From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Psalm 113:3 (NIV)

“Spotted Dragonfly” by Judi L. Baker of Hood River, Oregon.
Unity Amid Diversity

When you stand, as I did recently, in the midst of tens of thousands from every corner of the world, you cannot escape the realization that Seventh-day Adventists are part of a miracle of grace. During the final Sabbath of this year’s General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia, I joined with 70,000 voices to sing “Lead on, O King Eternal,” and all the cultural differences that make us unique faded into the background as we stood, one united body of Christ. At a moment like that, it all comes home to you — the significant resources we spend every five years on these worldwide sessions are crucial to keeping our world church united and focused on a common mission.

Judy Fowler and I represented the Northwest on the GC nominating committee. It’s a complex and time-consuming task. Only the Holy Spirit could enable 230 delegates speaking 50 different languages to reach consensus on hundreds of nominations for church leadership. It is a fair process that has become increasingly difficult as our church grows, with less contact between leaders in various parts of the world. I hope it can be streamlined in the future, with more information made available.

I was happy to observe the overwhelming support of the assembled delegates in reaffirming the Creation account as it reads in Scripture. At a time of increased dialogue on the topic of origins, it is helpful to have the Session specifically reaffirm Creation occurred in seven literal, 24-hour days, forming a week identical in time to what we now experience. This is biblical Adventist teaching, and I am thankful it remains our officially-voted position.

The monumental task of rewriting and reorganizing the Church Manual was completed and voted. The new edition of the Manual will be available for distribution in a few months. It has been divided into two sections — the main body, which applies to the entire world church, and a second section of notes to include additional advice or cultural adaptation principles. The Church Manual can only be amended or changed once every five years at GC Session.

I greatly appreciated the main devotional presentations throughout Session, which were given by local pastors representing all the divisions of the world field. It was remarkable to see the variety of homiletical styles and yet hear “the good old Seventh-day Adventist message” woven through every sermon.

The final challenge of the Session came from Ted N. C. Wilson, newly elected world church president. He called earnestly for the church to remain faithful to the sacredness of Holy Scripture, as it reads. He called for revival and reformation in the church to prepare us for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Latter Rain proportions. He reminded us we are the Remnant Church, called to a special task in God’s plan to prepare the world for the Second Coming of Jesus. He encouraged us to embrace the special gift God has given in the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy. And he pleaded with the church to remain hopeful and focused on the soon coming of Jesus.

I have returned from GC Session convinced our new leader is a true believer in the message and mission of the Advent Movement. And I’m renewed in my conviction that “the good old Seventh-day Adventist message” is a contemporary calling we can be passionate about here in the Northwest and around the world.

MAX TORKELSEN II
North Pacific Union Conference president

“The good old Seventh-day Adventist message is a contemporary calling.”

Max and Linnea Torkelsen are pictured here the first Sabbath of GC Session 2010.
Monte Church Retires
Monte Church, who has served North Pacific Union Conference native ministries for more than two decades, will retire in September. In addition to directing activities of native churches throughout the Northwest, Church is well-known for his successful Native New Day lessons and video programs featured on Safe TV and the Hope Channel. Even though he will be officially retired, Church will continue to supervise some Northwest native work for a time on a stipend basis.

GC Session Taps Northwest Personnel
Elections at this summer’s General Conference Session in Atlanta, Ga., have three Northwest leaders undergoing transitions:

Myron Iseminger, Upper Columbia Conference vice president of finance since 2008, has accepted the call to become an associate secretary for the world church. Myron and his wife, Candace, have served in various parts of the world, most recently at the Southern Asia-Pacific Division offices in the Philippines. The Isemingers also served the Northwest for several years in the Montana Conference.

Fred Hardinge, long-associated with UCC, is the new GC associate health ministries director. Hardinge’s background includes pastoral ministry, academic teaching, community health education, corporate training and consultation, administration, and private health counseling. He served as UCC associate health ministries director and helped start Bibleinfo.com.

Paul Edwards is the new associate director of GC Auditing Services for the Trans-Asia-Pacific Region, headquartered in Sydney, Australia. Edwards has most recently headed the GC Auditing Services in the Northwest, with offices at the North Pacific Union Conference in Ridgefield, Wash. The TAP Region was formerly three divisions: Southern Pacific, Southern-Asia Pacific and Northern-Asia.

See our Special GC Session Blog Reports:
- Adventist Health Tours CNN
- GLEANER Goes Backstage with the Heritage Singers
- Alphonso McCarthy’s Perspective
- Women’s Meetings Inspire
- God Provides for One Member’s Travel
- Pastor Bill Roberts on the World Church
Another Take on Tolkien
I appreciate the use of a quotation from J.R.R. Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings* book (Let’s Talk, July 2010). In my spiritual journey I can confirm that what the Bible says is true: “With many counselors there is deliverance,” Proverbs 11:14. This would include written literature, films, music, nature and many other sources available to the Holy Spirit to teach us of God. Through these varied means, we are better prepared to open discussions with others about Christian issues; we gain new perspectives on continuing spiritual and historical problems; we learn fresh, improved methods of communicating the Gospel; and we are challenged to critique our own blind spots. Sitting at the feet of a wide variety of great spiritual communicators, whether they are writers, composers, media artists or performers, draws us into a closer walk with Jesus and into heart worship of God. Thanks again for the article.
—Harvey Dalke, College Place, Washington

Hurray for GleanerNow!
The GleanerNow! weekly e-newsletter is a welcome blessing in our home. Thank you for this wonderful service. Keep up the good work.
—Richard Burnett, College Place, Washington

Women Pastors
I was flipping through my daughter’s GLEANER and was liking the idea of the remote and necessary fund (“Remote and Necessary Adventist Education,” July 2010). For some reason the picture of you [Jennifer Scott, Shelton, Washington, pastor] baptizing the young lady caught my eye. I was raised in a very conservative Adventist home and church. Woman pastors are something I have no issue with, but am simply not used to. My only child, a daughter with great intelligence and independence, was exposed to female coaches, firefighters, policewomen and physicians as she was raised. Not knowing anything about you [Pastor Scott], I can somewhat assume that you are college educated, serve at least one small church as pastor and have a leadership role. To see a young girl being baptized by a woman leader and an example of what she could become if she wanted to, certainly speaks a thousand words. Since words are cheap, I have sent $20 to your church under “church expenses.” (I’m at a loss on how else to get it to you.) If possible, I would like that money to go to you taking someone else’s daughter out to lunch. Just to chat and visit.
—Northwest Former Member, [name withheld by request]

Letters Page are a Welcome Addition
I was severely disappointed a few years back when it was decided to not publish any “Letters to the Editor.”
I don’t think our church should be a one-way street — top-down only. Thank you for renewing my hope in a church that is open and willing to accept differences of opinion and feelings. You are off to a good start — please don’t become discouraged again and close the door.
We may not have it all together, but together we have it all. Thank you for taking a risk with us again.
—Carolyn Wesner, Weiser, Idaho

The July 2010, GLEANER featured a woman pastor, Jennifer Scott, from Shelton, Washington.
THE STEWARDSHIP AND PRIVILEGE OF GATHERING

WILSON ELECTED

11:30 .20 Atlanta Time: Ted N.C. Wilson steps to the podium.
11:30 .30 There’s a blur, flashing cameras, cell phones coming alive, texts hitting phones, Facebooks update, Twittering, Flickr-ing.
11:30 .40 One of four pre-written bios with a photo screeches to my e-mail inbox; I hit SEND ALL.
11:30 .50 Colleagues call families. Pastors call their churches. Church grapevines unfold.
11:31 .10 These are not hours, but milliseconds ... I am witnessing news happening no slower than the satellite from the top of the dome out.
11:31 .20 Wilson hasn’t even finished his acceptance speech, yet in precisely one minute, the news has gone around the world and back.

Pictured here, President Wilson waits in the wing of the platform just before being called to accept the presidency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for the next five years.
The first full night of General Conference Session, it was my privilege and honor to greet delegates as they walked through the special passageway leading into the main dome. I got chills watching hundreds of “brothers” and “sisters” from all over the world arrive and take their seats; it was like watching 100 Mission Spotlights unfold...

Here is my scrapbook for the ten-day 2010 GC Session. It is a snapshot of stewards blending a plethora of cultures and perspectives into a singular event and unified mission. Please enjoy my special scrapbook.”

This is a GLEANER exclusive. Nathan Greene’s oil portrait, “Blessed Hope,” was not unveiled yet, but I saw guards delivering it off a truck and began clicking the camera as it rolled down the hall. The guard commissioned to stay with it all night burst into tears when she saw the image. Green’s agent began explaining to her the plan of redemption. The painting was commissioned for GC Session and features the resurrection with many races meeting Christ in the air.

For a moment, it’s Friday night 1975 and Mace’s calm “If it Wasn’t for the Lighthouse,” streams out of the phonograph over haystacks as I cram to memorize my Sabbath School lesson... At last, I meet the couple responsible for at least a hundred Friday-night music memories: Max and Lucy Mace (pictured here). The Heritage Singers give a 40th-anniversary concert on Friday, July 3, concurrent with the GC Session and sign one of their books, Beyond Our Dreams, for the GLEANER staff.

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D	odd Gessele, NPUC communication associate, takes video footage around the GC for streaming and uploading back to the daily GleanerNOW.
“Jesus Is Coming Again” rings through the dome with 70,000 delegates singing loud and clear the final Sabbath.

Big Northern Smile: Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president, enjoys a nice lunch in the GC Session cafeteria. Local news cites the food operation as the world’s largest restaurant for the week.

In a last-minute decision, GC administration cancels a morning nominating committee meeting, to address a special business meeting re-affirming and endorsing the longstanding Adventist position and fundamental belief number six — in support of a biblical, recent and literal view of a seven-day-creation period. Pictured from left are: Randal Wisbey, La Sierra University president; Niels-Erik Andreasen, Andrews University president; and Darold Bigger, Walla Walla University professor, as they listen to origins discussions.

For a moment, in the tunnel leading from the Atlanta Dome to the Georgia World Congress Center, two Oregon Conference presidents walk together (from left:) Al Reimche (current), and wife Beth, Don Livesay (former), and his wife Barbara.

Judy Leach, from Adventist Health in Portland, Oregon, passes out pocket-sized Z cards with information at the GC AH booth. Northwest ministry booths are alive and thriving at Session. AH is one of more than 70 Adventist hospitals, as well as hundreds of urgent-care centers, home-health agencies, long-term care facilities, and hospices throughout the United States.

Bryce Pasco, NPUC secretariat, and wife, Genia, take in a business session.
Faced with the gravity for selecting top World Church leadership, such as the recent nomination/election of President Wilson, Judy Fowler, Hamilton, Montana, lay member, was one out of 230 Nominating Committee members, (one of only two voting members for the Northwest) and sole NPUC female vote. (The other member was Max Torkelsen, NPUC president.)

In this committee, Fowler heard job descriptions, position requirements and specific administrative needs, and spent hours looking at many lists of names. “I prayed to be filled by the Holy Spirit’s leading and to know God’s will — not my own,” says Fowler. “It is very sobering to think one is making changes for the next five years which will effect the entire church.”

Adventist Development and Relief Agency is in full display for GC goers with large booths showing our presence and service around the world while vending booths of the same earn money for third-world countries.

Carlos Pardeiro, SAFE Television Network president/CEO, with his wife Nancy, stand by the Monte’ Church, NPUC Native American ministries director, life-size poster and explain that his Native New Day series has brought their station 11 national awards, including four Emmy nominations with the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The cutout of Church is on the left.

I resolved not to get swept in emotion — in this Quinquennial convocation...

But when I heard “We Have This Hope” radiating to the top of the dome, in all languages... Adventist-proud tears streamed down my face.

When my mother’s long-ago academy friend said she would be there... I sprinted across the grounds, nearly breaking my neck, to meet her.

When the North American Division walked by in the Parade of Nations... Yes, I waved like a child.

When I heard one conservative church blogger say to one liberal church blogger — “You know, you’re not so bad — in person...” Something clicked.

I pinched myself meeting Clifford Goldstein, and seeing Mark Finley eat lunch, and wondered aloud if any mission person passing in the hall, might have known Clever Queen...

And for one week-and-a-half, all the leaders and workers, historic and current of Adventism merged — into one.

And in that, we find unity in — our Blessed Hope.

— Cindy R. Chamberlin

Carlos Pardeiro, SAFE Television Network president/CEO, with his wife Nancy, stand by the Monte’ Church, NPUC Native American ministries director, life-size poster and explain that his Native New Day series has brought their station 11 national awards, including four Emmy nominations with the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The cutout of Church is on the left.

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Los planes comenzaron a finales del año 2009. El momento había llegado para que, “The Rock”, una iglesia plantada por la iglesia Adventista Hispana de Hillsboro, se moviera a otro edificio. Algunos se preguntaban, ¿qué pasará con los muchachos que decidan quedarse y con la generación de muchachos que quedan atrás? Gracias a Dios que la Iglesia Adventista de Hillsboro y sus líderes siempre están dispuestos a hacer todo lo posible para alcanzar a los jóvenes. Fue por eso que al planificar el futuro de los jóvenes, surgió la idea de comenzar un nuevo ministerio. Le llamamos “Fusion Youth Church”. Encomendamos este nuevo ministerio a Dios. Oramos con atrevimiento, planeamos con fe, retamos e involucramos a los niños y jóvenes de nuestra iglesia y fuimos intencionales.

Una vez más Dios nos demostró lo que se puede hacer como un ejército de jóvenes consagrados. Un ejército de jóvenes esperando ser retados, equipados y mandados a ser misioneros para Jesús.

Que bendición y sorpresa fue para nosotros lanzar esta iglesia juvenil con aproximadamente 80 adolescentes, y cerca de 35 visitas. Los muchachos escucharon el evangelio. Dios bendijo. Los teens fueron testigos de lo que ellos pueden hacer cuando se ponen en las manos de Dios. Hasta este día se han bautizado aproximadamente 20 adolescentes y el promedio de asistencia se ha mantenido fuerte.

Quisiera compartir algunos principios bíblicos basados en los siguientes dos textos para motivarte a hacer algo por tu ministerio juvenil. Porque Dios está esperando por personas que oren oraciones que “detengan el sol.” (Num. 14).

“Después de esto, derramaré mi Espíritu sobre todo el género humano. Los hijos y las hijas de ustedes profetizarán, tendrán sueños los ancianos y visiones los jóvenes.” Joel 2:28.

“Que nadie te menosprecie por ser joven. Al contrario, que los creyentes vean en ti un ejemplo a seguir en la manera de hablar, en la conducta, y en amor, fe y pureza.” 1 Timoteo 4:12.

2. Confía y se obediente en las promesas de Dios. Los jóvenes son parte esencial de la predicación del Evangelio.
4. Ora con atrevimiento por tu ministerio juvenil.
5. Encuentra la “visión” de Dios para el ministerio juvenil de tu iglesia y compártela con tu pastor.
6. Haz planes específicos para alcanzar esa visión.
7. Trabaja por esa visión sabiendo que Dios va a bendecir.
Alaska Women’s Retreat Fosters Outreach

This year’s annual Alaska Conference Women’s Ministries Retreat was held April 2–4 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Anchorage, Alaska. More than 162 women attended the meeting, including four 89-year-olds coming for the first time to listen to Elizabeth Talbot, guest speaker, present “At His Feet: Finding Purpose at His Feet, Finding Assurance at His Feet, and Finding Identity at His Feet.”

The women enjoyed the opportunity to connect with new and old friends alike. One mentioned she heard about the retreat through a friend. She said, “I have attended several women’s ministries retreats now and each have been a blessing. This retreat speaker has touched my life spiritually in a way I have struggled with for all my life. I would like Elizabeth to know that.”

The afternoon portion of the retreat focused on two ongoing community mission outreach projects adopted by the conference women’s ministries. A variety of items were donated from various Adventist churches to assist up to 100 families at Safe Harbor Inn, a sanctuary where people coming out of a shelter or living on the street can stay while they transition back into the community.

Twenty-six travel-size pillows and pillowcases made by Byrna Botimer of the Palmer Church were donated to St. Elias Specialty Hospital, a 36-bed unit for long-term patients, many of whom have no family to visit them.

Afterward, Alaska Conference women’s ministries presented the idea of adopting Safe Harbor Inn and St. Elias Specialty Hospital as outreach projects. However, the directors at both facilities reluctantly told them no faith-based organizations were welcome in their facilities. The directors did, however, suggest members drop off the requested items and in turn receive a tour of the facilities.

The day of the retreat, women divided into groups and went to deliver items to the facilities. They were greeted by directors Kathy Andrews, Safe Harbor Inn, and Marilyn Cooper, St. Elias Specialty Hospital. Not only did they receive a tour, but were given permission to work with the facilities. Plans are for the church to connect

Sue Hess, former Alaska Conference women’s ministries director, helps prepare pillows for the hospital.

Jean Gobah, Alaska Conference women’s ministries director

with people at each facility every Sabbath in a variety of ways. One church committed to providing soup and sandwiches for Safe Harbor Inn, while visitation and inspirational music will be provided to the patients at St. Elias Specialty Hospital.
Idaho Conference

Hires K–12 Recruiter

The Idaho Conference recently hired Tom Sherwood to assist the 13 elementary schools and Gem State Adventist Academy with their recruitment efforts.

Sherwood has a bachelor’s degree in theology from Walla Walla University and accreditation in elementary education. He has served in the Adventist church throughout his career as an elementary-school teacher.

Sherwood is eager to spend time listening and getting acquainted with parents and prospective students. He believes Adventist schools have much more to offer than parents sometimes perceive, and unless one takes time to become friends, one may never understand what they are missing. He is eager to share his own experiences in regards to Adventist education — both from his perspective as a parent and as an experienced teacher.

Sherwood’s credo in the classroom is to create an environment that is a safe place to discover the rewards of learning one’s potential, setting goals and practicing toward mastery. He says, “When kids feel valued, they become stronger listeners and learners.” This same philosophy of respect, friendship and open communication will serve Sherwood well in his new role as K–12 recruiter.

The Sherwoods have two children. Their oldest, Adriel, is married to Cameron Cook; their youngest child is Phillip. They are the proud grandparents of Cadence Cook.

Linda Klinger, GSAA GLEANER correspondent

Cloverdale Members Catch the Spirit

A major exterior make-over for the Cloverdale Church, in Boise, Idaho, was the mission during 2009. What the church didn’t plan on was the overwhelming volunteer response by its membership. “Catch the Spirit” became an enthusiastic theme throughout the massive project.

This “work bee beyond work bees” had the largest turnout in more than 50 years. Saving hundreds of thousands of dollars, members went to work on a complete landscaping overhaul, concrete and stucco work and a much-needed new wall structure.

Continuing to keep the spirit alive, the volunteers took a closer look at the interior. A revamped audio-visual system, new industrial kitchen appliances and a refurbished mother’s room have just been a start.

The church also plans a large digital church sign, in which events will be better noticed and easily updated. The opportunity is great, since traffic is quite heavy on the church’s front-campus road.

This vision, spearheaded by the church’s property management committee, aspired to reach an even greater goal: to provide a community-friendly church property where the Treasure Valley communities can feel and know they are welcome.

Cloverdale members look forward to continuing on with a Spirit-filled passion for their community.

Shari Krall, Cloverdale Church communication leader

Tom Sherwood, most recently a teacher at Hilltop Adventist School in Twin Falls, Idaho, has become the new Idaho Conference K–12 recruiter.

They are the proud grandparents of Cadence Cook.

Linda Klinger, GSAA GLEANER correspondent
Wolf Point Company Hosts
Live With Hope

May 7–29 the Wolf Point Company hosted a Live With Hope seminar with Thai Nguyen as the presenter. Nguyen is from Vietnam and has been a Bible worker with the Wolf Point Company for nearly a year. His wife, Sharon, teaches at the church school in Glendive, Mont.

Five nights a week, Nguyen opened before the audience God's truths, His promises and the assurance we can live our lives on this earth within God's will, looking forward to Christ's Second Coming and an eternity with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The meetings were an inspiration to everyone who attended. Several members of the Wolf Point Company committed their lives to Christ. One individual requested to join the company on profession of faith, another is taking Bible studies online through Amazing Facts, and three requested to be rebaptized. Others have expressed interest in doing Bible studies. Seeds have been planted, and the Holy Spirit is watering. Members anxiously look forward to the harvest.

Winnie Anderson, Wolf Point Company communication leader

Thai Nguyen gives a warm welcome to those attending the Live With Hope Seminar, hosted by the Wolf Point Company in May.

Montana Christian Women’s Retreat

Brenda Walsh
“Out of Your Comfort Zone”
October 8–10, 2010
Fairmont Hot Springs, Montana

Friday night: Recipe for Faith
Sabbath: Divine Appointments
Vespers: Abandoned but Not Alone
Sunday: Opening Prison Doors
Email retreat@spannring.org for registration form.

Montana Conference

Men’s Summit
Sept. 24–26, 2010

Featured Speaker
Ty Gibson

Co-director and speaker of Light Bearers Ministires, featured on 3ABN weekly, author of seven books, including best seller See With New Eyes.

Come to this six lecture weekend event, developed by Ty just for this year’s Summit.

For more information: Steve Schwab 406-287-3465, Ed Schwab 406-549-5670 or Jim Fowler 406-369-1832
On June 6, nearly 100 music lovers from Canyonville, Ore., and surrounding communities enjoyed a concert in the park featuring more than 30 local performers. Musicians donating their time and talents, included Strings of Praise, an eight-piece string orchestra; Tri-City Slickers, a six-piece brass band; Canyonville’s male quartet, known as The 4 Ol’ Guys; and vocal and instrumental solos and duets.

The Sunday evening concert at Pioneer Park was sponsored by the Canyonville Church to raise awareness about Canyonville Adventist Community Services, which provides food and clothing assistance to those in need within the local area. Javelin Ormond, Canyonville’s Promise Natural Foods owner, was the emcee. Concert goers were given an opportunity to give back to their community through a freewill offering, a silent auction or by purchasing baked goods.

While planning for this event began months in advance, and the date was carefully chosen with the hopes for good weather, Southern Oregon’s temperamental weather proved a challenge. As the time for the concert approached, the weather forecast predicted rain. Many prayers ascended and faith was tested as showers were present during setup, but the clouds parted and the temperature warmed right on time for the concert.

Melody Kolstad, Canyonville Church communication leader

Strings of Praise, an eight-piece string orchestra, performs in Canyonville’s Concert in the Park.

Tri-City Slickers, a six-piece brass band, performs for Canyonville’s Concert in the Park.

Concert goers enjoy music in the park.
Sabbath Keepers Go the Extra Mile

The weekend of June 11–13 found bikers from around the United States and Canada riding into Baker City, Ore., for the annual Hells Canyon Motorcycle Rally. The majority of the riders came to ride some of the best motorcycle roads in Oregon during the day and to party in the evening. One small group of riders, however, had another purpose in mind. Members of the Sabbath Keepers Motorcycle Ministry came to provide an opportunity for those who desired to obtain free religious literature.

Even though the motorcycle community is often considered unreachable, Sabbath Keepers are trying to follow Ellen White’s counsel we “are not to wait for souls to come; we must seek them out where they are. There are multitudes that will never be reached by the Gospel unless it is carried to them,” (Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 229).

Sabbath Keepers began as an outreach ministry of the Hollister (Calif.) Church in 1997. Interest has grown with chapters in California, Washington, Arizona, Nevada, Oklahoma and British Columbia, Canada. Tom Infante, Southwest Washington chapter president, was a biker before his conversion to Adventism. “There was a lot of partying,” he says. “It was how you fit in and became part of the crowd.” He now has a different view. “The sole purpose of going on a bike run is to make friends and develop opportunity for the Lord to do His work in those we become friends with,” he says.

The Southwest Washington chapter of the Sabbath Keepers began in May 2008 as a ministry of the Woodland (Wash.) Church. Members of this ministry attend motorcycle rallies and charity rides around the Northwest. They also visit other Adventist churches to share the ministry and encourage others to help spread the Gospel in unique ways.

Robert Hastings, SKMM member

SKMM members wear their patches proudly on the back of their jackets as they mingle with other bikers at rallies and motorcycle events.
LeMert Steps in as New Sunnyside Pastor

Following a year of prayerful searching, the Sunnyside Church in Portland, Ore., is very happy to welcome Scott LeMert to the position of senior pastor. LeMert and his wife, Dorothy, took up their new responsibilities in early July. His first sermon on July 10 was entitled "I Will Build My Church."

The LeMert’s have lived in Oregon for 20 years. For 13 of those years, LeMert served as Oregon Conference assistant to the president. LeMert comes from North Dakota and his wife from Missouri. They met at Union College in Lincoln, Neb., and married in 1971. LeMert has undergraduate degrees in social science and theology as well as two master’s degrees — one in religion and the other in education with an emphasis in counseling, including neuropsychology, chemical dependency and rehabilitation. Dorothy graduated with a degree in medical technology.

Prior to their time at the Oregon Conference, the LeMerts worked as a pastoral couple in North Dakota, Iowa, Idaho and lastly in Roseburg, Ore. They have three children: Heather, from California; Shawn, from Roseburg; and Ryan, from Klamath Falls, Ore.

LeMert brings a strong pulpit presence to Sunnyside with a passion for growing healthy churches. He is committed to continuing the robust activities already on the Sunnyside calendar of events. For more information, please visit www.sunnyside-sda.org or call 503-252-8080.

Phyllis Foster Woods, Sunnyside Church communication leader
Valley View VBS Goes to Egypt

When you think of Egypt, what comes to mind — a hot desert, slaves and mummies? For many at the Valley View Church, in Medford, Ore., Egypt brings back thoughts of a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School.

On June 20, more than 60 children, plus parents and volunteers, participated in the great adventure of Egypt: Joseph’s Journey from Prison to Palace. Children were greeted by the Egyptian registration crew, assigned to a family group and ushered into Egypt to sing praises to the one true God.

Market time was enjoyed by all as adults and children visited various shops, including the embalmer, hieroglyphic artist, barbershop, Cairo collars, basket weaving, brick making, food, toys, animal courtyard and the pyramid playground. At the linen shop, children had the privilege of participating in Operation Kid-to-Kid where they made blankets to be sent to at-risk, lonely children in Africa.

As each group visited Joseph nightly, they heard stories of how God cared for him in most difficult situations and how Joseph still chose to serve the one true God even amidst trials and persecution.

On the sixth night of VBS, the children learned about the Sabbath and how God gave us a special day to worship Him.

They were then invited back the next day on Sabbath morning for a special concluding program and luncheon.

Sabbath morning the sanctuary filled with parents and “Hebrew” children who helped lead songs of praise and participate in special music. Then a multimedia presentation transported all to Egypt as the week was relived and shared with the congregation. In addition, 30 volunteers portrayed the life of Joseph in Egypt.

All who attended this special Sabbath morning received a great blessing and encouragement to be faithful until the end.

Laura Mancia, Valley View Church VBS coordinator

PAA Prepares Campus for New School Building

Preparation for Portland Adventist Academy’s new school building is a visible reality and the campus is changing in big ways.

While the projected groundbreaking ceremonies for phase one won’t take place for another year, preparation for the construction is well under way.

Earlier this summer, student workers disassembled the tennis courts to make way for phase one of the new three-phase facility.

James Schaffer, ‘92 alumnus and owner of J & C Excavating, recently began digging a new sewer line. The current line is being expanded, separated and redirected to help accommodate not only the current facility, but the new school building as well as commercial buildings that will soon be built along the north side of the property.

For more information about the progress of PAA’s new building project, visit http://paajourneytoexcellence.org.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent

Even Alumni are getting involved with the new building construction. James Schaffer, ‘92 alumnus, digs a long trench to help expand the new sewer line.
His Travelers
Take VBS On The Road

In a small church, sometimes it’s a challenge to hold and organize a large event like Vacation Bible School. This year, Upper Columbia Conference decided to do something to help their small churches hold these important community outreach events.

Patty Marsh, UCC children’s ministries director, and Richard Parker, UCC youth director, teamed up to create a traveling VBS team. The team was made up of four young people who committed their summer to helping small and midsized churches put on VBS programs. The troupe, called His Travelers, included Bob Gable, Shalice Gross, Blair Lemke and Sierra Walley. The team also provided support for a weeklong, all-day Kids Camp for Native American children at the All Nations Center Adventist Church in Wapato, Wash.

After a week’s training, His Travelers spent the following seven weeks working with a different church each week. Throughout the summer they watched as small churches rallied together and worked valiantly to put on a meaningful, Christ-centered program for the children in their towns.

When not conducting the VBS program, His Travelers spent time with church members praying for and reaching out to the community. They worked on community service projects, mentored and encouraged young people and went door to door inviting people to the VBS program.

Following a VBS program in Sandpoint, Idaho, the parents of the children who attended were invited to a fellowship lunch on Friday. Nearly 50 people ate lunch and shared in fellowship. Many parents voiced their extreme gratitude to His Travelers and the church for putting on such a quality program.

Each VBS of the summer featured a service project. One church was raising money to buy coats for children living on Indian reservations in North and South Dakota. Each child received a blue plastic cup with a penguin drawn on it. His Travelers encouraged them to collect money and bring it in the cups. On the third day of VBS, one little girl’s mother anxiously pulled a VBS team member aside to ask her when the money was going to be collected.

“Emily has been saving her allowance for two years,” she explained, “and today, she brought all of it in to give to the children in the Dakotas.”

When the team had a chance to see Emily’s penguin cup, it was stuffed to the brim with bills, and heavy with coins!

It was a good summer for His Travelers and all the churches they worked with. You can read more about His Travelers’ summer journey on Facebook. Just search for His Travelers.

Jay Wintemeyer, UCC communication director

From left: Sierra Walle, Shalice Gross, Blair Lemke and Bob Gable form the His Travelers team 2010.
Young Adults Discover Evangelism Works

The Wenatchee (Wash.) Church Sabbath School class was very content following the same pattern of Sabbath-keeping week after week. Each week they would pray as a group over family, church, school and government issues and study the quarterly. One Sabbath they had a guest speaker, Bob Folkenberg Sr. Little did they know his presentation would change the course of their Sabbath School class and draw them closer to God through participation in Share-Him. They realized lay people were needed to help spread the Gospel — with no divinity degree required.

In May, the Sabbath School class joined with the Leavenworth (Wash.) Church to present a 20-sermon ShareHim evangelistic series in Leavenworth. The class provided the bulk of the speakers and the church provided the advertising and church facility for the series. The exciting series was lead by the inspired speaking of nine youth lay preachers anchored by six adult speakers. Lives changed as prayer became more of an integral part of everything they did during the series. During that time God brought co-workers, friends and family across their paths. They bubbled over with enthusiasm about what they were doing and how much they wanted people to come and hear about Christ.

Randall Phillips, Wenatchee and Leavenworth churches ShareHim coordinator

Post Falls Church Reaches Out to ICC Children

Six-year-old Alyssa Branson, a Kindergarten member at the Post Falls (Idaho) Church, went on a mission trip to the Philippines in May. When her Sabbath School class heard Alyssa and her mother were going to visit the Philippines, they bought toys and goodies to send to the children at International Children’s Care, which was a part of their planned itinerary.

Joan Santee, Alyssa’s Sabbath School teacher, also asked the church family to join in the special mission project. In response, church members gave cash donations to buy other things the children might need and would enjoy.

On May 2, 35 ICC children, with staff members and their children, excitedly gathered for a special program. Dovelyn Navacilla, social worker, gave the welcome to the two American missionaries.

Following music and a story, the program concluded with distribution of colorfully wrapped gifts. With big smiles, the children and staff received their surprise presents from the Post Falls Church family.

The children at the ICC facility were grateful for the visit, program and special gifts. One of the girls wrote, “Thanks for coming for a visit. Words can’t express my gratitude ... I love you all.”

Maritess Branson, Post Falls Church member

Alyssa Branson receives a hug from one of her new friends as a result of her recent visit to the ICC facility in the Philippines.
Teaching Service at UCA

The Upper Columbia Academy family believes God is waiting for “the spirit of service to take possession of the whole church... everyone working for Him according to his own ability... if a missionary spirit is encouraged... much of Heaven’s blessing will be given,” (Ellen G. White, Christian Service, p.11, 65.) It’s not a new idea, but it is revolutionary.

Hope Taskforce started at UCA in 1993, setting aside six days per year for community service. From lending a helping hand at a local food bank or humane society to painting houses and pulling weeds, UCA’s staff and student body all got into the action. Seventeen years later, the program remains strong.

Since the 1970s, UCA has offered a regular mission trip. This incredible program boasts not only longevity, but also depth. Last year, UCA faculty and students served in nearly 20 locations around the globe. While the school was involved in planning four of these trips, the rest were done independently. From Bangladesh to Belize, UCA had people practicing service all over the world.

Right now, UCA has more than 30 alumni serving around the world. Bob Renck, ’01, and his wife are spending five years in Guyana. Braden and Johanna (Reeve) Pewitt, both ’95, have spent the last 10 years in Cambodia. Danelle (Smith) McGill, ’04, and her husband are serving with Adventist Frontier Missions in New Guinea. Bob Roberts, ’70, has committed his life to serving as a missionary pilot. They all had a spark and a desire to serve. We like to think their time at UCA, with an intentional focus on teaching service, helped that spark to grow.

Katie Torkelsen Spoo, UCA GLEANER correspondent
Camp Meeting Inspires Active Evangelism

This June at Washington Adventist Camp Meeting, attendees of all ages found inspiration to “Go Take Jesus to the World” through daily presentations, afternoon workshops and evening sermons.

“The most important message for the Adventist Church is the value and importance of evangelism,” says Terry Johnson, radio chaplain and former White House Honor Guard, who shared his life story during the evening meetings. “The message we need to share is: God does care.”

Living the Gospel

Beyond the walls of Rainier Auditorium, the young adult, youth and children’s divisions focused on faith sharing as well.


“We talked about how our role as followers of Jesus is to point others to Him,” says Katie Steenberg, a young adult from Federal Way, Wash. “Every night we read a chapter together and discussed how Jesus lived the Gospel.”

The youth program, for high school students, discussed how to “Light Up the Darkness” through personal involvement at church and in the community (including participating in two hands-on service projects during camp meeting).

Church leaders John Freedman, Washington Conference president, and José Rojas, North American Division volunteer ministries director, sat down one morning to dialogue with youth about the future of the church.

“It was insightful to sit down with these young people and see their interest and passion for ministry,” says Freedman. “They want the church to offer more hands-on activities, leadership opportunities and social interaction between people of all ages in addition to being open to different worship styles. It was a productive conversation.”

Taking Jesus to the World

Evangelism is a key focus for Washington Adventist Camp Meeting, from people sharing how God is leading in their lives to celebrating baptisms, hearing reports about evangelism activities and more. This year, people pledged or donated $297,046.36 for the evangelism offering fund.

“People ask us if these pledges are honored,” says Bruce Koch, conference evangelism coordinator. “The short answer: Yes, and then some. God always provides above and beyond what people pledge. Our members, no matter their age, are invested in helping to take Jesus to the world.”

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director

Attendees at Washington Adventist Camp Meeting explored, learned and received the biblical context for evangelism with Ron Clouzet, NAD ministerial secretary.
A counselor instructed her campers to write a letter to God. After a few minutes, one girl wrote, “Dear God, I don’t know if you’re listening or not, but my counselor talks about you all the time and you sound really awesome. I’d really like to get to know you more.”

All summer long, campers at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson, Wash., have been on a road trip to discover more about Jesus. This year, more than 150 campers made decisions for baptism.

“I am so excited about what God is doing at Sunset Lake,” says David Yeagle, camp director. “We have an incredible evangelistic work taking place at Sunset Lake.”

More than 150 campers make decisions for baptism this summer at Sunset Lake, in Wilkeson, Wash.

The journey for a road trip-themed summer began on the road as camp leaders traveled to Adventist colleges, universities and academies to select a staff of 70 passionate, mission-oriented young adults. These staff members dedicated themselves to dynamically sharing Jesus with each and every camper.

“We saw a dramatic increase in completely unchurched campers who have little or no knowledge of who Jesus is,” says Yeagle. “It has been exciting to see how our staff have been impacting these kids.”

The adventures at camp seem boundless. In one day, a camper can ride horses, wakeboard, role-play in Bible Study, climb the rock wall and make duct tape wallets. Yet, amid all these activities, the thing that keeps bringing kids back to camp is the relationship they discover in Christ.

The Investment Heard ‘Round the World
Primary Students Raise Funds for AWR

Primary I and II students from the North Cascade Church in Burlington, Wash., raised more than $700 for Adventist World Radio this year.

Students pulled weeds, cleaned houses, vacuumed cars and did extra chores to earn money for a digital audio player called the “MegaVoice Ambassador,” or “Godpod.” The solar-powered device holds up to 160 hours of Christian-based content and has no moving parts to break down. With its built-in speaker, a crowd of people can listen to special programming from AWR on a single unit.

With the successful fundraising effort in Burlington, the children raised enough money to purchase 18 MegaVoice Ambassadors.

In addition to learning about target mission areas in Myanmar and Vietnam, students also learned about other countries in which AWR broadcasts, such as India, Thailand, Laos/Cambodia, Ethiopia, Uganda and China.

Burlington children may be too young to “go everywhere” right now, but they are already learning how they can help others tell the world about Jesus through supporting mission projects.

Sheila VonBergen, North Cascade Church Sabbath School teacher
AAA Welcomes New Faculty and Staff

Schedules are set, lockers are organized and the ringing bell in the hall announces the start of a new school year. As the 2010–2011 academic calendar begins, Auburn Adventist Academy is delighted to introduce several new faculty and staff members who have joined the team.

New principal Samir Berbawy previously served as the president of the Egypt Field as well as principal of Lodi (Calif.) Academy.

Jennifer Woody, whose love for Christ and ministry experience makes her uniquely suited to be the new assistant girls’ dean, joins the academy team.

Cyndee Broder is AAA’s new marketing and recruiting director. Having worked as an elementary school teacher, she is enthusiastic about Christian education.

Gregg Wahlstrom, former principal of Buena Vista Elementary School, is putting his passion for plants and gardening into beautifying AAA’s campus.

As librarian, janitorial supervisor and volleyball coach, Amy Koberstad brings her talents to the team.

Andrews University student Natalie Weir, who graduated from AAA in 2007, serves as taskforce girls’ dean.

Rebecca Schulz, a 2009 alumnus, returns to the academy as apprentice supervisor in the cafeteria.

With the newest additions to Auburn Adventist Academy’s faculty family, AAA is looking forward to a fantastic year. Dedicated to excellence in education and committed to nurturing students in the ways of Christ, faculty and staff dedicate the school year to God.

Jondelle D. McGhee, AAA GLEANER correspondent

Burning to Build

LCAS Builds a New Facility in Same Location

Lewis County (Wash.) Adventist School was burned to the ground on Sunday, June 27 — on purpose. It wasn’t too many hours before the 57-year-old structure, under the supervision of local fire departments, was reduced from a single-story, six-classroom school to smoldering ashes.

In May 2007, LCAS constituency unanimously voted to build a new school. Various options were considered, and plans finally came together in the fall of 2009 to build a new school in the footprint of the old school. With the bottomed economy, lower building costs will be incurred, providing a blessing to offset tightened pockets.

The once-proud structure, now completely gone, will be replaced by a two-story, 28,000-square-foot school that includes seven classrooms, a science lab, a library, a well-equipped kitchen, a regulation gym and a preschool/daycare center.

The constituent churches of Centralia, Chehalis and Winlock, Wash., have seen God at work as permits were issued in record time, the prescribed money raised just 90 minutes before the deadline, the feared asbestos was nearly negligible and even more miracles occurred.

While the new facility is built, LCAS will hold classes at Chehalis Adventist Church. Occupation of the new building is expected to be in the fall of 2011.

Memories will burn on as the ashes are shoveled away and the groundbreaking shovels dig in. Dreams of a modern structure to accommodate today’s technology are just starting to be turned into reality. Keep track of the building process online at lcas.org.

Earlene Wohlers, LCAS administrative assistant

Earlene Wohlers

Lewis County Adventist School in Chehalis, Wash., members work with the local fire department to burn down their 57-year-old school facility to make way for a new school facility.
WWU Students Tackle International Business Hands-on

I wanted to experience being out of my comfort zone, and I wanted to learn more about another culture, so I decided to go to China.”

These are the words of Chris Maravilla, Walla Walla University junior business administration major. He, along with 12 other business students, accompanied JoAnn Wiggins, dean of the School of Business, and Sam Chuah, a business professor from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., on a study tour to China this summer.

The four-week trip took the group to Hong Kong, where they spent three weeks studying at Hong Kong Adventist College, and then to Beijing.

Their mornings were filled with classroom lectures and their afternoons spent taking trips around the city and doing homework. Fieldtrips offered the opportunity to learn about the Chinese way of doing business and the challenges of Americans doing business in China.

“I learned a lot about Asian culture, such as their indirect way of communication,” says Kelsi Williams, sophomore accounting major. “I also gained a lot of insight about international business in general.”

One trip took the students to a factory in Shenzhen, where WWU alumnus Ron Wilkinson is producing an invention. He gave the students a tour of the factory and talked with them about conducting business abroad.

“As we visited the various places, I began to understand that the Chinese really care about other people,” says Maravilla. “Americans are very direct and always want things done quickly. The Chinese take their time and are patient about making decisions.”

The students enjoyed being in an environment where they learned by experience and guest lecture.

Some of the most memorable lessons learned, however, were not business specific, but do have an impact on how business in China is conducted.

“Guanxi is a deep connection the Chinese have with each other,” says Maravilla. “It defines the way the Chinese are willing to do anything for a friend, and it is extremely important when doing business there.”

As a result of the trip, he is considering going into international business. Learning what it means to conduct business outside of your own country has inspired Maravilla and he is excited about the possibilities.

First, though, he plans to return to his home in California and work as an accountant while studying for his master’s degree in finance.

“This trip really broadened my perspective,” says Maravilla. “My experience in China was priceless, and I can’t wait to go back.”

To keep tabs on what the School of Business is up to, search Facebook for “School of Business.”

Becky St. Clair, WWU GLEANER correspondent

Chris Maravilla enjoys his experience in Hong Kong so much he is considering going into international business.

Ron Wilkinson, WWU alumnus, gives visiting students tours of the factory in Shenzhen where his invention is being produced. He talks with them about conducting business abroad.
Dennis, a successful businessman, was devastated upon learning his position was being eliminated as a result of the economy. A few days later, the Portland, Ore., resident suffered a stress-induced heart attack.

Unfortunately, rather than calling 911 and having the paramedics transport him to the best facility to treat his condition, his wife drove him to a hospital where they were informed he needed to be transferred to a medical center capable of inserting the stent required to open his blocked artery.

The good news for Dennis and his family was Adventist Medical Center was just a few miles down the road and ranked in the top 10 percent nationwide for the speed in which the staff reopen blocked vessels. The newly built Northwest Regional Heart Center, designed to provide comprehensive cardiac care, is now one of only two accredited chest pain centers in the entire state of Oregon.

Today, Dennis is living a productive life, thanks in part to the team of specialized clinicians at AMC who continue to meet his needs. “They’ve helped heal my heart by taking care of my physical, emotional and spiritual needs,” says the active 59-year-old. “My family and the co-workers at my new job know that AMC is the only place for me from now on!”

Five-Star Rating

Integrity, quality, compassion, wholeness, respect, family and stewardship are the pillars of Adventist Health’s values. The demonstration of these values helped AMC become the recipient of the Community Value Index Five-Star Hospital Award for the fourth consecutive year. This national recognition means the hospital is consistently meeting the healthcare needs of the community in a financially responsible, efficient and effective way. “We are determined to provide exceptional care for our patients here in the Portland metropolitan area,” said Mark Perry, AMC chief financial officer. “Medical expertise, patient care and trust in the value of our services are imperative to our success, but more importantly, it’s critical to ensuring we are fulfilling our mission of demonstrating the human expression of the healing ministry of Jesus Christ by taking care of the needs of our community.”

Proof in Numbers

More proof of the high-quality care patients receive at AMC has received state-wide attention. The Oregon Healthcare Acquired Infections Report compared infection rates at 58 hospitals. AMC has some of the best results in the entire state for eliminating central line-associated bloodstream infections among patients in the intensive care unit. The hospital also is recognized for its role in preventing post-surgical infections in knee replacement patients. The ongoing process improvement is tied to a collaborative study with Johns Hopkins University.

Care You Can Have Faith In

After a century of providing healthcare to the community, many things have changed, but the Adventist Health commitment to the mission of caring for the whole person remains. Dennis has AMC to thank for his healthier heart. Many others can thank the hospital as well for its dedication to improvement, prevention and quality.

Brittany Russell, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent with Judy Leach, AMC marketing director
Burden 60th

Ken and Clarita Burden celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 27 with a weekend gathering of family and friends on the Oregon Coast.

Ken Casper grew up in the southwestern region of Oregon and Joyce Lewis spent her younger years between Northern California and Southern Oregon. They were married at the Corning (Calif.) Church on Aug. 27, 1950. After they were married, they attended Walla Walla College. Ken started working in the construction industry in 1952. Toward the end of January 1953, they moved to Oregon where they resided for many years. After Ken and Joyce moved, he apprenticed under another contractor. He then started his own construction business in 1954, while Joyce was busy being a fulltime CEO of the house.

During their 60 years, they have enjoyed supporting their local church and school, serving on church boards, school boards and conference committees, as well as participating in numerous Maranatha Volunteers International projects, both domestically and around the world. Ken has been a part of the Maranatha board for more than 20 years. They are passionate about helping others and furthering God’s work. In 1994, Ken was given the distinguished Missionary of the Year Award for his service to Maranatha.

Throughout their lives, Ken and Joyce have enjoyed many activities, such as waterskiing, bird watching, taking walks on the beach and visiting with their grandchildren. They still lead very active lives in Rogue River, Ore.

The Casper family includes Dennis and Marjorie Casper of Seattle, Wash.; Rhonda and Greg Ford of Battle Ground, Wash.; Martin Casper of Las Vegas, Nev.; and 5 grandchildren.

Henderson 90th

Enid “Cates” Henderson was born on April 3, 1920, in Cabri, Saskatchewan, Canada, the second oldest of six children. She was unable to have a 90th birthday celebration, because she was very ill at the time.

Enid took nurses training at Florida Hospital, graduating in 1946. She retired from nursing in 1965 and married Kenneth Henderson, who died in 2002. She worked as church secretary for the Brewer (Wash.) Church until she was 80 years old. She had no children of her own, but has two stepchildren — Ken Henderson and Janice Lane of Sacramento, Calif., with whom she has a very close mother-daughter relationship.

Enid resides in an assisted living home, but is able to attend the Yakima (Wash.) Church with her youngest sister, Lettie Byrd.

Litchfield 90th

Louise Litchfield celebrated her 90th birthday with a family party held at the home of her son, Steven.

Louise Aplington was born in Clarkston, Wash., on April 30, 1920. At the age of 18, she married Charles Litchfield, a railroad car inspector, who died in 1973. She worked as a nurse’s aid in Lewiston, Idaho, for 20 years, putting her sons, Steve and Doug, through Upper Columbia Academy and Steve through college. After moving to Yakima, she served as the associate director of the Community Services Center and was director by default even though she would never accept the actual position. She was very good at organization and was always able to find something for a person to do.

Even though Louise retired as associate director of community services some time ago, she has continued to help make quilts every Monday in the food bank.

Louise’s family includes Lana and Joe Decicio of Craigmont, Idaho; Nancy Wigant (deceased); Steven and Colette Litchfield of Yakima, Wash.; Doug and June Litchfield of Lewiston; Barbara and Randy Bentley of Orofino, Idaho; 10 grandchildren, 8 step-grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Parmele 180th

R. Earl and Eola Parmele celebrated their 90th birthdays on June 26, 2010, with a dinner and family reunion at the Winlock Church fellowship hall, in Winlock, Wash. The event, dubbed “The 180th,” was hosted by their family.

Earl was born March 28, 1920, in Lincoln City, Ore. Eola Stephens was born Sept. 2, 1920, in Sutherlin, Ore. They married on June 28, 1941. Earl worked in the logging industry, owning his own logging truck.
Eola was a stay-at-home mom to their four children. Both were strong supporters of their local Adventist churches in Toledo, Pendleton and Enterprise, Ore. Earl held many leadership positions, including head elder, school-board chairman and deacon in each of the churches. He is still active as a deacon in the Winlock Church. Eola led in children's Sabbath School for many years and was active in Pathfinder leadership. Most recently she has been superintendent for the Winlock Church.

The family includes: Earlene and Bob Wohlers of Chehalis, Wash.; Gary Parmele of Portland, Ore.; Joe and Pat (Loren) Parmele of Columbia, Mo.; Tommy (deceased) and Ruby (Kuzma) Parmele of Saskatchewan, Canada; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.


**JOHNSTONE** — Robert W., 93; born Dec. 23, 1917, Chico, Calif.; died July 10, 2010, Williams, Ore. Surviving: wife, Lucille (Kom); sons, Gary and Kenneth, both of Williams; daughter, Janice Blakemore,
Vancouver, Wash.; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

JUDISCH — Melvin A., 84; born April 25, 1925, Long Beach, Calif.; died March 5, 2010, Stevensville, Mont. Surviving: wife, Ruth; son, Michael, Stevensville; daughter, Linda Grogan, Stevensville; and 4 grandchildren.

KRENZLER — Myron O., 73; born May 27, 1937, Seattle, Wash.; died July 2, 2010, Pendleton, Ore. Surviving: wife, Donna (Randall); sons, Michael and Robert, both of Milton-Freewater, Ore.; sister, Florence Massey, La Mesa, Calif.; 5 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.


LEONARD — Myra E., 73; born April 2, 1923, Darby, Mont.; died June 5, 2010, Sandpoint, Idaho. Surviving: husband, George; sons, Robert and Richard K., both of Darby, sister, Bonnie Echnier, College Place; and 9 grandchildren.


MONTGOMERY — Laleta V. (Stephenson), 90; born Dec. 29, 1919, Strong City, Okla.; died June 6, 2010, Gladstone, Ore. Surviving: son, Ken, Dundee, Ore.; daughters, Charlete Handy, Vancouver, Wash.; Joyce McLain, Oregon City, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.


SAGE — Gerald "Jerry" L., 68; born May 27, 1941, San Jose, Calif.; died May 12, 2010, Poulsbo, Wash. Surviving: wife, Helen E. (Unston); daughters, Cheryl Ratchiff, Hayden, Idaho; Carol Sage and Jenny Sage, both of Poulsbo; brother, Melvin, Chico, Calif.; and 4 grandchildren.


UHELIN — Nellie (Dakan), 103; born Feb. 14, 1907, Beaver City, Neb.; died July 8, 2010, College Place, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Greta-Joy Palmer, College Place; 2 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.


**North Pacific Union Conference**

**Offering**
- Sept. 4 — Local Church Budget; Sept. 11 — World Budget; Fall Mission Appeal*
- Sept. 18 — Local Church Budget; Sept. 25 — Local Conference Advance.
- Sept. 25 — Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings: Trans-Africa Division +

*Special materials provided.
+Special project development.

**Special Days Curriculum Focus for the Month — Family Life**
- Sept. 4 — Men’s Day of Prayer; Sept. 5–11 — Nurture Periodicals (Adventist Review, Insight, Guide, Primary Treasure, Little Friend);
- Sept. 12–18 — Family Togetherness Week*;
- Sept. 19–25 — Hispanic Heritage Week.

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

* Special materials provided.

**Walla Walla University**
- Sept. 19 — President’s Welcome Convocation and Luncheon. A welcome for all new students and their families. 11:30 a.m., U-Church.
- Sept. 20–26 — JumpStart and University Orientation for all new students. Extracurricular credit available; call 800-541-8900 for information.
- Sept. 26 — Registration for fall quarter.
- Sept. 27 — Classes begin.

**Oregon**

**Messiah’s Mansion**
- Sept. 4–12 — A life-sized replica of the Hebrew Tabernacle will be coming to Portland Adventist Academy. We invite you to join us between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., for free tours. You will experience the sanctuary message as never before. Step-by-step the tour guides will take you through the outer court, the Holy and Most Holy places, presenting the Sanctuary message so simply that even your children will easily understand the plan of salvation, as taught in types and symbols. This will be open to the public. Tours begin every 15 minutes and will last 75 minutes.

**Singles’ Retreat**
- Sept. 10–12 — Come and spend the weekend with us in the beautiful Silver Falls, Ore., area. It is time for our Annual Silver Falls Singles Retreat. The topic for the weekend is “Ellen White Escapes from HELL and Discovers JOY in the Lord” and will be presented by Dr. Alden Thompson from Walla Walla University. Sponsored by Beaverton ASAM. For more information, please check our website, www.beavertonsda.com/singles.

**Mike Bishop Concert**
- Oct. 2 — Mike Bishop and his sister, Marlynn Bishop, will perform at Cathlamet Church, 3 Fern Hill Rd., Cathlamet, Wash., 11 a.m. service and a concert at 6:30 p.m. His CDs “Not On My Own,” “Rise Again” and “My Hymnal: The Fourth Generation,” will be available for purchase after the concert. For more information, call 503-487-4015.

**Oregon Conference Church Missing Members**
- The Oregon Conference Church is looking for the following people: William Johnson, Peggy Johnston, Paulene Kittinger, Jodi Knable, Ed Knutson, Therese M. Koller, Paul Kunzman, Amanda J. Laparra, Thomas Lehman, Corey Liddington, Maureen W. Lum, Teresa S. Mandzik, Rosendo Martinez, Karsten Martinson, Rian McGowan, Allison and Andrea McKenzie, Marcella McNair, David E. Miller, Jay Moreau, Eva Moreno, Juan C. Moreno, Leyla Muramoto, and Monica V. Myers. If you have any information about these people, call 503-850-3571 or e-mail maryjane.zollbrecht@oc.npuc.org.

**Upper Columbia Academy and Yakima Valley Academy Alumni Homecoming**
- Oct. 1–2 — All former students and faculty are invited to campus for Alumni Weekend. Friday’s activities include a golf tournament and sundown vespers. The Sabbath worship service is from 10 a.m. to noon. Following lunch, honor classes of ’30, ’40, ’50, ’60, ’70, ’80, ’85, ’90, ’10 will meet for visiting and pictures. Saturday night football is alumni vs. students, and Sunday morning, the Peach Fun Run (5K) will be followed by a pancake breakfast. For more information, check the UCA website at www.ucaaa.org, e-mail alumni@ucaaa.org or phone Linnea Torkelsen, Alumni Director, at 509-245-3692.

**Walla Walla Valley Academy Alumni Homecoming**
- Oct. 1–3 — All Alumni, former students, faculty, parents and friends are invited to the annual homecoming for Walla Walla Valley Academy. The following graduating classes will be honored: Pioneers, ’60, ’70, ’80, ’85, ’90 and ’00. Friday afternoon, Oct. 1, WWVA will be hosting a golf tournament for all who are interested. Sabbath worship speaker is Dr. Cynthia Westerbeck ’85. Following the service, there will be a potluck at the Youth Center and that evening the Alumni Basketball Tournament. Sunday morning there will be a pancake breakfast, dirt bike trail ride and a trip to WWVA Lodge. For more information about
this weekend, go to the alumni page at www.wwva.org or contact the Alumni Office at 509-525-1050 ext. 223.

**UCA's Class of 1980 Missing Classmates**
UCA's class of 1980 is looking for the following classmates in preparation for their 30th reunion on Oct. 1–2: Sonya Richert, Kim Adams Fisher, Alan Knight, Dan Gray, Christy Wood Ezell, Paul Davenport, Diane Craig, Laura Cummings, ezell, Paul Davenport, Diane Craig, Laura Cummings, Cheryl Burke, Diane Bull, Roy Allen, Peter Adkinson, Carla Bud Alderman, Dan Ashe, Gerald Andrews, Randy Buell and Traci Radford. Please contact alumni@ucaa.org or call 509-245-3692 with any information.

**Washington**

**SAGE Events**


**Dec. 29–Jan. 26** — Mission Trip to San Cristobal, Chiapas, Mexico, to build a church, paint other churches, and hold evangelistic meetings, VBS and medical clinics. Sightseeing of national parks and the ancient ruin city of Palenque. Call 253-681-6008 or e-mail joan.libby@wc.npuc.org. www.washingtonconference.org/sage.

**Missing Members**

Breath of Life Church is looking for the following missing members: Ann M. Allison, Kellye Allison, Elizabeth Anderson, Frances Anderson, Jean Anderson, Ron Anderson, Sean Anderson, Wanda Anderson, Nissa Anderson, Tyrone Armstrong, Aron Atherton, George Austin, Natalia Baker, Erica Barker, James Barnes, Tyna Bass, Ricky Beaseth, Sherrie Belt, Tannya Belt, Timothy Bennett, Nikki Bethea, Leland Bishop, Donald Brooks, Joanna Brown, Keith Brown Sr., Deantonio D. Burks, Trina Burns, Trina Busch, Jefferson Butler Jr., Sheila Butler, Camilla Campbell, Fritz Campbell, Deidre L. Carpenter, Joanne Carrington, Alton K. Carroll, Karen Coleman, Karen Coleman, Sean Coleman, Karen Coleman, Karen Coleman, Karen Coleman and Trenton Coleman. If you have any contact information for the following people, please e-mail Shirley Mathieu at tangodoe@juno.com or call the church and leave a message at 206-762-0333.

**World Church**

**Oak Park Academy Alumni**


**Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend**

**Oct. 15–17** — All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Friday evening and all day Sabbath. Honor classes are ’36, ’41, ’46, ’51, ’56, ’61, ’66, ’71, ’76, ’81, ’86, ’91, ’96, ’01 and ’06. For more details, contact the Academy Alumni office at 269-471-6140, or e-mail acadalum@andrews.edu.

**Greater Boston Reunion**

**Oct. 15–17** — Stoneham Memorial Church, 29 Maple St., Stoneham, MA. Friday: light supper at 6 p.m.; vespers at 7:30 p.m. Sabbath: Church at 10:45 a.m. with guest speaker John Grayson (1960). Sabbath: Fellowship luncheon at 1 p.m. at GBA followed by activity. Saturday Night: Class Reunions and Alumni basketball games. Sunday: School Fall Festival. For additional information or directions, contact Tom Giampa at 508-243-7458, tdg606@aol.com, or call GBA at 781-438-4253.

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**Sunset Schedule**

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<th>September (DST)</th>
<th>3</th>
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<td>Fairbanks</td>
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<td>Juneau</td>
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<td>Bellingham</td>
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Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.
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GLEANER STAFF
Editor: Steve Vastaunet
Managing Editor: Cindy Chamberlin
Copy Editor: Jana Cress Miller
Advertising and Copy Coordinator: Desiree Lockwood
Design: GUILDHOUSE Group

CORRESPONDENTS
Alaska: Butch Palmero, butch.palmero@ac.npuc.org
Idaho: Don Klinger, idcconf@idcconf.org
Montana: Archie Harris, info@montanaconference.org
Oregon: Krisy Barber, info@ac.npuc.org

Upper Columbia Conference: Jay Wintemeyer, ucc@uccda.org
Washington: Heidi Martella, info@washingtonconference.org
Walla Walla University: Becky St. Clair, beckystclair@wallawalla.edu
Adventist Health: Brittany Russell, info@ah.org

We welcome your submissions. Please submit them electronically to info@washingtonconference.org

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“The crisis passed ... people went back to their differences and disagreements. The miracle faded. A lesson was lost: The petty should never push aside what is truly important — especially for a flood.”

When the flood reached the old structure, something wonderful happened.

In our small community, not everyone had agreed with the mission of the organization that used the dilapidated warehouse. In fact, sharp things had been spoken — cutting, nasty words that over the years built a seemingly impenetrable wall of misunderstanding and distrust.

When the rains came down and the floods came up, the water rose inexorably until it became more than just a threat. The old building, settled into a low spot near the river, was the first to be hit.

Those nearby rushed into action, gathering valuables and removing them for safe-keeping or stacking them high above the water. Others joined in, working feverishly to beat the rising tide. Little was said. It was a time for action, not talk. Everyone instinctively knew what must be done.

But there, in the heat of the battle, the miracle happened. People who had not spoken a kind word to each other in months, worked side by side, petty differences put aside for the greater good.

The rains eased, the waters receded, the crisis passed. When all was cleaned up and back in its place, people went back to their differences and disagreements. The miracle faded. A lesson was lost: The petty should never push aside what is truly important — especially for a flood.

In Revelation 12, the apostle John in his allegorical vision describes a flood with which the great dragon seeks to overwhelm the woman. When his efforts fail, the enraged dragon determines to obliterate the woman's offspring — the remnant.

His methods have been many. He's tried persecution, but the martyrs' blood, like seed, inspired growth. He's tried economic hardship, but God has opened the windows of heaven.

When minds and hearts are unified, there is little the enemy can do to diminish the work of God. So he has resorted to distraction, nudging us all imperceptibly in different directions. He fills up our daily to-do lists with things — even good things — while God's apocalyptic purpose is put on the shelf for a rainy day.

The antidote is central to Ellen White's admonishment: “I have heard the angel voice saying, 'Press together, press together, press together. Do not let Satan cast his hellish shadow between brethren. Press together; in unity there is strength,'” (Selected Messages, vol. 2, p. 374).

Pressing together is not a natural response for those of us who value independence. But when the enemy comes in like a flood, those who find unity centered along the master strokes of the Kingdom will be enabled to meet the challenge — together. That's the remnant of Scripture: those who make the daily choice to be completely committed and loyal to Jesus.

The flood will come; the response is up to us.

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