A Dream Born and Bloomed from the City of Roses

HERITAGE SINGERS’ EXCLUSIVE

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So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:21 (NIV)

“Wood Duck” by Albert H. Russell of Lebanon, Oregon.
I don’t know whether it was more of a threat, a taunt or an accusation, but in my formative years I remember calling out across the school playground, “Liar, liar, pants on fire, can’t jump over a telephone wire!” And, I was pretty worked up when I said it. It sure wasn’t a compliment.

We don’t like it when people don’t tell the truth. And it’s always wiser to tell the truth because then you won’t forget what you have said. If you fabricate an exaggerated story, it is far too difficult to remember all the details you so cleverly imagined.

Ellen White, in her book Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, page 68, says, “Everything that Christians do should be as transparent as the sunlight.” This is easier said than done. Only by the enabling grace of God can we live lives of utter transparency. But what a difference it makes when we do! There is no more duplicity and hypocrisy. There are no more little white lies. There is no more pretension or dishonesty.

I wonder what would happen if every Seventh-day Adventist lived a life of absolute integrity? What if we all kept our promises and paid our bills on time? What if we not only shared the truth of Scripture but told the truth about what happened yesterday? What if we lived truly transparent lives? I suspect what would happen is, researchers would be sent from everywhere to study us and figure out what makes us tick.

We often hear new members of the church verbalize their experience as “discovering the truth” or older members of the church talking about “sharing the truth.” We use that word “truth” to describe our overall understanding of Bible beliefs. It is something we care passionately about. But just now, I want to challenge all of us to be both people who have the truth and truthful people. Everything we do should be as “transparent as the sunlight.”

“What would happen if every Seventh-day Adventist lived a life of absolute integrity?”

MAX TORKELSEN II
North Pacific Union Conference president
144,000 votes make Mt. Ellis a winner
Mount Ellis Academy in Bozeman, Mont., finished 10th among nationwide schools participating in the online Kohl’s Cares contest, which wrapped up Sept. 3. The contest promised to award $500,000 grants to the 20 schools receiving the most votes through Facebook. MEA finished with 144,006 votes, with a surge during the final week. The school plans to use the funds to rebuild an aging water and sewer system, pending project approval from Kohl’s administrators. Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash., was the only other Adventist school close to the winner’s circle, finishing just 10 spots away in 30th place.

Positive Life Radio Hosts Successful Sharathon
Radio stations affiliated with Positive Life Radio throughout eastern Washington raised more than $715,000 during a three-day on-air Sharathon held Sept. 14–16. KGTS in College Place raised nearly $194,000 — 105 percent of its goal. KYPL in Yakima received $134,000 — 109 percent of its goal. KPLW in Wenatchee garnered $127,300 — 118 percent of its goal. KEEH in Spokane led all PLR stations with nearly $255,000 raised during the three-day event. Online PLR listeners contributed an additional $6,600 toward the Sharathon goal. Kevin Krueger, PLR network general manager, is pictured here during the Sharathon as he prepares to thank listeners for their pledges.

Annual Maranatha Convention Draws 1,000 Plus
Maranatha Volunteers International held its annual convention Sept. 10–12 in the Rolling Hills Community Church, in Tualatin, Ore. More than 1,000 attended the event throughout the weekend, which featured church leaders from around the world and well-known musicians Steve Green and Dick and Mel Tunney. A common focus ran throughout the testimonials and stories — the impact the One-Day Church and One-Day School programs are having in far-flung areas. The One-Day School comes complete with walls, windows, a door and desks — everything necessary for a school to begin session. Each is also considered an evangelistic outreach. Read more about the One-Day Church and One-Day School projects at www.maranatha.org.

Shirley Burton Remembered
Former Oregon Conference public relations director and Adventist world church communication director Shirley Burton died Aug. 16, in Lincoln, Neb. She was 83. Early in her career, Burton taught at Laurelwood Academy in Gaston, Ore., and earned a master’s degree in communication from Southern Oregon College. She served the Oregon Conference for six years before directing public relations for the Pacific Union Conference and later for the world church.
Belated Reflections on an Editorial

I was just reading Max Torkelsen’s editorial in the August 2009 issue of the GLEANER.

I sense [a] focus on the outward appearance throughout much of Adventism. It is almost as if it is more important to look good than to be good. The energy that goes into maintaining this façade is what prevents us from using the primary tool of transformation — repentance.

In Jesus’ stories it is the wayward son, the marginalized, and the sinners who are at the feast. And it is the hard-working sons and well-behaved religious leaders who miss out. It is a radical reversal theology that seems to have been lost on Adventist older brothers.

When our lives are in such order that we cannot think of anything for which we need to repent, how much do we appreciate God’s scandalous grace?

Robert Stafford, Portland, Ore.

Anonymous Women?

I’ve delayed writing this for several months, but will now put my two cents’ worth down. The November 2009 GLEANER contained a photograph from the Oregon Conference constituency session. The photo shows eight individuals, however only four are listed and they are all men. I can assume the women standing on the platform are their wives, but I think it’s a terrible oversight to list the men only. My belief is, wives stand right alongside their husbands in Christian service and deserve recognition for being there.

Carol Ledford, Gresham, Ore.

GLEANER responds: We agree that husbands and wives stand together in service. In this instance, however, we have perhaps at least narrowly avoided the dreaded “sexist” tag. Max Torkelsen, NPUC president, is also pictured on the platform, but remains anonymous in the caption along with the wives, Beth Reimche, Eloise Gatchet, Shirley Allen and Cheri Corder.

EFT Instead of Credit for Online Giving

Our church was grateful when Adventist Giving recently introduced a second option for churches who want to offer online giving to their members. Previously, the only option was to offer the use of credit cards, debit cards or electronic funds transfer. Churches who don’t want to offer a credit/debit instrument can now set their church up to offer only EFT.

When our local church board first discussed offering online giving, Adventist Giving had only one option. Our board members did not want to include credit cards as a method of returning tithes and offerings, so we voted not to go with Adventist Giving. We found other possible online options, but hadn’t yet signed up with them because it would cost our church more than Adventist Giving (NAD and local conferences absorb the costs if you use their services). Also, using another company would have required considerable set-up effort.

We communicated with North American Division treasury and stewardship departments, telling them of our convictions, and requested an EFT-only option. Thankfully, they listened, and the change was made effective sometime in August. Churches may now sign on, indicating that their board has requested the EFT-only option. Our church is now using it, and it is working well.

Not only are we thankful that the EFT-only option exists, but we’re grateful the NAD officers listened and changes were made as a result of grassroots efforts.

Ruth Harms, Richland, Wash.
"I just wanted to sing for the Lord," says Max Mace, Heritage Singers’ founder and man responsible for a thousand Sabbath memories. Mace wipes a strand of blond hair, flashes a trademark smile and says “Who knew we’d be here 40 years later?”

You’ll Never Make It

In 1969, Mace and his wife Lucy belonged to the Rose City Singers, a singing group Max started and led at the United Medical Labs where the two worked in Portland, Oregon. Mace steadily felt God calling him to form a full-time Christian-singing group. Three months before going on the road, Max wished to be upfront about his plans and shared this with his president/boss. Rather than receive a blessing, Max and Lucy were fired, along with the other UML employees involved in the venture. However, his president accused him of being disloyal, and said “You’ll never make it out there — Max you don’t even read music!”

The next day, Max went to Pacific Press and asked them to sponsor the group. They listened, but came back and said “We’re sorry, Max, but there is no way we can do this. It’s just too costly — it just won’t work.” Devastated, confused and over-whelmed, Max felt doors close behind him. He began to question the idea himself. Was his dream really that outra-gious? Was he on some ill-fated ego trip? What was he doing taking people away from their families and jobs and going on the road without any source of income?

But, then he remembered the Bible verses: “People make plans in their minds, but only the Lord can make them come true. You may believe you are doing right, but the Lord will judge your reasons. Depend on the Lord in whatever you do, and your plans will succeed,” (Proverbs 16:1–3, NCV).

“The day I was turned down by Pacific Press was my darkest day,” Max admits. “There we were just three months from our first concert, with needs for printing, travel, music, etc., and we, along with all these other families, were — unemployed.”
Right there he turned his questions, fears and self-doubts over to God.

**God Was In It**

But, getting fired soon proved to be an actual blessing. The Industrial Relations Division of the Labor Department investigated the lab and found none of the employees disloyal — forcing the company to provide unemployment. Now, members had time to prepare to go on the road with some income. Lucy found inexpensive red and white skirts for the girls to wear, and a generous woman made a second set of dresses for the girls at her own expense. A printing company printed all the posters and programs at no cost. Things began falling into place. God was providing for their needs. And they began to realize God was in it.

**Old Blue**

With the date of the first concert quickly approaching, the group still had to find transportation. Max heard the Greyhound Bus Company sometimes offered retired buses at a discount to non-profit groups. He wrote a letter stating their needs. However, a week before the concert the group still had no vehicle. Members got together once more to pray about the situation. No sooner had they said “amen” when the phone rang. It was the Greyhound Company asking them to come select a bus. Two original group members, Jerry Leiske and Bruce Twing arrived at the lot feeling suddenly overwhelmed. How in the world would they choose the right one? Most of the buses looked really bad. Suddenly they heard a voice and were startled to see a man approaching. “What are you looking for?” the man asked.

The man smiled and replied “Well, I know a lot about buses; I’ll help you.”

They looked at several buses. One was especially ugly. Its Greyhound logo had been sanded off and the interior was yellow-stained and reeking with years of cigarette smoke and stench. However, with a little more checking, the men realized it had lower mileage than the others. “This is the bus you should have. The engine has just been rebuilt, and it is mechanically sound,” the stranger said.

Jerry and Bruce looked skeptical — “Are you sure?” they asked him. “Yes, this is the one you

“We are trying to find a bus with a reliable engine that would be good for road trips for our Christian-music group,” they answered.

Old Blue that bloomed from the original Rose City Singers came to full bloom with more than 100 Heritage Singers’ recorded albums.
should have,” he assured them.

The two parked the bus and went inside the office to fill out the paperwork. “You’ve really made a good choice,” the Greyhound representative said while they signed the papers. “How did you happen to choose this particular bus?”

“Well there was a gentleman helping us,” answered Jerry. “He said he knew a lot about buses.”

The Greyhound representative got a strange look on his face, “Nobody is allowed on this lot except our security guards, and none of them are here today,” he said. Then he paused, leaned back in his chair, and looked at them skeptically. “No one could have possibly been out there other than the two of you.” Mystified, he sent someone out to the lot to look for the man, but the man had disappeared.

Heritage founders are convinced God sent an angel that day.

**One Concert at a Time**

“When we left our home in Portland and climbed onto the bus with our suitcases — not knowing when we’d be returning, if ever — it was a big step of faith,” says Lucy. “We didn’t even know how we were going to pay for the diesel costs to get from the first concert in Yakima, Washington, to the second concert in Wenatchee, Washington.” Just moments before they were about to leave, Lucy felt impressed to check the mailbox one last time. She was humbled and amazed to find a letter with a check in it for $300 which turned out to be the exact amount needed for the trip. The following concert provided just enough offering to get to the next one and so on. The Heritage Singers have grown exactly one Northwest concert, one offering, one home hosting the group for a night, one church preparing soup suppers for performers, etc.

But the new group was not without controversy. Many weren’t ready for Heritage style — upbeat songs, modern dress. Sometimes committees allowed Heritage into their conferences by just one vote. “No one wants to be a negative person, so I’ve learned not to be bitter,” Max says with boyish optimism. “Just when things looked bleakest God would send one supporter,” he says. “Cecil Coffey, CLEANER editor at the time, and Jerry Brass, NPUC youth leader, gave us our strongest support. Without that Northwest support we wouldn’t be here. Those two gentlemen said ‘Max if the Lord is in this, it will not fail.’ So we took a step of faith.”

Max affirms he didn’t see his role as getting into doctrinal debates, politics, or arguing over music selection. Time that might have been justifiably spent harboring hurts, was, instead, just used singing about Jesus.

Doors

“40 years, I’ve learned God opens doors no man can,” says Max. “Take for instance our recent trip to Romania. Mihai Gedea, a little boy who grew up listening to ‘Heaven is For Kids’ is now in charge of a prime-time live television show (similar to Meet the Press here in America.) Mihai took a Heritage CD to the station and was playing it for the producer of a popular variety show (similar to an American Oprah). The producer immediately cancelled her guest lineup for the day and opened the whole show for Heritage to perform. In an hour-live television show, the group then answered question after question about God. This was the first time any Christian group ever had the privilege of singing nationwide in Romania.

“40 years, I’ve learned if God closes a door — not to fight it, but there might be a good reason for it to close.”

Since those humble beginnings the group has sung in over 65 countries, traveled by boat, airplane, been on countless mission trips, and launched Espanola Heritage… Concurrent with 2010 GC Session, Heritage unveiled a 206-plus page book commemorating their 40-year history. Heritage Singers, the original Rose City Singers from Portland, Oregon, packed the house, with, not one — but two concerts in concurrence with GC Session. The concert was marked by Max, stepping onto stage, paying tribute to longstanding supporters, and blending old and new music including Heritage’s longest running “Jesus is the Lighthouse,” “Daystar” and “God’s Wonderful People.”

And today, the Northwest-born, once farm boy and now co-founder of one of the most influential Christian singing groups, gratefully says he wishes for “only another 40 years singing for the Lord...”

The Heritage Singers’ story as condensed from Beyond Our Dreams by Max and Lucy Mace. Adapted and edited by Cindy R. Chamberlin, CLEANER managing editor.
Heritage Singers’ Highlights:

President Reagan’s Inaugural Celebration
It was a real honor for us to be chosen out of all the singing groups in the U.S. for this special occasion.

Singing in Brazil
Having the opportunity to help cast out demons in a young girl is something that is forever etched in our minds.

Trip to the Philippines
We were treated like royalty and were invited to the Royal Palace to sing for President Ferdinand Marcos and Mrs. Imelda Marcos.

Touring South Africa and Swaziland
After our concert tour in South Africa, we went to Swaziland to teach people how to plant gardens. AIDS victims were assigned to work with us. What a heart-warming experience.

Evangelistic Crusades
There are too many to name, but each brought a new dimension to the Heritage ministry and a quick course in map reading. The people who have given their hearts to the Lord — those are the real rewards.

Our Northwest Tour
This is our favorite tour, coming home to friends and family, where we began. Thank you for 40 years. — Max and Lucy Mace, Heritage Singers’ founders.

Upcoming
An “Evening in December,” is a free concert presented by the North Pacific Union Conference GLEANER, Saturday, December 4, at 7 p.m. at the New Hope Community Church in Portland, Oregon. (See the ad at the back of this GLEANER.)

Beyond Our Dreams
To order the Max and Lucy Mace story, Beyond Our Dreams, see page 34.

Pictured here is the entire Mace family, back row from left: Art and Val Mapa, Lucy and Max, Adriane and Greg. Front row, from left: Austin Mapa (Art and Val’s son) Amber and Isabella Mace, (Greg and Adriane's daughters).

See Cindy’s Garden Blog all during November and December for Heritage Singers’ miracle stories at http://gleanerblog.mcnds.com/

Heritage Singers pay special tribute to Lucy Mace, Heritage co-founder, during the 2010 General Conference Session in the Georgia World Congress Center, Friday, July 2.

Lucy’s “Bouquet”
En el verano del año 2007, poco antes de que la economía empezara a desacelerar, un representante de la Ciudad de Nampa, Estado de Idaho, buscaba asiduamente al pastor encargado de la Iglesia Adventista Hispana del lugar. Cuando finalmente lo contactó por teléfono, le informó que necesitaba reunirse con él y algunos de los líderes de la congregación a la mayor brevedad posible.

La reunión dejó al pastor y a sus líderes locales con sentimientos encontrados. El representante les había informado acerca de los planes que la ciudad tenía de renovar toda esa sección urbana donde también se encontraba el templo de la iglesia adventista. Ello implicaba que la congregación no tendría otra alternativa más que venderle el edificio a la ciudad.

Lo positivo de la noticia era que la congregación estaba acariciando el sueño de construir un nuevo edificio. Contar con un comprador serio como la ciudad, era cosa buena. Por otra parte, ahora la iglesia se vería presionada a tomar decisiones rápidas. A ello, se unía la sensación de no tener control sobre las circunstancias: ¿Dónde construiría? ¿Tendría los fondos necesarios? ¿Podría hacerlo antes de que le tocara desocupar el antiguo edificio?

Los años 2008 y 2009 fueron frenéticos para los líderes de la congregación. Éstos, encabezados por el presidente de la Comisión Pro-templo, el Pr. Miguel Valdivia, analizaban las mejores opciones. Pronto se hizo evidente que construir no era viable. Había que buscar un edificio existente. La fecha de desocupación se acercaba. El nuevo edificio no aparecía. Los miembros de la iglesia oraban y la ciudad extendía una y otra vez el plazo para desocupar.

Finalmente, a principios del año 2010 apareció una oportunidad: en una de las áreas mejor situadas de la ciudad, estaba en venta un edificio relativamente nuevo que había servido como funeraria.

Los miembros de la iglesia recomendaron unánimemente que se hiciera una oferta de compra. Y después del proceso normal en este tipo de negociaciones, las dos partes llegaron a un acuerdo en cuanto al precio final de la propiedad.

Con entusiasmo y expectación, los hermanos de la Iglesia Adventista Hispana de Nampa han trabajado durante gran parte del verano para reconvertir el edificio. Así, lo que antes fue un hogar funerario ahora es un hermoso templo en el que la iglesia no solamente adorará, sino que servirá a la comunidad mediante sus programas de distribución de alimentos y proyectos evangélicos. La iglesia entiende que la adquisición de este nuevo edificio supone también un llamado divino para que continúe predicando y plantando nuevas congregaciones en la región del Treasure Valley, que es la mayor zona urbana de Idaho y la de mayor presencia hispana en el Estado.

Edwin Lopez, Coordinador de la Conferencia de Idaho
Lifestyle Check at the Alaska State Fair

The Alaska State Fair, home of record-setting giant vegetables and beautiful flower gardens, is nestled in the heart of the Chugach Mountains in the fertile Matanuska-Susitna Valley just an hour’s drive north of Anchorage. Each fall, the fair provides a setting for the last blast of summer and a showcase of Alaska’s uniqueness and beauty.

Adventist churches in Alaska have been participating in the statewide Alaska Fair for the past three years and offer solutions along with powerful tools to motivate community members to begin living healthier lives. This was finally realized through the partnership with Health Education Resources of Dunlap, Tenn.

The HER Health Expo provides a perfect way to meet the public in an open-ended health screening program. A complete set of sixteen well-designed banners provide a graphic backdrop to a health-age screening station, with banners encouraging individuals to adopt good health practices. The interactive screening stations reinforce these principles and prepare the way for the health counselors, who meet with each participant at the end of the screening activities, encouraging them to make lifestyle changes and offering various follow-up health seminars. The Health Expo also provides opportunities for the Palmer and Anchorage Hillside O’Malley churches to promote community health programs.

Health literature from Vibrant Life, Adventist Book Center and Amazing Health was made available free to all fair visitors.

“We were surprised with the record number of visitors to the substance abuse station,” says Jacqi Shull, a Health Expo volunteer. “Many young kids were very interested to know about the consequences of unhealthy lifestyle choices.”

The Alaska women’s ministries, headed by Jean-Francis Gobah, also spearheaded advocacy for End It Now (Adventists Say No to Violence Against Women) by collecting hundreds of signatures for the campaign for United Nations sponsorship of the initiative.

The Health Expo booth was an initiative of the health ministries department of the Alaska Conference and Adventist Community Services of Alaska.

Ephraim Palmero, Alaska Conference Community Services director

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Gem State Adventist Academy has a radical commitment for 2010–2011: No Student Turned Away for Financial Reasons. Why? Because these are not normal times, and our teens need the safety GSAA provides.

Is this a big responsibility? Absolutely, but that is what GSAA is here to do — help parents transmit God’s values, God’s message and God’s mission to their children.

In the past, students were able to “work their way through.” Unfortunately this is no longer a viable option. Federal legislation and accrediting regulations now limit the number of hours students may work. And in most cases, it is less than three hours per day.

As the pendulum swings away from students working off most or all of their school bills, the major financial responsibility falls upon parents. Because some Adventist parents do not have the income to fund private education, their children have been excluded from Adventist schools.

This is a tragedy. How many talented young people have been lost to Christ’s cause because they did not have the opportunity to be mentored by Christian teachers? How many sons and daughters have lost their way spiritually because God’s Word was not part of the curriculum?

Hence, comes GSAA’s model to ensure no student will be turned away for financial reasons. It seeks to answer big questions. What would it take to enroll every Idaho Conference teen? How can GSAA help parents with their financial burden? If the school raised twice as much money for Worthy Student Scholarships, would that be enough? How can this plan assure fairness?

As Gem State leaders grappled with these questions, a new model began to emerge. That new model is for the school to partner at a higher level with families in helping them find philanthropic resources. GSAA students are still expected to work (students benefit when they participate in funding their own education). Parents must finance as much of their child’s educational costs as possible. The local church is still an important partner. The school will continue to provide worthy-student scholarships. But if/when, all those sources are tapped out and the financial package is still incomplete, GSAA will partner with the family to find additional funding sources.

Already Gem State is seeing positive results from this faith commitment. Currently 15 students are enrolled who otherwise would not have had the opportunity of an Adventist education this year. Some very happy donors — GSAA alumni and church members — are finding it very gratifying to link up with specific students. Please join us in praying for God’s continued blessing on the No Student Turned Away program.

Linda Klinger, GSAA GLEANER correspondent

Navarette is one student attending GSAA who is benefiting from the No Student Turned Away program.

Peter McPherson, GSAA principal, is excited about the new No Student Turned Away program.

Linda Klinger, GSAA
GLEANER correspondent
Pathfinder Camporee 2010

What do you do when the temperatures are dipping into the freezing zone and the Pathfinder club is getting started for the year? You go camping, of course.

Montana Pathfinders braved cold nights and enjoyed perfect fall days at the 2010 Montana Conference Pathfinder Camporee. Five clubs from around the state gathered at the conference property near Nevada Creek Reservoir on the weekend of Sept. 10–12. Pathfinders participated in kayaking, archery, hiking and just getting to know each other.

Morning and evening worship talks focused on “Pictures of Jesus.” Aric Cooksley, Ronan (Mont.) Church elder, helped the Pathfinders see how Jesus meets us where we are, loves us and wants to be our friend, sets an example for us to follow, and then transforms us.

As clubs prepared to leave on Sunday afternoon, phone numbers and addresses were exchanged between new friends and an eager anticipation for next year’s camporee was in the air.

Deanna Harris, Montana GLEANER correspondent

Sentinels Pathfinder Club
Learns About Loyalty

On a hot Friday afternoon in July, the Five Falls Sentinels Pathfinder Club from Great Falls, Mont., headed into the Little Belt Mountains for their summer campout. The theme for this year’s campout was loyalty. Bert Wredberg, co-director, shared stories from the Bible about the importance of loyalty to friends, family and God. He discussed what it means to be loyal and how Pathfinders could have divided loyalties trying to fit into the world instead of following God’s way. Pathfinders demonstrated what they had learned by performing skits on loyalty taken from Bible stories.

Pathfinders also enjoyed hiking around one of the only manned-fire lookout towers in Montana, picking and pressing wildflowers for the flower honor, and fishing for trout. Leza Winters, co-director, helped the Pathfinders work toward the campfire and camp cookery honor by showing them how to cook their own meal over a campfire.

When asked if he enjoyed himself, Pathfinder Colin Vercio said, “Yes! Let’s go again when it snows and get the winter camping honor.”

Pennie Wredberg, communication leader
Baptisms Follow
The Dalles Youth Park Evangelism

An amazing adventure in God’s Word was promised to local youth, ages 9–12, in The Dalles, Ore., during the last two weeks of June. An amazing adventure it was, not only for the youth, but for 17 church members who participated through leadership, registration, support and an on-site prayer team.

To study God’s Word sitting on the cool grass in a shaded corner of City Park on very hot summer days is as close as one can imagine to sitting on the mountainside as Jesus spoke to the multitude.

More than 30 young people attended during the 10-day series, where they opened the Bible and found what it has to say about real-life topics. Study sessions were led by Mid-Columbia Adventist School teacher Bruce Schmidt and Chelsea Shinner, 2009 graduate of Upper Columbia Academy. Students also learned new songs of love and dedication to Jesus through the enthusiastic leadership of Jon Griebel, Longview (Wash.) Church pastor. Del Griebel, The Dalles Church pastor, dressed in a flowing robe and with artificial gray hair and beard to portray Old Man Wisdom as he told personal stories to reinforce the lesson of the day. A touch of fun ended each day as Joyce Browne, Evangelism in the Park director, and her team of enthusiastic young people channeled everyone’s energy into fun and games.

Hearing the sounds of healthy laughter, seeing the smiles, the building of relationships and the growing awareness of what is real were tremendous rewards. The depth of the series may well be expressed by three of the students who, midway through the series, individually requested baptism.

On Aug. 21, after a very special church service of heartfelt music, words of dedication and blessings were pronounced on these three young people, Ab’cde Ufita Fa’amausili, Armani Edward Selu Enesi and Tiliama June Sioni Paulo were baptized in a quiet, secluded cove along the Columbia River while members of The Dalles Church watched from the banks.

Reach up, reach out, reach across. This experience reminds us we can each tell the world about God’s Word, one friend at a time.

Lynda Durbin, The Dalles Church interest coordinator
Afterglow is More Than a Milo Tradition

The traditional Afterglow at Milo Adventist Academy has always included a group of students and staff who voluntarily stay after vespers on Friday night to sing songs and fellowship together.

This year the singing is exceptional and the attendance outstanding. Sometimes the music is led by students on guitars and a djembe, other times by a staff member playing the piano, and occasionally, all of those together. Afterglow has taken place in the principal’s house, in the student center, down at the end of a moonlit hike to Junior Camp and in the church. But every time and no matter the place, the voices are joyful, hearts are full and the love of God is felt.

Rick Crew, a senior from Bend, Ore., says, “Afterglow is extra time spent with God and friends.” Cesia Ayala, of Coos Bay, Ore., also loves the bonding time where nothing else presses in and she can relax, be comfortable and just sing with friends. Camila Beltran, a senior from Veneta, Ore., finds Afterglow to be one of her closest times with God. She says it gives her strength to do her best through the next week.

Spiritual growth is a top priority at Milo, and when students are voluntarily hanging out in groups and requesting song after song, it just feels right.

Carol Bovee, MAA teacher

PAA Boys’ Retreat
Teaching Boys to Become Men

Portland Adventist Academy treated the boys in the junior class to a weekend in the wilderness with Mountain Leadership Institute.

The purpose of the retreat was to inspire leadership and to give each student a sense of what it means to become a man of God. The weekend included camping under the stars in Eastern Oregon, inspiring guest speakers, rock climbing, challenging leadership opportunities and plenty of male bonding.

Students were divided into four tribes and everyone was given the chance to lead their group through challenging obstacles including long-distance hikes and orienteering with specific objectives to complete.

One highlight of the trip was PAA teacher Mark Smith’s interview with Dr. Craig Griffin, PAA alumnus (’90), who challenged himself to run a 100-mile race and completed it in 34 hours. The boys were encouraged to look at their transition into manhood as an important time to challenge themselves with projects, obstacles and adventures that seem nearly impossible.

“Once you’re a man,” says Smith, “you can look back on a past challenge you confronted and conquered as a marker in your life for a time when you weren’t beat. You can use that marker as motivation to face a difficult boss, a job or family life.”

Students Joey Lloyd and Sheldon Maxwell say the retreat was an inspiration. “Becoming a man means sticking with your challenges and not giving up,” says Lloyd.

Maxwell adds, “It made me want to set some goals and not just let life pass by.”

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent
Rogue Valley Adventist Academy has two new changes to announce for the 2010–2011 year.

A New Logo
The academy has adopted a new logo to reflect the vision of the school. “Redemption is such a vital role in Adventist education,” says Larry Aldred, principal. “It was time for a new logo to show that importance to our school family. As the children of Israel erected monuments to remind them of God’s leading, so we at RVAA have designed our logo to constantly remind our students, staff and parents of the overriding reason why we exist. We exist to reveal Christ, the source of all knowledge, and His redemptive power to all students. Ellen White in the book Education makes it very plain the work of education and redemption are the same work.”

The logo, designed by world-renowned local artist Alan Collins, shows the full circle process of education and redemption. The fluttered open pages of the Bible with the cross at the center are designed to show that redemption is found in the Bible and is centered at the cross. The burgundy color of the word redemption, as well as being a school color, reflects the bloodshed by our Savior at the cross. RVAA is proud to have a logo that shows love for our Lord to our community.

New Business Manager
RVAA also welcomes John Moses this year to the staff as business manager. Moses and his family come from Atlanta, Ga., where he was working as a health-care business consultant. He earned his B.S. in applied economics from East Carolina University and is currently completing his M.S. in finance from Webster University.

Moses, along with his wife, Melissa, and daughter, Harley, are settling into the Rogue Valley and enjoying making new friends. Moses loves to spend time with his family, whether it be at the coast or planting a garden together. He also enjoys riding his motorcycle (as you may have guessed from his daughter’s name).

Moses brings with him a passion not only for finances, but also for children. “One of the things I desire most in this life is to make a positive impact in the lives of young people,” Moses says. When asked why he accepted the position at RVAA, Moses says, “When I came to interview at RVAA, the first thing I noticed was that I felt God on this campus. At that moment I knew that I could make a positive impact here. My wife and I have accepted this position as a mission field, not just a job.” Moses not only brings with him a great knowledge about finances, but he also shares the love of Jesus through kindly working with families to enable students to attend the school.

Michelle Wachter, RVAA GLEANER correspondent
It all started with organizer Marilyn Hoag Puccinelli, who thought it would be fun to celebrate several of her classmates’ 70th birthdays this year. It turned into a Vincent Hill School reunion.

VHS, located in Mussorie, India, hosted a variety of students through the years, including American missionary children. Several of those former students now live in the Northwest. Nearly 30 people who attended VHS from 1948–1961 joined together for an Indian potluck at Sunnyside Church in Portland, Ore., on Aug. 28. Seven were also able to share in the 70th-birthday bash as well.

Bob Manley and Ted Mackett, Sunnyside Church members, made a special presentation at Sunnyside Church on Aug. 28, during the Mission Moments part of the Sabbath service. They included slides of VHS and the surrounding areas, which were taken by Manley’s father, Myrl Manley, primarily in the 1950s. Manley’s and Mackett’s fathers were both principals at VHS. As it became increasingly difficult for American missionaries to enter India, the expense of maintaining VHS became impossible. It was sold in 1969 and is now operated by the Sikhs.

During the potluck, David Reynolds, another Sunnyside Church member with a long legacy in India, passed a roving mike around the group to make introductions. This allowed for all to hear the names of people they may not have seen for 40–50 years. Along with this, came the opportunity to share stories and memories of VHS. Roscoe Lowry, veteran missionary and president of the Southern Asia Division for many years, shared an experience of a nearly disastrous climb into a tree after his pet monkey. He recovered, and despite his later years of leadership, has the infamous record of being expelled from VHS on two separate occasions.

Several tables were set up with Indian memorabilia. There were books on display as well, which brought back memories such as the VHS annual, student catalog, recruitment materials and reading-course books like *Up from the Go-Downs*. Manley brought several paintings done by Mr. Keelan, a beloved teacher at VHS from years past, and gave the option for alumni present to purchase them. The $500 received from this effort is being sent to Mrs. Keelan to provide resources for her to buy medicines for the Pahari people at Mussorie.

*Phyllis Foster Woods as reported by Caroline McGhee Wrightman*
MiVoden Celebrates 70 Years of Ministry

Former staff, directors and caretakers of Camp MiVoden converged on Hayden Lake from Sept. 10–12 to celebrate 70 years of summer camp ministry. Throughout the weekend, Maple Auditorium was filled with people reconnecting and reliving memories from years of camp service.

Friday night was dedicated to recounting stories of MiVoden’s past history, a history replete with faith-building experiences. Some of the most recent stories centered around how God opened doors to allow for MiVoden to begin much-needed camp upgrades.

On Sabbath morning during Sabbath School, camp staff arranged a special video conference with former staff who couldn’t attend. For church, Karl Haffner, pastor, encouraged each person to look to God and how He’s led in the past and how He will lead in the future.

The weekend included time for sharing memories as well as looking forward. On Sabbath afternoon, camp staff led tours around the camp. They highlighted the work on the new ball field and the first new cabin construction site, part of the new upgrade plan.

Bob Folkenberg Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president, who attended the celebration on Sabbath, says, “Camp MiVoden is a place where young people can come to know Jesus Christ. For 70 years, as a conference, we’ve focused a lot of resources on this camp; not because of programming, but because of people. More than 10,000 lives have been touched through the years. MiVoden is important because it’s a place where young people make friends with Christ.”

For 70 years, Camp MiVoden has been introducing youth to Jesus. The camp began with the purchase of land in 1940 and has grown over the years as land and buildings have been added.

Richard Parker, camp director, reflects on the anniversary celebration: “When you see all these people gathering together, it reminds you of all the lives that have been touched for heaven. We’re seeing the fruit of what’s happened over the last 70 years. It gives me real courage and inspires me to know that we have something very special here. God has changed lives here in the past and will continue doing it in the future.”

Jay Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference communication director
More than 600 people attended the ‘Signs of the Times’ Rally held by Spokane (Wash.) area churches on Sept. 11. The event was designed to answer people’s questions regarding recent events in the media that seem to be baffling world leaders and have many people concerned about the future of our planet.

“Those of us in the Spokane-area church leadership have sensed in recent months that many people are wondering more about the second coming,” says Kevin Wilfley, Spokane Linwood Church pastor. “Many people are perplexed in light of the current state of the economy, terrorism, international relations and the environment. And because of this, we felt like it was a good time to address these issues, let people know that there is hope, and invite people to make a commitment to following Jesus.”

Organizers of the rally advertised on local radio and billboards as well as handed out fliers in neighborhoods in an effort to bring as many community people as possible to this event, which was held at the Fox Theater in downtown Spokane. Wilfley estimates that about 15 percent of the attendees were non-Adventists, and many more were inactive members.

The event lasted from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday and also included a meeting at the Spokane Central Church on Friday evening. Bob Folkenberg Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president, spoke on Friday night and urged people to make Christ and his cause the complete focus of their lives. He stressed that the cause of Jesus is the only thing that gives life meaning.

On Sabbath afternoon, Darold Bigger, pastor and retired U.S. Navy chaplain who was at the Pentagon on 9/11, shared his experience and his perspective on how followers of Christ can have peace during end-time events and that we should not be surprised by them. At the end of his talk, Bigger honored the U.S. Military veterans in a special ceremony. About 40 veterans came forward who served in wars ranging from World War II to the recent wars in Iran and Iraq.

By the end of the rally, organizers knew of 18 people making renewed commitments to follow Jesus and seven people committed their lives to him for the first time and have asked to begin Bible studies.

Jon Dalrymple, Upper Columbia Conference communication associate

The ‘Signs of the Times’ Rally at the Fox Theater in downtown Spokane, Wash., was designed to answer people’s questions about current events.

The Fox Theater in downtown Spokane, Wash., houses the ‘Signs of the Times’ Rally on Sept. 11, in which more than 25 people committed or recommitted their lives to Christ.
CCA Gets Involved in Haiti Relief Efforts

Mr. Harris, can we not wear our uniforms?” This request is not uncommon, but what came next, was. The request came from Susan Whitely, fourth-grade teacher. Her class had read about a school raising money for Haiti by allowing students to pay not wear uniforms, hence the question.

Cascade Christian Academy faculty in Wenatchee, Wash., decided students could pay $2 per day for one week not to wear their school uniforms, with all proceeds going to relief efforts in Haiti. By the end of the week the students raised $1,000. One student brought in a $100 check. “They really got excited about raising money for this cause,” says Whitely.

Once the money had been raised, school members discovered a unique channel for the funds. The local Wenatchee (Wash.) Rotary club’s world community service committee was purchasing water filtration and purification systems for distribution in Haiti. At a cost of only $50 each, these units provide up to 500 gallons of potable water a day, and it’s even cleaner than U.S. bottled water.

Students were excited the CCA check for $1,000 to the Rotary club will go a long way to help provide these water filters for the people of Haiti.

Brian Harris, CCA principal

WWVA Graduate Accepted into West Point

While pouring through some of his grandfather’s old books, Andrew Scott began cultivating an interest in attending the prestigious military academy at West Point during the summer between his sophomore and junior years at Walla Walla Valley Academy. This interest led him to attend West Point’s Summer Leadership Seminar, a program designed to give high school juniors a feel for the program. “He’s a great kid and a well-rounded student,” says Keith Wells, WWVA academic vice president. “He was concert master of the orchestra, captain of the basketball team and an amazing candidate for West Point.”

Once Scott decided West Point was the place for him, he still needed the recommendation of a high-ranking government official to be considered for admission. After submitting an essay and being interviewed by a panel of six retired military officers, Scott was selected by Washington Senator Kathy McMorris Rogers as one of her three West Point nominations.

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Scott says, “The four years I spent at WWVA gave me the academic preparation, confidence, and ability to pursue further education at any college institution in the country. Furthermore, my time at WWVA helped me develop my personal, spiritual relationship with God so that I always stay close to Him, no matter where life takes me. WWVA gave me the well-rounded education that is required to succeed at a school like West Point.”

Katie Woolever, WWVA GLEANER correspondent
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE NEWS

UCA Spiritual Kickoff
Empty? Be Filled!

Upper Columbia Academy students and staff gathered at the UCA fire bowl at the beginning of the first Sabbath of the school year to kick off the spiritual theme for the year: “Empty? Be Filled.” With two flickering fires providing warmth on a chilly night, God’s presence was felt in this very special vespers service.

The vespers gave a new meaning to ordinary communion. The staff, church members and ASB officers washed the feet of those choosing this commitment. Then they distributed the communion bread and wine. Fred Riffle, pastor and UCA Bible teacher, spoke to the students and community members about God’s love and how He truly loves to give us what we need. Kevin Eckvall, UCA taskforce chaplain, explained communion as a marriage ceremony. Communion is like a wedding to Jesus where we give up our will to God so that we can be filled by His love.

Eckvall also gave the students empty canning jars to be reminders of how God is filling them this year at UCA. Every time the students see a way that God has filled them, they will put something in these jars. That way when times get tough, they will have a physical reminder that God is still filling them.

The staff of UCA hopes the theme and tone of this first Friday-night vespers will set the tone for the rest of the school year.

Sophia Rich, UCA student

Oroville Celebrates Baptisms

Sabath afternoon, Sept. 4, the Oroville (Wash.) Church congregation, along with visitors from nearby churches, joined in joyful anthems of praise at the baptism of two new converts.

Shelle Harrelson and Rod Ritter openly declared their desire to accept Christ as their Redeemer and become members of His remnant church by baptism. Both spouses are members already, and Jesse Harrelson and Linda Ritter rejoice in having unity in their love and work for the Lord.

The Oroville Church is expecting the addition of more new members as the result of the ShareHim evangelistic program this fall, with Wanda Antuna as speaker.

Alma Bingner, Oroville Church communication leader
Nineteen young people knocked on 100,000 doors in Western Washington this summer as part of the Youth Rush literature evangelism program. The student literature evangelists distributed 11,170 books and saw God at work each and every day during the 10-week program.

Here’s one of the stories:
One day while canvassing, Laura Gren, a student from Damascus, Ore., decided to pull out her Bible and read while she waited for her team leader to pick her up and go to the next location.

A few minutes later, a car pulled up and a woman called out for directions to a certain street. Gren didn’t know, but quickly took the opportunity to give the woman a Bible-study card.

As Gren began to walk away, the impression came to her, “Go further!” So she quickly turned around and canvassed the lady on several books. By God’s grace, the lady picked up *Steps to Christ* and *Angels Among Us*.

Team leader Meschil Lafuente, from Fresno, Calif., saw Gren waiting, but traffic delayed her. She made other stops, and when she came back for Gren, the traffic was completely gone!

This experience as well as many others, say participants, taught canvassers God has people out there that are just waiting for someone to meet them and share the love of God.

The literature ministries program allows students to grow spiritually and find means to help them attend Adventist schools. This summer, student literature evangelists received a total of $90,358 in donations, representing $58,733 to help students attend Adventist academies and colleges.

“Youth Rush was a growing experience for me,” says Zoe Watson, Auburn Adventist Academy student from Kent, Wash. “It put my faith in God to the test and also strengthened it. In the end, I came out with a more firm belief that Jesus is real ... I believe God used me in a big way this summer. I can now look back and say I’m happy I did it.”

John Miller II, Washington Conference literature ministries coordinator

**God provides many door-to-door opportunities for Misha Krushelnitskyy, a student literature evangelist from Auburn, Wash., to share positive literature and God’s love this summer.**

Youth Rush participants see God at work as they share positive literature door to door in Kirkland, Burlington and Tacoma, Wash.
Volunteers Serve for Jesus in Tacoma

More than 320 people from across western Washington signed up for an afternoon of service in Tacoma and Lakewood, Wash., at the end of August.

“This is a great event for our conference,” says Michael Demma, Puyallup (Wash.) Church associate pastor, who brought a team of 24 volunteers. “This builds team spirit as we work together to make a difference in the community.”

Volunteers chose from 16 service opportunities, including helping at a food bank, administering a community survey, distributing health information, giving away 1,000 water bottles, offering medical screenings, distributing GLOW tracts, beautifying a park, singing at a nursing home, seeking Bible-study interests and additional activities.

“Tacoma Community Service Impact Event was designed for people to try out different community service activities,” says Byron Dulan, Washington Conference outreach ministries director. “We wanted to provide a venue for Adventist leaders, members and youth to experience new and different methods of witnessing and evangelizing people in the city.”

Karalee Garcia, a young adult volunteer from Everett, Wash., decided to help administer a community survey and ended up finding several opportunities to pray with people. “We want to do a survey in our own community now,” she says.

Ultimately, Dulan says, “We want to see churches host outreach days on their own — at whatever level.”

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director

Church Finds Common Ground at Farmer’s Market

A delegation from the Tacoma (Wash.) Central Church met earlier this year with the mayor of Tacoma to talk about the needs of the city where the mayor indicated how she wanted to promote healthy eating.

Soon after, church members decided to combine evangelism and health ministry outreach efforts at the Tacoma Farmer’s Market.

Ministry leaders say they saw the farmer’s market as a great avenue to communicate the Adventist health message and find common ground.

The church set up two locations: At the South Tacoma Way site, Darlene Ali, team member, offered free health screenings at the Washington Conference health van. At the Broadway site, Lori Stover, team member, offered community cooking demonstrations using fruits and vegetables purchased from the market and provided free recipes.

Additionally, Tony Parker, master ice sculptor named Chef of the Year in 2009 by the Washington State Chef’s Association, performed ice carvings and attracted a lot of attention from market members who donated fruits, vegetables and even flowers to display with the ice carvings.

“The market really supports what we are trying to achieve and the message we want to deliver,” says Stover. “People in the community want information and sometimes don’t know where to go. Whether it’s stopping an addiction, like eating or smoking — healthy living and even prayer, if it’s offered to them, they will accept it and act on it.”

Nelson Miles, Tacoma Central Church member
Deckers Experience Realities and Rewards of Mission Work

Tony Hunter, pastor and AAA fall Week of Prayer speaker, challenges students to ask good questions and dig into their Bibles.

AAA Students Receive Spiritual Tune-Up

Drive through any town and you will most likely find somewhere to tune up your car. Through Auburn Adventist Academy’s Fall Week of Prayer, students were able to go through a spiritual tune-up.

Week of Prayer speaker Tony Hunter, a pastor from Moline, Ill., is passionate about youth and spiritual growth. He challenged students to love God and love one another as themselves. Hunter encouraged the student body to study the Bible for themselves and get to know God on a personal level.

“A Week of Prayer gives students fresh ideas and new perspectives,” says Spencer Eldevik, a junior from Stanwood, Wash. “I’ve learned to be truer with myself and understand more what I believe.”

“I’ve liked this Week of Prayer and how down to earth it’s been,” says Spencer Eldevik, a junior from Stanwood, Wash. “I’ve learned to be truer with myself and understand more what I believe.”

AAA continues to provide many opportunities for young people to tune up their spiritual lives through dorm worship, service opportunities, Weeks of Prayer, daily classroom worship, discussions with pastors and vibrant church services.

Kaleigh Bing, AAA student writer

Decker’s Transformation Life Center in Olympia, Wash., and Auburn City Church, in Auburn, Wash., were recently privileged to have former pastoral couple Tom and Gladys Decker and their children, Trei and Alexi, visit their “home churches” to share a day of exciting mission stories and pictures in August.

About a year ago, the Deckers accepted a five-year call to serve at Nile Union Academy, near Cairo, Egypt, as principal and English teacher, respectively.

Three weeks of preparation at Mission Institute renewed the awareness of the Deckers’ complete dependence on God as they left their homeland for a land that is 90 percent Muslim and has only 350 active Seventh-day Adventists.

NUA is a 35-acre, American-run school with 135 students. Students are a religious mix of Christian Orthodox, Muslim and Adventist, with an ethnic mix of Sudanese, Egyptian and American. With these cultural and ethnic differences, it is truly by God’s grace they have been able, within their walls, to do much to help break the barriers down.

It has been a challenging year for the missionary family. “But the students make all the challenges worth it,” Tom says. “Watching them mature, learn and grow truly gives me great joy.”

Read more about the Deckers’ mission experience at washingtonconference.org.

Ardyce Kegley, Transformation Life Center communication leader

Tom and Gladys Decker enjoy making friends in Egypt and seeing lives transformed by God.
Pam and I have just completed one of the most amazing experiences of our lives; I must give you a report while our passion is still white hot.” So begins an e-mail from John McVay, Walla Walla University president, in which he shares details of a trip to Borneo in August and September.

For more than two weeks, McVay and his wife, Pam, along with Kris Loewen, WWU Church youth pastor, and six university students, presented series of ShareHim meetings in the area surrounding Kuching, Malaysia. The meetings were held at 13 different sites, including Sinjok, a village hosting such meetings for the first time and where McVay spoke each night. At the end of the two weeks, more than 300 people from the various locations were baptized.

McVay notes that many of the students had been on multiple mission trips and had served as student missionaries prior to this trip.

“They have fresh experience at crossing boundaries,” he says. “I came away with a conviction that the students are professionals at this kind of work. Watching them has been one of the most — if not the most — fulfilling experiences for me as a university president.”

For more information about Quiet Hour Ministries, which provided major funding for this trip, visit qhministries.org. To learn more about ShareHim, visit sharehim.org.

Becky St. Clair, WWU GLEANER correspondent
Larry Dodds

Larry Dodds Announces Retirement

Larry Dodds, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Adventist Health, recently announced plans to retire effective May 2011, ending his nearly 40-year career with the health system.

“Larry has been a dedicated and skillful leader in our system for nearly four decades,” says Bob Carmen, president and CEO. “I have personally appreciated his deep commitment to furthering the mission of Adventist Health.”

Dodds began his health-care career in 1971. In 1979, he became the associate administrator at Walla Walla General Hospital and shortly thereafter became the senior vice president at Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore. In 1983, Dodds was named president and CEO of AMC. He served in that role for 15 years until relocating to the corporate office to assume the role of senior vice president in 1998, and in 2007 was appointed executive vice president and COO of the health system.

Dodds and his wife intend to relocate to the Northwest.

Adventist Medical Center Names New COO

Ron Benfield has been named chief operating officer of Adventist Medical Center. He will be responsible for oversight of the organization’s day-to-day operations.

Benfield has more than 30 years of health-care leadership experience, including 11 years with Adventist Health System, a sister health care company.

Benfield and his wife, Joyce, a registered nurse, relocated to Portland to accept the position at Adventist Health.

Walk of Faith Supports Respite Care in Tillamook

Recently at Tillamook County General Hospital nearly 70 walkers and 13 dogs celebrated Faith in Action’s 10th-annual Walk of Faith. More than $1,000 was raised to continue to provide respite care and support to the frail, elderly and disabled in the community.

Sponsored by TCGH, Faith in Action has been offering respite care for more than 10 years in the community. Respite care — a break from the 24/7 duties of caring for loved ones with health challenges — is offered through two outreaches: in-home services and center-based services.

For more information about the Walk of Faith, visit TCGH’s new Facebook page, www.facebook.com/TillamookHospital.

Walla Walla General Hospital Gives Guyana Hospital Makeover

Several years ago, Walla Walla General Hospital “adopted” an Adventist sister hospital in Guyana, South America. When several employees went on a scouting trip to assess the needs at Davis Memorial Hospital, they discovered the emergency room needed some TLC.

Now, six employees are going back to Guyana to give the hospital’s ER a much-needed makeover. During the week-long mission trip, the ER will get a new coat of paint and new equipment installed, among other things. This project has been a year in the making and has been supported in part by donations from community members and employees. If you would like to donate to the project, call 509-527-8303.

Brittany Russell, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent
**Barnett 60th**

Jacke and Maxine Barnett celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family and friends at a reception hosted by their children in Lacey, Wash. Rick Quast, retired pastor, performed a renewal of their wedding vows with David Glenn, pastor, singing a special song of dedication. Their children sent them on a vacation to the Oregon Coast as part of the festivities.

Maxine and Jacke Barnett

Jacke met Maxine when he and an Army buddy were visiting Maxine’s aunt. After six months, they were married on Aug. 1, 1950. Jacke worked for plywood mills, the City of Olympia and Southgate Fence, in Olympia, Wash. Maxine worked for the State of Washington as a medical claims examiner and for Olympia Christian School. Both Jacke and Maxine have had multiple retirements.

The Barnett family includes Harold and Gwen Barnett of Modesto, Calif.; Delores and Richard Lee of Shelton, Wash.; Janet and Dean Stuart of Hermiston, Ore.; Michael and Nancy Barnett of Reynoldsburg, Ohio; 8 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**Churchill 60th**

Roy and Donna Churchill celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 8, 2010, with family and friends at the Leavenworth (Wash.) Church fellowship hall. They were married on June 11, 1950, in Berrien Springs, Mich., where they both were attending Emmanuel Missionary College, now Andrews University. They lived in Michigan until 1963, then moved to the Okanogan Valley to pastor with the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They moved to Leavenworth in 1985, where they retired in 1991.

Don and Louise attended Monterrey Bay Academy (Calif.), but didn’t date until Pacific Union College. Louise’s father, Elder Rolland Howlett, married them at MBA on July 3, 1960. They have lived in California, Hawaii, Arizona, Michigan, Maryland and Idaho, pastoring churches for 43 years. The Drivers pastored the Boise/ Cloverdale churches for almost 13 years from 1984–1997. Two mission trips to Russia expanded their ministry.

The Drivers have three sons and daughters-in-law: Todd and Denise Driver of Nampa, Idaho; Christopher and Sandi Driver of Nampa; Jason and Michelle Driver of Meridian, Idaho; and 4 grandchildren.

**Entze 90th**

Elizabeth L. “Beth” Entze celebrated her 90th birthday on July 4, 2010, with a reception hosted by her daughters-in-law and granddaughter in Walla Walla, Wash.

Beth was born July 20, 1920, in Moscow, Idaho, to Alfred J. H. and Mary (Stubbs) Karr, the first of 11 children. They moved to Princeton, Idaho, where Beth spent her growing up years and attended schools at Princeton and Potlatch, Idaho.

In January 1939, Beth moved to Kennewick, Wash. In July, she went to Walla Walla and on Sept. 24, 1939, she married Philip Entze.

Beth spent 28 years working at Sears. A member of the American Business Women’s Association, she was named their Woman of the Year in June 1976. After retiring from Sears, Beth worked as a volunteer in the Walla Walla General Hospital gift shop for several years.

**Churchill family**

The Churchill family includes April Churchill of Gresham, Ore.; Mark Churchill of Sturgeon, Mo.; Tim Churchill of Los Angeles, Calif.; Kathryn and Randy Wilson of Gresham; and 2 grandchildren.

**Driver 50th**

Don and Louise Driver of Meridian, Idaho, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday evening at Asiago’s restaurant, where 100 of their friends and family had gathered to surprise them.

Beth loves to cook and bake for her family. Her pastimes include crocheting, embroidery and reading.

Her family includes Marvin (deceased) and Carol (Wallace) Entze of Clarkson, Wash.; Ronald (deceased) Entze of College Place, Wash.; Fred and Kathy Entze of Walla Walla; Dan and Irita (Snyder) Entze of Walla Walla; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**Donna and Roy Churchill**

**Churchill 60th**

**Entze 90th**

**Gomes 60th**

On Aug. 6, 2010, Conrad and Marna Gomes celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Their son, Steve and his wife, Mary, took them on a vacation trip to San Diego, Calif. They stayed at Mission Beach for a week, at a house near the ocean. Then they visited friends and family along their way back home to Oregon.

Conrad and Marna were married in the Turlock (Calif.) Church by Pastor Ernest Perry. Six months later, Conrad was drafted into the army, and sent to Berlin, Germany, for 18 months.

Marna is a retired RN and Conrad has been a lab and x-ray tech. They have worked in ASI hospitals in California and Oregon and they spent six years working at Castle Memorial Hospital in Hawaii. Their last employment was managing Sonora Community Estates in Sonora, Calif. They are now retired and living in Myrtle Creek, Ore., and attend the Canyonville Church.

Their family includes Steve and Mary Gomes of Denver, Colo.; Darla and Rich Stuve of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; Sharon and Kelly Waltjen of Evans, Ga.; 3 great-grandchildren.

**Don and Louise Driver**

**Driver 50th**

**Don and Marna Gomes**

**MILESTONES**

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Births

BOLLINGER — Ellie Kalin was born Aug. 18, 2010, to Benji and Jennifer (Lauren) Bollinger, Snoqualmie, Wash.

CASWELL — Abigail Dawn was born June 28, 2010, to Richard and Becky (Lundquist) Caswell, Pendleton, Ore.

COX — Adilyn Marie was born Aug. 17, 2010, to Jared and Heather (Severance) Cox, Albany, Ore.

GRANITZ — Adylin Rease was born June 16, 2010, to Doug and Camille (Chinn) Granitz, Portland, Ore.

HIEBERT — Gabriel Andrew was born Feb. 12, 2010, to Andy and Janette (Maier) Hiebert, Boise, Idaho.

JIMENEZ — Necalli Samut was born Feb. 26, 2010, to Alberto and Candice (Miller) Jimenez, Portland, Ore.

JOHNSTON — Alisi Grace was born July 14, 2010, to Jeremy and Lorrie (Ray) Johnston, Bellevue, Wash.

KIELE — Sawyer Ethan was born July 1, 2010, to Seth and Jill (Cramer) Kiele, Port Orchard, Wash.

KRAMER — Finn Emmerson was born July 16, 2010, to Matthew and Mary Ann (Miller) Kramer, Gresham, Ore.

OSTBY — Karalynn Grace was born July 25, 2010, to Nate and Julia (Gainer) Ostby, Augusta, Ga.

PERRIN — Silas Daniel Emmit was born Aug. 29, 2010, to Daniel and Heather (Kellogg) Perrin, College Place, Wash.

RAE — Ethan Scott was born July 7, 2010, to David and Melissa (Tessier) Rae, Everett, Wash.

SHULT — Harmony Marlene was born June 17, 2010, to David and Tammy (Wallace) Shult, Halsey, Ore.

SMITH — Josiah Hunter Reed was born Sept. 2, 2010, to Kevin and Monica (Larsen) Smith, Gladstone, Ore.

STEWART — Emilliana Grace was born Aug. 10, 2010, to Scott D. and Sharon L. (Clark) Stewart, Vancouver, Wash.

Baker — Lorena M. (Fox) Ashlyn, 76; born Dec. 16, 1933, Cluny, Alberta, Canada; died July 17, 2010, Salem, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Daphne Ashlyn, Salem; Lorrie (Ashlyn) Royle, Salem; Sharon (Ashlyn) Murtery, Colorado; brothers, Lawrence Fox, Alfred Fox, Leslie Fox, Kenneth Fox and Merwin Fox, all of Canada; sisters, Audrey Nemeth, Vera Friesen and Melvina Hummel, all of Canada.

Bates — Dorothy G. (Rennewanz) Oliver Noyes, 98; born July 24, 1911, Dayton, Wash.; died March 6, 2010, Visalia, Calif.; son, James Oliver; brothers, George; Fred; sisters, Bernadine: Wilena; Jeanne; 8 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.


Cook — Lillian Jennie (Rogers), 89; born Aug. 23, 1920, Lind, Wash.; died July 10, 2010, Clatskanie, Ore. Surviving: sons, Phillip, Nampa, Idaho; Roger, Idaho; daughters, Jennie Lane, Clatskanie; 10 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.


MINDORO, Philippines; Esther Michael, Hayward, Calif.; and 7 grandchildren.


GRAY — Marjorie Virginia (Mason), 84; born Dec. 19, 1925, Orting, Wash.; died July 22, 2010, Gladstone, Ore. Surviving: husband, Donald; daughter, Judy Schneider, Gentry, Alaska; Brenda Mulder, Shafter, Calif.; and 3 grandchildren.


HARTBAUER — Joyce (Hendershot), 82; born Aug. 30, 1927, Singapore; died Aug. 29, 2010, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: husband, Roy; son, Craig, Atlanta, Ga.; 2 grandchildren.


KRAMER — Albert Arie, 80; born April 6, 1930, Tulia, Texas; died May 25, 2010, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: husband, Ray, Myrtle Creek, Ore.; sons, Douglas, Roseburg; Dale, Eugene, Ore.; daughters, Raylene Eilers, Hillsboro, Ore.; Debra, Myrtle Creek; grandchildren Elisa Linton and Taylor Eilers; and a great-grandchild.

MYERS — Dortha Mardee (Frakes), 80; born April 6, 1930, Tulia, Texas; died May 25, 2010, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: husband, Ray, Myrtle Creek, Ore.; sons, Douglas, Roseburg; Dale, Eugene, Ore.; daughters, Raylene Eilers, Hillsboro, Ore.; Debra, Myrtle Creek; grandchildren Elisa Linton and Taylor Eilers; and a great-grandchild.


WEIS — Marilyn (Leinbaum), 80; born Dec. 25, 1929, Loma Linda, Calif.; died July 29, 2010, College Place, Wash. Surviving: husband, Vernon; and sister, Marjorie Fellows, College Place.

WRESCH — Faith M. (Griffith), 92; born Jan. 15, 1918, Cumberland, Wis.; died Aug. 28, 2010, Battle Ground, Wash. Surviving: son, Robert, Guam; daughter, Kathryn Wresch, Battle Ground; mother, Lloyd Griffith, Port Angeles, Wash.; 2 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.
North Pacific Union Conference

**Offering**
- **Nov. 6** — Local Church Budget
- **Nov. 13** — World Budget: Annual Sacrifice*
- **Nov. 20** — Local Church Budget
- **Nov. 27** — Local Conference Advance
  *Special materials provided.

**Special Days**
- Curriculum Focus for the Month — Health*
- **Nov. 6-27** — Native Heritage Month
- **Nov. 6** — Stewardship Sabbath
- **Nov. 7-13** — Week of Prayer
- **Nov. 20** — Human Relations Sabbath
- **Nov. 27** — Welcome Home Sabbath*
  +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**
- Open House Celebration: Come see what’s new!
- **Nov. 1** — at 1 p.m., at the School in Nursing in Portland, OR
- **Nov. 15** — at 1 p.m., at the Winter Education Complex in College Place, WA
- **Nov. 14** — Distinguished Faculty Lecture 2010 presented by Pamela Keele Cress, dean of the School of Social Work and Sociology, Fine Arts Auditorium at 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 20-28** — Thanksgiving Vacation

**Oregon**

**Water Therapy/Hydrotherapy Class**
- **Nov. 14** — Water Therapy/Hydrotherapy class on Sunday, 2-4:30 p.m. at the Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy N., Castle Rock, WA. Hydrotherapy, the healing use of water internally and externally. Class presented by Margaret and Chris Ohlson, owners of Mother’s Market, a Natural Food Store and Restaurant in Hood River, OR. Presenting information and demonstrations of simple home remedies: fomentations, hot-foot bath, Russian steam bath, sore throat wrap and charcoal poultices. Small fee to cover printed materials. RSVP by Nov. 14 to Jeanne Norris 360-274-6709 or Wanda Whitaker 360-967-2165.

**Upper Columbia**

**Missing Members**
The Moscow (Idaho) Church is looking for the following people: Diana Blensley, Katie Brown, Mike Brown, Kevin Carnahan, Dean Hagedorn, Robin Hildebrant, Shirley Johnson, Douglas Mactaggart, Rochelle Olson, Kiantha Shadduck, Maxine Shepline, Dorreen Tierney, Tanya Tierney, William J. Tierney, William M. Tierney, Julia Wright and Sherie Yardley. If you have any information about these missing members, please e-mail mtnhiagh@hotmail.com.

**Washington**

**Missing Members**
Breath of Life Church is looking for the following missing members: Jacque Leon, Portia Lewis, Julie Lucas, Rachelle C. Lyons, Andrew D. Mackichan, Makalai Edwards, Fern L. Malauaceaa, Elaine Martin, Valora Mason, David May, Larry May, Rosemary McQueen, Carmen Nelson, Semein S. Mezengi, Varnessa L. Miller, Lander Mitchell, Michael Mitchell, Nathel M. Mitchell, Jackson Monroe, Robert Moore, Danielle Morgan, Millicent Morrow, Louis D. Nelson, Laman Nobes, Marci L. Ouellette, Mary Page, Yolanda L. Parker, Celina Pease, Douglas Pease, Brent Perkins, Holly Perkins, Patricia Perkins, Sherryl M. Perkins, Adrienne Perry, Maculus Perry, Karen Phillips, Ronald Pilot, Naomi Pleasant, Kimberly Poke, Vasean R. Pollard, Bridgette D. Puckett, Melissa M. Puckett and Millie R. Quero. If you have any contact information for these people, please e-mail Shirley Mathieu at tangodee@juno.com or call the church and leave a message at 206-762-0333.

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**Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation**

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UNION COLLEGE seeks academic director for its master of physician assistant studies program. Responsibilities:

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Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east. Daylight Savings Time ends on November 7.
include curricular analysis, teaching and evaluation. Graduate degree, NCCPA certification, and 3 years’ clinical experience required. Contact Michael Huckabee, PhD, PA-C, program director, paprog@ucollege.edu.

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UNION COLLEGE seeks chair/director of NS Nursing program. Responsibilities include strategic planning, curricular assessment, faculty development and support of college activities. Nebraska state licensure, teaching experience, and doctoral degree or ongoing study required. Contact Charlotte Schober, interim chair, chschobe@ucollege.edu.

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Losing Our Marbles

The old church was a monument to hardwood — the chairs, the floor, all polished to a mirror finish that amplified every squeak, footstep and whisper. It was an unlikely place in which to conduct academy chapel services. But every week, I joined 300 fellow students as we occupied those seats in various stages of attention. Some listened; some passed notes; others just passed out.

No one slept during the morning of the marbles. Several miscreants had surreptitiously slipped into the chapel and wedged marbles into the pages of the closed song books conveniently attached behind each chapel seat.

When the chapel bell rang, students streamed in from all directions and found their seats, while administrators took their dignified places on the platform. The principal stepped up to the podium, waited for quiet, then warmly welcomed the morning’s guest speaker and announced the opening song. At that moment, the normal routine went rapidly out the window.

As students picked up their songbooks, hundreds of marbles began dropping like popcorn thunderclaps on the hardwood and began their inexorable roll down the sloping floor toward the front. Bedlam would be an accurately descriptive word for the next couple of minutes. In retrospect, I pity the poor guest speaker, for I remember nothing from his efforts to bring inspiration from chaos — all because we’d lost our marbles.

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The world is in danger of losing its marbles. When the most prominent item in the news is the latest Lady Gaga outfit; when the CEO of a bankrupt corporation can retire with a billion-dollar bonus; when the pastor of a 50-member church can hold the world hostage with a foolish threat; when the trivial begins to consume our attention, we need to collectively hit the “pause” button and reconsider our priorities.

It’s what Elijah had to do so many centuries ago. Fresh from a miracle on Mt. Carmel, he lost sight of the God of the miracle. Caught up in a political firestorm, he dropped his faith and ran far from the threats of an ungodly queen. There out on the edge of the wilderness, away from the noise of society, he paused, mentally, physically and spiritually exhausted, in the opening of a cave. Finally quiet, he reconnected with the still, small voice of his Creator.

In that encounter, Elijah once again found the wisdom of his God-ordained purpose and the will to follow it.

If you’ve been sucked in by the clatter and chaos of this world; if you’re confused by how you fit into an increasingly polarized culture; if you need to regain your personal mission and calling, hit “pause.”

That still, small Voice is still there.

“In retrospect, I pity the poor guest speaker, for I remember nothing from his efforts to bring inspiration from chaos — all because we’d lost our marbles.”

STEVE VISTAUNET
NPUC assistant to the president for communication

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