CAMP MEETINGS ARE COMING!
July is coming and with it, Hispanic and Gladstone Camp Meetings. Start planning your visit this summer now!

PAGE 3

STRESS: THE GOOD, AND THE BAD
Are you stressed? Learn how you can reduce your stress, and better manage the stress you do encounter.

PAGE 3

NOTE WORTHY NEWS
Bits of news from around the Conference and around the world that we thought you might find interesting.

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HAPPENING AROUND THE CONFERENCE
Check out these photos showing a bit of what’s been happening around the Oregon Conference as of late.

PAGE 2

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED GRACE?
By Gary McLain

Did you know that the Adventist Book Center (ABC) is much more than a retail store selling Adventist veggie meat and Bibles? Yes, good food and good books are the substance of the ABC, but there is more to it than that. It is a mission.

Eileen, an employee of the local ABC, went to take the trash out of the restrooms one Wednesday afternoon and noticed that in the women’s restroom the trash was more full than usual. Compacting the trash in the trashcan so it wouldn’t fall out as she pulled the bag out of the can, she heard a lot of unusual crunchy noises. So she took off the top few paper towels and noticed four empty buckets of dried fruit, some candy wrappers, and a half-eaten fake beef jerky strip. It was fairly obvious that someone had emptied the contents of these containers into their pockets or purse. What a disappointing feeling to come upon such a find. It added up to about $40 of food. Eileen reported it to the store manager, Steve, but they had no idea of who had done this.

Two days later, an attractive twenty-something, well-dressed woman came in to the store. Zach remembered her coming in earlier that week and mentioned it to Sharon. He said “I have a feeling we need to keep our eyes on her.” They covertly watched as she shopped. Sure enough, she picked up two more containers of dried fruit and meandered toward, and then into, the women’s restroom. Eileen immediately went into the restroom, but the young lady had gone into one of the stalls. Eileen could only hear the sounds of opening containers and such. She went directly to Steve and alerted him to the situation.

Close by the restroom entrances there is a reading nook with a few chairs. Steve took a seat and waited for the young lady to come out. She emerged after about 15 minutes, and Steve politely invited her to take a seat and asked if he could talk with her for a moment.

She agreed and sat down. Steve said, “I know you have been stealing from us.” She confessed

continued on page 2...
and began crying. What do you think Steve said next?

He said, "I want to help you. Is there anything we can do to help you not steal any more?"

"My parents fight and I don’t have very much food at home. It is really hard to get good nutritious food." After she explained her situation, Steve had prayer with her and they talked about what had just happened. Then he took her to the front to meet Sharon and Eileen.

Handing her one of Sharon’s business cards, Steve then invited the young woman to come back on Monday. They would have some groceries for her because she needed some food. She stood there with a look of "what have I gotten myself into?" Then Steve asked if the ladies could give her a hug before she left, and she agreed.

The idea was for the staff to connect with her. Trying to make a friend for Christ and giving grace, Steve had made it clear that she was welcome to come back to the store, but not to steal. Eileen was taken over with emotion at the extension of grace taking place in their store. Natural instinct is to want people to “pay” for their wrong doings or to get even with them, but grace was extended to this young lady.

Sharon and Eileen went shopping that very afternoon and had fun getting some great food items for the young lady, even purchasing some gift cards to a local sandwich shop. They eagerly looked forward to Monday. But ten o’clock on Monday rolled around and their doubts of her returning came true.

Grace equals unmerited mercy. Romans 3:23 (KJV) states, “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” Undeserving as we each are, God extends His grace to you and me on a daily basis. Can we do any less for our fellow man?
STRESS: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

We all have stress in our lives. But how you choose to react to stress can have an enormous physical impact. Stress management starts with identifying the sources of stress in your life. If your methods of coping with stress aren’t contributing to your greater emotional and physical health, it’s time to find healthier ones. Here are some healthy ways to relax and recharge:

- Go for a walk.
- Call a good friend.
- Write in your journal.
- Light scented candles.
- Play with a pet.
- Get a massage.
- Listen to music.
- Spend time in nature.
- Sweat out tension with a good workout.
- Take a long bath.
- Take time to meditate.
- Work in your garden.
- Curl up with a good book.
- Enjoy sipping a warm cup of tea.

To learn more, join a free class presented by Adventist Medical Center on Tuesday, May 13 from 6:00-7:00 pm. Register for Stress: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly by calling 503-256-4000.

2014 CAMP MEETINGS

We would like to invite you to spend July 10-12 and 15-19 with us in Gladstone, Ore. for Hispanic Camp Meeting and Gladstone Camp Meeting!

Our theme this year is Here am I… Members in Ministry. Our prayer is that you will be blessed and inspired by the presenters, events, and the fellowship of friends and family, then filled with the Holy Spirit. As you have the opportunity to share Jesus with your own community.

The main speaker for this year’s Hispanic Camp Meeting will be Elizabeth Talbot. There will also be programming, activities, and events for all ages.

Mike Tucker, speaker/director for Faith for Today Television Ministries will be speaking for the Sabbath morning worship service in the Plaza Pavilion.

Richard and Jo Ann Davidson will be the morning Devotional and morning Bible Study presenters. Richard is an Old Testament scholar and professor at Andrews University Theological Seminary. Jo Ann is a professor of Systematic Theology at Andrews University Theological Seminary.

Each department in the conference office is industriously working to bring in speakers and presenters that we think you will enjoy and be truly blessed by.

Mike Jones will be sharing healing ideas for church dropouts and others.

Bob Mix will be presenting ways to very simply share your faith in God, and your story/journey with Him.

Other speakers will include Vicki Griffin, Jim Moon, Gordon Botting, and Chuck Hagele, speaking on a variety of subjects, including potluck, work, and church activity safety; personal finance; disaster response; dealing with grief; health and wellness; Jewish ministry; and much more!

For the younger generations, there will be spiritually stimulating activities, community service projects, concerts, games, and fellowship with friends—young and old.

We hope you will be able to join us this year, whether it is for Sabbath, or the whole week. Come share in the fellowship and blessing that is camp meeting!

Visit www.OregonConference.org and click on Gladstone Camp Meeting on the left, or look for the Gladstone Camp Meeting banner on the homepage, to learn more, or to make campsite reservations.

YOU’RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF

MAY 18, 6 pm

EMLBASSY SUITES HOTEL – PORTLAND AIRPORT
7900 NE 82nd Ave., Portland, Ore.

Featuring Jaime Jorge

Jaime has dedicated his talents to sharing the love of God through sacred and classical concerts all over the world.

A table of 10 is $500, individuals are $50. If you’re unable to attend, please consider supporting Project Patch.

Reserve your seats and meal choices by calling 360-890-8495 or visiting www.projectpatch.org/30years.
“USE ME OR LOSE ME!”

INVOLVING THE YOUNG IN THE CHURCH

“Use me or lose me!” This phrase keeps going through my mind as I reflect on the ideas shared during a 180 Symposium in Medford this past month. It was a special privilege to meet with six young adults from the area and hear their vision for their church. The ideas and stories we heard were positive and encouraging. One of the young adults told about her decision to go back to church after being away for a while. As she was driving to work one day she noticed an Adventist church and thought she should reconnect. However, she knew that just walking through the door without a purpose would not bring her back week after week. She contacted the pastor and stated that if there was something she could do on Sabbath mornings she would recommit to being an active member. Praise God for an insightful pastor that welcomed this young woman back into the church by involving her in a ministry each Sabbath morning.

This past month Beth and I had the opportunity to visit ReMix, one of our new companies which is comprised of a group of young adults that felt called to grow their own church. This company began as a group of young adults from one of our Spanish churches who felt a desire to have their own Sabbath services. Though it started out as just a Sabbath morning experience it has since grown into a group that is passionate about reaching the community. One of the leaders told my wife and me his story. He described how he had been disconnected from church and had been searching in the world for something meaningful, but now, through the caring support of a couple of pastors, and because of the vision of this group, he is now actively involved in leading other young adults into ministry. He is also looking into how this group can grow in other areas of metro Portland. One of the youth leaders shared with me about how, just a year ago, he had been a non-committed Christian but how he found his passion as he became involved in teaching other youth.

And just yesterday I attended the trustee committee meeting at Walla Walla University. Yes, we did the usual budget approvals and big picture visioning but the most significant part of the day was listening to passionate students who are actively involved in developing their minds and leadership skills and hearing the university leadership talk about how to keep them involved when they leave Walla Walla. The question is not whether we have an army of youth rightly trained, but rather will we use them when they re-enter our church doors. They want to make a difference, they want to share their faith and passion, and they want to be used. Are we willing to involve them? Once again, it’s “Use me or lose me.”

— Al Reimche, Oregon Conference President
**NOTE WORTHY...**

**DON GRAY MEMORIAL RESCHEDULED**
A memorial service for long-time outreach leader Don Gray, has been rescheduled for May 31, at 3:00 pm, at the Rockwood Church in Portland, Ore. The original service scheduled for Feb. 8 was cancelled due to inclement weather. Gray, Northwest born, raised, and educated, was well-known throughout the Adventist world church for his tireless work in soul-winning and evangelism. He died on Jan. 11.

**WHAT DO MILLENNIALS REALLY THINK?**
The North American Division recently commissioned a study by Barna Group to investigate how its congregations can more effectively maintain engagement with the Millennial (20-30) age group. In order to understand their common experiences and attitudes, Barna Group, a Christian research firm, surveyed Millennials who were (or had been) part of an Adventist congregation. The survey was followed by multiple moderated online discussions with Adventist and former Adventist young adults. Based on their responses to various questions in the survey, respondents were categorized as either “engaged” or “disengaged” from their local congregations. Engaged respondents were those who attend services at least monthly and indicated that church is relevant for them. Disengaged respondents did not meet one or both of those criteria. Key differences between these two groups were then extracted from the data. Read a summary of the study findings online from Ministry magazine at [http://bit.ly/1HNpqs](http://bit.ly/1HNpqs).

**PUBLISHING RESTRUCTURE DISCUSSION RENEWED**
On April 24, the General Conference and North American Division (NAD) administrations requested the boards of the Pacific Press Publishing Association and Review and Herald Publishing Association to indicate their readiness to receive a formal proposal for the re-structuring of publishing in the NAD. A prepared statement to the boards from Ted Wilson, world church president, and Dan Jackson, NAD president, affirmed that “the publishing ministries will be a dynamic part of the Revelation 18 prophetic mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.” The statement revives a discussion that had been proposed but suspended in 2013. More details will come in the weeks ahead. Read more at [http://bit.ly/5i4z9P](http://bit.ly/5i4z9P).

**DOCTOR’S LIFE CELEBRATED**
The Yakima (Wash.) Church was packed on April 26 to celebrate the life of Jay Randall Sloop. Sloop, a retired obstetrician, disappeared while on a morning walk during a medical mission trip in Kiev, Ukraine in May 2013. The weekend’s celebration was a mixture of musical tributes and shared memories from family, friends and colleagues. Guests included those who traveled from Kiev for the service. In addition to the thousands of babies he has delivered, Sloop’s career is marked by his dedication to health and education, founding the Total Health Lifestyle Center, and his post-retirement service to the Upper Columbia Conference as health ministry director. Read more about the service at [http://bit.ly/1XQvON](http://bit.ly/1XQvON).

**LAS CRUCES REVERSES CITY ORDINANCE**
Las Cruces, N.M. reversed an ordinance that Adventist legal counsel said violated religious expression and the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The 1997 ordinance defined a business as “any profession, trade or occupation and all and every kind of calling,” including the work of pastors, priests, rabbis, bishops, imams and other religious leaders. It required a registration fee and passing a discretionary review process before a pastor-led church could gain approval to conduct worship services or provide pastoral care.

**WORLD CHURCH CYBER-THEFT UPDATE**
New details reveal how a compromised password allowed the cyber-theft of approximately $500,000 from world church accounts late last year. Scammers laundered funds in transactions through personal bank accounts of five apparently unwitting victims. Robert Lemon, world church treasurer, says procedures have been modified to prevent any similar problems in the future. There is no indication that any church employees were knowingly involved in unethical behavior. While the church was able to recover some of the funds that were still in the bank accounts before they were frozen, Adventist financial officers said they’re unsure whether the remaining losses are recoverable.

**13TH SABBATH OFFERING MAKES HISTORY**
A long-time staple of Adventist giving, the quarterly Thirteenth Sabbath Offering reached a new milestone recently. Church leaders announced this month that the fourth quarter 2013 offering surpassed $1 million for the first time in the offering’s history. This record-breaking offering will help fund innovative outreach throughout Europe, including projects in Greece and Macedonia. While mission offerings through North American churches fell by 2 percent last year, they grew more than 6 percent in other parts of the world. North American tithe payers contributed nearly $950 million to the church’s mission, compared with more than $1.4 billion from divisions outside North America.

**SUSPENSION OF THE RECORD KEEPER PROJECT RAISES MANY QUESTIONS**
When the Seventh-day Adventist world church leadership announced their decision to suspend the release of an 11-episode web series called “The Record Keeper” on April 11, conversations began around the world! Here are a few of them...

- Official ‘The Record Keeper’ Facebook page - [http://on.fb.me/1R8xYCI](http://on.fb.me/1R8xYCI)
- Save The Record Keeper Facebook page - [http://on.fb.me/1mmyUFz](http://on.fb.me/1mmyUFz)
- Cancel The Record Keeper Facebook page - [http://on.fb.me/1J8sDDo](http://on.fb.me/1J8sDDo)
- A Sampling of Blog Posts:

**ADVENTIST MISSION PILOT DIES IN CRASH**
Long-time Adventist mission pilot Bob Roberts, featured in a video on this quarter’s Mission 360 DVD, was tragically killed in a plane crash on April 9. According to local accounts, the plane crashed during takeoff from Roberts’ home base in Doyo Baru in Papua, Indonesia. The plane was carrying six passengers. At least one other person died as a result of the crash. Roberts is survived by his wife, Jan, and three grown children. The family has ties to the Northwest: Bob graduated from Upper Columbia Academy and attended Walla Walla College. Jan went through Auburn Adventist Academy and graduated from Walla Walla College in 1973. Sons Eric and Gary are also Walla Walla alumni. Read more from the Adventist News Network ([http://bit.ly/1IM9SCi](http://bit.ly/1IM9SCi)) and watch the video regarding Bob’s missionary pilot ministry at [http://bit.ly/PYIjGeB](http://bit.ly/PYIjGeB).

**PBS BEGINS AIRING MEDICAL DOCUMENTARY**
On April 4, PBS stations will begin broadcasting a new television series titled “Life on the Line.” Produced by Loma Linda University Health (LLUH), the show features courageous individuals around the world and their journeys to find healing. “This show isn’t just about the doctors, but how real people find meaning in the midst of a tragedy,” said Patricia Kelikani, director of Advancement Films at LLUH. “This is where the real story lives and their strength of spirit shines.” The show begins airing on the PBS World Channel this month, with wider coverage in July. Find out more at [http://bit.ly/1XUA5A](http://bit.ly/1XUA5A).

Messianah’s Mansion coming to Newberg

When: June 14-22, 2014
Location: Newberg Adventist Church

Messianah’s Mansion is coming to the Newberg Adventist Church, June 14-22! This life-size replica of the ancient Hebrew tabernacle gives visitors a chance to glimpse the past. Operated by the staff and students of Oklahoma Academy in Harrah, Oklahoma, Messiah’s Mansion has been in operation since 2003. The students, along with many volunteers, have completed exhibits in the US, Canada, and Jamaica. Plan your visit by visiting http://bit.ly/1nePFxK, calling 503-538-2622 or emailing info@newbergadventist.org.

Sunnyside’s 33rd Annual Strawberry Vespers

When: June 21, 5:30 pm
Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church

Sunnyside Adventist Church’s 33rd Annual Strawberry Vespers will be held Sabbath, June 21 at 5:30 pm. This year’s program promises to be a great event for you to enjoy with family and friends! Enjoy some of Portland’s finest musicians, plenty of good fellowship, and lots of strawberry shortcake! At 8:00 pm, the Heritage Singers will be performing as part of their Northwest tour. – This is an evening you won’t want to miss!

Camp Meeting Children’s Divisions in Search Of...

When: Needed middle of July 2014
Location: Gladstone, Ore.

Children’s Camp Meeting 2014 – The Incredible Race – Hebrews 12:1 “Let us run the race…” The Oregon Conference Children’s Ministry department is looking for individuals that can provide a special feature for the children divisions (ages 5-6 and 7-10) about car racing or demonstrations of remote control cars. If you can help, please contact Sherri Uhrig at 503-850-3537.

The King’s Heralds in Concert

When: May 10, 11:00 am
Location: Newberg Adventist Church

Newberg Adventist Church invites you to attend the King’s Heralds in concert on Saturday, May 10th at 11:00 am. Bring your family and invite your friends to be part of this joyful morning before Mother’s Day event. Newberg Adventist Church is located at 530 E Edgewood Dr. in Newberg, Ore. This is a free event.

FIJI Mission Trip

When: August 17-September 1, 2014
Location: Rabi, Fiji

Interested in missions? Pleasant Valley Adventist Church has teamed up with Jabes Humanitarian Foundation to help build a church in Rabi, Fiji and we are looking for volunteers! We will also be sending a shipping container of supplies to Fiji in conjunction with the mission trip. A list of needed supplies is available if you would like to contribute. Contact Pleasant Valley Church at 503-658-2248 for details.

Heritage Singers Concert

When: June 21, 8:00 pm
Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church

Sunnyside Adventist Church invites you to attend the Heritage Singers in concert on Saturday, June 21 at 8:00 pm. Bring your family and invite your friends to be part of this joyful evening. Sunnyside Adventist Church is located at 10501 SE Market Street in Portland, Ore. This is a free event.

Chip - Complete Health Improvement Program

When: May 8-July 10, 2014
Location: Adventist Medical Center

CHIP, the Complete Health Improvement Program is a 10-week, intensive therapeutic lifestyle improvement program which can dramatically reduce health risks associated with heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity and other conditions. CHIP is changing lives for the better wherever it is being offered. Regular sessions begin Thursday May 8 and are at 6:30 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays through July 10. For more information call 503-512-9055 or email HoodViewCHIP@gmail.com.

Project Patch Celebrating 30 Years!

When: May 18, 6:00 pm
Location: Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland, Ore.

You’re invited to join Project Patch in celebrating 30 years of miracles, faithfulness, transformation, and restoration with a dinner and concert featuring Jaime Jorge on May 18 at 6:00 pm! It will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel – Portland Airport. For more information visit www.projectpatch.org/30years or call 360-690-8495. Come and learn about all that Patch is doing to build thriving families, restore hope to teens, and empower supportive communities.

You are Needed for Camp Meeting!

When: July 2014
Location: Hispanic & Gladstone Camp Meetings

The Oregon Conference is looking for those willing and able to volunteer during camp meeting this year! We are seeking volunteers for both Hispanic Camp Meeting (July 10-12) and Gladstone Camp Meeting (July 15-19). We need volunteers for Hospitality, Shuttle Drivers, Safety and Security, as well as licensed RNs and EMTs for 8-hour shifts. Whether you would like to work a shift daily, or only have time for a single shift, your services would be greatly appreciated! To volunteer, go to http://bit.ly/1neShLP, contact Lisa Rodriguez via email at lisa.rodriguez@oc.npuc.org, or by phone at 503-850-3575.

All links are clickable here and elsewhere in the eCommuniqué.
Transitions

Marco Quarteroli is joining the Oregon Conference from the Northern California Conference to pastor the Mosaic churches in Hillsboro and Salem.

Jonathan Gomez has joined the Oregon Conference as a moving van driver.

Paul Johnson (Corleen) is the interim pastor for the Mt. Tabor church.

Oregon Conference job openings currently include a full-time Hispanic Ministries Assistant and a part-time Auditor. Job descriptions and applications are available at http://bit.ly/1klioVg.

GLADSTONE CAMP MEETING

July 15-19, 2014

Here Am I...

Members in Ministry

This year’s speakers include:
David Asscherick & Mike Tucker & Jo Ann Davidson

Learn more at www.OregonConference.org

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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