Dear Dorothy,

**eNews- APRIL 2012**

**Welcome:** In our neck of the woods Spring "sprung" nearly two months early and it's already feeling like summer around here, with record-breaking temperatures in the mid-80's (some twenty degrees warmer than usual). The trees budded and went into full bloom almost overnight. The tulips and other seasonal flowers popped their heads out of the ground and stretched toward the sun after their long winter's nap. As we listen to the harmonious songs of the birds, we join in with our praises to the Lord. Most of us (excluding the allergy sufferers) around here think this is wonderful. We hope wherever you are that you are enjoying the wonders of God's nature, and we welcome you again to our monthly Pastoral eNEWS. God bless!
Behind the Scenes: If you're a regular caller to the 3ABN prayer line, you have probably noticed we are missing someone around here. Larry Welch has retired from this ministry after 22 years of service here. Larry loves sharing the Lord with people and has such a special quality about him—we miss him sorely. Yet, we're happy to know he is now able to turn his attention to many activities that he has desired to do for some time. At his retirement luncheon, we enjoyed good Mexican food with Larry and his wife, Lynda, as well as a lot of roaring laughter over the good-humored stories others shared about Larry's time here. 3ABN presented him with a beautiful plaque in honor of his time of dedication to God's ministry. So here's a salute to one of our distinguished champions of the Cross.

Verse of the Day: "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You" Psalm 56:3. Even God's faithful followers experience fear, but they overcome it by trusting in God, putting their lives into His hand, and resting in Him. We also read in Isaiah 26:3 "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You." Another good promise to remember is found in Matthew 11:28 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." AMEN!

Behind the Scenes: Dan and Rebecca Gerrard revisited 3ABN to share their testimony on the TODAY program, and share books they had written. In the late 1980's Dan taped programming in our studios. During this latest visit, Joe O'Brien gave them a tour of our facilities, and Dan was amazed to see how technology has advanced. He was very happy to observe that one thing remains constant at 3ABN, and wrote us a letter saying it was: "A vision of a loving Heavenly Father and a scriptural willingness to be a vessel through which God's Sweet Holy Spirit can and does draw attention to the Author and Finisher of our faith-Chist Jesus the Lord." Dan also commented, "As Rebecca and I drove away from 3ABN, after making our small contribution to this worthy ministry, my inner spirit whispered in loud tones a hearty praise for 3ABN and also a prayer that 3ABN will ever understand how special this ministry is-special not because of who it is, but special because of Whose it is."

Good News: Our heavenly Father measures and weighs every trial before He permits it to come upon the believer. He considers the circumstances and the strength of the one who is to stand under the proving and test of God, and He never permits the temptations to be greater than the capacity of resistance. If the soul is overborne, the person overpowered, this can never be charged to God, as failing to give strength in grace, but the one tempted was not vigilant and prayerful and did not appropriate by faith the provisions God had abundantly in store for him. Christ never failed a believer in his hour of combat. The believer must claim the promise and meet the foe in the name of the Lord, and he will not know anything like failure. Ellen G. White manuscript 6, 1889.

Behind the Scenes: We hope you are enjoying our series Engage, which was developed to target young adults and will feature rotating hosts for each season. On
our second season of Engage, we have two young, Spirit-filled, pastors who are at the helm. We trust you will enjoy their knowledge of the topics they share. I thought you would like to know a little more about them, so I'm adding a short biography for each of them.

**Jay Rosario:** 26, although born in Miami, Florida, of Dominican parents, it was in Alaska where he was found by Jesus and later baptized. Sensing a call to the ministry, he studied at Mission College of Evangelism. Today he is a Pastor of two churches in San Jose, California, for the Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventist. Before this, he worked five years in Vancouver, Canada, with the ministry of Radiant Living. Today he continues to travel all over sharing about his best friend, Jesus.

**Daniel McGrath:** 26, serves as a Pastor in the Michigan Conference at the Houghton, L'Anse, and Marquette Seventh-day Adventist churches. He formerly worked for Center for Adventist Ministry to Public University Students (CAMPUS) as a Chaplain in Grand Rapids. His desire to see Jesus return is the drive that pushes his ministry forward.

**Answers to Difficult Questions:** *Philippians 1:23* "For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better."

**Answer:** Paul does not say in this text that he will go to be with Christ when he dies. He undoubtedly was using the word "depart" in reference to his death. But the Bible clearly reveals that Paul did not believe his "departure" would mean immediate entrance into heaven. Here's the proof: "...the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing" *2 Timothy 4:6-8*. Since Paul obviously did not expect to get his eternal crown at his departure in death, when was it that he anticipated actually being with Christ? "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven...and thus we shall always be with the Lord" *1 Thessalonians 4:16,17*. There it is. Paul's desire to depart and be with Christ involved the resurrection that would take place at the end of the world. Since the unconscious sleep of death is like a moment, Paul speaks of death and the coming of Christ as almost simultaneous. And so it will seem to those who depart and awake from death to see Jesus coming. *(Answers to Difficult Bible Texts by Pastor Joe Crews)*

**Behind the Scenes:** *Celebrating Life in Recovery* is one of our viewer's favorite series. Cheri Peters is the perfect host for this program, as God has brought her out of the darkness of drug addiction into His marvelous light. For many years, Cheri has traveled to 3ABN to share her testimony and interview her special guests who are also living life as over comers by God's grace. This series is blessing viewers with the hope of true recovery through the power of Christ. Recently, we celebrated the milestone of the 100th episode taping of *Celebrating Life in Recovery*. Cheri's husband, Brad, scheduled time to be here for this special occasion, and shared on 3ABN LIVE how the Lord led them as a couple to transform their relationship, making their home more harmonious.
Fundamental Beliefs: Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. These 28 fundamental beliefs constitute the Church's understanding of the teaching of the Scripture. Today's belief number four is **The Son**: God the eternal Son became incarnate in Jesus Christ. Through Him all things were created, the character of God is revealed, the salvation of humanity is accomplished, and the world is judged. Forever truly God, He became also truly man, Jesus the Christ. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived and experience temptation as a human being, but perfectly exemplified the righteousness and love of God. By His miracles He manifested God's power and was attested as God's promised Messiah. He suffered and died voluntarily on the cross for our sins and in our place, was raised from the dead, and ascended to minister in the heavenly sanctuary in our behalf. He will come again in glory for the final deliverance of His people and the restoration of all things. (John 1:1-3,14; Col.1:15-19; John 10:30; 14:9; Romans 6:23; 2 Cor. 5:17-19; John 5:22; Luke 1:35; Phil. 2:5-11; Heb. 2:9-18; 1 Cor. 15:3,4; Heb. 8:1,2; 2 John 14:1-3.)

Behind the Scenes: Wow! If you are into "birding" you would have loved seeing this large Bald Eagle sitting atop a large tree across the road from 3ABN. I was fortunate enough to have my camera with me this day. I quickly slipped into position and was able to get this photo.

Thought for the Day: "Prayer to the great Physician for the healing of the soul brings the blessing of God. Prayer unites us one to another and to God. Prayer brings Jesus to our side, and gives new strength and fresh grace to the fainting, perplexed soul...." Maranatha-The Lord is Coming pg. 85, by Ellen G. White

Affirmation: I am God-confident-not self-confident. As long as I remain in Christ, I have assurance of salvation. Still I take heed, lest I think I am standing firm when I'm really about to fall. I keep a finger on my spiritual pulse-checking the time I spend with God in prayer, in the Word, and the practice of His Word. I avoid empty, godless chatter and puffed-up knowledge. I make sure I practice what I preach, so that I will not be disqualified. When I sin, I am zealous to repent. (1 Cor.10:12; 2 Cor.13:5; James 1:22; James 1:26; 2 Tim. 2:16; 1 Tim. 6:20, 21; 1 Cor. 8:1, 2; 1 Cor. 9:27) Life Affirmation from Scripture pg. 109, Shelley Quinn.

Behind the Scenes: We are honored to receive guests from around the world at 3ABN who come to tour our facilities. It's also a privilege when people from our own locale drop by to meet us. Recently, we were pleased to have five precious ladies visit us from Benton, Illinois (the county seat of our own Franklin County). They called three weeks in advance asking if we could give them a guided tour of 3ABN. It is our joy to share what God has done, and continues to do, through His ministry here-giving Him all the glory! The ladies were impressed with our production facilities and world-wide coverage, and enjoyed the opportunity to ask questions of the Master Control operator. They expressed their sincere appreciation for the tour, and we expressed our appreciation for their interest. If you are in the area please stop and ask for a tour. It is fascinating. (l-r:
Margot, Mary Lou, Frances, Betty and Joy)

**Become a 3ABN Prayer Warrior:**
[http://3abn.org/pastoral/prayer-warriors/](http://3abn.org/pastoral/prayer-warriors/)  If the Holy Spirit convicts you that intercessory prayer be your calling, please visit our website and follow directions, submitting the necessary information. Being a Prayer Warrior is one of the most rewarding ministries there is. When we walk the streets of gold, only then will we know the extent of our cooperative efforts with the Lord. We continually receive input from our Prayer Warriors stating how satisfying it is to work in the Lord's vineyard. What we intend to be a blessing for others is a greater blessing for us. God gets all the glory.

**Behind the Scenes:** Our monthly birthday celebrations on the second floor at 3ABN provide us a short break, during which we get to practice singing "Happy Birthday" and share some laughter. Last month we sung to Ralph Sanchez, Frank Clark and Deyve Rodriguez.

**Need Special prayer?**
[http://3abn.org/pastoral/prayer-request/](http://3abn.org/pastoral/prayer-request/)  Your 3ABN Pastoral staff is here to assist you. Every member of our team is sensitive to those in pain. I believe, over the years, we have encountered callers in just about every topic or situation one could imagine. It is only by the aid and power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to successfully do that which He has called us to do. We are eager to share words of hope and encouragement. To God be the glory!

**Our sincere prayer** is that God will richly bless you in all areas of your life. You are precious to us and we love you as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Your loving Pastoral Staff: Grace Yost, Colleen Hauser, Iris Giguere, Donna Blanton, Devey Rodriguez, Joe O'Brien, Kevin Hart, Hal Steenson and JD Quinn

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