This is the Time to Read the Great Controversy
by J. Alfred Johnson II, director, Adult Ministries Department

Before we begin to circulate copies of The Great Hope to others, we are urging everyone to prayerfully read the complete version of The Great Controversy. We all need to become acquainted (or reacquainted) with it so we can be prepared to answer questions from people who receive The Great Hope (the abridged version of The Great Controversy). Many of our members have never read it. We all need its message as much as our neighbors and friends. While reading, ask the Lord to lead you to people who will be the most receptive to receiving The Great Hope. This very important “get-acquainted” phase of The Great Hope Project is scheduled to last through May. Ask for the leading and grace of the Lord as you study.

Our goal is to distribute three million copies of The Great Hope throughout the North American Division during the months of June through December. But we are not suggesting that this goal is to be met by massive mailings. God and our money and efforts will be much better served through a relational distribution to family, friends and acquaintances. After reading The Great Controversy we will be better prepared to talk with friends and family about any questions they might have after we have personally given them a copy of The Great Hope.

Stay tuned for a special issue of NewsPoints dealing with The Great Hope Project.
Representative John P. Sarbanes (D - MD) visited with General Conference President, Pastor Ted Wilson; and North American Division President, Pastor Dan Jackson, as well as GC and NAD department leaders to learn more about the ministries and services of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. During his visit on Monday, January 30, Congressman Sarbanes said “Faith communities and organizations like the Seventh-day Adventist Church are going to be integral to reigniting the American dream. For the work that you do across the world and in particular in the North America territory and this area that I work, I am really appreciative.”

Where in the World is Dan Jackson? The NAD administration will be doing major traveling on behalf of the Division, February 15-27. We will post clues on the NAD website, Facebook, Twitter and Flickr for you to guess where they are in the NAD territory, and bring stories of what ministries are happening around the Division.

John Wagner is no longer the “interim” president of Union College. Wagner spent most of his career in educational institutions and nonprofit foundations on the road to growth and success, including some years in the 80s at Union as both academic dean and president. Just a few months ago the Union College Board of Trustees called Wagner out of semiretirement to return to Union as interim president. He expected to stay just long enough for the board to find a permanent replacement for David Smith, and now he is the “new” president. MORE

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.

Washington’s Top Two Youth Volunteers Selected in 17th Annual National Awards

MarketWatch
February 7

Seventh-day Adventist church plans community health initiatives

Bismarck Tribune
February 3

Daily Prayer Guide
February 12-18: Allegheny West Conference, with 48 churches and 13,340 members
U.S. Surgeon General commends Adventist focus on holistic well-being
Medical-Record.org
February 2

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital schedules open house for new patient pavilion
The Doings Hinsdale
February 1

Under a New Steeple, a Harlem Church Gets Out From Under Debt
New York Times
February 2

U.S. Surgeon General Commends Adventist Focus on Holistic Well-being
PR Web
February 1

Have you seen Hope Channel's live programming yet? Watch Monday through Thursday, 8-10 p.m. Eastern and Pacific, live LETS PRAY and BIBLE STUDY programs. Hope is thrilled with the initial responses to their programs. Every night the wave of response keeps growing. You now can call, text, e-mail, or post questions for the hosts and their guest experts. Tell your friends and get a blessing. Every evening join in prayer and Bible study.

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/.

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

Revelation Today, It is Written (60 min)
• Jan. 20 - Feb. 18, Tues, Wed, and Fri, 7:00 p.m. EST/PST
• HCC: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18, Sun, Tues, Wed, Fri and Sat, 7:00 p.m. EST/PST

February Offers and Special Days

Offerings:
• February 11, Adventist Television Ministries
• February 18, Local Church Budget
• February 25, Local Conference Advance

Special Days:
February Focus - Family Life
• February 4-25, Black History Month
• February 5-11, Christian Home and Marriage Week
• February 18, Health Ministries Sabbath

Helpful website(s) and Resources:
• NAD Family Ministries website
• Family Ministries Curriculum for Local Church Leaders
• Family Ministries Handbook (English & Spanish)
• 2012 Family Ministries Planbook, Families Reaching Up
• Family Ministries Quick Guide
• NAD Health Ministries website
• Health Unlimited Newsletter

Adventist World
NAD Edition

National Camps for Blind Children®(USA), a service of Christian Record Services for the Blind in Lincoln, Neb., is offering 12 summer camps for blind children this year. If you know of a blind child who would enjoy going to a summer camp designed especially for them, make sure they and their parents are informed about this adventure-packed opportunity. Campers enjoy a variety of activities including horseback riding, water-skiing, swimming, hiking, rappelling, canoeing, backpacking, archery, go-carts, beeper baseball and talent night, depending on the summer camp. Camps are free except for a small processing fee of $35. MORE
In spite of a massive windstorm, nearly 2,000 people attended opening weekend of It Is Written's Revelation Today series with John Bradshaw in Las Vegas on January 20. In the weeks since, more than 500 people have signed up for the local Bible school!

Las Vegas is a 24/7 city and attendees are now facing Sabbath challenges with their jobs. Many are making decisions for baptism this week. Please keep this effort in your prayers!

The series will continue daily (excluding Mondays and Thursdays) through February 18, and it’s available worldwide via satellite (3ABN, Hope Channel, Hope Church Channel) and the Revelation Today site. (Also see Behind-the-Scenes) There are two sessions per day, so it's live at 11 a.m. Pacific and 2 p.m. Eastern; Evenings 7 p.m. Pacific and 10 p.m. Eastern. Or get programs in the Archives where you can watch the previous programs.

Children are being trained to share the gospel of Christ with their friends, families, and in their neighborhoods throughout the Division. Each “Go Fish for Kids” convention has six to eight hands-on training components that provide them with simple tools to be little fishermen in Christ's service. Equipped with their tackle boxes and fishing license they are ready to hit the streets. In addition, Children's Ministries is collaborating with Health Ministries to offer new training opportunities this summer. “Go Fish for Kids Health Expo” will train them to carry the health message as little medical missionaries.

You can train the children of your congregation with the help of a Go Fish for Kids ($2.95) Quickstart Guide for Child Evangelism from AdventSource. Watch a sample “Go Fish for Kids” promotional video from a local church.

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

1st Quarter, 2012
ViewPoints: "Cities"

Pastor Dan Jackson, President, North American Division

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Northern Asia-Pacific Division

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The Union College Board of Trustees has removed the “interim” from John Wagner’s title and invited him to stay on as president. Wagner has been back at Union since July 2011 after serving as both academic dean and president in the 1980s.

“This is a very exciting time for Union College and I am honored to be here,” Wagner said. “As we move forward and build a new science and math building and develop other initiatives, I know God will continue to bless this great college.”

Though he didn’t march the aisles of College View Church, diploma in hand, Wagner’s previous service at Union helped him develop a love for this midwestern campus. “My wife and I have felt more loyalty to Union than we ever did to the colleges we attended,” explained Wagner, who previously served as academic dean at Union from 1980-83 and then as president from 1986-1991.

Tom Lemon, chair of the Union College Board of Trustees and head of the presidential search committee, believes Wagner’s track record at Union speaks for itself. “John already has a strong relationship with our alumni and is able to articulate the Union vision,” Lemon said. “The Our Promising Future capital campaign is at its peak right now. As the new science and mathematics building will begin to come out of the ground in the next few months, a president who knows the alumni, history and vision of Union College is extremely important.”

As the college begins construction on the new science and mathematics building this spring and raises at least $2 million more to reach the $14.5 million capital campaign goal, Lemon feels that a consistent vision from the president will be vital to Union’s continued success. “A college campus is more organism than organization,” Lemon said. “By definition, organisms either grow or die, but they never stand still. John has demonstrated his ability to meet difficult circumstances in the past and we believe he can lead the college through this period of campus change and growth.”

Though daunting, the challenge of building a large new facility on campus is welcome compared to what Wagner faced during his first presidency at Union. “When I arrived as academic dean, Union was riding high,” he remembered. A new Larson Lifestyle Center, computer terminals in every dorm room and a campus radio station made for lots of excitement both on and off campus. “But all the great ideas came with a price tag that none of us were aware of at the time.”

Wagner left Union in 1983 to become the president of Southern College, now Southern Adventist University, in Tennessee. In 1986, Union asked him to return as president, reeling from the realization of more than $9 million in debt. “There was a lot of belt tightening right from the start, but the campus understood that,” Wagner remembered. “Even though we had to cut or say no, there was still a good spirit on campus.”

During his time as president, his wife, Lilya, served as vice president for Advancement, and the two worked side by side to help reduce the college debt. When they left in 1991, the debt had been cut in half. Although Wagner went on to found and serve several not-for-profit foundations, the work he started at Union ultimately resulted in complete retirement of the debt in 1998.

“I think the highlight of that first term as president was the spirit of the campus,” Wagner remembered. “We all worked together to achieve a goal that was really the salvation of Union College.”

“When he was president, obviously we were struggling to make every penny count,” said George Gibson, a professor of history who had been hired by Wagner during his time as academic dean. He remembered Wagner putting the entire budget up on the wall during an employee meeting. “He told us that everything was up for grabs, including his own budget. He didn’t give himself preferential treatment, and that’s probably one reason why he was so well liked.”
Gibson recalled one encounter with Wagner during his previous presidency that summed up his leadership style. During a late afternoon hallway conversation, Wagner inquired how Gibson's doctoral dissertation was coming along.

“You're using a computer aren't you?” Wagner asked.

Gibson didn't have a computer at home or in his office and explained that the one computer in the division office was always tied up during the day. Wagner beckoned him into his office.

“In those days, the computer department always made sure the president had a laptop as well as a desktop,” he remembered. “John handed me his laptop and told me to use it write my dissertation.” Gibson went on to finish his Ph.D and has taught at Union ever since.

“John is the epitome of servant leadership,” said Gibson, who also served on the presidential search committee. “He has the ability to grasp what is on the horizon, know what should be done and support the campus leaders who make it happen.”

“I see myself as a cheerleader,” Wagner explained. “I don't get much done by myself, but I can be supportive of the people who have the expertise and success. I think it's very important to recognize people's accomplishments, even with just a note or an email.”

Wagner also believes in his “ministry of presence,” a term he borrowed from his former boss at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church where he served as part-time administrative pastor before returning to Union last summer. He makes it a habit to be at as many school events as possible—from awards ceremonies to basketball games to social events—and “I try to get to every building on campus every week or two, just to say hi and see how things are going.”

“That's John,” agreed Gibson. “He loves to be around people.”

Already once retired before serving at Sligo church, Wagner doesn't expect to lead Union for thirteen years, as his predecessor did. His primary goal is to help the college see the successful completion of the science and mathematics complex and help develop initiatives to position Union for future success and growth. “We'll see what happens,” he said. “but I'm hoping when I'm finished, God can say, 'well done.'”
Washington's Top Two Youth Volunteers Selected in 17th Annual National Awards Program

Spokane Valley and Longview Students Earn $1,000 Awards, Engraved Medallions and Trip to Nation's Capital

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb 07, 2012 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- --Honors Also Bestowed on Youth Volunteers in Lacey, Richland, Mukilteo, Bellevue, Redmond and Seattle

Jesse Sheldon, 17, of Spokane Valley and Skyler Lee, 12, of Longview today were named Washington's top two youth volunteers for 2012 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. Jesse was nominated by Central Valley High School in Spokane Valley, and Skyler was nominated by Kelso-Longview Adventist School in Kelso. The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, now in its 17th year, is conducted by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

Jesse, a junior at Central Valley High School, started a "diaper bank" that has distributed more than 35,000 diapers to families who are struggling economically. It began when Jesse read an editorial in Time magazine about families that had to reuse soiled diapers because they couldn't afford to buy more. He wondered if this was a problem in his area. After doing some research, he found that there was a local need.

Jesse developed a mission statement and business plan, filed to create a nonprofit organization, and began recruiting volunteers to help him collect diapers and monetary donations. He then coordinated two "Stuff the Bus Community Diaper Drives" in 2010 and 2011, which gathered more than 35,000 diapers and nearly $1,000 in cash. Jesse distributed the diapers through a network of 28 agencies in three counties. "An interesting thing happened as diapers were being delivered," said Jesse. "Families started asking for clothes, toys, books and equipment." So, Jesse now collects and distributes those items as well. So far, his organization has handled nearly $40,000 worth of donations and was recently voted the best local charity in his city. Equally
important, it has provided rare volunteer opportunities for local kids as young as five years old. "We are the future and share in the responsibility to use our gifts and talents to positively impact our neighborhoods, community and world," said Jesse.

Skyler, a sixth-grader at Kelso-Longview Adventist School, has collected and donated 1,500 coats for her local Salvation Army Christmas Center over the past five years to help needy families in her area get through the cool winter months. "When I was 7 years old, I was watching Good Morning America and learned that some children in our country had never had a warm coat to wear in the winter," said Skyler. "I told my mom that we should do something." Skyler and her mother went out and bought two new coats, which they donated to the Salvation Army. But after learning that coats were in short supply and that more were needed, Skyler decided to expand her efforts. "I was hooked," she said. She began by organizing coat drives in her community. Skyler placed collection boxes at several businesses and contacted the newspaper to help spread the word. Soon, coat donations started coming in. Skyler also sells lemonade in her neighborhood every summer, and uses the proceeds to buy gently used coats at garage sales and thrift shops. Her coat drives are now an annual event, yielding 250-350 coats a year, which are distributed during the Christmas season. "Everyone who comes into the store is able to pick out a coat for themselves and family members at no charge," said Skyler. "There are so many people who need some type of help."

As State Honorees, Jesse and Skyler each will receive $1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip in early May to Washington, D.C., where they will join the top two honorees from each of the other states and the District of Columbia for several days of national recognition events. Ten of them will be named America's top youth volunteers for 2012 at that time.

Distinguished Finalists

In addition, the program judges recognized six other Washington students as Distinguished Finalists for their impressive community service activities. Each will receive an engraved bronze medallion:

Diana Backman, 18, of Lacey, Wash., a senior at Northwest Christian High School, is an active member of the service group Job's Daughters, where she volunteers at the local children's museum, participates in food drives, assists with fundraising events, and coordinates bake sales to raise money for soldier care packages. In addition, Diana is an ambassador for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and an active supporter of the Hearing Impaired Kids' Endowment Fund.

Susan Bengtson, 17, of Richland, Wash., a senior at Richland High School, raised more than $2,000 for the international relief organization World Relief by hosting a benefit concert. Susan, who has been volunteering with World Relief for four years, recently planned and implemented the benefit concert to help refugees with housing costs.

Joel Bervell, 16, of Mukilteo, Wash., a junior at Kamiak High School, coordinated a number of fundraising events and drives to collect more than $9,000 worth of school supplies that he
personally delivered to needy children in Ghana, West Africa. In addition, Joel raised $3,000 to provide much-needed medical supplies to hospitals in Ghana.

Alexander Pizzirani, 17, of Bellevue, Wash., a senior at Interlake High School, has collected more than 2,500 books through his organization, "Food for the Mind," which aims to provide local homeless individuals with books. Alexander, who is a volunteer with Operation Nightwatch, an organization that works with the homeless, chose to collect books because there were no other organizations focusing on the intellectual and emotional needs of the homeless.

Jillian Roels, 18, of Redmond, Wash., a senior at Redmond High School, founded "Spark Your Heart," an organization dedicated to creating and inspiring random acts of kindness. Jillian has sponsored hat drives for Hats Off for Cancer, implemented letter campaigns for the troops, and partnered with the local hospital to raise funds for uncompensated care.

Amanda Washburn, 18, of Seattle, Wash., a senior at Holy Names Academy, has been a passionate volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House for nearly eight years. Amanda helps cook and serve meals and spends every Wednesday evening at the house planning movies and games for the residents.

"Through their selfless acts of service, these award recipients have greatly improved the lives of others," said Prudential Chairman and CEO John Strangfeld. "We hope their stories and their dedication inspire other young people to do the same."

"We are so pleased to celebrate these student volunteers," said JoAnn Bartoletti, executive director of NASSP. "It's important to highlight them as powerful examples of how young people can make a difference."

About The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards represents the United States' largest youth recognition program based solely on volunteer service. All public and private middle level and high schools in the country, as well as all Girl Scout councils, county 4-H organizations, American Red Cross chapters, YMCAs and affiliates of HandsOn Network, were eligible to select a student or member for a local Prudential Spirit of Community Award. More than 5,000 Local Honorees were then reviewed by an independent judging panel, which selected State Honorees and Distinguished Finalists based on criteria including personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact and personal growth.

While in Washington, D.C., the 102 State Honorees -- one middle level and one high school student from each state and the District of Columbia -- will tour the capital's landmarks, attend a gala awards ceremony at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, and visit their congressional representatives on Capitol Hill. In addition, 10 of them -- five middle level and five high school students -- will be named National Honorees on May 7. These honorees will receive additional $5,000 awards, gold medallions, crystal trophies and $5,000 grants from The Prudential Foundation for nonprofit charitable organizations of their choice.
Since the program began in 1995, more than 100,000 young volunteers nationwide have been honored by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards at the local, state or national level. The program also is conducted by Prudential subsidiaries in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Ireland and India. In addition to granting its own awards, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program also distributes President's Volunteer Service Awards to qualifying Local Honorees on behalf of President Barack Obama.

For information on all of this year's Prudential Spirit of Community State Honorees and Distinguished Finalists, visit spirit.prudential.com or www.nassp.org/spirit .

About NASSP

NASSP is the leading organization of and national voice for middle level and high school principals, assistant principals, and all school leaders from across the United States and more than 45 countries around the world. The association provides research-based professional development and resources, networking and advocacy to build the capacity of middle level and high school leaders to continually improve student performance. Reflecting its longstanding commitment to student leadership development as well, NASSP administers the National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, National Elementary Honor Society and National Association of Student Councils. For more information about NASSP, located in Reston, VA, visit www.nassp.org .

About Prudential Financial

Prudential Financial, Inc. PRU -2.92% , a financial services leader, has operations in the United States, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. Prudential's diverse and talented employees are committed to helping individual and institutional customers grow and protect their wealth through a variety of products and services, including life insurance, annuities, retirement-related services, mutual funds, investment management, and real estate services. In the U.S., Prudential's iconic Rock symbol has stood for strength, stability, expertise and innovation for more than a century. For more information, please visit http://www.news.prudential.com/ .

Editors: Graphics depicting the award program's logo and medallions may be downloaded from spirit.prudential.com.

SOURCE: Prudential Financial
U.S. Surgeon General commends Adventist focus on holistic well-being

Medical Records on February 2nd, 2012 by admin - No Comments

Jan. 31, 2012 Orlando, Florida, United States

Elizabeth Lechleitner, with reporting by Rainey Pack

In a exhibit of solidarity with hundreds of Seventh-day Adventist overall health industry experts, wellness ministry leaders and a hundred pastors from North The us this week, United States Surgeon Normal Regina Benjamin advocated a "holistic technique" to well-being.

"If we seriously want to change and reform health care in this state, we need to protect against individuals from finding sick in the first place," Benjamin said for the duration of her January 28 keynote tackle at the North American Division’s Wellness Summit in Orlando.

U.S. Surgeon Basic Regina Benjamin praised the Adventist Church’s target on holistic well-being during the North American Division’s Wellbeing Summit this week in Orlando, Florida. [photo: Rainey Pack]

Benjamin, who helms the Countrywide Prevention Council established by way of U.S. President Barack Obama’s overall health reform act, said the administration’s eyesight is to transform the nation’s health care process "from a emphasis on disorder and sickness to a emphasis on wellness and prevention."

"Health does not take place in the doctor’s place of work or hospital by yourself," Benjamin said. "Health happens wherever we reside, where we find out, the place we work, the place we perform an hundred wherever we pray.

The surgeon general commended the Adventist Church’s potential to marshal prevalent aid and one hundred participation between its members. she famous the similarities between the church’s InStep for Living program and one hundred U.S. first Girl Michelle Obama’s Permit’s Move! marketing campaign, a nationwide initiative to fight the epidemic of childhood weight problems. with InStep for Daily life’s additional element of religion, the method has inspired congregations and one hundred communities nationwide, Benjamin said.

"I continue to be impressed by the impressive pondering that’s going on in the Seventh-day Adventist Church to make overall health one thing you reside, an hundred not just one thing you hope for," she said.

The denomination is amid some 50 other religion and one hundred community organizations that pledged in 2010 to assistance Allow’s Move! last 12 months, Adventists at hundreds of churches, universities an hundred hospitals nationwide...
participated in Permit’s Transfer! Day by logging techniques toward a objective of one million collective miles of bodily exercise.

Church members were able to double that goal an hundred reach two million miles in 2011, sai hundred Katia Reinert, director of Health Ministries for the North American Division. Adventists in North The us also planted much more than 100 new vegetable gardens an a hundred farmers markets last yr. for reduced-earnings households who struggle to feed their little ones over the summer season months, church members also aided establish feeding websites at Holiday Bible Colleges an a hundred other church gatherings.

Adventists in North The usa planted neighborhood gardens and set up farmers markets this yr towards the region’s target of growing entry to reasonably priced healthful meals. [photo courtesy North America Division]

The Adventist Church in North The us will in 2012 keep on to target on growing bodily activity between Adventists an a hundred community members an a hundred increasing entry to cost-effective healthful meals, Reinert sai a hundred.

quotIt is our hope that every Adventist church will become a heart for wellbeing in the local community by using our means to motivate individuals to knowledge a total plentiful daily life and by improving the overall health an a hundred effectively-staying of youngsters, households and communities across North The us,quot she said.

Weight problems is often the &ldquounderlying result in&rdquo of heart condition, most cancers and hypertension, an a hundred is the &ldquoone risk aspect&rdquo for Variety two Diabetes, sai a hundred Dr. Albert Reece, dean of the School of Medicine at the College of Maryland.

quotWe are now variety 1 in the earth with regard to being overweight,quot Reece said. &ldquoThe United States needs to be variety one hundred likes to be variety one in every thing, but this is not 1 place that we can be very pleased of.&rdquo

Adventist world church President Ted N.C. Wilson, who retains a master’s degree in general public well being from the church’s Loma Linda University, commended well being summit organizers for bringing a religious point of view to wellbeing an a hundred well being.

quotthese kinds of events and those that concentration on the healthful way of living that details us to the Learn Doctor are vitally important for God’s church,quot Wilson sai a hundred.

The North The usa Division Well being Summit runs by means of February five.

Incoming search terms:
andrew bourne seventh day adventist, andrew bourne seventh-day adventist, surgeon general adventist, us surgeon general holistic health
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Adventist Hinsdale Hospital schedules open house for new patient pavilion

By Chuck Fieldman
cfieldman@pioneerlocal.com

Last Modified: Feb 7, 2012 12:11AM

The public is invited to see the newly-built $75 million patient pavilion at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, just prior to when patients will be brought into the facility.

Hospital officials have scheduled an open house from noon to 5 p.m. March 25, said Lisa Parro, senior public relations specialist, Adventist Midwest Health.

“This will be the only time the public can come and take a look at the new space without patients being in the rooms,” Parro said. “We’ll provide shuttles from parking areas and have some family-type events at the open house.”

Parro said the 18-month construction of the new patient pavilion is being completed on schedule. Patients are scheduled to be moved to the area during the final week of March, with a planned April 1 official opening.

Included in the new patient pavilion are 135 new private patient rooms with many home-like amenities, a new patient entrance on the south wing and a large lobby area with natural light. A new covered driveway on Oak Street will provide easier access to patient services and registration along with some protection from inclement weather.

Other features of the project include newly-designed patient units that bring caregivers closer to the bedside with ultra-modern workstations and improve patient privacy with patient-only corridors.

There will be a new critical-care unit and surgical services department, plus a bright and spacious lobby and a new chapel.

“The goal of the pavilion is to have everything patients use right here,” said Susan King, executive director of the Hinsdale Hospital Foundation. “We want it to be as easy as possible for everyone who comes here.”

BettySue Netzel, a registered nurse who is the hospital’s director of women’s and children’s services, sees a huge upside to the new patient pavilion.

“We’re stressed when we’re in a different environment; we need peace and quiet for healing,” she said. “The setup here will allow for that much better.”

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Seventh-day Adventist church plans community health initiatives

By KAREN HERZOG | Bismarck Tribune | Posted: Friday, February 3, 2012 10:00 pm

BISMARCK, N.D. - Since the denomination's founding in 1863, Seventh-day Adventists have placed a strong emphasis on healthy living.

In the 1960s, Loma Linda University, in cooperation with the National Cancer Institute, began to study the health of Seventh-day Adventists and in the 1970s and '80s, the National Institutes of Health collected data on the SDA lifestyle.

With the Seventh-day Adventist-recommended vegetarian regimen - relying heavily on whole grains, whole fruits and vegetables - those health researchers found that, in general, SDA members have 50 percent less risk of heart disease, certain types of cancers, strokes, and diabetes than the general population.

America's current accelerating rates of chronic diseases such as hypertension, obesity and diabetes continue to alarm public health experts, who point to unhealthy lifestyle choices as major contributors to those increases. What is called SAD (Standard American Diet) consists of 62 percent of processed and refined foods, said Connie Well, one of the coordinators of an upcoming SDA health initiative in the community.

People don't eat enough whole foods, and far too many refined, processed foods, said JulieAnne Walter, RN, another member of the group.

The Bismarck SDA congregation will host a free screening of the documentary, "Forks Over Knives," at 7 p.m. Thursday at the church, and two information sessions Feb. 12 and 13 prior to a month-long CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) program coming up this spring.

Troy and Bonnie Reinke and Janice and Tom Wolf are among about two dozen people who went through the four-week CHIP program last fall.

Walter compiled numbers which showed the average improvement in blood tests for all 23 participants for the month. Among her statistics, total cholesterol average for the group showed a drop of 14.8 percent, and a 20.2 percent drop in triglycerides.

Troy Reinke said that, during the program from Sept. 23 to Oct. 21, his total blood cholesterol dropped from 258 to 148; Janice Wolf said during the same period, hers dropped from 238 to 172.

Following food guidelines which cut out most refined and processed foods, meat, fast food, sodas and caffeine, the couples turned instead to meals of vegetables and fruits, nuts, beans and whole grains.

Bonnie Reinke said she also increased her water intake to about 80 ounces a day. Tom Wolf switched to an assortment of fresh fruits to replace chips in his lunches, and his co-workers have been telling him they've noticed he's losing weight, he said.

In "Forks Over Knives," two doctors, a surgeon and a researcher, discuss information on making those life changes, with the goal of diminishing diseases which have a strong lifestyle component, such as hypertension, obesity, heart disease, some cancers, Walter said - even depression in some cases, said Lavone Steffenson.

The couples who have gone through the CHIP program learn to shop the perimeter of the supermarket, where fresh foods and produce are generally placed, how to adapt recipes to use healthier ingredients, the pitfalls of too much fast food and more.

People can be confused and misled by food labels, Walter and Steffenson said. For example, because a food is labeled "sugar-free" doesn't automatically make it healthy, Walter said. The amount of sugar in foods also can go undetected because sugars go by numerous chemical names on labels, Steffenson said.

Walter said that the word "diet" can be inaccurate; to get health benefits from changing your food choices means adopting a permanent new lifestyle, she said. Fad diets can help people lose a few pounds, but mostly they gain them back when they start eating normally again, and then some, she said.

Persistence is important for people wanting to make a healthy change, JoAnn Arnold said.

Specifically, the Reinkes and Wolfs have added more whole grains and fiber such as steel-cut oats and oatmeal, to their foods, along
with whole wheat pasta, beans and sweet potatoes, and eliminated meat.

Steffenson disagrees with the common belief that eating healthy is expensive. On the contrary, if you consider things such as the price of a bag of chips, processed foods cost more, she said.

Furthermore, it's important to think beyond the grocery store till to calculate costs, Arnold said.

Medications for chronic diseases are expensive, Well said; some people have been able to decrease their medications or get off them entirely, Steffenson said.

And, "you can buy a lot of groceries for what a heart attack costs you," Janice Wolf said.

Information sessions on the upcoming CHIP program are set for 3 p.m. Feb. 12 and 7 p.m. Feb. 13. People will learn more about the program and have a chance to register. The CHIP program starts Feb. 24 and runs through March 25.

The Seventh-day Adventist church has always emphasized health, Janice Wolf said: "We believe the body is the temple of God, so you should take care of it.

"If I don't, I'm not honoring my creator," she said.

For more information on "Forks Over Knives," call 258-7661 or visit http://www.forksoverknives.com.

The Bismarck Seventh-day Adventist Church is at 1109 N. 26th St.
Under a New Steeple, a Harlem Church Gets Out From Under Debt

By DAVID W. DUNLAP

Let’s say something good about mortgages.

O.K. They’re flammable.

The pastors, elders and members of the Ephesus Seventh-Day Adventist Church at Lenox Avenue and West 123rd Street are so happy to be living without debt that they restaged a mortgage-burning ceremony last week just to have a photographic record.

“We’ve paid it off — praise God,” the Rev. Dedrick L. Blue, the senior pastor, said on Wednesday. The $550,000 mortgage was held by the Atlantic Union Revolving Fund, a church-affiliated lending institution. Ephesus now has a credit of $62.09, Dr. Blue said.

What occasioned the borrowing was an ambitious project to restore the exterior of the 125-year-old church, which was badly damaged in a 1969 fire. That was when it lost the tip of its slender steeple, a Harlem landmark for generations. The steeple was not replaced during the reconstruction in the early 1970s. But it was recreated and reinstalled five years ago, in the most obvious sign of the renovation project. Other work included repointing the facade after Allen Price, the church’s building chairman, discovered there was no mortar between the stone blocks.

“The only thing that was holding this building up was gravity itself,” Dr. Blue said.

The congregation — predominantly African-American, with a good many members from the Caribbean, Central America, Brazil and West Africa — numbers about 1,200 to 1,300. Not everyone thought the church should be spending so much money on a building project, Dr. Blue conceded. But he added that the structural revitalization went hand in hand with a desire by church leaders to bridge the divide between old and new Harlem. “It’s almost a symbol; not only of what we were but of what we are becoming,” he said.

The building, designed by John Rochester Thomas, was constructed as the Second Collegiate Church of Harlem. Ephesus has occupied it since 1930. It is included in the Mount Morris Park Historic District. Joseph Merriweather, a longtime member with personal memories of the fire, credited a Fire Department captain with having preserved the stained-glass windows.
The new steeple rode out Tropical Storm Irene last year, but so many roof tiles were damaged that water got into the pipe organ, swelling the wood and leather. It is still playable, Dr. Blue said, but much diminished. As he surveyed the main sanctuary, he envisioned a renovation that would bring back some of the 19th-century character of the original building and, among other touches, eliminate the “disco light” chandeliers installed in the 1970s.

Would such a project mean another mortgage? The pastor raised his eyebrows at the question, as if he wished the subject hadn’t come up. “To be honest with you,” he answered, “yes.” Remember, though, that Ephesus already has $62.09 in hand.
U.S. Surgeon General Commends Adventist Focus on Holistic Well-being

Nation needs shift from ‘disease and illness to wellness and prevention,’ Benjamin says

Orlando, Florida, United States (PRWEB) February 01, 2012

In a show of solidarity with hundreds of Seventh-day Adventist health professionals, health ministry leaders and pastors from North America this week, United States Surgeon General Regina Benjamin advocated a “holistic approach” to well-being.

“If we really want to change and reform healthcare in this country, we need to prevent people from getting sick in the first place,” Benjamin said during her January 28 keynote address at the North American Division’s Health Summit in Orlando.

Benjamin, who helms the National Prevention Council established through U.S. President Barack Obama’s health reform act, said the administration’s vision is to change the nation’s healthcare system “from a focus on disease and illness to a focus on wellness and prevention.”

“Health does not occur in the doctor’s office or hospital alone,” Benjamin said. “Health occurs where we live, where we learn, where we work, where we play and where we pray.”

The surgeon general commended the Adventist Church’s ability to marshal widespread support and participation among its members. She noted the similarities between the church’s InStep for Life program and U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move! campaign, a national initiative to fight the epidemic of childhood obesity. With InStep for Life’s added element of faith, the program has “inspired congregations and communities nationwide,” Benjamin said.

“I continue to be impressed by the innovative thinking that’s going on in the Seventh-day Adventist Church to make health something you live, and not just something you hope for,” she said.

The denomination is among some 50 other faith and community organizations that pledged in 2010 to support Let’s Move! Last year, Adventists at hundreds of churches, schools and hospitals nationwide participated in Let’s Move! Day by logging steps toward a goal of one million collective miles of physical activity.

Church members were able to double that goal and reach two million miles in 2011, said Katia Reinhart, director of Health Ministries for the church in North America. Adventists in North America also planted more than 100 new vegetable gardens and farmers markets last year. For low-income families who struggle to feed their children over the summer months, church members also helped establish feeding sites at Vacation Bible Schools and other church events.

The Adventist Church in North America will in 2012 continue to focus on increasing physical activity among Adventists and community members and improving access to affordable healthy foods, Reinhart said.

“It is our hope that every Adventist church will become a center for health in the community by using our resources to motivate people to experience a full abundant life and by improving the health and well-being of children, families and communities across North America,” she said.

With obesity rates doubling in adults and more than tripling in children since 1980, the need to raise awareness is more urgent than ever, health professionals said. More than 20 million U.S. children under the age of five are now overweight.

Obesity is often the “underlying cause” of heart disease, cancer and hypertension, and is the “number one risk factor” for Type 2 Diabetes, said Dr. Albert Reece, dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Maryland.

“We are now number one in the world with regard to obesity,” Reece said. “The United States wishes to be and likes to be number one in everything, but this is not one area that we can be proud of.”

Adventist world church President Ted N.C. Wilson, who holds a master’s degree in public health from the church’s Loma Linda University, commended health summit organizers for bringing a spiritual perspective to health and well-being.

“These kinds of events and those that focus on the healthful way of living that points us to the Master Physician are vitally important for God’s church,” Wilson said.

The North America Division Health Summit runs through February 5.

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1/31/12 Winter 2012 Camp for the Blind in Michigan is challenged by warm winter

Many winter and summer options for blind campers

January 30, 2012, Lincoln, Nebraska ... [Rajmund Dabrowski/CRN] When 43 blind campers arrive at their Winter Camp for the Blind on February 5, they will experience an abundance of wintry thrills and spills. That's the plan, if there is snow.

"We plan for plenty of activities in the snow," says Peggy Hansen, who coordinates National Camps for Blind Children® (USA), a service of Lincoln, Nebraska-based Christian Record Services for the Blind.

"If the forecast is correct, the activities could include snowmobiling, downhill skiing and horse-drawn sleigh-riding. And since the camp has a lake, there may be some ice skating fun, too. But we need real freezing weather," Hansen explains.

From the 43 blind campers who are listed to come to Winter Camp-Aus Sable in Grayling, Michigan, February 5-10, twenty-five will come from Canada, according to camp's organizer, Pat Page from the National Camps for the Blind® (Canada). The Michigan venue is a convenient spot for campers from across the U.S. northern border, and is a part of a cooperative effort between the Christian Record International office and its Canadian affiliate from Oshawa, Ontario.

Just imagine a blind camper from Florida experiencing snow for the first time. But outdoor activities are only a portion on camp menu. There are indoor group activities, craft making and theme days. "If snow does not surprise us this warm winter, there will be go-carting or horseback riding," Hansen adds.

The Michigan venue is Christian Record's only winter camp for the blind for this year. Hansen explained, "our camp planning is conditioned on availability of funding. The economic downturn has affected how many such events are viable for our organization." The campers cover their own travel expenses and a $35 sign-up fee, but all else is covered by donations. "We are grateful to our donors for allowing us to organize eight summer camps in the United States this year," she adds.

Smiling, Hansen adds, "those who planned to go to Colorado this winter will have an opportunity to come to our Glacier View Summer Camp in Ward, Colorado, in July."

The 2012 summer camp schedule will begin early in June but most camps are planned for July and August. The list of the summer camps for the blind includes eight events in the United States of America, and four in Canada which are planned by the Canadian affiliate. [More details at www.blindcamps.org]. Negotiations are continuing to also reactivate Camp Wakonda at Oxford, Wisconsin, July 1-8.

Indian Creek Camp at Liberty, Tennessee, June 10-17; Mountain View Camp at Hope, British Columbia, Canada, July 1-6; Pugwash Camp at Pugwash, Nova Scotia, Canada, July 1-6; Camp Frenda at Port Carling, Ontario, Canada, July 2-8; Glacier View Camp at Ward, Colorado, July 2-8; Yorktown Bay at Mountain Pine, Arkansas, July 8-15; Foothills Camp at Olds, Alberta, Canada, July 22-28; Leoni Meadows Camp at Grizzly Flats, California, July 29-August 5; Timber Ridge at Spencer, Indiana, July 29-August 5; Blind Bikers Camp at Cedar Lake, Michigan, August 7-12; Lake Aurora Camp at Lake Wales, Florida, August 12-17; Mivoden Camp at Hayden Lake, Idaho, August 19-26;

It's been 45 years since the first camp for the blind was organized at Camp Kalaqua, High Springs, Florida, in the summer of 1967. Winter camps were started in 1980 at Winter Park, Colorado. Ray Hubbard, an employee of Christian Record Services, became acquainted with Norman Middag, who specialized in directing camps for the youth in Florida. The rest is history. Initially, Hubbart's novel idea required persuasion with the Christian Record board. Selling the idea to parents of blind children created additional challenges.

The first camp had 23 youngsters and to date more than 50,000 campers have attended National Camps for Blind Children.

Today, the local camp organizers praise the initiative as they themselves enjoy camp activities. Campers later say that attending a camp is a highlight of the year. They want to return and enjoy the adventure again. At the camp,
counselors teach practical skills, and provide an environment that encourages independence. Many of the adult campers are returning to relive their experience from when they were children.

Being at the camp finally gives a blind child a chance to be a kid, Peggy Hansen comments. “All too often they live excluded and sheltered from the social mainstream. Some are depressed, and not allowed to participate in activities. At the camp they play together and strive for new experiences. You play sports that you only wished you could, and you connect with nature,” Hansen explains.

Christian Record’s aim is that the camps will offer hope, create a wholesome atmosphere, always emphasizing high moral values. “At our camps we offer an opportunity to meet Jesus,” Hansen adds.

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Rajmund Dabrowski, Assistant to the President for Marketing
Christian Record Services for the Blind