There is Church Because There is Mission

by Sung Kwon, National Executive Director, Adventist Community Services

God is a missionary God. There is church because there is mission, not vice versa. Outreach, the mission of the church, is an attribute of God. People do need the truth and we do have it, but we must earn the right to share it with people who need it. This will require shifting our efforts from growing churches to transforming communities.

Ellen White said, “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’” (MH 143)

Jesus gave Himself away to the poor, the sick, the unclean, the disadvantaged and disenfranchised people. The Kingdom of God was expanding to places, people, and cultures that the Pharisees had never considered.

Service is not optional in Christianity. We were created and saved to serve, called and commended to serve God and His children. Do you find yourself helping people? Turning lives around? Making positive changes in the community? Or do we spend most of our time maximizing our pleasure and minimizing our pain? “God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.” (Eph. 2:10, MSG).

We must create a mission-oriented culture in all of our churches, schools and hospitals. As change makers and Christians, we need to create venues where people can practice being missionaries in everyday life.

Anyone with interests in community outreach can visit http://www.communityservices.org to learn of ways to help the

September 14, 2011

In this Issue

- There is Church Because There is Mission
- ACS DR volunteers in Jefferson, Tx. are providing hot meals to firefighters
- Eighty decisions for baptisms and many more decisions
- First Lady Michelle Obama launched “Let’s Move”
- Adventists in the News
- Attend Sukkot Retreat 2011 with Jewish Heritage Ministries
- Officers Max C. Torkelsen II, president;
- South Atlantic Conference Constituency meeting
- Beginning tonight, Astonishing Discoveries in the
ACS DR volunteers in Jefferson, Tx. are providing hot meals to firefighters there and they've opened their thrift shop to give goods away to fire survivors. In addition, Adventist Community Services (ACS) has arranged for storage space to process large quantities of donations that will be distributed to anyone in need. Texas ACS Disaster Relief (DR) volunteers will evaluate the situation in Waller and Magnolia Counties to determine what services can be provided to assist these communities as well.

More than 150 fires are currently burning in Texas, including one that has become the largest in state history. Over the past 10 days, more than 34,000 acres and over 1,500 homes have been consumed in Bastrop County, Tx. alone. Throughout all the destruction, Adventist ACS DR has been actively evaluating needs and providing donation management assistance. The Texas Conference mobile distribution unit was deployed to Bastrop to begin distribution of clothing packs, personal care kits, blankets and sheets. An additional truckload of much needed supplies will also be distributed.

ACS DR volunteers have continued to serve communities in the name of Jesus Christ throughout this year's steady stream of disasters in the U.S. Your donations, big and small, will help provide much needed products and services to survivors and responders in need. Donate online; by phone at 800-381-7171, or mail a check or money order to Adventist Community Services, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

Eighty decisions for baptisms and many more decisions to accept Jesus for the first time were made during five weeks of Tween Camp at the Wisconsin Camp Wakonda this summer.

Wisconsin Conference Youth Director, Pastor Greg Taylor, reports: "As a first time director, it was my prayer that God would lead me to the right staff... God blessed abundantly! As a staff we drew names of campers that we prayed for during the weeks they were here. They understood that they were here to minister and they rose to that occasion realizing that God had a work to do through them.... The Holy Spirit often left us speechless as a camp staff. We were reminded over and over again that the work being done at camp is much 'bigger' than we are."

First Lady Michelle Obama launched “Let’s Move” in February 2010 to help solve the problem of childhood obesity within a
generation. The Adventist church has joined some 50 other faith and community organizations in supporting this national initiative in tackling the challenge of childhood obesity. As a church with a health message, we want to lead the way in this initiative. "More than ever the time has come for God's message of healing and restoration to be heard," said Katia Reinert, Health Ministries director. "Let's Move Day is a wonderful opportunity to make a positive impact for Christ in our communities."

Find out how Adventist churches, schools and health care organizations across North America are getting on board, registering and preparing for our September 25 launch of "Let's Move Day" at the [Adventists InStep for Life calendar](#). To help local entities publicize their participation in the local media, a press release template has been prepared. Read about it in the Resource section below.

The following are positive stories that appeared this week in the news about Seventh-day Adventists in the North American Division territory.

## Adventists in the News

**Free Clinic expands**
*Rapid City Journal*
September 13

**Modernizing the classroom: Templeton Hills Seventh Day Adventist Christian ...**
*Paso Robles Press*
September 12

**SJCH hopes to heal, soothe through hospitalwide prayer**
*Bakersfield.com*
September 12

**Church builds home, brings art to poor area of Peru**
*9NEWS.com*
September 12

**Police chaplains recall the days after 9/11 attacks at Ground Zero**
*The Daily Citizen*
September 12

**Church mourns, finds hope in future**
*Times Herald-Record*
September 11

**Zac Charles to perform 9/11 concert from Afghanistan**
*Tillamook Headlight Herald*
September 11

### 2012:

**Health Summit 2012**, Jan. 27-Feb. 5
**the One project**, Feb. 13-14
**Just Claim It 3**, Mar. 7-10
**Pathfinder Bible Experience**, Apr. 21
**La Red** (Hispanic NET), Oct. 13-20

**Adventist World**

**NAD Edition**

*Adventist Ministries Convention*, Jan. 15–18

*Adventist InStep for Life* calendar

*15-17*

*180 Symposium*, Oct. 18-20

*Society of Adventist Communicators Convention*, Oct. 20–22

*Special Needs Children’s Ministry Training*, Nov. 11-13

*Cruise With a Mission*, Dec. 11-18

*2012:*

*September Offerings*
No meat needed: Author to present healthy cooking seminar
Midland Daily News
September 10

Students Honor Heroes
KDRV
September 9

New CEO leads Parker Adventist Hospital
Our Colorado News
September 9

Wythe police chaplain talks about time in NYC during Sept. 11
Southwest Virginia Today
September 9

At Loma Linda Academy, It’s Another Type of Football
Patch.com
September 9

Hundreds of lay ministers pray for rain in Texas
Houston Chronicle
September 9

‘God’s diet plan’: Health food is organic farmer’s ministry
Orlando Sentinel
September 8

Food Bank’s mobile pantry hits the street to help curb hunger on Treasure Coast
Fort Pierce Tribune
September 8

When vision and hard work come together
Daily Gleaner
September 8

Fourth-grader harvests huge cabbage
Lodi News-Sentinel
September 8

Castle Rock Adventist Health Campus hosts open house
Our Colorado News
September 7

A gift of learning from overseas
Glendale News Press
September 7

The Lentil: A Beloved Legume
Boise Weekly
September 7

Adventist Health, Takoma Receive ‘Great Workplace Award’

and Special Days
September Focus:
Family Life

Helpful Websites:
Family Ministries
Men’s Ministries

Special Days:
• September 11-17:
  Family Togetherness Week
• September 18-24:
  Hispanic Heritage Week

Offerings:
• September 10, Fall Mission Appeal
• September 17, Local Church Budget
• September 24, Local Conference Advance

Union Magazines and Websites
Atlantic Union GLEANER
Canadian Adventist MESSENGER
Columbia Union VISITOR
Lake Union HERALD
Mid-America OUTLOOK
North Pacific Union GLEANER
Pacific Union RECORDER
Southern Union TIDINGS
Southwestern Union RECORD

Adventist Mission DVD and Quarterly

3rd Quarter, 2011
West Central Africa Division
Attend Sukkot Retreat 2011 with Jewish Heritage Ministries, a part of NAD-sponsored Jewish Ministries. Beth-El Shalom of St. Petersburg and New Port Richey are two congregations of the Florida conference that reach out to Jewish people in a culturally sensitive contextualized manner and at the same time educate Christians regarding the Jewish roots of their faith. Come enjoy 3 days and 2 nights at Pine Lake Retreat in Groveland, Fl. for the first few days of Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles). There will be worships, midrashs, recreation, dance, fellowship, sukkah building, and rejoicing. MORE (click on Sukkot 2011)

Officers Max C. Torkelsen II, president; John Loor Jr., executive secretary; and Mark A. Remboldt, treasurer, were re-elected at the regularly-scheduled constituency session of the North Pacific Union Conference Sunday, September 11, on the campus of Walla Walla University (WWU) in College Place, Wa.

In conjunction with the NPUC gathering, WWU also convened its constituency session during a portion of the afternoon and affirmed reports from WWU administrators.

The September 11 constituency sessions followed the four-day Northwest Adventist Leadership Convention held at WWU for NPUC-area pastors, administrators and families. MORE

South Atlantic Conference Constituency meeting was held Sunday, September 11, in Orangeburg, SC. Elected were: President, William Winston; Executive Secretary, Stephen Ruff; Treasurer, Larry Johnson; General Vice President/Trust Services/ASI, Lawrence Hamilton; Vice President for Education, James Lamb; Adventist Book Center Manager, Sylvia Coleman; Community Services/Personal Ministries, Alvin Freeman; Disabilities Coordinator, Rosemary Graham; Family Ministries/Singles Ministries/Retiree Affairs, Melvin Preston; Health Ministries, David Moore; Ministerial/Evangelism, Calvin Watkins; National Servicemen's Organization, James Reid; Publishing/Family Health Services, Carl McRoy; Sabbath School/Children's Ministries, Alex Todd; Stewardship/Religious Liberty, Oscar Sherrod; Women's Ministry, Sylvia Wilson; Youth Ministries, Patrick Carter. The Communication and Hispanic Ministries positions were referred to the Executive Committee.
Beginning tonight, Astonishing Discoveries in the Land of the Bible will run through September 18. View it on the Hope Church Channel: 7:30-9:00 p.m. ET and PT; 6:30-8:00 p.m. CT, MT record and use as needed.

It also will be broadcast on the Hope Channel (on DIRECTV ch. 368), 7:30-9:00 p.m. ET and 7:30-9:00 p.m. PT. It will be rebroadcast the following morning at 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. ET, September 15-19. Churches are encouraged to access the uplink from the Hope Church Channel which provides programming for churches.

Ron E. M. Clouzet, DMin, and Michael G. Hasel, PhD, curator of the Lynn Wood Museum of Archaeology at Southern Adventist University, will take you through Egypt's Valley of the Kings, the pyramids, and the mysteries of the mummies, including the thrilling discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun. Discover how archaeological data brings Bible stories to life.

This pre-NET Archaeology seminar is a great introduction to the full message series, Prophecies Decoded, September 30.

Contact your local media about Let’s Move Day with a sample news release template that you can use on your organization’s letterhead. NAD Health Ministries and Communication Departments are encouraging organizations that are participating in Let’s Move Day on September 25 to contact their local media (television, newspaper, and radio) to let them know what they are doing. Just fill in the information that is in all capital letters with your organization’s information as it pertains to your local Let’s Move Day event.

Note: September 25 is very unique in its relationship to the national Let’s Move campaign as it is the only day that any faith-based organization is hosting anything. Let’s flood the media with what the Seventh-day Adventist Church is doing across the NAD territory with Let’s Move! Don’t wait until it’s too late. Do this today!

Family Ministries Quick Guide breaks the job of a Family Ministries leader into easy-to-follow steps and help define your ministry. Learn how to train volunteers, assess the needs of your church, and create a ministry action proposal. Learn the steps to get your ministry moving. It includes information for supplemental resources and prepared forms that are ready to copy and distribute. MORE

Spouses of Ministers watch and participate in a LIVE television program for you. Tune into the Hope Church Channel on Tuesday, November 1 from 2-4 p.m. EST for Get Real: Inspiration & Encouragement for Ministerial Spouses featuring:

- Passionate about Ministry - Daisy and Daniel Quinone
· Healthy Eating and Weight Loss - Rhonda Johnson and Debbi Pedersen
· Keeping Your Kids Connected - Dr. Martin Weber
· Dealing with Pornography Addiction - Christina Anderson
· Increasing Spiritual and Emotional Intimacy - Cynthia Mercer
· Identifying Your Role and Place as a Minister’s Spouse - Jose Hernandez

Join us online with your questions. Sponsored by the NAD Ministerial Department.

ViewPoints

“We must become involved in people’s lives, work to build relationships, walk with them through their sorrows and joys, live with generosity toward others, love and care for them unconditionally, stand up for the defenseless.” - Sung Kwon at Colorado Springs Church, Co., August 13.

“The main reason and primary function of why we exist is that we move forward the gospel of Jesus Christ to every person and every place in our territory. It must be the driver of all that we do.” - Dan Jackson at NAD Officers and Union Presidents Meeting in Sacramento, Ca., August 4.

“Pastors, the most powerful sermon that you will ever preach will not come from the pulpit. Consider this statement, ‘Far more powerful than any sermon that can be preached is the influence of the home upon human hearts and lives’ (MH 352). So, you see, the most powerful sermon comes not from your church pulpit, but from the four walls of your home. What sermon are you preaching by your interactions with your family? What message is being heard?” Pamela Consuegra, Indiana Conference Pastor’s Meetings, August 2.

Stay Socially Connected with NAD

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12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 | Visit: nadadventist.org

George Johnson Jr., communication director | Bernadine Delafield, NET evangelism coordinator
Lynetta Murdoch, editorial assistant. Email: newspoints@nad.adventist.org
For instructor Luis Beltre and Principal Adrinna Beltre, bringing the latest technologies into the classroom as a way to engage their students in holistic learning has always been a top assignment.

That's why when Templeton Hills Seventh Day Adventist Christian School recently decided to revamp its main classroom as part of a continual effort to integrate modern technologies into the classroom, the couple was pleased with the improvements.

According to Mrs. Beltre, the private, technological additions such as the laboratory are geared not only to educate students, but attract more in the long run.

According to school officials, there are a lot of great plans in store for this school year.

The school is currently working with Charter Cable to bring a much needed faster more reliable internet service to the school.

This is no easy project, school officials said.

Major construction will be needed to accomplish the task. The nearest service is a block away from the school, according to school officials.
The currently school facility, located at 930 Templeton Hills Road, was constructed in 1981. But before that, it was known as the Paso Robles Adventist School, situated in the city of Paso Robles.

Student body count estimates show a range of around 30 to 40 students, which provides a low student-to-teacher ratio and the kind of interactive learning environment that instructors like Luis said is integral to quality education.

“The school has always been intended to be small,” explained Adrian.

Inside the classroom...

For the complete article see the 09-13-2011 issue.

Click here to purchase an electronic version of the 09-13-2011 paper.
"Dear God," a morning prayer to be broadcast over the San Joaquin Community Hospital loudspeaker says. "It's another new day. We all need your peace for the unknown moments ahead of us today. Help our doctors and staff be the best at what they're trained to do -- and give our patients and their families comfort, hope and healing."

This message is one of about 60 prerecorded prayers hospital leaders hope to soon begin playing over the local Adventist Health affiliate's speaker system at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. to open and close each day.

The prayers are part of the hospital's new "Pray at 8" campaign, which SJCH Executive Director of Mission and Culture Sandy Johnson said will also be an open invitation to the community to pray. Colorful bookmarks ask people to "Pray at 8."

"If you're at home blow-drying your hair at 8 a.m.," Johnson said, "it might just be a reminder to, you know, send up some good thoughts."

Spiritual well-being

Health care providers support the emotional and spiritual well-being of their patients in different ways. Most -- including San Joaquin -- will do their best to accommodate religious requests from patients of any faith.

Area facilities, including public hospital Kern Medical Center and privately owned Delano Regional Medical Center, address patients' religious preferences on an individual basis, though the hospitals themselves are not affiliated with a particular religion.

"It's very common as part of the admission process," said Paul Hensler, chief executive officer of KMC. "We ask if there's a religious preference."

Then, he said, the hospital can make appropriate arrangements, which might include contacting a patient's church or calling in a chaplain. Still, in private, faith-based institutions hospitalwide prayer isn't uncommon -- whether or not those prayers align with the beliefs of all patients and staff.

Local Catholic Healthcare West-affiliate Mercy Hospital has read a daily blessing over the loudspeaker "for ages," said spokeswoman Sandy Doucette, which she said harkens back to the hospital's founding by nuns. Doucette added that the prayers aren't necessarily Catholic.

"We have to walk a fine line," said Kathie Wright, director of marketing for Delano Regional. She said DRMC has a policy where "if someone has a religious preference we'll abide by that preference and bring in anyone that needs to minister to them," but at the same time, "we don't want to offend anybody."

Adventist Health doesn't have a specific policy regarding hospitalwide prayer, though spokeswoman Rita Waterman said several hospitals do have programs similar to San Joaquin's. Johnson said she hadn't heard of any other hospitals who specifically "Pray at 8."
Atmosphere of caring

San Joaquin staff are still working on some of the logistical aspects of the campaign, Johnson said, so she wasn't sure exactly when the first prayer would be played. But she hoped they'll get under way within the next couple of weeks.

The messages are meant to create "an atmosphere of caring," said SJCH spokesman Jimmy Phillips. The prayers, he said, will "calm people down, and show them that we take their emotional and spiritual needs as seriously as we do their physical needs."

That emphasis on whole person healing, Johnson said, is what drives the hospital's Sacred Work initiative, which serves as a guiding mission for the hospital.

Johnson said Sacred Work activities like staff renewal days and "consecration walks" have "brought a new sense of life to the hospital and we now have people coming to work here because of our culture of sacred work," she said.

The "Pray at 8" campaign was a product of that initiative, which was introduced a few years ago.

The recordings -- featuring the voices of Johnson and SJCH's Vice President of Marketing and Development Jarrod McNaughton -- will be played over the same system that currently broadcasts a lullaby each time a child is born.

"It'll be heard everywhere," Johnson said.

Phillips said the hospital would address any concerns from patients or employees who are uncomfortable with the prayers on a case-by-case basis.

While he said the prayers are "Christian in nature," the hospital hopes everyone, regardless of faith, will derive comfort from the messages.

"All of our caregivers and staff are empowered to pray with people," he said. "They certainly don't have to, but it's certainly something we encourage here."

Quiet time

As a public hospital, KMC's legal constraints are different from a private institution's. KMC can't actively endorse any religion, but Hensler said a bigger concern may be noise.

"One of the major dissatisfiers of patients is noise," he said. As a result, he said KMC reserves overhead paging to emergencies.

Hensler said even some non-secular hospitals, like a Catholic hospital where he worked previously, have stopped praying over the loudspeakers.

Wright said DRMC also tries to keep loudspeaker use to a minimum.

"We did that years ago first and foremost for patients' comfort," Wright said.

Wright said DRMC has a small chapel with "neutral but beautiful stained glass," which could serve as a place of worship for patients and staff of any or no faith.

Hensler said such a room is on KMC's "wish list."
"We'd like to have kind of a nondenominational quiet room," he said. "A place for quiet reflection."

A prayer to be broadcast as night falls over San Joaquin Community Hospital also asks for quiet, though of a bit less secular variety:

"May we move with a quiet assurance that YOU are here with us -- in every room -- in every hallway -- and in every heart," it says. "Amen."
They went to Peru for almost two weeks expecting to help others. In turn, they ended up helping themselves.

"Our mission as a church is to develop their love for God and their service to people," Dave Kennedy, pastor of New Day Adventist Church, said.

For the past six years, his church has been helping those on the other side of the world.

"We went to a very poor area of Iquitos, Peru, called Padre Jesus Vies and rebuilt a home for a single mom with four children," Kennedy said.

The mission offers those in the Denver area a chance to take a different look at life.

"People come back with a different perspective on how to live, how to give and how to share," he said.

"What I walked away with is that materialism doesn't buy you happiness," Janessa Marsh said about her trip.

For Marsh and her family, this was the first trip down to Peru. She went there knowing for certain her family was going to help another family rebuild their home. One day, however, ended up changing the entire trip.

"We had some extra paper, and I just started drawing for these kids. Well, the crowd just started getting bigger, bigger and bigger," Marsh said.

Being an art teacher in Colorado, Marsh decided to put her skills to good use.

"Seeing the excitement of me just drawing them a thing, I want to teach them a skill and maybe they can teach this in the future," she added.

That is when she knew she needed to teach them a life skill, while allowing them to forget about daily life - even for a short while.

"I regret not doing something sooner, and I'm so glad that I did something now," she said.

Marsh says she is planning to go back year after year and hopes to focus more on teaching these kids art.
An American flag is emblazoned against the sky as it flies above the surreal remnant of a section of the twin towers of the World Trade Center after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Dalton Police Chaplains Jim Cox, left, and Ray McCranie pose before getting into a cruiser and making the long trip to Ground Zero to minister during the days after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C.

Dalton Police Chaplain Ray McCranie, third from right, poses with a group of New York City policemen who were helping provide security at the "Ground Zero" site after the 2011 terrorist attacks.

(Dalton Police Chaplain Ray McCranie holds what he says is his most meaningful photo from "Ground Zero" at New York City following the 9/11 terrorist attacks — a cross formed by two crossbeams brought down in the devastation.

(Dalton Police Chaplain Ray McCranie holds the scrapbook his daughter put together for him following his two trips to "Ground Zero" in New York City with fellow Chaplain Joe Cox following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

Police chaplains recall the days after 9/11 attacks at Ground Zero

Mark Millican
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— Jim Cox remembers the rain.

And the heat emanating from the smoldering buildings.

And the ashes.

“When I walked into Ground Zero in the drizzling rain I could smell it — the ash,” he recalled of visiting New York City just days after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. “And we were standing in this stuff. Who knew what we were standing in? Ashes of the buildings, probably human ash and other things. And I stood there and looked at those piles of rubble a couple of stories high or more, and the smoke coming up. And I could feel the heat, even in the rain — and I broke into tears.

“And my life was forever changed.”

Cox, a former Dalton Police Department chaplain who traveled with his counterpart, Ray McCranie, to the shattered World Trade Center site twice after the attacks, retired from the local force in 2005 and moved to Virginia a year later. As an
ordained minister he remains busy, however, starting a chaplain’s program and becoming a deputy with the Wythe County Sheriff’s Office, as well as pastoring four churches.

The level of activity is not unusual for Cox, who had to do something the day after watching the events of Sept. 11, 2001, from a distance.

“I was at home sitting at my desk working at the computer, and my wife came to the bottom of the stairs and said, ‘Honey, New York (City) is under attack,’” he remembered. “And I thought, ‘What?’ and I said, ‘What did you say?’ She said, ‘New York is under attack. Come quickly.’ I got down there just in time to see the second plane crash into the towers. I was absolutely stunned and realized, yes, there was an attack. This was not accidental, this was deliberate. And I sat there glued to that television the rest of the day.”

After a fitful night Cox arose the next morning and made a phone call to the International Conference of Police Chaplains, of which both he and McCranie belonged as Dalton Police chaplains.

“We’re both trained in critical incident stress management, nationally certified — and I called them and asked them if there was going to be a need to let us know,” Cox continued. “That afternoon or the next morning we got the call that the Port Authority was asking for chaplains certified in critical incident stress management. And so the (Dalton Police) department and our churches said, ‘Yes, we’ll support you in it.’ We put together our gear and Chief James Chadwick — one of the best people I’ve ever known — arranged everything for us. We took a patrol car and went to New York.”

McCranie remembers being in a church meeting when he first learned of the attacks.

“I served on the pastoral staff at CrossPointe Christian Centre here for 12 years and worked as a family life pastor,” he said. “We were sitting down at a table for a staff meeting and there was a TV up on the wall. Somebody rushed in and said, ‘Turn your TV on!’ And we sat there and just saw everything unfold on TV at the old (Dalton Police) station.”
McCranie, a Church of God-ordained minister, said the training he and Cox received through the years included, among other concerns, how to deliver a death notification, suicide intervention and ministering in diverse cultures with sensitivity.

Being there

The pair were “on the ground” in New York City just days after the attacks, from Sept. 15-18 and then again during the first week in December. Making the drive in a Dalton Police cruiser made them stand out.

“The first time we went up, man, there were flags over overpasses, when we would stop and get gas and people would find out where we were going they would offer to buy our dinner, it was that kind of thing,” McCranie recalled. “Our church took a donation to help us go up there. But we didn’t need it, because everything was provided. I mean, you could walk around the site — the perimeter — there was food on a ship pulled up in the harbor and there were all kinds of places to eat, and they provided a motel for us. The second time was a bit different. That had kinda tapered off and we had to pay for our lodging the second time.”

Cox was asked about the difference of viewing the aftermath on TV and actually being there.

“When you see it on TV you don’t get the perspective of the magnitude of what took place,” he said. “When we were in the rubble I put my arm around people, I hugged them, I knelt and prayed with them, whatever was called upon us to do as chaplains. People would come to us and ask us questions and ask for blessings ... we had dark uniforms and white helmets with crosses on them, and people would look for those and come talk to us.”

McCranie said the contrast was sensory.

“Our ministry had to do with working with the Port Authority police,” he said. “We would go to outlying areas and departments ... they had lost a lot of people, so we talked to a lot of them. We would walk around the perimeter and talk to some of the officers and firemen just sitting and taking a break — offer to pray with them. Nobody ever refused a prayer. My thinking of it is that when you saw it on TV, and then you saw it right there in front of you, it was the difference in black-and-white and living color. The sounds, the smells, it was a whole different sensory perception.”

He was asked about the area of greatest need.

“They were more focused on recovery and sifting and sorting out from all that debris, whatever (human) remains there might be,” noted McCranie, a former Army chaplain. “And some of them were on the threshold of total exhaustion — they’d have to be told to stand down and take a break. But there were people from as far away as Washington state who came and brought therapy dogs, and these therapy dogs would go around and just — I guess there’s just something about an animal that enables them to elicit some measure of calmness and tranquility that otherwise would not be possible.

“Then, of course, they had cadaver dogs that would go up on the pile.”
Reflections

Each man was asked if he was able to share his experiences when he returned.

"We were invited to different places," said Cox, who pastored the Cohutta Seventh-day Adventist Church for 17 years. "They did a TV interview with Ray and I, and radio and newspaper interviews. The whole time we were up there I was sending back stories of what we had done that day by computer. Little did I realize it but the chief was passing it on and The Daily Citizen was printing those stories I sent by email. We had lots of opportunities to share and talk with groups."

Have the last 10 years since the attacks changed America? McCranie wonders.

"One of the things I remember an officer (at Ground Zero) saying was, ‘You know, this is kinda like one of those snow globes where you shake it up, turn it upside down and it’s real chaotic and appealing and inviting — but after awhile all the stuff in the little globe will settle down and it’s back to as though it never happened,’" he shared. "That was his perception and ‘take’ on what it would be like in a few years. And I think in a large measure he was right."

McCranie said the impact was obvious at first.

"There was a big surge in patriotism and ‘fly your flag’ attitude and a rise in church attendance, and using the name of Jesus in prayer was all right in public," he said. "Then after awhile, it was just the way he described it with the snow globe — when it settles down, it’s back to normal. And I don’t know that we’ve ‘ratcheted up’ — we did in the beginning — the battle against terrorism. But we’ve yet to call the (alleged shooter) at Fort Hood (Army base) a terrorist act, that’s what I’m talking about. That political correctness still overrides, it seems to me, common sense and what we’re really dealing with.

“There’s been a lot of theories floating around out there that it was payback and all kinds of stuff (by the terrorists). To me, it was just a terrible, cowardly attack."

Cox talked about restoration and renewal.

"I think it’s a time everyone should be drawn back to, and to restore in us — everybody — a renewed patriotic attitude, pride in our country and to realize that we’re vulnerable," he said. "That proved we’re vulnerable from outside attack. And we must never forget what took place that day — the number of people who were killed then and the number of our boys and girls who have been killed since then protecting us here in this country."

McCranie recollects a makeshift memorial at Ground Zero in the days after the attack.

"They’d built a platform where family members could walk up and see what was going on," he said. "We ministered to some of them. It was a piece of history and ministry memories that I thought would never be duplicated again. It made me more cognizant of my own personal blessings. It gave me a more grateful heart for who we are as a nation. It helped me to put the importance of my family in perspective and how important they are to me. There was enough grief to come out of that to last a million years."

Today, McCranie said he will be in his church and “certainly remembering.”
“I think our pastor will have something, a part of our service, to commemorate it,” he said. “We were very grateful to the department for supporting us in going up. It was a coordinated effort with the International Conference of Police Chaplains. It was worth the effort and worth the drive and worth everything we put into it.”

Cox said he will be involved in a huge observance event today that will involve more than 40 agencies and draw people from all over southwest Virginia.
Church mourns, finds hope in future

Seventh-day Adventists pray for responders

By Michael Novinson
Times Herald-Record
Published: 2:00 AM - 09/11/11

MIDDLETOWN — The suffering brought to this world on Sept. 11 will be repaid with salvation in the next world, church leaders promised Saturday morning.

Congregants, guests and emergency responders filled the Middletown Seventh-day Adventist Church to locate meaning in one of America's darkest days.

"We can learn the deeper truth only when we can see beyond the immediate tragedy," Pastor Victor Dyman told the roughly 150-person crowd.

The adults in the room shook their heads in sorrow as first responder Elder Tony Pinero recounted the events of 9/11. The children ages 10-16 wore their church scout uniforms and shook hands with the six emergency responders as they entered the church lobby.

And a dozen babies cooed, babbled and cried in their parents' arms, confused by a ceremony marking an event they were too young to witness.

"We don't understand, Lord," Elder Devon Tugman said during a prayer for first responders, "but we trust in you."

Sept. 11, 2001, inflicted pain upon many in attendance Saturday.

A middle-aged woman in a black T-shirt lost a family member in the terrorist attacks. Sitting in the pews were women and men, young and old, who had worked as emergency responders on that tragic day.

The calls of "Amen" and applause for the first responders filled the cavernous chapel.

And seven pastors at the church traveled to Ground Zero after the attacks to work as chaplains and counselors.

"(Trauma) leaves scars, long and deep scars," Pinero said. "The pain is gone (10 years later), but the scars remain."

Dyman said during his 30-minute sermon that tragedy and displacement are God's way of making people long for something better than the present. But their pain can be eased only through an unconditional embrace of Jesus Christ.

"God is creating for us a home that never dies," he said.
The men and women put their knees on the floor, crossed their arms against the top of the seatbacks, bowed their heads and prayed for a better tomorrow.

mnovinson@th-record.com
Zac Charles, a former Tillamook County resident now stationed as a combat medic in Afghanistan, will be performing on 9/11 in a concert broadcast live via the internet at zaccharles.com.

The concert can be seen online starting at 5 p.m. P.S.T. He plans on donating a portion of the proceeds to the American Fallen Heroes Fund.

Zac Charles is the stage name of Zachary Short, who lived in Tillamook County with his parents, Lewey and Debbie Short, older sister, Lacie, and younger brother, Sam, from 1990 through 2007. He went to kindergarten in Garibaldi, and attended Tillamook Adventist School for grades 1-10. He graduated from Tillamook High School in 2006.

He was active in Tillamook Adventist Church, its youth programs and its Pathfinder program.

Zac expressed, at the early age of 3, his interest in music by singing with his family at church. By age 5, he was singing harmony with his very best Tillamook friend, Jonathan David (J.D.) Stephens.

Around the age of 10, Zac taught himself how to play the guitar that his parents had given to him as a Christmas present. As a young teen he was writing and singing his own music.

His current biggest hit, "Until I Get Home," is about a soldier away from his family.
No meat needed: Author to present healthy cooking seminar

Posted: Saturday, September 10, 2011 8:53 am

Nancy Crosby is perfectly happy without meat in her diet, and she plans to show local residents some of her ideas for vegetarian alternatives to fast food.

Crosby, author of a new plant-based cookbook called “Bountiful Health,” will speak Sept. 25 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the North Midland Family Center, 2601 E. Shearer Road. The cost is $7 and will cover the cost of recipes, handouts and food samples that will be available. The event is sponsored by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

Crosby, of Rushville, Ill., is 41 and has a perpetual smile in her voice. Besides spending her time in the kitchen, she’s the mother of three children, and she and her family operate a truck farm and a greenhouse business. The family has 250 blueberry bushes, plus blackberries and grapes and a small orchard.

Crosby said she’s always been interested in healthy eating and has taught healthy lifestyle seminars for more than 22 years. She studied health science and nutrition in college and has worked in a health food store, a lifestyle center and vegetarian restaurants. In 1990 she helped open a vegetarian restaurant in Finland.

“As I would teach my cooking classes, I would sell all these different health books and cookbooks,” she said. “I’ve always wanted to write my own cookbook but didn’t take the time or take the push.”

She was preparing for a three-day seminar and called a company to order some books. When she said offhandedly that she wished she had a cookbook of her own, the man on the other end of the line said he would help her market the book in Australia if she would write one that included Metric units of measure. She realized right then that “I could really do this.”

Her husband helped her with all those mathematical Metric conversions and, in time, she published a book that includes her own recipes and her tweaked versions of recipes concocted by others.

A favorite recipe for demonstration is Chicken-Style Nuggets, a meatless version of a fast-food favorite. The meat substitute is gluten flour that has been boiled with water and coated with what Crosby calls a breading meal. Seasonings give the nuggets their flavor. To make the flour, the gluten is extracted from wheat berries. When it’s mixed with water, it becomes firm, she said.

“I love to hear people say, ‘Oh, these are good and they’re not meat!’” she said.

Another favorite recipe is Creamy Vegetable Lasagna, which Crosby called her version of the creamy Italian dish that Stouffers makes. It’s white and creamy with bread crumbs. The recipe calls for six cups of steamed vegetables and, depending on the time of year and the available supply in her garden, they might be asparagus, spinach, broccoli or something else.
She actually makes an alternative to macaroni and cheese — totally without dairy products.

“People say ‘That tastes just like Kraft macaroni and cheese,’” she said.

She also makes meatless sloppy Joes and a non-dairy version of nacho cheese with green chilies, “and you would not know that it’s not nacho cheese,” she said. Favorite substitutes for meat include soy or wheat protein.

Why take so much effort to adapt foods for the vegetarian palate? It’s all part of a healthy lifestyle that Crosby, as a Seventh-Day Adventist, believes is best.
GRANTS PASS, Ore. -- Kindergarten through eighth graders at the Grants Pass Seventh-Day Adventist School performed songs and gave gifts this morning to veterans, firemen and police officers.

They also built large models of the airplanes that terrorists took down, the World Trade Center, and the Pentagon, covered with the names of those who died.

A wall of honor also listed all those who have died in the war on terror, including service men and women killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.
New CEO leads Parker Adventist Hospital
By Ashley Dieterle | Posted: Friday, September 9, 2011 9:00 am

Parker Adventist Hospital has a new president and chief executive officer, Morre Dean. He took on the role in mid-August and comes to the hospital with a strong sense of personal care to patients and the desire to work closely with the community of Parker.

Dean came from Glendale Adventist Medical Center in California, where he served as the president and CEO and before that, he served in the same position at Walla Walla General Hospital in Washington. He has a bachelor’s degree in business administration, holds an MBA and is a certified public accountant. Working as a CEO of a hospital has always been his dream, and since the age of 16, he began his journey to achieve that dream.

“I have a unique story because I always wanted to be a hospital CEO and I always had a passion for health care,” Dean said. “I was never wild about the clinical side of hospitals, but I have the passion to help people and love business. So a CEO position was an area where I could help people and do what I love.”

Dean is not new to Colorado. He worked in the Denver area before taking the position in Walla Walla, Wash. He said he is excited to be back in Colorado, and is even more enthusiastic to be working for Parker Adventist Hospital. He is on a mission to make the hospital the best it can be.

“Parker Adventist is on a great track and where it is headed is phenomenal,” he said. “My role is to help this team dream big, bigger than they have ever dreamed.”

Walking into Parker Adventist, Dean experienced the type of hospital he has always wanted to work for. From the decor to the healing atmosphere, Dean knew Parker was the place for him. Always believing in the importance of personal care to patients, Dean is confident Parker Adventist will provide patients with the support needed as well as exceeding patients' expectations.

“The team at Parker Adventist understands what people need and they are able to deliver that with compassion not only for the patient but also for the families of the patients,” he said. “People here are in the medical profession not just for a paycheck, but because they want to make a difference in someone’s life and they love what they are doing.”

Dean is also focused on keeping a strong connection to Parker as well as reaching out to surrounding locations.

“We can be a regional medical center, not just a community hospital,” he said. “We won’t just be the best hospital in Parker or Douglas County, but we have the ability to be the best in the state and beyond.”
Wythe police chaplain talks about time in NYC during Sept. 11

By STAFF
Published: September 9, 2011

» 1 Comment | Post a Comment

By AMANDA EVANS/Staff

“...and I just put my arms around them...”
If Jim Cox has done this once, he's done it a thousand times.
As chaplain with the Wythe County Sheriff’s Office, Cox’s role is one of guidance, of healing and of comfort.
But burdens, sometimes, seem more than we can bear alone—when the answer to our question is not enough, when there are no answers, when it hurts too much to even form the question.
Sept. 11, 2001, as countless can attest, was one of those times.
It is through the stories of the rescue workers, pulling 24-hour shifts, the firemen, plowing fearlessly through the rubble, and the woman collapsing to the ground at sight of her fiancé’s debris-shrouded tomb, that Cox understands his own story, his own experience at Ground Zero.
“...Their stories are their stories,” he said. “They became my stories because I became a player after the fact. I experienced it through their eyes.”

Where we were
Like most people, Cox can remember exactly where he was the day of the attack.
“Honey, come quick. New York is under attack,” his wife had called to him from the other room of their home in Dalton, Ga.
Glued to the television, Cox said he saw the second plane pummel into the second tower. It was then he realized, “This was not staged. This was no accident. This was an attack,” he said.
The next morning he received a call from the International Conference of Police Chaplains. The Port Authority Police Department, a division close to Ground Zero, had requested certified police chaplains to assist its rescue workers by offering counseling, and he had been summoned to go.
Because all flights at that time had been grounded, Cox and fellow chaplain Ray McCranie drove from Dalton, Ga., to New York City.
Along the way, Cox said, they waved at all the people who had come to stand out on the roadside to cheer them on, marveling at all the American flags they saw flying high from overpasses.
“Going up we smiled,” he said. “It appeared the country was coming together.”
Upon arrival, the two chaplains were stationed at the technology center at the entrance to the Holland Tunnel on the New Jersey side of the water. There, they set up a make-shift clinic for employees of the towers, for rescue workers and for anyone else who was sent their way.

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When she said yes, of course, Cox asked her if she ever considered that she’d lead all those people behind her to safety as she ran toward a ferry boat that would eventually take them all to safety. With that, Cox said, her feelings of guilt left her. “That’s why we were there,” he said.

Ground Zero
On his second trip there, later that year in December, Cox was stationed at Ground Zero on a platform that overlooked where the towers had once been. The platform was for family members, rescue workers and tower employees who had survived. Cox’s mission, though essentially the same as his previous trip, took on a whole different feel. The pain, he said, was so real you could just about touch it.

“At Ground Zero, the pain and the hurt—it tore at my very inner soul. My heart was wrenched.” For a moment, he said, when he first saw the gigantic piles of rubble, he just stood there, eyes wide, mouth agape.

“I’m not the same person I was the day I left to go to Ground Zero.” Perhaps Cox’s most important experiences at Ground Zero were the ones where he could offer comfort. “People were so hungry at that moment for some kind of spiritual encouragement,” he said. “They didn’t ask if I was Baptist or Presbyterian or Catholic. They just wanted to hear something.” The question he got most often was, “Why.” For some, he explained that God is a just God. For others, he told the story of Jesus. And for many, he offered a shoulder to cry on—and he often cried right along with them. “[God’s] tears were mingled with their tears,” he said.

There were two wisdoms that helped him through that difficult time, Cox said. The first, he said, were words from Ellen G. White, an early leader of the Seventh Day Adventist church, “We must wait patiently and not fail or be discouraged, for God has his plans all arranged.” The second, he said, was the New Testament scripture from Philippians 4:13, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

On that platform and down in the galleys of what was once a bustling street corner, Cox began to truly understand the ministry of presence.

With grief, Cox said, “you don’t always have to say something or do something.” One day, a group of firemen had stopped to take a rest, placing boards atop overturned 5 gallon buckets for a place to sit. Cox asked if he could join them, and sat down in the middle of them all. “No one said a word,” he said, “I just put my arms around them.” He hadn’t sob like young children on his shoulders, young, tough policewomen give him her collar pin, and weary-eyed policemen give him his own Port Authority Police Department arm patch. He keeps these treasures in a plastic bag, along with his hard hat, signed by the workers he stood with day by day, and his face mask, which is still covered in dust, all sealed in a cardboard box labeled “Ground Zero.” And the pair of boots he wore there, which had to be resoled because the heat burnt right through them—stayed in his garage for a year before he ever put them back on. He wears them around the farm now and remembers his experience every time he puts them on.

All I have to give
Cox, though moved by the experiences of those he counseled, was particularly touched on that platform when a young sailor, whose ship had docked in the harbor, had spent his last dime to come to the scene. He had no family, knew no one at the towers, but felt compelled to come. He slowly lowered his white hat, placing it among the other tokens of remembrance laid there. “It’s all I have left to give,” he told Cox. The people he met there in New York were so gracious, Cox said. He never once paid for a meal and—covered in soot—was ushered to the front of the hour-long wait line at Olive Garden by the manager and waited on hand and foot, his meal paid for by strangers. People lined the streets all around the city, trying to hand them candy bars, bottles of water, a high-five. “They just wanted to give us something,” Cox said, even the gang members. Now, 10 years later and back in Wythe County, Cox still chooses to give by sharing his story with others. His experience at Ground Zero has taught him to be more compassionate, more understanding, he said.

“IT served to teach me how human I really am,” he said, “because if you don’t admit you’re human, you’re not much help to yourself or anybody else.” Amanda Evans can be reached at 228-6611 or aevans@wythenews.com.
Want to voice your own? (Requires free registration)

Well, here's the rules:

- Please avoid offensive, vulgar, or hateful language.
- Respect others.
- Use the "Flag Comment" link when necessary.
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The ball is definitely the same one as any other high school player uses. It takes the same funny end-over-end bounces. It wobbles just so when thrown wrong. And it gives players with the surest hands fits when they don't catch it right.

The players are the same as any other high school team. They play to win. They talk a little trash on the sideline. And they all complain about what they deem a bad call by the referee.

But Thursday's games at Loma Linda Academy were decidedly different than any other high school football game I've ever covered.

For the first time, no one was wearing a helmet. No one wore pads. And, most strikingly, two of the four teams were made up entirely of girls.
This is a game for fun. Not the big business that Southern California high school football has become. Players prayed together before the start of the game. People rooted the field cheered on friends, no matter which team they played for.

As for the game play, I'd describe it as a more open version of arena football. But where the arena game compacted the game as it moved indoors, the flag game gives you a wide open, wheel and deal feel.

Each team fields six players a side, playing on a field 80 yards long, broken up into 20-yard increments. You get four downs to go 20 yards. Cross one of the 20-yard markers, you get your first down. They play two 20-minute halves, with the clock running until the final two minutes of each half.

With all the room, the plays get creative. Everyone is eligible to carry the ball (the center must face the quarterback after snapping the ball to get a handoff). Physical contact happens (there's some blocking), but it is the ball carrier's responsibility to avoid a defender who has established position.

Oh, and the rules are exactly the same for the girls.

The plays get wild. It's what you'd expect to see if you and your buddies were playing in your local park. Multiple laterals. Option runs. Flick passes.

Loma Linda runs a planned triple option play, which they used to score three times Thursday. The team's coach, Doug Henderson, said they've been running the play for 25 years at the school. Team's build defenses to stop it. And yet, it still works.

Obviously, the schools that play flag football do so because it cuts down on the cost of fielding a traditional football team. They don't do it because they don't have the athletes for it.

Because watching these two teams hook up, you can see the athletic talent out there. It's a different type of athlete that is able to play. Quicker. Smarter. Able to adapt to fast changes. You send out a team of only skill players each down.

Thursday was Redlands Adventist's first game, and it showed when they trailed 20-6 at the half. Loma Linda's two teams played four games in a tournament in Monterey last weekend. Thursday's wins ran their records to 5-0 for the girls and 4-1 for the boys.

But both coaches told me after the game that they know there is still work to be done. It's still early in the season, and there are early-season mistakes to overcome.

Just like everyone else.
At Loma Linda Academy, It's Another Type of Football - Loma Linda, ...

http://lomalinda.patch.com/articles/at-loma-linda-academy-its-another-ty...
Hundreds of lay ministers pray for rain in Texas

DALLAS (AP) — Hundreds of lay ministers meeting in Texas have expanded their prayers for 9/11 terrorist attack victims and their families to include pleas for rain.

More than 500 Seventh-Day Adventist Church members used their convention Friday in Dallas to pray for precipitation.

Spokesman Rocky Twyman of Rockville, Md., says the lack of moisture in Texas has caught the attention of church members who are focusing prayers "on ending this drought."

Texas is in the midst of its worst drought since the 1950s. An early estimate shows crop and livestock losses at $5.2 billion.

The Texas Forest Service says more than 3.5 million acres have burned in wildfires, during extreme dry conditions, since last November.

Online:

http://www.nadadventist.org/
There are those who believe in locally grown organic food because they are health-food aficionados and others who believe corporate industrialized farming is bad for your health and some who believe that food trucked halfway across the country is harmful to the planet.

Organic farmer Richard Kann believes he's on a mission from God.

"We regard this as a health ministry," said Kann, owner of Heart of Christmas Farms, an organic farm that produces hydroponic vegetables in east Orange County. "Everything is natural and God-given. We call it God's diet plan."

Kann is putting his faith as a Seventh-day Adventist — healthy body, healthy mind, healthy spirit — into practice by raising squash, beets, tomatoes, lettuce, herbs and greens without chemical fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides or soil.

"The whole Adventist Church is living healthy, eating healthy. This is my ministry: to provide healthy food to people and keep them healthy," said Kann, 52, a lay pastor and professional computer programmer.

Kann's health-food ministry coincides with a growing "slow food" movement in Central Florida that favors fresh, locally grown food over the fast food flown or trucked long distances. It also intersects with concerns over economic and environmental sustainability and fears about contaminated food and genetic engineering.

"Orlando has come a long way from just five years ago. This is the new way restaurants are going: supporting the local businesses," said Jared Gross, executive chef of Napa restaurant in the Peabody Orlando hotel, which uses Kann's squash for soup, eggplants for lasagna and greens for salads. "Richard is leading the pack for organic greens and vegetables."
The farm, which produced its first crop in 2007, started with his son's 4-H hydroponic science project, grew into a garden and expanded into a family farm that sells to restaurants and hotels. Heart of Christmas now supplies a half-dozen restaurants, including Austin's Coffee in Winter Park. Kann's family farm fits the community-based business model of Austin's owner, Sean Moore.

"The family grows it, the family picks it, the family delivers it," Moore said. "I like to brag that I have a farmer who delivers my produce."

But it's more than just knowing the person who grows the food, Moore said. It's the food itself.

"The taste is sharper, crisper, fresher. You know you are eating vegetables," he said.

Kann's produce is not only fresher, but healthier, said Richard Giambruno, a Heart of Christmas customer. Giambruno said he can tell a difference in his health since he started buying Kann's hydroponic produce about two years ago. About 80 percent of what Giambruno eats is uncooked fruits and vegetables, much of which comes from Kann's farm.

"I feel the best I've ever felt," said Giambruno, 56, of Chuluota. "You have to get it local, and you have to get it fresh-picked."

Customers such as Giambruno can pick up their veggies during the week by ordering in advance or on Sundays when the farm operates like a produce stand. Kann also sells his food at farmers markets in College Park and Audubon Park.

"They know what I like, so as soon as I show up, they run out and start picking it. Sometimes the vegetables are still warm from the sun," Giambruno said.

Kann owns 50 acres north of the community of Christmas, but his hydroponic farm occupies about a half-acre — much of it in rows of vertical planters stacked six high beneath a web of irrigation tubing. Spread out in a conventional farm, his 100,000 plants would take up 8 acres of land.

He raises 26 varieties of lettuce — none of them iceberg — and 18 kinds of greens, including spinach and Swiss chard. His goats produce milk used for cheese, yogurt and soap. Instead of pesticides, he uses ladybugs and wasps to control for bugs.

Kann has plans to expand into aquaponics — where fish contribute the nutrients that grow the plants and the plants provide the seeds that feed the fish. He would like to enlarge the shed that contains the Sunday produce store to include space for Bible study.

Six of Kann's nine children assist with the farm, including 21-year-old Oliver, who creates the farm's salad blends, which contain a dozen or more ingredients.

"The neat thing about the family is everyone has a different point of view. Flavors are my kind of thing," said Oliver, who plans to attend a culinary school.

For Heart of Christmas customers, there's some satisfaction knowing they're feeding the farmers who put food on their tables.
"I know it's corny," Giambruno said, "but I just love the fact I get to see my money help local people put food on their table."

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FORT PIERCE — Gathered patiently in the parking lot of Big Apple Pizza on Thursday morning, people of all ages waited for access to the Treasure Coast Food Bank's latest weapon in the fight against hunger: its new Kraft Foods Mobile Pantry.

Those waiting at the South 35th Street location came prepared with coolers, reusable grocery bags, cardboard boxes and even laundry baskets, ready to fill them with fresh produce, meats, dairy products, canned goods, beverages and other staples. Recipients had been pre-selected by Seventh Day Adventist Church and Ministerio International Ebenezer and had received distribution vouchers in advance.

Treasure Coast Food Bank was one of 10 recipients this year to be awarded a Kraft Foods Mobile Pantry through a grant from the Kraft Foods Foundation. The 10 were decided based on the need in the area served by the food bank and by the food bank's ability to run the program, said Rachel Larsen, corporate affairs manager with Kraft Foods.

The vehicle will be a permanent resource for the organization and will help serve the hungry in "food deserts," areas where residents have limited access to grocery stores or emergency food assistance.

Judith Cruz, the food bank's executive director, said the vehicle will be a wonderful resource for reaching those in need.

"We bring the food to them," Cruz said. "My goal is to have that vehicle on the road every single day."

Cruz has said that when she first came on board to head the food bank less than two years ago, the organization was serving 42,000 people a week. As of July, the distribution figures show that number has grown to more than 100,000 individuals each week.

Jackie Velickovich, shopper marketing manager with Kraft Foods, flew down from Charlotte, N.C., to witness the vehicle's first community distribution event.

"The Treasure Coast Food Bank is a very deserving recipient," she said. "We're seeing an unprecedented need in this area and across the country."

Kraft Foods and the food bank partner with local grocery retailers to provide fresh produce, meats and other perishable items. Larry White, director of retail operations
with Winn-Dixie, was on hand to show the company’s support for the mobile pantry.

"Winn-Dixie is committed to fighting hunger in all the areas we operate," White said, adding that the new vehicle, bearing the Treasure Coast Food Bank logo and website, will help raise visibility for a growing problem.

"Hunger is a silent epidemic," he said.

Martha Perkins of Vero Beach was grateful to be able to take advantage of the mobile pantry. Perkins, who survives on a monthly disability check, said she is currently supporting her college-age daughter as well as a son, daughter-in-law and grandson who recently moved back to Florida from Washington state.

"It's so hard right now," she said. "This takes so much weight off my back. Thank God for people who have kind hearts."

About the Mobile Pantry

The Treasure Coast Food Bank, which serves Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties, was one of 10 recipients nationwide this year to receive a Kraft Foods Mobile Pantry through a grant application process.

The Kraft Foods Foundation has made a three-year $4.5 million commitment to provide 25 of these vehicles to organizations nationwide.

The 26-foot refrigerated vehicle, with roll-up doors and a retractable awning, will travel to different sites within the four-county area and work with partnering agencies to identify and serve individuals and families requiring food assistance. It provides meats, fresh produce, dairy and bakery products, canned goods and other non-perishable items.

WANT TO HELP?

Interested in donating money or becoming a sponsor of the Treasure Coast Food Bank's Kraft Foods Mobile Pantry?

Contact Tricia Jenkins at 772-489-5676 or visit www.stop hunger.org.

NEED HELP?

If you're in need of food assistance, contact the Treasure Coast Food Bank at 772-489-5676 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to find a partnering agency in your area or go to www.stop hunger.org for a list of partners by county.
When vision and hard work come together

Published Thursday September 8th, 2011

C7 By Brian Duplessis
Poverty Matters

When I met Elizabeth Thurber about five years ago, she was expressing dissatisfaction with the limitations of what the Fredericton Food Bank could do to help the hundreds of people and families who were struggling to get by every month.

It was clear to her that the food and clothing that were being provided were filling urgent needs, but she felt so much more could be done to tackle the underlying reasons of why more and more people were showing up repeatedly.

Elizabeth talked about providing opportunities for growing food, learning how to cook nutritiously, financial planning, counselling and partnering with other agencies in the community to improve the lives of food bank clients.

However, the space and support that has been so generously provided for years by the Seventh Day Adventist Church just wasn't large enough or in a location that would allow for the provision of these programs.

For the last few years, under Elizabeth's guidance, the food bank has quietly been looking for the right location, and when the former Green Village property became available, they were ready to move.

It will take time and money to bring all of the proposed programming up to speed, but the potential to have a broad impact on the community is huge.

This year has already seen the introduction of a community garden in St. Marys and soil preparation for a second garden in Marysville. The partnerships and involvement of people from all walks of life are incredible.

The United Way has been able to provide - please excuse the pun - seed money for both of these ventures, which means your United Way contributors are part of these success stories. And Elizabeth Thurber has been in the thick of it all.

Poverty has not just raised its ugly head in recent years; it has been with us forever, and unfortunately will be with us in one form or another for the foreseeable future.

However, it can be reduced, and those living in poverty can have improvement in the quality of their lives.

However, it won't happen by itself. Government departments and agencies, non-profit groups and volunteers working together with the same vision can do it.

Recent news reports about delays in the implementation of some parts of the province's Poverty Reduction Plan show how easy it is for deadlines to slip and action to be delayed. We can all learn from what the food bank is doing.

Although we see the end result, there were many challenges to overcome all the way along - refining the vision, building the plan and finding the financing, for example.

But none of the obstacles stopped them. Yes, there are huge amounts of work yet to be completed. But every time they met a roadblock, they didn't slow down; they quickly regrouped and went at it again.

I am proud to call Elizabeth my friend - we can all learn so much from her.

Coming up next week: Kudos and thanks to the Harvest Jazz and Blues Festival. Once again the festival is sharing its success and facilities with the broader community.

On Sunday, Ability New Brunswick will host its 11th annual Feast in the Field event in Officer's Square in downtown Fredericton. You can check to see if tickets are still available by calling 462-9555. It's a fabulous event.

And on Monday, Sept. 12, the United Way will hold the first of two events to kick off its 51st annual campaign. Before the festival even starts, you will be able to hear the great music of Maggie's Farm Revival, a group put together by Paul Campbell and Rick Hutchins. You can get a bite to eat from one of the food vendors on site with admission to the tent by voluntary donation to the United Way.

Then on Tuesday it's off to Oromocto for a Poor Boys' Lunch - beans and wiener - at the Hazen Park Centre. Doors open at 11:30 and admission is by voluntary donation to the United Way. For planning purposes you can let Mayor Fay Tidd know you are coming by emailing her at mayor@oromocto.ca.

Brian Duplessis is the executive director of the United Way/Centraide of Central N.B. and can be
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Fourth-grader harvests huge cabbage

Elise Hill, a fourth-grader at Lodi Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, recently harvested a large cabbage that she grew at home. Hill received a pack of seeds when
she attended AgVenture at the Grape Festival Grounds last spring with her school. The program teaches third-graders about locally grown food. She took the seeds home, and with the help of her parents, Erik and Raissa Hill, Elise planted the seeds and cared for the plants throughout the summer. Do you have news you would like to see featured in the News-Sentinel? Submit stories and photos on our website using the "Send Us Your News" feature. You can also email Katie Nelson at katien@lodinews.com or call us at 369-7035.
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Fourth-grader harvests huge cabbage - Lodi News-Sentinel: News
Hundreds attended the grand opening for the Castle Rock Adventist Health Campus in a ceremony that featured tours of the town's first emergency room facility.

Castle Rock Adventist opened its doors to its neighbors Sept. 1 as it prepares to begin providing emergency room services Sept. 7, about one year after it broke ground on phase one of its medical health campus.

Grand opening came within weeks after officials announced Centura Health released funding for an early beginning of the next phase of the project, a 50-bed, $128 million hospital.

Excitement over the facility's grand opening in The Meadows was palpable as residents toured the emergency, imaging and lab centers and families visited the Flight for Life Colorado helicopter parked at the campus’s emergency heli-pad.

"It’s wonderful," said Carolyn Quintana, a resident of The Meadows. "Just think of what it will be able to do for us."

Visitors to the facility enjoyed free giveaways and food while project administrator Brian Moore answered questions about the new facility. Moore has overseen management of the project since its inception and said his most rewarding moment of the day came when he saw visitors' reactions as they entered the lobby of the facility.

"I’m just happy to see people streaming through with smiles on their faces," Moore said. "Just watching their reactions as they walk into the lobby — I’m going to go into the holiday weekend with a big smile on my face."

The open house came just before the Labor Day weekend and included Castle Rock business, town and economic development leaders. In his opening remarks before the ribbon cutting, Moore announced that, with the opening of the new hospital, Castle Rock Adventist Health Campus will introduce 300 new jobs to the community.

"It’s fantastic," said Jennifer Green, Castle Rock town councilwoman, District 3.

Green lives in The Meadows and was joined at the grand opening with her two young children, whose main focus was to get a chance to see the helicopter.

"This is great for the Castle Rock economy," Green said. "I’m so excited to have a hospital here."

The Castle Rock Adventist Health Campus is at 2350 Meadows Blvd. in The Meadows. The remainder of the project’s first phase, a medical office building, is expected to be open by 2012 and the doors of the hospital should be open by summer of 2013, Moore said.
A distant land was introduced to the fifth and sixth graders of Cameo Draper’s class at Crescenta Valley Adventist School Wednesday morning when the students played with a box of toys and games that had been shipped from Taiwan.

The La Crescenta school was one of more than 1,000 Adventist schools across North America that received such a box to encourage children to celebrate the centennial of Taiwan — officially known as the Republic of China.

The official name of China is the People’s Republic of China.

The square-shaped box from the Republic of China’s Centenary Foundation was filled with puppets, rice-filled hacky sacks, a cake mold, modern photographs, music, and a game similar to Pogs.

Three representatives from the Republic of China’s Centenary Foundation visited Crescenta Valley Adventist School on Wednesday to watch the children interact with the toys.

Robert Christensen, a project manager with the foundation, conceptualized the idea of the box when the foundation wanted to create something to share with the world, and they settled on North America.

“At its core, we want to let people know about a place that is very small and very beautiful,” he said.

The box also included a handmade wooden structure of a traditional street with a temple, shops and figures. There was also music by A-Mei, a major female pop music icon in Taiwan, in addition to modern postcard photographs of Taipei’s cityscape at night that had a few students in awe ask aloud, “This is Taiwan?”

Sixth-grader Julianna O’Malley spent time playing with puppets with friends.

“I’ve played several of the games, they’re very fun. I like the rice bag game,” she said.

Principal Cameo Draper, whose grandfather and father spent years in Taiwan as missionaries, said she was thrilled to see her students enjoying themselves as they explored the games.
“Our goal next week and the week after is to really just dive in, and they’re excited,” she said.
The Lentil: A Beloved Legume
Folks flock to Palouse festival to laud lentils
by Guy Hand

Nearly 26,000 people were greeted by a giant bean in a chef's hat. And nobody ran screaming.

The Palouse—that beautifully fertile, camera-ready landscape of rolling hills, deep loess soils, ample rain and cool summer nights spreading across state lines shared between North Idaho and Eastern Washington—is nearly perfect lentil habitat. Until five years ago, it was the nation’s lentil-growing capital. Montana and North Dakota now share that title, but the Palouse region around Moscow and Pullman, Wash., still pumps out more than 100 million pounds of lentils a year.

Agricultural output, however, can't explain why the lowly lentil recently drew an estimated 26,000 people to the National Lentil Festival in Pullman, a mere lentil's toss from the Idaho border. The lentil-studded lentil pancakes made with lentil flour do, as do the green-felt lentil costumes, the booths full of lentil T-shirts and assorted lentil knickknacks, the kids carrying lentil placards, the otherwise stable-looking young woman who spontaneously burst out a hallelujah-like "I love lentils," the sweetly strange lentil desserts, and the long lines of lentil devotees queued up in front of a massive pot of lentil chili like worshippers awaiting lentil-laced Communion.

"We're giving away probably 375 gallons of lentil chili," festival organizer Vicki Leeper shouted over the lentil-inspired din. "And it's the biggest party on the Palouse."

From the far end of a closed-off downtown Pullman street, I could clearly see a young man on a raised platform stirring that
huge pot with a canoe paddle, Pullman Mayor Glenn Johnson dispensed lentil chili from what looked like a fire hose spigot. As I approached for an interview, the mayor warned me he couldn't control the lentil blowback as lumpy red liquid blasted into the beer pitcher he was using as a dispenser. "Don't get too close," he said.

According to a hyper-accurate front page news story published in the Lewiston Tribune the next day, that chili contained 435.65 pounds of lentils, 262 gallons of water, 87 pounds of onions, 44 pounds each of celery and carrots, 43.5 gallons of tomato puree and 21.75 gallons of salsa, all of it contributing to a flavorful 7,500 servings of free lentil chili.

The second day of the Lentil Festival included a lentil cook-off, a lentil parade, educational lentil presentations, and a "Little Lentil Royalty Coronation." But lentils themselves sprouted on the Palouse a long time before the now 23-year-old National Lentil Festival was born.

"Lentils were brought to Palouse in 1916 by a farmer named J.J. Wagner," said Drue Wagner (no relation) at the booth he was manning at the lentil festival. "He was a Seventh-day Adventist farmer, and he was trying to promote a healthy food that he strongly believed in. He himself was a vegetarian, and he found this great food that he thought would promote good health."

Lentils turned out to promote good health for the Palouse as well.

A legume like beans and peas, lentils are nitrogen fixers, meaning they pull nitrogen from the air, and through a symbiotic relationship with certain strains of bacteria, deposit that nitrogen in the soil and thus increase soil fertility, lowering the need for additional fertilizers.

Todd Scholz, director of research and information for the U.S. Dry Pea and Lentil Council, explained this as he sat in his office, which literally straddles the Idaho/Washington border on the western edge of Moscow. The fact that he can roll his office chair across state lines is testament to the council's concern that one state not be given preferential treatment over the other. But Scholz was talking lentil biology, not lentil politics and wanted to stress that lentils, peas and garbanzo beans also help break disease and pest cycles when planted in a rotation with wheat, the Palouse's No. 1 cash crop. Lentils help stem erosion, too, he said, a constant issue in this steeply sloped terrain.

Despite the health and environmental benefits, Scholz said lentils are still a hard sell among U.S. eaters.

"In North America, the average consumption of lentils is like a cup per person per year," he said. "So it's very small."

Although lentils are an ancient food, having turned up in Egyptian pyramids and Tibetan caves, they just aren't a big part of the American diet. Therefore 50 percent to 80 percent of America's lentil production is shipped overseas to more lentil-enamored countries like Spain, Italy, Greece, Peru and Columbia. To improve domestic demand, the Pea and Lentil Council works on research projects designed to create lentil products more appealing to American tastes. That includes, according to Scholz, an extruded lentil slurry that he hoped would resemble a lentil-based Cheetos-like snack.

"Lentos, maybe," Scholz added with a grin. "But when they started that process, what came out of the extruder looked a lot like, uh ... well, it wasn't very edible anyway."

Scholz hasn't giving up on processed lentil treats, but he's also encouraged to see Americans embracing the cuisines of countries that already embrace lentils, like India and the whole Mediterranean. He believes Americans will eventually learn to love the little legume, too—but until that day, he said, "we're trying very hard to encourage people to eat lentils."

Back at the National Lentil Festival, it wasn't taking that much encouragement. Mayor Johnson, who now looked like the loser in a lentil-based paint ball tournament, was still dutifully manning his lentil-spewing spigot.

"You see these lines?" he asked, pointing a chili-flecked finger at the half-dozen, block-long lines of people patiently waiting for their free bowl of lentil chili. "They just keep coming and coming."

Hooray! Little lentils serve up satisfying nutrition & deserve to be lauded. Here's my favorite: Lentil Soup Monasticus—1 c. dry lentils, 4 onions , chopped (yes, 4!), 1 carrot, diced, 1/4 c. olive oil, 1/8 t. thyme, 5 c. water, 1 (16-oz.)can tomato puree, 1/8 t. oregano; 2 t. salt, 1/3 c. fresh parsley Cook together all ingredients except parsley & olive oil which are added the last 5 minutes of cooking. Total cooking time is about 1 hour. The monks served this over mozzarella cheese & put croutons on top, but I love it cholesterol free. It's great on its own. It is quite thick & can be used over rice or potatoes.

Posted by Susan Youngberg Harboldt on September 15, 2011 at 8:45 PM | Report this comment
Adventist Health System (AHS), which is comprised of 43 hospital campuses including Takoma Regional Hospital, has received the 2011 Gallup Great Workplace Award.

"This award recognizes AHS as having one of the best-performing workplaces in the world, and we at Takoma are happy to share in this award," said Daniel Wolcott, Takoma president and CEO.

"Takoma's nearly 500 associates are dedicated to restoring and promoting wellness in our community. As part of nearly 55,000 other AHS employees across the country, they work each day to offer health, hope and healing to our patients," Wolcott said.

AHS received the award at the 2011 Gallup Summit in Omaha, Nebraska, in mid-May.

Takoma recently was presented with a framed lithograph of the award, which is being placed on a wall near the hospital's elevators on the first floor.

The Gallup Great Workplace Award is based on the most rigorous workplace research ever conducted, according to Jack Lister, Takoma's director of human resources.

"A panel of workplace experts evaluated the award-winning organizations," Lister said. "AHS is one of only 29 companies worldwide who won the award.

"We were selected because our employee engagement results demonstrate that we have one of the most productive and engaged workforces in the world."

Added Donald L. Jernigan, president and CEO of Adventist Health System: "We place a tremendous value on our employees; they are our most important asset.

"We will continue to focus on creating and maintaining an environment where employees are engaged, fulfilled and focused on the mission of 'extending the healing ministry of Christ.' As a result, our patients and communities benefit from their dedication and commitment to excellence."

Lister agreed that happy and engaged employees are the foundation of great patient care.

"Takoma's vision to be the best place to work, practice medicine and receive care is becoming a reality," he said.

"This Gallup award -- coupled with being voted the 'best place to work,' 'best hospital' and 'most community-
involved business' for the past three years in The Greeneville Sun's 'People's Choice' contest -- is confirmation of the progress we have made toward our vision."

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Rabbi Jeff Zaremsky

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Shalom, Rabbi Jeff Zaremsky of New Port Richey, St. Petersburg is Jewish. Beth-El Shalom is a Jewish, messianic synagogue, temple in New Port Richey, St Petersburg, Florida.

This Messianic, Jewish, synagogue, temple in New Port Richey, St Petersburg, Florida observes Sabbath, Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashanah, Passover. This New Port Richey, St Petersburg, Jewish, messianic, synagogue, temple, welcomes all Jewish and non Jewish. Sincerely, Rabbi Jeff Zaremsky of Jewish Heritage & Beth-El Shalom of New Port Richey & St Petersburg.
Amy Alderman, WWU representative, welcomes Washington Conference pastors to campus.
Washington Conference pastors begin their local conference pastors' meeting with a time of prayer.
John McVay, Walla Walla University president, shares words of greeting with Washington Conference pastors.
John Freedman, Washington Conference president, challenges pastors to take advantage of all activities and programs at Northwest Adventist Leadership Convention. "This is camp meeting for pastors," Freedman says.
Walla Walla University's welcome banner greets NPUC guests.
Walla Walla University's welcome banner greets NPUC guests.
Most Northwest Adventist Leadership Convention meetings were held in the University Church.
Bob Moore, Washington Conference pastor, and Louis Turner, Oregon Conference pastor, share a laugh before meetings begin at the Leadership Convention.
Victor Krushenitskyi (Washington) interacts with fellow Northwest pastors.

1. Linda Brown wrote about this gallery on Sep 30th

Anyway of hearing the audio of spme of these events specially the music.