

THE ATLANTIC UNION

SPECIAL EDITION

# GLENNER



*Welcome  
to the  
Family*

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# Welcome to the Family!



*The great  
Advent  
movement  
had its  
beginnings  
right here  
in the  
Atlantic  
Union  
Conference  
territory.*



**T**he year 1998 was a tremendous year for the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists! Our pastors, evangelists, and members worked diligently and prayerfully to share the good news of God's great redemptive love.

This church, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, has a mission and that is to tell the world about history's greatest event, soon to take place, which will result in the end of this world and usher in God's everlasting kingdom of glory. For many thousands of years sin has held dominion in this world but soon it will all be finished when Jesus comes back to earth as King of kings and Lord of lords!

The great Advent movement had its beginnings right here in the Atlantic Union Conference territory. God worked in unusual ways to start a religious awakening movement which today has exploded into an international church of believers belting the earth and numbering more than 10 million strong! God's Holy Spirit has been the energizing force, motivating and enabling dedicated people to live for Christ and be testimonies of His saving grace.

New members in this great movement, I welcome you as important parts of this church. Here in the Atlantic Union Conference we are a diverse but united people, speaking English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Korean, Romanian, Ghanaian, Hungarian, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, and others. People are joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church from many nations and languages and we praise God for His blessings.

New members to our churches will discover that the Adventist church is a Bible

reading church. We believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God. Each Sabbath morning is very important to church members because in every church there is the Sabbath School period where, after an interesting program which includes music and reports on work being done in overseas mission locations and here in America, we study well-planned lessons in a booklet called the Sabbath School quarterly. Each booklet or quarterly covers a three month period. Your understanding of the Bible and God's plan of redemption will be enhanced as you attend Sabbath School regularly.

**T**he worship hour is a time of action and spiritual elation as members hear great music and great preaching. It is a time of fellowship and spiritual closeness. After all, we are a part of the family of God. We even call one another "brother" or "sister" and Christian love is an important part of our faith.

Church members are regularly instructed in areas of life involving diet, dress, money, health, and education. We believe that all that we have and are is because of God's blessings and we happily give tithes and offerings. We believe in much prayer. We believe that Jesus, the Son of God, now works as our attorney in heaven and soon will finish that work and return to earth to claim those who love Him enough to obey Him.

This is God's church and I welcome you to its fellowship and membership. Now you can have the sweet privilege of living for Jesus and sharing His love with others. Blessings on each of you for this New Year!

*Theodore T. Jones II is president of the Atlantic Union Conference*

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# The Global Mission Challenge

**C**hrist commissioned the church to proclaim the gospel to every language, nation and people. In the late 1800's the young Seventh day Adventist Church rose to that challenge and over the next 100 years significantly established the church in North America, Inter-America, South America, Europe, the southern half of the African continent, and selected countries on the Pacific rim. However, by 1985 church leaders recognized that there were huge populations and areas that were completely unentered. In 1988-89, the church carefully studied it's mission progress and challenge and initiated a global strategy that was voted at the 1990 General Conference session known as Global Mission.

## What is Global Mission?

Global Mission is a mission strategy directly connected to the office of the president. It's purpose is to establish Seventh-day Adventist congregations in every unentered area and among every people group in the world. Global Mission has been charged to monitor the progress and challenge of mission and to take direct action developing and implementing plans that would establish Seventh-day Adventist churches in all unentered areas and among all unentered people groups.

China, the Middle East, India and the former territory of the Soviet Union were named as high priority areas. However, Divisions outside these areas were also to identify their high priority populations and take direct action to establish churches in their unentered areas.

Global Mission was to initiate a mission volunteer program that involved lay people in planting churches. Religious study centers were to carefully develop new methods and materials for working among Buddhist, Hindus, Jews, Muslims and in urban areas.

## Meeting the Challenge

Over the past 7 years a lot of progress has been made. More than 10,000 new churches have been established in unentered territories. This year more than 19,000 lay volunteers are working to plant a church. The territory comprising the former Soviet Union has at the least quadrupled it's membership. Church membership in China is almost 5 times what it was in 1990. Hundreds of new churches have been estab-



*Elderly gypsy saying "thank you" at Skopji Gypsy church in Macedonia.*



*Shundi congregation in Sudan, where 15 were baptized by a Global Mission pioneer.*

lished in India. Five religious study centers now operate developing new materials and methods. It is a thrilling thing to watch the Holy Spirit work. However, while all of this may sound good we are just beginning to meet the challenge. God needs a people that are willing to become involved in His mission. Pray that God will show you your part in Global Mission.

*Mike Ryan is a general field secretary of the General Conference and director of Global Mission for the church*



# How the Church Is Organized

**T**he Seventh-day Adventist Church has a mandate from heaven to share the everlasting gospel to every nation, state, city and town, and all races and ages.

To make this possible, the church is organized into five distinct levels of administrative structure.

Each level of the church has the same overall mission but functions differently in carrying out the mission. The five levels of the church are: 1) the local church, 2) the local conference of churches, 3) the union conference, 4) the division, and 5) the General Conference.

## The Local Church

In the chain of church organization the local church is the most important. It is the organizational and financial bedrock through which the mission of the church is carried out. The local church is where the "rubber meets the road." It is here that fellowship, friendship, caring, worship, sharing the good news about Jesus, and making a difference in the community takes place. The concentrated effort of all levels of church organization is focused on a growing, vibrant church community. There are 478 churches and companies (as of September 30, 1998) in the Atlantic Union territory.

## The Local Conference

State or area conferences are made up of a number of churches in their territory with the purpose of facilitating, strengthening, and coordinating the work of the church. The church is organized with a representative form of government. Local churches send representatives to constituency meetings which in turn elect conference officers

and departmental directors. These meetings are held every three or four years depending on the conference. Lay members, pastors, and teachers serve on the conference executive board. The local conference headquarters serves as an administrative and departmental resource for the local churches.

There are six conferences in the Atlantic Union: Bermuda (3,263), Greater New York (17,758), New York (4,519), Northeastern (42,364), Northern New England (4,317), and Southern New England (10,412). [membership statistics as of Sept. 30, '98].

## The Union Conference

Union conferences are the third level of church organization which are made up of the local conferences within their territory. The union's primary work is administrative and financial, focusing on education, religious liberty, legal issues, language groups, and trust services. Unions coordinate and unify the emphasis of mission among the conferences. Planning for accountability and binding the efforts of the church together are the union's main functions. Constituency meetings to elect officers and departmental directors for the Atlantic Union are held every five years. On this level of organization, the conferences and churches are represented by lay members, pastors, teachers, and conference administrators on the executive board of the Union.

There are 82,633 members (as of September 30, 1998) within the Atlantic Union territory. During the decade of the 1980s, the Atlantic Union had the highest rate of net membership growth in the North American Division.

## The Division

The world church is divided into divisions—the next level of church organization. The North American Division has oversight for all the churches, conferences, and unions in the United States,

Bermuda, and Canada. It has the responsibility of coordinating the division's mission projects, evangelistic efforts such as NET '98, the media center, and health and educational institutions. Constituency meetings to elect officers for the North American Division are held every five years. The divisions have representatives from unions, conferences, and local churches on their division committees. The North American Division has 875,811 (1997) church members in its territory.

## The General Conference

The General Conference world headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, is located in Silver Spring, Maryland. It is made up of 12 divisions and attached fields with a total membership of 9,702,834 (1997). Over 1.5 billion dollars of total tithe and offerings are generated through all levels of the church organization. The General Conference functions to help coordinate and bind the church together around the world.

The book of Acts tells how the early church was organized and how rapidly it grew because of the cooperative effort of all the church members. God has called the church today to share the gospel and prepare the world for the second coming of Jesus. As such, therefore, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is established in 205 of the 230 countries of the world and conducts its missionary work in 735 languages and dialects throughout the world.

God has led this church since its inception and given guidance and direction in how it should be organized to fulfill its mission. We give praise and thanks to the Almighty One for His leadership and guidance in the Seventh-day Adventist Church around the world.

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*Dr. Donald G. King is the executive secretary of the Atlantic Union Conference.*





# SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN 1997

## WORLD CHURCH

Church membership .....	9,702,834
Additions by baptism & profession of faith .....	744,798
World divisions .....	12
Union conferences and missions .....	90
Local conferences and missions .....	465
Churches .....	43,270
Companies .....	39,641
Sabbath schools .....	97,602
Sabbath school membership .....	11,435,399
mission offerings .....	\$45,648,694*
Pathfinder clubs .....	15,350
Pathfinder club memberships .....	563,148
Denominational workers all categories .....	153,617
Tithe .....	\$970,766,784*
Tithe and offerings ..	\$1,500,521,546*

Population of countries where work is established .....	5,723,153,000
is not established .....	117,280,000

## NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Membership .....	875,811
Churches & Companies .....	5,076
Additions by baptism & profession of faith .....	35,493
Tithe .....	\$534,169,178*
Tithes and offerings ....	\$849,405,140*
College and Universities .....	15

## ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE

Membership .....	81,290
Churches & Companies .....	465
Additions by baptism & profession of faith .....	3,812
Tithe .....	\$49,301,256*
Tithes and offerings .....	\$77,287,461*
College (Atlantic Union College) ....	1

\*U.S. Dollars

## EDUCATION

Colleges and Universities .....	89
Teachers .....	4,694
Enrollment .....	59,527
Secondary schools .....	927
Teachers .....	14,296
Enrollment .....	201,945
Primary schools .....	4,364
Teachers .....	29,528
Enrollment .....	696,597

## HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS

Hospitals and sanitariums .....	159
Clinics and dispensaries .....	306
Other health care institutions .....	116

## PUBLISHING

Publishing houses and branches ...	56
Employees .....	2,108
Periodicals printed .....	377
Literature evangelists	
Full-time .....	13,368
Part-time .....	6,089
Student .....	3,582

## GLOBAL MISSION

Countries of the world .....	230
Countries in which Adventist work is established .....	205
Population of the world (June 1997) .....	5,840,433,000

## GENERAL CONFERENCE— WORLD CHURCH

President: Robert S. Folkenberg
Secretary: G. Ralph Thompson
Treasurer: Robert L. Lawson
Churches: 43,270
Companies*: 39,641

## NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

President: Alfred C. McClure
Secretary: Harold W. Baptiste
Treasurer: Juan R. Prestol
Churches: 4,693
Companies*: 383

## ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE

President: Theodore T. Jones II
Secretary: Donald G. King
Treasurer: Leon D. Thomassian
Churches: 421
Companies*: 44

\*Companies—a group of believers organized for fellowship and worship with the objective of growing into an organized church.

## The Seventh-day Adventist CHURCH LOGO

The logo is the visual identity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. "The design, as a whole, is intended to reflect the spirit and character of our dynamic and growing church. However, the individual elements that form the basis of the design were carefully selected to represent the beliefs and mission of the church" —GLOBAL IDENTITY STANDARDS MANUAL, p. vi.

### The Open Bible

The Bible forms the base of the design and represents the Biblical foundation of our beliefs. It is portrayed in a fully opened position suggesting a full acceptance of God's word.

■ The lines at top of the design suggest a continued upward momentum symbolizing the resurrection and ascension to heaven at Christ's second coming, the ultimate focus of our faith.

### The Flame

This shape is formed by three lines encircling an implied sphere. The lines represent the three angels of Rev. 14 circling the globe and our commission to take the gospel to the entire world. The overall shape forms a flame symbolic of the Holy Spirit.

### The Cross

The symbol of the cross, representing the gospel of salvation, is positioned in the center of the design to emphasize Christ's sacrifice, which is the central theme of our faith.





# Welcome to a Family of *Ministries*

**W**elcome, new member, to the great Adventist family. Joining the Adventist church could be just the beginning of a whole new adventure because the church is a close-knit community of believers, a place where people are ministered to and their needs met.

Jesus modeled a life of ministry. By feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and comforting the lonely and dispossessed, He met urgent personal needs. Then He turned around and bid the fed, the healed, and the comforted to follow Him. In your city there are some who will, for a time, need to be fed, nursed to better health, and comforted.

A variety of ministries in your church follow Jesus' example and help meet such needs.

## **Sabbath School**

One of the largest spiritual nurture ministries in the church is the Sabbath school. On Sabbath morning, usually preceding the worship service, each age level of the church, from the cradle to the rocker, has a program tailored to their special needs. Members, visitors, and friends have an opportunity to take time out for the study of God's word in

a setting that affords everyone the opportunity to participate. Every member of your family will come to love Sabbath school. To help enhance the local Sabbath school programs, the conference Sabbath school department is available to provide support and training so that Sabbath school leaders can be equipped to present the best possible programs in their church.

## **Personal Ministries**

This is a department that is responsible for individual outreach. The aim of the department is to enlist every member in active soul-winning service. It includes training members on how to give Bible studies, conducting seminars, and literature distribution. It allows every member to become involved in sharing the gospel to family, friends, and individuals in their community.

## **Youth Ministries**

There are a wide variety of activities offered in the youth ministries department to allow the youth to be involved in the mission of the church. It also sponsors youth rallies, mission projects, and other activities where the youth have an opportunity to share their

talents. Some of these activities, like summer camp, take place at conference owned-and-operated facilities such as Camp Winnekeag, Camp Lawroweld, Camp Cherokee, Camp Victory Lake, and Camp Berkshire.

## **Children's Ministries**

The Children's Ministries department focuses on providing a wide variety of opportunities for teaching children in the church and the community about Jesus and the Bible. Vacation Bible School, Branch Sabbath School, Children's Church, Sabbath School (for children from birth through juniors), and various children's publications are just some of the avenues that are used in this ministry.

## **Family & Adult Ministries**

The Family & Adult Ministries departments have been established to help individuals build and maintain strong family relationships at home and at church. A diversity of programs is offered including marriage retreats,





parenting seminars, men's and single's events, family enrichment workshops and leadership training. There is something of interest for everyone.

## Health Ministries

This is a department that provides information to church members and the general public about a healthy lifestyle. Health ministries offers seminars on nutrition, exercise, and avoiding liquor, tobacco, and other narcotics—the result of Adventism's holistic belief that physical and mental health impact one's spiritual life.

## Women's Ministries

This department helps to address the spiritual, emotional, physical, and social needs of women in the church and to improve their potential for more effective roles in their families. It is a support system for hurting women whether they are suffering from divorce, abuse, or simply loneliness. The department reaches out to women through prayer, support, and nurturing. There are ac-

tivities held for women in the local churches, conferences, and the union.

In addition to the programs offered in your congregation there may be others that you wish to participate in. The best way to keep informed is to read the church bulletin and watch the bulletin board for announcements of state-wide conferences, conventions, or workshops hosted by your conference or union. Such events can help you discover your spiritual gifts and learn to be a good steward of both time and talents. All of these specialized ministries offer you a way to get involved in the life of your church and grow into the body of Christ.

Volunteers, dedicated to Jesus Christ and to making a difference, staff the ministries. Leaders for the ministries are chosen once a year by the nominating committee. So when someone approaches you about teaching a class of

kids or sorting clothes at the community center, remember Jesus' example and treat the invitation as a call to ministry.

Training and resources are available to assist and empower you in ministry. To obtain information about resources and training opportunities available in your conference for any of these ministries mentioned, call your local conference at the number listed on page 31.

So when God opens the way for you to do something in ministry at church, don't turn it down. Getting involved will bring you satisfaction and fulfillment. You will be a partner with Jesus. You might even help write a new chapter for the modern day book of Acts.

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*Rose Otis is the vice-president for the Texas Conference and former North American Division vice-president for Ministries*





# *Christian Education*

## *An Ingredient of a Christian SDA Family*

**T**he first family on earth was Adam and Eve. The first school was in the Garden of Eden. The first teachers were the parents, nature, and God.

The family was so important. It was God's way of populating the world. It was His plan that education be the parents' responsibility, but it was also His plan to be close by to guide. This plan worked reasonably well for many years. As the world grew older and man chose not to stay close to the Maker, this method of parental guidance and education grew less and less important to the inhabitants of the world.

After a while a new kind of school came into existence called The Schools of the Prophets. The home failed it's God ordained work to guide and educate the youth so our God allowed a new plan of education. Groups of students from different families came together for guidance by well trained instructors. These new schools were to advise, counsel, instruct, and direct the youth according to God's plan. When the Schools of the Prophets were strong as in the days of Samuel, Elijah, and Elisha it was found that there were many who had not bowed their heads to Baal. Conversely, when the leadership was weak, the people strayed from the blessings that was originally meant for every family. During these times mankind depended on their own feelings and advice, therefore, straying further away from the first and best family school design.

Coming down to the present days, our forefathers saw the need for the church to develop modern day Schools of the Prophets. At the present time in the Atlantic Union, there are 64 elementary schools, seven secondary schools, and one college. Along with these church organized schools there are many home schools, where parents educate their own children in the manner of their choice. The organized church schools are located in communities where there are children of school age, therefore church schools are generally small in rural areas and larger in big cities. As a general rule of thumb, where there are at least six children of school age, a church school should be started.

A few years ago, the North American Division made an in-depth study of the church's youth. This was the Valuegenesis Study. Many observations were made—some good and some that are troubling. In the counsels from E.G. White we are told that the best education must be a three-pronged approach. Christian education must be received from God fearing parents at home, from teachers at church schools who understand the Scriptures as we do and live according to the principles of the Word, and from a loving church that is interested in their youth and willing to train them to be leaders.

One troubling point with this study was how the youth perceived their local church. They felt that it is cold and unloving. It was found that when any one of the above





prongs are left out, the spiritual maturity of the student is lowered by one third. If two are missing then the spiritual maturity is lowered by two thirds. This identifies the place Christian education plays in the life of a young person. Christian education is not a complete education unless all three prongs are strong and healthy.

Can we expect our youth to experience true education in this messed up world? There is no question in my mind that our Christian education, the three-pronged system, is ordained by God and promoted by the servant of the Lord, E.G. White. We must find the solution. Sometimes we decide that there is nothing that can be done about a situation, that's when we forget that we have a God who cares and is willing guide our actions.

It is hard for me to decide which of

the prongs is the most important. Taking them one at a time they seem to stand alone, but they don't—for the sake of the youth they must be as one.

In this world of ours it is becoming increasingly difficult to accomplish this God-given instruction. It is my opinion that this wonderful kind of education can still be attained. It is up to us as parents to spend time in study and take the extra time with our children to teach them about the Lord in

word and action. It is up to our teachers to take extra time with our children to teach them about the Lord in word and action. It is up to us, the church, to take extra time to teach our children in word and action about our Lord. Who is the church—it's YOU AND ME. What a wonderful and awesome responsibility!

*Paul Kilgore the Atlantic Union Conference education director*

## ***Educational Institutions***

### **in the Atlantic Union**

Elementary Schools\* ..... 64  
Teachers ..... 254  
Enrollment ..... 4111

Secondary Schools\* ..... 7  
Teachers ..... 74  
Enrollment ..... 787

Colleges\*\* ..... 1  
Teachers ..... 81  
Enrollment ..... 736

\* As of the third week of December 1998

\*\* As of December 1997





# The Most Powerful Envelope in the World

It's wonderful to be part of a church with a world-wide mission of bringing people to Jesus. You may be wondering how the Seventh-day Adventist Church can possibly accomplish the wide diversity of projects it supports around the world. This work is only possible because of the support of all the members through their donations of time, talents, skills, and funds. Because of its many ministries, the church has developed an excellent system for tracking how funds are received and distributed to accomplish its mission. While this tracking method is complex, it provides a process that has allowed the Adventist church to establish churches around the world.

By now you have undoubtedly discovered the offering envelopes that are usually located in the pockets on the back of the church pews. The tithe and offering envelope is a very important financial document on which you can indicate to your church how you wish your donations to be used.

The information on the envelope is usually divided into four sections. The first is exclusively for the donation of tithe. The second is used for local church projects such as operating expenses, local church building projects, or other local church functions as may be deemed necessary by each congregation. The third section is for your conference's activities. Some conferences divide this section up for specific projects, while others combine all conference projects under one offering. You can usually find an explanation of the specific projects for which these funds are used on either the back of the envelope or the flap. The fourth section represents donations for world missions.

## The Tithe

The envelope is fairly straightforward and easy to use. The biblical principle of tithing has been adopted as a basis for returning one tenth of our income to God. Malachi 3:10 is a text that is often referred to as a biblical source of this giving principle. Tithing is a wonderful adventure in faith. Over and over people say, "I can't out give the Lord."

Tithe monies are considered sacred and are used for the financial support of ministers around the world. Adventist pastors are not dependent on whatever monies happen to be placed in the offering plate in church each week. Instead, because of the tithing system, they have a specific salary which they can count on for budget purposes. This has been the church's way of supporting the ministry throughout the world. The tithe also pays the salaries of workers in each department at conference, union, division, and General Conference levels.

## Local Church Budget

While the local church does not pay its pastor directly, it does have operating expenses. These expenses are paid for out of the local church budget as needs arise. One of the major expenses that a local church will incur, in many instances, is the operation of a Seventh-day

Adventist school. Through members' donations, local churches carry the major responsibility for financing elementary and day schools associated with each church. In most instances, church schools do charge tuition to cover a portion of the expense, while some invite the entire membership to participate in the support of the school, making the school budget a line item in the church budget.

Name _____	
Address _____	
City/State/Zip _____	Receipt# _____
Date _____	
<b>Tithes &amp; Love Offerings to God</b>	
<b>TITHE</b> .....	\$ _____
<b>Local Church Ministry</b>	
Church Budget .....	\$ _____
Building Fund .....	\$ _____
Church School .....	\$ _____
<b>Local Conference Ministry</b>	
Conference Advance .....	\$ _____
Evangelism .....	\$ _____
<b>World-Wide Ministry</b>	
World Budget .....	\$ _____
Sabbath School Mission ...	\$ _____
Ingathering .....	\$ _____
Donated .....	\$ _____
Solicited .....	\$ _____
<b>Special Projects</b>	
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	\$ _____





## Conference Advance

The church's policy is very careful about the use of tithe. Certain expenditures are excluded from tithe use. Examples of these would be funds expended for construction costs, land purchases, and building repairs. In addition to tithe, the conference appeals for offerings which assist the local conference with its operations. These offerings are usually used for evangelism, education, youth camp projects, campgrounds, and assistance in building new churches and schools. The tithe envelope used in your conference will list the specific projects for your conference.



## Additional Offerings

On most envelopes, several additional offerings are listed below World Budget. These funds are used for the establishment or maintenance of specific missions or ministries in North America and throughout the world. Each one is given special attention at some time during the year, since a large portion of their support comes from the offering given on a special day. Offerings may also be directed to these projects at any time during the year by writing the name of the mission or ministry to which you would like to restrict your donation. Materials announcing special offerings are also furnished to pastors, so that they may be distributed to members through the church bulletin or used to introduce the offering on the day that it is called for from the platform.

The next time you pick up an envelope from the back of the pew and tuck your donation into it, consider the tremendous opportunity you have to contribute through your church to help tell people that Jesus is coming. This envelope truly is an instrument used by God to provide funding to be used according to your directions, so that the gospel of the Kingdom may be preached in all the world and hasten the coming of Jesus.

*Leon Thomassian is treasurer of the Atlantic Union Conference*

## World Budget

The section entitled World Budget on the envelope is the place where the weekly Sabbath school offering is listed. Some members prefer to drop this offering into the offering plate anonymously each week; however, if you prayerfully plan what percentage of your income you want to devote to the world mission of the church, you can simply include that offering when you are dividing up your paycheck, making it unnecessary to remember to have the correct amount ready each Sabbath when the offering plate is passed. One advantage of using the envelope is that the donor is identified and therefore eligible for charitable donation receipts.

## THE BLESSINGS OF STEWARDSHIP

“ Every good thing of earth was placed here by the bountiful hand of God as an expression of His love to man. The poor are His, and the cause of religion is His. The gold and the silver are the Lord's; and He could rain them from heaven if He chose. But instead of this He has made man His steward, entrusting him with means, not to be hoarded, but to be used in

benefiting others. He thus makes man the medium through which to distribute His blessings on earth. God planned the system of beneficence, in order that man might become like his Creator, benevolent and unselfish in character, and finally be a partaker with Christ of the eternal, glorious reward. ”

—COUNSELS ON STEWARDSHIP, p. 15





# The Adventist Advantage

Seventh-day Adventists, because of their unique lifestyle, are among the most researched groups in the world.

The more than 250 scientific papers, that have been published since the 1950s as the result of this research, have demonstrated that Adventists live longer and suffer less from heart disease and cancer, the leading killers in Western countries, than the general population. Two studies conducted by Loma Linda University from 1960–1982 involving 60,000 California Adventists concluded that “. . . for all causes of death combined, Adventists were found to have death rates one-half that of the general population.”<sup>1</sup> This explains why Adventists live longer. Why have Adventists been so blessed?

Ellen White, one of the founders of Adventism, received several visions during the mid to late 1800s, outlining health principles which, when followed, have proven to be the best formula for health and longevity. In 1905, 90 years ahead of the modern scientific knowledge available to us today, Ellen White wrote, “Tobacco is a slow, insidious, but most malignant poison.”<sup>2</sup> Today

the health principles that Adventists have advocated for almost a century have been scientifically verified and are being promoted by both government agencies and health organizations.

One of Adventist’s unique emphases is its belief in the holistic nature of humanity. The mental, physical, social, and spiritual dimensions of human nature are not separate, but are interconnected and dependent on each other for both spiritual and physical health. The Bible teaches that our bodies are the temple of God, and that we should present them to God as “living and holy sacrifices.”<sup>3</sup> “Whatever injures the health, not only lessens

physical vigor, but tends to weaken the mental and moral powers.”<sup>4</sup> For Adventism, a healthy lifestyle is more than a healthy choice, it’s a spiritual mandate.

The Adventist lifestyle offers eight God-given gifts of health in one package.<sup>5</sup> One package, because they are not individual gifts from which to choose. We must “unwrap” all eight to enjoy maximum emotional, physical, and spiritual

wellness. The name NEWSTART<sup>®</sup> has been coined as an acronym for these eight natural prescriptions for health and happiness.

Adventists believe that Christ’s teaching and healing ministry is an example for reaching the world today. This conviction has largely shaped the Adventist philosophy of mission. Medical missionary work is the

**N**utritious food  
**E**xercise  
**W**ater

**S**unlight  
**T**emperate, drug-free living  
**A**ir  
**R**est  
**T**rust in divine power

**O**ur bodies are Christ’s purchased possession, and we are not at liberty to do with them as we please. All who understand the laws of health should realize their obligation to obey these laws which God has established in their being. Obedience to the laws of health is to be made a matter of personal duty. We ourselves

must suffer the result of violated law. We must individually answer to God for our habits and practices. Therefore the question with us is not, “What is the world’s practice?” but, “How shall I as an individual treat the habitation that God has given me?”

—THE MINISTRY OF HEALING, p. 310.





"right arm" of the Adventist message. In 1866 at the fourth session of the General Conference convened in Battle Creek, Michigan, Ellen White urged the need for a health institution where the newly-advocated health principles could be publicly demonstrated. Thus the Western Health Reform Institute, which evolved into the Battle Creek Sanitarium where John Harvey Kellogg joined the staff as medical director in 1875, was established in Battle Creek in 1866. In 1900, following instructions from Ellen White, property was purchased in Loma Linda, California, on which a sanitarium was established. In 1910, the College of Medical Evangelists, offering a full medical course, was established. In 1961, CME became Loma Linda University, the denomination's largest institution offering professional curriculums in medicine, dentistry, allied health professions, public health, and nursing. Thousands of health evangelists, graduates from Loma Linda, have gone

around the world, establishing clinics, hospitals, and health education centers, following in the footsteps of Jesus.

The church, its medical institutions, personnel, and members, has not always followed the divine counsel given to it more than a century ago. But when the inspired counsel has been followed, blessings have resulted, providing a healthier and happier life on this earth in addition to the blessed hope of eternal life in the earth made new.

1. David C. Nieman, *THE ADVENTIST HEALTHSTYLE*, Review & Herald Pub. Assn., 1992, p. 39.
2. Ellen G. White, *THE MINISTRY OF HEALING*, Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1942, p. 327.
3. Romans 12:8, NAS.
4. White, p. 128.
5. *THE MINISTRY OF HEALING* p. 127.
6. NEWSTART Health Center is operated by Weimar Institute in Weimar, CA

*Ann Fisher is the Lake Union Herald copy editor, and the circulation and classified ad manager.*

## *The Adventist Health Study*

**A** vegetarian diet is recommended, although not required, by Adventism. The health visions given to Ellen White and the conviction that the original diet given to Adam and Eve before sin is God's ideal, led many of our early pioneers to adopt vegetarianism. Does it make a difference?

Researchers at Loma Linda University have been studying the health status of approximately 30,000 California Adventists over the past 25 years, making direct comparisons between vegetarians and non-vegetarians.

The study is significant because it compares the health of vegetarians (predominately lacto-ovo vegetarians) and non-vegetarians within an otherwise similar population group, reducing the chance that other diet and lifestyle factors are responsible for the health differences. Another significant fact is that Adventist non-vegetarians consume less meat and eat a more healthful diet than the typical meat eater, so the AHS compares vegetarian diets with diets of non-vegetarians whose eating habits are healthier than typical meat eaters.

The results of the AHS are particularly interest-

ing, because they show that vegetarians have a better health profile, even compared to those who eat a prudent omnivorous diet. The Loma Linda Vegetarian Nutrition & Health Letter reports that, "The study shows that vegetarian Adventists are less likely to develop colon and prostate cancer, and vegetarian men are less likely to develop fatal heart disease. It also appears that vegetarians are at decreased risk for diabetes, hypertension, arthritis, and obesity. The effects seem to be due to both increased consumption of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, and nuts, and to lower (or no) intake of meat.

"Finally, the AHS suggests that vegetarians can expect to gain a few years in which to enjoy their good health. Vegetarian women lived, on average, two and a half years longer than their non-vegetarian counterparts. Vegetarian men gained slightly more than three years."

*For more information on the Adventist Health Study, see the Loma Linda University Vegetarian Nutrition & Health Letter, October 1998, Volume 1, Number 10. For a copy or a subscription to the newsletter, call 1-888-558-8703.*





# Adventist Youth Ministry

## *Its History, Presence, and Vision*

**T**he great Christian revolutions," said H. Richard Niebuhr, "come not by the discovery of something that was not known before. They happen when somebody takes radically something that was always there."

One hundred and fifty-five years ago, a Christian "revolution" started because a group of young people decided to do just that. They read the scriptures, and they were convinced. And that's when these youth and young adults gave life to a church that didn't mind raw truth and radical Christianity. They lived Christ unashamedly and, since then, their example has inspired millions across the world to do the same.

Now you are a part of that movement. The Seventh-day Adventist Church, though human, has the God-driven goal to help youth experience the grace of Jesus Christ in such a way that it engages them in "dangerous" ministry. A risky goal it is, with unpredictable results. But to abandon this goal would be to shortchange God's purpose for this church.

Let's be honest. The church has at times shortchanged itself. But let's be accurate. The church is in constant motion to recapture the heartbeat of its youth. Through the years it has been committed to nurturing, training, and empowering the young for radical discipleship. It has developed schools, programs, centers, publications, and materials that help youth live Christ unashamedly.

Take, for example, the Center for Youth Evangelism. It is not only a resource center for youth leaders across the North American Division, it is staffed by youth and young adults—a clear example of how church leadership is handing over the reigns of the church to the young. But this is only one of many examples.

All across North America, Adventist youth and young adults are creating rapid fire changes by initiating ministries such as eXite '98 and conneXions '99. They seek to give Generation X ownership of their church.

Giraffe University and First Serve are training volunteer and veteran youth workers for radical leadership. Giraffe University helps them carry out the "7 Principles for Youth Ministry Excellence," a curriculum for effective ministry.

The YouthNet eXtreme is pushing the front lines of cut-

ting-edge evangelism. It is a four-member team that travels the country in a truck and trailer, putting on programs for schools and churches.

The Adventist Youth Service Network (YouthNet) is calling the young to become missionaries to places near and far. It represents the service center for the Adventist church.

Pathfinders, a long-time youth organization, is giving students, grades five to ten, countless opportunities for learning through arts, crafts, nature, recreation, and outreach. On any given day of the week across the world, you can find these youth involved, especially as many of them are preparing for Discover the Power International Camporee this summer in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Elementary, secondary, and college teachers are encouraging Christ-like values in their students while preparing them for a life of service. Many of them work alongside other organizations, such as Adventurers (grades one through four) and Adventist Youth (AY).

Conference youth directors also are complementing youth ministry. Many of them direct summer camps, which provide opportunities for lifelong friendships.

Youth Federations are bringing thousands of youth together to worship and be challenged to live their calling. The African American community leads out in these regional and national events.

Supporting ministries such as Adventist Frontier Missions and Piece of the Pie Ministries are mobilizing hundreds of students for missions.

The Christian revolution that young people started 155 years ago has gone a long way. The examples I gave you are just the

beginning. To know more about how the church helps youth LIVE CHRIST UNASHAMEDLY, and to get involved in youth or young-adult ministry, contact your local church youth leader, conference youth director, or call PlusLine at 1-800-SDA-PLUS for contact information. You can also contact the Center for Youth Evangelism at 1-800-YOUTH-2-U.

*William Hurtado is the Center for Youth Evangelism training coordinator and a young adult who loves his church.*





# Religious Liberty— *It's for Everyone!*

**A**round the clock in the ideal world, newborns nurse, sleep, get changed—nurse, sleep, get changed. They are lovingly, fiercely, parentally protected from the real world. Every squeak, squawk, burp, and gurgle is accommodated, immediately. No questions asked.

Through the seven-day cycle of a real-world week, spiritual newborns (new members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church) nurse on the word of the Lord. They work, play, rest in the strength, pleasure, safety of the Lord, and continue to be changed by the Spirit of the Lord.

Of course.

And they are lovingly, fiercely, parentally protected from every problem—by the government.

Not so!

Look! There are times when some of these members find themselves in a big time conflict—newfound faith v. long-held job. The issue—working on the Sabbath—sunset Friday to sunset Saturday. And then there is a member who, without joining a labor organization, cannot work at all.

The request for accommodation was rejected, immediately. The employer did not even ask. Why? Instead the response was, “Don’t hafta, not gonna.”

What does a Seventh-day Adventist who finds himself or herself in this predicament do?

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has established a ministry of religious freedom in order to address the needs of those who encounter difficulty with these types of issues. The Lord has commissioned the Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL) to help you!

At world headquarters near Washington, D. C., John Graz, a scholar and author from France and Switzerland, works as director of the General Conference Department of PARL and secretary general of the highly-respected International Religious Liberty Association. Clarence E. Hodges, once a high officer in the U.S. Department of State, is director of the North American Division PARL and president of the North American Religious Liberty Association.

In New York at the United Nations PARL has an office on First Avenue, directly across from the Security Council, in Geneva at the UN Human Rights Commission PARL is officially recognized as a non-governmental organization, and in 207 nations of the world the Seventh-day Adventist Church is at work for religious freedom.

In the Atlantic Union there are PARL professionals on staff to assist when these issues arise. These professionals know

the applicable national and state or provincial laws prohibiting religious discrimination and the laws providing accommodation for religious belief and practice. They understand the sometimes not-so-easy steps to be taken to achieve what the laws provide, and they will recommend a course of action and, start to finish, walk with you through the entire procedure.

Because this really is a tithe-and-offering-supplied-and-supported ministry they will not bill you a penny for all their time and expertise.

Year in and year out, the ministers, attorneys, paralegals, and office secretaries of PARL keep busy helping hundreds of Adventists (and folks of other faiths as well) find freedom in the workplace.

But that is not all. Consider what we call government relations. In Washington and Ottawa and in every state and provincial capital city, this non-partisan, non-political, never-ending program seeks to preserve and to foster the growth of religious liberty. So PARL representatives will support good bills which would make good laws and try to block bad bills from becoming bad laws.

You too have a role in government relations—a double role, in fact. (1) In January of each year, on the Sabbath designated as Liberty Sabbath, you will be challenged to give liberally for religious liberty. The offering helps deliver to thought leaders everywhere the very best journal anywhere: *LIBERTY*: a magazine of religious freedom. (2) Just about anytime your state or province’s legislative assembly is in session, you may be urged to help the cause of religious freedom by contacting lawmakers from your district regarding a specific bill. As a constituent, you will be listened to with courtesy and respect.

Religious liberty has been a concern of the Seventh-day Adventist Church since its founding and organization. It is a global ministry. It is not just for new members, or for the rest of us in the church—religious liberty is for everyone!

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*Richard Lee Fenn has been involved in the church’s ministry of religious liberty since 1986. He is currently associate director of the General Conference Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty and deputy secretary general of the International Religious Liberty Association.*





# Adventist Laypersons Share their Faith

**Y**our new church family believes that not all ministry should be done by the paid clergy—that every member is called by God to bear witness of the heavenly Father's love.

Most active of all in this envisioned workplace witness are those who belong to ASI, men and women taking not only the name of Christian but also knitting together in Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries.

Multi-generational and cultural, ASIs take as their motto, "Sharing Christ in the Marketplace." They see marketplace ministry as more than providing unswerving integrity in business, however. And that's why manufacturers like Eastlex Machine Corporation in Lexington, Kentucky, have quiet religious music playing in the phone system when callers wait for the desired person. Employees of Grab-on Products in Walla Walla, Washington, may opt to brown bag at lunchtime in a video seminar room with Doug Batchelor tapes. Clients of a New York City private investigator receive paid subscriptions to Adventist publications.

An auto dealer in Allentown, Pennsylvania, provides transportation for student literature evangelists. A health club which stocks a variety of books and magazines for patrons offers seminars in nutritious eating, and maintains a closed witness during Sabbath hours still was voted #1 among Lincoln, Nebraska's seven fitness centers. A Richmond, Quebec, publisher has secured places for his French and English religious publications in general bookstores.

Because ASI grew out of the self-supporting concept for Christian education and healthcare prominent early in the 20th century, ASI member organizations also include a half-dozen boarding high schools such as DayStar Adventist Academy near Moab, Utah, and Lifestyle Center of America at Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Some members are committed to full-time ministry and often on a global basis—like Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), with 24-hour Adventist programming; Maranatha Volunteers, with service orientation for building churches and schools where church growth exceeds hous-

PHOTO BY ELWYN PLATNER



*Don King and Ashley Cobb, Jr., are secretary and president of the Atlantic Union's ASI chapter.*

PHOTO BY ELWYN PLATNER



*Programming and exhibits at ASI chapter and international conventions include training in ministry for all ages.*

PHOTO BY DICK DOWDER



*Canadian, Christian, and United States flags, carried at the international convention, represent the territorial and spiritual commitment of ASIs to "Share Christ in the Marketplace." (Flags are held by Michael Dear, D.V.M., president of the West Canadian Chapter; Dwight Hilderbrandt, secretary-treasurer at the International headquarters in Silver Spring, MD; and Dan Houghton, president of ASI and Hart Research in Fallbrook, CA.)*

ing needs; Outpost Centers, Inc., (OCI), which supports 100 smaller outreaches such as vegetarian restaurants and mission training schools; Adventist Frontier Missions, which pioneers Christian ministry in countries where the church has not established a presence; and Adventist Singles Ministry, with its emphasis on developing an environment where unmarried members of the church may participate in outreach to a large segment of today's population; and Canvasback Missions, which encourages short-term medical assistance in Micronesia from a 71-foot sailing vessel.

At both chapter (union-wide) and international (North American Division) conventions, members are nurtured in their witness through professional and spiritual growth seminars. But the greatest inspiration comes from member testimonies, laypersons sharing with each other how Christ has inspired them to be used in faith-sharing and blessed their stewardship of time and money.

Such spiritual feasting leads some to say that "ASI is even better than camp meeting." Because there is programming for every age group, children observe that it's like having Sabbath school three times a day!

ASI members receive their joy in Jesus through telling others about Him, and they make a living through accounting, agriculture, beekeeping, broadcasting, corrections, counseling, dairying, food service, graphic arts, healing arts, lawncare, lifestyle training, manufacturing, mining, property management, personal grooming service, and zoology. There's a category for your career, your trade, your vision—literally from A to Z.

So, if you'd like to get acquainted with Adventist business or professional people in your field to stimulate your effectiveness in sharing your new-found faith, write the ASI headquarters office at 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904. Call (301) 680-6450. Or visit the ASI website at [www.tagnet.org/asi](http://www.tagnet.org/asi).

*Shirley Burton is the communication director for ASI, and retired communication director for the General Conference*





# ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Adventist Community Services (ACS) is the domestic humanitarian agency sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Under its umbrella is a wide range of public services including food pantries and clothing programs in almost every local church. As such ACS is the affiliate for domestic relief and social action of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) — an agency established by the Adventist church for the specific purposes of community development and disaster response. ADRA is an internationally recognized non-governmental organization which addresses world hunger, the needs of developing nations, and major disasters around the world. In Canada the work of community services operates under the agency ADRA Canada.

Community services includes help for the poor, health screening and health education for the general public, inner city projects, family life education, disaster response, tutoring and other youth activities, day care for both children and the elderly, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, adult education, counseling, drug alcohol awareness and treatment, self-help groups, Meal on Wheels, summer camps for disadvantaged children, addresses the AIDS epidemic, and encourages conservation of the natural environment. ACS is the organization designed to provide a structure and to facilitate and support these services.

Concern for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of men, women, and children is fundamental to Seventh-day Adventist faith. We believe that God is

just as concerned about the physical body and practical aspects of life as He is about religion and the spiritual aspects of life. He asks believers to join Him in acts of compassion for the poor, oppressed, troubled, and hurting.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual mandates that each local, Adventist congregation appoint a Community Services Director. This officer is a member of the church board, sits on the Church Ministries Council and plays a key role in coordinating all of the service activities undertaken by the local church and its auxiliaries such as the Pathfinder Club, Dorcas Society, etc. Projects such as an emergency food pantry or community clothes closet, a smoking cessation program or health screening event, cleaning up a neighborhood park or recycling glass bottles or aluminum cans, distributing meals to the homeless in the inner city or hosting a 12-step program are all typical local church community services. There is a small but growing number of ADRA Affiliates in North America; domestic projects that meet the standards set in collaboration with the international agency and form the core of the ACS network.

The ACS network includes more than 200 multi-service centers, Inner City projects in 30 of the largest cities across North America, health screening van ministries in more than a dozen cities, an Adventist Disaster Response team in each of the 58 local conferences, nearly 100 churches that currently participate in Adventist Refugee Ministries, and scores of other specialized ministries. Communication and in-service education is maintained through local conferences as well as area, state, and provincial federations and several annual national training events. For more information about Community Services call 1-800-381-7171.

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*John Gavin is the national executive director for Adventist Community Services*





# Highlights

## From the Union Executive Committee

**T**hroughout 1998 the Atlantic Union Executive Committee took some important actions for the advancement of the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in its territory. The following are some of the many decisions made during that time:

**1. Cuba Offering Report**—In February 1998 an offering of over \$20,000 was taken to assist the work of the church in Cuba. Last August, the officers of the Atlantic Union visited Cuba and met with the many grateful church members and leaders.

**2. Trust Services**—Mark Hyder was asked to serve as an associate Trust Services director on a part-time basis to process uni-trust and annuity trust agreements for the Atlantic Union.

**3. Office Renovations**—The Atlantic Union office was renovated by receiving new carpet, wall and window treatment, and a second story was added in order to provide a new roof to replace the leaky one. The second story remains a shell only and is not being used.

**4. Sexual Misconduct Guidelines**—A guideline booklet, *SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN CHURCH RELATIONSHIPS*, was voted to be distributed to all employees of conferences and institutions in the Atlantic Union territory.

**5. Restructuring of Northeastern Conference**—It was voted to appoint a team to study the proposal by the Northeastern Conference for restructuring and the potential formation of a new conference in the New England states. The team would oversee the calling of area meetings in New England for the purpose of receiving input from the constituency.

**6. Franco-Haitian Youth Congress**—was voted to be held in Orlando, FL, March 31 – April 4, 1999. Invitations will be extended to Franco-Haitian youth in other unions and conferences in the North American Division.

**7. Executive Committee Vacancy Replacements**—New members to join the committee include Anthony Mezella, and Santiago Mejia, both from the Greater New York Conference.

**8. New Associate Treasurer**—Glenn Carter was asked to serve as associate union treasurer to replace Ken Osborn who accepted a transfer to the treasury department of the North American Division.

**9. AUC Accreditation**—Atlantic Union College received re-accreditation for another ten years from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges—mini reviews will be conducted during the ten year period.

**10. Statistical Report**—At the end of September, 1998, there were 3,238 new accessions—a 27% increase over the same time last year. The membership of the Atlantic Union Conference stood at 82,633 spread out in 478 churches & companies.

**11. Special Offerings for 1999**—Two union-wide offerings will be taken in 1999: one for Atlantic Union College was taken on January 30, 1999 and the other for the evangelistic work in Haiti will be taken on July 31, 1999.

**12. New Union Youth Director**—Bill Wood from the Gulf States Conference was asked to serve as Youth and Pathfinder director for the Atlantic Union.

### Welcome to the Atlantic Union Conference Family



Glenn with his wife, Jennifer (an AUC alumna), and their son, Cesar.

**GLENN CARTER** was invited to serve as associate treasurer of the Atlantic Union effective December 1, 1998. He replaces Kenneth Osborn who is currently associate treasurer for the North American Division. Formerly, Carter, served two years in the Atlantic Union office as a business intern, taught accounting at Walla Walla College, and most recently, served as vice president for finance at Atlantic Union College. He is a product of Adventist Christian education having attended Riverview Memorial School in Norridgewock, ME, Union Springs Academy in Union Springs New York, and Atlantic Union College.

**WILLIAM (BILL) WOOD** was invited to serve in the Atlantic Union as Youth and Pathfinder director effective January 1, 1999. Bill comes to us from the Gulf States Conference where he served for fourteen years as Church Ministries director. Formerly Wood served in various capacities in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference, South Dakota Conference, and at Des Moines SDA Junior Academy, Milo Academy, Georgia Cumberland Academy and Andrews University. Bill and his wife, Janet have two sons, Jeffrey and Scott.



Bill Wood with his wife Janet.

Donald G. King is executive secretary of the Atlantic Union Conference



# School of Destiny

Stephen N. Haskell had a dream. The dream was insistent, urgent. His conviction that the Lord was coming soon thrilled him but also tormented him, for the Adventist message must be carried to men and women everywhere. But where were the trained workers to do it?

The dream became a conviction. A school must be established to train such workers. As president of the New England Conference and also, astonishing enough, of the California Conference, he concluded that the school must be in New England. In time that locale was narrowed down to a small Massachusetts town, the town of South Lancaster.

The first constituency meeting to discuss the proposed school was held on February 4, 1882. Despite blizzard conditions, many Adventists traveled from New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts to attend. The meeting spawned committees and out of those committees grew a resolution to establish a denominational school.

Goodloe Harper Bell, a fine teacher and first principal of the proposed school, describes one of those committee meetings. "All seemed in earnest in regard to the school. They said that in many places the news of a school to begin so soon, was received with tears of joy, and prayers of thanksgiving. These people have their hearts set upon a school, and will not be easily turned from their purpose." No fundraising was attempted at these meetings, yet many dedicated Adventists quietly provided "liberal donations."

Following a sometimes discouraging search for competent teachers, the new school under the name of South Lancaster Academy, opened its doors on April 19, 1882. Haskell, the impetus behind it, learned that just a week earlier, Healdsburg Academy in California, had opened its doors. So South

Lancaster Academy missed the distinction of being the first Adventist school by just one week.

The school's facilities consisted of one modest building, just eighteen by twenty-four feet, located close to where the South Lancaster Post Office now stands. The first term saw 24 students enrolled.

The mission of the school was simple: to prepare workers for God. Manual labor was required both as a discipline for the students and as a necessity. Wood had to be chopped. Crops had to be tended on their one acre of land. The laundry must be done. The newly formed school board agreed that manual labor was "absolutely necessary to the success of our School and the well being of those who attended it." The students worked willingly, with no remuneration.

The school was established. Students came and students learned. Preparations for a fall term ensued. Yet, a financial precipice yawned. At the end of the first term total expenditures had reached \$1,082.31, while total receipts had come to only \$241.04. But by faith, prayer, and sacrificial donations by dedicated Adventists, the school continued.

The need for more and better buildings was evident. During that first term students stayed in a carriage house, the upstairs of a print shop, and the basement of the small church. Haskell, the spinner of dreams into reality, sent out a call for gifts to build a school building and dormitory. In only one year \$75,000 poured in—gifts for the erection of the badly needed buildings.

And so a three-floor structure was built as well as a dormitory. That three-story structure we now know as Founders Hall, presently home of the Theology department at Atlantic Union College. Immediately this sturdy building became the administration building as well as accommodating all classes. Over the years it has served in many capacities. In 1976 it underwent extensive renovation. Today it holds the distinction of being the oldest Seventh-day Adventist educational building still standing on its original site and seeing uninterrupted educational service.

The history of AUC contains financial challenges and personnel difficulties. Its story includes times of crises and even discouragement. But the school still stands. It still trains students to be workers for God. It still employs dedicated men and women.

First a dream, then a reality, Atlantic Union College solicits the prayers and support of its constituents. Dreams may precede reality, but the present reality requires the same faith, prayers, and unflagging support demonstrated by the founders of Atlantic Union College.

*Ruth Redding Brand, director of Alumni & College Relations at AUC*

I am indebted to the book *AND THERE WAS LIGHT* by Dr. Myron Wehtje, for much of this information.



## AUC Annual Homecoming April 16–18, 1999

- Celebrate 30 years of beautiful music with Dr. Virginia-Gene Rittenhouse and the New England Youth Ensemble.
- Be inspired by Bill Knott at the Friday evening service.
- Challenge your knowledge and heart as Dr. Roy Branson teaches the Sabbath School lesson.
- Enjoy the Sabbath sermon by Pastor Arnold Swanson.
- Saturday night — Attend a Thayer Symphony Orchestra concert or hurry to the gym for a New York/New England basketball game. (Bring your sneakers!) Or simply relax with friends.
- Sabbath afternoon child care provided. (Ages 3–12)
- Honor Classes - '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '89





# Adventists On the Internet

One study recently reported that traffic on the Internet doubles every 60 days. Seventh-day Adventists are very much a part of this exploding frontier. Individual members, local churches and church entities maintain a strong Adventist presence on the web. We invite you to visit some of the following sites (both private and organizational) for church news, spiritual nourishment, resource information, and training. Some other sites on the Internet that claim to be Seventh-day Adventist are not officially recognized. If you have a questions about a particular organization or website call 1-800-SDA-PLUS (732-7587).

**Adventist Association of Online Evangelism** — [www.aaoe.org](http://www.aaoe.org)

**Adventist Church Locator** — [www.sdanet.org/locator/home.html](http://www.sdanet.org/locator/home.html)

**Adventist Communication Network**

(for SDA satellite programming and training) — [www.acnsat.org](http://www.acnsat.org)

**Adventist Education** — [www.nadeducation.adventist.org](http://www.nadeducation.adventist.org)

**Adventist Health Care** — [www.llu.edu](http://www.llu.edu) & [www.ahss.org](http://www.ahss.org)

**Adventist Media Center**

(TV and radio ministries) — [www.adventistmedia.org](http://www.adventistmedia.org)

**Adventists Online**

(CompuServe Adventist Forum) — [www.adventist.org/online](http://www.adventist.org/online)

**Adventist PlusLine**

(ministry resource information) — [plusline.adventist.org](http://plusline.adventist.org)

**Adventist Singles Ministries**

(Oregon Chapter) — [www.teleport.com/~brothers/asm](http://www.teleport.com/~brothers/asm)

**Bible Information Line** — [www.bibleinfo.com](http://www.bibleinfo.com)

**Center for Youth Evangelism** — [www.andrews.edu/CYE](http://www.andrews.edu/CYE)

**E-MALE** (men's ministry resource) — [www.emale.org](http://www.emale.org)

**General Conference of SDAs** — [www.adventist.org](http://www.adventist.org)

**Geoscience Research Institute**

(questions on science and faith) — [www.tagnet.org/gri](http://www.tagnet.org/gri)

**Hancock Center for Youth and Family Ministry**

(youth and family life resources) — [www.lasierra.edu/hyfm](http://www.lasierra.edu/hyfm)

**Maranatha International**

(mission building projects) — [www.maranatha.org](http://www.maranatha.org)

**NAD Children's Ministries Department**

[northamerica.adventist.org/cm](http://northamerica.adventist.org/cm) & [nadadventist.org/cm](http://nadadventist.org/cm)

**NAD Religious Liberty Department**

(promotes religious freedom) — [www.nadfreedom.org](http://www.nadfreedom.org)

**North American Division (NAD)**

[northamerica.adventist.org](http://northamerica.adventist.org) & [nadadventist.org](http://nadadventist.org)

**Pacific Press** (Adventist publisher) — [www.pacificpress.com](http://www.pacificpress.com)

**Review and Herald Publishing Association**

(Adventist publisher) — [www.rhpa.org](http://www.rhpa.org)

**Sabbath School Network**

(adult lesson study helps) — [www.ssnet.org](http://www.ssnet.org)

**SDASource** (SDA website index) — [www.tagnet.org/SDASource](http://www.tagnet.org/SDASource)

**Tagnet** (Adventist internet reference site) — [www.tagnet.org](http://www.tagnet.org)

**Three Angels Broadcasting** (lay TV) — [www.3abn.org](http://www.3abn.org)

**YouthNet**

(youth mission service) — [www.cuc.edu/sdaorg/YouthNet](http://www.cuc.edu/sdaorg/YouthNet)

**Youth Online** (Youth web hangout) — [www.youth-online.org](http://www.youth-online.org)

## Special Interest Groups

### Adventist Amateur Radio Association

58 Byron Drive  
Smithsburg MD 21783  
Tel: (301) 824-3509; Fax -3510  
[kw8t@mci2000.com](mailto:kw8t@mci2000.com)  
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/kw8t/adventis.htm>

### Adventist Child Care Network

NAD Children's Ministries  
12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring MD 20904-6600  
Tel: (301) 680-6425; Fax -6464  
[moyeta@nad.adventist.org](mailto:moyeta@nad.adventist.org)

### Adventist Children's Ministries Association

5040 Prescott Avenue  
Lincoln NE 68506  
Tel: 800-328-0525 or  
(402) 486-2519; Fax: -2572

### Adventist Contact (dating)

PO Box 5419  
Takoma Park MD 20913-0419  
Tel: (301) 589-4440

### Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring MD 20904-6600  
Tel: (301) 680-6450  
Fax: (301) 622-5017  
[71756.1072@compuserve.com](mailto:71756.1072@compuserve.com)  
<http://www.tagnet.org/asi>

### Adventist Prison Ministries Association

c/o NAD Church Ministries,  
12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring MD 20904-6600  
Tel: (301) 680-6430; Fax -6464

### Adventist Marriage Encounter

John & Carolyn Wilt  
10363 Sportsman Court  
Rancho Cordova CA 95670  
Tel: (916) 362-6244; Fax -3862  
[jjwilt@bigplanet.com](mailto:jjwilt@bigplanet.com)

### Adventist Rodders Club

38 Schafer Meadows Lane  
Montesano WA 98563  
Tel: (360) 249-5822  
[leiske@techline.com](mailto:leiske@techline.com)  
<http://www.techline.com/%7ELeiske/adventistrodders.html>

### Adventist World Aviation

Griggs Drive  
Berrien Springs MI 49104  
Tel/Fax: (616) 473-0135  
[76613.344@compuserve.com](mailto:76613.344@compuserve.com)  
<http://www.tagnet.org/awa>

### Association of Adventist Parents Keeping in Touch

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring MD 20904-6600  
Tel: (301) 680-6702; Fax -6090  
[74617.2242@compuserve.com](mailto:74617.2242@compuserve.com)

### Center for Volunteerism

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring MD 20904-6600  
Tel: 800-252-7363 or  
(301) 680-6648; Fax -6635  
[hellern@gc.adventist.org](mailto:hellern@gc.adventist.org)  
<http://www.adventist.org/gc/secretariat>

### Christian Women's Pen Pal Club

4316 S 49th Street  
Lincoln NE 68516  
Include a SASE.

### Maranatha Volunteers International (mission trips)

1600 Sacramento Inn Way, #116  
Sacramento CA 95815  
Tel: (916) 920-1900; Fax -3299  
[74617.2722@compuserve.com](mailto:74617.2722@compuserve.com)

### National Service Organization

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring MD 20904-6600  
Tel: (301) 680-6780; Fax -6783  
[adventistchaplains@compuserve.com](mailto:adventistchaplains@compuserve.com)

### Regeneration Ministries SDAXA (addictions ministry)

PO Box 712  
Coupeville WA 98239-0712  
(360) 678-2138h  
(360) 675-4412

### YouthNet—Adventist Youth Service Network

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring MD 20904-6600  
Tel: 800-331-2767 or  
(301) 680-6479; Fax -6464  
North America: [vasqna@nad.adventist.org](mailto:vasqna@nad.adventist.org); Outside NAD: [latge@nad.adventist.org](mailto:latge@nad.adventist.org)





# Adventist Media Center

**D**rawing people to Christ is the ultimate goal of three television and two radio ministries producing programs at the Adventist Media Center (AMC).

## Voice of Prophecy (VOP)

A leader in religious broadcasting for nearly 70 years, the *Voice of Prophecy* presents clear messages from God's word bringing hope to broken people and guiding Christians in daily living. Founded by H. M. S. Richards on a single Los Angeles radio station in 1929, and now directed by Lonnie Melashenko, VOP reaches contemporary society with the gospel. Heralding Christ's soon return, VOP impacts millions worldwide with Sunday and daily radio programs, television broadcasts, Bible study courses, and public meetings focusing on God's love. Web site: [www.vop.com](http://www.vop.com)

## La Voz de la Esperanza (The Voice of Hope)

Since 1942 *La Voz de la Esperanza* has touched millions of Spanish-speaking people through weekly radio programs. With director/speaker Frank Gonzalez and speaker emeritus Milton Peverini, 500 stations in 30 countries carry *La Voz* throughout North and Latin America and Europe. Their Bible school distributes a full spectrum of courses on Bible doctrines, family life, health, and youth counseling in 32 branches that receive about 100,000 letters yearly. Through this ministry and several annual evangelistic crusades, the Holy Spirit wins thousands to Christ. Web site: [www.lavoz.org](http://www.lavoz.org)

## It Is Written (IIW)

The first religious telecast in color, *It Is Written* was founded in 1956 by George Vandeman. With Mark Finley speaker/director since 1992, IIW beams around the world offering salvation through Christ in seven languages and health programs in Chinese. Blending location shoots, interviews and footage from current events, science, and history to illustrate scriptural truth, IIW's weekly visit in your home changes lives in prisons and mansions. Literature is mailed free to viewers who call a toll-free number on the screen. IIW's traveling evangelistic teams conduct crusades and train pastors and lay people in the science of evangelism. Web site: [www.iiw.org](http://www.iiw.org)

## Faith For Today (FFT)

Faith for Today developed a television talk show to appeal to viewers who don't watch religious programming. Hosted by Dan Matthews, *Lifestyle* magazine teaches people about healthful living. Thousands respond to viewing the program on scores of secular stations. But, believing the program would attract viewers who never pause to watch a religious channel, the very religious Trinity Broadcasting Network placed *Lifestyle* magazine on their lineup, free. By early 1998 it had become the fifth most-watched program on TBN! FFT provides home study materials on wellness, nutrition, marriage, parenting, and friendships. Web site: [www.lifestyle.org](http://www.lifestyle.org)

## Breath of Life (BOL)

Breath of Life (BOL) television is aimed directly at black audiences in the largest cities of North America and the Caribbean. Nevertheless, the powerful preaching of both speaker emeritus C. D. Brooks and

current speaker Walter Pearson is popular with a wide variety of viewers. BOL is well-known for planting new churches.

## Adventist Media Productions

Also based at AMC is Adventist Media Productions, a team of technicians specializing in video and audio production for global church projects. The ministries share support labor from accounting, mailroom/warehouse, telephone and computer departments, Transdata advertising and time-buying agency, and trust services. Staff members from media ministries often present seminars on doctrines, wellness, marriage, parenting, and other topics that draw people to a local church. Videotaped seminars, sermons, and Bible lessons are available, as well as albums by artists who provide music for the programs. All the ministries supply churches with lists of interests developed through response to TV/radio programs and Bible courses. Letters of invitation signed by ministry speakers can be sent to these names, along with handbills for crusades or seminars. Local events can be announced at the end of broadcasts.

AMC ministries is largely donor-supported and always welcomes financial gifts to help them draw people to Christ and hasten His return.

Elaine Dodd is retired director of Public Relations for IIW

**ADVENTIST** 101 W. Cochran Street  
**MEDIA** Simi Valley CA 93065  
**CENTER** Telephone: (805) 373-7777

## PlusLine is Online!

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Provided by your union conference and the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.





## The Spirit of Bermuda— Johnny Barnes

For the last twenty-four years Johnny James Barnes has been greeting hundreds of early morning motorists, joggers, and pedestrians as they pass the Crow Lane roundabout, located at the entrance to the city of Hamilton, Bermuda. All are greeted with a warm smile, an exuberant wave, and the words "I love you," or God bless you."

Johnny used to walk to work from his home on Valley Lane, Paget along Harbour Road to the bus depot on East Broadway where he worked as a mechanic. He

would greet people as he walked along, fondly remembering his mother's advice to speak and be kind to everyone. One day as he crossed over at the "foot of the lane," he got stuck on the roundabout. As he patiently waited for the traffic to thin out, he thought to himself, "this is a lovely spot!" It was then that he decided to spend

*He would greet  
people as he walked  
along, fondly remembering his mother's  
advice to speak and  
be kind to everyone.*

the hour before work on this spot each day to wave good morning to everyone.

Now that he has retired, Johnny arrives at the roundabout at 5 a.m. and stays until 10 a.m. Tourists by the thousands have taken photographs of him. He has been featured on posters, postcards, in magazines, on radio and television in Bermuda and around the world. He also has a website on the world wide web.

Rain or shine, he is always there. Even in hurricanes, Johnny is at his spot. So many drivers' spirits have been uplifted by his simple act of kindness that in 1991 he received the Queen's Certificate of Honor for his cheerful greetings to motorists.

Born on June 23, 1923, in Pembroke Parish, Johnny is a devoted and committed member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a Christian bent on sharing God's love with everyone.

An additional commendation was presented to this generous and kind Bermudian on October 14, 1998, when a bronze sculpture

## Bermuda Institute Alumni Weekend

The Bermuda Institute Alumni Association is pleased to announce the first annual Alumni Weekend scheduled for May 21 – May 23, 1999. This will be a time for you to get reacquainted with old friends and reminisce about the "old days." We are in the process of building our alumni base and invite all alumni, former students, and friends to contact us so that we can keep you abreast of the alumni weekend plans.

BERMUDA INSTITUTE  
Office of Development  
P.O. Box SN 114  
Southampton, SN BX  
Bermuda

PHONE: (441) 238-1566  
ext. 233  
FAX: (441) 238-1309  
E-MAIL: development1@  
hotmail.com  
WEB SITE: www.tagnet.  
org/bdaconf

**BERMUDA**  
D. RANDOLPH WILSON, CORRESPONDENT

was unveiled on Front Street in Hamilton before thousands of Bermudians and tourists who applauded over and over in thunderous tones. Plans for the statute was initiated and executed by Bermuda's foremost sculptor, Desmond Hale Fountain, tri-athlete Jim Butterfield, philanthropist Andrew Bans, Jon Faram, and the Spirit of Bermuda Trust.

The statue now stands at the entrance of East Broadway welcoming all as they travel into the city of Hamilton.

*Belvina Barnes, Bermuda Conference*



John and Belvina Barnes standing near the statue that now stands at the entrance to the city of Hamilton.

## Conference Facts

ORGANIZED in 1959  
MEMBERSHIP: 3,263 (9/30/98)  
CHURCHES: 9  
TERRITORY: Island of Bermuda  
WEB SITE: <http://www.tagnet.org/bdaconf>



## The Joys of Being a Small Church

Imagine lots of church members sending out a large number of invitations and many visitors responding to the invitation. In this setting, how many sentences beyond the "Happy Sabbath" greeting do you think would be spoken to a visitor?

It is the practice of Adventist churches in the South Pacific to appoint a conversation committee, in addition to the reception committee, and having the rest of the membership doing its friendly part. It's like being brushed by several angels' wings! Four years ago Pastor James Wong of the Yonkers church and Dr. Jim Tayag of the Jackson Heights church launched Bayanihan, a small church, with similar views as the churches in the South Pacific, where visitors will be fed with what they really hunger for—friendly, engaging conversation. Today it is evident that the Bayanihan concept works.

At Bayanihan, no one need fear being out-of-place. The space is small, the membership is small, but their hearts are large enough to respond to each visitor's need to belong. The original members remember what it was like as new immigrants feeling homesick and pining for the fellowships that were left behind in the Philippines. They know and understand very

well that phase of acute longing for a church family.

The non-stop activities for an entire day are convenient because fellowship dinner is held every Sabbath. Time and labor are devoted to this weekly feast so people will know that the wholesome food endorsed by God is palatable. In the church there is a doctor, a dentist, and five nurses, but the credibility of the Health Reform message depends mostly on the ingenuity of both men and women in the kitchen.

Sabbath celebration culminates with choir practice. The aim is to captivate through songs audiences in malls, subways, streets, and the nursing homes, thereby facilitating the gospel tract distribution. The choir director holds a master's degree in music and because of the value that is placed on this rare learning opportunity, almost everyone is a choir member.

"Bayanihan" is a Filipino term referring to a Filipino custom wherein neighbors help one another for free. This Bayanihan spirit after which the church is named has magnetized even non-Filipinos. There are six other nationalities in the church. At the start it was envisioned that Bayanihan would be an exclusively Filipino church but the Lord revealed to the members something better—a church that is Filipino in spirit but international in membership.

It is not the Lord's will that Bayanihan remain a gated commu-

nity. Formation of cliques is explicitly discouraged. The Filipinos do not speak in their dialect if a non-Filipino is around. There are two Sabbath School groups, one in English and another in Filipino language.

No one's gift is overlooked. Almost everyone is a church officer and everyone has something to do. Opportunities to bring Christ's loving friendship to the world abound. Personalized letters to the Discovery Bible students have to be handwritten. Spirit of Prophecy books have to be gift wrapped.

It is not the custom to wait for a formal program to be in place before action is taken on an individual need. The members correspond with individuals in prison, the terminally ill, a backslider, the chronically unemployed, someone facing an operation, and with anxiety-burdened people whom they consider to be God's priority.

You must be wondering why the church is called fellowship. That identifying name reflects the ease with which they want friendship to flourish among them and the visitors. Knowing each other better means loving one another better, and remembering easily how to pray for each other. It has been proven that once a visitor enjoys close friendship with at least one or two in a church he or she would be more inspired to seek the greatest friend of all.

Inevitably the members of Bayanihan will be gathering more and more visitors into Christ's fold. In that event Bayanihan will be a big church . . . but with the small church essence. This means that the members will not allow the future size to change the focus of the church but it will remain a visitor-friendly church . . . a loving church.

Andy Garcia  
Bayanihan Bible Fellowship church

## GREATER NEW YORK

LINFORD MARTIN, CORRESPONDENT

## Conference Facts

ORGANIZED: 1902  
MEMBERSHIP: 17,758 (9/30/98)  
CHURCHES: 92

TERRITORY: That portion of the state of New York including New York City, and Columbia, Dutches, Greene, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester Counties.

WEB SITE: <http://www.tagnet.org/sdainfoweb>



## Northeastern Hosts National Bible Bowl Championships

Youth from across North America converged on New York City last October for the National Bible Bowl. Young people from Southwest Region, Allegheny West, Northeastern, South Central, Allegheny East, South Atlantic, Lake

senior division, and its Christian Fellowship team take second place in the young adult division. South Atlantic Conference's young adult team took first place while its senior division team garnered second place.

Northeastern's youth ministry team of Newton Cleghorne, Gar-net Morris, and secretary Marva Mortley affirm that in Bible Bowl



Toronto Canada (left) vs. Northeastern in round 1.

Representatives at the Bowl (L. to R.): D. Howard, South Atlantic; D. Edmonds, South Central; J. Black, Southwest; G. Morris, Northeastern; A. Kelly, Lake Region; R. Parham, Southeastern; G. Webb, Central; F. Lazarus, Ontario; N. Cleghorne, Northeastern.



Region, Ontario, Bermuda, and Central States conferences divided into young adult and senior youth divisions competed at the White Plains church on Friday and the New Rochelle church on Saturday.

The Bible Bowl competition, the brain child of Northeastern Conference secretary, Trevor Baker, has contestants study predetermined books of the Bible and compete answering toss up and bonus questions on the material for points. The team with the most points at the end of the two rounds wins. The teams making the trip to New York were winners of competitions in their home conferences.

The lively and well-attended event saw Northeastern's White Plains team take first place in the

there are first and second place winners, but no losers. "When you spend time studying the Word of God, there are no losers."

C. A. Murray, communication director, NEC

## Family Ministries Holds 9th Annual Retreat

Each year, on the third weekend in November the Northeastern Conference Family Ministries department holds its annual Family and Singles Retreat at the Nevel Resort in New York's Catskill mountains. According to Dr. Rupert Young, event coordinator and Family Ministries director, the attendance has steadily grown with last year's ninth annual retreat participation numbering "over the 1,000 mark."

There was a list of impressive facilitators and speakers presenting workshops covering areas such as Parent Challenging and Strong Willed Kids, Finding Inner Peace, Divine Understanding Through Grief and Loss, Starting Over, Mismatched Hook-Ups, Living with a Difficult Spouse, Contentment and Joy in a Single Lifestyle, The Joys of the Latter Years, Marriage Enrichment, and Teenagers and Young Adult workshops.

A special feature at this retreat was the presentation of the Parents' Recognition Awards to: Gladys Hill of the Mount of Olive church, Doris Logan of the Lebanon church, Raymond and Jemimah Etufugh of the New Rochelle church, and Joan Collins.

The participants of the weekend of events left feeling spiritually refreshed and revived, and more informed on issues that impact their family life. Many are already making plans to participate in the 10th annual retreat scheduled for November of this year.

C. A. Murray, communication director, NEC

NORTHEASTERN  
CLEMENT A. MURRAY, CORRESPONDENT

## Conference Facts

ORGANIZED: 1945  
MEMBERSHIP: 42,364 (9/30/98)  
CHURCHES: 134  
TERRITORY: Regional constituency of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.  
WEB SITE: <http://northeastern.org>



# BULLETIN BOARD

## Out-of-Union

**Mt. Ellis Academy Alumni Homecoming:** Our annual homecoming weekend is April 16 & 17, 1999. Come renew friendships for the weekend. For those of you who like to ski and would like to use the Ski Hill again, March 5 & 6, 1999 has been set aside for those of you who do enjoy skiing and want to see your old friends at the same time. For more information call (406) 587-5178.

**Valley Grande Academy announces its annual Alumni Weekend, March 26 & 27, 1999.** Honor classes are '49, '59, '69, '79, and '89. A special emphasis is being placed on the classes of '74 and '83. Friday night inductee Hall of Fame will be Charles and Annette Boyer, Sabbath service speaker will be Gary Affolter. All alumni are invited and encouraged to attend.

## Sunset Table Eastern Standard Time

March	5	12	19	26
Bangor, ME	5:28	5:38	5:47	5:55
Portland, ME	5:35	5:44	5:52	6:01
Boston, MA	5:39	5:48	5:56	6:04
So. Lancaster, MA	5:42	5:50	5:58	6:06
Pittsfield, MA	5:48	5:56	6:04	6:12
Hartford, CT	5:46	5:54	6:02	6:10
New York, NY	5:52	6:00	6:07	6:15
Albany, NY	5:48	5:57	6:05	6:13
Utica, NY	5:55	6:04	6:12	6:21
Syracuse, NY	5:59	6:08	6:16	6:24
Rochester, NY	6:05	6:13	6:22	6:30
Buffalo, NY	6:10	6:18	6:27	6:35
Hamilton, Bda.	6:18	6:24	6:29	6:33

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1-800-624-6650  
Fax (207) 865-2138

### Jamaica, NY

115-50 Merrick Blvd  
Jamaica NY 11434  
(718) 657-8800, 8801, 8802  
1-800-843-8035  
Fax (718) 739-5133

### Manhasset, NY

7 Shelter Rock Rd  
PO Box 5029  
Manhasset NY 11030  
(516) 627-9416

### Stoneham, MA

9 Gerry St  
Stoneham MA 02180  
(781) 438-7547  
Fax (781) 438-7547

### Manhattan, NY

12 W 40th St  
New York NY 10018  
(212) 944-2788  
(212) 944-2789  
1-800-765-6955  
Fax (212) 819-1973

### So Lancaster, MA

34 Sawyer St  
PO Box 848  
So Lancaster MA 01561  
(978) 365-6376  
1-800-435-0008  
Fax (958) 365-3838

### Syracuse, NY

4930 W Seneca Tpke  
Syracuse NY 13215  
(315) 469-6925  
1-800-222-3170  
Fax (315) 469-6924





## CIA Goes to NYC

Imagine fifteen students and three sponsors from Union Springs Academy once again taking time out of their busy academic schedules last December and becoming 'Christ in Action' in New York City. Splitting into two groups, the CIA team worked with Van Ministries to reach out to people in need.

One group passed out SIGNS OF THE TIMES in Manhattan. They spent all day interacting with the busy people that passed by, even praying with some. This group was told to leave Rockefeller Center by a security officer. "We prayed with more people and passed out more literature in Rockefeller Center than anywhere else. It was unfortunate that we were told to leave," said Gary Blanchard, USA chaplain. This experience did not dampen the group's spirit. "It felt good to help people," said Kyle Burgess, a junior.

The other group prepared sacks of food for the homeless and passed out SIGNS OF THE TIMES in the Bronx. "When we gave them the food they acted as though they were given the world," said Rufus Hucks, a freshman. Jessica Gibbons, a sophomore, stated, "It makes you realize how blessed you are and how much you have."

At first, the students were very nervous and uncomfortable reaching out to others. However, once

## NEW YORK

SKIP BELL, CORRESPONDENT



they started to get involved, they became very excited. Jessica Johnson, a sophomore, said of this experience, "It made me realize that I am better off than these people. The reason is because I know Jesus as my Savior and some of the people I saw hadn't even heard of Him. That's what hurts." According to Pastor Blanchard the students had an eye-opening experience. "We wish we could have

had more time to help all of those in need. These young people were given just a small opportunity to be 'Christ in Action'."

Jonathan Borne  
Union Springs Academy

### Church School Scholarship Fund Donation

(L. to R.) Dan Boyd, principal of the Adventist Christian School of Elmira, NY, Floyd Voorhees, and Pastor Robert Mackay of the Elmira church. Recently Floyd Vorhees presented a check for \$20,000 to the Church School Scholarship Fund. All indications are that they were happy, overwhelmed, and very thankful for Floyd's generosity.

Doris Elliott, communication secretary  
Elmira church



## Conference Facts

ORGANIZED 1862; reorganized 1906, 1922

MEMBERSHIP: 4,519 (9/30/98)

CHURCHES: 59

TERRITORY: That portion of the state of New York north and west of Columbia and Greene, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties.

WEB SITE: <http://www.sdanet.org/nysda>

## Love Defined



He bore the sin of many  
& made intercession  
for the transgressors.  
Isaiah 53:12

### Union Springs Academy PASSION PAGEANT

USA Gymnasium  
April 3, 1999

Behold the Man 11:00-12:00p.m.

Behold the King 2:00-3:30p.m.

Meal Tickets \$4.50 per person





## Joining the Family of God

Some of the baptisms that have occurred over the last several months in the Northern New England Conference include the following:



Uli Primeau and Katrina Shattuck (middle of top photo), Dennis Labbe, Jr. (front left of photo above), Rita Smith (front right above), and Craig Fields (back right above) were baptized in Wardsboro Brook in Wardsboro VT. They are now members of the West Townshend SDA church.

## Conference Facts

ORGANIZED: 1867; reorganized 1926  
MEMBERSHIP: 4,317 (9/30/98)  
CHURCHES: 56  
TERRITORY: Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.  
WEB SITE: <http://www.tagnet.org/nnec>



(L. to R.) Val Upson, Ossian Batchelder, Bryn Batchelder, and Liam Batchelder were baptized by Pastor Labbe. They are now members of the Rochester church. Three of the four candidates are members of Elder Dan Batchelder's family.

## Nineteenth Annual MUSIC CLINIC April 1-3, 1999

Speaker: Celeste Perino Walker

### CLINICIANS

Band: Brendan Krueger  
Pine Tree Academy

Choir: Joseph Choi  
Takoma Academy

Piano: Roy Imperio  
Atlantic Union College

Strings: Michael Stepniak  
Columbia Union College

### CONCERTS

Clinicians & Atlantic Union College  
— Thursday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Sacred — Friday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Church Service — Sabbath, April 3,  
11:00 a.m.

Secular — Saturday, April 3, 7:15 p.m.

## NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

TRUDY WRIGHT, CORRESPONDENT

### Dedicating Children to the Lord

The members and friends of the Northern New England

churches have also been busy presenting their children to the Lord. Below are some of the baby dedications that have taken place over the past several months.



Cathy Batchelder and Dan Batchelder holding baby Keavy who was dedicated to the Lord.



Tonia Mae and Gregg Alan Boisvert watched as baby Free Nathanael Boisvert was dedicated to the Lord.



Pastor Labbe conducting the dedication ceremonies.

## ATTENTION!! All Former Staff of Camp Lawroweld

Camp Lawroweld in Weld, Maine is planning a Camp Staff Reunion Retreat this summer, June 18-21, 1999. If you are a former staff member or know of former staff members, please contact us at:



Northern  
New England Conference  
Attention: Harry Sabnani  
91 Allen Avenue  
Portland ME 04103  
(207) 797-3760 exts. 19 and 15



## God's Guiding Hand in Our History

The day dawned cold and windy with a blizzard raging as the 33rd session of the General Conference was to open officially 100 years ago this month—February 14. It was delayed one day because of the snowstorm which was the worst since the blizzard of March 12, 1888 and convened until March 6. This was the largest gathering of its kind in the history of the South Lancaster settlement. It was held in the South Lancaster Seventh-day Adventist Church utilizing the additions to the church—the North wing built in 1897 and a gallery in the church allowing for about 700 people. This was the first time a session was held in the New England states—all previous ones were held in the Central and Western states.

Elder H. W. Cottrell, president of the New England Conference, welcomed the delegates and stated, "This conference is the most important gathering of the workers of this faith that is ever held and its magnitude can be somewhat grasped by



South Lancaster Village Seventh-day Adventist church in 1899

marked, "The first two churches of the denomination were organized in what is now New England Conference—Washington, NH, and Dartmouth MA, both of which are still existing and are strong in the faith."

"The session was then turned into a praise meeting with Elder Loughborough, remembering the time when there were but two tracts to distribute and the REVIEW when money could be had to print it, thanked God for what He has wrought as seen in the spreading of the cause today impressing the world. He remarked that the first preacher of the Third Angel's Message, Elder Joseph Bates, lived in Massachusetts.

cially German and Scandinavian.

3) Plans to bring about a larger and more steady sale of our standard books by canvassers.

4) How to create a greater interest in the education of young men for the ministry.

5) A uniform plan for weekly contributions for the support of foreign missions.

6) Some provision to meet the indebtedness of the General Conference Association.

7) A clearer defining of the relations that should exist among the different boards, association, and organizations composing our general work.

8) The advisability of changing the constitution providing for quadrennial instead of biennial sessions.

"On Tuesday, March 7 at 11:00 a.m. the General Conference adjourned from South Lancaster to Battle Creek in order to transact legal matters not connected with the election of certain Boards. The good cheer and the deep impressions of the Spirit of God in the conference continued to the very closing meeting. The last meeting seemed the best of all. The railroad company supplied the delegation with a special train all the way from Worcester, MA, to Battle Creek, MI, so they were able to have morning and evening worship, prayer, and social meetings, councils and committees all along the way. Thus the spirit of the conference was still courted and retained and the same good spirit has characterized the meeting in Battle Creek. We do not believe that anyone can be found who would not say that it was the best Conference he ever attended."

Many General Conference sessions have been held in various locations around the world since that time and it is just as important today as it was then that participants have a willingness to yield their opinions and ideas to the manifest leading of the Spirit of God, the great Master of Assemblies, for the furtherance of His work on this earth.

Dr. Geraldine I. Grout  
Communication secretary  
South Lancaster Village SDA Church

## SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

HALVARD THOMSEN, CORRESPONDENT

considering the fact that delegates will be here from nearly all the countries of Europe, from Australia, from Africa, and from all parts of the United States. The delegates include all the principle workers of the faith and the gathering will have many men of renown both among the Seventh-day Adventists and in the world in general."

The session was opened appropriately and impressively by singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name," the reading of Psalm 107, and prayer offered by Elder J. N. Loughborough. Elder Cottrell further re-

About this time in the year of 1864 the South Lancaster Church was organized with a membership of eight."

The first business of the session was receiving new conferences: British, Germany, Montana. Other pressing items for discussion were:

1) The best plan to raise money more rapidly to prosecute the work among the black people of the southern states.

2) Some provision for more general translation of the TESTIMONIES and writings of Ellen G. White into other languages espe-

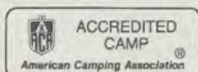
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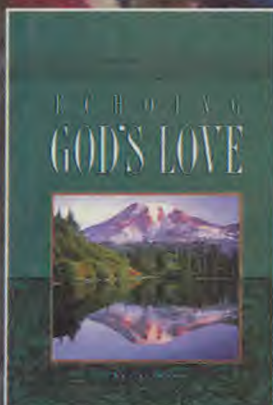


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