For I know the plans I have for you,

DECLARES the LORD,

plans to prosper you and not to harm you,

plans to give you hope

AND a FUTURE.

JEREMIAH 29:11

THE JOY OF PARTNERING WITH GOD

WWW.GLEANERONLINE.ORG
And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so.

Genesis 1:9 (NIV)
For His Glory

THE JOY OF PARTNERING WITH GOD

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4 FYI/LETTERS

EDITORIAL
5 Why I Believe in Planned Giving

FEATURE
8 A Two-Way Blessing
10 A Gift That Keeps on Giving
12 Caring Heart Award Winners
16 Northwest Adventist Schools

ACCION
20 La Palabra de Dios Nunca Vuelve Vacia

CONFERENCE NEWS
21 Alaska
22 Idaho
23 Montana
25 Oregon
29 Upper Columbia
34 Washington
37 Walla Walla University
38 Adventist Health
39 Northwest

42 FAMILY
46 ANNOUNCEMENTS
48 ADVERTISEMENTS

LET’S TALK
54 Spectators

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Wanted: A Few Good Lay Pastoral Couples

One of the most progressive ministries of the Northwest is the Indian and Eskimo Native work. Because of adventurous, hard-working pioneers in remote areas, Native membership has increased almost 1,000 percent in the last 16 years.

Today there is a huge need for lay pastoral workers to provide nurturing leadership to these small member-groups. You don't have to be a Billy Graham or have a college/seminary degree to do this. You simply have to know how to love people, lead out in Sabbath services, have a balanced understanding of the Adventist message and be loyal to God's church.

Remember, in this business God doesn't call the qualified but qualifies those who are called. Native culture has a tremendous respect for the gentle wisdom of elders who genuinely care and are constantly available. We need folk who can live within their retirement income, live in provided housing and get along on a limited expense budget for two to four years. It may not be luxury living, but we can guarantee your life will never be the same after serving these folk in these remote places.

We have three or four places that need somebody right away. One place is Queets, Wash., with the Quinault people, where we have a small group of wonderful Native members, a remodeled church building (pictured here) and a broken-down parsonage, which we now have finances to remodel.

We have three village churches in Alaska for those who might be a little more adventurous and resourceful, who can handle solitude and who don't have to make a trip to the mall everyday.

So this is our official “call” for help. If this touches a chord in your soul, we hope you will pray about it. Please give us a call and let us try to answer your questions.

Monte Church, North Pacific Union Conference, 503-880-5111
Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference, 907-346-1004

Letters

Beyond Belief Is Beyond Belief ...

The article entitled “It’s Beyond Belief,” June 2013, poses what I believe to be some grave problems. It states, “While relationships will always factor into any church member’s experience, a new study suggests a shifting landscape in which more and more people are leaving the Adventist Church primarily because they have changed their beliefs.” The “surveyors” invited 600 people to respond to a “survey” concerning more than a million members in North America and 15 million in the world. Of those 600, only 190, or 31.6 percent, responded. Of the respondents, 93, or 49 percent, said they left because of doctrinal differences. Nineteen responded that their own lifestyle was at variance, 10 percent. We need to avoid anything that would cause us to “jump to confusions.” This seems to be a less valid survey than if you asked me to send you a single strand of my hair to determine what color it was when I left high school. We need to continually guard our attitudes and beliefs, but we should not create false assumptions from flawed data, no matter how diligent or sincere those who produce it.

Newton States, Emmett, Idaho

... Or Maybe Not

Andy Nash’s article about members leaving over doctrine differences was excellent. If our 28 fundamental beliefs become our creed instead of the Bible alone, as we claim, we will see more departures from membership. The best quote of the article was, “As long as someone continues to prayerfully plumb the depths of Scripture, there should be room for them in this church.” Let our only creed be the Scriptures.

Mel MacPhee, Gresham, Ore.

Continued on page 47 ...
Why I Believe in Planned Giving

For almost 25 years I’ve had the privilege of working with my fellow church members in the planned giving and trust services departments for Oregon Conference and North Pacific Union Conference. It has been a joy to share time with our church families as they create estate plans and establish charitable gifts. Assisting families with the settling of estates has been a poignant and solemn responsibility for those of us in planned giving work. While each situation is unique, most families have common concerns as they seek to design financial support that will outlive them — for both their own family’s needs and for the church mission they love. Because of this, I wholeheartedly believe that planned giving and trust services can and should touch each of our church members.

We serve an awesome God, one who blesses those who love Him and those who don’t. As Jesus said, “For he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust” (Matthew 5:45, KJV). We have been showered with abundant blessings. But those of us who love Jesus recognize that each of these blessings comes with responsibilities and duties. We are stewards of those blessings, with the privilege and joy of their use while we’re living.

But what happens when we die? Will those blessings be treated as carefully, honestly or unselfishly? There is good news and an easy answer to that question. Each of us has the opportunity to direct how those blessings, the tangible property we own, can be used to bless our family and friends once our life on Earth is done. If we neglect this duty we have lost an opportunity to create a lasting legacy and avoid potential problems. Shouldn’t we attempt to make the best decision we can while that opportunity still exists?

The parable of the prodigal son graphically portrays an important reminder. Most families have individuals with varying degrees of financial responsibility. Planning your estate now with a will or revocable trust can provide management assistance for family members who are ill-equipped for assuming an inheritance. Taking this step now can turn a potential curse into a blessing.

Jesus provided us with a wonderful example of providing for our loved ones when He entrusted his mother, Mary, to His beloved disciple John. We have the ability to provide guardianship of our children by writing a will and appointing individuals we have confidence in, rather than someone a court might appoint. This solemn responsibility alone should motivate us to write a will today. Why would we wait any longer?

The opportunity we’ve been given of determining how God’s blessings will be distributed is one that many people avoid. Perhaps it’s a fear of the unpleasant thought of death that causes us to delay. Whatever the reason, we should remember that if we do not set up specific directions in a will or trust the proceeds from our estate may never benefit the Lord’s work. In contrast, I have seen gift plans established many years ago provide unexpected blessing to the work of our churches, schools, hospitals and other ministries, just when those resources are needed most. I like to call it “just in God’s time” stewardship because His timing is perfect. We all owe a heartfelt “thank you” to those who have gone before us and given their gifts.

As you read other stories and examples in this issue of the GLEANER, I hope you will be inspired to consider what God might want you to do with the blessings He has provided. Then I pray you will put those good intentions into God-directed action.

Kimberley Schroeder
North Pacific Union Conference
planned giving director
A wooded paradise and a Spirit-led intervention lead to a chain of blessings that is still growing.
At 92 years of age, one of our planned giving clients looks back over an adventuresome life to see clearly how God has led. She doesn’t want us to use her name. Why? Because this sweet lady attributes all her blessings to God and wants “Him to have all the glory.”

A vigorous youth included a stint as a bus steward on the route between Seattle, Washington, and Bozeman, Montana. During World War II she trained women to be shipyard crane operators. Six weeks after the December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor attack, she was married to a man who was, in her words, perfect for her. For a time they manned a lookout on the Columbia River for war defense. They loved the great outdoors and enjoyed picnics and hikes in the forest with church friends. One particular parcel became a favorite spot, and, when it became available for purchase, they decided to buy the 225 acres of timberland.

For 30 years they enjoyed this wooded paradise, building a home on a portion of the property. But it became readily apparent that the trees would need to be logged. They prayed that God would show them what to do and whom to contact.

Within a week a man called, saying he had made frequent flights over the property and would like to discuss purchasing the timbered property. Agreeing to a visit, the couple determined what their minimum sale price would be. They were shocked when he and his friends arrived and offered them more than three times what they expected.

A Spirit-Led Intervention

That’s when the Holy Spirit stepped in with a nagging feeling that couldn’t be ignored. Our trustor was impressed to call her accountant while the four men waited impatiently for an answer. Knowing of her interest in and support for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the accountant clarified issues of capital gains on the potential sale and encouraged her to instead consider a charitable remainder trust. So the couple wisely declined the man’s offer, believing that God had directed them to take a more thoughtful look at the transaction.

After several visits with planned giving personnel from the North Pacific Union Conference, a charitable remainder trust was created. In a short time the 225 acres were divided, allowing the couple to continue living in their home. And, in confirmation of God’s leading, the remaining timberland was sold for 50 percent more than what the men had offered for the total 225 acre parcel.

A Chain of Blessings

In fact, their decision led to a whole chain of blessings. This charitable remainder trust agreement provided monthly payments, and within just six years the couple had received in monthly payments what the original offer had been for the property. Although the husband passed away in 1998, the wife still receives her monthly payments and will continue to for the remainder of her life. When she dies, the remainder of the trust will benefit the Lord’s work, as she and her husband had designated when the trust was created.

Our trustor wants others to know that God is the giver of everything we have. This couple experienced the joy of partnering with God, and He continues to bless. Even though the husband joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church later in life, he had a desire to have a church in the small town where they lived. That dream became a reality through their gift of four acres of property on which a church was built. And the blessings continue for the trustor who has seen God work in growing that church through the years for His glory.

Kimberley Schroeder, North Pacific Union Conference planned giving director
A Two-Way Blessing

God uses long-forgotten decisions to advance His work today.

Departmental Director, please find attached the budget report for your department. This year, we find ourselves in a deficit ...” The email on my computer screen outlined difficult conference budget challenges mirroring larger global economics. Every ministry was asked to help shave expenses to the bone.

Thirty minutes after receiving that email, the phone rang, and Kimberley Schroeder, North Pacific Union Conference planned giving director, was on the line. "We are working on details and need your help with paperwork," she said, "but it appears that your conference is the recipient of a very large charitable gift annuity." In the conversation that followed, Kimberley outlined how a substantial gift, made more than a quarter-century before, had provided guaranteed lifetime income of more than $1 million to the donor (well more than was originally donated). And, through careful investment and good economic times, this gift had grown to more than $2 million that would be coming to the conference.
CGAs can be set up with as little as $5,000 and pay a set, guaranteed monthly or quarterly income based on age to one or two individuals for as long as they live, with the remainder going to the charity when the individuals pass away. The individual receives a tax deduction in the year the CGA is set up, and part of the income received is also free of income tax, based on life expectancy.

2 Not their real names.

3 If CLTs are funded with highly appreciated assets, the capital gains taxes may be significantly reduced or eliminated as well. And CLTs can also help in the reduction of estate and/or gift taxes and may yield a charitable deduction, depending on who ultimately receives the money.
A Gift That Keeps Giving

CROSS SCHOLARSHIP NURTURES FUTURE ENGINEERS

“If a cause is worthwhile, then it’s worth all you have.”
— Edward F. Cross

When it was suggested that Edward F. Cross try teaching his response was, “I wouldn’t teach for $50 a day!” That was in 1929. Eighteen years later he accepted George Bowers’ invitation to start an engineering program at Walla Walla University (WWU). He took the job, teaching for $49.50 a week.

Although it was a 50-percent salary loss, Cross had a firm conviction that the call was from the Lord. “Anything but a positive answer would place us in the same position as the rich young ruler,” said Cross. So in 1947 he left his job in New York to establish the first engineering program in Seventh-day Adventist education.

Serving as a faculty member for 32 years and as the head of the department for 27 years, Cross was an honorary doctor of engineering and professor emeritus of Walla Walla University. The school he founded has been renamed the Edward F. Cross School of Engineering. During his term, Cross supervised the preparation of plans for and construction of 10 campus buildings. More than 350 engineering majors graduated

Edward F. Cross Engineering Scholarship funds have aided WWU students for nearly 30 years.
under him. In spite of his abundant contributions, this dean emeritus for the School of Engineering said, “No one person could have built this program by himself.” He continually credited God, a loyal faculty and his wife, Helen, for sustaining him.

Cross died in 2002 and Helen in 1995. The Crosses made gifts to scholarships benefiting engineering students both during their lifetime and through their estate plan. Those scholarships have helped 93 students attend Walla Walla University over the last 27 years.

Students receiving scholarships at WWU, such as the Edward F. Cross Engineering Scholarship, are impacted significantly by the gifts of others. If it weren’t for this scholarship assistance, some would not be able to attend school.

Professor Cross’ foresight and generosity have made a significant impact on students through scholarships, allowing for them to benefit from a life-changing experience at WWU and serving others through the Engineers Without Borders program. Cross’ contributions are felt around the world through the impact of the ministry and work of the hundreds of engineers who were his students or received scholarship funds from his gifts.

Getting Started

Check out plannedgiving.npuc.org for more personal testimonies and a wills planning guide. You can set up your own private account for gathering personal information to share with your attorney to create a will or trust. Your local conference planned giving department can also assist you with your estate planning needs.

There are several ways you can provide a gift to a ministry:

• Simple bequest through your will or revocable trust: Your local conference can provide wording to your attorney for bequests to the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

• Charitable gift annuities: Our more senior members may like to discuss the potential benefits of a charitable gift annuity. Contact your local conference or the North Pacific Union Conference planned giving department.

• Other more complex gifts: Contact your local conference or the North Pacific Union Conference planned giving department.

Beyond Our Imagination

We grew up financially challenged, but we made a commitment early in life that continues to reap amazing blessings. Our choice, in spite of every other difficulty, was to put God’s work first.

Mel Rees, former General Conference stewardship director, and his emphasis on stewardship was an important inspiration for us. He convinced us that we were not placed on the earth to consume God’s resources but to manage them for His glory. There was nothing that predisposed us for investing in our church’s mission. We just couldn’t afford to spend money on things we really didn’t need.

Early on, while our children were still young, we worked with the Oregon Conference to draw up a will and trust agreement. We not only wanted our family to be provided for but also God’s work through the church we love.

And, while we’ve had to deal with financial reversals, amazing things have happened that convince us that God has truly been in control. Opportunities we could never have envisioned have been literally dropped into our laps. Years ago we purchased property overlooking the Columbia River Gorge, not realizing at the time that future technology would allow such locations to be lucratively leased for cell phone towers. We acquired another parcel of land that would later skyrocket in value when the Great Wolf Lodge was built next to it.

As we got more assets and adjusted our will, we gradually realized we had more and more that could be used for helping the church’s mission. And many opportunities have not only blessed that mission but provided additional blessings to us that we can in turn reinvest in the Lord’s work. Many of our rental properties throughout Idaho, Oregon and Washington have been given to the church as charitable remainder trusts. This provides tax savings for us and a wonderful resource for our churches and schools.

Because we were both blessed by Adventist education, we have earmarked proceeds from our planned giving arrangements to benefit financially needy students in our Northwest Adventist schools.

We have no prior experience or knowledge that would have prepared us for these blessings. We are far better off when we allow our Lord to provide opportunities we could never have imagined. And we’ve been blessed beyond our imagination.

Sam and Carol Smith, Woodland, Washington
Fourteen Northwest academy students were recipients of the $500 Caring Heart Award Scholarship made possible through three-way funding from the North Pacific Union Conference, local conferences and academies. Students were selected by their schools for exemplifying the spirit of the Caring Heart — a willingness to serve others. The North American Division provided each student with a plaque and an engraved Bible. The scholarships may be used toward tuition at an Adventist school or on a short-term mission trip.

**Bernice Lopez**

**CASCADE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

Bernice is a responsible student who shows a great deal of care toward all students. She has shown a particular interest in the international students, making sure they feel comfortable, checking if they need help with anything, and being friendly and inviting to all of them. Bernice is a wonderful part of the Cascade Christian Academy family.

**Lindsay Dawn Hill**

**AUBURN ADVENTIST ACADEMY**

Lindsay is a positive influence at Auburn. She is friendly, kind and loving to others.
Urijah Saenz

COLUMBIA ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Urijah has a huge, caring heart, and nobody who sees the smile on his face and the laughter in his eyes can avoid their contagion. His deep concern for others’ physical well-being is exemplified as he stops in the middle of a close soccer game to extend a helping hand to an opponent who has fallen on the field. His concerns for social and mental well-being are typified by his genuine question, “How are you doing today?” followed by, “Can I pray with you?” This last question denotes his ultimate care for others that goes beyond the physical and mental/social aspects and shows his care for the spiritual health of those with whom he comes in contact. Urijah uses his charisma, musical talents, and love for God and His people to be involved in helping wherever he can, from student Bible study groups to leading out in praise music and being involved in mission trips.

Sheann Brandon

GEM STATE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Sheann is involved as a leader in her student body. She is the junior class spiritual vice president and a residence hall resident assistant, has spoken for student week of prayer, is actively involved in music ministry and works at Idaho’s Camp Ida Haven in the summer. She is a positive and enthusiastic ambassador for her school.

Kyler Morgan

LIVINGSTONE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Kyler Morgan is one of those students who is involved in everything. He is a junior class officer, a song leader and a member of the drama team and is involved in every other program offered at Livingstone Adventist Academy. Kyler’s involvement extends to his church and community through his work with Pathfinders, where he is known for his positive leadership and hard work with the younger children.

Heidi Beckner

MILO ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Heidi’s four years at Milo have proven two things: She will be present as a class/school/group leader, and she will have a smile on her face. Service to others is more than commitment for Heidi; it’s her passion. She has participated in multiple mission trips and has been a summer volunteer for Boys & Girls Club, and the list goes on. Jesus’ example is her inspiration to serve, which she in turn has modeled to others.
Lucy Munoz

MOUNT ELLIS ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Lucy has been involved in Mount Ellis ministry class the past two years. She has taken a leadership role in planning weeks of prayer, vespers programs and church services. She is relentlessly encouraging in her interactions with other students. She takes new students under her wing, making them feel a part of the school community from day one.

Staci Lindgren

ORCAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Staci has been involved in service each year that she has been at Orcas Christian School, through community service, school mission trips, mission trips outside of school, student government and peer-to-peer service. Staci helps other Orcas students through tutoring and fundraising for mission trips. Staci has a huge heart.

Carmella Rosu

PORTLAND ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Carmella Rosu is a creative, original thinker and has been involved in many independent projects outside of the classroom. She has a strong personal commitment and interest in the community and developing countries. She has traveled to Guatemala and Romania on mission trips. Both of these experiences have made a large impact on her decision to pursue a career in which she can work with people using her social and language skills.

Tabitha Lee

PUGET SOUND ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Tabitha is passionate about service to others and finds it to be a real joy to her soul. She particularly enjoyed the opportunity to serve in India with a medical team last summer, where she also helped to lead a Vacation Bible School program for the local children. This year she joined other junior and senior students on a mission trip to build a church in Fiji. Along with her school and church families, Tabitha has participated in area outreach to nursing homes and homeless people and in church leadership.
Megan Weems
ROGUE VALLEY ADVENTIST ACADEMY
Megan began high school unsure of her school choice or who she was. After she struggled through her freshman year, she began to realize she needed to make some changes. Megan has found that she is at her best when she is doing something for others. She spearheaded a project to help children overseas and has been a fearless leader for her fellow classmates. Megan rounded out her senior year by successfully participating in a local community event.

Jimmy Jordan
SKAGIT ADVENTIST ACADEMY
Serving others is evident by Jimmy Jordan’s desire to participate in mission trips. Jimmy has had the opportunity to do construction and medical work in Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Kenya and, most recently, Fiji, where he was able to support a medical team that did cataract surgeries. The principal of the Adventist school in Fiji witnessed Jimmy’s ability to make friends with the students and asked him to come back and teach English at the school. Jimmy is looking forward to returning to Kenya this summer to help build a cafeteria at an orphanage in Maasai Mara.

David Jacobus
UPPER COLUMBIA ADVENTIST ACADEMY
David has served as class president his freshman and junior years, and he is active in music and mission trips. He went to India his senior year, where he helped to preach an evangelistic series. David exemplifies servant leadership on a daily basis. David’s teachers describe him as a positive, hard worker who gives above and beyond. Determined to be serious about his role in his class his senior year, David organized TLC (The Life Committee), which is comprised of students in leadership positions from all classes with a goal “to uplift God in a way that honors Him and encourages the student body to grow in their faith.” David is a godly example to his peers and truly has a caring heart.

Kailee Croft
WALLA WALLA VALLEY ACADEMY
Kailee consistently shows concern for those around her. Whether she is involved with community service or just being a support to a fellow student who is having a bad day, she demonstrates a true caring heart for others.
All Seventh-day Adventist schools in the North Pacific Union Conference, including Walla Walla University, admit students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school and make no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs.
### ALASKA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

**6100 O’Malley Rd · Anchorage, AK 99507 · (907) 346-1004**

Superintendent – Laurie Hosey

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<td>Amazing Grace Academy</td>
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<td>Nickie Romine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sitka Adventist School</td>
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<td>(907) 747-8855</td>
<td>Kallie Adams</td>
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**7777 Fairview Ave · Boise, ID 83704 · (208) 375-7524**

Superintendent – Patrick Frey

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<td>Treasure Valley Adventist School</td>
<td>509 1/2 S 9th St (PO Box 396), Payette, ID 83661</td>
<td>(208) 642-2410</td>
<td>Valerie Iwasa</td>
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### MONTANA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

**175 Canyon View Rd · Bozeman, MT 59715 · (406) 587-3101**

Superintendent – Phil Hudema

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Ellis Academy</td>
<td>3641 Bozeman Trail Rd, Bozeman, MT 59715</td>
<td>(406) 587-5178</td>
<td>Bruce Lane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blodgett View Christian School</td>
<td>119 Westbridge Rd, Hamilton, MT 59840</td>
<td>(406) 363-0575</td>
<td>Laura Boldman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Acres Christian School</td>
<td>3204 Broadwater Ave, Billings, MT 59102</td>
<td>(406) 652-1799</td>
<td>Autumn Paskell</td>
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<td>Five Falls Christian School</td>
<td>2930 Flood Rd, Great Falls, MT 59404</td>
<td>(406) 452-6883</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glacier View Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>36332 Mud Creek Lane, Ronan, MT 59864</td>
<td>(406) 676-5142</td>
<td>Karen Sharpe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helena Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>2410 Belt View Dr, Helena, MT 59601</td>
<td>(406) 465-6451</td>
<td>Arlene Lambert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highland View Christian School</td>
<td>2504 Grand Ave, Butte, MT 59701</td>
<td>(406) 221-7044</td>
<td>Kathy Edwards</td>
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<td>Libby Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>206 Airfield Rd, Libby, MT 59923</td>
<td>(406) 293-8613</td>
<td>Cathy Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Ellis Adventist Elementary School</td>
<td>3835 Bozeman Trail Rd, Bozeman, MT 59715</td>
<td>(406) 587-5430</td>
<td>Ric Peinado</td>
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<td>Mountain View Adventist School</td>
<td>1010 Clements Rd, Missoula, MT 59804</td>
<td>(406) 543-6223</td>
<td>Jared Meharry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trout Creek Adventist School</td>
<td>3020 Montana Highway 200, Trout Creek, MT 59874</td>
<td>(406) 827-3099</td>
<td>Brian Iseminger</td>
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<td>Valley Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>1275 Helena Flats Rd, Kalispell, MT 59901</td>
<td>(406) 752-0830</td>
<td>Ben Pflugrad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valley View Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>264 Hwy 200 S, Glendive, MT 59330</td>
<td>(406) 687-3472</td>
<td>Sharon Pitcher</td>
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## Northwest Adventist Schools

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<tr>
<td>Columbia Adventist Academy</td>
<td>11100 NE 189th St, Battle Ground, WA 98604</td>
<td>(360) 687-3161</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln City Adventist School</td>
<td>2126 NE Surf Ave, Lincoln City, OR 97367</td>
<td>(541) 994-5181</td>
<td>Ed Hollister</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livingstone Adventist Academy</td>
<td>5771 Fruitland Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301</td>
<td>(503) 363-9408</td>
<td>Trevor Kendall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milo Adventist Academy</td>
<td>324 Milo Dr (PO Box 278), Days Creek, OR 97429</td>
<td>(541) 825-3200</td>
<td>Randy Thornton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portland Adventist Academy</td>
<td>1500 SE 96th Ave, Portland, OR 97216</td>
<td>(503) 255-8372</td>
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<td>Rogue Valley Adventist Academy</td>
<td>3675 S Stage Rd, Medford, OR 97501</td>
<td>(541) 773-2988</td>
<td>Ann Campbell</td>
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<td>Canyonville Adventist Elementary School</td>
<td>712 NW Frontage Rd (PO Box 1155), Canyonville, OR 97417</td>
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<td>31630 Highway 34, Tangent, OR 97389</td>
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<td>Countryside Christian School</td>
<td>88401 Huston Rd, Veneta, OR 97487</td>
<td>(541) 935-6446</td>
<td>Rita Callahan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerald Christian Academy</td>
<td>35582 Zephyr Way, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455</td>
<td>(541) 746-1708</td>
<td>Sheldon Eakins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold Coast Christian School</td>
<td>2175 Newmark Ave, North Bend, OR 97420</td>
<td>(541) 756-7413</td>
<td>Peggy Fisher</td>
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<td>Grants Pass Adventist School</td>
<td>2250 NW Heidi Ln, Grants Pass, OR 97326</td>
<td>(541) 479-2293</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hood View Junior Academy</td>
<td>26505 SE Kelso Rd (PO Box 128), Boring, OR 97009</td>
<td>(503) 663-4568</td>
<td>Brian Gang</td>
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<td>Kelso-Longview Adventist School</td>
<td>96 Garden St, Kelso, WA 98626</td>
<td>(541) 423-9250</td>
<td>Joel Bennett</td>
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<td>Klamath Falls Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>2499 Main St, Klamath Falls, OR 97601</td>
<td>(541) 882-4151</td>
<td>Roberta Crenshaw</td>
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<td>Madrone Adventist School</td>
<td>4300 Holland Loop Rd, Cave Junction, OR 97523</td>
<td>(541) 922-3317</td>
<td>Amy Whitchurch</td>
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<td>McMinnville Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>1349 NW Elm St, McMinnville, OR 97128</td>
<td>(503) 472-3353</td>
<td>Dallas Melashenko</td>
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<td>Meadow Glade Adventist Elementary School</td>
<td>18717 NE 109th Ave, Battle Ground, WA 98604</td>
<td>(503) 687-5121</td>
<td>Brian Allison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Columbia Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>1100 22nd St, Hood River, OR 97031</td>
<td>(541) 386-3187</td>
<td>Peter Hardy</td>
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<td>Milo Adventist Elementary School</td>
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<td>(541) 825-3514</td>
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<td>Portland Adventist Elementary</td>
<td>3990 NW 1st St, Gresham, OR 97030</td>
<td>(503) 665-4102</td>
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<td>Rivergate Adventist Elementary School</td>
<td>1505 Ohlson Rd, Gladstone, OR 97027</td>
<td>(503) 656-0544</td>
<td>Chris Tait</td>
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<td>Riverside Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>463 N Shepherd Rd (PO Box 367), Washougal, WA 98671</td>
<td>(360) 835-5600</td>
<td>Heidi Kruger</td>
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<td>Roseburg Junior Academy</td>
<td>1653 NW Troost St, Roseburg, OR 97471</td>
<td>(541) 673-5278</td>
<td>Dan Wilbanks</td>
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<td>Scappoose Adventist School</td>
<td>54287 Columbia River Hwy (PO Box 889), Scappoose, OR 97056</td>
<td>(503) 543-6939</td>
<td>Angela White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shady Point Adventist School</td>
<td>14611 Hwy 62 (PO Box 216), Eagle Point, OR 97524</td>
<td>(541) 826-2255</td>
<td>Connally Alred</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonshine Christian School</td>
<td>4445 Highway 101, PO Box 3000 Florence OR 97439</td>
<td>(541) 997-3951</td>
<td>Leisa Buller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sutherlin Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>641 West Central Ave, Sutherlin, OR 97479</td>
<td>(541) 459-9940</td>
<td>Dianna Mohr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three Sisters Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>21155 Tumalo Rd, Bend, OR 97701</td>
<td>(541) 389-2091</td>
<td>Jenny Neil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tillamook Adventist School</td>
<td>4300 12th St, Tillamook, OR 97141</td>
<td>(503) 542-6533</td>
<td>Hector Alvarez Jr.</td>
<td>K–9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tualatin Valley Academy</td>
<td>21975 SW Baseline Rd, Hillsboro, OR 97123</td>
<td>(503) 649-5518</td>
<td>Charla Suppé</td>
<td>K–10</td>
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**Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.**  

**PSALM 34:11**
## Northwest Adventist Schools

### Upper Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cascade Christian Academy</td>
<td>600 N Western Ave, Wenatchee, WA 98801</td>
<td>(509) 662-2723</td>
<td>Stephanie Gates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Columbia Academy</td>
<td>3025 E Spangle-Waverly Rd, Spangle, WA 99031</td>
<td>(509) 243-3600</td>
<td>John Winslow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walla Walla Academy</td>
<td>300 SW Academy Way, College Place, WA 99324</td>
<td>(509) 525-1050</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beacon Christian School</td>
<td>615 Stewart Ave, Lewiston, ID 83530</td>
<td>(208) 743-8361</td>
<td>Richard Rasmussen</td>
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<td>Breuer Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>115 Valley Rd, Breuer, WA 98812</td>
<td>(509) 689-3213</td>
<td>Gordon Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colville Valley Adventist School</td>
<td>139 E Cedar Loop, Colville, WA 99114</td>
<td>(509) 684-6830</td>
<td>June Graham</td>
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<td>Cornerstone Christian School</td>
<td>513357 Hwy 95 (PO Box 1877), Bonners Ferry, ID 83050</td>
<td>(208) 267-1644</td>
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<td>Countryside Adventist Elementary School</td>
<td>12109 W Seven Mile Rd, Spokane, WA 99224</td>
<td>(509) 466-8982</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crestview Christian School</td>
<td>1601 W Valley Rd, Moses Lake, WA 98837</td>
<td>(509) 765-4632</td>
<td>Melissa Wallen</td>
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<td>Goldendale Adventist School</td>
<td>47 Bickleton Hwy (PO Box 241), Goldendale, WA 98620</td>
<td>(509) 773-3120</td>
<td>Carrie Ferguson</td>
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<td>Grandview Adventist School</td>
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<td>(509) 882-3817</td>
<td>Richard Peterson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harris Junior Academy</td>
<td>3121 SW Hailey Ave, Pendleton, OR 97801</td>
<td>(541) 276-0615</td>
<td>Henry Buursma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hermiston Junior Academy</td>
<td>1300 NW Academy Ln, Hermiston, OR 97838</td>
<td>(541) 567-8523</td>
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<td>Lake City Junior Academy</td>
<td>111 E Locust Ave, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814</td>
<td>(208) 667-0877</td>
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<td>Milton-Stateline Adventist School</td>
<td>53965 W Crockett Rd, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862</td>
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<td>Omak Adventist Christian School</td>
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<td>Palouse Hills Christian School</td>
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<td>Peaceful Valley Christian School</td>
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<td>Pend Oreille Valley Adventist School</td>
<td>33820 Highway 41 #D, PO Box 1062 Tonasket WA 98855</td>
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<td>Rogers Adventist School</td>
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<td>(509) 529-1850</td>
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<td>Sandpoint Junior Academy</td>
<td>2255 W Pine St, Sandpoint, ID 83864</td>
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<td>Spokane Valley Adventist School</td>
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<td>Tri-City Junior Academy</td>
<td>4115 W Henry St, Pasco, WA 99301</td>
<td>(509) 547-8092</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Columbia Academy Elementary</td>
<td>3025 E Spangle-Waverly Rd, Spangle, WA 99031</td>
<td>(509) 245-3629</td>
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<td>Yakima Adventist School</td>
<td>1200 City Reservoir Rd, Yakima, WA 98908</td>
<td>(509) 966-1933</td>
<td>Renae Young</td>
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### Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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<td>Orcas Christian School</td>
<td>107 Enchanted Forest Rd (PO Box 669), Eastsound, WA 98245</td>
<td>(360) 376-6683</td>
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<td>Puget Sound Adventist Academy</td>
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<td>(425) 822-7554</td>
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<td>Skagit Adventist Academy</td>
<td>530 N Section St, Burlington, WA 98233</td>
<td>(360) 755-9261</td>
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<td>Baker View Christian School</td>
<td>5333 Waschke Rd, Bellingham, WA 98226</td>
<td>(360) 384-8155</td>
<td>Keith Lindsey</td>
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<td>Buena Vista Adventist Elementary School</td>
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<td>Cedarbrook Adventist Christian School</td>
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<td>(360) 385-4610</td>
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<td>Forest Park Adventist Christian School</td>
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<td>(425) 258-6911</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grays Harbor Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>1216 US Highway 12, Montesano, WA 98363</td>
<td>(360) 249-1115</td>
<td>Adria Hay</td>
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<td>Kirkland Adventist School</td>
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<td>Kitsap Adventist Christian School</td>
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<td>(360) 377-4542</td>
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<td>Lewis County Adventist School</td>
<td>2104 S Scheuer Rd, Chehalis, WA 98532</td>
<td>(360) 748-3213</td>
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<td>Mountain View Christian School</td>
<td>255 Medsker Rd, Sequim, WA 98382</td>
<td>(360) 683-6170</td>
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<td>Northwest Christian School</td>
<td>904 Shaw Rd, Puyallup, WA 98372</td>
<td>(253) 845-5722</td>
<td>Craig Mattson</td>
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<td>Olympia Christian School</td>
<td>1215 Ethel St NW, Olympia, WA 98502</td>
<td>(360) 352-1831</td>
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<td>Poulabo Adventist School</td>
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<td>Shelton Valley Christian School</td>
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<td>Sky Valley Adventist School</td>
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<td>Whidbey Christian Elementary School</td>
<td>31830 SR 20, Oak Harbor, WA 98277</td>
<td>(360) 279-1812</td>
<td>Brian Schurich</td>
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**August 2013 • Gleaner**
Puede parecer simple, pero trabajar con nuevos conversos e invitarlos a seguir a Jesús no es tarea fácil. En diciembre del 2008 al llegar a un nuevo distrito, conocí muy de cerca a una pareja de visitantes, Gisel y Lalo, ellos habían estado visitando la iglesia por un buen tiempo y para mi sorpresa, cada vez que había campañas de evangelismo y se extendía un llamado para el bautismo, no respondían, sin embargo nunca perdí la esperanza que un día lo hicieran. Pasaron los meses, mientras tanto ellos asistían a los cultos regularmente y a muchas de las actividades de la iglesia, pero no tomaban su decisión. Era un tanto frustrante para mí pues deseaba que se decidieran. Así que, para beneficio de ellos y de otros miembros, comenzamos un grupo pequeño.

El 2012 estaba por terminar, y en vista de la indecisión de esta pareja, un día me acerqué y les dije, “Quisiera sugerirles el 26 de enero del 2013, para que puedan bautizarse. ¿Qué les parece?” La biblia tiene razón cuando dice “... fuérzalos a entrar” (Lucas 14:23). Por un momento me sentí muy atrevido por haberles sugerido tal compromiso sin que ellos decidieran por sí mismos.

¡me imagino como se habrán sentido ellos! No estaba en mis planes hacerlo, pero funcionó, pues me dijeron rápidamente que sí.

Los días pasaron y mientras tanto, el enemigo había hecho su obra, pues entraron en la indecisión. Todos orábamos intensamente por ellos. El gran día se acercaba y por fin, dos días antes, recibimos la buena noticia que finalmente se bautizarían y que esta vez no habría paso atrás. ¡Qué alegría sentimos! Dios había contestado las oraciones de ver a Gisel y Lalo entregar sus vidas a Jesús por medio del bautismo.

Si estas apunto de rendirte y de dejar de luchar con la persona que Dios puso en tu camino para llevar a sus pies, ¡no lo hagas!, no pierdas la fe. Renueva tus energías y que tu entusiasmo no se acabe. La Biblia tiene hermosas promesas para ti. “Irán andando y llorando el que lleva la preciosa semilla, mas volverán con regocijo” (Salmo 126:6). Te invito a que te conviertas en un discípulo para el Maestro, y no dejes que transcurra otro año más sin que puedas traer a un amigo a los pies de Jesús, pues El viene muy pronto.

Felix Maijub, el pastor de la Iglesia Hispana de Central Valley en Upper Columbia Conference
Manokotak Evangelism Yields Surprise Harvest

After years of spreading the Three Angels’ Message through friendship evangelism in the Alaskan village of Manokotak, there suddenly was a wonderful harvest of nine souls for Manokotak, plus one for nearby Dillingham.

As Ric Swaningson, Adventist World Aviation (AWA) president, was planning a trip to observe AWA’s field operations in Alaska, he offered to use his other talent, that of evangelist, if a suitable location could be found. AWA operates two aircraft in Alaska, one in the Kotzebue/Kobuk/Selawik region and the other in the Bristol Bay region.

Seeing this as a unique opportunity, local pastor Wendell Downs arranged for meetings to be held in Manokotak using the AWA-sponsored aircraft.

The Lord was already preparing the way, having sent a public school teacher with an Adventist background to Manokotak during the 2012–13 school year. When a request was made to rent a school room for the two-week, three-weekend series, Jason Todd, the kindergarten teacher, happily agreed with the school administration to sponsor the event.

Through these meetings, seven people answered the call to follow Jesus. In addition, Rhonda and Edward Nick, who had both been previously baptized, renewed their commitment to Christ and asked for rebaptism.

The biggest current need for AWA in the Bristol Bay region of Alaska is to help retire the $50,000 debt on the AWA hangar in Dillingham, which provides a place to keep the AWA Cessna 172 Hawk XP maintained and safe from the violent winds that blow through the region.

Wendell Downs, Aleknagik/Dillingham/Togiak churches pastor

Adventist Expo Capitalizes on Crab Festival

Jagged peaks, fjord-like bays and wide U-shaped valleys left by glacial retreat form an environment that can be harsh and unrelenting, but for those who love Kodiak, it is simply a reminder that nature is in charge; lives and livelihoods must adapt. The reward is a unique lifestyle in an island paradise.

A close-knit group of Adventist believers think that a celebration of spring on the Emerald Islands of Alaska, the Kodiak Crab Festival, is the perfect opportunity to share the benefits of a plant-based diet and other healthy options being overlooked by this coastal community. Having the Adventist Health Expo booth as part of the festival serves as the one-stop shop that provides all the necessary information of a healthy life choice to festival participants.

Health Education Resources, Adventist Book Center and Vibrant Life provided all the health media materials for the booth. Volunteers from the U.S. Coast Guard participated by taking blood pressure and assisting visitors. Guillermo Gucilatar, a retired pastor from San Bernardino, Calif., led the volunteers in serving visitors, who picked health media materials of interest to them.

The Adventist health message is the entering wedge to people’s homes. Jesus said, “I have come that they may have full life” (John 10:10); let us help them to have it in full.

In addition to supporting the Health Expo booth, the Kodiak Church operates a low-power AM transmitter broadcasting Hope/LifeTalk radio and another low-power FM station in Bells Flats on the Kodiak Islands.

Ephraim Palmero, Alaska Conference health ministries director
Small School Makes Big Impact

This spring the seventh- and eighth-grade class of Boise Valley Adventist School embarked on an adventure known as Project Impact, which gets students involved with local nonprofit organizations. “This experience promoted teamwork and allowed students to strengthen their understanding of service to God by helping their fellow man,” states Tom Sherwood, seventh- and eighth-grade teacher.

Area pastors, church members, school staff and parents chaperoned students on their mission, which impacted organizations such as the Idaho Food Bank, Boise Rescue Mission and the Christian Children’s Ranch. Sherwood notes, “Exposure to these organizations provided a window into the need so many families experience on a daily basis and spurred a deeper sense of compassion for others.”

Project Impact was revered as one of the greatest memories and experiences of the year. “Hard labor is tiring, but when you do it to help someone else it’s easier to keep going,” one student says.

Another student adds, “I had no idea so many kids in Idaho went hungry. It felt great to feed so many of them.” In all, the students left a positive impact on hundreds of people in their community throughout the week.

Project Impact not only benefits the local community but impacts the students as well, as they witness the fruits of their actions and God’s blessing on the whole experience. Because of the positive response from both the students and the organizations, it’s a mission Sherwood plans to incorporate more frequently in the future.

Melanie Lawson, Boise Valley Adventist School teacher

‘Snuggle Bags’ Support Eagle Police Efforts

Edie Taylor and Shari Preszler head up a group of four ladies who have a great philosophy about life, community and children. Betty Anderson and Geri Parks join these friends, and the four of them spend “very enjoyable and talkative time together” working on different projects for the community of Eagle, Idaho.

Recently they created “snuggle bags” for the Eagle Police to share with children in their times of need. The soft fleece tote bags each contain a comforting stuffed animal, a fleece throw, a warm cap, gloves and even a pair of socks. “These bags are nice,” says Sergeant Olsen. “I can see kids using them for all kinds of things in years to come.”

The enthusiasm of these ladies from the Eagle Church and the sparkle in those eyes bring smiles as they describe how they are always looking for new projects to help their community. They believe they are “improving themselves, not just the community.” They often involve children in their projects, “teaching them to give, not just take,” says Taylor.

These ladies say they make an ongoing effort to discern where they can be of service in the Eagle community; they are always happy to help children and any family in need. Thoughtful acts like this remind the Eagle Police that they have partners in helping keep their community safe and strong.

Debra Zastrow, Eagle Police Department administrative assistant
Montana Leadership Looks to the Future

At the Montana Conference constituency session held June 16 at Mount Ellis Academy (MEA) in Bozeman, 223 registered delegates elected Merlin Knowles, president; Sharon Staddon, vice president for administration and finance; Barry Taylor, ministerial, church ministries, and planned giving and trust services director; and Phil Hudema, education, youth, communication and health director. This team will address the opportunities and challenges of the next four-year term with two relatively new members. Staddon has been "on the job" for just a few months, coming from the Alaska Conference to replace Ray Jimenez, who took a position with the General Conference, while Hudema has just made the transition from his most recent educational role in Southern California.

Knowles’ report to the delegates highlighted a membership of more than 4,000 for the first time. While tithe has recently been slightly down, conference working capital is 133 percent of the recommended level, with healthy reserves. Under Knowles’ leadership the conference has approved several innovative thrusts, including a pilot project initiated in 2012 by Alan Newbold to reach young adults on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman. If this effort proves successful and funding remains available, it may expand to other campuses.

Montana Adventist schools, even including several remote facilities, have gained 65 students during the past two years. MEA continues to be a model around the North American Division for operating a small secondary school successfully. With long-time principal Darren Wilkins leaving for other responsibilities, the academy faces important decisions on how to proceed with its master plan. Session delegates approved a plan to deed four acres of land on the southwest corner of school property to the local volunteer fire department. The school will in turn take ownership of the fire department buildings currently located on the campus.

This year’s constituency session came on the heels of a vibrant camp meeting. Featured speaker Dick Duerksen, from Maranatha Volunteers International, captivated the audience each night with scriptural stories and lessons — all centered on the camp meeting theme, “It’s All About Jesus.”

Featured camp meeting speaker Dick Duerksen, of Maranatha International, shares the powerful story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath during Saturday evening’s program.

Newly elected Montana leaders include (from left): Phil Hudema, education, youth, communication and health director; Merlin Knowles, president; Barry Taylor, ministerial, church ministries, and planned giving and trust services director; and Sharon Staddon, vice president for administration and finance.

More than 220 Montana Conference delegates, representing churches and members from across the state, raise their voting cards to register a “yea” vote on an important issue.

Featured camp meeting speaker Dick Duerksen, from Maranatha Volunteers International, captivated the audience each night with scriptural stories and lessons — all centered on the camp meeting theme, “It’s All About Jesus.”
Several months ago, the Montana Men’s Summit committee was in the process of planning the Men’s Summit weekend to be held at Mount Ellis Academy in Bozeman Sept. 27–29. During the summit, men from out of town bunk in the former girls’ dorm, and the worship room in that building is used for the Friday evening and Sunday morning meetings.

The worship room had not been updated in 40–50 years and needed a lot of help. Barry Taylor suggested what others had been thinking, that the men’s ministries group take on the project of renovating the worship room. Other groups also use the room at times. The lighting was poor, window drapery rods were worn out, dark wood paneling was dated, and unused hot water pipes and the pipe chase cluttered the ceiling/wall intersection on two sides.

The call went out for volunteers to help with the work and donations for materials. Eric Beavon donated two weeks of labor, and the old heat pipes are gone and the ceiling and walls repaired. Ray Wheeling and his academy maintenance crew replaced the paneling with Sheetrock. Don Dixson provided lighting for less than cost, and others installed the lights while another group painted the room.

New window treatments were installed graduation weekend. Several generous donors covered the cost of materials, and the project is complete and paid for. The goal to have the room ready by June 12 for the junior division at camp meeting was met thanks to the generosity of those who donated time and money.

Men enjoy working together and seeing a tangible result of their effort. The group’s next projects are to work on the Fort Belknap Church during Sept. 13–22, and reroof the Big Timber Church Sept. 29–31. Interested volunteers may contact Leo Beardsley at 406-265-2901, Phillip Neuharth at 406-262-3200 or Rollin Hixson at 406-600-0194 for further information about how to be a blessing and receive a blessing.

Leo Beardsley, Havre Church head elder

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LEO BEARDSLEY

LEO BEARDSLEY
The Dalles Puts Passion Into Action

A desire to literally put into action God’s call to share His story of love and salvation brought The Dalles, Ore., area churches together in 1979 to beautifully orchestrate the play *The Last Days of Jesus*, and it continues to this day.

Each year the production starts on the Thursday night before Easter, dramatizing the Last Supper and the Garden of Gethsemane. Friday night the audience returns for the trial of Jesus, His crucifixion and His burial. Finally, Sunday morning the crowd gathers one last time to celebrate His resurrection.

Some actors play the same parts for years, while other roles are filled with new people, but the message of Christ's sacrifice and salvation is always the same.

This year the audience hit record numbers. For many families, *The Last Days of Jesus* is an annual part of their Easter weekend. For others, it was their first visit. One of this year’s many blessings was when a little girl approached “Peter” and asked him to pray for her grandfather, who was sick with cancer.

Seven of The Dalles Church’s members played roles this year, from Roman and temple guards to weeping women, Mary Magdalene, John the Beloved and Peter. “All my life, I thought I knew Peter, but until I actually played the role and put myself in his position, making those hard decisions and fighting human nature, I didn't really understand Peter,” explains Todd Dull, who portrayed the disciple.

“It didn't really hit me that I was part of the portrayal of a real event until I shook people's hands after the resurrection scene and told the people that 'Jesus is alive.' I can't describe the looks on people's faces, from the children to the elderly,” says Janie Cox, who played Mary Magdalene.

The Dalles Church also sponsored a prayer walk held that Sabbath, during which both cast and audience members walked from site to site and talked about the meaning of each part of the Easter story. They also prayed for all involved in the production, especially those who came to hear its message.

The whole community gets behind the effort, from fund-raising, advertising and allowing the use of city landmarks to the city police blocking streets and directing traffic. The cast and crew work diligently, both up front and behind the scenes. This common goal unites not only an assembly of area churches but inspires community and citywide cooperation and participation.

Renée Dull, The Dalles Church member

During the weekend program featuring The Dalles Church members, community members come forward asking for prayer.

The Dalles Church members participate in the annual citywide production of *The Last Days of Jesus*. 
New East Salem Pastor Jumps Right In

Moving cross-country to join a new congregation is a considerable challenge for any new pastor. When Ron du Preez and his wife, Lynda, answered the call to lead the East Salem Church, they embraced their duties even sooner than expected despite the challenges that created.

During the du Preezes’ initial visit with the general congregation, tragedy struck as a member was killed in an automobile accident. Without hesitation Ron and Lynda embraced their duties, even as their household remained unpacked in Michigan.

When another member also passed away suddenly and as Lynda’s health took a turn that required hospitalization, the du Preezes extended their visit and joined Steve Lemke, East Salem Church youth pastor, to comfort and spiritually lead their new congregation.

Ron du Preez has a secret. He’s a runner, and he hit the ground running, as is his custom. After completing the move to Salem, Ron began promoting his Witness to Fitness ministry by jumping right into helping the Pathfinders raise funds for their Oshkosh, Wis., trip. Ron took pledges as he made plans to run in the Eugene Marathon. To sweeten the deal, Ron asked donors to double their gifts if his Eugene finish time qualified him for the Boston Marathon.

With only two weeks of serious training, Ron not only finished the run but also qualified for Boston and raised more than $3,000 for the Pathfinders.

With warmth, compassion, love and not a little sweat, Ron and Lynda du Preez have quickly been embraced into the heart of the East Salem Church family.

Martin C. Risby, East Salem Church communication leader

Ron du Preez (right), East Salem Church pastor, completes the 2013 Eugene Marathon along with church member Micaiah Kuzma.

PAA Legacy Staff Members Retire

Legacies were left by three recently retired Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) staff members who served the school 22, 25 and 27 years respectively.

They exemplified the school’s motto: “Christ Centered, Character Driven.”

Kathy Rey was part of PAA for 27 years. She began as the administrative assistant and eventually became the school registrar, a role in which her attention to detail shined. Her meticulous record keeping and communication with colleges and universities were vital to the success of PAA students. Her genuine care for fellow staff members and students was a reflection of Christ.

During Lynda Logan’s 25 years at PAA, she founded the career center, coordinated class offerings and schedules, and served as academic vice principal, school counselor, Spanish teacher and translator. Logan’s career in Adventist education spanned 34 years, including six years as a missionary in South America with her husband, Lloyd, and their children. Logan was known for encouraging students to persevere, set big goals and seek Christ in all they do.

Terry Verlo served PAA for 22 of his 41 years of teaching. He led the PAA science department as chairman and taught thousands of students about God’s creation through biology, chemistry and college-level science courses. Verlo developed advanced curriculum and brought cutting-edge equipment and learning tools to the science lab. He was also the founding president for the Adventist Science Educators Association and has been the recipient of many teaching excellence awards.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent
Emerald Academy Hosts Track Meet

With a Purpose

When Ron and Kristina Holliday and their three children showed up at Emerald Christian Academy in Pleasant Hill on May 5 for the school track meet, they knew that local church families came not only to cheer the students at their events but to help raise money for their own family to attend Lighthouse Family Retreat in Florida, a summer camp designed for families dealing with pediatric cancer.

For three hours students, teachers, parents and volunteers enjoyed activities such as relay races, sprints and jumping events, as well as the shot put, discus and javelin throw. After the activities, families and runners gathered on the track in the 85-degree weather to start the 5K fundraiser race.

Organizer Andrea Mittleider was nervous that there wouldn't be many participants because of the temperature, but 30 people braved the heat and raised more than $700 to give a much-needed vacation to the Holliday family, whose youngest member, Audrianna, was diagnosed with cancer at 18 months old.

"Since March of 2012, our lives have been saturated with doctor visits and chemotherapy," says Kristina Holliday. "Our family has been strained to the max, and we've all suffered emotionally to a certain degree. But we never let go of our faith in God and never questioned His goodness. He was with us in the storm, and this experience has brought us closer to Him."

The 5K racers were happy to donate their race fees and complete the race knowing it gave the community another opportunity to help the Holliday family. Becky Smith, mother of an Emerald second-grader, says, "It felt good knowing that my family could help another family who needs to make happy memories after enduring some very trying times."

Serena Liu, Springfield Church member

Food For Folks Ministers to Sandy

More than three years ago, in April 2010, a new ministry was started at the Sandy Church that continues to this day. Food For Folks has served more than 165 tasty vegetarian meals for almost 40 months. This Tuesday night meal is open to any in the community who need a good, fresh, home-cooked meal, which includes a home-cooked dessert.

The first night, 18 guests arrived to enjoy the meal. Today 28–35 guests are served by eight or nine faithful volunteers. The doors open at 5 p.m. for the 6 p.m. meal so guests and church members can socialize and enjoy a hot or cold drink prior to the meal.

A table offers guests a variety of free items, from clothing and blankets to toiletries and food. The Portland Food Bank helps supply the food, and teams of volunteers pick up food, cook the meals, serve and clean up.

The Sandy Church is also beginning a community garden, which has been readied for those in the community who need a place to grow their own fresh food. Both organic and traditional space is available.

More volunteers are welcome to join the Sandy Church members in these ministries.

Veronica Crockett, Sandy Church communication leader
I’ve known since I began high school that I wanted to become a missionary. Soon I decided that nursing was what I wanted to pursue. All through my high school years I prayed hard and went on a mission trip each year. Finally, toward the end of my junior year, through Milo Adventist Academy’s administration building doors walked an amazing opportunity by the name of Paulette Helsley, a certified nursing assistant (CNA) instructor from the local community college.

She explained that the college runs a special program for a small number of high school students interested in taking a CNA class. These students receive training tuition-free. For me, it was an answer to prayer that came just in time for my senior year. I signed up as soon as possible.

The training began in the classroom in the fall and was followed by clinicals in the spring. During the classroom sessions three other Milo students and I joined other high school students to practice skills such as taking vital signs, helping “patients” (each other) with basic needs and properly respecting patient privacy.

During clinicals we began caring for real patients and learning the pace. For me, it was also an opportunity to live my faith. Many people think of evangelism as preaching the Word, giving Bible studies and having prayer groups. But before Christ taught, He always healed. Because of His love, care and compassion people became open to hearing His message.

I learned some important spiritual lessons while in that class. I learned that often the best way to minister to hurting people is to love them and care for them with the same love that God has for us. We can do this because, when Christ’s perfect, unconditional love fills our hearts, it enables us to love each other with perfect love as well.

Stephanie Behrmann, Milo Adventist Academy student
Camp Meeting Starts With a Bang

This year’s Upper Columbia Conference Camp Meeting kicked off with a bang. Just after 12 p.m. on the first full day of camp meeting, the Upper Columbia Academy campus, in Spangle, Wash., was rocked by a loud bang accompanied by bright, flashing light.

The disturbance was caused by a power pole that caught fire due to a cracked insulator. When the top of the pole burned enough, a high-voltage wire attached to the pole broke free and arced with an adjacent wire. Blinking lights in many campus buildings and surging power accompanied the fireworks show. No one was injured in the incident; however, the main meeting tent was left without power.

Once the campus maintenance crew located the source of the power disturbance, they contacted the local power company. A crew was on site within two hours and restored power in time for the evening meeting.

In addition to the power challenges, the rain also made this year an especially memorable camp meeting for those staying in tents. The cold rain and wind forced some campers to leave or find refuge in dorm rooms. At least one family had more than an inch of standing water in and around their tent. The unusually heavy downpours also made getting to the big meeting tent a challenge. Passenger shuttles, which normally take people right to the big tent, were forced to drop riders several hundred feet from the tent due to muddy conditions on the ball field.

In spite of the inclement weather, attendees enjoyed powerful messages from Jerry Page, Davide Asscherick, Leslie Pollard, Lee Venden and Paul Hoover. The Sabbath afternoon worship concert featured John Lomacang, who shared his personal testimony and musical talents. Thursday and Friday afternoons also featured powerful seminars that encouraged people to live fully devoted to Christ.

Conference officials are looking forward to next year already. The main speaker will be Dan Jackson, president of the Adventist Church in North America. Reservations for lodging for 2014 will be available this fall.

Jay Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference communication director
Pasco Riverview Hosts Different Kind of Vespers

When Adventists hear the word “vespers” they normally think of coming together at sundown for music, worship and maybe a good pot-luck meal. The Pasco (Wash.) Riverview Church put on a different kind of sundown event on May 4 — a service vespers instead of a vespers service.

In lieu of potluck dishes, members were instructed to bring a bag of rice for community services to distribute. A simple meal of rice and beans was served for supper, so people could experience the type of meal that needy families often eat. Nobody complained; service, and not food, was what brought them together, bringing to mind the verse “I have food to eat of which you do not know” (John 4:32, NKJV).

After the meal, members carried the bags of rice, ranging from 1 to 50 pounds, to the community service building and bagged smaller portions for distribution — more than 800 pounds in total. Some members jokingly claimed they got “rice elbow.”

Bobby Jo Engeberg, Pasco Riverview Church member, says the Holy Spirit gave her the idea of having a rice-bagging vespers. “It’s so amazing to drive by the community service building on Wednesday mornings and see cars lined up all the way to the road,” she explains. She can relate. When she was young her family often relied on food stamps and community services.

The church purchased additional property to expand their community services ministry and their influence in this area. They already serve between 150 and 200 families a week, and the need is increasing. Members have taken to heart Deut. 15:11: “For the poor will never cease from the land; therefore I command you, saying, ‘You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and your needy, in your land.”

This vespers service was indeed a service — to the community.

Mary Dengerud-Au, Pasco Riverview Church member

House Retires, Johnson Steps In

Yvonne House retired from serving as the Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) Corporation treasurer at the end of April. She served the Adventist Church for more than 40 years, working primarily in financial management.

House began her church service here in the Northwest at the North Pacific Union Conference office following her graduation from Walla Walla University. Her career led her from the Pacific Northwest to Southern California and back again to UCC, where she was born and raised.

“It has been a pleasure to work with Yvonne,” says An-drew McCrary, UCC trust services director. Her dependable, conscientious care for God’s finances and heart for ministry have been an enormous blessing through the years.

In May, the Upper Columbia Conference executive committee voted to ask Jimmy Johnson to serve as the conference corporation treasurer. Johnson has worked with UCC for many years as the corporation assistant treasurer.

Jay Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference communication director

Jimmy Johnson is the new treasurer for the Upper Columbia Conference Corporation.
Sunnyside Celebrates 80th Anniversary

Sunnyside (Wash.) Church was filled on the morning of April 6 with friends and former members helping celebrate its 80th anniversary. People looked at years’ worth of clerk’s records and saw their own names or their parents’ names in the baptismal records and other church data.

Current church clerk, Chere-lyn Strickland, organized more than 30 binders with historic mementos, newspaper clippings and photographs collected since 1933. Slide shows containing more than 2,000 pictures played on six laptops in the foyer. The day’s roster of guests was printed on historic-looking vellum paper.

During the combined Sabbath School gathering, Randy Terry, Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) vice president of finance, gave interesting state and national demographics from 1933 — from who was president to the price of gas and milk at the time the church was born.

Lifelong member Valerie Ramos brought everyone to tears with special music, singing “Via Dolorosa” with pathos. Terry Campbell, a former Sunnyside Church pastor, gave a heartfelt lesson on a difficult subject, the book of Hosea.

During the break before the main service, friends found each other and compared notes on where life has taken them.

Doug Johnson, a historian in addition to his work as UCC vice president of administration, told the behind-the-scenes stories of the Washington “territory” as well as of the Yakima Valley and the birth of the Adventist church in the area. His riveting stories included tales of the first local Adventist, Augusta Moorehouse, and her legacy to the Walla Walla Valley; the first organized Adventist churches in Walla Walla, Milton and Dayton; the first camp meeting in Salem (1878) with Ellen G. White in attendance; and the “Dunkards” (German Baptist Brethren) 1898 purchase and settlement of the Sunnyside area and their turning it into a Christian cooperative colony. It was fun to hear such details of church heritage in the Pacific Northwest.

Nohelia Peterson sang for the church service, and Desert Praise gave an afternoon program to round out the day.

This memorable anniversary and homecoming celebration provided a small foretaste of what heaven’s reunions will be as friends are reunited after decades apart.

Jeanne Barrett-Usher, Sunnyside Church communication leader

Displays in the foyer provide an opportunity to reminisce about the many years of Sunnyside Church’s ministry in Washington.

Walla Walla Valley Academy Makes Friends

The Walla Walla Valley Academy Orchestra of College Place, Wash., led by cellist Ben Gish, made friends April 21 across town at Assumption Catholic Church in Walla Walla by playing for the church’s congregation, who reacted with a standing ovation at the conclusion of the service.

Rick Haverinen, Stateline (Ore.) Church member
Milton-Stateline Walk-a-Thon

Stretches Toward the Goal

As many know, the funds needed to run a private school can be challenging and at times feel impossible to cover. Milton-Stateline Adventist School (MSAS), in Milton-Freewater, Ore., knows these challenges all too well.

With the needs growing continually, MSAS had to come up with a plan to raise additional monies. Eight years ago the plan was born, and the annual Walk-a-Thon began.

The activity begins each March as pastors, parents and teachers set the example by getting sponsors for the laps they will walk. Students send out letters to anyone they know, asking to be sponsored for each lap they walk. Sponsors can choose to pay a flat rate for the event, or they can pay a determined amount per lap.

At $25,000, this year’s goal was the highest ever set, with funds needed for the heating and air system, financial aid, gym and classroom equipment, and new library books. With prayers and faith that God would help MSAS reach that goal, fundraising began.

Each student who mailed at least 15 envelopes received a T-shirt designed by one of the students and featuring this year’s Walk-a-Thon motto, “Walking Together in Faith.” Of the school’s 101 students, 99 percent participated.

There’s no doubt God has blessed this school. Even the youngest students of Milton-Stateline Adventist School in Milton-Freewater, Ore., support their school through the Walk-a-Thon fundraiser.

As the money and pledges began to arrive, incentives also began. When $3,000 was met, there was a crazy hair/hat day. At the $12,000 mark, more than 2,000 balloons were filled with water and the participating kids had some great water fun. Bouncy castles were set up and the kids bounced the day away once $20,000 was raised. What a pleasure to see the students having fun and being rewarded for their hard work.

It was already warm at 9 a.m. on May 10 as students, pastors, parents and teachers began walking the Walla Walla University track. Temperatures in the high 80s made the beads of sweat drip off heads and soak the T-shirts. Water quenched the thirsty walkers as each of them persevered. Every lap was tallied by the official lap counter so sponsors had a true count of the laps they would fund.

When the Walk-a-Thon ended at noon amid exhausted smiles and claps of congratulations, the combined laps totaled 736 miles.

The pledged funds are still arriving each day — $21,600 and counting. There’s no doubt God has blessed this school, and the staff ask that MSAS continue to be in your prayers as they begin the work of planning the Walk-a-Thon for the 2013–14 school year.

Barbara Lepiane, Milton-Stateline Adventist School administrative assistant
Upper Columbia Academy Elementary School (UCAES) hosted the worship service for Upper Columbia Academy Church on April 13. They blessed the congregation with a variety of sacred music performed by the band, handbells, glockenspiels, piano, guitars and choir. The service was topped off by the testimonies of a seventh-grader, Jonathan Terry, and an eighth-grader, Summer Davis.

Although both students had already shared their testimonies in front of their classmates — an annual Bible assignment done by all the fifth- through eighth-graders — they didn’t think they were capable of sharing to the whole church. But after talking with their parents and praying about it, they felt God could use them to share His message.

And He surely did. They spoke with confidence and passion about how God helped them with their struggles and how their relationship with Him had grown as a result.

Many people appreciated these students for being so open and real about their lives and their growing relationship with God. One young visitor felt like God really spoke to her through Davis’ testimony. As a result, she is hoping to attend UCAES next year. Another young person wanted to be baptized after listening to the testimonies.

During outdoor school at Camp MiVoden in Hayden, Idaho, this spring, both students again shared how God had been using their talents to serve Him and others. Terry said sharing his testimony has strengthened his relationship with God and has helped him to see how he can use his speaking and musical skills to honor Him.

The Bible affirms these young people’s contribution to the church: “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity” (1 Tim. 4:12).

Chris Duckett, UCAES principal

On the Friday morning before their March spring break, fifth- and sixth-graders in Mrs. Cynthia Solis’ Rogers School class took a break from their books to try their hand at a hobby on what was billed as “Hobby Day.” Choices included sewing, Legos, ham radio, photography, basketball, cooking and baking, and knitting and crocheting. “My goal was for the kids to be able to learn a new skill,” Solis says.

Solis offered her sewing expertise in assisting one student in making a shoulder bag. Future engineers built Legos structures and visited Walla Walla University (WWU) to learn about ham radio operation with Steve Haynal, a parent who is also a Web developer. Another parent and photographer, Faye Cueto, guided a group in taking and editing pictures. Parents Lisa Krueger and Heather Scully led a cooking and baking group in making a delicious brunch. Jill Johnston, also a parent, helped another group of students knit a scarf and crochet flowers. Natalie Wilkening, a WWU teacher intern, worked with a group of students on sports skills at the university gymnasium.

Lisa Krueger, Rogers Adventist School parent
Instrumental Educator Retires
From Olympia Christian School

Anita McKown is retiring after 18 years of teaching at Olympia Christian School (OCS), with prior experience in the public school system. McKown served the last six years as principal and third- through fifth-grade teacher.

McKown will be best remembered for her bell program. She brought her own two-octave set of bells when she began at OCS and developed a five-octave bell program with chimes.

The school’s bell choir has performed throughout western Washington, including several times at the state capitol rotunda and for various state officials. The bell choir also participated in Sunnyside Church’s Bell Festival in Portland, Ore., and anchored fundraisers for disaster relief.

McKown was also instrumental in raising funds and casting a vision for a new school facility in West Olympia. This vision met reality three years ago when the school moved after 60-plus years at Fort Lewis-renovated facilities in northeast Olympia.

This respected educator is looking forward to retirement, spending more time with her children and seven grandchildren, and “[doing] anything I want.”

Under her leadership, each year had a theme that would be reflected in Friday’s worship and week of prayer. This past year’s theme was “Love Does.”

Her example of love impacted countless students and their families. Her impact has been felt by scores of students who went on to become doctors, nurses, teachers, business people and, most importantly, Christ-followers.

OCS School Board

Sunset Lake Camp Adds New Gymnasium

The waterfront at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson has a new look with the addition of a gymnasium. The new gymnasium sits at the crest of the hill as guests enter the camp and faces the lake. It offers much-needed indoor meeting and play space for summertime and year-round activities.

The camp held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 19 during the first-ever Sunset Lake Camp Open House. More than 150 people attended to see the gymnasium and to experience family-fun activities.

During the open house, guests tried out the challenge course, enjoyed arena rides at the horse barn, sampled tasty treats from chef Alberto Reyes’ kitchen and toured the new gymnasium.

With a capacity of up to 500 people, the gymnasium can be used for basketball or volleyball games, gymnastics classes, and meeting space for church and community groups. The gymnasium also has breakout rooms, restrooms and administrative office space.

“An indoor meeting space allows us to expand our programming options,” says David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director. “Your church, school or ministry is welcome on our campus for a retreat, outdoor school or another occasion. Regardless of the season, we want Sunset Lake to remain a place where you belong.”

Christine Betz, Sunset Lake Camp marketing and reservation coordinator

Key contributors to the new gymnasium at Sunset Lake Camp cut the ribbon during a ceremony at the camp’s open house in May.
A Knock on the Door
Begins Story of Faith

John Miller, Washington Conference literature ministries coordinator, regularly visits churches to train interested members in how to share their faith with GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts. After a morning presentation, Miller leads a group of people in distributing GLOW tracts and conducting community surveys.

One such Sabbath was held last summer for Lynnwood Church. The young people and adults were excited with this project, as each of them managed to sign different people up for future cooking classes, prophecy seminars, Bible correspondence and more.

Everyone in the group had made a connection except for Mokay Mekonen, an adult participant. He had knocked on several doors and spoken to many people, but not one person had signed up for anything. The group was done, but Mekonen said he didn’t want to quit until he had one good contact.

At the very next door, Mekonen met Chris Carter, who had just moved to the area from Alaska and was interested in Bible studies. They struck up an easy conversation and became instant friends. Carter’s wife, Tanya, also joined the Bible study sessions and even attended a Bible prophecy seminar.

As the Carters continue to grow in their faith, Tanya Carter decided to be baptized in a lake near the church in April. Stories of faith begin in different ways, and this one began with a knock on the door.

Rhonda Clark, Lynnwood Church member

Green Lake Church Celebrates
International Festival Sabbath

On Sabbath, April 20, at Seattle’s Green Lake Church, children and youth opened the service by shaking hands with the congregation while singing “Dame la Mano” (“Give Me Your Hand”).

The hymn assures people of different backgrounds that they can be united in Christ: “If you stand behind the cross and if your heart is like mine, shake my hand, and you will be my brother, my sister.”

A procession of 36 flags represented the church’s cultural diversity. Members dressed in clothing from their heritage presented music, Scripture readings, and prayers from Africa, Japan, India, Ireland, native North America and the Caribbean using diverse languages.

The homilies of pastors John McLarty and Andreas Beccai recounted that people were created as a mosaic family and will remain so until the end of time. They led a responsive liturgy that invited the church to recommit “to know and to be known.” The congregation responded with the words of the closing hymn, “In Christ there is no east or west … but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide Earth.” The entire service was dedicated to demonstrating the congregation’s commitment to worshipping a God whose image is expressed in people of all nations and languages.

After worship, fellowship continued by “breaking bread together” with worldwide finger foods, from African fritters to zucchini bread. It was a wonderful way to share members’ unique heritages.

Dana Waters, Green Lake Church member
Skagit Students Bike to School

With cloudy skies but warm weather, students from as far as 14 miles away and as close as three blocks hopped on their bikes instead of into their cars for a slightly more time-consuming, but way more fun ride to Skagit Adventist Academy (SAA) in Burlington. For younger students who did not have a parent able to accompany them, teachers, parents and community members spread out, picking up kids along their route to bring them to school. In all, 35 students and another 20 teachers, parents and community members were greeted and cheered as they made their way onto campus amid a growing crowd.

First-grader Megan Rowland rode 8 miles from her house with her dad. “I was just a little bit tired for the rest of the day,” she says.

National Bike to School Day began in 2012 and is held in May every year. Prior to that, SAA students have been biking to school on National Bike to Work Day, also held each May. This marked the fourth consecutive year that SAA students rode their bikes or walked to school rather than drive on this fun day that encourages everyone to choose a more vigorous option for travel.

Matthew Lee, SAA physical education teacher

Grays Harbor Students Experience Enriched Learning

Grays Harbor Adventist Christian School is a living example of how a small school can thrive in a larger education system.

The school in Montesano, Wash., had a record-breaking 21 students enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade during the 2012–13 school year.

“We are doing more than teaching reading and writing,” says Adria Hay, principal/teacher. “We’re teaching students to be Daniels and Esthers who stand up to be critical thinkers.”

Hay taps into educational experiences for her students such as community service days, music clinics, outdoor education and science experiences offered in the Pacific Northwest.

“All of these programs supplement our school program,” says Hay. “This is a benefit of being connected to a larger school system.”

Five Grays Harbor students, along with a proactive coach from the Adventist community, were first-time participants with Walla Walla University’s Lego Robotics Challenge. This team won first place for their project and three third-place awards for teamwork and cooperation.

“It was a rewarding experience,” Hay says. “One student even called the robotics challenge the ‘best weekend of his life.’”

Grays Harbor is also the recipient of a Don Keele Award that resulted in a broad array of new physical education equipment, from balls to scooter boards, jump ropes and much more.

Watch as students open their new PE equipment at bit.ly/GHDonKeele.

Heidi Baungartner, Washington Conference communication director

Kent Loweke, a local Adventist, volunteers each week to help Grays Harbor students prepare for the Lego Robotics Challenge. The team had such a great experience at Walla Walla University’s challenge that they want to try again next year — and their coach agreed to help them again.
Preparing for Marriage
Students Learn How to Make Relationships Succeed

Walla Walla University (WWU) has a history of strong academics to prepare students for a successful career. And for students planning to take another life-changing step — marriage — WWU offers a class and programs for students to learn how to have a successful marriage.

Every spring, students can take part in the Engaged Couples Seminar, a weekend event during which engaged couples and couples considering engagement gather to listen to long-time married couples share their experiences. Topics include everything from finances to intimacy and relationships with parents-in-law. Different married couples present on each topic, then the engaged or dating couples first read the materials individually, then as a couple discuss the topic. At the end of the seminar, a panel of couples, whose lengths of marriage range from more than 15 years to less than a year, answer questions about any aspect of marriage or marriage preparation.

The School of Theology also offers a Understanding Christian Marriage course taught by Dave Thomas, dean of the school. Students learn about different concepts of marriage that have developed through history. They study marriage as a process with distinct stages that develop over a lifetime. Class discussions focus on marriage as a covenant and studying biblical texts on marriage. Finally, the class addresses the logistics of a marriage relationship, including communication, parenting, personalities, sexuality and religion in marriage.

Thomas started the class because of his personal experiences as a church pastor. “My interest began very early in my ministry because of working with many church members who were going through divorces. I decided to invest my efforts in trying to help people form good marriages from the beginning. That work has been both joyful and fruitful,” says Thomas.

For couples preferring the truly personal approach, pastors, faculty members, and Counseling and Testing Services staff are also available for premarital counseling. “Officiating a wedding is a delightful privilege for a pastor,” says Darold Bigger, WWU religion professor who has also served as a church pastor. “Counseling beforehand enhances my relationship with the couple.” Bigger uses a temperament analysis to identify strengths and weaknesses of relationships and addresses both. He also discusses with the couple topics such as finances, in-laws, leisure time, parenting, sexuality and spirituality. “I've long believed it's much better, and certainly a lot more fun, to plan ahead toward marriage than work on a bad one after the fact.”

Hilary Nieland, university relations writer
A

dventist Health cele-
bate a major mile-
stone in the Northwest with an open house in mid-May for Tillamook Medical Plaza, a 20,509-square-foot facility showcasing a patient-centered healing environment.

“Tillamook Medical Plaza is designed to be a new health care experience for our community, meeting needs for additional services as well as supporting cost-effective, patient-centered care,” says Larry Davy, Tillamook (Ore.) Regional Medical Center CEO.

Services at the new medical plaza include:

- Walk-in urgent care for minor injuries and sudden illness, with expanded evening and weekend hours;
- Cardiology services through the Northwest Regional Heart Center;
- Family and primary care as well as internal medicine for adults;
- General surgery, orthopedic surgery and podiatry;
- Medical imaging (X-ray) and clinical laboratory services onsite.

During the event, Davy announced that Tillamook County General Hospital was changing its name to Tillamook Regional Medical Center. This new name better reflects the growth in service area and scope of services Adventist Health now offers throughout Tillamook County and beyond.

Services in this region have grown to include five rural health clinics, Advanced Life Support Level ambulance services staffed 24/7, home health and hospice services, and cardiac services.

Following research in 2012 that polled 300 Tillamook residents, hospital leaders held focused discussions with groups throughout Tillamook County to review the results and recommend a new hospital name. Tillamook Regional Medical Center best described the organization’s service and vision for the future. The words “medical center” speak to the wider range of services than just hospital-based, with the word “regional” embracing residents of the county and beyond.

“The input of so many community members and leaders in this process is deeply appreciated,” states Davy. “This hospital — that belongs to all of us — has evolved to be so much more than just a hospital in the past several years. This name change represents our confident approach to advancing the future of health and wellness services in our region.”

The hospital partners with the local Adventist congregation; a notable and recent success has been the Complete Health Improvement Project (CHIP) offered in the community. According to Davy, the goal is that the new name will help to kindle a renewed awareness that “we are part of a world-class health care team, carrying out our mission of sharing God’s love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.”

Rita Waterman, Adventist Health assistant vice president for corporate communication

Larry Davy, hospital CEO, and Melody Ayers, development director, unveil the new name: Tillamook Regional Medical Center.

Donna Bechthold, former vice president of patient care and now a governing board member, helped choose the lovely Scripture that patients see as they exit the Tillamook Medical Plaza.

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Rita Waterman, Adventist Health assistant vice president for corporate communication
Members of the Oregon Adventist Men’s Chorus gives an impromptu afternoon concert on the beach.

Ralph Statheim

More than 200 members from across the Northwest gathered in Seaside, Ore., for the annual Northwest Chapter convention of the Adventist-laymen’s Services & Industries (ASI). The weekend, themed “Sharing Peace on Life’s Stormy Seas,” included presentations from Randy Maxwell, Kuna (Idaho) Church pastor; Will Roche, an inspirational speaker from Boise, Idaho; and Jarod Thurman, a pastor from Atlanta, Ga. This annual gathering is a time for Adventist business people to network, exchange ideas for sharing Christ through work and be inspired by stories of what others are doing.

A favorite portion of the ASI meetings continues to be Members in Action, featuring stories of how members have used their talents and contacts to share Christ. This year’s program included reports from Oregon Adventist Men’s Chorus members and their trip to South Africa, Bruce and Jacki Fjarli relating the story of God leading them to setup a radio station Southern Oregon, and Joe Mann sharing how God is opening the doors for the Olympic Media radio network to expand into the Tacoma/South Seattle, Wash., area.

“This year’s convention in Seaside left me with the firm conviction that God desires to do more than we can ask or imagine,” says Chuck Hagele, Project Patch executive director and incoming ASI Northwest president. “The theme of ‘Sharing Peace on Life’s Stormy Seas’ wasn’t just something our speakers focused on; it was something our members experienced as they connected during meals and free time. Our goal for ASI Northwest in the coming year is to work to inspire, equip and bring unity to the business and ministry leaders in the North Pacific Union Conference. We want to grow together in our commitment to stewardship, personal ministry and leveraging the unique opportunities for witness only open to businesses.”

The new officers elected this year include Hagele as well as Kelly Coffin, vice president; Ted Evert, vice president for membership; Nathaniel Martin, communications; and Ron Oliver, treasurer.

If you would like to hear the presentations from the weekend, audio recordings are available at asinorthwest.org. Next year’s program will be held May 1–4, 2014, at the Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound, Wash.

Brent Hardinge, North Pacific Union Conference digital media coordinator

Bruce and Jacki Fjarli, business owners from Southern Oregon, share about their experiences building churches and schools in India.
If you had been there, you would have seen and felt the energy. This year’s North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) Regional Convocation at Camp Berachah near Auburn, Wash., cast an apocalyptic fervor forward in its theme, “Preparing to Reap the Harvest.”

Sporadic May rains did little to dampen the spirit of believers who traveled from all parts of the Northwest and beyond to attend what has become a “must-see” event for African-American and other multicultural members. The annual convocation has been held at Camp Berachah for 18 years, and the site is becoming almost too small to contain the excitement. Sabbath crowds found standing-room only in the main meeting hall. Even the Thursday opening day attendance was two to three times normal.

Alphonso McCarthy, NPUC vice president for regional affairs, and Pattric Parris, administrative assistant, led a planning committee that included Byron Dulan, Eugene Lewis, Colin Dunbar, Terrance Taylor, Hasani Tait, Louise Turner, Kevin Rhamie, David Henry, Todd Gessele, Michele Charity, Geneva Martin, Joyce Matthews, Ella Hart, Clarence Mitchell, Lorna Wright and Jennifer Samuels.

“When it comes together in blessings, it’s not just happenstance,” says McCarthy. “We pray about this all year, asking God to bless — to add in what we’ve forgotten or take out what might be otherwise harmful. And this year, the blessings were rich indeed.”

It costs a lot to produce what amounts to another camp meeting. And despite the expense, the organizers work hard to keep the event affordable. Fees charged to the attendees for overnight rooms and meals cover only a fourth of the actual cost.

Increasingly the convocation is representing a diversely multicultural membership — even within traditionally black churches. Red and yellow, black and white, all are precious in His sight — and at this event. They come to find good music, good preaching, good food and good fellowship.

There’s hope for those who can’t make the trip in the future. Event planners expect to stream the main 2014 meetings online for anyone to watch and experience the joy, energy and inspiration for themselves. But, there’s nothing to compare with being there, hands and heart lifted to heaven, ready and willing to be in that final harvest.

Michael Kelly, pastor of the Mount Rubidoux Adventist Church in Riverside, Calif., connects with the convocation congregation during the Sabbath morning sermon.
Alphonso McCarthy, North Pacific Union Conference vice president for regional affairs and main planner of this annual event, welcomes the Sabbath morning congregation.

Pedrito Maynard-Reid, Walla Walla University assistant to the president for cultural diversity, shares from God’s Word during the Sabbath School lesson.

Byron Dulan, Washington Conference outreach ministries director, introduces those who have recently been certified as Bible workers.

You had to see her to believe her. Deidra Hodnett brings energetic leadership to the convocation mass choir, filling the hall with spiritually uplifting music.

Oh how they sang! The convocation praise team invites everyone present to lift up their voices in song.

The audience responds to Michael Kelly’s rousing sermon during the divine worship service.
**Canwell 90th**

Dorothy Canwell was surprised with a dinner party on July 4, 2012, celebrating her 90th birthday in the fellowship room of the Village Church in College Place, Wash.

Dorothy Storey was born Aug. 24, 1922, in Eagle, Idaho. Growing up, she and her four sisters worked with their dad in the logging business, near Hailey, Idaho. Dorothy graduated from Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University) with a degree in nursing. She worked in various hospitals, but her longest tenure was in Deaconess Hospital in Spokane, Wash., where she was the operating room supervisor for 27 years.

Since Dorothy is so hard to surprise, her sisters planned the celebration to be in July during the Storey family reunion. Mission accomplished: Dorothy was surprised.

Dorothy’s family includes Bryan Lee Canwell and Keith Canwell, both of College Place; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**Hart 90th**

Elmer E. Hart celebrated his 90th birthday on April 20, 2013, with a Sabbath dinner at his home.

Elmer was born April 17, 1923, in Moscow, Idaho, attended a small one-room country school and then attended and graduated from Yakima Valley Academy in Granger, Wash., in 1942. He started at Walla Walla College (WWC) in the fall but was soon drafted into the U.S. Army. For nearly three years he served in the Pacific theater then returned to WWC, where he met and married Margaret Peterson of Eugene, Ore.

After completing the medical course at the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University Medical School) in California, he practiced in Fairfield, Wash., and in Crescent and Chico, Calif., before retiring in Roseburg, Ore. His wife died in 1993, and he married Esther Bruce in 1995. They moved to Yakima, Wash., in 2002.

For his 90th birthday, his four children, their spouses and children, as well as nephew Gary Underhill and Gary’s wife, Glenda, prepared Sabbath dinner at his home. They had a wonderful day of remembering and fellowship.

His family includes Shirlie and Dan White of Yakima; Sherie Hart of Auburn, Wash.; Sandie and John Hall of Fort Bragg, Calif.; Wesley and Judy Hart of Tacoma, Wash.; and 5 grandchildren.

**McHan 60th**

Jim and Carolyn (Boyer) McHan celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 10, 2012.

They met in 1949 at a Walla Walla College (WWC) Crusaders male quartet program in Portland, Ore., when Jim, the quartet’s second tenor, and Carolyn, a student at Portland Union Academy (now Portland Adventist Academy), attended a party after the program. When Carolyn enrolled at WWC the next fall, she found herself in music theory class with Jim.

Jim began asking Carolyn to accompany him for vocal and trumpet solos. This gave a coveted opportunity for getting acquainted in practice rooms and the beginning of a more serious friendship. They married at the Sunnyside Church in Portland in August 1952.

After two more years of college, they graduated and spent a summer manning a forest lookout in the Mount Hood National Forest. Jim entered the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University Medical School). After graduation in 1958 he began an internship at the Portland Sanitarium and Hospital (now Adventist Medical Center).

Drawn by a new church and a new hospital with no Adventist physician in the area, Jim opened a medical office in Springfield, Ore. Seeing a need for families to have a better understanding of how to stay well, he enrolled in Loma Linda University’s off-campus Master of Public Health program, graduating in 1979.

He put his knowledge to work by offering an annual lifestyle improvement program, which he called Your Experiment in Better Living. This program has served the Springfield community for more than 35 years. He remained in private office practice until 2007. After a year of retirement he began doing locum tenens and eventually teamed up with a colleague to work part-time. He fully retired in February 2013.

The years when their children joined them in giving musical lyceum programs at several academies were a highlight of their 60 years. After their children entered college, Carolyn began teaching piano and continues this rewarding opportunity to work with young people.

Jim and Carolyn have been involved in short-term mission service around the world, and Jim served as an adjunct professor for Weimar’s diabetes reversal program and as clinic physician at Weimar’s NEWSTART and Oklahoma’s Lifestyle Center of America. Both served at different times on the WWC board and as ASI Northwest Chapter presidents.

The McHan family includes Steve and Kelly (Ingham) McHan of Car michael, Calif.; Jim and Kathy (McHan) McMillan of Yucaipa, Calif.; Patrick and Nancy (McHan) Wolfe of Loma Linda, Calif.; and 6 grandchildren.
Nash 90th
Eleanor Nash turned 90 on March 26, 2013. She was born in 1923 in British Columbia, Canada, to Earl Moody Alcock and Mary Elizabeth (Turtle) Alcock, but her parents soon moved to California where they lived during the Depression of the 1930s. From Northern California they moved to Medford, Ore.

Her mother died of peritonitis when Eleanor was 18 months old. There were six children, of whom two are still alive. Her father had to “farm” them out until he could get them all together again. Eleanor contracted rheumatic fever when she was 5 years old, and her father was told she wouldn’t live long. Her father had a motel in Medford, then lived in California, then lived in Ashland, Ore., for about 25 years. While there she earned three college credits in art. She soon found a position in jewelry, traveling the world and becoming a gem buyer for a big jewelry company. She has been to many countries, including Mexico, Japan and Hong Kong. She retired in 1987 and moved to Hillsboro, Ore.

Five years ago, Eleanor moved to Goldendale, Wash. She enjoys painting and using her computer. On March 17, 2013, her daughter, who also lives in Goldendale, gave her a 90th birthday party at her church.

Richards 60th
Wilbur and Donna Richards, members of the Caldwell (Idaho) Church, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on an Island Princess cruise through the Panama Canal.

Wilbur Richards and Donna Bridges met at Armona Union Academy in California. They were married by their principal, B.E. Schaffner, on Jan. 11, 1953, in Hanford, Calif. Schaffner later told them that, when he married a couple, he tied the knot very tight.

Wilbur spent 37 and a half years working at Pacific Press Publishing Association. He spent 25 years in book shipping, including 20 as superintendent, and the last 12 and a half years as purchasing director. When Pacific Press moved from Mountain View, Calif., to Nampa, Idaho, he coordinated the move, lining up trucks to move all the machinery, stock and office furniture.

Donna also worked at Pacific Press, including 11 and a half years in the factory and 24 years as a telephone representative in marketing. They both really enjoyed their years at Pacific Press.

Their family includes Linda Spotts, who died in 1975; Cindy Casebolt of Caldwell; Bob and Cherie Richards of Caldwell; 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Schlehuber 65th

Cliff also worked for Hasse Drywall Co. in Spokane, Wash., while Rhoda worked for Dix Steel Buildings, for the Bonner County probate judge and prosecuting attorney, and for Gigray & Boyd attorneys.

They moved to Billings, Mont., in 1956 and were Montana residents 47 years. Cliff did drywall contracting. Rhoda worked for the Crowley Law Firm before working as a bank officer for First Bank Billings and First Interstate Bank Billings until retiring. She also volunteered at the Patients Assistance and Liaisons desk at Billings Clinic for many years.

Both have always been members of the Adventist Church. Rhoda attended Granger Church School and Yakima Valley Academy. She attended Upper Columbia Academy the first year it opened, and she graduated in 1948.

Rhoda served as secretary of the Billings Church and head of Central Acres Church School board. She also helped found Little Treasures Day Care, a church outreach in Billings, and sang in the choir and ladies’ sextet.

Son Dale was born in Caldwell, Idaho, and son Dane in Spokane, Wash. They now have two grandsons, Cody and Troy Schlehuber, granddaughter Katelyn Schlehuber, and two step-grandchildren.

When the boys were young, the family did a lot of boating and water skiing as well as hunting and fishing — especially in the high mountain lakes of Montana. Moving to Idaho area, Rhoda now enjoys her flowers, mowing the lawn and walking Tori, the couple’s Brittany spaniel.
BAEK — Asher Nikola was born May 10, 2013, to Emanuel and Keala Marie (Estrella) Baek, Tillamook, Ore.

BAILEY — Simon Alexander was born Sept. 23, 2012, to Robert and Jessica (Davis) Bailey, The Dalles, Ore.

KJER — Ryder Anthony was born April 19, 2013, to Krieg and Jill (Karmy) Kjer, Ridgefield, Wash.

KOC — Cadence Aurelia was born May 30, 2013, to Lorin and Katrina (Beddoe) Koch, Salem, Ore.

MARKSMEIER — Brea Rose was born June 4, 2012, to Kevin and Krista (Olson) Marksmeier, Hermiston, Ore.

PASSMORE — Jessica Zoey Eileen was born March 4, 2013, to Larry and Chantelle (Martens) Passmore, Woodland, Wash.

PORTER — Lauryn Gynniss Natalia was born May 26, 2013, to James Porter and Jasmine Vidaurri-Porter, Vancouver, Wash.

SHAWLER — Sage Cayenne was born Jan. 5, 2013, to William and Carrera (Lizzi) Shawler, La Center, Wash.

UHACZ — Maxton Zane was born Dec. 19, 2012, to Zac and Lori (Fischer) Uhacz, Battle Ground, Wash.

POTEET-MINTON — Ashley N. Poteet and Richard M. Minton III were married April 7, 2013, in Medford, Ore., where they are making their home. Ashley is the daughter of Gary and Alison Poteet. Richard is the son of Rick and Edna Minton.

WOOLSEY-FRAZEE — Arlys (Stephenson) Woolsey and Larry Frazee were married April 14, 2013, in McMinnville, Ore., where they are making their home. Arlys is the daughter of Roy (deceased) and Ruby (Miler) Stephenson. Larry is the son of John and Edith (Judd) Frazee.

AGNEW — Ruby Evangeline (Geier), 96; born Feb. 27, 1917, Bowdon, N.D.; died May 27, 2013, Lacey, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Shirley Reed, Lacey; sister, Lenore Collins, Olympia, Wash.; 9 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

BABCOCK — Keith M., 88; born Nov. 18, 1924, Cottage Grove, Ore.; died May 7, 2013, Rocklin, Calif. Surviving: daughters, Cindy Babcock and Lisa Greer, both of Medford, Ore.; Linda Borg, Rocklin; sister, Marian Dewey, Medford; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.


BATTEN — Sharon L. (Love), 71; born Aug. 24, 1941, Thermopolis, Wyo.; died Jan. 6, 2013, Medford, Ore. Surviving: son, Travis, Medford; daughter, Tonia Crippen, Brookings, Ore.; brother, Arley Love, Thermopolis; sisters, Jo Ann Love and Shirley Love; both of Thermopolis; Gina Knifong, Birch Bay, Wash.; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BECRAFT — Betty Charlotte (Stout), 84; born Jan. 8, 1929, Sand Springs, Okla.; died April 19, 2013, Tillamook, Ore. Surviving: sons, Jim, Tillamook; Tom, Kennewick, Wash.; Tim, Beaverton, Ore.; daughters, Sue Long, Tillamook; Deanne Williams, Sweet Home, Ore.; brother, Ronald Stout, Bay City, Ore.; 14 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.


CAMPBELL — Patricia Ann (Berkeley), 70; born Nov. 11, 1942, Logansport, Ind.; died May 8, 2013, Astoria, Ore. Surviving: son, John Paul Campbell Jr., Moreno Valley, Calif.; daughters, Jo Ann Johnson and Janice Campbell Johnson, both of Naselle, Wash.; and 8 grandchildren.

CLEVENGER — Wanda Ruth (Werner) Crume, 85; born July 4, 1927, Perry, Okla.; died May 12, 2013, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Frank; son, Leon Crume, Caldwell; daughter, Vicky (Clevenger) Jenkins-Mann, Caldwell; brothers, Guy D. Werner, New Plymouth, Idaho; Elmer Werner, Caldwell; sisters, Laurabell Hutcheson, Ola, Idaho; Sama Dee Robinson, Caldwell; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.


HANEY — Edna Clotele (Pe...

HARCHENKO — Myraileen (Irons), 80; born June 12, 1932, Tuttle, N.D.; died April 7, 2013, Salem, Ore. Surviving: husband, Jerral; son, Terry, Salem; daughter, Jerraleen, Salem; 6 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.


REEVES — Richard R., 83; born June 27, 1929, Sheridan County, Neb.; died Feb. 1, 2013, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Cecile M. (Randall); son, Douglas D., La Selva Beach, Calif.; daughter, Renita M. Carlin, College Place; and 5 grandchildren.


SHEPHERD — Dorothy (Jenkins) Nash, 83; born Oct. 2, 1929, of Nebraska; died April 24, 2013, Sharon, Conn. Surviving: sons, Lewis Shelton, Clinton, Mass.; Ken Nash, of Georgia; daughters, Jana Alva, of California; Joylin Barry, Avon, Mass.; and 7 grandchildren.

SHELTON — Dorothy (Jenkins) Nash, 83; born Oct. 2, 1929, of Nebraska; died April 24, 2013, Sharon, Conn. Surviving: sons, Lewis Shelton, Clinton, Mass.; Ken Nash, of Georgia; daughters, Jana Alva, of California; Joylin Barry, Avon, Mass.; and 7 grandchildren.


WHEELER — Anna Maria (Grebe), 92; born Aug. 31, 1920, Melsungen, Germany; died April 4, 2013, Medford, Ore. Surviving: sons, Herb, Sherwood, Ore.; Frank, Red Bluff, Calif.; brother, Heinz Grebe, of Germany; sisters, Marie Richy, Medford; Lieselatte Rudiger, of Germany; 6 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

WHITE — Arnold N., 87; born Nov. 19, 1925, Parkside, Saskatchewan, Canada; died March 18, 2013, Hayden, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Mildred (Konschuh); sons, Terry, Denver, Colo.; Robert, Napa, Calif.; Richard, Hayden; brothers, Bill, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada; Harry and Wilson, both of Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada; sister, Beatrice Hamilton, Abbotsford; 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

WINGATE — Juliette R., 44; born in Santa Monica, Calif.; died May 5, 2013, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Candice Wingate, Yakima; father, John Engel, Norwalk, Calif.; and brother, Elliot Pevida, Eugene, Ore.
**North Pacific Union Conference**

**Offering**
- Aug. 3 — Local Church Budget;
- Aug. 10 — Andrews, Loma Linda, Oakwood Universities;
- Aug. 17 — Local Church Budget;
- Aug. 24 — Local Conference Advance;
- Aug. 31 — Alaska Conference.

**More upcoming events listed at gleaneronline.org/events.**

**Walla Walla University**

**Aug. 18** — Master of Social Work hooding and graduation ceremony for the Billings, Mont., Campus, Crowne Plaza Hotel Billings;
**Aug. 23–25** — Alumnis Rosario Weekend, Rosario Marine Laboratory, Anacortes, Wash.;
**Sept. 1** — Financial clearance for fall quarter opens. See enrollment checklist at wallawalla.edu/newsteps. Questions? Call 800-656-2815 or email stufin@wallawalla.edu.

**Oregon**

**Distraction Dilemma: Exposing Distractions and Dangers in Music Seminar**
- Aug. 6–Sept. 28 — Christian Berdahl, Shepherd’s Call Ministry director, will be featured in a free six-week video seminar, “Distraction Dilemma: Exposing Distractions and Dangers in Music,” at the Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N., Castle Rock, Wash., each Tuesday, Aug. 6 through Sept. 24, at 6:30 p.m. To conclude the series, Berdahl will speak in person Sept. 27 and 28. Following the last presentation on the 28th, there will be a fellowship dinner and a sacred concert by Berdahl. To register or for more information, call Wanda at 360-967-2165 or Jeanne at 360-274-6709.

**Eugene Junior Academy Reunion**
- Aug. 17 — Eugene Junior Academy in Eugene, Ore., is having a reunion at the Rose Garden in Eugene. Everyone is invited to the church service. Dick Allison (husband of Betty McDougal) will be the speaker. We will meet at the Rose Garden at Second and Jefferson at 1:30 p.m. Potluck and snacks would be appreciated. Organizers are from the 1950s, but all others are welcome — call your friends. Bring a lawn chair, if possible. Questions? Call Anna at 541-998-8689 or Wally at 541-689-1026.

**Simply Cooking**
- Aug. 22 — Simply Cooking with Ronni Reinecke continues a once-monthly class at the Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N., Castle Rock, Wash., “Pies, Pies, Pies,” with the next class on Sept. 12. The free class is always fun and informative with samples and fellowship. Please register with Wanda at 360-967-2165 or Jeanne at 360-274-6709.

**A New Decade of Love**
- Aug. 31 — Bobby McGhee and Friends at Sunnyside Church, Portland, Ore., on Sabbath morning at 8:45 and 11:15 a.m., with Raj Attikken, Ohio Conference president, and others. Vespers 6–8 p.m., featuring the Three Wisemen Quartet and many local artists at this 11th annual program entitled “A New Decade of Love.”

**Upper Columbia**

**“Stroller-thon” and Walk**
- Sept. 15 — Tri-Cities Diaper Bank sponsors “Stroller-thon” and Walk. Come join the fun with friends, family and representatives of local service organizations as we walk to raise awareness of the need for diapers for disadvantaged children. This event will be come-and-go, with fun activities for kids. Admission is free, although diaper donations are always welcome. Feel free to get creative and decorate your stroller, wagon, etc. … or just come and walk with us for a good cause. Everyone welcome (strollers optional) from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Southridge Events Complex, 2901 Southridge Blvd., Kennewick, WA 99337. Any questions, please contact the Richland Church at 509-946-8807.

**Washington**

**Car and Bike Show**
- Aug. 18 — Car and bike enthusiasts are invited to the ninth annual Shelton Valley Christian Show n’ Shine, held 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on the Shelton Valley Christian School campus, 201 W. Shelton Valley Rd., Shelton, Wash. This is a family event with kids jumper, door prizes, great food including Tom’s Famous Burgers, raffle and trophies. To register or for more information, call 360-426-1489 or 360-426-8741 or go online at sheltonshowandshine.com.

**World Church**

**Sunnydale Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend**

**Forever Faithful International Camporee to Feature Symphony Orchestra and Mass Choir**

The Forever Faithful International Camporee will have a new addition in 2014: the introduction of a symphony orchestra and mass choir. The Center for Youth Evangelism is currently looking for Pathfinders ages 9 to 19 who play an instrument or sing to join this special group. We are thrilled to welcome Claudio Gonzalez, Andrews University assistant professor of music and symphony orchestra conductor, as our guest conductor for this incredible group of young people. For more information or to audition for the orchestra or mass choir, visit our website at camporee.org or contact Catrina LeSure at catrinalesure@yahoo.com.

**Missing Members**

The Woodburn Church is looking for information regarding the following missing members: Amy L. Chambers, Cindy Davis, Edwin Diaz, Norma Diaz, Daniel Diaz-Ramirez, Trevor A. Downes, Gloria E. Garcia Downes, Jeanette Gibson, David Jacobson, Ruth Johnson, Christina Ellen Kleinman, Johanna P. Labahn, Richard A. Labahn Sr., Steven A. Layman, Patricia Liddell, Russel Lilly, Elia Montalvo, Doug Mosley, Kathrynn Mosley, Paul Muravirov, David Nicolet, Paul Nicolet, Damon Rosriquez, Samuel Rodriquez, Fred Ruiz, Donald R. Smart Jr., Sandra J. Steele, Lidia Janet Tep-Gordillo and Amrie R. Williams. If you have any information about these missing members, please contact the Woodburn Church, PO Box 276, Woodburn, OR 97071.
... And Then Again

I have just finished reading “It’s Beyond Belief” in the current [June 2013] GLEANER.

First of all, technology has brought to Seventh-day Adventists a vast store of information not only about our own belief system but about every other one that exists. Those who grew up in the “innocent” age of Adventism bordered by Adventist education, Adventist teaching, Adventist doctrinal presentations have now been exposed to a world outside our “box” containing an amazing variety of new thoughts and concepts.

Second, many — if not most — of the teachers and professors in our academies, colleges, universities, who have completed graduate work for master’s and doctorate degrees have done so via educational facilities of other faiths. Many of our pastors have done so as well. Because of this their view of Adventism has been heavily influenced by the teachings of these other communities of faith.

Third, while Ellen White’s gifts are still promoted, they are no longer a “test of faith” for baptism as they were when many of us became members of this denomination. This was something she adamantly opposed during her lifetime. The initial volume of Fundamental Beliefs lists her gift as “Seventh-day Adventists believe” — not as “Seventh-day Adventists teach.” And yet this latter has been the case from the beginning.

In this new culture of “knowledge being greatly increased,” [with] the move back to making Christ and a personal relationship with Him the focus of our teaching, with Sabbath-keeping an outgrowth of our love for and gratitude to Him — not only for the gift of eternal salvation but for the blessings of His presence in our lives in the here and now — rather than just a requirement for salvation, we will see a change in membership commitment.

Let us be patient and long-suffering and give God time to work out His plan for this movement, making sure our individual lives are right with Him. He will prevail.

Donna Ritchie, College Place, Wash.

A Reprise on ‘The Song’

In the April 2013 GLEANER, Steve Vistaunet’s “Let’s Talk” article — “The Song” — caught my eye. I immediately thought of a long ago GLEANER article by the same title that I had never forgotten. And I wondered instantly if the article referenced that same song. I was thrilled to read more of the story of the “O Shepherd Divine” hymn! I actually kept the original article, which appeared in the March 5, 1990, GLEANER — it meant that much to me then.

The reason I have such a close tie to this hymn is that it was one of my mother’s favorite hymns. In fact, from time to time when she sang special music for our church in Asheville, N.C., it was often her choice. She loved to play the piano and sing at home as well, and so I grew up listening to this precious song.

Thank you so much for sharing for a second time the fascinating story of the song that the angels brought to the ones who first heard it. Perhaps some day in heaven we will learn of others who were also given that song. I know it holds a special place in my heart.

Nancy Knight, Bandon, Ore.
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.

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EMPLOYMENT

Southern Adventist University seeks dean for School of Business and Management. A doctoral degree required. Will oversee the undergraduate and graduate programs. Priority given to applications received by July 1, 2013. The successful candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ and be an Adventist church member in good and regular standing. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to Pat Coverdale, Director of Human Resources, pcoverdale@southern.edu or Human Resources, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37363.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR NEEDED. Asian Aid USA is a supportive ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Our ministry is in India, Nepal and Bangladesh. Asian Aid seeks to employ an experienced associate director to manage fundraising, development and major gift relationships. Based in Collegedale, Tenn., travel will be required in and out of the USA. Position reports to the CEO. Must show proven experience in all aspects of fundraising to develop strategies to grow the organization and strengthen relationships with those who have greatest philanthropic impact. Contact Jim Rennie, CEO: jrennie@asianaid.org or 423-910-0667. Applications close Aug. 30, 2013.

Sunset Schedule

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Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.
SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a mathematics professor to begin Aug. 1, 2013, or Jan. 1, 2014. Master’s degree in pure or applied mathematics required; doctoral degree preferred. Contact Dr. Amy Rosenthal at 817-202-6212 or arosenthal@swau.edu.

MISSION CREEK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, a small middle school/high school, seeks dorm supervisors and teacher. On 40 acres of forestland in western Washington. See mcoutreach.org. Call Mary at 360-875-6050 or 360-942-9068.

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EVENT YOU’RE INVITED TO THE 2013 Maranatha Volunteers International Convention (Roseville, Calif.). This FREE event features speakers from around the world and musical guest Steve Green. Sept. 20–21. Register at maranatha.org.

NORTHWEST ADVENTIST AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION ANNUAL RETREAT Aug. 7–11, 2013, Oregon Conference office, Gladstone, Ore. Training classes in emergency preparedness and disaster response. Learn how ham radio works to support the church and community. Training classes for new and upgrading licensees and testing for the license. Information at naara.org, keithrcarlin@charter.net or 509-540-0544 (Keith). Reservations appreciated to allow class size planning.

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ADVENTIST ATTORNEY
serving greater Portland area. Practice focuses on estate planning and general business: wills, trusts, probate and trust administration, gifting, business formation. Stephanie Carter, Attorney at Law: 503-496-5500; Stephanie@draneaslaw.com.

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Spectators

The reports swirl in from all points of the compass. “They say …” … “She did …” … “He what?!?” Where they settle, the air is dank and heavy. You can cut it with a knife. Gossip, rumor, innuendo.

If the latest stories involve a church leader or member, it’s an excuse for some to avoid church altogether. At first blink this seems an amazing reaction to such an innocuous source, for the book of James refers to the human tongue as a “little member.” But these tongues of ours are duplicitous characters. As the Twitter world all too clearly demonstrates, they strike swiftly — often without much forethought.

James saw that the tongue, run amuck, could do great damage. He observed hypocritical attitudes within himself and other church members. “Therewith we praise God … and therewith we curse men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not be so” (James 3:9, 10).

Mark Twain once wryly observed, “Falsehood can travel halfway around the world before the truth has time to put on its trousers.” The unchecked tongue, freed of any immediate accountability, is often guilty of misdiagnoses.

Trouble tends to reveal us as we really are — spectators in the bleachers with time on our hands. The perspective from the left or right field stands is the same — looking down at those on the field.

Recently I sweated through bumper-to-bumper traffic. At long last I caught sight of the problem up ahead. A tow truck on the other side of the freeway was pulling a car out of the ditch. On the OTHER side! But each of us succumbed to the urge to slow down, take a long look and then speed on our way. The chain reaction backed us up for miles.

Spectator-focus has little thought for an ultimate destination. It specializes in vicarious traffic jams preoccupied with the present.

When it comes to our church, my spectator side watches and analyzes and waits for someone else to get it right, to evict the hypocrites, to deal with the “politics,” to meet my needs. And then it hits me: I’m the hypocrite. I’m the bottleneck. I’m the reason for the traffic jam. It’s then I realize I have a choice in how I focus my time. We all do.

In the midst of the choice comes a clarion call, prophetically echoing over the ages about “fields white unto harvest” (John 4:35). Jesus calls us to pray that laborers will be sent to reap that harvest. The answer lies in our choice to leave the waiting, watching, loitering crowd in the bleachers — the online forum rants — and join the action on the field. There we’ll feel the wind of the Spirit, a gently powerful nuance seldom experienced by spectator Adventists.

Then these tongues of ours might become so busy with blessing there’ll be little time for cursing. It’s what happens when we truly make time to be about our Father’s business.

You may respond to any GLEANER topic by sending an email to: talk@gleaneronline.org.

Steve Vistaunet
GLEANER EDITOR
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