here aren’t too many things more exciting than seeing church members excited about sharing their ministries. Perhaps an even happier sight is seeing church members excited about learning how to get involved in ministry. Both of these exciting scenes took place at this year’s MinistryFest South.

The 2nd annual MinistryFest South, piloting in 2011 after having been successfully started in northern Oregon as MinistryFest North, was held for the first time in Medford, Oregon. MinistryFest provides a wonderful opportunity for churches from all over southern Oregon to come together and share with each other their ministries and outreach. Church members go home with great ideas on how to start new ministries in their home churches and communities.

This year, the Rogue Valley Adventist Academy (RVAA) hosted the event on March 17th. Starting on Sabbath afternoon the school’s gym was open with approximately fifteen booths where many members displayed their ministries and were ready to share with any passerby the excitement and success of their ministry. These ministries were of all sorts: musical groups, men’s and women’s ministries, motorcycle ministry, radio ministry, chainsaw ministry and much more. One booth, however, was a little different than the rest. Instead of displaying a ministry, it was a long-haul missionary.

Ghennadii Muzica is a foreign missionary, but not quite in the way you would imagine...
MINISTRYFEST SOUTH

Continued from Page 1

playing their ministry on a table, the Valley View Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Vacation Bible School team presented on the gym’s stage. This thrilling ministry brought their entire set from last year’s Nazareth theme to display. Church members dressed up as Roman soldiers and Jewish men and women and roamed the scene. They shared with onlookers how to put on a Vacation Bible School in their own communities.

As people wandered the booths in the gym, there were also ministries being presented in more detail in classrooms. These presentations, called InfoBlitzes, were thirty-minute explanations of how to start a specific ministry in your own church. One notable ministry shared in an Info Blitz was called “A Vegetarian Tasting Affair.” Many people came to hear how members of the Shady Point Church have successfully incorporated our church’s health message into fun fellowship and fancy dining.

After the afternoon’s information-sharing time the Valley View Pathfinders served a wonderful haystack dinner in the Valley View Church fellowship hall just down the road from RVAA. Following the dinner was a concert featuring a variety of musical groups and individuals. The concert was not only a spiritual blessing but also provided an opportunity for southern Oregon churches to hear musicians who have a passion for bringing their music to churches around the area.

The passion for ministry is alive in southern Oregon, and members went away from MinistryFest South inspired and empowered to labor on for our Lord.

I spent the final week of January at my home away from home: Port-au-Prince, Haiti. If you would have asked me a year ago where I most enjoy spending my free time, the last place I would suggest would have been post-earthquake Haiti. Yet after each subsequent trip to Haiti, I find it more difficult to leave and often feel a sense of loss for my Haitian friends I leave behind. While it’s true that Haiti has needs beyond imagining, the people of Haiti are blessed with a kind, loving and caring spirit unlike any group of people I have come across. I often say I get more out my trips to Haiti than I provide to those whom I serve, and this trip was no exception.

Staille was eight years old, the condition had worsened to the point that she couldn’t run at all. The way she walked now was so strange that she had become reluctant to even go out of the house. Staille had an extremely severe case of bilateral Blount’s disease.

Staille was brought to Haiti Adventist Hospital from her hometown of Cotes-de-fer, Haiti, about six hours away, by her neighbor Lysner. Staille underwent surgery at the age of nine, and after a two-stage procedure to straighten her tibias and de-rotate the femurs, she now walks on straight legs for the first time. Staille’s life and the lives of hundreds of others have been changed because of the earthquake. Staille’s deformity began well before the devastating earthquake of 2010, yet because of this event, the resources, donated equipment and medical personnel were in place to change her life. Some may even say that her legs are straight only because of the earthquake.

In an effort to support the work being done at the hospital, I coordinated the production of a high-quality coffee table book entitled “Haiti: Together We Move.” Through the beautiful images and a collection of firsthand accounts from those who have served in Haiti following the earthquake, this book tells Haiti Adventist Hospital’s amazing journey from its key role in the earthquake recovery to becoming a leader in providing orthopedic care to the indigent.

If you wish to bless those in need and help Haiti Adventist Hospital continue to change lives every day, visit our website today. One hundred percent of your donation will go to pay for life-changing operations just like Staille’s. Together we can move Haiti forward!

Visit www.HaitiTogetherWeMove.com to learn more.

As a baby, Staille was perfect. Her strong cry seconds after taking her first breath was proof. The proud parents inspected their first child. Wide open eyes, full complement of fingers and toes, no odd spots anywhere on the smooth dark skin, straight arms and legs. Not long after her second birthday, Staille’s family noticed something not quite right about her legs. They seemed to be a little bit bowed; when she stood up they could see a space between her knees. By the time
Bob showed up at the Sweet Home, Ore. evangelistic meetings ready for some big life changes. In fact, on an opening night, he approached the pastor and asked to be baptized. The pastor’s wise reply was to “get together and talk about [it].” In the meantime, keep coming to the seminars!” Bob attended the rest of the meetings, and at the end of the series, he and his family were baptized.

At that same series, Jerry had lots of questions. He and his wife were retirees who provided childcare in their home for the children of an unchurched family who happened to know the Adventist pastor. Jerry and his wife attended the seminar, quickly became friends with the pastor, and were baptized at the end of the series.

Bob and Jerry were eager to be involved in church life. They encouraging others to attend church, socials, and any other events the church had happening. However, neither of them currently attends the Sweet Home church. Bob just moved to another town because he felt called to a tent-making ministry. He spends more time sharing his Adventist faith with customers than he does building their homes! Jerry was impressed to take his ministry on the road. Over the past years, he has worked as a host at several campsites in order to have the opportunity to share his faith with campers all over the country.

What these brief sketches don’t tell you is that this evangelistic seminar also changed the community in ways that were perhaps less sensational, but every bit as important. A marriage was saved; the children won’t grow up in a broken home. People were able to break drug, alcohol, and smoking habits. Long-sought physical, spiritual, and emotional healing were experienced by multiple people.

Evangelism changes lives. It changes churches. And it changes communities—all for the better. This isn’t just about trying to convert Methodists, Baptists, or Episcopalians into Adventists. It’s actually about reaching out to people who are lost. It’s about helping people—one individual, one family, one community at a time.

Your planned support of evangelism through the 2012 Gladstone Camp Meeting offering will change lives and communities. At camp meeting, you will have the opportunity to help more Oregon Conference churches hold evangelistic meetings similar to the one in Sweet Home. Our goal this year for this offering is $100,000. Please pray about these needs and follow the Holy Spirit’s leading.

*names have been changed

Happy Spring! For some of you, spring may not be such a happy time with your spring-time allergies. Miserable allergy symptoms include sneezing; a stuffy or runny nose; itchy and watery eyes; and for those of you with asthma as well, possible shortness of breath and wheezing. These symptoms range from minimally annoying to disabling at worse. Thankfully there are several treatment options that are now available over the counter. Non-sedating anti-histamines and sedating anti-histamines are good choices with minimal side affects depending on your needs. These medications should generally help the various allergy symptoms. Over-the-counter anti-histamine eye drops can be helpful for eye allergy symptoms. Prescription eye drops may be required in some cases, but can be expensive. An inhaled nasal spray may be prescribed by your doctor for severe symptoms. Over-the-counter allergy nasal sprays should not be use for more than about three days at a time as they can actually worsen your allergy symptoms.

To avoid allergy symptoms, try wearing a mask (available in drugstores) while doing yard work or housecleaning, keep your doors and windows closed during allergy season, and use an air conditioner in your house and car to help filter the air. Vacuum carpets, curtains and soft furniture frequently and dust hard floors and hard furniture with a damp mop or cloth. Bathe everyday to remove pollens and other allergens from your hair and skin.

I hope this information helps you fight your allergy symptoms and makes allergy season a little more tolerable!

– Dr. Frank Warda, MD

Please note: No advice is intended to be specific for you. Be sure to consult with your doctor before taking any kind of medication or changing your physical activity.

THE LONG HAUL MISSIONARY

PLANTING SEEDS IN A TRUCK STOP

Ghennadii was on the way to Florida on a hot summer day. Because he doesn’t drive on the Sabbath, he had parked in a truck stop on Friday night in Georgia for the Sabbath hours. It was hot and humid, so Ghennadii decided to go into the truck stop and sit at a table in the air conditioning. “From my experience when I go inside and read my Bible (and I have a big Bible, so it does not look like a regular book), people start asking me what I’m reading. ‘Is it the Bible?’ And so starts a conversation.”

On this particular day, there was a family who came in and sat across the aisle from Ghennadii. When he noticed that they said prayer before they began to eat their meal, his mind immediately went into action…. “Okay, these are good Christian people, but how can I give them a Steps to Christ? How can I start a conversation with them?” Then he landed upon an idea. He had his laptop out on the table, so he got up and asked the family if they would mind watching his computer while he used the restroom. They agreed. Ghennadii did not necessarily need to use the facilities, but he went in and prayed anyway. When he came back out he thanked the family for watching his things and asked if he could give them a book to show his appreciation. They gladly accepted a copy of Steps to Christ.

Read another adventure in Ghennadii’s travels each month in the eCommuniqué! You can find past stories in Ghennadii’s series beginning in the January 2012 issue of the eCommuniqué.

FIGHTING THE SPRINGTIME ALLERGIES

To avoid allergy symptoms, try wearing a mask (available in drugstores) while doing yard work or housecleaning, keep your doors and windows closed during allergy season, and use an air conditioner in your house and car to help filter the air. Vacuum carpets, curtains and soft furniture frequently and dust hard floors and hard furniture with a damp mop or cloth. Bathe everyday to remove pollens and other allergens from your hair and skin.

I hope this information helps you fight your allergy symptoms and makes allergy season a little more tolerable!

– Dr. Frank Warda, MD

Please note: No advice is intended to be specific for you. Be sure to consult with your doctor before taking any kind of medication or changing your physical activity.
Adventist Health Expands in Washington
Adventist Health is growing services in Washington Clark County with the addition of the Fisher’s Landing Medical Plaza in Vancouver. Services include access to family practice physicians, a nurse practitioner, surgeon, a pain management clinic, medical laboratory services, and occupational medicine. Adventist Health is leasing approximately 10,500 square feet in the building located at 417 SE 164th. The two-story structure provides optimal space for patient care. “Adventist Health has been serving various parts of Clark County for a number of years, but the expansion of several services in one convenient location is now a reality,” says Steve Kinzer, Adventist Health Medical Group CEO.

Montana Camp Meeting
Make plans to attend Camp Meeting 2012 and discover “It’s All About Jesus.” You don’t want to miss any of the seminars and speakers planned for this year. Elizabeth Talbot and Steve Cassimy are the keynote speakers. Three seminars on health, family relationships and stewardship will add to your daily spiritual blessing. If you haven’t yet registered for lodging, dorm rooms are full, but RV and tent sites are still available. Mark your calendar now for June 13-16.

AdventSource Plans for New Building
AdventSource’s board of directors voted on April 19 to move forward with plans for constructing a new building to house the ministry resource center for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. Located on Union College’s campus in Lincoln, Neb., AdventSource has relocated twice in the last 30 years to accommodate college growth. AdventSource is preparing to move once again following the college’s decision to repurpose its current location in the south end of the Don Love Building to house the college’s growing physicians assistant program. The new 17,000 square foot building will house the contact center, graphic arts, resource development and website support along with operations and warehouse space. AdventSource is financing the $2 million project through cash reserves, a building loan and support from Union College, the Mid-America Union and the North American Division.

Clear Word Paraphrase Released as an E-Book
The Clear Word is now available electronically for your portable reading or listening device. Published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, the ebook edition of this easy-to-understand paraphrased Bible features resizable text, bookmarking, built-in dictionary, easy verse selector, searching and more. Also available is an audio book with high-quality audio recorded by Lonnie Melashenko, former speaker and director of Voice of Prophecy.
ATTEND A VEGETARIAN COOKING SHOW
When: Starts July 16, 6:30 pm
Location: Hood View Adventist Church
Come see celebrity chef Mark Anthony’s live vegetarian cooking show presentation on July 16 at 6:30 pm! Along with the show you’ll receive dinner. During the show, Chef Anthony will talk about vegan cooking, a plant-based nutrition program, and the greatest new healthcare solutions. The best part is that this exciting performing culinary arts program is free! Come to Hood View Adventist Church located in Boring, Ore. Visit www.ChefMarkAnthony.com or call 503-663-5611 for more information. To download printable promotional materials visit http://bit.ly/yIPaSR.

CAMP SAFARI DAY CAMP IS BACK!
When: Begins June 18, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Location: Hood View Adventist Church
We’re super excited about this summer and know your child will be too! Camp Safari will run June 18 - July 27, Monday - Thursday 8:30-4:30 pm and Fridays 8:30-2:00 pm. Send your child to Horsemanship, Golf, or Water Sports Camp! What fun we will have! Sign your child up by May 20th and receive the early bird discount of 10% off! For more information visit www.CampSafariNW.org or call Hood View Church at 503-663-5611.

NPUC SEeks DIGITAL MEDIA COORDINATOR
When: Currently taking applications
Location: Ridgefield, Wash.
The North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC), based in Ridgefield, Wash., is seeking to fill a newly-created Digital Media Coordinator position. This full-time salaried opportunity, which officially opens July 9, will work as part of the Gleaner team to enhance the online and social media presence of the Northwest Adventist mission. Successful applicants should have at least three years of professional experience in online technology and digital media. Contact Steve Vistaunet, NPUC assistant to the president for communication, for a more specific job description or additional information, at steve.vistaunet@nw.npuc.org, 360-857-7045. Resumes will be accepted until May 10.

THE KING’S HERALDS TO PERFORM THREE CONCERTS
When: May 16 & 19, 2012
Location: Various locations
For those along the southern Oregon coast, you are invited to hear The King’s Heralds in concert on Wednesday, May 16, at 7:00 pm at the Brookings Adventist Church. In the Portland area, The King’s Heralds will be performing two concerts on May 19. Rockwood Adventist Church will host a concert at 11:00 am, while that evening, The King’s Heralds will perform at Pleasant Valley Adventist Church at 7:30 pm. Come enjoy the signature sound of the quartet that is celebrating 85 years of music!

WWU NURSING DORM FUNDRAISER
When: May 20, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Location: Bring items to dorm
There will be a Nursing Dorm Fundraiser being held for exercise room equipment and dorm lobby upgrading. The nurses dorm will be having a yard sale, on May 20 from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm. You are invited to contribute to the sale by donating those items you have been storing away in your garage, closets and attic that you no longer need. Please, donate only things in good condition. No clothes. Call Elaine Stuart at 503-998-0204 to arrange a time to drop your items off at the dorm.

HANDS ON GARDENING WORKSHOP
When: May 20-23, 2012
Location: Vancouver Adventist Church
Learn how to plant the freshest, tastiest, most nutritious fruit/vegetables! Plant a fruit tree using the method given by Inspiration over 100 years ago. Learn how to balance depleted soil, eliminate weeds, and so much more! This four-day event at the Vancouver church May 20-23 will have you set for the summer! Classes run Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday - Wednesday 6:00-8:00 pm. Class cost is $65/person, $75/couple, early registration encouraged. To learn more, visit www.suncountrygardens.com or call 530-692-4968. Visit http://bit.ly/yIPaSR to print promotional materials. To register, call 360-696-2511.

BETTER LIFE CAMP MEETING
When: June 8 & 9, 2012
Location: Milo Adventist Academy
You’re invited to attend the Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting June 8 and 9 at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, Ore. The keynote speaker will be Pastor Stephen Bohr. Several musical guests will also be featured. To learn more visit BetterLifeTV.tv or call 541-474-3089.

LAKEVIEW OREGON WOMEN’S RETREAT
When: May 20, 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Location: Lakeview Adventist Church
All are welcome to attend the Women’s Retreat in Lakeview, Ore., May 20, from 8:00 am-3:00 pm. The theme, “The Gift”, will emphasize the work of the Holy Spirit. Continental breakfast will be served at 8:00 am; the seminar will begin at 9:00 am. A light lunch will be served at noon and the afternoon session will begin at 1:00 pm. The retreat and meals are free, but RSVP is requested. Call 541-947-2413 or email jshbylerandma@yahoo.com to learn more. The event will be held at the Lakeview Adventist Church.

SOUTHERN OREGON WOMEN’S RETREAT
When: June 1-3, 2012
Location: Milo Adventist Academy
Ladies, join us for Southern Oregon Women’s Retreat June 1-3! Held at Milo Adventist Academy, the main speaker for the weekend will be Risi Rafferty. Workshops will be taught by Rosalie Hurd, Tami Milligan, and Tawny Sportsman. To learn more or to register, contact Nancy at nflkshi@entech.com.

COLLEGIATE CHURCH AT SUNNYSIDE
When: May 12, 11:20 am
Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church
Plan now to attend this special church service at Sunnyside Adventist Church beginning at 11:20 am on May 12. Alex Bryan, WWU Church Senior Pastor will be speaking. For more information on this event call 503-252-8080.

All links are clickable here and elsewhere in the eCommuniciqué.

For more announcement & event information please visit www.oregonconference.org/announcements — This page is updated weekly.
Transitions

Nelia Halverson (Hal) resigned from the Oregon Conference in April.

Luis Fajardo (Addy) will be pastoring Salem Spanish only. His district will no longer include the Independence Spanish congregation.

Roger Hernandez (Kathy) will be leaving the Oregon Conference to join the Southern Union at the end of May.

Ivan Cruz (Damarys) will be pastoring Portland Spanish and University Park Spanish in addition to his current congregation at Canby Spanish.

Pedro Careaga (Alina) will change districts to pastor the Independence and Monitor Spanish congregations.

Bob Taylor (Linda Jo) has left his position as pastor of the Tillamook church for a pastoral position in the Southern California Conference.

Lynn Bryson (Debbie) has resigned from his pastoral position at McMinnville church to pursue further education at Andrews University.

Steve Dayen (Linda) joining the Oregon Conference from the Texas Conference to pastor the Klamath Falls District.

Reach Our World

Nelia Halverson

Gladstone Camp Meeting

July 17 - 21, 2012

Members in Ministry

Visit www.OregonConference.org for more!

SUNSET CALENDAR

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A publication of the Oregon Conference Communication Department • Gary McLain, director • Krissy Barber, administrative assistant

To submit stories, announcements, or to get in touch with us please email us at krissy.barber@oc.npuc.org or call 503.850.3500.

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