Events Schedule

- June 1-4 Iowa-Missouri Conference Camp Meeting
  Sunnyvale Adventist Academy, Centralia, MO
  Ty Gibson • (573)662-2164

- June 11 Lebanon SDA Church, OR
  James Rafferty • (541)238-7827

- June 19-25 Deerpark SDA Church, WA
  James Rafferty • (509)245-7200

- June 22 Bible Study, Light Bearers Ministry
  Ty Gibson • (541)988-3333

- July 5-9 LBM Convocation, Jasper, OR
  Ty Gibson • (541)988-3333

- July 16 Cascade SDA Church, Bend, OR
  James Rafferty • www.arkvilleadventistchurch.org

- July 19 Bible Study, Light Bearers Ministry
  Ty Gibson • (541)988-3333

- August 19-20 North West Youth Conference, Valley View SDA Church, WA
  James Rafferty • (509)866-9076

- August 27 Cascade SDA Church, Bend, OR
  James Rafferty • www.arkvilleadventistchurch.org

By the time you receive this newsletter, the ARISE team will be making the move to the beautiful Pacific Northwest to join forces with Light Bearers. ARISE is known around the world for its outstanding evangelistic training programs, the first of which in its new capacity as part of Light Bearers will be held August 31–December 10, 2011 in Jasper, Oregon, just twenty minutes from downtown Eugene.

Cornerstone is a 15-week session that affords the student a total immersion experience in both public evangelism and personal soul-winning. Intense in-class instruction augmented by genuine, practical “in the community” ministry make this course the flagship of our training programs. The program provides the perfect Cornerstone for building a Christ-centered, lifelong personal ministry.

Space is limited, so act now! Go to www.arisehub.org for more details, or call 541-988-3333.
Yesterday, May 12th, something amazing happened. Something providential and miraculous. Two ministries became one. This did not happen overnight, as you might imagine. We do, after all, live in a Newtonian world, and when two things come together there is friction. And yet, this merger, and the events leading up to it, has happened so providentially, so precisely and so definitively, that we felt—no, we knew—that God was moving.

Newton, it seemed, took a break. And God stepped in.

ARISE has been training, teaching and preaching for a decade. Light Bearers for more than two decades. Both ministries have been stable, effective and successful in their respective specialties. Ty Gibson and James Rafferty have been Co-directors of Light Bearers from day one. Too, David Asscherick has been the Director of ARISE since day one. So these are two well-established and moored ministries. This, then, was not a “fly by the seat of one’s pants” decision. It began as a friendship. Merged to a conversation. Grew to an exploration. Matured to a real possibility. And then arrived as a Providence-laden reality.

Like a birth, if we may employ that analogy, it began slowly and, uh well, “the last movements” were “rapid ones.” The last three weeks in particular have been filled with many evidences, openings, epiphanies and providences. It is not an exaggeration to say that every person in both ministries feels that we have been led along by God Himself in this venture.

It can be difficult to get two preachers to agree. What happens when you have seven? That’s a miracle! And we’re not only did it not get “hung up;” it gained momentum, excitement and plausibility as it progressed!

So here we are. Yesterday, Light Bearers’ Board of Directors voted the merger unanimously. ARISE’s team did the same. ARISE’s own Conference President, Elder Ramiro Cano, gave his heartfelt blessing even while confessing, “We’ll be very sad to see you go.”

And this brings us to an important element. There is some sadness mingled with the joy. ARISE’s departure from its local conference (Central California) and local church (Sonora) is not easy. The relationships are many, and they are deep. As ARISE transitions to Oregon, we will deeply, genuinely miss our many colleagues and friends in the Sunshine State. But this is not “good-bye,” but rather “fare thee well.” For this world is not our home. We are taking the “long” view on reality. We’re trying to see what God sees and create what He dreams and desires. And right now we are immoderately confident that God’s dream for us is a dream together.

Two becoming one. Twice the light.

Unity, Synergy, Activity, Possibility, Ministry.

We’re excited! Can you tell?

Stay tuned to arisehub.org and lbm.org for much more to come, because yesterday was just the beginning, and tomorrow is not the end!

Forward together!

The Light Bearers Team and the ARISE Team