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Where do your tithe dollars go? --page 4

CUC nursing department earns eight-year favor --page 6

EDITORIAL

KEEPER AT THE GATE OF THE GODS



ROLAND HEGSTAD Editor Liberty magazine

visit to the Pergamon Museum in 1966, the Berlin Wall seemed as permanent as eternity. But even then I knew it would fall someday. Studying the prophet Daniel's outline of history during my first year of college had enlightened my mind about a lot of things.

Nebuchadnezzar believed in God. His city was the Gate of the Gods; he, its keeper. A cuneiform tablet lists 53 temples in the city dedicated to important gods. Daniel, however, introduced Nebuchadnezzar to the King of kings, the God of gods.

The prophet said, "He alone has all wisdom and all power. World events are under his control. He removes kings and sets others on their thrones."

The great Nebuchadnezzar hears. The great Nebuchadnezzar understands. And the great Nebuchadnezzar falls on his face before Daniel to acknowledge, "Of a truth, your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets."

Unfortunately, submission and pride are uncomfortable soul mates, particularly on a throne. So Nebuchadnezzar determines to write his own history of the future. Babylon will be not only the head of history, but also the end!

Undoubtedly, in Moscow, Prague, Belgrade, Bucharest—and yes, in Washington, D.C., and in Beijing—sit men who, knowing no god, seek to write their own version of history. But history is His-Story—and "behind the dim unknown, standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own." In the dramatic developments convulsing our world, few escape the conviction that unseen hands are involved.

The prophecy has assured us that the Checkpoint Charlies of earth will not forever intimidate and divide. Not just the Berlin Wall, but all barriers that divide people will someday fall!

Taken from pages 84-89 of Pretenders to the Throne, missionary book of the year for 1991. Written by Columbia Union member Roland Hegstad, the book uses the recent events in Eastern Europe to explain traditional Adventist doctrines in Daniel and Revelation. Multiple copies are inexpensively priced at Adventist Book Centers so they can be given away to friends.

COVER: Sherrie Kantner, a senior nursing major at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland, takes a patient's blood pressure at nearby Washington Adventist Hospital. Kantner, photographed by Ed Castle, is from Hampton, Virginia.

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The VISITOR is the Seventh-day Adventist publication for the people in the Columbia Union territory. The different backgrounds and spiritual gifts of these people mean that the VISITOR should inspire confidence in the Saviour and His church and should serve as a networking tool to share methods that members, churches and institutions can use in ministry. Address all editorial correspondence to: Columbia Union VISITOR, 5427 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia, MD 21045. One-year subscription price—\$7,50.

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SPOTLIGHT ON BAPTISMS



Ruth Taylor, Huntington, Mountain View. Ruth learned more about the Bible at the Prophecy Expo than she had all her life and became a member by profession of faith in October of 1990.



Jason Kilmer, group of young studied the Bible with Pastor Darrow Foster, Jason decided to be baptized during May of 1990.



Debora Petrey, Powell Vallev. Potomac. Debora was baptized after she attended the Amazing Facts series of evangelistic meetings conducted by John Earnhardt in April of 1990.



Joshua Nelson, Wooster, Ohio. Joshua, whose love for Jesus was evident when he asked to be baptized during May of 1990, is looking forward to a life of service as a worker for his Lord.



Denise Kope, Hamburg, Pennsylvania. Bible studies from Pastor Richard Haas led Denise to be baptized during camp meeting in June of 1990 by Pastor Gerald Small of the Carlisle church.



Tim Bailey, Huntington, Mountain View. Tim joined his father, Bill, in baptism during October of 1990 after attending the Prophecy Expo meetings that were held by evangelist Allen Fine.



Bill Bailey, Huntington, Mountain View. Bill had been active in the church for more than a year with his wife, Janet, before he was baptized with his son, Tim, during October of 1990.







Janett Guthrie, Princeton, New Jersey. August of 1990 was when Janett was baptized by Pastor Norman Zimmerman into the membership of the rapidly growing church in Princeton.

FACE TO FACE

Profiles of newly baptized people

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path," -Psalm 119:105.



Frank Gravina, Princeton, New Jersey. After completing **Bible studies** and accepting Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Frank and his wife, Erica, were baptized during August of 1990.



Erica Gravina, Princeton, New Jersev. Erica joined her husband, Frank, as a new member of the Seventhday Adventist congregation in Princeton by being baptized during August of 1990.



Margaret Toppings, Huntington, Mountain View. Margaret completed a Voice of Prophecy Bible course. Pastor Dan Shafer later visited her, and she joined the Adventist faith in October of 1990.



David Drouse, Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania. David studied the Word of God with Pastor Darrow Foster and, because of his love for God. chose to be baptized with his sister, Jennifer, in May of 1990.



Jennifer Drouse, Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania. After studies with her pastor, Jennifer wanted to show her love for Jesus by taking the step of baptism with her brother, David, in May of 1990.

Sandra Fra-

ley, Powell Valley, Potomac. Sandra's father was a minister who kept the Sabbath but never knew of Adventists, Bible studies with Doug Brown led her to baptism in May of 1990.



Sandy Jones, Powell Valley, Potomac. The daughter of Sandra Fraley, Sandy and husband Jackie were baptized during May of 1990 after they both attended an Amazing Facts seminar.



Powell Valley. Potomac. Both Jackie and his wife, Sandy, were baptized during May of 1990. They later dedicated their 18-monthold daughter, Heather, to the Lord.



Laura Fisher, Hamburg, Pennsylvania. A fourth-grade student at Blue Mountain Elementary School, Laura studied with Pastor **Richard Haas** before she was baptized in September of 1990.

You put your tithe in the offering plate on Sabbath, and that's good. It's what God commanded us, returning a tenth of our increase to Him. But you may wonder where all that tithe goes.

All of the tithes are sent from the local church to the conference office. The local conference keeps 70 percent and sends 10 percent to the union conference and 20 percent to the General Conference. That is the basic plan.

No tithe stays at the local church to pay for heat and lights or other running expenses of the church. However, many local church expenses are paid for by the conference, such as salary and benefits for pastors and training programs for local church leaders.

In addition, the conference makes appropriations to the local churches for evangelistic meetings as well as church schools.

Nuances of the basic plan

The 70-20-10 split seems simple, but in practice many nuances change it. For example, the union conference actually keeps only nine percent; it sends one additional percent to the General Conference. So the split is more 70-21-9.

Another example: The conferences send nine percent of their tithe to the General Conference—in addition to the 20 percent—to create the Retire-

Where does my tithe go?

KERMIT NETTEBURG

ment Fund. They also contribute 0.25 percent to the union conference for a fund that is used to guarantee Revolving Fund loans.

It gets even more complicated. Larger conferences, those with tithe more than \$1,968,000, contribute one percent of their tithe above \$1,968,000 to a fund that helps small conferences.

Conferences in the Columbia Union also subsidize Columbia Union College. Most conferences pay an amount equal to 3.5 percent of their tithe. But the Potomac Conference pays 4.5 percent because the college is in its territory. Allegheny East and Allegheny West pay three percent because they also subsidize Oakwood College. The subsidy is an amount equal to 3.5 percent of tithe because only half of the money comes from tithe; the other half is non-tithe.

Appropriations

Money also comes back to conferences and churches. Evangelism and education appropriations returned from the General Conference and the union conference total about five percent of tithe. Capital and other appropriations total another three percent.

In other words, eight percent of the total tithe returns as appropriations that's more than one-fourth of the 30 percent of tithe that flowed up the channels to the union conference and General Conference.

The system is not magical nor is it mandated in Scripture. Significant moves are underway to change the tithe percentages, with the goal of retaining a greater percentage in the local conference for local church work. Another proposed change is to make the appropriations carry fewer strings on how the money must be spent.

Kermit Netteburg is communication director of the Columbia Union Conference.



Pennsylvania women experience prayer power

During a spiritual retreat in September designed specifically for them, women came to study and experience an "Encounter with God in Prayer." More than 150 women came to Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg to share fellowship and to hear guest speaker Juanita Kretschmar explain the broader spectrum of prayer and lead them through prayer experiences. Kretschmar, director of Van Ministries for the Greater New York Conference, where her husband is president, experienced her own encounter with God through prayer that prompted her to write the following to Janet Page, retreat coordinator.

Dear Janet,

I must write you a personal note to thank you for letting me come to your Sabbath retreat there in Pennsylvania. Every time I get to be at a retreat for prayer I receive a blessing, but this one was very special to me personally.

You see, that Friday evening as I was listening to the beautiful music and awaiting my own first time to speak, as usual I was feeling inadequate. I was wondering if what I had to share was exactly what those women needed—and more than that, wondering, hoping and praying I would be sufficiently in tune with God's Spirit that He could get through to me in case He needed to change the thoughts I planned to share.

Then you did something I'd never had done for me before at the beginning of a retreat.

You called me up front into the middle of a circle of praying women. You all knelt and prayed for me.

I was overwhelmed. As I heard the fervent prayers for the Holy Spirit in my behalf, I knew I had to have a very heartsearching, personal encounter with Him right then and there. Not that I hadn't been praying before; but this was so intense.

I opened to His convicting Presence, and quickly God brought to my mind personal issues from the previous days. I was reminded of feeling I had "the right" to be irritated with someone, and even of my self-congratulation in having commented to someone else only just a wee bit about the justified irritation (after all, I didn't tell all). But in God's presence, I knew



YOU CALLED ME INTO A CIRCLE OF PRAYING WOMEN. my attitude and words had been sin, that I had to address it openly and call it sin in order to accept His forgiveness, cleansing and freedom.

I also knew that if I was not willing to accept His conviction and act on it. I could contribute to the withholding of the blessing He wanted to pour out on the retreat if I did not let Him remove my guilt immediately. So Jesus was there for me, as He always is. I praise Him for courage to be open in front of everyone. But I've wondered what would have been the drvness, for me. of those meetings if I had resisted His Spirit that opening night, or if you had not followed the leading of His Spirit in calling me forward and leading the women in praying for me as you did. I just want to thank you-to thank Him-again.

There were so many blessings that Sabbath. More than once, in looking for you and the other women leading out, I found you all in prayer. No wonder God's Spirit was with us so powerfully.

Another special gift for me during that retreat was the openness of so many of the women in sharing during the agape supper. And the spontaneous hugs that were poured out publicly as sister affirmed hurting sister, and daughter affirmed mother. Wow! Just looking back, you can feel it all again, can't you? And when several of the women made public decisions to be baptized or re-baptized, we all knew God was in our midst.

I guess what prodded me to write you just now was the verse in James 5:16 that brought it all back to my mind this morning. It's a verse that pretty well sums up what happened during the Pennsylvania Women's Retreat: "Confess your faults one to another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed."

Thank you so much for praying for me and for letting me be with you as we received His healing on that special Sabbath. God bless you all.

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Columbia Union College's Edyth T. James Department of Nursing received the best evaluation in its history from the National League for Nursing in October.

The department, part of the Takoma Park, Maryland, school, earned accreditation for eight years—the longest period that can be granted and is not required to submit a progress report to the NLN prior to the self-study report for the next on-site visit in 1998.

"This positive evaluation affirms the high quality of our nursing program," said CUC President Clifford Sorensen. "We take great pride in our program and our faculty."

The NLN report listed seven major strengths of the program, which include a logically organized and internally consistent curriculum, plentiful clinical facilities that offer rich learning opportunities, a dedicated and committed faculty and a college administration that supports the nursing program.

The two-member visiting team also observed a high level of class participation and preparation among nursing students. They noted that both students and alumni expressed respect and high regard for the faculty and the program.

"This evaluation assures continued excellence in Adventist nursing education here at Columbia Union College," said Margaret Peterson, nursing department chair.

The continuing accreditation is the culmination of an eight-year process that began in 1981, when the NLN made eight recommendations for improving the nursing program, many in areas critical for accreditation.

In 1986, with the help of Helen Yura-Petro, an internationally known nursing consultant, the department implemented a new curriculum.

CUC nursing program earns

eight-year accreditation

Paula Lewis, associate chair of the nursing department, said, "The focus of the new curriculum is on developing critical thinking skills, scholarly activities and other caring competencies necessary to practice professional nursing in a rapidly changing, multicultural society.

"Since we implemented the new program," Lewis stated, "our success rate on the Maryland Board of Nursing exam remains high, and many students are pursuing graduate study."

To prepare for the on-site visit in March, the nursing department used funds raised during alumni phonathons to renovate offices and classrooms and prepared a comprehensive 391-page report describing the entire nursing program.

"Although the task of preparing for the on-site visit proved to be herculean," said Peterson, "with the support of Dr. Yura-Petro, faculty, students, alumni and college administrators especially [former CUC] President William Loveless and [former Academic Dean] Joseph Gurubatham—we achieved our accreditation goals."

RICK MOYERS

During the four-day on-site visit March 13-16, two NLN representatives observed classes, toured the college's facilities, met with students and faculty members and even visited a number of nearby hospitals.

BRATTL RATITION

Mary Kelly, a nursing student from Savage, Maryland, who met with the visiting team, said she thinks the team was impressed with the nursing students' strong knowledge base. "The classes in the program give us a broad theoretical foundation to apply in clinical situations," she said.

Lynn Drury, a nursing major from Silver Spring, Maryland, said she believes the program's strong spiritual emphasis helps educate caring nurses. "I believe that I'm here to serve my fellow human beings," she stated. "Nursing is a way I can be God's child and be who He wants me to be."

Rick Moyers is director of public relations for Columbia Union College.

SPOTLIGHT ON ALLEGHENY WEST

Allegheny West Conference President Willie Lewis and elders of the Glenville congregation—all dressed in black suits and white ties—escorted the Morrises to the church platform following Pathfinders bearing flags. An ovation from everyone present affirmed that the youth had posted the colors well.

Lewis presided over the new pastor and his flock as both made a covenant to God as well as each other.

Morris vowed, "I will be a faithful minister of our Lord, Christ Jesus. I will strive to lead a pure life in private and in public. I will preach the Word as God gives me guidance and will be a pastor to this congregation, to nurture them in the truth as found in the Holy Scriptures."

Then the members vowed, "We will give our support to our new pastor. We will support his efforts to win souls to Christ, and we will work to build up the church and follow in the way our minister leads. We now affirm this solemn vow in God's sight."

When the new pastor took the podium, he declared, "I am humbled and awed by what I have experienced."

He went on to encourage the people by saying, "We'll laugh, cry and face some trying times. The devil will try to destroy us, but he will not succeed. Jesus Christ will see us through." His sermon, entitled "The Cry of a Defeated Soldier," focused on the Old Testament story of Joshua and his army as they faced many trials on the way to Bethel.

En route they were stranded in Ai, which means "trash heap." Morris paralleled this experience to a lukewarm church and the danger of being stuck between Bethel and Canaan.

Comparing this world to a trash heap in the middle of our journey to heaven, he explained that the reason Joshua did not win the battle at Ai was because of disobedience. The army had looted Jericho after God had forbidden it. Morris pleaded with the church members to put away sin and live as the Lord would have them do.

During the morning celebration, First Elder Michael Tate presented a plaque to President Willie Lewis and his wife, Eula, for their leadership and encouragement during the interim between pastors.

The service ended as it had started, with pomp and circumstance. Pathfinders snapped to attention and saluted the participants as they left the platform, then followed them closely in a half-step march.

Carl Poole is communication secretary for the Glenville, Ohio, church.

Glenville Pathfinders stand at attention as Pastor Jack Morris and family—wife Crystal, daughter Marissa, 11, and sons Jack, 15, and John, 9—ascend the steps to their new church home during welcoming ceremonies. *Photo by Carl Poole*.



Glenville rolls out red carpet for new pastor

CARL POOLE

Seventh-day Adventist parishes are used to change. Pastors usually serve for a few years, then move on to another assignment, and a new minister and family settles into the parsonage.

Farewell parties are standard for saying goodbye, but to welcome a new pastor in a way that bonds him or her with members of the new congregation requires the best of creative efforts.

The 1,286-member Glenville, Ohio, congregation in Cleveland went all out for the arrival this past fall of Pastor Jack Morris and his family.

After lining up 35 minutes before the ceremony, the Glenville Pathfinder color guards stood at parade rest until the honorees arrived; then, with military precision, they snapped to attention and saluted.

The Morrises were pleasantly surprised when they reached the church. After being greeted by the Pathfinders, Morris and wife Crystal were decorated with a boutonniere and a corsage before the parade continued.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW JERSEY

The Woodbury church celebrated the lives of eight seniors during a dinner held in their honor.

Dorothy Elliott Jones was a teenager when she became a member of that southwestern New Jersey church in 1934. The following year, Clara Dey became a member. Vera Barry, Blanche Rowand and Augusta McCullough joined the congregation in 1940, and Raymond Rowand became a member in 1946. Kenneth McComas and wife Agnes finally settled in Woodbury after years of ministry in New Jersey and other areas that began with his ordination during the New Jersey Conference camp meeting in 1939.

Dorothy Jones has accumulated the most years as a member of Woodbury, but she hasn't just been counting time. Jones became an active member right from the start.

She and her parents joined several other members every Sabbath morning in a private home. There were only two young people, so she would teach the lesson one Sabbath and the other youth would teach the next week's study.

Since then, Jones has been a Missionary Volunteer secretary, Sabbath school secretary and deaconess. She became an expert fundraiser and gained a reputation for being a problem-solver.

Before the local church school opened its doors for the first term, Jones worked long hours painting, cleaning and arranging. Later she drove the school bus—for no pay and served as Home and School leader. Her close touch with the school was enhanced by putting two children through 10 grades at Delaware Valley Junior Academy.

Much to her joy along with that of her fellow members, Dorothy's husband, Howard, was baptized two years ago.

When Clara Dey became a member of Woodbury, the church gained a real worker. She has been missionary secretary for 39 years, Dorcas secretary for 18 years, Sabbath school pianist for 23, Sabbath school teacher for 34, school board secretary for 12, and church clerk for 22 years, a position she continues to hold.

She is known for attention to accuracy and taking great care with her work. Dey also continues to serve as a faithful member of the church choir.

Woodbury celebrates senior leaders

SANDY JONES BUTLER



Kenneth McComas, a pastor's son, began his ministry as a singer for a crusade with evangelist Shirley Haines. During the meetings he met Agnes. It seems she was hard to miss, for a bucket of vegetable soup had been spilled all over her white dress. That incident—and Agnes—made a lasting impression. The couple was married on November 2, 1926.

After six years of traveling as a singing evangelist, McComas came back to New Jersey to pastor the Vineland church.

He served congregations in several conferences, then returned again to New Jersey, retiring in 1971 from the Potomac Conference, where he was ministerial director.

McComas, 85, continues to minister wherever he is needed. During an honor banquet at the Woodbury church, special tribute was paid to Pastor and Mrs. McComas.

Vera Barry has also been a tireless worker for the church. She has accumulated years of service as a church clerk, Home and School leader, school board chairman, primary leader, assistant missionary secretary and Sabbath school secretary.

Because of her enthusiasm and energy, Community Services and the Sabbath school departments have thrived under her guidance.

Barry, too, has poured energy into DVJA with her personal service and seeing three daughters complete their studies there.

Blanche and Raymond Rowand have been blessed by God, and they in turn have been very generous with the church. Both work tirelessly, and whenever something is needed, the Rowands are people to depend on.

During the past 45 years, the couple has educated four children through Delaware Valley Junior Academy while serving as deacon and deaconess, church clerk, treasurer, Community Services leaders and school board members.

Augusta McCullough has established a reputation for faithfulness through years of service to the church and in her nursing career.

For 45 years she has been a church leader in Community Services, Sabbath school and the school board, as well as a treasurer and deaconess.

Kenneth and Agnes McComas brought strength and the will to serve to the church when they retired in Woodbury. They still serve the New Jersey Conference whenever and wherever they are needed, visiting in homes and caring for the needs of people.

Many have been blessed through their ministry, and the current Woodbury pastor, Donald Bozarth, is especially grateful for their assistance.

To emphasize that the spirit of generosity and service knows no age boundaries, Emilie Boer and Julie Batchelder were also honored during the banquet. Boer, in her nineties, is the oldest member of the Woodbury church, and Batchelder, age 9, is the most recently baptized member.

Sandy Jones Butler is communication secretary of the Woodbury congregation.

PENNSYLVANIA

Student saves mother's life with school training

A fourth-grade student with Reading Junior Academy was recently honored for performing an heroic act.

Ten-year-old Joshua Megahey and his mother, Terri, were riding in a car when his mother suddenly began choking on a piece of food. While gasping for breath, she managed to pull the car over to the side of the road.

Joshua asked if she was OK, and she shook her head no. At first Joshua was scared, but then he realized that he had to help his mother.

Joshua rushed to where his mother was standing, put his arms around her and performed the Heimlich Maneuver. The food was instantly dislodged, and she could breathe freely again.

When asked by his mother how he knew what to do, he said, "My teacher taught us in school what to do if someone is choking."

> CAROL REY Fourth-grade Teacher

Bible studies conducted at home by laymen

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Leonard and Regina Johns, who are members of the Calvary church in Newport News, Virginia, decided to dedicate their home for Christian service by conducting Bible studies there.

Their children, Derek and Cherilynn, also have an active role. Derek receives coats and is in charge of parking; Cherilynn answers the telephone, takes notes and babysits.

The first class had six students, and the first set of lessons used was from the Amazing Facts ministry. The interest was so intense that these students requested more studies. The Real Truth series was then conducted. A mini-marriage seminar was given by Ethel Lee, family life director at Calvary.

As a result of witnessing on her job, another member of the Calvary church, Susan Thomas, led her co-workers in a study of Revelation. Thomas ordered the materials for a Revelation Seminar, but needed someone to conduct it. She contacted Leonard Johns, and this seminar was incorporated into his class, which was eager to learn more.

The class grew to 31 members. A total of 20 people graduated from the Revelation Seminar. Co-workers brought others to the class. A second class grew out of the first. Students witnessed to other persons regarding what they had learned about God and the Bible.

During the studies, samples of vegetarian foods were served in order to introduce students to better eating habits. Potluck dinners were held as a part of each graduation ceremony.

COLUMBIA UNION TRUST SERVICES

Do you know what would happen if you died tonight?

Most people don't like to talk about death, and so they delay making plans for survivors until it's too late. Statistically, 82 percent of all married women will be widowed at least once in their lifetime.

If more women in the church who are widowed would speak up about some of their problems, other women would probably feel motivated to deal with the possibility of widowhood. Husbands, who don't always die of natural causes, might realize anew the value of a will and an estate plan.

In this decade many faithful Adventists are managing appreciated securities and property. Christian stewards often search for ways to make a future gift to the Lord's work, yet retain income for their lives and the lives of probable survivors.

The Charitable Remainder Unitrust is commonly used in estate planning. A unitrust avoids all capital gains tax, provides income for life as well as an income tax deduction, can be added to and gives assurance that God's work will eventually benefit from a truly good steward's plans.

For further information, contact your conference trust department or trust services at the union office. Free information, without obligation, will be sent to you. You may be surprised at how well this plan meets your needs.

JERRY LASTINE Trust Services Director Students themselves have recruited co-workers and friends for the classes. The Lord has truly blessed this endeavor; since the beginning of this class, other home studies have been started at the Calvary church.

Because of these studies, many have been exposed to the truths of the Bible. Regina's mother, who is not an Adventist, graduated with the second class.

Many souls have been won and others rededicated to Christ. Prayers are being offered that more commitments will be made for the Lord.

> JEAN TOOMBS Communication Secretary

HOSPITALS

Shady Grove starts pre-employment drug testing

As part of its commitment to providing a safe, healthful environment for all patients, employees and visitors, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, Maryland, has instituted a pre-employment drug testing program in accordance with the Federal Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988.

"This hospital will not hire anyone known to be currently abusing drugs," stated Cory Chambers, executive vicepresident for operations. "This testing helps us maintain the safety and health of anyone who comes to the hospital, one of our most important goals."

Employment applicants are notified of this testing requirement through the hospital's employment application form, by information posters in the personnel office and during job interviews.

Testing is done during the employee's 90-day probation period. Results are reported confidentially and made available only on a "need-to-know" basis within the hospital.

If results are positive, the individual is informed and offered an opportunity to have the specimen retested at a credentialed laboratory of his or her choice. If someone is denied employment due to positive results or a refusal to take the tests, that person will be allowed to reapply after a one-year waiting period.

"At Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, we exist to promote the healing of mind, body and spirit," stated Bryan Breckenridge, hospital president. "The policy of pre-employment drug testing helps us hire health-care professionals who can most effectively accomplish this goal."

> TAMARA RUSSELL Public Relations Director

NEWS



Mary Hickman's "Country Expressions" shop is more than a creative outlet. It also houses her Investment projects. She and her husband, Bill, enjoy making country collectibles. The new shop in Fenwick, West Virginia, offers baskets, floral arrangements made with silk and dried flowers, stuffed animals and decorative wood items. Mary also teaches classes in basketmaking and floral arranging. A percentage of the shop's profits goes to Sabbath School Investment.—*RUTH WRIGHT, Communication Director*

WORLD CHURCH

Adventist Living Centers files for

Chapter 11 bankruptcy

Adventist Living Centers, Inc., has filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code.

Under Chapter 11, ALC will develop a plan of reorganization for putting its finances in order and then submit it to the court. This reorganization will include the sale of all or part of the company's facilities.

ALC owns and operates 15 long-term health-care facilities in three states eight in Illinois, six in Wisconsin and the Laurel Living Center in Hamburg, Pennsylvania—with a total of 1,724 licensed beds. The company also holds leases on five Indiana facilities that are currently being managed by Adventist Health System-Sunbelt.

"After exploring and pursuing all possible options, we believe that this action is in the best interest of the residents, employees, creditors and other concerned groups," said Michael Goebel, president of ALC. "Chapter 11 will enable us to maintain quality care for our residents."

"While each of our current facilities is operating successfully, ALC as a corporation has for some time been experiencing a cash-flow difficulty stemming from burdensome debt loads caused by overexpansion in the mid-1980s," Goebel continued. "ALC is currently in default on interest payments on its bonds. This filing will allow us to develop a reorganization plan that will be in the best interest of all parties."

Adventist Living Centers, Inc., is an independent, not-for-profit organization that was incorporated in Wisconsin during 1972.

While company officials and members of its board of trustees may have a relationship with the Seventh-day Adventist Church or the Adventist Health System, neither of these organizations, per se, has an ownership interest in or a management relationship with ALC.

> MICHAEL GOEBEL President

CHESAPEAKE

Hagerstown church witnesses to

young Soviet visitors

Two hundred students from the Soviet Union who attended a conference of the Unification Church in Hagerstown, Maryland, November 2-5 also had the chance to learn also about Seventh-day Adventists because Pastor Tim Roosenberg recognized an opportunity and took advantage of it.

The conference was held at a motel a few hundred feet down the highway from the church. Roosenberg and lay members put a literature rack in front of the church with copies of *Steps to Christ* in Russian and English, together with other Adventist literature.

A sign announced that everything in the rack was free and invited passersby to come to the church for more literature, including Bibles.

Many young people took advantage of the offer. One student walked several miles to the Review and Herald Publishing Association to receive more.

Dmitry Rodionov, a student at Moscow University, said that though religion had been forbidden, "now religion and the people who believe are free," before a representative of the Unification Church explained that church officials must clear all interviews.

Roosenberg said when one of the visitors learned that the church was giving away free literature, "he was practically in tears to get a Bible."

> EUGENE LINCOLN Communication Secretary

CUC

Columbia Union College hosts gymnastics clinic

Fifty-three students and coaches from Columbia Union academies attended the annual gymnastics clinic October 11 and 12 at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Representatives from Blue Mountain, Highland View and Spring Valley academies tumbled, balanced and worked together to learn more about their sport.

Stefan Furst, a competitor in sports acrobatics at the world level and a former coach of two sports acrobatics teams for a sports university in Austria; and Tom McCarthy, who coached gymnastics for the U.S. Olympic team in 1984, were the featured coaches at the clinic.

Furst, who is the coach of CUC's Pioneers sports acrobatics team, worked with the students on improving and refining their skills. He said, "It's good for the students to have another coach look at them to get rid of mistakes."

McCarthy's focus during his instruction was to "give the kids things to take back with them that will enhance their

NEWS

performance." He enjoys teaching students techniques he refers to as "out of the realm of normality."

CUC's Acroaires coach, Jim Burns, organized the clinic so that it included instruction in sports acrobatics, a type of competitive gymnastics, and exhibition gymnastics. He said that students in academies tend to do a lot of both, and he wanted them to be exposed to new options while improving old ones.

John Sickler, a senior at Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, Ohio, liked the variety. He said, "The clinic wasn't one-dimensional; it helped me increase my skills in many areas." Sickler stated he particularly enjoyed working out with Furst and CUC's sports acrobatics team.

Missy Weigley, a senior at Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Pennsylvania, who learned new techniques at the clinic, said, "Attending made me feel as if I'm not the only one who doesn't know everything. I feel proud of myself." She said the coaches "gave us the courage we didn't have ourselves."

Christie Schubert, a junior attending Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland, said, "The clinic helped boost my confidence level, and I plan to share what I learned with the other gymnasts at my school."

KENNETH E. PINER Junior Journalism Major

PENNSYLVANIA Pathfinders combine with church school

to honor Adventist youth

Pathfinder/Education Day was held recently at the Harrisburg church.

Along with the staff and local church school students, the Pathfinders held a praise service/induction ceremony. Two new Pathfinders were inducted during the service, bringing the club membership to 20.

The goals of the ceremony were to uplift Christ and stress the importance of a Christian education for all young people in our churches today.

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." I Timothy 4:12 was the key text as the youth shared their faith song, prayer and praise.

Principal George Kelly's message on "the three M's" addressed the topics of Mending your ways, keeping your Mind on Jesus and Minding God's business.

Kelly also stressed the importance of keeping Adventist youth in church school where they'll be trained to live for Jesus. He said that "Religion should not just be one subject in education. It should be in every part of education."

He left his listeners with two thoughtprovoking questions to ponder: "Would your priority be Disney World or camp meeting? Basketball dues or Pathfinder dues?" Something to think about.

RICHARD STRAHL Communication Secretary

CUC

Alumni pledge \$87,000 during annual phonathon

The alumni and friends of Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland, pledged more than \$87,000 to the school—\$6,000 more than last year during the sixth annual alumni phonathon held September 17 to October 3.

Faculty, student and staff volunteers telephoned more than 1,800 alumni and friends of the college during the threeweek event.

According to Esther Burrow, director of CUC's alumni association, the phonathon is more than a fundraiser—it's a chance to remain in touch with alumni, generate news items for the alumni magazine and let alumni know what's happening on campus. "Most of the people really enjoy getting our calls."

Burrow also stated that CUC alumni are extremely faithful in fulfilling their telephone pledges. "Most colleges would consider a 75 percent pledge fulfillment rate successful," she said, "but our rate is always between 85 and 92 percent."

Rubye Phipps, a 1927 nursing graduate who lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, is always happy to hear from the college. "I think we received an excellent training, and I was always proud of my education," she said. "I enjoy talking with people from the college very much, and I always try to help out because I believe education is important in a young person's life."

Burrow emphasized that the monies raised during the phonathon have a direct impact on students. The alumni association awarded a total of \$52,000 in scholarships to 65 students on October 14 and will award \$4,000 more by the end of this academic year.

Money raised during the phonathon is also used for the college endowment, faculty improvement, new equipment and alumni association expenses.

> RICK MOYERS Public Relations Director



The top five finishers in the 1990 Bethany 10-mile walk were, from left: William Whitten, Joseph Turner Jr., Roy Daniels, Pastor Norman Jackson and Fred Jackson.

ALLEGHENY WEST

Bethany church sponsors walk with Christ

On October 28, members and friends of the Bethany church in Charlottesville, Virginia, donned "Walking with Christ" T-shirts for the congregation's third annual 10-mile walk, which was sponsored by the health and temperance society.

Joseph Turner, this year's coordinator, stressed group cooperation. He asked members to shift their focus from their own struggles in finishing the walk to encouraging others in their immediate vicinity to finish.

For the first time, every participant completed the course. Finishing times ranged from an hour and 10 minutes to slightly over three hours.

The challenging course went through the University of Virginia campus, past the Rotunda and up the historic downtown mall. Charlottesville's mountainous terrain made it virtually impossible to plan a route that would not include at least two or three steep inclines.

For the first time the walk attracted members from the Charlottesville Albemarle Tracksters. Club President William Whitten, a marathoner who ran all 10 miles, was the first to finish. Posting times that were close to Whitten's were Joseph Turner, Roy Daniels, Fred Jackson and Pastor Norman Jackson.

Pastor Jackson, who ran more than half the distance, heartily supports the event not only for its fitness value, but also for its role in enriching Christian fellowship.

> TERESA TURNER Communication Secretary

NEWS

HOSPITALS

KMC offers spiritual support through memorial services

Follow-up care for both patients and families is a prime concern at Kettering Medical Center in Kettering, Ohio.

Physical and spiritual needs are addressed by a wide variety of support programs. Significant spiritual support is also offered through quarterly memorial services conducted at the Kettering and Sycamore hospitals.

Sponsored by the pastoral services department and coordinated by Chaplain Geneva Fisher, memorial services are conducted for families of deceased KMC patients. The usual attendance is 40 to 50 people.

The brief services held on Sunday afternoons provide an opportunity for family members to honor a loved one and deal with the grieving process.

Services are planned around the reading of memorial tributes prepared in advance by family members. The printed bulletin lists the honorees, as well as the nursing supervisor, pastoral services and hospital administrator participants.

Scripture readings, music and prayers complete each service. Time for fellowship comes then, and refreshments are served by KMC volunteers.

"The service often breaks the anxiety barrier and relieves the fear family members associate with returning to the hospital," observed Dick Tibbits, director of the pastoral service department.

"Many people express great appreciation for the opportunity to talk again with the nurses and the chaplains who helped them through their crises of illness," Tibbits added.

> JANICE DEATON KMC Communications

OHIO

Middletown church gets organ from Presbyterian congregation

When the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church, located just south of Middletown in southwestern Ohio, recently purchased a new organ, the members wondered just what they should do with the old one, which was still in very good condition.

Their organist had an idea.

Irene Price, a long-time member of the Middletown Seventh-day Adventist Church, has been the organist for Mount Pleasant for more than 30 years.



Tripp Spaur (left) and Scott Stottlemyer enjoy using the IBM computers provided by the Home and School Association at the Rocky Knoll school.

CHESAPEAKE

The name's

the same for

Rocky Knoll teacher

Robert Mulkern, head teacher at the Rocky Knoll school in Martinsburg, West Virginia, understands from experience that "history repeats itself."

Mulkern started his teaching career at the Rocky Knoll school located in faraway Hudson, Massachusetts, more than 25 years ago.

In a further twist of irony, shortly after his arrival in Martinsburg he discovered that the city manager is a former student from that first Rocky Knoll school he taught at so long ago.

"No one could have predicted such a circumstance those 25 years ago," stated Mulkern, who is new to the Martinsburg school this year.

While Mulkern is new, the school has a history of providing quality education in that community for a number of years. The educational facility's student body of 26 children has remained steady over the past several years. Mulkern teaches grades 5-8.

The first four grades are taught by Carrie Cover, who has been at the school for five years.

Located in the country a few miles west of town, the school provides a quiet atmosphere of learning. The Home and School Association has provided classrooms with the computer equipment required for today's classroom. Included are two IBM PS/2 units.

The Martinsburg congregation currently uses the school's gymnasium and classrooms as meeting places for its Sabbath services.

However, a building project is nearing completion that will enable the school to be once again used for the purposes of its design.

Church and school leaders alike are looking forward to the opening of the new facility.

TOM LEMON Communication Director

So when Price suggested to the Mount Pleasant church board that her home congregation could use an organ, they responded by voting enthusiastically to donate theirs to the Middletown church.

Now a beautiful Allen organ that for many years led a congregation of Presbyterians as they sang hymns and offered musical praise to the Lord now sits in the sanctuary of the Middletown Adventist church, ready to continue its sacred work.

> MIKE STADNIK Pastor



ADRA feeds about 80,000 persons every month within Nicaragua's northern wartorn provinces.

WORLD CHURCH

ADRA strives to provide hope for Nicaragua

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Torn by more than 10 years of civil war, Nicaragua is now a nation struggling to get back on its feet. The Adventist Development and Relief Agency is helping that country by providing emergency food and medical assistance to the innocent victims who survived the war.

Two building projects are also underway. Homes are being built on a small island off Nicaragua's eastern coast, and a vocational school is being constructed near Managua, the capital city.

The fighting between the Sandinista government and the Contras caused severe hardship for the people of this small Central American country, and it will be years before they fully recuperate from the destruction of war.

Though the situation seems gloomy, there is finally hope for the future. The war is over. A new government has been elected, and outside aid is being channeled into the country.

This past May, ADRA began its first project for victims of the war in Nicaragua. ADRA received \$1.6 million from the United States Agency for International Development for food, medical assistance and clothing. Immediately food was sent, and for six weeks volunteers distributed 900 tons of food to the poorest families in Managua. About 220,000 people were fed.

Through many projects, ADRA hopes to alleviate the suffering that the Nicaraguan people have endured for so long. But there is still much more that could be done. People in northern Nicaragua require more food, La Trinidad Hospital desperately needs medicines and medical equipment, and people living on Corn Island need homes and fruit trees.

If you'd like to help ADRA help them, write to: ADRA/Nicaragua Project, P.O. Box 4289, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

NINA MARTINEZ Correspondent

HOSPITALS

Hackettstown sponsors new mall walking program

As a community service to encourage the health of the people in northern New Jersey, Hackettstown Community Hospital and the Hackettstown Mall are cooperatively sponsoring the new, no-cost mall walking program called Heart and Sole Walkers.

To kick off the program, the public was invited to the mall for a "shoelacecutting ceremony" on November 27.

The mall is open for walkers with ID cards on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8 to 9:30 a.m. and from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Sundays. A half-mile and one-mile walk have been routed.

HCH and mall representatives hope to provide a means for area individuals to get the exercise they need weekly for optimum health. According to Sue Russo, R.N., cardiac rehabilitation coordinator at the hospital, mall walking can be enjoyed by just about everyone, regardless of their level of fitness.

"It's for all heart- and health-conscious people," Russo stated. "Walkers can move at their own pace with no one looking over their shoulder. It's simple, too. They don't need any fancy, expensive equipment and can enjoy a pleasant, safe and flat-surfaced environment."

Russo said walking is becoming an increasingly popular activity. It's simple and enjoyable. Benefits can include a decreased risk of heart attack, decreased blood pressure, loss of extra pounds, a healthier heart and lungs, increased resistance to anxiety and stress, increased self-esteem, increased muscle tone and more energy for work and leisure.

Walkers receive a free T-shirt, a program brochure, a map of the mall showing the walking route and an ID card, which entitles them to discounts at certain stores in the mall.

> BILL WEBER Community Relations

PENNSYLVANIA

First Philadelphia changes name to Havertown church

The story of the Havertown church goes back to April 26, 1885, when, under the leadership of Pastor D.F. Ferro, a congregation was organized at the International Tract Society Rooms at 330 North Eight Street in Philadelphia.

The church grew until it was divided in 1903 into the North Philadelphia (now known as Chestnut Hill) and West Philadelphia congregations.

After meeting in halls and other places through 1904, a business meeting was held, at which time a motion was made and passed to purchase lots at 51st and Locust streets in West Philadelphia.

The new church opened for its first service on July 15, 1905, under Pastor Morris Lukens. The first person baptized in the church was Lukens' mother.

On May 7, 1955, the West Philadelphia church celebrated its 50th anniversary at that location. Reuben Figuhr, who was then president of the General Conference, was the guest speaker.

By 1960 the church had been sold, and the construction of a new church building had started at Township Line Road and Edmonds Avenue in Havertown, Pennsylvania. During construction, the congregation worshiped at the Oak Park Presbyterian Church.

The first service in the debt-free First Philadelphia church was conducted on December 22, 1962.

Eight pastors have served the church at its present location, including Carlton Cox from September of 1986 to July of 1990. Under Cox's guidance, the church building was completely renovated, and a number of much-needed improvements were made.

Just before Cox left, the church board voted to change the congregation's name to the Havertown Seventh-day Adventist Church to reflect its presence in the region and to serve that area better.

Some of the oldest members still attending the church are: Florence Thorn, 1916; Clara Hall, 1920; Margaret Fertig, 1928; Ella Michaelis, 1938; Edythe Sterner, 1938; Doris Black, 1943; Hilda Herring, 1946; and Mary Taylor, 1949.

Major evangelistic meetings for the fall of 1991 have already been approved by the church board. Increased church attendance indicates that people in the area are looking for a church home where they can fellowship as a family.

> THOMAS FRANCIS Head Elder

BULLETIN BOARD

ADVERTISEMENTS

ADVERTISING RATES

Minimum charge, \$15 for 50 words or less for ads originating within the Columbia Union and \$20 for all others. Additional words, 25 cents each in the union, 40 cents each outside of the union. Ads may be placed up to four weeks before the issue date by mail or calling (301) 596-0800 or (800) 438-9600 toll-free. The Visitor does not guarantee the integrity of any advertising or the product or service advertised.

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Sponsored by the Department of Church Ministries General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Department of Counseling and Family Sciences Loma Linda University

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THE ADVENTIST HOME EDUCATOR, a monthly newsletter for Adventists who homeschool or plan to until their children are ready for regular Adventist school. Send a SASE for a free introductory issue. Jeanette Pelton, 212 Sychar Rd., Mount Vernon, OH 43050. (11)

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SUNSETCALENDAR

astern	Standard	Time

	Dec. 28	Jan. 4	Jan. 11
Baltimore	4:51	4:57	5:04
Cincinnati	5:23	5:29	5:35
Cleveland	5:04	5:10	5:17
Columbus	5:14	5:19	5:26
Jersey City	4:36	4:42	4:49
Norfolk	4:56	5:01	5:08
Parkersburg	5:11	5:16	5:23
Philadelphia	4:43	4:49	4:56
Pittsburgh	5:01	5:07	5:14
Reading	4:45	4:51	4:58
Richmond	4:59	5:04	5:11
Roanoke	5:10	5:15	5:22
Toledo	5:12	5:18	5:25
Trenton	4:41	4:46	4:53
Washington, DO	2 4:54	4:59	5:06

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For an information packet, please contact: Rocky Mountain Youth Department 2520 S. Downing, Denver, CO 80210 or call (303) 733-3771, fax (303) 733-1843.

One Moman's Story EVERY WOMAN'S FEAR

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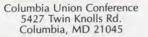
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DRAFT AMPS

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