2014 – the year that became synonymous with protests, extreme weather and ISIS. It seems that not a day has gone by without some news article addressing violence, riots, random killing, or a changing weather system, and our world questions what this all means.

What a gift to turn a new page, a new year, and hang a new calendar on the wall. Yet we know that even a new page, a new year, or a new calendar won't change this world. As the Bible aptly describes, "People will be terrified at what they see coming upon the earth…." Luke 21:26 NLT

I remember in my early teen years helping my dad with smoking cessation programs and watching a film called "One in Twenty Thousand," which described the horrors of smoking right down to a removal of a cancerous lung with all the dramatics that could be mustered. At one of the showings, a friend of mine with aspirations of being an emergency medical technician passed out on the floor during the film. And yet within days of showing the film many of the smokers continued their habit. Fear had not worked, because fear is a weak motivator.

Just a couple of weeks ago I heard this thought from an article in the Review and Herald. "The shortness of time is frequently urged as an incentive for seeking righteousness and making Christ our friend. This should not be the great motive with us; for it savors of selfishness. Is it necessary that the terrors of the day of God should be held before us, that we may be compelled to right action through fear? It ought not to be so. Jesus is attractive. He is full of love, mercy, and compassion. He proposes to be our friend, to walk with us through all the rough pathways of life…."
Jesus, the Majesty of heaven, proposes to elevate to companionship with Himself those who come to Him with their burdens, their weaknesses, and their cares. He will count them as His children, and finally give them an inheritance of more value than the empires of kings...” (RH August 2, 1881 Par. 6)

Jesus is attractive. He wants to be our companion. He is willing to take weak, resolution-breaking people and count them as His children. What motivation, what love, what amazing grace. It isn’t fear of the future that should motivate us, but the phenomenal love of an attractive Savior. And the beauty is that not only are we given that gift of love, but this crazy, fear-driven world is invited to share this new motivation for change.

“It is the privilege of every soul to be a living channel through which God can communicate to the world the treasures of His grace, the unsearchable riches of Christ. There is nothing that Christ desires so much as agents who will represent to the world His Spirit and character. There is nothing that the world needs so much as the manifestation through humanity of the Saviour’s love. All heaven is waiting for channels through which can be poured the holy oil to be a joy and blessing to human hearts.” – (COL 419.2)

My prayer for our conference, our churches and each one of us during 2015, is that the attractiveness of Jesus will be the motive that fills our lives with joy. As we experience His attractiveness and are motivated by His love, we will become the channels in this world of the Savior’s love, compassion, and grace. His people, His church — channels through which the holy oil can fill this world’s fearful hearts with joy. “For God so loved the world...”
ANNUAL CONFERENCE TIME TO SHARE GETS A MAKEOVER

It's January, which means it's time for Oregon Conference Town Hall Meetings. This year however, you won't see "Town Hall Meetings" on any conference calendar. Instead, you will see this annual time sharing aptly named "Conference Connect." The format will give the chance for church members and conference personnel to share. In fact, this year an important question will be asked: Why do our congregations exist? What is our reason for being? And we'll discuss those questions both in a general sense, from the "Members in Ministry" point of view, and also in breakout groups, including those focused on Education, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Elders, Children's Ministry, and Member Ministries.

Another important item to note is that this year the February 18 Conference Connect gathering will be live streamed, and then will follow each of the focus groups in a separate stream, allowing you to choose the discussion you want to follow. Chat participation will also be included, so even if you can't make it in person, you can be there virtually!

Here's this year's schedule...

- January 27 - Eugene Adventist Church
  1275 Polk St., Eugene, Ore.

- January 28 - Grants Pass Adventist Church
  1360 NE 9th St., Grants Pass, Ore.

- February 17 - Meadow Glade Adventist Church
  11001 NE 189th St., Battle Ground, Wash.

- February 18 - Beaverton Adventist Church
  14645 SW Davis Rd., Beaverton, Ore.
  (Will also be live streamed at www.OregonConference.org.)

- February 19 - Bend Adventist Church
  21610 NE Butler Market Rd., Bend, Ore.

All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

LEBANON CHURCH GIFTED UNIQUE ART

Members of the Lebanon Church in Sweet Home, Ore., were in for a real treat when they entered the narthex on Sabbath, September 13. Above the doors into the sanctuary was the long-awaited picture of Jesus and the children.

Bonnie Edgerly, Lebanon church member, worked for three years and more than 3,000 hours to create the beautiful composition constructed of small pieces of wood in the method of intarsia. Intarsia is a form of wood inlay that goes back to before the seventh century. The method uses varied shapes, sizes and species of wood fitted together to create an illusion of depth. Each piece is individually cut, shaped, and finished. The pieces are then fitted together like a jigsaw puzzle and glued into place.

Edgerly used 15 different kinds of wood. Rather than using stain or paint to create the colors in the piece, the colors came from using different wood species. The picture measures 6 feet by 8 feet.

Edgerly started doing intarsia woodworking in about 1990 but stopped when she began working as a nurse around 1993. She hadn't done any since then until the church decorating committee asked her if she would be willing to take on this project in 2011.

Judy Blackwood, Lebanon Church communication leader
If the Lord can do great things with a SINGLE LOAF imagine what He can do with a single life.

— DAVID BUTLER & EMILY BELLE FREEMAN
**Tragedy in Lincoln City**

Our prayers go out to the Lincoln City Adventist School family. Right before the start of Christmas vacation, this school in the coastal town of Lincoln City, Ore., experienced the tragic death of a 16-year-old ninth-grade female student. Reports reveal that she collapsed during a PE class on a Tuesday morning. School staff administered CPR until paramedics arrived. The student was transported to the hospital where she died. “Our hearts are breaking,” says Gale Crosby, Oregon Conference vice president for education. Read more at http://bit.ly/1xWIP6k.

**CUC to be Called Burman University**

Trustees of Canadian University College (CUC) voted in December to change the institution’s name to Burman University. The new nomenclature, which will be fully implemented following the current academic year in May 2015, honors the legacy of Charles and Leona Burman who founded the college in 1907. Charles served as the first president of the school that would later become known as CUC.

Leona, taught English, science, language, geography and acted as school nurse. Since the “university college” portion of the current name has caused confusion in some regions, the new title, says CUC President Mark Haynal, will more clearly reflect the status and role of the institution. Read more at http://bit.ly/1X1R9u.

**Contact Your NPUC General Conference Delegates**

Northwest members who are especially interested in issues to be discussed at this year’s General Conference session in San Antonio, Texas, can now contact each NPUC delegate if desired. The 21 delegates to the July session are listed online along with their email addresses at GleanerNow.com. Adventist Church governance is based on delegates representing their geographical territory. If you want your voice to be heard, take the opportunity to express your views or concerns to an NPUC delegate. Find a list of the NPUC delegates at http://bit.ly/1lwcMYx.

**Hundreds Attend GYC in Phoenix**

Hundreds of Adventist young people gathered for the 12th annual Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC) conference in Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 31-Jan. 4. Nearly 200 youth came early for literature evangelism training before the actual conference and visited more than 70,000 Phoenix area homes. That effort inspired another outreach on Friday during the conference, when dozens of young people shared inspiration material with more than 30,000 homes.

On New Year’s Day, Ted N.C. Wilson, world church president, encouraged GYC attendees to make Jesus their role model and Savior. Read more about this year’s GYC conference at http://bit.ly/1Av16VZ.

**10 Days of Prayer**

As the new year begins, Adventist Church leaders are inviting members around the world to join in united prayer for 10 days this month. Beginning this past Wednesday, Jan. 7 and culminating Sabbath, Jan. 17, a special focus this year will be prayer for this summer’s General Conference (GC) session. This year’s prayer event is the fourth time it has been held. “We need to pray for unity and the Lord’s presence, that the latter rain be poured out at GC session,” says Jerry Page Adventist Church Ministerial Association director. The Ministerial Association has prepared a special website with prayer resources available for members and churches. Learn more at http://bit.ly/1x1X1R9u.

**Students Return to the Classroom After Flooding**

Washington Conference reports that students at Grays Harbor Adventist Christian School in Montesano, Wash., returned to the classroom Tuesday after recent flooding and landslides initially prevented them from resuming their studies on Monday. Principal Adria Hay reports the school and both Adventist churches in the area are fine. The community, she says, has a lot of clean-up to do, some people are displaced, and some roads are closed. Please join us in praying for the hard hit communities in Washington’s flood-stricken areas.

**Denomination Appoints Ebola Coordinator**

The Ebola challenges in West Africa may have slipped from the main headlines, but urgent and ongoing response is still needed. To address these issues, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has hired Elizabeth Foulkes for a period of at least three months. Foulkes, who previously worked on the international health team at World Vision US, holds a master’s degree in global health from Loma Linda University’s School of Public Health, and will coordinate the response of various Adventist agencies. Read more at http://bit.ly/1KqN8dm.

**Bullock Publishes Book**

Few people remember the bitter and violent labor union struggles that raged during the 1930s in Central Washington’s coal mining communities. David Bullock, Walla Walla University (WWU) professor of communication, grew up in one of those communities long after the strife ended, but he was intrigued by a 1934 article that characterized his town as a “little nest of fascists.” In digging deeper into that history, Bullock found the seed for a book he has published with a story largely untold until now. Coal Wars: Unions, Strikes, and Violence in Depression-Era Central Washington is available at www.amazon.com and www.barnesandnoble.com. Read more about it at http://bit.ly/1IwNfQX.

**Herbert Douglas Dies at 87**

Herbert E. Douglass, well-known Adventist scholar, administrator and author, died Monday, Dec. 15. He was 87. Douglass, who served several years as a Pacific Press associate book editor and vice-president for editorial development, helped to write the Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary series. He also served as president of Atlantic Union College and Weimar Institute, and was an associate editor of the Review and Herald (Adventist Review). Read more about Douglass in recollections from David Trim, General Conference archivist at http://bit.ly/1Av16VZ.

For additional news visit http://www.oregonconference.org/news_entries.
NEW YEAR SOCIAL
When: January 18, 6:30 pm
Location: Lents Adventist Church Activity Center
The Lents youth and young adults are pleased to present a New Year Social on January 18 at 6:30 pm in the Lents Activity Center. Sunnyside Church associate pastor, Jonathan Russell will be speaking about the new year and new beginnings. The Lents Church Activity Center is located at 8835 SE Woodstock Blvd in Portland, Ore. We hope to see you there!

CENTER FOR BIBLE, FAITH, & MISSION SEMINAR
When: January 30-31, 2015
Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church
“Gifted Women, Reluctant Church: Where to From Here?” will be presented by the Center for Bible, Faith and Mission seminar, sponsored by Walla Walla University School of Theology. Presenters include David Thomas, Walla Walla University School of Theology dean, and Carl Coseart, Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC) participant and Annual Council presenter. Friday night at 7:00 pm, Sabbath morning at 8:45 am and 11:15 am, and Sabbath afternoon at 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm at Sunnyside Adventist Church located at 10501 SE Market St., Portland, Ore.

REVELATION SEMINAR
Location: Woodburn Adventist Church
You are invited to a Revelation seminar coming to Woodburn. Cami Oetman’s sincere and enthusiastic presentation style helps individuals gain a sense of God’s purpose for their lives. A former model, with a master’s degree and medical career, Cami thought she had it all. Cami has since dedicated herself to helping people find the hope and the courage she found in the Bible. Learn about the Mark of the Beast, the Seal of the living God; the Bible truth about Hell; what happens when you die; and God’s Blueprint to be saved.

FELIX HELL IN CONCERT
When: January 11, 4:00 pm
Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church
January 11 at 4:00 pm, Felix Hell will be in concert at Sunnyside Adventist Church. German concert organist Felix Hell is a phenomenon. Hailed as the “most well known young concert organist worldwide,” and “undoubtedly one of the major talents of the century,” he “sets standards that many established and honoured older players would struggle to equal.” To learn more visit www.felixhell.com. This concert is free and open to the public. Sunnyside Adventist Church is located 10501 SE Market St., Portland, Ore.

FOREM MORE ANNOUNCEMENT & EVENT INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.OREGONCONFERENCE.ORG/ANNOUNCEMENTS — THIS PAGE IS UPDATED WEEKLY.
Dave Shasky (Sylvia) retired from pastoring the Redmond/Sisters district, effective with the new year.

Daniel Baerg (Julia) has resigned his position as associate director for transportation and trucking for the Oregon Conference.

Steve Wall (Janice) has transitioned from interim to regular pastor for the Astoria/Long Beach/Seaside district.

Ty Gibson (Sue) will be pastoring half-time for the Storyline church plant in Eugene, and continuing ministry with LightBearers/Arise.

James Rafferty (Rise) will be pastoring the Cascade church half-time and continuing ministry with LightBearers/Arise.

David Woodruff (Lori) is transitioning from the Upper Columbia Conference to pastor in The Dalles and Wahkiacus.

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**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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