This issue of OUTLOOK is about the challenges and choices facing Adventism today. We know we have issues: institutionalism, lack of identity, internal conflicts, pastoral burnout, lack of member retention, decline in educational enrollment, the greying of Adventism—not to mention societal irrelevancy (although we hope that after July at least San Antonians will know who we are).

Yet owning our challenges is only the first step. Next we need to talk about them in a healthy environment (see p. 6). Unless we can honestly dialogue, there’s little hope of improving. Then we must be willing to explore solutions and embrace the necessary changes. It’s the whole “grow or die” scenario.

In truth, every challenge is an opportunity. And assessing our challenges can motivate us to focus on taking positive steps—while continually keeping our eyes on Jesus.

—BRENDA DICKERSON, editor

Q: What will be one of the major challenges coming out of the 2015 General Conference Session?

A: One of the greatest challenges we will face moving forward after the GC Session is our willingness to invest more minutes, engage more minds and spend more money in reaching our neighbors for Christ—more than was expended in meetings and studies leading up to the session to vote on non-salvific concerns (particularly the topic of women’s ordination that for the most recent five years church leaders, scholars and workers from around the world have been turning about as if trying to solve a Rubik’s cube). We must redouble our efforts in reaching the perishing with all hands on deck; the times demand it.

Invariably at such gatherings as the General Conference groups wander around near the premises with differing views regarding church “hot” topics. They hand out flyers stating their position in glaring, bold print or distribute some artistic rendering with their slant. They long to persuade whosoever will to embrace their perspective.

When Jesus established the church, He called it, “my church” and stated that “the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matt. 16:18). Let me hasten to add, nor shall any member stymie its success.

Yes, it’s His church and He has not called its members into passive participation but disciplined dissemination of the everlasting gospel. And this gospel shall be preached in all the world for a witness…and then (Matt. 24:14).

—GIL WEBB, MAUC vice president for administration

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ON THE COVER
Pastor Harold Alomia believes the Adventist Church is far more than a human organization. Story on p. 6. Photo by Rosie Alomia.

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500 DAYS OF PRAYER
MARCH 25 – JULY 11, 2015
FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION
JULY 2015
FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION
JULY 2015

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As I work in North America, my responses are based on that milieu. I’ve elected to write my observations in three successive parts—from a personal level, an evangelistic level and a structural level.

The church of which we are all a part, and many of us love from the heart, is made up of flawed people. Even those who consider themselves (and there are a few) to have reached a level of self-defined perfection are not. Leaders, lifelong members and newly reached novices all have shortcomings.

Some say the church is full of hypocrites. I stoutly disagree. The definition that allows the accusation reads like this: “they” don’t practice what they preach. That is true. The gospel we preach is of lofty grandeur; none of us dare boast of reaching that level in this life. But that is the definition of a sinner, not a hypocrite. As a hospital is filled with sick, injured or otherwise unhealthy people on a quest toward health, so the church is filled with people on a journey toward wholeness in and under the banner of faith in Jesus Christ.

Years ago a teacher of mine made it clear: A hypocrite is not someone who makes mistakes or falls short of his professions. A hypocrite is someone who passes himself off as something he never intends to become. He wants to look like a Christ follower without actually intending to be a follower of Jesus. Hypocrisy in this light, then, is all about appearance eclipsing substance.

One of our greatest challenges on a personal level is the great need for transparent authenticity as believers. That is easy to say, but perhaps not very easy to live.

So let’s get practical.

As Adventists we believe in the return of Jesus Christ. In that belief, we cannot let ourselves become comfortable with the world as we know it now. Here in the West, it is too easy for the American dream to displace the heavenly vision.

We believe in the Sabbath as a memorial of God’s creation. In that belief we must not neglect, ignore or exploit that creation as it exists around us. We must take care of it. In claiming to honor the Creator God, we cannot take His creative work for granted.

We also believe in the Sabbath as a memorial of God’s saving power (see Deut. 5). In that belief we must extend the freedom the gospel grants us to everyone. The exodus from Egypt was not a privilege exclusively for the Hebrews. While few Egyptians availed themselves of the opportunity, they were invited to accept the gift of freedom from a ravaged Egypt and find new life in a promised land.

We believe in the family. In that belief we must not ignore or, even worse, blame the victims of divorce or other forms of family fracturing. Single parents need support, not censure. And children in divided homes need the encouragement of active, caring role models from all of us. Additionally, single members need to be included intentionally.

We believe in the gospel commission—to make disciples. In that belief we must not so tightly define disciples so as to make ourselves an exclusive club or let ourselves atrophy into a museum display. Disciple-making must translate out of our worship on Sabbath to something real on Tuesday evening (or whenever the need or opportunity arises).

So is the church full of hypocrites? Really? No doubt there are some. But it is not our job to try to figure out who is and who isn’t. Who truly reads the heart? Who can judge unspoken motives? The Lord, who has loved us with an everlasting love, asks us to be that love in a real way here and now until He returns.
Michael Temple is an ordained Seventh-day Adventist minister serving in the Dakota Conference. He and his wife, Roberta, are the proud parents of three children: Taylor, Maddie and Michael.

Pastor Mike authors a daily e-devotional called The Open Word. Subscriptions are FREE at www.openwordshow.org.

Why are puzzles so wildly popular all around the globe? Will Shortz, the crossword editor of The New York Times and NPR, has this to say:

“We’re faced with problems every day in life, and we almost never get clarity. We jump into the middle of a problem, we carry it through to whatever extent we can to find an answer, and then... we just find the next thing. [But] with a human made puzzle you have the satisfaction of being completely in control: you start the challenge from the beginning, and you move all the way to the end. That’s a satisfaction you don’t get much in real life. You feel in control, and that’s a great feeling.”

Great feeling indeed!

It seems to me, that as a society, we’re constantly scratching for a direction that will help give us the clarity that seems to elude many of us while we journey here on planet Earth. Being “in control” isn’t just some whimsical desire... for some people it’s more of a compulsion (right up there with breathing).

Consider Frank Sinatra’s hit My Way for a moment. The words might give the appearance of hopefulness on the surface, but a more thorough examination of the haunting lyrics describe an individual who must be in control at all costs:

*Regrets? I’ve had a few, But then again, too few to mention. I did what I had to do And saw it through without exemption. I planned each charted course— Each careful step along the byway, And more, much more than this, I did it my way. I did it my way.*

That’s an attractively compelling thought for so many living around the globe today. From the high-flying billionaire to the political wannabe, doing it “my way” seems to be an all-consuming direction that many aspire to. Sinful humanity cries out for control. The following passage from the Bible flies in the face of conventional worldly wisdom.

“Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory” (Col. 3:2-4).

If I read it correctly, when I enter into a relationship with Jesus, I begin to learn how to relinquish “my way,” and lose myself in “His way.” That can seem like a difficult path to take, but the rewards are eternal.
CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

MY HOPES FOR 2015 ADVENTISM

Harold Alomia is one of the youngest pastors to lead the College View Church in Lincoln, Nebraska—the largest Adventist church in Mid-America’s territory. He’s also their first pastor who is from South America. OUTLOOK’s editor Brenda Dickerson recently sat down with him to discuss some of the significant cultural and spiritual challenges facing the Adventist Church in 2015.

One of our most pressing issues this year is to settle the question of whether or not to ordain women. However, regardless of how the vote goes in July, the reality is there will still be disagreement. How can we continue working together to further the mission of the church?

Everyone has his or her take on what this topic is really about. Some will say it’s about tradition, or hermeneutics, or erosion of Adventism’s true interpretation of the Bible.

The fact is that we’ve arrived at different conclusions based on the same Book and the same belief. Both sides have biblical basis and Ellen White basis. It seems that allowing each region to decide is a solution—however, perhaps not without complications. It is still going to take a whole lot of conversation and implementation to even bring it to a reality in regions where it is “acceptable” to ordain women. There is more to this proposed solution than we really think.

The difficulty is that we’re so fragmented and the rhetoric on social media has become so inflammatory. It’s a cesspool of negativity. I’m right and you’re wrong.

How do you see this fragmentation affecting our youth?

Not that I’m a parent, but I recall from my own childhood that on the few occasions when my parents had tension between them, I felt it. And it was uncomfortable. I didn’t like it.

I think our young people feel the same way. When we as the leaders of the church are fighting and there is tension among us they feel it. And they don’t like it. We are preaching brotherly love, but we don’t like each other. They don’t care for our drama. I don’t care for it either.

It’s a waste of time, an energy drainer. Our millenials—and that whole other generation behind them of 12-18-year-olds that we’re not paying nearly enough attention to—feel that it’s a waste of energy. Maybe that’s why many leave the church. What we’re modeling is dissonant with the messages we’re preaching.
Recent research is showing that although they’re leaving the church structure they are not unspiritual. In fact, they are often more spiritual than older generations. We easily forget, in our stuffy little offices, what we’re really here to do. But they are out there in the world seeing the needs and meeting them. I just wish that sometimes they would stay to influence the rest of us instead of losing patience with us—to cause change from within.

**Why do you think we are struggling as a church with our identity in relation to other Christian denominations?**

Sometimes we think we have to dismiss the importance of this movement in order to be inclusive. We tend to react against the statement of Adventists being the remnant because it seems arrogant. I perceive arrogance as an attitude rather than a fact. We have had that problem, but in reacting to our attitude we go to the other extreme of hiding the fact that this is a special movement. We’re called a movement for a reason. I personally stay in this denomination because we have something special. We’ve always been at the edge. We are a catalyst toward God’s final drive.

And that goes along with my desire for God to do something supernatural before and after San Antonio. He can allow us to be less fragmented, not a reflection of society, which is polarized politically as we see during election years. We as a movement can be different than the polarization of our country. The question remains as to whether we will let Him.

**We know that the power of the Holy Spirit brought unity to the early church during Pentecost. Do you think something similar might happen at San Antonio?**

It could. I don’t know what God’s going to do in San Antonio. I’m not a delegate—just a guy in a church. It’s going to be interesting to see what the Lord decides to do.

Acts is a good book for trying to understand what the Holy Spirit actually does. In the life of the believer the Holy Spirit seems to be the connection, the impetus that drives us to follow, to obey, to love and to connect. It’s Him in us. “Do you not know that you are the temple of the Holy Spirit?” God is in us, growing in us, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God, whom the heavens cannot contain, through the Holy Spirit, lives in me. That is just mind blowing!

Yet it’s that relationship of daily getting to know Him through the Word, prayer, song, thoughts—that is what prepares us for experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit.

One of our challenges in North America is this interesting dichotomy where we don’t seem to believe God is in this organization. God is everywhere, so I can do my own things. Church is just a human organization. I have to wonder, if God is not leading this organization, what am I doing here?

**What other challenges should the church be talking about?**

The war on Christmas. No, not really. But did you see Seth Pierce’s online article about that and the comments? (gleanernow.com/news/2014/11/accidental-pagans) Oh my! Anyway...

One of the obvious things, especially in North America, is human sexuality. It’s huge here. And it’s divisive because it seems that it’s impossible to have middle ground these days. You just can’t have a balance. Either you are a heathen, anti-Bible person who accepts every aspect of sin, or you are a closed-minded bigot.

It’s a difficult topic to talk about, mostly because of how people react. I understand the frustration of millennials in our society because they have a completely different mindset and it’s difficult to bring in the theological aspect of what the Bible says about human sexuality and put it into practice in the 21st century in a polarized context.

**We don’t have much of a model for that, do we?**

No, we don’t. Neither in society nor in our church. There are so many angry Christians out there that regardless of whether the topic is human sexuality, women in ministry, our identity as Adventist Christians or the role of the Holy Spirit in our corporate movement, we’re struggling because we can’t communicate honestly.

One of my biggest goals as a pastor is to create an environment where we can just talk and not judge or be judged. Because it goes both ways. It would help us with all our issues at this point.

If we can provide an environment where we can wrestle with the texts and ideas and find a way to practice the principles, I believe the Holy Spirit will guide us to take care of the rest.

**Read this interview in its entirety at bit.ly/hopesfor2015.**
BIG CHALLENGE, BIGGER BLESSING
CARING FOR REFUGEES IN MID-AMERICA

Every year millions of people around the world are forced to flee their home countries because of persecution based on race, religion, social group or political opinion. They arrive at refugee camps with no possessions and receive meager assistance. While waiting at the camps (some for as long as 10 years), they can apply for legal refugee status. The United Nations then determines where to place them. Annually over 72,000 refugees resettle in the United States, with approximately 9,000 arriving in the Midwest. They do not come because they want to—they come in order to save their lives. Caring for these hurting people is both our privilege and our duty.

“If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday.”
Isa. 58:10

IOWA-MISSOURI CONFERENCE
by Dean Coridan, president, and Michelle Hansen, communication director

At the direction of its constituency and executive committee, the Iowa-Missouri Conference has added Refugee Ministry as one of its frontline ministries right alongside education, evangelism and youth ministries. Two years ago an education assistance fund was established to help send refugee children to Adventist schools in our conference. Today 10 percent of our students are refugees. One parent, Robert, (pictured above) says, “When I heard about the plan for tuition assistance it made me very happy. If there was no assistance, I would have to send my kids to public school and that would be very sad.”

Going forward, we want to establish programs that will help refugees more comfortably integrate into our communities, such as ESL classes, job search assistance, babysitting, tutoring and more. In order to further this ministry we are seeking the ongoing financial support of 1,000 people through a pledge card that can be downloaded at www.imsda.org/refugee. There is also a line item designation on the new tithe envelopes. All money goes directly to help refugees living in Iowa and Missouri.

Visit www.imsda.org/refugee to watch a nine-minute video about the plight of refugees and the ministry work being done in the Iowa-Missouri Conference.

Pastor Stephen Aung See (far left) works with the Burmese refugees in Des Moines. Robert (middle, in blue jeans) would not be sending his kids to the Des Moines Adventist School if it weren’t for the refugee ministry education fund.
KANSAS-NEBRASKA CONFERENCE
by John Sweigart, vice president for administration

During the Kansas-Nebraska Conference’s 2014 camp meeting attendees gave $15,300 toward ministry for the Karen (pronounced Kurin) refugees in Omaha and Lincoln. This, combined with a similar amount from the conference, is funding a part-time salary for Pastor Sah Kler (pictured at right) to serve members of the Karen Company, many of whom are multi-generation Seventh-day Adventists whose grandparents were baptized by Dr. Eric B. Hare, the famous Dr. Rabbit of Burma.

There are nearly 5,000 Karen people in Omaha and more come every month. The conference has established a building fund for this group. To donate online visit www.ks-ne.org.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE
by Brian Mungandi, communication director

For nearly five years the Minnesota Conference has been funding a Karen Church under the leadership of Pastor See Nay in a program supporting refugees through gifts of rice cookers. “Taking a rice cooker to new immigrant families creates a chance to work with them to make sure they become part of the community,” says Pastor See Nay.

The Minnesota Karen churches have a membership of about 200 among the three groups See Nay oversees. However, they are ministering to more than 400 families in a wide range of activities that demonstrate the love of God.

REFUGEE ARRIVALS BY STATE

Arrivals from Jan. 2014 - Jan. 2015
Statistics gathered from the Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System (WRAPS).
www.wrapsnet.org

Since rice is the staple food in the Karen community, a rice cooker is considered a very special gift.

The Omaha Karen Company led by Sah Kler (middle back) currently has around 85 attendees.

Vanessa Schaecher

Courtesy Minnesota Conference
Elder James White, also known as Evangel, has a true calling in life to evangelism. After 40 years of ministry, he was recognized with a Distinguished Service Award at the Pastoral Evangelism and Leadership Conference held last December on the campus of Oakwood University.

Strong beginnings

He and his mother were introduced to the church when he was seven years old at a tent gathering in Bessemer, Alabama. Fascinated by the preaching and the images displayed, he knew at that tender age that he should help people to find Jesus Christ. As a youth White volunteered to go out and put up tents and operate the projector at crusades.

While at Oakwood College in 1970 he took a homiletics class to study the art of preaching and writing sermons. His instructor, Dr. Mervin Warren, told him that the Lord had blessed him with the gift of evangelism. Upon graduation in 1972, White moved to St. Louis, Missouri and worked under evangelist S. T. Lewis of the Northside Church. Elder Lewis nicknamed James “Evangel” because of his great love for evangelism. Now Elder White refers to Evangel as his spiritual name.

Throughout their 45 years of marriage James White and his wife, Barbara, have given Bible studies as a couple.
Barbara, into the church through evangelism. He gave her Bible studies and made notes in her Bible of key texts. Barbara attended many crusades with James over the next five years. Now, after 45 years of marriage, they continue to offer Bible studies as a couple to win souls for Christ. “The greatest thing that this life holds is going out and winning souls for Jesus Christ. Nothing is more important than that,” White stated.

Stories of service

White recalls one of his greatest experiences in evangelism while preaching with the Ebony Evangelism team of speakers. They were assigned to New Orleans, Louisiana when a hurricane came and blew the tent down and tore it up, not to mention putting it completely under water. While they were waiting in the rain for the truck to come pick up the tent Barbara told the team, “Do not put that tent in the truck because my husband will be putting it back up.” When they told James, he said, “She told you I’m going to do what? How can I put up a tent that’s torn and under water?” He stood there and looked at his wife, then looked up to heaven through the rain and asked God, “How am I going to do this?” He prayed and the Holy Spirit led him and his team to put the tent up and ultimately baptize 49 precious souls.

Challenges are what make life interesting. Elder White remembers a time laboring in Waterloo, Iowa with Joann Harrington and Robbie Bass. White had several ministerial students from Andrews University working alongside him. The local faith leaders got on the radio and preached against Elder White’s tent meetings. They took his sermons and argued and discussed them on the radio. Their tent was right in the middle of a drug zone. A relationship was formed with the drug dealers and they would stop selling during the meeting time and actually protected the tent at night. A few of the drug dealers’ relatives were baptized.

Modern efforts for modern society

Some of the most effective agencies of soul winning for Elder White have been Sabbath school, community service and health fairs. White has led at the Central States Conference in the departments of Community Service, Prison Ministry, Sabbath School, Men’s Ministry, Inner City and Stewardship. He encourages each department to sit down and determine how many souls they want to win because evangelism is the heartbeat of the church. “This is what I believe: We have no time to lose,” said White. “The work is becoming more difficult in our cities and we must move as fast as possible with aggressive warfare. As Sister White said in her writings, if we would be kind and tenderhearted there would be 100 souls in the church to every one person now. The Lord is coming real soon and He has commanded us to go out and win souls. We have our marching orders in Matt. 28:19-20: ‘Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.’”

Elder White says that Jesus was the greatest evangelist because in every person Jesus met He saw a soul for eternity. “We must follow His example. The Lord has shown us that we must use modern efforts to reach a modern society with excitement and enthusiasm. There will be no starless crowns in heaven. Everybody can win souls. Jesus is not calling us for our ability, but for our availability. The secret to soul winning is to pray and keep on praying. I’m Evangelist White with a white tent here to preach the gospel of Christ and help finish the work!”

Brittany Winkfield is a member of the New Community Church in Denver, Colorado.
Several students at Dakota Adventist Academy are leading out in focusing their school on the importance of prayer. Senior Amelia Reiswig began a recent worship talk this way: “Prayer is a powerful thing, and I have felt many times how much prayer works and how much it can improve your walk with God.”

A few days earlier she had asked the student body and staff to write prayer requests on slips of paper available at the front desk and drop them into a box. As she continued her worship talk she said that she hoped their participation would help because sometimes writing your prayers is easier and can assist in creating a habit.

“Prayer chains are visual,” she continued. “But prayer usually isn’t visual, so it’s cool that we can find a new understanding of prayer. Plus there is a lot of symbolism with the shape of prayer chains... I want everyone to see this cross and remember where the focus of worship should be. It should be on Jesus. I used red to symbolize His blood because we often forget the sacrifice He made for us... Why can’t we sacrifice a little of our time for Him too? He loves us so much that He would die for every single one of us even at our worst moments. I used white to symbolize that because He died for us, our sins are forgiven. They are made white as snow—every single sin forgiven.”

Reiswig then posed four questions to the students. 1) Do you focus on yourself or others? 2) Do you feel like your prayers don’t pass the ceiling? 3) Do you take prayer as seriously as you should? 4) Do you pray sincerely, trusting that He’ll answer even if it’s not how you expect?

Reiswig’s worship talk on prayer made an impact on several sophomore students. As a class they chose to emphasize prayer, praying in small groups during class or with other students and teachers in the halls.

One of the seniors witnessed this and it made an impression on him. He expressed his gratitude to the sophomores, giving them encouragement to continue their focus on prayer for others.

This same senior spent time talking to a friend about being spiritual. That
Prayer usually isn’t visual, so it’s cool that we can find a new understanding of prayer.

night the friend could not sleep and spent the night in prayer asking God for guidance in his life. The next day, pastors Brad Gienger and Loren Nelson III spoke with this student, giving him an opportunity that was the fulfillment of his night of prayer.

But that’s not the end of the story. A Friday afternoon chapel period was dedicated to prayer with students and staff first forming groups of seven or eight and praying for the school. Students then divided into groups of two to pray for each other and finally each spent a few minutes in prayer by themselves.

A group of six seniors made a plan to talk to their classmates about spirituality, and about how they could come together as a team. As a result, at joint worship the seniors invited students to join them each morning after worship for a short devotional from the book Messages to Young People and to pray for each other and for the school.

“God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform” is a phrase most of us know. We may not always understand it or how it applies to our everyday lives. However, when God touches hearts it is an amazing thing to watch.

Sharon Heinrich is development director for Dakota Adventist Academy.
Moberly Members Choose Creative Outreach
The Mylar mission miracle

Last October when members of the Moberly (MO) Church released dozens of Mylar helium-filled balloons into the night sky they had no idea what to expect. Each balloon had a letter and a Bible study card attached to it. The letter read, in part:

Dear Friend,

It is by no accident that you have received this message. God has brought this to you to tell you how much He loves you. Give Him the opportunity to come into your life. These Bible study lessons will teach you so much and bring you into a walk with God. We also extend an invitation to come visit our congregation. Please know that you have been prayed for and friends are waiting to meet you. If you are unable to come and visit, please send us a note to let us know when and where you received this.

The idea to be more involved in outreach ministry came about in the Junior Sabbath school class during the mission story time. The exciting stories of lives changed were inspiring to read about...but we needed more. We needed to do more than just read about missions. We needed to become involved. Our mission field was right where we live—in our homes, school and community. It was time to be creative. Through God’s guidance our class decided to implement a mission outreach activity every quarter. Some of the activities have included making and taking cards to members struggling with health issues, visiting an Amish family and taking them a laundry basket full of goods after the husband/father of the family had been killed in an accident, going door to door and inviting kids in the neighborhood to VBS, “heart attacking” some members of the church, which meant decorating their front door with encouraging messages and verses written on hearts on Valentine’s Day and visiting the elderly in the nursing home.

Two days after the balloons were released one of them came down in Cambridge, Minnesota. Tim Akers was out working in his yard when a balloon landed on his head. After reading the letter he called the Moberly Church and left a message on the answering machine: “It must have been meant just for me!”

We too believe that the message attached was meant just for Tim because his balloon traveled over 450 miles and changed directions from east to straight north. We have been in contact with him and are praying that he will be interested in the Bible studies offered. Please say a prayer that God will convict Tim with an earnestness to learn more of God’s immeasurable love, guidance and plan of salvation.

We can only imagine the “behind the scenes” action that took place on the balloon’s journey north. I like to think Tim’s angel fought and prevailed over the evil angel in delivering the message directly to him. It will be so fun to learn all about the details someday. How many trees, lakes and fields it could have landed in. We know it was hand delivered and praise God for this miracle. We lift Him up in honor, praise and adoration. What a privilege to be partners in God’s work!

Jolene Johnston is a member of the Moberly Church.
Seeds Conference Comes to St. Louis

Encourages church planting

In January the St. Louis Central Church hosted the SEEDS Church Planting Conference presented by the North American Evangelism Institute. The weekend event focused on celebrating and encouraging the new church plants in the area and sharing resources with those interested in church planting.

Featured speakers included Elder Dan Jackson, North American Division president, and Hyveth Williams, professor of homiletics at Andrews University. During the opening meeting Williams challenged attendees to “notice wide open doors of effective service.”

Elder Jackson shared about the importance of our testimony: “People need to know us not just based on what we preach. They need to know us for how we walk with God and how we impact society.”

The states of Iowa and Missouri have a combined population of 9.5 million residents, about one-third of which live in St. Louis. According to David Klinedinst, St. Louis area resident evangelist, as a general goal there should be one church per 50,000 people. “In St. Louis we are averaging one church per 92,000 people,” said Klinedinst. “St. Louis is the largest mission field in the Iowa-Missouri Conference.”

St. Louis Mid-Rivers Church members Lushomo and Lizzie Chambwa have run a food pantry in the area for 14 years. Their passion for the well-being of their fellow man has led them to start the Emmanuel Adventist Church plant, as well as a ministry for women affected by domestic violence. Other area church members David and Connie Tan, along with a few friends, felt called to start a ministry for young people a few years ago. Their goal was to share God with students who had never opened a Bible before. Each Friday night the Tan home is filled with 30 young people who can't get enough of the fellowship and food that is so lovingly shared with them.

For church planting resources, visit www.nadei.org.

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

Elder Dan Jackson spoke about how the love of God desires only good for mankind.

Iowa-Missouri Conference

Camp Meeting

June 2-6, 2015

Sunnydale Adventist Academy
Centralia, Missouri

www.imsda.org/campmeeting

Featured Speakers

George R. Knight
Author and retired Andrews University Professor

Stanley E. Patterson, PhD
Chair of the Department of Christian Ministry, Andrews University
Taking the opportunity to practice sharing their Bible knowledge, 15 Pathfinder teams representing 10 clubs participated in this year’s conference level Pathfinder Bible Experience, held annually in January at the College View Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. The book of Matthew was the focus of their study.

According to youth director Travis Sager, more than 250 Pathfinders, leaders and staff traveled to Lincoln from around the conference. “For the Pathfinders studying about the life of Jesus, it’s hard to do that and not be affected on some level,” Sager said. “When you get into the life of Jesus it’s something that affects everyone in a different way.”

The overall first place winners were the Apostles and Disciples teams from the College View Trailblazers club, a second consecutive year for the club to achieve first place.

Steve Ladig, the Trailblazer’s director, said a lot of study time went into learning the book of Matthew.

“We’d meet as a team two or three Sabbath afternoons every month. Individually, each Pathfinder was encouraged to spend an hour every day reviewing the material, listening to the book, reading the chapter or both, as they travel around town or on their way to school. That’s the kind of time they spend putting God’s Word in their heart,” Ladig said.

Capping off the weekend was an Honors Fest where Pathfinders could earn badges representing the completion of a variety of classes being offered. “Some Pathfinders come from small clubs, so interacting with different clubs gives them a realization that this is a bigger organization. It’s like a camp meeting for kids,” Sager said.

John Treolo is communication director for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.
Janis Bascom
1928-2015

Miss Bascom, “the queen of Platte Valley Academy,” dedicated over 50 years of her life to Adventist education.

Janis Lucile Bascom, who spent most of her life serving at Platte Valley Academy, passed away on Jan. 24. She was 86 and still affectionately known as “the queen of Platte Valley Academy.”

Born Feb. 24, 1928, in the old farmhouse at Shelton Academy (later PVA), Janis was the daughter of Victor and Lucile (Beaman) Bascom. Victor served as farm manager at PVA for several decades. At 26 years of age, Lucile passed away after surgery complications, leaving Janis (age 7 months) and her father alone. Lucile’s cousin, Louise Jacobsen came to help care for Janis. About a year later, Louise and Victor had fallen in love and were married. She became the only mother Janis knew.

Janis grew up in Shelton, attended Platte Valley Academy, then graduated from Union College in Lincoln and later received her master’s degree from Kearney State College. Her career as an accountant and teacher took her to the Wyoming Conference and Sunnydale Adventist Academy in Missouri. She spent nearly 50 years at PVA, teaching classes and serving as business manager.

With education being a focal point of her life, Janis requested memorials be given to the Kansas-Nebraska Conference Educational Scholarship Fund. Countless friends of PVA, relatives and her church family survive her.

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Meeting Ministry Challenges

Lay workers provide solutions

While planning for the large-scale evangelism work in the Twin Cities, the conference officers and Metro pastors realized two things: 1) the amount of work needed to lift up Jesus and 2) as the Lord blesses Revelation Speaks Peace it would be possible for congregations to outgrow our pastoral coverage by several hundred souls, creating a ministerial challenge. It was therefore decided to create a strong lay ministry.

Pastor Karen Lewis came on board to train lay ministers in conducting Bible studies and leading people to Christ. The most recent training sessions took place at our Minnetonka and Southview churches. A total of 54 individuals completed the comprehensive 16-week training program, which met weekly from August through December. Many who participated are now involved in Bible studies with friends, neighbors and relatives.

Testimonies from recent graduates reflect the spirit of the Minnesota Conference.

One young man said, “This certificate means more to me than the one I just received from passing my CPA review.”

Another person shared, “I have wanted to take a class like this and never had the opportunity until now.” Yet another said, “I have grown so much in your class and now see Jesus in a new light.”

Currently, as a result of this training program, there are over 116 personal Bible studies going on, along with 1,300 correspondence studies from the Discover Bible School. This is helping to alleviate the challenges of pastoral care as lay workers labor in cooperation with the pastors, lifting up Jesus in the community. This is a welcome way forward for the conference since the pastors are able to use their pastoral gifts more directly and many of the lay members are able to use their network connections for the kingdom.

While it is well known that people have reservations about receiving Bible studies from lay people, what we are seeing with this program is that these reservations can be overcome.

The Minnesota Conference is experiencing an exciting time because there is so much eagerness in our congregations to participate in this movement of lay work. It gives new meaning to the concept of a “priesthood of all believers.”

Brian Mungandi is vice president of administration and communication director for the Minnesota Conference.
Maplewood Academy National Honor Society students are making a difference in our community by, among other activities, volunteering at the Humane Society, tutoring, and delivering food to senior citizens.

This year the school has 19 students in NHS, one of the largest groups MWA has had. Each student is required to keep a 3.5 GPA, high attendance grade, and good standing citizenship. Most NHS students serve in leadership roles on campus and all are involved in several volunteer activities throughout the year.

Engaging young people in social action is one way to ensure a local church will have a presence in its community in the future. It also provides opportunities for students to carry out the church's mission of preaching the gospel in word and in action.

This year NHS students have delivered food to senior citizens in Hutchinson through a program called MAC/NAPS. Also, several girls packed over 150 weekend lunch bags for elementary school children from low-income homes through Hunger-Free McLeod County. A few volunteer weekly at the Heart of Minnesota Humane Society and during the holidays others rang bells for the Salvation Army. The whole team planned an Operation Christmas Child Packing Party that allowed the entire school to pack gifts for children around the world.

This spring NHS will be planning a 5K Color Run to raise money for the Maplewood Student Assistance Fund. We are proud of the NHS team and the efforts they are making to help others.

Laura Cummings is the registrar at Maplewood Academy.

Grant Benefits MWA Students and Local Citizens

This fall Maplewood Academy received a grant of $30,000 through Southern Adventist University to hire up to eight students to work in the Hutchinson community for senior citizens who may need an extra hand around the house. Students assist their new companion by helping clean house, shovel driveways, read or just keep them company during the day. Students visit the same people each week to form friendships with their companions. This program, called the Assist Program (Academy Students Service Initiative Stipend for Tuition), not only helps students learn important lessons in home care and accountability, but also teaches them the blessings that come with caring for others.

This program is mutually beneficial, fostering intergenerational relationships that are positive for both the students and older companions. Southern's grant of $30,000 covers 80 percent of the costs of the program and Maplewood is required to raise 20 percent, for a total of $5,000.

If you are interested in donating, please contact Stacy Stocks at 320.587.2830 or sstocks@maplewoodacademy.org.

Laura Cummings is the registrar at Maplewood Academy.
RMC Pastors Share Worship and Encouragement

The Winter Pastors Retreat for Rocky Mountain Conference was held Jan. 4-6 at Glacier View Ranch in Colorado. Despite the snow and icy winds, there was a warm atmosphere of fellowship and camaraderie as the RMC pastors joined together in music, prayer and preaching.

Heartfelt and robust, the music was led by Colorado pastors Jim Moon from Alamosa and Elia King, associate pastor for worship and the arts at the Boulder Church.

Especially meaningful to many attendees was a new song written by King entitled, Lord of All:

“In the fire, in the flood, through the need and through enough we say, ‘Jesus, You are Lord of All… Ever faithful, ever true, ever sure to see us through. We surrender all to You. We say, ‘Jesus You are Lord of all.”

The lyrics were inspired by King’s move to Colorado from Texas. They came during the summer of 2012, when there were forest fires raging in parts of Rocky Mountain National Park, and then within months the floods came threatening to wash away Estes Park and many of the neighboring communities. The fresh words to the song were an inspiration, and it became a theme song for the event.

Keynote speakers for the retreat were Dr. Karl Haffner and Pastor Lee Vendon. Haffner, senior pastor of the church in Kettering, Ohio, is well known as an author, speaker and teller of humorous, heartfelt stories. Karl shared candidly about the challenges of pastoral ministry. He talked about how to handle times when you feel no one appreciates your ministry and when you feel as though you are going through a dark cave in your life experience. He affirmed that through it all God is there leading and aiding us, assuring us of His care and love.

Vendon also inspired us by his messages to draw ever closer to Jesus Christ. Pastor Vendon is the director/speaker of All About Jesus seminars. He has never forgotten the joy he experienced when he discovered the difference between knowing about Jesus and actually knowing Jesus. His personal sharing with the pastors was a compelling encouragement for them to know Jesus better and to help others know Jesus as well.

Several pastors expressed appreciation for the speakers and the uplifting spiritual atmosphere and support. “This was the best pastors meeting I have ever attended,” one remarked.

Mark Bond is now a freelance writer and designer living in Walla Walla, Washington.
RMC Youth Thrive in 2015

Just two weeks into the New Year, over 130 teens from across Wyoming and Colorado gathered for the 2015 Teen Prayer Summit, an annual event sponsored by the RMC Youth Department to kick off the year.

To create unity between our camps—Glacier View Ranch and Mills Springs Ranch—as well as among Pathfinders and other youth groups and events, the Youth Department is adopting the theme of “Thrive.” All year, they’ll be discovering different aspects of how we thrive in our walk with God, our study of Scripture, our relationships at church and at home, and in our relationship with Jesus.

Jim Hughes, Durango based teacher for Columbine Christian School and keynote speaker for this event, shared his own testimony of discovering Jesus. He then explored the contrast found between thriving in Jesus and barely surviving. With a vast experience in outdoor life, adrenaline sports and primitive skills, he drew on his knowledge to demonstrate the disparity between a self-centered world perspective and the one that Jesus calls us to: an others-centered life of service.

Union College students led out in praise and worship. Many were summer camp staff looking forward to carrying the theme of Thrive into the summer season. Kyle Berg, senior language arts major, led a breakout session on discovery in prayer. He steered his group through many different practical approaches to prayer. “This class was a favorite for almost everybody,” said Joanna Rivera, Youth Department assistant. “I heard many students describe it as life changing.”

Reflecting on the event, RMC youth director Steve Hamilton stated, “This is a unique event where our kids show up from all over, including our public schools. Any time that we can share Jesus with youth and connect them with people who love Jesus, that’s a win for us.”

Anthony Handal is associate youth director for the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Jim Hughes shared his personal testimony during the RMC Teen Prayer Summit held at Glacier View Ranch in January.

The RMC Youth Department team (from left) Jim Hughes, Anthony Handal, Joanna Rivera, Heidi Littell, Steve Hamilton and Don Hill worked together to organize and host the event.
On The Right Track
Union student finds his dream job with the BNSF railroad

At first, there is only the plaintive echoing cry of the whistle. Then a faint shudder begins underfoot. Soon the engine chugs into view, a plume of smudge gray smoke unfurling like a diaphanous ribbon from its chimney. Full of nostalgia and history, trains often invoke a strong link to the past. But for Jason Burke, senior business administration major, they represent something else as well. His future.

From Knoxville, Tennessee, Burke chose to attend Union College because of its small size and friendliness. “I could see many opportunities to get a great education, make friends, and be in a good place for a career,” he said.

Burke chose to study accounting after observing his grandfather’s work as a treasurer for the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. “I enjoy helping people, so working with people to figure out how to make the most of their money is something I enjoy,” he explained.

Following a childhood dream
Like many children, Burke played with toy trains as a young boy. But instead of dissipating as he grew older, his interest grew. What started as classic toy Lionel and wooden Thomas the Tank Engine train sets later became HO scale model trains with intricate layouts built at his grandparents’ house. Despite having no family or friends working at a railroad, his knowledge about locomotives, cars, operations and railroads increased as his sets became more complex. Eventually, though, the time and monetary investment required by model trains pushed him to pick up a new hobby—train photography (see flickr.com/photos/jason-burke).

As he got older, Burke considered a hands-on railroad job as a train service employee. But due to federal and union regulations requiring employees to work rotating 12-hour shifts, he realized it would prove too difficult to accommodate his sundown to sundown Sabbath observance as an Adventist.

Catching a ride on BNSF
The solution came in the form of a corporate internship, required for his business administration degree. Burke decided to apply with two different railroads. BNSF Railway was the first to hire him for a 10-week summer internship at the company’s headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas.

Burke believes Jon Turk, one of his business professors at Union, played an integral part in the application process. “He went above and beyond to double check my resume and cover letter, give me helpful tips about interviewing, and just answer any questions I had,” said Burke.

Grounded in the very soil of American history, the construction of the railroad system was elemental in far-reaching technological, economic, sociological and environmental changes. It would lay the tracks that would eventually connect the country coast-to-coast. According to the company’s website, BNSF’s story began in 1849 as a humble 12-mile track “laid with secondhand iron” and operated with “borrowed equipment,” at the Aurora Branch Railroad in Illinois.

The BNSF website says that today the company is comprised of “nearly 400 different railroad lines that merged or were acquired” over the last 165 years. It is distinguished as “one of the top transporters of the products and materials that help feed, clothe, supply and power communities throughout America and the world.”

I’ve been working on the railroad
Part of a team that managed BNSF’s $5 billion capital budget for the year 2014, Burke had many important responsibilities. They included compiling, writing and submitting spending requests, while acting as an intermediary between the various departments’ requests for funds and meeting with those that approved spending. He also played an integral role as a team member in creating a long-range interdepartmental five-year plan for the company.

Burke credits his education at Union College with aiding in his ability to accomplish his tasks well. While the information taught in class provided him with necessary knowledge, the hands-on experiences, assignments and group projects actively contributed to his overall
skill. Learning in college how to effectively work as a team member has since proven invaluable to him on the job.

Throughout his internship at BNSF, he had many supportive mentors who assisted him in gaining an even greater understanding of the railroad and the numerous facets within the company. Burke enjoyed going to work every day. Something that he especially looked forward to was the weekly meetings held to discuss requests for capital. He particularly enjoyed “learning about what was happening in various departments and what work was about to happen on the railroad,” he explained.

A challenging, yet ultimately positive aspect of his internship was being in a non-religious work environment with a wide range of individual lifestyles and beliefs. Activities such as going out to eat with coworkers who drank alcohol led him to an even greater personal awareness of his own Adventist values. These interactions taught him a lot about himself and about how other people live.

One memorable experience occurred in late July when Burke left the corporate office for a day to shadow a train crew. They were tasked with transferring train cars from the Fort Worth North Yard to the Fort Worth & Western Railroad—a complicated task that involved getting clearance to use Union Pacific Railroad’s tracks and assembling a train to sort local industries. The process was further complicated by railroad congestion and long delays.

During this time-consuming process, he took advantage of the chance to get to know the train crew better. Hearing about their unique life stories and families made him see the human aspect of the railroad. “I learned to care more about people and who they are,” he said. This experience provided him with a greater appreciation for individual workers and showed him that people are much more than the work they do.

With satisfaction he finished his internship at the end of summer and prepared to return to Union for his senior year. Not only had he realized his childhood dream of working for the railroad, accomplished a requirement for his education, and remained steadfast in his observance of the Sabbath—but he also had been hired upon his graduation to return for a permanent job with BNSF Railway.

**Laying the foundation for success**

Little did Burke realize when he chose to attend a small and friendly college in Lincoln, Nebraska that it would enable him to be “all aboard” in reaching his personal dreams and goals. “It has given me the drive to work hard and pursue my goals,” he said of his time at Union. After graduation, Burke plans to begin his career at BNSF Railway as a finance management trainee, and in time become an analyst for the company.

“When I came to Union, I didn’t know what I was going to do after I graduated, but I did know that I was going to

into accounting of some sort,” he said. “Through the years I was able to narrow down where I wanted to work, what I wanted to do, and how I was going to get there. My biggest goal was to graduate with a job, and now I can say that I have met that goal thanks to the support and education experience I received from Union.”

It is a wintry dusk in one of Burke’s evocative train photographs. A light dusting of powdered sugar snow coats the crushed stone ballast, contrasting with the graceful dark curves of the steel rails. Out of the pale periwinkle background and bracketed by bare sentinel trees, a train passes under an old searchlight signal bridge. In the luminous glow of its headlight and ditch lights, the BNSF logo is just visible against the trademark orange of the engine. Past the click of the camera, the train races on. Symbolic of the photographer himself.

Moving forward. On the right track.

Mindy Liebelt graduated from Union College in 2011 with a degree in communication. She writes from Lincoln, Nebraska.
As a mother of five and cytologist at Shawnee Mission Health, **Shonda Dietz** knows the impact that family and education can make in a child’s life. After adopting two boys from Ethiopia and witnessing first hand the desperate need to help families educate children in the area, Dietz felt God’s calling to take action.

She discovered and began working with **Lifesong for Orphans**, an organization that not only educates children by operating schools in Ethiopia but also strives to keep families together by providing basic necessities.

“Shonda has embraced the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of these children, and she even recruited fellow Shawnee Mission Health associates to run with her in the Chicago marathon last year to raise money for the schools,” said SMH’s administrative director of Spiritual Wellness **Mark Stoddart**. “It’s wonderful to witness our associates’ commitment not only to exceptional patient care, but also to our communities—locally and abroad.”

Lifesong’s most immediate needs include student sponsorship ($19 per month) to pay for operational expenses and student meals, and supplies for a high school that the organization is building so 80 eighth-graders can continue their education this fall.

“In this community, only a very small percentage of children are able to attend high school,” said Dietz. “We want to change that by giving our Lifesong students the opportunity to grow into community leaders.”

With the future ability to accommodate 140 students per grade, the new high school is a key component to fulfilling that mission; and without it students have almost no options. Although there is a small government high school nearby, it does not provide a suitable learning environment.

“Current students describe this school as exceedingly dark, both physically and spiritually, and they find it very difficult to learn there,” said Dietz. “Oftentimes, there are nearly 100 students in each classroom and teacher instruction is rare.

In contrast, Lifesong schools spread hope through positive, fun learning with God at the center of all teachings. It’s an experience in which Dietz insists her own children participate.

In March, Dietz and her husband are taking their five children to visit Ethiopia. Each child will play a role in assisting the Lifesong students. Her daughter is organizing a school bake sale to raise money to buy art supplies and Dietz’s sons have plans to teach the game of baseball during physical education classes.

Dietz has established her own goal for the upcoming trip—to collect and deliver equipment and supplies for the school science labs. SMH has generously donated some lab supplies and Dietz is working to collect other donations such as plastic human models and organs, which top her wish list.

“As a cytologist, I’m also bringing a microscope with interesting tissue slides and will show them how to use it,” said Dietz. “This is a rare treat in an Ethiopian science class and the teachers are very excited.”

Dietz enjoys the opportunity to teach new things, but the most rewarding part of her charity work is seeing the kids and their families transform. One of her favorite stories is about a boy named Ephraim who school administrators thought had a genetic disorder causing a large head, short limbs and decreased mental abilities. However, after receiving two healthy meals every school day, Ephraim began to thrive.

“The daily nutrition turned a disabled struggling boy into a boisterous, healthy, smart, normal functioning kid,” said Dietz. “He had no genetic disabilities, but was merely suffering from extreme malnutrition. The school’s daily food program literally gave him life.”

It’s no wonder that some struggling Ethiopian families desperate to feed and educate their children decide the best option is to allow them to grow up in an orphanage. Often, these families simply need help to successfully raise their kids.

“I believe God designed children to grow up in families and not institutions,” said Dietz. “Lifesong schools do that—they keep families together by providing food, education and hope.”

For more information or to become involved with Lifesong for Orphans, visit ZATProject.com.

Jackie Woods is a writer for Shawnee Mission Health.
Haffner Leaves Porter Adventist Hospital

Named president of AHS multi-state division

Adventist Health System has named Randy Haffner, PhD, MBA, as executive vice president and president/CEO of the Multi-State Division. On March 30 Haffner will assume leadership of the 21 AHS hospital campuses across the states of Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin.

Haffner will leave his current position in Denver, where for six years he has served as CEO of Porter Adventist Hospital, and as president of Adventist Health System’s Rocky Mountain Region, which includes Avista Adventist Hospital, Castle Rock Adventist Hospital, Littleton Adventist Hospital and Parker Adventist Hospital. Before moving to Colorado Haffner served as president of the Orlando campus of Florida Hospital, the flagship hospital for AHS.

“Having dedicated my professional life to faith-based healthcare, I am humbled and honored to be called to serve in this position. I hope to expand our opportunities in the Multi-State Division to further extend the healing ministry of Christ in the communities we serve and beyond,” said Haffner.

Haffner replaces Richard Reiner, who recently announced his retirement after serving Adventist Health System for more than 30 years. Haffner’s colleagues recognize the value of Haffner’s long-term commitment to Adventist healthcare, as well as the skills he brings to the table.

“Randy Haffner has a keen understanding of new healthcare models, yet remains focused on Seventh-day Adventist values,” said Don Jernigan, president/CEO of Adventist Health System. “His work with joint ventures in Adventist Health System’s Rocky Mountain and East Florida Regions and leadership of Adventist Health System’s largest facility have contributed to his exceptionally diverse portfolio, deep knowledge and rich relationships that will serve us well in the Multi-State Division.”

Haffner has also served on the board of the Rocky Mountain Conference. “We will sorely miss Randy’s leadership and insight here in our territory,” said Ed Barnett, president of the Rocky Mountain Conference. “But we certainly wish him all the best as he follows this call to serve in a greater capacity.”

Haffner and his wife, Cindy, have three daughters, and plan to relocate their family to the Orlando area this summer.

“My family and I have enjoyed living and serving in Colorado. From ski days in Winter Park to the crisp air and beautiful mountain views, this has been an amazing place to live,” said Haffner. “We will miss our friends and colleagues here, but look forward to many more opportunities to connect as I continue to work with the Rocky Mountain Region hospitals in this new capacity.”

This article was submitted by Stephen King, senior vice president for Rocky Mountain Adventist Health/Centura Health, where he serves the five Adventist hospital campuses in Colorado. It was written by Mark Bond with input from Christine Stewart.
NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

All schools operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church admit students of any race to all the privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools, and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, gender or country of origin in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs.*
Minnetonka Christian Academy  
3520 Williston Road, Minnetonka, MN 55345 | 952-935-4497  
info@minnetonkachristian.com

Northwoods Elementary School  
95 Academy Lane NW, Hutchinson, MN 55350 | 218-828-9660  
oakstreetchristian@live.com

Oak Street Christian School  
2910 Oak Street, Brainerd, MN 56401 | 218-828-9660

Southview Christian School  
15304 County Road S, Burnsville, MN 55337 | 952-898-2727

Thief River Adventist Christian School  
1004 Tindolph Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN 56701 | 218-683-1000 | tracschool.com

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE  
Campion Academy  
300 SW 42nd St., Loveland, CO 80537 | 970-667-5592 | info@campion.net

Mile High Adventist Academy  
711 East Yale Avenue, Denver, CO 80210 | 303-744-1069  
info@milehighacademy.org

Adventist Christian School  
540 West 4th Street, Cortez, CO 81321 | 970-565-8257  
cortezadventistschool@hotmail.com

Cortez Seventh-day Adventist School  
762 Meeker Street, Delta, CO 81416 | 970-874-9482

Cortez Seventh-day Adventist School  
2314 Blake Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 | 970-945-7630

Lighthouse SDA Christian School  
700 Meeker Street, Fort Morgan, CO 80701 | 970-867-8840

Mason Christian Academy  
723 Storey Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82009 | 307-638-2457  
learning@cheyenneadventistschool.org

Discover Christian School  
5509 Sagebrush Drive,
Farmington, NM 87402  
505-325-5875  
discoverchristianschool@gmail.com

Four-Mile Adventist School  
380 East Main Street, Canon City, CO 81212 | 719-275-6111

H.M.S. Richards Seventh-day Adventist School  
342 SW 42nd Street, Loveland, CO 80537 | 970-667-2427  
principal@hmsrichards.org

Intermountain Adventist Academy  
1704 North 8th St., Grand Junction, CO 81501 | 970-242-5116  
iaux7@bresnan.net

Lighthouse SDA Christian School  
14488 61.75 Road, Montrose, CO 81401 | 970-249-5500  
teacher@springcreekadventist.org

Springs Adventist Academy  
5410 E. Palmer Park Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80915 | 719-597-0155  
saad@springsadventistacademy.org

Sunshine Elementary School  
313 Craft Street, Alamosa, CO 81101 | 719-589-2557  
sunshinechristianschool@gmail.com

Vista Ridge Academy  
3100 Ridge View Drive, Erie, CO 80516 | 303-828-4944  
vraooffice@vrak12.org

Worland Seventh-day Adventist School  
660 South 17th Street, Worland, WY 82401 | 307-347-2026  
wacs1@live.com

*Published annually in compliance with NAD policy

Information gathered from the 2014–15 Education Directory.

For preschool and kindergarten options please contact the school.


Brewster, Lynda, b. May 3, 1942 in Crosby County, TX. d. Dec. 2, 2014 in Yukon, OK. Member of Ogallala Church. Preceded in death by husband Robert; parents; 3 siblings. Survivors include daughters Elizabeth and Rebecca; sons Richard, Robbie, Harvey and Albert; 19 grandchildren.


Coon, Eunice b. May 6, 1939 in Appleton, WI. d. Jan. 26, 2014 in Loveland, CO. Member of Campion Church. Preceded in death by 1 son. Survivors include husband Ron; daughters LaVeta Ross, Ronna Kiel; son Diego; 5 siblings; 4 grandchildren.

Crow, Dorothy, b. Mar. 10, 1920 in KS. d. July 2, 2014 in Sullivan, MO. Member of Sullivan Church. Survivors include daughter Sharon Willis; son Mike; 1 sister; 11 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren.

Deasy-Andress, Irene, b. May 29, 1918, d. Dec. 6, 2014. Member of Pueblo First Church.


Dupper, Ray, b. Nov. 21, 1921 in LaSalle, CO. d. Oct. 20, 2014 in Westminster, CO. Member of Cedaredge Church. Survivors include daughter RaeLyne McIntosh; son Clifford; 5 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.

English, Sidney W., b. Nov. 27, 1919 in Rome, NY. d. Apr. 12, 2014. Former pastor and member in the Rocky Mountain Conference. Preceded in death by wife; daughter; 3 brothers; 1 grandson. Survivors include sons James and David; 1 sister; 6 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.

Franklin, Goldine N., b. May 31, 1923 near Fort Lupton, CO. d. Aug. 6, 2014 in Fruita, CO. Member of Fruita Church. Survivors include husband Clint; sons Chuck and Steve; 1 brother; 5 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.

Geoflos, Louis, b. Jan. 9, 1926, d. Nov. 27, 1942 in Crawford, CO. Member of Paonia Church. Preceded in death by 2 brothers. Survivors include wife Lucy; daughter Alice Betts; son Dan; 1 brother; 3 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.


Harrison, Cari L., b. Nov. 17, 1962 in Wadena, MN. d. Oct. 20, 2014 in Omaha, NE. Member of Omaha Memorial Church. Preceded in death by husband Kenny; 1 grandson. Survivors include daughters Stephanie Boling and Jessica Treacle; sons Zach and Adam Boling; parents; 2 brothers; 2 grandchildren. Served 14 years on the Omaha Police Force.

Haynes, George, b. Dec. 18, 1932, d. Oct. 31, 2014 in Nixa, MO. Member of Nixa Church. Survivors include wife Audrey; 4 grandchildren.

Huffman, Myron L., b. Mar. 7, 1942 in Philadelphia, PA. d. Aug. 9, 2014 in Arvada, CO. Member of Denver South Church. Survivors include daughters Lara and Susan; son David; parents; 3 grandchildren.


Marshall, Walter D., b. Dec. 16, 1924 in Anderson, CA. d. July 12, 2014 in Delta, CO. Member of Delta Church. Preceded in death by daughters Carol Ann and Cathy; 2 brothers. Survivors include wife Margaret; sons Chris and Craig; 1 sister; 3 grandchildren; 1 great-granddaughter.


Mekelburg, Genevieve M., b. Dec. 19, 1933 in Yuma, CO. d. Oct. 22, 2014 in Yuma, CO. Member of Yuma Church. Survivors include husband Milton; daughters Sue, Teresa and Sara; sons Roger, Arel and Todd; 1 brother; 11 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.

Merritt, Robert W., b. Apr. 11, 1929 in Englewood, CO. d. Jan. 6, 2014 in Lakewood, CO. Member of Denver South Church. Survivors include wife June; daughter Debbie; sons Bryan and Robert; 5 siblings; 2 grandsons; 3 great-grandchildren.


Montoya, JosepH L., b. Mar. 29, 1931. d. Sept. 20, 2013 in Torrington, WY. Member of Torrington Church. Preceded in death by wife Marie; son Ronald; 9 siblings. Survivors include wife LeAnn; daughter Patricia Enevoldson; stepdaughter Diara Cambell; sons Leroy, John, Chuck, Gary and Zack; 7 siblings; 8 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

Morris, Everett E., b. July 25, 1925 in Climax, KS. d. Jan. 30, 2013 in Fredonia, KS. Member of Fredonia Church. Preceded in death by 6 siblings. Survivors include wife Helen; daughter Peggy Ogle; son Terry; 1 sister; 7 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Morse, Erika H., b. Apr. 5, 1938 in Hamburg, Germany. d. Sept. 7, 2014 in Hutchinson, MN. Member of Hutchinson Church. Preceded in death by husband Benny; siblings; 1 granddaughter. Survivors include daughter Beverly Stevens; 1 brother; 1 granddaughter; 3 great-grandchildren.

Opp, Arthur, b. Jan. 9, 1924 in Hazleton, ND. d. Sept. 17, 2014 in Loveland, CO. Member of Loveland Church. Preceded in death by wife Theda; 10 siblings. Survivors include daughter Margaret Christoffel; son Loren; 3 siblings. Served in WWII, and in SDA conference treasury and auditing work in Maryland, South Dakota, Indiana, Michigan, Texas, Colorado, and Arizona.

Ortowski, Josephine, b. Oct. 1, 1936 in Muszanka, Poland. d. Apr. 29, 2014 in Blanca, CO. Member of Alamosa Church. Preceded in death by husband John. Survivors include daughter MaryAnn Hufman; son Mark; 2 brothers; 4 grandchildren.

Place, Ruth, b. Jan. 12, 1919, in Eads, CO. d. June 13, 2014, in Rocky Ford, CO. Member of Arkansas Valley Church. Preceded in death by husband Charles; son Douglas; 1 sister. Survivors include husband Charlene Forth; 1 sister; 5 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.


Stevens-Lane, Mary F. (Wooten), b. Jan. 4, 1926 in Fort Worth, TX. d. Aug. 17, 2013 in Lander, WY. Member of Lander Church. Preceded in death by husband Bill; daughter Sherry Snapp; 1 son; 1 sister. Survivors include daughters Vickie Kidwell and Wanda Veach; sons Weldon and Tracy Stevens; 1 sister; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Tupper, Edythe L., b. June 13, 1927 in Spring Valley, IA. d. Nov. 21, 2014 in Delta, CO. Member of Delta Church. Survivors include daughter Doreen Carreon; son Steve; 3 grandsons.


To submit an obituary visit outlookmag.org/contact. Questions? Contact Raschelle Hines at 402.484.3012 or raschelle@outlookmag.org.
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Move with an award-winning agency. Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves at a discounted rate. Call us for all your relocations needs! Adventist beliefs uncompromised. Contact Marcy Danté at 800.766.1902 for a free estimate. Visit us at www.apexmoving.com/Adventist.

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Relocating to another state? The move counselors at Stevens Worldwide Van Lines can help! With special pricing for all Adventist families, and recommended by the General Conference for over 15 years, quality is inherent. Contact the Clergy Move Center for a no cost, no obligation estimate: 800.248.8313, sda@stevensworldwide.com, www.stevensworldwide.com/sda.

Southern Adventist University offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423.236.2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies.

Summit Ridge Retirement Village is an Adventist community in a rural Oklahoma setting but close to Oklahoma City medical facilities and shopping. Made up of mostly individual homes, the village has a fellowship you’ll enjoy. On-site church, independent living, nursing home and transportation as needed. Call Bill Norman 405.208.1289.

The Wildwood Lifestyle Center can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, substance abuse, stress, anxiety, depression and many more. Invest in your health and call 1.800.634.9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle.

EMPLOYMENT

Adventist Health System in Orlando, Florida is seeking a Summer Associate to work in their Legal department for eight weeks in 2015. Candidate must be in top 25% of class. Interest/experience in healthcare industry preferred, but not required. Duties include legal research and other projects, totaling 40 hours per week. Pay is $20 – $25 per hour; reasonable relocation expenses will be reimbursed. Please send transcript and resume to manuela.asaftei@ahss.org.

Andrews University seeks Chair - Department of Nursing. Responsible for faculty, staff and activities within the department. Qualified person should have a doctorate degree in Nursing or a doctorate degree in a health related field with a master’s degree in Nursing. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_8.

Andrews University seeks Dean - School of Education. Responsible to the provost for administration of that particular school. He/ she is the school’s agent for the application of its educational policies. Qualified person should have terminal qualification in Education/ Administration or Counseling/Psychology. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job_4.

Pacific Union College seeks full-time carpentry foreperson to begin immediately. Requirements: training/applied experience in construction, general carpentry, concrete work, roof repair, cabinet making, and floor coverings. Must be able to manage multiple projects and work well under pressure. For more information or to apply call 707.986.6231 or visit http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings.

Recruiting midlevel providers (NP/PA) for a new Rural Health Clinic/Urgent Care in Weimar, CA. Opportunities are available to specialize in a number of medical fields. Our urgent needs are Pain Management, Outpatient Surgery and Emergency Medicine. Contact Randy at 530.296.4417 or r61@me.com.

Share God’s redeeming love while teaching Bible and conversational English at Korean Language Institutes. More info: koreanmission.ok@gmail.com, 405.761.0566.

INFOMARKET

Southwestern Adventist University’s Business Department seeks faculty to begin Fall 2015. Master’s degree required, Ph.D. preferred, with emphasis in Finance, Marketing and Accounting. Responsibilities: instruction in multiple areas, undergraduate and graduate courses, and services to the university and community. Send
Southwestern Adventist University Education and Psychology Department seeks a full-time qualified psychology professor beginning July 1, 2015. Doctorate degree is required. Please submit CV and cover letter to Dr. Marcel Sargeant at sargeant@swau.edu. Position is open until filled.

Southwestern Adventist University seeks a full-time nurse educator to begin Fall 2015. Master’s degree required, doctoral degree preferred. Focus areas include mental health, community health or pediatrics. Must have previous teaching experience and an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send cover letter and current CV to Dr. Amy Rosenthal at arosenthal@swau.edu.

The Communication Department at Southwestern Adventist University seeks full-time professor in Advertising/Public Relations or Radio/TV to begin July 1, 2015. Master’s degree required; doctoral degree desired. Must have teaching experience. Send cover letter and CV to Michael Agee at magee@swau.edu.

The Kinesiology Department at Southwestern Adventist University seeks a full-time physical education professor to begin July 1, 2015. Master’s degree required; doctoral degree preferred. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to Human Resources office. Must have some teaching experience. Contact Mr. Vesa Naukkarinen at 817.202.6684 or vnaukkar@swau.edu.

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INFOMARKET

cover letter and CV to Dr. Aaron Moses at mosesa@swau.edu.

Southwestern Adventist University Education and Psychology Department seeks a full-time qualified psychology professor beginning July 1, 2015. Doctorate degree is required. Please submit CV and cover letter to Dr. Marcel Sargeant at sargeant@swau.edu. Position is open until filled.

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Southwestern Adventist University seeks a full-time nurse educator to serve as Nursing Department Chair beginning Fall 2015. Doctoral degree and three years of university/college teaching experience required. Must have an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send cover letter and current CV to Dr. Amy Rosenthal at arosenthal@swau.edu.

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TRAVEL/RENTALS

Adventist tours to Israel and Thailand each summer! Israel: June 21-30, 2015 with authors Andy Nash and William Johnsson, longtime Adventist Review editor. Thailand: July 19-31, 2015 with Andy Nash and Thai guides. Affordable and family-friendly. Contact andynash5@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/tabghatours.


Want to visit Tanzania on a mission trip? Let us handle the hassle. Global Humanitarian Outreach Tanzania connects you with worthy projects at Adventist churches, schools and medical facilities. We handle travel logistics, government paperwork and arranging a safari trip. Your tax deductible donation funds trip (excluding Safaris). Contact ghotanzania@gmail.com.

EVENTS

6-day Natural Remedies & Hydrotherapy Workshop, Aug. 2-7 at Andrews University. Details: www.andrews.edu/go/nrhw, fran@andrews.edu, 269.471.3541.

Academy Days at Oklahoma Academy, Apr. 17-19. If you are a student who is serious about your walk with the Lord and His mission for your life, Oklahoma Academy may be just right for you. Call 405.454.6211 to make your reservation today! Also visit www.oklahomaaacademy.org.

Adventist Rodders Club GC Meet-N-Greet, Sunday, July 5. Members and those interested in joining/starting a local chapter, please join us for refreshments and car talk from 10 am – 1 pm. Roosevelt Park, 331 Roosevelt Ave, San Antonio, TX. Email nomadder55@gmail.com for more info. Bring your specialty car.

Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend, Apr. 24-25. Honor classes: ’45, ’55, ’65, ’75, ’85, ’90, and ’95. N. Aurora SDA Church, N. Aurora, IL. Saturday Vespers 7:30 pm, Sabbath school and church. All ideas welcome. We need e-mail addresses. Send to Ed Gutierrez: edjulie1@att.net; or call 630.232.9034.

La Sierra Academy Alumni Reunion, Apr. 24-25. Registration: Friday at 9:30 am, on campus. Friday evening reception: 7 pm. Sabbath worship: 10 am. Class reunions TBA. Honor Classes: ’55, ’65, 75, ’85, ’90, ’95. Info: visit www.lsk12.com, email JNelson@lsk12.com, or call 951.351.1445 x244.


Union College Homecoming, Apr. 2-5. Honor classes are 1945, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1990, 1995 and 2005. Special tribute to business and computer faculty and graduates as well as a Gymnaire reunion. For more information, contact the alumni office at 402.486.2503, 3800 S 48th St, Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@ucollege.edu.


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## SUNSET CALENDAR

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