



Visitor

C O L U M B I A U N I O N

December 15, 1997 Volume 102 Number 24

Special Music Issue

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Visitor

C O L U M B I A U N I O N

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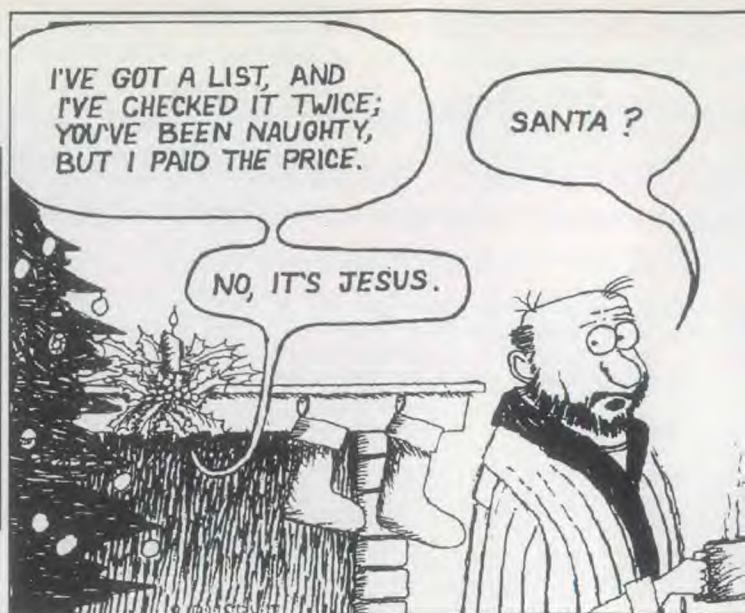
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Volume 102

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ABOUT THE COVER: Christmas for many brings memories of music. The resplendent reds of pointsettias, the warm glow of candlelight and the high polish of musical instruments on this cover, a CD photo image from *Electronic Clipper*, compliment the Visitor's special issue on music.



2008

A song for Di

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

On Monday night, September 1, at Visions Unlimited (a recording studio in Silver Spring, Maryland), David Griffiths and Lori Bryan, two local songwriters, were having a writing session. Hampered by the recent news of the tragedy in Paris, David recalls, "We were feeling empty. We wondered if the news of the princess could really be true."

Having little success that night, Lori suggested that they compose a song about their feelings of the loss associated with Princess Diana's untimely death. That inspiration led to the creation of "A Song for Di," a powerful and sensitive ode to the legacy of good will Diana left behind.

Reggie Staggers at RS Studios, who mastered the song for duplication, commented: "A song like this will help to bring healing to a lot of people."

Both Lori and David have been successful with songs in the past. The group Joy, which is often featured on the *Breath of Life* telecast, has recorded quite a few of Lori's songs, and David has been busy "making music" for Tony Thompson, ADRA and the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland, for which he wrote the opening fanfare for a new exhibit. But "A Song for Di" promises to have an impact on many and may be one of their most influential songs yet.

Since "A Song for Di's" release in September, more than 400 of the cassette singles have sold in the Washington metro area in the Adventist Book and Health Food stores and Tower Records, including downtown, Rockville and Landover. In one Washington, D.C., Tower Records store alone, 58 copies of the song were sold.

All proceeds from this recording will be donated to the charities that Princess Di supported in her life and now, with your help, will continue to be supported in her memory. The cassettes are still available at ABCs.



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The gift of music

Kathy Potts Russell

Spencerville Adventist Academy Music Teacher



I'll never forget the day I nervously walked to the bulletin board outside the music room at the John Nevins Andrews school. Only four sixth-grade girls were to be chosen by audition for a place in the 30-voice treble choir. Would I be one of them? Imagine my surprise and excitement when I saw my name among the lucky four! My delight didn't diminish in spite of long hours of rehearsals memorizing songs in three-part harmony. During the three years I was a member of the treble choir, we visited many churches and even traveled to New England to share the music we had prepared.

Why did we want to be involved in this choir? The most important reason was our director, Ruth Millard. Her energy and enthusiasm seemed boundless. She made singing fun and meaningful. She always expected the best from us. I admired her dedication to us, her music, her church and her God.

Later, as I pondered my future, music education came to the forefront in my thinking. One day, as I sat in church, I distinctly felt a call to follow in the footsteps of my teacher, Ruth Millard. I wanted to influence young people through music and encourage them to use their talents for God. More years of study followed, with the opportunity to gain a wealth of information from many excellent teachers.

Now I'm a music teacher. The other day, Erica came to me after music class and said: "Mrs. Russell, I really enjoy your music class." She followed her glowing comments with a spontaneous hug. Her unsolicited praise made my day!

I'm grateful to God for giving me parents who provided a Christian education and teachers who influenced my life through their example of Christian service. At this Christmas season, as you reflect on the blessings you've received and the gifts you want to give, I hope you'll remember to thank God for the generous gift of His Son. I hope you'll take time to thank those who have influenced the direction of your life. And I hope you'll invite a young person to become involved in your church for, I believe, the young person who's invited to become involved in church usually stays involved in church.

And don't forget—if you can read this, thank your music teacher!



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*Galilee's waves were as
hard as stone till I looked
back to be sure James
and John were impressed
with my dry feet. That
night, Jesus pulled me
from beneath an airless
wave and plopped me
back into the safety of my
dry boat.*

Best friends

*I*t's Passover week, and Jesus has just sent me off to the village of Bethpage. I'm to look for a young donkey that no one has ever ridden, a small animal that will be standing with its mother near the town gates. I'm then to bring it back to Jesus in Bethany so He can use it as transportation to Jerusalem. The Messiah-King, riding to take possession of His throne.

Every day with Jesus has been a kingly adventure. The roads are always lined with believers—men and women who are eager to touch His robe and feel His presence. And He treats each of them like a prince or princess. He stops to tell stories to the young, sits down and listens to the old and laughs joyfully with all of us sinners. Smiles follow Him like flowers follow spring.

The roadways and villages are always crowded with sick who are eager for health. The paralytics and lepers wait at the edges of the crowds or meet us in the desert places. Those with heart and breathing problems usually come on stretchers borne by their friends. Children are ushered to the Physician by worried mothers, and the blind come hand-in-hand with those who love them most. Diseases, ALL DISEASES, flee from His power as a mouse does from a lion. With Jesus, every village, every city gate, every corner on the road is an adventure in health and healing.

The sea has become a favorite haunt for Jesus. He loves to talk about nets, lures and favorite fishing spots as we ready the nets each evening. He also loves to ride in our boats. From Capernaum across to the Decapolis. From Bethsaida to tiny coves on the "far side," Jesus is always asking us to sail Him across Galilee. Once the boat is underway, He stands by the tiller and discusses wind strength and sail angles for hours. He adds a strong hand with the nets and works tirelessly through the night sorting fish. Any night is a better night when Jesus is in the boat.

Three times He has saved me from drowning in Galilee. One early morning, He chose to walk to my boat on the top of the foaming water. Disbelieving yet eager to know how He was doing it, I begged to join Him as a water-walker. He smiled and urged me on. Galilee's waves were as hard as stone till I looked back to be sure James and John were impressed with my dry feet. That night, Jesus pulled me from beneath an airless wave and plopped me back into the safety of my dry boat. Where Jesus is, humility flows freely.

But most nights, He leaves us sleeping soggly as the fish fill our nets. Rather than join us on the boats, He walks high into the surrounding hills to talk with His Father. Alone. Prayer, He calls it. A time of sharing your worries with God and listening to the voices of the Creator. After each night of prayer, He returns with an energy that makes even the sons of Zebedee seem tired and slow. He has tried to teach us to pray, and although we're learning, none of us are as energized by it as He is. But we're improving. Every day with Jesus is an adventure in learning to know God better.

Jesus has taught me that I can be more than an old fisherman with a leaky boat and broken nets. I belong to Jesus' family. I have a place at God's table. I am royalty! His friendship is the most important gift I can receive. I've learned that everything He can do, I can do, also. His power is my power. His peace my peace. His love my love. His royalty my royalty.

This donkey I'm after. It could carry both of us to the throne. Teacher and student. King and prince. God and me. Best friends.

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

Raising the rafters

Performer and songwriter receives inspiration from God

Apryl Maloon of Mechanicsville, Virginia, always loved music, but growing up she never had records, tapes or even the radio on at home. When Maloon wanted music, she headed for the piano. Her little church had neither an organist or a pianist. The members eagerly gave 12-year-old Maloon the encouragement she needed to fill those roles, which Maloon feels kept her in the church and later led her to a close relationship with God. It was much later that Maloon felt inspired to perform her own music.

"I'd always wanted to write music, and I tried for a time, but it just never flowed. One night, years after I'd given up trying to write music, the Lord sent me a dream. In it, I saw a woman standing on a street corner, singing the chorus of a song I'd never heard before. I tried to go back to sleep, but I couldn't, so I wrote it down. That was the beginning of my song writing."

Maloon wasn't sure, however, that she'd be bold enough to sing her music in front of anyone. But God was mindful of Maloon's fears and provided an opportunity that propelled her into music ministry. Weeks after she'd written the first song, Maloon was invited to sing for an evangelistic crusade in Russia. To raise the money to cover expenses, Maloon prayerfully began booking musical concerts in area churches.

Three years have passed since that crusade. Maloon says, "I've completed two albums and have been featured on 3ABN. My music is played across the country on Christian family radio stations, and I'm still doing concerts. God has changed my life so much. I'm still a mother of three boys, piano teacher and wife, but having the opportunity to touch people through music is such a positive force in my life."

Perhaps one of Maloon's most widely known songs is "The Gift of Forgiveness." According to Maloon, it speaks of our need to forgive those who have hurt us, even if those people aren't remorseful. "I wrote [the song] from a personal experience," says Maloon. "I was hurt deeply by someone. Bitterness and resentment grew in my heart, crowding out the joy of even life itself. Through prayer (and James 1:17), I realized that God didn't expect me to generate this forgiveness. It was a gift from God. Praise the Lord that He gave me this gift!"

After singing this song in concert, Maloon had many people come to her in tears, verbalizing how much they needed to hear this message, how they need to forgive someone in their life, how they needed to hear that forgiveness is a gift. Maloon says that at the time she was going through difficulties, she could not understand how God could be leading but would not ask God to take the experience away now—it's brought her closer to the Lord. Maloon thanks God for the lessons and experiences that come from Him each day.

"I still depend on God for my music, thanking Him for the ups and downs in my life—they give me more material for my songs!" adds Maloon. She says she depends on God for her voice. "I always pray before I sing that God will give me the voice that He wants me to have and that I will use what God has given me to raise the rafters for His glory."

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Kimberly Luste Maran is the managing editor of the Visitor. Apryl Maloon writes from Mechanicsville, Virginia.
If you'd like to get in touch with Apryl, call (804) 730-8981.



"I saw a woman standing on a street corner, singing the chorus of a song I'd never heard before. I tried to go back to sleep, but I couldn't, so I wrote it down."

Executive committee report

President Ralph Martin retires



A special meeting of the executive committee has been called for 10 a.m. on Sunday, January 11, to hear the search committee's report and select a new president for the Columbia Union.

Thirty-nine members of the Columbia Union Executive Committee (EXCOM) met on Thursday, November 13, to hear reports of ministry activities within the union and to make decisions regarding several significant issues. Their most far-reaching action was to approve retirement for Pastor Ralph W. Martin, president of the Columbia Union. Martin has ministered for the church as a pastor and an administrator for 42 years, 12 of those years within the Columbia Union.

Martin presented a devotional message for the committee and then announced that he and his wife, Joan, had decided to retire and move into a new portion of their life ministry. Martin's announcement is printed as the President's Scope on page 12 of this *Visitor*. The Martins' retirement will be effective on January 31, 1998.

Pastor A. C. McClure, president of the North American Division, chaired the EXCOM as members chose a search committee and began the selection process for a new president for the union. The presidential search committee has been given three specific assignments:

1. To develop the appropriate criteria for presidential leadership;
 2. To share that criteria by mail with all members of EXCOM; and
 3. To develop a list of at least two candidates for president and submit those at a specially called meeting of the executive committee.
- The presidential search committee, composed of 23 members of the executive committee, represents the membership and diversity of each of the union's eight conferences. Nine members are lay persons, eight are conference presidents, two are pastors, and three are women. Three additional members, representing health care, K-16 education and the union staff, are included on the committee. The search committee voted to hold at least two meetings and scheduled those for November 17 and December 2. A special meeting of the executive committee has been called for 10 a.m. on Sunday, January 11, to hear the search committee's report and select a new president for the Columbia Union.

The EXCOM also voted the following actions:

To approve Tammy Horst as women's ministries coordinator for the union. Horst is women's ministries director for the Pennsylvania Conference and will take on this additional coordinating responsibility as a volunteer. A position description is being developed for this new role.

To approve interest-free revolving fund loans (for up to three years) for churches that want to purchase equipment necessary to participate in the NET '98 evangelism project.

To appoint Cavel Melbourne and Malissa Luste (teachers), Melissa Broome, LeRoy Snider, Mark Wile (principals) and Michael Wixwat (conference treasurer) to the Columbia Union Board of Education.

The Columbia Union Executive Committee meets at least four times each year to conduct the business of the union. These meetings usually are scheduled to follow immediately after meetings of the presidents' council, CUSAC, the Columbia Union Board of Education and the Columbia Union College Board. The next regularly scheduled EXCOM meeting is set for Thursday, March 5.

Ministering through music at Spencerville

*T*he Spencerville music ministry is a central part of the worship and outreach of the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Under the direction of Minister of Music Mark Willey, worship services and concerts at Spencerville are seasoned with a variety of musical talent, both from within the congregation and from many musical groups and individuals around the country and the world.

The Spencerville church choir is a 50-voice ensemble directed by Dr. James Bingham. The choir sings for most of the Sabbath services throughout the year and is a featured part of the Evensong Concert Series during the annual service of Lessons and Carols and the Easter concert.

The choir's repertoire ranges from gentle gospel hymn arrangements to powerful anthems from throughout the ages. Admission to the choir is open to all who desire to join.

In 1991, an anonymous donation made possible the installation of a new 87-rank Moller pipe organ. In accepting this generous donation, the congregation pledged to share the organ with the community. The organ is a versatile instrument and is as suited to church and congregational accompaniment as it is to solo repertoire and concert use.

At the time of installation, the church was renovated to optimize the acoustical space for making music. This renovation has made it a joy both to make and listen to music at Spencerville.

From October through May, monthly sacred concerts are offered as part of the Spencerville Evensong Series. These concerts feature world-class organists, choirs and instrumentalists and are offered free to the surrounding community.

God's great gift of music is available to Spencerville members throughout the week as well as on Sabbath. A library of compact disk recordings is maintained for the use of the church. The recordings feature the masterpieces of the sacred and classical repertoire, plus recordings by many of the artists and ensembles that have blessed the congregation with their music.

The words of the Psalmist admonish us to "Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; break forth in song, rejoice and sing praises. Sing to the Lord with the harp and the sound of a psalm, with trumpets and the sound of a horn; shout joyfully before the Lord, the King,"—*Psalm 98:4-6*.

The Spencerville music ministry is maintained to reflect this atmosphere of praise and joy by worshipping God through His wonderful gift of music.

.....
Barbara Wetherell is press secretary for the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Maryland.





"I started playing the piano when I was 4 years old," says Stoddart. "Since then, I always dreamed I'd be a performer."

Musician shares a love so real

He closes his eyes and runs his fingers over an invisible keyboard. "Let me see if I can sing a couple of lines for you" He leans into some source of inspiration and starts to hum softly. He looks too young to be so talented. As he pulls musical notes out of thin air and sings in perfect harmony, it's hard not to get emotional by the honesty of his words. It's this combination of poignant lyrics and song that makes John Stoddart the young talent he is.

"I started playing the piano when I was 4 years old," says Stoddart. "Since then, I always dreamed I'd be a performer."

Now in his mid-20s, he has seen this dream become a reality. Stoddart's list of performances include several appearances at the Kennedy Center, where he had his conducting debut with Pro Musica and the National Symphony Orchestra; the Inaugural Prayer Services for President Bill Clinton; and the 25th anniversary of the Special Olympics at the United Nations, where he arranged and conducted the theme song. Stoddart has collaborated, written and arranged musical selections for many artists, including Sandi Patti, Wintley Phipps, Diana Ross and Al Williams.

Love So Real

In March of 1997, Stoddart added his first album to a long list of accomplishments. *Love So Real* was released by Urban Junction East Music, a production company established by Stoddart in 1992.

"I started out with some equipment that I kept in my bedroom," says Stoddart. "I did lots and lots of demos until I got my first opportunity to do a record with Wintley Phipps."

A project that took over a year to complete, *Love So Real* became a personal journey for Stoddart as he received inspiration and assistance from top musicians in the area.

"I'd been producing records for other people," says Stoddart. "This was more of a developing of my own style. But I got distracted with other projects I was working on. The Lord brought me back to focus through a friend of mine. We were working on a concert together, and he'd heard one of my songs. He said, 'You know, this town needs music like this.' I got back to work."

Where from here

Sharing Christ through your work can be a difficult task. Ask any performer, and he or she will tell you the character of a role model has to come from an individual's source of hope and direction. Anchoring yourself to Christ and sharing this with others isn't a new concept for Stoddart.

"You start to realize the span of influence you have as a performer. I have to continually put my focus on Christ. It challenges you to think of what you're doing, but it's inspiring to share Christ through my work."

Christian music has taken the spotlight for now, but Stoddart is careful not to neglect his classical roots. He's the organist for the Northeastern Presbyterian Church in northeastern Washington, D.C. Stoddart also maintains an adjunct faculty position at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, where he serves as tour accompanist for the music department.

"I've definitely been blessed to be able to keep my hand in different styles of music," says Stoddart. "These songs are some of my thoughts and experiences, from dreams to disappointments. I haven't quite reached the place of full understanding yet, and I'm not really sure how close I am. But the journey with God is definitely growing more enjoyable."

Stoddart (songwriter, producer, arranger and singer) identifies himself with listeners from the heart and with his music. He looks ahead as if seeing that invisible score once again and sings, "There is love so real, it will reach out and touch you."

Dixie Rodriguez is news assistant for the Adventist News Network.

ORB's think tank

focuses on the young black professional

They traveled from as far away as England and Bermuda. They also represented 30 of the 50 states of the U.S. More than 400 black professionals convened at the Washington National Hilton Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia, for Operation ReachBack's Fourth Annual National Thinktank Conference October 30 through November 2.

Conceived and chaired by Dr. Calvin B. Rock, vice president of the General Conference, and constructed by other prominent black church leaders, Operation Reachback (ORB), an association for black Seventh-day Adventists, seeks to foster, strengthen and solidify the collective resources of the African ethnic communities primarily for the purpose of providing services and programs to meet the challenging needs of the black constituencies.

"The ORB principle affirms that we need not wait for others to empower us," said Rock. "But that having already been empowered by nature and experience, we can together make a difference in fellowship, learning and service."

The theme for this year's "Thinktank," titled "The Young Black Professional," focused on these people's development into the workforce. "We must work hard to show our young people that we're committed to a system with our time, talents and energy," said Jerry Malone, deputy chief of staff for the U.S. Department of Transportation. "We must be willing to help them with professional growth and offer them career opportunities so that we may pull them forward."

The entire weekend included forums and discussions moderated and presented by professionals from wide arenas. Some topics included "Status of the Young Black Professional," "Celebrating the Achievements of the Young Black Professional" and "Church Structure and the Young Black Professional," just to name a few. The ORB forums this year focused on the adoption of a national mentorship program initiative. "This program will specifically be targeted to African-American youth, providing them with real job experiences and training for the workforce," said Dr. Rosa Banks, ORB's forum chairperson.

The weekend was concluded with a gala awards banquet. Prior to the banquet, national and local chapters nominated members to receive "ORBIEs," crystal awards symbolizing outstanding achievement for youth mentoring and work in church and school. Many honorees were on hand to receive their award. Honoree Brenda Blackmon-Wood, co-anchor for WXIA-TV in Atlanta, Georgia, sent an acceptance of her award via video cassette. Also at the banquet, a special scholarship was presented to Donna Spearman and Carmela Monk from *Message* magazine.

The banquet keynote speaker was Reverend Dr. H. Beecher Hicks Jr. In his motivational address entitled "Sometimes I Wish that My Eyes Hadn't Been Opened," Hicks spoke of various events and moments in black history, such as slavery, affirmative action and welfare reform. He challenged ORB members and well-wishers to remember and apply the lessons of life from the past to help blacks open doors in the future. Although he wishes he could have kept his childhood innocence, he now realizes why his eyes are opened. "Since my eyes are open, I am determined to see that somehow we are the people that God has intended for us to be," he said.

The next "Thinktank" will take place in San Diego, California, November 5 through 8, 1998. Early registration forms are being accepted to reserve space. For more information, please call 1 (800) ORB-3133.

George Johnson Jr. is the communication intern for the Columbia Union Visitor. Photos by Johnson.



Amani provides entertainment during the banquet through interpretative dancing.



One group of proud honorees of ORB holding their "ORBIEs".



Message magazine gives Carmela Monk scholarship award.



Gateway

news and information

Asthma Expo

Gail Broeckel

One Sunday in September, the nursing department, respiratory therapy department and

American Lung Association sponsored an Asthma Expo that was open to CUC students and the community. At least 200 people took part in the expo by attending lectures on asthma, visiting booths and receiving prizes. CUC students assisted in taking blood pressure

readings and talking to the attendees at the expo. There was a special booth for children who attended the event to learn about asthma, see puppet shows and get balloons from visiting clowns. Those who took part in the expo appreciated the opportunity to receive information about a condition which affects so many people.



A vendor answers questions about a prescription for asthma.



Adventist health care professionals at their booth.



Friends of CUC clowning around.

Calendar of Events

December

15-January 11 Holiday

January

12	Registration	9-5
13	Classes begin	
14	Chapel	11:15
15	Teach-A-Kid	6



Left to right: Conrad the Wonder Mutt, Sir Skyler, Gypsy and Zany Zipper and their "humans."

SA Picnic

The Student Association has had a full schedule of events and early in October, students were treated to a picnic supper on the Commons and a visit from the National Capitol Air Canines. This "quartet" of collies entertained the crowd with their Frisbee tricks.

A "brush" with dental school

Gail Broeckel

Dr. Charles Goodacre, dean of the school of dentistry at Loma Linda University, recently visited CUC students in a health sciences class to discuss dentistry and related topics. This isn't Dr. Goodacre's first visit to the campus. He attended CUC from 1965-1968. His wife, Ruthie Pfeiffer Goodacre, also attended CUC.



Ruthie and Charles Goodacre



Dr. Charles Goodacre, dean of the school of dentistry at Loma Linda University, shows slides to CUC students in Dr. Betty Howard's health science class.



Gateway to service

from columbia union college



"Views from the Gateway"

One fine tradition

*Jeff Rogers,
Student Association
President*

The wind blowing through the leaves above the grassy commons, the noises of a lively cafeteria, the quiet stillness of the halls and the scurrying of students from one red bricked building to the next are what remind me of CUC. After spending five years on this campus, I am coming to the twilight of my career at this institution. Twilight is a time for reflection as well as for planning.

In my reflection on CUC, there are many things that stick out in my mind. I remember my first day of classes as a new freshman trying to find Room 6 in the basement of Wilkinson Hall or the math department on the third floor of the Science Building. Now every fall, it is fun to see the ritual repeated as new faces fill the halls and stairways. I remember the first time calling Mr. Spicer "Joe" at his insistence, a portion of my upbringing falling away as I began to see teachers as mentors and colleagues rather than figures of authority. And I remember the commitment of my instructors and administrators as they facilitated my learning process.

After reflection comes the planning, and that burden falls on everyone. I plan for my future at the same time the administrators, faculty and board members plan for the future of the school. This planning period can only be successful if there is a connection with God, and His advice is sought. Without that connection, the planning can be construed to follow human intentions rather than God's.

My personal view from the gateway is deeply passionate. I believe in the school, I believe in the people, and I believe in the system. Through the gateway, I see not only the panorama of a rich history of CUC, but also the multitude of students who are waiting to pass through it and continue the tradition of CUC excellence.

A photo is worth 1,000 words

Gail Broeckel

One of the endless possibilities of being associated with the college is the opportunity to be involved in community events. CUC recently sponsored two major walks with the American Diabetes Association in Washington, D.C. and Alexandria, Virginia. Over \$125,000 in pledges was raised. Participants in the walk from CUC included the PR office, alumni and development, the records office and alumni. More than 2,000 sports bottles with "The Gateway to Service" were handed out during the two walks.



Sharon Conway from CUC's alumni office volunteered as a marshal for the walk.



Chanel 9 Anchorwoman Beverly Burke and Potomac Conference President Herb Broeckel before opening ceremonies begin.



Anne Saggurthi (CUC staff member), daughter Ester and family member Robert Prasad at the Diabetes Walk.





Words cannot convey the love and appreciation for those we have worked with and served in the Columbia Union and the Potomac Conference.

Farewell... until we meet again

*T*hrough the years, I have asked: "Why don't leaders at retirement age move over and give the next generation a chance to try new, creative solutions for the church's needs?" What I didn't realize was how hard it would be to give up my lifetime love for the gospel ministry. From my teen years, I have felt an all-encompassing passion for Adventist ministry that has defined who and what I am. To separate my work from my personal life is as difficult as surgery on siamese twins. But this month, I reach normal retirement age, and Joan and I, after wrestling with the decision, have decided that now is the time to retire.

One of the things that makes this difficult is that I never expected to retire. I was certain that the Lord would come before my life was half over. In those early days, we conducted two or three evangelistic crusades a year. I was preaching with conviction that the time was very short, and the Lord would appear almost any moment. It molded everything we did. The thoughts of preparing for retirement seemed a lack of faith. I still believe in our Lord's return, but I more fully understand Jesus' statement, "Occupy until I come." I have discovered that there's a time and a place for everything, including retirement.

The irony of this decision is that I don't feel old. After 43 years of marriage, Joan doesn't seem old, either. We still want to attend the young married couples' class in Sabbath school. During my late 30s, my mom died of cancer at the age of 63. While I grieved deeply for her, I was comforted with the thought that she had lived a long, full life. Now I'm two years older than she was when she died, and I don't feel that my life is nearly completed.

In looking back over the years to 1955—when I entered pastoral ministry, I would change little. I honestly believe that God led Joan and me through those 42 years as certainly as He led Moses through the wilderness toward the promised land. Time and again, I would feel the tug of the Spirit about a career decision and even when my family or I resisted it, I could see plainly how God had planned it and prepared my skills for the new responsibility. My guiding star was from Ellen White: "Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God,"—*Christ's Object Lessons*, pages 326 and 327. God has never failed me with this promise.

After January 27, when a new president is elected, we'll look forward to a full-time job of spoiling our grandchildren. Diana lives in Portland with Brad and little Halley, and that's the most likely place we'll relocate. Charles and Judy at Monterey Bay Academy and Paul and Kim in Concord, California, keep after us to settle near them so that Buddy, Tommy, Krystal and Taylor will have a baby-sitter. I don't know if the Lord will be as direct with this decision as He has been with my ministry, but we'll watch with interest.

Words cannot convey the love and appreciation for those we have worked with and served in the Columbia Union and the Potomac Conference. The 12 years flash by in my mind, and I see hundreds of friends and colleagues who have given their best for their Lord and their church. These have been the best years of our lives and will remain bright and shining with us forever. I will be praying daily for the administrators and the 100,000 members of this union. The camp meetings, the committee meetings, the pastor and teacher meetings, the staff meetings, the meals in homes and visits to the hospitals all merge into feelings of comfortable joy and fellowship. There will be opportunity to say goodbye to some of you personally, but for those I won't see again in this lifetime, I look forward to once again shaking your hand and giving you a hug in the better city that God is preparing for us.

Healing MINISTRY



The "Adventist" dimension in Adventist HealthCare

In mid-October, the board of Adventist HealthCare met for our annual retreat. This year, as usual, we had several consultants with us to give their perspective on the national and regional happenings within our industry. In addition, I had the opportunity to spend one and one-half hours with the board discussing the community benefits/mission opportunities that took place during 1996.

In the year under review, Adventist HealthCare (Mid-Atlantic) provided back to the communities and our citizens over \$8,000,000 in charity care. Our employees interacted with more than 700,000 direct contacts. The mission concept discussion was very helpful. We have not always placed the "Adventist" dimension of our health-care ministry front and center. We have in the past, and will always in the future, attempt to respect all of our employees and what they bring by way of their own faith component to the workplace, but our board was very encouraging to not hold back in making sure that all who walk into our facilities know that they are in an Adventist faith-based hospital. Our operating board is comprised of close to 50 percent non-Adventists, and we appreciated their counsel to look carefully at how we manage the Adventist faith-based dimension in the future.

The number of people who visit an Adventist HealthCare facility exceeds by far the number of guests

*The number of people
who visit an Adventist
HealthCare facility ex-
ceeds by far the number
of guests who visit any
other type of
Adventist facility.*

who visit any other type of Adventist facility. Because of this, we believe that it is important to the church for patients and visitors to know that they are visiting an Adventist-owned and/or operated facility.

One of the distinguishing marks of Adventism is the Sabbath. Jesus modeled the observance of the Sabbath by attending the place of worship and caring for the sick on this day. Thus, it must be recognized that while the concepts of worship and rest from weekly work are enjoined in the biblical explanations of how to keep the Sabbath, so also is caring for the sick. In fact, many of the recorded healing miracles by Jesus were performed on the Sabbath.

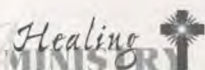
The Adventist dimension is also shared with all who visit our cafeterias or are the recipient of a home health care visit, or participant in one of the lifestyle/wellness programs sponsored throughout the community by our wellness/prevention division.

Our Adventist HealthCare executives believe that they and their colleagues in leadership also make a difference in the overall "Adventist" ambience of the institution. The church has been called to do more than teach and baptize. It has also been called to offer service to mankind, to care for God's creation and to practice disinterested benevolence to those in need.

The Adventist family can take great pride in our health-care institutions!



Ron M. Wisbey is chairman of Adventist HealthCare and Kettering Medical Center.



is published in the Visitor each month by Adventist HealthCare in the Columbia Union.

Editor: Kimberly Luste Maran • Mid-Atlantic HealthCare Liaison: Ron M. Wisbey
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The meaning of "Adventist" —in Adventist

Today's health-care environment presents many challenges for health-care providers: Pressure to reduce costs, staff layoffs, increasing competition and changing technology, to name a few. Yet even in such a tumultuous environment, there always is opportunity for Adventist health-care institutions to fill a unique niche in the overall health-care environment: quality care offered in a setting that emphasizes spiritual value.

Following are the comments of three Adventist HealthCare leaders as they consider the connotation of the word "Adventist" in Adventist health care. Cory Chambers, who has spent more than 25 years working in Adventist hospitals and institutions, is the new president & CEO of Adventist HealthCare. Penny Shell is regional director of pastoral care services for Adventist HealthCare and has spent more than 13 years working in Adventist hospitals. Les Pitton is executive vice president of Adventist HealthCare and is an ordained minister in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Les Pitton

Cory Chambers: Throughout 1997, Adventist HealthCare has celebrated the 90th anniversary of Washington Adventist Hospital. This anniversary is extremely meaningful because it marks the beginning of the *Adventist approach* to healing and health care in the mid-Atlantic region. The Washington Sanitarium, as the hospital was originally known, brought a ministry of physical healing combined with spiritual concern that helped forge a unique identity for Adventism in this region. Anniversaries such as this are important because they remind us of why we exist. Adventist HealthCare was not founded as a business to simply make money, nor was the organization founded for

some short-term agenda. We were established indefinitely to serve and heal in a manner that exemplifies Christ's ministry on earth.

Ninety years, later I believe—but more importantly I think the community we serve believes—that the entities of Adventist HealthCare adhere to a set of values that emphasize honoring the value, dignity and spiritual worth of each individual we come in contact with.

In fact, this year we began tracking the amount of free services and benefits we provide for our community each year to ensure we are fulfilling our mis-

HealthCare

sion to our community. Early in 1998, we will publish a Community Benefit Report that will chronicle the various ways our organization—through our employees—has served the community. One of the benefits of this report is that it encourages our employees to foster Adventist HealthCare's culture of giving and service to our community.

Penny Shell: I think Adventism goes much deeper than just closing our gift shop during the Sabbath hours, and I have the good fortune of seeing first-hand, every day, what the "Adventist" means in Adventist health care. The chaplains at both Washington Adventist Hospital and Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, as well as our senior living centers and home-care operations, share the healing spirit with so many people each day. Every day we come in contact with people of all faiths and backgrounds. I think part of being an Adventist chaplain is to respect and honor the diverse spiritual beliefs of our patients, visitors and employees. I find it rewarding to *listen* to the concerns and feelings of the people I come in contact with, and I sense a special appreciation they have for someone who is willing to listen to them in an open, unbiased manner, especially when they are going through a period of pain or discomfort.

As Cory said, it is important to take time now and then to look back at the history of Adventist health care in this region. It was the simple beliefs and strong values upon which our organization was founded that must continue to guide what we do. Compassion, healing and service with a spiritual focus should always be the guiding influences of our work.

Les Pitton: Everything that we do at Adventist HealthCare should always emanate from our mission to provide spiritual, physical and mental healing. I think a good example of how we exemplify this mission is our focus on prevention and wellness programs for our patients and the broader community. Adventist HealthCare currently offers about 100 different types of health education classes, including childbirth preparation

classes, CPR, nutritional cooking courses, exercise programs and support groups, among others.

We are constantly exploring new ways to reach into the community with our healing message, and for the past several years, we have focused extensively on taking programs

Cory Chambers



out into the community. We have established a successful community partnering program, which works with more than 34 local congregations and more than 20 community organizations to help them establish health and wellness programs for their constituents. We have affiliated with a community group to establish a faith-based counseling service and have started an immunization program for international travelers.

As a Seventh-day Adventist health-care organization, we have been blessed with the responsibility of sharing a unique message, and these are just a few examples of how we have taken our message of good health out into the community. When I think about our responsibility, I'm mindful of the verse in Matthew chapter five, which reads: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." This is a charge we take seriously.

Note: "Adventist HealthCare" refers to the organization that operates hospitals and other health-care services in the mid-Atlantic region. "Adventist health-care" refers in a generic sense to all Seventh-day Adventist health-care organizations.



Penny Shell

Healing MINISTRY News and Information

Washington Adventist Hospital

WAH participates in trial of new heart procedure

Washington Adventist Hospital is participating in a Phase I study by the Federal Drug Administration of Percutaneous Transmyocardial Revascularization (PTMR), a new procedure to relieve severe angina. In this procedure, a laser is threaded through a blood vessel by catheter into the interior of a patient's heart. The laser is used to drill tiny holes in the heart, creating new opportunities for blood flow within the heart. The experimental procedure is inspired by the hearts of reptiles, which circulate blood within the heart through holes rather than blood vessels.

Premarital counseling offered at WAH

On July 29, four couples said goodbye, good luck and God bless to each other after completing a six-week marriage training seminar at Washington Adventist Hospital. On November 4, the couples reunited. Some had already married and some are making plans. But for each couple, the lessons learned in the marriage workshop have stayed with them.

One couple remarked, "Based on our experience, we have found [the] counseling to be the bridge to under-

standing ourselves and one another. We have been recommending premarital counseling to friends, family and acquaintances because we want all of them to experience this beautiful, dynamic experience that we had."

Coordinated by Clifford Verwey, a chaplain at WAH, the workshop covered the following topics: overview of marriage and marital expectations, how to make a marriage succeed (why marriages fail), essential qualities of a successful marriage and developing oneness in marriage.

Verwey has scheduled another marriage training seminar for early 1998. Call (301) 891-5265 for more information.



Shady Grove Adventist Hospital

Twelve-year-old boy from Ukraine travels to Shady Grove for laser treatments

A 12-year-old boy from the Ukraine has traveled to Maryland for six to 12 months to undergo a series

of laser treatments at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital to remove a large port wine stain that covers most of his face and threatens his vision. Both the hospital and the surgeon, Gregory Dick, are donating services for the procedures.

Olympic medalist visits Shady Grove

Olympic medallist Dominique Dawes (above) signs an autograph for Brittany Jacobson, a 9-year-old student at Spencerville Adventist Academy, at the Adventist Center for Children at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. Dawes toured Shady Grove's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and visited children at the hospital on November 5.

ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE IN THE COLUMBIA UNION

Adventist Home Health Services, Inc.
10800 Lockwood Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20901
9430 Key West Ave. #205
Gaithersburg, MD 20850
(301) 681-9760

Adventist Preferred Nursing and Home Assistance
10800 Lockwood Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20901
(301) 681-9602

Adventist Senior Living Services
9430 Key West Ave.
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 309-0660

The Atrium (Assisted Living Center)
9701 Medical Center Dr.
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 424-2224

Fairland Adventist Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

2101 Fairland Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(301) 384-6161

Hackettstown Community Hospital
651 Willow Grove St.
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
(908) 852-5100

Kettering Breast Evaluation Centers
580 Lincoln Park Blvd.
Kettering, OH 45429
(513) 299-0099

Kettering Medical Center Home Care
1259 East Dorothy Lane
Kettering, OH 45419
(513) 296-7820

Kettering Memorial Hospital
3535 Southern Blvd.
Kettering, OH 45429
(513) 298-4331

Kettering Workers' Care
2023 Springboro West

Dayton, OH 45439
(513) 293-7770

Kettering Youth Services
5350 Lamme Rd.
Kettering, OH 45439

Reading Rehabilitation Hospital
1623 Morgantown Road
Reading, PA 19607
(610) 796-6000

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
9901 Medical Center Dr.
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 279-6000

Shady Grove Adventist Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
9701 Medical Center Dr.
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 424-6400

Sligo Creek Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

7525 Carroll Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912
(301) 270-4200

Springbrook Adventist Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
12325 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(301) 622-4600

Sycamore Glen Retirement Community
317 Sycamore Glen Dr.
Miamisburg, OH 45342
(513) 866-2984

Sycamore Hospital
2150 Leiter Road
Miamisburg, OH 45342
(513) 866-0551

Washington Adventist Hospital
7600 Carroll Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912
(301) 891-7600



The value-driven initiative

Coming Events

December 5-7
AEC Singles Retreat

December 7
Church Officers Training
Calvary church
Newport News, Virginia

December 14
AEC Executive Committee
Meeting
Pine Forge, Pennsylvania

December 23
Church Officers Training
Metropolitan church
Hyattsville, Maryland

One corporate executive is quoted to have said "that the mission of his organization was to create value over time for the owners of their business." Value, in this instance, is defined economically. Creating value is one of the core principles on which they base the economic system of our Western society. Therefore, it is the job that corporate executives owe to those who have entrusted them with their assets.

"In a democratic capitalistic society [such as ours], people create specific institutions to help meet specific needs. Governments are created to meet civic needs. Philanthropies are created to meet social needs...Companies are created to meet economic needs." Following that anthology, churches then are created to meet spiritual needs.

As businesses perform their roles, they produce and distribute the life blood that flows through our economic system in the form of goods and services, taxes and salaries and philanthropy. One could therefore conclude that businesses are the main drivers of economical growth. If businesses are the drivers of economical growth, then churches must be seen as the drivers of spiritual growth, moral characters and ethical behavior.



Economical growth is necessary for the maintenance and stability of the country. Therefore, our government is held responsible for monitoring businesses and maintaining policies that "will insure that they carry out their role within society without impairing the civic needs of the rest of society."

Businesses today are asked to serve many masters and in many different ways. Social, political and civic issues create any number of shifting currents within the business world, so any business that is determined to keep its focus must anchor itself deeply in its principal mission, that is; to work for their share owners.

How may this apply to the church, much rather to our conference? The principal mission of the church is to create value for "our Master." Value, in this case, is defined as disciples, converts, members of the body of Christ.

Christ has given us the supreme mission to reconcile His lost children and to prepare a people for His soon return. As we perform our role, the church produces and distributes the life blood that flows through our lives in the form of love, joy, peace, gentleness, goodness, humility, meekness, faith and self control. Our society and the communities that we live in benefit from the values we teach and the principles we strive to live by.

We cannot hold any other organization or institution solely responsible for our moral and ethical education and spiritual training. Our conference is responsible to help each constituent church and institution to keep its focus and carry out its spiritual role. Unfortunately, our roles often become blurred, and we suffer institutional or corporate drift. Or as the Apostle Paul says, "we become blurred castaways."

So many voices challenge us. So many needs call for our attention. We are asked to serve many masters. Consequently, we must anchor ourselves to our principal mission. The Lord has employed us for His purpose. That is literally why we are here.

As we reflect upon our year of business and Christian service, can we say that we have done our best as individual members, as local congregations and as a conference of churches for our Share Owner, the Master?

Allegheny East Exposé

is published in the *Visitor* by the Allegheny East Conference.

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ELDER ALVIN KIBBLE

Allegheny East Conference President

The legend of Taylor the Giant

Recently, the Seashore church in Pleasantville, New Jersey, completed a renovation program. The renovation project was the focus of the entire church. As you read the poem written by one of the church members, you can somewhat visualize the story of Pastor Maurice Taylor motivating the church to do the renovation.



Once upon a time, not so very long ago
in a small town called Pleasant,
in a place called Seashore.
There lived and dwelt a small group of people.

These people were humble
and lived to praise and serve their God.

One day as this group of people was singing
and praising their God,
they realized that their little humble dwelling
was in much need of repair.
"Whatever will we do?"
the people asked one another.
For there is no one here to lead us in the work.
For if the work is not done soon,
our little dwelling will surely be condemned.

"Not to worry," a strong voice said.
"For we will fast and pray and ask God to send us a leader."

So the people fasted and prayed.
And God sent a leader by the name of Taylor.

This man was big and strong and spoke with much authority.
So the people began their work.

They put on siding. They painted doors.
They even put new tile on the floors.

They put on a new roof in the heat of the day.
Neither women nor children had time to play.

They put in new outlets. And put glass in the doors.
They even patched up the hole in the floor.

They put in new bathrooms. Sinks with cabinet base.
They hung new mirrors and put new commodes in the place.

And just when we thought it was more than we could bear,
lo and behold, he installed heat and air.

But the people were tired and they asked for a rest.
But Taylor said, "No! For God demands our best."

"Oh! Please, kind sir,"
The women pleaded, "for our feet are tired,
it is rest that is needed."

So one bright maid had a brilliant idea,
"We'll appeal to his brother for surely he'll care."

So they asked brother Calvin,
"is there something you can do?"
But Calvin said, "No!"
I'm afraid of him, too!"

"Pick up those shingles," was Taylor's demand.
He had no sympathy for our swollen hands.

So they worked and they worked till the work was done.
The elders, the deacons, the daughters and sons.

When they looked around and saw the progress they'd made,
all of their weariness began to fade.

For the place looked beautiful, it was fit for a king,
and now the people had a reason to sing.

So the people worshipped in comfort, in peace and in love,
and continued to praise their God above.

The change is obvious as you walk through the door.
In this small town called Pleasant,
in this place called Seashore.



Who's in your house?

On October 11, at Indian River Middle School in Chesapeake, Virginia, the Virginia Area Adventist Youth Federation (VAAYF), held its first convocation since 1994. The theme of this event asked, "Who's in your house?"

At 9:15 a.m., Sabbath school, our appetizer, began. Nine-year-old Deborah Thomas of the Norfolk church sang "My Life is in Your Hands." Seven-year-old Doying Onowole of the Campostella Heights church sang "Can I Build My Home in You?" The highlight of Sabbath school was "HOUSE PARTY," a play written by Sybil Satterfield and Veda Green, both of Cedars of Lebanon. The play depicted some of Satan's manipulative schemes to destroy God's people.

Divine worship began promptly at 11 a.m. with a rousing processional by the

VAAYF Mass Choir, under the direction of 19-year-old Barry C. Black II. This choir brought the house to its feet. Pastor Claude Harris, Allegheny East youth director, delivered the meat of the meal. Pastor Harris prompted the nearly 700 in attendance to do a HOUSE CHECK. Thirteen-year-old Shana Satterfield (Cedars of Lebanon) spoke the sentiments of many of the youth when she said, "I really enjoyed the sermon."

Elwood Reid, Virginia area Pathfinder coordinator, was in uniform at 2:30 and ready to parade through the streets of Crestwood, a blighted area in Chesapeake, sharing the good news. By the end of the parade, many residents had joined the group.

At 3:30 p.m., Lukia Beverly, "Waiting to Exhale," and Vernis Beverly, "Boys to Men," conducted gender-specific seminars. This newlywed couple discussed the issues that

are important to contemporary youths.

One hardly had time to digest it all before it was time for the evening musical. The Federation Mass Choir, two area high schools and other vocal groups rocked the house at 5 p.m.

By 7 p.m., energy was high, and we were ready for the games. Steve Brinkley, from the Calvary church, organized the spectacular, well-attended, athletic activities. Teams from Campostella Heights, Ephesus, Cedars of Lebanon and Williamsburg shot the hoop for the trophy.

Finally, the clock struck 12 midnight, and I got to go home. To God be the glory, great things He has done.

PAMELA SINGLETARY
Virginia Area Adventist Youth
Federation President

!Revival, revival, revival!

In times like these, we all need reviving, and that is just what we had from July 26 to August 16. Under the Big Tent at 18th and Cecil B. Moore Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Evangelist William E. Hall preached and taught the unadulterated truth to all that came within earshot. And come they did. Night after night, the folk from the surrounding community and the church members alike came to hear the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Each night for three weeks, we were honored with a different topic from the Bible. We had subjects like... Who Will Rule the World, The Last Days of the Devil and The Law of God. Additionally, we were told about our health and diet, the judgment, tithing of course, death and the unpardonable sin, just to name a few. Amazingly, we, who are in a Seventh-day Adventist Church have heard some of these topics before but it was as if we had never heard them before. It was like hearing it for the first time. Some of us were shaking our heads and saying, "I didn't know that." "Pastor Hall was awesome in his delivery."

We had some special surprise guests, too. One was Pastor Walter Pearson from the *Breath of Life* telecast. His appearance was not known of until he came onto the podium. It was really a very special day, and

many souls were blessed.

Along with super guests and magnificent sermons, we also had some of the best music. It was put together by our minister of music, Romel Coulibaly.

We did not bury the unclean and bad for your health this year, but we still got the message through with the aid of two of our young people. The young lady was an angel (the good food), and the young man was the devil (the bad food). We threw the bad food into a garbage can and threw out the good food to the audience. Theatrical? Maybe, but we got the message through.

Wednesday evenings were special anointing nights. The folk were coming back and telling how the Lord had blessed them after being anointed.

On the last Sabbath (saving the best for last), thanks to all of God's servant's efforts, we baptized more than thirty plus souls. What a joyous day it was. Glory be to God in the highest.

Pastor Hall has deemed this his last crusade on this corner. Our God has admonished us to go ye into all the world, not just on the corner of 18th and Cecil B. Moore Avenue. But that is where we were needed for the past couple of years. We were there looking for the lost sheep... and they came in from the storm. All praises be to God.

ROSA JONES-SANDERS
Communication Leader



Baptismal candidates at the New Life Ministries Crusade.



From left to right: Pastor Hall, a young candidate, Stan Collins, Randolph Brown, another candidate, and Gregg Cherry.

Storytime in Pottstown scores hit

Under the auspices of the Sabbath school department of the Walnut Street church, weekly "storytime" sessions were held each Sabbath afternoon in October, targeting the children in the community.

Sabbath School Superintendent Deborah Brown and her corps of workers programmed every detail to make this endeavor a success. Late in September, an-

nouncement flyers were taken door to door so that the neighborhood children could preregister.

On opening day, 74 children were in attendance. Divided into beginners, kindergarten and primary, the children were treated to songs, graphic storytelling, puppet shows and a healthful snack. They also learned memory verses that were translated into refrigerator magnets—another take-home bonus.

Follow-up plans call for the integration of these children in our regular Sabbath school and an invitation to the parents to attend our upcoming week of prayer. Certificates of attendance were awarded to the neighborhood children.

Participants in the program included Sandra Taylor, Milton Brown, Carlton and Joy Gillis, Dorothy Ford,



Kim Martin illustrates finger play for beginners' class.

Corine Smith, Kim Martin, Evelyn Darby, Reather Cheatham, Rhonda Ford and Evelyn Sumpter, as well as the church's own primary-age children. Music for song service was provided by Otelia Thomas and Leroy Sample.

Deborah Brown announced a plan whereby a storytime program will be produced every quarter.

JAYNE DOSWELL DARBY
Staff Writer



From left to right: Jonathan Bratton, Ashley Henry, Brittany Henry, Rodney Palmer and Destiny Harvey during the pledge drill that opened each program.

Emergency numbers



When in sorrow,
call John 14.
When you are lonely or fearful,
call Psalm 23.
When you want to be fruitful,
call John 15.
When you want rest and peace,
call Matthew 11:25-30.
When you have sinned,
call Psalm 51.

When you grow bitter and critical,
call I Corinthians 13.
When you worry,
call Matthew 6:19-34.
When you feel down and out,
call Romans 8:31-35.
When your prayers grow selfish,
call Psalm 67.
When you are in danger,
call Psalm 91.
When your faith needs stirring,
call Hebrews 11.
When God seems far away,
call Psalm 139.
When others fail you,
call Psalm 27.
When you leave home to labor or travel,
call Psalm 121.
When you want assurance,
call Romans 8:1-30.
For Paul's secret of happiness,
call Colossians 3:12-17.
For Paul's idea of Christianity,
call II Corinthians 5:15-19.
When the world seems bigger than God,
call Psalm 70.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Chesapeake

Challenge

YOUR CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER • DECEMBER 1997



resident's
focus

Christmas 365 days a year

We often talk about the night before Christmas, but what do you think about on the morning after Christmas? I've been thinking about this wonderful thing called "the spirit of Christmas." Have you noticed it? Once a year toward the

winter solstice, something odd happens. People's attitudes go through an annual change. People start talking peace and goodwill. They go out of their way to give and forgive. Families get together. We call this different atmosphere "the spirit of Christmas."

There's a problem with Christmas spirit, however. Have you noticed how it passes so quickly? Here today, gone tomorrow. The sad thing about the departure of the spirit of Christmas—the kindness, the generosity, the peace and goodwill, the warm relationships—is that it is something we long for deep down in the human heart. But we need something more.

The spirit of Christmas needs to be superseded by the Spirit of Christ. And there's all the difference in the world. The spirit of Christmas is annual; the Spirit of Christ is eternal. The spirit of Christmas is sentimental; the Spirit of Christ is supernatural. The spirit of Christmas is a human product; the Spirit of Christ is a divine Person.

Read the story again in Luke 1 of the angel's announcement to Mary. The angel told Mary she was actually going to experience the birth of Christ through the Holy Spirit in her life. The angel's statements should resonate with us. The

Bible teaches us that, in a way not dissimilar to what happened to Mary, it is possible for Christ to be born in people's lives by the Holy Spirit. The apostle Paul, writing to the Galatians, used a dramatic term. He said to his beloved Galatians, who were giving him all sorts of fits, "*My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you...*" (Galatians 4:19). In other words, the essence of Christianity is this remarkable truth: Christ died and rose again so that, in the person of the Holy Spirit, he might indwell our lives.

The possibilities are boundless. We're not talking about an annual event. We're talking about a perpetual indwelling. We're not talking about sentimental, but something profoundly supernatural: God in Christ, through the Holy Spirit, born in men's and women's lives. The difference ought to be obvious. We're thinking not so much about people being good and kind and generous on an annual basis. We're talking about the Holy Spirit empowering people to be what they're not and to do what they can't on an ongoing basis!

Think of the experience of Mary once again. Think of how she responded to the angel's announcement of God's plan for her life. She said, "Be it unto me according to your word." That's what we must say. "Be it unto me according to your word. Lord, I want myself to be yours. I want to be available to you. I want to be expendable for you. I would like to be the sort of person in whom the life of Christ is seen in increasing measure. I want to be the kind of person in whom the kingdom of Christ is seen to be established more obviously. Lord, I want to be the kind of person in whom the works of the flesh are becoming less and less obvious. In other words, I'd like to live Christmas 365 days a year!"

For that, you don't need the spirit of Christmas. For that, you need the Spirit of Christ, and He is available.

J. NEVILLE HARCOTTE
President

Calling all youth to the...

Chesapeake Conference Youth Rally * January 17, 1998
"Love Conquers All" * Mt. Aetna Retreat Center

Featuring Dick Duerksen and recording artist Butch Morgan

You are invited to come and enjoy Christian peer fellowship, learn through interactive programs, choose from several meaningful workshops, grow through testimony and song, experience Christian drama and ultimately praise God for His intense love for us. Join other high-school-aged young people from throughout the Chesapeake Conference and experience this high-energy youth event. Look for more information in the near future. See you there!

Faces in Chesapeake evangelism

Fall of 1997 has had a very ambitious menu of evangelistic meetings offered in our local churches. At the present time, we have running, simultaneously, traditional crusades, Revelation seminars and satellite evangelism. Below is just a sample of the variety:



Our Wilmington church has broken new ground in Newark and has been thrilled at the record response. Steve and Suzy DeLong (left) from Amazing Facts held meetings at the University of Delaware.



Angel and Leticia Chaparro are just two of the precious people who have embraced the three angels' messages in Dover.



The Seaford church is pleased to welcome Willis Dagenais as the guest evangelist for outreach meetings.

Jim (right) and Yvonne Chamness have enriched the Seaford meetings with their ministry in music.



'PEAKING AHEAD

1998 Preview of Significant Dates*

Jan 20	Conference Executive Committee
Feb 1	Lay Advisory Council
Feb 19	K-12 Board of Education
Mar 24	Conference Executive Committee and Financial and Statistical Review
Mar 27	Honduras Mission Trip (until April 5)
Mar 28	K-12 Spring Break (Mar 28-Apr 5)
Apr 22	Conference Association Board of Trustees
Apr 23	K-12 Board of Education
May 3	Lay Advisory Council
May 16	SS Workshop, Eastern Shore
May 24	HVA Graduation
May 26	Conference Executive Committee
June 5	Last Day of School, K-11 Schools
June 16	Camp Meeting (June 16-20)
June 21	Youth Camp Staff Orientation (June 21-27)
June 28	Adventure Camp I (June 28-July 5)
July 5	Adventure Camp II (July 5-12)
July 12	Junior Camp I (July 12-19)
July 19	Junior Camp II (July 19-26)
July 25	SS Workshop, Atholton
July 26	Junior Camp III (July 26-Aug 2)
July 26	Retirees Week at HVA
Aug 2	Teen Camp (Aug 2-9)
Aug 17	HVA classes begin
Aug 24	K-12 schools open
Aug 25	Conference Executive Committee
Sept 11	Lay Advisory Retreat / Chesapeake Singles Retreat (Sept 11-13)
Sept 18	Pathfinder Leadership Convention (Sept 18-20)
Sept 25	Retirees Retreat (Sept 25-27)
Oct 16	Women's Ministries Retreat / Pathfinder Camporee (Oct 16-18)
Oct 20	Conference Executive Committee
Nov 18	Conference Association Board of Trustees
Dec 8	Conference Executive Committee

* This listing represents just a small portion of the conference calendar. Of course, the calendar is subject to revision.

Ben Boggess preaching on the signs of Christ's coming.



Paul Saint-Villiers lends his music talent to evangelistic meetings.



Education—21st century style

Chesapeake
Challenge

The setting is a small one-room school nestled in the beautiful hills of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. Frankie Vanderhoof, Leah Swift, Marti Miller and Katrina Perry (fifth to seventh graders) use cutting-edge technology to host a school open house for parents and community. They involve the audience in a concept attainment lesson, using an overhead projector. Each student takes a turn demonstrating the fax, digital receiver station (monitor, receiver and computer), e-mail, chat room and logging

21st Century (AE21), which endeavors to make time the variable and learning the constant, the converse of traditional education.

One of eight schools across North America, Berkeley Springs is part of the NAD AE21 pilot. AE21 teaching is facilitatory rather than directive. It uses an integrated, multi-disciplinary and problem-based approach. Learning is continuous and related to the amount of time needed to master competencies and core skills. Units of study, which teach to competencies of four domains—spirituality, mental excellence, physical wellness and community awareness—integrate content skills of more than one discipline, immerse students in technology, address learning styles, promote higher-order thinking, assess competency using relevant tools and culminate with service and/or outreach activities.

A culminating activity to Unit 1, "Keys to Communication," students were totally responsible for following a timeline to plan and implement each phase of this open house not just for their local school but in conjunction with participating schools: Deland, Gainesville and Fairview Village. This included asking Mrs. Banks (their classroom teacher) for permission to conduct it in her classroom, requesting a specific time for Mr. T's live broadcast, deciding program content and format, composing and mailing invitations, designing the program brochure, engaging a videographer (film is mailed to Mr. T. for assessment), asking volunteers to provide refreshments, sending "thank you" cards, etc.

Have teachers, students and parents been frustrated? Has it been challenging? Yes! It takes time to work out the "bugs" and



Grades five to seven: Front row: Leah Swift (left) and Katrina Perry. Back row: Marti Miller (left), Beth Banks, teacher, and Frankie Vanderhoof.

deal with the pain change brings. The learning curve has been steep; yet, the students, ignorant of most, if not all, aspects of this program just a few short weeks ago, are excited about learning activities and technologically comfortable. They research on the Internet. They have contacted and received a visit from the Berkeley Springs mayor and e-mailed congressmen Byrd, Rockefeller and Wise as part of their research for Unit 2, "Business, Industry and Technology." Mr. T patiently guides students through this

onto a live presentation by their "outer space" teacher, "Mr. T" (Greg Thompson) who teaches Monday through Thursday afternoons via satellite. On a wide-screen TV, we watch Mr. T conduct a tour of the Florida studio. He gives us the opportunity to ask questions about Adventist Education for the

plan and implement each phase of this open house not just for their local school but in conjunction with participating schools: Deland, Gainesville and Fairview Village. This included asking Mrs. Banks (their classroom teacher) for permission to conduct it in her classroom, requesting a specific time for Mr. T's live broadcast, deciding program content and format, composing and mailing invitations, designing the program brochure, engaging a videographer (film is mailed to Mr. T. for assessment), asking volunteers to provide refreshments, sending "thank you" cards, etc.

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Leah Swift sets up the connections with the satellite.

unique and progressive approach, addresses parent concerns via satellite or phone and prepares a weekly newsletter to inform parents of core skills covered. Students are enthusiastic, Mrs. Banks is excited, and Chesapeake feels privileged to be part of the AE21 pilot.

CAROLE B. SMITH

Associate Superintendent of Schools



Seventh-grader Marti Miller explains how the system works to some of the parents.



Signs of new approaches are all around the classroom.

"Vibrant Women"

The Chesapeake Conference Women's Ministries conducted their annual spiritual retreat at Mt. Aetna Camp the last weekend of October. The theme of the weekend was "Vibrant Women." 1997 is the Year of Health and Healing, and the retreat organizers planned the weekend to encourage women to pursue the goal of completeness.

The keynote and featured speaker was Ginny Allen. Ginny is a registered nurse, an elder in her home church, a member of the NAD Prayer Ministries, assistant director of women's ministries for the Oregon Conference and an international seminar speaker for women. Her focus varied in the four devotional segments from the importance of knowing God, to understanding

prayer as dialogue, to the ministries of support and encouragement to those experiencing the realities of a broken and hurting world.



Ginny Allen shared her enthusiasm as the featured speaker.

The attendees were also treated to three workshops. Ruth Dorman shared the secrets to "New Beginnings." Margaret Fowler presented an action plan for total well-being entitled "Keys to Wellness." And Karen Pearson dealt with the "Purpose of Pain."

As has been the case in previous years, this annual retreat was a spiritual feast to all who attended. And there was plenty of room for more participants. Plans are already being formulated for the 1998 retreat on October 16-18. Plan now to be in attendance!

Susquehanna celebrates 75th anniversary

On May 17, 1997, approximately 200 people, including 65 alumni, gathered at the Blythedale church to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Susquehanna Adventist School (formerly known as the Blythedale Church School). Featured guests included Stan Rouse, principal of Blue Mountain Academy, John Bullock from Florida and Carole Smith, Chesapeake's assistant superintendent of schools.

The school opened its doors in 1921 with 11 students. Miss Ruth Douglas (Ropka) was the first teacher, teaching grades one through eight. The school met in a room in the church until a facility was purchased nearby with two large rooms. School Historian Edna Blakely Sprout told of those difficult early years and of the dedicated parents and church members who sacrificed to make Christian education a reality for the children in northeast Maryland.

The school with such humble beginnings continued to grow over the next two decades, necessitating a church expansion program to accommodate the growth. And in 1946, the school moved into a new facility built next to the Blythedale church. That is the school building still being used today. The school reached a high water mark enrollment of 80 in those years and employed a staff of three qualified teachers.

Through the years more than 1,500 students have attended BCS/SAS under the tutelage of more than 50 dedicated Christian teachers. Students have gone on to become missionaries, health workers and educators, but most importantly, they have gone on to become dedicated Christians giving their hearts and service to the Lord.



The Blythedale Church School in 1935 (down the road from the Blythedale church).



Linda Stewart, teacher, with students during the "Down Memory Lane" program.



DATELINE

Women's ministry retreat calls members to action

The Women's Ministry team of New Jersey celebrated answered prayer in a Sabbath-day retreat in Somerset on October 4.

Women from all walks of life—and from 15 years young (Happy Birthday!) to more than 70 years young were there to celebrate their love of God and to learn from Cathy O'Malley, our guest speaker. (HOORAY to Quality Inn for a delicious job in feeding us!)

Cathy's topics for the day were "Prayer is how I fight!," and "Journaling, staying connected with God." Many blessings were shared as we fellowshiped and shared together. We are looking forward to our Spring retreat when Cathy will again bring us together united in our desire for a closer walk together.

Share the news with other women in your families, churches and neighborhoods. Let's set New Jersey on fire this year!



DATELINE

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Editor, Kimberly Luste Maran
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(609) 392-7131

NDATES

December 25,26

ABC and office closed

January 1,2

ABC and office closed

January 9-11

Pastors' Couple Retreat

January 11

North Area AY Volleyball Tournament

People with a sensible view of life live simply. Life itself is precarious; at least for billions. Some find it hard to live on what they earn, but 1.1 billion people live on less than the equivalent of one dollar per day. Another 500 million people live constantly with hunger, and the same amount are so poor they don't get enough food to be fully productive.



Approximately 75,000 people, mostly children, die every day due to polluted drinking water disease or malnutrition. For people who are trapped in the pit of poverty, life is a daily survival struggle. Those who have never lived in real poverty or have never been exposed to it find it hard to understand this situation. Some even blame the poor for their condition and this could be true in some cases.

However, the mass of humanity under the siege of hunger is in a helpless trap that offers no escape.

Billions of other people live in a worse shortage. They have never heard the good news of salvation. They are among the poorest on earth, also. Some shrug off the thought of their plight, laying the blame on them or on others. But true Christians can't do that and still be true to Christ. A wise person builds not for today, but for eternity. This entails investing in assets that will outlive earth's final debacle. These assets are our



own human peers.

Breaking the grip

Christians need to break the grip of materialism that characterizes our day. When we earn more, we tend to spend more; on ourselves. God doesn't call us to increase our *standard of living*, but to increase our *standard of giving*. Some may question how one can solve the need of a billion people. The answer is simple: one at a time.

Stewardship encompasses the whole life; not just the money part. Some give the least they can to appease the conscience. Others give more, out of their abundance. The intelligent giver gives cheerfully. Extending a hand without the heart is not enough. The entire being is involved in true stewardship. The spiritual and physical are inseparable. It is not possible to convert a person who is so hungry he/she can't sit up. Before we can offer a solution for the soul, we must offer food for the body.

The biblical model for true richness is still "*lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.*" And since we are "*Marching to Zion,*" if our treasures are on earth, each day we are moving away from them, but if they are in heaven, each day we are moving toward them. A wise person breaks the grip of materialism—and stores up treasures that last forever. Be that person!

DOWELL W. CHOW
President

Evangelism training held at DVJA

New Jersey church members had the opportunity to learn more about evangelism and church growth during two full weekends of training in September. A combination of more than 100 attended the sessions held September 19-21 and September 26-28 at Delaware Valley Junior Academy in Deptford, New Jersey.

These seminars are two of 12 weekend sessions to be offered by Russell Burrill during the next two years. Burrill, seminar "instructor," is director of the North American Division Evangelism Institute, responsible for the training of seminary students and Bible workers the world over.

If you are interested in seeing your church grow and winning souls for Christ, plan to attend the next weekend seminars. Contact the New Jersey Conference at (609) 392-7131 for more information and seminar dates.

KIMBERLY LUSTE MARAN
Dateline NJ Editor



Hammonton church dedicated during summer



Left: New Jersey Conference President Dowell Chow, along with pastors Hector Solera and José Rivera, attended the Hammonton church dedication service on July 12.

Cohansey experiences "Adventures in Local History"

Grades six to eight at the Cohansey Elementary School have completed an "Adventures through Local History" unit developed by Head Teacher/Principal Catherine Tomlinson. The first six weeks of Tomlinson's Social Studies classes were transformed into the following basic "adventures:"

1. The Lenni Lenape Indians
2. Salem County Timeline
3. Cumberland County Timeline
4. "Walking Back in Time."

Students learned of the early life and customs of Lenni Lenape Indians, which were the earlier inhabitants of the Salem/Cumberland County area. Emphasis was placed on the areas existing today that are known by Lenni Lenape names. This adventure culminated in essay assignments

fell into historical perspective as the next area of study. Our timeline included the first Stone School, the Greenwich Tea Party, Cumberland, Liberty Bell, which rang on July 7, 1776, in "Cohansey Bridge," the opening of the Bank Street School and West Jersey Academy, the blowing of the famous Mason Jar by Bridgetonian Clayton Parker, the founding of Welch's Grape Juice by Thomas Welch of Vineland, the Seabrook enterprise and more.

What a wealth of learning we discovered and shared together in our own backyards! We especially enjoyed our visit to the Old Broad Street

church and a special time we shared one-on-one with residents of the Cumberland Manor. Our students sat together with the residents in an old-time "family atmosphere." It was wonderful to hear from the residents how children worked and played together with family and neighbors in the early days of Bridgeton... how helping your parents

around the house was a given... how when chores were not completed in a satisfactory manner, they were redone until acceptable. It was even more wonderful to find that these Cohansey students were able to associate similar values in their home situations today! The time we shared with the residents was a perfect way to close our local historic study and bring it all together

as a true learning experience.

We at Cohansey, in the upper grades, now know that American his-



through which each student had to place himself or herself within the Lenape time period and describe an ordinary day in the year 1690.

Salem County timelines were constructed by each student as we walked our way through historical events from the arrival of the Swedes to "Obisquahassit" Pennsville area, in 1638 through John Fenwick and the Salem Oak, Wistar Glassworks, the first cattle drive down King's Highway (today's Sharptown "Cowtown"), the confrontation at Quinton's Bridge, the introduction of the tomato at Salem Courthouse, Finns Point, the purchasing of American Oilcloth Company by Mannington Mills in 1914 and much more! Visits to the Salem County Historical Society Museum, the Lower Alloway Creek Log Cabin Museum, Salem Oak and many visits to local grave sites made the timelines "come alive" to students and teacher.

The Cumberland County timeline

tory is not just the reading of a book, it is taking the time to experience our heritage and learn of the struggles that were encountered in the development of our little piece in the puzzle of this nation we live in.

We no longer speak or hear names of local cities without thinking of the contributions of the Lenni Lenape to this area. And very importantly, we no longer have such a wide gap of indifference and/or insensitivity to those who are our older citizens. We are truly on our way to understanding "time" and its value. We have experienced an adventure! Special thanks to all Salem/Cumberland County residents who helped make this adventure reality!

CATHERINE TOMLINSON
Cohansey Head Teacher/Principal

New Jersey Adventist Book & Food Center

...Wishes you all a happy, healthy and blessed Holiday

ABC Hours

ABC is open Sunday, January 11
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Regular hours Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Closed: December 24-26 and January 1-2

Phone: (609) 392-8010



Where there is love, there is hope

Perth Amboy Pathfinders spread some love

Where there is love, there is hope—that was the feeling of each Pathfinder who served the homeless with a warm meal, in conjunction with the Dorcas of the Perth Amboy Spanish church, on September 28.

That day, we all saw the need that exists and overall need of love and hope. The Pathfinders gave and served that day and actually saw that the homeless are also God's children. Even if society ignores them, Pathfinders discovered that we are able to give at least a little of what we have.

We will continue to serve as God's children for God's children until the

day He comes to take us home. God bless you all.

IRIS ROMAN
New Hope Pathfinder Director



Heaven's Grocery Store

*I was walking down life's highway a long time ago.
One day I saw a sign that read "Heaven's Grocery Store."
As I got a little closer, the door came open wide.
And when I came to myself, I was standing inside.*

*I saw a host of angels; they were standing everywhere.
One handed me a basket and said, "My child, shop with care."
Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store.
And all you couldn't carry, you could come back the next day for.*

*First, I got some PATIENCE; LOVE was in the same row.
Further down was UNDERSTANDING; you need that everywhere you go.
I got a box or two of WISDOM, a bag or two of FAITH.
I just couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST, for He was all over the place.*

*I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE
to help me run this race.
By then my basket was getting full,
but I remembered I needed some GRACE.*

*I didn't forget SALVATION, for salvation, that was free,
So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.
Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill.
For I thought I had everything to do my Master's will.*

*As I went up the aisle, I saw PRAYER; and just had to put that in.
For I knew when I stepped outside, I would run right into sin.
PEACE and JOY were plentiful, they were on the last shelf.
SONGS and PRAISES were hanging near, so I just helped myself.*

*Then I said to the angel, "Now how much do I owe?"
He just smiled and said, "Take them everywhere you go."
Again I smiled at him and said, "How much do I really owe?"
He smiled again and said, "My child, Jesus paid your bill a long time ago."*

Written by Catherine Pearl York, reprinted from the Adventist News of Southern New Jersey newsletter.



Pennsylvania Pen

December 1997

Exciting plans for Laurel Lake Camp

Exciting things are happening at Laurel Lake Camp! Plan on summer camp, two new boys' cabins, road work, a new pool ... and this is just the beginning! A vote in October from the conference committee decided to target the next four years to growing Laurel Lake. Thus, con-



Four new rooms, each with its own bathroom and entrance, are much closer to completion than when this picture was taken in June! They will provide more accommodations for couples and families renting the camp.

ference Youth Director David Ferguson has brought together lay-driven task groups to head five areas: fund raising, physical plant growth, marketing, volunteer networking and communication. These groups are working to make Laurel Lake number one for our constituents.

Over the past few months, several changes have taken place at Laurel Lake. In September, the camp ranger family, Dean and Doreen Smith, accepted a call to Garden State Academy in Tranquility, New Jersey, where Dean is serving as industry manager and Doreen as food service director. "We deeply appreciate the dedication and time the Smiths so willingly gave to Laurel Lake during these past four years," says Ferguson. "We ask God's blessing on their work and thank Him for allowing the Smiths to be a part of our conference."

The month of November marked a jumpstart in the renovation plans for Laurel Lake. A work bee was set up in which skilled laymen from around the state gathered at the camp to begin building two new boys' cabins and finish four new rooms on top of one of the girls' cabins

that the Smiths started this past June. Ground breaking for the new pool will begin early next spring and will be completed in June of '98.

This December, the new ranger family is scheduled to move in. Ed and Wendy Eberhardt and their son, John, have accepted a call to join the Laurel Lake team. They come from Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg where, for the past seven years, Ed has taught physical education and business math and Wendy has taught art. In addition, they come with more than 13 years of summer camp work experience.

"God has clearly led in the difficult issues facing our youth camp this past year," says Ferguson. "Now He has given us the *go* signal. I'm indebted to each one of Laurel Lake's supporters for their concern, support and prayers."



A warm welcome is extended to the incoming ranger family: Ed, Wendy and John Eberhart.

What's happening

December 18-January 4
Christmas Homeleave
Blue Mountain Academy

January 12-15
Pennsylvania Pastors' Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

February 6-8
Pathfinder Winter Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

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Making a difference—Pennsylvania 2000



MIKE CAULEY
President

As we approach the end of the year, I'd like to share with you ideas and strategies for making a difference in the Pennsylvania Conference over the next three years.

We're living in exciting times. Jesus is coming soon. We need to "pull out all of the stops" as we finish this decade and try to make

a difference in the Lord's work here.

The following four initiatives are being launched:

1. Mission-centered churches

The reason for the existence of Christ's bride, the church, is for it to become a soul-winning agency. Each church will be urged to weave the following components into their local ministry plans: yearly evangelism, stewardship education, lay ministry training, entry events for inviting neighbors and friends and prayer min-

istry. These five elements, empowered by the Holy Spirit, will provide the catalyst for growth in your congregation.

2. Leadership development

In order to grow the work, we must grow ourselves. Currently, 31 are enrolled in the new lay pastor training program. There's a genuine interest among our people in being disciplined into spiritually mature leaders.

A personal growth plan for full-time ministers and staff is being encouraged. Each full-time worker and lay pastor is encouraged to set time aside each week for reading and study in addition to sermon preparation and devotional study.

3. Laurel Lake Camp

The Holy Spirit has led our conference in the decision to move ahead with the development of Laurel Lake Camp. Not only does this project have the potential to be a great blessing for our young people, but it will also benefit the adult members who retreat to reflect, pray and grow in their experience with the Lord.

The plan approved by a recent conference executive committee is to spend \$300,000 over the next two to three years to build new cabins, replace the pool, repair roads and drill a new well. A master plan is being developed near the present lodge.

4. Health ministries

A steering committee is now working on a plan for a lifestyle conditioning center. This concept is another great opportunity that the Lord is opening before us to advance His cause using the right arm of His work.

These are exciting days for the Pennsylvania Conference! By each of us rolling up our sleeves and prayerfully working together, I believe that we'll see the Lord give us a breakthrough. Will you be a part of making a difference in the Pennsylvania Conference over the next three years as we close this millennium, century and decade and prepare for the coming of Jesus?

MIKE CAULEY
President

New lay pastor training program begins

More than 30 men and women met at Blue Mountain Academy September 12 and 13 for the beginning of a new lay pastor training program in the Pennsylvania Conference. Under the leadership of President Mike Cauley, three pastors—Jerry Finneman, Sergio Manente and Barry Tryon—were asked to lead out in planning and the implementing of this program.

This plan includes both practical and academic disciplines, along with related or ancillary activities. The purpose of the program is to develop dedicated persons for lay pastoral ministry who can lead and nurture churches in the Pennsylvania Conference. Classes will be held at BMA twice a year—once in the spring and the other in the fall.

The first session consisted of three parts: commitment, the cross and connection. Pastor Tryon led out Friday evening with sound instruction concerning commitment to the Lord, to the program and to the important work of lay pastoral ministry.

On Sabbath morning, Pastor Finneman presented the importance of the cross and Christ-centered preaching. A pastor's power in preaching is in proportion to the understanding and presentation of the power of the cross, for it's the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes. That power changes pastors and, consequently, those who "hear" the gospel.

Lastly, Pastor Manente zeroed in on the disciplined devotional life of spiri-

tual leaders. He dealt with experiences of being alone with God, the prayer life, study time and fasting in one's walk with the Lord.

Those who participated in the class work expressed appreciation for the blessing received in that first session and eagerly look forward to the rest of the classes.

The next class, Church Administration, is scheduled for February 6-8, 1998. If you're interested in participating in this lay pastor training program or desire further information, please contact the conference office and request material regarding the lay pastor program.

JERRY FINNEMAN
Pastor, Erie, Lowville and Corry Churches

Associates in ministry

The Pennsylvania Conference currently has seven men serving as lay pastors. Their role consists of much of what an ordained pastor does—preaching, visiting, conducting board meetings, giving Bible studies, etc.

The major difference is that, along with these responsibilities, they also work a full-time job. However, they take to heart the admonition in *The Acts of the Apostles*, page 110: "Not upon the ordained minister only rests the responsibility of going forth to fulfill this commission. Everyone who has received Christ is called to work for the salvation of his fellow men."

Glimpse into the lives of these men. Perhaps you will see someone very much like yourself.

Raymond Beers has assisted in the ministry of the Erie, Lowville and Corry churches for about 12 years. He currently works for State Farm Insurance Company as an estimator. An auto body mechanic by trade, Ray also served as a licensed minister in the Methodist church prior to his baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1954.

Ray loves people, and he likes to show a better way of life in Christ. He shares: "I've always felt it a privilege to be able to share God's Word." He and his wife have four adult children, as well as several grandchildren. His fa-



Raymond Beers

vorite pastime is golfing, although he has found little time for that since his wife became confined to bed following two cardiac arrests in the fall of 1996.

Michael Bernard has pastored the Blossburg and Hillcrest churches for about a year. He also serves as principal and teacher at the Irvin Comstock church school. His wife, Vicki, teaches there as well. Along with his teaching experience, a religion minor and a certificate in marriage and family counseling have helped prepare him for the many challenges of the ministry.

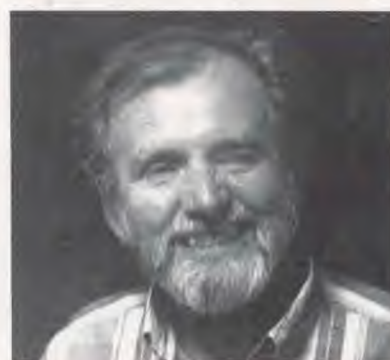


Mike Bernard and his family

Of all his duties as a lay pastor, Mike likes visitation, giving Bible studies and preaching the most. In his free time, he enjoys working with Pathfinders, camping, swimming, wrestling with his children, reading and listening to music. His family includes Michelle, a junior at Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Michael (12) and Katherine (9), who both enjoy school and their parents as teachers.

David Elliott felt led to become a lay pastor as a result of a church planting that he had been involved with in a dark county of Pennsylvania. Nearing retirement as a builder and developer, David desired to serve the Lord in a way that he hadn't before since raising six children took all of his time and money.

David has pastored the Needmore church for eight years. Although he



David Elliott

retired in 1993, he remarks: "I am more busy now!" Watching the Lord work in the lives of His people is what he likes best about being a lay pastor.

David and his wife, Suzanne, have been married 47 years. In addition to raising their children, they took in foster children and runaway teenagers into their home and have had "some interesting experi-

ences." They like to travel and have been to the Holy Land, Egypt, Spain, Alaska, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Canada, the Yukon and most of the good old USA. They also enjoy the company of friends and loved ones.

Kenneth Keim has pastored the Fleetwood church since November of 1994. He was led to consider lay pastoring when the members of the Fleetwood congregation requested a lay pastor. "I left it in the Lord's hand," he remembers. "If it happened without me going after the position, I knew that God wanted me there." He finds that the most rewarding aspect of being a lay pastor is the constant struggle to stay close to his Saviour for the sake of others.

Ken is in security work for his primary profession. He met his wife,

Continued on page 32

Working with a lay pastor

It's a hard question to answer. When asked "How many churches do you pastor?" I don't readily know how to respond. My typical answer is "one and a third." Thanks to the dedicated ministry of my lay pastor, Ken Keim, that's really the truth.

When coming to pastor the Hampden Heights/Fleetwood church district three years ago, I was informed that Fleetwood had a lay pastor. Ken had been through an intensive three-year program on lay pastoring taught here in the Pennsylvania Conference by Pastor Frank Gonzales and had been given his home congregation as his first assignment.

After talking about the roles we each would serve, we worked out an arrangement that fit our needs and expectations. Ken preaches twice a

month, visits both members and interests, conducts the mid-week service, gives Bible studies and prepares people for baptism. (Fleetwood has baptized six in the past three years thanks to the leadership and dedication of Ken.) My responsibilities are to preach twice a month, officiate at communion services, funerals and baptisms and attend the monthly board meeting, which is chaired by the head elder.

This arrangement has worked well the past three years. It has allowed the Fleetwood congregation to receive some of the best per-capita pastoral coverage in the conference. It's because of qualified lay pastors like Ken Keim that this program can work successfully.

BARRY TRYON

Pastor, Reading Hampden Heights Church

Continued from page 31

Herki, while serving in the Marine Corps in Hawaii. They have two children, Regina and Kathleen, and four

Gabriel's greatest joys are seeing how the Lord guides and takes care of His church and seeing men and women responding positively to the calling of Jesus. Several baptisms have already taken place since he began his work as a lay pastor. He and his wife, Ana, have three children: Gabriel, age 9; Aaron, age 3; and Diana, age 1.



Ken Keim and his family

grandchildren. Ken enjoys giving Bible studies and hiking with his wife.

Gabriel Montalvo is Pennsylvania's newest lay pastor. A native of Puerto Rico, Gabriel is an emergency room respiratory therapist for a busy metropolitan hospital. His decision to serve as a lay pastor was initially "no," although he continued to prayerfully consider the call. However, to his surprise, God solved the situations that gave him the most concern, and he assumed leadership of the Philadelphia Spanish IV church in June of 1997.

He enjoys playing softball and writing plays for the youth department.

Art Randall began pastoring the Seneca church in June of 1996, following completion of the lay pastor training program by Frank Gonzales. Art feels that God has used this experience as lay pastor to reveal his heart and motives. "I believe God has called all of us to serve in some way—this is just mine," he shares. "Seeing people making correct decisions and knowing you've helped them do that brings tremendous satisfaction."



Art Randall and his family

Art is a licensed certified public accountant and works in hospital financial management. He and his wife, Beth, feel that ministry is a family effort—all help out. Their children, Matthew, age 15, and Darron, age 11, are both homeschooled. Art enjoys reading, yard work and quiet evenings at home.

Gary Reese already carried a lot of responsibility as head elder in a three-church district with the pastor living 50 miles away. Then the pastor moved, and there was even more to be cared for. So when the conference asked him to consider being a lay pastor and his church family supported the idea, he filled the need.

Gary has served as lay pastor for the Coudersport church since March of 1997. He likes working with people and appreciates the feeling that he has a small part in God's work. He also especially enjoys preparing for and teaching an adult Sabbath school class.

A native Pennsylvanian, Gary met his wife, Jeanette, at Southern College in Tennessee. They have two small family businesses, Valley Signs and P.A.'s Pickles. During the summer, they operate an 18-hole miniature golf course and paddle boats. They have two sons, Michael and Stephen, both attending college.

Gary Reese and his family



BMA communiqué

Blue Mountain Academy · 2363 Mountain Road · Hamburg, PA 19526 · 610-562-9

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Texas prayer conference

Eighteen BMA students, along with 600 other academy students from the North American Division, invaded Southwestern Adventist University for the 1997 Youth Prayer Conference in September. Prayer conferences are a relatively new concept. The idea is that people get together to study the Bible, sing and pray in small, structured groups.

The meetings began at 8:30 a.m. and went until 9:15 p.m., with breaks for lunch and supper. Each meeting started with singing and praying — often with strangers. Then the students broke up into groups of eight for an intense study of the Bible. Speakers on Thursday and Friday nights were Dick Duerksen, from the Columbia Union, and Jose Rojas, from the North American Division, respectively.

The Spirit moved over the whole weekend. On Wednesday evening, the program shifted because of the desire by the students to testify of what had happened to them that day. The evening ended with a 45-minute corporate “popcorn-style” prayer.

On Friday afternoon, instead of the scheduled meeting, students were sent out to pray for university students and teachers in their classrooms, clean elderly people’s homes and pray in local businesses.

On Sabbath, 300 students helped with local Sabbath school and church services. The rest of the group stayed on campus to help with university classes.

The Sabbath evening follow-up meeting included singing and testimonies. It lasted three hours because so many had so much to say. At the end of the meeting, we sang the theme song



Prayer conference attendees

once again, and everyone pressed into the stage while each said a word of thanks to God for an absolutely awesome time.

The prayer conference wasn’t a youth rally; it was a time when each person learned the meaning of prayer. While it was fun, it was a serious talk with God. The power of God can have a transforming effect on each person’s life if He is only given the opportunity.

ERIN ALLEN, '99

Dimensions of music

This year’s Dimensions of Music class has featured four guest speakers. John Edison talked about the unique characteristics of various string instruments, and Tom Buller lectured on brass and percussion instruments. Rosemarie Fraley, a voice specialist from Reading, demonstrated several techniques of singing, including various breathing methods. She included visual aids, one of which was filling a balloon and letting it out slowly to conserve air. Glenn Landis, a local piano tuner, showed us the mechanics of the piano and harpsichord.

We are planning several field trips, including one to the Allen Organ Company, and various concerts throughout the semester.

RACHELLE WARE, '99



Nancy Edison, Rosemarie Fraley and Rachelle Ware

FYI

December 18	Christmas break begins
January 4, 1998	Christmas break ends
January 12-17	F.O.C.U.S. Week
January 17	Parent/Faculty Talent Show
February 1	Alumni Career Day
February 4-8	Homeleave
February 4-10	Ground School
February 11-14	CUC Band Fest
February 15	Ladies' Open House/ Men's Reception
February 20-21	Junior Presentation
February 22-25	Phon-a-thon

BMA communiqué



The union leadership gang!

Union leadership

"Jesus' offer of salvation is a gift." ... "Sometimes when things get bad, all you can do is hold on to God and trust Him to get you through it." ... "As leaders, you need to be concerned about the least person in your realm of responsibility." ... and "With God, all things are possible!"

Students from 10 academies in the Columbia Union listened to instructive and inspiring words from Ken Rogers, chaplain at Southern Adventist University, and Dunbar Henri, Bible teacher at Takoma Academy, at their recent Columbia Union Academy Leadership Conference.

Each academy participated in one meeting during the weekend. BMA was first, leading out on Thursday evening with song service and a vocal, "Oh, Sacred Head Now Wounded."

Besides the inspirational meetings, activities during the weekend included groups discussing specific leadership responsibilities; i.e., class leadership, school publications and clubs. During free time, students, staff and administrators were encouraged to associate with people from other schools to share ideas and broaden their realm of influence.

EunKyung Lee, yearbook co-editor, expressed her reaction to the weekend this way: "I felt [the] weekend was indeed a spiritual awakening. I was blessed ... and hope others had the same experience."

Senior class President Rod Tooley appreciated the speakers: "Their message was relevant and down to earth. They connected with the kids through their own experiences and stories."

**LOUISE CORBIN
COMMUNIQUE STAFF**



Glenn Sutton works with Lorand Moldovan and Karey Foot on knot tying

Outdoor School '97

An escape from stuffy classrooms and tiring homework to the fun and adventure of the great outdoors. Does that sound good or what? That is exactly what students at BMA experienced during Outdoor School.

Classes took on a new twist as students were seen cooking over open fires, scaling the rock wall on the gym, canoeing across the lake or hiking to a "sanctuary" in the woods.

Much was learned on that day, and students are looking forward to doing it again next year.

**MICHELE
KRAPEK, '99**



Ben Fellows scales the gym wall during rock-climbing lessons

"He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, but not wholeheartedly." —II Chronicles 25:2

I have played softball with teams who were good, played by the rules and really didn't do anything wrong. But they didn't play with their whole heart, and usually we lost. They just didn't have the fire we needed to win.

I have worked with people who did their jobs well and really didn't do anything wrong but were frustrating to work with. If things went wrong, they complained. If they didn't get what they wanted, they pouted. And when things were going well, they just didn't exhibit much enthusiasm; they weren't willing to try new things. And usually, their effectiveness dwindled to almost nothing because they didn't put their heart into their work.

There are Christians who do what is right, but not wholeheartedly. You've seen them. In fact, I find it easy to become one! God sent us a message: "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!" "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in," —Revelation 3:15, 20.

How long will we waiver between two opinions? If what the world has to offer is all there is, we should go for it *with our whole heart*. But if the Lord is God, we must choose to follow Him. Let Him be the Lord of our life. Obey Him. Love Him. Serve Him. **WHOLEHEARTEDLY!**



Stan Rouse, Principal

Volunteers In Profile

Ralph and Hazel Hallman have been seen around campus several times this year. Ralph volunteered his time in the girls' dorm, remodeling the dean's office and building bookshelves for the new library. He also worked on the lighting in the boys' dorm and the rewiring in the gym. Hazel helped reorganize the library, dusted shelves and books and set up a cataloging system.

The Hallmans have a wealth of experience and are willing to help out wherever they can. Both are alumni of Philadelphia Academy and worked in education before their retirement. Their son, Dave, works in maintenance at BMA, and their granddaughter, Rachelle, is a senior.



Ralph and Hazel Hallman



Dave Hallbrook, Norman and Garnet Pier and Dave Ringer

Norman and Garnet Pier spent a week in the boys' dorm, helping to clean and repair the rooms. "I don't know what we would have done without their help," says Dean Ringer. The Piers are Committee of 100 members and live in Wattsburg, Pennsylvania.

Idella Kreiner spent time in the girls' dorm, cleaning and helping prepare for the girls' return to school. Mrs. Kreiner had heard of our volunteer needs at camp meeting, so she called and asked if she could help. "She even left a card, pen and stamped envelope for the girls to write home. The girls really appreciated it! She worked her heart out!" says Dean Hartman.



Karen Corbin, Marty Maxwell and Rebecca Gerrans study during one of the evening meetings.

FOCUS Week

Coach Robert Kalua of Andrews University spent a Spirit-filled week with our student body, leading them through a biblical search for truth. Coach started with the fall of Lucifer and his subsequent expulsion from heaven.

Endeavoring to show the difference between Satan and the human race, he gave students the opportunity to study *Steps to Christ*, *The Desire of Ages*

and *The Ministry of Healing*, along with the Bible. This study led the students to see that through acceptance of Jesus' gift by His death on the cross, their decision does not have to be final, as was Satan's; all that is needed is to say "yes" to Him.

On Wednesday, games in the gym were used to demonstrate that we need to "stay focused" even in times of confusion. Coach brought home the importance of keeping focused on Jesus even in this mixed-up world filled with things designed to take our attention off Christ.

On Thursday, a "conservative" 12-foot Adam demonstrated the degenerating effects of sin. Coach noted that even though he was the ruler of the earth, Adam remained a humble gardener.

Coach Kalua's approach led many of our students to a more serious study of the Bible and a closer walk with God, and we are grateful to him and his wife for their time and effort in our behalf.

DEBORAH SCHANDER, '99



Sylvia and Robert Kalua

BMA communiqué

DYK



The Public Performance class performed "The Robe," a play written about the centurion who was present at Christ's crucifixion. Student Director Alyssa Foote, '98, and Assistant Director Laura Cates, 2000, worked with their teacher, Barbara Mathias, to make the event happen.



Sophomore and senior students from the Public Performance class made up the cast, as well as creating stage props and costumes, etc. Untold hours are required to prepare for a program like this. As usual, the participants were grateful to the staff, fellow students, parents and community members who supported them with their help and attendance. Pictured are Kelly Allen (top left), 2000, and Christina Cole, '98, and Walter Ramirez, 2000 (above).

Two BMA seniors have achieved the "Commended Student" level in the 1998 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students have demonstrated exceptional academic promise on the qualifying test used for entry into the Merit Program. More than one million students took the 1996



For a recent assignment in technical English, Jason Min, '99, did a project on origami. His presentation included a poster with written and visual instruction and an oral presentation in which he demonstrated how to fold an origami frog.



The traditional "breakfast in bed" took a new turn this year. Dorm students picked up their sack breakfasts at supper on Friday evening, sans the sweet roll normally included. Surprise! Bright and early Sabbath morning, the staff delivered sweet rolls right to their door with a cheerful smile and a "Happy Sabbath!"

PSAT/NMSQT this past October and entered the 1998 Merit Program, a privately financed nationwide competition for recognition and awards. Congratulations go out to Rebecca Gerrans and Ted Rice for this achievement.



This photograph of the Lynchburg church was taken by Mark L. Thompson and printed in The News & Advance.

Potomac People

December 1997

POTOMAC CONFERENCE OF SDA



What's happening around Potomac

Christmas Break:
Shenandoah Valley
Academy
December 21 - January 4
Takoma Academy
December 19 - January 4

**Potomac
Conference
Executive
Committee**
January 14

**Potomac Youth
Council**
Columbia Union College
February 1

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Miracle church consecrated

*If it weren't
for the Lord
blessing in
so many
ways, this
would not
have been
possible.*

September 20 was a day of praise and thanksgiving. If it weren't for the Lord blessing in so many ways, this would not have been possible.

Many former members, friends, family and several former pastors were present for the consecration of Lynchburg's new church. There were 400 people in attendance. Pastor Ralph Martin, president of the Columbia Union Conference and former president of Potomac Conference, was the 11 o'clock service speaker. Pastor Herbert Broeckel, current president of the Potomac Conference, taught the Sabbath school lesson and offered prayer during the worship service.

An afternoon music program featuring local talent followed the fellowship dinner. It was a full day that the Lynchburg church family won't soon forget.

The new facility, which includes a sanctuary, day-care center, classrooms and fellowship hall, is truly a miracle church. Robbins and the members worked many hours to make it a reality. In five years, 100 active members raised more than \$400,000 for the building. Pastor John Robbins designed the facility, and served as the general contractor. His work reduced the project's cost from an estimated \$1.1 million to \$635,000. The sanctuary is designed to seat up to 325 people. In the few weeks since the congregation began meeting in the new facility, attendance has increased 35 percent. Robbins says: "I'm wondering if I made it big enough."

MARY ROBBINS
Lynchburg Church

Grandmother's Christmas gift

All my cousins wanted to be Kriss Kringle at our family Christmas gathering. Grandma Broeckel had 12 children. Ten lived to adulthood. The oldest were born in Russia. Christmas was a time to remember two Old World customs of our German heritage. Someone would get to wear the Santa suit that was kept in our attic. But Santa's antics would not be recognized by my 3-year-old granddaughter. The jolly old guy looked like Santa, but he would come into our living room filled with cousins, aunts and uncles pounding a big stick on the floor and demanding in a very stern voice to know who had been naughty; there was no reference to nice. "Merry Greiegt Nixt" he would shout in a German dialect. "Merry get nothing." We kids would try

to hide. As we got older, we vied for the chance to wear the suit and scare the younger nephews and nieces.

Grandma Broeckel brought more to our family celebrations than the old German customs. Christmas was just one of the times we would come together as a family. This time of the year reminds me of the Christian values she instilled in our extended family. Some had left their Adventist roots, but we all knew that Grandmother's faith was deeply rooted in Scripture.

Christmas is a time for me to remember that my faith, as well as that of my extended family, is based on Christ and His Word. As I look back at all those fond holiday memories, I realize that the greatest tradition she handed down was a firm belief that my salvation is a gift from the One who died on the cross. That's a gift that has nothing to do with church membership.

Grandmother was raised a staunch Lutheran. She believed she was keeping the Sabbath by going to church on Sunday. She relied on the Word of God to establish her faith and practice. She joined a movement that was dedicated to upholding all Scripture—she found that in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Her salvation was rooted in the Christchild. Her witness was through what she believed was the last religious movement God would need to raise up.

What a Christmas gift! Salvation completed in Christ at the cross and our opportunity to proclaim His eminent return through the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Grandma died in 1952, the year our family moved from New Jersey to Virginia. On October 10, I stood at her grave near New Market, Virginia. Next to her lie my mother and father. Mother died a year and a half ago at 98 1/2. Strong women have influenced my life. Mother would have been 100 on October 10 of this year. She was born in the century in which our church took root. She lived during the century in which it blossomed to nearly 10 million members. She almost made it to the century in which our Lord is likely to return.

I offer you their Christmas gift to me:

Salvation in Jesus.

Witness through Adventism.

HERBERT H. BROECKEL

President



Herbert H. Broeckel

Sharing with the Promise Keepers

One hundred twenty-six Seventh-day Adventist volunteers gave away more than 100,000 pieces of literature at the October 4 Washington, D.C., Promise Keepers rally. The national Christian men's organization's widely publicized rally held on the National Mall drew more than 750,000 attendees to pray, sing and listen to speakers.

The *America: Superpower of Prophecy* magazine was the primary item distributed. This colorful 32-page magazine contains portions of 26 chapters of *The Great Controversy*. A special printing included a custom back cover advertising a free copy of *Bible Readings for the Home* and sets of Bible study guides.

The distribution project was coordinated by Project Restore, Inc., a small ministry operated in Locust Dale, Virginia, by the lay pastor of the Amicus Seventh-day Adventist Church, Ron Goss. Participants included volunteers from various churches, schools and institutions.

The magazines for this project weighed more than seven tons and were carried to distribution points by arriving volunteers and strategically parked pickup trucks. One volunteer drove his pickup from Minnesota to be a part of this project. He and his load of magazines were parked in Washington near the Mall before 10 p.m. on Friday before the rally. Others arrived before 6 o'clock on Sabbath morning.

Volunteer distributors stationed themselves at Metro-rail exits and along the edges of the Mall. "Most of the volunteers found the rally attendees friendly and responsive," according to Goss. The literature was essentially completely distributed by noon, the official starting time for the rally.

"It was a great experience, a great blessing to the volunteers," said Goss. "The Lord blessed in this project, and ac-

North Valley church welcomes new pastor

The North Valley church in Roanoke, Virginia, welcomed its new pastor, Ron Ihrig, on September 2 in an outdoor service.

For the past four years, the North Valley group has met in a rented church. With the purchase of five acres, the members have now organized and are looking forward to breaking ground in March of 1998 for the new church.

They held the outdoor service where their new church is to be built on October 4, 1998.

JEAN WILLS

Communication Leader



Pastor Ron Ihrig

Executive committee notes

September 24, 1997
Lynchburg Church, Lynchburg, Virginia



Volunteer participants in the Promise Keeper rally literature distribution project pose with copies of the magazine they distributed on October 4 in Washington, D.C. Ron Goss, Amicus Seventh-day Adventist Church (Stanardsville, Virginia) lay pastor and project coordinator, is fourth from left in the front row. One hundred twenty-six volunteers distributed 100,000 magazines in about five hours.

cording to the responses received to date, we believe many of the recipients have also been greatly blessed."

Early responses to the free offers began coming in to the Project Restore Internet Web site (projectrestore.com) on Sunday, the day after the rally. The gift books and Bible study guides have been funded by contributions to Project Restore.

LEONARD WILLETT

Communications Leader
Amicus, Virginia, church

DEVOTIONAL: Charlotte Conway, associate vice president for institutional planning and research at Columbia Union College, gave the devotional message and offered the opening prayer.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Herbert Broeckel, president of the Potomac Conference, introduced John Robbins, pastor of the Lynchburg church. Pastor Robbins welcomed the executive committee to the new Lynchburg church.

Roger Weiss, vice president for administration, introduced the executive committee observers for July to December, 1997.

Broeckel reported on lay members' efforts to do needed renovations at the campground. A mini-camp meeting/work bee had been scheduled at New Market, October 12-17.

Broeckel introduced Ron Davis, Potomac Home Health Education Services representative, who gave a short report on the progress of the publishing work in the Potomac Conference. Among other items, he stated that 20 students worked in the conference this past summer and delivered \$71,727 worth of books.

CAMP BLUE RIDGE LAND PURCHASE: Paul Musgrave, Camp Blue Ridge administrative director, advised the committee of the possibility of purchasing 265 acres of land adjacent to the present Camp Blue Ridge property. He stated that the purchase would be advisable in order to protect our present investment in land and buildings at Camp Blue Ridge. An even stronger incentive to purchase this land would be to eliminate the right of way that goes through the middle of the present Camp Blue Ridge property. This right of way would be detrimental to camp operations if it were to be used to access this property.

VOTED, to recommend to the Potomac Conference Corporation board that we purchase the 265 acres. At the same time, it was further

VOTED, to investigate all other possibilities to eliminate the right of way and, if that is not possible, it was

VOTED, to authorize the conference administration to make an offer on the property in order to protect our investment at Camp Blue Ridge.

YOUTH MINISTRIES BUDGET PROPOSAL: Sali Jo Hand gave a presentation on her plans and projects for a youth ministries program for the future. She was assisted by Ron Whitehead, Bob Parrish and Graeme Sharrock.

POTOMAC CONFERENCE FUTURE TECHNOLOGY PLANS: Nancy Lamoreaux, director of the Columbia Union Data Management Services, gave a presentation on plans for future technology in the Potomac Conference.

GUIDELINES FOR ESTABLISHING GROUPS: **VOTED,** that Louis Preston present recommendations to the executive committee redefining guidelines for groups that wish to be established into companies. These are to include conflict resolution as it relates to groups that are forming.



*Wishing
you a
musical
holiday
season*

from the Potomac Conference

Capital Memorial church unites with GC for prayer breakfast

In order to provide more effective service to the neighborhood surrounding the Capital Memorial church (CMC), a study was conducted to find out what type of people lived in our community.

It was a surprise to most of the members that, among other interesting facts, there were 83 international embassies within our zip code area. It became apparent to Pastor Jack Sequeira and the church board that the church has a responsibility to be of service to this special community. Since the General Conference's Annual Council was to be held in the Washington area in 1997, they decided to invite embassy diplomats and the delegates from the world field attending the Annual Council to a special service at the church.

The General Conference was contacted, and it was agreed that a cooperative effort should be made to reach out to this community. It was decided to conduct a prayer breakfast at the church. The director of the GC Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department, John Graz, was asked by Pastor Robert Folkenberg to write to the 164 embassies, while he wrote to the division officers, inviting them to the prayer breakfast.

Ron Herr, GC, and Tom Taylor, CMC, arranged to provide transportation for the 150-plus delegates from their hotels to the church. Parking is a major problem at CMC, but Tom Taylor and the church deacons made it possible for visitors to park without a problem. Members did get beneficial exercise.

Representatives from the

General Conference, Doctors John Graz, Bert Beach and Maurice Battle welcomed the diplomats at the church's entrance. Karl Shultz, Kathy Slack and Tigesty Berhane arranged for 42 greeters to make the visitors feel welcome and comfortable in the church. A number of the visitors

commented on the wonderful welcome they received.

CMC's fellowship hall is not large enough to permit a sit-

down affair, so the breakfast was a stand-up buffet. Nancy Marter was in charge of food preparation and hall decorations. Unfortunately, she became sick Friday night; but her assistants, Virginia Harter, Esther Harter, Silvia Leandro, James Mason and Ann Troy, followed her plans and, with the help of CMC's other good cooks, prepared the breakfast without a hitch.

Dr. Lyndrey Niles, a CMC elder and master of ceremonies for the day, directed the program. A brief introduction to the Seventh-day Adventist Church was given during the breakfast by G. Ralph Thompson, GC secretary. Following the breakfast, Dr. Niles directed the diplomats, who were given a book about the church, and the delegates to the upstairs auditorium where the prayer session was held.

After a welcome by Pastors Folkenberg and Sequeira, a litany written by Gary Patterson, which included a hymn sung by the congregation, was delivered. Prayers were offered in several languages by a diplo-



John Graz, director of PARL, welcoming Arlington Butler, an ambassador from the Bahamas, with CMC members Mel Carreno and Nick Miller to the left and to the right, respectively.



Pastor Jack Sequeira and Ezra Mtscontshi, representative from the South African embassy. Mtscontshi is a Seventh-day Adventist.



The Russian delegates sang their appreciation for their reception by CMC members.



The prayer breakfast held at the Capital Memorial church October 4, 1997.

mat, several GC delegates and a CMC member. Leanne Miller concluded the program by singing the Lord's Prayer.

Following the prayer breakfast, the Smith sisters, originally from Provo, Utah, provided a half-hour program of sacred music, during which the diplomats were free to leave. Following the regular church service, a fellowship dinner was served.

H. M. SMITH

Children's ministries newly organized in Potomac

A new program for children's ministries is being organized in the Potomac Conference. It began at camp meeting time with a visioning seminar to discover the needs of the local churches in the area of children's ministries. Five additional visioning seminars have been completed around the conference. The results will be published in a newsletter to a mailing list of individuals provided by conference local church clerks.

Barbara Manspeaker has been hired as a consultant to Potomac for the next 13 months with the following objective: "To establish the department of children's ministries in the Potomac conference by identifying,

training, organizing and empowering lay leadership to implement the children's ministries programs."

To accomplish this objective, the consultant has identified four of the five needed leaders for the various areas of children's ministries. Their responsibilities include organizing and conducting various workshops and seminars around the conference, keeping up-to-date mailing lists of children's workers, functioning as members of a conference children's ministry council or advisory and acting as resource persons for the individual areas they represent.

These coordinators are:
Sabbath School: Pamela C. Allen, 7014 Marbury

Court, District Heights, MD 20747 (Phone: 301-429-2745).

Vacation Bible School: Robin Tull, 206A Holly Hill Street, Broadway, VA 22815 (Phone: 540-896-6090).

Camp Meeting: Lisa K. Seeders, 3501 Farmview Road, Luray, VA, 22835 (Phone: 540-778-3771).

Hispanic: Nora Ramos, 12521 Marie Court, Silver Spring, MD (Phone: 301-572-2734).

Adventurers: Open.

A variety of activities are already scheduled for the coming year (see below). In addition, Mrs. Manspeaker is looking for dedicated volunteers who are willing to train as seminar presenters to attend a Train the Trainer session scheduled

for the spring. This is a 10-hour course that will prepare persons with background in children's work to successfully share their expertise with others.

Anyone interested in more information on Train the Trainer or any other area of children's ministries should contact: Barbara Manspeaker, 3000 Old Tanbark Road, Luray, VA 22835, phone or fax: (540) 778-1352, E-mail: CompuServe: 74617,2106.

A newsletter is in process. It will be mailed to everyone on a recently compiled mailing list. If you would like to receive one, you may contact any of the above people or call the conference office.

Children's Ministries 1998 Training Events

March 7, 1998 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SEMINARS - DC area

Explore the 1998 VBS materials and get specific help for organizing your Vacation Bible School. For more information, call Robin Tull (540) 896-6090, Vacation Bible School coordinator.

March 21, 1998 - SABBATH SCHOOL TRAINING - Richmond area

Specific programming help for Beginners through Juniors. For more information, call Pamela Allen, (301) 420-2745, children's Sabbath school coordinator.

March 28, 1998 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SEMINARS - Wytheville area

Explore the 1998 VBS materials and get specific help for organizing your Vacation Bible School. For more information, call Robin Tull, (540) 896-6090, Vacation Bible School coordinator.

June 23-27, 1998 - POTOMAC CAMP MEETING - SVA, New Market, Virginia

Special programs for children. Several seminars may be conducted for leaders, if there is enough interest. For more information, call Lisa Seeders, (540) 778-3771, children's camp meeting coordinator.

September 12, 1998 DC area

September 26, 1998 Richmond area

October 17, 1998 Wytheville area

October 24, 1998 New Market area

EMPHASIS ON CHILDREN'S SABBATH SCHOOL

Specific programming help for Beginners through Juniors. For more information, call Pamela Allen, (301) 420-2745, children's Sabbath school coordinator.

October 3, 1998 - LOCAL CHURCH CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES - DC area

Specific help for the children's ministries coordinator in your church. If your church does not have a person designated as the children's ministries coordinator, work on getting one now! For more information, call Barbara Manspeaker (540) 778-1352.

Watch your mail for additional seminar opportunities including Adventurers

If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be, send your information to: Barbara L. Manspeaker Children's Ministries Consultant Potomac Conference 3000 Old Tanbark Road Luray, VA 22835 Phone and fax: (540) 778-1352 E-mail: CompuServe 74617,2106

(Messages can also be left at the conference office with Merry Knoll.)

Potomac Children's Ministries Area Coordinators

Pamela Allen

Sabbath School

Robin Tull

Vacation Bible School

Lisa Seeders

Camp Meeting

Nora Ramos

Hispanic Coordinator

Camp Meeting

For many, camp meeting is one of the highlights of the year. It is evangelism and spiritual renewal from Cradle Roll on up. Over the years, the facilities we use at Shenandoah Valley Academy have slowly deteriorated to the point that serious improvements were needed to keep camp meeting alive and well. The cost and labor involved seemed daunting at first, but members of the Potomac Conference rallied to the challenge.

During the week of October 12-17, 60 volunteers (including four conference workers and 10 pastors) gathered at New Market,

Virginia, for a camp meeting work bee. Major improvements were made to the electrical service in the cabins and RV sites, grading was done to some areas to prevent cabins from being flooded, sidewalks were patched, and the roof was replaced on one of the bath houses. Worship services each morning and evening and the fellowship throughout the day made the work bee a spiritual feast for the participants.

There is still more work to be done, so another work bee will probably be held in the spring. Funds are also desperately needed to pay

for materials. (The conference is matching all of the donations from church members.) To volunteer for future work bees or to support the effort financially, contact Bonnie Slocum at the Potomac Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 606 Greenville Avenue, Staunton, VA 24401; or call her at (800) SDA-1844.

Our special thanks to Shenandoah Valley Academy and the New Market church for accommodating us and to the Potomac Conference office for backing us financially and trusting us to continue raising the needed funds.

WENDY WOOD
Meadowbridge Church



It's hard to hit a moving target, but we did manage to get a group shot (right before dinner).



F. D. "Dan" Altman of the Fredericksburg church does roof repair for the bath house.



Grading was done to reduce the risk of flooding.

Work Bee



The bath house gets a new roof.



Cabins will have a light switch by the door and electrical outlets on the front and back walls.



Danny Shaver, superintendent, in front of the "headquarters."



More volunteers we stopped to get their photograph before they could eat.

Shenandoah Valley Academy *happenings*

On a beautiful Sabbath day with clear blue skies and just a hint of fall in the air, the New Market church members, along with the 275 students of Shenandoah Valley Academy, met for an outdoor church service. As church members and students found places to sit on the grassy area by the pond on the campus of SVA, the resident geese and ducks observed all of the unusual activity from a safe distance on the other side of the pond.

Church began with the usual announcements and music, but that was about all that was familiar. For one thing, many in the group were dressed quite differently. In fact, watching the group of young people as they gathered near the pond, you could almost feel as if you were living in a different time and place.

Pastors Rick Greve and Ron Aquilera narrated the familiar

story of Zacchaeus as the young people portrayed the throng of people hoping to catch a glimpse of the man called Jesus. As the story unfolded, we suddenly saw a small man darting here and there, trying to push his way through the crowd so that he could see Jesus also. The crowd would not let him through. In desperation, he ran to a nearby tree and swiftly climbed it. Now he could see below, and he quickly scanned



Outdoor church at the pond

the crowd for Jesus. Imagine his surprise when Jesus stopped at the foot of the tree and called his name. Even more amazing was the fact that Jesus wanted to go home with him to eat.

Having the story of Zacchaeus acted out by the students and young church members helped make the story come to life. You could almost feel Zacchaeus' surprise when Jesus spoke his name.



Jesus eating with Zacchaeus.



Zacchaeus and the throng of people looking for Jesus.

After the church service, there was a giant picnic for everyone. The SVA cafeteria graciously provided the fixings for haystacks, and church members provided salads and desserts. This gave everyone the opportunity to relax in the beauty of God's nature and visit with one another.

Later in the afternoon, there was an informal sacred concert at the pond. Anyone who wished to sing a song or have his or her favorite Sabbath song played could do so. The sounds of sweet music could be heard across the campus as young and old alike took advantage of this opportunity to praise the Lord with music.

As the day drew to a close, many remarked that the Sabbath had truly been a blessing to them as they had worshiped God in the beauty of His creation.

Students at SVA have a wonderful work opportunity as they strive to help their parents pay for their tuition. The Little Debbie box recycling industry, or "Box" as the students refer to it, currently employs more than 70 students each day, with students earning an average wage of \$7 per hour.

As the industry has grown, its need for a larger work space has become evident. Ground was recently broken to build a new facility for SVA Recycling. This building will have 12,000 square feet of work space, enabling the workers to be much more efficient.

We are excited about the new building and the work opportunity that SVA Recycling gives to our students. As the building nears completion, we will keep you up to date on its progress.



The new SVA Recycling Industry as it is being built.

ADVERTISING RATES

Minimum charge: \$15 for 50 words or less for ads originating in the Columbia Union and \$20 for all others. Additional words, 25 cents each in the union, 40 cents each outside the union. Ads must be placed at least four weeks before the issue date by mail or calling (301) 596-0800, (410) 997-3414 or (800) 438-9600. The Visitor does not guarantee the integrity of any product or service advertised.

FOR SALE: Alenburgh white baby grand piano. Perfect condition. Must sell. Asking price: \$3,950. Inquiries may call (610) 327-3724. (215)

SEEKING CHRISTIAN DRIVER: Adventist trucking company has an opening for a professional over-the-road driver. Dedicated routes between the Northeast and the Midwest. No N.Y.C. Good pay, benefits available, home weekly and, of course, you won't have to work on Sabbath. Work with a company that appreciates your efforts. Call (717) 568-8222 and join our team. (11)

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY CENTER planned for rural Ohio is now in the fund-raising stage. Incorporated by Adventists as non-profit, the center is designed to reach out to the surrounding community and out-of-town visitors. Nutrition and well-baby classes offered. Please send your fund-raising ideas to: Welcome Children's Center, 11227 TR 252, Killbuck, OH 44637; or call (301) 439-5344. (215)

FREE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS: Private-sector funds available for undergraduate, graduate or trade school students through an Adventist service. Member of the Better Business Bureau; 300,000+ scholarships. *Guaranteed.* Apply early. Scholarship Service, 29435 Dorsey St., Sun City, CA 92586; (800) 511-6432. Outside the USA: (909) 679-4332. (11)

GENERAL MANAGER FOR KACS CHRISTIAN RADIO STATION in Chelalis, WA, to start on May 15, 1998. A challenging position for an individual with communication, business, management and public relations skills. The current manager is getting married and relocating. Fax all resumes to Sue Cummings at (360) 740-9415. (215)

CONTROL WEIGHT, CHOLESTEROL AND DIABETES THE RIGHT WAY! Wildwood's live-in programs include jacuzzi, sauna, hydrotherapy, vegetarian cooking classes, educational lectures, guided hikes and mountain trails. Physician directed. (800) 634-WELL. Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital, P.O. Box 129-U, Wildwood, GA 30757. (215)

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DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING for Florida Hospital in east Orlando: Immediate opening in a 164-bed hospital for an individual with recent experience in facilities management. Qualified applicants should mail all resumes to: Judy Bond, Human Resources, Florida Hospital, 616 E. Rollins St., Suite 101, Orlando, FL 32803; send them by fax to (407) 893-9486, or call (800) 327-1914 or (407) 897-5600, Ext. 9576. (215)

DIRECTOR OF PHARMACY for Florida Hospital in east Orlando: Immediate opening in a 164-bed hospital for a Florida-eligible registered pharmacist with recent management experience. Must have a B.S. or an advanced degree in pharmacy and a minimum of three years' supervisory/management experience in a hospital pharmacy. Qualified applicants should mail resumes to: Judy Bond, Human Resources, Florida Hospital, 616 E. Rollins St., Suite 101, Orlando, FL 32803; send them by fax to (407) 893-9486, or call (800) 327-1914 or (407) 897-5600, Ext. 9576. (215)

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Statement of Policy

Nondiscrimination in Adventist Schools

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in all of its church-operated schools, admits students of any race to all the privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, handicap, ethnic background or national origin in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs and extracurricular programs.

The governing body of the church has ruled officially, and in practice abides by, the following policies:

1. Equal employment opportunities shall be afforded, with no discrimination in recruitment or hiring against any employee or applicant because of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, age or sex except where age or sex is a bona fide occupational qualification.
2. Preferential hiring shall be practiced only on the basis of freely chosen adherence to Adventist tenets essential to the operation of an Adventist institution.
3. Compensation and benefits will be administered without regard to race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, creed, age or sex except where age or sex is a bona fide occupational qualification.
4. Decisions for the promotion of employees will be based upon the qualifications of an individual as related to the requirements of the position for which he or she is being considered.
5. Inasmuch as the personal life and professional identity of an individual are inseparable, all employees are expected to conform to the standards of conduct that are in harmony with Seventh-day Adventist practices.

Allegheny East Conference ACADEMY
Pine Forge.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Baltimore Junior Academy, Calvary, Dupont Park, Ephesus, George E. Peters, Larchwood, Mount Sinai, Pine Forge, Sharon Temple, Trinity Temple.

Allegheny West Conference ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Ethnan Christian, Oberlin, Ramah Junior Academy, Shiloh Preparatory School.

Chesapeake Conference ACADEMY
Highland View.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Atholton, Berkeley Springs, Crest Lane, Cross Roads, Eastern Shore Junior Academy, David G. Fleagle, Frederick, Hudson, Martin Barr, Mount Aetna, New Life Christian, Park, Rocky Knoll, Spencerville Junior Academy, Susquehanna, Wilmington.

Mountain View Conference ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Buckhamon, Bluefield/Princeton, Charleston, Cumberland, Elkins, Fairmont, Lewisburg, Oakland, Parkersburg, Richwood, Summersville, Welch.

New Jersey Conference ACADEMY
Garden State.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Cohansey, Collingwood Park, Delaware Valley Junior Academy, Lake Nelson Junior Academy, Meadow View, Prescott, Tranquility, Waldwick, Lillian Whitfield.

Ohio Conference ACADEMIES
Mount Vernon, Spring Valley.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Cincinnati, Clarksfield, Eastwood Junior Academy, Griswold, Hamlet, Ham-Mid, Kaleidoscope Christian, Lakeside, Lancaster, Mansfield, Mayfair, Mount Vernon, Newark, Piqua, Spring Valley, Toledo, Twin Oaks, Western Reserve, Zanesville.

Pennsylvania Conference ACADEMY
Blue Mountain.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Blue Mountain, Coudersport, Fair Oaks, Fairview Village, Gettysburg, Greater Philadelphia Junior Academy, Greater Pittsburgh Junior Academy, Harrisburg, Irvin Comstock, Lake Erie, Lancaster, Lehigh Valley, Mountain View, Reading Junior Academy, Ridgeville Union, Stroudsburg, Valley View, West Chester, Wyoming Valley, York.

Potomac Conference ACADEMIES
Richmond, Shenandoah Valley, Takoma, Tidewater.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Appomattox, Beltsville, C.F. Richards Junior Academy, Danville, Desmond T. Doss, Echo Valley, Fairmont Christian Preparatory School, Fredericksburg, J. N. Andrews, Olney Preparatory School, Powell Valley Christian School, Richmond Academy, Roanoke Adventist Preparatory School, Robert A. Lewis, Shenandoah Valley, Sligo, Stanley, Tappanhook Junior Academy, Three Angels Christian School, Tidewater Junior Academy, Vienna Junior Academy, Yale.

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SUNSET CALENDAR

Eastern Standard Time

	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 21	Jan. 2
Baltimore	4:46	4:50	4:55	
Cincinnati	5:18	5:22	5:27	
Cleveland	4:59	5:02	5:08	
Columbus	5:09	5:12	5:18	
Jersey City	4:31	4:35	4:40	
Norfolk	4:51	4:55	5:00	
Parkersburg	5:05	5:09	5:15	
Philadelphia	4:38	4:42	4:48	
Pittsburgh	4:56	4:59	5:05	
Reading	4:40	4:44	4:49	
Richmond	4:54	4:57	5:03	
Roanoke	5:05	5:08	5:14	
Toledo	5:07	5:11	5:17	
Trenton	4:35	4:39	4:45	
Washington, DC	4:49	4:52	4:58	

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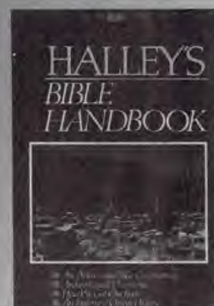
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