

DECEMBER 1, 1998

Visitor

COLUMBIA UNION

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Larry Evans
President
New Jersey Conference



Does prayer really change anything? Is prayer like a TV remote control? Does God need to be convinced of our concerns? Are there reasons why our prayers aren't answered the way we think they should be?

Perhaps you've asked questions like these, and perhaps questions like these leave you with more doubts than assurances about the need to pray.

What we do know is that historically, every great reformation and revival has been preceded by a revival of prayer. Does this suggest that prayer is a remote control that awakens heaven to our needs? I don't think so. According to Daniel 9, heaven is already alert to our needs and is ready to respond immediately. While satanic forces do interfere, the power of prayer links us with the power of heaven. When facing the powers of darkness, the ministry of prayer is not an option.

We make at least five basic assumptions when we enter into an active prayer ministry. They are:

1. The resources of heaven were not depleted at Pentecost! Heaven's storehouse is still full of spiritual blessings.

2. God still delights to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him.

3. We're just as dependent on divine power for our life and work as were people in Pentecostal times—we just may not recognize it.

4. Prayer is still the appointed means for drawing down these heavenly blessings in power on ourselves and those around us.

5. God still seeks for men and women who will, with all their other work of ministering, specially give themselves to persevering prayer.

Business cannot go on as usual. We cannot afford "to play church." Each of us has been given a prayer ministry—an opportunity to link heaven's resources with the ever-pressing spiritual drought around us.

E.M. Bounds said it well: "The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men—men of prayer."

Come, Holy Spirit. Anoint each of us for the ministry before us!

COVER: Frank Hale Jr. is the author of *Angels Watching Over Me*, an autobiography that charts his experiences from birth to his retirement from Ohio State University. The cover picture of Hale was taken by Dick Duerksen, vice president for creative ministries of the Columbia Union and editor of the *Visitor*.



Seventh-day Adventists within the Columbia Union rejoice that we are saved by grace alone and resolve that the gospel of Jesus Christ will permeate all we do. This commitment reflects the message and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and causes us to strive for these objectives:

1. The local congregation is the central focus and driving force of the Adventist church; therefore, the energies of the conferences and union will be directed toward making it successful as a spiritual, educational and evangelistic center.

2. God creates us as unique individuals and calls us into the Adventist community of believers; therefore, we celebrate our diversity in race, culture, gender and viewpoint yet are united in the truth and mission of Christ.

3. Sabbath morning worship is vital to spiritual growth; therefore, every congregation will examine its services to discover if they are attractively meeting the devotional and intellectual needs of the members and secular community. The result will be a variety of worship styles and content, dynamic preaching and effective approaches to group Bible study.

4. Jesus Christ transforms human life through His church; therefore, each congregation will:

Help members experience the **Personal Transformation** that comes from accepting the power of God's grace.

Guide members into the joy of **Christian Community**—a haven of loving, non-judgmental, secure fellowship.

Mobilize members to **Actively Live** "other-centered" lives, sharing the gospel, offering compassion and seeking justice in the wider community.

Profile:



Pastor Rick Greve (second from left) and his children host SVA students from "the best seat in the house."

What do you consider "the best seat in the house?" Pastor Rick Greve and members of the New Market, Virginia, church have come up with a unique definition that helps them get better acquainted with students from nearby Shenandoah Valley Academy.

Each Sabbath, a church family is designated as sponsors of "the best seat in the house" by Greve or Associate

Pastor Ron Aguilera. The "best seat" is then chosen, and whichever SVA student happens to be sitting there can invite a certain number of his or her friends to the sponsors' house for a home-cooked meal or other special activity.

This program was developed by Greve, Aguilera, SVA Chaplain Tom Decker, school Counselor Dennis Stirewalt and Student Association President Keith White to deal with two dilemmas. First, while the church appreciated the contributions made by the students each week, many members said they never got to know the young people individually. At the same time, the youth often felt homesick and were looking for a touch of home they missed while away at school.

So if you visit the New Market church, don't be surprised to see the students sitting up a little straighter. After all, they might be sitting in "the best seat in the house."

Reprinted from the August 1996
Hamburg Herald church newsletter

If you were born before 1945 ...

We are survivors! Consider the changes we have witnessed:

We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill.

We were born before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ballpoint pens; before pantyhose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothes and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together. Just how quaint can you be?

In our time, closets were for clothes, not "coming out of." Bunnies were small rabbits, and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer jeans were scheming girls named Jean or Jeanne, and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with our cousins.

We were before house-husbands, gay rights, computer dating, dual careers and com-

puter marriages. We were before day-care centers, group therapy and nursing homes. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt and guys wearing earrings.

For us, time sharing meant togetherness—not computers and condominiums. A chip meant a piece of wood, hardware meant hardware, and software wasn't even a word!

In 1940, "Made in Japan" meant junk, and the term "making out" referred to how you did on your exam. Pizzas, McDonalds and instant coffee were unheard of.

We hit the scene when there were five- and 10-cent stores where you bought things for five and 10 cents. Sanders or Wilson's sold ice cream cones for a nickel, double-dip with chocolate sprinkles for a dime. For one nickel, you could ride a street car, make a phone call, buy a soda or get enough stamps to mail a letter

and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy Coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? A pity, too, because gas was 11 cents a gallon!

In our day, grass was mowed, coke was a cold drink, and pot was something you cooked in. Rock music was a Grandma's lullaby, and aids were helpers in the principal's office.

We were certainly not before the differences between the sexes were discovered, but we were surely before the sex change.

We made do with what we had. And we were the last generation that was as dumb as to think you needed a husband to have a baby.

No wonder we're so confused and there's such a generation gap today. But we survived! What better reason to celebrate?

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Looking ahead...

The Visitor staff would like to hear your thoughts and stories to include in the following issues:

January 15
"Give me liberty"

February 1
Celebrating black history

February 15
Columbia Union College



Saints

"I came here this weekend knowing I was a sinner but not knowing what to do about it. Today I learned to pray, 'Lord, forgive me for I have sinned.' Now, through the power of my Saviour, my sins don't matter anymore. They're forgiven!"

"That big-group prayer group hit me like a big brick wall and turned me right around. I said, 'OK, God, I'm yours. Whatever I'm here for, Just Do It!'"

"That stuff we did on the streets today—I never would have done that. But now it's the most exciting thing I've ever done in all my life!"

"You can argue over right or wrong all you want, but guess

what? Without Him, you're never going to have the power to do right anyway!"

"When you ask Him to take over, He makes it all make sense."

"One of my friends, he used to talk to me about God. But then I didn't really care. Now I do. My favorite text is Romans 5:5, where God says that He has poured out His love for me. And I am so happy that I just went outside and shouted, 'God, I love you!'"

There was a teenage prayer conference October 17-19 at Mount Vernon Academy in Ohio. And, if you're counting lives changed for God and commitments made for service, it was a resounding success.

"Teenage Prayer Conference" means a weekend of prayer, study and service pulled off by teenagers for teenagers. Yes, there were adults involved, but only on the sidelines

as encouragers, bus drivers, cooks and counselors.

The youth planned and performed the music; they divided the 230 kids into 16 prayer and study groups, designed the Bible studies to be used in the groups, led the groups, challenged their friends to service and prayed, prayed, prayed. But the teens would be the first to tell you that this was not their



event. "It was," they would say, "the Holy Spirit's weekend."

I was there, a balding adult energized by the Spirit's breathing through the lives of our kids. Four memories stand tall in my mind.

The musical program on Thursday evening. We didn't know each other, and there was a tentativeness hanging in the room. Then the band began, and the music flowed and the fellowship grew. In less than 15 minutes of prayers and music, 230 teenagers had become one in the fellowship of the Spirit.

The small group miracle. Sixteen prayer, study and service groups were the core of the weekend. They met Thursday evening and most of Friday. Then on Sabbath, the groups went to Columbus to share their testimonies. Led by trained student leaders, the group members did creative Bible study, discussed every possible aspect of Christianity and wrote their own personal testimony about Jesus' love.

The Friday evening prayer. Standing closer than is possible, 230 teens prayed for nearly an hour. Forgiveness, love, adoration, thanksgiving, intercession. Prayers for family, prayers for friends, prayers for overcoming, prayers of joyful praise. Prayers that flew through the ceiling into God's ready



in production

arms. One of the adult sponsors slipped in next to me and whispered, "People who think teenagers don't know how to worship have never worshiped with teenagers."

Sabbath afternoon in Columbus. Try this next Sabbath! "OK. Here are your lunches. Remember, your instructions are to walk around this part of the city and find special ways to share Christ and your testimony with the people here. We'll be back to get you in three hours."

Those three hours were the highlight of the weekend for many of the youth and the adults who traveled with them. Some wandered through a mall and helped shoppers with their packages and kids. Others prayed special prayers of dedication at a "Quik-stop," a bus stop and a park. One group talked to strangers in a library, another sang for residents of a nursing home, and others talked with homeless people. All found new ways to share their witness in the city "because we were looking at the city through new eyes."

No, not everyone was there to grow spiritually, but that was OK. God can reach us no matter where we are. For instance, a couple kids brought their own bottles of booze along for the weekend, hoping to turn the prayer conference into their own kind of party. After the Friday night group prayer, they took some of their friends outside, confessed and said, "We want what we've found here."

There were 30 minutes of "dead" time before the Sabbath evening meeting. It was the kind of time an adult leader would have filled with some profitable activity. But, since the kids were in charge, the adults stood at the side and

watched as small group prayer circles formed spontaneously around the gym. Students came together, laughed, hugged, bowed, prayed and then shifted to another group where the process began all over again. Old friends, new friends, praying friends, always praying for each other, hugging and inviting others into their group.

Here was an energy-filled, relational, free-form, uneven, truth-filled, amateur, hard-hitting, emotional, transformational adventure in God's grace. On the same campus where "Missionary Volunteers" got their start, hundreds of Adventist youth were alive with Christ, praising God and planning service!

Around midnight, the student leaders asked a group of guys from Mount Vernon Academy to sing the old song, "O Sacred Head Now Wounded." This musical group, called Rome, brought kids to their



feet as they praised God for His great gift of grace.

Then there was one more student testimony. "I'm not a very good speaker," she said, "so I'm going to sing my testimony." And then she sang for all of us, "With all my heart, I want to love you, Lord!"

"I got something this weekend that I have wanted for 17 years. I was so heavy with hate that the dirt inside me weighed me right down to the floor. But then I looked in the mirror and saw through to who I really was. I wasn't happy. I had a hole that had not been filled. So, I asked God to help me be the person I wanted to be, and a miracle happened. My life is happier, and my relationship with Christ is making me insane with love for Him."

"I'm so happy anymore that I just want this for everyone!"

Dick Duerksen is the vice president for creative ministries for the Columbia Union and is editor of the Visitor.



Give a gift that keeps on giving!

LEN MCMILLAN

Are you tired of giving gifts that are tucked away in a closet until the next garage sale? Would you like to see some of the most spectacular scenery on the west coast? Has it been forever since you spent some quality time with your spouse? Has romance removed itself from the rudiments of your relationship? If your answer to any one of these questions is "yes," then you won't want to miss the Romantic Couples Retreat at beautiful Shell Beach, California, February 14-16, 1997.



Most of you know that Karen and I left Virginia—the Potomac Conference—in February of this year and moved to Bakersfield, California. Both of us are employed by the Pacific Health Education Center and enjoy living right next door to our grand-

children. That's right! Next door! And we love it.

However, we miss the couples who attended our Romantic Couples Retreats over the past seven years. In an effort to entice some of our friends to visit us in California, we have planned a romantic weekend at The Cliffs resort, which brings sun, water, sand and the breathtaking California coastline and cliffs together into an intimate package of sensory and spiritual experiences. Perched 100 feet above the Pacific, The Cliffs at Shell Beach will put you at ease with an abundance of

activities and recreation. Whether you want to walk together on the 23 uncluttered miles of Pismo Beach or marvel at the majesty of a Pacific sunset, it is all part of God's creation for your enjoyment. This weekend is destined to become a permanent memory-maker in the life of any couple.

This weekend can be just the reason you need to indulge your relationship with a west coast vacation. Everything from Hearst Castle to Los Angeles is only a short drive from the resort. In addition, special low rates are available for you to arrive early or extend your stay after the weekend. If you want to give a gift with guaranteed returns, contact your hosts—Len or Karen McMillan—at (805) 633-5300 for more information.

Examining objections ...

Why go all the way to California to sit in some boring meetings? We can guarantee you that the weekend will not be boring! This weekend is designed to enhance a couple's relationship, not to create tension. If you are looking for an experience to recharge your spiritual, emotional and romantic batteries, then this weekend is designed for you.

We can't afford to spend so much money on a weekend just for ourselves. Marriages do not just happen; they are cultivated and nurtured. Your marriage will grow from this retreat like a garden grows after it receives water and fertilizer.

We don't have time for a retreat in our hectic schedule.

This retreat was designed for busy married couples who cannot seem to find time for each other. Three out of 10 couples at any specific weekend are alumni from a



previous retreat. The fact that couples keep returning indicates the value of the weekend.

This retreat is sponsored by the Columbia Union, Pacific Health Education Center, Southern and Central California conferences. Team couples include Dick and Charlotte McClure, Marvin and Ingrid Wray, as well as Karen and me. All rooms have king beds with an ocean view—the first 25 reservations will have a fantastic view. The special pre-Christmas price is \$325 per couple (regular price is \$375), which includes meals, seminars, entertainment, lodging and magnificent scenery. Sorry, for this discount all letters must be post-marked no later than December 24, 1996.

Give a gift that will keep on giving!

Len McMillan writes from the Pacific Health Education Center in Bakersfield, California. Until early this year, he and his wife, Karen, spent many years in ministry to the Potomac Conference and the Columbia Union, part of which was their focus on healthy marriages and families.



City VBS expands neighborhood ministries

In the heart of inner-city Baltimore, a small church makes friends with its neighbors through Vacation Bible School and services to the community.

Members of the Baltimore City Seventh-day Adventist Church planned for three months and then began to pray that God would hand pick the right number of children to attend a Vacation Bible School in our little church.

We started by registering children on the street. We gave them a cupcake, balloon and an invitation to VBS. On opening night, there were 36 wonderful children. Each night, some of the children would come early to help set up for that night's meeting.

After praying for their safety, the children would band together and walk across the street to their homes.

For five nights, we had health talks, Bible study and kitchen and wood crafts. Our meetings lasted two and one-half hours. While each member worked very hard preparing recipes, baking, teaching and cleaning up, one member, William Weber, took the time to cut 120 items from wood for the kids to paint. Not only did we spend time studying and painting, we baked loaves of bread. We sat in our lounge and talked. In an area of the city where there is so much violence, gangs and drugs, one boy said that it felt good when he came to VBS. He told how he could have chosen to play basketball with his friends, but he chose to come to Vacation Bible School. He is now one of our Pathfinders.

On our closing night of Vacation Bible School, we began with a visit from McGruff the Crime Dog. He talked to us about drugs and the



harmful consequences of drug use. After that, we went out to our parking lot, where we had a "campfire." We sat around a barbecue grill, ate ice cream and sang songs about Jesus while the sun was setting. One member said that she could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit that night.

On Sabbath morning, the kids came to Sabbath school. During the worship hour, they sang their VBS songs for the parents. Our church service led to a health fair. Parents from the community came out to get free information on nutrition, drugs, alcoholism and smoking. We even had a representative from the WIC program for Baltimore City.

Just a few weeks after Vacation Bible School, we started Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs. There are 12 young people, including four from the community. We have been camping and have raised money from a flea market to get our uni-

forms. The club members are looking forward to many other activities, such as visiting nursing homes, canned food collecting and learning more about Jesus.

Our Pathfinders help serve on our community food van. This van goes out to the neighborhood to help feed the poor and homeless people. Sometimes we even get to see our friends from Vacation Bible School.

Susan Seibel is a mother of three who works part-time as a dental assistant and attends Baltimore City Community College part time for dental hygiene. "With the help of the Lord, I am the VBS leader, Adventurer leader, social committee leader and junior/earliteen Sabbath school teacher. Besides working with the youth in our church, I enjoy working on our food van," she says. "There is so much work that needs to be done in our cities, and I thank God that He chose me to help finish His work."

SUSAN SEIBEL

Angels watching

CHARLOTTE PEDERSEN MCCLURE



- Educator
- Activist
 - Crusader
 - Pioneer
 - Lecturer
 - Elder
 - Scholar
 - Administrator
 - Author
 - Grandfather

And now he has written his life story in a recently released book, *Angels Watching Over Me*. The autobiography tells of Frank W. Hale Jr.'s experiences from birth to his retirement as vice provost and professor emeritus of Ohio State University, the largest single campus institution of higher education in America.

Frank Hale is an active, involved member of the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church in Columbus, Ohio, in the Allegheny West Conference. He has served his church as a local elder, Sabbath school super-

intendent, building fund chair of the beautiful sanctuary complex completed in 1987 and as founder/president of the Peterson Society of Adventist Men.

He and his wife Ruth, a former teacher and administrator with the Columbus public school system, have three adult children, Pastor Ifeoma Kyesi, Frank W. Hale III and Sherilyn Hale Thomas. The couple has four grandchildren: Phillipa Price, Frank Hale IV, Christina Thomas and Charles Thomas Jr., and they have two great-grandchildren: James Price Jr. and Jordan Price.

Father, professor, author and church worker would be a full life for anyone, but Hale has filled his cup of life to the brim and let it overflow. "Frank W. Hale Jr. has impacted the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church more directly than any other black non-clergy of this era," said Calvin Rock, vice president of the General Conference.

Hale was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and at 10 years of age, he moved with his parents to Topeka, Kansas. "My parents were solid Seventh-day Adventist Christians who recognized the importance of being Seventh-day Adventists, Christians and citizens at the same time in order to meet the secular challenge," he said.

After attending Oakwood College for three semesters, Hale transferred to Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, and eventually earned baccalaureate and master's degrees at the University of Nebraska. He was fascinated with the field of communication, crediting Professor Winton Beaven for stimulating teaching and sharing practical infor-

mation. (On a personal note: I recall my father, who was a classmate of Hale's at Union, saying: "That Frank Hale is really a good guy!")

Hale became a powerful advocate for upward mobility, vision and leadership in the African-American community—within the church and in the public arena. Hale said "The times God has intervened to open doors in the secular world are beyond calculation. There is no question that healthy secular relationships have been important in my professional career, as well as allowing me to advance the causes that I have espoused."

After a distinguished teaching career, Hale came to Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, in 1971. "This position enabled me to establish sound contacts and relationships in the religious community, the social/civic community, the educational community and the political community," said Hale. "My 17 years full time and six years part time at Ohio State University offered me opportunities to enjoy the friendship and support of some of this country's most influential African-American leaders."

As a capstone to his illustrious career, the Ohio State University Board of Trustees voted Hale vice provost and professor emeritus and named the new center the Frank W. Hale Jr. Black Cultural Center and designated the building in which it is housed as Hale Hall. An endowed scholarship has also been established in his name at Ohio State.

He's led an exciting and productive life embodying all those characteristics listed above—and more. Read his inspiring story in *Angels Watching Over Me*, available at your local Adventist Book Center or by calling (800) 765-6955.

Charlotte Pedersen McClure is the director of communication services for the Columbia Union and managing editor of the Visitor.

Adventist companies win

People's Choice

Awards



two Adventist distributors, Worthington and Better Life Foods, as having award-winning taste.

Australian Longa Life NotChicken Nuggets win big

Imported by United Specialty Foods, a division of Better Life Foods, Longa Life

NotChicken Nuggets won the newly added and prestigious Best of Show Award—an award for the best food product overall. Don Michalenko, president of United Specialty Foods, set up the company with the intention of bringing the best products from around the world to the U.S. market, and the nuggets, one of the first imported items, with their award-winning taste is, according to Michalenko, “a positive and great start for our organization.”

“As a new company,” added Michalenko, “we are certainly honored to receive an award. Having it be a new award indicating the people’s choice for best overall food product at the show makes it even more special.”

Worthington wins with best “dog” and “cup-o-joe”

In a side-by-side sampling of vegetarian hot dog products and coffee alternatives, natural food retailers once again voted the Natural Touch Vege Frank the best-tasting vegetarian hotdog and Kaffree Roma the best coffee alternative. Compared to

an all-beef hot dog, the Natural Touch Vege Frank from Worthington Foods contains two-thirds less fat and half the calories of its counterpart. The product is also vegan, containing no dairy or egg products. And Worthington’s Kaffree Roma does not contain any caffeine or tannic acids. Roma is also easy to prepare—just add hot water and stir. Hmm ... not bad!

According to Jay Highman, Worthington Foods’ senior manager of marketing and sales, the company was honored to receive the awards and add Roma to their list of award winners. “This award

It’s not turkey. It’s not beef. And no, it’s not even chicken. At the 60th annual National Nutritional Foods Association (NNFA) Convention and Trade Show recently held in Nashville, Tennessee, the spotlight shone on natural food products that are free of meat, cholesterol and animal fat—better known to some Adventists as “vege-food.” Familiar favorites like Vege Frank and newer products like NotChicken Nuggets were showcased at the convention, and some even won awards.

At this MarketPlace ’96 trade show, natural foods retailers from across the country selected the best tasting products of 1996 through blind taste tests. There were 28 total categories for these natural products, which are not only meat-free, but also do not contain artificial colors, flavors, chemicals or preservatives. With all those “no’s,” do you wonder if these products are “not food” or taste “not good?” The taste testers proved that meatless was, indeed, yummy and with all the delicious healthy choices they were given, chose three foods from



truly is an indication of our commitment to bringing quality products to the natural foods industry,” said Highman.

These and other fine vegetarian products are available at your local Adventist Book Center or (800) 765-6955.

Kimberly Luste is a communication intern for the Columbia Union Visitor.

COLUMBIA UNION

New faces, new places; tasks and transfers

- Bill Dare is the new trust officer for the trust services and stewardship department of the Pennsylvania Conference. He replaces Jeanne Franke, who retires after over 25 years of service to the church.
- Laura Lindeman is the new manager of clinical quality management for Kettering Medical Center in Ohio. After starting her career as a medical technologist, she joins the KMC staff from an administrative residency at Choice Care, a Health Maintenance Organization in nearby Cincinnati.
- Dale Martin returns to the Pennsylvania Conference to pastor the Reading Kenhorst church. A former minister to the Lewistown, Mifflintown and State College congregations, he and his wife, Kathy, most recently served the church in Water Valley, Mississippi.
- Rupert Bushner moves within Ohio and the Allegheny West Conference from pastoring the Hilltop church in Columbus and the Victory congregation in Delaware to be the new minister of the Bethel church in Cleveland.
- Ron Aguilera is the new associate pastor of the New Market, Virginia, congregation in the Potomac Conference. He and his wife, Lori, come from the Highland View Academy church in Hagerstown, Maryland, in the Chesapeake Conference.
- James Brown becomes the senior pastor of the Seabrook, Maryland, church, where he served as associate pastor for five years in the Potomac Conference.
- Jose Cortes Jr. now pastors the Spanish church in Manassas, Virginia, for the Potomac Conference after returning from the theological seminary at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan.
- Alan DeSilva is the new senior pastor of the Takoma Park, Maryland, congregation. He and his wife, Nirmala, come to the Potomac Conference from Ontario, where they led out in the Kingsview Village church.



Laura Lindeman

- Robert Parrish becomes the new pastor of the Wytheville, Pulaski and Rocky Gap church district in the Potomac Conference. He and his wife, Linda, move to Virginia from Loma Linda, California.
- Ron Priest now pastors the church in Norfolk, Virginia. He and his wife, Juli, come to the Potomac Conference from Winter Haven, Florida.
- Steve Scholz is the new senior pastor of the Vienna, Virginia, church in the Potomac Conference. He and his wife, Sabina, previously ministered to the Southview congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Wayne Spangenberg becomes the pastor of the Petersburg and Ford district in Virginia. He and his wife, Lynette, come to the Potomac Conference from Hawaii, where they provided leadership to the Kapaa and Lawai churches.
- Suzan Wilson is the new teacher for grades one to eight at the Valley View school in Bluefield, West Virginia. She comes to the Mountain View Conference from Fletcher, North Carolina.
- Darlene Wightman teaches grades one to four at the Charleston, West Virginia, school. She had taught across the Mountain View Conference at the Parkersburg, West Virginia, school.
- Bonnie Cutright is the teacher for grades one to eight at the newly formed Adventist Christian school in Fairmont, West Virginia. She previously taught at the school in Buckhannon, West Virginia, which is also located in the Mountain View Conference.
- Dan George moves from the Potomac Conference, where he ministered to the Silver Spring, Maryland, church, to the Oregon Conference, where he pastors the Hoodview congregation.
- Yaronia Levy retires after completing 35 years of service to the denomination. Her last post was as the fifth- and sixth-grade teacher at the Atholton school in Columbia, Maryland, for the Chesapeake Conference.
- Dorothy Starks retires from her position as kindergarten teacher at Dupont Park Junior Academy in Washington, D.C., in the Allegheny East Conference after 36 years of church work.
- Wilma Wolford, third-grade teacher at the Beltsville, Maryland, school in the Potomac Conference, retires after putting in over 15 years of service to the denomination.

RANDY HALL
Visitor Assistant Editor

Dr. Kay's Q&A

Slack apron strings

Question: I have a sixth-grader who hangs out with the neighborhood kids after school. Out of these kids are older and don't have much parental supervision. My son says I shouldn't worry, but I don't know what they're doing, and I'm not sure if I can trust my son with them.

Answer: The question really is: Can you trust his friends? Regardless of how much you may trust your son, if he's running around with kids who are doing things you don't approve of, you can't really trust him. Peer pressure is just too strong. Sooner or later, your son will yield to their influence and choose to do the forbidden.

This is a good time to begin saying, "I can only trust you as much as I can trust your friends." This puts the responsibility on your son to choose friends he feels you can trust. Kids love freedom. They want to be trusted. With encouragement, your son can be the thermostat of his peers, setting the moral temperature of the conversation and activities rather than just the thermometer that merely adjusts to group pressure.

You have a responsibility to determine the trustworthiness of his friends. Don't go by looks. There are some real gems dressed up in black leather jackets, torn tight jeans and purple hair. Make a real effort to get to know them. Invite them over. Feed them. Make your home an attractive gathering place for the group. Find out what's important in their lives. Listen.

Next, get to know their parents. Have a neighborhood party. Invite each family over for dessert. Plan a time to talk when your kids aren't around so you can discuss parenting issues like drugs, alcohol, pre-marital sex, violence, gangs and pot. If they have concerns, talk about how you can cooperate as parents to make sure the kids are making healthy lifestyle choices. Exchange phone numbers and keep in touch regularly. And let your kids know you're cooperating in supervising their activities.

Make sure you and your son agree on reasonable limits and consequences for disobedience. Kids usually don't mind proving their trustworthiness if they know they'll get more privileges because of it. Trust is earned by keeping within the boundaries, such as being home at a certain time, reporting where he's going and what he'll be doing or being there when he says he will be.

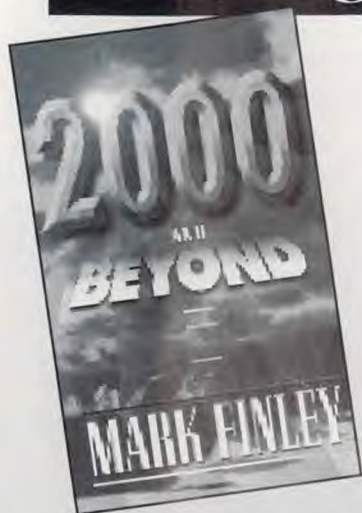
Don't be paranoid. Over-protective parents either smother their children's initiative or cause kids to rebel. Give a little slack in your apron strings. How your child deals with the slack—the decisions he makes in life's grey areas—is what will build his sense of personal value and independence. Good decision-makers are developed by suffering the consequences of bad decisions. Just make sure he knows you love him supremely, no matter what!

[Read more from Dr. Kay Kuzma in the *Family Times* newspaper. For a free year's subscription, just write to: Family Matters, P.O. Box 7000, Cleveland, TN 37320; or call (615) 339-1144.]



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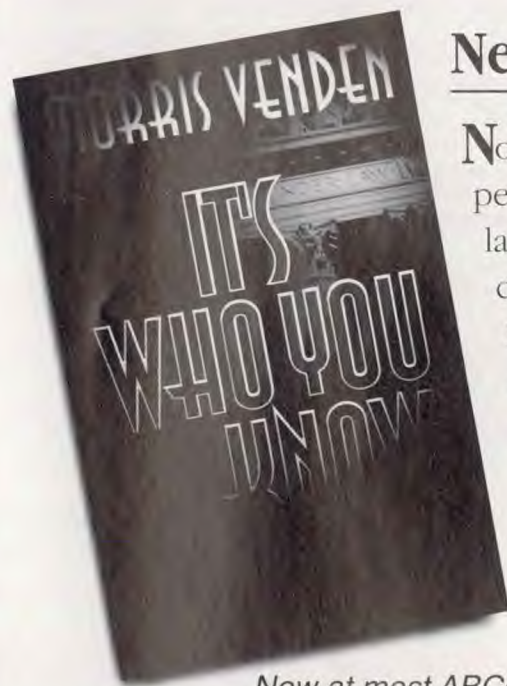
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The Potomac Adventist Book Center, along with a number of

Known for sophisticated chordal harmonies and innovative vocal techniques and using a mixture of pop, adult contemporary and jazz-flavored styles, GLAD, with more than 15 hit recordings, may well be best known in the Adventist community for their work on The Acapella Projects.



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local Adventist churches (Capital Memorial, Spencerville, Vienna and Damascus) are helping to co-sponsor this concert.

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SUNSET CALENDAR

Eastern Standard Time

	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec. 20
Baltimore	4:44	4:44	4:47
Cincinnati	5:15	5:16	5:18
Cleveland	4:56	4:57	4:59
Columbus	5:06	5:07	5:09
Jersey City	4:29	4:29	4:31
Norfolk	4:48	4:49	4:51
Parkersburg	5:03	5:04	5:06
Philadelphia	4:36	4:36	4:39
Pittsburgh	4:53	4:54	4:56
Reading	4:38	4:38	4:40
Richmond	4:51	4:52	4:54
Roanoke	5:02	5:03	5:05
Toledo	5:05	5:05	5:08
Trenton	4:33	4:34	4:36
Washington, DC	4:46	4:47	4:49

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ADVENTIST SINGLES' PROFILE EXCHANGE: The largest collection of Adventist professional singles' photo-files in this NEW directory published by the Loma Linda chapter of Adventist Singles Ministries. First issue: January 1997. Place ad: \$3; purchase magazine: \$15; updated semi-annually. Send SASE to Inland Empire Singles, Box 1836, Loma Linda, CA 92354. (11)

MAKE NEW FRIENDSHIPS! Rush \$25 for the large directory of SDA Singles, including names, addresses, phone numbers and full descriptions, ages 18-95, or send \$50 for photos included. New member updates are sent out every two months for an additional \$25 or \$50 with photos. Specify the gender desired. Free listing with your photo-application and a stamped, self-addressed envelope. SDA Singles Worldwide Correspondence Club, P.O. Box 694, College Place, WA 99324; (509) 522-2379. Established in 1985. (1215)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All announcements must be at the Visitor office four weeks before the date of issue.

SVA students plan many holiday performances

Pupils from Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, VA, will take part in several holiday events. The band will play at the Ellipse near the White House in Washington, DC, on Friday, December 13, at 7 p.m. Then at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, the band will be at the Valley Mall in Harrisonburg, VA. Finally, the Christmas Candlelight Concert will be in the New Market church at 8 p.m. on Friday, December 20, and 4:30 p.m. the next day. The symphonic band, the brass and woodwind ensembles and the nine-member orchestra will all take part.

Help provided for parents of homosexuals

Most parents who have a homosexual son and/or daughter feel isolated. Because of the response to her book, *My Son, Beloved Stranger*, author Kate McLaughlin has started a newsletter for parents called *Someone to Talk to...* If you or someone you know would like to receive this newsletter, which will be mailed in a plain envelope, please send your name and address to: Kate McLaughlin, P.O. Box 13354, Mill Creek, WA 98082.

Adventist singles and ADRA plan Bolivia mission trip

Join Adventist Singles Ministries to work with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency in a mission outreach near Santa Cruz, Bolivia, March 23 to April 8. This construction project will erect buildings for an orphanage in a country setting. Masons, concrete workers, electricians, plumbers and general laborers are needed. Call Doris Durrell at (209) 583-1259 or Lorraine Hansen at (704) 697-2409 for more information.

Messiah SING-IN & 35TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

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Takoma Academy Chorale
New England Youth Ensemble
The Brass Mosaic

SLIGO SDA CHURCH
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ABC MONTHLY SPECIAL for DECEMBER

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