Logan, Williamson Churches Open Better Living Center

Mountain View Conference's Logan and Williamson churches in West Virginia recently moved their thrift store to the downtown area of their tiny community. The move had the added benefit of a more prominent location, but also provided an opportunity for them to make big changes, which included opening the Logan Better Living Center.

The center’s focus will be on helping and educating Logan area community members. The center will operate a thrift store, manage a disaster relief program, offer healthy lifestyle education and work closely with already established food pantries.

“God has called us to serve others, and the best way of doing that is to serve those who are in need,” says Pastor Cesar B. Quispe (pictured at the ribbon cutting with his wife, Marialfred Acuna-Quispe, ND, CNHP). “Our center is focused on helping people in all three aspects of life—the spiritual, physical and...
Washington Adventist Hospital Marks 50 Years in Cardiac Excellence

In conjunction with American Heart Month, this month Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) begins a yearlong celebration to mark 50 years since the area’s first heart surgery was performed at the hospital in 1962. Since that first surgery, the Takoma Park, Md.-based hospital has been continually recognized for the comprehensive, quality heart care provided to residents.

“As a recognized leader in specialized cardiac care for 50 years, Washington Adventist Hospital continually provides our patients with the highest quality care delivered by a team of experienced, skilled and caring experts,” said Joyce Newmyer (pictured), WAH president. “I am excited to mark this milestone with our staff, physicians and community members, who continue to trust their heart care to our hospital.” —Story by Diana Troese

Review and Herald Ships 1 Million Copies of The Great Controversy

This is shaping up to be a big year for the Review and Herald Publishing Association’s The Great Controversy Project. Based in Hagerstown, Md., the Review and Herald began 2012 by shipping one million copies of an abbreviated version of Ellen White’s The Great Controversy to Nigeria. They are also printing editions in Spanish and Portuguese. “It has been so exciting to see this project catch fire,” says Mark Thomas, the publishing house’s president.
Furthermore, the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church has embraced The Great Controversy Project. Ted Wilson, General Conference president, says that he has pledges from the world divisions to send out more than 170 million copies. In North America, every conference will designate a person to coordinate the distribution of *The Great Controversy* in their area. For more information visit [www.GreatControversyProject.org](http://www.GreatControversyProject.org) or contact your conference to find out how you can get involved! — *Story by Kim Peckham*

**READ MORE**

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**Mitchellville Members Pray All Night**

Last Saturday night, Allegheny East Conference’s Mitchellville church hosted an all night prayer meeting. Overall between 80-90 people participated, while 35 stayed the entire time from 10 p.m. -7 a.m. Two other churches also joined the members of the Largo, Md.-based church and prayed, sang, read Bible passages on prayer and took part in an anointing service.

Why pray all night? “The bottom line is that prayer works! Miracles and blessings always escort these kinds of prayer vigils, and God calls all men and women to come unto Him, just the way they are,” explains Melvyn Hayden III (pictured), the church’s pastor.

Inspired by *Luke 6:12* where Jesus prayed all night, Pastor Hayden has participated in all-night prayer vigils since his first year of college. This was the church’s second such prayer service. The first service took place last year and six stayed the entire night.

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**Baltimore First Member Celebrates 80th Birthday**

Josephine Francis, a member of the Chesapeake Conference’s Baltimore First church in Ellicott City, Md., recently celebrated her 80th birthday. Some 200 friends and family members from the church joined her for a celebratory Indian lunch. “One thing is sure, that she loves her church and many friends, so we wished to acknowledge God’s care and leading in her life by inviting all church members, friends and family for a special lunch after the divine service,” shared her husband, Tom Francis.
Shenandoah Valley Academy’s Giant Cake Fetches $6,000

Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) students recently held a silent auction and talent show. The giant cake baked by Bob Ockenga, cafeteria director, received more than $6,000 in pledges—a new SVA record! In total, the auction brought in $13,220, which will go toward the acquisition of the senior class gift.—Story and photo by Mary Long

New Jersey Members Share Christ Thru Global Video Ministry

Eric Garloff and his wife, Teresa, are co-founders of Sapphire Throne Media Inc., a New Jersey-based 501(c) (3) nonprofit, multimedia religious video ministry. The Garloffs, members of the New Jersey Conference's Woodbury church, love evangelism and found a perfect fit for their evangelistic efforts by becoming members of the Columbia Union Conference chapter of Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI).

The Garloffs agree their ministry’s outreach is to uplift Jesus Christ by sharing Him with those near and far. They say, “God has opened the doors for our very existence as a global video ministry.” They are now in their fifth year of broadcasting on the Three Angels Broadcasting Network. Come meet the Garloffs and other ASI members at the upcoming Columbia Union convention in March 8-11 at the Vienna (Va.) church. To register click here.
Maryland, D.C. Churches Can Save on Energy Bills

If your congregation is located in Maryland or Washington, D.C., you may have an opportunity to pay lower energy rates and also support clean power generation with your energy dollars.

Interfaith Power & Light is convening a third round of their Community Energy Purchase for local organizations. Earlier this year, they worked with the DC Project and Washington Interfaith Network to organize 38 institutions to collectively purchase electricity. They leveraged their group purchasing power to secure a reduced electricity rate that will save them $215,000 over the course of the year. Many of these institutions enjoyed thousands of dollars in savings over and above the cost of supporting wind power as an expression of their commitment to renewable energy.

Congregations in Maryland and D.C. are invited to participate in this next round of the Community Energy Purchase. Initial applications are due tomorrow, February 2. Email programassociate@gwipl.org for additional materials, a recording of conference calls and an application.—Greater Washington Interfaith Power & Light

February Visitor Highlight

Some of us may know that Ellen White, Seventh-day Adventist Church co-founder, encouraged church members to leave the cities behind. But could you “check out” from the hustle and bustle of suburban and city living as we know it and move to a rural area? Buddy and Beth Ackman and their four children did. Read their story in the February issue of the Visitor magazine.
Sección Especial del Visitor: ¡Atención al clarín!

Por más de un siglo, los Adventistas del Séptimo Día han hecho tópico de conversación, las evidencias de eventos de los últimos días que se avecinan. Predicamos que la Palabra de Dios señala su pronta venida con brillante claridad, como lo hacen los carteles publicitarios en nuestros recorridos. Sin embargo, para muchos, la segunda venida no ha sentido tan eminente como ahora. Al igual que el sonido claro estridente de una trompeta, el pueblo de Dios en esta generación ¡siente el llamado al reavivamiento!

Algunos, como Buddy y Beth Ackman, argumentan que los “dolores de parto” nos llaman a la acción, a “[salir] de las grandes ciudades tan pronto como os sea posible”, como lo instruye Elena de White en Testimonios para la iglesia (tomo 6, página 199). En su esfuerzo por prepararse para el hogar celestial con Cristo, los Ackman tomaron la difícil decisión de dejar atrás su vida agitada en Lusby, Md., un suburbio de Washington, D.C.—Historia por Sam Belony

LEA MAS
End Quote: Dale Wright Memorial Member Confesses to Being a “One-Percenter”

“I have watched as the Occupy Wall Street protesters acclaim themselves as the Ninety-Nine Percenters demanding that the One-Percenters pay their fair share. At first I applauded their efforts, but recently I have been reflecting on my life and the privileges and favors I have enjoyed. And it hit me: I am a part of the One-Percenters they are marching against!

No, I’m not a Wall Streeter and I don’t have their kind of wealth, but I can say most emphatically, with the Psalmist’s 23rd poem of praise, “I shall not be in want” (NIV). That is, I trust God and He has provided all the essentials of life. I have enjoyed all the rights and privileges of living beside God’s ‘open window’ as enumerated in Malachi 3. And like the other One-Percenters being vilified daily across the country, I have enjoyed these privileges through no merit of my own. My advantaged status comes from being born into the family of Christ as a child of God.”—Isaac R. Palmer, Sr.

Columbia Union Members in the News

Adventist HealthCare to move headquarters to Gaithersburg

Peak Performer: Smith Mountain Lake area minister climbs Mount Rainier

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2: Spencerville Adventist Academy invites all eighth graders and other high
school students to attend their Academy Day from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Visiting students will get the opportunity to meet teachers and students, hear and see the school’s touring groups perform, compete for scholarships, play against basketball teams and check out the new school. To RSVP, contact Heidi Wetmore at (301) 421-9101 or hwetmore@spencerville.org.

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**February 4: Capitol Hill Church to celebrate Church Heritage Day** under the theme “From Generation to Generation.” Pete Palmer, pastor of the Germantown church in Philadelphia, will be the guest speaker. There will also be an afternoon concert featuring the Breath of Life Quartet, with special tribute to the generations represented at Capitol Hill. All former members are invited to return for the celebration! The congregation may wear colors representing their generation: BLACK and WHITE (born after 2001); RED (born 1983 – 2001); TAN/BROWN (born 1965-1982); BLUE (born 1946-1964); GOLD (born 1929 – 1945); and SILVER (1909 – 1928). For more information, contact the church at (202) 543-1344.

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**February 4-5: The first Willow Brook Fine Arts Show** sponsored by the Pioneers Pathfinder Club, will feature paintings, photographs, drawings and sculptures produced by local amateur, student and professional Adventist artists. The show is Saturday, February 4, 7-9 p.m., and Sunday, February 5, 2-5 p.m., at the Willow Brook church located at 8916 Mapleville Road in Boonsboro, Md.

Some of the works will be available for purchase. Entry and light refreshments are included in a small fee for those 6 and older. For more information, contact glenmilam@myactv.net.

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**February 11: The Hagerstown church’s Sabbath Sundown Serenade Concert will feature soprano Karla Rivera Bucklew.** The concert starts at 5 p.m. and will be held at 11507 Robinwood Drive in Hagerstown, Md. For more information, call (301) 733-4411.

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**February 11: Join Adventist HealthCare’s doctors and nurses at the Third Annual ‘Love Your Heart Expo’ from 1-5 p.m.** at the Westfield Montgomery Mall in Bethesda, Md. This event provides free heart health screenings, heart healthy cooking demonstrations and educational lectures.

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**February 12: Jared Renaud Taylor will be signing copies of his new book, New Lenses—How I met Jesus on MTV,** from 2-4 p.m. at the Potomac Adventist Book and Health Food Store. The store is located at 12004 Cherry Hill Road in Silver Spring, Md. Taylor, a member of Potomac’s Restoration Praise Center in Lanham, Md., can be reached at jaertee@gmail.com.

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**February 12: Highland View Academy’s International Fair** will be held 2-6 p.m. Students will be representing several countries from around the world. Each country will have a unique
February 12: Crossroads Adventist Preparatory School Presents “A Healthier You: Community Symposium and Health Fair.” It runs 10 a.m. thru 4 p.m. and will feature student presentations on health, nutrition and fitness; a health trivia challenge game; information and activity booths featuring massage therapy, health screenings, medical organizations and vegetarian cooking demos; fitness classes, seminars/workshops on women’s, men’s and children’s health and more! The school is located at 3291 St John’s Lane, in Ellicott City, Md. For more information, call (866) 715-7752.

February 17-19: The “Love for a Lifetime” Marriage Enrichment Retreat will be held at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City, Md. The registration fee of $299 per couple includes two nights at Dunes Manor Hotel, brunch, tea, dinner on Saturday and brunch on Sunday. For more information, e-mail MarriageEnrichment@comcast.net, or contact Mark and Peggy Lee at (301) 317-5428 or Jeff and Sandy Hartz at (443) 864-6328. The Triadelphia church and Maranatha Adventist Fellowship are among the churches sponsoring the retreat.

February 23: Sligo Adventist School will have an open house from 6–7 p.m. For more information, call (301) 434-1417 or visit. The school is located at 8300 Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park, Md.

February 24-26: Chesapeake Conference’s high school students will want to attend the Generation Rain Spiritual Retreat at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md. Themed “The Call,” the weekend features speakers from Insight magazine: Duane Esmond, editor; Tom Fraga, associate editor; and Tiffany Taylor-Mduba, columnist. For details, call Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910, or email areynolds@ccosda.org.

February 24-26, 2012: Pennsylvania Conference’s marriage retreat, “Love on the Farm” will feature Claudio and Pamela Consuegra, North American Division Family Ministries directors. It will be held at the Best Western Premier Contra Hotel and Conference Center in Harrisburg, Pa. To register online visit, www.paconference.org, go to the Ministries page and click on Family Ministries. For more information, contact Jeanne Hartwell at jhartwell@paconference.org, or (610) 374-8331.

February 25: The Hagerstown church’s Sabbath Sundown Serenade Concert will feature Jermain Cain on the three-manual Digital Allen Organ. The concert
starts at 5 p.m. and will be held at 11507 Robinwood Drive, in Hagerstown, Md. For more information, call (301) 733-4411. To request a copy of the Winter-Spring 2012 Hagerstown Sabbath Serenade Concert Calendar, send your email address to office@hagerstownadventist.org.

February 25: The New England Youth Ensemble will recognize the ministry of Virginia-Gene Rittenhouse with a tribute concert. Soprana Karla Bucklew will also perform. The concert will take place at 4 p.m. at the Frederick church at 6437 Jefferson Pike in Frederick, Md. For more information, visit fredericksdachurch.org or call (301) 662-5254.

March 8-11: The Columbia Union chapter of the Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) convention will feature Ivor Myers, speaker/director of Power of the Lamb Ministries; the Guild of Adventist Musicians and Henry Wright, pastor of the Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va. The convention will be held at Potomac Conference’s Vienna (Va.) church, located at 344 Courthouse Road SW in Vienna. For more information visit www.asicolumbiamnetasi.org or register at www.plusline.org.

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Stay Connected:

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Logan, Williamson Churches Open Better Living Center

Story by Visitor Staff
Published 2/1/2012

Mountain View Conference’s Logan and Williamson churches in West Virginia recently moved their thrift store to the downtown area of their tiny community. The move had the added benefit of a more prominent location, but also provided an opportunity for them to make big changes, which included opening the Logan Better Living Center.

The center’s focus will be on helping and educating Logan area community members. The center will operate a thrift store, disaster relief program, healthy lifestyle education, and work closely with already established food pantries.

“We want to be a major part of the community,” explains Pastor Cesar B. Quispe who along with his wife, Marialfred Acuna-Quispe, ND, CNHP, will manage the day-to-day operations of the center. “God has called us to serve others, and the best way of doing that is to serve those who are in need. Our center is focused on helping people in all three aspects of life, the spiritual, physical and emotional.”

Present at the grand opening were Larry Boggess, conference president; Serafino Nolleti, Logan City mayor; Ray Perry, city code enforcement officer; and Jay Nunly, news anchor for WVOW Radio; and church members and volunteers.

“Our communities are [strengthened] by the service of those who strive to help those in need. In Logan, we are blessed to have the service and good deeds of the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” wrote U.S. congressman Nick J. Rahall in a letter supporting the opening of the Logan Better Living Center. “Throughout the state, the Seventh-day Adventists are dedicated to working with those in need in each of their ministry communities, and the Logan Better Living Center is a shining example of that work.”

Pastor Quispe reports that the members of both churches are very excited about this new project, and feel very blessed to be recognized as a true serving force in the city of Logan and surrounding areas in West Virginia.

Quispe plans to also implement classes on health, stress management, healthy cooking and a regeneration program to help those suffering from substance abuse. “We pray that the Lord may continue to lead us as we strive to serve our community and share the good news of His second coming,” he says.

The center is located at 205 Stratton St., in Logan, West Virginia. The phone number is (304)
In conjunction with American Heart Month, this month Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) begins a yearlong celebration to mark 50 years since the area’s first heart surgery was performed at the hospital in 1962. Since that first surgery, the Takoma Park, Md.-based hospital has been continually recognized for the comprehensive, quality heart care provided to residents and other regional firsts.

Most recently, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) awarded WAH a Three-Star rating for heart surgery—the highest possible quality rating in this category. The STS has developed a comprehensive rating system for the quality of cardiac surgery among hospitals across the country. Only about 12-15 percent of hospitals receive the Three-Star rating. The rating encompasses not only outcome measures, but also process measures and adherence to evidence-based care throughout a patient’s admission.

“As a recognized leader in specialized cardiac care for 50 years, Washington Adventist Hospital continually provides our patients with the highest quality care delivered by a team of experienced, skilled and caring experts,” said Joyce Newmyer, WAH president. “I am excited to mark this milestone with our staff, physicians and community members who continue to trust their heart care to our hospital.”

Last year the U.S. News & World Report ranked the hospital among the top five hospitals in the Washington, D.C.-area and recognized WAH as top performing in heart and heart surgery.

In 2010, Washington Adventist Hospital was also the first in the D.C. region to earn the highest level of Chest Pain Center Accreditation attainable, Level III with PCI, which recognizes high-quality care, rapid assessment and life-saving treatment given to chest pain patients. Other regional firsts at the hospital over the past 50 years include:

- First heart bypass,
- First heart catheterization,
- First coronary artery bypass graft,
- First carotid artery stent procedure,
- First Mini-Maze to correct atrial fibrillation and
- First implantation of an MRI-safe pacemaker
“We are proud to continue the hospital’s legacy of high-quality heart surgery using the most advanced, state-of-the-art treatments,” said Paul Massimiano, MD, cardiac surgeon and program director of Cardiac Surgery at WAH.

Washington Adventist Hospital will extend the anniversary celebration to the community February 11 at their annual Love Your Heart Expo from 1-5 p.m. at Westfield Montgomery Mall in Bethesda, Md. Community members can take advantage of free heart health screenings and counseling, free heart healthy cooking and exercise demonstrations and free heart health talks by medical experts, including Dr. Massimiano.

In addition to being an accredited Chest Pain Center, the Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services Systems has designated WAH as a cardiac interventional center and primary stroke center. The hospital has also received the American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline Bronze Performance Achievement Award and the ACTION Registry-GWTG Silver Performance Achievement Award, both recognizing excellence in cardiac care.

Washington Adventist Hospital is part of Adventist HealthCare, an integrated health-care delivery system based in Rockville, Md.
Jack Henderson poses with different versions of *The Great Controversy*.

Henderson had a dream to place a copy of this book in every home in the country. When Henderson shared his dream with Thomas in 2008, it was an audacious dream because he didn’t have the money to send millions of books. At least not at that time. But as of today, donors have provided the funds to distribute 1.7 million copies of White’s complete book in communities all across the North American Division.

Donors included staff at the Review and Herald. “Our employees have rallied around this outreach effort. Some have donated one, two or even three weeks of salary,” Thomas says.

Furthermore, the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church has embraced Henderson’s *Great Controversy* Project. Ted Wilson, General Conference president, says that he has pledges from the world divisions to send out more than 170 million copies.

“Mark got out his pencil and found a way to get the price down on these books,” says Henderson. “If not for the [Review and Herald], this project would never have happened.” (From now until April 15, pre-publication orders can be placed at Adventist Book Centers for a newsprint, abridged edition that costs only 49 cents each.)

In North America, every conference is designating a person to coordinate the distribution of *The Great Controversy* in their area. It looks like Henderson’s hope of covering the whole country with the book is beginning to come true. But he says that he gave up that dream a long time ago. “Now
I want to reach everyone in the whole world,” he says.

For more information visit www.GreatControversyProject.org

Pressman Jonathon Smith checks the quality on a version of The Great Controversy destined for Nigeria.

A trucker closes an overseas shipping container filled with copies of The Great Hope, another name for The Great Controversy.
Sección Especial del Visitor: ¡Atención al clarín!

Historia por Sam Belony
Publicado 2/1/2012

Por más de un siglo, los Adventistas del Séptimo Día han hecho tópico de conversación, las evidencias de eventos de los últimos días que se avcean. Predicamos que la Palabra de Dios señala su pronta venida con brillante claridad, como lo hacen los carteles publicitarios en nuestros recorridos.

Sin embargo, para muchos, la segunda venida no ha sentido tan eminente como ahora. Las guerras y los rumores de guerra. Los disturbios. Una multitud de desastres naturales en el mundo. Al igual que el sonido claro estridente de una trompeta, el pueblo de Dios en esta generación ¡siente el llamado al reavivamiento!

Algunos, como Buddy y Beth Ackman, argumentan que los “dolores de parto” nos llaman a la acción, a “[salir] de las grandes ciudades tan pronto como os sea posible”, como lo instruye Elena de White en Testimonios para la iglesia (tomo 6, página 199). En su esfuerzo por prepararse para el hogar celestial con Cristo, los Ackman tomaron la difícil decisión de dejar atrás su vida agitada en Lusby, Md., un suburbio de Washington, D.C. Han establecido su residencia en el estado de Virginia del Oeste rural, para aprender a vivir sin las comodidades, y ahora asisten a la iglesia Toll Gate en Pennsboro, de la Asociación Mountain View.
Ellos esperan que su transición a la vida simple inspire a otros adventistas a considerar el hacer esta “mudanza”:

**Visitor**: Cuéntenos un poco acerca de usted.

**Beth**: Conoci a Buddy en 1993 en una pista de tierra. ¡El competía con carros sobre estas pistas de tierra! Su primo y yo éramos amigos. Buddy y yo nos casamos en 1995 [y luego] fui a la escuela de negocios; Buddy era mecánico de automóviles. Tuvimos nuestro primer bebé en 1998, y me convertí en ama de casa y mamá. Yo no era adventista todavía.

**V**: ¿A qué denominación religiosa pertenecía?

**Beth**: Me crié en la iglesia católica. Buddy creció en la adventista, pero se había apartado de la fe. Después de casarnos, comenzamos a tomar estudios bíblicos.

Me bauticé en 1999. [Luego] tuvimos a nuestro segundo bebé y seguimos criando a nuestros hijos en la Palabra de Dios, pero no nos sentíamos llenos. En el 2004, cuando esperábamos nuestro tercer bebé, Buddy asistió a una reunión sobre la vida en el campo, por el pastor Dave Westbrook, de Back to Enoch (volviendo a Enoc), backtoenoch.org. Anteriormente, habíamos hablado de trasladarnos, pero sólo localmente. Buscábamos un lugar dónde trasladarnos, pero no encontrábamos, así que pusimos el asunto en oración.

Entonces tuvimos nuestro cuarto hijo en el 2005. Seguíamos escuchando los mensajes de Out of the Cities (fuera de las ciudades). Mi esposo tenía su propio negocio de mecánica, lo que dificultaba irnos. Decidimos que si Dios deseaba que nos mudáramos, entonces Él tendría que ayudarnos. ¡Pusimos el negocio a la venta y lo vendimos en seis semanas!

**V**: ¿Qué hicieron después?

**Beth**: El siguiente paso era vender la casa, pero no teníamos adónde ir, así que salimos del estado en busca de un lugar. Pusimos nuestra casa a la venta y las primeras personas que vieron la casa ¡decidieron comprarla! Vendimos la casa el 1ro de junio del 2007. Pero no teníamos a dónde ir, así que fuimos a vivir con mi mamá. Mi esposo fue a trabajar como mecánico para otra persona mientras viajábamos en busca de un lugar. Justo después de vender la casa, vino la crisis económica. Esto fue otra señal de que el Señor nos estaba guiando a salir fuera de las ciudades.

**V**: ¿Cómo supieron que era momento de trasladarse?

**Buddy**: Nos mudamos por fe. No tenía empleo, ni sabía de alguno. Teníamos un buen y
próspero negocio pero lo dejamos y nos mudamos a este lugar. Cuando llegamos aquí, teníamos el plan de trabajar para otra persona. Rellené treinta solicitudes de empleo, pero nadie respondió. Decidí abrir mi propio negocio, y ahora el Señor está proveyendo. Nos tardó dos años en hacer el traslado; tuvimos que vender el negocio y nuestro hogar. No es algo a lo cual nos lanzamos un mismo día. Le dedicamos tiempo.

**Beth:** De cierta manera, probamos al Señor poniendo este asunto en sus manos. La rápida venta del negocio fue lo que nos indicó que era el momento oportuno.

**Buddy:** Pensamos que debíamos haberlo hecho desde hace tiempo. Sólo quería estar seguro que era el momento correcto. Creo que cuando hay niños, es bueno seguir este consejo.

**V:** ¿Qué dejaron atrás?

**Beth:** Vivíamos en una casa grande en Maryland, así que llevamos lo que pudimos. Tratamos de reducir, dejando libros, ropa, y muebles. También dejamos nuestro disco satélite de 3ABN.

**V:** ¿Cuán difícil fue la transición?

**Beth:** ¡Fue un desafío!

**Buddy:** Definitivamente un desafío. Siempre hay algo que surge. No es algo que puedes hacer de la noche a la mañana. Aún estamos aprendiendo.

**V:** ¿Fue difícil renunciar a las comodidades?

**Beth:** Tenemos teléfono e internet.

**Buddy:** Nos alegramos de poder abandonar el cable TV. Solamente tenemos el disco satélite de 3ABN y algunos canales locales. Tal vez dejemos algunas cosas si el Señor nos convence a hacerlo. Sin embargo, usamos el internet como una herramienta en el ministerio y lo seguiremos utilizando hasta que el Señor nos convenga de otra manera.

**V:** ¿Cuáles fueron algunos de los desafíos?

**Beth:** Aprender a cultivar nuestro propio alimento.

**Buddy:** Es difícil [porque] la tierra tiene que estar perfecta. El clima tiene mucho que ver con ello. Demasiada lluvia puede ser un problema. Tenemos tres clases de jardines—un invernadero, [y] un jardín pequeño y otro grande.

**Beth:** Otro desafío fue mantener alejados a los venados y las marmotas del jardín. Son divertidos de mirar, ¡pero no cuando se comen tu comida!

**V:** ¿Participan ustedes en algún tipo de ministerio?

**Buddy:** Regalamos libros [como] *El camino a Cristo*, *El conflicto de los siglos*, y folletos sobre la ley dominical y de Amazing Facts. Es un ministerio que realizo por medio del negocio. Compro libros y se los doy a los clientes. También llevo libros a la prisión. Es nuestro ministerio de alcance misionero.

**V:** ¿Cómo respondieron sus amigos y familiares ante su decisión de dejar todo atrás?

**Beth:** Bueno, empezó con que todos pensaban que estábamos un poco locos. No hay mucho por aquí. No recibimos muchas visitas. Hay una tiendita como a veinte minutos; los mercados grandes como a una hora. Ahora nos respetan al ver cómo nos hemos adaptado.

**V:** ¿Están contentos con su decisión?

**Beth:** ¡Definitivamente! ¡No me arrepiento! Personalmente, haría todo de la misma manera. La vida tranquila hace que mi caminar con el Señor sea más fácil.

**Buddy:** No se nos bombardea con tentaciones que ofrece la vida en la ciudad. Nuestros hijos se adaptaron y lo respetan. Nos ha ayudado en nuestra vida espiritual y en nuestra relación con los niños. Creo que es lo que el Señor deseaba para nosotros, y creo que Él nos ha bendecido por hacerlo.
V: ¿Están donde pensaron estar?

Beth: Por supuesto que siempre crecemos, pero siento que estamos donde el Señor desea que estemos.

Buddy: Nuestro objetivo es terminar de pagar nuestro hogar. Luego deseamos iniciar un ministerio con las personas que desean salir de las ciudades.

Beth: También queremos ser más autodependientes, operar la casa con paneles solares y no depender de la compañía de electricidad.

V: ¿Qué consejo le dan a otros que están pensando en salir de las ciudades?


Buddy: Permita que el Señor le impresione a realizarlo. No hicimos esto por razones de persecución. Lo hicimos porque sentimos que era lo correcto. Después de mucha oración, nos convencimos que era lo correcto y probó ser bueno para nosotros. Estar en este lugar ha estrechado los lazos con nuestros niños aún más de lo que esperábamos, y nuestra relación con el Señor es mucho mejor. Desde que nos movimos aquí, nuestra vida de oración es bastante diferente. Hay menos ajetreo, la gente es más relajada. Si hace estos cambios por las razones correctas, ¡cambiará su vida!

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Adventist HealthCare to move headquarters to Gaithersburg

Washington Business Journal by Ben Fischer, Staff Reporter

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Adventist HealthCare will move its corporate headquarters to Gaithersburg in 2013, with up to $160,000 in economic development incentives from the city, officials from the nonprofit hospital chain said Tuesday.

Gaithersburg City Council will discuss the incentives at a meeting Tuesday night, and hopes to give final approval on Feb. 6. Adventist, whose current lease is expiring, intends to move regardless of the vote, spokesman Tom Grant said.

Adventist, currently in about 77,000 square feet at 1801 Research Blvd. in Rockville, will move into 820 W. Diamond Ave., which fronts Interstate 270 four miles to the north.

"We anticipate pretty much needing the same space we're using, but we anticipate better use of it," Grant said. The public funding will help Adventist with relocation and renovation costs.

About 330 employees work at corporate headquarters for Adventist, which owns three hospitals, a behavioral health and rehabilitation system and a network of clinics. The system employs about 6,000 workers throughout Montgomery County.

Adventist will take the top three floors of the six-story building, with an option to expand into the first floor after employee planning. The space formerly held the National Institute of Standards and Technology and is owned by Boston-based Commonwealth REIT.

Gaithersburg, which floated the bonds to help finance Adventist's construction of Shady Grove...
Adventist Hospital in 1979, offers more services — shopping and restaurants, namely — for employees within a close walk, Grant said.

"We welcome Adventist HealthCare's move to Gaithersburg," said Mayor Sidney Katz. "Our residents have long enjoyed unprecedented access to quality health care through Adventist's services. With this move, Adventist's employees can now enjoy the amenities of Gaithersburg."

The $160,000 for Adventist would be the first expenditure from a $2 million fund set aside for economic development initiatives.

Ben Fischer covers health care and law.
Many ministers reach for the heavens with explosive, fiery rhetoric behind the pulpit, but mountaineering pastor Danny Poff climbs to them with rope, ice axe and cleats.

Poff, 47, of Smith Mountain Lake 7th Day Adventist Church, recently completed a very rigorous, but successful ascent of 14,411-foot Mount Rainier in Washington state, the hardest endurance climb in the lower 48 states of the U.S. Much of the climb is 45 percent and with 26 major glaciers, the mountain is the most heavily glaciated peak in America.

Only one-half of the climbers who seek the summit actually make it, and many have perished over the years in the attempt.

"I just like to do it," said Poff, a Boones Mill resident, Franklin County native and director of sales for eight years at Microscope.com in Roanoke. His wife, Rhonda, is the company's financial manager. "I'm very outdoorsy, and love mountaineering, rock climbing, camping and wilderness survival," so much so that he and four church companions flew 40 miles into the Canadian wilderness a few years ago, where they sojourned for three weeks, carrying canoes, tents and provisions on their backs.

"Other than the four of us, we didn't see any other humans, only wolves, moose and bears," recalled Poff.

Utilizing well-honed map, compass and navigation skills, the group portaged their canoes and gear from lake to lake, supplementing their packed food with fresh pike, muskie and lake trout.

"It was rare that you didn't catch a fish," he noted. "We built big fires at night to keep the wolves away. You could hear them howling. You could take knives into the wilderness, but not guns. It was an experience."

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