

DECEMBER 2000

THE ATLANTIC UNION

GLEANER

**Atlantic Union Conference
Receives Level A Accreditation**

*Micah's Notion
of Leadership*

**Atlantic Union College
Offering Continues to Help
Students Achieve Their Goal**

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Micah's Notion of Leadership

Like Micah, we need to look beyond our present times and earthly rulers to a greater ruler "whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting" and whose characteristics are paramount to our times and culture.



People constantly look for good leaders. They want good persons to lead in government. Corporations search for competent people to manage their business. Churches desire to have effective pastors and local church leaders. One of the prominent figures of life is a leader.

In Israel, kings had risen and fallen with regular routine. Only a few kings had been godly leaders. Often Scriptures would remark about a king of Israel: "And he did evil in the sight of the Lord . . ."—1 Kings 15:26. When Micah prophesied, Jerusalem was under attack. Micah predicted that a new ruler would come from Judah, and he would be a far better ruler than anyone to that point.

Like Micah, we need to look beyond our present times and earthly rulers to a greater ruler "whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting" and whose characteristics are paramount to our times and culture.

Micah used the imagery of a shepherd to describe the new leader's style of leading. "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord . . ."—Micah 5:4 NIV. What did a shepherd in ancient Israel do for his flock? He gave guidance, offered protection, fed and nourished, and provided for their needs. Likewise, in our church, when these characteristics are displayed "in the strength of the Lord," the people will trust the leadership of the shepherd. You've heard the quote which is all so authentic, "Managers do things right, but leaders do the right thing." Effective leadership is more than maintenance. It is rooted in principles and integrity. (Lenin and Karl Marx each had a

vision, but lacked principles. Thus their regime crumbled.)

SILENT INFLUENCE

Micah predicted that God's ruler (Jesus the Messiah) would work through a special group of people called "the remnant." These were people who, among the large majority, would remain faithful to the Lord. Notice how God's leader uses the remnant. "And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as dew from the Lord"—Micah 5:7. The remnant of Israel served as a spiritual and silent influence (dew) to others. God's people are called to live in the world (though not of the world and its sinful pleasures) and to exert their influence among the nations (i.e. communities) like dew from the Lord.

Too many times, our churches sit like white elephants in communities with hardly anyone knowing the purpose for which they are there. In other words, if your church were to close its doors and move out of town would anyone in the community have noticed?

Some time ago, I read some basic reasons why people join the church. In order of priority, they are: Family members or friends; Need-satisfying ministry activities; Listening, caring, accepting church; and Stability and sensitivity in crisis.

People come into our fellowship because their needs are being met. And they will not stay in the fold unless we equip the church for ministry to its own members and members of the community as a whole. Exerting our influence and "marketing" of the church to the community doesn't stop when people come in (See side bar: Ideas on H

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About the Cover: Winter berries help to brighten the holiday season in New England. The cover photo was taken by photographer Paul Miller of Vernon, VT.

to Market Your Church). It has only begun!

GOD'S ULTIMATE LEADERSHIP STRATEGY

Finally, if we're going to be like dew to the nations and "showers upon the grass" (v.7), we must develop the gospel art of influencing people the way Christ did—through love. And since the heart of the human problem has always been the problem of the human heart, we need God's marketing strategy which focuses on winning over the human heart through love. God knew there was only one way to emerge from the monstrosity of sin and produce for His people a safe universe in which to reside. That was to make such an

awesome demonstration of His love and grace that no one could ever again doubt Him. He did this at Calvary. All human history prior to Calvary looked forward to that event. All human history after it looks back. The love displayed at Calvary was God's ultimate leadership strategy.

Israel and Judah had many leaders. Some were exceptional and did a splendid job. Others were woefully inadequate. They forsook the Lord. Micah looked to the Messiah for a better leader. The Ideal Leader has come. Let us give ourselves gladly to His leadership.

Dr. Donald G. King is the president of the Northeastern Conference.



on How to Market Your Church

The following are a few steps in marketing your church to your community:

Warm, Friendly Atmosphere—characterized by a welcoming environment and lots of smiles. Make sure, however, that it's more than smiles you offer, that there is a sincere seeking after God's will with the appropriate programming and support structures that meet real human needs.

Large Dose of Program Innovation—The research in church growth studies suggest that better innovative programming helps churches grow. This is an element often missing in the life of the church. Here also we must be sure we are connecting people to God in a real and personal way and not just doing it for dramatical or technological display.

Know Your Niche—It is impossible to be all things to all people. We must find ourselves a niche, an area that best fits our capabilities, resources, and commitments. If there is a need in the community that you are uniquely prepared to fill and which meets the human needs

of that community, then you may have just found your niche.

Organize for Members in Ministries—not just on a short-term emergency basis, but on an on-going basis to satisfy the needs of the people you're serving in the community. The ministries you offer (whether it be in the areas of health, youth, women's, men's, children's, community services, etc.) must be highly person-oriented and supported by a prayerful commitment to being God's servants.

Telling Your Story Through Publicity—It would indeed be sad to plan and implement fine programs that meet the needs of the community but yet fail to grab the attention of the wider community because your story was never told. Telling your story through publicity will involve getting the word out, determining what that word should be, to whom it should be going, and how best to get it to them.

Adapted from the book, A GUIDE TO MARKETING ADVENTISM by Dan Day, Pacific Press, 1990.



OFFICERS ON THE MOVE

Gary F. Thurber—Elected President of Northern New England Conference

Gary F. Thurber has accepted the invitation of the Northern New England Conference Executive Committee to serve as president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Northern New England Region.

He replaces Benjamin D. Schoun who is now serving as president of the Atlantic Union Conference.

Thurber comes to the Northern New England area from the Michigan Conference where he was the assistant to the president for administration for

the 23,478 Seventh-day Adventists living in the Michigan area who worship in 157 churches.

Thurber was born in Stoneham, Massachusetts. He completed his undergraduate degree at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee and earned his master's degree in religion at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. He began his ministry as a teacher in the Northern California Conference. From there he went on to serve as an associate pastor in the Washington Conference. Thurber was ordained in 1987 and served for approximately seven years

as a pastor in the Kansas-Nebraska, Florida and Michigan Conferences. His assignment in the Michigan Conference office which began in December 1994 included serving as director for Youth and Camp Ministries and Family Ministries.

Thurber and his wife, Diane, have two sons Ryan and Justin—both elementary school age. Diane has served as associate director for Family Ministries and is a Certified Family Life Educator. She currently serves on the North American Division Family Ministries Advisory and is a board member of the Adventist Association of Family Life Professionals.

In his new role, Thurber will relocate with his family to the Portland, Maine area where he will assume his new responsibilities as president of the Northern New England Conference which is composed of 56 churches and 4,400 members in the states of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.



Trevor Forbes—New Atlantic Union Conference Associate Treasurer

Trevor Forbes was invited to serve as associate treasurer of the Atlantic Union Conference effective September 1, 2000. He replaced Glenn Carter who accepted a teaching position at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Formerly, Forbes, ordained in 1988, served for nineteen years as a pastor in the Greater New York Conference. He has conducted several evangelistic tent and church meetings and was

also instrumental in planting a church in Deer Park, Long Island, NY. He served as the Greater New York Conference auditor for two years, and as the Greater New York Conference Corporation treasurer for sixteen years, a position which he held until joining the staff of the Atlantic Union Conference.

He received his BBA in public accounting from Bernard Baruch College—City University of New York and earned his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Andrews University. Forbes has four children: Natal, Shaun, Faron, and Chantal.




On behalf of the church members, administrators, and employees of the Atlantic Union Conference we welcome the Thurber and Forbes families and we pray for God's choicest blessings for them in their new assignments.


Ednor A. P. Davison, managing editor

AUC Offering Continues to Help Students Achieve Their Goal


On January 20, 2001 over 88,000 members in Seventh-day Adventist churches throughout the Atlantic Union will be asked to give a special offering for Atlantic Union College. Over the past years many of you may have seen and never really understood what kind of impact our offering makes on the lives of students who attend Atlantic Union College (AUC).




Kathryn Ryce, a sophomore business administration and accounting major received a scholarship from the Accounting Department and says that, "Receiving the scholarship allows me to spend more time studying than worrying about whether my parents can afford my monthly tuition bill. It has made a world of difference in my academic performance this year also, because I have the extra time to do my assignments."



Melissa Rodriguez, a junior English and pre-med major from Brockton, Massachusetts commented, "The AUC scholarships obviously helps me financially, but receiving an AUC scholarship is indicative of the school's commitment to the students. The financial support shows that AUC wants me here and appreciates my work and presence on campus."



Keisha McRae, Student Association president, and senior history and religion major from New York says, "As an independent student it is a challenge every semester to meet the financial obligations which is why I praise God for AUC. I have been able to receive a substantial amount of scholarship aid, and it has allowed me to be worry free for the past four years." Before Keisha came to AUC she was courted by many other schools and says that, "After looking at other school's financial aid packages I found AUC's scholarship program ahead of all the rest."



Maura Gerrans, a senior English and history major from New Hampshire receives a Pro Arts Scholarship from AUC. She serves as one of the assistants to the choir's director, Francisco De Aroujo. According to Maura, "There are many things that will keep me at AUC, one is Pro Arts and the opportunity it provides to witness for Christ everywhere the group travels throughout the world, and especially at the campus of AUC; and secondly, the family atmosphere that the Pro Arts Choir creates for the entire group. Pro Arts is not just a choir it's a family."



Jamee Brangman, a junior psychology major from the beautiful island of Bermuda receives the AUC Bermuda grant each year. Jamee says that, "Since I am being supported by my mother, who is a single parent, receiving the AUC grant is a great help in making it possible for me to stay here. Thank you AUC."



Guillermo Navalon, sophomore music performance major, expresses these thoughts, "I am thankful to AUC for my scholarship which enables me to study in a beautiful setting in one of the most beautiful areas of the country, especially during the Fall when the colors are at their peak."



Brian Castle, a theology major, serves as youth pastor, and is also involved in the Pro Arts choir. Brian says that for him the scholarship assistance he receives from AUC is a great help in continuing his education.

As in previous years, the AUC Offering on Sabbath January 20, 2001 will be used for student scholarships. Please give generously so that the young people in our Union can continue to receive a Christian education. If every member in the Atlantic Union just gave \$1 on January 20 for the AUC offering we would be able to triple our scholarship assistance to our students this year. The students are counting on your support. AUC is counting on you, please do not disappoint us on Sabbath January 20.

*Desiree Ham-Ying, vice president of Advancement
Atlantic Union College*

Atlantic Union College Offering

THANK YOU for remembering Atlantic Union College on **January 20, 2001** when the special AUC Offering is taken at your church. Plan for a Sacrificial and Liberal Offering.

The Lord Will Bless You and the Young People
Will Thank You.



ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE RECEIVES LEVEL A ACCREDITATION

by Leon Thomassian

Trust Service work is very challenging, rewarding and exciting. It requires special skills working with people helping them to remember the church in their will. Those who are engaged in trust development are charged with a most sobering responsibility and accountability. First, Trust Services personnel are accountable to God. Secondly, they are accountable to the church members who place confidence in them. Thirdly, they are accountable to the church itself and to the properly constituted boards which govern Trust Services activities. And, fourthly, they are accountable to state, provincial and federal government regulations.

All personnel performing discretionary Trust Services activities of management or promotion shall, within twelve months of employment in Trust Services, complete the requirements for certification. The requirements are as follows:

- ☛ Satisfactorily complete a one-week denomina-

tional Trust Services Basic Seminar.

- ☛ Satisfactorily complete the two-week denominational Trust Services Advanced Seminar.
- ☛ Satisfactorily complete a one-week orientation in connection with a Trust Services Office outside of the individual's home office.
- ☛ Satisfactorily complete a required reading course.
- ☛ Attain a minimum of 70% on the Certification Examination.

There are two levels of accreditation standards for organizations operating a Trust Services Program. Level A and Level B, with Level A being the highest.

We are happy to inform you that the Trust Services Certification and Accreditation Committee of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists met on July 24, 2000, reviewed the recent audit and awarded the Atlantic Union Conference Level A Accreditation. This means that the Atlantic Union Conference has achieved a high standard of excellence in overall operation.

We are very happy and proud to have received the highest level of accreditation and we shall continue to do our best.

The Southern New England and Northern New England Conferences also received Level A Accreditation. We congratulate them for this wonderful achievement.

The Greater New York and New York Conferences received Level B Accreditation and they are on their way to receiving Level A Accreditation the next time they are audited. We congratulate them for their wonderful effort.

Leon Thomassian is treasurer of the Atlantic Union Conference.



Celebrating 100 Years of Ministry in the Northeast

On April 16, 2001 the Atlantic Union Conference will celebrate 100 years of ministry in the Northeast Region of the United States.

All events scheduled to commemorate this special occasion will be published in the *GLEANER* over the next several months.

Contact us at the Atlantic Union *GLEANER* office if:

1. You will celebrate your 100th birthday on April 16, 2001 and are a member of one of the churches in the Atlantic Union, or have roots in the Atlantic Union.
2. You will celebrate your 100th birthday in the month of April 2001 and are a member of one of the churches in the Atlantic Union, or if have roots in the Atlantic Union.



New President Chosen for Oldest Adventist Corporation

On September 6 the Review and Herald Publishing Association board of directors named Robert S. Smith its 18th president.

"It will be like coming home," Smith told the 30 employees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's oldest corporation. "I'm excited when I think about us working together for a common cause—sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the printed page."

Smith, who previously worked at the publishing house for seven years during the 1980s, has decades of experience invested in the publishing field. In 1956, he began his career as literature evangelist for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Ten years later, while working as an associate pastor in Kentucky, he became district leader of literature evangelism for the denomination in Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, and the Carolinas. He then entered the administrative level, serving as publishing director for the church in New York for three years, Ohio for four years, and the mid-Atlantic region for two years.

In 1978, he joined the staff of the Review and Herald Publishing Association as a manager in the Periodical Department. Five years later, he was made vice president for marketing of the publishing house. In 1985, Smith was elected associate publishing director for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. The following year he accepted a position as director of publishing for the church's North American Division.

As a pastor, literature evangelist, and administrator, with more than 40 years in the business, Smith has traveled to 145 countries and trained hundreds of employees in the area of literature evangelism and publishing.

Born in Zebulon, Georgia, he has a degree in business administration from Fort Valley State College in Georgia; a Master of Divinity from Andrews University in

Berrien Springs, Michigan; a doctorate from New York University School of Religion; and doctor of letters in literature. He is married to the former Frances Olivia Godfrey. They have six adult children and have lived in Takoma Park, Maryland, for 24 years.

Smith replaces Ted Wilson, who after four years as president, has moved to the Adventist world headquarters in Silver Spring, to serve as a general vice president.

At 65, Smith is the first African American president for the 150-year-old publishing house. He will oversee editorial and production operations, serve on several boards and committees, and take the company into the 21st century.



Celeste Ryan is media relations manager for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.

ABOUT THE REVIEW & HERALD PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION

The Review and Herald Publishing Association was founded in 1849 in Battle Creek, Michigan, and relocated to Washington, D.C., in 1903. In 1983, the company opened a 228,000 square-foot complex on 127 acres in Hagerstown. Today, the employees at the state-of-the-art editorial, production, and distribution facility, publish a dozen periodicals and lifestyle magazines dedicated to children, youth, women, the Black

community, and healthy living. The company also publishes 45 religious books each year, and reports an annual revenue of more than \$25 million.

The Review and Herald Publishing Association is one of 57 publishing houses operated by the worldwide Adventist Church, which publishes books and literature in 310 languages.



Student Church Attracts a Multitude of Worshipers

In response to the requests of several Atlantic Union College (AUC) students, the Spiritual Life Committee held the school year's first student church on September 9, 2000. A plethora of students, staff, faculty, administrators, family, and friends filed into Machlan Auditorium, anticipating blessings from a worship service planned and presented by AUC students.

A notable segment featured Southern California Conference Evangelist Steven Lewis, who appropriately entitled his sermon, "An Army of Youth: God is Recruiting." Lewis asserted the cosmic significance of a young Christian's decisions, saying, "Everything is planned and orchestrated by one or the other (forces of good and evil). When you find yourself sympathizing with someone who is wrong, your sympathy suggests you agree with them." Lewis warned listeners that "The devil wants you to believe in an evolutionary process so he can detract from the marvel of creation." He reminded them that Christians do not evolve, but are made anew

through the creative power exercised by God, the original Creator.

In sharing his views of worship, Lewis stated, "If your purpose is to enhance self-worship, then it is not from the Lord." This service was definitely of the Lord, as the message and the special music shared by AUC students Jermaine Brunson and Rodney McFadden evoked several listeners to tears.

"The music was heartfelt and sincere. I felt like they were singing to glorify God and not just because they sang well," said AUC junior, Diedra Howson, "I could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit."

Even though the service extended well into the early afternoon, the majority of worshipers remained transfixed as Lewis concluded his message. "I wanted more of what was being preached," said AUC junior, Orson Heurtelou, "I didn't mind missing dinner because spiritual food outweighs a hungry stomach."



Melissa Rodriguez catches a few quiet minutes to study in Haskell Hall.

*Melissa Rodriguez, junior biology and English major
Atlantic Union College*

Career Expo Exposes AUC Students to a World of Possibilities

Students and employers alike were delighted with the Career Expo held in the Nelson Field House on October 12, 2000. Representatives from local businesses, national chains, law enforcement, armed services, state and federal government, school systems, graduate schools, as well as health care and social service providers came to campus to meet prospective employees.

"The students here are wonderful!" said Brenda J. Henry of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation. "They are so nice and respectful. I can see that the atmosphere of the college carries over." Like other employers,

she offered part-time positions now and future positions after graduation.

"We have wonderful job opportunities both part-time and full-time," said Christopher Gill, senior vice president of Clinton Savings Bank. "We have flexible scheduling and we are willing to work with students. And we are close by with branches in surrounding towns."

In an economy where it is hard to find enough workers, employers were happy to meet with students who can help round out their current staffing and also meet their future staffing needs. Companies, such as Suburban Staffing, we

encouraging students to sign up for temporary jobs during school breaks and summers.

As added incentives, some employers offer tuition assistance and paid internships. AUC alumnus Gary Martin '98 started school at AUC, but had to work to pay for it. Through AUC he got a job with the New England Center for Children and was able to eventually finish his bachelor's degree through the Adult Degree program. His employer is currently paying for him to get a master's degree. Gary was thrilled to be back at AUC to offer similar opportunities to the students here.

Opportunities are what graduating seniors Deni Fraser, Maleek Mitchell, and Zannette Philippe came to check out. They were able to meet with representatives from graduate schools, as well as speak to employers. "This is a great chance to network," said Zannette. "And this is the best job fair we've ever had," added Deni.

While not in the job market yet, freshmen Sarah Mackay and Mathieu Theoret came to the Career Expo to explore their options and see what kind of jobs are out there. A representative from the U.S. Social Security Department urged Olga Torres, a bi-lingual freshman, to contact him when she graduated and wrote down her name for future reference.

Some students, like junior Leticia Clarke and freshman Brian Richardson, were looking for opportunities to give back to the community." They spoke to several educational, health and social service agencies.

One health care employer, Irv Hamilton of Florida Hospital, summed it up best when he said, "Anytime you have a chance to interact with students the event is a success."

Faith Beall, assistant director for Advancement
Atlantic Union College



Employers Brenda J. Henry and her assistant enjoyed meeting polite students like AUC freshman Olga Torres.



AUC seniors Zannette Philippe and Maleek Mitchell checkout graduate school opportunities at other Seventh-day Adventist institutions.



AUC freshmen Sarah Mackay and Mathieu Theoret explore career options with a local employer.

Reflections: Missing Member

Several years ago the superintendent of our Sabbath School and I decided to take up a ministry in our church that wasn't available—contacting our missing members. After we went over our list and planned our visitation strategy, we were impressed with one church member in particular. This sister left the church several months before because she was accused of an affair with a married deacon to which he confessed. He and his wife remained in the church, forgiven. My partner and I decided that we must move into this endeavor prayerfully. I had dealt with her in the past, and we were in the same age group, so we decided I would contact her. The following week I would make my first visit.

THE VISIT

She received me very warmly in her home. I was nervous and so was she. We talked about her children, her job at a nearby factory, and discussed women's issues. I decided not to mention church but as I ended my visit, she indicated she wanted to come back to church but realized that the members were angry and probably wouldn't accept her. We discussed the matter and prayed that she would make the decision to come back very soon. The next week, I visited her home again, and we agreed that I would pick her up for church the following Sabbath. My partner and I were very excited about the good news and went throughout the week praising God.

RETURNING TO CHURCH

Early on the Sabbath morning she was going to return to church, she called and told me to go without her, she would come later. I thought she had changed her mind, so I went to Sabbath school and prayed that she would come. About ten minutes before the divine service, an usher sent word that the sister wanted to meet me outside.

I hurried outside and, as I walked toward her, I could tell by her body language and her tone of voice she was nervous. I whispered a word of prayer and we went inside. Every eye was on us. The pastor was absent that

Sabbath and one of the elders spoke. Subject: Adultery. I think he found every text in the Bible about adultery. But I can't remember him sharing any text about forgiveness or where Jesus told the woman, "go, and sin no more" (John 8). I felt the devil had set me up and I set the sister up. I tried in vain to regain what we had lost. Finally, after a few minutes that seemed like an eternity we departed. She responded only with a timid nod, and sorrowfully drove away.

As I turned to go to my car, the wife of the deacon confronted me and spoke to me angrily suggesting that there wasn't enough room in the church for her, the sister, or me. I tried to sympathize with her and how she must be feeling. I told her even with the hurt she had encountered through this ordeal, she had to forgive the sister and her husband just as God had forgiven her and move on. I knew that was easier said than done.

LOOKING BACK

Many years have passed since that Sabbath service, and whenever I think of it, I experience the pain all over again. My superintendent friend is still there doing her ministry in Sabbath school. The wife forgave her husband and they moved away. My husband and I also moved away. Our missing member—well, she is still missing. I wonder, did the church, like the wife, feel there was not enough room for her?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray and gets lost, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountain and go in search of the one that is lost? Matthew 18:12 (Amplified).



Marilyn Wesley currently ministers, with her husband, to the members of the Roxbury Seventh-day Adventist Mission, a new congregation formed as a result of a 1999 summer crusade in Boston, Massachusetts.

Reflections



Bermuda Prayer Conference

As part of the Prayer Conference conducted by Pastor Israel Olaore and his wife, Augusta during the first week of October in Bermuda, a small group of about ten persons gathered at the central bus depot in Hamilton to conduct a prayer walk. A prayer walk is a walk around a specific place that one is praying for. The bus depot has become a "bad" area for persons catching the bus. Instead of going home immediately after school, some students would rather at the bus depot, use fowl

language, and some would become involved in fighting. The Olaores, their three sons, Jannet Bancroft, Rhoda Baker, Sheena Dill, and Sandra Lightbourne prayed and walked about the terminal for more than fifteen minutes.

Inspired by this, the group moved to the Cabinet office where the Premier works and where laws are made. Parliament was not in session and they had the opportunity of going into the very room where the leaders and members of the opposition sit to debate the laws of the land. Prayer was

offered around each of the chairs where the ruling party sits.

It was a thrilling experience to share in the prayer session for the leaders of the country of Bermuda. The Olaores are presently serving as the senior pastor of the University church in Los Angeles, California.

Randolph Wilson, correspondent Bda

D. RANDOLPH WILSON, CORRESPONDENT
BERMUDA

Bermuda Institute Subject of New Book

The Seventh-day Adventist school in Bermuda is the subject of a unique new book entitled **BERMUDA INSTITUTE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS: ORIGIN ♦ PHILOSOPHY ♦ GROWTH**. The current school, Bermuda Institute of Seventh-day Adventists, has been in continuous operation since 1943. The book chronicles its growth from one teacher and 23 students to a composite of 500 students and 38 teachers and staff in 1998.

The author, Dr. Leslie C. E. Holder, Ed.D is a former teacher at the school and was employed by the then Bermuda Mission as accountant and treasurer for thirteen years. He writes in detail about the reason for establishing the Adventist school and puts into perspective the school's mission and objectives.

Key events and administrative decisions in the history of the school are described under topics which include the founding of the school in the basement of the old Southampton church, the moving of the school to the historic Sandringham estate, its expansion to twelve grades, the

challenges of operating between a British or an American curriculum, the history of each of the school buildings, the evolving methods of financing the school, and a description of its rich musical tradition. Relevant photographs, including picture profiles of approximately fifty outstanding Bermuda Institute alumni, enhance the presentation of historical information.

For over 50 years Bermuda Institute has been a vital part of the evangelistic outreach and training of workers for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda. In 1999, all of the Church's senior administrators and one-third of the school staff were alumni of Bermuda Institute. The school has attained high academic recognition in Bermuda and several of its alumni hold prominent positions. The minister of education for the Bermuda government is an alumnus. Half of the ministers in the local churches had their early education at Bermuda Institute. The school's alumni are serving the Adventist church in many foreign countries, to name a few, the United States, Canada, Sri



Lanka and Guam. The variety of their fields of service include teaching, pastoring, educational administration, financial administration, health services, and music ministry.

For more information on the book, contact Leslie C. E. Holder who is presently a senior lecturer in the business studies department of the Bermuda College.

*Rosemary Tyrrell, associate director of education
Atlantic Union Conference*



GREATER NEW YORK

LINFORD MARTIN, CORRESPONDENT

Jackson Heights Honors Alumni

The Jackson Heights church school honored two of its distinguished alumni at its graduation ceremony held last June.

Dr. Olaf Butchma and Attorney Peter Sikora, Jr. graduated from Jackson Heights school in 1976 and went on to attend Greater New York Academy. More than twenty years later, both are contributing to their elementary alma mater. Sikora, an attorney practicing in Long Island, serves as chairman of the school board as well as a church elder. Butchma, a specialist in Lyme disease, has donated funds resulting in the purchase of science and technology equipment for students in Grades K-8.

The school family recognized the Lord's blessing in the generosity of Dr. Butchma's and Attorney Sikora's service.

*Helene Mattenson, principal
Jackson Heights school*

Poughkeepsie Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School

The Poughkeepsie Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School has

been serving the community of the city of Poughkeepsie for over forty years. It has always been the school's mission to bring a living and risen Savior to the hearts and minds of the children in that area through the means of an academically sound and Christ-centered education.

Thanks to the generosity of many members of the Poughkeepsie church, both in time and money, the two room school now boasts new carpet, new curtains, and a completely remodeled library.

For the 2000-2001 school year the school is ministering to children in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-3 on a case by case basis. At the end of the first week of school there were nine students attending.

Prayers for the success of the school are appreciated. They have been brought this far by faith and they whole-heartedly believe that, "He who has begun a good work . . . will be faithful to complete it."

*Reina M. DeJesus-Garcia, principal
Poughkeepsie school*

New and Improved

Patchogue Christian School has changed its name to Patchogue Seventh-day Adventist School. The

school is proud to be a part of the Seventh-day Adventist school system in the Greater New York Conference, and they want the parents and community to know just who they are and what they believe.

During the summer, more than the name changed. The uniforms are now different allowing the students more choice and greater comfort during the colder weather. There is a new student handbook which provides parents and children with detailed information about the school. There is a new brochure used for recruiting, that is printed in English and Spanish. They are acquiring a lap top computer and computer projection unit through a technology grant from the local school district, and are also upgrading the present computers.

The curriculum has changed to several new textbook series. And, an updated collection process has produced an almost 100% payment of tuition accounts!

"New and improved" would definitely be the term that describes the Patchogue Seventh-day Adventist School. But, let's not forget "caring, loving, and compassionate," for the goal remains to teach the students as much as they can learn in the most Christlike way possible for God's total glory.

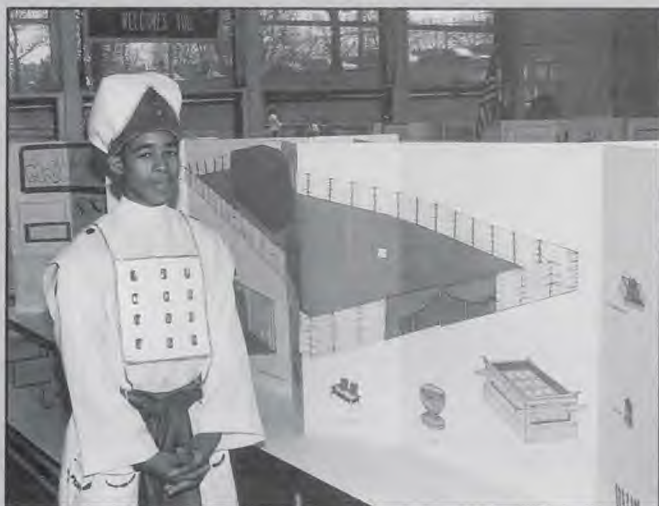
*C. S. Bradley, principal/teacher
Patchogue school*

The High Priest and the Sanctuary

Ronel Fayette, currently a sophomore at Greater New York Academy, had an opportunity to present his project entitled, "The High Priest and the Sanctuary," at the third conference-wide Expo-Concert held earlier this year at the Bronx High School of Science in Bronx, NY.

More than 1000 people—parents, students, church members, and friends—were in attendance. It was a spectacular show!

*Bordes Henry Saturné, superintendent of schools
Greater New York Academy*





Eric and Louise Vantuyl and their son Dillan

Sharing Their Faith

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Babylon, NY extended their hand in fellowship to Eric and Louise Vantuyl at their baptism. They were raised in the Catholic Church. After their marriage, friends invited them to a Christian church in Nassau County. They loved the people and attended for two years.

The Vantuyl's questioned their new church about life after death, and expressed a desire to understand Revelation. About the same time they received a flyer from Amazing Facts inviting them to

the Metro '99 seminar with John and Melissa Bradshaw.

All their questions were being answered as they continued their Bible studies with Pastor Maurice Vargas. "Pastor Vargas was a blessing to us," said Eric, "always willing to counsel and pray with us and keep us faithful."

Eric and Louise with their 18 month old son, Dillan, are sharing their faith with other young couples encouraging them to find the peace and joy only Jesus can give.

*Maureen Lamanno, communication leader
Babylon church*

Whispering Pines School

Whispering Pines school is on the move. With the cooperation of the school board, faculty, and staff, they continue to work toward the harmonious development of body, mind and spirit of all the boys and girls.

With the assistance of the constituent churches, Old Westbury and Hempstead, the entire school was re-carpeted during the summer. The next major project will be paving the parking lot.

In keeping with the tone for the new millennium, all the computers have been upgraded and networked. Thanks to one of the parents, Steffan Kuttikadu who donated time and materials and is paying for DSL high speed Internet services for the 2000-2001 school year. Every effort is being made to ensure that all the students are technologically prepared for the 21st century.

The new kindergarten program which was started in 1999 has been a blessing to the school and community. Field trips were incorporated to make the academic program more interesting and enjoyable.

The school welcomed new faculty and staff members: Daniel

Ciccopiedi, Clinetta Goldring, Cleveland Charles, Tishawna Simmons, Cherisa Williams and James Patterson, Sr.

*Lillian Mitchell, principal
Whispering Pines*

Richmond Hill Church Camp

Richmond Hill, a vibrant loving and growing church that seeks to portray Christ in everything it does, is blessed with many children and youth. And, since social development and interaction are very important among its members, the church board suggested that a camping event be organized and held at Camp Berkshire.

Plans for the camp were made and presented to the members and was well received, especially by the children and youth. On the weekend of August 18-20, approximately 60 adults accompanied by their children and a few invited friends spent their time at Camp Berkshire amidst the beauties and wonders of nature.

The theme for the weekend was "Christ in the Home." Pastor Hamidan, the Sabbath speaker, presented clearly, interestingly and beautifully the importance, function and unique place the Christ-

centered home has in this troubled world.

On Sabbath evening there was much input from the youth on the various aspects of building a Christian home. Following the AY program the campers went on a nature walk on the vast campground.

Pastor Scharffenberg graciously allowed the campers to use the gym on Saturday night and everyone had a wonderful time either playing volley ball, table games, or skating. The youth and older folks enjoyed themselves immensely. Sunday was devoted to outdoor activities.

Everyone enjoyed the camp so much that they are looking forward to camp again next year when they can spend more time together.

*Glen Flemming, communication secretary
Richmond Hill church*



NEW YORK

New York Native American Camp Meeting 2000

*De swa da no we kwa
(Love one another)*

Due to circumstances beyond our control, New York Native American camp meeting at Hatch Lake was held in September this year, shortly following the end of the summer season and the beginning of school. Nevertheless, camp meeting progressed on schedule. Blondel Senior, director of Advent Home Youth Services, Inc. arrived as the featured speaker. Senior addressed the company of more than 100 campers and attendees, sharing his expertise in the field of family and youth development.

Sabbath afternoon held a variety of special camp meeting events including the annual potluck picnic, a youth canoe trip, a spiritual walk through the forest, topped off by two inspiring baptisms at the lake. Sabbath evening ushered in the vespers bonfire, corn roast and watermelon feed, a special display from the Adventist Book Center, followed by a time of Native traditional storytelling. Dennis Pardee sweetened the Sabbath morning service with Native American flute music and also held a Sabbath afternoon



Dennis Pardee, flute maker, assisted 76 people in making decorated flutes.

seminar where 73 attendees learned fluting techniques. Each one decorated and took home flutes of his or her own.

North American Division director of Native Ministries, Robert Burnette, gave three addresses during camp meeting with inspiring challenges to faithfulness to our Creator. New York pastors Michael Armayor, Roger Curtis, Bill Largo, Bill Boyd, and Gordon

Edgerton, along with their families, enjoyed the influence of the Lord's Spirit at the spiritual weekend and agreed that next year's Native camp meeting will be a priority for their calendars.

The Native camp meeting dates for 2001 are set.

Thursday evening August 2 – Sunday August 5. Hatch Lake New York is

again the location.

Come join us next year when the guest speaker, Dr. Lou Blanchfield, an inspiring Native and author of a book on raising children in today's difficult society, will give three presentations. Also featured for arts and crafts will be Jeannie Spratt, the designer and artist of the beautiful nature stamps available at the post office. Her craft ideas will be a joy to make and keep. For the medical corner Bright City will speak regarding healthful living and natural remedies. There will be opportunity to purchase literature and helpful remedy tools. The Spirit of our Creator is evident at Native camp. Everyone is encouraged to make plans to attend.

For more information on New York's Native American camp meeting 2001 contact Pastor Bruce Wilkinson.

*gen hahn
(turn no one away)*

Bruce Wilkinson, pastor/coordinator
Native American Ministries
New York Conference

USA Boys Club Supports Local Museum

On Sunday, October 22 the Union Springs Academy Boys Club marched down the hill to the Village of Union Springs armed with rakes and saws. Their enemies for the afternoon were weeds and overgrown bushes. As part of their ongoing effort to support the community, the young men helped clear debris from around the Frontenac Historical Museum. The Museum director, a local business woman, admires the academy youth. Plans are underway for the academy history class to assist the museum in cataloguing its extensive collections.

Bill Boyd, public relations director
Union Springs Academy

USA Junior Trip

In October the junior class from USA traveled to Massachusetts for a history tour. Boston was a focal point where the students visited places of historical and literary significance. During the three-day tour the students were favored by instruction and anecdotes from Professor David Knott of AUC. Students visited the Freedom Trail, Old North Church, the Holocaust Memorial, Walden Pond, Concord and Lexington battle fields, and the homes of Nathaniel Hawthorne, Thoreau, and Emerson. The trip brought history to life for the students. However, they comment most about the quality time spent with their classmates. This tour and others like it does more than educate, it enhances Christian friendships that last for eternity.

Kris Erskine, history teacher
Union Springs Academy

USA Parent Weekend

The weekend of October 19-20 was bright and warm at USA with much natural sunshine and family bonding. Approximately 125 parents and friends visited USA for the semi-annual Parent Weekend. Parents



At Hatch Lake, NY, Pastor Bruce Wilkinson with candidates for baptism, Kim Jacobs and her son, Brandon.



participated in church discussions on dating and Christian relationships. All enjoyed a concert by Faith One, an Adventist music drama group from Michigan. Parents were allotted relaxing on the campus lawn, hiking at the gully, playing basketball or watching the senior play, "School for Nerds," with their children on Saturday night. Students look forward to this event and many prayers for safe travel are given prior to arrival and departure. May God bless the parents who make sacrifices to send their children to USA.

*J. Boyd, public relations director
Adventist Union Springs Academy*

Pathfinder Sabbath/ Baptism in Elmira

Pathfinder Sabbath in the Elmira church in Elmira, NY was a full day!

The Elmira Indians Pathfinder Club was in charge of worship service, song service, special music, and scriptures.

The New York Conference youth director, Pastor Dan Whitlow was the guest speaker. The attendees were blessed with very special events that day as Pastor Whitlow baptized three Pathfinders—Ben Miller, Rachael Miller, and Rebekah Reynolds. In the afternoon, as part of the Investiture Service, the Pathfinders demonstrated some of the skills they learned. Stewart Miller, the Pathfinder director, presented honors in 12 different areas of study. Pastor Whitlow provided an object lesson with seeds, dirt, and



Pastor Dan Whitlow with Rebekah Reynolds, Rachael Miller, and Ben Miller.

flowers and invested Pathfinders in the Friend, Companion, and Ranger classes.

When we talk about doing evangelism, we need to remember that pathfinding is a good place to begin.

*Sharon Reynolds, clerk
Elmira church*

NYC Women's Retreat

On the last weekend in September, the women of the New York Conference enjoyed a joyful, spirit-filled Women's Retreat at beautiful Camp Cherokee in the Adirondacks. Despite a chilly start with the weather, everything and everyone warmed up.

After a wonderful supper Friday evening, everyone gathered in the chapel to begin the meetings. Charlotte Thoms, Women's Ministry director for the Atlantic Union, gave a short welcome and encouraged the women to continue their ministry in New York.

The group was blessed with two fantastic guest speakers. The main speaker was Jan Yakesh, chaplain of Mount Vernon Academy in Ohio. She gave four talks on how to have a relationship with Jesus. Throughout the weekend she posed this question to the women, "Are we converted or are we connected?" The other guest who joined us was Jennifer Jill Schwitzer from Connecticut. She lead out in a two part seminar on forgiveness and presented a concert on Sabbath evening.

Sabbath afternoon during free time many took advantage of the outdoors by hiking, walking, or boating. It was also a good time for reading, napping or just visiting.

On Sabbath evening after the meeting they gathered in the dining hall to work on a special craft. The evening continued with the women getting together for group games, shopping at the ABC, or sitting around a blazing fire down by the water.

Janice Foote, from the Dexterville, NY church, prepared little gifts for each lady. They were always at the table with the meals. She did a wonderful job

of decorating for the weekend and was also in charge of the craft project on Saturday night.

The women of New York Conference especially want to thank Janelle Brazington, the Women's Ministry director, for all her hard work in planning the retreat. Thanks goes also to the Cherokee staff who were responsible for the meals and providing for the women's camping needs.

Ninety ladies attended this first retreat held in many years. The oldest attendee was 86. The lady that traveled the farthest was from Alaska—she was visiting her daughter.

The women were blessed by the experience and they are looking forward to another retreat next year.

*Sharon King, member
Syracuse church*



Women from the Syracuse church at the Women's Retreat.



FRANCO-HAITIAN PASTORS RETREAT *at Sandy Cove, Maryland*

by Margarette Voyard



"The Haitian Pastor of the 21st Century in North America" was the theme of the first North American Division Haitian Pastoral Retreat. The retreat, sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference Franco-Haitian Ministries Department, took place in Sandy Cove, Maryland.

The NAD Franco-Haitian Caucus, at a meeting in Canada last December, voted to have this event which brought 70 pastors to Maryland on the last weekend in August.

The retreat began on Sunday evening when Manuel Vasquez, Multilingual Ministries director for the North American Division warmly welcomed the pastors to the event. The pastors had the opportunity to hear an inspirational message from Harold Baptiste, secretary of the North American Division. Luc Homicile, vice president for Franco-Haitian Ministries in the Atlantic Union, emphasized the four objectives of the retreat for the pastors to achieve during their stay: 1) Be intentional and deliberate about change, 2) Relaxation, 3) Recreation, and 4) Camaraderie. By the last day of the retreat, the pastors were convinced they had achieved most of their objectives.

Four seminars were presented: 1) "The Pastor and His Computer"—Dr. Jean-Renaud Joseph, pastor of Sinai church, Florida; 2) "The Pastor and His Family"—Dr. Vaudre Jacques, pastor from the Ontario

Conference; 3) "Leadership in the 21st Century"—Dr. Ben Schoun, president of the Atlantic Union Conference; and 4) "The Adventist Families Today"—Dr. Walter Wright, secretary of the Lake Union Conference. In addition to the seminars, the pastors were extremely satisfied with the daily schedule which allowed them time for recreation and fellowship in the afternoon.

On Tuesday night Luc Homicile chaired a brainstorming session entitled, "Where do we go from here?" The session addressed the spiritual, emotional and financial needs of the churches in the Haitian community. The pastors separated into small groups to assess those needs and to find solutions that will bring them into action.

To conclude the retreat on Wednesday morning, Homicile presented a challenging message from Romans 12:2, "Be not conformed to this world; but be ye conformed by the renewing of your mind . . ." The emphasis was on the necessity for the leaders of the 21st century to have an expanding

mind and be open to changes. In order to make a difference, today's leaders must deliberately and intentionally choose "the new paradigm shift," because the illiterates of the 21st century are no longer those who cannot write or read but those who cannot unlearn and adapt themselves to their environment and changes.

The retreat was very successful and the pastors would like to have another one next year but this time with their wives.

Margarette Voyard is secretary to Luc Homicile in the Franco-Haitian Ministries department at the Atlantic Union Conference.



A Balanced Youth Ministry

The year 2001 is just around the corner and with it the official start of the new millennium. We are facing a new year and a new era. What "new" is happening in youth ministry in your church? Are you ready to meet the needs of young people in this new millennium? If you haven't done so, it is of extreme importance that the youth ministry team of the local church begin planning for the new year to meet the many needs of the youth of this generation.

When we think of church youth ministry one word needs to be emphasized and that is **BALANCE**. Four areas of youth ministry need to be addressed when planning your yearly program. These are:

☛ **Inreach Programs**—these would be your traditional Sabbath School programs, weekly AY (Adventist Youth) or the traditional MV (Missionary Volunteer) meetings. Youth ministry is more than Sabbath School and intentional planning should take place to have other grace oriented meetings other than Sabbath School. Sabbath School is very important and should be an important ingredient in the overall Youth Ministry of the church. Other meetings are small group meetings, Friday night or Sabbath afternoon programs. Some events could be held outdoors depending on the seasons. The purpose of these programs are spiritual growth and Christian fellowship.

☛ **Service Activities**—Jesus' entire ministry was focused on reaching out to others either as a group or individually. "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress . . ."—James 1:27 (NIV).

Service to the community can open many doors for the church. Service projects should happen on a regular basis. For help in planning memory-maker service activities, refer to Principle Seven of the 7 PRINCIPLES OF YOUTH MINISTRY EXCELLENCE for more detailed ideas on service projects.

☛ **Social Functions**—This is easy, just plan a party and the youth are there. A pastor said to me once, "If we don't plan something for the youth, they will make their own plans." How true it is. It is so important that we plan activities that are wholesome and will "recreate" in the minds of our young to serve and be like Jesus.

How often should social activities be planned? As often as is possible for each individual church. For each church this will be different, the important task is to plan for regular socials events for the youth of the church.

☛ **Finances**—A balanced youth ministry should be properly funded. Each church is encouraged to show their commitment to youth ministry by allotting a budget for local youth ministry needs. The amount budgeted each year is a strong statement of how much the church supports its youth. Obviously the church cannot budget for all the youth ministry needs so other sources of funding will need to be found. These sources include:

A Fund Raising—Involve the youth in fund raising. Let them plan and make it fun.

B Individual Donations—Make your youth ministry needs known to individuals that can afford to help out. It will be a blessing to them to support the youth ministry needs of their church.

C Enlist the Support of Local Businesses—There are many local business that will support youth ministry by donating food, office supplies, tickets, and recreational equipment.

So there you have it. A short summary of a balanced youth ministry program for your church. Your local youth ministry professional will be excited if you invite him to assist you in developing a "balanced" youth ministry for the year 2001.

SUGGESTED RESOURCE

If you want to know the ABZs of youth ministry, purchase the recently published book **THE ABZs OF ADVENTIST YOUTH MINISTRY** from you local Adventist Book Center. It will be an invaluable resource to you as you plan youth ministry for your church.

*Bill Wood, Youth Ministries director
Atlantic Union Conference*

If you have questions about any aspect of Pathfinder, Youth, or Young Adult Ministries that you would like answered in this column please refer them to the Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Department. We hope you find this column useful as you reach out to the youth of all ages in your church and local community.

YouthConnections

Atlantic Union Conference
Youth Ministries Department
PO Box 1189
So. Lancaster, MA 01561

Phone: (978) 368-8333 ext. 3016
Fax: (978) 368-9748
E-mail: jviteri@atlanticunion.org



Armed Parent Disrupts School

Brandishing what turned out to be a fake gun wrapped in a Haitian flag, and an alleged bomb and germ warfare-poisoned oil, an irate parent chained and locked the cafeteria door, closed the gate, and barred the main exit of the Hebron school in Brooklyn, NY threatening to harm the students and faculty and blow up the building.



The parent, a non-Adventist and an avowed Atheist, hated that his son was receiving religious instruction. He had been asked earlier in the day to leave the building, but stepped outside just long enough to string a series of large flags across the school entrance before returning inside to make a series of threats that forced principal, Marlene Alvarez to make a 911 call and completely evacuate the school building. The call was immediately responded to by units of the New York City Police Department, hostage negotiators,

and the bomb squad unit. The man was subsequently taken into custody.

"The school board had voted not to accept his son this school year. Not that the son was a problem, but because of the father's continued harassment and objection to the Bible classes we teach. He had called the school, pulled his son out of Bible class, and written negative messages in his son's notebook," said Alvarez. "How can you send your child to a Christian school and then object to the teachings of Christian doctrines?" rhetorically asked Esmee Bovell, interim superintendent of schools for the Northeastern Conference, of one of the reporters covering the story.

"Our faculty and students performed well. We did not tell them about the intruder. They thought they were leaving for a fire drill. We wanted them to leave quickly without causing a panic," added Alvarez. Police Lieutenant Fernandez said that Alvarez did an excellent job in handling the situation.

"I don't imagine this happens too often. Let's hope it never happens again," said one of the detectives. "Amen and Amen!" added Bovell and Alvarez.

C. A. Murray, correspondent NEC

Brownsville Starts the Week with Prayer

Some five years ago Sunday morning prayer service was implemented at the Brownsville, Brooklyn, NY church by then pastor, David Cuke. Now, the current pastor, James Clark, continues the tradition, nurturing and encouraging its growth.

"Why not start the week with prayer?" he asks. Clark sees the service as benefitting members and non-members. "It's evangelistic, too," he adds. "There was a time when we as a denomination used to have meetings on Sunday night. I like that idea and the Sunday morning aspect." The weekly meetings begin at 7:00 a.m. and conclude at 9:00 a.m. "A few weeks ago we had a group of youth in who were really on fire and we stayed until 11:00 a.m. That morning was an exception," noted Clark.

The order of service includes a

song service, followed by a testimony period. Clark feels that the testimony period is most important as so many members can't get out on Wednesday evening, and don't often get an opportunity to speak on Sabbath. There is, of course, prayer, a short message, and a closing prayer. "The time really goes fast," insists Clark.

Weekly attendance averages from 15-20 with an occasional swelling to about 60. Some 240 attended a recent healing and anointing service call on just three days notice. Clark estimates that 160 or more were there specifically for healing. "Healing is something that we don't speak enough about," insists Clark.

Pastor Clark is justly proud of the fact that the Brownsville, Brooklyn church is open five times a week with activities and services on Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sabbath.

C. A. Murray, correspondent NEC

Northeastern Academy Earns "Max" Accreditation

The Northeastern Academy hosted the Union Accreditation Committee in May. The final report prepared for North American Division and the Accrediting Association of SDA Schools, Colleges, and Universities, Inc., recommended the accrediting of the school for a seven-year term with an interim visit in the third year. The seven-year accreditation is the maximum allowed. The report commended the academy for its work in five major areas:

- 1) The staff for their work with a broad spectrum of students in a difficult urban setting.
- 2) The students and parents for their dedication to Christian education in light of the unique challenges of travel from home to school.
- 3) The conference and school board for funding a significant

subsidy for academy operation.
) The conference and operating board for improvements to the building and action plan for continued refurbishing.
) To the administration and staff of the academy for coping with vandalism and the demand of operating an aging building.

The committee also listed some nine recommendations that centered on the areas of teacher certification, witnessing opportunities for the students, development of a media center, hallway supervision, positive spiritual growth, student service activities, and textbooks. These are areas which the principal, Allan Chase, with faculty, staff, and board plan to address and bring into reality. The academy reviews the seven-year accreditation as an affirmation of the work they are doing to educate young minds for service in this life in preparation for the life to come.

C. A. Murray, correspondent NEC

Community Health Fair Connection "Right in the Heart of the City"

Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Church in Springfield, MA, known as "the church in the heart of the city with the people of the city in its heart," conducted its fourth annual Community Health Fair on August 5, 2000. Alicia Gordon, Shiloh's Health and Temperance leader, along with her dedicated staff, sponsored a health fair with twenty-one organizations and six departments of the church in attendance.

Last year the Northeastern Conference, accommodated blood pressure and diabetic screenings with the use of the conference van. This year due to prior commitments, the van was not available. At first Gordon was concerned—unsure how to facilitate the screening process. She shared with this reporter her thoughts. "I'm not going to worry about it," she said. "I'm going to pray and give it to God." She followed up with calls to other sources and put it in God's

hands. Her prayers were answered when the Boston Van Ministry responded in the affirmative. They were able to conduct free blood pressure checks and diabetic screening in the clean and appropriate environment offered by the comfort of the Boston Van Ministry vehicle.

Just as the plans for the health fair came together so, too, the day unfolded as the clouds in an overcast sky dissipated and the sun came out providing a beautiful day to interact with the community. The following organizations participated: Baystate Dental Care, Springfield Southwest Community Health Center, The American Lung Association, Valley Infant Development Service, The American Red Cross, Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice of Western New England (VNA), Department of Health and Human Service, Women's, Infants and Children Inc., Springfield Sickle Cell Disease Chapter, Teen Pregnancy Coalition, Northern Educational Services Inc., Springfield Fire Department, American Cancer Society, Greater Springfield Senior Services, Hood Ice Cream, Mason Square Neighborhood Health Center, Spanish American Union, Big Y Supermarkets, Springfield Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church, Behavioral Health Network Inc., Child & Family Service. Many departments from Shiloh church were also involved: Personal Ministries, Community Service, Family Life Ministries, Literature Evangelist, Sabbath School, and the Shiloh's Church Store.

Each organization offered educational health information and safety tips, and free health insurance was available for children. The Adventist youth volunteered to work with the children who attended with their parents, offering balloons and face painting.

Springfield's local television station Channel 22 sent popular news reporter Sy Becker to do the interview and the Community Health Fair appeared on the local evening news. From the enthusiasm shared by the participants and presenters, the event was a success. The community had an opportunity to learn

more about Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Church's outreach.

Queen Smith-Gordon, communication leader
 Shiloh church

New Pastor—New Look for Buffalo Hispanic

Looking back, January 11, 2000, was a happy day at the Buffalo Hispanic church when Roberto Reyna, former Hispanic Ministries director for Northeastern Conference and current Hispanic Ministries vice president for the Atlantic Union, introduced Pastor Evaristo Gomez and his wife, Nilda to their congregation. "We were elated to know that we have our very own full-time pastor who will be available at all times to help lead the church towards the goal of eternal life," said church communication secretary, Saida Perez. Joining them for a day of celebration were members from the Rochester Hispanic church.

Additionally, they received certification to function as a church and operate a food pantry for the community. Certified plumber Florentino Hernandez donated over 500 hours of work on the building and Jose Perez and Edwin Delmoral gave in excess of 200 hours each. Other members added their efforts as well.

Now the church not only has a new look and a stronger spirit but is taking on the task of helping the surrounding community.

C. A. Murray, correspondent NEC

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February 18-21, 2001

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NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

TRUDY WRIGHT, CORRESPONDENT

Education Day and Groundbreaking Weekend in Barre, VT

Education Day Sabbath was celebrated at the Barre church on May 20, 2000. Connie Rittenhouse Drexler and the Lancaster Chamber Orchestra presented a special musical concert. Ben Schoun, Atlantic Union Conference president (Northern New England Conference president at the time), presented the biblical and secular history of Christian education. Only children of royalty and the elite received an education, which included religion. He emphasized that every child has a royal heritage and each is a son or daughter of the King.

Among the speakers for the groundbreaking on Sunday, May 21 were Rosemary Tyrrell, associate director of education for the Atlantic Union; Trudy Wright, superintendent of schools for the Northern New England Conference and Jack Baker, pastor of the Barre Vermont district.

The principal, Sherrie Wall shared how the endowment for this new project will shape the future of the church and school. Immediate goals include a ten grade junior academy by 2001. The ninth grade program began this fall. This secondary program will be unique, emphasizing apprenticeship and job training. In addition to the monetary gift and several properties, the benefactor, Clyde Dailey, bequeathed 125 acres of land including pristine lake front property located twenty minutes from the school. The establishing of an industry is envisioned as part of the use of this land.



Ben Schoun, Atlantic Union Conference president and Pastor Jack Baker at the Groundbreaking Ceremony on May 21, 2000.

The highlight of the weekend was the Sunday morning Groundbreaking Ceremony marking the beginning of the construction project. This school and church facility will have two new spacious classrooms housing Grades 5-10, a new fully equipped kitchen, office, and full size gymnasium. The gym has been built with special acoustic consideration giving us the opportunity to enjoy musical groups and programs. The

present elementary school building will house Grades K-4. Part of the visionary process also includes a plan to develop a training school for evangelism, colporteur-ing, and Bible workers.

Completion of this building is slated for spring 2001. There will

be a ribbon cutting ceremony in May 2001.

Where much is given, much is expected. May God's work go forward in Central Vermont.

Nancy Cutler, communication secretary
Barre church

Family Camp 2000

While the calendar says the first day of autumn is on September 22, for many New England families Labor Day marks the last weekend of summer vacation. Kids go back to the school routine; gardeners start harvesting their crops in earnest before premature frosts; and the tourists and snowbirds begin to head South!

So for some families of the Northern New England Conference Family Camp on Labor Day Weekend at Camp Lawroweld is the last opportunity to enjoy all the best of summer: hikes in the mountains; boating and canoeing, swimming and waterskiing; a family-style baseball game; and best of all, time off with family and friends.

This year for Family Camp 2000 we had 60 campers with a combination of grandparents, aunts and uncles, single parents, blended families, and kids of all ages, as one big Adventist family. For example, Owen and Becky Pierce brought their boys, Brandon and Josh, and Gramma Joanne and Aunt Annie Spaulding. Those two sisters-in-law had the most fun walking, canoeing and just being together! Steve and Linda Dayen also brought their boys, Jeremy and Josh, and Linda's parents George and Joan Summers. George, a retired director of libraries from Loma Linda, told stories around a campfire about the "good old days" and taught us some "new" songs from the 1940's.

Some of the special events planned for Sabbath (in between the rain showers) were a discussion format Sabbath school for parents and teens; a Bible Treasure Hunt; a Billy Graham video, Campfire Vespers and Hootenanny; and lots of great food! (For most moms, the

International Festival of Christmas

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(207) 865-4747 Pine Tree Academy

(207) 865-3665 Pine Tree Center for the Arts



est part of the weekend was they didn't have to cook eight meals!)

Sunday was a great day to be out of doors, with some of the boys (AJ, Norman, and Daniel Norzow; Tim Tierney and Robert Jorquart) catching "woppers" down at the lake; much waterfront activity; an indoor soccer game and the annual soft-ball baseball game, with young and old, moms and dads coaching, cheering, playing together and in general being good sports about the score! The day traditionally ends with a talent show with musicians, songwriters, joke and storytellers, and applauding members of the audience offering their encouragement.

The weekend finale is a Labor Day brunch, with a final jump in the lake, or round of horseshoes, before heading home. The lodge and cabins are all swept and cleaned: the canoes, boats and equipment stored for winter; and farewells are waved: "See you next year at Family Camp!"

*Tom Kohls, Member
Brunswick Church*

Alumni Sabbath at Norridgewock Church

Stepping through the doors of the Norridgewock Seventh-day Adventist Church on the first weekend in October, a Riverview Memorial School alumnus may have thought he or she was in the wrong place! Countless changes have been

made since many of them sat there as students. The bare floors, cracked windows and creaky pews have been replaced with thick carpeting, new windows, white painted walls and beautifully cushioned pews! While the historic and sentimental value of the furnishings will be missed by more than a few, the newly renovated church is an honor to God's holy name. The carpenters and decorating committee worked very hard this past year putting it all together in time for the alumni Sabbath, and we were blessed by a full house that day!

The day began at the church with former principal, Larry Robbins as speaker. After church, fellowship continued at the school for a potluck lunch and program conducted by Renee Perry. Musical selections were interspersed with former students reminiscing of the "old days." Closing the day with vespers were the Norridgewock teen youth group.

To many of the attending alumni the day was a walk down memory lane, a chance to talk with old friends. For others, a glimpse into the way things used to be. For everyone, a thankfulness that they had the opportunity to grow to adulthood with Jesus in their lives every day!

*Julia Howard, communication secretary
Norridgewock church*

Baptism at Keene, NH Church

After three days of rain the sun shone on Sabbath, August 12 for the baptism of Beth and Joe Mucci. They wanted their baptism to be outdoors and it was witnessed by most of the church family. Three days of rain did not hinder Pastor Art Miller from conducting the baptism in the fast rushing stream. Beth and Joe

attended the Catholic Church all their lives and have been vegetarians for the last eight years. They were married in Vermont in 1997. They began attending a Seventh-day Adventist Church near Boston with a friend that same year. When they moved to the Keene, NH area, Joe started looking for an Adventist church. He began attending the Keene church in September 1999 while Beth clung to her own faith.

Beth and Joe watched the Doug Batchelor videotapes together on loan from a friend, and began Bible studies with Pastor Art Miller and his wife, Judy. They are thankful God led them to a closer relationship with Christ.

Beth is a preschool teacher at Keene State College, Child Development Center. Joe is a self-employed carpenter. They are expecting their first child in January 2001. Beth and Joe sing, take part in church activities, and have become an integral part of the Keene, NH church family.

*Margaret C. Smead, communication secretary
Keene church*

Music Clinic Memories

Do you remember when you attended the Northern New England Music Clinic? What memories do you have? Theresa Sweet would like to put together a memory album of the history of the NNEC Music Clinic and she is asking for your help. If you have any photos or memories you would like to contribute to the album, please send them to Theresa at: 327 Franklin St., Rumford, ME 04276 or jms-tsa_sweet@juno.com. All items need to be given to her by February 1, 2001 so that the album may be done by Music Clinic.



Art Clinic 2001

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For an application
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Conference Department of Education



SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

HALVARD THOMSEN, CORRESPONDENT

Go Ye into All Of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island

That evangelism is a priority in the Southern New England Conference is easily evidenced in several ways!

Over the past three years the membership of the Conference has grown to 11,326 and the number of congregations has increased to 90, with ten companies and eighteen groups. It seems the church is energized with a spirit of sharing both the good news of salvation and gifts of tithes and offerings which create an ever-widening ripple effect.

This year's camp meeting, Festival of Faith 2000, focused on evangelism. The emphasis was three-fold: celebrating and building faith in the Lord Jesus and His word; challenging listeners to pass that faith to family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors; and developing healthy churches so they will grow naturally. The keynote speaker was Don Schneider, the North American Division president. He and a variety of other speakers challenged the constituency to a greater commitment to sharing the love of Jesus and also helped to equip us "with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ . . ."—Hebrews 13: 20, 21 (NIV). Tangible evidence of

how listeners were inspired and commitment demonstrated was the offering for evangelism that increased from \$29,000 in 1997 to \$140,000 this year.

New congregations are a regular happening—"Wherever there is life, there is increase and growth. . ."—Testimonies for the Church, vol. 6, p. 448. Southern New England hosted the North American Division Ghanaian camp meeting for the first time and during that meeting the New England Ghanaian Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized on July 29 with a membership of 82. The Cape Cod Portuguese company and the New London Spanish company were organized on August 19. On September 9 the North Stamford Spanish church was organized. It is exciting to see God's Spirit working.

Conference administration is committed to evangelism. During the coming months the monetary commitments of church members will make it possible to help churches to fund several crusades and seminars around the conference territory. Pastors and guest evangelists are busy. The Cambridge Haitian church recently had a series of meetings with three baptisms; the Worcester Haitian group had several interests generated as a result of recent meetings; the Ephesus Haitian church had six baptisms and Mount Golgotha nine. Evangelist Mark Fox from It Is Written held crusades in New Haven, Bridgeport and Leominster. Meriden and Middletown/Portland hosted "Jesus 2000," a citywide event. Woonsocket, Quinebaug and Burrillville have firm plans. Alejandro Bullon will begin a crusade for the Spanish in Worcester beginning December 10. During 2001 Ken Cox will be in five different locations.

We look for great things to happen among God's people and are anxious to meet those "that gladly receive His word" and are baptized. We want to help to turn our world upside down (Acts:2)! "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved"—Acts 2: 47(NKJV).

*Judy Thomsen, correspondent
Southern New England Conference*

"Celebrating Diversity, Maintaining Unity"—September Theme at the Northboro Church

The month of September was filled with the many sights and sounds representative of the rich heritage of the Northboro Seventh-day Adventist Church membership. Highlighting the theme, guest speakers were featured along with flags, pictures, slide show presentations, songs, ethnic fellowship dinners, and special Sabbath school and youth activities that allowed sharing of cultural experiences.

On September 2 the West Indians of the church hosted Caribbean Day, reflecting on the members' early years of attending Sabbath school in Antigua, St Lucia and Jamaica. A dynamic guest speaker from the Brooklyn Temple, Pastor Brian Carter, delivered the morning message.

The following week brought a packed house of visitors from Panama and Costa Rica to celebrate Panamanian/Costa Rican Day. Colorful native attire, songs and artifacts helped to enlighten the diversity existing even within the two neighboring countries. The guest speaker was Pastor Orville Browne from Ontario, Canada.

The Guyanese members opened the service on September 23 with a traditional Guyanese breakfast before Sabbath school. Pastor Colli Parkinson from Ohio was the guest speaker. The afternoon featured members speaking about the culture and spiritual experiences enjoyed in Guyana.

The month concluded with All



Pastor Pedro and Eloiza Huaranga (center) with Conference administrators and church leadership the day North Stamford Spanish church was organized—the newest addition!



merica Day on September 30. The children's Story was delivered by the young people of the church in a skit using the letters A M E R I C A to tell the stories of Adam, Moses, Esther, Ruth, Isaiah, Cain and Amos from the Old Testament. Dr. Bradley Booth, a professor from Atlantic Union College, was guest speaker. Dinner that day featured American food with the Fellowship Hall decorated with pictures and historical accounts of early Adventism in America.

Pastor Easton Marks suggested his diversity program as a way to better understand the members' roots and to provide an opportunity for everyone to participate. We look forward to another event

next year. In God we are one people with one destination!

*Ralph Martin, member
Northboro Church*

Baptisms at the Fitchburg Church

June baptisms added Megan Felt, Melinda DeMass and Valerie Dupill to the membership of the Fitchburg church. The aim of their church family is to nurture and support them in following Jesus; the goal of these new members is to help others be ready when Jesus returns!

*Thelma E. Hale, Communication secretary
Fitchburg Church*



Melinda DeMass (left), Pastor James Scarborough and Valerie Dupill prior to their baptism in Lake Winnekeag.



Pastor James Scarborough with Millie Felt (left), mother of Megan Felt (right) who was baptized on June 15.

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for the Animists of Sarawak

HOPE

by Gary Krause

Not long ago the Iban people were renowned for regularly cutting off the heads of their enemies. In fact, during their hornbill festivals these headhunters would celebrate the good luck and prosperity the severed heads would bring them. Today if you visit some of the Iban longhouses in Sarawak, Malaysia, you can see skulls still hanging from the ceilings—a sobering reminder of former practices.

The Iban people, the largest ethnic group in Sarawak, are one of 27 tribes—each with its own distinctive ways of life. Christianity has made some impact in Sarawak, but many still cling to their animist beliefs and superstitions.

“They have the intuition that there is a higher being surrounding them,” says Pastor Gilbert Tan, secretary of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission in Sarawak. “This higher being is powerful, but does more harm to them than good. So to protect themselves they feel that they have to appease this higher being. Before they can work or go farming they make offerings so that no harm will come to them. They also make offerings to bless the soil and then at the end of the harvest they have celebrations and bring offerings to appease the gods.”

Global Mission is supporting many new projects in Sarawak, including starting a new group of believers among a group of Iban people living in two longhouses in Ng Mengkak, overlooking the Batang Ai River.

“When we go into new territory we are looking for common ground,” says Pastor Tan. “For example, many animists hold sacrifices for sins they have committed. The size of the sacrifices depend on the magnitude of their sin—bigger sins require the sacrifice of a larger animal. For them, the biggest sacrifice they have to offer is a pig. We tell them that they don’t have to do that. The Bible says there has been one sacrifice offered once and for all. The power of Jesus atones for your sins, gives you piece of mind and relieves you from guilt.”



Lanyau is an Iban leader, the second in charge in the two Ng Mengkak longhouses, which overlook the Batang Ai River in Malaysia. Lanyau invited church leaders to come to the longhouses to share the Adventist message and now a small group of new believers is meeting there.

Pastor Tan says that many new Adventists find it difficult to leave their rituals and traditions behind. “It leaves a hollow in their life—a vacuum that hasn’t been filled,” he says.

So church leaders have been exploring appropriate ways to adapt some aspects of their culture and tradition to Christian practices.

“For example, traditionally harvest festivals are a vital part of people’s lives,” says Pastor Tan. “We have replaced this by creating a harvest Sabbath where we gather all the members to church. They bring their seed and tithe harvest—sacks and sacks of rice. They praise and thank God and ask Him to bless the seed for future harvest. And they love it.”

Please pray for Global Mission work in Sarawak. Pray that the hope and peace of Jesus will replace fear and superstition.

Gary Krause is communication director for Global Mission (www.global-mission.org).



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Sunset Table

Eastern Standard Time

January	5	12	19	26
Bangor, ME	4:09	4:18	4:27	4:36
Portland, ME	4:19	4:27	4:36	4:45
Boston, MA	4:27	4:34	4:43	4:52
So. Lancaster, MA	4:29	4:36	4:45	4:54
Pittsfield, MA	4:35	4:43	4:51	5:00
Hartford, CT	4:35	4:42	4:51	4:59
New York, NY	4:44	4:51	4:59	5:07
Albany, NY	4:35	4:43	4:51	5:00
Utica, NY	4:41	4:49	4:57	5:06
Syracuse, NY	4:45	4:53	5:01	5:10
Rochester, NY	4:50	4:58	5:07	5:16
Buffalo, NY	4:56	5:04	5:12	5:21
Hamilton, Bda.	5:28	5:34	5:40	5:47

2ND ANNUAL ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE

Pathfinder/Adventurer
Coordinator's Retreat
February 2-4, 2001
Camp Victory Lake

GUEST PRESENTERS:

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Brenda Cowan, Adventurer Coordinator, South Central Conference

WHO IS INVITED:

All Conference Pathfinder Area Coordinators
All Conference Adventurer Area Coordinators
All Those Who Plan to be Area Coordinators

OTHER GUESTS:

All Conference Pathfinder and Adventurer Directors

Cost: \$75.00 includes lodging, food, materials

CONTACT:

Atlantic Union Conference Pathfinder/Adventurer Ministries
PO Box 1189
South Lancaster, MA 01561
(978) 368-8333

Atlantic Union Conference Tithe Comparison For Month Ending September 30, 2000

Conference	Members	39 Weeks 1999	40 Weeks 2000	Increase (Decrease)	% Chng.	Per Capita 1999	Per Capita 2000
Bermuda	3,346	\$2,873,433.46	\$3,074,388.09	\$200,954.63	6.99%	\$879.26	\$918.82
Greater New York	18,395	\$9,447,807.85	\$10,526,613.61	\$1,078,805.76	11.42%	\$523.95	\$572.25
New York	4,744	\$2,387,477.45	\$2,661,352.51	\$273,875.06	11.47%	\$519.81	\$560.99
Northeastern	44,665	\$9,401,774.83	\$5,379,960.66	(\$4,021,814.17)	-42.78%	\$219.07	\$120.45
Northern New England	4,351	\$2,508,615.65	\$2,647,362.97	\$138,747.32	5.53%	\$578.29	\$608.45
Southern New England	10,983	\$6,987,120.95	\$7,649,469.53	\$662,348.58	9.48%	\$662.85	\$696.48
Total:	86,484	\$33,606,230.19	\$31,939,147.37	(\$1,667,082.82)	-4.96%	\$401.56	\$369.31



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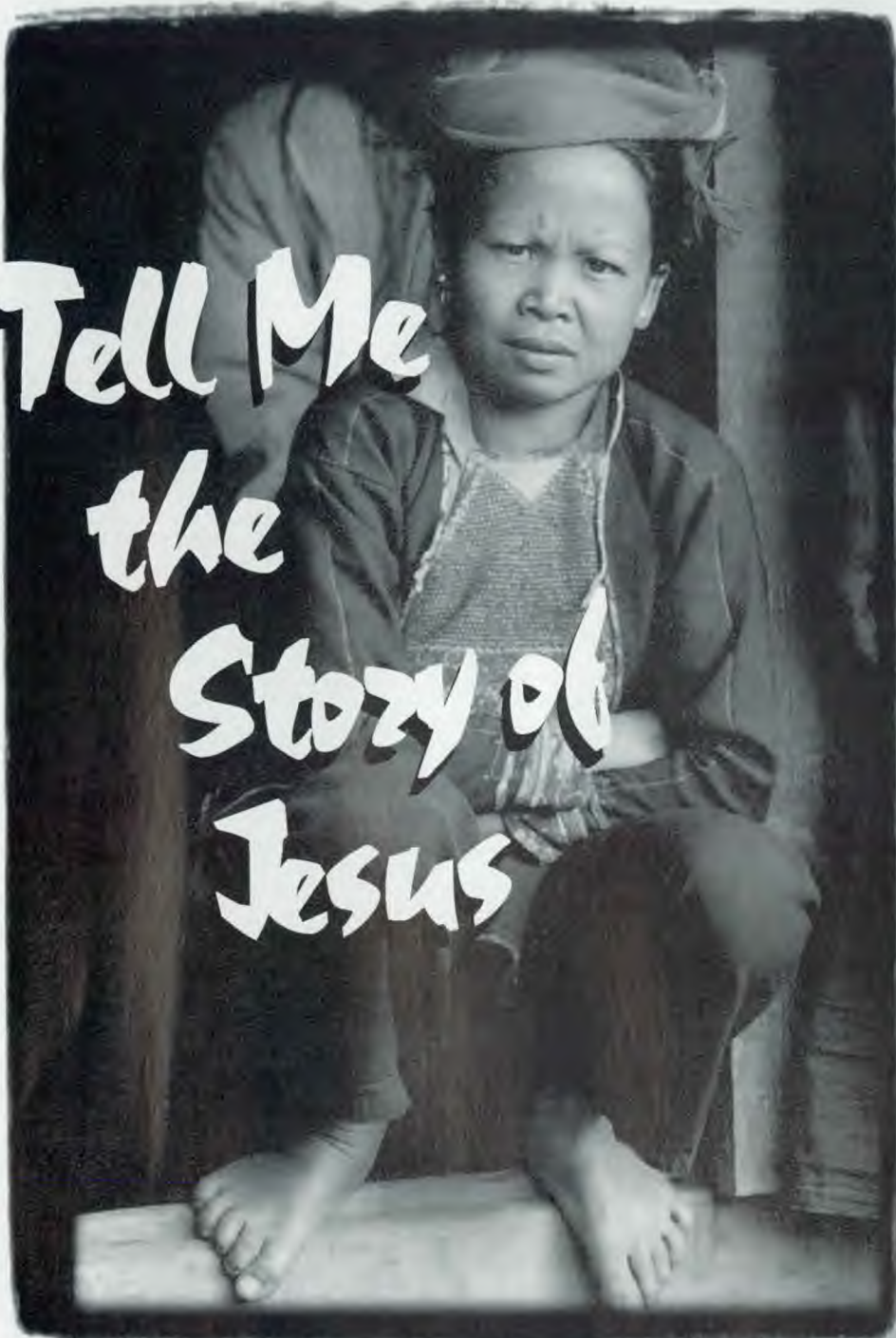
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*If you see
a turtle
on top of
a fence...*



Rear Admiral Barry C. Black
Chief of Chaplains
United States Navy

*you know
he didn't
get there
on his own.*

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