ARE YOU SHOWING JESUS in your life every day?

Just a few Greek travelers in a foreign country, but their request still rings down through the centuries: “We would see Jesus.” It was a simple request, but is still relevant today. John 12:20-35 describes the story and the subsequent statement by Christ that the time had come for His revelation of the phenomenal love of God for this lost world. And from that moment, His steps led unfalteringly to the cross.

What impact do those words have here in the Oregon Conference today?

Whether we accept the challenge or not, we are still the witnesses of who Christ is in this corner of our world. We talk about “Members in Ministry” and understand that each of us, as a member of the body of Christ, have the opportunity to carry His amazing love to a world that is needing that picture more every day. But do we realize that whether we accept that concept or not, every interaction we have—every comment, every action and reaction—is a picture of who Jesus is? It takes all professions, all talents, all gifts and all time to give this picture to the world.

The cities in our conference have increasingly moved away from Christianity and yet the voices are still being heard, “We would see Jesus.” Where are these voices? They are all around each one of us. They are the business contacts who watch our interactions and respect for others, and neighbors who see Christianity by our friendships or comments beside...
the mail box. They are the families who see the down-times and experience the raw edges of our emotions, and fellow travelers on the roads and highways we take each day, and church family who also need to see Jesus. The idea of “Members in Ministry” is so much more than giving Bible studies, or having evangelistic meetings, as important as these things are. Our day-to-day lives tell people around us who Jesus is.

When I think of the challenge we face, it can be overwhelming. However, my dream for this conference this new year is that the question the Greek travelers raised 2000 years ago will be answered, that the members of this conference will find daily opportunities among family and friends to answer that question of who Jesus is, that students will have the chance to walk the streets of our cities opening the Word of God this summer, that every church will intentionally plan to reach out to their immediate community with an invitation to “see Jesus,” that the 36,000 “Members in Ministry” within the Oregon Conference will carry the Good News of a loving, grace-filled, compassionate and soon-coming Savior to every corner.

As we enter a new year, let’s remember the mission that God has given each of us individually, as well as to the Oregon Conference as a whole. I was moved by a song that I heard this past weekend as it gently reminded me that “To love the Lord our God is the heartbeat of our mission, the spring from which our service overflows. Across the street or around the world, the mission’s still the same, proclaim and live the truth in Jesus’ name!” (“The Mission” by Steve Green)

Breanna* lived a hard and lonely life. Multiple marriages, two of her three children in prison, rejected and put down by others, Breanna had no reason to live and no hope for the future. In her search for happiness, she became a dancer in Las Vegas. While working in this glamorous and fast-paced life, she became addicted to cocaine, then moved to Oregon and brought her drug habit with her.

A physical, mental and spiritual wreck, Breanna stayed at rescue missions and on the streets. She had no friends, no place to go and no hope. Suffering from severe liver damage, poorly functioning kidneys and cancer, Breanna completely gave up and soon found herself in a convalescent home.

But even when all seemed hopeless, God still had plans for Breanna. One day, while being pushed down the hall in a wheelchair, her eyes were drawn to a television set in another patient’s room. On the screen was a man talking about Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit impressed her that she needed what he was talking about. Breanna requested that they get her a TV. On her new TV, Better Life was the only channel she watched.

Through the Bible-based programming of Better Life, Breanna soon became a Seventh-day Adventist Christian, keeping the Sabbath for two years before she passed away at only 43. Through the ministry of Better Life, Breanna experienced a new life in Christ and her changed life continues to be a testimony to the power of God at work in the world today.

Breanna is only one of many who have been touched by God through Better Life. Jim* from Portland, Oregon wrote us a note that said, “Better Life Broadcasting is most aptly named indeed!” A short time back he was deeply troubled by all the bad things happening around the world. Then after many years away from the Bible, he suddenly felt drawn to it like a magnet. He re-read the Gospel of John and felt broken right down to the ground. He wrote, “How could it be that I never knew God loved me so much? I must have been deeply asleep at the wheel.” Then he decided to read the Book of Revelation, but all the symbolic language was confusing and difficult to understand. He prayed that God would give him understanding, as he believed it was a message Jesus wanted him to understand.

A few days later Jim noticed a new channel on his digital converter box that had not been there before, one that had not been programmed into it. The new channel was Better Life Broadcasting Network. Jim became excited as he watched sermon after sermon on Bible prophecy. Suddenly things that were once so mysterious became clear and he began to comprehend Revelation’s important last day message for himself. After a time he and his wife became members of a local Seventh-day Adventist church.

God is using Better Life to change lives! We receive a steady flow of calls from people and churches sharing miraculous stories like these with us. We eagerly look forward to reaching millions more as Better Life soon will be broadcasting into the San Francisco Bay area! Thank you for your prayers and financial support as we move forward on this momentous evangelistic opportunity!)
NEWTOWN AND
TOWN HALLS

By Al Reimche

2013 – It just seems like yesterday we were talking about a new century, a fresh page in the history of our world, and now we have pushed into the "teen years." We have discovered that instead of fresh pages, these years have left their scar on our planet and hearts.

As I write this article we are less than a week after the shootings at Clackamas Mall and the Newtown school massacre. Just weeks before that I was stuck in Chicago while attempting to fly to meetings in Washington, DC. Hurricane Sandy had just moved into the eastern part of the U.S. Each of these events, as well as others, remind us that this world is not a place of peace and safety, and people everywhere are asking, "what next?" As I listen to the news and discussions, Newtown, Connecticut appears to be developing as a watershed experience in our American psyche—a call to safety at the expense of personal freedoms.

Toward the latter part of January and the first part of February we will again be holding town hall meetings throughout our conference. These will happen in five different regions throughout Oregon and southwest Washington. What does this have to do with Newtown? Not a lot, and yet in some ways, quite a bit. Newtown reminds us that this world is not our home and that we need to focus on ways of reaching our family, friends and neighbors with the Good News. Jesus IS our only source of peace and safety and He is coming soon and wants all to hear that Good News.

How do we collectively refocus our energies in sharing that news? Some of the topics of discussion will include:

• Finding ways to keep a forward motion happening in our Conference. We can be so intent on balancing a budget that mission loses momentum.

• Understanding the concept of all members in ministry — what does that mean to over 60% of our membership?

• Focusing on the future of our youth and educational institutions — how do we support them?

• Discovering ways for sharing the Good News as quickly and powerfully as we can.

• Soliciting agenda items that could be discussed at our next Constituency Session that would keep our conference focused on the mission we have been given.

Since this is the year for our constituency session we are asking all newly-elected delegates to be present at these town halls as well as lay-advisory members, and any member who is interested in growing God’s work in our territory. At past town halls we have tended to share the vision and issues of the conference, and though we will still do that for a small portion of the time, we want to spend the majority of time listening to your thoughts and vision for our conference.

How can we tell the story in more compelling ways that Jesus IS coming soon? Please come and be involved in shaping the direction of our mission to a world in turmoil!

THE EIGHT LAWS

If you’ve been an Adventist for awhile you’ve no doubt heard the term “The Eight Laws of Health”. The term was coined from a quote in the book Ministry of Healing, by Ellen G. White. The quote reads, "Pure air, sunlight, abstinence, rest, exercise, proper diet, the use of water, trust in Divine power—these are the true remedies.” (pg. 127)

Okay, so we probably know what most of those are, but what does "abstinence" mean? A quick Google search showed that Merriam-Webster Online listed synonyms for "abstinence" as "temperance" or "moderation".

So maybe the modern list should read like this...

• Clean air
• Sunlight
• Temperance or Moderation
• Rest
• Exercise
• A Healthy Diet
• Water
• Trust in God

If you listen to, read, or watch the news in any form, sooner or later you’ll hear about research extolling the value of all of these concepts. Every day it seems that science is proving what we’ve been told for years: It’s going to take more than medicine to keep you healthy.

Over the next few months, we will take a look at each of these concepts. We’ll learn a little bit about the science that is now proving them, what they can do to improve or maintain your health, and how to implement them in your every day life.

We hope you’ll join us as we dive into The Eight Laws of Health.
NOTE WORTHY...

REMEMBERING MAX C. TORKELSEN, SR. (1926-2012)
Max C. Torkelsen, longtime husband, father, church pastor, educator and administrator, passed peacefully to his rest at home in Portland, Ore., on Saturday evening, Dec. 8. He was 86. Torkelsen’s service for the Adventist Church began in a five-church district in North Dakota, moved into educational work as a principal and superintendent, and continued into conference administrative posts. He served as North Pacific Union Conference executive secretary from 1971-1974, and as president from 1976-1980. In later years he was a world church general vice president. He is survived by his wife, Ardis, sons Max and Monte, daughter Myrna Smith, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

SPOKANE TV CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF MINISTRY
He’s Alive Broadcasting (KHBA) of Spokane, Wash., celebrated 20 years of broadcast ministry in the Inland Northwest with a Gala Dinner on November 11. The record turnout at the dinner, hosted by Dan Matthews and Linda Shelton, raised $39,214 for the ministry’s operating costs. KHBA announced that they will soon start broadcasting on channel 39.1 in Kalispell, Mont. Additionally, the station is moving forward with plans for a remote production van. The van has been purchased and fundraising is underway to equip the vehicle to facilitate live event coverage at local churches.

PACIFIC PRESS DEDicates NEW EQUIPMENT
Dale Galusha, Pacific Press president, offered a prayer of dedication over a recently installed binding line—a Mueller Acoro A7. The new machine replaces the 22-year-old Kolbus Binder that had become outdated and costly to maintain. According to Chuck Bobst, vice president for production, the new system can bind and trim up to 7,000 books an hour—much quicker than the old system. But set up time is perhaps the most significant improvement. Whereas the old system took up to an hour to set up, the new equipment can be ready for action in as little as five minutes. This also makes it feasible to use on very short print runs. With a redesigned floor plan, the new system can move directly from the printing press to the binding, instead of the being transported to the other side of the factory.

ADVENTIST HEALTH OREGON NEWS NOTES
Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore., was recently re-certified as a Primary Stroke Center. Additionally, the hospital won HeathGrades’ Gynecological Surgery Excellence Award and is ranked in the top 10 percent of the nation, and number one in Oregon, for its gynecological surgery program. They have also received two silver Cardiovascular Advertising Awards for their Northwest Regional Heart Center. Walla Walla General Hospital, in Walla Walla, Wash., recently opened the first phase of their remodeled Emergency Center. The remodel makes room for new technology and generously-sized exam and triage rooms.

NAD STUDENT MISSIONARIES SAFE AFTER CATEGORY 4 TYPHOON HITS PALAU
The eye of category 4 typhoon "Bopha" came within 30 miles of the island nation of Palau last month. Some of the southern most islands of Palau were evacuated. Palau is part of the Guam-Micronesia Mission in the South Pacific which recently became part of the North American Division territory. There are 14 NAD student missionaries, two school principals and their wives, and pastor Carlos Turioc and his wife on the island of Koror in the Republic of Palau. Minor damage was sustained when a tree fell on a corner of the chapel at Palau Mission Academy.

OREGON ADVENTIST MEN’S CHOIR
You can now watch the November 10 Oregon Adventist Men’s Chorus (OAMC) concert in Vancouver, Wash. online! The concert was a celebration of God’s leading during their trip to South Africa. Included in the concert were five special guests from South Africa who shared stories of the growth the church has seen as a result of the OAMC’s recent trip. The service was streamed live and can now be viewed on the chorus’ website. Watch the concert at http://bit.ly/WwQGEw.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY THE NEWTOWN, CT SHOOTINGS
Officers and directors of the North American Division were in the midst of departmental meetings when they found out about the shootings at the elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut, last week. “Our hearts ache over yet another senseless shooting within the past few weeks,” said Pastor Dan Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. “We pray that God’s Spirit will break through the ghastly shadow of death to bring comfort and support to those who are grieving and broken.”

NEW ADDITION TO THE MONTANA CONFERENCE
The Montana Conference welcomes Sharon Staddon as their new VP for Administration and Finance. She and her husband, Thearon, will be arriving around the end of January. They are joining the team in Montana from the Alaska Conference. Please pray for the Staddons as they travel the many miles from Alaska to Montana.

UCC PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH
The Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) Executive Committee met Dec. 4 to discuss the election of a new president, following Bob Folkenberg Jr.’s departure for the Chinese Union Mission. The committee plans to meet again Jan. 8, 2013 to elect the next president. A short executive committee will follow this meeting at the UCC office in Spokane, Wash.

JOSE ROJAS TO ASSUME NEW POST, BEGINS NEW MINISTRY
José Vicente Rojas has left the North American Division (NAD) as of December 31 to assume a new role. He is launching a new ministry titled, “MOVEmentum.” Under his leadership of MOVEmentum, Rojas will conduct evangelistic meetings and speak for many Adventist events, provide consulting services to assist denominational leaders and organizations in strategic planning and implementation, as well as provide leadership training and consulting services to international governments and corporations within the context of Adventist values. Rojas began working for the NAD in 1994 as the youth and young adult ministries director. Since then, he has been the director of the Office of Volunteer Ministries which oversees all Division volunteer missions programs including student and taskforce missions, tutoring and mentoring sites, short-term mission groups and a host of networked outreach ministries across North America. While working as the youth director at the NAD, Rojas also worked at the White House, assisting the Bill Clinton administration in many humanitarian issues and legislative initiatives. He also served with General Colin Powell in the launch of America’s Promise: The Alliance for Youth, which has led to large-scale participation of volunteers serving at-risk youth in their local communities.

PASSING OF LEO SCHREVEN
Our prayers are with the family of Leo Schreven, following his death at the age of 51. The All Power Ministries website indicates that he tragically took his own life on the morning of Dec. 1. Schreven is survived by his wife Tamara, daughter Cierra, parents Leonardus and Johanna, brothers John and Herman, sister Nellie, and their spouses and children. With his All Power Ministries based in Kettle Falls, Wash., Leo Schreven was widely known for evangelistic meetings and seminars he presented around the world. A statement on the organization’s website indicates that the family will hold a private service and requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial gifts be made out to All Power Ministries. More information is available at the All Power Ministries website at http://www.allpowerministry.com.

For additional news visit http://www.oregonconference.org/news_entries
January
1 - New Year’s Day
23 - Town Hall Meeting · Grants Pass Church
24 - Town Hall Meeting · Eugene Church
28 - Children’s Ministry Camp Meeting Planning · Oregon Conference

February
1-3 - Pathfinder TLT Convention · Camp Tadmor, Lebanon, Ore.
5 - Town Hall Meeting · Bend Church
6 - Town Hall Meeting · Vancouver Church
7 - Town Hall Meeting · Holden Convention Center
8-10 - Collegiates/YA Winter Retreat · Oregon Conference Office
9-10 - Hispanic Adventurer Training · Holden Convention Center
15-18 - Pathfinder Snow Weekend · Big Lake Youth Camp

March
2 - Hispanic Children’s Ministry Conference · Holden Convention Center
3 - Vacation Bible School Fun Day · Holden Convention Center
15-17 - Oregon Prayer Retreat · Cottage Grove
22-24 - Adventurer Staff Retreat · Big Lake Youth Camp
31 - Easter Day

April
12-13 - Collegiate/YA Spring Retreat
13 - Hispanic Women’s Ministries Training · Holden Convention Center
26-28 - Pathfinder Spring Teen Event · Big Lake Youth Camp

May
3-5 - Men’s Conference · Grove Christian Camp · Dorena, Ore.
12 - Mother’s Day
18-19 - Hispanic Men’s Convocation · Canby Grove Christian Center
19 - Pathfinder Fair · Linn County Fairgrounds
27 - Memorial Day

June
2 - Milo Academy Graduation Weekend
2 - Adventurer Family Fun Day · Gladstone Park Conference Center
9 - PAA, RVAA, LAA, CAA Graduation Weekend
14-15 - Better Life Camp Meeting · Milo Academy
16 - Walla Walla University Graduation
16 - Father’s Day
19-29 - Big Lake Youth Camp Staff Training · Big Lake Youth Camp

Download a printable copy of this calendar at www.OregonConference.org
### 2013 Big Lake Youth Camp

#### Start Dates

| June 30 | Junior I Camp |
| July 7  | Junior II Camp |
| July 14 | Adventure Camp |
| July 21 | Tween Camp |
| July 28 | Teen I Camp |
| August 4 | Teen II Camp |
| August 14 | Family Camp I |
| August 29 | Family Camp II |

These dates reflect a tentative schedule. For more details visit www.BigLake.org.

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<th>July</th>
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<tr>
<td>4 - Independence Day</td>
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<td>11-13 - Hispanic Camp Meeting - Gladstone Park</td>
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<td>16-20 - Gladstone Camp Meeting - Gladstone Park</td>
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<th>August</th>
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<tr>
<td>9-11 - Pathfinder Leaders Convention - Holden Convention Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-18 - Hispanic Youth Convocation - Washington Family Ranch</td>
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<td>23-25 - Motorcycle Camp Meeting - Gladstone Park</td>
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<th>September</th>
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<td>2 - Labor Day</td>
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<td>8 - Big Lake Golf Benefit - The Reserve, Aloha, Ore.</td>
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<td>13-14 - Prayer Focus Weekend</td>
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<td>13-15 - Pathfinder Camporee - Central Oregon</td>
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<td>15 - Oregon Conference Constituency Session</td>
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<td>21 - Ministry Fest - Holden Convention Center</td>
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<td>22 - Children’s Ministry Conference - Holden Convention Center</td>
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<td>26-29 - Fall Bible Camp - Washington Family Ranch</td>
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<th>October</th>
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<tr>
<td>4-5 - Central Oregon Convocation</td>
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<td>11-13 - Collegiate/YA Fall Retreat</td>
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<td>16 - PACS Banquet</td>
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<td>18-20 - Oregon Christian Women’s Retreat - Main speaker: Elizabeth Talbot</td>
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<td>25-27 - Pathfinder Teen Retreat - Big Lake Youth Camp</td>
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<td>1-3 - Hispanic Women’s Retreat - Monarch Hotel, Clackamas, Ore.</td>
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<td>3 - Daylight Savings Time Ends</td>
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<td>11 - Veterans’ Day</td>
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<td>28 - Thanksgiving Day</td>
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<th>December</th>
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<td>2-5 - Pastors Prayer Retreat</td>
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<td>25 - Christmas Day</td>
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Check out more calendar events along with announcements, news, and stories, at www.OregonConference.org!

Download a printable copy of this calendar at www.OregonConference.org
NEIL NEDLEY DEPRESSION RECOVERY PROGRAM PREVIEW

When: January 6, 4:00 pm
Location: Stone Tower Adventist Church

On January 6 at 4:00 pm, Stone Tower Adventist Church will host an informational session on The Neil Nedley Depression Recovery Program that will begin January 13, 2013. The popular program is designed to help those who are suffering recover from depression. Attendees will learn what the seminar offers and will have the opportunity to take a test to determine if they are depressed. Registration for the 8-week class is not required to attend the preview. The preview and the 8-week course are free. However, there will be a charge for the workbooks. More information is provided at http://health.stonetowersda.org. If you are not familiar with Dr. Nedley, or his program, you can visit his website at www.drnedley.com.

SEMINAR - DEPRESSION: THE WAY OUT

When: January 7, 7:00 pm
Location: Whipple Creek Adventist Church

An 8-week program for healing your brain and improving your mood, “Depression: The Way Out” presents simple self-help, nutritional and lifestyle changes for breaking free from depression. To register, attend the free introductory session at 7:00 pm, January 7, 2013, at Whipple Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church, 302 NW 179th St, Ridgefield, WA. The program runs January 14 through March 4, Mondays at 7:00 pm. Information is also available on their website at www.WhippleCreekAdventist.org.

OAMC ALBUM RELEASE

When: Available now!
Location: Websites listed below


GYM NITE AT WOODLAND

When: January 19, 6:00 pm
Location: Woodland Adventist Church

Volleyball, basketball, and more! Bring your own sports equipment if you want to. This gym nite is being hosted by the Woodland Adventist Church and will start at 6:00 p.m. We ask that each person bring $2 to help with heating costs. Everyone is welcome! Contact Pennie Hallsted for more info at 360-225-0301.

FOR MORE ANNOUNCEMENT & EVENT INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.OREGONCONFERENCE.ORG/ANNOUNCEMENTS – THIS PAGE IS UPDATED WEEKLY.

PLEASE NOTE... There are no transitions in this month’s eCommunique. We will have a complete transition list in the February issue.