Dear Lexie,

"Let's Dance!"

If you were one of my students at Washington Adventist University, then you would know that the apostle Paul is my favorite contributor to the New Testament and not simply because he wrote the majority of it. There is just something about the way that Paul’s writings are able to take the most challenging of issues and truly get at the heart of whatever was confronting his audience.

Read more>>

Breath of Life Quartet in Concert

Come and Enjoy

The Breath of Life Quartet (BLQ)
This Sabbath:
April 13, 2013

Speaker:
Damon Hedrickson
"Follow the Leader"

Special Musical Guest:
Ramone Griffith and Michael Patterson

Announcement Regarding Staff Changing at Sligo School

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The Road Less Traveled Weekend in Review

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Missed Last Week's Sermon?

Watch Live or OnDemand: Sligo WebTV
Sermon Audio Archive:
Audio Archive
“Let’s Dance!”

If you were one of my students at Washington Adventist University, then you would know that the apostle Paul is my favorite contributor to the New Testament and not simply because he wrote the majority of it. There is just something about the way that Paul’s writings are able to take the most challenging of issues and truly get at the heart of whatever was confronting his audience, including those of the 21st century, and do it in such a way that it just makes you “shake your head.”

Paul’s epistle to the believers at Philippi is a fine example of his approach and method. Despite the fact that he wrote this letter while being held as a prisoner in a Roman cell, Paul’s words are filled with a message of joy and sincere appreciation. And as you begin to read this letter you quickly see that he is extremely appreciative of the faithful believers in that region, whom he had served, for the fact that they had not forgotten him during his most difficult hour. He was out of sight but not out of their minds.

One of my favorite portions of Paul’s epistle to the Philippians is found in chapter four and verse nineteen which says: “And my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory.” The Greek word for “supply” (epichoregeo) combines the meaning of “dance” with the verb to “lead” (hegeomai). So in this instance the word “supplies” here literally means “to lead a dance.” In essence, what Paul is saying is that God is so pleased when He has the opportunity to meet the needs of His children, that in a sense He is “dancing for joy.”

Are we just as happy and appreciative of God for meeting our needs as He is to supply them? There is an idiomatic expression that says, “It takes two to tango.” It is based on the South American dance, the tango, which requires the cooperation of both partners in order for the dance to be a success. The two partners must understand that they are essential to the dance being performed correctly.
God desires to dance with you. He receives the greatest joy out of having the opportunity to meet the needs of His children. But if God gets His joy out of doing for us, but you and I aren’t responding in a spirit of joy and appreciation for what He has done, that means that God is dancing alone. God wants to dance with you and He wants to dance with me, and He is willing to take the lead. All that He is waiting on is for us to follow in his steps.
Breath of Life Quartet in Concert!

Come Join us April 27 at Sligo Seventh-Day Adventist church, for a memorable concert by the internationally known group Breath of Life Quartet. Doors open at 6:30 PM, admission is free.

The Breath of Life Quartet (BLQ) is an internationally known group, which has been involved in music ministry for over forty years. The group originated as a part of the Breath of Life Telecast in the early 70’s and has appeared in concerts across the United States and Canada, Costa Rica, Bermuda, Barbados, Trinidad, Micronesia, Japan, England, South Africa, Botswana, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand and Australia. BLQ's CD releases, Brand New and Come By Here, have reached thousands around the world with a mix of contemporary and traditional songs, as well as original compositions by group members. Their most recent release, Testimony, is an expression of praise and is a lyrical testament of Christ’s endless love. You can look forward to more BLQ recordings in the future. BLQ’s mission is to present the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ through word and song to all groups of people, so that “He, (Christ) that shall come, will come and set us free from a sin–sick, dying world.” Members are Duane Hamilton, Ronald Woodfork, Loren Mulraine, and Desmond Pierre-Louis. Loren Mulraine – praise & worship leader, singer, songwriter and producer – has released four solo projects. Loren’s ministry blends gospel, CCM, praise & worship and inspirational styles. Duane Hamilton – is a solo artist who spent many years with the Heritage Singers. He has released two solo recordings and is honored and humbled by every opportunity to sing about the love of Christ.

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BLQ IN CONCERT
ALSO WITH SOLO ARTISTS
LOREN MULRANE & DUANE HAMILTON

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DATE: APRIL 27, 2013   TIME: 6:30 pm
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PLACE: Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church

Breath of Life Quartet in Concert
Announcement Regarding Staff Changes at Sligo School

http://sligochurch.org/announcement-regarding-staff-changes-at-sligo-school

klawrence

WANT WHAT YOU HAVE DAT Feature: We Have This Hope!!

On March 25, 2013 the Sligo Adventist School Board was formally notified that Principal Larry Rich had received and accepted an invitation to become principal of the Escondido Adventist Academy in Escondido, California. While we are saddened by this development we are also deeply grateful for his eight years of dedicated and visionary leadership of our school. It has been a mutually rewarding experience, corporately and personally. We wish Larry and his family God’s richest blessings as he prepares to take up his new appointment, effective July 1.

Be assured that the Sligo Adventist School Board, faculty and staff fully intend to continue the work that we began together with Mr. Rich eight years ago. The vision of a spiritually and academically strong school community remains, and we look forward to an ever deepening and enduring relationship among Sligo School, its families and the Sligo Church as we look to the future.

As we plan the transition to a new school year and new administration, I would like to briefly tell you about some of personnel-related activities that have already taken place or are underway. The School Board voted on March 12, 2013 to recommend hiring David Turner, currently a vice principal at Takoma Academy, to join the staff at Sligo Adventist School. Mr. Turner will assume the roles of vice principal and computer teacher. He will also direct the Camp Upward Bound (CUB) summer program. In these roles Mr. Turner will be taking on some of the duties and responsibilities that are being carried out by Mrs. Kerrian Wanga. Mrs. Wanga informed Mr. Rich a few months ago of her plans to “hang up her chalk and dry marker,” for the time being. I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge the deep debt of gratitude we owe her for her many years of devoted service to our school. On behalf of the school community I wish her Godspeed in her new endeavors.

The process of recruiting a new principal is well underway. The job opening was advertised
on March 25, 2013 on the North American Division’s education website (http://nadeducation.org/jobs/show/3289) and the school board’s Personnel Committee is prepared to move the process forward in a professional manner and as expeditiously as possible, in cooperation with the superintendent and the Potomac Conference Corporation Board of Education.

We covet your support and prayers on behalf of the search process. I would also encourage readers of this blog to reach out to qualified friends and acquaintances who may be interested in applying for the position. Resumes and inquiries can be directed to Mrs. Desiree Bryant (desireeb@pcsda.org), the associate schools superintendent.

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Announcement Regarding Staff Changes at Sligo School DAT Feature: We Have This Hope!!

We had the Haroset and the freshly baked Matzo. All that seemed to be missing on Thursday evening, March 28, was the Palestinian outfits as approximately one hundred and thirty Sligo members, Sligo friends and community guests re-enacted Haggadah – the telling, during the Passover, of how Jehovah freed His people from Egyptian bondage. The reading of Old Testament passages in Hebrew brought a certain ‘long ago’ feeling to the evening. Worshippers eagerly followed the example of Jesus in washing each other’s feet and sharing in a ‘Passover meal’ as Jesus and His disciples did, which transitioned into the Lord’s Supper before the evening was out. Spiritually, refreshed, especially after listening to modern Mary Magdalene, Aimee Seheult, tell her moving story of breaking a bottle of perfume at the feet of one who needed deliverance, those present left this service determined to tell the news of how they were delivered from the bondage of sin by the blood of Jesus.

Friday evening’s “Journey of the Cross” was an emotional trip down memory lane for approximately 230 attendees, as some of the events surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus were dramatically recounted, supported by the rich music of Karla Bucklew, Monica Nowrangi, Oksana Skrypkar and Patrick Alston. Myrna Candelaria’s reading of passages from the Desire of Ages helped to recapture the agony of Jesus on Crucifixion Friday and the depth of His Father’s love for mankind. Several eyes welled up with tears as worshippers were reminded of what it took to save the world. Tears of sorrow became tears of joy as they were also reminded that the Cross means that Jesus is prepared to accept anyone who seeks Him in confession and forgive their sins, however heinous. Scores responded to an appeal to ‘nail’ their burdens, cares, anxieties and sins to the Cross by covering the wooden cross on the platform with Post-it note paper bearing their many petitions. “God was in this place tonight,” said one blessed worshipper.

Speaking on the theme for the entire weekend, “The Road Less Traveled,” senior pastor,
Charles Tapp, invited worshippers on Sabbath morning to choose the road of unpopularity, hardship and sacrifice, but a road that nonetheless is paved with grace, made possible by Christ’s death on the Cross. “Grace is not getting what we deserve. Do you want what you deserve?” No one listening could have missed the powerful message in that question, which was also a salutary reminder to those who are justice-oriented that justice without grace offers no hope. Pastor Tapp enjoined worshippers to extend grace to others and treat those who have wronged us not as they deserve but as God has treated us. We all, including those who responded to Pastor Tapp's stirring appeal, have hope because of grace.

Ce Ce Henry’s powerful rendition of “How Great Thou Art” and “Amazing Grace” provided the perfect platform for Charles Tapp's message on Sunday morning. Fittingly titled, “The Road to Victory,” the sermon celebrated the resurrection of our Lord, which was said to be a victory not just for Jesus but for all mankind. “Christ is risen from the dead and become the first fruits of those that slept.” 1 Cor 15:20. Tapp reminded over two hundred people present that Christ’s victory over the grave not only guarantees our victory over death but also provides
power for victorious living here and now. The resurrected Christ living in us transforms weak human flesh into vessels of honor and power, and changes the most desperate situation into a blessing for those who trust God.

Sligo’s annual Resurrection Weekend has become one of the Church’s primary evangelistic initiatives. Two visitors to last year’s event have become members of Sligo Church’s community. The signs for this year suggest that many of those who came from the community in response to the Church’s door-hanger card distribution and from members’ personal invitations are also likely to become part of our church community.

Perhaps the take-away for many from the entire weekend is the question that somehow has lingered in my own mind is, “Do you want what you deserve?” Certainly not! I want and crave what Christ offers to sinners like me as a result of His death and His glorious resurrection.

Don W McFarlane
Photos Courtesy of Eye Soul Photography, LLC

Full gallery on Facebook

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