, North Pacific Union Conference president; Al Reimche, Oregon Conference president; Jon Corder, conference vice president of finance; and Elder LeRoy Finck, Meadow Glade Church retired pastor. Wanda Vaz, Portland Adventist Medical Center hospice chaplain, gave special music.

The guests and pastors of the church gathered around the glass bowl and Hope, the young daughter of Jim Bollin, pastor, stepped forward to help light the note. As the congregation watched, they sang a hearty rendition of the doxology and then spent a few moments in silent contemplation and rededication to God. •

Krissy Barber, Oregon Conference communication intern

Dallas Discovers Missions and Miracles

Icy roads along with a foot or two of snow didn’t stop the Dallas Oregon Maranatha mission group from embarking on a mission to Fresia, Chile. On Dec. 21, 2008, they traveled through wintry weather to the Portland airport, only to find it was closed. However God was watching out for the group and a plane appeared in the sky through the snow and rain. Only three planes left the airport that day; the group’s plane was on one of them.

Their mission was important and worth the difficult travel. In Fresia, Chile, a small congregation needed a church. They had been praying for 18 years, and God used the team to answer their prayers. With more than 23 builders plus a few church members the church was finished in seven working days. •

Kirsten Walker, Dallas Church communication leader

A Maranatha group from Dallas, Ore., exchanges winter weather for a chance to help a church in Chile.
Morris Shares Radical Teachings in Vancouver

The North Pacific Union Conference recently concluded another Momentum series, which featured Derek Morris and the Radical Teachings of Jesus. Morris is the pastor of the 3,200 member Forest Lake Church in Apopka, Fla., and author of The Radical Prayer. “The title of the series came about in two ways,” says Morris. “One, my book The Radical Prayer reminds me Jesus wants us to go beyond the ordinary. Then, I realized to a secular, unbelieving world, Jesus’ teachings are all radical; Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; the Bible is the reliable Word of God; salvation comes by looking to someone lifted up on a tree; this Jesus who died is risen from the grave and is coming back to the Earth, to end history as we know it.”

Coordinated by Dan Serns, NPUC ministerial director, the preparation for this series began months ago with intercessory prayer groups and missionary partners meeting in nearly 300 homes. More than 99,000 Bible study invitations were mailed to Clark County residents, yielding 500 requests for Bible lessons. The eight nights of meetings are being followed now with continued Bible studies and discipling of new members.

The next Momentum series will be held in Eugene, Ore., Sept. 19–26, 2009, and the speaker will be Jose Rojas, North American Division Office of Volunteer Ministries director.

To learn more about this series or to download audio sermons, please visit the Web site http://www.theradicalteachingsofjesus.com.

Glenn Wachter, Oregon Conference communication department freelance correspondent

Wood Directs Risk Management

In April, Angelina Wood began a new role as the Oregon Conference risk management director. She fills the spot left vacant when Barbara Livesay, departed to join her husband Don Livesay, now president of the Lake Union Conference based in Berrien Springs, Mich. Previously Wood served the conference as an associate director for children’s ministries and also directed the Adventurer ministry, which, due to current budgetary constraints, will not be filled at this time.

Wood shares, “It has been an enriching experience. I also know the Lord is taking me into another chapter where He has given me a different “trust.”

Originally from Chile, Wood has also served as an educator and leader in conferences in Northern California, Southern California and at Andrews University.

Sherri Uhrig, children’s ministries director, and Gloria Beerman, children’s ministries administrative assistant, will continue to provide Adventurers with support and resources as needed.

Glenn Wachter
Gladstone Park Serves the Community

Visit the Gladstone Park Community Services Center on a Wednesday and you’re likely to see nearly 33 families receiving food boxes. These families meet the guidelines of the local food bank and the federal government and range from six to 11 members per family. Families can also receive clothing with as many as 500 pieces given away each month.

The center receives donations from the government, the local food bank, church members, the First Baptist Church, the Christian Church, and the Friends Church, all in Gladstone, Ore. Even the Gladstone Library helps by collecting cans of food in lieu of late fees.

“Nearly 30 volunteers keep the Gladstone Community Service Center running smoothly.”

“We [all of the ladies who work here] like to feel we are needed,” says Irene Aldred, who has worked there for five years and puts the food boxes together. “It’s great to help people who are down on their luck.”

Dick Hanson says, “I have been here for eight years and enjoy it very much. I make the food boxes along with the others.”

Richard Cook, Gladstone Park communication leader

Kelso-Longview Kids Pinch Pennies

For two weeks in February, 45 Kelso-Longview Adventist School students brought in their spare change to give to the Pennies for Patients program of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The school collected $597.78, which was double their goal.

Johnny Williams kicked off the campaign with a personal connection to the project. His great-granddaughter, Haley, died last year of cancer. He told about how important it was for his family to be able to go with her to Seattle and stay close to her. The funds raised through this campaign go to help with expenses like those.

Students raised money in a variety of ways, including paying $1 to chew gum or wear pajamas. Junior high students could pay $3 to skip a math lesson. One student, on a weekend, set out a jar at a booth, and raised $41.

“T’ll’m very proud of our students,” says Tracy Lang, school principal. “They did a great job of understanding the mission of the society and what the money is used for.

They were excited every day to watch the total rise. I think they knew all along they would surpass the goal.”

“These students serve as an example to all of us through their commitment to helping others,” says Eric Tweed, the Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter campaign coordinator. “Their efforts help local patients and their families along with funding cancer research.”

Tracy Lang, Kelso-Longview Adventist School principal
Friendship Tournament Brings Out the Best

The sound of referee whistles filled the Walla Walla University gym Feb. 5–7 as teams from 12 Adventist academies participated in the 2009 Friendship Basketball Tournament.

Twelve Northwest schools participated, including three from Oregon Conference: Auburn Adventist Academy, Cascade Christian Academy, Columbia Adventist Academy, Gem State Academy, Lake City Junior Academy, Livingstone Adventist Academy, Milo Adventist Academy, Mount Ellis Academy, Puget Sound Adventist Academy, Skagit Adventist Academy, Upper Columbia Academy and Walla Walla Valley Academy.

Columbia Adventist Academy from Battle Ground, Wash., won this year’s Boys’ Championship, while Auburn Adventist Academy captured the Girls’ Championship.

But the tournament is far more than competition. During the weekend’s Sabbath hours, student athletes sang, prayed and worshipped together with the WWU community, regardless of who “won” or “lost” games.

Tim Windemuth, WWU athletic director, says, “The purpose is in the name. For three days magic happens, games are played and friends are made. It is a privilege for the university to host the tournament.”

Marina Jorgenson, Columbia Adventist Academy senior, agrees: “There is competition during the games, but there is also a Christian spirit that encourages prayer before games, positive attitudes on the court, and friendship between the players, the fans and sometimes even the referees.”

The emphasis on hard work and “doing your best” attracts students who excel in other areas beyond the basketball court. The character of these teams goes well beyond high academics and wins or losses. Milo Academy’s boys’ varsity team, with nine of its 11 players on the honor roll, provides two life-changing examples—Doug Barahona and Matt Fillman.

An early season Friday evening vesper program touched Barahona deeply and set the stage for his decision for Christ, encircled by teachers, classmates and teammates.

Then there was Fillman, who severely sprained his ankle just prior to this year’s Friendship Tournament. As a senior, it would be his last chance to play in the tournament. So, once more the team gathered around a member, this time kneeling in a circle, praying for a miracle from God. And Fillman played in all four games with his team, thanking God for His intervention.

These experiences are echoed in academies across the Northwest, as the Friendship Tournament looks toward its next event in 2010.

Compiled from reports by Jan Jorgensen and Dale Milam

Student athletes from around the Northwest find a friendly spirit during the tournament, based not so much on wins and losses, but on shared experience.

The tournament is far more than competition. During the weekend’s Sabbath hours, student athletes sing, pray and worship together.
PAA Staff Grows Faith by Hearing

Portland Adventist Academy students and staff were challenged to commit to a 40-day New Testament listening program called Faith Comes By Hearing. Nine Adventist churches in the Portland area were inspired to join them.

FCBH has recorded the New Testament in more than 350 languages and counting. Their mission is to evangelize to the world’s 50 percent illiterate population through free audio Bibles.

The audio Bible also works well for literate communities. Rita Barrett, PAA Spanish teacher and promoter of FCBH, says, “our culture is becoming a lot more oral. As print media becomes a less effective evangelism tool, we can turn back to the way Jesus did it. I think there is real power in the tradition of hearing stories.”

“Every student at our school was given an mp3 of the New Testament,” says Greg Phillips, PAA chaplain. That includes 22 ESL students who do not come from a Christian background.

Jim McMurry, senior pastor at the Hoodview Church, listened with his church and PAA students. “I think anything we can do to get people into the word of God is positive,” says McMurry. “I recognize people have different learning styles. The audio Bible is a great tool for people who may not benefit from reading. And since it’s an mp3 they can take it everywhere—jogging, on their commute to work, or anywhere.”


Liesl Vistaunet, Portland Adventist Academy public relations

Three Sisters School Donates to ADRA

During a recent concert, the Three Sisters School K–10 choir, under the direction of Maurita Crew, performed songs from around the world while dressed in colorful outfits to represent different countries.

An offering at the end of the concert brought in over $200. In addition, Beverly Joubert’s second–fourth-grade class raised close to $200 to put toward new playground equipment. She was pleasantly surprised when they approached her and asked if they could donate their money to ADRA. After looking through the gift catalog from ADRA, each class choose projects, including fixing a school, feeding starving children, buying goats and purifying water. Altogether, the money sent to ADRA was over $450. Students are already looking forward to the next donation they can make.

Kathy Bierwagen, Three Sisters School office manager
MiVoden Improvements Approved

A decade ago, Upper Columbia Conference formed a master plan committee to update the Camp MiVoden facilities, especially since it had been in the 1970s since any major work had been done. They were also hoping to increase the capacity of the camp by adding some new buildings.

Within a few years, the committee submitted an application for a conditional use permit (CUP) as a private, nonprofit resort (the best definition for the camp under available county codes).

The words “resort” and “increased capacity” concerned many of the neighbors, and the CUP application met significant opposition from the surrounding community. It was denied in 2004.

In the years following, the MiVoden team built up support in the community, and decided to submit the application again. Some alterations in the application were made. New toilets cut the estimated water usage need in half. Traffic studies showed increased capacity would not cause undue stress on the road and neighbors. Informational meetings and community newsletters improved neighbor relationships.

In 2008, MiVoden received preliminary approval for its waste water infrastructure, as well as final approval of traffic studies from the Lakes Highway District.

In June, MiVoden submitted a new CUP application. Following initial hearings, the county commissioners voted to approve MiVoden’s CUP application in February 2009.

With this paper in hand, work can now begin on a new waste water treatment plant, a re-located shop building, and a RV park away from the beach. Construction on eight new children’s cabins will begin during the spring and summer of 2010.

With this green light in place, raising funds for the MiVoden expansion projects moves into high gear. The MiVoden expansion is part of the Upper Columbia Conference $6 million Streams of Light capital campaign. Monies must be in hand for construction to take place. Donations can be made through tithe and offering envelopes or online at www.thestreamscampaign.com.

As a former MiVoden staffer says, “The camp’s purpose is to help all who attend deal with the pressures of life and gain a clearer picture of what it means to love God and love other people.”

Heidi Corder, Upper Columbia Conference administrative assistant

IMPACT in Pasco
Will Empower Communities

“...the Lord blessed the IMPACT event far beyond my expectations,” says Patty Marsh, director of Adventist Community Services for the Upper Columbia Conference.

People who came to IMPACT expecting to learn how to help their communities were pleasantly surprised because they learned how to love like Jesus loves. Carla Peavy, attendee, says, “It was amazing! It was about kindness to the community. It completely matched all the things I have been thinking about lately.”

More than 300 attendees heard stories about how to put Love In Action through speakers David Jamieson, Judith Miranda and the afternoon seminars. Some asked Marsh to make this a yearly event.

The offering of $1,300 will be used to benefit the Deary, Idaho, ACS food bank center. In addition, six individuals accepted a challenge by Jamieson, to take $100 and put it to good use in their communities.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

Richard Parker, UCC youth director (right), interviews Amber Morrill and Samuel Riemersma, young adult missionaries to Spokane, Wash., during the IMPACT event in Pasco, Wash.
Wenatchee’s Crosswalk Builds God’s Kingdom

When Gary Blanchard, minister, arrived at the Wenatchee (Wash.) Church, he found a group of lay people who wanted to make a difference in the lives of community youth. So they pulled together and formed the Core Participants Rally (CPR). From that start, they divided the team into five ministries: worship, discipleship, fellowship, ministry and evangelism.

One of the programs they began is the Crosswalk service on the first Friday night of each month. Worship team leaders such as Erica Blanchard and Mary Vargus welcome between 30 and 40 youth who are invited to join in a mixer and music. The speaker for the evening is intentionally spiritual with a gospel presentation and a call for the youth to accept Jesus, including decision cards.

After two evenings, six youth have enrolled in baptismal classes. More Crosswalk services are planned. This service has also led to the establishment of another service on the third Sabbath of the month, which is an intergenerational service.

“The team knows people must belong before they believe,” Blanchard says. “Crosswalk helps them become connected, involved, and to feel like family.”

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant
Students Help Jesús

The fourth-grade class at Cascade Christian Academy decided to take on a mission project this school year, raising $850 to help a family who lives over 2,000 miles away. After last year’s mission trip to Mexico the high school students returned with heart-breaking stories.

One of the stories involved a single mother, Sarah, living near the orphanage with her three sons. They live in a small abandoned school bus. Sarah works in the fields and cares for livestock. Two of her sons go to school, but not 10-year-old Jesús. He has disabilities and can’t go to school because they don’t provide special services there. He stays home and Sarah checks on him during the day. Jesús, because of his disabilities, is still in diapers. However, their poverty makes it so that Jesús’ diapers can’t be changed regularly.

The students decided to raise money to help the family. Before Christmas, they sent $350 to Sarah to help her buy more diapers and get a few extras. Shortly after, Darrell Graham, the orphanage director, made a video showing how Sarah and her sons live. The students watched intently, gaining a new understanding of what poverty really looks like. They saw the bus, the tattered small couch, the tiny bed, and the outside, dirt-floor kitchen. They also saw Sarah’s reaction. With tears of joy, she looked to the heavens and thanked the Lord for this unexpected blessing. She could not believe total strangers would do this for her. Graham used some of the money to buy a small heater for them. They have been living without heat and winters get cold there. He also bought Sarah and her sons a few Christmas presents.

In January the children decided to continue raising money. They’ve made another $500! The fourth-grade class has seen the happiness that comes when you give to others. It’s a lesson they never could have learned from a textbook. •

Susan Whitely, Cascade Christian Academy teacher

Son Takes the Pulpit

Kelly Santee took the pulpit of his father, Willard Santee, pastor, and held a revival series for Seventh-day Adventists in the Post Falls, Idaho, district in March. The young Santee is president and founder of Santee’s Granola, Inc., a cereal industry operating on the Upper Columbia Academy campus.

Previously Santee served at Gem State Academy as food service director. During those years, Santee’s passion for writing and research of biblical history and prophecy led him to compile a manuscript entitled Daniel Speaks. It was from his manuscript that Kelly drew studies for his revival series. His presentations covered key issues from Daniel, not only tied into historic Adventists roots, but also to the positive future of the worldwide Advent movement.

Attendees were both enriched and refreshed by his in-depth revelations and insights. Even Santee’s father says he was willing to step aside again in order to be spiritually fed by one “who has taken time to be with Jesus.” •

Willard Santee, district pastor
Upper Columbia Conference Camp Meeting 2009

Letting Jesus Light Your Life

June 19-20, 2009
Walla Walla University Campus
College Place, Washington

Meal Tickets: (509) 527-2732
Dorm Reservations: (509) 527-2531
RV Reservations: (509) 838-2761
www.uccsda.org/CampMeeting

Seminar Topics:
• Rekindle Your Bible Study
• Be a Spark in Your Community
• Using Your Gifts to Share Jesus
• Whole Mind and Body Health
• Putting Christ First in Your Family
• Adventist Satellite Evangelism
• Let the Holy Spirit Ignite Your Life
• Fanning Your Prayer Life
• How to Share Jesus
• Reviving Your Sabbath School

Featuring:

Ron Clouzet
Director, Evangelism Institute
North American Division

Robert Folkenberg, Jr.
President
Upper Columbia Conference

Brad Thorp
President
The Hope Channel

Charles Haugabrooks
Recording Artist

From Flicker to Flame
June 19-20, 2009
Students Serve as Pages in State Legislature

During the fifth and seventh weeks of the 2009 Washington State Legislative Session, several Seventh-day Adventist students participated in the Senate Page Program. Auburn Adventist Academy sophomore student Missy May and Buena Vista Elementary eighth-grade students Joe Engelhart, Elliot Fletcher and Lauren Epperson took part in the page program.

In addition to studying the legislative process, daily duties included delivering mail, running errands, and helping to lighten the load of the senators and staff.

“When they were in session, I’d bring the senators memos and supplies,” says Missy May of Bonney Lake, Wash. “Being a part of the program made me appreciate how hard everyone works to put bills into laws.” When asked how it affected her personally, May comments, “It [paging] made me more focused and more motivated to become active in state legislature.”

John Spano, AAA government and personal law teacher, explains the value of such programs: “It awakens in the students the relevance of the process of developing public policy. Through personal experience, they come to understand how these bills are important in our everyday lives and how they make a difference in the lives of others.”

“My favorite job was being able to work on the house floor,” says Elliot Fletcher, when recounting his week at the state capitol. “We had many special privileges the public doesn’t have access to, and I thought it was fun to learn more about the politicians and how government works.”

Students, by spending a week on the front lines of legislative government, gained a unique perspective of Washington state government, enriched their educational experience, and discovered being an informed and involved citizen is truly a capital idea!

Jondelle D. McGhee, Auburn Academy GLEANER correspondent

“It made me more focused and more motivated to become active in state legislature.”
Adventists Share Health Message at VegFest

Many people recognize a vegetarian diet brings great benefits to their overall health, however some are not sure what to eat, where to buy ingredients, and how to prepare healthy meals. Others have never given serious thought to the possibility of incorporating a vegetarian diet into their lifestyle. The vegetarian food festival—VegFest, presented by Vegetarians of Washington—offers free food samples, cooking demonstrations, the latest information on vegetarian nutrition from doctors and dietitians, and much more.

The event, which thousands of people attend, takes place every year in the Exhibition Hall of the Seattle Convention Center. This is where the Seventh-day Adventists come into action by sharing with others the rich knowledge gained by practicing vegetarianism for more than 150 years.

The Adventist church was represented by five booths during this year’s event on March 21 and 22. Washington Conference members handed out free food samples and written materials, and offered information about lifestyle and beliefs. Many people already know about the church and others were interested to learn.

One family says, “We know you are a great people and your church serves the community in so many ways.” Praise the Lord for opening the doors to continue doing His work! •

Nessy Pittau, Washington Conference health ministries director

Seattle’s VegFest, the largest vegetarian food festival in the country, provides a great opportunity for Seventh-day Adventists to network with more than 14,000 visitors.

Thrift Store Ministry

Spruces Up New Store Space

LaVone VonBergen, volunteer, chats with a customer about vegetarian food selections. Several people peruse newly organized clothing racks, kitchen goods and bookshelves. Times are exciting at Spruced Up Thrift Shop, a thrift store ministry of the North Cascade Church in Burlington, Wash.

Beyond offering inexpensive shopping, Spruced Up helps the Skagit Valley community by offering gift certificates for prescreened individuals and families to shop for necessities, like interview clothing and blankets, while providing a free box of basic items for anyone needing them. Extra funds from the store are donated to approved charities and causes such as Skagit Adventist School’s Worthy Student Fund, the church’s Kingdom Assignments (an outreach program), and the Job Corps.

This last winter, Spruced Up expanded next door into the previous Burlington Adventist Book Center storefront to double its store space. Volunteers moved the children’s section, reorganized a new kitchen area and filled the new portion of the store with additional merchandise.

Spruced Up Thrift Shop was established in 1996 as an outreach providing goods and services at low cost to people in need. The store offers a wide selection of clothing, toys, dishes, books, furniture, vegetarian food and more. Learn more at http://thriftshop.floft.net. •

Kristie Lindell, North Cascade Church member

Alice Pitts, a North Cascade Church member, works in the newly expanded Spruced Up Thrift Store in Burlington, Wash.
Two Congregations Gain Company Status

Two groups in western Washington celebrated an important milestone in March: obtaining church company status.

**Southcenter Seventh-day Adventist Church** began in 2007 with a vision to plant a multi-ethnic church in the Federal Way area based upon Bible study, prayer, and the Spirit of Prophecy with a mission to proclaim the Three Angels’ Messages both locally and globally.

“Our members have gone as missionaries to all of the earth’s continents, with the exception of Antarctica, resulting in thousands of decisions for Christ,” says Chan Hwang, head elder.

The congregation’s active approach to ministry includes regular Bible studies, a monthly children’s outreach program, holding a benefit concert for AIDS hospice in Cambodia, sending missionaries to work with Adventist Southeast Asia Projects (ASAP), and sponsoring a booth and providing health lecturers for Seattle’s annual vegetarian food festival.

Doug Bing, Washington Conference vice president for administration, was the first Southcenter pastor. Lowell and Judith Teves postponed their retirement in 2008 to continue as a pastoral couple to help grow this blossoming congregation which meets in the Washington Conference office auditorium.

“Southcenter Church has had remarkable growth,” says John Freedman, Washington Conference president. “Churches don’t grow this quickly without the blessing of the Holy Spirit.”

**Lighthouse Christian Fellowship** grew out of proposed initiative in 1997 to establish a multi-cultural church in the North Seattle and Everett areas.

From member homes, to the former conference office in Bothell, to Voyager Middle School in South Everett, to Cypress School gymnasium, to facilities in Woodinville, early outreach efforts included a community windshield survey, free postage stamps on tax day, and a children’s safety fair. Lighthouse gained momentum in 2003 with Byron Dulan, church planter, and Ron and Jean Anderson, local leaders, who helped set four core values: soul winning, multicultural worship, ministry/advocacy for troubled families, and spiritual growth through prayer and Bible study.

Urban Youth Impact began distributing literature in 2003 for an evangelistic series in 2004 where 10 people were baptized. The group also started monthly outreach Sabbaths, a tutor mentor program and later a health ministry program. Additional evangelism in 2008, with the “Happy Family Bible Seminar,” resulted in the baptism of seven young adults.

David Churu, a pastor from Kenya, immigrated to Seattle in 2008, where he became Lighthouse’s volunteer associate pastor.

“Both congregations have great momentum for ministry,” says Bing, “and it’s exciting to see how God is at work.”

- Heidi Martella, Washington Conference associate communication director
A Journey of Joy and Belonging
One Grad Shares Her Story

I wrote a poem on graduation day called “Execution.”
Most of my black-capped friends were giddy with anticipation that sweltering afternoon, but I struggled with a profound sorrow. My time at Walla Walla University was finished. I knew that meant birth into something new, and I felt well-prepared for whatever might lie ahead. But my time there had been so rich, so fulfilling, that I found it difficult to see past the closing chapter into the next.

My arrival at WWU was a matter of pure providence. I was on my own at 17, with a full-time “career” flipping hamburgers at McDonald’s. One day a church member called and asked if I’d like to go to WWU.
“I can drive you tomorrow,” she said. “Classes start in two days.” I asked my manager if I could leave without the customary two weeks’ notice.
“Rachel,” she laughed, “I’m not going to make you sacrifice your education so I can cover lunch rush. Go!”

That day began a journey of such joy and belonging I can hardly begin to tell it here. I enrolled as a theology major and worked grading papers in the department.

The maturing process was not easy. Like most young adults, I struggled with fears and insecurities. But the love of God spoken through my professors gradually taught me to see past myself. I was strengthened academically, challenged and affirmed theologically. I gained confidence that God was real; He had called me for His purpose.

My senior year I went to Kolkata (Calcutta), India, as a student missionary to work in a home for abandoned sick people. The classes and mentoring experiences I’d had at WWU helped me see those I served as deeply valuable. The long talks with faculty, the tutoring, and the bonding fellowship and prayer had given me a glimpse into what the Kingdom of Heaven is.

Perhaps I saw myself in the people of Kolkata, and longed for them, also, to know the joy of community in Christ.

Serving, learning, changing, growing up—these were the bittersweet themes of graduation day. But now they are less bitter and more sweet, for they have been swallowed up by gratitude. WWU prepared me for a life bigger than the sum of its parts.

and remember how we used to gather round the piano at theology retreats singing rousing renditions of the hymn, “Never Part Again.”

By far, the greatest thing WWU taught me was how to long for the beauty of that heavenly union. One day, indeed, we shall “never part again.” That is our most blessed hope. •

Rachel Davies, WWU graduate

Secretary of State visits WWU campus

WWU teams up with local colleges for community service day

LEGO robotics challenge results are in

READ MORE AT:
WALLAWALLA.EDU/NEWS
Endowment Fund
Thrives in Economic Downturn

The stock market is down. Foreclosures are up. Consumer confidence is dismal. In this era of financial turmoil, good news rare—until now, that is.

In May 2007, Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore., celebrated the completion of its Chaplain Endowment Campaign, becoming the first hospital in the nation to have a fully endowed health care chaplain’s department.

At the celebration, the campaign committee participated in a special prayer of dedication for the endowment funds. “We thanked God for the many dedicated donors and their gifts to the fund. We asked for wisdom for those making decisions on how the funds were to be invested and we prayed that God would help us be good stewards of what we considered to be sacred gifts,” says Wendell White, Generations, LLC chairman and committee leader.

Fast-forward to 2009 and the daily bombardment with information detailing the meltdown of the financial markets, the wild fluctuations of the stock market and reduction of real estate values. There hasn’t been much to celebrate.

“Recently a donor asked me how our Chaplain Endowment was faring in light of the country’s current financial crisis,” says John Korb, executive director of the AMC Foundation. “I shared there had been a change in investment funds and we were required to withdraw our money because the mutual fund we were using was being closed. Based on market volatility of the previous year, and feeling no major push to reinvest the funds, the decision was made to stay out of the market for a while.”

“Then the financial crisis hit! As a result of our funds being in ‘cash,’ every gift provided to build the endowment has been retained and is still earning interest to help provide chaplain services at Adventist Medical Center. This is something we can celebrate!” adds Korb.

“We believe this is a direct answer to our prayer asking God to protect and preserve these funds,” Korb states. “This is even more remarkable when we see news reports that many major endowments across the country have lost 25 to 40 percent of their value in the past year.

“Chaplains lead our employees, medical staff and volunteers in the implementation of our mission to provide whole person care: body, mind and spirit. So in these times of financial stress, we can be joyful knowing that God is in control and leading in our mission of service,” continues Korb.

To learn more about the mission at Adventist Medical Center, visit www.adventisthealthnw.com.

Shawna Malvini, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent

Chaplain Ray Ammon visits with a patient at AMC. Because of the Chaplain Endowment, pastoral care services will be a permanent fixture at AMC, despite the economy.

Chaplain Russell Cooper comforts a patient at AMC.
**Coleman 55th**

Gerald and Shirley Coleman celebrated 55 years of marriage June 11, 2008. To their knowledge, they are the oldest living members of the Shelton Church. In keeping with a honeymoon tradition, they took a trip around the Olympic Peninsula.

Gerald worked at several jobs through the years, including Harris Pine Mills, Simpson Timbers Company, as well as jobs at a dairy and a wholesale nursery. Shirley was a nurse’s aide for 16 years, including hospital, nursing home and private care, and lots of babysitting.

The Coleman family includes Ronald Coleman; Jalynne and George Devries; Christopher and Bobbie Coleman; and Jonice Striplin, all of Shelton, Wash.; and Jerry and Anita Coleman of Port Orchard, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**Rogers 50th**

Lyndon and Bette Rogers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 7, 2008, with a dinner hosted by their son and daughter. They also enjoyed a family celebration cruise on the Mexican Riviera.

Bette and Lyndon attended Upper Columbia Academy where Lyndon worked on the farm. With little time to socialize, they made good use of the school’s organized marches, carefully counting so they could match up as partners.

After graduation in 1956, Lyndon worked in College Place, Wash., and southern California. In May of 1958 Lyndon’s mother insisted he come north for Bette’s UCA graduation. He did and the rest “is history.”

Lyndon and Bette were married on Dec. 7, 1958, in the Yakima Church. They took an extended working honeymoon in California.

Lyndon attended Walla Walla College for a year before taking a job as assistant farm manager at Upper Columbia Academy. Long hours and small paychecks caused a move to Spokane, Wash., where Lyndon worked in transportation and warehousing.

Bette completed a nursing degree and worked in the emergency room, pediatrics, surgery and as a school nurse.

Their children attended Spokane Valley Elementary School and Upper Columbia Academy. In 1977, Lyndon accepted a job in Kansas City as warehouse manager for Reynolds Aluminum. Laurin and Jan completed high school while living in the Midwest.

In 1985 they returned to the Northwest, purchased the Yakima farm where Bette grew up.

Lyndon enjoys woodworking and small-engine repair. Bette enjoys genealogy and treasure finding. Lyndon works as a customer service agent with Johnsrud Transport. Bette is a nurse with the Veterans Administration.

The Rogers family includes Laurin Rogers of Kennewick, Wash.; Jan Jorgenson of Battle Ground, Wash.; and 3 grandchildren.

**Watson 100th**

Olive Watson celebrated her 100th birthday with a potluck after church on Jan. 3, 2009, at the Grants Pass (Ore.) Church with family and friends.

She was born Olive Riggins, Jan. 4, 1909, the sixth of nine children to David Elmer Riggins and Jenny B. Hamilton. One of her ancestors is Alexander Hamilton.

In 1929, when Olive graduated from high school, she wanted to be a teacher, but couldn’t afford college. Instead, she took nursing, since she could work her way through the program. She worked eight-hour days and then went to classes four hours a day, graduating in 1933.
DIRECTV Adds Hope Channel

The Hope Channel is now broadcasting to the continental United States, Hawaii and Alaska as part of DIRECTV’s basic channel line-up. DIRECTV subscribers can find the Hope Channel on channel 368. “We are delighted to partner with DIRECTV! This allows millions of viewers in North America to receive the life-changing messages of the Hope Channel,” says Brad Thorp, Hope Channel president. “We also want to thank the management team at DIRECTV for their gracious reception and cooperation in adding us to their excellent line-up of channels in more than 17 million homes.”

Youth Baptismal Sabbath

In the North Pacific Union, the first Sabbaths in May and December are now designated as “Youth Baptismal Sabbath.” This emphasis is intended to celebrate youth decisions for Christ and to provide continual opportunities to make those decisions. More information and resources for youth leaders can be found at www.youthbaptismalsabbath.org.

Former NPUC President, Dies at 83

Bruce Johnston, long-time educator, evangelist, church administrator, and president of the North Pacific Union Conference from 1986–1996, died in Medford, Ore., April 6, 2009. He was 83 years old. Johnston helped initiate a surge in Northwest global mission efforts with Operation Bearhug in the early 90s. Memorial donations can be made to: MegaVoice Project, North Pacific Union Conference, 5709 N. 20th Street, Ridgefield, WA 98642. More information will be forthcoming in next month’s issue.

Hugh Barton has become an Oregon Conference Bible worker, leaving his position at the Prineville (Ore.) Church.

Alex Bryan has accepted the call to serve as the senior pastor of the Walla Walla (Wash.) University Church. He has been the associate pastor at the Collegedale (Tenn.) Church.

Jason Canfield has accepted the invitation to serve as a ministerial intern for the Abundant Life, Cashmere (Wash.) and East Wenatchee (Wash.) district. He recently graduated with a master’s of divinity from the Adventist International Institute of Advance Studies in Silang Cavite, Philippines.

Barbara Livesay has left her post as Oregon Conference risk management director to join her husband Don, now president of the Lake Union Conference based in Michigan.

Paul Johnson, Oregon Conference associate ministerial director and evangelism coordinator, and his wife, Corleen, women’s ministry director, are both retiring.

Jim Osborne is the new pastor at the Albany (Ore.) Church.

Lucas Porter is moving from assistant to senior pastor at the Klamath Falls (Ore.) Church.

VJ Puccinelli is leaving retirement to become the interim pastor at the Rockwood (Ore.) Church.

Clarence Schilt has retired from his post as senior pastor at the Rockwood (Ore.) Church.

Angelina Wood is transitioning from Oregon Conference children’s ministries associate director to risk management director.
BABBITT—Jonathan Gabriel was born Feb. 8, 2009, to Jonathan and Miriam (Chung) Babbitt, Lincoln City, Ore. 

BUCK—Aden Mathias was born March 14, 2009, to Eric and Sara (Avery) Buck, Snag, Idaho. 

CHALMERS—Owen Paul Richard was born Jan. 31, 2009, to Darren and Shannon (Gillam) Chalmers, Lincoln City, Ore. 

HERMENS—Michael Joshua was born March 8, 2009, to Joshua and Rosanne (Surgeant) Hermens, McMinnville, Ore. 

JOHNSON—Viena Nicole was born Jan. 28, 2009, to Nathaniel and April (Horsch) Johnson, Vancouver, Wash. 

MADDOX—Zachary Logan was born July 9, 2008, to Chris and Melanie (Riffel) Maddox, Camano Island, Wash. 


ABER—Terry E., 77; born Sept. 8, 1931, Tulsa, Okla.; died Feb. 16, 2009, Salem, Ore. Surviving: wife, Toshiko (Hiebert); son, Tracy, Nampa, Idaho; daughter, Lorri Strider, Mountain Home, Ark.; stepdaughter, Lucy Zandol, Keizer, Ore.; sisters, Charlotte Willingham, Anchorage, Alaska; and Donna Tuttle, Sacramento, Calif. 

BLOOM—Virginia F. (Smith), 85; born Sept. 15, 1923, Hutchinson, Kan.; died Feb. 26, 2009, Portland, Ore. Surviving: husband, Wesley, Sheridan, Ore.; sons, John, Salem, Ore.; Bruce, Dan Point, Calif.; daughter, Jeannine Best, Sheridan; and 3 grandchildren. 


CALVERT—Terry E., 77; born Sept. 8, 1931, Tulsa, Okla.; died Feb. 16, 2009, Salem, Ore. Surviving: wife, Toshiko (Hiebert); son, Tracy, Nampa, Idaho; daughter, Lorri Strider, Mountain Home, Ark.; stepdaughter, Lucy Zandol, Keizer, Ore.; sisters, Charlotte Willingham, Anchorage, Alaska; and Donna Tuttle, Sacramento, Calif. 


CORWIN—Glenn C., 80; born Sept. 25, 1928, Loma Linda, Calif.; died Jan. 5, 2009, Visalia, Calif. Surviving: wife, Rosemary (Cornforth), Fresno, Calif.; sons, Gerald and John, both of Fresno; James, Sanford, N.C.; daughters, Sharon Foster, Visalia; Michelle McConvile, Santa Cruz, Calif.; brother, Duane, Roseburg, Ore.; 10 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. 

CREECH—Marvin, 88; born June 11, 1920, New Wilson, Pa.; died Jan. 28, 2009, Port Orchard, Wash. Surviving: wife, Bertha (Dinkmeir); sons, David and Calvin, both of Seattle; Daniel, Kapowsin, Wash.; Loren, Friday Harbor, Wash.; sister, Mildred Rhyne, St. Louis, Mo.; and 2 grandchildren. 


Ill.; Sue Underwood, Grandview, Wash.; Pam Baumgartner, College Place; Patrice Carcagno, Outlook, Wash.; sister, Sophie Ludden, Loma Linda, Calif.; 26 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.


JAMES—David Melvin, 66; born May 21, 1942, Walla Walla, Wash.; died Jan. 14, 2009, Sun City, Ariz. Surviving: wife, Vicki (Hockinson); son, Daniel, Peoria, Ariz.; daughter, Debra James, Gresham, Ore.; mother, Doris (Cook) James, Meadow Glade, Wash.; brother, Tom James, Rochester, Wash.; sister, Bernita Pounder, Scappoose, Ore.; and 3 grandchildren.


HUMBERT SR.—Dennis Lloyd, 73; born April 26, 1935, North Bend, Ore.; died Feb. 8, 2009, Yountville, Calif. Surviving: wife, Betty (Dolinsky); sons, Dennis Jr., Portland, Ore.; Marvin, Federal Way, Wash.; brother, Fred, Portland; sisters, Maxine Sira, San Jose, Calif.; Marilyn Coughlin, Pasco, Wash.; Betty Humbert, Redmond, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.


JAMES—David Melvin, 66; born May 21, 1942, Walla Walla, Wash.; died Jan. 14, 2009, Sun City, Ariz. Surviving: wife, Vicki (Hockinson); son, Daniel, Peoria, Ariz.; daughter, Debra James, Gresham, Ore.; mother, Doris (Cook) James, Meadow Glade, Wash.; brother, Tom James, Rochester, Wash.; sister, Bernita Pounder, Scappoose, Ore.; and 3 grandchildren.


RASMUSSEN—George, 92; born June 7, 1916, Spangle, Wash.; died Feb. 8, 2009, Spangle. Surviving: wife, Roma Belle (Snyder); son, Jack, Rainier, Ore.; daughter, Jeannie Sue, Spangle; 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.


WILKINSON—Stanley LeRoy, 88; born Sept. 18, 1919, College Place, Wash.; died June 19, 2008, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: wife, Mary June “Jerry” (Flaiz); sons, Richard, Yakima; Randall “Randy,” Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; Ronald, College Place; Russell “Rusty” and James, both of Yakima; daughter, Jennie, Yakima; sister, Pat Anderson, Ukiah, Calif.; 15 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offerings
May 2—Local Church Budget; May 9—World Budget; Disaster and Famine Relief; May 16—Local Church Budget; May 23—Local Conference Advance; May 30—World Budget; Spring Mission Appeal

Special Days
Curriculum Focus for the Month—Community Services+
May 2—Community Services Sabbath; May 9—Youth Sabbath

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY
May 9, 10, 14, 16, 17—wwudrama presents “Sense and Sensibility,” adapted from Jane Austen’s novel. Show times are 8 p.m.; exception is May 9, show time at 9 p.m. All shows in Village Hall. Call (509) 527-2158 to purchase tickets.
May 10—Women’s Club sponsors its annual Mother’s Day Brunch. The whole family is invited to celebrate. Mom. 10:30 a.m. May 16—Senior Dedication, 3:30 p.m., Heubach Chapel. May 30–31—wwudrama presents its annual Festival of the Actors. This production is student directed and produced. Call (509) 527-2158 to reserve tickets.

OREGON
Disaster Response Training Weekend
May 2–3—Disaster Response Training Weekend at the Waldport Church. Attend Introduction to Disaster Preparedness and Preparing Your Church for Disasters on Sabbath afternoon from 2–5 p.m. On Sunday from 8:30 a.m. until noon become a certified disaster responder, and bring your brown bag lunch if you want to stay by for Chain Saw Safety Certification. Sunday class fees may be paid at the door. Call Oregon Conference Community Outreach at (503) 850-3555 or Linda.Schrader@oc.npuc.org for more information and to register. Also see www.OregonConference.org for latest updates.

Silverton Church Homecoming
May 15–16—The Silverton Church will hold a homecoming event on Friday evening, May 15, and all day Sabbath, May 16. All members, former members, and friends are warmly invited. Come and enjoy fellowship with former pastors. Join us in worship, praise, a fellowship meal, and reconnecting with friends. For more information, call (503) 873-8568.

Military Memorial Sabbath
May 23—Chaplain Larry Roth, Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Department, Regional, Northwest, North American Director, will be the featured speaker for church service in the Tillamook Church, 2610 1st Street, at 10:30 a.m. Chaplain Roth will emphasize “Every human life on earth is precious in the sight of God our loving Father. He remembers the name of each who has given their life in service to God and country. He also cares for the family members and loved ones who mourn. If God remembers each name, we too wish to remember and honor the sacrifice given for the freedoms we enjoy today. But how can we best remember?”

Missing Members
The Salem Central Church is looking for the following missing members: Kimberly Adams, Frohna Anderson, Holly (Worley) Armstead, Dewey Baker, Elizabeth Bartell, Alice Beverly, Gary Boucher, Ernest Duffield, Michael Duffield, William and Kimberly Duffield, Estella Hill, Erfain Kebekol, Ashley (Jones) Lenaburg, Mark Jones, Martin and Robin Latdrick, Karen Maxwell, Marcos Ortiz, Steve Ortiz, Jackie Pemberton, Alice Peoples, Chelsea Peoples, Sarah Quigg, K.C. Suitsev, Stan Teets, Tara Townsell, Pam Wilson, Timothy and Wendy Woodard and Lora Lee Weight. If you have any information about these people, please call (503) 364-4626 or e-mail Central7da@msn.com.

WORLD CHURCH
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June 20–25—Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians 2009 Conference, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich. Librarians of all specialties are invited to visit www.asdal.org for conference information. Contact Cynthia Helms at helmsc@andrews.edu or (269) 471-6260 for more information.

Madison Academy Alumni Homecoming Weekend

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Does ‘Core Strength’ Matter?
Core muscles—the muscles in the abdomen, lower back and pelvis—stabilize the spine and hips. When these muscles are weak, you are at increased risk for back problems, poor balance and physical fatigue. Core strength training targets both the dominant outer muscles (e.g., abdominals) and the deeper muscle layers (e.g., hip flexors). Exercise guidelines include strength training two or three days each week with core muscle exercises such as the plank, push-ups and crunches.

See exercises to strengthen your core at:
http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/core-strength/SM00046

Lower Your Risk for Diabetes
The rate of new diabetes cases nearly doubled in the United States over the last decade, partially due to obesity and inactivity. To reduce your risk:

- Achieve and maintain a healthy weight. Set a goal to lose a pound a week.
- Be physically active for 30–60 minutes on most days of the week.
- Reduce serving sizes or eliminate meat, desserts and foods high in fat.
- Increase the amount of fruits and vegetables you eat.
- Limit your sodium (salt) intake to less than 1,500 milligrams—about ½ teaspoon of salt—each day.
- Drink water or herbal tea in place of sweetened drinks, coffee or alcohol.

What Can You Do to Prevent Cancer?
The American Cancer Society says most cancers can be prevented by adopting a healthy diet, maintaining a healthy weight, taking precautions against exposure to carcinogens and excess radiation from the sun, and getting regular preventive exams that can identify cancer early, while it is still treatable. Read more at: www.wellsource.info/wn/preventcancer.pdf.
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We knew him as "Uncle Arthur." Paul Ricchiuti spent a decade working with Maxwell, then editor of Signs of the Times. Maxwell was a private man with a roaring laugh and a gracious spirit. Yet, he was a child at heart. All honorary "neces" and "nephews" will treasure this book.

God Was There
Martin Weber
The author shares his experiences as a law-enforcement chaplain. Through his contacts with criminals and trials, he sheds light in a new way on the truth contained in our sanctuary doctrine. As dramatic as these stories are, they serve to show that all have sinned, and we need Christ in the sanctuary.

The Centurion
Dick Stamhokken
Meet Longinus, once a scared young soldier, now the trusted centurion for the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. Life in the phalanx had seemed to offer all the answers—until now. How was he to relate to the Man he's been commanded to crucify? You won't want to put this book down.

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<td>June 18</td>
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May 2009 • Gleaner
King John Henry III

King John Henry III surveyed his kingly domain with pride. In it were castles, roads, horses, soldiers and dragons and...well, it had everything a kingdom should have.

King John Henry III was lord of all he surveyed, the architect of its carefully ordered design. He was so caught up in ordering his troops to another location he barely heard the voice calling. It was of little consequence to him. He was busy with more important things. But as he began to circle his mounted knights around a low hill, the voice came again. This time he recognized the voice and the name it called. “John...John!”

But King John Henry III had more pressing concerns at that moment. Enemy soldiers were about to attack the castle, and he frantically called on his troops to repulse the threat. In the midst of the turmoil, the voice came again. “John Henry!” This time the tone was stronger, clearer and more intense. But King John Henry III was in the heat of battle. He couldn’t answer the call...not just yet.

And then the voice came again...and this time there was no denying its summons. “John Henry the Third—COME THIS MINUTE!” It was a voice even a king had to obey.

King John Henry III reluctantly stood up, took one last look at his 6-foot-square kingdom in the sandbox, and raced toward the house. For every 4-year-old knows...when your mother calls in that certain way, you must answer it like the voice of God.

I’m not so sure I’m very different from little “King John.” How about you?

In our “to-do list” world, we expend blood, sweat and tears building sandbox kingdoms where expedient trumps important. And while we do that, the Ruler of the universe stands at the door and knocks.

When the great prophet Elijah, in fear of his life from a wicked queen, ran 40 days into the wilderness, God bypassed the drama of earthquake, wind and fire, and instead confronted him with a still small Voice that said simply, “What doest thou here, Elijah?”

The Voice comes to us too. Whether it comes as a whisper in the silence, or an unmistakable call in the cacophony of life, it’s meant to help, to heal, to inspire us to tread where we otherwise would not go.

The next time you hear that Voice or a persistent knock, pick yourself up, brush yourself off, and throw open the door, where He stands...waiting.
America at the Prophetic Crossroads
Called for Such a Time as This

Come explore today’s religious, political & constitutional trends at the 2009 annual prophecy festival sponsored by the North Pacific Union Conference & hosted by Laurelwood Academy.

**Wednesday / July 8**
7:00 p.m. — Dr. Herbert Douglass
*Never Been This Late Before: The Perfect Storm*

9:00-10:30 a.m. — Alan Reinach
*The Clock is Ticking: The United States in Bible Prophecy*

11:00-12:30 p.m. — Dr. Herbert Douglass
*Why Conservatives & Liberals Can’t Talk to Each Other*

2:00-3:30 p.m. — Tim Roosenberg
*Christ’s Lessons on Spiritual Readiness & Endurance*

4:00-5:30 p.m. — Greg Hamilton
*“Sunday Rest” & the Constitutional Path of American Civil-Religion*

**Thursday / July 9**
7:00-8:30 a.m. — Jay Sloop, M.D.
*“Doc, just take away this pain!”*

9:00-10:30 a.m. — Alan Reinach
*Faces of Healing - Solid Science*

11:00-12:30 p.m. — Dr. Herbert Douglass
*The Prophetic & Constitutional Significance of Gay Marriage*

2:00-3:30 p.m. — Tim Roosenberg
*Islam & the Papacy in Prophecy: Rediscovering Daniel 11*

4:00-5:30 p.m. — Greg Hamilton
*A Clash of Kingdoms: Love, Power & Betrayal in the Upper Room*

7:00 p.m. — Ed Reid
*Rome & the United States: The Courtship of Church & State*

**Friday / July 10**
7:00-8:30 a.m. — Jay Sloop, M.D.
*Economic Meltdown & Bible Prophecy: Making Sense of It All*

9:00-10:30 a.m. — Alan Reinach
*Healing Gospel of Three Angels*

11:00-12:30 p.m. — Ed Reid
*Behold, He Comes! God’s Love Letter Through Signs*

2:00-3:30 p.m. — Tim Roosenberg
*Misleading Prophetic Interpretative Trends Among Evangelicals*

4:00-5:30 p.m. — Ed Reid
*Christ’s Purpose for the Great Prophetic Timeline*

7:00 p.m. — Dr. Herbert Douglass
*Christ’s Purpose for Understanding When Probation Closes*

LOCATION: Laurelwood Academy is 15 minutes east of Eugene at 37466 Jasper Lowell Rd., Jasper, OR 97438. For highway directions go to www.laurelwoodacademy.org. Call (541) 726-8340. Motor Homes & Campers Welcomed.
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