Rights, Responsibilities and Respect

Against a societal backdrop of increasing intolerance, issues of religious freedom are becoming more and more divisive. Commenting on a recent event in our nation’s capitol aimed toward safeguarding religious liberty Orlan Johnson, NAD Public Affairs and Religious Liberty director, said, “We should continue as a church to fight injustice at every turn. Our work should not just be to protect the rights of Adventists, but for the rights of all people.”

As we see the current political campaigns unfolding, we must remember the value of the separation of church and state and what that means for us as a religious minority. We must also balance that with our personal responsibility as individuals to vote and/or participate in other governmental processes, as we feel convicted.

My hope is that each of us will find responsible ways to encourage respect for diversity of religious thought and practice among all individuals.

—BRENDA DICKERSON, editor

Mid-Americans weigh in on church structure discussion

As part of our church’s ongoing study (see p. 4) the North American Division has created a website where members can share their opinions on how our structure could be improved. Following are comments posted by Mid-Americans, republished with permission and condensed for purposes of space.

Q: How could the structure of the Adventist Church change for the better?

A:

Why do we have a duplication of staff at the Union and Conference? We definitely need to flatten the organization. Money should be driven back to the churches for more evangelism and more pastors.

—Richard Coder, Springfield, MO

With electronic conferencing, Skype, instant messaging and such, most meetings could be held from any distance. I would suggest that there be fewer unions and fewer conferences or eliminate the conferences entirely and have a few more unions (the NAD may need more unions to keep representation in the world church body).

—Ardis Stenbakken, Loveland, CO

Local members still seem to crave a local conference because leadership and management are closer to home. And, while consolidation of conferences makes sense financially, the emotions involved by distancing people from conference leadership would/could be an issue. Unions tend to be much more seen as “out there” so combining Unions would cause much less anxiety to the local churches.

—Dick Stenbakken, Loveland, CO

Read all the comments at nadchurchstudy.org.church-structure1/
ONLINE

1. Faith at the White House
Pew Research shares historical insights
bit.ly/Faithatwhitehouse

2. What Adventists Should Remember During Political Campaigns
bit.ly/Whattoremember

3. 'Troubling Times for Religious Freedom'
Senator Orrin Hatch (R) reminds religious liberty advocates and congressional representatives that freedom can’t be taken for granted
bit.ly/troublingtimes

4. It’s Time Adventist statesmen speak to women’s ordination
AdventistElders.com

Pathfinder Bible Experience
Thirteen teams from Mid-America participated in the fourth annual PBE in Keene, Texas on April 28. See the official results:
bit.ly/PBEfinals2015

INSIDE

PERSPECTIVES
4 The Challenge—Within Our Organization

COLUMN
5 When Others Hurt

FEATURES
6 Let (Religious) Freedom Ring
8 Are We Ignoring the Persecuted Church?

NEWS
10 Central States
12 Dakota
14 Iowa-Missouri
16 Kansas-Nebraska
18 Minnesota
20 Rocky Mountain
22 Union College
24 Adventist Health
26 Farewell
28 InfoMarket
THE CHALLENGE
Part 3
—Within Our Organization

With official membership worldwide now exceeding 18 million, the Adventist Church is a very large family, as denominations go. With at least some presence in nearly every country in the world, our footprint truly is global.

Years ago a gentleman asked me, “Mr. Lemon, how well do you know your church?” Without waiting for my answer, he continued, “I travel the world regularly and only three things are universal: Roman Catholics, Coca Cola and Seventh-day Adventists.”

The organizational challenges we face today are enormous. Simply agreeing on word definitions is difficult. And while it is tempting to see the church only through the lens of my local situation, even that in the United States can be rather diverse. Within our own Mid-America Union, the College View Church with its very large membership is different from our church in Rock Springs, Wyoming, which is different still from the Karen groups in Minnesota—yet they are all legitimate expressions of Adventism with differing needs that sometimes require differing procedures and policies.

Then there is the financial challenge of the world economy whose graphic presentations resemble the blueprint of a roller coaster. Financial future-casting is amazingly challenging as we seek to maintain our unique system of dispersing tithes and offerings in support of our schools and other organizations.

Empowering local churches

In 1901 Ellen White foresaw our church’s present needs and superintended an organizational shake up of the General Conference that year. She spoke strongly against the “kingly power” of Adventist church leadership as it then existed in Battle Creek. The structure we have in place today is a result of her leadership: local churches comprising conferences that join to comprise unions that make up the General Conference, expressed in 13 divisions worldwide.

There is a tendency toward centralization of power for organizations like ours. That proclivity among leaders and members alike must be guarded against. Leaders are not to “lord it over” others, but to act as servants in the cause of Christ (see Matt. 20).

There are neither baptismal pools nor offering plates in offices of our local conferences, unions, divisions or the General Conference. The church does not grow in office buildings. It grows in communities, neighborhoods, families—all of which center in the local church. Consequently, the organization at its various levels must continually seek to enable and honor the creativity found in our local communities.

Choosing to collaborate

And what about unity? How this church remains a unified body in the 21st century may be one of the biggest hurdles. Can we be united within our diversity without caving in to strident demands for uniformity?

I would suggest that an attitude of unity is a creation of the Lord God and not the doing of human beings. Jesus pleaded with his Father in John 17 that God Himself make the believers “one.” Without that, the church of Jesus Christ would not have survived the last 2,000 years of external attack, internal squabbles, theological upheaval, organizational infighting, and the continuous temptation toward giving up.

If the Lord does not keep His church working together, no policy, program, president, committee nor event will ever do that.

In the final analysis, the answer to every challenge facing the church, whether pertaining to evangelism, finances, structure or relationships, is for each of us—both individually and corporately—to walk daily with Jesus Christ. He alone is our Savior; He alone established the church; and He alone can and will continue to unify us.
It starkly and vividly grabbed me by the emotional collar and yanked me headlong into a whirlpool of sorrow and despondency. It changed me in a way that very few things in life had.

A few years ago my wife and I visited the Jewish Memorial in Berlin, Germany. We were traveling with a group of other ministerial colleagues, and it was definitely new territory for me. After the obligatory security scans and questions from the staff, we made our way into the claustrophobic underground tour…cautiously at first.

In the Memorial the story of the Jewish plight in Nazi Germany is told through timelines with back lit black and white photos and explanations. It painstakingly demonstrates how families were affected by the war. I was taking it all in, but traveling rather quickly through it because I was looking forward to a more enjoyable activity that afternoon. The pictures saddened me a bit, but I had seen holocaust pictures before and these looked like most of the others that I had viewed. It was just another history tour, a sad chapter of other’s misfortunes—until I entered the room that contained “the picture.”

Not just another photo

I was walking along at a reasonable pace until I entered the room, but what I saw stopped me in my tracks. There on the wall, on a large black and white canvas was a picture of my 12-year-old son, Michael. It wasn’t really my son you understand, but a photo that looked so much like him it took my breath away. The picture of this young boy with the soft dark eyes caused my throat to clench and seize right there in the dark cavernous recesses of the Jewish Memorial. This young boy was put to death for the “crime” of being Jewish.

I couldn’t stop weeping as I thought about how much I loved my only son, and how devastating it must have been for a family to lose this little boy with the soft, curious gaze. He was someone’s child, and I was constrained to stay and mourn his passing—a death that had taken place some 70 years prior.

My feet were planted in this spot for what seemed like an eternity. I stood, looking into his face, and begging God to forgive me for being calloused and unfeeling about the plight of these poor families. They were ripped apart and sent to their deaths (or to concentration camps) and I had passed by with just a cursory glance. I hadn’t given any of it much thought until I had looked into the eyes of a young child who could very well have been my own son in another time and place.

I left that memorial feeling like I had become a different person than the man that went in just two hours before. No longer could I allow myself to be placated during a tragedy that I saw on the news by saying “pat” things like, Oh, that’s too bad. God had allowed me to try to understand another’s pain, and I am grateful for the experience.
The basic premise of religious freedom is simple: Government should not support, define as true, or oppose any religious belief. Although simple in theory, the application is complicated.

While freedom to some may be only a matter of worship or private conviction, for others it impacts their lives in substantial ways.

This has recently been brought to the public eye in two significant arenas. First, should a business owner be allowed to refuse to provide goods or services because the sexual orientation of a customer is contrary to the business owner’s religious belief, when the owner is not required to engage in any overt activity opposing his beliefs?

The second recent claim of violation of religious freedom concerns the owners of Hobby Lobby stores in regard to the Affordable Care Act passed by Congress that requires employers to provide health insurance coverage for any FDA approved method of contraception. In the 2014 Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores case, stockholders stated that covering the cost of contraception methods that “end human life after conception” made them compliant in the use of those methods by their employees, thus violating their religious beliefs.

The stockholders based their legal claim on the provisions of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which the Seventh-day Adventist Church supported as did many religious organizations. The RFRA does not mandate that all religious beliefs be accommodated, but that the government must find the method of achieving the purpose of the legislation that has the least impact on the religious beliefs of those affected by it.

In the Hobby Lobby ruling the U.S. Supreme Court decided, by a narrow majority, that a for-profit company could have religious beliefs that should be protected. That seems simple enough.

However, what makes this case so significant is that it is a reversal of previous decisions.

Extending religious exemptions

Courts have long provided special solicitude to the rights of religious organizations to craft healthcare coverage so that their doctrines are never in question. Yet, historically, the courts have distinguished religious organizations from for-profit organizations because religious groups foster the interests of people of like beliefs. Workers in for-profit corporations are not commonly drawn from one religious community. Until the Hobby Lobby decision, religious exemptions had never been extended to any entity operating...
in the commercial world. It is important to note that in a previous case (United States v. Lee) the U.S. Supreme Court held that an Amish sole proprietor who had a religious belief that prohibited him from paying Social Security for his employees could not use his belief as a basis for not making the payments. The court observed that to allow a religious-based exemption to a commercial employer would operate to impose the employer’s religious faith on employees. The majority opinion in Hobby Lobby distinguished the Lee case by saying it was a tax case, which was not controlling in the Hobby Lobby case.

A dangerous approach

Now, the troublesome issue may not directly be the decision in the Hobby Lobby case, but rather what appears to be the approach of the court. My concern is that the court in these two decisions took into consideration that the belief of the Amish employer is not only held by a very small minority, but the religious organization to which he belongs is very small, while the belief of the Hobby Lobby stockholders is more widely accepted and supported by the belief system of the largest church organization in the world. Could the court have been motivated by the relative popularity of the belief and the size of the supporting organization?

If the courts made that a part of their consideration, they are moving in a dangerous direction. The Lee case and the Hobby Lobby case should both have been decided under the same rules and legal principles. To do otherwise is taking that dangerous path of preferring one religion over another—of judging the merits of a belief by how socially supported it is. That is a deathblow that destroys the very core of religious freedom.

Where will the Hobby Lobby decision lead? Since it is impossible to predict I will not speculate. I only recommend that we be aware of what is happening in the courts as they deal with the complex issues of religious freedom.

Right to refuse?

Let’s go back to the right to refuse services or goods because of the beliefs or actions of the customer. I would suggest that in the parable of the good Samaritan Jesus was teaching us that religious differences should not be a basis for withholding service to each other. The beliefs of the injured man were in direct opposition to the Samaritan’s, yet the injured man was a neighbor within the circle of those for whom the Samaritan should care.

Until a requested service is in itself a violation of conscience, I would propose that the principle of love taught by Jesus requires us to provide for the neighbor. Protecting our own freedom to live and believe as we choose compels us, as Seventh-day Adventist Christians, to think seriously before refusing to provide goods and services to anyone.

1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act

Summary: Government shall not substantially burden a person’s exercise of religion even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability.

2010 Affordable Care Act

Summary: Employers must provide healthcare for their employees that covers all forms of contraception.

1981 United States v. Lee

Ruling: When followers of a particular sect enter into commercial activity as a matter of choice, the limits they accept on their own conduct as a matter of conscience and faith are not superimposed on statutory schemes which are binding on others in that activity.

2014 Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores

Ruling: Religious beliefs of for-profit companies should be protected.
The American experience has been, for the most part, exceptional with its allowance of freedoms crafted from our forefathers’ experiences with religious intolerance. Annotation 11 of the First Amendment points out that “liberty of belief is the foundation of the liberty to practice what religion one chooses and to express oneself as one chooses…”

Yet what exactly do religious freedoms entail? Can you choose to whom your business will offer goods and services? Does your religious freedom oppress another’s free speech? In many places around the globe conflict regarding these questions and many others is on the rise. And the penalties for being found “guilty” are harsh.

Worldwide Intolerance

Christians are now the most persecuted religious group worldwide. A monthly average of at least:
- 322 Christians around the world are killed for their faith
- 214 churches and Christian properties are destroyed
- 772 forms of violence are committed against Christians

(www.OpenDoorsUSA.org)

According to the U.S. Department of State, Christians in more than 60 countries face persecution from their governments or surrounding neighbors simply because of their belief in Jesus Christ.

OpenDoorsUSA.org lists 50 persecuting nations. The top five worst ranked nations in descending order are North Korea, Somalia, Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan. In 41 of the 50 persecuting nations Islamic extremists are persecuting Christians. However, persecution is not limited to that ideology.

In many countries blasphemy laws are deeply problematic on a number of levels, and Pakistan’s is especially so. There the so-called crime carries the death penalty or life in prison, does not require proof of intent or evidence to be presented after allegations are made, and does not include penalties for false allegations.

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom is aware of at least 17 individuals on death row and 19 more serving life sentences. Many others have been charged and await trial.

Compassion fatigue

Lethargy, by definition, is tepidness. And compassion fatigue is making an excuse for lethargy.

The biblical warning to Christians is universal and eternal—become compassionate and remain compassionate because your brothers and sisters are suffering.

Sharing Christ is sharing His freedom, standing for His freedom, encouraging those lacking His freedom until His freedom is unilateral. For Christians, compassion fatigue is not an option.

1. constitution.findlaw.com/amendment1/annotation11.html/#sthash.MS2R7VrA.dpuf
2. JesusHacks.com/5-practical-ways-to-help-persecuted-christians
GLOBAL PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS INCREASING

FARIDABAD, India—A mob of more than 700 Hindus assaulted 45 mourners as they began burial rites for an elderly Christian woman at a cemetery in Faridabad, India on March 6. According to Morning Star News, about 35 Christians were hospitalized.  
—Posted April 6, 2015 on christianpersecution.info by Joseph DeCaro

KENYA, Africa—Kenyan Christian leaders mourned on Easter Sunday for the 148 people, mostly Christian students, slaughtered at Garissa University College. Prayers were also offered for families and friends of the young victims.  
—Posted April 6, 2015 on opendoorsusa.org by Janelle P. in Africa

KARAJ, Iran—American pastor Abedini Saeed has been imprisoned in Iran for over two years. According to International Christian Concern, Saeed is serving an eight-year sentence for his work with Iranian house churches. Since his imprisonment, Saeed has been subjected to lengthy solitary confinement and physical abuse while suffering from internal injuries that continue to go untreated by his captors.  
—Posted Sept. 26, 2014 on christianpersecution.info by Joseph DeCaro

HELPING FELLOW CHRISTIANS

In an article reprinted by The Huffington Post in March, Neal Samudre states, “Persecution is everywhere. And we shouldn’t just care because these are fellow Christians being killed and imprisoned; we should care because these are humans facing undeserved cruelty at the hands of other humans.” Samudre offers the following action steps:

**1. EDUCATE YOURSELF**
You can’t actively contribute to a solution if you don’t understand the struggles persecuted Christians are facing. Making a difference is a slow process that requires time and commitment—put your heart into it long term.

**2. PRAY**
Prayers are able to go where you aren’t. Prayers are able to help in ways you can’t. Prayers are how you actively make a difference across the world.

**3. WRITE LETTERS**
Writing letters can help you “feel” the problem. You can mail them, or you can write them just to better place your heart with persecuted Christians.

**4. DON’T FEEL GUILTY**
Don’t feel guilty that you aren’t being persecuted. The moment you feel guilt is the moment you make the issue about you and not them. Understand that you are where you are for a reason—creating an opportunity to help those who are currently being persecuted.

**5. VOLUNTEER SKILLS**
If you’re a videographer, create an informative movie about persecution. If you’re a connector, help people find resources to assist persecuted Christians. If you have a presence on Capitol Hill, influence leaders to take action. Persecution is an immense problem, but the more people taking small, practical steps toward change, the greater the impact.

*Thirty inmates have been baptized this year at the main prison in Lomé, Togo as the result of evangelistic meetings led by Adventist member Bruno Amah, who is jailed at that facility. Letters of encouragement may be sent to him at:  
Bruno Amah  
Union du Sahal  
P.B. 2157  
Lomé, Togo

*Another Adventist is serving a life sentence on charges of blasphemy:  
Sajjad Masih  
Pakistan Union  
Post Box 32  
Lahore, Pakistan

“It is our duty as Christians living in the West, fully armed with resources and information, to know what is going on beyond our own borders and act upon it.”

-Renee Bates, Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission
Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, Brittany Winkfield grew up with heavy influences in the communication field. Both her parents lead professional careers in the radio/music arenas spanning more than 30 years.

Another strong influence came from what started as a business relationship for childcare for Brittany when she was five years old. A friendship grew between Brittany and the Roston family and she began attending the New Community Church occasionally in her early years and eventually more frequently as she learned the truths of the Adventist Church. She gave her heart to Christ at the age of 16.

Brittany holds a Bachelor of Science in communication with concentrations in photojournalism and print journalism. When deciding what to study while attending Oakwood University, her natural choice was communication. “There is such a wide range of opportunities in the communications discipline and I knew I’d find something that would challenge my mind and broaden my views,” stated Brittany.

Upon graduation from Oakwood in 2008, Brittany spent time in Atlanta, Georgia interning at Upscale Magazine, which led to a temporary job in their editorial department. After living three months in Georgia, Brittany wanted to relocate back to Alabama where her then boyfriend, now husband, was completing his program at Oakwood.

God answered prayers and provided a job at the Huntsville/Madison Chamber of Commerce. Brittany worked two years as their events coordinator. “I learned so much during the first years of my professional career,” she said. “Those lessons shaped me into the person I am today.”

In 2009 Brittany married Marcus Winkfield from Columbus, Ohio. When they were considering places to settle, they agreed it would be the first place to offer a job in their field. Brittany was offered a position at the Denver Chamber of Commerce as their marketing and events coordinator. So she and Marcus packed up their apartment in Huntsville and drove to Colorado in 2010. After four years at the Denver Chamber and having become a mother of two, Brittany left to lead the ministry of Back2Basics Magazine.

Brittany’s passion is communicating. She is continually developing an increasing awareness and skill in communication practices. Back2Basics is quickly becoming the relationship e-magazine for the reclamation of young adults. Now in its third year, this magazine grows in readership every month with a current reach of 2,500 subscribers. Accessible as an electronic publication, Back2Basics is easily shared via the mobile app and back2basicsmag.com.

Looking ahead, Brittany sees her mission in this new role with Central States as empowering local church ministry through stories, initiatives and developments by means of printed material, the Web and social media. “We live in an exciting time of fast-paced news and constant change. And while communicating well takes practice and innovation, the tools and resources we have make it easier than ever before to share God’s love and His soon coming. If we become better communicators, we will become better leaders.”

Brenda Dickerson is communication director for the Mid-America Union.

Brittany and Marcus Winkfield are members of the New Community Church in Denver, Colorado. They are parents to three daughters: Brianna, Mariah and newest addition Micaela.

Brittany Winkfield answers the call
Breath of Life

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DR. CARLTON P. BYRD, SPEAKER

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SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2015
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ALL SEATS ARE FREE

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**Lois Kelley**

Lois (Larson) Kelley was born in Pelican Rapids, Minnesota but moved with her family when she was in second grade to a seven-mile-square ranch in Big Timber, Montana where her father raised about 2,000 head of sheep and 100 head of cattle.

Lois was the shepherd for those sheep, a job she occasionally shared with her seven siblings. To this day she is not fond of sheep.

As a young lady she dreamed of becoming a rodeo clown, but after graduating from Mount Ellis Academy in Bozeman, Montana in 1967 she took a summer job working at Glacier View Ranch in Colorado as the horse wrangler. It was there that she met her husband of almost 45 years, Dan.

She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Union College in 1972 and in 1978 their daughter Ginger was born.

Lois began teaching in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota in 1993 where she taught grades 4–8. She retired from teaching at Sioux Falls, South Dakota in June 2014 for medical reasons.

Lois is known for being able to add three-digit numbers faster than most people can add single-digit numbers. She is a very patient, loving, witty, yet soft-spoken person.

Lois still feels Christ’s calling to teach kids, so now she teaches Sabbath school whenever she can.

Jacquie Biloff is communication director for the Dakota Conference.

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**Dale Eddy**

Dale Eddy, a product of Seventh-day Adventist education, was born in St. Helena, California. He was educated in a Eureka, California Adventist elementary school, graduated from Sacramento Union Adventist Academy, and then Pacific Union College.

His long teaching career started in California. From there he headed to the great state of Texas where he met the girl of his dreams, Gerrie Stevens, a graduate of Southwestern Adventist University (formerly Southwest Adventist College).

With his talented bride at his side, he accepted calls in the coming years to Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee and Nebraska in both elementary and secondary settings. During this time his family grew to include two daughters, Kimberly and Kristen.

Dale does not like the word retire. He says that is what one does when getting new tires for a car. Instead, he will re-rubber his tennis shoes and spend more time with friends he has made through the years, with the sports he loves, and with God. He looks forward to having no time constraints when it comes to family and will be able to travel without worrying about getting back to his job. He will continue to nurture the plants in his garden and the children around him.

Debra Darnall is the head teacher at Rapid City Adventist Elementary in South Dakota and a former student of Mr. Eddy’s at Platte Valley Academy.
Dakota Conference Campmeeting Speakers
June 8-13

Darius Jankiewicz
Professor of Historical Theology at Andrews University
Served as a pastor in Australia
Was a missionary in Fiji

Edyta Jankiewicz
Masters in Family Life Education, working toward PhD in Religious Education
Born in Australia
Spent 14 years working as a physical therapist

Roscoe Howard III
VP of mission and ministries for Adventist Health System
Was a pastor and conference youth director
Served as president of the Mid-America Union

John Matthews
Stewardship Director for the North American Division
Is an ordained minister
Conducts family finance seminars

Lynell LaMountain
Senior Manager for CREATION Health at Florida Hospital
Works with organizations worldwide
Brings God’s message of total person wholeness

11th Annual American Indian Living Campmeeting
July 17-19

Come and fellowship with believers at the 11th Annual American Indian Living Campmeeting held at Flag Mountain Camp near Hill City in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

All Christian Natives and non-Natives are welcome! All denominations! We come together to strengthen our faith as Christians. This year’s campmeeting will focus on knowing Jesus.

IT’S ALL ABOUT KNOWING JESUS
A familiar face to many in the Iowa-Missouri Conference belongs to Erv Bales, who is stepping down as vice president for finance at Sunnydale Adventist Academy at the end of July. He has been at SAA for 26 years, and while he has had many roles over those years the titles alone don’t speak to the outstanding character and dedication of the man himself.

After graduating from Union College, Bales farmed and held several other jobs before settling at SAA. He began at Sunnydale Industries, an on-campus nonprofit manufacturing business owned and operated by the Iowa-Missouri Conference, and worked there from 1989-2000. As the vp of finance for the last 15 years, he has been a major force in recruiting and development and has also guided the farm operation, campus beautification and maintenance and provided consulting for Sunnydale Industries.

Bales will not be leaving SAA entirely; he has agreed to work with the school’s greenhouse industry in his retirement. All who have had the privilege of knowing him over the years have come to appreciate his devotion to Christ and to the young people. Following are comments from a few of his long-time colleagues:

“I had the privilege to work with Erv for four years at Sunnydale Academy. His welcoming demeanor and can-do spirit has endeared him to colleagues, students, parents, alumni and the folks of the Iowa-Missouri Conference. His knowledge about a broad spectrum of topics will be a resource greatly missed. Although he is not a graduate of Sunnydale Academy, I believe he has earned the title ‘Mr. Sunnydale Academy!’”
—Joseph Allison EdD, education superintendent, Iowa-Missouri Conference

“Erv has been a great blessing to SAA and the whole conference. He has been and still is a good friend and a real joy to work with. As Erv transitions to a different role I will look forward to continuing to work together.”
—Dean Coridan, president, Iowa-Missouri Conference

“Erv will be greatly missed, being one of a three member administrative team for Sunnydale for the last 10 years. Erv is a godly man who loves young people and is a pleasure to work with. Many young people are attending and have attended Sunnydale due to Erv’s dedicated work. Saying thank you doesn’t even come close to expressing the gratitude deserved for Erv’s years at Sunnydale, from managing Sunnydale Industries, being vp of finance, development director, recruiter, farm manager, facilities coordinator and driving the bus for many miles. Erv, thank you!”
—Gary Russell, principal, Sunnydale Adventist Academy

Michelle Hansen is communication/Sabbath school director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference.
When the Next Step Church in West Plains, Missouri was searching for an attractive solution to the blinding glare from the window behind the pulpit, new member Jolean Hitchen used her hobby of painting to create a mural. Here is her abbreviated description of the project:

In telling the story of our church I have set all that is important to me on this shelf. At the top and very center is God. Then, reading the story from left to right, I look at the sunflowers and remember how in the field they turn their faces to the sun and follow it without fail.

Next is the Holy Bible that gives us direction, as depicted by the weather vane. Beside the Bible you see the Battenberg lace where I have cross-stitched Ex. 20:8: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.” The plate that reads “Give us this day our daily bread” reminds us to receive the Word of God each day. The books on the shelf are writings of Ellen White and the Church Hymnal. The candle reminds us of Ps. 18:28: “For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.” The candle’s flame is the logo for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The apple illustrates Lev. 25:19: “And the land shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat your fill, and dwell therein in safety.” The clock is set for 9:30, when Sabbath school studies begin.

The bouquet of poppies is a modern day symbol of remembrance—these things bring us to this church and show our desire to worship on Sabbath. The vine winding around and through each item represents Jesus, the true vine (John 15:1). We need Him entwined in each of our thoughts and actions.

And last of all…no church is complete without a church mouse.

Jolean Hitchen is a member of the Next Step Church in West Plains, Missouri.
Any dedication service is special, yet for the members of the Community Church in Fairfield, Nebraska their recent dedication held unique meaning. Following the closure of the Nelson Church about eight years ago, these members worshiped in temporary facilities in Glenvil, Hastings and Guide Rock.

Then the miracles began. A home came up for sale in Fairfield for $21,000. Once the owner realized the potential buyers wanted to convert her home into a church, she reduced the price to $15,000. Fairfield is a community of less than 500 residents, with only one other church in town.

According to Karla Marsh, church treasurer, a remodeler was hired but when funds ran out the project had to be put on hold. A while later when the remodeler was asked what would it cost to get the church ready except for painting and a few miscellaneous needs, he estimated $4,300.

“This estimate was on Thursday,” Marsh said. “The next day a check for $5,000 arrived from the Pacific Union College Church in California. It was from an anonymous giver to our church. None of us have any connections there or can figure out who might have given the money. But praise the Lord that we got the job done.”

Donna Troudt, who joined the Nelson Church in 1980, sees these miracles as a sign that God wants their church in Fairfield. “The reduced price, the surprise donation and all things working together—it has got to be God ordained,” she said.

Regarding the dedication service, Marsh noted: “Everywhere you look in the church you can see the touch of someone’s hand—something someone made, donated, painted, decorated or built. All glory goes to our Heavenly Father. He has given us a facility and definitely has a plan for this church. And we want to follow that plan.”
### KS-NE Conference calendar

**FOR MORE INFO, VISIT www.KS-NE.org**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 19-21</td>
<td>Cowboy Camp Meeting</td>
<td>Fort Robinson State Park, Crawford, NE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jonandkimmii@hotmail.com">jonandkimmii@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22-26</td>
<td>Discovery Camp</td>
<td>Camp Arrowhead, Lexington, NE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:knovak1580@gmail.com">knovak1580@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 28 - July 1</td>
<td>North American Division Pastors’ Family Convention</td>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2-11</td>
<td>60th General Conference Session</td>
<td>Camp Arrowhead, Lexington, NE</td>
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- View the calendar
- Find a church or school near you

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### Broken Arrow Ranch Summer Camp 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 4-7</td>
<td>Single Moms &amp; Kids</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 7-14</td>
<td>Junior 1</td>
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<td>June 14-21</td>
<td>Junior 2</td>
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<td>June 21-28</td>
<td>Adventure</td>
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<td>June 30-5</td>
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<td>July 5-12</td>
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<td>July 12-19</td>
<td>Teen 2</td>
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*Registration: 785.478.4726  tsager@ks-ne.org  www.ks-ne.org/youth*
Revelation Speaks Peace Changes Minnesota’s Culture of Evangelism

Evangelism is a process, not an event. Thus our conference evangelism outreach did not end on March 28 when the Voice of Prophecy meetings ended.

From the very beginning the intent was to make disciples by connecting people to a local church. The metro churches that were part of this large-scale series were trained in follow up methods to make sure there is greater retention of the new members.

Several of our churches are conducting follow up meetings focusing on topics like finance and prophecy studies on the book of Daniel.

We were pleased to have Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division, conduct a weekend reaping series in one of our churches in May.

Another benefit from these meetings is that this emphasis on a process has resulted in our lay members being much more involved in evangelistic ministry and working closely with the pastoral staff.

Brian Mungandi is vp for administration and communication director for the Minnesota Conference.

Revelation Speaks Peace:
by the numbers

1,400 individuals attended the meetings at least once
10 live-stream centers had at least 52 visitors attending at least once
7 people were baptized and 1 joined by profession of faith from the live-streaming centers
385 asked to be enrolled in the Bible school
89 trained Bible workers are actively giving personal Bible studies in homes since the meetings
34 people were baptized during the meetings
156 additional people have requested baptism at a later date
65 people were baptized following the one-week reaping meetings in Hispanic congregations
10 more baptisms occurred outside the metro area in May
Friends Play Major Role in Baptisms

In 2007 Dwayne and Melisa Mauk moved into a quiet neighborhood in Coon Rapids, Minnesota. After getting settled they started to make friends in the neighborhood. One of their neighbors, Ellen Bjork, and her grandson, Brandon Krogstad, became their good friends. After a couple of years, while discussing where the Mauks worked, it came out that Brandon had joined the Andover Church in 2006 during an evangelistic series. Due to various reasons, Brandon had stopped attending but was still searching.

Several years later when Ellen retired, she was also searching. She and Brandon began attending The Edge Christian Worship Center. There Ellen became friends with Lynette Hubin, who worked with the Mauks at that time in the conference office. Shortly afterward, Pastor Rob Lechner and his wife, Dee Ann, came to pastor The Edge and got to know Ellen and Brandon. Ellen joined a Bible study group and continued her search for a personal walk with the Lord.

The Mauks increased their prayer efforts for their neighbors, especially for Ellen and Brandon. Ellen joined a Bible study group and continued her search for a personal walk with the Lord. When the Revelation Speaks Peace meetings were being conducted in downtown Minneapolis, she told the Mauks that she was definitely planning to attend on the weekends. About a week into the series she made the announcement that she wanted to be baptized and that Brandon was rededicating his life through baptism as well!

It was with great excitement that the Mauks were able to be a part of these baptisms, especially since this was the first experience where they had been instrumental in helping people make a choice to follow Christ and be baptized. It was also a reminder that sometimes it takes many people and much time for a person to be brought closer to Christ.

Dwayne Mauk is associate treasurer for Minnesota Conference.

Board Names New MWA Principal

Stacy Stocks will begin serving as Maplewood Academy’s principal on July 1.

The Maplewood Academy Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Stacy Stocks has accepted their invitation to become the new principal effective July 1.

Stocks has been at MWA for the past three years serving as English teacher and most recently as development and recruitment director. She comes with a strong background in Adventist education, having been a girl’s dean and college dean of women. She also served on the Board of Education for the Indiana Conference. We are excited about the vision and passion she brings to this position.

Outgoing principal Justin Okimi served extremely well for the last three years, displaying effective leadership during the time the conference was developing distance learning program sites. Mr. Okimi leaves with the blessings of the Minnesota Conference and our best wishes as he and his wife, Shelly, explore new opportunities.

Brian Mungandi is vp for administration and communication director for the Minnesota Conference.
Two Denver-area residents and Centura Health’s Porter Adventist Hospital are part of the longest multi-center “kidney chain” ever accomplished. When the chain is complete (a single recipient and single donor are still waiting for their surgeries) it will include 35 kidney recipients, 35 donors and 26 hospitals across the country.

A kidney chain starts with an individual who wants to donate their kidney, most often to a friend or family member who is not a compatible match. Through the National Kidney Registry, that individual is then paired to another candidate with an incompatible donor. From this point, both donors give their kidneys to viable recipients, and the chain keeps growing by pairing donors with compatible matches.

The Denver participants in the most recent chain are Littleton resident Jerome Peralta, 45, who needed a kidney, and Michele Martin, 25, a longtime family friend of Peralta’s who offered to donate a kidney so he could get the life-saving organ he needed.

The chain that allowed Peralta to get a new kidney started with a donor in San Francisco and went through transplants at hospitals in California, Wisconsin, Virginia, Colorado, Tennessee, Connecticut, Washington, Oregon, Minnesota, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Peralta received his kidney from a donor in Virginia on January 8. “You can feel the poisons being cleaned out by the new kidney. You literally start to feel better and better by the day,” Peralta said after the surgery.

A week later, Martin had her kidney removed at Porter by surgeon Mark Jones, MD. The kidney was flown to a recipient at the California Pacific Medical Center. “I feel like it never happened. If I had to do it over again, I would,” Martin said at her follow up visit after her three-day hospital stay.

Peralta was only 30 years old when his kidneys failed, and he had to start dialysis. Seemingly overnight he went from being a healthy, active young man to having chronic illness.

Martin, a firefighter and army reservist from Henderson, has known Peralta nearly all her life. Their families have been camping and off-roading together for years. When she found out Peralta needed a kidney, she didn’t hesitate to offer one of hers.

The Porter Adventist Hospital Transplant Program is one of the premier kidney, liver and pancreas transplant centers in the country. Patients at Porter see only board-certified physicians, and their entire transplant team is dedicated exclusively to helping patients in every aspect of their treatment from medical care to dietary guidance, from social and psychological support to assistance with financial and insurance matters.

Chrissy Nicholson assisted Rajmund Dabrowski, communication director for the Rocky Mountain Conference, with this article.
MHA Eyes Virtual Technology Tools

Science students and teachers at Mile High Academy are excited about the possibility of using the new zSpace technology in their classrooms.

In an effort to keep our students at the forefront of education and technology, we encourage our teachers to explore new and exciting innovations in areas that would benefit their classrooms and their students.

The company in charge of zSpace technology for educators recently contacted Lisa Venteicher about new learning tools available for the classroom. She attended an informative session for educators at the Denver Aquarium in downtown Denver.

The new zSpace technology began as a tool for teachers in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields of education. The programs and application allow students to have a virtual experience within different fields of study. With lessons that encompass dissection, building circuits, gravity, tests for acceleration and other topics the student is placed in a lab environment without leaving the classroom.

“I know my students would love it, have fun with it, but also learn from it. It is a tool that would initially be a big money investment, but would eventually cut down on lab costs and expenses,” said Venteicher.

“I had never seen anything like this learning tool for science classrooms before. It is just amazing how far our technology has come.”

Logan Kennedy, a junior at Mile High, said, “It looks like fun. What is my favorite class will become a double favorite class.”

Agape Hammond-Jaklich, coordinates marketing for Mile High Academy.

ACS Community LIFT Receives Gardening Grant

ACS Community LIFT was recently awarded a $10,000 grant from the Colorado Garden Foundation to help further ACS’ efforts at building a horticulture program offering food pantry customers the freshest produce possible.

ACS LIFT has already begun preparing all available land around the Center for planting. There will be container planters, a full garden in shared space with neighbors, local plots in one of the Denver Urban Garden spots, and a garden plot at the LifeSource Adventist Church’s community garden. Trees are already being trimmed and land is being cultivated.

One of the plans to help maintain these gardens is to invite volunteers and staff to work side-by-side with clients to teach them the gardening process and show how easy it is to grow food at their own homes. Marilynn Banks, an Amercorps volunteer to ACS LIFT, is a master gardener who has taken on the challenge of helping to build the program into something sustainable for years to come.

One of the hardest and most expensive types of food to secure for customers is the fresh produce that this garden will help supply. If you are interested in supporting the project or in getting your gloves on and digging in the soil along with ACS LIFT, please contact ACS at 303.935.389.

Donna Webb works with ACS LIFT in Denver, Colorado.
Foresight Enriches Union College’s Future
More than $4 million in estate gifts received in less than one year

In 2014 Union College received more than $4.2 million through estate gifts. These gifts were given by generous alumni who felt Union had made a significant impact on their lives, and wanted to ensure students today and in the future could benefit from the unique Christian education experience found on Union’s campus.

“We have been blessed with estate gifts that were cultivated many years ago,” said LuAnn Davis, vice president for Advancement. “We thank God for His goodness and for the generosity of so many alumni and friends.”

The family farm
Edna Maier Harris ’48? grandparents came to the United States from what is now Ukraine and settled in South Dakota in 1885. The family worked as farmers and eventually grew the family farm to 880 acres in Edmunds and Faulk counties in South Dakota. Edna was born and raised on the family farm before coming to Union College in the mid-’40s. When she died April 22, 2014, five days before her 88th birthday, Edna left all 880 acres of the farmland to Union College.

“We are so thankful for the tremendous generosity Edna Harris has shown toward Union,” stated Union College’s president, Dr. Vinita Sauder. “Our trustees will ensure her gift will have a significant impact on our students.”

“She did not graduate from Union, but always wished she had,” said her son, Lance Harris. “Her experiences at Union College shaped her life, and she wanted to help others have the same experiences.”

Edna met her husband, Jack Harris ’50, at Plainview Academy, formerly located in Redfield, South Dakota. Four days after they started dating Jack was drafted into the U.S. Army at the peak of World War II. While Jack served in the European theater Edna enrolled at Union and studied education. Jack came home in the fall of 1945 and they were married on December 23 of that year.

Jack joined Edna at Union College and studied theology. In 1949 they started their family and, after Jack graduated, he received a pastoral call to Oklahoma which started Edna’s career of moving. The Harris family lived in 35 different homes all over the world. They traveled to 50 countries and visited every continent except Antarctica.

“They lived an adventurous life and saw many wondrous things,” Lance said. “They hiked the mountains in Rwanda to see the ‘Gorillas in the Mist’ long before it was fashionable,” Lance added.

When Edna made a final amendment to her trust in 2012, she gave all 880 acres of South Dakota farmland to Union College without any restrictions on how the land was to be used. This incredibly generous gift is worth $3.1 million.

“She wanted to give to an educational institution that was aligned with her beliefs, and she certainly saw that in Union College,” Lance explained.

“We are humbled by Edna’s gift in support of our mission and will carefully consider how best to use it,” Dr. Sauder commented. “This gift has the potential of making a significant impact on the institution as a whole and could touch the lives of everyone who studies here, works here and benefits from the fulfillment of our mission.”

Margie and Ira Pound spent their lives sponsoring scholarships at Union College. When they passed away, they left more than $800,000 in cash to support the work of the college.

Edna and Jack Harris spent most of their lives serving as missionaries around the world. When Edna recently passed away, she left her grandparents’ farm to Union College—a gift now worth more than $3 million.
A life’s collection

Union College enjoyed a long friendship with Ira ‘44 and Margie Pound and when they died, they left nearly their entire estate valued at more than $800,000 to the college, without restriction on how the funds are to be used.

The Pounds did not have children of their own, so partnering with Union made perfect sense to them. “They wanted their estate to go to something they felt strongly about,” said Les Speer, executor of their estate. Ira and Margie believed that supporting Union College through their estate would help change the lives of young people through a Christian education.

Ira enjoyed his time at Union College and wanted Union’s current and future students to enjoy the same Christian experience. Although Margie did not attend Union, she was a nurse throughout her career and wanted to help future nurses obtain an excellent education. During their lifetime the Pounds contributed annually to two separate scholarships at Union: one scholarship assisting students studying nursing and the other scholarship helping members of the Union College Concert Winds.

The bulk of the Pounds’ estate consisted of their life savings, which came to the college in cash, but they also had some intriguing collectibles. Ira and Margie enjoyed beautiful things, and Margie enjoyed nothing more than collecting sea shells. She had more than a thousand shells in her collection from all over the world, in a variety of shapes, and ranging in size from as small as an acorn to as large as a lunch box. Margie was quite meticulous about her shell collection, labeling each one with its family, genus and species along with where and when the shell was found. “Ira told me many times how happy he was that Union would get Margie’s shells and use them in the science department,” Les explained, “and I know giving this collection was very personal for Margie—it was like she was giving a part of herself to Union.”

Dr. Amy Utt, assistant professor of biology at Union College, was amazed when she first saw the collection and enthusiastically accepted them in the biology department. “My colleagues and I are excited to receive the collection and we will make sure they are put to good use,” Dr. Utt explained. “The shells will be used in future classes, perhaps in general biology, and I would like to put them on display in the Krueger Center as well.”

It takes a village

Since both Edna Harris and the Pounds’ estate gifts were undesignated, Union College’s Board of Trustees will decide how these generous acts of philanthropy will be allocated. And because the college received several more undesignated estate gifts in 2014—over $4.2 million—the trustees will carefully study how best to use these gifts to strategically make a lasting impact on the college.

“Union College is a special place that offers a vibrant education experience trademarked by an embracing community,” explained Davis. “Our alumni enjoyed that experience, and now they are committed through gifts both large and small to ensuring both current and future students benefit from that same Christian education steeped in rich tradition.”

To learn more about supporting Union College through a financial contribution, please contact the Union College Advancement Office at 402.486.2503; ludavis@ucollege.edu or find them online at http://www.ucollege.edu/advancement.

Scot Coppock is the director of Leadership Giving for Union College.

Estate Gifts in 2014

Union College honors the memory of people who created a lasting legacy with their financial contributions through their estates to make a difference in the lives of young people:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Edna Harris ’48</td>
<td>$3,109,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ira ’44 and Margie Pound</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Harold Dupper ’50</td>
<td>$99,547</td>
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<td>Leroy ’37 and Martha ’38 Wasemiller</td>
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<td>Lorraine Miller</td>
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The Union College Tribune Scholarship $39,587
Endowment to Fund Medical Missions through Shawnee Mission Health

Medical mission trips are a part of family tradition for the Cusick family. **Dr. Doug Cusick**, a plastic surgeon with Shawnee Mission Health, has been to 14 countries on 40 mission trips, where his work includes correcting cleft lips and palates in children and conducting burn reconstructive surgery. His wife, **Barbara**, often travels with him. When their kids started middle school years ago, they began coming along on the trips as well.

“We'd take them one at a time,” said Barbara Cusick, board director of The Foundation for Shawnee Mission Medical Center and member of the Board of Trustees for SMH. “We had them keep a bound journal that they presented to their teachers at the end of the trip.”

Now the Cusicks are bringing that tradition to the SMH family as well. Barbara Cusick presented a $1 million gift to establish the Dr. J. Douglas Cusick Medical Missions Endowment Fund at SMH. The fund will be used to launch mission trips through SMH, covering the cost of supplies, equipment and some of the travel expenses for participants.

Dr. Cusick said the fund will support SMH’s mission in extending the health ministry of Christ. “We wanted to give Shawnee Mission Health the mechanism and means to do mission trips within its own system,” he said. “We also hope to be a model for others to give and set up endowments as well.”

SMH has a long tradition of supporting medical mission trips but, until now, wasn’t able to include a plan to go back to the same place. This fund will provide a stream of revenue for medical missions on an ongoing basis.

“If our team can come back to the area and follow up with people, it will make a big difference in their long-term health,” said **Lou Gehring**, executive director for The Foundation for SMMC.

The next year will be spent on planning for future trips as well as allowing the endowment to build. One possibility being explored is a partnership with Centura Health in Denver for medical missions in Peru. A committee is being formed to define the focus of these trips and determine where to establish a foothold.

“It needs to be a sustainable project, not just one time here and one time there,” said Barbara. “We want to not only look at immediate health needs, but public healthcare issues as well. That includes clean water, hygiene and diet.”

The Cusicks hope that this will inspire more medical personnel to take on mission work, whether they work at SMH or elsewhere.

“My parents have chosen to follow their calling by sharing their skill set and developing lasting relationships in parts of the world with the greatest health disparities,” said the Cusick’s son, **Brandon**, a clinical research assistant at Boston Children’s Hospital. “Through their generosity with this endowment, their hope is not only to serve, but also to build a lasting legacy and inspire others, just like you and me, to take action and make progress toward solving some of the world’s greatest challenges.”

For more information about how you can contribute to the Dr. J. Douglas Cusick Medical Mission Endowment or to get involved, please contact The Foundation at 913.676.2055, or visit ShawneeMission.org/Foundation.

Ann Muder is a writer for Shawnee Mission Health.
Earthquake Relief Continues in Nepal
Employees of Denver Adventist hospitals raise $30,000

During the first few days following the 7.9 magnitude earthquake that claimed the lives of more than 7,000 people in Nepal on April 25, employees of Centura Health hospitals in the Denver area donated more than $20,000 to aid Scheer Memorial Hospital, a small Adventist mission hospital in the town of Benepa, about 15 miles east of Kathmandu. Centura hospitals also made a corporate gift of $10,000, bringing the initial total raised to more than $30,000. Global Health Initiatives, Centura’s medical mission outreach program, continues to lead Centura’s fundraising efforts.

Centura Health adopted Scheer Memorial Hospital and its mission in 2006. Since then, it has sent countless teams of volunteer health professionals to provide services to vulnerable populations served by that hospital. According to Greg Hodgson, director of GHI, Centura is actively exploring tangible ways to meet needs in the wake of the earthquake, with the most pressing needs being primarily financial.

As soon as the quake occurred, Scheer Memorial became a safe haven for thousands of people in dire need of medical attention. Team members erected tents and rolled out mattresses to meet the urgent needs of the injured and misplaced. The Kavre district, where Scheer is located, was among the top five districts surrounding Kathmandu for reported deaths and injuries. Miraculously, the hospital sustained only a few cracks in the walls.

According to Scheer CEO Dale Molé, the bulk of those treated sustained head injuries and broken bones. Most are unable to pay for medical services provided by Scheer. Funds are urgently needed to help defray costs for food, medicine and orthopedic supplies like metal plates and screws. The hospital also needs to purchase medications, supplies and equipment such as IV infusion pumps, ventilators and a portable X-ray machine.

One story pertaining to Scheer Memorial’s relief efforts made local news in Nepal. A few minutes before the quake struck, doctors had been prepping a young woman in her 20s for an emergency C-section. She was in severe pain and was not expected to survive long without intervention. When the earthquake struck, the medical team quickly moved the procedure outside to reduce risk of injury from additional tremblers or aftershocks. They quickly set up a makeshift surgical area in the hospital’s sunny courtyard and moved the young woman and equipment into the open air.

According to the local paper, the doctor completed the operation and delivered a healthy baby boy just as the tremors subsided. “I think you need to name him ‘Thunder,’” the doctor told the mother, referring to the sound the earth made as it shook. Many additional stories of Scheer Memorial’s post-quake relief efforts have gone untold.

Meanwhile, Centura Health is continuing to work closely with Scheer Memorial to plan future relief missions and is committed to providing additional funds to meet the many financial needs created by this tragedy. The Adventist hospitals in Denver have created a Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund, with 100 percent of the donations going directly to Scheer Memorial Hospital. If you would like to participate visit http://bit.do/centura-nepal or use your smartphone to follow the QR code below.

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.
Andersen, Lyle, b. June 10, 1939 in Harrison County, IA. d. Dec. 16, 2014 in Onawa, IA. Member of Council Bluffs Church. Preceded in death by 1 granddaughter. Survivors include wife Luella; daughters Diane Whaley, Delores Clouse and Doreen Olds; sons Doug, David and Daniel; 2 siblings; 19 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren.


Armijo, Maria S., b. July 30, 1935 in Monte Vista, CO. d. Apr. 21, 2015 in Littleton, CO. Member of College View Church. Survivors include husband Lawrence; sons Nicholas and Jeffrey; 2 granddaughters.

Asher, Linda S., b. Mar. 27, 1957 in Lincoln, NE. d. Apr. 13, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Preceded in death by father. Survivors include husband Joe; son Brady; mother; 2 brothers.

Avey, Evelyn, b. July 17, 1920 in Nekoma, KS. d. Feb. 28, 2015 in Littleton, CO. Member of LifeSource Church. Preceded in death by husband Jean; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughters Cindy Bredemeier; Lynette LeMon; son Rod; 4 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.


Burkett, Barbara “Francine,” b. July 29, 1938 in Breckenridge, MO. d. Dec. 28, 2014 in Clinton, MO. Member of Golden Valley Church. Survivors include husband Clarence; daughters Ronetta and Bernetta; sons Shane, Chad and Norman; 3 siblings; 8 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Cline, David W., b. Jan. 1, 1947 in Kansas City, KS. d. Apr. 16, 2015 in Olathe, KS. Member of Ottawa Church. Preceded in death by mother. Survivors include wife Nancy; daughter Angie Cline Welch; father; 2 granddaughters.

Delcour, Mary, b. Mar. 6, 1933. d. July 11, 2014 in Macon, MO. Member of Macon Church.


DeWeez, Diana, b. Jan. 17, 1943 in Goodland, MO. d. Dec. 29, 2014 in Caledonia, MO. Member of Farmington Church. Survivors include husband Eli; daughters Karla Boggs, Donna Mayberry and Paula Dameron; son Gary Mayberry; 4 siblings; 6 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

Duncan, Elijah C., b. in Savannah, GA. d. Dec. 17, 2014 at the age of 79. Member of St. Paul First church. Preceded in death by 1 sister. Survivors include wife Barbara; daughters Joy, Jeanne and Jan; son Jeff; 8 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren. Member of the 101st Airborne Division in Ft. Campbell, KY.


Fitzpatrick, Brandi, b. Aug. 3, 1989 in Manhattan, KS. d. July 10, 2014 in Bedford, IA. Member of Bedford Church. Preceded in death by father Monte. Survivors include mother Penny Lilly; stepfather Rick; 6 grandparents; 2 sisters; 1 brother; 2 stepbrothers.


Franklin, Nellie “Goldie” G., b. May 31, 1923 near Fort Lupton, CO. d. Oct. 6, 2014 in Grand Junction, CO. Member of Fruita Church. Survivors include husband C.R. “Clint”; sons Chuck and Steve; 1 brother; 5 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.


Fulk, Ardis E., b. Feb. 4, 1929 in Tolstoy, SD. d. Mar. 8, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Survivors include husband John; daughter Jan Huckins; sons Joel and John; 1 sister; 4 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

Greer, Randy, b. July 17, 1959. d. Feb. 22, 2015 in Kissimmee, FL. Member of Branson East Church. Preceded in death by father; 1 brother. Survivors include daughter Samantha; son Steve; mother; 5 siblings.


Hagan, Joe, b. June 24, 1945 in Chattanooga, TN. d. Apr. 13, 2015 in Kansas City, MO. Member of Lamar Church. Survivors include wife Emma; daughter Paula; son Abel; 2 brothers; 4 grandchildren.

Haskell, Clifford, b. Nov. 6, 1915 in Tama County, IA. d. Jan. 5, 2015 in Marshalltown, IA. Member of Marshalltown Church. Preceded in death by first wife Alice; 3 siblings. Survivors include wife Joylayne; daughters Carol Ray and Tammie Haskell Al-Jenawi; sons James and Terry.

Heisler, Sherry, b. Jan. 10, 1954 in St. Louis, MO. d. June 20, 2014 in Clark, MO. Member of Sunnydale Church. Survivors include son Chris; 2 siblings; 2 grandchildren.


in Moberly, MO. Member of Moberly Church. Survivors include daughter Melody Michalski; son Robert; 2 siblings; 3 grandchildren.

Johnson, Ellen H., b. Jan. 6, 1933 in Napoleon, ND. d. Jan. 8, 2015 in Avon Park, FL. Member of Avon Park Church. Survivors include husband Clifford; sons Gary and Terry; 2 sisters; 4 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

Kaylor, Bruce, b. Apr. 18, 1948 in Allegan, MI. d. Dec. 7, 2014 in Springfield, MO. Member of Springfield Church. Survivors include wife Marilyn; daughters Kim Cardwell and Kerry Evans; stepdaughter Lelaina Stofer; stepson Paul Egan; 2 siblings; 3 grandchildren.

Kelch, Ray, b. Feb. 11, 1946 in Cortez, CO. d. Mar. 11, 2015 in Chattanooga, TN. Survivors include wife Marian; daughter Michelle Waldron; sons Ray, Robert and Randy; 3 sisters; 8 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren. Adventist pastor for over 40 years.


Loukota, Mary, b. Apr. 16, 1925 in Shellsburg, IA. d. Feb. 13, 2015 in Cedar Rapids, IA. Member of Cedar Rapids Church. Preceded in death by husband Albert; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughter Mary Herb; son Jim; 1 sister; 3 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

Lucas, Carlyle, b. Oct. 23, 1930 in Port, OK. d. Mar. 11, 2015 in Clinton, MO. Member of Golden Valley Church. Preceded in death by 9 siblings. Survivors include wife Grace; daughters Barbara Lopez and Denise Merryweather; sons James and Donald; 8 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.

Matheny, Arline, b. Sept. 26, 1919 in Bronxville, NY. d. Oct. 2, 2014 in Clarinda, IA. Member of Bedford Church. Preceded in death by husband Author; 1 granddaughter; 1 great-grandson. Survivors include daughters Jan Thompson and Mary Jane Richards; sons Jerry and Wayne; 2 sisters; 11 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren.

Mathis, Ivan “Dale” D., b. May 2, 1920 in Center Point, IA. d. Feb. 4, 2015 in Cedar Rapids, IA. Member of Cedar Rapids Church. Preceded in death by wife Helen. Survivors include sons Edwin, Vernon and Norman; 6 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren. WWII vet serving as a med tech in the army air corp at Goose Bay, Labrador.


Moyer, Helen Y., b. Jan. 19, 1925, d. Feb. 28, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Survivors include daughter Kay Johnson; son Tom; 5 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren.

Myers, Phyllis J., b. Mar. 18, 1938 in Topeka, KS. d. Mar. 16, 2015 in Topeka, KS. Member of WanaMaker Church. Survivors include daughter Wilma Myers; son Loren; 1 brother.

Nelson, Shirley J., d. Jan. 24, 2015 at the age of 88. Member of Southview Church. Preceded in death by 2 siblings. Survivors include husband Donald; children Vicki Turner and Jim Nelson; 2 siblings; 5 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.


Reeves, Carol, b. Apr. 10, 1932 in Muscatine, IA. d. Mar. 15, 2015 in Vermillion, SD. Member of Muscatine Church. Preceded in death by son Harold Jr.; 3 siblings. Survivors include husband Harold Sr.; daughter Laura Breece; son Gary; 3 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.


Shadduck, Gail M., b. May 24, 1934 in Los Angeles, CA. d. Mar. 24, 2015 in Siloam Springs, AR. Member of Siloam Springs Church. Preceded in death by husband Richard; daughter Sheri. Survivors include daughter Robin Adkins; 1 brother; 1 great-grandchild.

Shadduck-Black, Sheri C., b. Jan. 27, 1965 in Glendale, CA. d. Mar. 2, 2015 in Belton, MO. Member of Springdale (AR) Church. Preceded in death by father. Survivors include husband Randy; son Cedric; mother (now deceased); 1 sister.

Smith, Aimée, b. May 26, 1944 in Jamaica, d. Mar. 17, 2015 in Webster County, IA. Member of Fort Dodge Church. Survivors include daughter Andrea Barley; 2 great-grandchildren.


Stark, Barbara, b. Apr. 29, 1946 in Redford, MI. d. Jan. 1, 2015 in Madison, MO. Member of Moberly Church. Survivors include husband Larry; daughters Michele Stark, Robin Fike, Kathy Steffen and Kristie Sherron; son Todd; 1 brother; 10 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Waters, Robert, b. Oct. 30, 1939 in Winterset, IA. d. Feb. 20, 2015 in Des Moines, IA. Member of Des Moines Church. Preceded in death by 3 siblings. Survivors include wife Sharon; daughters Darlene and Cindy; sons Robby Jr. and Rusty; 1 brother; 6 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

Wefenstette, Guy, b. July 9, 1960 in Fulton, MO. d. Mar. 8, 2015 in Fulton, MO. Member of Columbia Church. Preceded in death by son Patrick; parents; 1 brother. Survivors include wife Karen; daughters Anna and Emily; 3 siblings; 2 stepsiblings.


To submit an obituary visit outlookmag.org/contact. Questions? Contact Raschelle Hines at 402.484.3012 or raschelle@outlookmag.org.
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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/graduatesudies. 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.

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Adventist World Aviation is expanding into other parts of the world and urgently needs pilots, A&P mechanics, project managers, Bible workers and medical personnel. Pilots must have instrument, commercial and high performance ratings. If you have a desire to share Jesus with others while living in another country and learning a different culture send your resume to Adventist World Aviation, PO Box 444, Sullivan, WI 53178-0444; or email to projects@flyaowa.org.

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in Finance, Marketing and Accounting. Responsibilities: instruction in multiple areas, undergraduate and graduate courses, and services to the university and community. Send cover letter and CV to Dr. Aaron Moses at mosese@swau.edu.

The Advancement Office at Southwestern Adventist University seeks full-time Director of Alumni Relations. Focus areas include alumni events, engagement strategy, volunteer coordination and fundraising, includes some travel. Bachelor's degree and two years relevant experience required. Submit cover letter and current CV/resume to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu.

The General Conference/Office of General Counsel seeks fulltime attorney. Requirements: good standing member of US state bar, licensed to practice in the US, member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in regular standing. Maryland bar membership preferred, along with experience in Intellectual Property, Media law, and other transactional law. Location: Silver Spring, Maryland. Wide range of benefits included. Submit resume to Karnik Doukmetzian, General Counsel, at karnikd@gc.adventist.org.

Would you like to work abroad? Adventist Frontier Missions is now mobilizing Tentmakers. We’re looking for a core group of 20 professionals to seek secular foreign employment in Turkey, India, China or other countries for 10 months to 3 years. For information on becoming part of this group, visit www.GoTential.org.

TRAVEL/RENTALS


FOR SALE

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Property in rural Montana for sale. One house, two wells and three septic systems on 9+ acres. Ditch water irrigation for about 8 acres of hay, sprinkler system included. Call 909.363.6671.

EVENTS

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

GC Session delegates from the “Campus adventiste du Salève” invite all Collonges alumni and friends attending the session to an alumni dinner from 4-7pm on Friday, July 10 at the Hilton Palacio del Rio (next to the Convention Center). Tell your friends! A bientôt!

Get away for a Spiritual Retreat, Sept. 4-7 at Black Hills Health & Education Center. Presenters: Jim Brackett, pastor, educator and teacher; Neva Brackett, author of Seven Secrets Cookbook. There will also be guest musicians. Rooms, RV hookups and dry camping available. Call 605.255.4101 for reservations.

Greater New York Academy 95th Anniversary, Oct 9-11. Honoring classes ending in 6 and 5. Send name and contact info to alumni@gnyacademy.org. Find us on Facebook at Greater Nya or write to Greater NY Academy, 41-32 58th St, Woodside, NY 11377.

Oak Park Academy Alumni Weekend, Sept. 18-19 at Gates Hall (825 15th St) in Nevada, Iowa. All alumni, former faculty and staff are invited to this special reunion weekend. Honor classes: ’40, ’45, ’50, ’55, ’60, ’65, ’70, ’75, ’80. For more information contact Allayne Petersen Martsching: 402.612.7368, allaynmartsching@gmail.com.

Worship with us at Yellowstone National Park every Sabbath from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Services at 10 am in employee recreation hall connected to Old Faithful Lodge.

Young adults are invited to IMPACT San Antonio, July 2-11 in San Antonio, Texas. Experience discipleship and leadership training concurrent with the 2015 GC Session as we gather from around the world to learn, worship and minister—fulfilling the great commission in San Antonio and beyond. Information and registration: www.impactsa2015.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 rdbinder42@gmail.com.

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Olsburg, KS
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Glacier View Ranch
June 7 - July 19
Ward, CO
rmcyouth.org

Flag Mountain Camp
June 21 - July 5
Hill City, SD
dakotaadventistcamps.org

Norther Lights Camp
June 21 - July 5
Bottineau, ND
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  June 2-6
  imديدة.com

- Dakota Campmeeting
  June 8-13
  dakotaadventist.org

- Minnesota Campmeeting
  June 12-20
  mnsda.com

- Kansas-Nebraska Campmeeting
  May 27-30
  ks-ne.org

June

- Dakota Campmeeting
  June 8-13
  dakotaadventist.org

- Central States Campmeeting
  June 13
  central-states.org

- Wyoming Campmeeting
  July 14
  rmcsda.org

- Rocky Mountain Cowboy Campmeeting
  July 22
  rmcsda.org

July

- 11th Annual American Indian Living Campmeeting
  July 17-19
  dakotaadventist.org

- NE Colorado Campmeeting
  July 23
  rmcsda.org