Loving Treason
If God allows something painful in your life, do you feel betrayed?

Citizens Seek to End Violence in Ferguson
Peaceful tactics include prayer and singing.

Literacy, Not Literalism
Word-for-word translation from one language to another is impossible.
A Christian believer, saved totally by grace, becomes a disciple of Jesus and a “discipler” of others because of that grace status. This expression of discipleship will appear differently in different people as God molds them into His servants. That is the setting for what follows here.

We normally think of the New Testament apostles as great leaders. They were. Peter’s classic declaration to the Sanhedrin, “We must obey God rather than man” and Paul’s affirmation to Agrippa, “So then…I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision” stand out as two examples of the faithful confidence and heartfelt commitment often seen in Christian leaders.

But great leaders rarely start out that way. Like all of us learning to run only after first learning to walk, so leaders must learn first to follow. Sometimes following puts one in the shadows. Sometimes commanding is learned best when being commanded. Being commanded does not grant celebrity status.

Within the vocabulary of grace-oriented Christians, obedience is a term often avoided. It seems to lack philosophical nuance and theological breadth; it is so either/or. In the minds of many, obedience seems rote and requires little thought. I may agree to a point. The gospel song glibly and perhaps too simply declares: “God said it; I believe it; that settles it for me!” Obedience, at least on the surface, may not require much thought. But it often demands significant courage. And courage exercised is the substance of leadership.

Before the leaders of the New Testament had any name recognition, they were followers—disciples. In fact their identities as leaders would remain forever unknown if they were not first of all followers of Jesus Christ. How many 1st century Judean tax collectors do we know by name? Two. Matthew and Zacchaeus—both followers of Jesus. How many 1st century Galilean fishermen can we name? Four.

How many tent makers? You get the point. None of these had the slightest prayer of becoming anything but mere chaff on history’s pages if they were not followers of Jesus before they became leaders in His eternal and divine cause. Followers are, by definition, obedient—not blindly, but faithfully.

One story found in all four gospels is the triumphal procession of Jesus coming as king to Jerusalem. Three of the gospels tell us that Jesus sent two disciples ahead to borrow an unbroken young donkey. He did not tell them what it was for; He simply said, “the Lord needs it.” We don’t know the names of those disciples, we don’t know the owners of the donkey, but we do know they were obedient to the expressed need of Jesus and we know what Jesus did with it. By their unquestioned obedience, they completely supported the ministry of the Lord.

Of course Jesus could have done all the things He did with no human help at all. But He chose to build His kingdom using the willing obedience of those whose lives had been transformed by His limitless grace.

He still does it that way. With His amazing power He could reach the world in seconds with any message He so desired. Even the rocks would cry out in obedience to Him if He so desired.

The church today accomplishes its mission much of the time on the strength of real-life disciples whose names we don’t know, but are etched for eternity in the books of heaven. God doesn’t call us to lead until we first learn to follow His lead. And in following His lead we will support His cause, and His leaders, occasionally becoming leaders ourselves in the process.

If you are a Christian you are a follower, a disciple and obedient. In that obedience you lead, you disciple others, you change your world.

Thomas Lemon is president of the Mid-America Union.
My hands are so heavy! I don’t know if I can continue to do this!”

“Moses needs our help,” said Aaron and Hur. “But how do we help him? Look—let’s place these stones underneath his arms and then we can support his hands.”

As the story goes Moses’ hands were steady until the going down of the sun, and Joshua and the Israelite warriors were victorious over the Amalekites. In Moses’ time of need, in his weariness from doing the Lord’s work, Aaron and Hur were there to give literal support; as a result the entire nation of Israel prospered.

We are many years removed from the story of Moses, but the same need for support of church leadership and pastors still rings true. Today our leaders need to have their hands upheld as they guide God’s remnant church through these troublous last days of earth’s history and on to triumphant victory in God’s kingdom.

I have personally experienced the precious blessing of receiving pastoral support. Sometimes, trying to juggle all the day-to-day demands of ministry—administrating, counseling, preaching, teaching, evangelizing—becomes overwhelming and my hands become very heavy. But when the load is weighty, my leaders and church members at Berean step in to help lift it.

There are so many ways that my members lend support and encouragement; however I will mention just one example. Recently, I was preparing to preach for our church’s Revelation seminar. On this particular evening, I was going to speak on the change of the Sabbath. I had personally prayed and prepared the message, but I felt like this night I needed something extra. I stepped outside the church where two of my elders were greeting people and making sure things were secure. I said to them, “I need you all to pray for me tonight.”

Now I was expecting them to pray for me during the meeting, but they said “Pastor, we are going to pray for you right now.” There we stood, my elders and I in the front of the church, crying out to God on my behalf for the Word to go forth with power from my lips.

That night the Lord filled me with the power of His Holy Spirit and allowed me to preach with clarity, confidence and conviction. I attribute that great move of God that evening to the powerful prayers of my elders.

Not only must we as pastors graciously receive support from church leadership and members, but we ourselves must be willing to extend encouragement to our colleagues in ministry. I have been blessed by the opportunity to support my fellow pastors through listening to their personal and pastoral struggles, being able to give counsel and, most importantly, praying for them.

Sometimes the lending of support comes in unexpected ways. Earlier this year, the Agape Church near St. Louis was without their church home because of damage that had occurred in their building. Pastor Montgomery called me, shared the circumstances and asked if his congregation could come and worship with us. Without hesitation, we opened our doors to our sister church and for the next five months we worshiped, fellowshipped, prayed and fasted, and even conducted an evangelistic meeting together. These two churches and their pastors will be bound forever because of our collective experience.

Today some pastor or church leader is crying out, “My hands are heavy and I don’t know if I can continue to do this!” Will you be the one to say, “You need help—let me support your hands”? 

Joseph Ikner pastors the Berean Church in St. Louis and serves as Prayer Ministries director for the Central States Conference.
There are tremendous pressures associated with being in the ministry that many lay people never fully understand. What attitudes can church members adopt that will help alleviate those pressures for pastors?

Sharon: First we need to remember that our pastors are people who have dedicated their lives to work full time in the service of Christ. They have been ordained of God. The pastors are to be respected by the congregation. With that in mind we as laypersons should be very intentional in developing positive ways to facilitate their efforts in serving our churches.

One attitude we can develop is friendship. This can be a win/win opportunity. Many years ago we had a single pastor assigned to our small church—his first pastorate right out of college. He seemed happy, carefree and probably lonely. Our home at that time was filled with the activity of five lively children living on a farm with lots to do. They liked the pastor and wanted him to visit our house often. The young pastor played and worked with the children; he also started a Pathfinder club. In time, he baptized our younger son and when we asked our boy what he wanted to be when he grew up he would respond, “I want to be a pastor.” The benefit for our family is that now our adult children respect pastors because they once had a pastor friend (who, by the way, is now our conference president).

Also, an attitude of support is important to let the pastor know we are working together—simple things like intentionally coming to Sabbath school and church each week, attending prayer meeting and special services such as evangelistic endeavors. An attitude of soul winning in making an effort to bring people to Jesus can help the pastor as well.

The attitude of acceptance from the church is important, not only to the pastor and family members but also to the pastor’s role in church administration. The pastor often knows more information on controversial issues than can be shared with the church; therefore laity needs to trust and support the pastor’s administrative endeavors.
Pastors usually give more than they receive, often leaving them feeling unappreciated. What are some practical ways that members can show honor for their pastors?

**Vern:** In many small churches the pastor ministers to three or more congregations. We as laity need to be content with shouldering the leadership in the pastor’s absence and try to build up the church without criticizing the pastor for not having a more active role.

Our pastors need to be plowing new ground and the laity needs to be part of a nurturing team for the active membership and let the pastor bring in new interest.

An example of this is that my mother’s family became church members because a pastor gave an evangelist series years ago and her parents with their 12 children joined the Adventist church. Now, several generations later, many of the offspring are still active leaders in the Adventist church.

Lay leaders need to nurture the local people and not depend on the pastor to do so. We need to free the pastor up to do evangelism.

**Sharon:** Our pastor is a kind and gentle leader, as well as a thorough Bible student. He is the pastor of three churches so we don’t see him as often as we would like. Our congregation in Park Rapids shows appreciation to our pastor and his wife by giving them a deep level of love, respect and acceptance.

One of most common frustrations pastors say they experience is that their church isn’t willing to support their vision. What advice can you give for dealing with this type of challenge?

**Sharon:** It is important that the congregation feels united with the pastor in the direction the church takes. God can unite churches for mission; He can change hearts in a way that amazes everyone. The roles that prayer and the working of the Holy Spirit play are vital in developing a vision for church leadership.

Membership should be willing to prayerfully consider change. Lay leaders can be slow in grasping pastors’ ideas, especially if the pastor is new and isn’t acquainted with the history of the church. The vision of the former pastor could be communicated to the new pastor in hope that open dialogue can build present unity in vision.

Time and relationships seem to build trust between pastoral leadership and laity. Most important of all is for lay leaders to communicate with God daily in Bible study and prayer so that they can clearly see the leading of the Holy Spirit as it relates to church plans and vision.

How do you see the role of an elder in relation to modeling and respect for both established and new church leadership at all levels?

**Vern:** If we really feel that the Lord is coming we need to become more earnest about doing the Lord’s work instead of emphasizing temporal accumulations that will fade away when He comes. Only what is done for Christ has any lasting value. The souls that we influence for Jesus will last for eternity.

The local elders need to take more of a role in church leadership to free up the pastors to enlarge the borders of our churches. God is in control of the shifts of leadership and He will guide the church for the future. The Bible says that God puts up kings and He takes kings down again—this applies to leadership as well. This is God’s church and we must do all we can to support it.

As church members, if we don’t like the church leadership on any level, we must not quit the church. We must determine to stay faithful to God and His church until our life on this earth is finished.

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Many pastors work long hours balancing heavy demands and experience stress and burnout. What specific actions on the part of church members can protect their wellbeing?

**Sharon:** From observing pastors and churches, I believe the biggest cause for pastoral burnout is unsolved discord in churches. I read one time that we should never be involved in church arguments because with every disagreement a soul is lost. That could be very true. Pastors could realize great peace if their churches remained healthy and free from strife. If members would avoid getting weighed down with church politics and offenses and instead keep focused on the mission of bringing people to Jesus, it would probably do wonders in relieving pastoral stressors.

As church members we need to pray daily for our pastors and their family, asking God to grant them the wisdom as they deal with the many issues of ministry. We can assist our pastors in ways they may never know—praying when the Sabbath sermon is given that the hearts of the listeners will be open to hear and accept the message; participating in and responding to the church service; and refraining from criticizing the pastor in any way.

Our congregation in Park Rapids shows appreciation to our pastor and his wife by giving them a deep level of love, respect and acceptance.
Evangelist’s Wife Preaches Prophecy Seminar

by Brenda Dickerson

Marquita Klinedinst held her first Revelation of Hope evangelistic series at the Southside Seventh-day Adventist Church in St. Louis Aug. 1-20. Up to 15 guests attended nightly, in addition to a core group of supportive members. Marquita’s husband, Pastor David Klinedinst, serves the entire St. Louis area as a resident evangelist. He reports that when Marquita decided she wanted to try presenting an evangelistic series, he was excited and encouraged her to proceed with plans.

“Each night I watched as God used her to portray the three angels’ message in a very relational way that connected with people,” Pastor Klinedinst said. “She took the Revelation of Hope materials and wove her own stories, testimonies and illustrations into them, and the audience responded. She fell in love with the people and immediately bonded with them. It was amazing to watch God develop her evangelistic gift. I feel like I’m learning things from her.”

THE SPIRIT’S STIRRING
Last year at NY13 Marquita heard Teenie Finley share her testimony about her conviction to hold a series of meetings after watching her evangelist husband, Mark, preach for many years. This touched Marquita’s heart and she leaned over and whispered to her husband, “I think I need to hold an evangelistic series.”

Marquita says that public evangelism has maintained a special place in her heart for years. “This stems from the fact that God utilized this method over 20 years ago to introduce me to deeper truths in His Word,” she explains. “In the time since, I have always loved attending and participating in evangelistic meetings because I know how life-changing it is for people who come with open hearts. I never imagined that one day I would have the opportunity to be the one standing up front and presenting those messages.”

LOVE, PASSION AND SINCERITY
Southside’s head elder, Frederick Nyanzi, said they were thankful for the opportunity of having Mrs. Klinedinst present the Revelation of Hope series. “Sister Marquita’s presentations were well planned, very clear and simply presented for even non-Bible students to understand,” he stated.

Lonesome Tsoka, a member of the Southside Church who attended the meetings, said, “It is a heartwarming experience when the truths are presented crisply and night after night people come to listen. The message was delivered with love, passion and sincerity of heart. It helped me to appreciate all the more that time, as we know it, is now very short and Jesus will soon appear in the clouds of heaven.” Tsoka added that church members are staying in prayer that the Holy Spirit will lead mightily in the lives of attendees who showed keen interest and participated night after night. “I have no doubt that the seeds of life and hope were sown,” he says.

Brenda Dickerson is editor of OUTLOOK.
Marquita recalls that when the opportunity to present a series came, she realized how important it is to prepare for such a ministry. Four things helped her during the process:

1. **Recognize and reflect on God’s calling to serve Him.** Any time God opens a door for us, we need to walk through it, believing He will strengthen and equip for whatever is needed.

2. **Pray fervently for personal cleansing of sin and offer intercessory prayer for those volunteering and attending the meetings.** In the few weeks prior to the Southside meetings, Marquita dedicated at least one hour every morning to prayer, with fasting on some days as well.

3. **Prepare each message with a personal conviction.** Ask, What does this truth mean to me personally? How has it impacted my life and my relationship with Jesus? This is a transforming factor when we preach because people not only want to hear truth, they want to know what difference it can make in their lives.

4. **Focus on praise and thanksgiving.** Any time we step out for God, the enemy becomes angry. He will try to throw all kinds of darts to discourage us. But claiming, “Greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world” brings tremendous personal peace. Nothing compares to knowing we are sharing precious truths that make a difference of eternal significance.

Marquita and David Klinedinst have been partners in life and ministry for 19 years. They have two daughters, ages 10 and 7. To learn more about Marquita or invite her to speak at your church or Women’s Ministries event visit her website: www.marquita.org.
2014 INTERATIONAL PATHFINDER CAMPOREE

More than 50,000 Pathfinders and support staff from 70 countries representing 12 of the 13 divisions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church attended the 2014 Forever Faithful International Pathfinder Camporee August 12-16 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The Center for Youth Evangelism, directed by Ron Whitehead, hosts the event every five years.

Themed around the life of Daniel, this largest-to-date Adventist youth gathering in the world focused on the importance of prayer. Attendees could write prayer requests on a giant wall, earn the prayer honor, or meet with a chaplain in one of the three special prayer tents. Additionally, the North America Division sponsored a free prayer pin for praying with a newly met friend.

In the tradition of ancient Jewish culture, three times each day the sound of a shofar called everyone to pause where they were and pray for two minutes. Each of the 1,800 Pathfinder clubs in attendance received an authentic ram’s horn from Israel as a reminder of their prayer experiences at Oshkosh.

**POWERFUL STORIES**

Keynote speaker Sam Leonor Jr, chaplain for La Sierra University in Riverside, California, claims Daniel as his favorite Bible character and said the main message he wanted to get across each evening was that God is faithful, no matter what, forever.

The stage area where the evening presentations were held was over 100 feet long with multiple tiers for the various scenes of the drama portraying Daniel’s life. Five large screen monitors assisted attendees in viewing the evening programs. A 90-foot tall image fashioned after the description of Daniel Chapter 2 loomed over the scene. Words like “gigantic” and “extremely impressive” were often used to describe the setting.

But the most outstanding moment of the week, according to Hubert Cisneros, Youth Ministries director for Mid-America Union, was when Jesus appeared in the flaming furnace with the three Hebrews during the story’s re-enactment. The diligent preparation of drama director Sean Dale and his team produced remarkable presentations. “The actors representing the biblical characters each evening were superb,” Cisneros said. “It was a very professional portrayal.”

**CELEBRATING BAPTISMS**

Throughout the week over 600 Pathfinders were baptized. On Sabbath morning each person who had been baptized simultaneously released a bright blue helium balloon in celebration of their new life with Christ. There was also an investiture ceremony on Sabbath for new Pathfinders and Master Guides.

**ACTIVITIES GALORE**

Whether it was exploring the exhibit halls, tasting food vendor offerings, doing community service projects, getting to know some of the 2,000 international guests or trading pins to increase their collections, Pathfinders never lacked for fun activities.

For the most energetic, Dr. Katia Reinert and her team of NAD Health Ministries workers presented the Oshkosh Instep4Life 3-Day Pathfinder Challenge. Day 1 featured an early morning 5K run with 2,000 participants. Day 2 showcased strength and endurance challenges (sit-ups, push-ups and burpies). Day 3 was a one-mile race. Participants won T-shirts, pedometers, pins, medals, trophies and points for their clubs. Top clubs received monetary awards. Those who participated in at least two events received an Oshkosh Instep4Life patch.

To view camporee baptism photos, go to cyephoto.smugmug.com/camporee/forever-faithful-2014.
GETTING AROUND

A new strategy for 2014 was use of a “points map” app, accessible from mobile devices including cell phones, to help people locate desired destinations. Union College student Kellie Vigil, points map coordinator, and her two teammates worked long hours on location. People using Sprint as a service provider reported that the points map was a useful tool for getting around the grounds, which cover nearly 500 acres.

More than 720 golf carts for staff and volunteers facilitated mobilization between areas. Golf carts also transported people suffering from blisters, sprained ankles and dehydration. All were cared for by professional healthcare volunteers onsite or taken into town if specialized services were needed.

Another camporee upgrade this year included having more parades. During the week approximately 28,000 Pathfinders marched in their Class A uniforms or cultural regalia. The largest single parade included 13,000 Pathfinders and lasted 70 minutes. The Mid-America Union parade took place on Wednesday with president Thomas Lemon introducing the various clubs as they passed by the stand. Elder Lemon also presented the devotional thought on Sabbath morning after Mid-America’s flag raising event.

2019: CHOSEN

Registration is now open for the 2019 International Pathfinder Camporee, to be held again at Oshkosh August 12-17. The theme selected by the Center for Youth Evangelism organizers is Chosen, featuring the life of David.

Brenda Dickerson is editor of OUTLOOK.
Central States Pathfinders Shine at Oshkosh

by Rachel Banks

Central States Conference was blessed to have 231 Pathfinders and staff attend the 2014 Forever Faithful International Camporee in Oshkosh in August. Of these, 186 camped on the grounds and 45 stayed offsite.

During the week three of our Pathfinders were baptized and five staff members (Danella Sahadeo, Shane John, Barbara King, Belinda Jackson and Darrien Bedward) were invested as Master Guides after completing the six-month online course given by Rachel Banks.

Every morning at 8:00 Central States Conference clubs came together as a family for worship.

Central States Pathfinders Shine at Oshkosh by Rachel Banks

Photos: Courtesy Central States Conference

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campsite to fellowship with us. Conference officials who camped with the Pathfinders, showing how important the ministry is, included Pastor Roger Bernard, vice president for administration; Tonya Anderson, vice president for finance; Darriel Hoy, associate youth director; Lori Baynham, Human Resources director; and Michael Anderson, facilities operations manager. Thanks also to Earsul Banks II, who handled all the logistics.

Rachel Banks is Pathfinder executive director for the Central States Conference.

All the CSC Pathfinders, wearing their Class A uniforms, participated with a positive attitude in the MAUC parade.

Encounters: Men’s Conference 2014

Elder Ronald Williams, Men’s Ministries director for the Central States Conference, along with various guests including community officials, discussed ways to prevent another Ferguson, Missouri incident from happening in our neighborhoods.

VIDEO
Church Members Mingle at Sturgis Motorcycle Rally
by Joan Avery

Members of the Spearfish Church handed out nearly 400 bottles of chilled water to riders at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. Distributing cold water during summer events has become a traditional act of kindness for the group.

The annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally draws hundreds of thousands of motorcycle enthusiasts from across the United States and internationally to South Dakota each August. Many arrive riding their motorcycles while others have their cycles shipped to South Dakota.

Using this rally as an opportunity to share God’s love, nine adults and four young people from the Spearfish Church—many donning their yellow church T-shirts—distributed nearly 400 chilled bottles of water to riders, along with special Steps to Christ booklets displaying a picture of a motorcycle with a reflection of Jesus on the side. The water bottles were labeled with the church’s name and address and the words God Loves You.

While members were passing out water, a news cameraman from a local television station filmed the group and interviewed church elder Scot Bonde. Bonde stated that they were doing this because they wanted to demonstrate an act of kindness as one of the church’s ministries.

Distributing chilled bottled water at various venues during the heat of summer has become a traditional activity of the Spearfish Church. For a second year, they handed out bottled water at the August Kool Deadwood Nites car rally that draws thousands of locals and tourists to the area. Many thirsty and surprised—but grateful—individuals expressed appreciation for the water and the simple act of kindness.

Joan Avery is communication director for the Spearfish Church.

Meier Receives Lifetime Achievement Award
Donates award money to ADRA
by Jacquie Biloff with the North Dakota Department of Transportation

The Central Dacotah Section of the American Society of Highway Engineers honored DeLane Meier of Bismarck, North Dakota last June for his work ethic and innovative ideas during his long career for the North Dakota Department of Transportation. The award acknowledged Meier as being instrumental in bringing the electronic age into every aspect of surveying and plan preparation.

Meier began his career at the NDDOT in 1957 working with rudimentary surveying equipment. He was active in the collection of survey data for construction and improvement of many of today’s highways. His more than 50-year career with NDDOT evolved into diverse areas of operations beyond surveying and construction, including spearheading a new division within the DOT as director of Computer Automation. Subsequent to that milestone, he was manager of Surveys and Photogrammetry, one of the department’s most technologically driven sections.

Under Meier’s guidance, the Surveys and Photogrammetry section embraced multiple ground breaking technologies. The concept of collecting data from field surveys with an electronic data collector instead of paper field books was first established under Meier, as was the use of Total Stations as survey instruments.

In the early 1980s Meier incorporated a Tetronix
Oshkosh Pathfinders Learn Native Lore
by Debra Claymore-Cuny

With over 975 Pathfinders completing the Native Lore honor at the 2014 International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, more and more Adventists are becoming equipped to reach Native people with the love of Jesus.

Dakota Conference Native Ministry coordinator Deb Claymore-Cuny and her sister, Sisters Dr. Janet Claymore-Ross and Deb Claymore-Cuny represented the Plains Native Tribes at the 2014 International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh.

Dr. Janet Claymore-Ross traveled to Oshkosh in August in a pickup carrying tipi poles and canvas to represent Plains Native Tribes in the North American Division-sponsored Native Village. Other nations present were the Cherokee Nation (Fred Rogers—traditional wood and grass hut and a long house); Canadian 1st Nations (Ed Dunn—Styrofoam igloo); and the Diné Navajo Nations (Allen Fowler—traditional Hogan). After two long days of constructing the dwellings, the Native Village opened.

The purpose of the village was to educate Pathfinders and their leaders regarding stereotypes of Native people and the need for long-term workers on reservations to show Jesus in actions and love. Each presenter provided information about their particular tribal group as well as telling the truth about offensive gestures and words that some non-Indians may not recognize. Typical stereotypes from TV and movies include Natives dancing around a campfire while patting their mouths and chanting, that all tribal groups have the same cultural beliefs, and referring to Native dress as costumes. In truth, there are many different cultural beliefs and “costumes” are worn at Halloween. Native attire is called regalia.

By visiting each dwelling and listening to the presenters, Pathfinders and leaders earned the Native American Lore patch. Attendees expressed appreciation for the opportunity to learn about Native people and realized that since they had this information it was their mission to teach others.

Debra Claymore-Cuny is the Native Ministry coordinator for the Dakota Conference.

computer display into the process of creating roadway alignments definitions, virtually the first computer used by the department for the processing of highway related data.

After much research, Meier convinced NDDOT to forge ahead with the purchase of a digital mapping camera and a full suite of state-of-the-art applications that function with the new digital imagery.

Colleagues say his success is due to proficient management skills, comprehensive research, determination, curiosity and not a small amount of risk taking.

In honor of this award, Meier received a $1,000 check made out to the charity of his choice, which was the Adventist Development and Relief Agency.

Jacquie Biloff is communication director for the Dakota Conference.

DeLane Meier selected ADRA to receive the funds accompanying his ASHE Lifetime Achievement award.
Youth Rally Attendees Challenged to Know God
by Michelle Hansen

Nearly 40 young adults attended the 4th annual Iowa Youth Rally hosted in August by the Nevada Church. Attendees representing the churches of Ames, Cedar Rapids, Jordan Crossing (in West Des Moines), Marshalltown, Nevada, and Lee’s Summit (MO) participated in the weekend events.

Pastors Rob Alfish of the Ankeny district and Lee Rochholz from the Cedar Rapids Church led the group in some fun icebreaker activities on Friday night to help get everyone acquainted.

Featured speaker Mic Henton, pastor of the Lee’s Summit district, shared his personal testimony with the young people and asked them to let God show them how much He is in love with them and wants to speak to them.

“Growing up I viewed God as a big bully,” said Henton.

“I didn’t want to end up in hell, but heaven wasn’t that appealing either if it meant spending eternity with a God who had cast all the sinners into a pit of fire. I prayed that God would just leave me alone, let me live my life, die and then not go anywhere.”

Henton continued, “After a trip to an Adventist summer camp I knew I wanted to be a Christian because the other campers and the staff were so joyful and fun to be around. I learned that the God who I thought wanted to kill me had actually died for me. It blew my mind.” He went on to say that during the weekend he wanted to help shatter some of the lies the devil has told us about Jesus. “It is His law that the wages of sin is death, but God desires mercy over judgment.”

On Sabbath afternoon the young people delivered food baskets to 10 families in need. They also spread out around Nevada to share God’s love and brighten people’s day by handing out ice cream sandwiches and coupons for a local sandwich shop.

Michelle Hansen is communication/Sabbath school director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference.

Teachers Come Together at Annual Convention
by Joseph Allison

Teachers from the Iowa-Missouri Conference joined their colleagues from the Kansas-Nebraska and Central States conferences for their annual summer teachers’ convention held in early August in Overland Park, Kansas. This is the second time the three conferences have joined together for this event.

The 85 teachers participate in 14 different breakout meetings on subjects such as effective classroom management, love and logic, Peacemakers, technology and PhysicalGenesis which is an upcoming study of the health of our students in grades 5-12.

Featured speaker Annette Breaux, a national and international author and expert on classroom management and student achievement, opened the convention with a
Church Planting Series Concludes
by Michelle Hansen

The Des Moines (IA) Church hosted the final session of a three-part series on church growth and church planting in August. The session was presented by the North American Division Evangelism Institute.

The mission of NADEI is to educate, equip and empower church members for evangelistic ministry.

The purpose of the three training sessions has been to show that evangelism is a process, not an event, and that the process can lead to church growth and potentially planting a new church. Tom Evans, associate director of NADEI Church Planting and Coaching, explained that involving every member in ministry is key to church growth. “If you take away the word every, you have lost vision. Although it sounds like a daunting task, the effort to involve even inactive members in serving someone in need in the community may be a means of drawing them back into fellowship,” he stated.

The NADEI-led sessions in Des Moines began over two years ago by encouraging churches to form groups of 10-12 members to craft a vision statement for their church and make it their mission to share that with other church ministry leaders. “Getting all departments to be intentional about sharing the gospel through their specific role in the church and community is key to growth,” said Evans.

The mission of NADEI is to educate, equip and empower church members for evangelistic ministry.

The Iowa-Missouri Conference was excited to welcome four new teachers and introduce them to their fellow educators during the convention. Geraldine Markham is the new teacher at the Bourbon (MO) Adventist School; Steve Welch is the new principal and grades 5-9 teacher at the Summit View Adventist School in Lee’s Summit, Missouri; and Rebecca McMillen teaches at the Muscatine (IA) Adventist School. Rebecca McMillen teaches at the Muscatine (IA) Adventist School.

Joseph Allison, EdD, is education superintendent for the Iowa-Missouri Conference.

Iowa-Missouri Conference
1st Annual Marriage Retreat
Camp Heritage
November 7-9, 2014

Special Guest Speakers:
Stan & Angie Hardt, from Union College, are passionate about strengthening marriages and have spoken for many Marriage and Engaged Encounter weekends.

Register online at www.imsda.org/family. Register by October 7 for an early bird discount.

fast paced, energetic and practical keynote address. Afterward, teachers gave the presentation glowing reviews: “Thanks for bringing Annette Breaux! Best speaker we have had in many years!” and “Annette’s presentation was inspiring and cutting edge. That’s what we need!”

The Iowa-Missouri Conference was excited to welcome four new teachers and introduce them to their fellow educators during the convention. Geraldine Markham is the new teacher at the Bourbon (MO) Adventist School; Barbie Whalen now teaches at the Westwood Adventist School located in Chesterfield, Missouri; Steve Welch is the new principal and grades 5-9 teacher at the Summit View Adventist School in Lee’s Summit, Missouri; and Rebecca McMillen teaches at the Muscatine (IA) Adventist School.

Tom Evans of the North American Division Evangelism Institute speaks to a group of outreach-minded participants at a recent church planting seminar in Des Moines.
Mobile Home Fire Leads to Miracles
by Vanessa Schaecher

It took eight years for John and Jeanne Artz to purchase and fix up the 1963 mobile home they shared with their 12-year-old grandson, Gage. Lincoln’s Piedmont Park Church, while Gage went to school and John walked the dog. Awakened by a smoke alarm, she opened her eyes to see a small fire burning by the window. Returning from his walk, John tried to douse the flames with a fire extinguisher, but decided it was best to evacuate. They had barely left the doorway when the trailer exploded in flames.

Firefighters told them the small fire they saw, caused by faulty wiring, was only a tiny portion of what was already burning inside the trailer walls.

When informed of this tragedy, Piedmont members helped with store gift cards and food baskets. A special offering taken on Sabbath morning brought in over $4,000 for the family.

Piedmont’s head deacon, Mark Snyder, led a crew to clean up the burned trailer and lot.

Jeanne and John Artz and their grandson, Gage, pictured with their dog, Spot, were able to purchase a new mobile home after theirs burned.

Jeanne, a member of Piedmont’s head deacon, Mark Snyder, led a crew to clean up the burned trailer and lot.

Since Jeanne helps her neighbor, Arlene, on a daily basis, the Artz family didn’t want to leave the mobile home park. In an answer to prayer, they moved into a newly-purchased mobile home located just a few lots away.

Recently, John and Jeanne were watching TV when a show came on about homeless children. They wondered why God had helped their family so much when these kids needed help, too. Jeanne went to bed asking to hear God’s voice. Lying there in tears, she heard Him say, “I helped you because you called on Me and said you needed Me. I know you love Me, and I love you.”

The Artz family say their story is full of miracles—from God saving their lives and inspiring the donations to important documents surviving the fire to a new and better mobile home and a renewed faith in God’s providence.

Vanessa Schaecher is communication correspondent for the Piedmont Park Church.

Kid Friendly Church Attracts Local Children

At the Fredonia (KS) Church, neighborhood kids eagerly await Tuesday evenings and Sabbath mornings. According to member Judy Morris, three children who live near the church come for prayer meeting, Sabbath school, church and the fellowship meal. They join three grandchildren of members. “You learn about God and everything. I like God,” says Brock, age 6. “These kids bring a lot of life back to our church,” Judy adds.
Ottawa Church Celebrates 130th Anniversary
by John Treolo

The Ottawa Church continues to be a shining light in this community.

Members of the oldest continuously meeting church in Kansas recently celebrated its 130th anniversary. Organized in 1884, the Ottawa Church continues to be a shining light in this community located about 50 miles southeast of Topeka.

In 1889 Ellen G. White and A.T. Jones spent several weeks in Ottawa sharing with ministers and speaking at a camp meeting. This was of such news value that the Topeka Daily Capital printed a daily report about these meetings.

The same pulpit that Mrs. White spoke from in 1889 was used during the anniversary services. Gary Thurber, executive secretary of the Lake Union Conference, served as pastor in Ottawa from 1987-1990. “Ottawa is rich in Adventist history. I love coming to Ottawa,” Thurber said, adding that he had thought the Lord would be here before now. “We’re 25 years closer than when I left. I believe He’s coming soon. I believe it with all my heart.”

During the day, the Clowns for Christ ministry from Nebraska taught the children’s Sabbath school; Voices of One, from the New Haven Church in Overland Park, Kansas presented the afternoon concert; Melissa Martin researched the history of the church and shared a dynamic narrative and visual presentation; and long-time member, Eleanor Coen, was given flowers for her years of service to the church.

Pastor Jim Martin had the privilege of baptizing Jackie Wooster-Brewer during the morning worship service.
Minnetonka VBS Shares Jesus With Over 100
by Michelle Lashier Rosas

Over 110 children in preschool-6th grade learned more about Jesus during Vacation Bible School at Minnetonka Church last July. The theme Weird Animals: Where Jesus’ Love is One-of-a-Kind emphasized that Jesus loves us when we feel weird, different or lost in a crowd. Twenty-five youth and 15 adults volunteered in leading the children through mornings of Bible lessons, songs, games and crafts. Attendees also participated in raising funds for Operation Kid to Kid, which supplies clean drinking water for school children in India. Minnetonka VBS raised enough money to provide a year’s worth of water to 24 children. On Sabbath, church members contributed to support an additional 150.

During the week Minnetonka also organized a day camp for children in grades 1-7. Participants attended VBS in the morning and enjoyed afternoon fun time with their friends on three different field trips.

Children’s Ministries coordinator Kelly Hoffer said VBS would not have been as great a success without a dedicated staff of volunteers and committed parents who brought their kids each day. “We had such an exciting week fellowshipping together,” Hoffer said. “I can’t wait until heaven when we’ll get to have fun with each other and Jesus all the time.”

Michelle Lashier Rosas is communication secretary for the Minnetonka Church.

No Gym, No Problem
Students stay active during cold weather
by Collene Klick

Of the approximately 80 Seventh-day Adventist churches in the state of Minnesota, 12 operate schools, with attendance ranging from six to 55. Each school is run by the local churches comprising its constituency, and the budget (as well as the number of teachers and physical plant size) varies from place to place. Seven of these schools have gymnasiums available to them. What do teachers at the other schools do with their kids when the weather is so cold it’s dangerous to go outside?

This past school year Duluth’s Stone Ridge SDA Christian School experienced more days than usual that fit the “too cold to go outside” criteria. As teachers know, just because it’s too cold to go out doesn’t mean students have any less energy.

Thankfully there’s art, but honestly, you can keep them painting, drawing or creating for only so long; at some point they are going to need a change. Yes, Spirit Days is a great break from the monotony of indoor play, but students still need recess to burn off their energy so they can sit still enough to continue learning to read, write and understand both spiritual and historical lessons.

Duluth’s teacher, Rudy Carlson, has made exciting progress in the challenge of creating “big play value in a small play area” by adding
Twin Cities African Camp Meeting Focuses on Jesus’ Return

Pre-living the second coming

by Brian Mungandi

The 2014 Twin Cities African camp meeting last summer focused on the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, a major biblical theme. The speaker for the adult service, Dr. Zvandasara, asked, “If this is such an important issue to God and His people why is this theme not trending? Is it because most people do not believe Jesus Christ will return?”

As I listened, I thought to myself, *It seems those who believe that Jesus will come again are very few, considering the world population. We Christians are in the minority.*

The preacher continued, “The writer here [Rev. 1:7] is saying that God wants us to experience this future event in the present, ‘pre live’ the event and be in the front seat. God wants us to feel the emotion, hear the sounds, sense the terror, see the glory and experience the joy!”

Dr. Zvandasara reminded his hearers that the second coming of Christ is a literal return; Christ will be accompanied by angels enveloped in clouds. The event will be visible, public—everyone will see Christ.

Throughout the weekend the preacher asked the congregation, “Are there people you know who don’t have a clue of what is going to happen to this world when Christ comes? Then tell them! Let’s all work to share the good news of the blessed hope.”

Brian Mungandi is communication director for the Minnesota Conference.

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Prayer Central to Oshkosh Camporee
by Mark Bond

When there are that many people together in one place, and they all pray together, it’s a powerful thing.

During the busyness of Oshkosh Camporee with nearly 50,000 Pathfinders attending, there was still time for prayer. Rocky Mountain Conference vice president for administration Eric Nelson was on hand to serve as a chaplain at the prayer tents during the international Pathfinder event.

Three times each day Pathfinders would stop and pray when they heard the blowing of a shofar, an ancient ram’s horn that was used in the time of Daniel, around whose life the event was centered. The horn served as a reminder to keep in continued connection with God via prayer throughout the day as Daniel did.

“It was a special experience to have full clubs and sometimes two or three come in to kneel around in a circle and pray,” shared Nelson. “You would think that everyone is happy and jovial here, but they come with heavy burdens on their hearts.”

Attendees of the camporee had the opportunity to write prayer requests on a large scroll that was brought to the main stage each evening for corporate prayer. Pathfinders from around the world offered prayers in many different languages.

“When there are that many people together in one place, and they all pray together, it’s a powerful thing,” said Nelson.

Mark Bond is communication director for the Rocky Mountain Conference.

VIDEO
The North American Division news team interviewed Elder Nelson about his time at the prayer booth. His interview can be seen at vimeo.com/103597843.
RMC Prayer Conference to be Held at Campion
by Carol Bolden

If you want to make a difference, have a more vibrant relationship with God and be used by Him to impact the lives of others, plan to attend the RMC Revival and Prayer Meeting scheduled for October 24-26 at the Campion Church.

Events are planned throughout the weekend to inspire participants to return to their churches as passionate, committed catalysts for prayer. Organizers of this event hope that people leave with a boldness to reach others for Jesus.

Weekend topics will include Encountering God, One With God’s Purpose, The Lord’s Prayer, and Praying for Your Children. The first three messages on revival build on each other, so it’s critical to be there Friday night as well as on Sabbath.

The conference’s featured speaker, Pavel Goia, is a man with a mission to speak for God. Goia knew at a young age that God had called him to ministry. Born and raised in communist Romania, he didn’t find it easy to follow that calling. After drifting during his teenage years, his life took a proverbial turn, and he promised to serve God. The book One Miracle After Another: The Pavel Goia Story by Gregg Budd, describes his unwavering loyalty to God and the miracles that follow.

Pavel pursued careers in engineering, private business, and law before finally settling into his calling as a minister. Today he pastors the Lexington (KY) Church and is a member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee for the North American Division, as well as a doctoral candidate at Andrews University.

Contact Jim Moon, RMC Prayer Ministry coordinator, at disciplinemakingdisciple@gmail.com

VIDEO
Watch a clip of speaker, Pavel Goia as he shares a miraculous testimony at bit.ly/glassmiracle.
Scan this QR Code for direct access.

Biography Spotlights Adventist Chaplain
by Kim Peckham

A biography of Campion church member Dick Stenbakken has been released this year by the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Stenbakken is known for his dramatic portrayals of Bible characters and for his ground-breaking service in the army as a Seventh-day Adventist chaplain. The book, The Man With the Reversible Foot, is written by Susan Phelps Harvey. “It’s encouraging to see what God can do with a life,” says Harvey, “Just an ordinary person who gives that life to God and gives all of their talents, all of their skills to God and lets Him use them in whatever way He chooses.”

Stenbakken says he hopes people who read the book come away with the realization that “when you dedicate your life to Christ—when you ask for His leading—it will open doors that you could never imagine.”

Kim Peckham writes for the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Maryland.
Mission Work: Overcoming the Challenges
by Michael Rohm

Whoever you are, Shannice Baker wants to help you. As an international rescue and relief student with an emphasis in pre-medicine, her skills are primarily medical, but as a caring individual with a heart for service, her passion is limitless. Just ask the people of Bere, Chad, where she lived and volunteered during the 2013-14 school year.

As a student missionary in a developing country, Baker expected to be challenged. What Chad had to offer, however, was at times more than just a challenge. It was survival. By her second week in the foreign country, Baker had already contracted a scalp infection as well as a severe allergic reaction. “I broke out in hives, my eyes were swollen shut, and I suffered from serious headaches. I could hardly function,” said Baker. Experiencing such discomfort anywhere would be disheartening, but she wasn’t just anywhere. She was sleeping in a mud hut, eating new foods and surrounded by strangers who spoke no English. “That was truly one of the hardest things to get through,” Baker admitted. “I was homesick and questioning why I had come.”

By her second bout with malaria, she was ready to give up (yes, in addition to the scalp infection, the allergic reaction, the homesickness, and the cultural barriers, Baker contracted malaria three times). “I got really dramatic and said, ‘God, just take my life.’” It is easy for her to laugh about the experience now, but at the time it was no joke. “I couldn’t see the light at the end of the tunnel.”

But Baker was not debilitated by mere infections, allergic reactions and viruses. “I have that complex where I can’t let one little thing stop me from doing what I want to do,” she said. And what she wanted to do was to help people. Baker found that by giving time to help other people, her own discomfort, both physically and emotionally, diminished. To say she kept busy is an understatement. Using the same 24 hours that are allotted to each of us, Baker managed to support doctors in the local hospital, conduct a series of health lectures in the community, operate a baby formula program to prevent infant malnutrition, teach local women to crochet as an income-generating activity, walk around the surrounding villages and interact with the residents, perform gymnastics with the children, start Sabbath schools in rural areas, and educate recipients of a small financial grant, which she helped distribute, on money management and business acuity. “I like having a hand in many jars,” Baker said.

Although she will always surround herself with many jars, the biggest one in Baker’s life is medicine. Before leaving for her year overseas, Baker knew she wanted to be a missionary doctor. Her experiences in Chad, she thought, would either strengthen this desire or replace it with another. After volunteering in the hospital, interacting with the professionals, administering IVs, and performing a minor surgery, Baker is certain about her future. “Being in Chad definitely ensured that I would become a doctor,” she said.

And Union College continues to ensure that she will, too. Between her technical skills learned in international rescue and relief, her strong spiritual identity fostered on campus, and her fun-loving nature encouraged by a large group of friends, Baker feels prepared for anything. “Union has a little bit of everything,” she says. “It has opened my eyes and helped advance me in my career goals.”

Michael Rohm graduated from Union College in August 2014. He now works for ADRA in Silver Spring, Maryland.
Mission Work: Staying Connected With Home
by Michael Rohm

When senior language arts education major Kyle Berg signed up for a year of teaching on the island of Palau, he knew that communication with friends and family would be limited. Geographically located within the Micronesian island chain on the other side of the world, Berg anticipated nine months of relative isolation, after which he would return to a seemingly foreign Union College campus. He never expected the opportunity to watch sermons, vespers and ASB events live, or to chat with a church full of his friends and teachers.

But thanks to the new live stream technology, which enables anyone with an Internet connection to watch events live, Berg and others like him can continue to participate in the happenings at Union College, whether they are sick in their dorm room or halfway around the globe.

In Palau, Berg quickly began to forge meaningful friendships and discover opportunities for fun and growth. Despite his relatively easy adaptation, he occasionally felt the pangs of homesickness. He was able to send messages to friends via Facebook and email, but increasingly they would reference ASB events on campus, or worship services at church, or basketball tournaments in the Thunderdome, and he began to feel left out. “I was having the time of my life in Palau,” Berg said. “But it would have been nice to also feel included in the campus life.”

“It seemed unrealistic at the time,” he added, “but I wanted the best of both worlds.”

Then he got an email from Union College chaplain Pastor Rich Carlson, asking if he would be willing to do a video call during a Friday night vespers. “I didn’t even know that was possible,” he said. “I began looking around the Union website and learned they regularly streamed events live like worship services and sporting events. And the ones I had already missed were posted online to watch anytime.”

The service, dubbed UCLive, was pioneered by Tom Becker, former director of information technology at Union College. In the experimental stages, quality of the broadcasts was limited by free software, bandwidth and hardware that only supported a single camera.

Last school year, management of UCLive transferred to the Marketing Communications department, and the school switched to using LiveStream, a video streaming service that allows unlimited viewers on many platforms, including Windows and Macintosh PCs, Apple and Android smartphones and tablets, and Roku video players.

After his retirement, Becker donated the funds to purchase a switcher, which uses multiple cameras to broadcast events, greatly improving the viewer experience.

Not only did Berg participate in the video call, allowing him to speak personally with his closest friends and hear the entire church wish him a happy Sabbath, he mastered the technology that allowed him to engage with the campus while still living and working in Palau. “I definitely would have survived without it,” said Berg of UCLive. “But I was so much happier being able to engage with others and feel like I was still part of the family.”

“It’s a really special opportunity for those who aren’t able to be there in person,” he added. “I am grateful for that opportunity, and I will continue to use it after I graduate.”

EXPERIENCE THE UNION SPIRIT

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Facebook
www.facebook.com/UnionCollegeLincolnNebraska
Browse photo albums, connect with Union friends or find out what’s happening at the College in the West.

YouTube
www.youtube.com/unioncollegeNE
Check out our library of more than 120 videos about the people and programs of Union College.

Rockpile
rockpile.ucollege.edu
Connect with fellow graduates and find the latest alumni news.

Twitter
www.twitter.com/ucollegeNE
For those who like Union served up short and sweet.

Instagram
www.instagram.com/ucollegene
Follow Union in photos and discover why a picture is worth at least 1,000 words.
Following a tradition of more than 20 years, Shawnee Mission Health, a member of the Adventist Health System, will again offer its free Celebration of Thanksgiving concert. Scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 22 at 3:30 pm, the event will be held at the Cross Points Church in Shawnee, Kansas and feature Christian pop band The Afters. About a thousand attendees are expected.

Mark Stoddart, SMH administrative director of Spiritual Wellness, said planning for the event began last spring and is a team effort from start to finish. Organizers, production crews, marketing specialists and security guards are among the many who work together to host the event. According to Stoddart, it is one of many ways SMH comes together to give back to the community.

“The concert conveys a tremendous amount of good will,” he said. “It is our way of thanking the community for the opportunity to serve their healthcare needs.”

In keeping with the SMH mission of Improving Health Through Christian Service, the event’s theme is spiritual in nature.

Founded by Josh Havens and Matt Fuqua, who met while working as baristas in a Texas coffee shop, The Afters deliver inspirational music with a positive message. Jordan Mohilowski and Dan Ostebo complete the foursome and serve as songwriters, as well as musicians.

In 2006, the band won the Gospel Music Association Dove Award for New Artist of the Year. Several more nominations followed, and in 2009 The Afters won the Best Rock/Contemporary Album award for Never Going Back to OK.

The recent album, Life is Beautiful, was inspired by the band members’ own life events that were unexpected and unwanted. Havens said while spending time in a hospital ICU with his son, he encountered other families going through much more. That experience resulted in “Waiting for an Answer,” a song that encourages faith in times of difficulty.

“I prayed that God would turn my trials into testimony,” he said, adding that he was inspired by the faith of those around him. “One friend said something I will never forget: ‘The thing that challenged my faith the most in the short term is what strengthened my faith the most in the long term.’”

Propelled by his experience, and in collaboration with his bandmates, the roster of songs was developed. By drawing from their personal stories and infusing biblical references from the books of James and Job, Havens said the men were able to achieve their goal of providing a message that was strong, upbeat and positive. The title track was featured in the 2012 film October Baby.

Although admission is free, tickets are required. For ticket information, visit ShawneeMission.org/celebration. Donations to Harvesters, a local food pantry, are encouraged but not required.

Marcia McFarlane is a freelance writer for Shawnee Mission Health.
Avista’s CFO Ministers through Finances
Brent Davis rolls up his sleeves to serve

by Mark Bond

One of the youngest CFOs in the Adventist Health System network of hospitals, Brent Davis serves at Avista Adventist Hospital in Louisville, Colorado.

If you walk into the office of the chief financial officer at Avista Adventist Hospital expecting to find a seasoned, gray-haired individual with years of experience, the fresh face of 28-year-old Brent Davis will likely surprise you.

Brent has held the responsible position of CFO since September of last year. Avista, a 114-bed full-service medical center located in Louisville, Colorado, is one of five Adventist hospitals “extending the healing ministry of Christ” to the northwest Denver and Boulder communities. Brent is thrilled to be part of that mission.

If you ask him how challenging it is to maneuver as a leader in an environment where most of his colleagues are twice his age, Brent will tell you that he brings his A-game to work each day. He’s also quick to add that he feels completely accepted and supported, and that working in the Adventist Health System is a very nurturing environment.

“I feel like my peers and colleagues are cheering for me and looking for me to succeed, rather than expecting me to fail,” says Brent, “and that makes working here a joy.”

Brent’s fast-track career got a turbo charge while studying accounting at Walla Walla University School of Business. He secured a summer internship for Adventist Health West after his sophomore year and interned for Ernst & Young the summer between his junior and senior years. The second internship led to his first job out of college as an auditor for Ernst & Young in the Sacramento and Bay areas. After three years with that company, Brent got a call from a friend at Adventist Health West asking him to work as director of finance for Simi Valley Hospital. Simi Valley exposed Brent to the inner workings of a hospital, and he learned firsthand how budgeting, revenue cycles, decision support, and other corporate financial pieces come together.

After his three years in Simi Valley, the CFO position opened up at Avista. Again, because of his experience and industry connections Brent’s name came up, and he ultimately was invited to serve in Colorado.

It might be unusual to consider it ministry to work in hospital finance, but Brent definitely feels like he has been called to God’s service in that capacity.

“I remember being in college and thinking about how people assume that ministry-minded people take majors like theology, education or medicine—that those are the kind of jobs Jesus would do,” he shares.

“If you are studying business, you can feel like you’re less than service-minded—that you only care about making money. But I’m a big believer that God can use us anywhere. He needs godly people in banks or on Wall Street, or in a public accounting firm.”

Brent takes advantage of opportunities to reach beyond the walls of the hospital through involvement in community organizations like Rotary International. By rolling up his sleeves and working alongside other community-minded individuals, he has been able to share his faith in tangible ways outside the Adventist bubble.

“In those situations,” says Brent, “you not only want to represent your organization well, but you also want to represent your faith well. What does that mean in Boulder County? How do you put relevance to your faith? And that’s the cool thing about working in Adventist healthcare. You are providing a real service to the community by not only caring for the sick, but also by nurturing the health of our community.”

Along with this new job, Brent recently celebrated another milestone. In August he and his bride, Angela, were married. They both enjoy being surrounded by the beauty of Colorado.

To other young people considering the possibility of devoting their lives to service, Brent says, “Get an internship. Work hard. Listen a lot. Ask a lot of questions. Learn tangible skills. And be willing to start with anything to get your foot in the door. If you are willing to let God lead you, He definitely will.”

This article was submitted by Stephen King, senior vice president for the Rocky Mountain Adventist Health/ Centura Health, where he serves the five Adventist hospital campuses in Colorado. It was written by Mark Bond.
Survivors include husband Rod; daughter Teri Fehring; sons Mark and Christopher; 6 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.

Castillo, Aurora, b. June 25, 1956 in Brush, CO. d. Aug. 13, 2014 in Greeley, CO. Member of The Adventure Church. Survivors include daughters Yessenia and Aurora Andrea; son Jose; 7 siblings; 2 grandchildren.

Clark, Rose, b. Oct. 21, 1909 in Numa, IA. d. Aug. 21, 2013 in Ottumwa, IA. Member of Centerville Church. Preceded in death by husband Marvin. Survivors include daughters Frances Fenton, Mary Pencil and Kay Coleman; 14 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.


Laurence, Betty, b. Dec. 15, 1924 in Eddyville, IA. d. July 15, 2014 in Ottumwa, IA. Member of Ottumwa Church. Preceded in death by husband Bob; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughter Connie Johnson; 3 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.


Mohr, Eugene R., b. Sept. 20, 1928 in Nekoma, KS. d. June 4, 2014 in Fort Morgan, CO. Member of Fort Morgan Church. Survivors include wife Donna; daughter Debbie Darrell; son Ed; 2 sisters; 4 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.


Ordelheide, Kenneth R., b. June 13, 1929 in Englewood, CO. d. Apr. 2, 2014 in Englewood, CO. Member of Denver South Church. Preceded in
Survivors include daughters Sharon, Sandra and Sheryl Scheller and Shirley Soto; second daughters Cathy, Melody, and Sandy; 3 siblings; 2 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.


Tripp, Louise D., b. May 21, 1935 in Casper, WY. d. May 11, 2014 in Granger, WY. Member of Rock Springs Church. Preceded in death by husband William; 1 brother. Survivors include daughter Donna Earl; son Jerry; 1 brother; 8 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.


Ward, Thomas D., b. Nov. 28, 1921 in Burns, WY. d. June 13, 2014 in Saratoga, WY. Member of Rocky Mountain Conference. Preceded in death by daughter Shannon; 4 siblings. Survivors include wife Barbara; daughter Jeanne; son Tom; 4 grandchildren; 7 great-grandsons.

West, Audrey, b. June 22, 1921 in Steamboat Springs, CO. d. Sept. 24, 2009 in Craig, CO. Member of Delta Church. Survivors include daughter Terri Hess; 2 grandsons.

Wilson, Robert L., b. Apr. 8, 1922. d. Feb. 22, 2014 in Capulin, CO. Member of Alamosa Church.


“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.”

– Rev. 14:13
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Pacific Union College is seeking full-time faculty in the Nursing and Health Sciences Department—Emergency Services/Nursing to begin during the 2014-15 academic year. Ideal candidate will possess a masters degree in nursing or related field, a current RN license, and a current National Registry EMT certification and/or Paramedic license with at least two years prehospital experience. For more information or to apply call 707.965.7062 or visit http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/ current-job-postings.

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Union College seeks Seventh-day Adventist experienced in K-8 education and eligible for Nebraska certification to teach curriculum and instruction courses and supervise student teachers. Doctorate strongly preferred. Effective summer 2015. Email letter of interest and C.V. to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development, dwithe@ucollege.edu.

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EVENTS

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Sandia View Academy Alumni Weekend, Oct. 9-11, Corrales, NM. Honor classes: ’44, ’54, ’64, ’74, ’84, ’89, ’94, ’04. For more information, call 405.570.3833 or email jrsleeper1@gmail.com.


Singers of the Advent is celebrating 40+ years of ministry with a special alumni reunion program, Oct. 11, 2014 at the Littleton SDA Church in Colorado. We’re searching for past singers to participate. If interested, please contact Jennifer German: 203.919.9109, jlgeman52712@aol.com; or Esther Rodeghero: 303.883.3423, e_rodeghero@yahoo.com.


NOTICES

Mission opportunity for Sabbath School groups, families or individuals! ACI (Adventist Child India) coordinates sponsors for Adventist children in India to attend school. $420 ($35/ mo) will provide tuition, lodging, food, books, clothing and medical for a child for one year. Visit www.acichild.com for more info or contact Charlene Binder at rdbinder@inebraska.com.
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