A New Day – Be a Part of the Movement
by Ruthie Jacobsen, Coordinator, Prayer Ministries

Is a "new day" breaking across the North American Division? A renewal? A revival? We believe it is! God is calling His people to pray - singularly and corporately.

More than 100 of God's people from Hawaii, Canada, the U.S. and Bermuda came together on the line to pray with the second all-night prayer teleconference last Thursday night. We had called the first all-night session "O Holy Night!" because of the sweet fellowship and presence of His Spirit. It was true this time as well, as we sought God through Scripture, songs, and praises.

What was the passion that brought together through all hours of the night? We were asking God to do something that only He could do across this division: to intervene in specific ways on the North American Division Day of Prayer, January 7, to call His people to renewal, and to give us a deeper desire to know Him intimately. They asked for a renewed Holy Spirit anointing for the leaders of the North American Church, for conference and union officers, for every hospital and school, for pastors and teachers, and for our children.

And was He listening? On January 7, the NAD Day of Prayer, God moved in miraculous ways among His people. In one large midwestern church the pastor led his congregation in a time of prayer that was beyond anything they had ever experienced. “It’s time to stop playing church,” he told his people. “We need God. We’re going to open the church at noon every day so that people all around our community can know this is a place where they can come to pray.”

Plans for a New Year - In addition to the monthly all-night prayer calls, growing attendance at mid-week services, and special prayer vigils in local churches, plans are afoot for at least one major prayer event in the new year.
each of NAD’s 58 conferences - to offer times of instruction, inspiration, and encouragement - agreeing together for God to “show Himself strong” on behalf of our churches our children and our communities.

As we anticipate a new year we urge each congregation and conference to select a Prayer Coordinator. Their role is to keep calling us to remember that the church moves forward most effectively when it moves on its knees.

What does God do when tens of thousands of His people come unitedly on their knees into His presence? It appears we’re going to find out! We invite you to be part of the movement.

William Cox was selected by the Allegheny West Conference Executive Committee on Sunday, January 8, to serve as the new conference president. He replaces Fredrick Russell who accepted a call to serve as senior pastor of the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church in Atlanta. Cox is a graduate of Oakwood University, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education, and United Theological Seminary, where he received a Doctor of Ministry. His 32 years of pastoral ministry have been dedicated to populating the kingdom of God. MORE

Gone but not Forgotten:

Norman W. Klam, former North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) treasurer, passed away Sunday evening, January 1, at age 66, following an auto accident December 26. He leaves his wife, Marlene; daughter, Cheri, a physician in Vancouver; son, Jeffrey, assistant treasurer for the Northern California Conference; and several grandchildren. MORE

A memorial service for Norm Klam will be held Sabbath, January 14, at 3:30 p.m. in the Meadow Glade, Wa. Seventh-day Adventist Church, 11001 NE 189th Street, Battle Ground, WA 98604. Messages and cards for Norm’s wife, Marlene, son, Jeff, and daughter, Cheri Oellrich, can be sent in care of the Meadow Glade Church.

Upcoming Events

Health Summit 2012, Jan. 27-Feb. 5
The One Project, Feb. 13-14
West Coast Worship Conference, Feb. 2-4
ACS Outreach Leadership Conference, Mar. 2-4
Just Claim It 3, Mar. 7-10
Pacific Union Pathfinder Camporee, Mar. 28-31
Andrews University Music and Worship Conference, Mar. 29-31
Pathfinder Bible Achievement/Bible Bowl, Mar. 31
See more 2012 upcoming events

January Offerings and Special Days

January Focus:
Friendship Evangelism
Valerie Phillips, Assistant to the Dean of University Towers at Andrews University, was found deceased in her home on Wednesday, December 21. The cause of death was hypertensive cardiovascular disease. Dean Phillips, a graduate of Union Springs Academy and Atlantic Union College, dedicated 31 years of her professional career to Andrews University.

MORE

A memorial service for Dean Phillips will be at 5 p.m. on Saturday, January 21. The service will be held in the main sanctuary of Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University. Efforts are being made to provide live streaming of the service for those unable to attend.

Herb Broeckel, who retired as president of the Potomac Conference in 2002, passed away Thursday morning, January 5. He made his home near Smith Mountain Lake in Huddleston, Va. He and his wife, Jeannie, served the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 52 years. Thirty-five of those years were spent in the Potomac Conference.

Over the years, Broeckel also served the Conference as a pastor and as director of the Youth, Religious Liberty and Communication departments. He later became the conference’s executive secretary. Broeckel was also president of the Mountain View and the Central California conferences. MORE

The service for Herb Broeckel was held today, Wednesday, January 11 at 1:00 p.m., at the New Market, Va. church.

Adventists in the News

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

Conejo Adventist Elementary Jog-a-thon raises $36000-plus Ventura County Star January 8

Glendale Adventist Medical Center to Celebrate the Opening of its West Tower ... San Fernando Valley Business Journal January 6

Portland Adventist Academy is planning a campus overhaul, including a nursing OregonLive.com January 5

Raleigh church’s neighbors want

6-year-old collects goods for Montgomery County's needy Clarksville Leaf Chronicle January 8

7th Day Adventists again offer

Special Days:
• January 7 - Day of Prayer
• January 15-21, Religious Liberty Week

Helpful website(s) and Resources:
• Retention Ministry - Keep "Them" through Hospitality (Word Document brochure)
• Retention Ministry - Keep "Them" through Hospitality (PowerPoint Program)
• Women in Touch (Friendship Evangelism)
• Heart Call - A Ministry to Reclaim Women Who Have Stopped Attending Church (PDF)
• Prayer Ministries
• North American Religious Liberty Association (NARLA)
• Religious Liberty Manual (Tips for overseeing your Religious Liberty Ministry)
• How to Reenergize Your Local Church Religious Liberty Program (PowerPoint)
• Liberty Magazine

Offerings:
• January 14, Local Conference Advance
• January 21, Local Church Budget
• January 28, Religious Liberty (Religious Liberty offering will be taken January 21. Resource materials are being mailed to each pastor and religious liberty leader. For more information, email: latha.bithini@nad.adventist.org)

Hope Channel Programs

Hope Channel (HC)
(On DIRECTV ch. 368)
Hope Church Channel (HCC)

• 10 Days of Prayer, Operation Global Rain (30 min)
HC: Jan. 4-13, 7:00 p.m. EST
The 2012 Adventist Ministries Convention hotel has been sold out. Because of an overwhelming response in registrations for the upcoming Adventist Ministries Convention at Innisbrook Golf and Resort in Palm Harbor, FL., the hotel has been sold out and an overflow hotel has been secured. For more information on the overflow hotel and what is in store at the 2012 Adventist Ministries Convention go to www.adventistministriesconvention.com.

We solicit your prayers and look forward to the blessing God has in store for His people! See you there!

Remember to register for the annual Health Summit, “Choose Full Life, Tell the World.” January 27-February 5, in Lake Mary, Florida. Choose from four tracks of seminars and join the more than 500 health professionals, health ministry leaders and pastors from across North America, Canada, and Bermuda. MORE; Register (or call 800-732-7587).

Reclaim Your Faith, a four-part series by Doug Batchelor, president of Amazing Facts, will air January 13-15, live from the GC, via Hope Channel and DirecTV. Reclaim Your Faith wants to reach out to former members of the Church to help them reaffirm their faith in the Bible and provide a strong foundation in Jesus for a lifetime of spiritual growth. MORE

It is being planned as a lead-in to It Is Written’s upcoming four-week evangelistic series, Revelation Today. The 90-minute presentations will include special music, testimonies of reclaimed members, and preaching by Pastor Batchelor.
Reclaim Your Faith will be marketed heavily with an extensive Facebook and Google Adwords campaign and a television and radio campaign. It will also be available as a DVD purchase shortly after the series concludes. MORE

Hope Channel started live interactive programs this past Monday. You now can call, text, e-mail, or post questions for the hosts and their guest experts. Hosts also will interact throughout the week through each program’s website, blog, Facebook page, and Twitter account. The programs are: Battle for Beginnings; Cross Connection; Disclosure: The Future Declassified, storyLine, and LetsPray!. All programs are live in the Eastern US time zone and are repeated at the same time in the Pacific US time zone. For times and channels in your area visit our schedule page.

Learn more about each program here and on page 4 of the current HopeLink magazine.

How to Watch: In the US: DIRECTV channel 368 (to subscribe call 877-HOPE-620); Glorystar Satellite channel 104 (to purchase call 888-393-HOPE); iPhone or iPad (search Hope TV in the app store); Online at www.HopeTV.org or at each program’s own website. For international satellite information visit: http://www.hopetv.org/watch-now/satellite-information/satellite-details/.

Revelation Today, January 20 to February 18, will be streamed live from the Cashman Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. Hosted by It Is Written, Revelation Today will be a comprehensive Bible study series that anyone will be able to host or attend no matter where they live, via satellite and the Internet.

Become a Revelation Today host. As a host, you can be confident that guests will meet Jesus and will grow in accepting the Bible as the authoritative Word of God. Subjects once shrouded in confusion will be made clear — important subjects that matter in day-to-day living.

Opening the Bible to study God’s plan of salvation and His prophetic message is relevant for these times. Pastor Bradshaw, It Is Written speaker and director, will take series participants on an exciting journey through the major themes of the Bible, letting the Text speak for itself. Each study will be clearly presented to gently lead people deep into the Word of God, allowing participants to encounter Jesus in a meaningful way.

Learn more, find a location near you and join the Revelation Today e-mail list. Follow Revelation Today on Facebook. Watch via the Internet;
or 3ABN, Hope Channel and Hope Church Channel. Check the schedule for specific airtimes.

Resources

Counsels on Stewardship will be the Spirit of Prophecy Book of the Year for 2012. Originally printed in 1940, Counsels on Stewardship has been a valuable resource providing guidance for everyday living as well as management of our finances. In the uncertain economy of today this volume is once again provided to remind us of our stewardship responsibility. When purchased in 2012 there will be a 25% discount. If you have not read Counsels on Stewardship, pick up your copy at your local Adventist Book Center, or call 1-800-765-6955, or get it online in English or Spanish, and be blessed. A Study Guide is also available, useful for small groups, or a 10-week series for Prayer Meetings or seminar.

ViewPoints

"Peace"

Pastor G. Alexander Bryant, Executive Secretary, North American Division

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1-10-2012 William Cox Named President of Allegheny West Conference

Cox will replace Frederick Russell

COLUMBUS, OHIO—The Allegheny West Conference Executive Committee today selected William Cox to serve as President. He replaces Fredrick Russell who accepted a call to serve as Senior Pastor of the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church in Atlanta.

Elder Cox is a graduate of Oakwood University (Huntsville, Ala.), New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (New Orleans, La.), where he received a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education, and United Theological Seminary (Dayton, Ohio), where he received a Doctor of Ministry. His 32 years of pastoral ministry have been dedicated to populating the kingdom of God. He began his ministry in the Southwest Region Conference, where he spent 17 years, before moving on to the Southern California Conference where he pastored the Berean church in Los Angeles. He spent the past 13 years of his ministry in Allegheny West Conference and currently pastors the Ethan Temple congregation in Dayton.

Upon acceptance of the position, Cox explained to the committee why he believes God led in this decision: “When you do what God has asked you to do, He will make Himself personally responsible for your success.”

Join Allegheny West Conference pastors and members as we welcome our new spiritual leader. Let’s keep him, his wife, LaTanya, and their family in prayer.

The next conference constituency session is scheduled for 2013.

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1-5-12 Remembering Norman Klam

Killed in an auto accident the day after Christmas

Former North Pacific Union Conference treasurer, Norman W. Klam, passed away Sunday evening, January 1, 2012. He was 66. Klam died, surrounded by family, at Southwest Washington Medical Center in Vancouver, Washington, where he had been a patient since suffering an auto accident on Monday, December 26. He leaves his wife, Marlene; daughter, Cheri, a physician in Vancouver; son, Jeffrey, assistant treasurer for the Northern California Conference; and several grandchildren.

Canadian by birth (and proud of it), Klam graduated from Walla Walla College in 1968. He began his work for the Seventh-day Adventist Church as assistant auditor for the Canadian Union Conference in 1971. In 1976, he took over the treasurer position for the Alberta Conference, moving to the same role for the Canadian Union Conference in 1981.

Klam joined the Oregon Conference as treasurer in 1986, moving to a similar position for the Lake Union Conference in 1992, where he led the treasury for 10 years.

Klam moved back to the Northwest in 2002 as North Pacific Union Conference treasurer, working in that capacity until 2008.

Throughout his long career in church financial leadership, Klam served on numerous health system and university boards. He was instrumental in developing Beyond the Bottom Line, the highly successful training seminar for church financial workers and leaders.

"Norm was a great friend and mentor to so many of our church workers," says Mark Remboldt, NPUC treasurer. "He was a special presence and will be greatly missed by his church family throughout the North American Division and around the world."

Memorial Service
A memorial service for Norm Klam has been scheduled for Sabbath, January 14, at 3:30 p.m. in the Meadow Glade Seventh-day Adventist Church, 11001 NE 189th Street, Battle Ground, WA 98604. The service will be followed by a reception in the church's fellowship hall. Messages and cards for Norm's wife, Marlene, son, Jeff, and daughter, Cheri Oellrich, can be sent to the Meadow Glade Church Office at the address above.

- from Steven Vistaunet
North Pacific Union Conference
1-9-2012 Andrews University Assistant to Dean Dies

Valerie Phillips was known for her compassion, wisdom and quick wit. Berrien Springs, Mich.—Valerie Phillips, assistant to the dean for University Towers, was found deceased in her Berrien Springs home this morning, Wednesday, Dec. 21. The cause of death was hypertensive cardiovascular disease. She was 56-years-old.

Dean Phillips dedicated 31 years of her professional career to Andrews University. She joined the Andrews family in 1980, first as an assistant dean and, since 1986, as an associate dean of women for Lamson Hall. In August of 2011, she transitioned from Lamson Hall to serve as assistant to the dean for University Towers.

Valerie graduated in 1972 from Union Springs Academy in Union Springs, N.Y. She studied behavioral science and English at Atlantic Union College, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1978. After graduation, she worked as an aide at Worchester Memorial Hospital in Worchester, Mass., for a period of time in 1978. That same year, she took an assistant chaplain position at Battle Creek Sanitarium and Hospital where she stayed until 1980.

In 1980, Arlene Friestad, who was then dean of women at Lamson Hall, invited Valerie to speak at the first annual Womanhood Week at Andrews. Dean Friestad was so impressed by Valerie she invited her to join the residence hall staff at Lamson Hall.

Dean Phillips not only ministered to the ladies in her care at Andrews, she shared reflections and insights gained from her experiences as a regular columnist for the Adventist Review.

Valerie was known for her warm and compassionate spirit, her quick wit and exceptional wisdom, and care for her students. At the 2011 Faculty Staff Awards Banquet at Andrews University, Valerie was honored for 30 years of service.

In her award tribute, Frances Faehner, vice president for Student Life, said of Valerie, “Among her many unique gifts, Valerie makes an intentional effort to note and remember the special interests (favorite food, collections, etc.) of her residents. She is known for countless acts of unexpected kindness that are especially meaningful to students missing the comforts of home and family.”

Dean Phillips is survived by two sisters and one brother.

A memorial service for Dean Valerie Phillips will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21. The service will be held in the main sanctuary of Pioneer Memorial Church. Efforts are being made to provide live streaming of the service for those unable to attend. Confirmation of the live streaming and instructions for viewing will be shared as they become available.

Dean Phillips was found deceased in her home on Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2011. The cause of death was hypertensive cardiovascular disease. Arrangements are being handled by the Allred Funeral Home.

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Founded in 1874, Andrews University is the flagship institution of higher education for the Seventh-day Adventist church, located one-half mile east of the U.S. 31 Bypass in Berrien Springs, Mich.
Herbert Broeckel, 74, Potomac Conference President, Passes to His Rest

Spent 35 years in Potomac; served denomination for 52 years

BY MARK A. KELLNER, News Editor

Herbert H. Broeckel, 74, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor and administrator for more than 50 years, died January 5, 2012. He resided with his wife, Carolyn Jean Broeckel, in Huddleston, Virginia, not far from the Farmville congregation he led after retiring 10 years ago as president of the church’s Potomac Conference.

Dave Weigley, Columbia Union Conference president, who followed Broeckel as Potomac Conference leader, offered praise for a dedicated leader.

Weigley said Broeckel was a “wonderful Christian leader, who was much loved for his caring approach to leading a conference. I was privileged to follow him as president in Potomac, [and] I often heard about how Elder Broeckel showed sincere care for the churches [for which] he was responsible.”

Broeckel began his denominational service in July of 1960, after receiving a Master’s degree from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, which at that time was located in Takoma Park, Maryland. Between 1960 and 1970, Broeckel served as a pastor of Adventist congregations in the Potomac and Kentucky-Tennessee conferences, before accepting a call as a department secretary in the New Jersey Conference.

In 1975, Broeckel returned to the Potomac Conference, first as Communication Secretary, then as executive Secretary. Ten years later, he was called to the Mountain View Conference in West Virginia as its president, moving to the Central California Conference as president in 1989. In 1994, Broeckel became Potomac Conference president; in all, he spent 25 years of his denominational employment in the Potomac Conference, officials there said, along with 10 years of post-retirement service.

“Herb Broeckel served the Potomac Conference in many different capacities, from pastor to President, and in each one made a significant contribution to God’s kingdom,” said Bill Miller, Potomac Conference president. “The local church was his focus. What a blessing and inspiration he was to me. He will be missed.”

Along with his wife, his daughter, Gail, a son, Greg, and a granddaughter survive.

A funeral service for Herb Broeckel will be Wednesday, January 11, 2012, at 1:00 p.m. at the New Market, Virginia, Seventh-day Adventist Church, on the campus of Shenandoah Valley Academy. You may also watch the Live Stream beginning at 12:45.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking donations be made to the Ghrow Foundation.
On Nov. 16 the weather was perfect students from Conejo Adventist Elementary School showed up ready to run for their classmates and friends. This was the 10th jog-athon sponsored by Roy Brasher of RE/MAX Olson with the goal of helping families who need financial aid to send their children to the school.

This year’s goal was $35,000 which would push the school over the $250,000 mark raised in the past 10 years. Brasher, a local real estate agent has dedicated his life and good fortune to helping a number of Christian schools in Ventura County. He ensures that all money raised at the jog–athons go directly to the scholarship fund by paying all expenses.

Each year, the students and their families get sponsors for the event. Everyone at the school is motivated by the fact they are helping a part of their family. This family bond makes the event more meaningful and the students get a sense of a tight knit community. More than 110 students, friends, and families ran for a period of two hours counting each lap as they passed their checkpoint. When all laps were calculated and money collected the event exceeded its goal, raising more than $36,000.

Twenty-five students who might not be able to attend otherwise will now be able to attend, according to Principal Phil Hudema. Most of the students who help out raising money do not need the scholarship money. They run and get sponsors for their friends. The jog-athon has helped hundreds of families over the past 10 years, he said.

Huber thanked the parents, relatives, and friends who gave up their free time to help with the event as well as Brasher for his commitment to Christian education these past 10 years.
Glendale Adventist Medical Center to Celebrate the Opening of its West Tower on Monday

By JUDY TEMES
Friday, January 6, 2012

Glendale Adventist Medical Center is celebrating the opening of its West Tower on Monday. The third phase of a $220 million expansion, the tower is in the final stages of licensing before opening its doors to patients and their families later this month.

The third phase of this project adds 35,000 square feet of space and 60 new beds and includes two new intensive care units, a neuro critical care unit and a Coronary intensive care unit. The expansion also includes two new surgical telemetry units.

"With this expansion we continue to demonstrate our investment in the health of the areas we serve by providing additional state-of-the-art patient treatment areas so that we can better address the needs for our growing community," said Warren Tetz, senior vice president of operations in a statement.

The hospital will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 5:15 p.m. on the 5th floor West Tower Chevy Chase entrance at 1509 Wilson Terrace, Glendale.
RALEIGH -- Around the 500 block of South Person Street, many buildings still show shingles ripped from the roof, chimneys knocked apart, blue tarpaulin stretched across the damage.

Raleigh's tornado tore through here in April, and among the broken buildings in its wake, it left Gethsemane Seventh-Day Adventist Church - a neighborhood landmark dating to 1920.

The white concrete-block church owns a pair of distinctions: It's one of the first black SDA churches in North Carolina, and it's built in an offbeat, stucco style with smaller rocks hand-pressed onto each block.

But now, it stands condemned by the city of Raleigh, boards over its stained-glass windows, inch-wide gaps between its blocks.

Neighbors in Raleigh's South Park community hope it can be spared, unlike so many of the homes and other buildings connected to nearby Shaw University.

"If we continue to destroy buildings in this neighborhood, we aren't going to have any history to point to but historic signs," said J.E. Williams, who lives within sight of Gethsemane. "We're becoming a neighborhood of vacant lots."

In 1920, black Seventh-Day Adventists were still a rarity by comparison to other faiths. When the first such church started in Tennessee in the 1880s, estimates of total black membership in the country came in at around 50.

By the 1980s, the congregation grew large enough to sell the building and move out of downtown, but the white block church at Person and Cabarrus streets still acts as a spiritual home.

"There's a lot of love and TLC that went into building
that church," said Jenny Harper, a recent arrival in the neighborhood who lives nearby. "Tearing it down and turning it into a parking lot would really set us back."

Covering 30 blocks, built mostly between 1900 and 1940, the East-Raleigh South Park district is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and the area is being considered as historic district in Raleigh much like Boylan Heights and Oakwood, where design changes need special approval.

For about 10 years, Gethsemane has been owned by Empire Properties, known for its preservation projects, notably All Saints Chapel, which was moved six blocks to East Street and renovated.

But with the building condemned, Raleigh developer Greg Hatem said Empire has no plans to renovate.

"The tornado lifted up the roof and twisted it," he said.

Hatem said he would love to see the building saved, but keeping people from being harmed inside is more important.

Neighbors have collected more than 200 names on a petition to keep Gethsemane standing. One interested buyer, Phuc Tran, is out of the country in Brazil, but he said he plans to pursue saving the church when he returns.

Meanwhile, neighbors wait, hoping someone will fill an empty space.

Shaffer: 919-829-4818
Florida Hospital Flagler 1st in state to earn Stage 7

Orlando Business Journal

Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2012, 12:12pm EST

Related:

Health Care, Technology

Florida Hospital Flagler, an Adventist Health System facility in Palm Coast, is the first in Florida to receive Stage 7 designation, the highest level on the Electronic Medical Records Adoption Model used to track EMR progress at hospitals and health systems.

The hospital also is one of only 66 facilities nationwide to be awarded the designation.

Advantages to this level of technology include the ability to share patient information with other health care providers via a secure standardized summary record and being able to use a vast database of clinical information to improve care, patient safety and outcomes.

HIMSS Analytics developed the EMR Adoption Model in 2005 as a methodology for evaluating the progress and impact of electronic medical record systems for hospitals in its database.

Adventist Health System currently operates 43 hospital campuses in 10 states.
La Grange hospital introduces e-chaplain service

Chaplain at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital launches ministry via email

By Vikki Ortiz Healy, Chicago Tribune reporter

December 30, 2011

This holiday season, the Rev. Mark Woolfington has a solution for people too frenzied to ask for prayers: send him an email.

Woolfington, the chaplain at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, launched an e-chaplain ministry this month that allows patients, hospital staff and community members to send prayer petitions to his inbox. He then takes them straight to the kneeler.

"It's a difficult time of year for a lot of people," said Woolfington, a pastor with the Advent Christian Church. "It's very comforting for people to know someone is there for them, someone is praying for them, someone is listening."

The e-chaplain ministry was a natural extension of services already offered by the Seventh Day Adventist hospital, part of a larger system with hospitals in Bolingbrook, Glendale Heights and Hinsdale, officials said.

The chaplain at each hospital already offers patients — and surgeons — prayers before surgery. They also are available for theological discussions and grief counseling.

And within 36 hours of being admitted, 80 percent of patients get a chaplain visit, said John Rapp, regional vice president for ministries and missions at Adventist Midwest Health.

By including information about the e-chaplain ministry in hospital discharge papers, administrators hope patients will continue to lean on the facility for spiritual help, even after they go home.

"It's a recognition of how the world has changed," Rapp said. "A lot of people don't have formal organized religious communities, and yet they're very spiritual."

Evidence that people are getting the message is beginning to trickle in.

Woolfington was greeted on a recent morning by two e-requests: one asking for blessings for a relative's back surgery and another from a hospital staff member seeking prayers for the busy department at this time of year.
He accepts specific prayer requests or offers up a general prayer addressing the need. Every email gets a response, if requested.

Those seeking counsel get follow-up phone calls or visits. The service is offered in Spanish, as well.

Rapp saw a similar program in another hospital system and modeled Adventist Midwest Health's after it. The service is free.

"When people come to us, the spiritual resources are not extra, they're expected," he said.

To visit the website for the e-chaplain ministry, visit:

http://www.keepingyouwell.com/PastoralCare/EchaplainMinistry.aspx

Copyright © 2012, Chicago Tribune
Zoe Luck, a 6-year-old Clarksville native, had one wish for Christmas — "to help people."

Her desire for charity began with the book "Do It! A Handbook for Young Activists" by Nancy Lublin. A birthday gift from her aunt, Dr. Ronnette Hopson, the book challenged Zoe to make a difference.

Under Hopson's direction, Zoe embarked on a leadership project to collect food donations for those in need. After gaining permission from her church, Oak Grove Seventh-Day Adventist, she appealed to its members to donate to her drive. She collected four boxes of food and gave them to the Salvation Army for distribution.

When asked by her grandpa what gift she would like this year, Zoe requested he make donations to ADRA International (the worldwide humanitarian aid agency of the Adventist Church) in both her name and that of her sister, Aoibheann.

In response to the question "why not just give to people in Clarksville?" Zoe said with a smile, "Because I want to help boys and girls not only in Clarksville, but the whole world, too."
Portland Adventist Academy is planning a campus overhaul, including a nursing home, office space

Published: Thursday, January 05, 2012, 3:00 PM     Updated: Thursday, January 05, 2012, 3:20 PM

By Steve Beaven, The Oregonian

In 2007, after Portland Adventist Academy hired Ty Johnson as the vice principal of administration, he began work on a plan to build a new school on the academy’s property at 1500 S.E. 96th Ave.

But as the financial markets teetered and then collapsed, access to funding for the project virtually disappeared.

So now the high school is taking a unique approach to help raise money for its massive expansion: Adventist Academy is going to lease parcels of its property for the construction of a nursing home and perhaps a commercial office building.

Leasing the property, instead of selling it, will provide a steady stream of income for decades, Johnson said.

“We didn’t want to sell the land,” Johnson said this week. “We didn’t want it to be a one-time hit of cash.”

The 10-year redevelopment of the 20-acre campus will begin this year. Construction of the nursing facility, which will ultimately include 72 beds, is expected to start in July and be complete nine months later.

In the next three years, the school will build a music room, a chapel and new administrative offices, in addition to a new soccer and softball field.

The second phase will include new classrooms, a library and a cafeteria.

Finally, the school will expand the gym, add classrooms and create a green area.

Johnson estimated that the total cost of the project will be between $15 million and $25 million, and maybe more.
School officials have been raising money for more than two years and have more than $3 million so far.

Currently, Johnson said the school is talking to developers about creating office space on the north side of its property. That development may also include retail space, he said.

Arlene Kimura, president and land-use chairwoman for the Hazelwood Neighborhood Association, said the development helps meet neighborhood goals for adding commercial venues and creating a more urban setting.

But, she added, there are concerns about additional traffic. Neighbors want a new traffic light at Southeast Market Street and 96th Avenue.

Some neighbors also wonder if new sports facilities will create additional noise.

"I don’t think it will be intrusive because it’s not that big of a school,” Kimura said.

--Stephen Beaven

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A 12-year study by the Loma Linda University Center for Health Research noted recently that the lifestyle habits of many 7th Day Adventists, most of whom are vegetarian or vegan, contribute to a longer than average life expectancy. Read the complete story.

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7th Day Adventists again offer health program

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*Note* Link to “complete story” did not work. File could not be found. WH
Atlantic Union College Wants To Reopen
By Livia Gershon
Worcester Business Journal Staff Writer
01/03/12

The cancellation of a planned merger with a Maryland college has not stopped Lancaster's Atlantic Union College from looking toward the future.

President Norman L. Wendth said he hopes the college will receive state approval to reopen in the fall of 2012, bringing in a small group of students for a school year that would act as a test of its ability to return to the enrollment levels it once enjoyed before it closed over the summer.

The Seventh Day Adventist school, which had operated since 1882 and had grown to an enrollment of nearly 500 students, closed after losing accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

The school has sat dormant since, Wendth said, with only a skeleton crew keeping up the physical plant and manning the financial office. It has rented space for a variety of uses including church conferences and the filming of a movie. The school's musical branch, the Thayer Performing Arts Center, also remains active, offering non-credit music classes just as it always has.

"We're trying to keep the campus as busy as possible," Wendth said.

Still, he acknowledged that the road to a full reopening is not easy, especially after the idea of working with Maryland's Washington Adventist University came off the table.

Change of Plans
Wendth said he had hoped Atlantic Union's board would approve the idea of allowing the fellow Seventh Day Adventist institution to operate the Lancaster campus under the Washington name.

"I'm very disappointed because I was pushing a merger hard, but the board changed its mind and decided not to merge," he said. "That relationship has fallen apart."
Wendth said his impression is that board members voted against continuing with the merger because they didn't want to lose Atlantic Union's separate identity.

A statement posted on the college's website says that, "although both institutions believed the relationship would be a mutually beneficial one, the cost of the transition is proving to be more than the institutions can absorb at this time."

A spokesman for Washington Adventist University could not be reached for comment.
Wendth said the new plan is for Atlantic Union to apply for accreditation with Transnational Accreditation of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS). He said that while most New England schools are accredited by NEASC, a national organization like TRACS is also acceptable to the state Department of Higher Education, which determines whether colleges have the authority to grant degrees.

Wendth said the college expects to complete its application to the state and get an initial response in January. After that, he said, the state will process the college's request and determine whether it can reopen for a "candidate year" in 2012-13.

If that happens, the school will open with a limited number of students, perhaps around 100, Wendth said. But it won't be able to accept students who need federal financial aid unless it's fully accredited.

Lancaster Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco said the town wants to see the school come back to life.

"Right now the town is supporting all of the college's efforts to become an active campus," he said.

Pacheco said Atlantic Union and other nonprofits that make up a big part of the Lancaster landscape are a big part of the local economy. Even though the organizations don't pay property taxes, he said they give back in other ways, particularly by providing employment that's sometimes more stable than the jobs commercial enterprises can offer.

"It does provide a lot of jobs, and those jobs tend to be given to locals, so there is an economic impact," he said.

Pacheco and Wendth both say the path back to full operations for Atlantic Union is far from a sure thing. Wendth said the school is simply doing the best it can to make its case with the state and then waiting to see what happens.

"All of that is subject to a bunch of ifs and ands," he said. "We're not there yet."
Fast-Food Outlet Stirs Concerns in a Mecca of Healthy Living

By JENNIFER MEDINA

LOMA LINDA, Calif. — In this small city, home to a large Seventh-day Adventist community, the average lifespan goes well past 80, and it has one of the highest rates of longevity in the world according to some estimates.

When researchers descended on this affluent city east of Los Angeles several years ago to determine why, the theories piled up: Perhaps it was the vegetarian diet kept by many Adventists? Maybe it was their close communal ties? Or the frequent use of sprawling trails in the parks here?

But one thing seemed certain to researchers: residents were not living into the next century by eating fast food.

So last week, when the City Council approved Loma Linda’s first McDonald’s restaurant, many residents bemoaned the decision, worrying that the officials were jeopardizing the city’s reputation as a paragon of healthy lifestyles.

Wayne Dysinger, a physician and public health professor in the preventive medicine department at Loma Linda University’s School of Medicine, grew up in the city and remembers a time when there were no such restaurants. A generation ago, it was nearly impossible to even find meat within city limits. Now, he worries about his children.

“We know from research that if a school is near a fast-food restaurant, the kids there are more likely to be obese,” he said. “We will never eliminate unhealthy choices, and pretty much everyone has an unhealthy treat once in a while. I am going to drive by that intersection every day and it’s fairly likely that they will say ‘Oh Daddy, can we stop there’ more often. Why do we need to encourage that?”

The new McDonald’s restaurant would hardly be the first fast-food joint around — there are already a handful of places offering assembly-line burgers and fries within the eight square miles of the city. And the area has deep roots to the icon that so many residents detest: the site of the original McDonald’s restaurant is less than five miles away, in San Bernardino.

Still, in one sign of Loma Linda’s historical distaste for fast food, restaurants are required to go
through a special approval process for drive-through windows. Once, when business proved slightly sluggish, a local chain crafted a special vegetarian menu dubbed “Loma Linda specials.”

A generation ago, nearly 80 percent of the city was Seventh-day Adventist; by most estimates, Adventists now make up about half of the city’s population of 23,000. But the influence of the religion on the town remains clear. Many businesses shut down early on Friday, in observance of Saturday as the Sabbath. One of the largest supermarkets in town is owned by the church-run university, and there are no meat products to be found. (Canned soy alternatives are available in abundance, including some under a Loma Linda brand.) Only large businesses and restaurants are authorized to sell alcohol, and there is a total ban on smoking.

“You have to realize how easy it is to be healthy there, you don’t even have to think about it and it’s the default choice,” said Dan Buettner, an author and healthy living advocate who identified Loma Linda as one of four places in the world with a high concentration of people living healthy lives past the age of 100. “Your social network is all concerned about the same thing. They are really trying to preserve the culture that has been established for a really long time.”

Adventist or not, it is difficult to speak to anyone here without hearing about Mr. Buettner’s special designation of the town, identified in his book “The Blue Zones: Lessons for Living Longer From the People Who’ve Lived the Longest,” published by National Geographic in 2008.

It is not just Mr. Buettner’s book that feeds the sense of civic pride in health here. Nearly every resident has a connection with the sprawling Loma Linda University Medical Center, which serves as both the physical and cultural center of town.

About 10 years ago, when the city denied plans for another fast-food restaurant, the developer responded with a lawsuit and the city eventually capitulated, said Mayor Rhodes Rigsby, who is also the assistant dean of the Loma Linda University School of Medicine.

“I don’t think we should be getting into the business of legislating vegetarianism,” Dr. Rigsby said, adding that he would support having a citywide vote on whether fast-food outlets should be banned entirely from the city. “If this is something that people are really opposed to, that’s how we should deal with it.”

What would happen during such a vote is anyone’s guess. Ellsworth Wareham, who stopped working as a heart surgeon only two years ago, at 95, is often used as an example of someone with more energy than someone half his age. Dr. Wareham attributes his health at least partly to the fact that he has been a vegan for the last 30 or 40 years (he does not remember precisely).

Eating at home, he said, is the best way to ensure that one is eating healthy food. He is certainly not about to let the impending arrival of McDonald’s raise his blood pressure.
“I don’t subscribe to the menu that these dear people put out, but let’s face it, the average eating place serves food that is, let us say, a little bit of a higher quality, but the end result is the same — it’s unhealthy,” he said.

“They can put it right next to the church as far as I am concerned,” Dr. Wareham added. “If they choose to eat that way, I’m not going to stop them. That’s the great American system.”
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"ANNOUNCEMENT" – The United Stated Surgeon General Regina Benjamin will be our keynote speaker at the upcoming "Adventists InStep for Life Celebration” event at the Marriott in Lake Mary, Florida on January on January 28, 2012 from 4–6pm.

Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA is the 18th Surgeon General of the United States. As America’s Doctor, she provides the public with the best scientific information available on how to improve their health and the health of the nation. Dr. Benjamin also oversees the operational command of 6,500 uniformed public health officers who serve in locations around the world to promote, and protect the health of the American People.

From her early days as the founder of a rural health clinic in Alabama – which she kept in operation despite damage and destruction inflicted by hurricanes Georges (1998) and Katrina (2005) and a devastating fire (2006) - to her leadership role in the worldwide advancement of preventive health care, Dr. Benjamin has forged a career that has been recognized by a broad spectrum of organizations and publications. She currently serves as chairman of the National Prevention Council, making her the first U.S. Surgeon General in history to bring together seventeen federal agencies to develop a National Prevention Strategy.

Dr. Benjamin has a B.S. in chemistry from Xavier University, New Orleans, an M.D. degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and an MBA from Tulane University. She attended Morehouse School of Medicine and completed her family medicine residency in Macon, Ga. Dr. Benjamin holds 15 honorary degrees.

North American Division Health Ministries is excited to announce an amazing lineup of keynote speakers and a great array of seminars from fitness and lifestyle to mental and emotional health. Prepare for inspiration and instruction from leaders in the faith and health movements.

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We all know somebody that was once walking with Jesus and enthusiastic about being a Christian, but then for some reason they stopped attending church. Maybe you know some friend or family in that category? Do you wish there was something you could do to help bring them back to church?

On January 13-15, on Hope channel, Amazing Facts will be presenting a new series of programs called “Reclaim Your Faith”.

These four presentations are especially designed to address the main reasons people drift from their church families. So if you know someone who has wandered from the fold, invite them over for a little warm soup and encourage them to view these programs with you. And then pray the Holy Spirit will help them reclaim their faith!

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Reclaim Your Faith, a four-part series produced by Amazing Facts.

Program Schedule

Hope Channel: DIRECTV ch. 368 and Glorystar ch. 104

January 13, 7:30pm ET, Topic: Who Needs the Church?
January 14, 11:00am ET, Topic: Forgiving Friendly Fire
January 14, 7:30pm ET, Topic: Deadly Distractions & Drift
January 15, 7:30pm ET, Topic: Home from A Far Country

Rebroadcast Schedule

Hope Church Channel

January 13, 7:30pm PT, Topic: Who Needs the Church?
January 14, 11:00am PT, Topic: Forgiving Friendly Fire
January 14, 7:30pm PT, Topic: Deadly Distractions & Drift
January 15, 7:30pm PT, Topic: Home from A Far Country