This past week, the Oakwood University Aeolians Choir won three gold medals at the 7th World Choir Games in Cincinnati, Oh. The choir won the Championship Trophy in the “Spiritual” category, competing against 15 other choirs. They also won in the categories of “Music of Religions” and “Musica Contemporanea.”

More than 15,000 choristers in 362 choirs competed in 23 different musical categories.

Aeolians' Director Jason Max Ferdinand said it “Was so inspiring watching choirs rehearse in hallways, rehearsal spaces and on stage. The interaction with folk from all around the world was refreshing.”

This biennial event, the world's largest choral competition, will next occur in Riga, Latvia, in 2014.

Pictured above: Aeolians' Director Jason Max Ferdinand (center) holds World Spirituals Music championship trophy, as choristers display 3 other 2012 World Choir Games gold medals.
Members attending the recent Chesapeake Conference Camp Meeting in Hagerstown, Md., helped to distribute copies of *The Great Hope*, an abridged version of *The Great Controversy*. Teams hit the streets around the neighboring Hagerstown Adventist church and passed out more than 500 books. Team members also prayed with people and answered questions about upcoming events at the church. “I know that the Lord will bless,” said Chris Holland, pastor of the Hagerstown congregation. The church has ordered 38,000 copies of *The Great Hope* - enough to share with every household in Hagerstown.

Note: Please share with us your *Great Hope* stories. Send them to Lynetta Murdoch.

**Pictured above:** Mark Thomas (right), president of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, shares a copy of *The Great Hope* with Dr. Marc Gamerman, who had been out for an afternoon run in his neighborhood when he met an outreach team.

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

- **'Forks Over Knives' film on healthy eating**
  Gettysburg Times
  July 18

- **Seventh-day Adventists file suit over door-to-door solicitations**
  The Christian Century
  July 17

- **Book sale in honor of late teacher**
  FOX 11
  July 15

Show your support for Adventist education, you can start by visiting and “liking” the new NAD Adventist Education Facebook page. You can also follow NAD Education on Twitter @AdventistEdu or search for “Adventist Education.”
REACH: Community Outreach and Evangelism

Accompanied by a friend, Susan Brooks visited Rolling Hills Church and enjoyed the preaching and fellowship. However, she wondered why, when she had been Mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes, plus serving on the Planning Commission, she had not known that the Rolling Hills Adventist Church existed on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The church is situated on a two-lane road with a median divider that passed the church’s driveway entrance on one side, which meant that, on one side, cars passed the church and then had to make a U-turn to travel back to its entrance. In Brooks’ words: “Poor community visibility and limited access, with no visible signage. No one knows this church is here.”

NAD NewsPoints is for every member: Please send this notice to every church in your conference and ask them to put this in their electronic and print newsletters:

NAD NewsPoints is the official North American Division e-newsletter, and it needs to be sent to every Adventist email address in the division. It’s your official North American Division source for ministry stories, breaking Adventists news, announcements, evangelism news, resources, video devotionals and ViewPoints of your division leaders.


Could you use some help in dealing with objections or conflicts when reading or sharing The Great Hope? Cindy Tutsch from the Ellen G. White Estate, offers some advice that may help you in this online video.
The Great Hope Study Guides are now online on the NAD web site, and can be downloaded free of charge. The Great Hope is intended for sharing with family and friends and those with whom we have developed a personal relationship throughout North America. Paperback copies are available for the following quantity prices through local Adventist Book Centers (800-765-6955): 1-99 @ $.79 ea; 100-999 @ $.59 ea.; 1,000-1,999 @ $.53 ea., 2,000+ @ $.49 ea.

Do you plan events? Tell us how you handle online and onsite registrations for your meetings? Share your responses on Facebook and Twitter pages of the Adventist Event Planners Association.

"The Gospel of Jesus"

Dr. Carlton Byrd, speaker/director, Breath of Life Ministries

Stay Socially Connected with NAD

- NAD Health Ministries Newsletter, Health Unlimited
- Webinar, July 31: Join Adventists InStep for Life!
- Pacific Press Resources on Adventist Lifestyle

Adventist World
NAD JULY Edition

NAD News: “Christians’ Responsibility to their Communities,” p. 11
NAD Perspective: “Aligned in Christ,” p. 17
NAD Feature: “Adventists in Step for Life,” p. 33

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
Guam-Micronesia Mission

Adventist Mission:
3rd Quarter, 2012
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Watch DVD
Read Mission Quarterly
Children’s Mission Quarterly
The informative documentary, "Forks Over Knives" will be shown in Gettysburg and the Adventists in town want the community to listen up. The film, directed by Lee Fulkerson, warns of the health dangers of our eating habits and what we need to do to develop new ones. The film's free screening will be on Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Gettysburg Seventh-day Adventist Church Community Room, located at 1495 Biglerville Road in Gettysburg. The GSDAC will provide a plant-strong selection of vegan samples to inspire this healthy way of eating. The follow-up, "Engine 2 - Kitchen Rescue," free screening, will be on Aug. 11, at 7 p.m.

The Adventists are no strangers to the vegan way of life. They have been featured in the National Geographic documentary film and article, "Longevity, the Secrets of Long Life." They have also been the focus of longevity studies by the National Institute of Health and Loma Linda University. It is of note, according to recent research, that Seventh-day Adventists outlive their American counterparts by up to 10 years. Adventists have always contended that diseases such as cancer, heart disease, arthritis and the diabetes epidemic that plague our society can all be contained and, in many cases, eliminated, with a plant-based diet and a healthy lifestyle. The film "Forks Over Knives" validates what they have known for years.
GREEN BAY - A huge three-day book sale for teachers begins Monday in Green Bay.

The Adventist Junior Academy was given thousands of teaching materials.

They belonged to Sheila Saunders, a teacher for nearly 20 years.

She died from cancer in January.

The academy was chosen because her husband went to school there.

The three-day sale includes more than 12,000 books, games, and classroom supplies.

"She didn't want the books to go to waste. She wanted them to go to a good cause, go to school teachers, go to children where they could be put to proper use. This was her passion, and seeing this go to a good use is one of the last things that I can do for her," said Sheila's husband, Jeremy Saunders.

Proceeds from the sale will help fund mission trips for the students.

Some books will also be sent to children in other countries.

The sale, for teachers only, runs Monday through Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

It's being held in the Adventist Junior Academy's gym located at 1422 Shawano Avenue.
Seventh-day Adventists file suit over door-to-door solicitations
Jul 17, 2012 by Kent Faulk

c. 2012 Religion News Service BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (RNS) Seventh-day Adventists have filed a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of two ordinances in an Alabama city that the church says bars it and other religious groups from door-to-door solicitations unless they first register and pay license fees.

The lawsuit was filed after a member of the church's Summer Student Missionary Program was ticketed in June by a police officer for selling books door-to-door without a City of Alabaster permit, the lawsuit states. After the citation, the group suspended its program in Alabaster, which is about 20 miles south of Birmingham.

"The City of Alabaster has enacted two sweeping ordinances that unconstitutionally restrict the exchange of beliefs and religious principles within the Alabaster city limits," the lawsuit states. The ordinances were enacted in 1994.

The lawsuit seeks a court order that declares the ordinances unconstitutional and bars the city from enforcing them.

U.S. District Judge Karon O. Bowdre has set a hearing in the case for Wednesday (July 18).

Efforts to reach Alabaster Mayor David Frings or attorneys representing the city were unsuccessful.

Todd R. McFarland, associate general counsel with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Maryland, said that the church has had police officers in other cities ticket student missionaries under similar laws in those places. But they can work it out with the city on most occasions, he said.

In the case of Alabaster, they weren't able to work out a solution and filed the lawsuit Friday, McFarland said. It is the first lawsuit of its type -- regarding door-to-door solicitations -- filed by the church in at least a decade, he said.

Under the Summer Student Missionary Program, the lawsuit states, teams travel to a predetermined destination and canvass door to door. The teams offer free literature about the Seventh-day Adventist faith, engage in evangelism and solicit charitable donations to help support the program.

The church in April had sent the Alabaster Police Department a letter explaining its program.

"On constitutional grounds, we must respectfully decline to seek any permit or license. We feel no government has the right to require and order payment of fees or take for the purpose of engaging in this door-to-door ministry," the church's letter said.

Two Alabaster ordinances place restrictions on any person or group engaged in pamphleteering or solicitation anywhere in the city, according to the lawsuit. One is a business license permit ordinance and the other is a solicitation ordinance, according to the lawsuit.

The lawsuit states that Alabaster has a lengthy and financially burdensome solicitation permit process, which includes review by a city council-appointed committee and the potential for a public hearing.

"These ordinances directly target, and impose a prior restraint upon, speech afforded the highest levels of protection by the First Amendment," the lawsuit states. "Courts have routinely rejected governmental efforts to impose this sort of sweeping prior restraint on speech, and particularly so when the speech involved lies at the very core of our constitutional system."

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Putting a Church on the Community Radar

Posted on Jul 03, 2012

Accompanied by a friend in 2009, Susan Brooks visited Rolling Hills Church and enjoyed the preaching and fellowship. However, she wondered why, when she had been Mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes, plus serving on the Planning Commission in the 90’s, she had not known that the Rolling Hills Adventist Church existed on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, on a strategic hill overlooking the Los Angeles basin. The church is situated on a two-lane road with a median divider that passed the church’s driveway entrance on one side, which meant that, on one side, cars passed the church and then had to make a U-turn to travel back to its entrance. In Brooks’ words: “Poor community visibility and limited access, with no visible signage. No one knows this church is here.”

Brooks dove into Bible studies with church Bible worker Janet Barnhill, and began to fall in love with Jesus and His remnant church. “Janet,” she said, “this message is what I have been searching for all my life.”

Baptized on July 26, 2010, Brooks affirmed, “This is my church home, and no one knows it’s here.” With the church Board, elders and Pastor Jeff Rosenthal, she began pursuing a journey to put the church on the community radar.

At Brooks’ suggestion, an elder went to City Hall in October of that year to obtain an application for membership in the local Chamber of Commerce.

Brooks attended a church Board meeting to cast the vision and get the Board’s approval to apply to the City of Rolling Hills Estates for a U-turn with the church name.
Next, the Traffic Staff of Rolling Hills Estates visited the Church site with Brooks, got the initial design and established need. The Traffic Staff then made their report at the Traffic Committee meeting, which included three local elders, who each gave a three-minute testimony about the church’s need for the signage. The Traffic Safety Committee listened to the request for the U-turn and sign for the church and then suggested a second option of a left-turn lane direct into the church driveway, with signage. The elders loved the suggestion. “Let’s talk again,” they said.

At the Traffic Safety Committee meeting In the first quarter of 2011, the left turn was “rubber stamped,” reported Pastor Jeff Rosenthal, on the condition that the Rolling Hills Church would pay for the project.

“In the very beginning God moved on the hearts of the Traffic Committee when they offered a direct solution rather than a mere ‘U-turn’ sign with the Church’s name,” said Brooks. Brooks had lobbied with gentle persistence, kind expressions of cooperation and appreciation to the end of the project.

“God’s hand was on the project from beginning to end,” remarked Pastor Jeff Rosenthal. -- Janet Barnhill

Photo caption: The Rolling Hills Church celebrated its new left-hand turn lane and signage April 7 with a dedication ceremony during its Sabbath service. (l. to r.) Pastor Jeff Rosenthal, church member and Rancho Palos Verdes City Councilwoman Susan Brooks and Rolling Hills Estates Mayor Pro-Tem Frank Zerunyan. Photo by Kenneth Rogers

http://scc-adventist-org.adventistfaith.org/news_entries/15146