The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.

Psalms 85:12 (NIV)

‘Evening Glory’ at St. Mary Lake, Glacier National Park, Mont., by Palmer Halvorson of Spokane, Wash.
Making Friends for the Kingdom

LET'S TALK

GLEANER STAFF
Editor: Steve Vistaunet
Copy Editor: Laurel Rogers
Advertising and Project Manager: Desiree Lockwood
Digital Media Coordinator: Brent Harding
Design: GUILDHOUSE Group

CORRESPONDENTS
Alaska: Butch Palmero, butch.palmero@ac.npuc.org
Idaho: Eve Rusk, idconf@idconf.org
Montana: Bette Wheeling, info@montanaconference.org
Oregon: Krissy Barber, info@oc.npuc.org
Upper Columbia Conference: Jay Wintermeyer, ucc@uccsda.org
Washington: Heidi Baumgartner, info@washingtonconference.org
Walla Walla University: Rosa Jimenez, rosa.jimenez@wallawalla.edu
Adventist Health: Ruthie Montgomery, info@ah.org

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

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LITHO U.S.A.
Letters

KGTS ... the Rest of the Story
In January you featured a story about Walla Walla University’s KGTS, now a half-century old. I sensed the writers (Loree and Kevin Waite) did an especially good job of marshaling five decades of facts and memories. What some of us forgot to tell them was crucial. The people who really started the station with abundant vision were people like Bob Brown, then vice president for student administration, and Glenn Masden, professor of engineering. Brown, a physicist, had the vision for a college FM [station]. He took that vision and uncovered a low-power transmitter in a U.S. naval surplus yard in Virginia. Masden had the engineering smarts to understand the fragile transmitter. Often it was he who virtually at any time of day or night rushed to the studios to tweak and cajole the errant machine back to its assigned frequency. There would not have been a KGTS without these two unsung heroes. Finally, with an unusual streak of good fortune, KGTS has had just four managers in 50 years. The most recent are Dave Bullock and Kevin Krueger. Clarence Wood, a communications professor, was interim manager in the mid-60s. Thank you for featuring the story.

Loren Dickinson, WWU professor emeritus, College Place, Wash.

Embarrassed by the Ad
The back covers of the February and March issues were an embarrassment to all members. The heading, “Can you love him/her as Jesus would?” is such an insult to our gay members and to all members. Of course I love her/him, as I would any of my friends, cousins, brother, sister, mother, father, son, daughter — why would I care/love any differently? I cannot figure out why we are spending church financial resources and time on a no-brainer subject. People are people and deserve the same respect, and care and love. I’m really disappointed in my church, if this negativity is truly the policy.

Mary Kathryn Myers, Kent, Wash.

The GLEANER responds:
We are glad, Mary, that you would give the benefit of the doubt to any child of God. We should do the same for the sponsors of the April 5–6 Gays in the Family event mentioned in the ad. This was an educational seminar to help members see all people, regardless of identity, as fellow children of God, worthy of His love and our love. Many members have struggled to practically apply the church’s biblical stance on homosexuality with the rapid changes in societal norms. The event website, gaysinthefamily.com, sponsored by the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) family life department, deals with this more thoroughly and contains archived presentations from the event so anyone can ponder these issues for themselves.

NPUC Stumbles With Ordination Inaction
Sadly, NPUC leadership has once again sacrificed its women pastors for the sake of organizational dysfunction. If NPUC is not willing to implement the principles of ordination without regard to gender that it says it holds, is NPUC willing to apply without regard to gender its decision not to extend ordination?

Brent Stanyer, Spokane, Wash.
Suppose God came to you and me one day and said, “I have a task for each of you. It will require everything you have. Are you willing?”

How would we respond? The truth is, it’s not just a theoretical question. God has given our church a task, and each of us, you and me included, have a challenge before us. Our everyday choices will lead us to become either spectators or participants in the mission of our church.

The North Pacific Union Conference mission statement begins by saying, “The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the North Pacific Union Conference will prepare people for the imminent return of Jesus Christ . . . .” This is our mission — to preach the everlasting gospel in the context of the Three Angels’ Messages.

Historically, our church has followed that mission through thick and thin, through prosperity and poverty, and always with the strictest focus on careful and prayerful stewardship. Ellen White reminded us, “The good news of saving grace is to be carried to every place; the warning must be given to the world, but economy must be practiced if we move in the spirit of which Christ has given us an example in His life-service” (The Upward Look, p. 319).

Currently our church’s mission is moving forward in spite of the ripple effects of the recent years of economic uncertainty. More church members than ever are on fixed retirement incomes or have experienced lower investment income or even unemployment. Yet I am constantly humbled when I see how many, in spite of personal challenges, are still making faithful stewardship a top priority.

It makes me doubly careful as I think about how we should focus our highest priorities as a church movement here in the Northwest. If there was ever a time to clearly put our best resources of time and money toward those efforts closest to the core of our mission, now is the time. It means we look closer at every dollar and how it translates to reaching people for Jesus. It means a commitment in our North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) office to direct more and more resources to the front lines of ministry through local conferences and churches.

It doesn’t mean we lower our vision for what God wants to accomplish in our midst. No, indeed. Our conference evangelism coordinators met recently and decided to raise our vision, to set a target of 3,000 accessions to the church in 2013. To support this faith-stretching focus, the NPUC will continue to downsize its own office needs in order to provide evangelistic subsidies to the local field 30 percent greater than they were in 2009.

But money, by itself, will not reach the target. It comes back to the choices you and I will make — whether we’ll be spectators or participants, whether we invite someone to church or an evangelistic meeting, share a Discover Bible School enrollment card, distribute Steps to Christ or The Great Hope missionary books. In light of this month’s feature, perhaps connecting a friend or neighbor with an Adventist broadcast ministry like Better Life Television will be the key. Make friends in your community. Volunteer at a homeless shelter or get involved in prison ministry. Take a leadership role in disaster preparedness or support a literacy project.

When it comes right down to it, our church’s mission won’t be accomplished until you and I are ready to answer the question, “Lord, what would you have me to do?”

MAX C. TORKELSEN II
North Pacific Union Conference president
Imagine what you would have thought if back in 1993 someone told you that in just two decades more than 80 percent of the population of Oregon would be able to view Seventh-day Adventist programming 24 hours a day, seven days a week — in their own homes. It would have seemed a pipe dream. But a progressive series of miracles have made that dream a reality through Better Life Broadcasting Network, based in Grants Pass, Oregon.

And the dream and the miracles continue to grow. Better Life is also broadcasting into a portion of Washington State, with big plans to tremendously expand its reach into California soon.

But the miracles aren’t really about technicalities and broadcast towers. Look beyond the cables, transmitters, cameras, computers, lights and studios, and you’ll find people — volunteers and visionaries whose time and talents are invested in something with eternal consequences.

These committed folks have seen a dream become reality beyond their wildest imaginations, for there’s another group of people even closer to the core of this ministry’s mission. You’ll find them in local Adventist churches throughout the Better Life broadcast area. Each one at some point has walked through church doors on a Sabbath morning because the television ministry had first made them a friend.

Dan McCulloch, recently retired as senior pastor in Medford, Oregon, says the impact of this outreach is incomparable with anything he’s ever experienced before. In recent years, he says, “Better Life has played a part in virtually all the adult baptisms at the Medford
Evelyn wrote letters to every Adventist college, university, hospital and conference in North America, stressing the importance of establishing church-operated stations in every community. The response was underwhelming.

So, with little widespread encouragement, Delmer began his plans closer to home. He applied for licenses to build two television stations, one for Grants Pass and another for Rogue River, Oregon. Pastor Bob Heisler added his energies as the president of the fledgling Better Life Television nonprofit corporation. They began collecting money and gathering a cadre of valuable volunteers.

This small but mighty volunteer army was on hand with trucks and shovels, ropes and boots, to help get those first two stations on the air in 1990.

Studio and office space was found at the Grants Pass Junior Academy. David and Ann Reed added their talents as station managers. The mustard seed had sprouted.

And the sprout grew. Delmer and Bob visited Merlin Fjarli, a Medford layman. Merlin encouraged them to continue expanding by setting up a third station in neighboring Medford as well. "Order the equipment," he said. "The Lord will provide the funds." And so they did ... and He did. And shortly afterward, the Medford transmitter began broadcasting.

Marvin Clark, who served for 15 years as the Grants Pass Church senior pastor, agrees. "Better Life is our number one source of new church members. We get more new members from the television ministry than we do from public evangelism, family member contact or anything else."

In just these two churches alone, more than 400 enthusiastic new members have been added due to the 24/7 influence of the Better Life ministry, currently the largest affiliate for Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN).

This amazing growth didn’t all happen at once. It began as a mustard seed, a persistent dream of southern Oregon businessman Delmer Wagner and his prayer-warrior wife, Evelyn.

In the late 1980s, Delmer’s globetrotting business left him with little spare time. But he had discovered the impact of satellite television and felt it was the ideal way to reach the world. So he and
The most exciting advancements may still lie ahead.

advancements for the ministry may still lay ahead. Soon new stations in Santa Rosa and San Francisco, California, are expected to go online, boosting Better Life’s coverage from 5 million up to an astonishing 24 million people.

Chare Gallimore, Better Life marketing and development director, says the anticipated growth will bring a new challenge — that of funding. The proposed expansion to San Francisco will potentially double the current annual budget to $2 million.

It won’t be the first time that faith has been stretched. Several years ago, when the opportunity to buy a station in Roseburg, Oregon, came along, a series of “impossible” events occurred that made another miracle possible. Read the whole story in the accompanying article, “God Must Love a Bargain.”

Ron and Marta Davis are two of Better Life’s success stories. Today they are baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church because of this ministry’s influence. And now they are paying that blessing forward as they oversee the entire operation to thousands of new viewers.

Ron, who ran his own software company for years, has learned to depend on something far greater than business acumen. “Better Life is counterintuitive to what I would have thought from my previous experience,” he says with a smile. “We don’t beat the bushes for opportunities; they come to us. Here God gives the directive, and you step out and go.” The economy has been up, and it’s been down. But in the midst of it all, Better Life continues to spread the gospel to a growing audience.

Ron also points to inspiration from Ellen White, who once penned words that continue to direct the vision for Better Life. In Life Sketches, chapter 34, she refers to the message going to all parts of the world, specifically emphasizing Oregon and California. And then she encourages, “Go forward. God will work with great power if you will walk in all humility of mind before Him. It is not faith to talk of impossibilities. Nothing is impossible with God” (pp. 208, 209).

While Better Life has taken seriously the challenge to reach Oregon and northern California through television, another opportunity has presented itself — a license for a full-power AM radio station in Grants Pass. This new station is expected to cover 45,000 square miles, reaching from Grants Pass north to Roseburg, south to Yreka, California, west to Brookings on the Oregon coast and east to Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Beyond the traditional broadcast realm, Better Life is reaching out to the world through YouTube and online streaming. In fact, if the total amount of estimated minutes people spend watching Better Life via YouTube during a 30-day period were added up, they would be equivalent to someone watching Better Life continuously night and day for three months.

Delmer Wagner, Bob Heisler and others who were around from the beginning smile now at the recollection of all the hard work, the long hikes up rugged mountains and the perilous work on icy towers. They see clearly how heaven’s blessings have enabled those long hours to bear a bumper crop of good fruit, as viewer after viewer has embraced the Adventist message.

The staff and volunteers at Better Life Television wouldn’t want it any other way. And neither would those who continue to step inside an Adventist church for the very first time — all because of a tiny mustard seed of faith and an Adventist television ministry that says 24 hours a day, seven days a week, “Let’s be friends.”
God Must Love a Bargain

It was 3 a.m., and Ron Davis, manager of Better Life, had been seeking God’s will for the television ministry and had not slept all night. As he continued in prayer he was strongly impressed by God with the directive to “go ye into all of Oregon and further into California, reaching as many as you can as quick as you can with the saving message of Jesus Christ.” Little did he know what power lay behind that command.

As he continued in prayer he was seeking God’s will for the television station to another buyer. The buyer had withdrawn his offer. Are you still interested? Needless to say, they were ecstatic at this providential turn of events. God had answered their prayers. After more prayers and meetings, they decided to offer only $1.9 million for the station. The seller reluctantly accepted.

Again, fundraising began in an attempt to meet a looming deadline, but the economic downturn had taken its toll and money was tight. Then suddenly and unexpectedly the seller filed bankruptcy. They were stunned and wondered, “Now what do we do, Lord?”

Better Life was informed they would now be negotiating with the bankruptcy court. Negotiations began, and finally a purchase price of $975,000 was agreed upon. They could see God’s fingerprints all over these amazing events.

With only one day left, two church members offered loans totaling $200,000. Better Life asked their attorney to make an offer of $900,000. The attorney felt sure it would be rejected but went ahead. The offer was accepted.

Finally, three years later, in July 2009, they purchased the stations for less than a quarter of the original asking price. Today, God is using KTVC and KAMK to broadcast the transforming truth of God’s word to more than half a million potential viewers, with many visiting and joining area churches.

Time is short, but there is still much work to do. Reaching people through mass media is imperative as God continues to open doors and windows of opportunity. Better Life’s outreach is like placing an evangelist in every home, providing an amazing opportunity to reach the lost and dying in these last days.

Marta Davis, Better Life Broadcasting Network station manager

WHERE YOU CAN VIEW

VIA SATELLITE

Viewers in the Oregon counties of Curry, Josephine, Klamath and Lake, and Siskiyou County in California can view Better Life via KBLN 30 (DirecTV) or KBLN 30 (Dish Network).

Viewers in the Oregon counties of Benton, Coos, Douglas and Lane can view Better Life on KTVC 36 (DirecTV) or KTVC 36 (Dish Network).

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Read more at BetterLifeTV.tv
Mis amigos me llaman Leo, pero mi nombre es Rosalío Díaz. Llegué de México a éste país a la edad de 13 años, vivía en casa de mi hermano mayor, quien llegó a ser un ejemplo a seguir en ausencia de mi padre. Él quería que yo estudiara, así que ingresé a la high school, pero sólo por siete meses, pues de un momento a otro dejé de interesarme en los estudios. En vez de ir a la escuela, me escapaba con mis amigos a jugar soccer, hasta que un día mi hermano me dijo, si no estudias, tendrás que trabajar. Así que me consiguió trabajo en un taller de carpintería en el cual trabajo hasta el día de hoy. Allí aprendí a fabricar todo tipo de muebles.

Mi estilo de vida cotidiano era ir a trabajar y los fines de semana salía con mis amigos a divertirme a la discoteca, en bailes y fiestas. Conocía algo de Dios, pero no tenía un conocimiento amplio ni mucho menos una vida espiritual constante.

Así viví hasta la edad de 32 años cuando conocí a Xiomara, quien ahora es mi esposa. Me impactó como ella hablaba de un Dios vivo, quien ahora es mi padre. Me impactó como ella hablaba de un Dios vivo, quien ahora es mi esposa. Me impactó como ella hablaba de un Dios vivo, quien ahora es mi esposa. Me impactó como ella hablaba de un Dios vivo, quien ahora es mi esposa. Me impactó como ella hablaba de un Dios vivo, quien ahora es mi esposa. Mi forma de vestir era muy diferente, sentía que no era parte del grupo. El tipo de música que yo escuchaba no era la misma, así que no quise aceptar ningún cambio en mi vida. Después de dos años, la hermana mayor de Xiomara me preguntó si me gustaría estudiar la Biblia, y sin pensarlo le dije que sí.

Estudiábamos la Biblia una vez por semana, y al conocer más de Dios y del sacrificio tan grande que hizo por mí, empecé a sentir muchas necesidades de saber más y más de Dios, poco tiempo después decidí bautizarme. Hoy puedo decir que es la experiencia más grande y maravillosa que pueda existir para un ser humano. Sin saberlo, Dios me estaba preparando y se estaba anticipando a mis necesidades, pues en esos días mi padre enfermó gravemente y falleció. En esos momentos de tanto dolor, sentí que Dios llenaba mi corazón de paz, algo que nunca antes había experimentado.

Al conocer a Dios gané una hermosa familia espiritual. Mi esposa y yo estamos muy agradecidos a Dios por nuestra amor y por su perdón. Ahora comprendo el amor que Dios tiene para mí como su hijo.

También estamos muy agradecidos a Dios por nuestro amigo y pastor, Oswaldo Villalobos, porque ha estado a nuestro lado animándonos y orando con nosotros en momentos difíciles en nuestra vida.

y porque podemos contar con él en todo momento, especialmente cuando el enemigo ha querido literalmente destruirnos. Ahora comprendo y entiendo que el mismo Dios ha estado a mi lado para fortalecerme y enseñarme grandes lecciones de fe.

Aunque mi pasado haya sido turbio, Dios siempre me ayudará a vencer cualquier obstáculo y tentación que pueda tener, y me confirma aún más cómo se interesa por mí. Ahora veo mi pasado, y me doy cuenta cuán vacía era mi vida sin Dios. También puedo decir que hoy mi vida es completa, gracias a la misericordia que Dios tiene conmigo día con día. Mi deseo es seguir creciendo espiritualmente para honrar y servir a Dios en todo lo que haga.

Anímulo a todo joven que dedique tiempo cada día para alimentarse de la palabra de Dios. Solo Él es el único que puede sacarnos del fango en el cual nos encontramos. Si acudes a Dios pidiendo ayuda, yo sé que Él te ayudará, pues lo hizo conmigo.

Rosalío Díaz, e Ingrid González,
Iglesia Adventista Hispana de Forest Grove directora de Escuela Sabática
Empowered Elders Meet for Summit

The Seventh-day Adventist churches in Alaska have, in many cases, been led by a team of elders or a single elder. We believe the biblical model of multiple elders, who move together in agreement and harmony, provides a great recipe for a healthy church.

About 60 elders met Jan. 4–6 to pray and discuss topics about shepherding and servanthood to the church through:
- General oversight of the church;
- Teaching the church;
- Protecting the church;
- Praying for the church;
- Equipping the church;
- Modeling godliness to the church.

Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president, broke the ice in the mentoring process as he shared the “Four Essential Ingredients of Church Leadership” on Friday evening, Jan. 4. He emphasized the term elder — “presbuteros” or “episkopos” in the Greek New Testament — and how elders have a number of biblical functions and expectations based on 1 Tim. 4–5 and its definition of an elder. He further pointed out the critical functions and serious responsibilities that can sometimes overwhelm a non-balanced church leader.

Several modules simultaneously met with clusters of elders, where facilitators guided discussions on spiritual leadership and organizations, shepherding of congregations, and church planning. Pastors of the conference also participated in the training pool.

The Alaska Conference ministerial department invited Doug Tilstra, Andrews University School of Religion outdoor leadership and education programs director, to provide instruction on leadership and nonprofit organizations. Carl Cosaert, Walla Walla University biblical studies professor, presented his thesis on Philippians and facilitated small-group discussions on church planning.

“The emphasis on servant leadership in Philippians 2 was extremely valuable for me,” says Harry Banks of Wasilla. “I hope we can have these meetings on a yearly basis.”

Church leadership training is another serious step forward in equipping local Adventist church leadership in Alaska, where the church is blessed with its leaders.

Butch Palmero, Alaska Conference communication and media ministries director

Remote Sabbath School Blesses Many in Alaska

How would you operate a Sabbath School when 80 percent of your towns and villages are only accessible by air or boat in the summer?

How would you operate a Sabbath School when many church members live in these remote areas and have little contact with other Adventists?

How would you operate a Sabbath School when those members have slow and unstable Internet access and rarely get to see the church in operation?

Alaska is unique in this area, so under the original vision of Thearon Staddon, a remote Sabbath School class was developed. Members from around Alaska and even from some remote areas in the rest of the country call an 800 number and spend an hour in an interactive, audio Sabbath School class. Every Sabbath morning at 9:30 a.m. Alaska time (10:30 a.m. Pacific time), people dial the number (800-920-7487) and enter the access code (53383143#), then the warm, cheery voices of facilitators Paul Kildal from Glennallen and Richard Dennis from Red Eagle Lodge in Chisutchina welcome them to Sabbath School and a lively, stimulating discussion of the week’s lesson.

Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president
The Nampa Church celebrated with Ervin Furne his retirement after 12 years as the Nampa pastor and 41 years of service overall. It was the happiest and the saddest of times as the Nampa congregation, many visitors and past members gathered Jan. 19 for a Sabbath full of activities, despite near-zero temperatures.

Church services began early at 10:30 with Furne and his wife, Sue, being treated to a children’s program. Each Sabbath School department had a chance to sing and recite Bible verses or play a game.

Columbus Candies, head elder, welcomed everyone and introduced David Prest Jr., Idaho Conference president, and Don Klinger, Idaho Conference secretary, who both gave words of appreciation, after which they joined the local elders in a dedicatory prayer for the Furnes.

Then it was Furne’s turn. The congregation had anticipated his thoughts after word leaked that he was going to tell all he had learned in 41 years of ministry. It was a pleasant surprise when Furne encapsulated all that learning into one short sentence: “Jesus loves me, this I know.” He then exhorted the members to continue in agape love and living by the words of Col. 3:12–17. Lastly, he gave an encouraging note by saying this congregation would continue to do well because it has so much love.

The service ended with an ovation of appreciation and was followed by an Italian dinner (Furne’s favorite) in the fellowship hall.

After the dinner, the congregation returned to the sanctuary for an afternoon of celebration and praise, including congregational singing, special musical numbers and music by the church choir.

A slide presentation covered Furne’s time pastoring in Nampa, and members read Num. 6:24–26 in the eight languages represented in the congregation.

Gift presentations were interspersed into the afternoon program. Mementos of appreciation included a fishing hat, a large quilt from community services, and a memory book with special messages from the church family. The entire membership contributed to one grand gift, a Gaither cruise to the Caribbean for the Furnes — something they had on their “bucket list.”

Tim Larson, Nampa Church communication team member

Many people contributed to Erv Furne’s farewell Sabbath, including (from left) Tim Larson, Nampa Church assistant head elder; Columbus Candies, Nampa Church head elder; and David Prest Jr., Idaho Conference president.
Montana Conference welcomed Ginny Allen as their prayer conference speaker Feb. 1–2 on the theme “Unquenchable Thirst.” The multitude of personal stories Allen shared made every sermon highlight a principle to embrace. She challenged everyone to get serious about what they listened to and read and to be serious about spending time in God’s presence.

The Sabbath appeal encouraged young and old to come forward in complete commitment. It quenched their thirst and directed their life search in the right direction — straight for the open arms of Jesus. The attendees can say, “We will pray, Ginny Allen; memorize Scripture, Corleen Johnson; create small groups in our homes and churches, Dea Hustwaite; and remember Jesus loves us the way we are now, Kimberly Paulien.”

Participants prayed together, coming to God with their most life-changing prayer requests. They celebrated an agape feast, listening for God’s voice and developing the courage to do what He asks.

Donna Wagner, Montana Conference prayer ministries coordinator, planned the well-organized, Holy Spirit-filled prayer conference, which emphasized that you are encouraged to turn a distraction into prayer, ask God how much time He needs with you and satisfy your unquenchable thirst at last with the Living Water.

The speakers’ messages are available at the Montana Conference website, montanaconference.org, under Media. Attendees are already looking forward to next year’s event with Pavel Goia and his book One Miracle After Another.

Michelle Boothby, Montana GLOW coordinator

Mount Ellis Academy Dynamics performs for the prayer conference.

Ginny Allen, Montana Conference prayer conference speaker, shares experiences and stories on the theme “Unquenchable Thirst.”

“Sharing His Marvelous Grace”

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Tabernacle Church Pastor Retires

After serving the Tabernacle Church in the center of the Portland metro area for more than 12 years, Henry Zollbrecht retired from full-time ministry at the end of February. March 2 saw a packed church for his last sermon. The service included three baptisms, one profession of faith, a baby dedication and a special song service featuring Zollbrecht’s favorite songs.

After the service, Henry and his wife, Mary Jane, greeted each person in the lobby, as was their tradition each week. Then they headed downstairs for a special fellowship potluck.

The day was just beginning, as their retirement party and dinner was coming up at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The evening proceeded with dinner and a dessert potluck followed by a talent program. Members provided original written tributes, vocal songs, children’s choir music, instrumentals, family groups and a video presentation of Zollbrecht’s years of service.

The Zollbrechts took home a scrapbook and are looking forward to heading to Norway this summer as a gift from the congregation.

Henry Zollbrecht’s ministry included many visits to members and shut-ins and inviting new people to lunch almost every week. He visited Rivergate Adventist Elementary and gave kids Bible studies. Following his wife’s recovery from breast cancer, he attended and supported a group for pastors whose wives faced serious health issues. He was also actively involved with worships at Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS).

Each Christmas, Zollbrecht would come to church in his tuxedo and red bow tie to sing in the choir and deliver special Christmas stories to a congregation that anticipated this annual Sabbath worship time.

Mary Jane put the children’s choir together and has led the kindergarten Sabbath School for years. She is retiring in May from the Oregon Conference, where she works as the membership clerk and junior accountant for the trust department.

Young and old, married and single, all found a special place at Tabernacle Church during the Zollbrechts’ tenure. Now the congregation hopes and prays the Zollbrechts will embrace and enjoy their well-deserved retirement with long walks, wonderful trips and time with their grandchildren.

Gloria Neidigh, Tabernacle Church communication leader
PAA’s School Paper Makes Comeback After 20 Years

After a 20-year absence, PAA’s school paper, The Résumé, made a modern comeback online, while building community and growing skills.

For the last 20 years, students in PAA’s publications class focused all their energy on Revista, the school’s annual yearbook, and The Glimpse, a staff and student directory. But their teacher, Stephen Lundquist, saw they were ready for more challenges.

“They are used to working with deadlines,” says Lundquist, “and the skill sets of creating a yearbook and school paper publishing are very similar.”

Yearbook deadlines also come in waves that offer free time. The final deadline comes months before school ends. Lundquist saw the chance to resurrect the The Résumé.

Adding to the motives to bring back The Résumé was modern technology not available 20 years ago. Haley Howard, The Résumé editor-in-chief, says the online version allows for quicker updated news. “We [can also] have color photos, videos and online polls,” she said in her introduction of The Résumé. “And it’s more environmentally friendly and less costly than a paper newspaper.”

Howard says her ultimate goal was to create “a place where students, faculty and parents alike can be informed and express their opinions.”

The evidence is in. The student body participates in contests, they submit art and poetry, and they share their thoughts and opinions. With the school year soon coming to a close, it’s safe to say The Résumé is a community-builder.

Grants Pass Welcomes New Senior Pastor

The Grants Pass Church welcomed Christian Martin and his family with open arms as he accepted a new role in the Grants Pass/Cave Junction district.

The Martins were called from Michigan to minister in Oregon. Along with his wife, Heidi, and children, Elijah and Moriah, Martin has become a blessed part of the Grants Pass and Cave Junction church families while serving as their associate pastor.

Ten months after the Martins arrived, Marvin Clark, senior pastor, announced his retirement. In his final sermon at Grants Pass Church, he stressed the importance of letting God lead in all things. With that attitude, a pastoral search committee assembled to select a new senior pastor.

The committee held prayerful and heartfelt discussions, and Martin soon became the unanimous choice of the committee. Even so, more prayer was given to the matter before a final decision was made. During the final week of February, just about one year to the day after his first sermon at Grants Pass, Martin officially accepted the position of senior pastor.

Al Reimche, Oregon Conference president, visited the Grants Pass Church on March 16 to have a prayer of dedication for Martin and his family. The Cave Junction Church congregation was also present for this blessing and sermon from Reimche.

Following the service, a fellowship dinner was held at the Grants Pass Adventist School as members welcomed Martin as senior pastor. They also had an opportunity to ask questions of and speak with Reimche.

Jennifer Burkes, Grants Pass Church communication leader
Oregon Disaster Response Leaders Respond to Hurricane Sandy

Sam Pellecer and Dale Ziegele, Oregon Conference Adventist Community Service Disaster Response (ACS DR) leadership team members, carried the flag of compassion from Oregon to some of those suffering from Hurricane Sandy’s devastation by serving in multi-agency warehouses: Pellecer in Islip County, N.Y., and Ziegele in Robbinsville, N.J.

Ziegele, an Oregon Conference ACS DR area coordinator, previously participated in Maranatha projects, but those experiences had not prepared him emotionally for devastation of this magnitude. Whole blocks of homes torn from their foundations left folks homeless and without life’s necessities. He feels it was a privilege to be God’s hands in helping to relieve the suffering and want of these victims.

Pellecer, Oregon Conference ACS DR coordinator, was amazed at how a life can be changed in a moment by a natural disaster. He purposed anew to have his emergency escape route planned, his family communication plan organized, and his five-day emergency supply kit, stored water and food supplies all in order.

Both Pellecer and Ziegele were glad they had received forklift training through Oregon ACS DR, as they spent most of their time using forklifts to load and unload trucks with emergency supplies. Ziegele also used New Jersey Conference trucks to deliver emergency food, clothing, blankets and, yes, even some donated skateboards for the youth in the area.

Pellecer’s group of volunteers became known as the “Frozen Chosen” because they were working and living in an abandoned building with all utilities disconnected, including all forms of heat. After several days of this, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) brought a tent that they pitched inside the building and heated with portable generators and heaters. “It took several days for our toes and noses to thaw,” Pellecer says.

When asked if they would do it again, Ziegele summed it up for both of them: “In a heartbeat.”

Both volunteers recommend this service experience be a way of life as we follow Jesus’ command to “do to others what you would have them do to you” (Matt. 7:12, NIV). This may mean taking time now to get the training necessary to respond at the time of a natural disaster such as Hurricane Sandy.

Dan Patchin, Oregon Conference ACS disaster response trainer
Anita Sperl, an eighth-grader at Scappoose Adventist School (SAS), was honored publicly and monetarily Feb. 15 by Quartermaster Frank Weber of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 4362, recognizing how the young American honored the Founding Fathers. When Sperl wrote her essay “What I Would Tell the Founding Fathers,” she didn’t expect to win the VFW essay contest. Not only was her essay selected out of all the essays submitted to VFW Scappoose Post, but it was selected for the district level, which includes all the schools in Clatskanie, Rainer, St. Helens and areas surrounding Scappoose.

Ace Miller, SAS volunteer

Hood View Junior Academy (HVJA) in Boring, Ore., attempted something super scary: student week of prayer. Scary for the students in kindergarten through sixth grade? No ... exciting! Scary for the teachers? No ... inspiring! Scary for the students in seventh and eighth grade? Yes ... they were the speakers!

Each seventh- and eighth-grader prepared and presented a short week of prayer talk March 4–8. Each day, a few students spoke to the rapt attention of 110 classmates. The relevant and meaningful topics included faith, prayer, trust, obedience, responsibility, preparation, miracles and more.

It was one of the most significant, compelling weeks of prayer that HVJA students had ever experienced as their peers gained practice to be leaders of their church and school.

Holley Bryant, Hood View Junior Academy principal

The students of Three Sisters Adventist Christian School in Bend celebrated Reading Day on Jan. 16. Students came to school in their pajamas and brought blankets and pillows to build reading “forts.” The entire day was devoted to reading, sharing and experiencing the joy of books. Special guests from the community came throughout the day to read stories and poetry and share their own writing with the students. Students also received awards for reaching their reading goals and were given special prizes donated by Pacific Press.

Jenny Neil, Three Sisters Adventist Christian School head teacher

Grants Pass Adventist School (GPAS) students participated a second time in the annual Youth Tree Plant on Feb. 22. They were bused with students from 20 other area schools to county-owned forest in southwest Grants Pass, where they planted two-year-old seedlings.

Since the first Youth Tree Plant event 24 years ago, 18,000 young people have planted 75,000 trees through the program. Metal tags marked with students’ names help track seedling growth over the years.

Some of the older GPAS students held an unofficial competition to see who could plant the most seedlings, and a few planted as many as 10. The GPAS home and school committee provided hot chocolate and snacks for the students, who returned to school with a sense of helping our Creator keep His forest beautiful.

Jennifer Burkes, GPAS school board member
Milo Walks ‘In Their Shoes’

It’s not often that you find teenagers volunteering to go a full day without food, but that’s exactly what happened recently at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek. And it wasn’t just a few students; it was 22, to be exact.

Victoria Roesener, Milo senior, wanted to do something for world hunger. She knew of World Vision’s 30-hour Famine and asked Darla Milam, a Milo teacher, if she would help sponsor such an event.

Milam had been interested in running the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) In Their Shoes teen experiential learning event since hearing about it at the North American Division Teachers’ Convention in Nashville, Tenn., last summer. This sparked the idea to combine the two events.

That’s exactly what Roesener and Milam did.

They planned an event for March 15 and 16 at Camp Umpqua on Milo’s campus. Students and staff could volunteer to participate in the In Their Shoes program, which was combined with a 24-hour fast.

Participants packed their gear and walked the mile to the camp. Once there, students randomly selected new “passports” with new identities they assumed for the remainder of the event. They were asked to give up luxury items such as electronics, perfumes and extras.

Sleeping conditions varied based on the poverty index included in their passports. Some had mattresses, some had thin mats, and others slept on the floor. Water was handled in a similar way, with some students having access in the lodge while others had to walk to get water or carry it back to camp.

The program included prayer, Bible study and activities designed to raise awareness of world hunger and poverty. The 22 students and four staff participating completed the 24-hour fast on Sabbath afternoon by walking back to campus and participating in a communion service and an agape feast led by Steve Behrmann, Milo pastor, and attended by the rest of the student body and staff.

“Lives were changed by this event,” states one staff member.

In Their Shoes participants will be selecting and sponsoring projects from the ADRA gift catalog. As one participant says, “We want to make a difference now.”

Dale Milam, Milo Adventist Academy teacher

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Colville Valley Junior Academy Celebrates Centennial

Colville (Wash.) Valley Junior Academy (CVJA) recently celebrated its centennial with an alumni homecoming at the Colville Church.

Adventist pioneers in the Colville Valley purchased land near Kettle Falls, Wash., in 1890. After seven years of work, they opened a boarding school. Few schools in the area offered secondary classes, so it was well attended by both Adventist and non-Adventist youth. Unfortunately, the school closed after seven years.

Members secured land in Colville, Wash., in 1911 and built a one-room school, which opened in 1912 with one full-time and one part-time teacher for 24 students. A wood-burning stove heated the room, two buckets provided drinking and wash water, and two outbuildings served as bathrooms.

Tuition cost $3 a month by 1919, and only six students attended. By 1928, enrollment had risen to 17. In the 1930s, ninth and 10th grades were added, along with a second room and an upstairs apartment. The 1950s brought indoor restrooms, and more land was deeded to the school.

The school burned to the ground in the fall of 1967, although many furnishings were saved. School continued in the basement of the church until a new building was opened in January 1988.

As enrollment increased, a large covered play area was added in 1992. The next year, an addition provided a library and two more classrooms, including space for a computer lab. Enrollment exceeded 50 that school year, and a work-study program gave students valuable experience plus help with tuition.

Tenth grade and a fourth teacher were added for the 1994–95 school year, and the school’s name changed from Colville Valley Adventist School to Colville Valley Junior Academy. As enrollment hovered between 60 and 80, finances were short, but community, church and parental support aided in the school’s success. During the early and mid-2000s, a school store was established, the school recarpeted, the bathrooms redecorated and a vocational training building constructed.

With the more recent economic downturn, enrollment at CVJA fell, and grades nine and 10 were discontinued. In the last two years enrollment has risen to 26 students taught by three teachers.

Many people contributed to CVJA through the years. Visit mycvja.org to read a more detailed account.

Barda Bedingfield and Ron Eckert, former Colville Valley Junior Academy teachers
Newport Church Member Sews for Service

Hobbies can be a great source of personal satisfaction, especially if one takes advantage of retirement to use hobbies as service.

Sewing comes naturally for Ginger Brockman, Newport (Wash.) Church member and retired music teacher. Her love of sewing came at an early age as she learned the basics on an old Singer treadle machine. Through the years, sewing came in handy as she made clothes for her growing family and later for the grandkids.

As Brockman began hearing of needs for children’s clothes in various mission fields, she told the Lord she could help fill that need if He supplied the fabric. As people have heard of her mission, her fabric supply, like the widow’s meal and oil in Elijah’s day, has never run out.

Brockman estimates she has sewn 2,500 garments for orphans around the world since 1997, including those in Bangladesh, India and Africa. She wore out five Wal-Mart sewing machines in the process, prompting her husband, Earl, to buy her a quality Bernina.

Brockman also sews lap quilts for Newport Hospital’s long-term care center residents.

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She also keeps busy locally by making quilts for Newport Adventist Community Services and Newport Hospital’s long-term care facility. Some days the Bernina whirrs from dawn to dusk.

Someone has said that retirement years are the best of a person’s life. Why not explore ways to use part of that time in service for God? Could it be that the vibrating noise of a working sewing machine is one of the many sounds pleasing to the Lord’s ears?

Earl Brockman, Newport Church communication leader

Teen Pathfinders Serve Others

During Spring Break Mission Adventure

The first Sunday of spring break, more than 100 teen Pathfinders and their adult sponsors convened at Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash., to begin a week of service to the Cheney, Airway Heights and Spokane, Wash., communities.

Monday morning found eight teams, each comprised of 12 teens, traveling to many locations. They set out to re-roof a house, sort food at a food bank, make a hot meal for the homeless men at the mission, sort clothing at a secondhand store, build a greenhouse for a ladies’ shelter and pick up trash. One team stayed behind to help cook food for the whole group.

Some of the teen Pathfinders come every year, but for some it was a new adventure. At Cleone’s Closet, one of the sorting clothing at Cleone’s Closet was an enjoyable task for one of the teams. Teen Pathfinders assist their group leader in building a greenhouse.

Teen Mission Adventure is an outreach of the Pathfinder clubs in Upper Columbia Conference.

Kathy Marson, UCC communication department administrative assistant
Rogers Hosts Reading Day

What's better than a party? How about a Party-in-a-Box Reading Day? The fifth- and sixth-graders at Rogers Adventist School in College Place, Wash., participated in an all-day reading event on Feb. 6 inspired by the Party-in-a-Box program from Pacific Press.

The teachers set aside the other curriculum for the day to allow students to enjoy and practice the life-long skill of reading. Throughout the day the teachers drew student names for prizes such as “Reading is Fun” T-shirts, Frisbees and free books, all included in the box from Pacific Press. Other items in the Party-in-a-Box were snacks, pencils, magnets and a catalog for each student. The teachers’ hope was that this would be a fun day for their students.

Lauren thought Reading Day was awesome. She loved the fact that students could bring pillows and blankets. “We could also do puzzles like crossword puzzles or Sudoku,” she says. “I really liked that too.”

“It was fun to have peace and quiet,” Calin says. “I was able to get caught up on my reading. I finished one and a half books.”

Sydney enjoyed being able to lie down and read all day. She also liked the fact that they could choose to sit anywhere they wanted. “I also liked the prizes,” she adds.

“It was fun to have something different,” Justin explains. “I liked that we could be with our friends more.”

Reading Day was also a way to encourage students to read good, character-building material and to continue to develop a life-long interest in reading and learning.

Audrey Campbell, Rogers Adventist School media center director

Students enjoy the Party-in-a-Box Reading Day at Rogers Adventist School in College Place, Wash.

Reading Day gives students a chance to enjoy reading together with their friends.

Dog Policy: vaccinations are required, no dogs allowed around the tent meetings, no barking allowed at night, owners must clean up after animals.
Outreach Ministry Leaders Share Ideas

Each spring, Washington Conference hosts an outreach ministry meeting to connect creative ministry leaders with individuals who want to be involved in ministry.

“We came together to talk about how we can work together for God,” says Byron Dulan, Washington Conference outreach ministries director. “We sometimes think we need to work with the resources in our own little church, but God has the resources everywhere for us to use.”

John Freedman, Washington Conference president, opened the outreach networking event with a devotional message about ministering from the heart. “We need to grow relationships with each other,” Freedman says. “Ministry is a matter of the heart. Do your work in faith and love. Trust in God, who has all the power and resources of the universe.”

Sixty participants from 15 churches attended three breakout sessions featuring 11 creative ministries in western Washington. After lunch, they examined stories, examples and experiences of outreach ministries from across North America. The afternoon session closed with an interactive session during which churches shared their dreams for ministry.

Evaluation forms included comments such as “I found so many resources” and “I’m surprised that the church is involved in so many things!”

“We’re here to empower you in ministry,” says Dulan. “We encourage members who feel the call of God on their heart to contact us to discuss their ideas and get direction on how to lay a strong foundation for their new ministry.”

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

Carolyn Brown shares how she started the Search and Rescue Ministry at Maranatha Church in Seattle after her own experience being homeless.

Ira Bartolome, Centralia Church pastor, talks about how he got involved in thrift store ministries. Want to be involved in ministry? Identify a need, discover resources and launch a ministry to meet a specific need.

Linda Renfroe shares at Washington Conference’s outreach networking event about her experience with involving teenagers in local mission trips.
Auburn City Hosts First Ministry Fair

Auburn City Church spent time at the beginning of the year coaching its members through a spiritual gifts assessment, provided an evaluation class and concluded with a Ministry Fair.

“Auburn City Church hosts a Ministry Fair to help members find their niche in ministry. Comments like “I didn’t know our church had [a specific ministry program]” reinforced the value of educating members about ministries offered by the local church.”

“The Ministry Fair was designed to help people find their niche in church ministry,” says Gary Fogelquist, senior pastor. “We want to help people discover their spiritual gifts and allow them to see what ministry options are available.”

The purpose of the fair, according to Julie Campbell, fair coordinator, was two-fold: to raise awareness and educate members about active local church ministries and to show members ways to be involved and find their niche in ministry. The church also wanted members to be aware of ministry options before the nominating committee process began and allow ministries to recruit new participants.

The Ministry Fair was coordinated by the church’s empowering committee, which has a mission to “discover, place and grow spiritual gifts” among members. Each ministry had a display table with informational materials, photo galleries, samples and signup sheets. The fair was open throughout the morning until church began and then again after church.

In all, 15 ministries were represented at Auburn City’s Ministry Fair, including children’s ministry, Full Plate Living, Adventist Christian education, community services, disaster relief, women’s ministry, men’s ministry, Northwest Mission Institute, street mission, Pathfinders, Adventurers, prayer ministry, religious liberty, SAGE senior ministries and Sunset Lake Camp.

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

Skagit Students Learn Lessons in Generosity

At Skagit Adventist Academy in Burlington, even elementary students learn they can be the hands and feet of Jesus for people in need.

The academy recently continued a tradition of raising funds for Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and expanded the fundraiser to include elementary students.

Students set up a tree in the high school commons room and an additional tree in the elementary school. Students and faculty were invited to purchase lights for $1 apiece to put on the tree. Every dollar donated to ADRA was matched by $7.

Many children were eager to purchase lights to decorate the tree and help needy people. One fourth-grade girl even emptied her piggy bank to purchase several lights. Likewise, another elementary student gave eight $1 coins he earned as a spelling test reward. The elementary students raised $112 total.

The high school students were also happy to give generously. One high school student donated $60 of his own money. The high school raised $180, and the school community contributed $350.31. The final count of $642.31 made a total gift of $4,496.17 with the ADRA matching funds.

Skagit Adventist Academy is blessed to have students and faculty that strive to be like Jesus in their everyday lives and to serve others — not just in Skagit County but all around the world.

Jimmy Jordan, Skagit Adventist Academy senior

Elementary and secondary students at Skagit Adventist Academy in Burlington are learning how to be generous givers. They recently raised funds for Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).
Most people hate to diet because they hate food restrictions and they hate to exercise.

But according to one plan, you can diet and still have a full plate. That’s why they call it the “Full Plate Diet,” and it seems to be gaining in popularity. The drawback for some is that you do have to exercise.

Elsa Rojas is a member at Bellevue Church where a class on the new diet was offered earlier this year. She says, “What makes this program different is that you really don’t have to stick to a strict regimen or buy expensive specialty items.”

Laurelee Misseghers, a registered dietician, led the class, which provided practical tips and diet advice. The class brought 12 Bellevue Church members and four visitors who met faithfully on Tuesday evenings for eight weeks in January and February.

Each member received a workbook, a student guide and a fiber guide with ideas on how to “power up” their lifestyle. An official website is available for more information, tips and diet ideas at fullplateliving.org.

“The program is meant to improve your current lifestyle, no matter what your current level of health is,” says Rojas. Did she lose weight? “I sure did!”

Rojas says having the group support is important when it comes to achieving consistency and making conscientious decisions about food and exercise.

Martha Hammen, Bellevue Church health coordinator
Julian Melgosa's recently published book, *Enjoy Life*, is an illustrated book about retirement written for the lay person from the perspective of a psychologist. Melgosa, Walla Walla University School of Education and Psychology dean, wrote the book to help people add quality to the "third age" of their lives.

According to the publisher Safeliz, Ltd., in Madrid, Spain, the book "offers a complete investigative tool full of practical advice that is specifically designed to help the reader achieve optimal health and find enjoyment in this stage of life."

Melgosa has a personal interest in the topic of retirement, and the publisher decided it was relevant, as the elder population sector is growing in both developed and undeveloped countries.


Camlynne Waring, university relations writer

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Curtis Nelson is the recipient of the 2013 Peter J. Bosscher Faculty Advisor for Outstanding Leadership awarded by the national organization Engineers Without Borders USA (EWB-USA). Nelson, engineering professor, founded the Walla Walla University chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB-WWU) in 2006.

Nelson has led chapter trips to Honduras, helping assess, design and construct schools in underprivileged communities. Co-faculty advisor of the 70-member chapter, Nelson is interested in the development and implementation of undergraduate courses and programs, particularly relating to service learning and engineering design for developing countries.

Nelson traveled to Peru in March to evaluate a location that may be the site of the next project. The group recently completed its work on a Honduras school. During an 18-month period, members of the chapter made several site visits to survey, take soil samples, make agreements with local communities and ultimately construct a five-classroom concrete structure to replace the deteriorating building. The new structure accommodates approximately 250 students per year. The total cost of the project was $53,000, which was acquired through fundraising and donations.

According to EWB-USA, the award "recognizes faculty advisors who provide outstanding leadership and mentorship to their student chapter. It is named for the late Peter J. Bosscher, who was an EWB-USA faculty advisor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was actively involved with the national organization."

Nelson was nominated for the award by members of the EWB-WWU chapter.

Camlynne Waring
Rural Health Clinics
Meeting Health Care Needs in Underserved Areas

Beautiful scenery, a relaxed lifestyle, enhanced recreational opportunities — for many people, living in the country beats city life hands-down. But the trade-off often is less access to health care, especially specialty and emergency services.

Tiny Manzanita, Ore., for example, sits on one of the most scenic areas of the Oregon Coast, but the nearest hospital is 22 miles away. Residents have driven as long as two hours to get the care they need.

Rural health clinics, such as Tillamook (Ore.) County General Hospital’s clinic in Manzanita, help fill the gap. The hospital and its five clinics, along with ambulance services and home care services, provide a coordinated continuum of vital health care services throughout rural Tillamook County.

Expert health care close to home makes a difference for individuals like George.* George came to the Manzanita clinic soon after it opened in January 2012 with heart attack symptoms. His family said that even though he had chest pain and other symptoms, he only agreed to seek help because the clinic was nearby. George wouldn’t have gone to the hospital because it was too far away — at a time when every minute counted toward saving his life.

The newest addition to the hospital’s rural health network farther south along the Oregon coast is Bayshore Medical, with locations in Pacific City and Lincoln City. In Pacific City, residents are 22 miles from the nearest hospital. Seeing a specialty physician, such as a cardiologist, has required a long drive. Now, local patients will benefit as the specialists from Adventist Health’s Tillamook network provide services at this clinic several days each month.

In Lincoln City, which does have a hospital, residents and visitors now enjoy expanded access to urgent care services.

“The rich health care heritage that Adventist Health brings to rural communities uniquely equips us to create healthier communities,” states Larry Davy, Tillamook Hospital CEO. “As national and state health care transformation initiatives focus on enhancing wellness and decreasing medical costs, carrying out our healing mission of whole person care is more important than ever, especially in underserved areas.”

Systemwide, Adventist Health has 38 rural health clinics providing care to more than 191,000 individuals who might otherwise be without access to local quality services. Besides Tillamook County, rural health clinics are also located in Walla Walla, Wash., and 32 California locations. In addition, Adventist Medical Center has 36 medical clinics that serve the Portland, Ore., and Vancouver, Wash., metropolitan area.

Melody Ayers, Tillamook County General Hospital development and marketing director

*TName has been changed to protect patient privacy.
Hart 70th
Lewis and Ruth (Swanson) Hart were married in Fallon, Nev., on Aug. 20, 1942, shortly after Lewis graduated from Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University). They taught at Campion Academy in Loveland, Colo., before moving to Loma Linda, Calif. There Lewis received his medical doctor degree in 1949 and subsequently practiced in Troy, Idaho, and Roseburg, Ore. They served short mission terms in Quito, Ecuador, and Kingston, Jamaica, before going on regular mission service to Blantyre, Malawi, and Nairobi, Kenya. Upon returning from Africa, Lewis joined the Loma Linda University anesthesiology department for 10 years before retiring to Roseburg, then College Place, Wash., and eventually to Loma Linda.

Their sons and daughters-in-law, Kenneth and Dee Hart and Richard and Judy Hart, are also associated with Loma Linda University. The Harts have 5 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. They celebrated their 70th anniversary in Loma Linda with most family members present.

Klein 50th
Ed and Bev Klein celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 5, 2012, with a picnic in the park at Fort Walla Walla, Wash.


They immediately accepted a call to Blue Mountain Academy in Pennsylvania, where they served for five years before return to the Northwest. They spent four years at Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., before moving the family to Manila, Philippines, to serve at Philippine Union College for seven years.

Ed built the industrial arts program at the college while Bev served as an assistant librarian in the theological seminary on campus. They returned stateside in 1982 to UCA. While Ed taught industrial arts, Bev returned to her nursing career. In 1993, they accepted a call to the Oregon Conference to be plant director for the facility. They remained in Portland, Ore., until their retirement in 2003.

They are happily residing in Milton-Freewater, Ore., on a small acreage planted in apples. Ed loves to work in his shop. Bev enjoys caring for the home and entertaining guests. They have many family and friends in the valley. They love their church family and enjoy many opportunities to volunteer and be of service. Their commitment to God, each other, family and fellow travelers on this journey is a wonderful example to others.

The Klein family includes Scott and Michele Mastroiani Klein of Newport News, Va.; Sandi and Gregory Phillips of Oregon City, Ore.; and 5 grandchildren.

Poisel 50th
Surrounded by their children and church family, Eldon and Gina (Balzer) Poisel celebrated 50 years of marriage and God’s blessings on Sabbath, March 31, 2012, at the Hayden Lake Church in Idaho. Six months later, the celebration continued with an Alaskan cruise.

Eldon and Gina met as seniors at Wapato (Wash.) High School. While dating, Gina took Bible studies, accepted Christ into her life and was baptized. One month later, they married in 1962.

From their wedding in Wapato, they moved to Seattle for work. Later, back in the Yakima, Wash., area, Eldon took up roofing while Gina cared for their two children. Eventually Eldon pursued a career as a dental technician, so the family moved to Portland, Ore., for his education. During this time they juggled child care, studies and work at United Medical Laboratories.

Eldon and Gina moved to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, in 1971 to set up shop in the basement of a dental office. In 1976, Eldon became a certified dental technician, a certification he has maintained for 36 years. Their small start grew to a thriving business employing 13 people. Through this, God made it possible for them to put two children through a total of 28 years of Adventist education. While Eldon still works, the family business is being transferred into the capable hands of his son, Trent, who has worked alongside him for more than 30 years.

Over the years, the couple has volunteered at their churches, led a support ministry, and enjoyed camping, hiking and traveling. They also designed, built and landscaped three homes. Gina continues to use her interior design talents, creating warm atmospheres in both her home and local church. Eldon is quite active in the church. He led a support ministry, while Gina continued to use her interior design talents, creating warm atmospheres in both her home and local church.

The Poisel family includes Trent and Pam (Williams) Poisel of Rathdrum, Idaho; Tara and Michael Demma of Sumner, Wash.; 6 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.
BROWN — Paige Elaine was born Feb. 11, 2013, to Andrew and Sara (Lloyd) Brown, Mount Vernon, Wash.

CLARK — Talia Rachaele was born Feb. 9, 2013, to Anthony and Tiffany (Jepson) Clark, Medford, Ore.

ENDERS — Hailey Madilyn was born March 3, 2013, to Matthew and Heather (Chrowl) Enders, Olympia, Wash.

FETRICK — Caleb Matthew was born March 3, 2013, to Jonathan and Michelle (Boothby) Fetrick, Port Angeles, Wash.

JANKE — Dainen Ryan was born Oct. 4, 2013, to Mark and Heather (Schultz) Janke, Spokane Valley, Wash.

MCELVAIN — Kaitlyn Michelle was born Dec. 21, 2012, to Jon and Rachel (Taber) McElvain, Port Orchard, Wash.

PFEIFLE — Barrett Isaiah was born Oct. 16, 2012, to Jody and Heidi (Jordan) Pfeifle, Angwin, Calif.

PFEIFLE — Brett Adam was born Oct. 16, 2012, to Jody and Heidi (Jordan) Pfeifle, Angwin, Calif.

SCHWISOW — Jonathan Edwin was born Jan. 28, 2013, to Edwin D. and Sarah (Montague) Schwisow, Battle Ground, Wash.

STEVENSON — Hadhsa Elizabeth was born Jan. 24, 2013, to Kyle Gene and Elizabeth (Hudgens) Stevenson, Hillsboro, Ore.

WESTCOTT — Alice Leona was born Sept. 16, 2012, to Stephan and Katie (Schwartz) Westcott, Chesterfield, United Kingdom.

WIBBERDING — Anna Michelle was born Jan. 10, 2013, to James and Laura (Ochs) Wibberding, Meridian, Idaho.

WIBBERDING — Jack Michael was born Jan. 10, 2013, to James and Laura (Ochs) Wibberding, Meridian, Idaho.

FOGELQUIST-KIM — Shari Fogelquist and Justin Kim were married Sept. 2, 2012, in Auburn, Wash. They are making their home in Homer Glen, Ill. Shari is the daughter of Gary and Debbie (Blahak) Fogelquist. Justin is the son of Daniel and Miyoung Kim.

HUMMEL-PRICE — Alexa May Hummel and Kyle Wayne Price were married Nov. 10, 2012, in Las Vegas, Nev. They are making their home in Walla Walla, Wash. Alexa is the daughter of Steven (deceased) and Margie Hummel. Kyle is the son of Bruce and Teresa (White) Price.

SCHMELZER-ANDERSON — LaVonne Schmelzer and Frank Anderson were married March 8, 2013, in Ontario, Ore., where they are making their home.

SILVER-FEIGNER — Christina Silver and Jeremie Feigner were married Nov. 25, 2012, in College Place, Wash. They are making their home in Tangent, Ore. Christina is the daughter of Leroy Silver and Penelope (Allen) Silver (deceased). Jeremie is the son of Karl (deceased) and Pam (Leiske) Feigner.

WOLFSWINKEL-DA SILVA — Wendy Wolfswinkel and Daniel da Silva were married July 8, 2012, in Vancouver, Wash. They are making their home in Ooltewah, Tenn. Wendy is the daughter of Ben and Patricia (Baumbach) Wolfswinkel. Daniel is the son of Ireneu Brunhara (deceased) and Maria Brunhara.

FOGELQUIST-KIM — Shari Fogelquist and Justin Kim were married Sept. 2, 2012, in Auburn, Wash. They are making their home in Homer Glen, Ill. Shari is the daughter of Gary and Debbie (Blahak) Fogelquist. Justin is the son of Daniel and Miyoung Kim.

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SCHMELZER-ANDERSON — LaVonne Schmelzer and Frank Anderson were married March 8, 2013, in Ontario, Ore., where they are making their home.

SILVER-FEIGNER — Christina Silver and Jeremie Feigner were married Nov. 25, 2012, in College Place, Wash. They are making their home in Tangent, Ore. Christina is the daughter of Leroy Silver and Penelope (Allen) Silver (deceased). Jeremie is the son of Karl (deceased) and Pam (Leiske) Feigner.

WOLFSWINKEL-DA SILVA — Wendy Wolfswinkel and Daniel da Silva were married July 8, 2012, in Vancouver, Wash. They are making their home in Ooltewah, Tenn. Wendy is the daughter of Ben and Patricia (Baumbach) Wolfswinkel. Daniel is the son of Ireneu Brunhara (deceased) and Maria Brunhara.


DUNKER — Marlin Duane, 85; born April 20, 1927, Stapleton, Neb.; died Nov. 18, 2012, Weiser, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Susan (Wutke); sons, Steven, Weiser; Ted, Leominter, Mass.; daughter, Jane Lewis, Weiser; sister, Ardis Brown, Weiser; and 4 grandchildren.

DUVAL — Francis “Frank” A., 83; born Sept. 11, 1929, Cosmopolis, Wash.; died Jan. 25, 2013, Olympia, Wash. Surviving: wife, Margarette (Aicher); sons, Frank Jr., Don and Randy, all of Olympia; daughters, Diana and Sissy, both of Olympia; sister, Alice Lee, Junction City, Ore.; 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.


LEHTO — Mervin “Nib,” 83; born Nov. 10, 1929, Hockinson, Wash.; died Feb. 16, 2013, Goldendale, Wash. Surviving: wife, Betty (Meyer); daughters, Patti Eliason, Goldendale; Gail Bogs, Gresham, Ore.; sisters, Neva Wheelhouse, Goldendale; Dorothy Kay, Otis, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.


OSTER — Darwin, 78; born Aug. 31, 1934, Beulah, N.D.; died Nov. 24, 2012, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Esther (Hegney); sons, Steven, McMinville, Ore.; Todd, College Place; brothers, Gerald, Center Point, Texas; Eugene, Scappoose, Ore.; Milton, Olympia, Wash.; sisters, Lorraine Cooper, Port Orchard, Wash.; Yvonne Raymond, Auburn, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.


North Pacific Union Conference

Offering
May 4 — Local Church Budget;
May 11 — Disaster and Famine Relief;
May 18 — Local Church Budget;
May 25 — Local Conference Advance.

Adventist Heritage Tour

Walla Walla University

May 3–4 — Peacemaking Weekend;
May 5 — North American Division Lego Robotics team competition;
May 10–11 — AGA Weekend, women’s residence hall events;
May 11 — Evensong, organ and spoken word, University Church at 7:30 p.m.;
May 16–26 — Mother Courage and Her Children, vvudrama Spring Show, for dates and times, visit wallawalla.edu/wwudrama.

Alaska

Missing Members
The Aleknagik Church is seeking contact information for the following members: Molly Akalkak, Dora Cline, Ethel Jenkins, Edna Jones, Betty Kochkan, Ron Kushmael, Martha Scheiber and Susie Westcoast. Please contact Debbie Reiswig, church clerk, at 907-842-1486 or tundracabin@gmail.com.

Oregon

Benefit Concert at Tabernacle
May 11 — Carl Parker and friends will be performing a benefit concert at 4 p.m. Light reception to follow. Tabernacle Church, 26 SW Condor Way, Portland, OR 97239. For additional information, contact Julie McAdams at 503-360-6575.

Simply Cooking
May 30 — Simply Cooking is a free monthly vegan class led by Ronni Reinecke at the Castle Rock Church. Samples and demonstrations. We invite anyone interested in plant-based eating to attend on May 30 at 6:30 p.m. We are having a delightful time getting to know people from our community. (The next class is June 27 at 6:30 p.m.) Reserve your place with a call to Wanda at 360-967-2165 or Jeanne at 360-274-6709.

Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting
June 14–15 — You’re invited to attend the Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting at the Miles Adventist Academy in Days Creek, Ore. The keynote speaker will be Herb Larsen Jr., with featured musical guests. Registration is underway. For more information, visit BetterLifeTV.tv or simply call 541-474-3089.

Hockinson Heights Church Celebrates 25 Years
June 15 — All friends and former members of the Hockinson Heights Church are invited to join us for a celebration of 25 years in our current church building. Our celebration will begin at 9:30 a.m., with a Sabbath School program chronicling the history of the church. Our worship service will begin at 10:45 with Kessia Bennett as our speaker. Lunch will follow, and a 2 p.m. music celebration emceed by longtime pastor Lutz Binus completes our festivities. To RSVP, please contact Alice Lang at 360-666-9529 or alice40ruth@gmail.com.

Tabernacle Church Celebrates 50 Years
June 15 — Tabernacle Church celebrates 50 years of ministry in its present house of worship. We invite all past members and friends of the church to join us. In preparation for the celebration we solicit any photos, memorabilia or oral history suitable for inclusion in the program. Contact the church office at 503-223-0623 or tabernaclesda@yahoo.com, or visit us on the Tabernacle SDA Portland Facebook page.

Dinner With a Doctor
June 25 — Dinner With a Doctor was a real success in March. The Castle Rock (Wash.) Church is delighted to have as the June guest speaker Joyce Choe, a cataract surgeon and glaucoma specialist with the Pacific Cataract and Laser Institute. She loves sharing her insights on healthy living. We invite attendance on June 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Castle Rock Church. A light supper will be served. Reserve your place with a call to Wanda at 360-967-2165 or Jeanne at 360-274-6709.

Upper Columbia

Bangla Hope Reunion
May 18 — Bangla Hope Reunion with Dave and Beverly Waid and special guest Linda Shelton at the Kennewick Church, 7105 W. 10th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336, from 9:15 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Fellowship meal at noon and Bengali Benefit Dinner at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 509-586-4259.

SAGE Spring Work Bee
May 19–23 — Camp MiVoden’s annual Spring Work Bee. Help get the camp ready for our youth summer camps. Call or email to sign up and get details from Roger at 509-522-0440 or biltro@charter.net.

UCA Class of 1963
Oct. 4–6 — Upper Columbia Academy Class of 1963 is looking for all classmates in preparation for their 50th reunion at Upper Columbia Academy. The class will be headquartered at the DoubleTree Hotel, Spokane (Wash.) City Center. For information, please contact Betty Coleman Cox at 253-863-3611 or BettyCox@usa.net.

Washington

Missing Members

Missing Members
The Bellingham Church is seeking contact information for the following missing members: Walter Allen and Michele Reida. If you have any information, contact the Bellingham Church at 360-756-7603 (message) or 360-733-0204. For more information, visit BetterLifeTV.tv or simply call 541-474-3089. If you have any information, contact the Bellingham Church at 360-756-7603 (message) or 360-733-0204. If you have any information, contact the Bellingham Church at 360-756-7603 (message) or 360-733-0204.
ADULT CARE
“THE MEADOWS” ADULT FAMILY HOME in Meadow Glade, Wash. We believe we are placed on this Earth to bless others. Our delightful home is uniquely staffed with professional caregivers, awake and on-site 24/7. Come visit and you will see why our residents and families love this graciously appointed and peaceful place. Call 360-450-6143, pembrookservices.com.

LICENSED ADULT FAMILY HOME in Spokane Valley, Wash., offering a Christian home environment with loving and caring staff. We are a great alternative to care centers or nursing homes. You’ll feel at home with your dietary needs met, daily devotions and transportation to church. For availability information, contact Laura Griffith at 509-892-7791, 509-951-4685, lauragriffith155@msn.com.

AUTOMOTIVE
NEW AUTOS COST LESS!!! All makes FLEET PRICES. Out-of-stock or factory orders. Low-interest financing % and factory rebate programs. Leasing = lower payments and taxes. Quality used vehicles available. TRADE-INS WELCOME. Quotations by phone or fax. Test drive and demo before you buy. Nationwide warranty on new autos. Delivery at your home, office, credit union or our facility. We ship nationwide, Alaska and Hawaii. Save thousands! Call or fax your specific vehicle desires: make, model, options, etc. Contact WESTERN AUTO WHOLESALE & LEASING: Portland, Ore., 503-760-8122; Vancouver, Wash., 360-263-6521; nationwide 800-284-6612; fax 800-300-0484; email wawl@aol.com.

CLASSES
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER’S DEGREES in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit southern.edu/graduateschool.

DEMAND IS HIGH FOR SKILLED NURSING FACILITY and senior care center managers. Southern Adventist University offers a degree in long-term care administration. Call 800-SOUTHERN or email ltca@southern.edu for information.

EMPLOYMENT
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES is seeking applicants for the position of program director for a new physician assistant program. A master’s degree is required; doctoral degree is preferred. Adventist University is a faith-based institution that seeks candidates who fit the unique culture and mission of the college. Please email CV to Dr. Len M. Archer, Associate VP for Academic Administration, Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; len.archer@adu.edu.

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, Orlando, Fla., is seeking a physical therapist program director beginning 2013. The program director will provide overall academic leadership developing this program and salary will be competitive. Requirements: doctoral degree from regionally accredited school, PT academic experience, eligible for FL PT licensure. Preferred: senior faculty status. Submit letter of interest, curriculum vitae, three references and/or letters of recommendation to Dr. Don Williams, Senior VP Academic Administration, Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; don.williams@adu.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY School of Computing invites applications for a computing professor for fall 2013. A graduate degree in computer science, software engineering, computer information systems or computer engineering is required; candidates with a doctoral degree are preferred. Duties include teaching undergraduate computing courses, directing student projects, research, advising computing majors and serving on university committees. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular standing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Please send a curriculum vitae to halterman@southern.edu.

Sunset Schedule

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Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.
qualities include interest in research, successful teaching and advanced practice nursing experience, flexibility, and commitment to Adventist education. The candidate must be a member in good and regular standing in the Adventist Church. Doctorate required. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Holly Gadd, hgadd@southern.edu. SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

INTERNATIONAL CARING HANDS (ICH) is looking for a missionary dentist to work at Riverside Farm Institute in Zambia. ICH will provide assistance with housing and a small stipend. ICH is also looking for a student missionary driver/mechanic to set up and maintain a mobile dental clinic in Zambia. Interested parties can contact Randy Meyer at 541-937-2786 or randym@hfdg.com.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time nurse educators in the areas of mental health, community health or pediatrics. Master’s degree required; doctoral degree preferred. Must have some teaching experience and an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Contact Dr. Lenora Follett at 817-202-6670 or lenora.follett@swau.edu.

PHYSICIAN: MD/DO/ Naturopath. NP/PA: Opportunity of a lifetime at Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital. Two physicians and one NP/PA needed to complete our medical team. Will train in lifestyle and natural therapies. Missionary positions available at the ONLY Adventist facility of its kind in the USA. Email Dr.Zeno@wildwoodhealth.org.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY School of Nursing seeks applicants committed to Adventist nursing education to join a mission-focused team as adjunct, part- or full-time faculty. Earned doctorate required. Advanced practice certification/experience preferred, but not required for some courses. Consideration given for candidates who wish to teach online without relocating. Must be a member in good and regular standing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Send curriculum vitae to Dr. Barbara James, bjames@southern.edu. SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY School of Education and Psychology seeks faculty for counseling programs. Qualified candidates must have an earned doctorate in counseling or counselor education, preferably from a CACREP-accredited program, with a concentration in school or clinical mental health counseling. The candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ and be a Seventh-day Adventist church member in good and regular standing. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to John McCoy, School of Ed/Psych, Box 370, Collegedale, TN, 37315-0370.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST GUAM CLINIC is embarking on a major expansion and is seeking physicians in internal medicine, family medicine, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, cardiology, rheumatology, pulmonology, gastroenterology, OB/GYN, urology, pediatrics, ENT, optometry and dermatology. To learn about our benefits and opportunities, call 671-646-8881 ext. 116; email hr@guamsda.com; or visit our website at adventistclinic.com.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST GUAM CLINIC is embarking on a major expansion and is seeking an experienced chief clinical nurse to provide strong leadership and operational support to our multi-specialty medical team. To learn about our benefits and opportunities, call 671-646-8881 ext. 116; email hr@guamsda.com; or visiting our website at adventistclinic.com.
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES is seeking applicants for an accounting, finance or economics professor for their new Master of Healthcare Administration program. A doctoral degree is required. Submit CV to: Dr. Benita David, Chair of Healthcare Administration, Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; benita.david@adu.edu.

CONTENT TEAM MANAGER. Recruit and manage teams that will develop and maintain online content for GoodNewsAdvocates.org and its clients. Must have project management, PC, supervisory and marketing skills. Familiarity with various content development processes a definite plus. Willing to work from home OK. Send résumé to edw@goodnewsadvocates.org.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a chef for their Village Market Deli. This position is a working manager, working with and directing student cooks in preparing all hot foods for meals and any student cooks in preparing all working with and directing position is a working manager, their Village market Deli. This seeks a chef for uNiversity

edw@goodnewsadvocates.org. from home OK. Send résumé to for ministry wages. Working a definite plus. Willing to work content development processes skills. familiarity with various supervisory and marketing project management, PC, and its clients. must have GoodNewsadvocates.org maintain online content for that will develop and Recruit and manage teams coNteNt teAm mANAger
david@adu.edu. Orlando, fL 32803; benita. Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; benita. david@adu.edu.

Adventist University of Healthcare administration, Dr. Benita David, Chair of Healthcare administration, Dr. Benita David, Chair of is required. Submit CV to:

program. a doctoral degree for their new master of Healthcare administration, Dr. Benita David, Chair of Healthcare administration, Dr. Benita David, Chair of is required. Submit CV to:

Healthcare administration, Dr. Benita David, Chair of Healthcare administration, Dr. Benita David, Chair of is required. Submit CV to:

a doctoral degree for their new master of includes monitoring conference transactions confidential. Please

Need A PiANIST? Hymns Alive, the Adventist Hymnal on 33 CDs. Quality accompaniment music to sing God's praises. Organ and piano. Kid’s hymnals on CDs also. 3Shymns.com. Hymns on videos — 12 DVDs — Creation Sings, with words and beautiful nature photos and videos. Call 800-354-9667. bunkhouse or toy hauler for children's bedroom, and four seasons ready for winter living in the Northwest. Outright donation requested, with a tax deductible receipt from the North Pacific Union Conference. Contact NMI at 360-857-7062.

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With apologies to fine physicians everywhere, sometimes it feels as though prophetic time was birthed in a doctor's office.

On this particular day I can't help but note the relentlessly expanding length of my eye appointment. The waiting room is aptly named. The scheduled time I rushed to meet has long since expired. So, here I sit in a passive trance with fellow sufferers at our own private Pool of Bethesda, waiting anxiously for the magical moment when an angel stirs the water.

But the angel isn't showing up, at least for now. I scan the room for something of interest, recalling too late the book I had thought to bring. A phone rings, a fly buzzes stubbornly against a window, a toddler squirms on his mother's lap. An elderly couple sits across from me, pleasantly at rest, one absentmindedly caressing the other's hand.

“Mr. Vistaunet?” calls a nurse from the front desk, and I rouse expectantly. Has the water stirred? Is the miracle at hand? No it is not. “We need you to complete these forms,” she says with a professional smile.

The sign at the front desk — did it say "patients check in here” or “patience check in here”? This patient's patience is ebbing. So is my watch, which has inexplicably slowed down. Every 10 minutes I am incredulous to find it has only ticked off 90 seconds. I and the toddler are unified in an urge to squirm.

But the door to the inner sanctum finally opens. I am ushered to a darkened room and graciously granted additional time to ponder eternity and anything in between. In my imagination the doctor has likely just texted into the office — “Snow conditions awesome on last run down the mountain. Headed back to the office. Dilate Mr. Vistaunet's pupils and tell him to wait.”

We often seem to be at odds with time — there's either too much or too little to do what we want. Time crawls as we await a hoped-for event. Time runs swiftly toward dreaded confrontations. In this deadline-driven society our usefulness is often measured by how much we can produce in a shrinking span of time. More quantity, less quality.

It's why Sabbath is such an interruption — a divinely intentional interruption — to our headlong pace. The command of our Father to put work aside is not a punitive demand but a loving opportunity for rest, healing and health. It's a gift card of time that can be redeemed only in His presence.* His companionship becomes everything when time ceases to be anything, when we're just happy to be together.

The doctor breezes in with a suspiciously ruddy glow. He's delighted to see me and my ongoing financial support. Ten minutes later, I'm done.

As I pass back through the outer waiting room, my dilated eyes see them once again. The older couple is still there. Pleasantly at peace, at rest in their own company, with their own thoughts.

In no hurry to do anything, but be together.

* I'm fully aware that parents of toddlers and teenagers sometimes need a rain check on this.

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