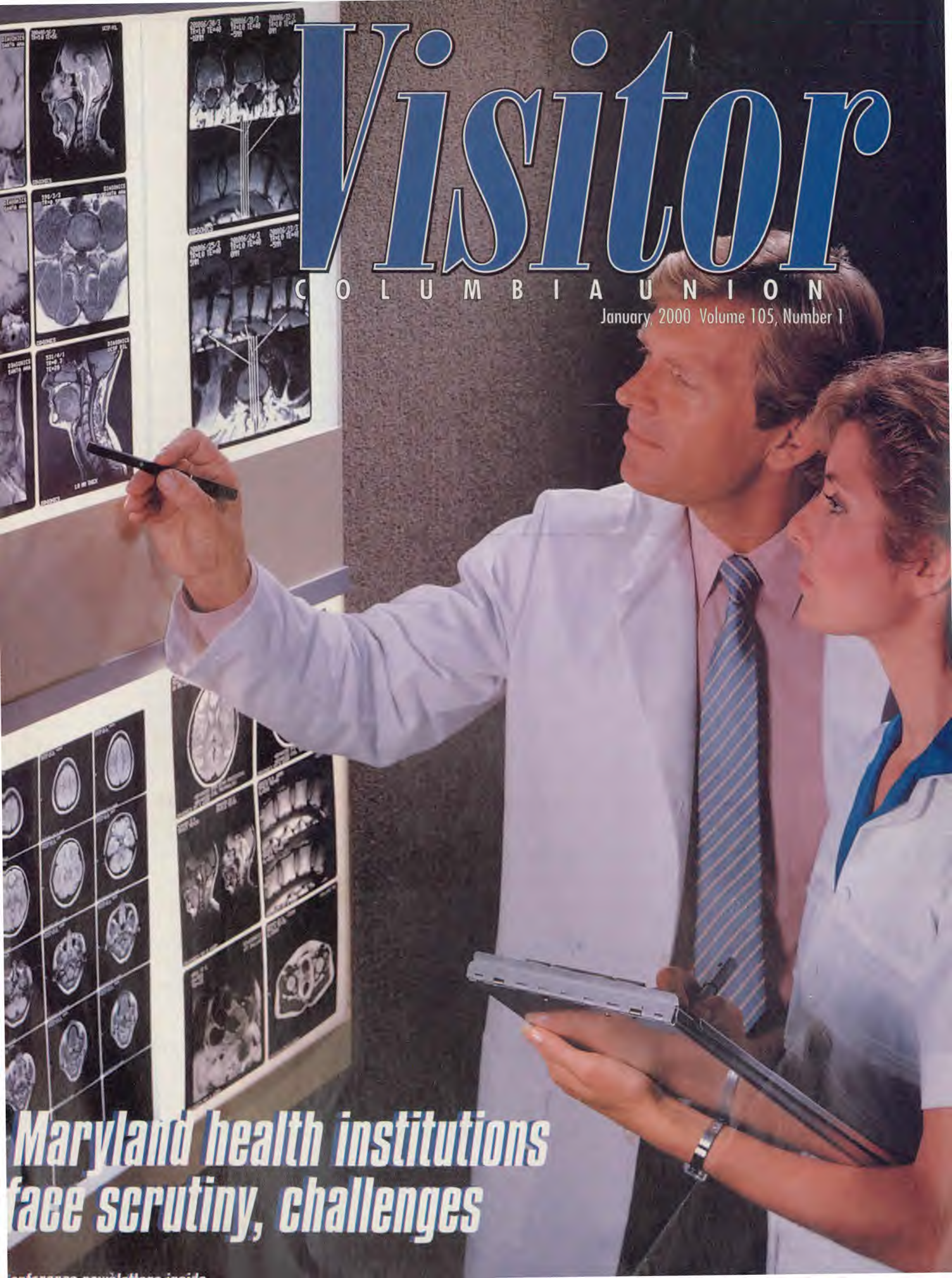


Visitor

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

January, 2000 Volume 105, Number 1



**Maryland health institutions
face scrutiny, challenges**

performance reviews inside

The driving force for a finished work

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The VISITOR is the Adventist publication for people in the Columbia Union. It is printed to inspire confidence in the Saviour and His church and serves as a networking tool for sharing methods, members, churches and institutions that can be used in ministry. Address all correspondence to: Columbia Union VISITOR, Free to Columbia Union members; Non-member subscription—\$7.50 per year.

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Volume 105

Number 1

Every congregation within the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church has both a local mission and a global mission. It is in this context that the local church is envisioned in the Columbia Union as *the central focus and driving force of the Adventist mission* to carry the “eternal gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue and people” (Revelation 14:6-12).

We believe that this positive statement of vision represents our greatest force for change. The local church is the church! This is more than an evocative message about the future, it is the force of unseen connections that influence the behavior of individuals, congregations and conferences for local and global mission. It is a fundamental Bible concept.

In the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the congregation, unlike congregations in some denominations, is essential to the entire international network of ministries and institutions. It is the foundation upon which the entire system rests. No single congregation or institution, nor any level of the denomination, however large, can of itself achieve the mission of the church. It takes each unit, witnessing and working where it is located, to finish the task.

Although some congregations struggle just to survive, others are strong and well. By practicing the principle of interdependence in the Biblical Tithing system, the strong help the weak, the gospel continues to go forward, and the purpose of God is preserved. Our corporate vision culminates in the return of the creator of the universe, Jesus Christ.

The congregation is the center for redemptive, transforming grace. It is the command center for community mission, where the vision is cast and made to happen. It is in the congregation where relational ministry is based, where family is made and where discipling takes place. It is in the congregation where the people of God do church, where the worshiping, working and witnessing community meets the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of the universe.

A local congregation is where a person goes for fellowship, where the gospel of transforming grace is preached and taught, where a person professes faith in Christ as Saviour and Lord, where spiritual direction is given, where people experience God, where the doxology is sung and the Lord's Prayer is prayed, where Tithes and offerings are given, where children are dedicated to God and marriage vows are made, and where baptism and the Lord's Supper are conducted. In the congregation, children learn Bible verses and adults discuss their theological implications. It is in the congregation where beliefs are inextricably woven into the imagination of individuals. The local church is the church!

The church is God's key institution on earth, and no part of the church is more important than the local congregation. It is the primary face of the church, the door to the community of faith, a foretaste of the coming kingdom. It is the instrument of God's mercy, the theater of His grace, His shalom.

Adventist congregations know Christ's transforming grace as it helps people find the way of discipleship, live consistently as they journey that path and faithfully invite others to walk with them. This transforming grace is necessary to fulfill the church's mission, locally and globally. That grace cannot be purchased in a bookstore, learned at a seminar, downloaded from a website or borrowed from the surrounding culture.

Congregations are places of refuge and retreat for regrouping in the face of hurt, distress or injustice. Without the local church, there would have been no Martin Luther King Jr. to spearhead the civil rights movement. The church is the conscience of society; it is the source of healing and hope in cities and towns.

What is God calling the church to be and do in this new century? The mission never changes, but the world we must reach is changing constantly. I will continue with this question next month. Think about it!

Harold L. Lee is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the eight-state region served by the Columbia Union Conference.



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Bible studies on video

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

During this year, several church members from our region will play starring roles in the long-running Bible study video series produced by the Pacific Press Publishing Association.

Hosting the series is Jeff Scoggins, a member of Triadelphia Church in Columbia, Maryland. He has been with the project for three years and willingly takes time from his duties as communications manager in the General Conference Office of Global Mission to appear in the quarterly videos.

The series is taped at the Adventist Church world headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. Each show highlights the main topic of the current Adult Sabbath School Lesson. During the series' 12-year production run, its guests have included well-known church leaders, laypersons, pastors, secretaries, teachers, and students, as well as other Adventists from all walks of life.

"We ask our participants to dig deep into their own experience for insights and practical tips for Christian living," says producer Charles Mills. "I tell them to make the lessons real for our viewers, and they do just that with amazing clarity and resourcefulness."

The guest list for the four shows scheduled for release during 2000 include Bonita Shields, associate pastor of Spencerville Church; Hulda Romero, website editor at Sligo Church; Paul Virgo, a NASA computer analyst and a Sligo member; Adan Saldaña, a graphic designer and other students of God's Word who work at the General Conference and North American Division offices.

A new feature of the video series is the presence of Clifford Goldstein as editor of the Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide. "With Goldstein on board, expect the unexpected," said Mills. "He has unique insights and an exciting style that gets you thinking. The discussions he leads each quarter opens doors for personal spiritual growth. He's an amazing talent and brings additional impact and practical ideas to the show."

For more information on these Bible study videos, contact your local Adventist Book Center.



Clifford Goldstein (right), generates lively discussions on the major Bible themes with Carol Barron (center), a member of Emmanuel Brinklow Church, and Jerry Lutz, pastor of Spencerville Church.

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Write to us!

METRO '99 has come and gone. Many Columbia Union churches featured this satellite uplink in their congregations. What spiritual blessings did your congregation receive from the programming? How many baptisms did your church have as a result of this evangelistic event? Please send your human-interest stories and photos to: *Visitor*, 5427 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia, MD 21045, or send a fax to (410) 772-9724.

New beginnings

Betty Johnson, director of academic support and testing

"For I am going to do a new thing. See, I have already begun! Don't you see it? I will make a road through the wilderness of the world for my people to go home and create rivers for them in the desert!"—*Isaiah 43:19.*

Today, we stand upon the verge of the unknown. There lies before us the new year, and we are going forth to possess it. It's not only a new year, but also a new millennium. Who can assess what we shall find? What new experiences, what changes shall come, what new needs shall arise? The comforting message from our heavenly Father says He will do new things for us. All our supply is to come from Him.

God, I think, is a lover of new beginnings. He gave us a week wrapped up in a package of seven days, with a fresh, new sunrise at the start of most every day. When the world was sinful, He cleansed it with the Flood so it could start over. Someday He will do that again—start over with those who are interested.

How often we wish for another chance to make a new beginning, a chance to blot out our mistakes and change failure into winning. Allow this new year to be a new beginning for you. Go ahead and read some new books, meet new people, travel to new lands, feed the homeless or be a mentor to a teen in need. It only takes a sincere heart to try and live a little better and to add a little sunshine in the world where they live. So never give up on life and the new beginnings it has to offer. Jesus has the same philosophy. He said, I didn't come to call the people who know they are perfect, but those who know they are not. God is interested in the sinners—those who have made mistakes, those who can concentrate on winning, rather than on losing.

Are you having a difficult time, remembering some pain from this past year or maybe feel that God has forgotten you? Well, don't despair! God promised that He would do a new thing in our lives and make a way through the wilderness just for us! Get ready to enjoy this new year, the year 2000—a year of opportunity, a year of leaning, a year of persistence, a year of praise, a year of progress and a year of training for holier work above. May this new year be like no other!



Betty Johnson

CUC hosts Writers Conference

Jennifer Leen, senior communication major

Columbia Union College held its annual Writers Conference November 7-9, 1999. There were 120 students in attendance, 30 more the previous year. Pine Tree Academy and Collegedale Academy attended, in addition to the academies within the Columbia Union.

The conference began on Sunday evening with introductions, games and food. By 9:00 a.m. Monday morning, students were on their way to Washington, D.C. to tour places such as *USA Today*, *National Geographic*, Ford's Theater and Capitol Hill.

Writers Conference continued that afternoon with workshops presented by prestigious speakers such as Anthony DeBarros of *USA Today*, Michael Shepard of the *Washington Post*, Michelle Sturm of *Insight* and Mark Tapscott of the Heritage Foundation Center for Media and Public Policy.

One of the highlights of the conference was a workshop session entitled "The Newscast." David Miller, coordinator of the broadcast media program at CUC, instructed the students on how to produce a news show. Students

had the opportunity to write and produce their own show, including the use of live video footage.

"The students loved it," said Miller. "They learned on the job and saw the immediate benefits of their



CUC presents— How to finance a college education

Madge Johnson, assistant director of marketing

One of the greatest challenges facing college-bound students today is how they will pay for it. The costs of college tuition, room and board, books and fees looms above many parents and students. At Columbia Union College, we want to help parents and students find ways to finance an education and also teach them more about financial aid.

To facilitate this process, marketing representatives from CUC will be traveling throughout the Columbia Union to meet with those who need answers to their college finance questions. If you would like to schedule a time for a church or school group or a personal one-on-one session that is not listed in this schedule, please call Mary Kay Porter or Madge Johnson at (800) 835-4212.

Columbia Union College financial aid counselors will be in these local areas between January and April of this year. Please review

the calendar and make an appointment now by calling (800) 835-4212.

January

- 18—Washington, DC, 6-8 p.m.;
- 19—Takoma Park, MD, 6-8 p.m.;
- 22—Annapolis, MD, 6-8 p.m.;
- 30—Hamburg, PA, 10 a.m.-12 noon;
- 31—Hyattsville, MD, 8 p.m.

February

- 1—Hagerstown, MD, 6-8 p.m.;
- 2—Takoma Park, MD, 6-8 p.m.;
- 3—Takoma Park, MD, 5-7 pm;
- 5—Baltimore, MD, 5-7 p.m.;
- Silver Spring, MD, 6-7 p.m.;
- 8—Frederick, MD, 6-8 p.m.;
- 12—Centerville, OH, 6:15-8:15 p.m.;
- 15—Southern MD, 6-8 p.m.;
- 23—Columbia, MD, 6:30-7:30 p.m.;
- 24—Takoma Park, MD, 5-7 p.m.;
- 26—Eastern Shore, MD, 6-8 p.m.;
- 27—New Market, VA, 10 a.m.

March

- 1—Wilmington, DE, 6-8 p.m.;

- 2—Philadelphia, PA, 5-7 p.m.;
- 5—Mt. Vernon, OH, 5-7 p.m.;
- 7—Parkersburg, WV, 3-7 p.m.;
- 8—This date is available;
- 20—Cherry Hill, NJ, 5-7 p.m.;
- 21—Trenton, NJ, 5-7 p.m.;
- 23—York, PA, 5-7 p.m.;
- 29—Richmond, VA, 5-7 p.m.;
- 30—Virginia Beach, VA, 5-7 p.m.

These dates and times are subject to change. Please refer to your church bulletin for current times and locations. The month of April is open for appointments. Please call (800) 835-4212 to schedule a session in your area.

**CUC wishes
you a Happy
New Year!**

con't: Writers Conference



McMasters of the
dom Forum

work." Other workshops included "Editing 101," "Writing for Insight," "Spinning and Selling" and "Dramatic Performance." All of the sessions

specialized in those particular areas. "The atmosphere at Writers Conference was great, and it really kept my attention," said Zach Grizzell, a junior at Spring Valley Academy. "I'd like to come back next year." Stacy Spaulding, Writers Conference director and journalism instructor at CUC, hopes to make the workshops even more interactive in the future. Next year, Spaulding hopes to incorporate photojournalism and deadline journalism into the conference.

"I'm thrilled with Writers Con-

ference this year," said Spaulding. "The students loved the interactive sessions. They wanted a challenge, and next year, we're really going to give it to them."

If you would like more information about CUC's annual Writers Conference, please contact Stacy Spaulding at (301) 891-4211.

gate
columbia union college news **January 2000**
way

January

- 15 SA Prayer Breakfast
Community Church
Loaves & Fishes
Sabbath Surge-National Cathedral
- 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 18 NEYE concert at Carnegie Hall
- 19 Chapel-Willie Oliver
- 21 Campus Ministries Retreat through 1/23
Band tour through 1/22
Vespers
- 22 Community Church
- 24 Student Missions Week through 1/28
- 25 Faculty Meeting
- 26 Chapel-Jan Paulsen
- 28 Loaves & Fishes
CCC tour through 1/29
Vespers
Singspiration
Phase II
- 29 Campus Ministries Prayer Breakfast
Community Church
Sabbath Surge
- 31 Departmentals

February

- Black History Month
 - 2 SA Fast Break
Chapel
 - 4 Black History Celebration through 2/5
Loaves & Fishes
Vespers
Phase II
 - 5 SA Prayer Breakfast
Community Church
Loaves & Fishes
 - 9 Band Festival through 2/12
Chapel
 - 11 Loaves & Fishes
Vespers
 - 12 Community Church
Loaves & Fishes
 - 13 SA Valentine's Banquet
 - 14 Week of Prayer through 2/18
- * For athletic events, please check our website at www.cuc.edu.

were highly interactive and featured professionals that were spe-

were highly interactive and featured professionals that were spe-

Maryland health institutions face scrutiny, challenges

Since the Washington Post, in an ongoing series of articles regarding Adventist HealthCare (AHC), published an article about compensation of top executives, the Columbia Union Conference administration has begun a thorough investigation into the situation

Pastor Harold L. Lee, union president, says: "I am committed to full disclosure on this topic, but I do not want to pre-judge anything or anyone nor release information that has not been thoroughly checked for accuracy and relevance. It would be irresponsible of any leader to rush out with specific statements at this time, which later prove to be less than the full story. We are really still in the research phase at this time."

As relevant information becomes certain, the Visitor will publish a more detailed report.—The Editors

Board accepts CEO's resignation and votes restructuring plan

The board of directors for Adventist HealthCare accepted the resignation of the organization's chief executive officer on November 3. This came as part of an overall restructuring plan designed to strengthen the management of the organization's hospitals.

The board met to discuss concerns that had been raised about Shady Grove. "It has an overriding responsibility to its patients, doctors, employees and other community members to ensure the maintenance of high standards of quality care at all of its facilities. This is the framework under which we acted," said Ron M. Wisbey, chairman of the board. "It is with much regret that we accepted the resignation of Cory Chambers, a person of high integrity and great moral character. Obviously, these are difficult decisions, but the board felt this was the right move at this particular time."

Wisbey has assumed responsibilities as interim chief executive officer and relinquished his position as chairman. He has chaired the Adventist HealthCare board since 1985 and currently serves as vice chair of the

Maryland Hospital Association's board of trustees. Harold Lee, a member of the board and president of the Columbia Union Conference, has become chairman of the board. The board acted to commence a search for a permanent CEO.

In addition, the board approved a new structure for the two Montgomery County hospitals operated by Adventist HealthCare. Previously, the president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare held the same title with both hospitals. Under this new structure, a president and chief operating officer will be appointed for Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, and a president and chief operating officer will be appointed for Washington Adventist Hospital. They will report directly to the chief executive officer of Adventist HealthCare.

During the meeting, the board appointed Kiltie Leach as president and chief operating officer of Washington Adventist Hospital. Leach has 16 years of acute-care executive experience.

In addition, the board appointed Terry White to serve as interim president and chief operating officer at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. White has more than 25 years of health-care management experience.

Chambers had been affiliated with Adventist HealthCare for more than 30 years, first serving at Washington Adventist Hospital in 1969. He moved up through the ranks at Washington Adventist Hospital, holding positions as director of personnel and vice president of personnel. In the late 1970s, he joined the administrative team that was instrumental in building Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, a Rockville facility that opened in 1979. In 1994, he assumed responsibility as the chief operating officer at Shady Grove and then was appointed the president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare in September 1997.

"I can't stress enough the amount of respect the board has for Cory, who devoted his professional life to this organization and its mission," added Wisbey.



Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, located in Rockville, Maryland

Officials meet with accrediting agency

Officials from Shady Grove Adventist Hospital traveled to Chicago on December 13 to appeal a decision by an accrediting body that lowered the hospital's accreditation status. During the hearing that lasted more than seven hours, officials from Shady Grove and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) reviewed more than 2,000 pages of documentation presented by the hospital.

Shady Grove remains accredited by the JCAHO, and its license is in good standing. In addition, the hospital's eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid funding remains intact.

"We made an earnest, detailed presentation that emphasized the policies and procedures in place to ensure quality care," noted Kenneth DeStefano, vice president and general counsel for Adventist HealthCare. "The collective goal of both parties was a fair and impartial hearing of the facts in this case. We feel that this was achieved."

DeStefano was one of 10 representatives from the hospital who participated in the presentation before a three-member appeal panel. Officials from the JCAHO told the Shady Grove team that a decision will be made on February 3. Surveyors from the JCAHO had conducted an unannounced survey at Shady Grove on October 22.

Board to hire outside expert to review compensation

The Adventist HealthCare board decided on December 16 to hire an outside expert to conduct a complete analysis of compensation within the organization. During the meeting, the board reviewed executive compensation with another outside compensation expert and then unanimously voted to expand this review to all levels within the organization.

The independent expert will study salary patterns and pay equity. In addition, departmental comparability and comparability with other market-based health-care positions will be reviewed. The analyst will be charged with addressing salary and compensation policies both retrospectively and prospectively.

In a decision made at a previous meeting, the board voted to invite all members of the board to executive compensation committee meetings. At the December 16 meeting, the board also carefully reviewed all actions and recommendations of the executive compensation committee, which met earlier in the day.

"Our goal is to ensure fairness in our pay scales and comparability with the market for all positions," said Ken DeStefano, vice president and general counsel for Adventist HealthCare. "Part of the board's fiduciary responsibility is to ascertain that the policies by which we have determined compensation packages in the past, as well as the policies we will use to determine future compensation for employees at all levels, is ethical, fair and just."

The board acknowledged the very difficult economic environment in which compensation decisions for health-care employees must be made. "Health-care economics is a moving target," added DeStefano. "We will use a national expert with a strong reputation in health-care compensation, especially as it relates to earning patterns and the changing economics of an evolving work force in health care." Those economics include a regulated system for setting hospital rates in Maryland, a national shortage of nurses and cost-of-living concerns, among other issues.

In other business, the board reviewed the implementation of Adventist HealthCare's corporate compliance plan. This plan includes a code of ethical behavior, mechanisms to report concerns and conflicts when making decisions and standards of conduct for employees relating to issues such as conflict of interest,

Continued on page 8

Timeline

October 17, 1999	The <i>Washington Post</i> begins running stories alleging declining patient care at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, which is operated by Adventist HealthCare (AHC).
October 18, 1999	Maryland health department investigators begin an on-site probe of complaints about low staffing levels.
October 22, 1999	The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) performs a one-day surprise survey.
November 3, 1999	Cory Chambers, Adventist HealthCare CEO, announces his resignation at a special board meeting.
November 15, 1999	The Maryland health department releases a report of its on-site probe. The JCAHO puts Shady Grove's accreditation status on probation or preliminary non-accreditation.
December 13, 1999	Presentation by AHC before the JCAHO in Chicago appealing Shady Grove's preliminary non-accreditation status.
February 3, 2000	JCAHO report expected.

Continued from page 7

employment law and informed consent, among other things. The development of a corporate compliance plan was approved by the board this past year, and orientation for all employees began earlier this year.

Earlier in December, the board appointed a quality committee to govern the organization's various performance improvement processes. This action was reviewed at the December 16 meeting. The board also appointed a strategic planning committee to oversee the development of Adventist HealthCare's planning process.

The board renamed the existing finance committee as the business affairs committee. All members of the board will be invited to these committee meetings.

The board appointed a professional practice committee that will be responsible for overseeing the credentialing process and other medical staff issues. This committee will regularly report its activities to the board.

Adventist HealthCare is the faith-based, nonprofit organization that operates Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Washington Adventist Hospital, Hackettstown Community Hospital (New Jersey); seven nursing centers; a large home health care agency; and a number of other health care services.



Shady Grove Adventist Hospital is a center for children's care in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Articles published by the *Washington Post*

Sunday, October 17	"Complaints by doctors about staffing and patient care"
Tuesday, October 19	"Maryland inspectors began an investigation"
Tuesday, October 26	"Surveyors from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) visit SGAH"
Friday, November 5	"Board accepts Chief Executive Cory Chambers' resignation"
Tuesday, November 16	"JCAHO evaluators recommend revoking the accreditation of SGAH"
Wednesday, November 17	"Maryland hospital inspectors issue report"
Wednesday, December 1	"Compensation of top executives at Adventist HealthCare (AHC)"
Thursday, December 2	"Patient care at Sligo Creek nursing home and other facilities run by AHC"
Wednesday, December 8	"AHC leaders speak to Montgomery County Council"
Thursday, December 9	"Washington Adventist Hospital surprise inspection by surveyors from the JCAHO"
Sunday, December 12	"JCAHO has been under scrutiny for supposedly being too lenient"
Tuesday, December 14	"AHC officials go to JCAHO headquarters in Chicago to appeal"
Tuesday, December 21	"SGAH sued by family of woman who died"
Wednesday, December 22	"Pay raise for nurses"

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital creates a new place for children and families

An unexpected visit to a hospital can be a traumatic event for a child, but Shady Grove Adventist Hospital is combatting this problem by creating a place that caters to the needs of children. About 27 percent of all emergency patients cared for at SGAH are under the age of 18. The hospital recently opened a brand new, 11-bed unit for pediatric patients. The unit complements its acclaimed pediatric emergency department—the only one of its kind in Montgomery County and one of only three in the state of Maryland. The department, which opened in July 1996, treated 12,000 children this past year.

Developed with the specific needs of children in mind, unique features of the pediatric unit include bright, cheerful color schemes, child-sized furniture, a special playroom and even a toy train suspended from the ceiling throughout the unit. The emergency department also includes child-friendly components with specially designed equipment. The units are staffed with professionals trained in emergency and pediatric medicine and are committed to working with patients and families to deliver the best imaginable care for the child and family.

Shady Grove also has neonatal and pediatric intensive care units. In the neonatal unit, expert neonatologists are supported by a highly trained and competent staff of nurses, nurse practitioners and respiratory therapists,

as well as top-notch equipment specially designed for the unit's premature and acutely ill infants. The pediatric intensive care unit is the first and only one of its kind in Montgomery County. This unit also features a staff of adept professionals, including board-certified pediatric intensivists, pediatric critical care nurses, pediatric respiratory therapists and a pediatric social worker. Shady Grove Adventist Hospital provides family-centered, comprehensive health care for infants, children and adolescents.



The pediatric emergency department at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital treated more than 12,000 children in the past year.



Two nurses provide care in the neonatal intensive care unit, part of Shady Grove's extensive range of pediatric services.

Pediatric emergency department vital statistics

- The new, 11-bed unit opened on December 21, 1999.
- The pediatric emergency department opened in July 1996 with eight beds and the mission of treating pediatric patients under the age of 18. In just three years, there was a definite need to expand.
- The Peds ED at Shady Grove is the only one of its kind in Montgomery County and is one of three in the state of Maryland.
- In 1998, the Pediatric ED treated some 12,000 children. In addition, the "main" emergency department treated an additional 4,900 pediatric patients. Twenty-seven percent of all emergency patients seen at Shady Grove are under the age of 18.

Washington Adventist Hospital cardiologist performs first state-of-the-art heart procedure in U.S.

A new, non-surgical heart procedure to relieve severe angina was performed by a cardiologist at Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) in Takoma Park, Maryland, for the first time in the United States on December 15.

Fayaz Shawl, director of interventional cardiology at WAH, was the first to perform the procedure in the world this past August during a trip to India after performing animal studies in the United States. The procedure, known as Mechanical Percutaneous Myocardial Revascularization (MPMR), is designed for patients who suffer from diffusely diseased blockages in their arteries and for whom other forms of treatment, such as angioplasty or bypass surgery, either haven't worked or aren't an option. Many such patients are candidates for heart transplants. These patients suffer from severe angina (chest pain) or have severely limited mobility as a result of their condition.

"This is a safer, less-invasive alternative for patients who previously had little hope for resuming a normal life because of the progression of disease in their heart

and the amount of blockage in their arteries," noted Dr. Shawl.

During the procedure, a catheter is threaded through the femoral artery into the heart. A tiny needle rotating at 1,000 to 2,000 revolutions per minute is placed inside the catheter and used to drill 10 to 15 tiny holes, usually in two rows, in the heart. These holes create channels for blood to flow through the heart, thus bypassing the severely clogged arteries, which restrict the necessary supply of blood. This concept was derived from the hearts of reptiles, which circulate blood through channels rather than blood vessels.

"MPMR allows for easier navigation and greater precision, particularly in controlling the depth of the holes we make in the heart, and we expect the study will show this procedure provides good clinical outcomes for the patient," said Shawl.

The first U.S. patient to receive MPMR was a 53-year-old man with severe coronary artery disease. This patient has had coronary artery bypass surgery and at least a dozen angioplasties since 1990. He also has severe lung disease and is not a candidate for any other cardiovascular intervention.

According to the American Heart Association, more than 12 million Americans suffer from coronary artery disease, which is characterized by a progressive narrowing of the arteries that supply the heart. Some patients who suffer from severe recurring angina often are unable to conduct even the simplest of activities of daily living. Dr. Shawl estimates that eight to 10 percent of those with coronary artery disease—nearly a million Americans—could benefit from this new procedure.

This procedure is similar to PTMR, which uses a laser to burn holes in the heart but differs in several important ways. First, mechanical PMR uses a scoring needle that's more precise than a laser, allowing the cardiologist to control the depth of the holes. In addition, the scoring needle enables the cardiologist to extract tissue for study, including tests for genetic clues to the development of heart disease. Also, the instrument used in the mechanical PMR procedure costs approximately \$10,000 to \$20,000, which is much less expensive than the laser (\$250,000) used in the PTMR procedure.

Dr. Shawl is also a clinical professor of medicine at George Washington School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. He is one of an elite group of cardiologists participating in a multi-site study for the mechanical PMR device developed by AngloTrax of Sunnyvale, California. Shawl plans to present the study findings at the American College of Cardiology Annual Session in March.



Mechanical Percutaneous Myocardial Revascularization (MPMR), is designed for patients who suffer from diffusely diseased blockages in their arteries and for whom other forms of treatment, such as angioplasty and bypass surgery, either haven't worked or aren't an option.

Healing MINISTRY



Why do we have Adventist HealthCare facilities?

This article originally appeared in the January 15, 1997, issue of A Healing Ministry. Its message is still crucial, however, to maintaining a faith-based, Adventist health-care system. We hope that this reprint, which has been shortened slightly, will inspire hope, faith and courage for those working and being served by Columbia Union Adventist HealthCare institutions.—Editor

Since 1991, Adventist HealthCare leaders and Adventist Church leaders have met six times to discuss a broad range of health-care issues of mutual interest. Our primary objective was to explore the current mission of Adventist HealthCare in the spotlight of our historical spiritual roots.

In 1863, the year of the formal organization of the Adventist Church, Ellen White had a comprehensive health vision that quickly influenced church leaders. She wrote convincingly about the intimate relationship between physical and spiritual health. Within three years, in 1866, our first health-related center was opened for the care of the sick and to give instruction regarding the preventive and restorative properties of such neglected elements as exercise, nutrition, sanitation, fresh air, fresh water and sunshine.

Thus began a health-care ministry chain that would ultimately circle the globe, first in locations across North America and then overseas. Today, there are more than 150 Adventist hospitals around the world, including Loma Linda University, Washington Adventist Hospital, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Kettering Medical Center and Florida Medical Center, the denomination's largest health-care institution.

Every year, more people enter Adventist health-care facilities than any other Adventist-owned/operated facilities.

The continuation of a health-care ministry is a compelling illustration of the seriousness with which Adventists take the words of Jesus in His Olivet sermon: "I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me water; I was a stranger and you invited me into your homes; naked and you clothed me; sick and in prison, and you visited me" (Matthew 25:35, 36 LB).

This series of six conferences has taken place during a time of extraordinary challenge because of rapid changes taking place within the health-care industry. But times of challenge are also times of opportunity, and Adventist

HealthCare is orienting itself to rapid, fundamental changes in health-care delivery.


Central to the future of Adventist HealthCare is a commitment to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Thus, Adventist HealthCare seeks the integration of a personal faith in Jesus Christ with competent health-care delivery because this creates a health-care *ministry*.

Searching for models and metaphors to guide us, we think of this ministry in three concentric circles. We do not choose between them; we pursue all three. Adventist HealthCare's first objective is to facilitate health, wellness and patient comfort (the first concentric circle). But compassionate Christian care (the second circle, which sets us apart from secular institutions) often stimulates interest in the church that sponsors such a ministry (inner circle, our Adventist lifestyle and belief system to be modeled by administration and staff). For this reason, Adventist HealthCare institutions across the Columbia Union are an important part of Adventism's "get acquainted" bouquet of opportunities.

Adventist HealthCare seeks the integration of a personal faith in Jesus Christ with competent health-care delivery because this creates a health-care ministry.



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

Healing  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
Regional correspondents: Deborah McCollough • Robert Jepson

The mission of Adventist health

Nearly 100 health-care professionals, including physicians, nurses and other practitioners, health-care administrators and educators came together in Dayton, Ohio,

sources with the community, especially those in need.

Every day, KMC provides care to men, women and families who cannot afford critically important screenings and nutritious meals. The medical center's financial health



Vernon Luthas was an original staff physician at the Charles F. Kettering Memorial Hospital.



Medical center Chaplain Linda Mills Farley has been recognized by the Dayton community as one of the most influential and highly regarded chaplains in the area.



KCMA President Price and staff participated in the

early in November to study the healing ministry of Jesus and to examine the role of Kettering Medical Center as it strives to fulfill this mission.

Knowing that healing the whole person is a complex responsibility, attendees listened to spiritual messages in several forms: literature, music, homily and Biblical and Spirit of Prophecy study—as well as academic and managerial issues faced by Adventist HealthCare. Much informal discussion before and after scheduled presentations energized and enriched the assembly, which met several times from Friday evening vespers through a moderated Sunday morning panel.

The unique role of Kettering Medical Center presents unusual opportunities for the Seventh-day Adventist community in the Dayton area, where the medical center is a well-recognized and important part of the community at large. This role has grown in the recent past to include the medical needs of people in the northern part of Dayton—most of whom had not had ready access to Adventist HealthCare, and some of whom have been under-served in the past.

First, Kettering Medical Center's financial security has gained its several constituent hospitals and services much respect in the region because it can afford to share its re-

helps maintain the personal health of its community.

Second, from the very beginning, Kettering Medical Center—originally the Charles F. Kettering Memorial Hospital—was founded and funded in 1967 by Eugene and Virginia Kettering, son and daughter-in-law of well-known American inventor Charles F. Kettering. Their vision for the

“Without ethical practices among all segments of the medical center, no healing can take place among those who come to it for relief. And without financial stability, no progress can be made in health care, nor can further promises be made to the community.”



Keynote presenter Rebera Foston, M.D. presented her own poetry in a reading evening vespers

hospital was one that strove to maintain the very highest standards of whole-person healing that have now become synonymous with Seventh-day Adventist health care. Their

Care at Kettering Medical Center

vision was also one of a truly community-oriented service. The Charles F. Kettering Memorial Hospital was to be a community hospital in every sense of the word. Today, Dayton area residents recognize Kettering Medical Center's com-

Since then, education has been a critical part of the organization as a whole. Partnerships with other universities and colleges are also now in place, and KMC plays a leading and unique role in medical education in the Greater Miami



Moeller (center), Bob Peach (right), Susan Moeller and Cedric Pritchett participate in Sabbath School.

"For I was hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me. . . . Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me"—Matthew 25:35-36, 40 (KJV).

River Valley. A teaching role in the community is a vital part of the mission of the medical center.

Finally, professional excellence at KMC is well known. Maintaining the highest levels of medical care, of which the community is understandably proud—Kettering Medical Center has been listed as one of the 30 most significant hospitals in oncology treatment in the nation, which requires recruiting and keeping the best practitioners and researchers available, an ongoing resource-intensive activity.

commitment to caring for its fellow citizens and rely on the complex supportive role the medical center has been able to take. This responsibility to the people who helped establish the medical center has encouraged KMC to reach out and nurture a wide variety of community activities that contribute to the welfare of the Greater Miami River Valley.

mind, men and women who work with and for the many divisions of Kettering Medical Center put their services to the test of *The Mission of Adventist HealthCare*, a document prepared by Adventist Church leaders after five years of study on how to fulfill the mission of Seventh-day Adventist health-care institutions in North America in the 21st century.



George Nelson, original administrator of the Charles F. Kettering Hospital (now KMC), offered a wide historical perspective.



Mrs. Vernon Luthas (left), attorney Ted Ramirez and Mayble Craig, vice president for nursing services, visit together during Sunday afternoon's lunch.

Another important element of what is now Kettering Medical Center was founded shortly after the hospital became operational: Kettering College of Medical Arts.

Various considerations about the nature of health care in
Continued on page 14

The mission of Adventist health care at Kettering Medical Center

Continued from page 13
America, including common business and management practices and the general difficulty most industrialized nations have had in providing health care equitably, including the need to ensure professionalism, an overt Christian environment and a recognized Adventist presence in church-related health-care facilities.

The Mission of Adventist Health-Care includes a brief history of the nature and development of Adventist health care and a discussion of the ethical issues facing Adventist practitioners and administrators. In short, Kettering Medical Center—and all Adventist institutions—are held to the highest levels of Christian behavior toward all human beings: practitioners and patients, management, staff and community members who have invested trust in the local Adventist institution and who rightly expect the highest standards from the medical center and the Church that stands behind it.

Without ethical practices among all segments of the medical center, no healing can take place among those who come to it for relief. And without financial stability, no progress can be made in health care, nor can further promises be made to the community.

Kettering Medical Center underwent a careful self-study for three

days, including a review of both Biblical teachings and guidance from the Spirit of Prophecy about the role of healers. Greg Wise, M.D., vice president for medical integration, presented Sabbath morning's study, which was followed by Southern Adventist University President Gordon Bietz's worship message, delivered at the Dayton Westminster Presbyterian

From Mike Turner, mayor of Dayton, Ohio: "The presence of Kettering Medical Center is certainly an asset to our community. The faith-based approach to health care and healing are important to many Daytonians. KMC is well known for its numerous accomplishments and dedicated staff members. We appreciate their commitment and service to citizens of the greater Dayton area."

Church. Sunday morning brought hospital founders, original staff people, present health-care practitioners, board of trustees members and administrators together to recap and synthesize the conference activities and to make plans for another confer-

ence of its type to take place within the next two years.

The weekend concluded with a report from Frank Perez, FACHE, chief operating officer of Kettering Medical Center, on the successes the medical center has enjoyed in light of financial security, professional excellence, scriptural mandates and community expectations in and for KMC. "No other hospital is as close to the Church's original intention for community-influencing health care; no other hospital continues in this role so successfully as KMC today. If I did not believe this with all my heart, I would not be here today."

The challenges are great for all Adventist health-care organizations; however, in many ways, it is clear that Kettering Medical Center has met and grown beyond those challenges. "Jesus is our example," testified Mayble Craig, vice president for patient care, during the panel discussion, indicating how that truth lies behind much of KMC's success. This truth resonated

throughout the weekend as it energized the employees of Kettering Medical Center to continue to evidence a "disinterested love of Jesus to a suffering humanity," to our Church and to the community that relies upon its message.

ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE IN THE COLUMBIA UNION

Adventist Home Health Services, Inc.
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
(937) 299-0099

Kettering Medical Center Home Care
1259 East Dorothy Lane
Kettering, OH 45419
(937) 296-7820

Kettering Memorial Hospital
3535 Southern Blvd.
Kettering, OH 45429
(937) 298-4331

Kettering Workers' Care
2023 Springboro West
Dayton, OH 45439
(937) 293-7770

Kettering Youth Services
5350 Lamme Rd.
Kettering, OH 45439

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
(937) 866-2984

Sycamore Hospital
2150 Leiter Road
Miamisburg, OH 45342
(937) 866-0551

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

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Blue Mountain Academy

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Sorensen vision becomes reality

Dr. Gene and Patricia Sorensen have held Blue Mountain Academy close to their hearts for years. Having four children graduate from BMA naturally plays a big part in their love for our school. They have given much to BMA over the years. Their generosity includes a family endowment to benefit worthy students and becoming gold members of our Committee of 100, which also funds worthy students. Thinking ahead, they also set up a charitable gift annuity to help fund future needs of the school.

Their most recent contribution had students, faculty and staff sharing in a grand opening celebration. I remember Trish saying, "For years, I've wanted a place where parents can sit with their children and have a picnic lunch or just talk." That dream became a vision, and because of their generosity, the vision became a reality!

On November 12, Sorensens came for an official grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for our new pavilion.

Following the ceremony, we had a celebration lunch, including a special cake made by Food Service Director Chuck Allen.

We were inspired by the love displayed by this couple and glad to let the students actually meet the Sorensens.



Coming Events

January

21-22 - Tour Weekend

30 - Alumni Career Day/
College Fair

February

2-6 - Homeleave

2-8 - Ground School

9-12 - CUC Band Fest

13-16 - Phonathon

18-19 - Tour Weekend

20 - Open House/
Reception

24 - Service Explosion

26 - Junior Presentation
March

3-4 - Tour Weekend

8-21 - Mission Trip

9-19 - Spring Break

Alumni Central
and general
information visit
our website at:
www.bma.k12.pa.us

Senior Recognition Weekend

Senior Recognition began with a vesper program on Friday evening. Pastor Jerry Small, father of Dustin,



Pastor Jerry Small with his son, Dustin.

He challenged students to be mindful of the "little" things, using the story of Joseph, who understood true success because he knew Jesus Christ. The evening ended with the traditional candlelighting ceremony and the song, "Side by Side."

Sabbath school included music and a skit. The lesson was presented by Charles and Barbara



Charles and Barbara Rutt.

Rutt, parents of Jonathan, who challenged students to think about their memories of BMA, their dreams and how to bring Jesus into the millennium. La Sonnette Ensemble, Bel Canto and the Sylvan Singers shared their talents during the church service. Paul Tooley, uncle of Raelinda, gave the sermon. He reminded us that rejoicing is a gift from God and not

something we can turn on or off at will. True rejoicing comes from the heart.

Class Pastor Denise Golden presented the Sabbath vesper message. She described how we need to trust God for everything. With God in control, we have nothing to worry about!

Class Night was a mixture of music and skits,

ending with the class song and seniors being introduced and marching out in their class outfits.



Denise Golden, class pastor.



Paul Tooley, the Sabbath morning speaker.



Seniors gather for a picture following recognition.

DYK

Dr. Laurel Dovich, an engineering professor at Walla Walla College in College Place, Washington, visited the Algebra II and Physics classes recently to discuss engineering as a career option.

Dr. Dovich is a structural engineer whose specialty is designing ways to retrofit strengthening modifications to existing structures to better withstand seismic events. In plain English, she figures out how to keep existing structures standing during earthquakes.

As part of her presentation, she demonstrated a graphic bridge-designing program that allows the user to build and test a bridge by building it on the screen and then driving a truck across it. The compression and tension loads in the beams are shown in varying shades of color to indicate the magnitude of the forces. The program, a free download from West Point Military Academy, is now available on our computer network.

Cary Corbin, Math/Physics Instructor

BMA JAGUAR!

“You want to donate a Jaguar and a Plymouth Voyager to BMA!” How exciting to learn that Tim and Donna Bainum ('72) were planning to donate these two vehicles to Blue Mountain Academy.

We arranged to meet with the Bainums and pick up the vehicles from their home on the eastern shore of Maryland. During our visit, we were treated to a tasty lunch at their restaurant in the Quality Inn Beachfront overlooking the ocean and enjoyed getting to know Tim and Donna a little better.

Once again, God has been doing wonderful things for BMA, and we are especially thankful for the generosity of people like the Bainums.



Handing over the keys!



Spencer Hannah,
Principal

We are still here!

We are still here! Those words are somewhat bittersweet. In light of Y2K, I'm glad nothing major happened—at least you got your *Communique!* However, in light of the past 2,000 years, I'm sad that nothing major has happened—like the second coming of Christ. As

you read this issue, I pray that God will impress you with a desire to hasten that coming.

There are many ways we can be involved in preparing for that glorious day. At Blue Mountain Academy, we are committed to educating our youth. We are proud of our program, but as we head into the 21st Century, we need to redouble our efforts to prepare our students to face the complex, sin-filled world in which we live. More than that, we want to empower them to look beyond this world and its distractions to the hope of eternity. This is not an easy task, but as we strive to make it happen, many of you assist us in

many ways.

Thank you to all who volunteer your time and energies to help BMA. Some come during the summer to help us prepare for camp meeting and/or the next school year. Without your efforts, we would be hard pressed. Thank you to those who have committed to praying for BMA, its students and staff. Many have united as Prayer Patch Partners and are praying for specific students on a regular basis. Your prayers are of great benefit to them.

Thank you also to those who financially support the vision of a growing, vibrant school. We are excited about the new pavilion on campus and offer a special “thank you” to the Sorensens for making their vision a reality. I know God has given others a burden. Please follow through on His prompting and support our efforts here at BMA. Thanks again for your support.

Parent Day

On Sunday, parents met with teachers for conferences, and our music and tumbling groups shared their talents at an assembly program.



The Sylvan Singers, under the direction of Tom Buller.



The Aerial Aires, coached by Steve Wilson.



The BMA Concert Band, under the direction of Tom Buller.



Bel Canto, the touring choir, also directed by Tom Buller.

Students reach out in Pennsylvania churches

It is a powerful witness to hear our young people share their passion for Jesus Christ, and this year's In-Reach Sabbath was a good example.

Each fall, we send out teams to Pennsylvania churches to provide the sermon, children's story, special music and whatever else might be needed. It is a great experience for the students and a blessing to the congregations!

Cecily Allen, 2002; Dean Barcelow, 2001; Laura Cates, 2000; Carol Corbin, 2000; Fritz Fandino, 2000; Derrick Heisey, 2000; Marty Maxwell, 2000; Dolly Porowski, 2000; and Lance Robbins, 2003, spent many

hours studying and planning their sermons and preached in 17 churches!



Laura Cates, Kelly Allen, Daniela Treitl and Roberto Vargas were one team that visited churches.

Potomac People

January 2000

What's happening around Potomac

Conference Executive Committee
Site to be arranged
January 19

Teachers Convention
Virginia Beach
January 23, 24

Elementary String Festival
Shenandoah Valley Academy
January 27-29

Youth Rally—Valley Region
Staunton, VA, Church
January 29

Bible Camp
Camp Blue Ridge
February 3-6

New Employee Orientation
Potomac Resource Office, Staunton
February 10

English Camp Meeting
Shenandoah Valley Academy
June 13-17 (note revision)

Office of Education year-end report

Prepared by Clarence Dunbebin, Associate Superintendent

The Potomac Conference Office of Education oversees 21 elementary and K-12 secondary schools. In addition, we monitor Potomac's two senior academies—Shenandoah Valley Academy and Takoma Academy. Total student enrollment is 2,339.

Potomac's senior academies enrolled 637 for the 1999-2000 school year. In addition, two K-12 academies have 48 students enrolled in their secondary programs. Junior academies account for another 49 secondary students.

One hundred sixteen teachers staff the K-12 portion of our program. The secondary section has 56 teachers.

Professional growth activities

All education employees, including the superintendents, are required to maintain certification for their positions. Recently, 12 of the principals and superintendents attended the Fourth Annual Worldwide Lessons in Leadership Series seminar. The seminar was a one-day live, closed-circuit satellite presentation. It featured leadership experts such as the following: Ken Blanchard, Stephen Covey, Tom Peters and Margaret Wheatley. The University of Richmond sponsored the local seminar group.

In addition to specialized seminars

such as the leadership series, teachers and principals enroll in graduate programs and complete university courses for recertification. Currently, five teachers are pursuing master's degree programs that include the following disciplines: reading, learning disabilities and general education. One principal is pursuing a doctoral program in administration.

The Columbia Union Conference Office of Education and the Potomac Conference Office of Education share in the costs for these programs.

Making friends with other educators

Potomac Conference superintendents and principals keep abreast of what is happening in the education world by involving themselves with professional educators who represent the Commonwealth of Virginia's and Maryland's state departments of education and other professional organizations. For ex-



Tim Simon



Clarence Dunbebin



Gary Temple

(continued on page 20)

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A millennial resolution

The year 2000 is the last year of the 20th Century and the final year till our next Potomac quadrennial session. Our goals of 5,000 baptisms, 20 new churches planted and a conference membership of 24,000 are well within reach. God has blessed us abundantly in soul winning; yet there is much more that needs to be accomplished.

During the 1990s, we took a close look at our education program. Our education commission established priorities for Christian education; and our last two constituency meetings voted financial resources to accomplish those goals. Our educational director, Gary Temple, has guided our educators in moving from a K-10 program that was good to a K-12 system that is outstanding. Few conferences in the North American Division can come close to the organizational structure that we have. Our dedicated teachers and school staff provide a quality Christian education for your youth.

The next challenge our conference must address is a master plan for church growth. We have established a church in most counties in our conference; but we have not kept up with the rapid growth of our major metropolitan areas. Seventy-four percent of people living in Potomac are in Metro D.C., Richmond and Tidewater, Virginia. We must develop a church planting strategy and a plan for increasing the number of pastors in our conference. A task force of pastors and lay leaders will be commissioned to address these needs and present their plans for conference-wide support at our next conference session.

During 2000, a new literature ministry program is being initiated. The two-fold emphasis will be on finding new ways to get truth-filled literature into the hands of people and to train lay people in the art of visiting interests and giving Bible studies. The goal is to train disciples. As these plans are finalized, you will be hearing how you and your church can get involved.

As I write this new year challenge, the final soul-winning numbers are not in for 1999. However, through November, our Spanish pastors had come close to 900 in their goal of baptizing 1,000 in 1999. We know that whatever the final total, Potomac's baptisms for 1999 will set an all-time high. Praise God for His leading and for the faithful efforts of all our pastors and lay people. We thank all our members for their faithfulness and commitment to the finishing of the Lord's work. I challenge each of you to consider becoming a disciple. The beginning of the third millennium A.D. emphasizes the need for that type of commitment. It is past time to get involved in personal witnessing. Make a millennial resolution: Become a soul winner.

Herbert Broeckel, President



Editorial

Education year-end report continued from page 19

ample, the Virginia Council for Private Education (VCPE) recently elected Gary Temple, Potomac's superintendent, to be secretary of the organization. As an officer of the group, Temple will help to impact private education within the Commonwealth of Virginia. VCPE appointed Timothy Simon to serve as the recording secretary for its meetings.

Clarence Dunbebin, associate superintendent for Potomac's northern Virginia/Maryland district, is associated with the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSACS). MSACS accredits public and private schools

for the Middle-Atlantic States area.

Sligo Adventist School was the first Adventist school to be accredited by Middle States. Now, both John Nevins Andrews School and Beltsville Adventist School are accredited members of the association.

Takoma Academy has secondary accreditation with MSACS. Shenandoah Valley Academy is an accredited member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

In October, Dunbebin represented the Middle States Association in accrediting the Home Study International K-12 program. The visiting team represented the Com-

mission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation (CITA), Middle States Association for Colleges and Schools (MSACS) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

New code books published

In the spring of 1999, a committee appointed by the Columbia Union Conference Office of Education submitted its report. Dunbar Henri, David Waller and Clarence Dunbebin, committee chair, represented the Potomac Conference on the committee.

The Potomac Conference Office of Education,

under Superintendent Gary Temple's leadership, has published a Potomac Conference Education Code to supplement the union code. The conference also published a new education employee's handbook to complement the two code books.

For the first time, the office of education distributed the Columbia Union Education Code book to all the teachers, principals and school board chairs. This action allows these groups of leaders to have first-hand access to the various policies governing their K-12 schools, notes Temple.

(continued on page 24)

Department of Legal Affairs and God's blessings in 1999

The principal objective of the department of legal affairs for the Potomac Conference is the preparation of God's remnant to

meet the Saviour. We are called the Remnant because of a saving relationship with Him,

and that relationship produces obedience. One area of Christian obedience by which God measures the faithfulness of a believer is by one's giving patterns

Him. The Spirit of Prophecy states, "The very act of giving expands the heart of the giver, and unites him more fully to the Redeemer of the world. He was rich but for our sakes He became poor, that we through His poverty might be made rich." *Counsels on Stewardship*, page 30. The department of legal affairs staff is blessed immeasurably by witnessing the "poor" of this world becoming "rich" through the very act of giving to God's cause.

Ellen White writes the following, which involves a pure motive for one's giving: "The spirit of Christian liberality will strengthen as it is exercised, and will not need to

In the legal affairs department, we are indeed blessed because of the privilege to witness the saints of God with a cheerful readiness "press their gifts into the Lord's treasury."

During 1999, the legal affairs department witnessed the faithfulness of our people. Their belief in the soon coming of Jesus, motivated by their love of God, has resulted in 491 wills being written during this past year. Most of these named the Lord's work as beneficiary in order that the gospel mission can be fulfilled and God's Kingdom established soon. The work of the Department of Legal Affairs is a

long-range program that serves in harmony with the Spirit of God "hovering" over an individual for several years until the decision is made to write a will or fund a trust. No matter how much time and praying, it is always exciting to see a heart expanded by the very act of giving through Christian estate planning.

You can be sure that the gifts to the Lord's work of \$410,999 for 1999 didn't develop overnight. Many times, these funds are the result of much prayer over an entire lifetime. Sometimes, it is the result of work and prayer by a trust officer 20 or 30 years ago. The seed is sown. That same seed is watered and nur-

tured by pastors who may come and go. That same seed continues to be watered and nurtured through the years by trust officers.

And finally, because of loving and caring church families, the seed sprouts and grows into a decision to include God's work in one's estate plan.

During this past year, we have seen the result of God's Spirit working on hearts. We have seen the results of the Spirit of Christ growing in hundreds of hearts. He is preparing these precious souls to be obedient because they love God. Year after year, we continue to be thrilled as we witness God preparing a people of the Kingdom.

Who among us would ever have thought that we would still be here on the dawn of this new millennium? I pray that the "stone" of Daniel 7 will be hurled at the feet of the image in 2000 A.D.

Department of Legal Affairs

T. R. Knoll Sr.
Attorney at Law

Clinton Adams
Field Representative

Harold Zacharias
Field Representative

Year after year, we continue to be thrilled as we witness God preparing a people of the Kingdom.

through Tithes and offerings. There are many factors that form an accurate base for evaluating one's commitment to the church and to his God. These together with Tithes and offerings are called doctrines. If we are to please God, none of these are to be left undone. As the Remnant, we want to unite our lives more fully with our Lord. We, therefore, obey not to gain favor with our Saviour but rather because of the saving relationship we have with

be unhealthfully stimulated. All who possess this spirit, the spirit of Christ, will with cheerful alacrity press their gifts into the Lord's treasury. Inspired by love for Christ and for the souls for whom He has died, they feel an intense earnestness to act their part with fidelity." *Counsels on Stewardship*, page 30.



Harold Zacharias



Clinton Adams



T.R. Knoll Sr.

A season of change: youth ministries year-end report

One of the spectacular wonders that I'm beginning to enjoy with East Coast living is the changing of the colors that comes with the autumn of the year. In the

to the history-rich communities of Virginia. For the department, this year brought new leadership, new staffing and new visioning. One of my passions, which I'm trying to

minister to the needs of the community immediately surrounding their church. This is a plan that will continue to be provided in every regional leadership workshop.

number joined together for four days for small-group Bible study and prayer. The Holy Spirit of God poured out upon these young people, as was evident by the many conversion stories, declarations of repentance and requests for prayer. On Sabbath, October 30, these young people dispersed over the D.C. area to minister to

To further become empowered, many teens from across Virginia and the D.C. area attended the Teens

Youth are not a body of people to be entertained, but an army of kids to be empowered for God's ministry.



past few weeks, I've witnessed the trees here in the Shenandoah Valley change from being green to different shades of bright orange, red and yellow. Now, as I look out the window of my office, the trees have lost most of their leaves. Yet, without this annual cycle that culminates in bleak and bareness, there can never be the hope of new life and opportunities that come with the spring of each year.

This year was also a time of change and transition, both for the department of youth ministries and me as the director. For myself, the change took the form of relocation with a move from the beautiful shores of Hawaii

share, is that youth are not a body of people to be entertained, but an army of kids to be empowered for God's ministry. It is my hope that, in time, this way of thinking about our youth will permeate every event we plan for youth ministries.

This past year, God has already begun to lead the youth in this direction. During the two youth leaders workshops that were held in Takoma Park, Maryland, and Wytheville, Virginia, a plan was outlined that describes how the youth of local churches can begin to min-



Pray '99 conference. Together with teens from across the country, and even Bermuda and Hawaii, these teens of about 300 in

several churches and to do outreach activities in those communities. Two groups did "Prayer Walking." One group went to Herndon;



Denton Grady

the other group went into downtown D.C. and walked around the

White House and Capitol Building. Members of Beltsville Church continued to worship until 1:30 in the afternoon as they heard one teen after another stand up to share their testimonies.

The fervor continued as local students who attended the Teens Pray conference came together two weeks later for Youthfest '99, a D.C. area youth rally. It's not enough to feel God's presence in your life; you have to share it with somebody in order for it to stay fresh and relevant. At Youthfest '99, these empowered students ministered to those teens of the area who were unable to attend the Teens Pray conference. To keep this youth movement rolling, opportunities must be given for the teens to lead out in ministries. Their voices and music need to be heard in their home churches.

Among the Hispanic youth, momentum is growing as well. At their annual youth campout held in September at Camp Blue Ridge, nearly 400 young people from the Hispanic community came together for praising, fellowship and spiritual revival and training. In Norfolk, youth from area

churches came together in June for spiritual revival and training. God's presence was felt there as well, as these racially mixed students joined together for praise, worship, outreach and fellowship.

Among the lives of college students, we are seeing God's presence at work. In early October, Columbia Union College hosted a Week of Prayer that culminated in the powerful Gateway Live young adult rally. The rally combined the powerful preaching of LeClair Litchfield and the heart-touching music of contemporary Christian artist Crystal Lewis.

Like the older youth, our

the five-day, 22,000-person event. And with more than 150 different events to choose from on a daily basis, the activities were non-stop.



junior youth have experienced a busy and fulfilling year. Those in the Pathfinder program experienced more camping and traveling than usual this year due to the NAD Discover the Power Pathfinder Camporee. Out of the 500+ Pathfinders registered here in the Potomac Conference, more than 300 made the journey in August to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, for

Earlier this year, Pathfinders from around the conference had come together for our annual camporee. This year, our conference camporee was held on the grounds of Fishnet Park in Front Royal, home of the Christian Music Festival. The theme of the camporee was "Preparedness." One of the highlights of the weekend

was Sunday morning when campers participated in a simulation game designed to test how prepared they were to give first aid.

Speaking of preparedness, I don't think it's possible to prepare for the kind of fun you'll experience when you come to Camp Blue Ridge as a summer camper. Between the horseback riding, canoeing, golfing, water skiing and the new go-cart track, campers were experiencing more fun than a human being should be allowed to have.

And my kudos go out to pastors Diane Halvorsen, Tony Mavrakos and Geoff and Alicia Patterson for their spiritual influence at camp this past summer, as well as to Bonny Musgrave and all the rest of the summer camp staff who made CBR a wonderful experience for the kids.

As I mentioned earlier, change is in the air. Be looking for a change in the way youth ministries looks in the year 2000. At a quick glance, you'll see changes in our programming of youth activities; and if you look closely, you may see a change in our approach to camping.

I feel good about the direction youth ministries is taking because I know that God is in control. "We have nothing to fear for the future lest we forget how God has led in the past." Who said that?

Denton Grady, Director of Youth Ministries

Education year-end report continued from page 20

Takoma Academy move

For nearly two years, the Takoma Academy board and administration have been working on plans to determine the feasibility of moving the school to a new site. Dr. Larry Kromann and Glenn Culpepper, attorney, have

Professional growth of a different kind

The Potomac Conference Office of Education and the Columbia Union Conference Office of Education regularly plan educational conventions to provide professional growth opportunities for improving

instruction. In January 2000, the conference held a two-day convention in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Many Potomac teachers will join about 5,000 Adventist educators from across the North American Division who will meet in Dallas, Texas, in August of the year 2000. This is the first division-wide gathering of Adventist educators, says Gary Temple. He adds, "We expect nearly half of our teachers will attend." The conference and union offices of education are sharing with the teachers and school boards in the cost of attending.

K-12 academies

The Potomac Conference now has two officially recognized K-12 secondary schools. They are Richmond Adventist Academy (RAA) in Richmond, Virginia, and Tidewater Adventist Academy (TAA), in the Tidewater area. Bill Friday is principal of RAA. Mark Walker is principal of TAA.

Both academies are deeply involved in programs to enlarge and strengthen their academic programs, notes Timothy Simon, associate superintendent for the Southern Virginia District of Potomac Schools.

Both academies are deeply involved in programs to enlarge and strengthen their academic programs.

spearheaded the effort. The academy's hopes of moving to a site across from the world headquarters of the General Conference suffered a setback recently when the Montgomery County Council reinstated its policy for slowing down growth in the county. "The academy's application and preliminary plans are still alive," notes Kromann. "However, everything is on hold indefinitely."

Recently, the academy held a meeting to discuss the problem with Adventists of three conferences who live in Montgomery. The meeting was called to encourage members to write letters to council members to encourage them to allow the application to move through the process.

Because of the ministerial council in Toronto, Ontario, on June 25-29, Potomac camp meeting dates for 2000 have been changed to June 13 through June 17 at Shenandoah Valley Academy, and there will be no Hispanic camp meeting in 2000.

Parade of academic excellence

Takoma Academy is very proud of its students' academic achievements. Following are the names of students listed for the 1st Semester Honor Roll. The list represents 55.8 percent of the TA student body. More than 50 percent of TA's students have a B average or higher. The freshman class leads the group with 65 percent having a G.P.A. of 3.00 or higher. The senior class is second with 61 percent of the students scoring a 3.00 or higher.

Also, each year, TA scholars are rewarded with National Merit Scholarship and Maryland Distinguished Scholars awards.

HONOR ROLL: 3.00—3.49

9th GRADE:

Jared Banks 3.11
 Dexter Basden 3.00
 Krystal Blackmon 3.22
 Courtney Brathwaite 3.00
 Natasha Cartledge 3.22
 Anthea Chatham 3.00
 Carleta Dixon 3.44
 Sasha Fandino 3.17
 Jonathan Greyson 3.00
 Yoel Habtemariam 3.11
 Racquel Hammonds 3.33
 Renee Jones 3.00
 Kiyauna Kingsberry 3.44
 Andre Matthews 3.22
 Leonard Moses 3.22
 Charisma Nicholas 3.33
 Clifford Poddar 3.33
 Ashley Scott 3.25
 Jared Snider 3.44
 Tara Strang 3.44
 Kenneth Turpen 3.44
 Martin Wallace 3.33
 Jonquile Williams 3.44

10th GRADE:

Kentrina Beynum 3.00
 Tinyse Bonner 3.11
 Tania Colindres 3.00
 Benjamin Congdon 3.33
 Joelyne Davis 3.33
 Tremayne Douglas 3.22
 Candice Drakes 3.25
 Andrea Geraci 3.11
 Malcolm Greyson 3.42
 Jeffrey Lopez 3.45
 David Mugerwa 3.22
 issa Perez 3.22
 Jessica Peter 3.00
 Elvin Rodriguez 3.00
 Melody Sam 3.00
 Jeremy Scriven 3.00
 Shawn Tatte 3.11
 Patrick Thelwell 3.11
 Brandon Tramel 3.34
 Shalisha Vanderhorst 3.33
 Ricquel Wheeler 3.33
 Ayanna Whyte 3.44
 Kyle Wimbish 3.44

11th GRADE:

Fritsma Audain 3.33
 Uldrick Beckford 3.00
 Sheri Campbell 3.00
 Andrea Chetram 3.11
 George Child 3.33
 Julia DeSilva 3.22
 James Gigante 3.44

Michael Haun 3.45
 Lamar Jennings 3.11
 Francesca Louis 3.00
 Stephanie Nelson 3.34
 Michelle Nicholson 3.33
 Tshespo Ramolefhe 3.00
 Maria Sersale 3.00
 Channon Snider 3.44
 Rumira Stephen 3.33
 Binley Taylor 3.00
 Jason Thompson 3.11
 Theodore Watkins 3.25

12th GRADE:

Kevin Abraham 3.00
 Laurel Blanco 3.00
 Tiffani Bradley 3.11
 Stacey-Ann Cameron 3.00
 Tiffani Claiborne 3.45
 Rory Daniels 3.45
 Brian Earp 3.33
 Melissa Echeverri 3.33
 Quashaunta Everson 3.22
 Esther Finney 3.33
 Janelle Fowler 3.34
 Jarreau Harris 3.00
 Prethi John 3.00
 Rebecca Mekeel 3.33
 Eun Young Park 3.34
 Brandon Phillips 3.33
 Lorena Rodriguez 3.44
 Andrew Saul 3.11
 Asashia Scott 3.22
 Courtney Scott 3.45
 Tiffany Shields 3.11
 Lamont Vaughan 3.34
 Charlene Williams 3.00
 Matthew Wilt 3.34
 Brian Wright 3.00

HONOR ROLL: 3.50—3.99

9th GRADE:

D'Andria Anderson 3.67
 Tanad Baramée 3.89
 Erika Brent 3.56
 Lindsay Brown 3.78
 Alicia Curry 3.78
 Tamika Curtis 3.56
 Amelia David 3.55
 Heylon Edwards 3.56
 Nicholas Goransson 3.89
 Armand Hutton 3.67
 K-Lita Jennings 3.78
 Gerard Limerick 3.78
 Lamont Lively 3.67
 Ezra Molina 3.56
 Anita Muganda 3.67
 Andrea Ochoa 3.78
 Victor Orion 3.78

Mariette Phillips 3.89
 Stevie Reynolds 3.78
 Georgette Shaw 3.56
 Reger Smith 3.89
 Kemi Suero 3.56
 Brian Tripp 3.56
 Christine Williams 3.55
 Lauren Woodfork 3.67
 Victor Wright 3.78
 Thomas Yirenkyyi 3.89

10th GRADE:

Adriane Beach-Evers 3.67
 Amara Belewa 3.89
 Jody Boyce 3.67
 James DeBerry 3.78
 Amberly Dunn 3.89
 Adriana Monsalve 3.78
 Meena Purushothaman 3.67
 Samantha Singer 3.67
 Pamela Vasconcellos 3.78
 Ryan Vasconcellos 3.56

11th GRADE:

Adebola Adepoju 3.89
 Nathan Anderson 3.78
 Rachel Barnes 3.67
 Ioan Bidiuc 3.89
 Amber Burrows 3.67
 Sonam Christopher 3.67
 Jarra Davis 3.67
 Rizpah Fleming 3.66
 William Hodges 3.67
 Ni'Cole Kencie 3.67
 Michael Knecht 3.78
 Alexis MacKenzie 3.56
 Joseph Mathis 3.67
 Nicole McPatyten 3.78
 Amanda Mekeel 3.56
 Yannick Ngendahayo 3.50
 Michelina Oms 3.89
 Stacey Pack 3.67
 Corey Powell 3.89
 Emily Tong 3.83
 Amanda Walker 3.78

12th GRADE:

Adenike Adepoju 3.84
 Joycelyn Amaya 3.55
 Ricardo Bacchus 3.84
 Deborah Berlin 3.78
 Joshua Butler 3.89
 Fred Cermak 3.50
 Tamir Goodman 3.67
 Justin Gordon 3.67
 Jade Griffin 3.50
 Karla Hammonds 3.67
 Sharon McCoy 3.84
 Erica Monsalve 3.78
 Praveen Pedapudi 3.56



Robert Fuller, National Merit Scholar, and Dr. Selma Chaij

Ernest Ponraj 3.89
 Ankur Rastogi 3.67
 Eliel Rodriguez 3.58
 Genny Sim 3.56
 Ginny Sim 3.89
 Brent Singer 3.67
 Tiffany Williams 3.89

HONOR ROLL: 4.00-4.78

9th GRADE:

Jamie Allicock 4.00
 Jonathan Ballard 4.11
 Ada Bidiuc 4.44
 Jaysom Brooks 4.00
 Cathryna Brown 4.00
 Dominique Byass 4.00
 Jermene Charles 4.00
 Lorianne Goris 4.33
 Daniel Granderson 4.11
 Brittany Law 4.22
 Lukas Patton 4.11
 Alba Perez 4.22
 Alana Scott 4.33
 Samuel Shin 4.78
 Joshua Toth 4.44
 La'Joya Vanderhorst 4.44
 Bethany Willis 4.44

10th GRADE:

David Baasch 4.33
 Daphnie Beckford 4.11
 ShaRonda Bynum 4.55
 Michelle Gill 4.00
 Kevin Gurubatham 4.00
 Yonas Habte 4.11
 Doug Jarl 4.22
 Pranitha Pilli 4.00
 Melanie Zimmerman 4.0

11th GRADE:

Krystal Borchers 4.33
 Lindsey Bucklew 4.22
 Alex Coutsoumpas 4.50
 Ruben Covarrubias 4.00
 Faith Davis 4.33
 Theodore Flo 4.11
 Ralph Jean-Pierre 4.00
 Tammie Kim 4.33
 Kathleen Mavrakos 4.44
 Sean Rosendall 4.33
 Charles Samuel 4.00
 Besen Sanga 4.09
 John Shin 4.55
 Louis Michael Thomas 4.33
 Sanjay Thomas 4.33
 Shenelle Wilson 4.00

12th GRADE:

Ryan Abel 4.00
 Leon Bathini 4.11
 Calvin David 4.22
 Jeffrey Dunn 4.00
 Robert Fuller 4.22
 Krista Jensen 4.17
 Penny Jones 4.00
 Kristine Macaliniao 4.00
 Lisa Rasmussen 4.50
 Nitin Sardana 4.00
 Joseph Stovall 4.00
 Porsche Vanderhorst 4.00
 Na-Ri Yoon 4.00

Shenandoah Valley Academy

happenings

Sparks are flying at SVA

It was an exciting day when the Virginia Power Company made the 208-volt three-phase connection to SVA's new welding laboratory. After a summer of planning, wiring, purchasing and moving equipment it was finally time to switch on the power and let the sparks fly. The walls of SVA's new welding technology lab are lined with arc welders, accompanied by Mig Tig and oxy-acetylene equipment, and the students are learning the safety skills and techniques of welding.

Randy Poehler, SVA's welding instructor, received a bit of advice in his early years from his father... "Everyone should learn a trade—to work your way through college, to provide for your family or just to fall back on in tough times." Through the addition of the welding lab at SVA, Mr. Poehler hopes to provide just that opportunity for students. Another underlying goal is to combine an industrial setting with a Christian environment where students can discover and utilize their God-given abilities. Students may choose from an introductory welding course, learning a variety of welding processes and applications, or may choose to take welding certification classes and become

certified welders before they leave high school. Currently, certified welders can earn between \$10 and \$20 per hour or more.

In this program's first semester of its first year, welding has already "sparked an interest" in the lives of SVA students:

"Welding is without a doubt one of the most useful classes you can take at SVA. It gets you prepared for college and life, and you can make money doing it. It pays for itself." - Matt Leffers, junior

"I would rather be welding in college at \$12 an hour than to be flipping burgers at \$6 an hour any day of the week." - Knowell Matthews, senior

"Welding with Mr. P has been fun and informative. Mr. P not only makes class entertaining, but he also gives us an opportunity to become experienced welders. Even if I don't decide to do welding for my major, I will always have a good trade under my belt." - Erick Klein, senior



SVA hosts Parent Weekend 1999

SVA's parents weekend was held the last days of October, which turned out to be a beautiful fall weekend with the famous Shenandoah Valley trees at their peak. Many families joined their students for the activities.

The weekend actually began during the day on Friday when the students and some parents attended a career day instead of the regularly scheduled classes. A number of professionals volunteered their time to present information about their professions, what type of education was needed, what the expected salary was for their profession, job availability, etc. At the end of each session, there was a time for questions and answers for those requesting additional information.

Friday evening vespers was presented by SVA's drama group, which put on the play, *The Catacombs*. The plot revolved around a group of Christians who take refuge in a hidden church while attempting to escape persecution. The play's theme did have an element of death and despair but also visible, were hope and dramatic examples of rock hard faith in the characters.

The weekend continued with special presentations by the students for Sabbath School and worship, and then the families joined with the staff members for a potluck in the cafeteria. Immediately following the lunch, the National Honor Society hosted its induction of 10 new members—a first time for the parents to be able to attend this ceremony.

Parent weekend would not be complete without musical performances. A sacred concert was held Sabbath afternoon; and a secular concert was held Saturday evening, followed by a short performance of SVA's gymnastic team, the Olympians. The weekend came to a close on Sunday after parent/ teacher conferences, which offered both teachers and parents a chance to put faces and names together.

**For more information,
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New Market, VA 22844
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Fax (540) 740-3336**

First annual road rally

by Jan Osborne, Director of Development

When the fall colors are at their peak in the Shenandoah Valley there is nothing more enjoyable than taking a drive through the back country roads.

Alumni and friends of SVA had the opportunity to do just that on a gorgeous Sunday in October as they took part in Shenandoah Valley Academy's first road rally. Thirteen cars participated in the event, with a total of 28 brave souls taking to the roads and receiving only clues to lead them to their destination.

The first part of the rally was an obstacle course. Cars lined up in the New Market Church parking lot and began to navigate the traffic cones—the trick to this portion of the rally was that each had to drive blindfolded while the navigator guided the driver through the cones. Drivers with the fastest time received additional points.

Cars then left the church parking lot at timed intervals, following clues that had been given to them just moments

before. Each car received an emergency envelope with detailed directions inside, but were told that if the envelope was opened, they would lose points.

The object was not to be the first one to finish the race but to complete the trip in an averaged time and answer the bonus questions along the way. Points were either added or subtracted based on total time it took to complete the trip and for answering correctly or incorrectly the bonus questions.

There were some interesting dynamics to this road rally, as we had five cars from one family take part. Competition was fierce between brother and sister, mother and children, and husband and wife!

At the completion of the rally, everyone gathered in the Student Center to enjoy apple cider and refreshments while the

alumni staff tallied the results of the activity.

Cynthia Mayers Litten '66, and daughter, Megan, '00, took first place, followed by Cynthia's son, Lowell Litten '89, his wife, Joy, and son, Hunter. Third place was a tie between the team of Bill Strickland and Tim Jester and the team of Ray Hickman and David Griffin.

SVA's second road rally will be held on Sunday, April 16, during Alumni Weekend. All are invited to register by calling the Development Office at (540) 740-3161, Ext. 215.



Pennsylvania Pen

January 2000

Baking bread brings baptism

By Anna Krisingner, York Communication Representative

In recognition of October being Health and Temperance Month, Faith Kling, temperance leader of York Church, planned a special "Stone Soup" fellowship dinner.

Each member was encouraged to bring fresh or canned vegetables, pasta, rice or legumes to church the Sabbath before the dinner. After she inventoried what was received, Faith, who's also a professional chef and teaches culinary arts at Baltimore International College, used these products to create a variety of hearty and healthy soups. In addition to making 12 different soups, she also provided various homemade breads, including such delicacies as olive bread, wheat, French country bread, sesame ovals, onion naan (flatbread) and Russian raisin buns.



Faith Kling

Not only was this a wonderful witnessing and educational time for the church, but an added blessing was taking place behind the scenes. Faith, who was baptized following a NET '96 meeting, immediately became interested in the health message because of her culinary background.

As Faith grew in the Lord and the knowledge of health ministry, an associate instructor at college became curious about Faith's newfound beliefs and began asking questions. Eventually, the instructor began coming to church with Faith to help with some of the temperance programs.



Audrey Langenhop

On Christmas Sabbath, December 25, Audrey Langenhop, Faith's associate instructor, was to be baptized. Isn't it amazing how God uses different aspects of the Adventist message to draw His children closer to Him!



The "Stone Soup" fellowship dinner provided a feast of wonderful soups and bread.

What's happening

January 28-30

Pathfinder Winter Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

February 4-6

Couples' Retreat
Lancaster

February 25

Prayer P.A.T.C.H.

March 3-5

Pathfinder Honors Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

March 8-21

Conference Youth Department
Mission Trip
India

March 17-19

Elder's Retreat
Blue Mountain Academy

March 24-26

Women's Retreat
Gettysburg

March 24-26

BMA Alumni Weekend
Blue Mountain Academy

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Open a door of hope



MICHAEL CAULEY
President

Shawn Butler was dying of cancer at age 7. His frail, weak body was sinking into a coma. Cancer had infiltrated 90 percent of his brain. On August 9, 1982, Shawn's father agreed with the physicians that if he stopped breathing, they would not try to revive him.

But four days later, something remarkable occurred. Red Sox first baseman Dave Stapleton, Shawn's hero, paid him a visit. Upon hearing the voice of the sports champion, Shawn actually awoke from his comatose state and talked for a few minutes about baseball. Then, Stapleton leaned over the bed and made a promise. "Tomorrow," he stated, "I'm going to hit one over the fence just for you." Shawn's eyes lit up.

During the Red Sox game the following day, when Dave Stapleton first came up to bat, he had a determination in his gate. With a steely

gleam in his eye, he knocked the ball over the left field wall for a home run.

Five months later, Shawn's doctors were mystified. They could find no trace of the malignancy. The boy seemed almost completely recovered. In fact, his family was planning a trip to Disney World.

What made the difference? Some believe it was a hope. His hero made a promise and fulfilled that promise. Possibly, by doing so, he opened a door of hope for Shawn.

As we begin a new year, it stands before us full of hope. New beginnings and new opportunities. But sometimes, optimism fades into disappointment. We discover our lack of ability to make lasting change. We fail to seize the moment.

"The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made,"—*Psalms 145:13*.

II Corinthians 1:20 says that all God's promises find their "yes" in Jesus. He is the key. Jesus imparts power to live a new life and make hope a reality. Rivet your eyes on Him. He will never disappoint.



Lisa Bae stands unassisted and happily waves for the camera.

their health ministry as one of their main tools for evangelism! "It's difficult to reach non-Adventist Koreans through evangelistic crusades," explains Health Director Timothy Chung, "because they think we're a cult. But when we reach out to help their physical needs, they come to hear the good news."

This past fall, the church offered a NEWSTART course in which people could come and live at the church facility for seven days and focus on living healthfully. The program began at 6:30 a.m. with devotions and ended at 9:00 p.m. with "lights out." Each day incorporated the health

Korean health ministry lunges forward

By Celina Worley

There's a reason they call it NEWSTART. Just ask Lisa Bae. Diabetes and joint, back and knee pain had Lisa confined to a wheelchair. For years, she'd been unable to walk on her own or care for herself in a full capacity. Things had gotten so difficult for Lisa that she found herself entertaining thoughts of suicide and, in desperation, she began looking for a way to get her life back. Part of her journey of recovery took her from Houston, Texas, to the front steps of Philadelphia Korean Church.

Each year, the Korean Adventist community in Philadelphia continues to build and grow its health ministry. The church brings in doctors,

lecturers and health professionals in an effort to reach out to the many Koreans in Pennsylvania. In fact, the church members have designated



Volunteers prepare to serve the noon meal of fresh vegetables and fruit.

A lifetime of giving

By *Celina Worley*

The letter caught my attention. "It's my fault this did not get in the *Columbia Union Visitor* 10 years ago, for I was the communication secretary for years!" The handwriting in some places was hard to read, but sentence after sentence revealed the story of two lives that gave not only to each other for 60 years, but to the Adventist Church as well.

On November 26, 1939, George and Emily Gittins were married by Pastor Russell Krick at Homewood Church near Pittsburgh. While a young couple, they helped start New Brighton Church near the Pennsylvania/Ohio state line.

Then they moved to Havertown near Philadelphia and on to Gettysburg, where they've been attending and helping for more than 25 years.

Throughout their lives of service, Emily and George have held many offices (including being the church handyman!) and did whatever they could to see God's work grow.

In honor of the Gittins' 60th wedding anniversary, the *Pennsylvania Pen* would like to personally thank George and Emily Gittins for their dedication and loyalty to the churches of the Pennsylvania Conference.

Welcome!

The number of baptisms in the Pennsylvania Conference are the highest they've been in the past four years. We warmly welcome each man, woman, young adult, youth and child who has accepted Christ as his or her personal Saviour this year. And we welcome the talents and energy each one has to offer! You are in our prayers.

Ray Hartwell
Ministerial Director

principles of exercise, healthful eating and adequate rest.

"NEWSTART is one of the best ways to share God's message because the full-time participants are with us all day, every day," says Chung. "Out of the 13 full-time attendees, two have already expressed an interest in deeper spiritual matters. Many of the church members volunteer to cook and care for the attendees. Some of them take vacation time to do this work. It's so powerful for them to be used by God to reach others! The evening health lecture is open to the public, and nearly 45 people have come out for these meetings."

It was during this NEWSTART program that Lisa Bae got up from her wheelchair and stood unassisted for the first time in many years. By the middle of the course, she was standing on her own for 10 minutes! Then, for the first time in six years, Lisa was able to take a shower unassisted. "Yes, I am special," says Lisa. "God has made my body, and I'm now eating right and living right. It's wonderful!"

Girls only

"What? No guys?" That's right! A retreat just for girls. It might sound boring to some, but to the nearly 80 girls who attended this young women's retreat, it was an awesome weekend filled with making new friends, hanging out together and learning more about God.

This young women's retreat was a first in the Columbia Union. It was held November 12-14 at Mount

Aetna Camp in Hagerstown, Maryland. Of all the conferences represented, the group from Pennsylvania was the second largest in attendance. A young lady from Lancaster Church gave her heart to the Lord during the weekend, although she'd only been attending church for two weeks.

Because of the wonderful response and the evidence that there's a need for this kind of a retreat, plans are in the making to have a young women's retreat next fall in Pennsylvania.



Young women from the Pennsylvania Conference pose for a picture just before Sabbath lunch at the women's retreat held at Mount Aetna Camp in Hagerstown, Maryland, during November.

A church school reaches kids

Recently, we had a meeting at our church concerning outreach to our community. Why? First of all, we have a precious message that people need to hear. Second, if we are truly filled with the Spirit, we can't help but reach out into our community.

I just love little children and enjoy being around them."

"It's neat to have all the little kids come and sit on your lap, then teach them about God," explains Meggan Blackerby. "It also makes me think how privileged I am to have a loving,



Joelle Rudy (center) teaches Bible lessons to young, unchurched children who are attending the Reading Bible School.

And finally, our youth desperately need an outlet for their energy. If we as a church family don't provide them with some outlet, they may find an alternate way of expending that energy, and it may be one that is not pleasing in the eyes of the Lord.

Over the course of the past two years, the young people at Reading Junior Academy have been involved in assisting Amocita Beckford with her outreach to the children of Reading. On the second Wednesday of each month, several of our seventh- and eighth-graders head off for a house on North Fourth Street, where they spend two hours feeding, holding, loving and teaching children who come in off the streets for some food and love.

When asked why she goes to help out, Joelle Rudy says: "I go because these children need love. They're so special, and some of them don't get love from home. We sing songs and teach children that Jesus loves them.

supporting family. I enjoy going there and teaching the kids, and I don't think I'll stop anytime soon!"

Another volunteer, Vanina Cosentino, says the reason she participates in reaching out for this inner-city

project is because it makes her feel humble. "Once I saw the love those children need and the affection they long for, I couldn't stop going. You have to look beyond the dirty clothes and the knotty hair to their warm smiles and tight hugs. It makes me thankful for what I've got and for the things I take for granted."

"The reason I like going is because I love to teach children and share God's love," says Raquel Torres. "Most of those kids don't get a lot of the attention and love they need. While I'm teaching primary class, some of the children come to me and hug me, so I hug them back. It reminds me of when the little children ran up to Jesus. It makes me feel good to think that God uses people through smiling, affection and, most importantly, love."

Recently, these four girls had the privilege of attending a special breakfast with leaders of the city of Reading in which the Reading Bible School was recognized for its efforts in feeding the children of the city. What those folks don't understand is that our young people aren't just helping to feed in a physical sense, but more importantly, they're feeding God's children spiritually!

DAVID MORGAN

Principal, Reading Junior Academy



A group of kids happily smile with Raquel Torres (leaning in on the left).

Mission Ohio

OHIO CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

Pathfinder leaders meet at Camp Mohaven

More than 70 Ohio Pathfinder directors and their assistants attended Pathfinder Leaders University at Camp Mohaven the weekend of November 5-7, 1999. This annual leadership convention provided Pathfinder leaders with three tracks of weekend instruction for building successful Pathfinder programs at their home churches. Instructors for the Basic Training and Master Guide Course included Ohio Pathfinder directors Mike Bilbee and Leslie Franke and Pathfinder coordinators Tim and Belinda Layne, Si Still, Phil Lewis, Pam Farley and Johan and Vanessa Collier. Covering the Pathfinder Leadership Award Course were Marian Brazzell, head teacher of Clarksfield School, and Sharon Lewis, principal of Griswold Christian Academy.



Those leaders who were new to Pathfinders could attend a basic training course that provided instruction in the philosophy of Pathfinders, club development, club organization and programming. Also included in the basic training were sessions of outreach ministry, camping skills and drills and ceremonies. More experienced leaders working to become Master Guides could take a course of instruction that fulfilled some of the Master Guide requirements involving leadership and communication skills, creativity and resource development and American Red Cross first aid and safety. Those who

already were Master Guides could take a course that met requirements for the Pathfinder Leadership Award. These sessions dealt with team building in the Pathfinder Club, discipline and personal issues and outdoor education. Creative group exercises taught lessons in nature and team building that could be taken home for use in future Pathfinder Club meetings.

On Saturday evening, the leaders played group games that offered them more ideas for club activities. The weekend concluded with the leaders giving the camp caretaker assistance in raking the leaves on the campgrounds. Pathfinder Leaders University provided practical instruction and ideas

that could be taken home to be used in the local Pathfinder Club.

LEE KIRSHBAUM



Small Churches
Are Beautiful

"Developing Your Small Church's Potential"
A convention for leaders of churches with
average worship attendance of 50 or less.

March 3-5
Mount Vernon Academy

SVA students survive Senior Survival

Questions flew as Senior Survival weekend was presented to the SVA Class of 2000 by Ralph Schnell, SVA



From left to right: Pastor Kelvin Mitchell of Centerville Church, Mike Beckett, Zach Kostenko, Matt Knipfer and David Spindler.

Their ability to work together as a class became more evident as they were divided into four groups and faced with

obstacles to overcome that required both physical and mental effort. As the seniors worked at each challenge presented by the various obstacles, their sponsors—Ralph Schnell, K e r r i e Schnell, SVA English teacher Nick Minder, SVA vice-principal; and Mark

Merrell, watched for ways to further challenge them and cause them to work even harder to complete each task. After each activity, the seniors would form a circle and were led in a discus-

sion that helped each senior process the contributions of each member and look for life applications. Spiritually, each student was energized by morning and evening worship. The focus of each worship varied, with topics ranging from setting goals to illustrating the fact that God is there to help in our lives and longs for each to have a relationship with Him. During a special time of testimony on Friday evening, students shared what they had learned and appreciated about each other. What a great feeling it was to sing and feel loved and welcomed by God during the refreshing worship hours.

As the bus pulled back into Spring Valley Academy on Sunday, the entire class was in need of naps and long showers. Each senior in the Class of 2000 was given a T-shirt that read "I Survived!" They've learned to know and trust themselves, each other and God.

KRISTI KOO AND
RALPH SCHNELL

guidance counselor. Could they really build their own shelters, cook their own food and conquer the many activities planned for them during the annual five-day trip to the backwoods of Camp Mohaven?

In preparing for the trip, Ralph Schnell had stated three main objectives for the seniors: to grow individually by identifying their strengths and pushing themselves to their limits; to challenge their class to grow in unity and better understand how to relate to each other; and to provide an environment where each student could draw closer to God.

Each student experienced these objectives through a wide variety of planned activities. They were challenged by building shelters, which would be 'home' for the five-day, four-night trip from trees, branches, plastic tarp, twine and duct tape.

Merrell, watched for ways to further challenge them and cause them to work even harder to complete each task. After each activity, the seniors would form a circle and were led in a discus-



Senior Survival Morning worship leaders Michael Hutchinson and Paul Yost.

Mission Ohio

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*Courage for the Beginning of a New Century
(or Any Time)*

By Faith, Vivian

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION EDITOR

ADVANTIST REVIEW

January 2000

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LETTERS

Letter of gratitude for literature

A thank-you to readers who responded to my need for scriptural materials. I have received Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy books, Bible studies, the *Adventist Review*, and tapes.

I have reached some families with the Bibles and the *Review*. More have been given out in the district's planned evangelism in August and September 1999.

May our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ bless all of you who have enriched me with these Spirit-lifting materials.

—Pastor Henry A. V. Oshiri
NIGERIA, WEST AFRICA

Mary's Choice

Sitting in front of a pile of half-read *Reviews*, I opened my just-received new issue and found Roy Adams' editorial "Mary's Choice" (October NAD edition). Yes, I totally agree. We are buried with information and need a lot of time to select, too. But what about religious information? Could it be that we as Christians also produce too much—"Of making many books there is no end," as Solomon said. (Eccl. 12:12). Should we not think about it and reduce all nice-to-have information and concentrate on the very essential? I don't want to miss the *Review*, but maybe 26 issues could be enough instead of 52.

—Horst Naether
GERMANY

Roy Adams' editorials are always the first thing I turn to when reading the *Adventist Review* because he is never stale and stereotypical. And the October NAD editorial "Mary's Choice" was especially good regarding the constant busyness of modern life. I kept saying to myself, "Yes, yes, that's right," as I read it.

As a former newspaper columnist for the Dayton *Daily News*, I know it isn't easy to always come up with something fresh—and I didn't always succeed—but Adams comes about as close as anyone to reaching that goal.

—Reo M. Christenson
MIAMISBURG, OHIO

Five Things You Can Do to Support Your Pastor

I have just finished reading the *Review's* October NAD article by Randy Maxwell entitled "Five Things You Can Do to Support Your Pastor." Why does supporting your pastor always involve sending them on all-expense-paid vacations? I recognize that a pastor's job can be quite stressful, but so are many jobs of the pastor's church members, and many of them cannot afford these vacations, let alone contribute toward one for the pastor. When you total a pastor's salary and fringe benefits, it will probably

Letters continued on page 4

MEET OUR COLUMNISTS FOR 2000

It's a new year and a new century, and we have a great line-up of columnists.

North American Division Edition

Cityscapes, by Royson James
Family Matters, by Kay Kuzma (new)
Faith Alive! by Calvin Rock



World Edition

The View From Here, by Avian Joseph (new)
Bible Questions Answered, by Angel Rodríguez



Cutting Edge Edition

Leaving the Comfort Zone, by Chris Blake
Passages, by Jennifer Mae Barizo (new)



AnchorPoints Edition

Clifford Goldstein, by Clifford Goldstein
On the Home Front, by Leslie Kay



Plus special features:

Tuesday's Child, a weekly page of family worship material
Bookmark, a review of books
Spirituality and Health, an occasional series by Ella Rydzewski (new)
Reprints of Ellen White articles

And, of course: letters, editorials, Give & Take, Reflections . . .

Remember, if you don't get the *Review* every week, you don't get it. Call 1-800-456-3991 and join the whole conversation.

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NEXT WEEK

Evangelizing the Paris of Siberia

The gospel goes where the living is hard.

ADVENTIST Review

"Behold, I come quickly..."

Our mission is to uplift Jesus Christ through stories of His matchless love, news of His present workings, help for knowing Him better, and hope in His soon return.

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Letters continued from page 3

exceed a majority of the pastor's church members' income.

—L. E. Johnson

HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

After reading Randy Maxwell's article "Five Things You Can Do to Support Your Pastor" in the October NAD *Review*, I must admit that I was feeling somewhat selfish.

I am a new member of the Adventist Church (as of June 1999) and have leaned on our pastor for advice and guidance. He is so compassionate and caring. He always puts the cares of others before his own.

I think we need a special day to honor our pastors for all their hard work, such as "Pastor Appreciation Day." May God bless all our leaders and give them strength.

—Frances Newcomb

TEMPLE, GEORGIA

Letter to the Editor Response

At the end of a letter to the editor in the October NAD edition, the editors wrote that Adventists "distinguish between a homosexual orientation and a homosexual lifestyle." I urge the *Review*—as a powerful tool to express the church's trends—to educate us concerning what a homosexual orientation is, what brought the church to take this position, and where we stand in this trend. This understanding is crucial to determine what to have "in hand" when addressing homosexuals, and how to touch them with the message of God's unconditional love.

—Regina Araujo

VIENNA, VIRGINIA

I'm responding to a letter in the October NAD *Adventist Review* regarding homosexuality. I agree with the author that the church's public statements about homosexuality should be tempered with the grace and the mercy

that Jesus offers all sinners. I also agree that the Adventist Church needs to show love, understanding, and compassion to homosexual Adventists.

Jesus can change a person's sexual orientation. First Corinthians 6:9-11 tells us homosexuals can change. I struggled with homosexual desires for 28 years, but the night I was born again at the age of 43, the Lord changed my orientation from homosexual to heterosexual. Instantaneous healing, however, is not the usual way the Lord heals the homosexual. Usually it's a gradual process working through a troubled past, but ultimately, healing comes from Jesus.

A group outside the Adventist Church that has been helping homosexuals for 23 years is Exodus International in Seattle, Washington. They offer support, instruction, and compassion for those who desire to change.

The Lord is doing a mighty work among homosexuals. Ex-gay ministries are sprouting up all over the world, and thousands have been set free from the bondage of homosexuality. Now is the time for gays and lesbians to boldly approach the throne of grace and ask for healing.

—Andrew Frederick Puel, Jr.

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

Letters Policy

The *Review* welcomes your letters. Short, specific letters are the most effective and have the best chance at being published. Letters will be edited for space and clarity only. Send correspondence to Letters to the Editor, *Adventist Review*, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600; Internet: Reviewmag@Adventist.org CompuServe network: 74617.15.

I Believe

One thousand years ago people washed just five times annually. Instead of football they engaged in boulder-lifting contests. And the cutting edge of medical technology was—leeches!

So much for the good old days.

One hundred years ago New York City had 150,000 horses, each producing 20-25 pounds of manure per day, with swarms of flies and a powerful stench. The more pessimistic critics predicted that American cities would disappear as Pompeii did, buried—but not under ashes.

Fortunately, the automobile, known as the “horseless carriage,” made its appearance in the 1890s.

At risk of his health, a man could make \$9-10 per week for pressing and delivering new garments to the wholesaler. A woman who seamed three dozen shirts made \$7. And the standard wage for a girl was \$3-5, just enough to buy a loaf of bread, a cup of tea, and a bed in a tenement. Girls worked 84 hours a week and were fined if they talked, smiled, or broke a needle.

Meanwhile, the children: In 1900, 1.75 million kids worked 12- to 14-hour days, making \$1.50-\$2.50 per week. “We take them as soon as they can stand up” was the brutal policy of factory bosses.

And then there were the lynchings. In 1900 America was still gripped by an epidemic of racial hatred that began in 1882. By the time it ended in 1903, 3,337 Blacks had been lynched, most of them totally innocent of any crime; in 99 percent of the cases no arrests were ever made.

The good old days—they were terrible!¹

Here we are at the birth of a new century. It's exciting to be alive, to be part of this moment. If time lasts, we will be able to tell our children and grandchildren: “I was there when the cosmic odometer rolled over to 2000.”

This unique occasion ought to bring reflection on who we are—where we've come from, what makes us what we are, where we're headed. Unfortunately, most people seem to have failed to reflect on the big picture. In the United States, for instance, discussion has focused on trivia: Will there be enough champagne available for the big New Year's bashes? Will the computers crash? And does the new millennium commence on the first day of 2000 or one year later?

Writing of the United States, author James Reston, Jr., blasts “the failure of imagination,” which he says “is total and across the board: from the political leadership to the scholars, from the priests to the media. . . . Potentially, the millennium

is the greatest teaching moment of our times, but who's doing the teaching? Where are the historians and the philosophers, the poets and the priests who might guide and inspire us?”²

No lead from the presidency. And the Millennial

Council set up by the White House to “encourage a wide variety of projects and events that celebrate our historical and cultural legacy” came up empty.

The failure on the part of American leadership provides an unequalled opportunity for Seventh-day Adventists—whose very name proclaims

the blessed hope of Jesus' return—to give a perspective in ringing tones. The church corporately has a part in this, but what we communicate one-on-one counts more than any official release.

So, my friend, what response would *you* give to someone who desires to see the big picture? How do *you* describe yourself? For what it's worth, here is my credo:

I believe that there is a God and that He created the universe.

I believe that this God loves us with infinite compassion and that we may know Him personally.

I believe that God is in control, and although evil is a terrible reality, in His time He will bring an end to pain and suffering.

I believe that God has revealed Himself in His Word, the Bible, and supremely in Jesus Christ, who is God in the flesh.

I believe that in Jesus I am loved, accepted, forgiven, and set free.

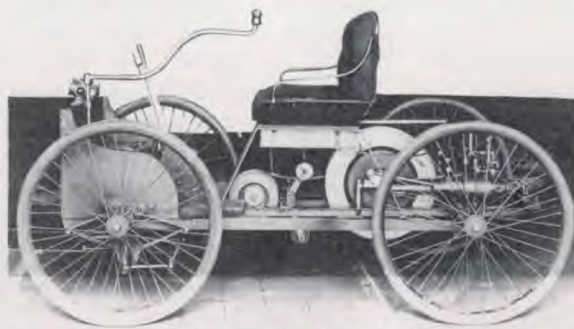
I believe that our planet is racing toward its tryst with destiny—the second coming of Jesus.

I believe that God is the great risk taker, and that the meaning of life is to know Him and join in His mission of making people whole.

This credo can be reduced to one word, the sweetest in the language: grace.

¹All the facts mentioned above about life in the United States 100 years ago come from Otto L. Bettmann, *The Good Old Days—They Were Terrible!* (New York: Random House, 1974).

²“We've Already Missed It,” *Washington Post*, Oct. 24, 1999.



An Old Plan for a New Millennium

Ten years ago we thought a Palm Pilot described the hand of a person flying an airplane. Just 25 years ago the letters PC didn't mean either "personal computer" or "politically correct." And 100 years ago the word "television" wasn't even in the dictionary.

It's been quite a century.

Change has become one of the few constants in our lives. Friends move. Jobs evaporate. Children grow up and leave home. The grocery store stops carrying your favorite brand of shredded wheat. Your home mortgage is sold to a new company. Your health-care plan eliminates your family physician.

How can a Christian, whose life is based on unchanging principles, cope with the constant change of third-millennium life?

There's an old solution: prayer.

In an ever-changing world it is essential to talk with the One who changes not. The greater the pace of change, the greater the need for pausing often to listen for God's changeless counsel.

This solution dates back to Eden. God came daily to talk with Adam and Eve. One disastrous day sin changed everything, but God still came to talk with Adam and Eve that evening. He explained that His love for them would not change.

Throughout Scripture talking with God remained a hallmark of His people. Abel brought an offering to learn of God's will. Moses prayed on Mount Sinai when he led Israel through the wilderness. Joshua prayed through the night before leading Israel into Canaan. Solomon prayed at the dedication of the Temple, Israel's first permanent house of worship. Jehoshaphat and Hezekiah sought God's counsel in time of war.

Jesus lived out this same principle. He prayed for 40 days at the beginning of His ministry. He often prayed through the night. On the night of His arrest He talked with His Father.

It is a principle of Scripture: at times of great change we need to talk with God, to pray.

Prayer reminds us that God is our friend. He's not just God; He's a friend. The world often paints a cruel picture of

God. Tornadoes and hurricanes are described as "acts of God." When someone dies, the most common question seems to be "Why did God let this happen?"

But God is on our side. His Son came to die for us—for

you, for me. Prayer is the way we can talk with this friend. "Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend," wrote Ellen White (*Steps to Christ*, p. 93).

Maybe you haven't talked to God in a while. Renew the friendship.

Prayer opens to us the vast riches of heaven. The greatest riches of heaven are forever friendships, peace, security. Prayer is how we tap

into the assurance that God has provided everything we need. Ellen White wrote, "Prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse" (*ibid.*, p. 94).

God's lavish love is reflected in His plan of salvation. And beyond that God sends His Spirit to live in us and act through us. Prayer opens us to live in ways that reflect these gifts.

Prayer also reminds us that God is owner; we are stewards. We return tithe to God to acknowledge that He owns it all. We give offerings that show we believe His promises of plenty.

Prayer changes us. You cannot pray daily and remain the same. Prayer drives out anger, nourishes love, creates hope.

Our church committees always begin with prayer in which committee members express their deep longing for God to guide and lead in our work—and in our lives.

This past March we elected a new president of the General Conference. The process took only two hours, and we spent the first hour in prayer—the entire hour. We sought God's will for our lives and for our church. The election process that followed was marked by harmony and sincerity. Prayer brought that sweet spirit to the meeting.

Change has become the great constant in our lives. That's why we need to pray. It's God's way of making certain that change nourishes our spiritual life.

Alfred C. McClure is president of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



It is essential to talk with the One who changes not.

GIVE & TAKE



POEM

Christians
Having
Reservations
Idealizing
Selfishness
Through
Idleness
And
Nurturing

A
Poor
Attitude
Toward
Honoring
Yahweh

—Tom Kelley,
Tacoma, Washington

ADVENTIST LIFE

There was a cute read across the sign at the Forest Lake Adventist Church in Florida this past July. It read: "Forgiving Those Who Hate Pastor Terry Pooler."

—Kermit Netteburg, Silver Spring, Maryland



ILLUSTRATION BY TERRY CREWS

Being the bulletin secretary working out of our home, I end up writing information down at whatever phone I answer. One week I got the sermon title from our former, retired pastor incorrect. I put "Forgiving Healing" instead of "Forgiving Heals." When I apologized for not being able to read my own handwriting correctly, he said that this was not like another typo on a different sermon title. When he opened the bulletin on Sabbath morning, he read: "The Joys of Immorality" instead of "The Joys of Immortality."

—Gloria Neidigh, Tillamook, Oregon

Church was over and the guest speaker, a widely known pastor, stood at the door to greet the congregation on their way out. The people were commending the pastor for his sermon when a little voice was heard in the midst of the crowd: "What a sermon!"

It was the pastor's grandson, who was 4 or 5 years old. With a big smile on his face the pastor picked up his grandson and, as everyone had turned to see the little fellow, he asked, "So you liked my sermon, son?"

The boy readily answered: "No, Grandpa; it was the longest sermon I ever heard!"

—Eli Rojas, Berrien Springs, Michigan

QUOTES

"If your religion isn't worth living for, it's sure not worth dying for."

—Manuel Rodriguez, an elder of the Plainview church in Texas, during a recent Sabbath sermon

"Jesus didn't compare us to the smart animals: dolphins, chimpanzees. He compared us to sheep—cute, woolly... and dumb."

—Jan Yakush, speaking for the 1999 Southwestern Union Academy Leadership Conference at Camp Yorktown Bay in Arkansas, this past fall



PHOTO © PHOTODISC

LET'S PRAY

Have a prayer need? Have a few free minutes? Each Wednesday morning at 8:00 the *Adventist Review* staff meets to pray for *people*—children, parents, friends, coworkers. Send your prayer requests and, if possible, pray with us on Wednesday mornings. Let's share in each other's lives.

WE NEED YOU

Send Give & Take submissions to . . .
Give & Take, *Adventist Review*, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600; Fax: 301-680-6638; E-mail: 104315.2145@CompuServe.com. Please include phone number. Submissions will not be returned.

A woman with her head tilted back and eyes closed, smiling joyfully as she stands under a powerful waterfall. The water is cascading down, creating a misty spray around her. The background is lush green foliage.

Waters of Justice, Streams of Righteousness

*Amos's message to ancient Israel strikes at the heart
of an affluent church today.*

IT'S AN ERA OF PEACE.

The country's former enemies have fallen on hard times. Yes, the people occasionally hear of distant foreign wars. But a general sense of peace and well-being pervades the nation. Governed by a series of inept leaders, even the great Assyria seems to pose no threat.

With peace, business and trade are booming. The standard of living is the highest the nation has ever known. Agricultural production is abundant. Ever since the fall of Damascus, Israel has dominated all major trade routes, and the wealth of nations to the north, south, and east passes through, enriching its coffers.

Architecture and the arts demonstrate the pride and opulence of the nation. The city walls and palaces of Samaria, the capital city, are of a quality and grandeur that rival those of any country in the world. The homes of the wealthy are ornamented with delicately carved panels of ivory inset into walls, chairs, couches, and other decorative items. Precious stones and gold-leafing make the panels even more beautiful.

It seems that the nation is finally achieving the goals for which it has been striving in its close to 200 years of existence. With continued hard work and careful planning, and with the help of God, surely things will only get better. Yahweh has indeed blessed the nation, just as Jonah promised (2 Kings 14:23-27).

Shocked Out of Complacency

Then the word of the Lord came.

To these good citizens in their secure, comfortable lives there suddenly comes a voice, roaring from Zion, at the sound of which "the shepherds' pasture grounds mourn, and the summit of Carmel dries up" (Amos 1:2). * To their shock, they discover that the Lord clearly has some issues to take up with His people, so comfortable in the lives they've constructed for themselves. "I was the one who created your world with all its wonders," God reminds

them. "I have done incredible miracles for you" (see Amos 2:9, 10; 4:13; 5:8; 9:6). And the purpose of the message is clear: "Prepare to meet your God, O Israel" (Amos 4:13). "I will punish you for all your iniquities" (Amos 3:2).

The experience of God's voice caused an ordinary man named Amos to cry out, "The Lord God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?" (verse 8). A shepherd from Tekoa—a bedroom community 10 miles south of Jerusalem—Amos left the sheep at God's command and traveled north to the nation of Israel to deliver the message.

Amos's first words must have pleased his hearers: "I will send fire upon the wall of Gaza [or Tyre, or Moab] and it will consume her citadels" (Amos 1:7). Who could help rejoicing when God describes the sins of one's bitter enemies and threatens judgment upon them? But imagine the shock of his hearers when Amos does not pause at the end of the list of pagan enemies, but goes on to describe the sins and the punishment of Judah—God's own people (Amos 2:4, 5)! No doubt many were inclined to gloat as they remembered the rivalry and recent battles (see 2 Kings 14:8-17) between Israel and Judah.

Injustice in Israel

There was no time for gloating, however, for Israel's turn came next, beginning with the same words used against the rest of the nations. Then Amos zeroed in on the sins of Israel the Lord found most disturbing: "They sell the righteous for money," the Lord said, "and the needy for a pair of sandals. . . . On garments taken as pledges they stretch out beside every altar, and in the house of their God they drink the wine of those who have been fined" (Amos 2:6-8).

But most of God's scathing criticism was reserved for the way the Israelites were treating the poor and the marginalized in their society. Looking down from heaven, God saw them eager and willing to "trample the needy, to do away with the humble" in order to enhance their own financial and political power (Amos 8:4). They imposed

heavy rents on the poor, demanding an exorbitant share of the crops of their tenant farmers. They ignored justice in their business dealings, eager to give up as little as possible in their search for maximum personal gain (verses 5, 6). They sold innocent debtors into slavery in order to regain a few shekels' worth of loans, and to acquire the debtor's personal property (Amos 2:6). The judges seated at the city gates were bribed to turn away the petitions of the poor so that they would have no remaining voice, advocate, or options (Amos 5:10-12). God saw that His people had become insensitive to the difference between what was right and what was wrong with respect to justice (verses 10-12). He loathed their thirst for luxurious homes, lovely furniture, and sumptuous dinners, which blinded them to the pain and devastation going on around them (Amos 3:15; 6:4-6).

The people of Israel also chose, moreover, to withhold full allegiance from the Lord, Yahweh. For their own comfort and security, they worshiped a variety of attractive and useful "lesser" gods (Amos 8:14). And they ignored those whom, like Amos, God sent to call them back to the way of worship He had established (Amos 2:12; 6:10-17).

Because of their treatment of the powerless and their self-willed attitude, their offerings and songs of worship no longer interested God. "I hate, I reject your festivals," God responded. "Nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies" (Amos 5:21). God looked down at what was taking place in Israel and expressed His deepest wish: "Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (verse 24).

Are We Different?

Because God's people refused to be concerned with justice, Amos describes the downfall of the nation (Amos 3:11; 9:8-10). About 40 years later Samaria was destroyed by Shalmaneser V, ending forever the peaceful and luxurious kingdom of Israel (2 Kings 18:9-12, 34).

We may want to believe that the injustices of ancient Israel no longer

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take place today. Surely Christianity, in partnership with modern civilization, has corrected these evils. People are no longer forced to sell themselves into slavery when they cannot pay their debts. Judges seldom take bribes, and our weights and measures are carefully monitored. People have the freedom to speak what they believe without being silenced or persecuted for what they say. Is that how things really are?

We need, I think, to examine ourselves more closely to discover if God's word through Amos might not still apply today.

To begin with, we must recognize that the ancient Israelites too were "Sabbathkeepers" and "Adventists" who kept the seventh day holy and longed for the day of the Lord (Amos 8:5). And, like the ancient Israelites, there is in each one of us the same desire for personal gain that drove them to take advantage of one another. Pursuing these desires was the very sin God condemned in the women of Samaria when they demanded, "Bring now, that we may drink" (Amos 4:1), encouraging their husbands in their thoughtless greed.

Adventists in the industrialized countries should pay particular attention. Because we have so much, it is easy to be blinded to the sufferings of the billions of people around us. What do we do when we discover that a corporation from which we purchase, or in which we own shares, is using virtual slave labor, paying children as little as six cents a day to manufacture its goods? What is our response when our particular government manipulates the governments and economies of other countries simply to increase its own wealth? Have we too come to the place where we are blinded by our wealth so that we no longer "know how to do what is right" (Amos 3:10)?

Our involvement in injustice happens on a local level as well. How often have we sought to protect our own income and assets by voting to cut government programs that help the

poor and underprivileged gain independence? What do we say about a minimum wage so low that a person can work several jobs and still not have enough to feed a family? In our cities some school districts have plenty of money to work with, while others suffer chronically short budgets because we keep the best for certain classes. In our workplaces and neighborhoods opportunities continue to be offered more consistently to people of power—people who look and act like "us"—

Because some of us have so much, it's easy to be blinded to the sufferings of the billions of people around us.

while the rest are ushered off to the ghettos of racially segregated neighborhoods, low-income districts, and gender-based hiring.

These are not easy problems to solve, and we must not neglect the world-changing message of Christ to focus solely on physical injustices. Yet, if we are honest, we will admit that action against injustice would not call us away from Christ's service so much as from our own selfish search for the "great American dream." While it is not wise for the church as an institution to get involved in politics or business affairs, individual Christians have great power in how they choose to spend their dollars, whom they choose to vote for, and how they choose to treat other human beings.

We can monitor our own acquisitions to ensure that we are not consuming more of God's resources than

we really need. We can take time to learn about the corporations we deal with to be sure we are not gaining at the expense of someone else. We can commit ourselves to making transactions that are good for the other person and not just for ourselves. Just as God's promises in the prophets are for us, so is the warning that unless we choose to care for the powerless in society, God will say also to us:

"Alas, you who are longing for the day of the Lord,

For what purpose will the day of the Lord be to you?

It will be darkness and not light" (Amos 5:18).

Hope

God did not leave the Israelites without hope, and He does not leave us without hope. Through Amos He repeatedly implored them to change their focus. "Seek good and not evil, that you may live. . . . Hate evil, love good, and establish justice in the gate" (verses 14, 15). Even when He was forced to prophesy certain destruction, God promised a glorious future to those who would heed His words and act with justice. Amos's words are not easy, but they are the concern of God. Those people who are so in love with God that they model themselves after Him in every way must take Amos's words seriously and be models and pillars of God's justice and righteousness in their own communities.

"Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (verse 24).

*Scripture references in this article are from the *New American Standard Bible*.

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Being Vigilant

I must take issue with your response to the person whose daughter was raped by an individual now teaching at one of our schools (Sept. 9, 1999). You wouldn't encourage a recovering alcoholic to work in a bar. Why would you allow even a "recovering" pedophile to work with our young people? Pedophilia is a disease worse than alcoholism. Our church leaders (from the General Conference down to the local churches) must take a stand. Can we handle this?

I thoroughly agree. A recovering pedophile should not be allowed to work with children. In fact, the laws of the land prevent a pedophile from doing so. While the grace of God is surely sufficient for his salvation, that arrangement is not wise. Thank you for making the point so graphically.

Also, I note that in letters to the editor (Nov. 25), two of my colleagues have requested a series of articles on this subject. That is a fine idea. I hope, however, that if done, it will be based upon the need for enlightenment concerning this evil and not what I regard as a significant difference in understanding the inquiry: namely, that the subject is (1) a pedophile and (2) was "convicted while in church employment." Were these the case, continuing him in any capacity would be a breach of North American Division working policy. The policy in dealing with such misconduct *that occurs in the course or scope of denominational employment or even voluntary status* reads: "If the accused is convicted in court of criminal charges against a minor, the SEC [sexual ethics committee] shall recommend to the discipline committee permanent removal from denominational employment or service" (*NAD Working Policy*, p. 204). But, again, that is not how I interpreted the situation of the teacher under question.

Nevertheless, your inquiry affords opportunity for the following clarification: 1. If rape conviction of any kind occurs *during* employment, policy recommends permanent dismissal (see above). 2. If administrators later discover that conviction occurred *before* employment, they have wider options and must decide not by policy but by compelling factors of propriety. 3. If pedophilia is involved in the conviction either before or after employment, removal is mandated by common concern and, very important, required by law. 4.

These cases often involve very delicate and complicated variables. A good rule, however, in acting to minimize temptation, scandal, and risk to the innocent is always to err on the side of vigilance.

I do hope that a *Review* series can be arranged. We mature Christians can handle this. And given the realities without and within the church, we are very wise to do so.

*A good rule
is always
to err on
the side of
vigilance.*

I have never understood why we teach that Christ will come at midnight, and that "every eye shall see him." Since only a small portion of the world experiences midnight at any given time, and the shape of our round world prohibits a global view in any one direction, are these not figurative descriptions, and should we not, given the scientific impossibility here, say so?

We teach that Christ will come "at midnight" and that "every eye shall see him" because that is what Inspiration tells us. The first statement is given by Ellen White in *The Great Controversy* (p. 636). The second comes from the Bible itself in Revelation 1:7.

Some believe that as ordinary a wonder as satellite TV may be a clue to the first statement. Others remember that "midnight" is frequently used figuratively in denoting spiritual darkness. I tend, however, not to be concerned, believing that He who made the worlds and galaxies beyond is able to stop, darken, illumine, reverse, expand, make translucent, or otherwise configure this planet in fulfillment of these descriptions.

There are mysteries of nature and Scripture that we simply cannot explain. And that's all right. Our confidence is not rooted in provable predictions, but in a proven Person. That trust allows us to believe without being able to quantify, to trust without being able to verify, to follow without being able to know, and to hope, with assurance, unto death.

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By Faith, Vivian

*A special kind of courage made her
life a triumph of the human spirit.*

And that's exactly what she did. She amazed me by answering some of my questions, quoting verbatim from the Tax Code of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

On Sunday, May 8, 1988, the front cover of *The Washington Post Magazine* caught my eye. It was a full-cover picture of Vivian Berzinski in her wheelchair. It was only then that I became aware of her story, and how it was our privilege to be working with her.*

A Life Destroyed

At High Point High School in Beltsville, Maryland, Vivian took modern dance and rode horses, competed on the debate team, and always made the honor roll. In her junior-year yearbook picture, Vivian's face radiates confidence. Linda [Shaeffer, her best friend] says that, in those days, boys did double takes when Vivian floated into a room.

*Boys did a
double take
when Vivian
floated into
a room.*

Vivian met and fell in love with Greg Berzinski. She was 17 and Greg was 18. The wedding was set for August, and the two were to start at [University of] Maryland as premed majors in the fall.

It was Saturday, June 17, 1972, a warm and sunny day that a break-in at the Watergate would later make famous. The day that started so well soon ended with a tragic accident. As Greg and Vivian drove toward the University of Maryland, a driver making a left turn smashed into Greg's car, spinning it

around and slamming it into a telephone pole. [Vivian's] third, fourth, and fifth vertebrae snapped instantly.

The ambulances and the paramedics arrived in minutes and loaded Greg and Vivian into separate vehicles. At Leland Memorial Hospital a respiratory specialist met Vivian at the door, performed an emergency tracheotomy, and inflated her lungs with a hand bellows until she could reach the operating room. Family members who rushed to the hospital were told Vivian might die.

From the beginning, Vivian's case went against conventional medical wisdom. First, the doctors said she would not last longer than a few days, then a few weeks. Eventually, her family and Greg stopped paying attention to their predictions.

Damage to [Vivian's] spinal cord deprived her of control over virtually her entire body. As she pulled out of danger, the chief worry became preserving that body. She spent half of the time on her stomach, suspended in a revolving bed that was rotated every two days so that she would not get bedsores. With mattresses above and beneath her, she was sandwiched in the device.

The doctors had stopped saying Vivian might not survive, but her parents were given little hope about her future. . . . The doctors told Vivian's mother, Frances, that her daughter never would sit up and likely would be dependent on a breathing machine the rest of her life.

A few days later Vivian's father gave her a way to communicate.

"Viv, do you remember how we used to play with Morse code when you were little?" Eddie Hobbs asked. "When you want to talk to us, blink your eyes to make the letters, and we'll spell out what you say." He placed on a tray in front of her a chart of Morse-code letters that he had written out.

Turning her eyes toward the rows of dots and dashes, Vivian began slowly: "D" Pause. "O" . . . "I." Frances and Eddie, divorced for eight years, stood together barely breathing. The only sound was Eddie's pen writing the letters.

"Do I have brain damage?"

Frances answered quickly, "No, you don't."

BY DONALD R. PIERSON

ONE OF MY FIRST responsibilities in the Retirement Plans Office of the North American Division was to consult with Richard Hubbard, a highly qualified pension plan specialist and a partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Arnold & Porter.

When I asked Mr. Hubbard to research a topic I would frequently receive a letter with his signature. A second signature often appeared at the bottom of the page in terrible handwriting, deliberate and jerky, like that of a first grader learning to write. Because of the handwriting, I wondered what kind of lawyers worked at this prestigious firm. I was almost alarmed when a letter arrived from Mr. Hubbard, stating that the woman with the bad handwriting, Vivian Berzinski, would be our primary contact with the firm. I was distinctly unimpressed.

I made an appointment to meet Ms. Berzinski and others with whom we would be working. When Vivian entered the room she was in a wheelchair pushed by an assistant. A quadriplegic, Vivian couldn't move a muscle from her neck down. Then I understood the signature; Vivian signed her letters using a pen that she held in her mouth.

But how could a quadriplegic handle the complex issues we had to work through? I decided then and there that she would have to earn my respect.

EASTER 1988: Surrounding Vivian clockwise from top: Greg, Gregg, Jennie, and Jason

"How do you know?" Vivian asked, the letters coming faster now.

"I just do," her mother said.

Then Vivian blinked her third question: "Can I still have a baby?"

Assured that her mind could function and her body could conceive, Vivian Hobbs charted her course.

When Vivian lay facedown, Greg or a family member or friend would lie on the floor beneath her, looking up into her face. That way she would know someone was there, and the watcher could be sure the breathing tube had not clogged or that Vivian was not in too much pain.

Linda [her sister] often slept under the bed at night, her face six inches from Vivian's. Any time the sound of Vivian's breathing changed, Linda woke up. The sisters would "converse," even share jokes; by now Linda could read Vivian's lips.

Vivian relied on Linda to tell her the truth when she suspected her parents would not. Once, Vivian asked Linda when no one else was in the room whether her arms and legs, which she could not feel or see, were really still there.

"Show me," Vivian demanded. And Linda, with tears running down her face, slowly, carefully, lifted one limb after the other until Vivian could see them.

There were small victories as the summer passed. Bone grafts from Vivian's leg and hip fused her spine, allowing her to sit up in a wheelchair. Unexpectedly one day, she started breathing on her own, something the doctors had said would never happen. One small nerve had survived. Now she could speak.

Greg and Vivian decided to continue planning for their wedding.

The doctors and the hospital's chaplains were against the marriage: Greg and Vivian were too young. The pressure on Greg was too great. They could not imagine the life that lay before them. One doctor told Vivian that if she were to get married, she should find a very rich man, because she would need someone to support her.

Greg and Vivian were married on October 26, 1972, in the chapel of Good Samaritan Hospital.

They told their parents not to dress up and to enter the chapel discreetly, because they were afraid the medical staff would stop the ceremony if they knew it was taking place.

After Vivian finished high school at home with a tutor, Greg and her stepbrother took her to school at Prince Georges Community College.

The first semester Vivian signed up for 24 credit hours, much more than the normal load.

Vivian got all A's that semester; Greg got better grades than he usually did in school.

She amazed me by quoting, verbatim, from the IRS Tax Code.

After a year at Prince Georges, Vivian transferred to [the University of] Maryland. It offered better premed courses.

Vivian graduated from the University of Maryland in 1978 with a degree in biochemistry. It was conferred *summa cum laude*.

On paper, Vivian had everything medical schools looked for—high test scores, good grades, the right major. But none of the six or so institutions she applied to would accept her. Vivian was so determined to be a doctor that she considered attending medical school in France.

But a Maryland guidance counselor had pointed out as she was applying to medical schools that she might need a fallback, and suggested law school at Georgetown.

Children. By then, there were two.

Vivian took the first summer off to be with her children. But after that she didn't

slow down. She edited and wrote for the law journal, worked in a Georgetown-operated clinic and, her second year, worked in the summer-associate program at Arnold & Porter.

On May 25, 1981, Vivian graduated from Georgetown, one of three students in the 626-member class to receive her degree *summa cum laude*.

Vivian was hired by Arnold & Porter through the normal application process, and the only special treatment she requested was a speakerphone.

Vivian has sought the limelight only once in her career, and she did so then only because there was no other way to right what could have been a terrible wrong. The Senate was debating the Tax Reform Act of 1986, a law that curtailed so many tax breaks that even its authors didn't know all its provisions. Vivian was leafing through the 1,376-page bill, looking for changes that might affect her clients, when her eye fell on one that would cost her, and many others, thousands of dollars.

The provision would have virtually repealed the tax deduction that handicapped workers take for the special expenses they need to perform their jobs—assistants' salaries, teletypes for the deaf, Braille writers for the blind, and so on. It would have become too expensive for some handicapped people to keep working, yet the deduction limit had crept unnoticed into the bill, as part of a broader section.

Vivian rushed letters to all 20 members of the Senate Finance Committee and the 36 members of the House Ways and Means Committee, with copies to their 56 aides. She also alerted the groups that lobby on handicapped issues.

Her letter drew a quick response from Robert J. Dole (R-Kans.), then Senate majority leader, who has special concern for issues affecting the disabled. As the Senate was nearing final action on the bill, Dole stood up on the Senate floor, holding Vivian's letter in his hand. He told the Senate about Vivian—"a very outstanding lawyer here in town," he said. He read Vivian's arguments aloud, then proposed an amendment excising the provision. It was approved without objection.

As one friend puts it, "Whenever I get

depressed about my life, I think about Vivian, and then I feel like a jerk."

Sitting in a wheelchair in her office at Arnold & Porter, her framed diplomas on the wall, Vivian directs the conversation toward the intricacies of pension law and the latest accomplishment of her 2-year-old daughter. Across her chest lies a clear-plastic, rubber-tipped pointer, her link to the physical world. Biting down on one end of it, she can buzz her secretary on the intercom, type on a computer keyboard, make a telephone call, or turn the pages of a book.

The only way her life is different because of the accident, they say, is that she is a lawyer, not a doctor.

A Life Fulfilled

The Church Alliance is a group of pension plan administrators from most of the major denominations in the United States. It was established to monitor IRS code regulation changes affecting not-for-profit organizations.

Vivian became active in drafting the legislation to be recommended by the Church Alliance. Church pension administrators were asked to contact members of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee and ask them to cosponsor the bill, to lobby those who were members of our own faith.

The president of the Southern Baptist pension plan called me to say they had been unsuccessful in convincing Texas Senator Lloyd Bentsen to cosponsor the bill. He suggested that since there are so many Adventists in Texas, I try to persuade Senator Bentsen to cosponsor the bill.

When Vivian and I went to visit Senator Bentsen's office, I discovered that Bentsen's legislative assistant was already on a first-name basis with Vivian. We were credited with obtaining the cosponsorship.

A few years later U.S. Representative Benjamin Cardin, of Maryland, sponsored another bill for the Church Alliance. We were in favor of it, until a clause was added that would have cost our plan approximately \$3.5 million per year.

Tom Wetmore, from the General

Conference Office of General Counsel; Danny Miller, of the Church Alliance; Vivian; and I met with Representative Cardin's legislative assistant, but made no headway. We made an appointment with Representative Cardin himself.

When the time came for our appointment there was no sign of Vivian. The three of us stood in the hall waiting for about 20 minutes before being admitted into the legislator's office.

Vivian was already there. She and Representative Cardin had already had a long conversation, yet he continued to grill the rest of us. Finally he grinned and said, "You have answered well. Vivian has already covered the same issues with me—I just wanted to be sure you were all saying the same thing." The offending clause was deleted, saving the church multiple millions of dollars for its retirement fund.

That's What Friends Are For

One day, looking through the bookshelves at the Adventist Book Center, I noticed a book by a student who had become a paraplegic while performing on a gymnastics team. It told of the student's anger, frustration, and finally total dependence on God. I couldn't help thinking of Vivian.

My contact with her had been strictly professional. But with some hesitation I gave her the book. She wrote me a letter after reading it, saying how much she had appreciated it.

One day when I called Vivian, she seemed depressed. After dealing with the issue I had called her about, I asked how she was doing personally. Her marriage to Greg had fallen victim to divorce, and she told me her daughter was being "bullied" at school.

She asked if I knew anything about the Adventist school, Spencerville Junior Academy, and if her daughter, not being an Adventist, might be able to attend. I told her that Tom Wetmore and I would both speak with the principal on her behalf. Vivian's daughter was admitted to the school and accepted by the teachers and students. She was a member of a choir that performed at a number of Adventist churches in the

area, always accompanied by Vivian.

One day Vivian surprised the pastor, telling him that she wanted to join the church. She assured him she knew what Adventists believe; she had been to the Adventist Book Center and had made a thorough study of the church's doctrines. Because of the difficulties in baptizing a quadriplegic, Vivian became a member of the church by profession of faith.

Vivian developed a respiratory problem and quietly died in her sleep on June 23, 1997.

In the past three years I have lost to death three sisters, a brother-in-law, and a mother-in-law. Yet those losses probably had no greater impact on me than the loss of Vivian—my counselor, friend, and sister in the faith. If names were still being added to Hebrews 11, Vivian's name would deserve a place on that list.

The words of comfort found in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 have taken a greater meaning to me in the past few years. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Vivian is one of the people I will look for on that great day.

**Text in italics is from Anne Swardson, "The Irresistible Force of Vivian Berzinski," The Washington Post Magazine, May 8, 1988. Used with permission of the Washington Post.*

Before his recent retirement, Donald R. Pierson was director of the Seventh-day Adventist retirement plans. He lives in Burtonsville, Maryland.





CREATION . . . for Your Health!

Eight natural ways to enjoy optimal health in the twenty-first century

BY DICK DUERKSEN

GOD'S GREATEST DESIRE IS for us to get a clear picture of His character. When we do, we'll find His love irresistible.

Every act of God is designed to help us understand who He is, to help us fall in love with Him. Every gift He gives is personally crafted to help us live life as He designed us to live it.

God's creation is an ongoing process of gift-giving, a moment-by-moment empowering of people to become more like Him, a daily encouragement to reach toward a healthier way of life. God's "healthier way" includes filling our daily adventures with joy, peace, hope, patience, kindness, and love. It includes each of us, His ultimate creation, living long and living well.

The best way to understand and experience the "healthier way" is to get a clear picture of what happened in Eden and understand how that creative process continues today.

What gifts did God give to Adam and Eve?

How do we continue to receive those gifts?

How can we use those gifts to live healthier lives?

Stand beside the Creator for the universe's greatest days of wonder. Watch as He creates quasars and kittens. Laugh

with Him as the first giraffes stretch their necks toward the highest leaves. Listen as He describes the *good life* to Adam and Eve, as He *creates health* by teaching us how to live.

God's greatest gifts—listed here under the acronym CREATION—are those that guide us to live as He lives.

Choice. We are what we choose.

Remember Adam's first assignment? God brought him all of the animals and birds and asked him to choose a name for each one. Then He took Adam and Eve around Eden,



showing them everything, including the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. On the ground beneath that tree, God described the dangers of eating its fruit and asked them to choose not to eat of it.

Some of our choices are like naming rabbits—important to daily life, but with no moral impact. However, many choices are tree-of-knowledge choices—options filled with moral challenges, choices that will change the direction of life.

That's where God comes in, standing ready to help us make decisions that will draw us closer to Him and develop His characteristics in us.

Our choices, especially in those tree-of-knowledge moments, transform who we are and impact how we influence those around us. They make us



more like God or more like the enemy. In each situation, God is there, offering all the resources necessary so we can make the healthiest possible choice.

Healthy choices make healthy people.

Rest. God created rest and gave it to us as a gift.

You know that wonderfully sweet pleasure of leaning back and reveling

in rest? That's the gift God gave on Creation's seventh day. Everything that humans would need for "complete living" had been created. Atoms, red blood cells, roses, puppies, tomatoes, and pheromones. Imagine God,

sitting on a flower-covered hillside, planning the one more item on His list: rest.

Rest comes loaded with smiles and packed with peace. It offers energy for the burned-out and restoration for the broken. Although it reaches its peak on Sabbath, rest is always ready to perform healing transformations. Rest turns back the powers of weariness, exhaustion, and fatigue, replacing them with peace, energy, and hope.

Maybe that's why the Creator wrapped rest inside the Sabbath. Knowing that we would work hard all week, He dedicated an entire day for plugging into His power, a time when He packs us full of Himself so we can be healthier people next week.

Rest. It's God's personal way of saying "I love you."

Environment. God made water sweet and people thirsty. He designed the world to perfectly match the people who would live in it. Then He handed it to us and said, "Take good care of it—for Me."

That assignment changes the way we relate to the grass in our front yards. It also guides how we feel about ozone layers, nuclear power, and fresh air. Caretakers for the Creator take special interest in the environment, making sure the world we live in is healthy and a healthy place for living.

As caretakers we've discovered a special healing relationship between people and nature. Dig around the

tomato plants in your garden and be energized. Plant a row of petunias on your windowsill and be cheered. Watch a five-minute sunset and be revitalized.

There is healing in a mockingbird's song. There is healing in walking beside seagulls. There is healing on a mountain trail, in the desert sands, in a pine forest, on a rocky coast, and in a city park. There is healing whenever we take time to care for our world.

The Creator made it that way.

Activity. People are made to be active.

Take a deep breath, and you'll experience one of the Creator's greatest gifts. The air you breathe contains billions of oxygen cells, tiny power



PHOTO: ERIK STENBÄCKEN

plants your lungs deliver to a waiting team of red blood cells. These "messengers" hold these oxygen molecules tightly and then dash off to supply new power to muscles and tissue that must have oxygen for fuel.

Breathe deeply while on your morning walk, and new energy shows up in knees, toes, arms, and more.

Breathe deeply while in a meeting with your boss, and new energy shows up in the brain cells that produce creativity.

Breathe deeply while hugging your children, and new energy shows up in the cells that produce tenderness and love.



But activity is much more than breathing. Activity means finding every muscle you can and moving it. The movement makes

inactive cells shout: "More Fuel!" which starts a chain reaction of breathing in more oxygen, which helps the cells work harder, which calls for more fuel, which . . . well, you know the feeling.

Active people are more alert, energetic, caring, and alive. Healthy.

Trust in Divine Power.

The Creator designed us to be His friends.

But sometimes we're too busy to write, call, or even send Him an e-mail. Those are the times we try to "go it alone," without the wisdom and energy His friendship offers. And we do "just

fine" without Him. We design bridges, drive race cars, harvest wheat, and perform a thousand other tasks. However, without Him those activities become rather colorless, like paintings done by an artist who has no heart.

Friendship with God puts His heart into what we do.

Friendship with God transforms us into His people and shifts our values to match His values. We make choices, not according to our own desires, but according to what He knows is



best for us. From breakfast table to office suite, we live as He lives.

But there's more! Friendship with God gives us energy to beat away the enemy's attacks. It makes victory a habit.

Alone, I'm a little frightened. With Him, I'm eager.

Interpersonal Relationships.

"Can I tell you something?"

Yes, it's wonderful and affirming to have a pet kitten rub your leg, but it's warp-speed better to feel an encouraging hug from a friend. Our greatest joy is found in sharing ideas, hurts, looks, hugs, squeezes, and hopes.

When the Creator taught service, He sent disciples out two by two. When Paul was called to minister in Macedonia he asked Silas and Dr. Luke to come along. When King Saul was lonely he asked David to fill the quiet with music. When Dorcas woke up each morning she helped her neighbors.

People are at their best when living for others. Yet those same relationships bring our greatest challenges. People can be wonderful, and people can be awful.

That's where the Creator comes in, carrying a supply of "relationship tools," ready with an apprenticeship on love: "How to trade grudges for appreciation," "How to think of the other first," "How to say hard things softly," "How to be patient with the impatient," "How to be a healthy human."

Relationships work best when we use His tools.

Outlook. Outlook is a gift you give yourself, a talent with which you paint the world. Some of us leave smudges of gray and dark purple as we frown through the day. That's our choice. Others leave sparkling designs of gold, green, and sky-blue. That's also our choice.

Some of us have personalities that do not allow us to do "happy" all the time. That's OK; it's part of God's plan. He's designed each of us to be different, special, unique, and wonderful.

But "negative" is not in His plan. Negative turns out the lights in hope. It changes love to hate and peace to stress. And worse.

Positive does just the opposite. Positive turns on the lights, ignites love, and sets our hearts to dancing.



And positive is readily available. The Creator built it into our corpuscles and packed it with His power.

Positive is what He made us to be. Like Himself.

Nutrition. "Lord, thank You for broccoli."

The Creator designed us to get "peak performance" from the best foods. He planted a garden full of them, handed us a pair of chopsticks, and said, "Enjoy!" We've been reveling in His delights ever since.

He could have just created yucca. Instead, He created variety, taste buds, and grandmothers—all of which make eating a lot more fun.

What makes your taste buds give each other "high fives"? Kimchi? Brussels sprouts? Cottage cheese loaf?

Key lime pie?
Tossed salad?
Orange juice?
The options read on through hundreds of cultures, into millions of kitchens, and around dinner tables gifted by God.

He also gave us guidelines for enjoying His goodies.

Some foods provide the bursts of energy we need in the morning. Others help us slow down in the evening. Some are great in small quantities and terrible by the plateful. Some bring out flavors, while others hide flavors.

Nutrition? That's the process of balancing great gifts for full health.

CREATION: every gift He gives is personally crafted to help us live life as He designed us to live it—healthy.

Dick Duerksen is director of spiritual development at Florida Hospital in Orlando, Florida.



Is There Life After Meat?

Health nuts and movie stars aren't the only ones jumping on the vegetarian bandwagon.

(Editor's Note: Information for this article has been taken, by permission, from the Vegetarian Cuisine Instructor's Course Manual and Vibrant Life.)

YOU'VE READ, YOU'VE HEARD, YOUR body is telling you that you need to change your eating habits. You believe that a vegetarian diet will protect you from an untimely heart attack, help you lose weight, reduce your food bill, and live closer to the original Edenic diet, and you'll be ecologically responsible besides (land can produce 12 times more protein per acre from grain than from livestock). You're absolutely right. You'll go from beef burgers to vegeburgers, from hot dogs to imitation "links," and you might even go from scrambled eggs to scrambled tofu.

Scientific research continues to document the health advantages of the vegetarian diet.¹ Non-meat eaters enjoy a lower risk of heart-related diseases, gastrointestinal tract problems, and cancer. And research has revealed that vegetarian Adventists can expect to live up to 12 years longer than the general population.

You're convinced? Here are some suggestions to help make the transition a little easier.

Steps to Follow When Changing to a Lacto-Ovovegetarian Diet

1. Change gradually so that the body can adapt to the different food pattern.
2. Gradually increase the intake of whole grains and whole-grain products, such as breads and breakfast cereals.
3. Use a variety of fruit and vegetables. Include vitamin C-rich foods with meals to enhance the absorption of iron.
4. Replace meat gradually over time by increasing plant protein sources from a combination of legumes with cereals, seeds, and nuts. Instead of a meat entrée, serve a vegetarian entrée, still including the usual vegetable groups (green, yellow, white).
5. Substantially reduce "empty" calorie foods, such as sugar and visible fats (deep-fried foods, added oils, dressings, gravy, margarine, and butter).
6. Include milk and milk products, with an emphasis on skim or low-fat types, or use a nondairy soy drink that is fortified with vitamin B₁₂ at least. Nondairy alternatives should equal the nutritional values of cow's milk.

Recipes Featuring a Vegetarian Cuisine

When you begin this new way of eating, you'll want to invest in resources for meal suggestions and nutritional data. The following recipes have been featured in *Vibrant Life*,² a magazine for healthful living. Visit *Vibrant Life* online for other recipes and information (<http://www.vibrantlife.com>).

You may need to find a health food store to purchase some of the ingredients for these recipes.

Shepherd's Pie

- 4 large potatoes
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- ½ t. salt
- 1 cup calcium-fortified soy milk
- ½ t. McKay's Chicken-Style Seasoning
- ½ cup water
- 2 onions, chopped
- 1 yellow bell pepper, chunked
- 1 large carrot, sliced
- 1 stalk celery, diced
- 2 cups mushrooms, diced
- 1 15-ounce can stewed tomatoes
- 1 15-ounce can kidney beans
- 1 package brown G. Washington Broth
- 1 T. parsley flakes

Peel potatoes, dice, and boil in water with garlic and salt until tender. Drain. Mash with enough soy milk to spread easily. Set aside. In saucepan, combine McKay's seasoning and water. Add vegetables, beans, and G. Washington Broth and simmer until vegetables are crisp-tender. Preheat oven to 350° F. Place vegetable, bean, and broth mixture in a 9" x 13" casserole. Spread mashed potatoes over the top. Sprinkle with parsley flakes. Bake for 30 minutes. Serves: 8. Calories per serving: 164; protein: 7; carbohydrate: 33 grams; fat: 1 gram; cholesterol: 0 milligrams (*Vibrant Life*, July/August 1999).

Vegetable Pizza

Pizza Dough

In a large bowl, combine 1 package active dry yeast and 1 cup warm water. Let sit for 5 minutes. Add ½ teaspoon salt, 2 teaspoons sugar, and 2 teaspoons oil. Add 1½ cups all-purpose flour and ½ cup whole-wheat flour. Mix to blend in mixer with dough hook or regular beater. Stir in up to ¾ cup more flour to form a soft dough. Knead 10 minutes with

dough hook or turn out onto floured board and knead 5 to 10 minutes. Place in oiled bowl; turn dough to oil top. Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled (about 1 hour). Roll each half of dough into a 12-inch circle on a lightly floured surface.

Pizza Sauce

3 cans (14½ ounces each) Italian-style tomatoes (with liquid)
 1 can (6 ounces) tomato paste
 1 t. dry basil
 ½ t. dry oregano
 1 t. olive oil
 2 cups chunked bell pepper
 2 cans (4 ounces) sliced black olives
 2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
 1 cup diced red onion
 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese

Prepare pizza dough as recipe indicates. Prepare sauce and toppings while dough is rising. In a large pan over medium heat, combine tomatoes and their liquid, tomato paste, basil, and oregano. Bring to a boil and cook until thick and reduced to two cups; stir occasionally. When dough has risen, punch it down, knead it on a lightly floured surface, and shape into a smooth ball. Divide dough in half and roll out each half to about a ¼-inch thickness. Gently pull each portion into a 12-inch circle. Place each circle on a baking dish and brush with olive oil. Spread half of the sauce on each circle of dough to within ¼ of an inch



of the rim. Top each circle with half the pepper, olives, mushrooms, red onion, and cheese. Bake in a 500° F oven for 12 to 15 minutes or until crust is browned. To serve, cut hot pizzas into wedges. Yield: 2 pizzas, 2 servings each. Calories per serving: 625;

protein: 28 grams; carbohydrate: 81 grams; fat: 27 grams; cholesterol: 32 milligrams; vitamin A: 2,948 IU; vitamin C: 100 milligrams; calcium: 542 milligrams; zinc: 3.5 milligrams (*Vibrant Life*, January/February 1999).

Cheeseless "Cheese" Sauce

1 cup roasted cashews
 1 cup water
 ½ cup pimientos and/or roasted red peppers
 ¼ cup yeast flakes
 ¼ cup sesame seeds
 ¼ cup lemon juice
 ½-1 t. salt
 1 t. onion powder
 ½ t. garlic powder
 Blend all the above ingredients until smooth (*Vibrant Life*, January/February 1999).

Szechwan Choplets

Stir-fry and Rice:

1 20-ounce can Worthington Choplets, drained and cut into strips
 1½ T. peanut oil
 4 cloves garlic, diced
 2 medium onions, quartered, then halved
 2 large red peppers, cut into strips
 1 egg white
 3 cups cooked brown rice
 ½ cup dry roasted peanuts
 3 T. chopped green onions

Marinade—combine the following:

1 T. cornstarch
 1 T. soy sauce
 1 T. peanut oil
Seasoning Sauce:
 2 T. soy sauce
 1 T. brown sugar
 1 t. cornstarch
 1 t. sugar
 salt to taste
 1½ T. peanut oil

In a shallow dish, soak Choplets in the marinade for 30 minutes. In a large skillet, heat the peanut oil on high. Add Choplets, including marinade. Stir-fry for 1-2 minutes. Remove Choplets from skillet. Set aside. Add garlic to the skillet. Stir-fry for 30 seconds. Add onions and peppers. Continue to stir-fry for 1 minute. Add Choplets, egg white, and the seasoning sauce. Reduce heat and

cook until thickened, stirring occasionally. Serve over warm rice. Garnish with peanuts and green onions. Serves: 4. Calories per 1-cup serving: 380; protein: 16 grams; fat: 12 grams; cholesterol: 0 milligrams (*Vibrant Life*, September/October 1998).

Tofu Stroganoff

1 10½-ounce package firm tofu
 vegetable cooking spray
 2 t. olive oil
 2 cups fresh mushrooms, sliced
 ½ cup carrot, shredded
 2 cloves garlic, crushed
 2 T. all-purpose flour
 1 t. McKay's Chicken-Style Seasoning
 ¾ cup skim milk
 ¾ cup plain, nonfat yogurt
 3 cups spinach egg noodles (hot, cooked)
 2 T. fresh parsley, minced
 Wrap tofu in several layers of cheesecloth or paper towels; press lightly to remove excess moisture. Remove cheesecloth; cut tofu into ½-inch cubes. Set aside.

Coat a large nonstick skillet with cooking spray; add oil. Place over medium-high heat until hot. Add tofu; sauté 4 minutes. Remove from skillet; set aside. Add mushrooms, carrot, and garlic to skillet; sauté until vegetables are crisp-tender. Remove from skillet; set aside.

Combine flour, McKay's seasoning, and milk; stir until smooth. Add milk mixture to skillet; bring to a boil. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly. Stir in yogurt, tofu, and vegetable mixture. Cook over low heat until thoroughly heated. Serve over hot cooked noodles. Sprinkle with parsley. Yield: 6 servings. Calories: 231 each; protein: 14.9 grams; fat: 7.1 grams; cholesterol: 26 milligrams (*Vibrant Life*, March/April 1998).

¹*Vegetarian Cuisine Instructor's Course Manual*, The Health Connection (55 W. Oak Ridge Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740), pp. 80-88.

²*Vibrant Life* (55 West Oak Ridge Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740). (Recipes featured are from articles written by Georgia E. Hodgkin, an associate professor in the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics in the School of Allied Health Professions at Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California.)

Taking It to the Streets

Increasingly, healing takes place in the community as well as in the hospital.

BY REGINA ERICKSON

Whether you're a parent or a grandparent, you undoubtedly have high hopes for the children in your life. You hope they'll make the world a more livable place; find a cure for heart disease, cancer, or AIDS; maybe even straighten out the maze we know as managed health care.

Because Adventist Health also believes that children will change the world, it's caring for the next generation from conception to adulthood, from first steps to first teeth, from first stitches to first dates. In 1998 alone, the Roseville, California-based health-care organization put more than \$560 million back into its communities. And a good portion of that investment went toward children's services.

These stories are but a few of the heartwarming anecdotes that appear in Adventist Health's 1998 Community Benefits Report, *Caring for the Next Generation*. To request a copy of the report, please call AdventSource at (800) 328-0525 or (402) 486-2579 outside North America.

Early Intervention Makes "Skye"-High Strides

Skye was 8 months old, and we had just found out that [he] was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. I remember how devastating it was to see my wife, Rebecca, begin to cry. . . .

"Now 11 years old, Skye, with difficulties that could eat you up alive, is well and thriving. It's been a wonderful and enriching experience these many years at the Child Development Center."

This is just one family's experience as told in their own words excerpted from *The Babblor*, a publication of the



GOOD BABY: Adventist Health therapists work with a developmentally challenged youngster to enhance reflexes.

Child Development Center at Simi Valley Hospital and Health Care Services/Adventist Health.

Nearly 20 years old, the center's

Early Intervention Program helps roughly 100 developmentally challenged children enhance language, sensory, and motor skills each year—all with the help of specially adapted toys. The aim of the program is to intervene early, from birth to age 3, when children are most sensitive and particularly teachable.

"There were only seven kids when we started

the program in 1979," says longtime director Robin Millar. "It's been a joy to watch it grow and meet the needs of our community."

Making Health Care Warm and Fuzzy

Each year Adventist Health treats children, adults, seniors, and yes, even teddy bears. Member hospitals see to the “wounds” of legions of war-torn teddies that accompany young owners to Teddy Bear Fairs across the organization. Designed to ease children’s fear of common medical procedures, the fairs pair kids and their fuzzy friends with trained volunteers who, like Mary Poppins, know how to “make the medicine go down.”

Tillamook County General Hospital/Adventist Health’s two-day affair was quickly booked by more than 550 kids—and nearly as many stuffed animals—from three counties on



THIS WON'T HURT: An Adventist Health physician performs a mock exam on a well-loved teddy.

Oregon’s north coast. Visits began with a 90-minute tour of the hospital with stops at the nursery, the emergency room, and the oddly popular commercial laundry facilities. Along the way, a

giant stuffed panda was strapped onto a backboard and loaded onto an ambulance to demonstrate common, but often scary, emergency procedures.

At the end of the tour kids flocked to the teddy bear repair station, where able volunteers sewed on buttons and eyes before sending them on to learn about nutrition, safety, and hand washing. Although the fingerprinting booth was popular with protective parents, the high

point of the day for many a child was administering a real shot—complete with syringe—on, what else, a teddy bear.

NEARLY 100,000 BAPTIZED THIS YEAR!

PROPHECY SEMINAR

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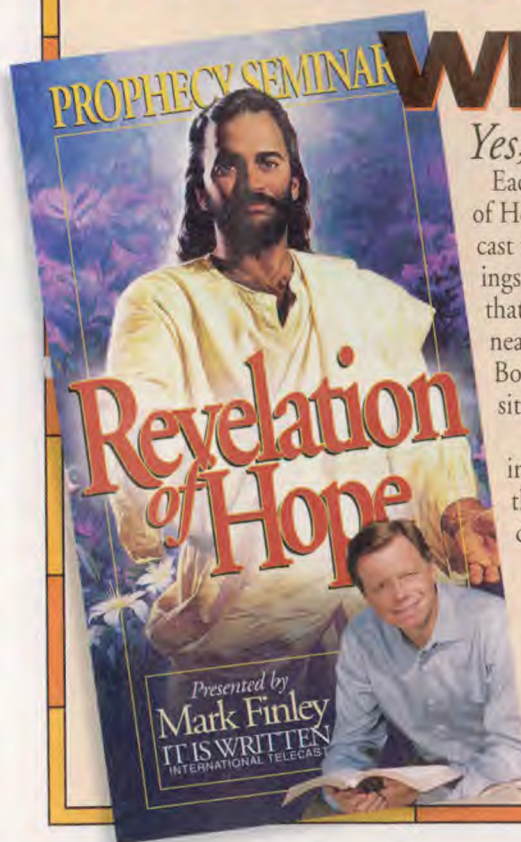
Yes, it's true. Here's why.

Each week between January 30 and March 3, the opening night for the “Revelation of Hope” satellite evangelistic series with speaker Mark Finley, the *It Is Written* telecast will be airing an invitation to its one million weekly viewers to attend the meetings at a site nearest them. When viewers in your area call the 1-800 number for that information, it is vital that there be a downlink site for “Revelation of Hope” nearby. If your local church is not a registered site, please encourage your Church Board to become one immediately! . . . or consider becoming a registered home site location!

There are people near you who will spend eternity thanking you for taking the initiative to provide a setting for “Revelation of Hope” where they could learn more of God’s will for their lives and deepen their faith in Him.

Don't let them down!!

To register as a downlink site for *It Is Written's* ACTS 2000 “Revelation of Hope” satellite evangelistic meetings which will be uplinked each Friday, Saturday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights between March 3 and April 15, 2000, call 1-888-664-5573 today!



Kids Inhale Asthma Camp

When Suzanne White, M.D., medical resident at Adventist Health/Selma (California) Community Hospital and longtime asthma sufferer, discovered that the "Raisin Capital of the World" didn't have an American Lung Association (ALA) asthma camp, she went to work. Dr. White convinced the ALA to cosponsor the endeavor, the hospital agreed to provide space and food, and other central California businesses chipped in for supplies. In just four months young asthma victims were signed up for Selma's first asthma camp.

"I used to be a respiratory therapist, so I've seen a lot of kids wheeze and cough and go undiagnosed . . . and I've volunteered at asthma camp before," says White, who used her previous experience to expertly organize the one-week program.

Dr. White quickly recruited a teacher, a teen asthmatic, and premed students from a local college to help teach the young campers a thing or two about living with asthma. Campers soon became "experts" in airway, lung, and cardiac anatomy. They learned how asthma works, what triggers it, and how such famous people as Olympic swimmer Amy Van Dyken have succeeded in spite of it.

As promised, the week was full of plain old fun as well. Campers created two huge wall murals that hung in the hospital halls for weeks. Themed "Jurasthmia Park," each featured colorful drawings of dinosaurs encountering asthma triggers such as pollen, dust, and cigarette smoke.

Regina Erickson is a communication specialist for Adventist Health in National City, California.



BREATHE FREE:
An art project teaches a young asthma camper about the basics of lung anatomy.



Ken McFarland

A survivor tells how to weather life's worst storms

Still Standing is a true story that can bring you hope and courage. In its pages you will learn how—through reliance on God and true friends—one man fought his way back from pain, loss, fear, loneliness, grief, and depression to survive and thrive.

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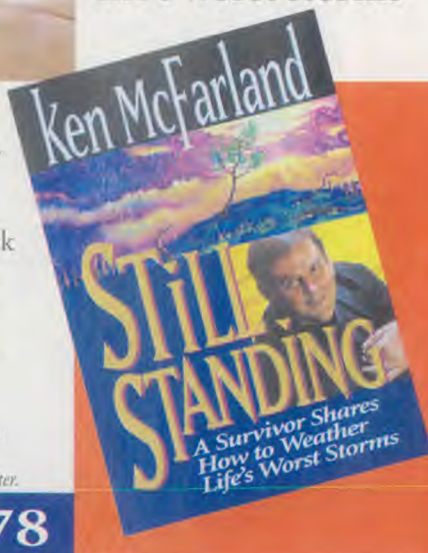
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Millennium of Prophecy Seminar Introduces Thousands to Christ

BY BETTY COONEY, SPOKESPERSON FOR NET NEW YORK '99

At church sites with as few as a handful of people present and in vast stadiums seating up to 50,000 persons—and at every size and type venue in between—hundreds of thousands worldwide participated in the Millennium of Prophecy Seminar (NET NEW YORK '99), held October 15–November 13. Lights burned in thousands of home sites as Adventists invited neighbors and relatives into their living rooms to get acquainted with Pastor Doug Batchelor as he presented messages based on the Storacle lessons. He and his wife, Karen, also answered audience questions about the Bible in a popular segment that drew thousands of questions from the international audience.

Says Batchelor, “We are still scarcely able to comprehend the scope of what the Lord has done, and is doing, through our recent efforts in New York City with the Millennium of Prophecy. To God be the glory for the grand harvest we are witnessing.”

Joining the Batchelors in the meetings was Pastor John Lomacang of Fairfield, California, who served as emcee, music coordinator, and singing evangelist during the meetings.

Opening night attendance topped 1,000 at the host site in Manhattan. By the final weekend 1,300 crowded in for the concluding programs. Attendance averaged 750 nightly throughout the

seminar. On the closing Sabbath in New York 45 persons were baptized, and additional baptisms are being planned. A team of six Bible workers under the direction of NET NEW YORK '99 associate coordinator Robert

which transmitted the languages via a special encoder. Mandarin Chinese, the world's most spoken language, was the final language to be arranged for, just days before the opening weekend, with two local volunteers alternating

between their demanding jobs and the meetings. A former missionary to China arranged to have the translations encoded for online viewing and listening.

The major prayer ministry supporting NET NEW YORK '99 (also known as METRO '99) continued to follow up on prayer requests and accolades after the meetings ended. Coordinated by Merlin and Juanita Kretschmar, “Prayer & Praise” pages on the seminar's website home page (www.netny99.org) and in the coordinator



GROWING CROWDS: The New York City host audience, pictured here, grew each evening of the Millennium of Prophecy Seminar and reached beyond capacity on the final weekend, November 12 and 13.

Wagley (assisted by Peggy Wagley and Amazing Facts Bible worker Annie Kjaer) are following up with 120 active interests. Local team members are visiting 1,300 additional persons who had had some contact during the meetings. Weekly follow-up meetings were scheduled close to the seminar location, with planning under way to plant a church in the area.

The broadcasts were translated into 14 languages simultaneously, with the translator booths housed in a former hotel room in the backstage area, dubbed the “Pentecost Room” by Brad Thorp, manager of Adventist Global Communication Network (AGCN),

area revealed prayer concerns from the global church as well as from the general public. Some 40 prayer partners assisted the Kretschmars in their special ministry for the series. E-mails to the prayer pages skyrocketed, with many hundreds of messages flooding in regularly.

Many came to the meetings in search of answers, then wrote that they had found far more. Thousands of e-mails and faxes from around the world speak with gratitude of the life-changing hope and fresh understanding of biblical principles people are now enjoying. People of all ages have weighed in with their responses, but

young adults repeatedly affirmed the clarity and straight speaking they found in the Millennium of Prophecy presentations, grateful that God had reached them through Batchelor's messages. As of one week after the series ended, the 224 volunteer online counselors had answered more than 6,600 questions, quadrupling earlier online responses. Along with providing biblical answers, volunteers, coordinated by the Adventist Association for On-line Evangelism (AAOE), guided seekers to local churches or other contacts.

Adventist Information Ministry (AIM) fielded toll-free calls in North America and also responded to an array of questions about materials and spiritual matters. More than 13,000 persons in search of seminar locations accessed the website's graphical locator developed by Steve Timm, who developed it and volunteered his services for this feature.

As soon as the meetings began, people unable to attend at a downlink site were able to watch online, both live via 3ABN and archived videos. People could also participate in chatrooms in a number of languages. The North Pacific Union's online church, www.joyriver.org, made these services possible.

The following are just a few responses that came in by e-mail or fax to share the good news about individuals and churches that participated in North America (many also participated from various quadrants of the world):

"After these seminars, I am sure I want to be rebaptized. . . . I am a college student [at a public university] more than 3,000 miles away from my home church, so please pray that I can find encouragement for my decision, and that my family will accept my decision."—Indiana.

"I have not had God in my life for a long time. . . . For the first time in a long time that I can remember, I felt some hope. . . . I understood some of the principles of the Bible that I either had not thought of, or not fully understood in the past. I was very inspired, and this was the first time in so long that I had a desire to learn more and



Q & A: Pastor Doug Batchelor and his wife, Karen, answer inquiries during the nightly question-and-answer segment of the Millennium of Prophecy Seminar held in New York City, New York.

that I have felt more willing to let God into my life again."—Nevada.

At one Hawaii site their handbills didn't arrive in time, but the church prayed and advertised their meetings by word of mouth and on radio. The result? Pastor Charles Disney says, "God has blessed our attendance more than in any previous satellite seminars, and our attendance has been increasing every night. We have prayer warriors on site and believe that God has answered our prayers for His glory."—Puna, Hawaii.

Pastor Abel Cordero wrote, "Our church is a close, family-oriented group. We decided to follow the meetings without fail in every church member's home. Pastor Doug's every presentation was as delicious as every supper prepared by our family hosts."—Moreno Hills church, California.

"Our church has had NET meetings with almost zero success, so most were very discouraged about having any at all this year. However, a few families got together, rallied around the other members, and brought back a little enthusiasm. The first night we had four guests attending. We prayed for the town that God would impress others to come. Our faith at this time was climbing high. By the fifth meeting we had 10 people attending, then another two young people came in to see what was going on. We praise God for answering the prayers of our little church."—Oregon.

"We are meeting in the new mobile ministry van, and though it has about 30 chairs, by our second evening we filled it. We are really excited and are praying for God's power to flood the Navajo Nation."—Arizona.

"The attendance was so large that we had to set up a second video projector in the fellowship hall, where about 100 people could watch in Romanian. In the sanctuary, we had to bring in extra chairs because the 300-seat sanctuary was not enough for the weekend attendance."—Atlanta, Georgia, Romanian church.

"From five to 35 people have come out for the Millennium of Prophecy meetings each evening. God is performing miracles with our video projector!

"After the fifth night our projector began to show vertical bars with color distortion across all or part of the picture. We took it to a technician, but he couldn't find what caused the bars. I asked, 'Would you mind if we had prayer to ask God to give you wisdom to find the solution to the problem?' He replied, 'No, if you think it will help.' So, right there in his shop, I asked God in prayer to give him wisdom. The next day the technician took the projector apart and cleaned it. The bars disappeared and have not reappeared. We are praising God for the beautiful picture and truth-filled presentations He gave through Pastor Doug and the musicians!"—Michigan.

"We are young adults growing in Christ daily. I got baptized when I was 11, and half the stuff you've revealed from the Word I and my friend have never heard of, or even understood so clearly. Thank you for allowing the Lord to use you in His great work."—Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

In New York and at sites around the world hearts and lives have clearly been changed. Pastors and church members banded together across the globe in their shared mission of taking the three angels' messages to the world. And the influence of this seminar will continue to bring Christ's message to North America and the entire world.

A Major Revival—This Year?

BY MIKE JONES, WHO OPERATES AN AD AGENCY IN VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

If the church is smart," my friend told me, "it will get ready for a major revival that will come in the year 2000. That should be a great time for evangelism."

The year was 1982, and we were in the middle of a seven-mile run.

"How do you know that?" I asked him.

"Revivals are cyclical," he explained. "They come every 30 years pretty much on schedule. And this one will have greater ramifications because of its connection with the new millennium."

I perked up. My friend, after all, had a Ph.D. in history and was a college administrator. I asked a lot of questions and listened intently as he described revivals of the past. And then I remembered 1970, the year revival swept the nation. And me? I was a new journalism instructor at Andrews University, fresh from the business world.

Students and teachers were on fire for God. I still remember

unscheduled meetings at Pioneer Memorial church and testimonies from students and faculty alike. As students prayed for their unconverted peers, many accepted Jesus. The frenzied push for grades was for a time replaced by even more important things. There was a softness in the air. Hard edges were gone.

And then it seemed to fade. Not quickly. But one day the revival no longer held center stage. Then it was gone.

As I write this nearly 30 years later, Catholics and Lutherans are clasping hands after 482 years, the pope has called for enforced Sunday sacredness, and

jumbo jets are falling out of the sky.

I remember reading in *Parade* recently about businesspeople leaving secular employment for spiritual careers, and I think of the business I sold one year ago and the fact that I have no appetite to return to that world. As I contemplate the revival my historian friend predicted, I say to the Lord, "Please, may this be the one that never ends."

NEWS COMMENTARY

NEWS BREAK

Auckland Adventist Hospital Sold

Twenty-five years of Adventist health ministry came to an end in New Zealand with the sale of Auckland Adventist Hospital. The doors of the St. Heliers Bay, New Zealand, landmark were shut for the last time on December 23.

The hospital complex has been purchased by three buyers. Ryman Healthcare Limited has bought the hospital and plans to develop it as an aged-care facility, including a long-stay hospital, rest home, independent apartments, and serviced studio units. The acquisition is part of the company's strategy to expand business on New Zealand's North Island.

Another company, Calan Healthcare Properties Trust, purchased the hospital's medical center, which includes accident, laboratory, physiotherapy, and radiology services, a pharmacy, and specialist consulting rooms. Calan plans to continue the operation of the center in its current form.

The surgical assets of the hospital have been bought by Ascot Hospital and Clinics Limited, who will offer some roles to present hospital staff within its own operation and those of its affiliates. It also plans to provide transfer options for hospital doctors.

The offer by Ryman Healthcare to buy was unsolicited, and the hospital was not for sale at the time the offer was made. The company initially approached the Trans-Tasman Union Conference (TTUC) on September 10. A final offer was accepted on November 18.

Soon after the initial approach, Ryman and the Trans-Tasmanian Union Conference entered into a confidentiality and exclusivity agreement. "We were unsure of the intent and seriousness of the approach," says TTUC president Harold

Harker, who also serves as hospital trustee. "We feared that if a rumor of a sale reached the market before we considered it, it would have a serious destabilizing effect on the hospital."

Except for the past two years, the TTUC has had to



Auckland Adventist Hospital

For Your Good Health

Soy: The Right Stuff

Food products containing at least 6.25 grams of soy protein per serving can now feature a health claim on their labels alerting consumers that consuming soy protein every day as part of a healthy diet can help lower their risk of coronary heart disease. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the health claim after reviewing more than 50 scientific studies, concluding that 25 grams of soy protein daily in your diet can help lower your cholesterol levels significantly. Foods that may be eligible for the health claim include soy beverages, tofu, tempeh, soy-based meat alternatives, and possibly some baked goods. Foods that carry the claim must also meet the requirements for low fat, low saturated fat, and low cholesterol.—*U.S. Food and Drug Administration.*

For Your Good Health is compiled by Larry Becker, editor of Vibrant Life, the church's health outreach journal. To subscribe, call 1-800-765-6955.

AWR Letter Box

Dear friends at AWR: "It is a joy to listen to your English programs and to realize that you are giving encouragement to many people. Your English Bible message is very wonderful, useful, and encouraging in our lives."—**Joshua, India.**

"I always follow your programs with pleasure and interest as I esteem the level of content and issues discussed to be of high quality."—**Fulvio, Italy.**

"I am one of your many faithful listeners in our town. Your programs are very interesting, and we have benefited greatly from what we hear. Even though it is very appreciated, its time duration is too short."—**Jean, Madagascar.**

"I listen regularly to *Voice of Hope* and its nice programs. I would like to compliment you for your great efforts in spreading the message of Christ to all people so that they can believe in Him and have eternal life."—**Arabic listener, Netherlands.**

For more information about Adventist World Radio, write to: 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904-6600; or call toll-free: 1-800-337-4297; e-mail: awrinfo@awr.org; website: www.awr.org.

NEWS BREAK

prop up the hospital financially to an amount of several million dollars. Harker said that the hospital is now 25 years old and would soon need many more millions spent on it upgrading equipment, refurbishing accommodations, and providing new services, but that it lacks both the reserves and cash flow to do so. Other factors relating to the New Zealand economy and the health-care market were also considered before the sale was agreed to.

According to Harker, elective surgery is becoming increasingly competitive in Auckland, where there is an oversupply of hospital beds and operating theaters.

Harker sees the sale as an opportunity for the church to refocus its health-care mission in New Zealand and to serve a wider geographical area. Harker also praised the hospital employees, saying, "We appreciate the professionalism and commitment of doctors, staff and volunteers, the local community, friends of the hospital, and members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church over the years in making the hospital a quality health-care facility. The support of all staff through this difficult time is appreciated."

Those persons employed when the hospital closed on December 23 received a bonus of two weeks' wages or salary, in addition to the appropriate redundancies, accrued holidays, and long-service leave all will receive.—*South Pacific Division Record*

Guide Starts 2000 With Flying Colors



Prayer changes things, including *Guide* magazine. *Guide* wanted to print every issue in full color starting January 1, 2000, but that didn't look possible without increasing costs to subscribers. The *Guide* staff gathered with friends at the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Maryland, for a special prayer session.

"I felt the least we could do was pray," says Randy Fishell, editor in chief. "Within 10 days everything fell into place as we reconfigured on a different printing press. Kids deserve the best, and that's what we try to give them."

As a local junior Sabbath school class leader and father of three young boys, Fishell knows what today's kids need. "I think it's vital for kids today to see that heaven is on the horizon and that we are a prophetic movement. That's the big picture. The little one is that *Guide* provides tangible examples of not only how to know God better, but how to relate to other people. It's an important tool for young people."

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Quack a . . . What?

Mom, come quick!" Stacey yelled. Her voice was urgent, so Mom dropped what she was doing and ran to the living room.

"What's wrong?" Mom asked with a worried tone.

"There! That's what I was talking about!" said Stacey, pointing to the TV.

There, on Stacey's favorite program, a group of kids sat in a circle on the floor playing a clapping game.

Mom watched and listened carefully to the game and the rhyme they were singing.

"Quack a-dilly oh my quack, quack, quack," the kids on the TV sang. As the song went on, each kid gently slapped the hand of the kid on their left, around and around the circle.

". . . eight, nine, ten! You're out!"

"See, Mom?" Stacey asked. "On ten, if you don't pull your hand away and the other person slaps it, you're out. But if you pull it away and they don't slap it, they're out. Get it? Watch again."

Another round of the game started with one less player.

"Quack a-dilly oh my . . ." the kids chanted.

"Quack a what?" Mom asked with a puzzled expression. "What are they singing?"

"I dunno," Stacey shrugged. "It's just funny words that rhyme."

Mom picked up a pencil and a piece of paper and scribbled the words as the kids went around again.

"Now how is it they're holding their hands?" Mom asked. "There's a certain way they're doing it."

"Yeah," answered Stacey. "That's what I was trying to tell you after I saw it the last time. You put your hand on the palm of the person to your right, and the person to your left puts their palm on top of yours. That way you can

slap as you go around in the circle. See?"

"Yes, I do," Mom answered. "Now it makes sense. When you were trying to tell me about it before, I couldn't figure out what you meant. But now that I see the kids playing it, I understand how it goes. It looks like a fun little clapping game."

"Did you get all the words?" Stacey asked.

"Sure did," said Mom. "As soon as Daddy, Paul, and Philip get home, let's show it to them and get a game going."

"Great!" said Stacey. "I'm sure glad we caught this rerun."

Sometimes the best way—maybe the only way—to learn is by watching someone else. God wanted us to know what He was really like and how He wants us to live. The best way was to show us. That's why Jesus was born as a baby and lived as a man. Jesus said, "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you" (John 13:15, NIV).

Family Time

On Tuesday (or whatever day you choose), invite your family to worship God with you.

☛ Ask each person in your family to name something they have learned by watching someone else.

☛ Read Luke 2. What kind of boy do you think Jesus was? If He lived next door to you right now, what do you think you would learn from Him?

☛ Ask the adults in your family if they have ever learned something they shouldn't have from someone else. Why is it important to choose good examples to follow?

☛ With your family's help, write down as many reasons as you can think of that Jesus came to earth as a baby instead of a grown-up.

☛ Sing a song about Jesus coming to be our example. Try "Emmanuel," *He Is Our Song*, No. 52. What does the word "Emmanuel" mean? Look up Matthew 1:23.

The Adventist Re



A. This picture, along with the cover image and stories, changes weekly to give the website a fresh look and feel all the time.

B. Take a look at our complete table of contents for the current issue as well as next week's issue.

C. You can subscribe to the *Adventist Review* magazine right from the website with a valid credit card.

D. Need to locate a church or find a sunset time? Use these handy resources to find the needed information.

E. You can now download any *Review* printed in 1999 (to read this format you must also install Acrobat Reader). Soon the issues from 1998 will be available, along with a search engine that allows you to perform an instant search by keyword.

F. Our free online newsletter, *AR in Touch*, keeps you updated on all the new features on site and in the printed journal.

www.adventistreview.org

Review Goes Global

The 150-year-old journal spreads its pages on the World Wide Web.

BY CARLOS MEDLEY, *Adventist Review* news and online editor

Thanks for your new service. I'm really happy to read your online pages. I have subscribed [to] the monthly issue, but now I can read even more about our church's activities. God bless you all!

—Hely Kurki, Tampere, Finland

Thanks for placing the *Review* online. I live in Barbados, West Indies. Usually when we get a *Review* it's out of date. I can now read my Week of Prayer readings. I have placed this site among my favorites.

—Marcia Robinson, Barbados

That's what Adventists around the world are saying about the new *Adventist Review* Online Edition website (www.adventistreview.org). Launched on September 30, 1999, the site attracted nearly 6,000 visitors from 80 countries and territories in the first 30 days. We've also received scores of complimentary letters and nearly 90 subscriptions to the print journal to date.

An Emerging Audience

In the planning for more than two years, the new site aims to extend the *Adventist Review's* reach globally, making the magazine truly accessible to the exploding Internet market worldwide. In North America it is estimated that more than 70,000 Adventist households have Internet access, and the majority of the 19,000-plus students on Adventist campuses are connected too. When you add the untold number of church members across the globe who are connected, the potential audience becomes substantial.

With the website, church members on every continent can get breaking church news on a timely basis, within two to three days of presstime—and in some areas, weeks before the journal arrives in the mailbox. The page also serves as a sounding board, giving church members a place to share their opinions and concerns. *Review* subscribers can also use the site to facilitate customer service issues.

Some visitors, such as Joan Powell, of Armonk, New York, have already found the home page helpful in introducing non-Adventists to our church doctrines. "It is truly won-

derful," Powell says. "I can read your articles and share them at work. I get the opportunity to share my faith because I leave work early on Friday. After explaining to coworkers [why I leave work early], I give them the website [address] where they can search and find answers to other questions."

Features

Here are the features you'll find on the page each week.

Review Content. Though you won't get the whole magazine online, you will see two feature stories, an editorial or column, and not-yet-published church news. We'll also show you our contents page and a sneak preview of features from next week's issue. You will also be able to download the entire magazine (to read this format you'll need Acrobat Reader software).

Exclusive Material. Along with the above content you'll also find a monthly article written by a nationally known Christian author or a feature about a well-known personality. You can also register to receive an online newsletter.

Have you ever wanted to find an article from a back issue of the *Review*? Then check our index, which goes back to 1997. Simply search by subject, author, or title. You can also download every issue of the *Review* from 1999.

Reader Interaction. Of course we want your feedback. Give us your ideas about the website or the printed magazine. Tell us what's on your mind. Send us your letters to the editor, article queries, prayer requests, and other correspondence.

Along with these features you can subscribe to the journal with just a few clicks of your mouse. It really doesn't matter if you live in Boston or Baghdad, Minneapolis or Manila; you can subscribe to the weekly journal online. All it takes is a valid American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa credit card.

Coming Soon

Very soon the *Review* Web archives will double. You'll be able to access more back issues. Other plans call for implementing a search engine that enables surfers to get articles by simply entering key words. You'll also be able to participate in periodic polls on various church issues.

So come and visit us often. There's a wealth of information and inspiration at www.adventistreview.org.

LETTERS

from The Web

Deepest appreciation to you and all who got the *Adventist Review* onto a website and maintain it. You have all made a great contribution to the church, and to all else who wish to check in on the SDA Church, its beliefs, and activities. Thank you very much.

Jim Chase, Modesto, California

I wish to congratulate you on this venture. I am from Trinidad and Tobago. The *Adventist Review* is circulated by our conference once in a while. Sometimes when we do receive them they are outdated and the copies are not enough. I am overjoyed at the fact that I can now have access to at least some of the articles, which I will certainly share with my friends.

Thanks a million. Each day I live I thank the Lord for leading me into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. May God continue to bless you all.

Your sister in Christ,

Ann-Marie, Trinidad and Tobago

Just want to say how much I appreciate the fact that the "Good Ol' *Review*" is available online. In this day and age of computers, when so many of us travel with laptops, it's nice to know that we can always be "connected" to our church. The articles are always inspiring and thought-provoking.

My son, who is in his second year of law school, really appreciates being able to read the *Review* online. He has expressed his excitement with the fact that our editors have chosen to use this technology to spread the gospel "like leaves of autumn." So from our family, thanks for choosing this medium!

Peter Peabody, Riverside, California

Excellent website. The layout is exquisite, and the colors are appealing. **Willie Oliver**, family ministries, North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, Silver Spring, Maryland

"Praise God! We are up at last."

Carlos, I had no idea that you were down. Congratulations. Cheers.

Ray Dabrowski, Director of Communication, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Silver Spring, Maryland.

"Cheers" from me to you and the staff . . . from your Germany connection.

Joan Ruegemer, Germany

In all sincerity, congratulations! I've been going through the pains of making a personal website, so I appreciate your growing pains.

Wil Clarke, La Sierra University, California

It is a great site. I am from Australia, and so we have the *Record* and the *Review*, and I find some interesting articles that I print out and include as an insert in the church bulletin.

Elizabeth, Australia

Everyone ought to visit the new site for the *Review*. It is such a blessing.

Wayne V., Adventists Online, Internet

I was quite thrilled to see the notice of the *Adventist Review* website. It was a long time coming, and I think it'll be a very positive move for the *Review*. We'll have links to it on our Florida Conference website at <http://www.adventist-fl.com>.

A. Lee Bennett, Jr., Florida Conference

Congratulations on the colorful, user-friendly and up-to-the-minute design. The new *Adventist Review* Online Edition is wonderful! So much information with easy access to it all. A demonstration of inspiration.

Thank you.

Marilyn Christian Smith, Loma Linda, California

May the Lord richly bless your ministry.

Itamar DePaiva, Montemorelos University, Mexico

JOSH McDOWELL

Josh McDowell's "Tolerance" was right on target. He cited the right texts and he articulated a concern for a problem that is real. While he is most concerned for the youth, I see adults who adopt these same attitudes, thinking it makes them "in step with the times." Let's all pray for the tolerance that is Christlike.

Frederick C. Phipps II

I just read in the October NAD Edition that you have gone online with your own Web page. I had to look at it last Sabbath morning and was really excited with what you have!

My wife and I have been subscribers to the weekly *Review* since our marriage and wouldn't be without it. The online edition is another wonderful addition because anyone anywhere in the world can read it!

I will be checking in regularly, I'm sure. Is *In the Spotlight* just online, or is it in the print version also? The article by Josh McDowell, "Tolerance," is superb. Thanks for the good work!

Nolan Darnell, North Carolina



Shearing the Sheep

Scam artists are targeting sincere Christians with get-rich-quick schemes.

BY THOMAS WETMORE and KARNIK DOUKMETZIAN

ONCE THERE WAS A RICH MAN WHO was about to leave home on a trip. He called his staff together and put them in charge of his financial affairs. He assigned to each employee responsibilities that matched his or her ability. To one he entrusted \$100,000; to another \$40,000; and to another \$10,000.

The first two employees invested his money, and by the time the employer returned from his trip, the sums invested with them had doubled. The last employee, however, simply held on to the cash.

We don't know how long the master was away, but we do know that on his return, after being advised of the doubling of the investments, he congratulated and promoted those two hardworking employees. "Well done, you good and faithful servant!" said the employer to each of them. "You have been faithful in managing the funds I gave you, so I will now put you in charge of much more. Come on in and share in my happiness."

A growing number of sincere Christians have misread this familiar biblical parable and have incautiously assumed that just about any method will suffice to increase their means so long as the ultimate goal is to "further spread the gospel." Blinded by greed and religiosity, they have let common sense take a backseat.

Financial scam

artists are reaching into new enclaves of society today to swindle just these kinds of trusting, unsophisticated investors with unrealistic expectations. Christian faith is no guarantee of being able to easily recognize these slick and smarmy promoters of fraud, for they have put on an insidious disguise. In many cases they are part of the groups, the organizations, even the congregations in which we participate.

Those promoting these scams often say something like this: "You can trust me, because I'm like you. We share the same religion; we have the same desire to spread the gospel message to all the world. I can help you achieve your goal of financing the spread of the gospel and at the same time protect your financial well-being. My plan can guarantee

returns in excess of 500 percent per year. Your investment is secure, guaranteed, and fully protected. You will start receiving returns on your investment in short order, and you can then utilize your generated funds for various ministries you wish to support."

Relying on the dual motivators of personal greed and evangelistic interest, these cunning individuals have been able to gain entry into the hearts and bank accounts of thousands of believers. Law-enforce-



ment officials in North America have coined a new term for this type of activity—affinity fraud.

What Is Affinity Fraud?

Affinity fraud is fraud among people with some common bond, such as religion, ethnicity, or profession, by members of these groups or persons claiming to want to assist these groups. Affinity fraud has become so prevalent that the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA) has named it the number one investment fraud that state and provincial securities regulators in the United States and Canada are confronting today.

It's only natural to feel you can trust someone with whom you identify or share a common belief. Our tendency to be cautious about strangers and their claims breaks down if we sense or are told that we have something in common with them. Our natural (and sometimes healthy) skepticism dissipates when we are lulled into a false sense of security by reports and testimonials from a few prominent members of the group who claim to have received spectacular returns on their "investment." A testimonial from someone you know and trust who has benefited from the investment sets the trap most effectively. It doesn't seem to matter much which product is being promoted when you talk with a living, breathing person who has made a lot of money on it.

Therein lies the common denominator of all of these scams—quick and easy money. Promises of double- and triple-digit returns on investment are the norm, and are often combined with assurances of little or no risk. There are even some offers that appear to be promising as much as 3,000 percent annualized return!

What activities do the con artists claim will result in this level of profit? Most of the double-talk usually mentions such things as international financial transactions in prime bank guarantees, offshore investing, gold mining, oil drilling, high-tech inven-

tions, etc. The "opportunities" are usually just "smoke and mirrors" serving as a front for a pyramid, a Ponzi scheme,* or a blatant theft of your hard-earned dollars.

But the most diabolical modern snake oil salespersons prey on those who pray. Cloaked in piety, quoting Scripture, and claiming to be believers, these con artists appeal simultaneously

The most diabolical modern snake oil salespersons prey on those who pray.

to members' desire to make good while doing good for the Lord. Easy assurances of a blessing from God are given to those who "step out in faith." Taking advantage of the trust that Christians invest in fellow Christians and in God's promises is the chosen tactic of the unscrupulous.

The most notorious recent example is Greater Ministries International, of Tampa, Florida. Seven leaders of that organization are facing criminal charges for conspiracy, money laundering, and various counts of fraud. The authorities believe that this organization was operating a massive Ponzi scheme. Such scams eventually collapse as the available pool of new money dries up because there is no real source of income or profit for the "investment." It's quite simply robbing Peter to pay Paul. Promises of investments doubling in 17 months or less lured an estimated 17,000 predominantly conservative Christians to invest as much as \$200 million in Greater Ministries.

The faithful were promised by the Bible-quoting promoters that they

would be blessed according to their faith; distressingly, a number of the promoters were ministers of the gospel. Investors were also assured that the federal and state securities laws didn't apply to their transactions because their investments were "gifts" to the "church," and that the payments they received from the "church" were "blessings" not subject to federal and state income taxes. It comes as no surprise that the government takes strong exception to these representations.

In the legitimate investment arena, success breeds success. In a perverse way, the same holds true for these scams. Many Christians from a range of denominations are now being victimized by these con artists, and there is compelling evidence that an increasing number of Adventists are being duped and taken advantage of by unscrupulous promoters.

Such types advance quoting the Bible. Their favorite text is Luke 6:38: "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (NIV). They maintain that the text promises a double return for every dollar invested—within a few weeks, a month, or at most a year. What they don't offer, of course, is that the context of Luke 6:38 talks about giving gifts to the poor without expecting anything in return. They write that "God has given us a system by which we can take the blessings of God and cause them to increase." Or that "the Lord has spoken this program into existence by prophecy." These plans routinely promise returns of 35 to 40 percent *per month*.

Con artists also advance by seeking out pastors and prominent members of the church who invest early and receive great returns. These leaders are then used to encourage other members to invest. Some leaders are tempted by finder's fees or a percentage of the profits to encourage others to invest, but grow strangely silent when members

ask and expect them to return lost investments personally.

Why Should We Be Concerned?

These financial promoters appear to be zeroing in on the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its members. There have been reports that some of our church members have already been victimized—a few hundred dollars here, a few million dollars there. The promises of tremendous financial return attract quick attention for many who may be cash-strapped or who feel they have missed out on the bullish stock market ride to riches. But such misadventure can lead only to ruin. Many of the naive “investors” have mortgaged their debt-free homes, borrowed against their credit cards, or invested their life savings in the hopes that their investment train would soon roll in. Most discover too late that the train is not coming in anytime soon, and that, in fact, it has taken a detour with their money onboard.

What should you do when offered such “opportunities”? The North American Securities Administrators Association recommends that individuals follow these simple rules when approached to invest in such schemes:

1. Beware of the use of names or testimonials from other church members or officials. Scam artists frequently pay out high returns to early investors using money from later arrivals. Early investors may be wildly enthusiastic about a scheme that may collapse entirely after you have invested.
2. Obtain written information that details the risk of the investment.
3. Ask for professional advice from known professionals (accountants, lawyers, or financial planners) who are neutral and outside the group being solicited.
4. Check references.
5. If you don't understand the investment, stay away from it. Sophisticated, technical jargon about international banking transactions may sound impressive, but don't be fooled. It may be that you don't understand

the pitch, not because you are ignorant of the market, but because it really doesn't make any sense.

6. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

7. For more information, visit the website of the North American Securities Administrators Association at <http://www.nasaa.org/investoredu>.

These financial promoters appear to be zeroing in on Seventh-day Adventists.

One state securities commissioner summed it up well: “Treat all investment tips, no matter where they come from, with skepticism. Just because someone in the church, even the minister, says that something about an investment is so doesn't make it so. Be very skeptical of returns that sound too good to be

true, because they probably are.”

When the master in Jesus' parable left his employees in charge of the finances, the first two invested wisely. They were faithful in managing the funds in their possession. The master expected at least a minor return on each of his investments, and all but the lazy servant complied.

Those contemplating get-rich-quick schemes would do well to remember that even this useless servant, who was thrown into the darkness, still returned the original investment to the master. That's considerably more than many of the victims of today's sophisticated scams have left.

Thomas Wetmore is associate general counsel, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Karnik Doukmetzian is claims counsel, Adventist Risk Management, Inc.

Both work in Silver Spring, Maryland.



*Named for Charles Ponzi, who ran such a scheme in 1919-1920. A Ponzi scheme is an investment scam in which returns are paid to earlier investors entirely out of money paid by newer investors.

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Literature Requests

In many areas of the world pastors and libraries don't have the resources for witnessing and studying. The following persons and institutions have requested denominational literature and would be grateful for your help. The list is for literature only. Please discourage any solicitations for funds or expensive equipment by the recipients.

GHANA

Pastor Stephen Y. Agboado, SDA Church, Gomoa-Dawurampong, P.O. Box 11, Pinanko C/R, Ghana, West Africa: Bibles, books, magazines, tracts, Picture Rolls, and evangelism materials.

Emmanuel Nwiah, Asasetre SDA Church, P.O. Box 23, Nkroful, W/R, Ghana, West Africa: Picture Rolls, Bibles, Bible concordance, Bible commentaries, and books on prophecy.

Evangelist Boye Nyerere, No. 39 Maranatha House, P.O. Box 2334, Sunyani, B/A, Ghana, West Africa: evangelism materials including Bibles, books, and magazines.

KENYA

Mr. and Mrs. Evans Nyamari, Evangelistics

Ministry, P.O. Box 619, Keroka, Kenya, East Africa: Bibles, Picture Rolls, spiritual books, and tracts for distribution.

Florence Moïue Nyauwencha, P.O. Box 46, Nyamaui, Kisii, Kenya: Bible and *Adventist Reviews*.

MYANMAR

The Senior Bible Seminary in Myanmar is in need of books for their library. They must increase from the 5,000 books they have now to 15,000 in the next two years to upgrade the seminary. You can help by donating books. You may contact former missionary Elder Frank C. Wyman, 25 Coyote Lane, Brewster, WA 98812 (1-509-689-3812) or e-mail: wyman@nwi.net for further information.

PAKISTAN

Karachi Adventist Hospital Health Promotion Department, P.O. Box 7289, Karachi 74400, Pakistan: *Listen*, *Vibrant Life* and other health magazines, and *Guides*. Please write on the package, "Educational material, no commercial value."

TANZANIA

Chambi Chachage, c/o Tanzania Gender Network Programme, P.O. Box 8921, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, East Africa: *Signs of the Times* and *Adventist Reviews*.

Ewaldi Mushi, P.O. Box 11, Makongorosi, Chunya, Mbeya, Tanzania, East Africa: Bibles, magazines, and books for evangelism.

VANUATU

Bradley Takau, P.O. Box 260, Port-Villa, Vanuatu: gospel songbooks from the 1930s through the 1970s.

ZAMBIA

Kelvin Sikanka, Adventist Community Service and evangelism director, Mountain View SDA Mission, P.O. Box 360055, Kafue, Zambia, Africa: Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy books, hymnals, sermons, tapes, gardening books and magazines, children's books and Picture Rolls, health books, and other appropriate religious literature.

Pastor Lastone Silungwe, Central Zambia Conference, P.O. Box 81253, Kabwe, Zambia, Africa: Writes to thank us for the Bibles and *Steps to Christ*, which have been used successfully in evangelism. He would appreciate more materials for evangelism.

ZIMBABWE

Fernest Dhlodhlo, 381 Engineering, Sixty-third Street, P.O. Highfield, Harare, Zimbabwe: Spirit of Prophecy books, Bibles, and gospel tracts (for personal evangelism and study).

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What of the Future?

January is always a time of looking forward and glancing back. The future and the past seem to walk hand in hand as we make resolutions, promises, and commitments. And this January, more than ever in any of our lives, the sense of anticipation is keener, more acute, more momentous.

What a time to be alive: the sheer exhilaration of watching the calendar turn 2000. Who would have thought it possible—50 years ago, 40, even 20 years ago, that the Lord Jesus Christ would not have returned and we'd still be on this mad, accursed earth that is spinning out of control?

How much more wickedness and terror, blasphemies and hate, filth and abominations must be poured out upon the earth before it is consumed and purified and replenished into something worthy of God's presence again?

Each day brings more gross evils: incest and rape, murder and children shooting children with no sense of remorse or regret, as if the victims were mere electronic images on a screen to be zapped. As a human race we have become so depraved, so left to our reprobate minds, that even secular commentators cry out to the God they regularly denounce, asking for answers.

Indeed, even the heathen are fearful for what is daily "coming on the earth."

Humans enter the 2000s like *Star Trek* characters probing a distant and alien planet—fingers on the trigger, hearts pumping, expecting the worst. Which of you, with children, is not concerned about the revolutionary changes engulfing the world? There is hardly time to embrace one upheaval before another washes over. Nothing is benign—whether music, the Internet, movies, the average radio station, a walk in the park, window shopping downtown, or going to school or work. Everywhere there are signs of a roaring, snarling, growling lion seeking to devour everything in its path.

The Department of Devilish Intelligence, the DDI, as Pastor Ivan Warden calls Satan and his imps, pervades every step of modern life with a ferocity that appears unmatched in human history. Indeed, his time is short.

More than anything else this year, we might pray for the

courage to live Christian lives, so attuned to God and His will that the beautiful grace of our Lord and Saviour might pervade our homes and accompany us everywhere we go, expelling the devil and filling the space around us with the joy and peace of Jesus.

*Let's pray for
the courage to live
Christian lives.*

Our senses have been so dulled by exposure to unrelenting evil, and we've been so desensitized by the dehumanizing influences of popular culture, that it will take positive, vigilant action to counter the beguiling effects of the modern world. Clearly our children now witness too much, too soon, too graphically, too intensely.

As the world shrinks rapidly and information is stored and retrieved almost instantly, and tasks that took our parents a day to complete are

dusted off in minutes, and time becomes so compressed, it becomes clearer what David meant when he said: "For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday" (Ps. 90:4).

Yes, our God, who is not constrained by time or space, who counts time in eternity, not millennia, will keep His promise to return and take us home. It can't be too soon.

In the meantime, let us affirm our beliefs to our children, reinforcing God's simple and enduring truths: "Fix in your minds and in your hearts these things that I'm telling. If you have to, write them on the backs of your hands or on your foreheads so you won't forget what I've said. Pass these things on to your children. . . . Don't take for granted they'll pick up the reason for all this. Every chance you have to help them understand, whether it's at home, along the road, when they get up or before they go to bed, take advantage of it. If you have to, write them down and nail them on the doors of your houses and on the gate posts of your yards so you won't forget what I've told you. If you stay close to the Lord and obey Him, you'll live a long and happy life and so will your children" (Deut. 11:18-20, Clear Word).

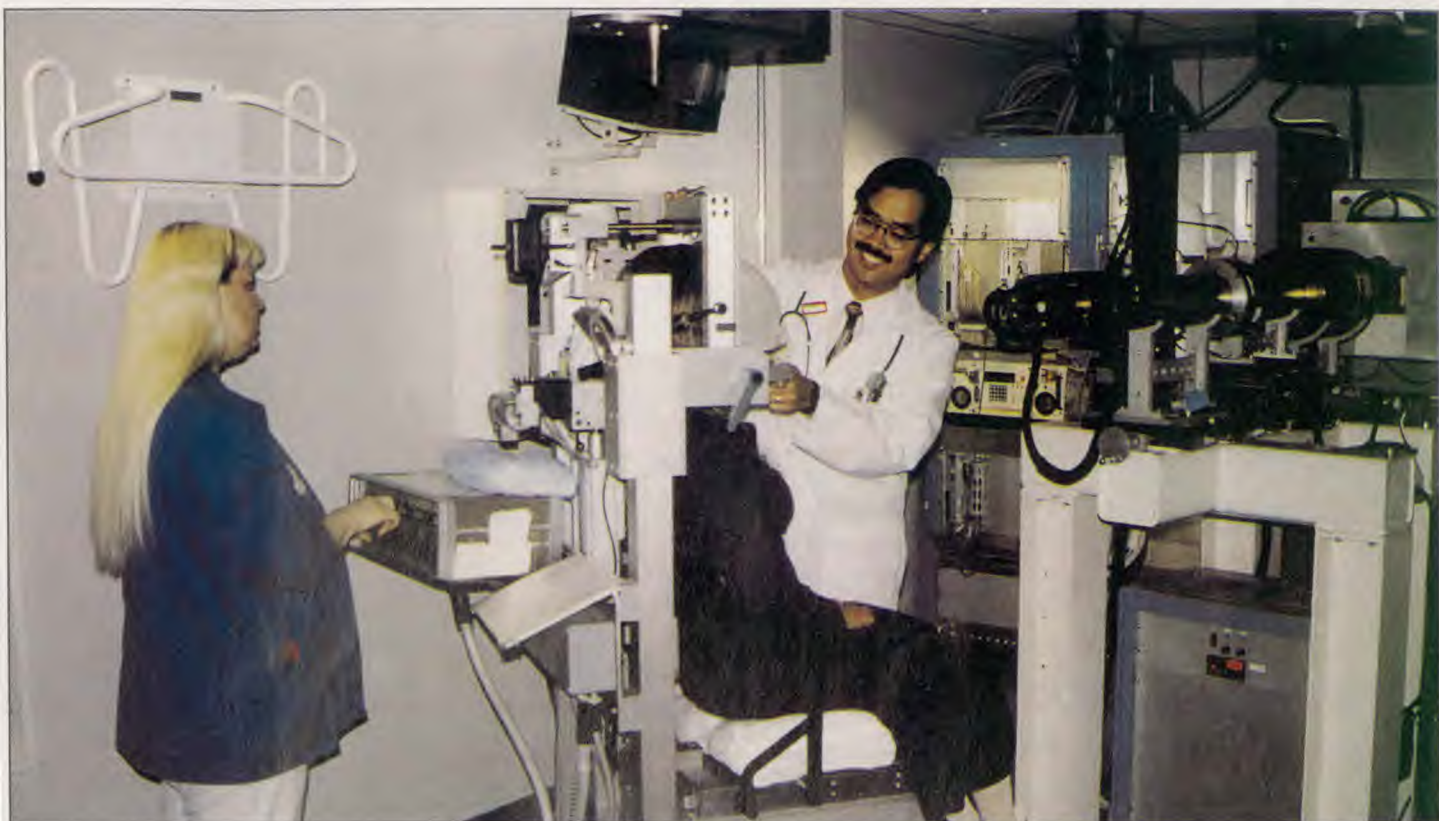
What a promise for these scary times.

Royson James is the urban affairs columnist for the Toronto Star. He's also an elder and incurable youth worker at the Toronto West Seventh-day Adventist Church.



THE

LOMA LINDA REPORT



Les T. Yonemoto, MD, assistant professor of radiation medicine, Loma Linda University School of Medicine, prepares to treat a patient for macular degeneration with proton therapy.

New Medical Center proton therapy treatment featured on 'Dateline' NBC

A new clinical trial at Loma Linda University Medical Center Proton Treatment Center of more than 50 patients with the wet type of age-related macular degeneration (ARMD) demonstrated control of the disease 18 months after being treated with proton therapy. This new treatment protocol was featured in a news segment on "Dateline" NBC on Wednesday, November 24, 1999.

Information for this section is supplied by the Loma Linda University Medical Center office of public affairs.

Analysis of the first 50 patients showed lesion control in 89 percent of the group, including lesions that could not be laser-treated because of size or location. Visual acuity improved or remained stable in 65 percent of patients 18 months following proton treatment.

On average, loss of vision was zero lines on the eye chart at two years, compared to a national study that found a loss of four lines with no treatment, and a loss of three lines immediately following the standard laser photocoagulation treatment. The LLUMC finding is a promising step forward to those

individuals who suffer from the wet form of macular degeneration.

Since 1994, Loma Linda has treated more than 125 patients with proton therapy for ARMD. For many years, proton therapy has been very effective in treating other blood vessel malformations and ocular melanoma (a tumor behind the eye).

Nearly 3.4 million persons in the United States, mostly 65 or older, suffer from the disease. With an aging American population, the number of ARMD cases is expected to rise dramatically during the next 15 to 20 years.

Continued on next page

"FULFILLING THE VISION"

"FULFILLING THE VISION"

The disease appears in two forms—wet and dry. The 10 to 15 percent of patients with wet macular degeneration account for nearly 90 percent of the legal blindness associated with the disease, according to studies conducted by the National Eye Institute in Washington, D.C.

Abnormal blood vessels form at the back of the eye, leaking fluid that distorts central vision and forming lesions or dense scar tissue on the macula, causing severe and rapid vision loss.

The macula is a small area in the central portion of the retina that is responsible for sight in the center of the field of vision. It allows a person to see fine details straight ahead and to perform tasks such as driving, reading, and recognizing faces.

Before the use of protons, treatment was limited to laser therapy, but lasers are only marginally effective and can be used on just a small percentage of those with the disease.

"Protons have been used in medicine for nearly 40 years. Protons have long been considered a standard of care in treating ocular melanoma and other blood vessel malformations," says Jerry D. Slater, MD, vice chair, department of radiation medicine at the Medical Center.

"With protons, there are no side effects or anything else you normally think of in radiation therapy," explains Dr. Slater. "There is no pain associated with this treatment. There is no nausea or diarrhea that often is associated with standard radiation treatment. You go about your normal day's activity. The treatment takes about 10 minutes. Our aim at the Proton Treatment Center is to preserve and stabilize vision as good as it can be for as long as possible."

The current standard treatment for the wet type of macular degeneration, laser therapy, stops the bleeding by sealing off blood vessels, but cannot fix any part of the macula that is damaged or restore lost vision.

It is only marginally effective. Laser treatment is not recommended for most patients suffering from "wet" macular degeneration because it requires relatively small, well-defined lesions and tends to destroy surrounding healthy tissue along with the damaged area.

Conversely, proton therapy, which also seals the blood vessels, can be used on any-

one with the condition and has not been found to injure healthy tissue.

Physicians at Loma Linda's Proton Treatment Center have treated more than 4,200 patients with proton therapy since the facility opened in 1990. Loma Linda's continuing study of protons in treating macular degeneration will determine if it is feasible to start increasing the radiation dosage. The primary advantage of protons

is the precision and control of the proton beam, providing minimal or no damage to surrounding eye tissue.

Clinical data supporting these conclusions have been presented in several scientific forums—both in the United States and Europe—including the American Society of Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology Annual Conference, and the International Conference of Radiation Oncology.



Loma Linda University Medical Center president and chief executive officer B. Lyn Behrens, MBBS (center), congratulates Kenneth R. Jutzy, MD, associate professor of medicine and head of the division of cardiology (left), and Leonard L. Bailey, MD, professor of surgery and chair, department of surgery, for helping to make LLUMC one of the nation's top hospitals for heart-care services.

LLUMC selected as one of top hospitals in nation for heart care

Loma Linda University Medical Center was one of 124 hospital throughout the nation that was selected by the National Research Corporation (NRC) as one of the nation's top hospitals for heart-care services.

Of the 2,500 hospitals rated in the study, the winning 124 ranked highest in their statistical areas as the most preferred provider of heart-care services. The 1999 study represents more than 400,000 covered lives.

This is the fourth year the NRC has bestowed awards on hospitals, but the first time NRC has named top hospitals for specialty-care services.

"The National Research Corporation elected to honor facilities most preferred for specialty care in light of

the increased role consumer choice is playing in the market place," says NRC president Michael Hays.

"Consumers today share a growing concern and desire for choice in selecting their providers of specialty care.

"We hope these awards give another gauge of hospital services as an alternative to clinical report cards which are often difficult to understand by those not directly involved in the health-care industry."

Other Southern California hospitals named in the survey as top hospitals for heart care included Hoag Memorial Hospital, Santa Ana; Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles; and University of California Medical Center, Los Angeles.

Setting Things Straight

KAY KUZMA

Filling a Father Void

I am a victim of childhood sexual abuse by my father, who was raised in a "conservative Christian" home. I recently recalled a repressed memory of a rape (I was about 9 years old at that time) and realize that was just one of many. Now my father is dead, and I don't know what to do with these memories. I have gone through drug rehabilitation and have been clean and sober for 50 days today and have come back to God and am attending church—even playing the organ for church service. But I have an emptiness inside, and I fear a relapse because I still hurt when I realize that my own father violated me. It's interfering with my ability to feel positive about myself.

—A hurting daughter

Dear Daughter of God (for indeed, that is who you are): It's no wonder that you feel an emptiness. God created you with a love-shaped hole in your heart to be filled by a nurturing father. Unfortunately, your earthly father's abuse left a void.

When dressing any wound, a doctor must first cut away the dead and damaged tissue. Only then can infection be stopped and real healing take place. It's cutaway time. You do this by writing down in detail all you can remember of the abuse. Get it all out so that the infection of hate, despair, and self-depreciation won't spread. Then write your words of forgiveness. Symbolically, read it aloud, pretending your father is listening, then burn it. Say as Jesus said after He forgave those who were killing Him, "It is finished!" This process cleans out the wound.

Now fill your love void with God-talk. Personalize these passages: John 3:16; Psalm 139:1-6, 13, 14, 17, 18; Jeremiah 1:5; and 1 John 3:1. Memorize them. When the devil tempts you with thoughts that "you're no good," counter temptation with God's Word, just as Jesus did. Say something like "It is written in John 3:16 that God so loved me that He gave His only begotten Son for me. Because of His gift, I am of supreme value—and nothing can take that away from me."

*Fill your love
void with
God-talk.*

Playpen or prison?

We live in a three-story house and care for our 9-month-old granddaughter four days a week. I love doing this, but it's a full-time job to make sure this curious crawling baby doesn't fall down the stairs, chew on electrical cords, or bump against the sharp slate hearth. The problem is, her parents don't believe in putting her in a playpen. —Concerned grandmother

Dear Concerned:

It's your house—you have a choice of whether or not to babyproof it. If you don't put screens on stairs, tape up electrical cords, and cushion the hearth, then a few minutes in a playpen when you have to be out of baby's sight

isn't going to stunt your granddaughter's intelligence. Better safe than sorry.

The biggest danger of using a playpen is that it can become a crutch. A few minutes stretch into hours that the baby needs to exercise her motor skills, explore her environment, and interact with people. God built curiosity into the software of babies to stimulate their development and initiate adult contact that enhances language and builds security. Babies don't need the run of the entire house to get the stimulation they need—but they do need more than a cage can offer.

Try this experiment: Count the number of interactions you have with baby for one hour outside a playpen versus one hour in. If there's a significant difference—if you interact more when the baby is outside—then, since babies thrive on interactions with adults, wouldn't it be far better to babyproof your house, and to praise the Lord for the increased number of interaction opportunities that freedom allows you to have with that precious granddaughter of yours?

Kay Kuzma is founder and speaker of Family Matters, a syndicated radio program. Send your questions and comments to Dr. Kay, c/o Family Matters, P.O. Box 7000, Cleveland, TN 37320.





A Young Church Grows in Mongolia

GARY KRAUSE

Until recently the oldest Adventist in Mongolia was 29 years of age. Today three quarters of the church is still under 22, which helps explain the tremendous energy and enthusiasm with which they face the challenge of reaching their friends for Jesus.

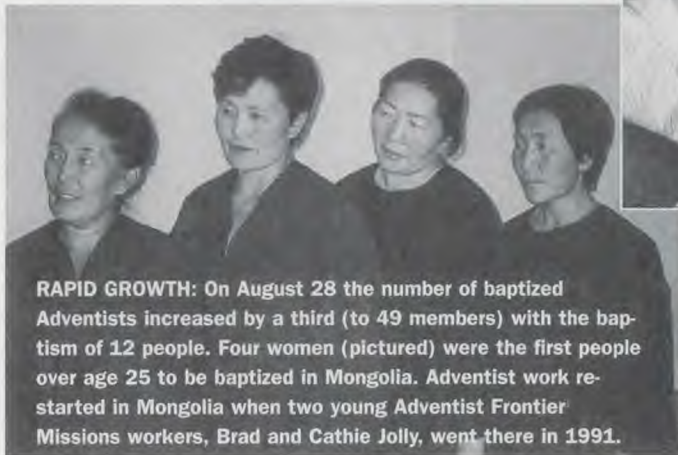
LEARN MORE

For more photos and stories of Global Mission work in Mongolia, see

Frontline Edition online at www.global-mission.org or call 1-800-648-5824 to receive a free copy.



LIFE ON THE EDGE: Mongolia maintains a frontier lifestyle and mentality. The climate is among the harshest in the world, and hard living and drinking are common.



RAPID GROWTH: On August 28 the number of baptized Adventists increased by a third (to 49 members) with the baptism of 12 people. Four women (pictured) were the first people over age 25 to be baptized in Mongolia. Adventist work restarted in Mongolia when two young Adventist Frontier Missions workers, Brad and Cathie Jolly, went there in 1991.



OVERCROWDING: The Adventist Church in Mongolia is beginning to grow rapidly, thanks to young people and a new vision for small group ministry. More than 70 people regularly try to cram into the room that houses the main Adventist church in Ulan Bator, Mongolia's capital. Nearly 150 more people attend 13 other home groups in the city and in rural areas.

NEW FREEDOM: Mongolia endured 75 years of religious repression under Communism. Today in this country of nearly 3 million people, younger people tend to be atheists, while some of the older people retain links to Buddhism—the official religion of Mongolia.



SMALL GROUPS: With funding from Global Mission an apartment has been purchased, which is now serving as a second church plant in Ulan Bator. A 21-year-old computer student, Adiyahu (pictured), is

pastoring a home group in this new apartment. Another young woman has 22 school friends attending a home group in Sant, in the rural Selenge province. They attend two nights a week—one night for Bible study, the other for recreation. Several have already been baptized.

Letters From Listeners

Radio network specializes in inspirational music and sound Bible teaching.

Life Talk Radio (LTR), with headquarters near Knoxville (in Vonore), Tennessee, broadcasts Adventist programming via satellite to 15 stations in North America 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is affiliated with the Adventist Media Center. Paul E. Moore, founder, says, "LTR broadcasts worshipful music, call-in programs, as well as Bible messages and other programs designed to bring hope and salvation to people who are seeking meaning in their lives." Following is a sample of the correspondence received by Life Talk Radio.

I became acquainted with your radio station while driving through Alaska. The radio was on "scan," and it stopped on some truly beautiful music. The music and the scenery, combined with the thought that my friends in Tok must have had something to do with it, brought tears to my eyes. I was right. With your help, a small church group had been able to provide their community with beautiful music.

This is just to let you know that I enjoy your programs a lot. I thank our Lord Jesus Christ for a radio station like yours. I use G2 Real Audio Plus to listen to your station [on the Internet].

Since Pastor Mix started the study of the cross a couple weeks ago I have been extremely blessed. I have gained a deep understanding of what Jesus' death and resurrection did for us, and I have felt Him coming alive in me.

Just a short note to let you all know how blessed I am by Life Talk Radio—especially *Life Quest* with Pastor Bob [Mix]. The Lord has used your programming to help me in my journey with Him.

My family especially enjoys *Children's Bible Hour*, *Family Life Today*, and *Bible Questions Live*. *Life Quest* has been a school of learning for me. It energizes me to keep God in mind while I am working.

I love your programming. It makes my day so peaceful.

I just finished listening to Mr. [Dwight] Lehnhoff's prayer for the day on forgiveness. It touched my heart because I am struggling with issues of forgiveness. Your programming and inspiring musical selections have greatly aided me in releasing the bitterness and anger that has all but consumed me over the past years.

Through listening to Life Talk Radio the past two years I have discovered Drs. Agatha Thrash and Hans Diehl. The music and programs have touched my heart in more ways than I can list.

For more information about Life Talk Radio, visit its website at www.lifetalk.net.



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Charles E. Bradford



Doing the Day

If your day is anything like that of the average worker, managing it has become a most unmanageable task.

The frenetic pace of life today imposes a need for order and planning, but try as we might, we find ourselves overscheduled with more activities for the workday than our time can handle. And so we take thoughts of the leftover duties of the day to bed because we find it impossible to drop anything else into the slots on our tightly filled schedules.

Where did the joy of working go? you may ask.

The late congresswoman Barbara Jordan once told a *Parade* magazine interviewer: "I live a day at a time. Each day I look for a kernel of excitement. In the morning I say: 'What is my exciting thing to do today?' Then I do the day." Doing the day. What a novel window on life! No picture here of a schedule driving us as we gasp to catch up.

Interestingly, Barbara Jordan was speaking of doing the day from a wheelchair. A presence on Capitol Hill—indeed, in the nation—for three congressional terms, she left the world of politics behind in 1979 and went to teach at the University of Texas in the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs. And although she was suffering from a debilitating illness, she could speak of looking at her day to find in it something with "a kernel of excitement" and then following through to enjoy it.

I would suggest that doing the day is an attitude, one that looks at each new day as a gift from a loving and generous God. "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps. 118:24, NIV). With the right attitude, we view each day as a designer job, personally made with us in mind.

If our attitude needs reshaping for the task of doing the day, we can find help in the Bible to develop a positive perspective: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might" (Eccl. 9:10, NIV). Living, working, contributing with energy and enthusiasm, we relish *the doing* for the joy that it brings to us and to those who benefit from our work.

And if we're really serious about wanting to know how to

do a day, we have the perfect role model in Jesus. His day was rich in variety and excitement, emanating from the pleasure of being about His Father's business. Nothing that He did was an add-on, and He never seemed pressed for time. The orderly pattern of activities unfolded to Him before He headed off to work amid the Palestinian landscape.

As Jesus went out to do His day, He had a secret: He had risen "a great while before day" and talked with God the Father. That way He was empowered to face every activity with assurance and equanimity. So what if demented men wearing chains rushed out of the woods and yelled out gibberish at Him? So what if the disease-ridden and the demon-possessed jostled about Him imploring Him for help with seem-

ingly impossible-to-solve personal problems? And what if religious bigots rejected His message and threatened to kill Him? He could remain a center of calm because He had prepared for the day a "great while" before the day began.

It is easy to see how Jesus could remain focused throughout His day. Each situation had for Him its own kernel of excitement as He went about doing His Father's business. What unparalleled joy it must have brought Him to hear the crude Galilean fisherman declare, "Thou art the Christ!" Then there was that unforgettable look of gratitude that the woman taken in adultery gave Him when she walked away from His presence transformed. Add to these the incredible sight of the woman at the well dashing off into the village to call everyone to "come, see a man." The kernels of excitement boosted the energy level of His day.

Let us take our cue from the busiest Man that ever lived. Armed with prayer power, we can go forth each morning anticipating that kernel of excitement that will come to us as we do the day.

*We relish the
doing for the joy
it brings to us
and to others.*

Judith Nembard is vice president for academic affairs at West Indies College, Mandeville, Jamaica, West Indies.



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MVA parents join students for spiritual emphasis weekend

For students, the weekend concluded a spiritual emphasis with outstanding presentations by the guest speaker, Pastor Doug Martin of Jellico, Tennessee.

pus and encouraged to be even more involved to make MVA the very best it can be! Items of administration were presented, and parents were encouraged

out the dining room for consultation with parents regarding their student's progress.

Parents, staff and students agreed that this special weekend together had been a great blessing to all and would definitely find its way into next year's school calendar!

JEANIE HALDEMAN
MVA Correspondent



Parents, students and staff pose for a group shot following the afternoon praise service.



Patty (parent) and Amie Clayborn (senior) of Mansfield sang together during the praise service.

Usually, this would be blessing enough. Students were doubly blessed when Principal Loren Taber asked parents to join MVA staff and students to celebrate parent weekend, and more than 70 percent responded!

A Sabbath vesper program launched the weekend as parents began to arrive on campus. During the Sabbath services, parents were thrilled to see their children present song services, prayer, Scripture, dramatic skits and countless musical selections as they performed in the MVA Praise Band, Choir, Ecoliers Bell Choir, Kings' Players Drama Team or in small groups. But parents were not merely observers! They presented musical selections themselves, performed with their children, presented scripture and prayer, led out in praise services and even teamed with staff to challenge the students in volleyball and basketball during an evening of fun in the gymnasium!

The weekend concluded with a special parent/staff brunch on Sunday morning. Parents were commended for their volunteerism and involvement on cam-

to communicate openly about issues that concern them. Following brunch, teachers made themselves available through-



Several parents were selected to team together in a challenge of the students during a Bible trivia game facilitated by parent Ed Linsley. The parents won!

Millersburg Church celebrates 100th anniversary

The members of Millersburg Church celebrated their 100th anniversary on October 16, 1999. They also celebrated

the final payment of the mortgage on two and a half acres and a church building purchased in 1989.

After a series of meetings held by Pastors Haughey and Guildford in 1891, the church was officially organized on December 17, 1899, with nine charter members in Pleasant Grove. In 1904 another series of meetings was held by Pastor Heber H. Votaw and, together with the new believers, the group purchased the Pleasant Grove School House for \$100. Membership continued to grow, and the congregation moved to Millersburg in 1922.



Again, Millersburg Church is looking to the future. With increased membership, a new building program is being planned, and the members are excited about the addition to their sanctuary and new Sabbath School classrooms.

Sabbath morning guest speaker Raj Attiken, president of the Ohio Conference, presented a message entitled, "Leave the Lights On." Hope Hummel, a long-time member, researched and shared the church history during the morning program. Pictured at left is the church treasurer, Ruby Rice, participating in the mortgage burning with Raj Attiken and Pastor Clyde Ondrizek.

Findlay Church celebrates 30 years at its present location

Summertime is the time for family reunions, even in our church family! Findlay Church held a 30th anniversary celebration on September 25, 1999.

Special guests were Pastor Raj Attiken, Ohio Conference president, Marwood Hallett, clergy care and leadership development; Don Fisher Jr., who represented one of the oldest families of Findlay Church, and Findlay Mayor,

John M. Stozich.

During the Sabbath service, Mayor Stozich presented the church with a proclamation making September 25, 1999, Findlay Adventist Church Day in Findlay, Ohio. The pastors told of many fond memories while pastoring Findlay Church. Don Fisher, Jr. told of memories from Grampa Floyd Taylor who loaned the church money for the current church building.

Special music was presented by visiting organist James Slater Sr. from Holland, Michigan, and guest vocalist Charles Arrington from Ann Arbor, Michigan. Phil Patterson and the Findlay Church youth proved vocals also.

A plaque of the 23rd Psalm was presented to Findlay Church by Raj Attiken. This wooden engraving will be displayed in the church lobby to commemorate this memorable day.

PHIL DAWSON

Communication Representative



Pastor Rade Milos Auljevic, his wife, Zeljka, and Mayor John Stozich.

Events

► January 22

Ohio Young Adult Festival of Praise
Kettering Church

► February 11-12

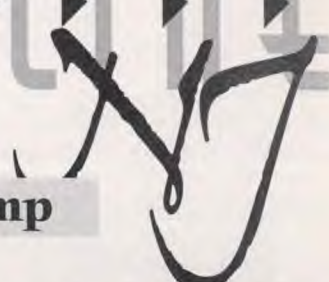
Statewide Elementary Music Festival
Mount Vernon Academy

► February 18-20

Bible Conference
Camp Mohaven

► March 3-5

Small Church Summit
Mount Vernon



God brings "AJ" to Tranquil Valley Youth Camp

During our recruitment for potential staff members for Tranquil Valley Youth Camp, Waldwick School highly recommended



As part of his duties, AJ places the bikes on their rack.

Jorge Aguero Jr. (known as "AJ").

The camp has a high-standard, three-part hiring process. First, we ask for recommendation letters to begin the process. Second, we conduct an

interview. Third, a final evaluation is based on the recommendation letter, the interview, a background check and the staffing needs for the summer camp. On average, we hire one out of six interviewed applicants. We want the "cream of the crop."

We pray over each potential staff member. During one of our prayers, God impressed us to hire AJ. "Who is AJ," we asked ourselves. We had no one by that nickname or initials. We were at a loss.

Several weeks later, we got a call from a Mr. Aguero Jr.



AJ and the kids get ready to mountain bike during Tranquil Valley Youth Camp's summer program.

to ask if we had made a decision to hire him. Immediately, we knew who AJ was.

His love, his mission, his passion to minister to our youth are incredible. AJ generates joy and enthusiasm to all around him. He loves to do things well, and most importantly, AJ enjoys sharing God's love to all—parents, staff and campers alike.

AJ is one of our junior lifeguards and a mountain bike instructor, and he occasionally assisted at the go-kart track. He is looking forward to one day becoming a youth pastor and eventually a conference youth director.

We thank God for bringing AJ to Tranquil Valley Youth Camp.

CARL RODRIGUEZ
Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director



AJ, a summer camp staff member, gets ready to perform first aid on a minor cut.

ADDATES

January 16
AY Volleyball Tournament

January 23
Family Ski Trip

January 27
Executive Committee

February 5
Spanish Sowing Festival South

February 6
ABC, North Volleyball Tournament

February 13
ABC Singles Banquet, North Volleyball

February 13-19
Conference Youth Week of Prayer

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During this new year, we can resolve to come closer to Jesus! He cherishes our friendship and wants us to come closer for a deeper and richer experience with Him. Many have the idea that God is an alien Being to be feared and avoided. But God is not One to run away from; He is the One to run to! He is constantly seeking to befriend us. He asks us to come closer; He cherishes our relationship with Him.



There was a very close relationship between God and Adam and Eve. The Scripture describes God walking

in the garden in the cool of the evening, obviously following a daily pattern with His loving children. This time, Adam and Eve were not there. They were running away from God (Genesis 3).

Come closer!

Adam and Eve, after sinning, naturally ran from God. Sin alienates. It is the inevitable result of guilt that prompts us to hide. When caught, we naturally try to put the blame on others. Nakedness was not the real problem. They were naked before and weren't ashamed (Genesis 2). It was an excuse. When that failed, Adam blamed Eve, Eve blamed the serpent . . . and God for making the serpent.

God chases us through His love. Oftentimes, we run from Him not realizing we are running from the very One

Don't back away—just take off your sandals!

who wants to save us. Like the story of the woman who was being chased by a truck driver she thought was intending to do her harm. Repeatedly, she tried to avoid the chasing truck until she reached a station where she pulled in with the truck racing behind her. As she ran inside seeking help, the truck driver jumped out and ran over to the woman's car, pulling out a man armed with a knife who was hiding in the back seat, unnoticed by the woman but whom the truck driver saw from his vantage point while driving behind the car on the highway. The woman was stunned to know that the person she thought was running after her to do her harm was in fact the one who saw the danger and was running to help her.

In the parable, the father ran after his homecoming child. With throbbing heart, he embraced his wayward son. What a scene! At the burning bush, Moses was not scared away. He was asked to take off his sandals because he was standing on holy ground. God spoke to him and invited him to come closer (Exodus 3:5-6). Jesus came to draw us closer to God. In Matthew 11:28, He invites us to come closer to receive rest. Rest from the heat of life's desert. Closer to refresh our souls in the fountain of love He so graciously offers. Come!

DOWELL W. CHOW
President

Record-breaking attendance at annual classoree

On the weekend of October 22-24, the New Jersey Conference had its annual Pathfinder classoree at Tranquil Valley Youth Camp. And despite the weather, attendance was at a record high for the weekend event.

Friday night of the classoree it rained sideways, crossways and vertically. The weather was cold, muggy and outright disgusting. Yet club after club kept arriving until more than 600 Pathfinders and staff showed up for the annual event, a new attendance record!

During the classoree, about 40-50 honors were taught, according to class requirements.

Our noble TLTs (Teen Leaders in Training) preached the Sabbath sermon, taught several honors and gave the vespers message. This is certainly the most dedicated TLT group I have ever met.

Special thanks go to Cecilia Saca, Jorge Maisonave, Mercedes Williams, Susana Soto, Ana Romero, Fe Salazar and the WIN Team (David, Ray, Javier, Maria, Alexis, Ruth, Piper and Ray) for leading out in our worships and music, as well as organizing the classoree.

CARL RODRIGUEZ
Youth and Young Adult
Ministries Director

Herb Rocha teaches a Pathfinder Club honor to classoree attendees.



Mission Spotlight Unity Church Service encourages members to "wake up and shake up"

November 20, Newark, New Jersey—"Mission Spotlight" today comes from one of New Jersey's largest cities, Newark. It is entitled "Wake up! Shake up!"

Nestled on the edge of the city of Newark and the townships of Maplewood and Irvington is the beautiful and spacious First Church of Newark. With a membership between 300 and 400, it is aglow with the fires of evangelism.

Before the birth of 1999, solid plans were made for an evangelistic explosion for the new year. A prophecy seminar was conducted by It Is Written Evangelist Leo Screven and sponsored by IIW. An evangelistic committee consisting of representative from the Elizabeth English, Maranatha French and Newark English churches was put together.

Outgrowths of the plans were three high-powered, spirit-filled and soul-stirring lay festivals, which were convened at each church. The members were motivated, revived and energized by the slogan and theme: "Off

your seat! On your feet! Wake up! Shake up! Stand for Christ in '99!"

Pastors Jeddy Hooker, Lionel Pottinger and William Mompremier organized, united their strategies and forces for the evangelistic offensive, which blasted off on February 27 and was sustained until mid-April. Screven, an ordinary man, unctioned with extraordinary power, preached empathy, clarity and forcefulness the word of God.

From all around they came, near and far, from large cities and small towns. People of all class, color and creed came and heard God's word go out while sinners came in. When the last sermon was preached, and the pastors vacated three baptismal fonts, more than 80 were baptized. The communities in which these churches exist were left astir.

The Norman Road church is now blessed with the presence, contribution and involvement of some new and committed members. To God be the praise!

One outstanding highlight from the

seminar is the acceptance and observance of the Sabbath by a Pentecostal pastor, Moses Smith, and members of his congregation. Pray for this new group.

The fire of evangelism was not quenched. Very recently, it was given some more fuel, and it went ablaze. Hooker and his members placed some spiritual flares and joined in the Millennium of Prophecy with Pastor Doug Batchelor (METRO '99). Now, there are 13 happy and committed new members with others to follow shortly.

Norman Road is still on fire as well. Growth is taking place, and plans are in progress to participate in ACTS 2000 with Pastor Mark Finley. A great harvest is anticipated.

This is no time to be asleep or dormant. It is time to wake up and shake up for 2000. It is time to get off your seat and get on your feet for God. Shine for God in 2000!

HUGH MIGHTY
Pastor of Newark First Church

Youth leaders convention: "The Cross—Road"



Youth leaders enjoy a delicious meal at the appreciation banquet held during this past fall's convention.

On October 8-11, the conference held its youth leaders convention at Traquil Valley Youth Camp, Garden State Academy, and Tranquility Adventist School.

More than 350 leaders for

Adventurers, Pathfinders, AY, TLTs, worship leaders, and summer camp staff registered for the training. More than 500 attended the Sabbath session.

The weekend consisted of 96 classes, a leader's appreciation banquet and four general sessions. The general sessions included: "When

God's Leaders study His Word," "When God's Leaders disciple those we are entrusted with," "When God's Leaders pray," and "God's fellowship with us is faithful 'til the end."

This was the best convention we have had to date. What made it such a success and blessing were three major factors: great teachers, excellent



program and a Christ-centered focus throughout the weekend.



Left: Lydia Serrano teaches an Adventurer class. Above: Ruben Colon is honored as a Pathfinder Director of the Year.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

GSA

GSA's first semester in review—a look at the students “at work and at play”



Smiles abound at the GSA Writer's Conference held November 7-9.



Left: All dressed up, these young women strike a pose at the 1999 GSA Christmas banquet.



Several students take it easy at a water park in Camel Back, Pennsylvania.



Above: GSA students and faculty sponsors attend the fall annual leadership conference. Left: Pastor Ed Barnett baptizes Kennie Anderson, the son of GSA Principal Rick Anderson (who is also in the baptismal pool). Below: Students bundle up in front of a national monument during an academy trip to Washington, D.C., this past fall.



Glays Reyes (left) and Celina Huerta pose amid balloons at the Christmas banquet on December 5.



Left: Pastor Paul Graham (left), students Bryan Bowen, Amelia Sinanan, Marlon Mattos, Ed Supler, Christina Ramirez and Wilson Bien-Aime and Pastor St. Ulysse pose in Tranquility Church after the students' baptisms.

President, Randall Murphy
Editor, Cheri Hawkins
Communications Consultant,
Randy Hall

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Mountain Viewpoint

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Mountain View Events

January 20-23

Pathfinder Winter Camp
Valley Vista Adventist Center

February 3-6

A.Y. Winter Festival
Valley Vista Adventist Center

February 11-13

Marriage Enrichment Seminar
Valley Vista Adventist Center

February 22

Ministers' Meeting

February 27

Conference Board of Education

March 3

ACTS 2000 begins

March 10-12

Eight Weeks to Wellness I
Summersville, WV

March 13

Conference Finance Committee

March 20

Conference Executive Committee
and Annual Financial Review

March 24-26

Eight Weeks to Wellness I
Frostburg, MD

Planning ahead

April 7-9

Eight Weeks to Wellness II
Valley Vista Adventist Center

April 14-15

Elementary Music Festival
Charleston, WV

April 15

ACTS 2000 ends

April 16

Youth Council
Clarksburg, WV

President's Viewpoint: Moving together—Arm in Arm into a new millennium

Here we go into a new year, a new century and a new millennium—whether we like it or not! "Oh, Lord, give me faith for this leap into the future. And make this a leadership leap, not a solo jump." (*Leadership Prayer*, Richard Kriegbaum, page 15, Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois)

What's our vision for the Mountain View Conference for the year 2000? Here's my vision. Ponder these ideas yourself. Help make them a reality where you live and serve.

1. God's people in Mountain View empowered and unified by the Holy Spirit and involved in ministry.

2. Small groups in each district trained and enabled with spiritual gifts ministering to individuals, families, the church and the community.

3. The Sabbath hours as an exciting and a participatory time when real worship is experienced and warm fellowship is felt.

4. Young people nurtured by family, school and church, then involved in church activities and mission.

5. The Lord's people in a covenant with Him toward sanctified stewardship as well as sacrificial giving.

6. An environment of evangelism throughout Mountain View making more disciples for the Master using His own methods.

Do you want your church to grow? Discuss this vision with your pastor, church board and in a church business meeting. Make it part of the talk around the dinner table, on Sabbath walks or when standing around after prayer meeting or church. Perhaps you could make it a six-week discussion topic at prayer meeting or as part of Sabbath School.

With these steps before us, let us launch out with confidence into a future blessed of God.

Together, we go—together, we grow—Arm in Arm into a new millennium.

"Oh, Lord, please give me faith for this leap to the future. And make this a leap of leadership, not a solo jump."

Truancy and transformation

Charlotte is a student at Miracle Meadows School in Salem, West Virginia, a boarding school for kids with behavioral problems. If you knew Charlotte before she came to Miracle Meadows, you wouldn't recognize her now.

When Charlotte arrived at Miracle Meadows, she was into drugs, sex and witchcraft and had numerous encounters with the law, including running away from home and a truancy record. She wore black make-up, chains and spikes and black clothing—a gothic look.

After trying other schools and means to discipline and help her, Charlotte's parents forced her to come to Miracle Meadows. You see, Charlotte didn't feel the need to come to this school because, according to her, "I had everything under control."

At Miracle Meadows, she struggled with religion. She knew she needed God, but somehow she didn't have the strength to ask Him to help her. Each day, she felt a stronger pull until one day, in an intense group prayer session, she gave her heart to Christ. Although it's not been too many weeks since this decision, she vividly remembers the day her burden was lifted and peace flooded her soul.

She now describes herself as a bird released from a dark cage who feels happy and accepted. She doesn't look at all like the Charlotte who first arrived on the Miracle Meadows campus. She dresses more conservatively in nicer, "preppy" clothes. She looks like what she is, a lovely young Christian lady.

Miracles do happen.



Randy Murphy
President

Braxton Church has many stories to tell

News & Views

The youth of **Grafton**, West Virginia, Church prepare crafts each month and deliver the creations to a local nursing home. Recently, Grafton City Hospital gave a great big "thank you" to them for the work they're doing. In addition, the church's community service center donates whatever bread is left over to the local senior citizens' center.

Discover Bible School leaders at **Webster Springs**, West Virginia, Church have been busy following up graduates of the school, making sure each receives his or her diploma and encouraging all to continue studying the Bible.

Project Steps to Christ mailings have been sent to four towns in and around **Rainelle**, West Virginia. Bible studies resulting from this effort are being handled by Rainelle Church members.

Editor's note: One of the many evangelistic meetings held throughout our conference this year was in Flatwoods, West Virginia (near Braxton Church in Gassaway), by evangelist Mike Sady. For this little church of 46 members and an average attendance of 27, this was a huge event with magnificent rewards. Twelve people were baptized, and several more are taking Bible studies. We think the stories from this church are inspirational and deserve to be told. Here are just a few to whet your appetite.

Calling who?

A manager of information systems for Union Drilling, Inc., Tim Henline travels the world. (His company's headquarters recently moved from Buckhannon, West Virginia, to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.) Since he was a child, he studied all the world religions searching for "truth" about God. One day, he was trying to contact a friend in Buckhannon on his cell phone from Virginia and was unable to reach them, so he called another friend. This friend invited him to Mike Sady's meetings in Flatwoods, which he attended and found the "truth" he'd been searching for and was subsequently baptized. Since his baptism, he has

commuted from Pittsburgh on Sabbaths to attend Braxton Church and has even given the sermon a couple of times.

Spiritual partners take their job seriously

Chase Duffield takes his job as a spiritual partner seriously. You see, this 9-year-old was recently baptized into Braxton Church, where there were more baptized needing spiritual partners than those attending church could handle. So, a creative solution was sought. Two of the new members became spiritual partners for each other: Chase Duffield and Tim Henline. They are in contact at least once a week by telephone, and they sit together at fellowship dinners. Both are proud to be a spiritual partner to each other.

Who's in charge?

Roy Lockhart was depressed after having brain surgery. While spending his time unwisely, he was asked one day by a neighbor for a ride to town for needed items. He agreed to do this good deed, never imagining where it would lead him. On the way to the store, the lady flipped through the radio dial and found a Christian station. He wasn't happy that he had to listen to such a station, but to please the lady, he kept it on. Unbeknownst to the neighbor, after a couple of such trips and listening to the Christian radio station en route, Roy gave his heart to the Lord and accepted Him. Shortly thereafter, a brochure for Mike Sady's meetings in Flatwoods arrived. He attended the meetings and was baptized.

Searching and finding

Donna Martin and her 8-year-old daughter, Alissa, attended Braxton Church about three weeks after the evangelistic meetings in Flatwoods finished. How she came to the Seventh-day Adventist church on this day is only part of the story.

Having studied the Bible on her own, she concluded that Saturday is the true Sabbath and believed she should worship on the seventh day. She had a book from the Radio Church of God, which worships on the seventh day, and began to seek this church out. When she mentioned her search to her mother, her mom informed her that there was a Sabbath-keeping church, though it wasn't a Radio church of God but a Seventh-day Adventist church.

The day she arrived at Braxton Church, Tim Henline preached. As is the custom, a fellowship lunch was served at the conclusion of the service, and Donna and Alissa were invited to stay. In the weeks that followed, Donna and Alissa studied the Bible with Pastor Larry Boggess and since have been baptized.



Thanks to the giving of Mountain View Conference members to the President's Pocket Fund, Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, West Virginia, recently obtained a new truck with a front plow (above) and a new rotary scythe (below).



Local people making a difference

Two young adults, Dennis and Mary Haslam, are making a difference in Huntington, West Virginia, Church. Dennis and Mary moved to Huntington several years ago when Dennis was accepted in nearby Marshall University Medical School. Although his studies consume much of his time, he's active in the local church, teaching the Sabbath School lesson and helping out where needed.

When the local pastor left, the conference needed a "minute man" to step in and preach. Dennis was asked if he'd be willing to cover the preaching schedule for the Huntington/Point Pleasant district for a time as interim pastor, and he accepted.

Dennis told the churches he wouldn't have time to prepare sermons, so he'd just share what he learned from his private devotions. Apprehensive about the arrangement, the churches went forward with the head elders leading in the visitation and Bible studies and Dennis preaching each Sabbath in both congregations.

Soon, the churches began coming to life as members listened to this gifted young man articulately preach from the Bible. The churches began catching the enthusiasm and love exhibited

by these two young people and learning much about an active devotional life.

Members agree that Mary is a vital part of Dennis's ministry. One of Mary's many gifts is her people skills. She pulls everyone together. When she walks into a room, she instantly instills a warmth and love that lets you know you're special.

An elementary teacher in the Barbourville County school system, Mary is also gifted with an ability to work with young people and does so by teaching Sabbath School.

The church is experiencing a revival with increased attendance, a very active Bible correspondence school and a focus on service. A monthly nursing home service, home Bible studies, weekly Bible-marking meetings and community involvement in walkathons, Christmas baskets and more describe the life of these active churches now.

This once-depressed district has been brought to life by two committed Christian young adults who volunteered time from their already very busy schedules to be used of God.

CHERI HAWKINS
Communication Director



Dennis and Mary Haslam

Hands-on learning and evangelism

Students at Highland Adventist School in Elkins, West Virginia, have been learning the joy of service this academic year. School Bible Labs Coordinator David Schartiger has worked with the teaching staff to provide many opportunities for students to serve the community.

Some projects have benefitted the local church. Together, the students beautify and clean up the church and school facility. Members from the local church who have been isolated from the group by sickness or advanced age are contacted by the students through bright, encouraging cards that they create and send to the shut-ins.

Students work to share their love with the community as well. Some in the group heard that nurses at a local hospital's maternity ward were so concerned about some babies going home from the nursery without proper clothing and other necessities that they were spending their own money to provide layette supplies for needy young mothers. The students began a drive they call the "Hospital Layette Project." With the assistance of church members and parents, students purchase supplies for newborns' layettes, then assemble and deliver them to the nurses for distribution. Positive responses from the nursing staff and "thank you" notes from grateful mothers have been received by the students.

The students advertised their school as a community drop site for relief supplies being shipped to flood victims in North Carolina. As supplies began to pour in, students met each contributor, thanked him or her, organized the contributions and finally loaded them onto a church member's truck for delivery to a regional collection site.

Autumn provided an opportunity for the students to collect canned food for use in their annual Christmas basket project. Hundreds of non-perishable food items gathered from local neighborhoods by the students were combined with perishable food items supplied by church members and made into large food baskets, which were delivered to the local community.

Falling leaves created a service opportunity for older students, who spent an afternoon doing yard work for a community lady who had attended a church cooking school. The arrival of a truck filled with bales of clothing for a used clothing giveaway at the local YMCA provided the chance for the students to get involved with local community leaders in unloading, unpacking and arranging the clothing.

In addition, all year long, the students help with community drug awareness and health education through their puppet ministry. "A year

Continued on page 42

News & Views

The youth at the congregation in Glenville, West Virginia, have broken a 25-year-old tradition. They felt that their church needed a bulletin and have started producing one each week. They provide the cover art, as well as assembling and printing the bulletin on their computers.

Moorefield, West Virginia, Church has concluded a Bible-study series at the community's senior center. Also, to ease Y2K fears, the church was open to the community all night December 31 for prayer.



Ethel Brock (seated), a member of Spencer, West Virginia, Church, holds up a gift she received while celebrating her 90th birthday with several friends, including Feryl Harris (standing), women's ministries coordinator for the conference.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend

with
Harold and Nelma Drake
February 10-12, 2000
Valley Vista Adventist Center

For more information, call the
Family Life Department at
(304) 422-4581.

News & Views

The **Summersville**, West Virginia, food pantry, "Christ's Cupboard," was chosen out of all the programs in West Virginia for a feature on the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) recently. More than 450 families a month are being served through the pantry.

More than 60 young people attended the conference-wide youth rally held in **Parkersburg**, West Virginia. Two former members of YouthNet eXtreme were the guest presenters.

Pastor Tom Cusack, **health ministries** director for the Mountain View Conference, was asked to provide a series of health awareness articles to the *Dominion Post*.

Continued from page 41
round program of serving others has become a cornerstone of our curriculum," says Cheryl Jacko, principal. "Our students often start into the program asking questions about how much they will be paid for their efforts or asking if they have to work. By the time they've been involved in the Bible labs program for a few months, most are enthusiastic about the service projects and feel rewarded for their efforts to bring some happiness into the lives of others."

CHERYL JACKO
Classroom Supervisor



Jerry Blackburn of Indian Creek Church tells a story to the children in his home.

Reaping the harvest ...

Lewisburg, West Virginia, Church members participated in NET NEW YORK '99. Attendance each night averaged 45, which included about 14 pre-Adventists. Those sponsoring the seminar rejoiced that at each meeting, there was at least one new person, and most nights, two or more new people attended the meetings.

During the evangelistic series, some pre-Adventists informed our Community Services coordinator of a 54-year-old woman living alone in a mobile home in which the sky could be seen through the roof in several places. Her floors were rotted out as a result, and there were no bathroom facilities. The lady had never asked for help and does not accept money from the local Department of Human Services because she owns her property and is afraid they'll make her move from her home.

Immediately, several carpenters in the church investigated the situation to see what could be done, came up with a list of needed materials to make the repairs, went to local lumber yards for any donated materials they could acquire and then bought the rest of the materials from a special offering taken one weekend. Work was started to repair as much of the deteriorated home as quickly as possible before the weather got cold.

The church youth group has been revitalized due to this activity and interest generated by those attending the evangelistic meetings. They

Little children...

Indian Creek Church in Welch, West Virginia, has started a new outreach program. In the past, church members have gone from house to house to assess the needs of the community and, during these visits, they noted there were a large number of children in a community called Indian Village #2. Also, one of the church members, Jerry Blackburn, lives there. Blackburn, who was crippled by a stroke, has opened his home to these neighborhood children.

As a result, the church has started a branch Sabbath School using Jerry's home as a place of worship and instruction for these children. The members use simple Bible stories supplemented by a felt board and felts to make the story come alive. When the weather is nice, you can almost always find Jerry on his porch studying his Bible or reading the Conflict of the Ages Series. And, when school is out, there's always a child or two at his house.

JAY RUEDIGER
Communication Representative

also offered to help the lady by picking up a truckload of trash from her property and hauling it to the local landfill facility. Members of the church brought food donations to fill a Thanksgiving basket for her as well.

The lady has asked Pastor Robert Michael for a Bible and the lessons from NET NEW YORK '99 so she can begin studying Bible truths. Her heart has been touched by the willingness of the church members to help. Several of the pre-Adventists who attended NET NEW YORK '99 are helping with the repairs and are preparing for baptism as well. This proves that a church which reaches out to help those in the community without any thought of personal gain will be blessed by the Lord for its efforts.

YONNIE MICHAEL
Communication Representative

To what lengths would you go for a Bible?

Adam is a 12-year-old neighbor boy invited to the NET NEW YORK '99 meetings in Parkersburg, West Virginia, by the Remboldt family. Each night the members of that family were home, they brought Adam to the meetings. Unbeknownst to the Remboldts, Adam wanted a Bible of his own.

One evening, the Remboldt family members were so busy with work, school and completing errands to get to Pathfinders and the meeting that they completely forgot about Adam, who waited on their doorstep.

After some time passed, Adam realized they had forgotten about him. He hopped on his four-wheeler and found an off-road path over the mountains to his sister's place of work along a busy major highway. He went in and insisted that his sister take him to the Adventist church so he could earn and receive his free Bible.

When she dropped him off at the church, she asked him: "How are you going to get home?" He said: "Oh! I'll find the Remboldts. They'll bring me home." And they did.

The Lord can use even the timid!

Treasurer Debbie Duffield of Braxton, West Virginia, Church was led by the Lord to open her home and host a small-group Bible study. Experiencing all the negative feelings from "I've never done this" to "What do I do if they ask a question I don't know the answer to?" she began. Seven to eight people attended. Two have accepted Christ as Lord and have become members of the church. One of the new members is her mother.

Chesapeake

Challenge

YOUR CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER • JANUARY 2000



President's Focus

I walked today where Jesus walked. The words of that familiar gospel song keep popping up in my mind as I reflect on my recent trip to Israel. I read my Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy with a new perspective. Truly, it has been one of those life-changing experi-

ences. You'll read a brief report on the trip in this issue of the *Challenge*, and you've been hearing about it from the pulpits of the pastors who shared in the opportunity. What a privilege it was to walk where Jesus walked, to ride in a boat on the Sea of Galilee and walk among the archeological finds of such familiar places as Bethlehem, Capernaum, Caesarea Philippi, Jericho, Megiddo, Nazareth and, of course, Jerusalem. I know that pastors are already making plans for a return trip with their members so that they, too, can experience the spiritual impact of visiting those places.

But whether it's your privilege or not to actually walk in His steps in Israel, we are reminded that we are all privileged to "walk in His steps" each day here in Chesapeake. Each new day provides the opportunity to walk where Jesus walks ... into the homes of the discouraged, into the hospital rooms of the seriously ill or into the businesses of the searching ones. Christ's ministry continues today through his Spirit-directed followers. He still is "preaching good tidings to the meek" ... and "binding up the broken-hearted." He continues to "proclaim liberty to the captives" and "open the prisons of those that are bound." He is always "comforting those who mourn." The question really for each one of us is: "Will I walk today where Jesus walked?"

NEVILLE HARCOTMBE
President

New faces in new places

We welcome two new individuals to the conference office staff. We think you'll appreciate the quality of people who are serving you in these positions.

Claire Eva is the new secretary in treasury. She has worked for Chesapeake in the past as an elementary school teacher and an interim receptionist here in the office in Columbia, Maryland. Claire's background also includes work at the General Conference in Silver Spring, Maryland, as a secretary in the public relations and religious liberty departments, as well as an editorial assistant in home and family services. Her main emphasis, however, has been in the classroom. Her resume includes lengthy tenures at Sligo Elementary School in Takoma Park, Maryland, Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, Ohio, and two different stints at the Spencerville school in Silver Spring. Her husband, Willmore, is editor of *Ministry* magazine. They live in Clarksville, Maryland, and are members of Spencerville Church. They have two grown children. Claire will be the first point of contact for constituents calling treasury. We think you'll find her winsome manner, competency and professionalism quite reassuring.



Claire Eva

Cheryl Smith is joining the Chesapeake team in the youth department. She

will be tackling a new position as part-time secretary and part-time assistant youth director. The creation of this hybrid position is made possible by the commitment of a Chesapeake constituent to provide special funding for the youth department. In addition to her secretarial duties, Cheryl will share a number of responsibilities with Pete Braman, as well as giving overall leadership to the areas of Pathfinders and Adventurers.



Cheryl Smith

Cheryl has been very active in youth ministry as a lay leader in Westminster, Maryland, Church. Her face is very familiar to the conference youth from Pathfinder camporees, youth rallies or mission trips. She brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to this new position. She has worked for the NSA (National Security Agency), stayed at home to raise her family and most recently has served at the General Conference in in-house operations and the retirement office. Cheryl's husband, Tom, is a service planner for Baltimore Gas and Electric. Their two children are both at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee—Heather is a senior and David a sophomore. Cheryl will now be giving 100 percent of her energies to Chesapeake's youth. Those who know her well will say she has been giving nearly that much for years!

Pastors experience a trip of a lifetime

The conference sponsored two pastoral enrichment trips to Israel this past November. Forty-two pastors, 20 spouses and three family members took advantage of the opportunity that was open to all pastors and department directors. Pastor Harcombe led the first group, and Pastor Vandeman led the second. Both groups give glowing reports on the impact the trip has made both personally and professionally.

The expenses for the trip were largely covered by the pastors themselves through financial participation and budgetary savings over the past two years. Expenses for the spouses and family members were covered by each individual. The trip was a "Pastor Familiarization Tour" and was heavily subsidized by the Israeli Bureau of Tourism.

The seven-day whirlwind tour took the groups to most of the familiar sites. The following brief overview of their itinerary will help you sense why the trip met with such an enthusiastic response.

DAY 1

After an overnight along the Mediterranean in Natanya, the groups visited the ruins of King Herod's ancient capital of Caesarea, seeing the ancient aqueduct and Roman theater. They then proceeded up Mount Carmel to the spot where Elijah confronted the priests of Baal. From that high vantage point, they could view the Valley of Armageddon and understand the strategic significance of that apocalyptic imagery. The ruins of Megiddo were explored before heading into the hill country of Galilee through Nazareth and Cana to the overnight stay in Tiberias on the shore of the Sea of Galilee.

DAY 2

The groups visited Caesarea Philippi, where Jesus took the disciples to teach them about heathenism and instill within them a

sense of responsibility for global evangelism. This was also where Peter confessed Jesus' messiahship.

After a brief visit to the Golan Heights at the foot of Mount Hermon, the groups returned to the Sea of Galilee for a boat ride and visits to the Mount of the Beatitudes, the traditional site of the feeding of the 5,000, Capernaum, Bethsaida, the Land of the Gaderenes, and the baptismal site on the Jordan River. There, in the Jordan River, many renewed their baptismal vows.

DAY 3

The group headed south along the Jordan River Valley, stopping at the excavation of Beit Shean before going on to Jericho. There in Jericho, many of the adventure-some climbed up into the only existing Sycamore tree and reflected on the encounter of Jesus with Zaccheus, the tax collector. The bus drive up the old Jericho road overlooking a deep gorge provided a wonderful opportunity for spontaneous prayer groups. (It was spectacular as well as frightening.)

The day ended with the groups driving up to Jerusalem as the sun was setting on that ancient city.

DAY 4

The day was spent in the Judean desert and at the lowest spot on earth: the Dead Sea (1,300 feet below sea level). Included in the day's itinerary was a visit to Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered, and a visit to Masada, the mountaintop winter retreat of King Herod and the site of the last Jewish stronghold against the Romans following the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.

And near the desert oasis of Ein Gedi that provided David refuge from King Saul, the groups were given the opportunity to float in the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea.

DAY 5

A Sabbath-morning visit to the garden of Gethsemane for prayer and then on to the site of the crucifixion, culminating in a communion service in the area of the garden tomb was, for many, the highlight of the entire tour. Visits to the upper room, David's tomb, the fields of Boaz and shepherds' fields around Bethlehem, as well as Lazarus' tomb in Bethany, rounded out a very special Sabbath experience.

DAY 6

The day was free for group members to explore the old city of Jerusalem on their own. Many chose to walk the narrow and crowded streets and shop in the bazaars. Some visited the Adventist center located near the old city.

DAY 7

The final day in Israel included a five-hour walking tour of the old city with stops at the wailing wall, the temple mount, the Dome of the Rock and a walk along the "Via Dolorosa." Before heading to Tel Aviv and the airport for the flight home, the groups visited the Israeli Museum to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Holocaust Museum, then walked around the scale model of Jerusalem as it was in Jesus' day.

The groups thoroughly enjoyed their trips in spite of a few difficulties with the flight home and the weariness that accompanied their whirlwind tour. The 15 months of planning and anticipation paid off in an experience that will never be forgotten. The pastors and their families expressed deep, heartfelt appreciation to the conference executive committee for its support and encouragement in this enrichment program. It will continue to enrich their personal lives and pastoral ministries, and it may result in other church groups returning with their pastors to share in the same experience.



Pictured to the left are the two groups of pastors, spouses and their families who travelled to the Holy Land. This tour was sponsored by the Chesapeake Conference.

CAMP MEETING RESERVATION INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Members:

We are attempting to be as fair as possible in the housing assignments for this June's Camp Meeting. Please keep in mind the following important points as you make your application:

1. **No reservations will be accepted postmarked before April 1, 2000.**
2. Reservations are handled on a first-come-first-served basis according to the postmark on the envelope. (Applications that are hand delivered will be stamped with the date as if had been postmarked that day, and added to the rest of the pile.)
3. ALL money is due with the reservation form.

Every year the demand for housing exceeds the supply. We make every attempt to accommodate the wishes of the constituent members while maintaining as fair a process as possible. When we are unable to meet your expectations or desires, we are sorry.



**RESERVATION FORM
CHESAPEAKE CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING
June 13-17, 2000**

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRICES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
DORMITORY ROOMS			
	GIRLS DORM -- ADULTS ONLY (18 years and older)		
_____	Girls Dormitory (1 st floor - men's restrooms)	\$70.00/5 nights	\$ _____
_____	Girls Dormitory (2 nd floor - ladies' restrooms)		
_____	Girls Dormitory (3 rd floor - ladies' restrooms)		
	BOYS' DORM -- FAMILIES & ADULTS		
_____	Boys Dormitory (1 st floor - ladies' restrooms)		
_____	Boys Dormitory (2 nd floor - men's restrooms)		
_____	Boys Dormitory (3 rd floor - ladies' restrooms)		
		\$5.00/night each additional person	\$ _____

NO COOKING WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE ROOMS. No bedding or curtains are furnished. Dorm rooms must be rented for the full time. There must be two persons in the room. Third and fourth persons will be \$5.00 per night per person.

TENTS (Tents available in trailer area only)			
_____	Tent w/concrete floor & electricity <u>or</u>	\$ 30.00/5 nights	\$ _____
_____	Tent w/concrete floor & electricity	10.00/night	\$ _____
_____	Single cot with mattress	3.00 each	\$ _____
_____	Folding table	1.00 each	\$ _____
_____	Folding chair	.50 each	\$ _____

(OVER)

Chesapeake Challenge

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICES	TOTAL
BUNKHOUSES			
_____	Cedar Bunkhouse	\$ 35.00/5 nights <u>or</u>	\$ _____
_____	Walnut Bunkhouse	10.00/night	\$ _____
_____	Single cot with mattress	3.00 each	\$ _____
_____	Folding table	1.00 each	\$ _____
_____	Folding chair	.50 each	\$ _____

NO COOKING IN THE BUNKHOUSES. You may cook outside of the building.

PERSONAL TENTS			
_____	Space for your own personal tent <u>or</u>	\$ 15.00/5 nights	\$ _____
_____	Space for your own personal tent (With Use of Shower Rooms)	5.00/night	\$ _____

TRAILERS		Length of trailer _____ ft.	
_____	Trailer space w/electricity, water, sewer <u>or</u>	\$ 50.00/5 nights	\$ _____
_____	Trailer space w/electricity, water, sewer	15.00/night	\$ _____
_____	Trailer space w/electricity, water <u>or</u>	45.00/5 nights	\$ _____
_____	Trailer space w/electricity, water	10.00/night	\$ _____
_____	Trailer space without hookups <u>or</u>	20.00/5 nights	\$ _____
_____	Trailer space without hookups	5.00/night	\$ _____

CABIN UNITS			
_____	Youth Cabin Unit with electricity	\$80.00/5 nights	\$ _____
Minimum of 4 persons per unit. <u>NO COOKING IN THE CABIN UNITS!</u> (Cabin units must be rented for the full 5 nights).			

PAYMENT IN FULL MUST ACCOMPANY RESERVATION! Reservations must **not be postmarked before April 1, 2000**, and will be on a first-come/first-served basis. Refunds will be made on cancellations only if they are made before June 1, 2000. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHESAPEAKE CONFERENCE OF SDA.**

MAIL TO: Chesapeake Conference Locating Committee AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____
 6600 Martin Road
 Columbia, MD 21044

NAME: _____ HOME CHURCH _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (Home) _____ (Work) _____

(It is MOST important that we have FULL address with zip code and home church.)

Catch the

Vision

Allegheny West Conference Newsletter January 2000

Allegheny West medical van and evangelism

**BIG TENT JULY 12 - AUGUST 15, 1998 - MARGARET REED L.P.N.,
CHAIRPERSON MEDICAL LEADER**

Hundreds of people were served through the medical van during the Big Tent effort, and they came early to be tested for blood pressure and blood sugar. Rhonda Ashford decided to give instructions relating to diet because test results discovered that so many were not aware they had high blood pressure. Sickle-cell anemia testing was also provided.

Special services were given by podiatrist Nicholas Triana, D.P.M., and psychiatrist Michael Reed, M.D.

**REVELATION SEMINAR JULY 1 - AUGUST 28, 1999 - RONNIE BOSEMAN,
R.N., NURSES GUILD LEADER**

The place: the Harvard and Lee Road Shopping Center, approximately two miles from the Southeast Church of Cleveland, Ohio. It was an excellent location to provide medical services to the community and enroll people for the Revelation Seminar. Even though the medical van spent only one week at this location, hundreds of people were treated, from youth to senior citizens. There was positive feedback from everyone who used the facility.

Blood pressure and blood sugar screenings were performed, and the percentage of hypertension found was above normal. Therefore, many were referred to their doctors. Clarence Graves, a medical lab technician, did blood sugar testing, resulting in more people testing near normal blood sugar. A small brochure provided by the Heart Association for high blood pressure was handed out entitled the Ten Commandments. When opened, each commandment related to a healthy heart and how to keep it healthy.

Youth from the church were in the shopping center inviting people to stop by the van for free testing. Alongside the medical van was a registration table setup. Louise Booker and Denise Brooks were enrolling those interested in attending the Revelation Seminar.

Staff: nurse Ronnie Boseman; Barbara Johnson, state testing nurse assistant; Judive Jocelyn, premed medical student; Kelvin Bailey, van driver and setup person, along

with Pastor Cecil Walker, also a setup person; plus several others as lay persons.

After the Revelation Seminar started, the medical van was moved to the church lot, where testing continued as an added service to those attending the seminar.

To date, these are some of the same people being retested on an ongoing basis for high blood pressure at Southeast Church through the Nurses Guild.

Truly, the medical van makes a statement just being there, and it was a good advertisement, attracting people to come and be helped. Not only did they come to receive help for their physical well-being, but many were also healed from the sins of their past.

Several were baptized as a result of the medical van services given to them. We at Southeast Church praise God for the vision of Pastor J. C. Smith and the Allegheny West Conference for their vision to have available to the churches of our conference such a vital instrument in helping souls into the Kingdom of Heaven.

AUDREY SEVERNS
COMMUNICATION LEADER
SOUTHEAST CHURCH



Kelvin Bailey, Rhonda Ashford, Glenn Burks, Margaret Reed, Judive Jocelyn, Cecil Walker, Ethel Walker and Gary King display the medical van used in Allegheny West evangelism.

Allegheny East and West conferences extend a **sisterly welcome**



Chaplain Wanda Davis delivers the message, "Doctor Jesus."

Rarely is there an opportunity for the Allegheny East and West conferences to welcome a sister home together. Such was the case this past October as the two conferences gave an astounding welcome to Chaplain Wanda Davis. Davis was the Sabbath morning speaker at the combined women's ministries retreat. She now serves as staff chaplain at the Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Oregon, and has been there since 1995.

Davis was born in Maryland and later received a B.A. degree at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland—part of the Allegheny East Conference—and a master's in religion from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. She then received advanced training for chaplaincy from Kettering Medical Center in Kettering, Ohio. While at KMC, she became a member of the Allegheny West Conference attending Ethan Temple Church.

It was in Baltimore where she first became a member of the Adventist Church. She is presently an active, involved member of Sharon Church in Portland, Oregon, where she serves as an elder and is also a commissioned minister with the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

In conjunction with the retreat's theme: "Jesus, the Tie that Binds," Davis spoke on the subject of "Dr. Jesus." She said, "Jesus is the only one who can bind us together, but we must take off our unrighteousness, lay aside every weight that beset us and grow, grow, grow by studying His Word daily."

Davis resides in Portland with her husband, Arthur, and their three children: Jared, Arielle and Ethan. Davis says that Arthur is her greatest supporter and a model of a true Christian gentleman.

She thanked the Allegheny East and Allegheny West conferences for giving her the opportunity to return home and share in this illustrious retreat.

Please see Allegheny East for more information on the combined women's retreat.

CARRIE ELLIS, WOMEN'S MINISTRIES, ALLEGHENY WEST CONFERENCE



Minnie McNeil and Donnis Allen speak out during a meeting.



Minnie McNeil and Tamyra Horst



Joyce Turner and Donnis Allen



The Allegheny West and East conferences' Joint Women's Ministries Choir

Shiloh hosts Revelation Seminar

Shiloh Church sponsored a Revelation Seminar this past fall. Pastor Robert Moore and his faithful members worked together, and on the seminar's opening night, more than 300 persons attended the meeting to hear the word of the Lord. After the seminar was completed, Pastor Moore baptized more than 40 precious souls.



Baptismal candidates listen to Pastor Moore's questions.

More than 300 people attended the Revelation Seminar on opening night.



Pastor Robert Moore questions the baptismal candidates.



Jessie Connor (middle) instructs seminar students.



Steve Garner (left) answers seminar students' questions.

ALLEGHENY EAST

Exposé

January 2000

**Check this
OUT!**

January 13-15—
Pathfinder Training Session

January 17—
M. L. King Jr. Holiday

January 27-29—
*Pine Forge Academy
Staff Retreat*

January 28-29—
Adventurer Advance Training

February 4-6—
ASI Retreat

February 11-13—
*Marriage Commitment
Seminar*

February 11-13—
*Marriage Commitment
Seminar*

February 13-19—
*Christian Home and
Family Week*

February 20—
Communication Seminar

February 27—
*Communication Seminar
Columbia Union Conference*

February 25-27—
African-American Bee

In cooperation with God, nature and each other



On September 27, 1999, 127 sixth graders from church schools around the conference gathered at Camp Letts in Edgewater, Maryland, for the 15th Annual Allegheny East Conference Outdoor School. For three days, under the watchful eyes of Director Shirley Diggs and her staff, students participated in field activities, horseback riding, classes in small animals, canoeing and the high ropes challenge. The goal was to develop a spirit of cooperation, with God, nature and each other.

The goal was readily achieved as students made their way across a rope 60 feet in the air. Observed by a family of deer, each student crossed over from treetop to treetop and then zipped to the ground at a speed of 30 miles per hour. Each student was caught by his or her classmates, who quickly released him or her from the harness and prepared the ropes for the next person.

Ropes were not the only challenge. For the first time, there were enough water experts to allow the students to canoe to a small island nearby. Oops! The canoe designated to bring up the rear, carrying

two of the experts, Milton Brown and Harold Kibble, capsized as a result of a sudden and powerful wave created by a speeding safety boat. Not to worry. These experts, hoping no one noticed, quickly climbed back into the canoe and paddled to shore.

The excitement of the activities faded around the bonfire when the faculty performed its now-famous skit "Elijah." As the question was repeated, "How long halt ye between two opinions?" Students stood in commitment to and in cooperation with God.

Allegheny East Exposé

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

President, Alvin Kibble
Communication Director,
Robert Booker

Communication Consultant,
George Johnson Jr.

P.O. Box 266, Pine Forge, PA 19548
(610) 326-4610

It only takes a spark

It only takes a spark. You know how it is. One person gets an idea, tells another and then another. Pretty soon, the whole church knows. Enthusiasm follows, participation follows, a lot of work, learning and a bit of disillusionment follows.

That's the penalty for being a visionary, as George Bivens discovered. Bivens was the catalyst behind the United Against Drug and Alcohol Abuse Walkathon held on October 24, 1999, in Dover, Delaware. Bivens, a member of Mt. Carmel Church in Harrington, serves as the Adventist Men's leader and is a member of the church's prison ministry team. That plus his personal history makes him an ideal man for such an outreach.

He first broadcasted his plans in March. Why? "To reach back and acknowledge to individuals that I was in that world of addic-

tioned path through the streets of the city, marchers handed out flyers and booklets to the people they encountered on the street. Most of the citizens smiled graciously and received literature.

Upon reaching the green of the Legislative Hall, a program began. There were testimonials from former addicts who all gave the credit to their victory over drugs to God. There were



The parade heads onto Lockerman Street, the center of Dover, Delaware.



George Bivens, organizer

tions to drugs and alcohol and that there I hope for complete recovery and that is Jesus Christ."

Approximately 80 people gathered at the old Court #7 on Lockerman Street to walk through some of the most drug-infested areas of Dover. The participants came from Mt. Carmel Church, Bethuel Church, Dover First Church and Millsboro Church, as well as from the business community and the political arena.

Carrying banners, signs and placards decrying the use of illegal drugs and alcohol addiction, the marchers slowly wound their way between two protective patrol cars to Legislative Hall. Following a ser-

representatives from the governor's office and congressmen who acknowledged the need for an awakening like this and the hope was expressed that this wouldn't be the last such event.

Finally, other groups that work with people with addictions, county counseling agencies and those who work with newly released inmates were present to voice

their support and hope that we could all work together in this effort. All in all, it was a good start to let the community know that we are aware and we are willing to do something to get a fire going.

GENEVA SPENCE

Communication Representative



Mike Brown and James Allen Jr. carry the Pathfinder banner during the parade.

Accommodating the needs of every student

It is the goal of the Allegheny East Conference to accommodate the unique need of every student. E. Joyce Royster, LSW, ACSW, DCSW, is helping to meet that goal. As the therapeutic consultant for the office of education, she provides preventive and intervention strategies for students with learning and/or behavior problems, as well as proactive life skill training for all students. Every effort is made to meet the needs of the students problems via inclusion. When this is not possible, a referral is made. Ms. Royster assists in the coordination of the school and parents with the local provider as

needed. Life skills training includes workshops in anger management, conflict resolution, study skills, respect and responsibility and career education for students in grades six through 12. Parenting workshops are available to all Home and School Associations upon request.

Ms. Royster has a wide range of experiences as a therapist in psychiatric settings, schools, hospitals and private practice. She was the director of social work for Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. She developed the program prior to the opening of the hospital in 1979 and remained as its director until 1985.



Student Healthy Lifestyle 2000

The Student Healthy Lifestyle 2000 Contest was a joint effort by the education and health ministries departments of the North American Division. Thirty-two thousand dollars in prize money was made available for winners in five categories and four age groups. All entries were based on the theme "What Being Healthy Means to Me." The purpose of the contest was to encourage students to commit to a healthy lifestyle for the new millennium.



Makeda Hampton
Sharon Temple
Wilmington, Delaware
First place, essay



Dawn Chandler
Dupont Park
Washington, D.C.
Second place, video
speech



Jonathan Kelly
Dupont Park
Washington, D.C.
Third place, poster

A miraculous opening

After many years and almost as many tries, the Hillside School in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, reopened its doors for the 1999-2000 school year under the leadership of Illmajean Willis, with an enrollment of 25 and a waiting list.

After they were told for the second time in three months, "You do not meet the criteria needed to reopen the school," Pastor Patrick O'Mara assured the office of education that the church would keep working even if they had to wait another year. Exactly one month later, the school committee chairman, Joe Power, announced that they had the money, the students and the occupancy permit. But

even he was surprised when they found themselves with more students than they could handle. However, they are confident that with their facility, which includes a gym, kitchen, library, fully equipped computer lab, space for more classrooms and the dedication of the membership, it will be a two-teacher school by August. Hillside's efforts to meet the educational needs of its members represents a modern miracle.

Graduation 2000

**A Conference-wide
commencement ceremony**

June 4

Luther Palmer Pavilion

Pine Forge, PA

Speaker: Elder Walter L. Pearson III,

Breath of Life Telecast

We've come this far by faith

There was a vision for a church in the northeast section of Baltimore, Maryland. William Ervin, pastor of Berea Temple Church, along with Leonard Diggs Jr., Ronald Timpson, David Braxton and Bernard Baker, held a storefront meeting at 222 Harford Road. Meetings were held there nightly in the summer of 1979. Every night, the place was packed. Many souls took their stand and followed Jesus.

We grew so much that we had to find another place to worship. Under the leadership of Pastor Reginald Robinson we moved to the 4200 block of Harford Road, renting the building from the Zion Church of Christ. Pastor Richard Reeves was our

Williams became our new pastor. He had a bigger vision to pay off our existing building and purchase a new church. We paid off the 1831 N. Gay Street building in 1998. We had a crusade at 1500 N. Gay Street during the month of August 1999. The Lord blessed us with many new souls that were baptized and joined the church. On November 16, 1999, we had a closing for our new church at 3401 Old York Road. We had our Inauguration Day and ribbon-cutting ceremony on December 11, 1999. God has richly blessed us and, by faith, we are enjoying the fruits of our labor.



The beginning of the parade



Pastor and Mrs. George Williams

next pastor, and under his leadership, the church was tremendously blessed.

Our next pastor was Errol T. Stoddart. He started a crusade on a lot at the corner of Federal and Harford roads. Jesus blessed the tent effort, and souls took there stand to follow Christ. However, there was talk about joining together with Miracle Temple Church, but a few members wanted to remain as First Maranatha. We eventually bought a building at 1831 N. Gay Street, our first church home.

Pastor Jimmy Ferguson was our next pastor, who stayed about three years. He had a combined crusade with Miracle Temple Church and we received new members.

In September 1997, George



The ribbon-cutting ceremony



The ushers



The congregation awaits the start of the evening service.



Resource Guide

JANUARY, 2000 FOR MINISTRY IN YOUR HOME, WORKPLACE & COMMUNITY

Multi-generational Sabbath School

You will be surprised how inventive people can be. Kids like to join this group.

2. Make up a song or song service based on a specific Bible passage (a Psalm in our case). They can change the words to a song in the hymnbook and teach it. They can choose songs on the general theme of the day. They can do one as special music.

3. Write a prayer. We made a prayer collage by cutting out words from the headlines in that week's newsmagazine.

4. Make up a quiz about whatever the general theme of the lesson is.

5. Prepare a meaningful reading of the main scripture passage. We then called everyone together, and each group performed the part of the program that its members had prepared. Everyone was involved. Then we split up. The children went to one corner and had their lesson with an additional pencil-and-paper activity. The adults had a discussion of questions that were related to the lesson, drawing everyday meaning from it.

CAUTION: One of the main attractions of this type of theme program is the novelty of it.

However, some older adults will hate it because they went to bed late and got up on the wrong side of everyone. Or they just hate change. So, don't try this all the time. Do it once a month or for a month in the summer. If you're not careful, you'll burn out trying to think up new ideas. But if you get a group to work together, it could be one of the most fulfilling things you ever did. Children really enjoy their own Sabbath School divisions if there are enough people to provide it. But in a small church, multi-generational learning may be the way to go.

Children's ministries conventions, held four times a year and advertised by direct mail to each church, offer several seminars designed to help people choose creative activities for Sabbath School. The activities work for adults as well as children. Additional information can be found in the book *Children's Ministries: Ideas and Techniques that Work* (AdventSource), chapter 7.

Noelene Johnsson is director of children's ministries for the North American Division.

Recently, someone asked me what I thought about multi-generational Sabbath Schools. This can be healthy when it's carefully planned. We did a multi-generational Sabbath School where the adults were in the book of Psalms. We divided everyone into groups at the start, and the children could choose what group to join. The groups each had an activity, such as:

1. Prepare a skit about a specific Bible story. (Choose one that is connected in idea to the adult study. We chose the primary Bible story for the day.) Provide paper plates, construction paper, scarves, coat hangers, paper clips and a stapler.

Your Resource Guide

Information, tips and articles to enhance your ministry

Editor: Denise Valenzuela

All the resources, unless otherwise indicated, are available at your Adventist Book Center or by calling (800) 765-6955.

Even though they are not all published by our publishing houses, with a little creativity, they can be adapted for our use.

For additional resource information call (800)

To help address the social needs of young adults, do something unusual. Serve breakfast in the church kitchen during Sabbath School time. One church did this, in part because it gave purpose to the location (there was no other room available to meet). As it turned out, a dynamic group of 15-20 young adults now meets every Sabbath morning and does some serious study of the Sabbath School lesson. Several baptisms have come from this class, and more are planned.

Want to start a ministry to public school students? If you have young people who are attending public school, your church youth leader, youth pastor or Pathfinder counselor could have a great opportunity to build friendships by having lunch with the student (with the student's prior consent, of course!) in the school cafeteria once each week or so. The outreach occurs in the form of relationships with the church member's friends at the table. When your church has special activities that may be of interest to school students, this makes a much more natural opportunity for your student from church to invite school friends to attend.

Volleyball evangelism? Yes, it can work! One church meets every Saturday night in the church parking lot for volleyball. Relationships are formed, and many have been baptized!

Family Fun Night

A church of less than 200 members decided to offer a monthly Saturday night social especially for children of all ages. Home-made pizza was provided, and a donation box to defray food costs



Outreach ideas

By Glenn Holland

was placed near the serving line. Expenses were covered, and children were able to play basketball, volleyball and indoor games. As many as 60 children came, and nearly half were from unchurched homes! Children invited their neighbors and friends to the monthly social, and eventually, a number of the teens started attending Sabbath School.

Communion for the Public

One church prints special invitations for an annual communion/agape feast to be held during the Easter season. At first, it was advertised to the public in the local newspaper, but after a few years, the small church was filled to capacity (120 people). Now the event is done by invitation only. After a short worship in the sanctuary reflecting on Christ establishing the ordinances, church members are waiting and willing to assist any who have never had such an experience. This is done at the front of the sanctuary, with very little segregation, while others remain seated in observation and prayerfulness. (Many have expressed this to be their first time to experience a foot washing, including a Baptist and Methodist minister.)

Following this, participants retreat to the fellowship room, where tables are set with fresh bananas, oranges, grapes, apples, dried figs and dates, almonds, olive oil, hummus and Zattar

(bitter herbs). As the people are assembled, they have a brief devotion about the Last Supper and the significance of the emblems.

Then, a few members, acting as servers in first-century costume, distribute flat bread and a small amount of grape juice to each one present. After a prayer of dedication, all partake in unison of these emblems, then continue to fellowship over the meal that is before them with baskets of flat bread and juice added to each table. At the end of the supper, participants are given an opportunity to share their feelings as well as an offering for the poor.

Community Friends



If you are looking for a way to make friends with more young people in the community, this may interest you: A church offered a free ice cream treat at a local ice cream shop to celebrate the last day of public school. When the young people came to receive their ice cream, they were given a summer schedule of the church youth program and invited to participate. Several did! (Be sure to talk to the proprietor of the ice cream shop well in advance of doing this. In exchange for the PR you give the lucky shop, you may get a discount on the ice cream!)

Glenn Holland pastors the Adventist church in Arden, North Carolina.

S & More

(732-7587) or your local Adventist Book Center (800) 765-6955

Stewardship Lessons for Small Groups,

by Don Crane and Thurman Petty.

These lessons are designed to help church members strengthen their relationship with God. For personal as well as small-group study, these lessons provide a strong foundation for Seventh-day Adventist stewardship principles. There are 21 lessons in each set. Answer keys and user's guides are included. Available from AdventSource at (800) 328-0525.



Survival Kit for Marriage,

by Carolyn Shealy Self and William Self,

looks openly at such issues as the troubles and joys that come along with each stage of marriage. Issues include understanding each other, setting priorities, nurturing self-esteem and intimacy, coping with problems and tragedies as they arise, and more. Available from the General Conference Ministerial Association. Phone (301) 680-6508.

Then and Now Maps

trace Jesus' royal and legal ancestry as the promised Messiah. It includes more than 1000 names and more than 100 Scripture references.

Includes a historical time line and special color-coded lines to show each of the 12 tribes. Great for Bible study. Large, full-color, poster paper, 27" x 38." Rose Publishing, 4455 Torrance Blvd. #259, Torrance, CA 90503. Phone (800) 532-4278. Website: www.rose-publishing.com.

For Better or for Best: Understand Your Man,

by Gary Smalley, explains what motivates men and how women can use their natural attractive qualities to build a better marriage. Case histories and biblical illustrations are sprinkled with empathy, humor and wisdom. Paperback. Published by Harper Prism. Available from your Adventist Book Center at (800) 765-6955.

Fun Friend-Making Activities for Adult Groups,

by Karen Dockrey.

While most books for small groups simply offer lessons with little or no

focus on group relationships, this one provides adult-appropriate relationship-building activities and a plan for developing and deepening relationships within a group. Published by Group, Loveland, CO. Phone (800) 447-1070.

Echoes of His Presence

uses historically accurate, fictional stories of people Jesus touched. Spanning the gap between the history of Jewish tradition and Western thinking, Christ's ministry comes alive for modern readers. Hardcover, 224 pages. Published by Zondervan. Phone (800) 727-3480. Also available from your Adventist Book Center at (800) 765-6955.

Discipleship Journals,

by NavPress. We all search for ways to deepen our relationship with God and want the tools we find to be practical and realistic. Filled with real-life examples, these studies are designed by people with a desire to guide you to a genuine connection with God. Gleaned from *Discipleship Journal* articles, they will help you work through the issues of life and deepen your relationship with God through articles, questions, quotes, Scripture and related exercises. Titles include: An Easy Yoke, Why Am I So Busy? Taking Stock, Discerning God's Voice as We Make Decisions, Writing a Personal Mission Statement, Abiding in Christ, and more. Price, US\$6 each. Available from NavPress at (800) 366-7788 or your local Adventist Book Center.



Hope 2000 Notebook,

by Gerry Karst,

provides each congregation with simple tools for becoming a center of hope and love in their

community. Includes program ideas for participation possibilities in community-wide celebrations, services and age-based and adult activities. Available from AdventSource at (800) 328-0525.

Millennimania, by Martin Weber.

People are crazy about the new millennium. Thousands report miraculous appearances of Mary. Is this part of the antichrist's final deception? Will Islamic terrorism incite the nations of NATO to get back to God and enforce Sunday-keeping? Martin Weber offers Bible answers for your curious neighbors. Available from the General Conference Ministerial Association. Phone (301) 680-6508.

*As the new MILLENNIUM dawns,
we give thanks for all that has been,
share joy for all that is now and
hold hope for all that will be.
Wishing you and your family a holiday
filled with peace and love.*



*The Ryckman
Family:
Victor, Eva,
Alexandra,
Tatiana and
Anastasia*

ADVERTISING RATES

Beginning next issue, classified ads will run in both issues of the *Visitor* per month. Minimum charge: \$35 for 50 words or less for ads originating in the Columbia Union and \$45 for all others. Additional words, 55 cents each in the union, 70 cents each outside the union. Ads must be placed at least four weeks before the issue date by mailing to: Classified Advertising, *Columbia Union Visitor*, 5427 Twin Knolls Rd., Columbia, MD 21045. The *Visitor* does not guarantee the integrity of any product or service advertised.

TROUBLED YOUTH? A Christ-centered program for elementary and secondary boys and girls experiencing defiance, dishonesty, school failure, irresponsibility, aggressive behavior or substance abuse. Year-round program. Work education. Learn social skills. Parent involvement. Encouraging physical, emotional, mental and spiritual balance. Caribbean mission experience is available. Staff applications accepted. Miracle Meadows School in Salem, WV. Call (304) 782-3628. (100)

MARYLAND ADVENTIST PHYSICIAN: Dr. Brian Kim is board certified and fellowship trained in spine and sports medicine. Offices are located in Columbia, Frederick and Germantown. Dr. Kim is on the medical staff at Shady Grove Adventist, Howard County General and St. Agnes hospitals. Please call (301) 515-6000 for an appointment. (21)

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY DAIRY IS SEEKING A HERDSMAN:

Experience in diagnosing/treating dairy cattle health problems, milking procedures and artificial insemination. Must be reliable and have good interpersonal skills and work habits. Adventists, mail your resume and your references to: Tom Chittick, Agriculture Depart., Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104; phone (616) 471-6312; or send E-mail to Katherine Koudele-Joslin at koudelej@andrews.edu. (100)

FINISH YOUR DEGREE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

through the Columbia Union College External Degree Program. Bachelor's degrees are offered in business, psychology, theology, general studies and respiratory care. For more information, call (800) 782-4769; send E-mail to 74617.74@compuserve.com or visit our website at www.hsi.edu. Ask for the CUC External Degree Bulletin. (Managed by Home Study International) (71)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLIED STATISTICIAN:

ADRA is seeking a person with a minimum of three years' experience and an advanced degree in statistics to create, conduct and analyze surveys for evaluating overseas humanitarian projects. University teaching experience preferred. Locate in the D.C. area, with significant overseas travel. Fax your resume to (520) 222-4798 or send it via E-mail to ADRAHR@compuserve.com. No phone calls. (100)

**Religious Communication
Workshop 2000**

— sponsored by the
Allegheny East Conference

Sunday, February 27, 2000
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Columbia Union Conference Office
Registration Fee: \$15.00

(includes lunch and material packet)

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- Columbia Union Visitor Staff Services
- Allegheny East Conference Media
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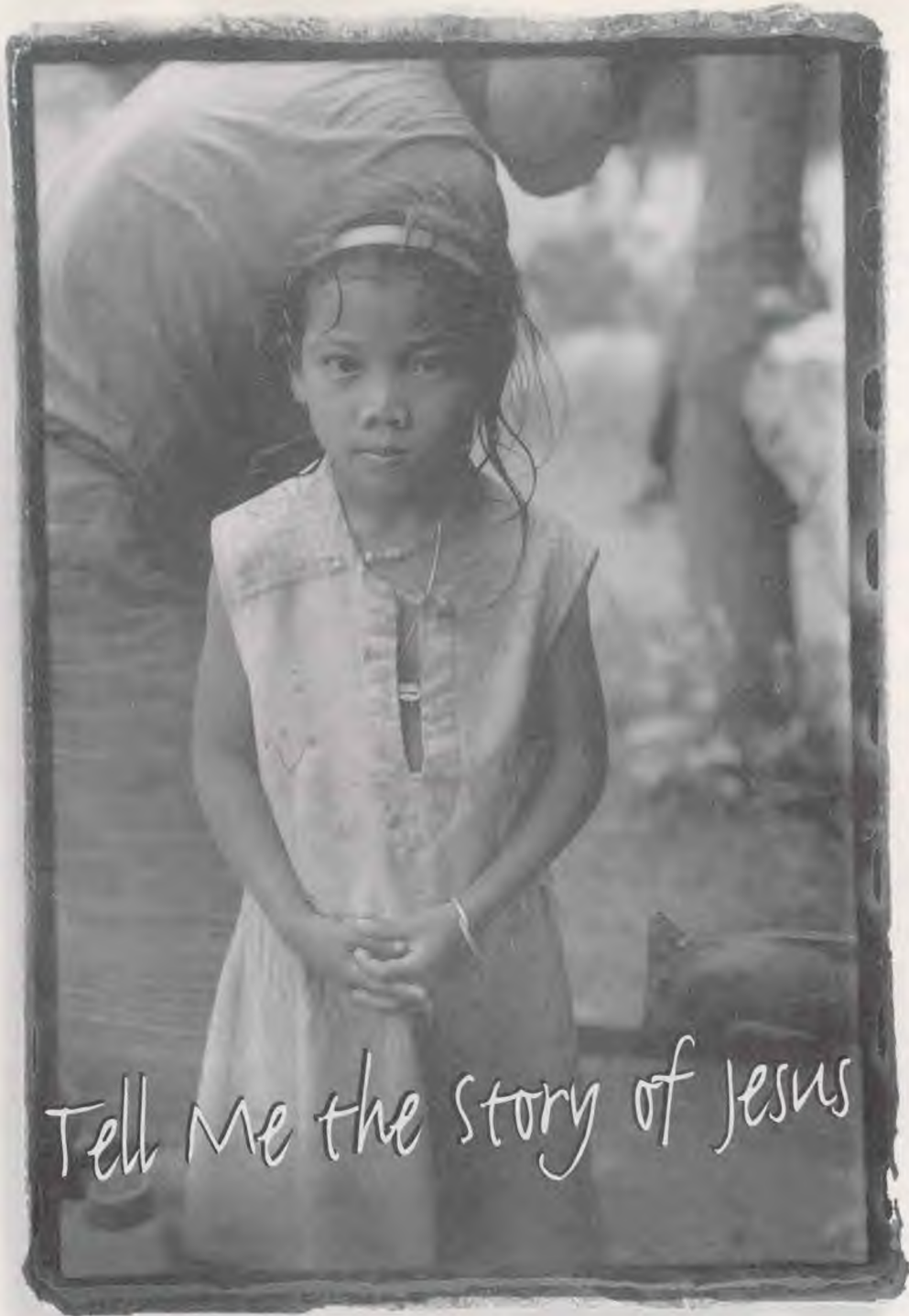
To register, call (800) 830-0224, Ext. 215.
Absolute deadline to receive registration fee:
Monday, February 14, 2000.

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SINGLES: Now you can meet and date other Adventists throughout the U.S. Discreet, confidential and exclusively for Adventists since 1987. Magazine format with enlightening and profitable articles, members ads and more. If you desire friendship, fellowship and more information, mail a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope to: DISCOVER, PMB #150, Dept. 2-V, 14536 W. Center Rd., Omaha, NE 68144. (1215)

WINTER HOMECARE IN FLORIDA: Vegetarian meals, a private bathroom and a screened porch in a quiet neighborhood. Florida-certified nurse's assistant. Availability January 1 through April 30. For an application, write to Denise Hull, 1555 SW Jacqueline Ave., Port St. Lucie, FL 34953. (100)

BERMUDA CRUISE: Back by popular demand! Join other Adventists again on Nordic Empress October 1-8. From \$437 to \$899 per person based on availability, so hurry! Deposit of \$250 holds trip until 7/31. What a great holiday gift idea! RC offers free bus from 23 cities to New York pier. For details, call Shirley at (800) 484-1378 (SC: 3359). (115)

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is seeking a biologist for September. Tenure track. Primary responsibilities will be teaching and academic advising. Secondary responsibility will be to begin a faculty-student research program. Ph.D. degree, Adventist membership and commitment to Adventist Christian ideals are required. Teaching experience, collegiality, adaptability, interest in students and research, teamwork skills and a specialty (anatomy is one priority) that complements our current staff are highly desirable. Young scientists, women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply. Mail your CV with a cover letter to Terry Trivett, Chair, Biology Dept., Pacific Union College, Angwin, CA 94508; call (707) 965-6633; contact via E-mail to ttrivett@puc.edu; or send a fax to (707) 965-7577. (21)

COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST: Amazing Facts, located in the Sacramento, CA, area, has an immediate opening for a systems support person. Applicants must have good communication skills. Responsibilities will include software training, help-desk support, technical support for computer hardware and network administrative duties in the Windows NT/Windows 98 environment. Experience with Microsoft Exchange and MicroSoft SQL a plus. Fax your resume to (916) 434-3889 or send it by E-mail to andrew.taylor@amazingfacts.org or www.amazingfacts.org. (11)



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PROGRAMMER/ANALYST: Amazing Facts, located in the Sacramento, CA, area, has an immediate opening for a programmer/analyst. Applicants must have good communication skills with strong analysis and design experience. GUI development experience in the Windows NT/Windows 98 environment is required. Experience with Visual Foxpro is desired. Knowledge of Sybase/Microsoft SQL and experience with ASP programming a plus. Fax your resume to (916) 434-3889 or you can send it by E-mail to andrew.taylor@amazingfacts.org or www.amazingfacts.org. (11)

STEPS TO HEALTH INSTITUTE offers Christian home-study certificates and degrees in natural, nutritional and herbal health. Learn how to live happy and healthy for career or self-improvement. Free brochure. Call (530) 672-2176 or send E-mail to steps2@jps.net. (31)

AUTHORS AND WRITERS: Call for your free publishing and marketing guide. We publish and distribute to Adventist Book Centers, health food stores and Christian bookstores worldwide. Call (800) 367-1844. (121)

FOR SALE in Avon Park, FL: Cozy, 1,208-sq.-ft. retirement home or winter getaway. Adventist community. Two bedrooms and baths, central air/heat. Franklin fireplace. Wheelchair compatible and has park-like yard. Citrus, oak and palm trees. Automatic sprinklers. Call owner Vernie Oft at (503) 661-6970. (21)

WWW.MARIEP.COM: Sell your home with its own Internet web page or find a home with access to multiple listings in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. Call Marie Petrelis at (800) 221-6094, Ext. 1075, or (301) 846-4705. (215)

ATTENTION, ALL PUC PIONEERS! It's time to come home again. From April 13-16, come celebrate Pacific Union College's annual Homecoming Weekend. This year, PUC's alumni association will honor the classes of '20, '30, '40, '50, '60, '70, '75, '80 and '90. Pastor Jan Paulsen, president of the General Conference, will be the special guest speaker for the entire weekend. Don't miss out on all the festivities. For more information, call (707) 965-7500. (100)

CRUISE/TOUR ALASKA: June 16-28. Five-star ship, great rate! Sabbath services in Fairbanks, Land of the Midnight Sun! City tour and paddlewheel cruise, McKinley Explorer train to Denali, wildlife tour and Anchorage tour. Early sign-up necessary for best rate. Evelyn Foll, 1739 Orangewood Pl., Avon Park, FL 33825; (863) 453-7196. (11)

6.9 CENTS/MINUTE: Long-distance and state-to-state rate to 48 states! No monthly service charge, no minimums, six-second billing and flat rates (24/7). Low-rate personal toll-free numbers and calling cards available. Call MLI Network for more details at (888) 718-1123 or visit www.mli.net. (215)



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Helping New Members Grow in Christ

A church growth symposium on how to keep new believers in your congregation.

Sabbath, January 15

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Doubletree Club Hotel, 455 Washington Boulevard, Newport neighborhood in Jersey City
(one block from the Pavonia subway station near the Holland Tunnel)

Why do new members disappear? This is a common concern. Public evangelistic meetings successfully bring in a number of new members, and then after a few months, the veteran members look around and say: "Most of the new members are gone."

What can be done to prevent this? There are Seventh-day Adventist congregations that not only hold onto their new members, but also continue to see growth from the relatives, friends, neighbors and work associates of the recently baptized people. This symposium will share with you the methods and tools used by these churches and help you assess the situation in your own local church.

What you will take home from this event:

- Understand why congregations often screen out newcomers
- Methods to make your congregation a "safe place" for new people
- A map of how adults grow in their faith and commitment
- Practical tools to encourage the spiritual growth of your members
- Step by step through the process by which new members "bond" with your church
- A notebook full of ideas, tools and photocopyable masters

Presenters:

Monte Sahlin, vice president of the Columbia Union Conference and author of the Friendship Evangelism Seminar materials and *Sharing Our Faith With Friends*.

Paul Richardson, executive director of the Center for Creative Ministry, a resource center serving local churches throughout North America.

Cost: \$25 for lunch and a 100-page notebook (\$15 for Federation members and member churches). Sponsored by the Adventist Metro Federation. You must pre-register by dialing (800) 438-9600. Easy subway connections or a map for those who are driving will be given to you (and sent by fax or mail) when you pre-register.

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST IN LAUREL, MD: Immediate position is available working part time for two Seventh-day Adventist doctors. Receptionist experience required. Medical receptionist experience preferred. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Call Mrs. Miller at (301) 317-6800. (1215)

ATTENTION, HOME SELLERS: If you need to sell your home and don't have enough equity to pay a realtor, we have GOOD news for you. We offer several mortgage debt-relief programs that will solve your unwanted mortgage-payment problems at little or no cost to you. We also have homes to sell with no bank qualifying—we finance! Call us. We can help! (301) 599-7478. (11)

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE seeks applications for a tenure-track position in modern European history beginning in September. Ph.D., teaching experience and commitment to research are desirable. Teaching duties include courses in western civilization, modern Germany, modern Russia and medieval/modern church history. Committed Adventists, mail a cover letter, CV and three letters of recommendation to: Roland Blaich, Chair, Department of History and Philosophy, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324; or send by E-mail to blairo@wcc.edu. (11)

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE anticipates filling a tenure-track position in its physics department beginning September 2000. Applicants first able to start in September 2001 will also be considered. Required: doctorate (or near completion of) in physics, biophysics or astronomy, with preference given to those who have training or experience in biophysics; and teaching experience. Interested Adventists, mail your CV and three recommendations to: Fredrick Liebrand, Chair, Physics Department, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324; or send E-mail to liebrf@wcc.edu. (11)

NORTH TO ALASKA, RV CHRISTIAN CARAVAN: Vacation with us in June. See British Columbia, the Yukons and Alaska. Enjoy beautiful scenery, glaciers, cruises and wild animals with guides and fellow members. For more information, write to Cross Country Caravan, 152 Beacon Hill Rd., DeQueen, AR 71832; or call Charlene at (870) 642-5607 or Beverly at (870) 642-4696. (11)

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR CRITICAL CARE: Florida Hospital, a 1,432-bed hospital in Orlando, FL, is looking for an assistant VP for critical care. A minimum of 10 years' experience with increasing responsibility in multi-disciplinary critical care departments. Experience in coordinating critical standards of care over multi-site facilities is preferred. Extensive experience working with staff and educators in an acute critical care setting. B.S.N. required; M.S.N., M.B.A. or M.A. preferred. Will consider an exceptional candidate who's in the process of obtaining a graduate degree. Send your resume to Judy Bond, employment manager; fax it to (407) 303-9486; contact via E-mail to judy_bond@mail.fhmis.net; or call (800) 327-1914. (100)

GREAT CONTROVERSY TOUR May 21-June 2 with Dr. Gerard Damsteeg of Andrews University. See the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive. Visit Rome and the Reformation sites in the Waldensian valleys, France, Germany and Switzerland. A most exciting experience. Call or send a fax to (616) 471-5172 or contact via E-mail to damsteeg@andrews.edu. (11)

MARYLAND SDA PODIATRISTS: Dr. Scott Nutter and Dr. Michael Graham—both highly trained, experienced, board-certified and qualified—are available in several locations to help your foot/ankle problems, including arthritis, heel pain, spurs, diabetes, callouses, ingrown nails, sprains, fractures, warts, bunions, etc. Surgery, if it's needed, at Adventist hospitals. Laurel, MD: (301) 317-6800; Greenbelt, MD: (301) 345-5200; or Columbia, MD: (410) 531-6350. (1215)

IT'S EASY!!!! Delivered to your door. Adventist dealer will save you hundreds of \$\$\$\$ on Howard Miller grandfather clocks. Save on wall, mantel and authentic German cuckoo clocks. For more information and pricing, call Nashville Clock in Madison, TN, toll-free at (877) 702-5625 and say you're Adventist; or send E-mail to us at NVClock@aol.com. Since 1970. (11)

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WANTED TO BUY: One to 10,000 used Adventist books. Also wanted: early and later catalogs of Book and Bible House publications advertising their new books for sale. Call (616) 781-6379 and ask for John. (115)

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE seeks applications for a faculty position in education to begin September 1. This position will include supervising students on practicum assignments and teaching secondary-level methods courses within the department. Preference will be given to individuals with education in computer science and distance education; mathematics or science education; or social or religious studies. The applicant must have a doctorate in education, be committed to conduct research in the field and be willing to teach within the context of Seventh-day Adventist higher education. Please mail curriculum vitae to Dr. Carolyn Doss, Chair, School of Education, Canadian University College, 235 College Ave., College Heights, Alberta, Canada T4L 2E5; or send E-mail to cdoss@cauc.ab.ca. (31)

WINTER IN FLORIDA! Enjoy the sunshine in one of Pine Lake Retreat's chalets or stay in our full-hookup RV park. Pine Lake, an Adventist facility, is nestled on 120 acres in central Florida 45 minutes from Orlando. Adventist church on campus. Weekly activities and crafts are offered. Call (352) 429-4454. (11)

HOME SELLERS/BUYERS: A local company has a program to buy or lease your house. Make your payments with little or no cost to you. We also have homes to sell with no bank qualifying—we finance! Call us... we can help! (301) 599-7478. (11)

OFFICE SPACE FOR SUBLET in Marriot Plaza in Greenbelt, MD. Beautiful, spacious office in a seven-office suite; receptionist support included in rental fee; and amenities include clerical support for hire, an exercise room in the building and access to an Olympic-size swimming pool. \$550 monthly. Attorneys who are interested in office space should call C. Zimmerman at (301) 220-4502. (11)

ADVENTIST ATTORNEYS licensed to practice in D.C. and Maryland and located in Greenbelt, MD. We specialize in criminal, civil litigation, family and bankruptcy law, etc. We communicate our fees up front and in some cases offer a flat rate for our services. If you need legal counsel, please call Thomas Felder at (301) 220-4502. (11)

ADVENTIST GROUP TRAVEL! Seven-day Caribbean cruise, 2/27; four-day Disney World cruise, 3/6; 14-day Panama Canal cruise, 4/16, with host Roland Hegstad; seven-day Alaska cruise, 6/25, with hostess Kay Kuzma; nine-day Oberammergau European tour, 8/21; or 10-day Mediterranean cruise, 10/15. Call Mert Allen of Mt. Tabor Cruise at (800) 950-9234 or (503) 256-7919; or send E-mail to mallen@renpdx.com. (11)

BOOKS WANTED FOR CASH PURCHASE: Used Adventist books, hymnals, post cards, church directories and most Protestant Reformation books. Call (518) 358-3494 or visit our Internet site at WWW.LNFBOOKS.COM. (31)

OBITUARY

NICE, Harold (Tom), born March 3, 1920, Bartlett, OH; died September 5, 1999, Middleport, OH. He was a member of the congregation in Pomeroy, OH. Survivors: wife Laura, sons John Gary, Thomas Lee and Frederick Allen, daughters Linda Crosson, Constance Davis, Debra Sealey and Tamara Cunningham and a total of 17 grandchildren.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Eastern Standard Time		
	Jan. 14	Jan. 21	Jan. 28
Baltimore	5:07	5:15	5:23
Cincinnati	5:38	5:46	5:54
Cleveland	5:20	5:28	5:37
Columbus	5:29	5:37	5:46
Jersey City	4:52	5:00	5:09
Norfolk	5:11	5:18	5:25
Parkersburg	5:26	5:34	5:42
Philadelphia	4:59	5:07	5:15
Pittsburgh	5:17	5:25	5:33
Reading	5:01	5:09	5:17
Richmond	5:14	5:21	5:29
Roanoke	5:25	5:32	5:40
Toledo	5:29	5:37	5:46
Trenton	4:56	5:04	5:13
Washington, DC	5:09	5:17	5:25

Voice of Prophecy

Sunday, January 9

How Jesus Treated the Brokenhearted

January 10-14

Leaving the Altar and Making the Call

Sunday, January 16

How Jesus Treated Sinners

January 17-21

Jackie and Pee Wee

Sunday, January 23

How to Walk on Fire

January 24-28

Heaven's Rainbow

To find a radio station that airs these broadcasts in your area, call (800) 732-7587 or go to the Voice of Prophecy's World Wide Web site at www.vop.com.

ACN EVENTS

The Adventist Communication Network will broadcast the following programs live via satellite:

Sabbath, January 8

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Adventist Worship Hour
Galaxy 7, Channel 18

Sabbath, January 15

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Adventist Worship Hour
Galaxy 7, Channel 18

Sabbath, January 22

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Adventist Worship Hour
Galaxy 7, Channel 18

Sabbath, January 29

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Adventist Worship Hour
Galaxy 7, Channel 18

The Adventist Communication Network is provided by the North American Division. For further information, call (800) ACN-1119.

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Why is the Visitor so late?

I have been asked this question time and time again over the past few months. It is particularly frustrating to our staff because they have worked especially hard to meet every deadline for the past six months.

In order to deal with this situation, in both December and January, we have published combined issues instead of the usual twice-a-month schedule. These larger magazines contain all of the pages and features you would have received in separate mailings, but they cut out an entire production cycle each month.

Next month, we plan to return to the regular schedule. In the meantime, we are making some changes to ensure more timely printing and mailing of each issue.

Part of the problem is the Third Class postage we've used for several years. The postage is cheaper, but it is also true that the Postal Service has the right to deliver it at a slower pace. On top of that, the U.S. Congress has voted to phase out the discount that has been provided to nonprofit organizations for more than 100 years, so we simply are not saving enough money to be worth the considerable delay.

We are applying for a Second Class postal permit. This is the postage designed specifically for news publications. Your copies of *Time* and *Newsweek* come to your home office at this rate, and our goal is to make the *Visitor* just as timely.

Another piece of the problem has been inserting the North American Division *Adventist Review* in the first-of-the-month issues of the *Visitor*. Although originally, there was a small savings in postage, we are no longer saving any money, and the practice often makes the *Visitor* come out late. A completed printing of the *Visitor* may sit at the Review and Herald publishing house in Hagerstown, Maryland, for up to a week waiting to be synchronized with the *Adventist Review* coming off the press.

From now on, the *Visitor* and the NAD *Adventist Review* will be mailed separately. You should get both at your home, and this really means three items will arrive each month in the mail from us—two issues of the *Visitor*, plus the monthly NAD *Adventist Review*. If one of these is missing, give us a call at (800) 438-9600.

Further changes will soon be made. The staff and I are determined to see that the *Visitor* comes out on time!

Visitor

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

THE VISITOR HAS A NEW LOOK.
VISIT THE NEW WEBSITE AT:

www.columbiaunion.org/visitor/

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Medical facilities operated by Adventist HealthCare use a wide variety of techniques and technologies to treat patients across the Columbia Union Conference. For information on recent developments regarding Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, turn to the four-page report that begins on page 6.

ABC

Monthly Special January

The Boy Who Couldn't Read
three-video set by Terry Johnson

Save \$10 per set!
Regular price: \$49.99 each
Coupon price: \$39.99 each

Sale begins
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Plans...from "Big Apple" Skyscrapers to Heartland Soulwinning!

Formerly on the management team of both the Empire State and Chrysler Buildings, Kent found a new Manager for his own life and left New York City.

Now a Midwest real estate developer, he not only checks out plans for shopping malls, daycare facilities, and office buildings but also strategies for his family and his church congregation. An elder and children's Sabbath school leader, he's reaching into his community as well—sharing the call of ASI to recreate a lay movement by sharing Christ in his marketplace during this new year at the close of the millennium.

If you are restless with your past witnessing and feel God's call to plan more for Him in your business or profession or service but need a bit of nurturing during this new year, Kent invites you to seek the encouragement he found by contacting:

Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Phone: 301-680-6450
Fax: 301-622-5017
E-mail: hartje@nad.adventist.org
www.TAGnet.org/asi/



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