Foundations - "Recently I saw a photograph that really made my mouth drop open and my head shake! It was a picture of an unfinished 25-story building that had fallen over backwards. The sight of hundreds of 'hair-like' strands of steel reinforcing rods protruding out of a collapsed structure was surreal to say the least."  MORE (Adventist World, p. 17)

Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS DR) volunteers have responded to a unique call for help following the shooting tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14. There was an overwhelming emotional response of acts of kindness and donations that poured in from around the globe. Tom McQuarrie, ACS DR Coordinator for Connecticut and Rhode Island, was asked by Newtown, Conn. officials to manage the donations that were piling up all over town. Warehouse space was identified and Tom and his team of ACS volunteers are coordinating hundreds of volunteers who are sorting, counting, labeling, and boxing these gifts to support all of the children in Newtown.  MORE

Gone but Not Forgotten: John Konrad, Vice President and General Manager of Washington Adventist University’s contemporary Christian music station, WGTS 91.9, passed away on Wednesday, January 2, following a short illness. He was responsible for increasing the 10,000 weekly listeners to over 600,000. MORE

EEOC Settles Seventh Day Adventist Religious Discrimination Suit

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital saves $170,000 a year by reducing energy use

Adventists Help With Donation Organization

The NAD 2013 Health Summit especially for the Atlantic, Columbia and Lake Union regions will be held March 13-17 in Flushing, N.Y. Register now. It will offer more than 20 seminars on topics from fitness and lifestyle to mental and emotional health. There will be a special track for pastors and clergy, a track for nurses, seminars for healthcare leaders, all with practical help for outreach. Get some hands-on experience in health evangelism. Enjoy the great keynote speakers. Attend evening health sessions for the community.  MORE

http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/u=84ac041b8b705798057dab6f26&id=23aa67997b&es=3075540be8[1/10/2013 4:27:05 PM]
Do you dream of going viral with your ministry story? Then be sure to read of the dangers in the January issue of Practicing Communicating. Learn about church presentation software, how to develop a global presence online, and the importance of visual media.

"Turn the World Upside Down"

Pierre Quinn, pastor of Cottage Chapel Seventh-day Adventist Church, Bowling Green, Ky.

REACH: Community Outreach and Evangelism

Glendale Adventist Hospital's (GAH) Rose Parade float won the Governor's Trophy for best depiction of life in the beautiful State of California. GAH's involvement with the Glendale, Ca. 2013 Rose Parade provided them with a way to engage with their local community and gave them a unique spotlight to an international audience to showcase and reinforce the hospital's longstanding focus on traditional Adventist Health and messages of health, wellness and preventative medicine. Outreach, health and wellness are at the core of Adventist Health's mission. MORE

Feb. 25-Mar. 2, Hawaii Family Emphasis (English/Spanish)

Mar. 7-9, Music and Worship Conference

Mar. 13-17, NAD Health Summit

REACH: Community Outreach and Evangelism

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By Dan Jackson

Foundations

I recently saw a photograph that made my mouth drop open and my head shake in amazement! It pictured an unfinished 25-story building that had fallen over backward. Hundreds of hairlike strands of steel reinforcing rods protruding out of a collapsed structure created a surreal scene. How could such a thing take place? How could the builders not have foreseen the possibility of such an occurrence?

As I read the article connected to the picture I understood that the engineers had not counted on the earth shifting after multiple days of rain. They had not situated the foundation deep enough in the earth, and the impact of drenching rains had eroded the foundation. The foundation for a second structure had been excavated nearby, and the ground around the first structure had slid toward the hole dug for the second foundation; when too much earth moved, down came building number one. It was a disaster of no small proportion. Thankfully, no lives were lost.

We smile at the shortsightedness of an engineer who would develop a plan that would not provide for all eventualities. However, when it comes to the way we function as a church, we may be equally foolish if we don’t establish our plans and goals as an organization upon a solid foundation. Jesus made the statement: “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock” (Matt. 7:24, 25). The principle of developing sound foundations is a spiritual one.

Over the past two years the North American Division administrative team, and many others throughout our division, have been praying and intentionally attempting to lay a solid foundation upon which to build all our dreams and plans. And we do dream! We dream of fully engaged, spiritually driven members who are enthusiastically involved in the proclamation work of the angel of Revelation 14:6, 7. We dream about providing resources, ideas, and ideals whereby all our members, both young and not so young, can witness to everyone around them.

We have attempted to collaborate with one another, and with the leadership of the world church, to develop a foundation that we call REACH. It is only a word, but it stands for the solid foundation comprised of revival and transformation, education for discipleship, alignment within the church, community outreach and evangelism, and healthy leadership and management. We believe that the elements described by REACH provide us with a solid, God-oriented, spiritual values-based foundation that will allow the church throughout our division to move aggressively and effectively into the future.

In coming months you’ll hear more and more about the building blocks that we are placing upon our REACH foundation. They are the expression of division leaders that have to become increasingly involved in leading the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in our territory.

These building blocks, which were recently provided for and approved in the North American Division budget, are fundamental to the future of our division. They are our attempt to deal strategically with the significant issues facing us in our territory.

The building blocks are an attempt to understand, resource, and implement aggressive plans dealing with issues such as the retention of our young adults, media outreach, the involvement of women in ministry and leadership, the future of Adventist Christian education, approaches to engage emerging immigrant populations in our territories, and our desire to develop evangelistic plans that are transformational to our local congregations and communities.

We appeal to every member to dream with us. We are calling for all to pray with us as we lay our ongoing plans before God and move forward to implement the most aggressive outreach in our division’s history.

Jesus is coming soon! As we wait, let’s participate in God’s final evangelistic thrust on our planet. We long to see thousands upon thousands find the kind of friendship with our heavenly Father that will last for eternity.
Celebration of John Konrad’s Life, January 12

A celebration for the life of John Konrad, Vice President and General Manager of Washington’s contemporary Christian music station, WGTS 91.9, will take place at 3 p.m. Saturday, January 12, at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, 7700 Carroll Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912.

Konrad, 43, died at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, January 2, after a short illness.

“We all hoped John would recover, so needless to say, his passing has left our entire community deeply shocked and saddened,” said Rob Vandeman, Executive Secretary of the Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and President and Chair of the WGTS board of directors. “We offer our sincerest condolences to his wife, Dawn, and ask that you keep her and our WGTS family in your prayers.”

Founded in 1957, WGTS is owned and operated by Washington Adventist University, a higher education institution of the Columbia Union Conference.

Konrad, who became WGTS General Manager in 1996, led the station through a transition from classical music to a contemporary Christian format in the late 1990s and doubled the station’s coverage area. Under his leadership, the station grew from 10,000 weekly listeners to over 600,000. The station ranks among the top 10 in the Washington D.C. market.

In lieu of flowers, those who would like to support an organization that John was passionate about, the family asks that donations be made to All Shepherd Rescue, P.O. Box 23231, Baltimore, MD 21203, or online at www.allshepherdrescue.com.

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More Headlines

- Preparing for New Student Orientation & Registration
- Celebration of John Konrad’s Life, January 12
- Acro-Fest 2012 Puts University on Show
- President Receives Notable Person of Honor Award
- Nursing Students Commit to Serve

- Deadline for off-campus grades, challenge tests, projects, CLEP®, etc. for May graduates
  April 12, 2013 (All Day)
- Last day to withdraw from classes with a “W”
  April 15, 2013 (All Day)

Help us to provide students with a Christian education by donating to the student scholarship fund.
EEOC settles Seventh Day Adventist religious discrimination suit

A Birmingham, Alabama-based manufacturing company has agreed to pay $25,000 to settle a religious discrimination lawsuit filed by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for allegedly refusing to hire a Seventh Day Adventist, the agency said.

The EEOC said late last month that when James Wright applied for employment with Altec Industries Inc.'s Burnsville, North Carolina, manufacturing facility, he said that as a Seventh Day Adventist, he could not work on his Sabbath, which runs from sundown Friday until sundown Saturday. The EEOC charged in its complaint that Altec decided not to hire him as a result, which it said violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

In addition to paying the $25,000, under terms of the settlement, Altec also agreed to provide annual training on religious discrimination to all of its managers and supervisors at its Burnsville facility, among other actions.

Lynette A. Barnes, regional attorney for the EEOC's Charlotte, North Carolina, district office said in a statement: "An employer cannot refuse to hire an applicant to avoid making a religious accommodation. "Where there is a conflict between a religious belief and work rules, the law mandates that employers make a sincere effort to accommodate those beliefs, including at the application stage. We are pleased that the settlement with Altec provides injunctive relief that will benefit all the company's employees and future applicants."

A spokesman for Altec, which provides products and services to the electric utility, telecommunications and contractor markets, could not immediately be reached for comment.

Experts say religious discrimination claims in the workplace are expected to be a growing problem for employers.

Judy Greenwald writes for Business Insurance, a sister publication of Workforce Management. Comment below or email editors@workforce.com.
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Adventist Hinsdale Hospital saves $170,000 a year by reducing energy use

Hinsdale – Thanks to a recently completed energy-efficiency project done in partnership with ComEd, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital expects to save nearly $170,000 a year in its energy costs.

With support from ComEd’s “Smart Ideas for Your Business” program, AHH updated the hospital’s lighting and water systems and installed new demand-controlled ventilation to kitchen exhaust fans. Energy-saving electric chillers were also installed in the 116,000-square-foot AHH patient pavilion, which opened in April 2012.

These upgrades are expected to generate about 1.7 million kilowatt hours of energy savings each year for AHH. This equals the average electricity consumed by nearly 180 homes a year.

“Reducing energy by participating in this program is just one example of Adventist Hinsdale Hospital’s commitment to being ‘green,’” said Rey Tuason, utilities manager at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. “We believe it’s our duty to reduce our impact on the environment whenever possible.”

Because of the changes, AHH’s energy use will be at the same level as before its modernization project. The hospital expects to see a complete return on its investment in less than four years.

ComEd’s “Smart Ideas for Your Business” program offers cash incentives, technical services and whole-building solutions to help businesses with energy efficiency.

The “Smart Ideas for Your Business” program has supported more than 10,000 projects with about $65 million in incentives. More than 500 Smart Ideas Opportunity Assessments have been provided to help business customers find energy-saving opportunities.

“ComEd offers a variety of energy-efficiency programs and resources that help business customers save energy and money,” said Val Jensen, senior vice president, Customer Operations, ComEd. “We understand the unique needs of our customers, and we work closely with them to develop and deliver customized solutions that minimize their capital needs and maximize their savings.”

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Adventist Midwest Health includes Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. To find a
Adventist Hinsdale Hospital saves $170,000 a year by reducing energy u...

Physicians on the medical staff of Adventist Midwest Health Hospitals are independent contractors, and are not agents of the hospitals.

Media contact: Chris LaFortune, public relations specialist, Adventist Midwest Health, christopher.lafortune@ahss.org; 630-856-2354.
Adventists Help With Donation Organization - Courant.com

By MATTHEW STURDEVANT, msturdevant@courant.com

6:52 PM EST, December 27, 2012

NEWTOWN –

Many of the 50 or so volunteers helping to sort a warehouse full of donations sent in honor of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting are members of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

The Adventists – with more than 50 churches in Connecticut – has a humanitarian arm called the Adventist Community Services Disaster Response. They specialize in warehousing donations during disasters, which is a monumental task.

Once donations arrive at the warehouse on Simm Lane in Newtown, they are likely received by a person in a bright yellow shirt, signifying the Adventists' Disaster Response group.

Lauren Trahan, a stay-at-home mother who lives in Plainfield, is a member of the Adventists' leadership team. Volunteers asked her a flurry of questions Thursday as she walked back and forth through the warehouse.

"They got overwhelmed, so they contacted us," Trahan said of town officials. "We sort, store and inventory."

The boxes come in. They're checked by a state-police, bomb-sniffing dog. Then they're unloaded and re-boxed by category. Each category has a number. Stuffed animals are 484. Once a pallet of 484s is ready, it's stored with similar pallets.

Adventists operate under an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross and state emergency management agencies. They're also a member group of the inter-agency compact called the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, or NVOAD.

Essentially, lots of people want to volunteer after a disaster, and NVOAD has given each member organization in the group a specialized task. For the Adventists, their specialty is receiving, organizing, inventorizing and boxing donations for storage until a community can figure out what to do with all of it.

The Adventists came from as far away as Rhode Island and Massachusetts to help sort donations.

"We encourage workers to be trained," said Nathel Warcholik of West Warwick, R.I., who came with her husband, William. They are pastors for three churches in Rhode Island.

The Warcholiks are experienced in this work. They went to Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 to complete the closure of a warehouse, Nathel Warcholik said. The warehouse can only close after all of the sorted donations are allocated or given away.

Maxine Seabrooks, 64, a retired secretary who lives in Milford, said she was in Robbinsville, N.J., not long ago helping at a warehouse of goods for victims of Hurricane Sandy. Seabrooks said she worked three days a week for two-and-a-half weeks.

"I got a call, 'We need you in Newtown,'" Seabrooks said.

"We're very compassionate people," she said. "The Lord didn't come to be served, but to serve ... it's not about me. It's doing the Lord's work."

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NAD Health Summit 2013

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.

- More than 20 seminars of training on a variety of programs
- A track for pastors and clergy
- Seminars for healthcare leaders
- All tracks with practical information for outreach
- A track for nurses
- Hands on experience on health evangelism
- Health Expos for the community (adults and children)
- Evening health sessions to the community

Keynote Speakers

Dan Jackson
President, North American Division

Jose Rojas
Director, North American Division Volunteer Ministry

Don King
President, Atlantic Union

Tricia Penniecook
Dean, Loma Linda School of Public Health

Delbert Baker
General Vice President, General Conference

Neil Nedley
Author, Nedley Depression Recovery Program

Special Guests and Presenters

Dr. Allan Handysides
Director, General Conference Health Ministries

Dr. Fred Hardinge
Associate Director, General Conference Health Ministries

Dr. Kathleen Kuntaraf
Associate Director, General Conference Health Ministries

Dr. Peter Landless
Associate Director, General Conference Health Ministries

Mark Finley, MA, DDiv
Assistant to the President, General Conference

Michelle S. Davis
Regional Health Administrator Region II

Featured Musicians

Jaime Jorge  Clayton Nunes

Click here to download the brochure

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Glendale Adventist Medical Center Pledges $35,000 in Corporate Sponsorship for the City of Glendale’s 2013 Rose Parade Float

GLENDALE, CA - March 7, 2012 -- Glendale Adventist Medical Center is proud to announce their pledge of $35,000 to help fund the City of Glendale's 2013 Rose Parade Float. The Glendale City Council made the official announcement yesterday at the City council meeting. As part of this sponsorship, the hospital is honored to help serve as a catalyst for other corporate sponsors to commit funds to support the remaining costs of the float.

Glendale Adventist is a strong and vibrant hospital, with a history of more than 100 years of service to this community. The hospital has always been dedicated to providing community support and outreach. Their involvement with the City of Glendale 2013 Rose Parade float, provides Glendale Adventist with an international audience to help showcase and reinforce its commitment to the health of each person in the city and surrounding communities. It also creates a unique spotlight on the hospital's longstanding focus on traditional Adventist Health messages of health and wellness as well as preventative medicine. This is of particular importance as health/wellness and preventative medicine has recently taken center stage in the current discussions of health care reform.

"We are proud to always be on the lookout for new ways to engage with our community to encourage conversations about good health. Outreach, health and wellness are at the core of our mission. They are central to everything we do. It's an honor to partner with the City of Glendale to promote good health and the City by way of the float," says Kevin A. Roberts, Glendale Adventist Medical Center President/CEO.

By supporting the float, Glendale Adventist hopes to encourage others to volunteer with the float building process and be engaged with the Glendale community overall. In addition to personal reasons often focusing on individual satisfaction and the reward of giving back, studies show that volunteering is good for your health, particularly if you happen to be an older adult. While volunteering can enhance the quality of life at any age, research has shown that people over the age of 50 who volunteer and think positively live an average of seven and a half years longer than those with less positive perspectives. There are more than 32 million people over the age of 65, and within this age range, volunteering is one of the top factors for healthy life styles.

While Glendale Adventist Medical Center is committed to providing health care at a higher level, the hospital mission compels us to be more than just a hospital. Glendale Adventist is an economic engine in Glendale that provides jobs, trains and develops a professional workforce, prepares a new generation of physicians and nurses, engages in medical research and clinical trials, and focuses on wellness prevention, education and efforts to generally enhance the health of our communities.