

VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

OCTOBER 2013 • VOLUME 118 • ISSUE 10

Zulma & Ziriyah

Met Christ on Kenhorst Boulevard



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Fully Fed

Debra McKinney Banks

In Reading, Pa., one church nourishes dozens of neighborhood children each week—physically and spiritually.

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EDITOR'S CORNER

A COOL VIDEO TO WATCH

In Reading, Pa., members of Pennsylvania Conference's Kenhorst Boulevard church found a cool way to follow up on their summer outreach program. As a result, some 20-30 community children regularly pack their Sabbath Schools, prayer meetings and other events. Find out why at columbiaunionstory.org.

A WEBSITE WORTH SHARING



MywaytoJesus.com is a new resource the North American Division hopes will reach people seeking Christ through the Internet. In addition to sharing Bible study links and information about our beliefs, it features short videos, a weekly email devotional, a place to share prayer requests and a link to help seekers find a nearby Seventh-day Adventist church.

YOU SAID IT!

August's cover story on the "nones" garnered this email from Joel Stoia: "Our church as we know it today is ending. ... Either we as a church will change our way of doing business, or we will continue going down the path we are currently going." Read more feedback at columbiaunion.org/responsetonones.



September's cover story on suicide drew this Facebook post from Manuel Martell: "I made special time to read through this issue. It touched on topics we don't usually 'discuss.' Having several family friends who have suffered loss this way, I know how hard it is to share this kind of experience. ... Hopefully this helps to open our eyes and reach out to those who oftentimes suffer silently. This was excellent!"

THANKS, PASTOR!

Since October is Pastor Appreciation Month, now is a good time to let your pastor know how much you appreciate his or her ministry. Log onto facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor, post a picture of your pastor, tag him or her and share your thanks with our church family.—Celeste Ryan Blyden

About the Cover: Beira Brown photographed Zulma and Ziriya Rodriguez in Reading, Pa..

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MISSION STATEMENT ■ The *Visitor* provides news and information, resources for effective ministry, and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help people celebrate God's transforming grace in preparation for His return.

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Picking up Starfish

One day a little boy observed a man walking on the beach, picking up beached starfish and tossing them back into the ocean. "What are you doing?" he asked the man. "Saving the starfish or they'll die," came the reply. Peering ahead and seeing many more starfish in need, the boy declared, "You can't save *all* the starfish, so what difference does it make?" Without a word, the man resumed his walk with the boy trailing closely behind. Spotting another starfish, he stopped, picked up the small creature and tossed it back into the water. Turning to the lad, he smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one."



TWO PEOPLE WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

This past July 3, I was thrilled to stand on the eastern side of the famous battlefield in Gettysburg, Pa., where 150 years to the day erupted Pickett's Charge, which many historians believe was the turning point of the terrible Civil War. A few months later, President Abraham Lincoln gave his famous Gettysburg Address. It was only about two minutes long, but those carefully chosen words powerfully outlined his vision for his beloved country. It cost him his life, but not before he witnessed the end of the conflict, ensuring a nation united and slavery abolished. Only on the scene of national leadership for a short time, he made a difference and left a lasting legacy.

This year also marks the 150th anniversary of an event that we as a church family find significant. William Miller, a less than willing preacher, surrendered to God's conviction to "tell the world" about Jesus' promised return. Faithful remnants of this God-led movement officially organized the Seventh-day Adventist Church in May 1863. With a similar goal, minus the date setting, they discovered new insights of Bible truth and continued Miller's urgent proclamation that "Jesus is coming!" What a difference his and their faithfulness has made to us and so many others.

As time tarries, some may wonder if God is still working and leading, as he did with these important events. A vision recorded in Ezekiel 1:15-21 offers assurance. At first glance, the wheels that represent God's leadership in the affairs of mankind appeared to be in confusion. But, Ezekiel noted that they moved in perfect harmony. Adventist co-founder Ellen White confirms that "Amidst the strife and tumult of nations He that sitteth above the cherubim still guides the affairs of this Earth. The history of nations speaks to us today. To every nation and to every individual God has assigned a place in His great plan" (*Prophets and Kings*, p. 536).

Let's keep picking up starfish.

Dave Weigley (dweigley@columbiaunion.net) is president of the Columbia Union Conference.

Newsline

TAASHI ROWE

OHIO PRESIDENT TO RETIRE



Last month Raj Attiken, who served 15 years as Ohio Conference president, announced to the conference's executive committee plans to retire from his current responsibilities. In a letter to conference personnel, Attiken claimed it a privilege to serve and help expand the work of the church and leaves with "immense gratitude."

Upon hearing the announcement, Dave Weigley, Columbia Union Conference president, said of his colleague, "Raj has made a very valued contribution to the work of God, here in this union and beyond. He is a creative, innovative and provocative thinker who really challenges how we do things in this church. He has stepped out among others in the union to move the work forward. He has served well and will be missed as a full-time leader." Read more on p. 29.

—Heidi Shoemaker

100-PLUS LEARN ABOUT BEING "REAL MEN"

A one-day workshop themed "Real Men" drew 112 to Takoma Academy in Takoma Park, Md., and was the inaugural program for the United Men's Ministries Movement (UM3). UM3 leaders hope to bring together the men of the Columbia Union for spiritual leadership in their homes and churches.

Clifton Fitzgerald, UM3 chairman and a member of Potomac Conference's Restoration Praise

Center in Lanham, Md., along with several others, saw a need for such a ministry. "There are too many of us slipping through the cracks," he said. "We have so many issues that we are not dealing with and so few programs to address them."

The workshops addressed

communication, conflict resolution, spiritual leadership and effective fatherhood. UM3 organizers hope the ministry will also raise more awareness about all other programs available to the men in the mid-Atlantic region. Read more at columbiaunion.org/realmen.



Michael Oxentenکو (center), senior pastor of Allegheny East Conference's Reaching Hearts International church in Burtonsville, Md., and a presenter, discusses spiritual matters with two attendees.

BY THE NUMBERS:

Summer Youth Literature Evangelism

This past summer, nearly 100 young people from across the Columbia Union participated in various literature evangelism (LE) programs. Below are some related statistics*:

16-25

The age range of student participants

4

The number of conferences that hosted LE programs: Allegheny East, Chesapeake, New Jersey and Pennsylvania

1,438

The estimated number of Bible study interests students generated

10,000

The average number of doors each student knocked on

\$210,130

The estimated scholarship amount LEs earned

*Statistics from New Jersey Conference's program were not available at press time. Read more about Chesapeake's program on p. 22.

WHAT WAS MOST EXCITING ABOUT ATTENDING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON?



As Christian singer Natalie Grant began singing a hair-raising rendition of "I love the Lord," I felt tears welling up in my eyes. It was moving to [hear] this beautifully sung testimony, shared with the throngs of people here in the most powerful city in the world. I instantly prayed for everyone whose ears could hear this song, so that they may know about Christ's love and His all-inclusive nature.—*Anissa Pérez-Perla, a member of Potomac's Arise church in Temple Hills, Md.*



I felt privileged to be standing so close to the same individuals who marched 50 years ago for freedom. The vibe in the air was unmistakably filled with excitement and respect. I could almost feel how powerful it was 50 years ago. Unfortunately, there is still racism, but I believe that there is a deeper sense of respect for others. It was one of those cherished memories.—*Kathleen Flowers, a member of Chesapeake Conference's New Hope church in Fulton, Md.*

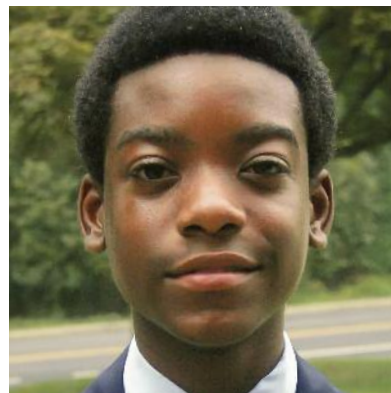


PHOTO BY MALIK BOOKHART

By being a part of this march, I was a part of history, which is something I can tell my children and grandchildren. The most exciting part of this experience for me was hearing Jamie Foxx speak about his daughter and [about giving back]. It felt good being a part of this march. If it wasn't for the work and sacrifice of Dr. King, we probably wouldn't be where we are today.—*Joshua Johnson, a seventh-grader at Dupont Park Adventist School in Washington, D.C.*

MEMBERS ASKED TO FAST FOR ORPHANS

From sundown October 18 to sundown October 19, several students and church youth groups in the Columbia Union will join a nationwide fast to support orphans. Calling it the DO Fast, or Defend Orphans Fast, the 24-hour event aims to get Adventists across the North American Division involved in supporting orphans. To get the free fasting kit, visit restoreachild.org/do, then go to facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor and comment on your participation.



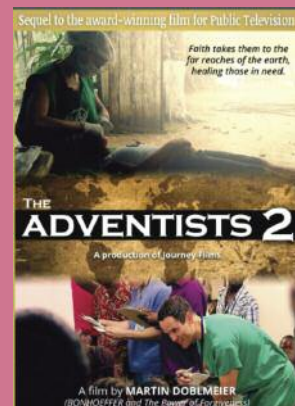
FILMMAKER DISCUSSES *THE ADVENTISTS 2*

Documentary filmmaker Martin Doblmeier, the man behind three films focused on Seventh-day Adventists, recently talked with Michelle Bernard, digital media coordinator for *Visitor* magazine, about his newest film *The Adventists 2*:

Q: One Columbia Union organization, Kettering Adventist HealthCare, is featured in *this* film. Why did you choose to highlight them?

A: The last story in *The Adventists 2* profiles a group of doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals who volunteer their time and talents to go for a week to the developing world and perform medical procedures that otherwise would not be possible. Many of those volunteers are Adventists who work for Kettering Adventist HealthCare. ...It is a big commitment on the part of the volunteers each year, but it makes a profound difference in the lives of hundreds of people they help heal.

To read the entire interview, visit columbiaunion.org/adventists. *The Adventists 2* will air on various Public Broadcasting Service stations this fall. Members can see it first at Potomac Conference's Sligo church October 5 at 7 p.m. in Takoma Park, Md., or November 16 at the Kettering church in Dayton, Ohio.



PRESIDENTES DE ASOCIACIONES REGIONALES ESTABLECEN ASAMBLEA HISPANA

El crecimiento fuerte y sostenido de las iglesias hispanas ha llevado a los presidentes de las nueve asociaciones regionales de la División Norteamericana (DNA) a establecer un consejo hispano dentro de su Asamblea. Los poco más de 19.000 miembros hispanos constituyen más del seis por ciento de la membresía en el trabajo regional.

Durante una reciente reunión de coordinadores hispanos y presidentes regionales llevada a cabo en Oakwood University (Ala.), los presidentes regionales votaron oficialmente establecer el Consejo Hispano Regional de la DNA. El consejo estará compuesto por el coordinador hispano, coordinador o vicepresidente en cada asociación, que trabajará bajo la supervisión del presidente de la asamblea regional. Las asociaciones regionales fueron creadas por la Asociación General en 1945 para prestar servicio a la población predominantemente afroamericana, principalmente en áreas urbanas dentro de las asociaciones locales de la unión. Hoy, la membresía de la asociación regional cuenta con aproximadamente 320,000 miembros.—*NAD ViewPoints*



ARTÍCULO ESPECIAL DE VISITOR: Bien alimentados

A unas pocas cuadras de la iglesia Kenhorst Boulevard en Pennsylvania Conference se encuentra ubicado el complejo de viviendas públicas Oakbrook, hogar de muchas familias de varias partes de Latinoamérica: Guatemala, Honduras, Puerto Rico y República Dominicana. Durante casi dos meses, la “Sra. Elsa”, dominicana, preparó cada semana comidas calientes y nutritivas en su propia cocina para “muchos, muchos niños” cuyas familias luchaban para subsistir. “Intentaba encontrar lugar para ellos en la cocina, en el piso, sentados en el sillón, donde pudiera encontrar una silla. ¡Eran muchos! Les gustaba mucho venir a mi casa”, recuerda Elsa.

Sin embargo, ella quería hacer algo más que saciar su hambre: quería alimentar sus almas. “Deseaban aprender de Jesús. Hacían muchas preguntas”, recuerda Elsa. Abrumada, Pérez se acercó a Annette Wilson, miembro de la iglesia Kenhorst Boulevard, y la invitó a ayudar. Juntas consiguieron que el complejo de viviendas local les diera un espacio para que el grupo se reuniera y donde los voluntarios de la iglesia continuaron sus ministerios con los pequeños durante más de un año. Entonces, el esposo de Wilson, Clarence, les sugirió a las mujeres que trasladaran sus actividades al sótano de su casa que quedaba cerca del lugar. Lea más en inglés en la pág. 10.—*Debra McKinney Banks*



Cinco maneras en las que Kenhorst establece relaciones en la comunidad

1. Crea confianza. No esperes que te acepten con los brazos abiertos al principio. Sé amigable y accesible. Sé paciente—llevará tiempo.

2. Solamente el método de Cristo traerá verdadero éxito. Dedica tiempo a conocer las necesidades de la comunidad y luego conócelos a ellos.

3. No reinventes la rueda. Considera la posibilidad de trabajar como voluntario en un ministerio sin fines de lucro o en una agencia de servicios ya establecida.

4. Brinda transporte. Muchas personas no tienen un medio de transporte confiable. Busca la manera de satisfacer estas necesidades con un vehículo confiable y asegurado. Incluso podrías establecer un cronograma de viajes compartidos.

5. Conoce a alguien de la comunidad. Considera la raza, la cultura o la dinámica del idioma de la comunidad. Establece contacto con alguien que ya es parte de la comunidad.

CIENTO VEINTE JÓVENES ASISTIERON AL PRIMER FESTIVAL DE JÓVENES HISPANOS DE OHIO

Alrededor de 120 jóvenes participaron del Primer Festival de Jóvenes Hispanos de Ohio Conference donde pasaron varios días cultivando su espiritualidad y entendiendo la importancia de estudiar la Biblia. Los jóvenes, representantes de los cuatro distritos hispanos de la asociación—Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton-Hamilton y Findlay—se reunieron en el centro de retiros Camp Mohaven Camp en Danville. Participaron en actividades recreativas tales como equitación, deportes y carreras por el barro, y también disfrutaron de representaciones, música, concursos de memoria bíblica, de oratoria y un concurso bíblico.

“El talento y el potencial de los jóvenes fue notorio y es evidencia real de cómo Dios se puede manifestar a través de ellos”, comentó Oswaldo Magaña, director de los Ministerios Hispanos de la asociación. “Es emocionante ver el potencial de los jóvenes hispanos de Ohio Conference”.—*Edgar Rios*



El distrito de Findlay gana el tercer puesto en el concurso bíblico del festival.

EN NÚMEROS:

Retiro hispano del Ministerio de la Mujer de Potomac

110 El número de adolescentes que participaron

El número de mujeres que recibieron un reconocimiento durante la primera ceremonia de la Mujer del Año

28

La cantidad de servicios de Santa Cena durante el retiro (foto)

1



3 El número de oradoras principales—uno para adultos, otro para jóvenes y otro para adolescentes

El número de países de procedencia de las mujeres

17

La cantidad de seminarios ofrecidos

8

14

La cantidad de años en los que se ha organizado el retiro

2,550

La cantidad de comidas servidas durante el fin de semana del retiro hispano del Ministerio de la Mujer de Potomac Conference

60

El número de iglesias representadas

850

El número de mujeres que asistió al retiro en Arlington, Va.

Are You Putting Faith Into Action? Lillian Torres Says We've Got Work to Do!

If you're not actively engaged in telling others about God's love and sharing His Word, then you really can't call yourself a Seventh-day Adventist," warns Lillian Torres, the Pennsylvania Conference and Columbia Union Bible worker who has dedicated her life to drawing people to Christ and training others to do the same. "Our goal as Christians should be to tell every person we interact with each day about God's love." She further explains, "If I'm not intentionally engaged in personal evangelism,

I can't claim to be an Adventist because we believe in the second coming of Christ and proclaiming it. And, being a Christian means to believe in Christ's teachings and gospel, and showing it in character and practice. If I'm neither, then what am I?"

Torres' words are blunt, but she has good reason for them: the Barna Research Group recently reported that only 55 percent of born-again Christians believe it is their responsibility to share their faith. And, according to Campus Crusade for Christ, only 2 percent of Christians actively share their faith.

THE TRUTH ABOUT EVANGELISM

Torres says there are 10 common reasons Adventists admit to shying away from sharing their faith,

including "I might say the wrong thing" and "That's not my spiritual gift." However, she says, only five of the reasons go beyond poor excuses: low self-confidence, no motivation, no training, fear and it is not a priority.

"Jesus said in Matthew 28:19, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' This is a gift God wants to give to each of us," she says.

What we need to realize, says Torres, is that even skeptics and atheists do not look well on Christians who don't share their faith. She quotes a famous atheist who pointedly declared, "I don't respect people who don't proselytize. ... How much do you have to hate somebody to believe that everlasting life is possible and not tell them that?"

She says we also need to be aware that many people who join a church cite a personal connection as the reason. In *The Inviting Church*, the author reports that 79 percent of those he polled said that a friend or relative's invitation is what prompted them to visit and then join their church.

She also points out that there are tremendous blessings to be gained from sharing our faith. Lisa Arosarena, a member at Pennsylvania Conference's Chestnut Hill church in Philadelphia, concurs and shares a few: "First, I believe that God has used it to refine my character—showing me areas where I lack faith and am still unconverted. Secondly, God has placed upon my heart, for the first time in my life, a burden to see others won to His kingdom. I still find myself struggling with boldness at times, but I have been amazed at how God has given

PHOTO BY JARED CASTALDI



Lillian's Four Cs

Seventh-day Adventists share four common beliefs with other Christians. Be prepared to share these with those you meet, says Torres:

- 1 We believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God.
- 2 We believe in the cross and that we're saved by God's grace.
- 3 We believe in keeping all of God's commandments.
- 4 We believe in the soon coming of Jesus Christ.

me opportunities to witness. It has been amazing to see my small effort, and, most importantly, the Holy Ghost's power, lead to baptism."

FOLLOW CHRIST'S EXAMPLE

"Most of our members are afraid to share because they fear someone will ask them a question they do not know the answer to, or challenge them on what they believe," says Torres. But, she notes, that's all the more reason to be prepared—everything we do well takes practice.

So, what is the best way to prepare for sharing our faith? Our first step, says Torres, should be to understand Christ's methods. "The goal is to model the life of Christ by studying, meditating and pondering on what He did, and how He interacted with friends and enemies," she says. His methods are best summarized in *Ministry of Healing* (p. 143):

1. He mingled and became acquainted with people.
2. He showed His sympathy for them.
3. He ministered to their needs.
4. He won their confidence.
5. Then He bade them, "Follow Me."

To that end, "We cannot just hang out with Adventists," warns Torres. "God's love is not a secret to be kept." If you don't want to go door to door, she suggests starting conversations with people you encounter during errands, with parents and teachers at your child's school or while waiting in line—anywhere!

When meeting someone, she suggests following three simple steps to lead the initial conversation:

1. Share your interests. After you swap details about what you both do for a living, the conversation usually turns to hobbies and interests. "Make sure to include one that is related to what you believe," Torres

suggests. "For instance, 'I'm part of the Women's Ministries at my church.'" This can stir their interest and give you a chance to share more about your faith.

2. Make religious connections.

If they ask about your denomination, tell them about the four Cs—the four common beliefs Adventists share with other Christians (see the sidebar). This often gives you an opportunity to, in turn, ask what they believe and if they attend a church.

3. Leave them with material to read.

If they've shared a genuine interest in your beliefs, always make sure to have material ready to give them, like a copy of *Steps to Christ*, a GLOW tract (see glowonline.org) or Bible study request cards (like those at seminarsunlimited.org). "I think it's even better to give them your church's website, assuming your church offers Bible study lessons," suggests Torres, or at least give them your phone number and offer to talk more.

For more ideas about personal evangelism, Torres suggests Mark Finley's book *Studying Together*.

PUT FEAR ASIDE

Torres understands the fear of witnessing. "I still get butterflies in my stomach before I knock on a door or share with someone, but my love for God moves me forward and overpowers my fear," she says. She also keeps in mind that the Lord promises His help. "Simply make yourself available and you'll see how God can speak through you," she suggests.

She says it's also important to remember, "Truth that is not lived, that is not imparted, loses its life-giving power, its healing virtue," (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 148). In other words, Torres explains, "If you're not imparting the truths God gives you, that truth loses its power and influence in you."

So, get out there today, and watch the Lord use you.

Ready to Take the Conversation Further?

When a new contact digs for deeper spiritual information, Torres says there are two diagnostic questions you should be prepared to ask. For the questions—and how to answer them—visit columbiaunion.org/evangelismquestions.



YOUR TURN

How do you share your faith? Tell us at facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor or tweet @VisitorNews.



Fully Fed

In Reading, Pa., one church nourishes hungry neighborhood children—physically and spiritually.

Debra McKinney Banks

Jesus loves the little children/All the children of the world ... Strains of the familiar song virtually echo down dim corridors of Pennsylvania Conference's Kenhorst Boulevard church—fading into the air and mingling with the clank of pots and pans as members sweep up crumbs, wipe away spaghetti stains and straighten chairs in preparation for another day. Annette Wilson wipes off a bead of perspiration and wearily straightens her 76-year-old back as she scoots in one last chair to a long table, checking to make sure everything is ready.



Wilson and other members are tidying up after Friday evening's Youth Connection, which includes dinner, a skit and Bible study. Youth Connection always kicks off a fun, Spirit-filled round of Sabbath activities for the 20-30 children who attend this small church in Reading each week. The members also provide Sabbath School, children's church, AYS (aka "Sabbath afternoon church"), Wednesday night prayer sessions and summer camp.

"It wasn't always this busy," says Wilson, recalling her first days as a Kenhorst member. "Whenever I go to a church, I look at the scenario: Where are the children? Where are the young people? Where is the Cradle Roll? If you don't have young people in your church, your church will die." After stumbling upon a beautifully outfitted, but sadly unused Cradle Roll room, Wilson made a startling request, which raised a few eyebrows and nervous chuckles from the aging congregation: "I need some babies to fill this room!"

While she didn't get the babies she requested, God was already using Elsa Perez (pictured, left), another faithful Kenhorst member living near the church, to pave the way for what has become a thriving children's ministry.

"Ms. Elsa's" Kitchen

Located a few blocks away from the church is the Oakbrook public housing development, home to many families from various parts of Latin America:

*How are you/your church helping children in your community?
Let us know at facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor or tweet @VisitorNews.*

Guatemala, Honduras, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. For nearly two months, “Ms. Elsa,” who is also Dominican, provided hot, nourishing meals from her kitchen each week to “many, many kids” whose families were struggling to make ends meet. “I [would] try to find space for them in the kitchen, on the floor, sitting on the couch—wherever I could find a chair. It was a lot! They loved coming to my home,” she recalls.

But, she wanted to do more than just feed their hungry stomachs; she wanted to feed their souls. “They wanted to learn about Jesus. They asked a lot of questions,” she remembers. Overwhelmed, Perez approached Wilson and invited her to help. Together, they got the local housing development to offer space for the group to meet, where the church volunteers continued to minister to the little ones for more than a year. That’s when Wilson’s husband, Clarence, suggested the ladies move the activities into the basement of their nearby house.

Soon, Friday nights at the Wilsons became time for food, songs, Bible stories and Scripture memorization for the 5- to 12-year-olds who gathered there each week. They planted seeds, and as word spread, more children attended, and Wilson realized that this had potential to become something big. After two years at their home, it was time to get the church involved. Joining forces with Youth Connection seemed the obvious choice.

Connecting Local Youth

Youth Connection is a program the church originally intended for kids aged 12 and up. Fred Morgan—a retired teacher and first elder at Kenhorst—creates skits and corresponding Bible studies to engage them on Friday evenings.

“Seeing the kids learning about the history of the Bible, hearing them pray—it’s very moving,” says 18-year-old Kayro Tanis, who was baptized last year. At his father’s suggestion, he started attending Kenhorst to enhance his English skills. (His parents are from Haiti.) He later approached Morgan for more in-depth Bible studies.

“He accepted everything, but there was an issue with the Sabbath,” Morgan explains. Tanis sometimes played sports on Sabbath at the public school he attended. “When I asked him about baptism, he said he wasn’t ready yet,” Morgan adds.

Six months later, Tanis gave his heart and life fully to the Lord. “It brings me joy to see other children

learn about God,” he says.

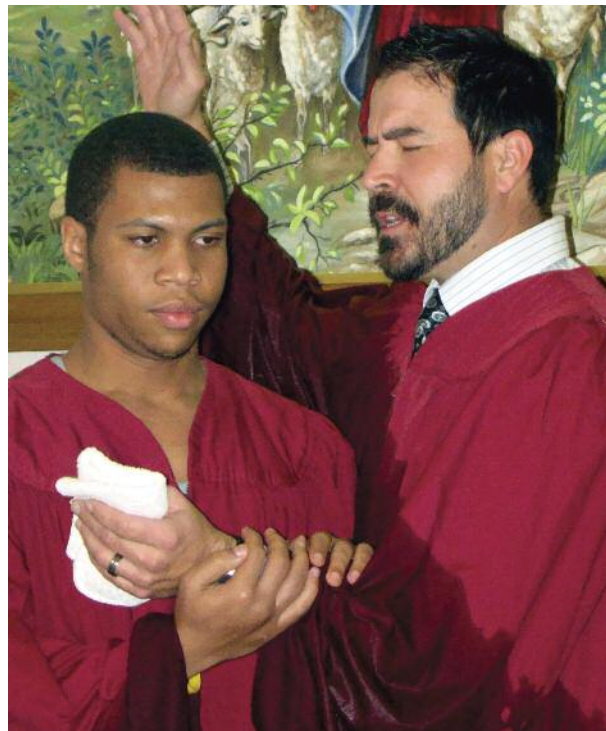
“It’s exciting!”

Incorporating the younger children into the opening skit segment each week provides opportunity for the two age groups to worship together, and has become a high point for the kids. Occasionally, the youth also put on larger performances for the church.

Ten-year-old Ziriya Rodriguez and her younger sister, Zulma, look forward to these weekly gatherings.

“I really like doing the skits,” Ziriya says.

“I work really hard and make time to learn my parts.” Their mother, Evangeline Vasquez, is also thrilled to see the changes in Ziriya’s behavior and the relationships the girls have formed with others as a result of attending the programs and the church’s school, Reading Junior Academy, where their tuition is sponsored by church members. “[Ziriya] has become more knowledgeable about the Bible and God, and loves to share it,” says Vasquez, who is now taking Bible studies.



Pastor Ever Perez baptizes Kayro Tanis, and 18-year-old community resident.



Clarence and Annette Wilson make sure neighborhood kids have a ride to the church's programs.

"Cool" Summer Outreach

During summers, it was often difficult to maintain the weekly programs as Kenhorst members left for vacations and other seasonal events. But, those running the kids' programs didn't want to lose momentum with the contacts and connections they made with the

neighborhood children. So, they signed up to participate in a pilot program now called Cool Camps, a traveling summer day camp sponsored by local churches within the Pennsylvania Conference. Cool Camp hires youth from around the conference to provide six weeks of VBS-style programming—arts and crafts, sports and swimming. Each participating church gets camp staff for one week before they move on to the next assignment.

Camp staff serve "rough, tough kids from the projects, but they are in such need of love!" exclaims Javier Mendez, Cool Camp director. He reports that a record 96 children, aged 5-11, attended this past summer's camp at Kenhorst—the church's fifth year participating. And, about 85 percent of the attendees are not from Seventh-day Adventist families.

5 Ways Kenhorst Builds Community Relationships

Build trust. Don't expect them to accept you with open arms initially. Be friendly and approachable. Be patient—it will take some time.

Christ's method alone will bring true success. Spend time getting to know the community's needs, and then meet them.

Don't reinvent the wheel. Consider volunteering with an already established nonprofit ministry or service agency.

Provide transportation. Many people don't have reliable transportation. Figure out a way to meet these needs with a reliable, insured vehicle. You could even establish a carpool schedule.

Know someone on the inside. Consider the race, culture and/or language dynamics of the community. Establish a contact who is already a part of the community.



"Sometimes with these little kids, you think, 'Are they really getting it?' You know, the Bible stories, etc.," he explains. "One year, for the first time, I felt impressed to make an [altar] call. I asked, 'Who wants to accept Jesus Christ as your Savior? Come up to the front with me so we can pray.' I was floored! Kids kept coming and coming—crying and weeping. Counselors [prayed] with the kids, [with] the Holy Spirit impressing on them what to even pray for! It was a powerful experience!"

The Cool Camp feeling continues during the school year on the second and fourth Sabbath afternoons. After potluck, students from neighboring Blue Mountain Academy conduct the "Sabbath afternoon church" program, where they lead out in crafts, outdoor activities and Bible games.

Fishers of Children

Ever Perez, the first Hispanic, bilingual pastor for the church, is enthusiastic about Kenhorst church's thriving children's and youth ministries. He and his family—wife, Dixie, and daughter, Kailey—all take an active role in the increasingly popular Wednesday night prayer meeting services. Many of the neighborhood children are now attending this program as well, and have grown the nightly attendance exponentially.

Even at 6-foot 2-inches, Pastor Perez will sit on the floor surrounded by the children. Animated and lively, he easily holds the kids' attention throughout the PowerPoint Bible story presentations he creates using colorful, even humorous, pictures. Dixie prepares quiz questions to ask during a rousing post-game challenge to help reinforce the lesson. Downstairs, Kailey does crafts with the younger children.

"Many of [the neighborhood children] have no biblical foundation," explains Pastor Perez. "We keep it simple—10-15 minutes for the story, then the game for another 15 minutes. It really gets solidified into their minds this way. They still remember stuff we taught them months ago!" He says the children are hungry for God's Word, and are eager to share the love of Jesus with others.

"A girl in my neighborhood wanted to pray for her grandma and her family but had never prayed before," Ziriya shares. After learning about prayer during one of the children's meetings, Ziriya taught the little girl how to pray. "I showed her that when you pray, you have a beginning—'Dear God'—then the 'body,' where you tell Him [anything], and then end it—'in Jesus' name, Amen.'"



Get More: Watch our video about this ministry at columbiaunionstory.org

Today the Wilsons, Elsa Perez, Fred Morgan, Javier Mendez, Pastor Perez and their dedicated volunteers—fueled with a strong desire to work with children—are the backbone of this thriving ministry conglomerate that's filling the Cradle Roll room and a few others. Their recipe for success remains a hot meal (often provided by generous members who pay out of pocket); simple, fun programs; and solid, relevant biblical instruction; all sprinkled generously with love—including lots and lots of hugs.

*Red, yellow, black and white—
all are precious in His sight ...*

*Debra McKinney Banks
attends the New Joy
Fellowship church in
Hagerstown, Md.*



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Conference Leaders Welcome Students Back to School

AllegHENY East Conference (AEC) administrators and pastors recently joined teachers and board members in welcoming students back to school at all 11 of its institutions. From greeting students at Ephesus Junior Academy in Richmond, Va., to those at Pine Forge Academy in Pine Forge, Pa., this welcome was a first for the conference's leadership team.

At the Jessie R. Wagner Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School in Pine Forge, Lawrance Martin, the conference's vice president for finance, greeted parents and students and distributed special pencils to all students.

Robert L. Booker, the conference's communication director, who was also at the Wagner school, said he noticed "love in action. ... Teachers who were ready to teach and to love each child, and children who were ready to learn from teachers they knew loved them and wanted to share knowledge with them."



PHOTO BY SHAYAL-RENE LITTLE

Judy Dent, Allegheny East Conference superintendent of schools, greets a student at Trinity Temple Academy in Hillside, N.J.

NEWS

Baltimore Junior Academy Serves as Title 1 Summer School Site

This summer Baltimore Junior Academy (BJA) in Baltimore was one of four religious private schools selected to host the city's Title 1 summer school. The summer school provided intensive skill development in reading and math for students in kindergarten to grade 9. One aspect of the program allows students to receive tutoring via the Internet. The students received brand new mini computers that they got to keep at the end of the program. Several BJA students, including Christy Dale (pictured), took advantage of this free opportunity.

Title 1 is a federal program that provides financial assistance to schools with high percentages of at-risk students to support their academic achievement.

At Pine Forge, Saving the Apple Trees is Paramount

Some time ago, Gary Banks, pastor of the Pine Forge (Pa.) church, made a sweet discovery. There were 75 acres of apple trees on the Allegheny East Conference property. Things turned sour when he went

to pick some apples only to find many of the trees barren, overgrown or desperately in need of pruning.

According to Robert Booker, assistant to the president, the conference's Pine Forge Academy planted approximately 2,000 apple trees in the early 1970s. This endeavor provided jobs for students and yielded succulent fruit, applesauce and pies. In addition, "A local company pressed the apples for juice as a source of income for the school," he recalls.

Neither Banks nor Booker know why the operation ceased. However, Banks says, "It's a shame to let this resource die when it could once again benefit our community."

With permission from the conference, he and a small group of volunteers are looking for members with the knowledge, skills and resources to help save the apple orchard. To help, contact Banks at drgbanks@gmail.com and (484) 599-1632.

—Celeste Ryan Blyden



Shiloh Church's New Home a Result of Prayer

PHOTO BY SAM BROWN

With dreams and hopes of remodeling their church, members of the Shiloh church in Petersburg, Va., began making special contributions. However, when a member saw an auction sign in front of the Walnut Hill Baptist Church, she immediately contacted George Howard, the church's pastor. Howard then informed the

church body, and prior to the auction, members joined him for a walk-through of that facility, along with several others. During the tour, some of Shiloh's older members sat in the sanctuary and prayed.

On the day of the auction, Shiloh members did not have the starting bid amount, while a pastor from another church had an envelope with a bid of \$550,000. No one else had that amount of money at the time. The other pastors present walked away knowing that this church would be sold to that pastor and his congregation. Later a realtor called Pastor Howard to inform him that the other church had defaulted on the loan and wondered if Shiloh members were still interested in the building. "We still did not have the minimum bid amount; however, our heavenly Father did and still does," Howard said.

The new Shiloh church sits on six acres of land, has a sanctuary with a capacity to seat 450, in addition to a balcony, chapel and dining facility. They also inherited a fully stocked school, library and daycare facility. Additionally, 17 people recently joined the church through baptism and others are taking Bible studies.—*Deborah Whitfield*



80 Take Disaster Preparedness Training

People are sometimes more likely to listen to us, not when we are preaching, but when we show them that we care," said Doris S. Boyer, a member of the Mizpah church in Philadelphia.

Boyer was one of 12 people from her church to take a daylong disaster response course at the Emmanuel-Brinklow church in Ashton, Md. This course was one of four conference-led trainings that took place this summer. The class drew some 80 people in all, and instructors focused on imparting knowledge about managing warehouses and volunteers.

"According to all predictions, the weather patterns will be more challenging this fall," said Minnie McNeil, the conference's Adventist Community Services (ACS) director. "Our churches must be prepared, before the disaster comes, to help people recover quickly."

Micah Chavers, a member of the Calvary church in Newport News, Va., first became interested in disaster response right after 9/11. Although he worked at a food bank then, he wanted to be of more help. He and his parents took the ACS course and have been involved in disaster response ever since.

Vernessa Wilson, Mizpah church's community services leader, said taking this course came naturally

to her and fellow church members. "We all work in community services and love helping people," she said. "When disaster hits, we want to help!"



Mizpah members surround Minnie McNeil, the conference's ACS director, in front of the new 32-foot disaster response trailer partially funded by North American Division ACS Department.

Ethan Temple Celebrates 90 Years

Borrowing words from a gospel song, Ethan Temple chose the theme "... and No Ways Tired!" to commemorate their congregation's 90th birthday. They celebrated during a recent weekend that started with a lively Friday evening service, where three men raised at Ethan Temple broke bread: pastors Michael Dyson, Terry Giles and Albert Dyson.

On Sabbath morning, Pastor Joe Grider welcomed current and returning members from every decade. William Wright, from Germantown, Ohio, was just a boy

90 years ago when his parents, Nathan and Willa Wright, and others started Ethan Temple. He sat smiling on the front row during the special service. After a grand processional to recognize notable historic members, the eldest congregant, Bennie Grissom (99), sang "I Will Trust in the Lord."

The Sabbath service also included congratulatory remarks from the city mayor and a state representative. Choirs from the Ethan Temple church and Dale Wright Memorial church (pictured, left) in Germantown added their harmonious selections to the momentous occasion.

"Singing 'Total Praise' with the choir, including members from the last 20 years, brought tears to my eyes and made me think of heaven," responded Yvonne Bailey.

Another son of Ethan Temple, Calvin Watkins (above), the director of Evangelism Ministries at the South Atlantic Conference, concluded the divine service with God's Word. Blessed by his message, many attendees consecrated and rededicated their lives to Christ.



Executive Committee Recharges at Retreat

AllegHENY West Conference Executive Committee members started their current five-year term of service revived, restored and refreshed following a recent weekend retreat and orientation at the Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark, Ohio.

Guest presenter Roscoe Howard, DMin, vice president for Adventist Health System based in Florida, led the committee through a series of workshops geared to help them better prepare for their important work. They covered areas of church organization and structure, voice and vote, and how to handle difficult issues. He also challenged the committee to avoid getting bogged down with minutes and financial analysis and instead to focus on generative thought.

During a team-building exercise, committee members learned the importance of accurate and clear communication. Sabbath ended with them asking God's blessing on the conference's three officers (pictured, right): William Cox, DMin, president; Marvin Brown, executive secretary; and Zenobia Seward, treasurer.

Sunday morning, Cox led the committee in its first of many meetings to accomplish the conference's vision, which is to evangelize the unchurched, educate the children in Seventh-day Adventist schools and empower the members to hasten the soon coming of Christ.

"I have been enlightened, informed and empowered. I am now prepared to serve as a committee member," said Dwain Hall, a member of the Glenville church in Cleveland.



Ephesus Church Promotes Health at Festival

It was an atypical Sabbath at the Ephesus church in Columbus, Ohio, when senior Pastor Donald Burden tried to quickly move along the divine service. After a busy first day of tours through the giant human heart display provided by AmeriHeart, which was a big draw for their three-day health festival, he knew the public would soon start pouring in for more tours to learn fun facts about the heart and how to keep it healthy.

On Sunday the church hosted a community health fair, where hundreds of people participated in numerous activities and games. Attendees also received free health screenings provided by members of the



Members Lamea Boseman and Dora Arthurs prepare for a healthy cooking demonstration.



Columbus African church, consultations with local healthcare providers, numerous healthy food samples, a tour of a mock operating room, a special seminar on the Affordable Healthcare Act, along with access to a panel discussion and forum where they could pose their health questions to medical doctors. There was also a designated area for kids and teens that featured activity booths teaching the eight laws of health, a rock climbing wall, bounce houses and a special Ohio State Highway Patrol drunk driving simulation (above).

Southeast Church Co-Hosts Faith and Justice Summit

The conference's community services department recently collaborated with the Office of Advocacy of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries to co-sponsor a two-day Faith and Justice Summit at the Southeast church in Cleveland. Jerome M. Hurst, Southeast's senior pastor and the conference's community services director, worked alongside Bishop Tony Minor, director of advocacy for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries, to make the summit available to clergy, faith leaders and community activists in Northeast Ohio. The event provided an atmosphere for training and discussion on advocacy and social and environmental justice.

"There are four types of social ministries: relief, individual development, community development and structural change," explains Pastor Hurst. "For the most part, we as a church have focused primarily on relief. The purpose of this summit was to bring awareness and give some basic training on the others. I look forward to expanding our impact in these areas."



Purveyors of Justice: Jerome Hurst, pastor of the Southeast church; Jason Ridley, pastor of the Columbus Hilltop church; Charles Christian Adams, an area minister; Leslie Malachi Watson, director of the African-American Religious Affairs Office at People for the American Way; Bishop Tony Minor, director of advocacy for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries; and McKenzie Kambizi, pastor of the Toledo Parkwood church

THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

OCTOBER 2013

Something to Share

It can be hard to know what to say to others about our faith. We wonder if it will start an argument. Will someone be offended? Is someone going to think less of us?

But, we find in *The Desire of Ages* that “our confession of His faithfulness is heaven’s chosen agency for revealing Christ to the world. We are to acknowledge His grace as made known through the holy men of old; but that which will be most effectual is the testimony of our own experience. ... These precious acknowledgements to the praise of the glory of His grace, when supported by a Christ-like life, have an irresistible power, that works for the salvation of souls” (p. 347).

Here’s how we can share our faith:

Our testimony—When we’ve experienced the joy and hope of salvation, we have something good to tell others. This is God’s most effective means of spreading the wonderful news of Jesus. There are many ways that God touches people’s lives, but the one that works best is when you and I share our personal story of God’s grace.

Our actions—When Christ lives in us we begin to do the things He would do. Our actions then become a compelling draw to Jesus. In fact, Ellen White uses the term “irresistible.”

Our witness—The combination of our words and actions results in the salvation of souls. People are led to the love of Jesus by what they hear and see in us.

So, what good things has God been doing in your life? Have you shared your appreciation with others? God wants to touch others through you.



Rick Remmers
President

Frederick Spanish Church Event Attracts Neighbors

The Frederick Spanish church in Frederick, Md., recently hosted its first, free family event at a nearby skate park, drawing more than 200 community residents.

“Our goal was to reach as many people as possible, to come and not only enjoy the activities, but also to learn about our church and the local businesses,” says Olivia Herrera, the church’s communication leader. Members hope this friendship evangelism effort introduces neighbors to their church and, ultimately, leads them to Jesus Christ.

Area businesses sponsored booths and provided information about banking, insurance and immigration.



Free food, games for children and Christian music created a festive atmosphere. A Bible and several gift cards donated by local restaurants were among the door prizes awarded.

“I was speechless when they called my name as the winner of the Bible,” said Edith Gonzales (pictured), who visited the church recently. “I know God has a purpose for me, and that is why I won.”

In the cool shade, locals visit the activity and information booths offered at the family event.



Literature Evangelists Testify at Glen Burnie Church

We have a small team and a hard territory,” said Tyler Trahan, a Bible worker at the Glen Burnie (Md.) church. “There are a lot of ‘no soliciting’ signs, and a lot of people are not interested in spiritual things.”

Even so, Trahan lined up nearly 20 Bible studies last summer in this working class suburb of Baltimore. Not bad for a hard territory. The 24-year-old said many of these Bible studies came because of student literature evangelists (LEs) who weathered the merciless summer sun, dogs, “no soliciting” signs and even the police.



Jason Williams, former Chesapeake literature evangelism associate; LEs Darrel Scott and Dexter Marshall, members of the Dundalk church in Baltimore; and Judit Manchay, a member of the New Castle Spanish church in Delaware, take to the streets.

Last summer some three dozen literature evangelists from the Allegheny East (AEC) and Chesapeake conferences gathered at the Glen Burnie church to encourage each other, share their testimonies and do even more literature evangelism. For around 10 weeks this summer, Chesapeake LEs between the ages of 16 and 25 worked in Dover and Wilmington, Del., and Baltimore.

It’s a life-changing experience for many. Dexter Marshall, a 19-year-old student at Essex Community College in Baltimore and a member of Chesapeake’s Dundalk (Md.) church, says literature evangelism “had me do things I don’t normally do. ... I was able to reach people in a way that changed their lives and, in return, I got to be more open.”

Rick Christman, Chesapeake’s literature evangelism director, says getting students involved in this program shows them how they “can be frontline missionaries in their home country.” He explains that literature evangelism gets students involved in playing a critical role in a church’s annual cycle of evangelism. He reports that last year, due to the conference, churches and LEs working together, the Dover church had 18 baptisms.

People are now fired up and excited to continue outreach. Jazmine Walls, a Bible worker in West Wilmington, said, “When you have God in the mission, you can do anything ... The LEs help make our work more sufficient, and we are able to get to people faster.”

The Chesapeake Conference is in need of vans to help transport the student LEs in their door-to-door ministry. To make a donation, contact Christman at (678) 788-5622. Read more at columbiaunion.org/le.
—Taashi Rowe

Conference Launches Roku Channel

The Chesapeake Conference recently launched the Seventh-day Adventist TV channel on Roku, a hand-sized device that connects to your television. Available at big-box stores, such as Walmart and Best Buy, viewers in more than 5 million homes use Roku to watch television.

“Chesapeake is the first conference to secure a Roku channel, using this modern technology to reach more than 12 million people,” says pastor Gary Gibbs (pictured), ministries development director for the conference and channel developer. The channel now carries the Hope Channel and ministry training videos. Future plans include locally produced sermons from Chesapeake pastors. Learn more at roku.com. Browse channels and search for “Seventh-day Adventist TV.” Roku carries several additional Adventist channels, making it an inexpensive option for people seeking Adventist programming.



PHOTO BY ANDRE HASTICK

Just Like Home

When operating a residential facility, such as a boarding school, it is always a challenge to make the environment feel like a home. At Highland View Academy (HVA), where half of our students live in a dormitory, we are no strangers to this struggle.

Of course, creating a home-like environment is not something that just happens; it takes effort, practice and reinforcement over time. There are many factors that play a role, such as staff attitudes, functional living design and inviting décor, as well as designated space for student gatherings and activities.

At HVA, staff members know that the most important factor in creating these homes away from home is learning to lean on Christ. That is why we chose and often refer to our theme “And on this Rock I will build my church ...” (see Matt. 16:18). We continue to ask Jesus to dwell in our lives through the Holy Spirit.

Junior Rerma Richards recently told staff, “I feel so comfortable in my dorm because I am surrounded by like-minded believers, and we are encouraged to openly share our faith with each other without any hesitations.”

Keep us in prayer as we continue to provide students a second home, one that is built upon the Rock.



Renee Williams
Director of Recruitment
and Development

Dorm Life Gives Girls a Heavenly Education

Highland View Academy’s girls dorm is a place where the residents are taught the importance of a Christ-centered life. Staff members are invested in teaching the girls how to be motivated to pursue a heavenly education in which the God of the universe is the primary teacher. Morning and evening worships are offered daily, as well as specific times set aside for study and fun.

Student Valerie Wyatt has this to say about dorm life: “Before coming to HVA and living in the dorm, finding time to study was difficult. Here in the dorm, I have plenty of opportunities to study, and the morning and evening worships have given me the opportunity to strengthen my relationship with God, which I love!”

Marisa Harrison, girls dean, says she is impressed daily to “lean on Jesus to help me be what my girls need me to be.” She adds, “It is my job to convey to them the immense love that the Savior has for them. That means that the atmosphere of the dorm must be a place where all are welcomed and made to feel like the child of God they are. The HVA girls dorm exists for this purpose.”



HVA girls are learning about a Christ-centered life through their home away from home: the girls dorm.

Did You Know?

All of HVA’s deans have at least 35 years of experience as dorm “parents.”

First Person: “When I Knocked, I Invited Them Home”

This past summer, I had the privilege of being a soldier for Christ on the very front lines of battle. As part of the Grand Rapids, Mich., canvassing team, it is estimated that each canvasser knocked on about 10,000 doors and talked to thousands of people, sharing the good news about Jesus to a hurting world—or as we like to put it, “repopulating heaven.”

Behind one such door, a friendly man wearing a cross necklace greeted me with a puzzled look. Quickly observing many things about him, I commented, “Sir, do you mind me asking, are you Christian?” as I pointed to the cross resting on his chest. He slowly answered “yes,” and then promptly invited me into his home, along with his daughter and granddaughter. Through the course of conversation, he explained that he used to be a Christian only on weekends, filling the rest of the week with whatever worldly pleasures he so desired.

God soon took hold of his life, and taught him what it meant to be a “full-time” Christian. “But, my family just doesn’t get it!” he said. “They’re making the same mistake I did!” His next words sent chills down my spine. “In fact, I was *just* on my knees, begging with God, and saying, ‘Lord, I’ll do *whatever* it takes to help my family start out right and get to know Jesus! *Anything!* Just *show me* and I’ll do it!’” He then added, “As I was praying, you knocked on my door ... and I knew it was my answer to prayer!”

On Campus LEs

This school year, HVA is offering a student literature evangelism program using the **Maga Book** that will help students with their school tuition.



These HVA students were blessed this past summer to participate in various literature evangelism programs and earn tuition funds.

That afternoon, I left him with nearly all the books in my bag and a prayer to seal his daughter’s commitment of reading the literature. I couldn’t help but be reminded of Jesus’ own words in Isaiah 65:24: “And it shall come to pass, that *before* they call, I will answer; and *while they are yet speaking*, I will hear.”

I don’t know about you, but I know that I’m tired of this sinful, hurting world, and I can’t wait for Jesus to come soon! But first, there are people who are waiting for us to tell them about a Savior’s love. It is only then that, together, we can stand and listen to those beautiful words as our precious Father says, “Welcome home.”
—Allison Calhoun (’14)

Calendar

October

25-26 Academy Days
26 Geography Bee

November

9 Talent Show

December

14 Christmas Concert

MOUNTAIN VIEW POINT

OCTOBER 2013

Spanish Camp Meeting Results in Baptism

Mountain View Conference's Spanish-speaking members recently gathered for camp meeting under the theme "Walking in the Spirit" ("Andando En El Espiritu"). Miguel Adonia, guest speaker, encouraged attendees to have a closer walk with the Creator. He also shared how prayer, in-depth Bible study and sharing with others can lead us to walking in the Spirit.

Over the weekend, Larry Boggess, conference president, ordained José Fuentés and Quelman Quiróz, as elders of the Moorefield Spanish church in Moorefield, W.Va.

People seemed especially impacted by the available prayer room. "We participated in united prayer and it was a blessing," said Walter Cárdenas, Multilingual Ministries coordinator. "You could hear the people confessing and praising God for all He has done for them. At the end of each prayer session, you could see tears of joy rolling down people's cheeks."

On Sabbath afternoon during a hike, the group stopped at a creek where Abida López was baptized into the Moorefield Spanish church.



12 See Improvements at Wellness Camp

At the beginning of Mountain View Conference's Wellness Camp this year, the 12 campers faced the following ailments: diabetes, addictions, depression, hemorrhoids, elevated cholesterol, obesity and more. After 10 days at the camp, there was an average weight loss of more than 6 pounds, an average blood sugar drop of 14 points, an average cholesterol drop of more

than 38 percent and an average hsCRP (indicator of inflammation in the heart muscle and arteries) drop of 29 percent.

The guests began their camp experience by setting a goal of walking one mile at the fastest pace they felt comfortable doing. They did this same walk after 10 days on a plant-based diet, plenty of water and exercise. For those who were originally unable to walk the whole mile, on average they quickened their pace by two minutes. The three who were able to complete the whole mile at first, increased their distance by 73 percent.

The one person who only walked 527 feet at the beginning of camp actually completed the mile after the 10-day program. She shared that she experienced no shortness of breath or pain after the program, unlike with her first walk when she had shortness of breath and a lot of pain.

Next year's wellness camp will be held from August 24 to September 5.—Daniel Morikone



Daniel Morikone, wellness camp director, congratulates James Strawderman for his achievements.

Braxton Member Shares How She Returned Home

Becky Shock got rebaptized this summer during camp meeting at the Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, Va. Now, officially a member of the Braxton church in Gassaway, W.Va., Shock says she sees how God has guided her life.

Shock grew up in Baltimore, but eventually her family moved to West Virginia, where she met Pat Ridpath, a member of the Buckhannon (W.Va.) church. Ridpath invited Shock to her home for a Bible study, and Shock became a baptized member of the Buckhannon church at the age of 15.

After some time, Shock lost her transportation to church, and was caught up in a life of partying and broken relationships, but she continued to pray for God's guidance. After the birth of her daughter, she started attending the Braxton church, where her mother and daughter were baptized.

During one especially difficult time in her life, Shock said she felt unwanted and that no one loved her. She picked up the book *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing* and "all of a sudden, I knew without a doubt [that] God loved me more than I could ever compre-

hend!" She knew she needed to return to church. Though she had no vehicle, God worked miracles to give her transportation to church, and in February of this year, Shock began attending services once again at the Buckhannon church.

Ridpath then wrote to Betty Frame at the Braxton church, asking if she would mail Shock an extra quarterly. Frame mailed her the lessons with a friendly note inviting her to church. One Sabbath, Shock was driving to the church at Buckhannon when she heard a voice tell her to go to Gassaway. When she came to the fork in the road, she chose the direction toward Gassaway and the Braxton church. At the end of the church service there, Shock heard that still small voice say, "They need you here." She replied, "Here am I." The very next Sabbath, she knew she was home.

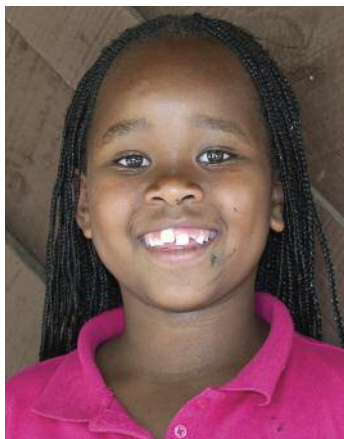
—Angelina Dickson and Valerie Morikone



Got Any Soul-Winning Tips to Share?



"Tell others about Jesus and what He has done for me ... Invite a friend to church."
—Hannah Spitalsky, age 15, a member of the Romney (W.Va.) church



"I like to [be a colporteur] and to pass out Vacation Bible School invitations."
—Toto Shiow, age 7, a member of the Glenville (W.Va.) church



"Church members can only be involved in soul-winning if they themselves have experienced Jesus and have truly been 'born again.' The excitement of what Christ has done for us [will] flow 'through us' in a natural way."
—Diane Gregg, a member of the Grafton (W.Va.) church

"Sharing the gospel by handing out literature and [by] just the way we live our lives."
—Luther Young, a member of the East Pea Ridge church in Huntington, W.Va.



SPIRIT

MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

OCTOBER 2013

Students Start Year With Hideaway Day



Mount Vernon Academy (MVA) started the school year by bringing back the old tradition of Hideaway Day, the equivalent of an outdoor church, at the Mohican State Park. Rather than start the year off with another busy weekend packed with activities, school leaders wanted students to experience God in the natural environment of His own creation.

Throughout the day, students were blessed with an outdoor, student-led Sabbath School discussion, singing, some inspiring words from the school's principal, Daniel Kittle, and a hike. "It is our hope that the day paved the way for all MVA students and staff

to ground the school year in their relationship with God and the confidence they can have as a person who is created and formed by Him," said Paul Torchia, assistant boys dean.

MVA Adopts Bullying Prevention Program

MVA staff are taking proactive steps to stop and prevent bullying by adopting the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, the first school in the Columbia Union Conference to do so. This research-based, schoolwide "system-change" program has been used successfully in schools all over the country and around the world with positive results.

The program is not a curriculum that students participate in for only a few weeks. Rather, it is a coordinated effort by all the adults in the school to supervise and intervene when any bullying happens. As part of the program, students participate in weekly class meetings to learn about the effects of bullying, what they can do about it and how they can work with adults at school to put a stop to it, even as bystanders.

Daniel Kittle (pictured, center), principal, said, "This type of program is about changing the whole school climate to make it a safer, more positive place to learn."



New Development Director Named



Paul Mikov was recently named MVA's new development director. He was most recently a visiting scholar at Columbia University in New York, as well as an executive advisor for policy and external affairs of a European foundation. Prior to that, he spent 10 years in senior management and leadership at World Vision International (WVI), a Christian development and humanitarian organization. In his last six years there, he served as director of WVI's New York office and their main United Nations' representative. He also served for eight years as a pastor in the Southern California Conference.

Mikov holds two master's degrees and is working on a Doctor of Philosophy at Fuller Theological Seminary. He is married to Narcisa, and they are proud parents of Nicole Mikov, who is in the sixth grade.

SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY.ORG

CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

OCTOBER 2013

Sophomore Baptized on Mission Trip



When Ani Klein (right), a sophomore at Spring Valley Academy (SVA), decided to go on the Ohio Conference youth mission trip to Romania, the last thing she expected was to be baptized. Some 30 young people, under the direction of Steve Carlson, conference Youth Ministries director, spent two weeks building a church and running a Vacation Bible School program for the community.

Klein's grandmother, Alice Botelho, had been saving for many years in hopes of one day going on a mission trip; however, she soon realized this was her granddaughter's chance to fulfill her own dream. So, Klein and fellow schoolmate, senior Nancy Kardos-Moldavan, were blessed as they labored alongside local church members during the day and led out in VBS each evening.

On Sabbath Klein decided she would like to be baptized in the unfinished baptistery, so they filled it with river water and chaperone Ben Moushon, from the Kettering church, performed the baptism. "After my baptism, I just felt so light and clean," Klein shared. "I was so happy and knew this was the way my baptism was meant to be!"

Three Students Accepted Into Dayton Youth Orchestra

The Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (DPYO), founded in 1937 by Paul Katz, brings together the Dayton area's most gifted young orchestral musicians. After a competitive audition each year, approximately 100 students make it into the DPYO and the Dayton Philharmonic Youth Strings. They hail from 27 schools throughout the greater Dayton area. SVA juniors Alexandra Papaioannou and Karina Beebe, along with her freshman brother, Jonathan, have been accepted into the DPYO program this year.

This is the first year Papaioannou has auditioned, whereas Karina and Jonathan started playing in the DPYO when they were in the sixth grade. While in seventh and eighth grade, Karina shared the role of concert mistress, and last year she was co-principle second. This summer both Karina and Jonathan volunteered to help the DPYO's outreach program by working at the Ruskin Elementary school in downtown Dayton as part of Q the Music's summer camp. For a schedule of DPYO performances, visit daytonperformingarts.org.



Jonathan Beebe, Alexandra Papaioannou and Karina Beebe were accepted into the Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra this year.



New Principal Demonstrates Servant Leadership

Darren Wilkins, new SVA principal, recently welcomed an opportunity to demonstrate servant leadership and joined the cafeteria food service line. Students were pleasantly surprised when they realized their principal was serving them their food with a smile.

"After a summer of walking lonely halls, it's great to hear the sounds of life come from a school full of young people," Wilkins said. "I'm so impressed with the quality of kids and families we are blessed with here!"

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Phone: (937) 433-0790 ■ springvalleyacademy.org ■ Principal, Darren Wilkins ■ Editor, Vicki Swetnam

Mission Possible

I realize that, for many folks, the work of planting new churches in these times can seem very daunting, if not practically impossible. Nevertheless, if we open our eyes, we shall see the wonders of the Lord multiplying day by day. It might seem that our efforts and results are as puny as grains of sand in the face of an enormously worrisome panorama, especially in North America and Europe, yet God is more than prepared to join His amazing power to the humble capacities of men and women of prayer and faith! All we have to do is accept the call of Jesus to plant new congregations and take steps to revitalize existing ones. This is a call to press forward conquering new territory, instead of beating a shameful retreat.

Too many churches are withering away; their doors are closing when they should be thrown wide open as we energetically proclaim His saving grace and offer lively refuge to contemporary humanity. Home-based small group action and our Mission Caleb program offer the most impacting strategy for working in urban missions (and just about every social setting). This approach demonstrates awakening power over those slumbering in secularism or suckered by the so-called postmodern mentality. Please join us and rejoice because the mission *is* possible!



José H. Cortés
President

Mission Trip to Brazil Impacts Youth

Last summer a group of 13 youth and three adults (some pictured) spent 10 days serving the people of Amazonas, Brazil, by building churches, ministering to the indigenous tribes and teaching the young children. Paulo Macena, director for New Jersey Conference's Youth Ministries Department, said he was impressed by the changes he has already seen in the youth. "It was a powerful experience for [them]. The transformation in their lives was fast and so evident. They came back packed with good memories, new friends and lots of willingness to serve," he said.

"It was a great experience. I didn't want to leave," said Joshua Moffitt, 17, from the New Brunswick church. He was the youngest of the group.



Rachel Danitz spends time with some indigenous girls.



"Now that I am back, a lot of people ask me what made the biggest impression," said Rachel Danitz, 18, from the Hackettstown church. "God did! God used this mission trip to change me, speak to me and to answer my questions and my prayers. I am starting to figure out what He wants from me, and realizing that, with His help, I am capable of fulfilling His purpose for my life. I am learning to say, 'God, this is what I've got. Take it. Use it. It's yours.'"

NEWS

Pathfinder Camporee Touches 700 Youth and Leaders

"Path-Finders" was the theme for this year's New Jersey Conference Pathfinder Camporee held at the Tranquil Valley Retreat Center (TVRC) in Tranquility. Approximately 32 clubs participated in the event. For four days, the Pathfinders competed in skills and spiritual events, and demonstrated all they have been learning in their own clubs.

On Saturday all the clubs participated in a parade then packed the TVRC gymnasium for worship. Three youth from each club made up a choir with 90 voices to sing "Testify to Love" and encouraged the audience to sing along. Guest speaker Josant Barrientos led the youth to make decisions for Christ, and, in the afternoon, four surrendered their hearts through baptism.



Michala Mae Teegarden (above) came to the camporee as a visitor with the Vineland club and went back home as part of the family. "I've heard Pastor Josant's message this morning, and I've decided to give my life to Jesus," she said. "I want it to be today!" After being baptized by Pastor Carlos Torres, she left the creek with a beautiful smile on her face and received warm hugs from her new family.

On Sunday morning, the clubs gathered at the gym for the awards. The GALAC Pathfinder Club from Atlantic City took home the first-place trophy for winning a variety of activities over the weekend.

Conference Kids Learn About Babylon at VBS

The Maranatha Spanish church in Clark was one of several churches that held a Vacation Bible School (VBS) under the theme "Babylon." More than 15 volunteers served about 55 kids (some pictured, above) every evening with games, crafts, snacks, activities and lessons that taught the kids that they have to stand up for what they



believe. At the end of the week, parents were invited to come and celebrate with their kids at the church.

Toms River Church's Health Seminar Draws 100

More than 100 people recently attended a three-day health seminar at the Toms River church. The seminar topics were "How to Live to 100," "Defeating Diabetes" and "Cancer: Is there a Cure?" Tim Riesenberger, MD, MPH (pictured, below), presented each night's topic in language that the layperson could understand and shared healthful tips that easily incorporate into any lifestyle.

Church members performed free blood pressure screenings and distributed free copies of *Vibrant Life*, one of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's oldest health publications. There were also drawings each evening, and prizes, including one-month health club memberships, vegetarian and vegan cookbooks, and Riesenberger's DVDs.

Robert Petronella, the church's community services director, says since this event, the Lord continues to open doors.—Cheryl McCourry



15-Year Conference President Announces Retirement

Last month Raj Attiken, Ohio Conference president, announced to the Conference Executive Committee his plans to retire from current responsibilities. Attiken has served in Ohio Conference administration for 25 years, 15 of them as president. He was re-elected to conference leadership at seven consecutive constituency sessions.

Attiken devoted much of his ministry to nurturing the church in Ohio to be firmly centered on the cross of Jesus and to grow deep in authentic biblical spirituality. His consistent emphasis on Christ-centered and grace-oriented living and serving, and his initiatives to shape a robust culture of innovation, diversity, sound scholarship, community engagement and missional entrepreneurship have received wide recognition and appreciation. His distinctive approach to church leadership, based on the principles of love, trust and freedom, helped create an invigorating faith and ministry environment in Ohio.

Attiken grew up in Asia's island nation of Sri Lanka, where he also started his pastoral ministry. After coming to the United States, he served as a parish pastor in

Ohio for 15 years before being invited to serve in conference leadership. He holds bachelor degrees in religious philosophy and theology from Spicer Memorial College in India, a master's degree from Andrews University (Mich.), and a Doctor of Ministry from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. Attiken's wife, Chandra, a human resource and organizational development executive with her own consulting business, has also made her unique contributions to the ministry of the Ohio Conference.

In a letter to conference personnel, Attiken wrote, "I have savored the privilege of participating in the transformations, advances and expansions that the conference has experienced, both internally and in extending Christ's mission in our communities. It is with immense gratitude, therefore, that I prepare to sign off from my current responsibilities and to embrace a new season of life with passion and energy. Chandra and I will forever cherish the friendships and collegiality that we have enjoyed in Ohio. You have enriched our lives and we feel incredibly blessed."



Family support has fueled Raj Attiken (third from right) during his 25 years in the Ohio Conference, including (left to right) his daughter-in-law, Katie; granddaughter, Gia; son, Marlon; wife, Chandra; grandson, Max; daughter, Christina; and son-in-law, Nathan.

Four Pastors Celebrate Notable Ordination

Today we gather to recognize the call of God on four of our own: Linda Farley, Lori Farr, Sandra Pappenfus and Carmen Seibold,” (pictured, right) said Raj Attiken, conference president. Advocating ordination of women for more than 20 years, the Ohio Conference was recently able to proceed with a celebration of ordination at the Worthington church thanks to the overwhelming support for this action at last year’s Columbia Union special constituency session.

“These women took the road less traveled before it was mapped,” wrote Daniel Kittle, principal at Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon. “They followed an inner call when the church body proclaimed that God did not have women in His gospel call book.”

In fact, none of the women sought their call; rather they followed God’s sacred call to gospel ministry. “I’m not a pastor because I chose it; I’m a pastor because



He chose it,” said Farr, pastor of the Wooster district. “I fought Him and He won.”

Each of the women shared their individual stories of God affirming their call. Farley, Seibold and Pappenfus are all hospital chaplains. Pappenfus shared her journey from a career in nursing to stay-at-home wife and mother, to her reluctance to enter pastoral ministry. “I told God I would go back to school if He would open up the door. Within two weeks I was in seminary,” she said. “God has chosen me. He equips the called.”

Dave Weigley, union president, stated, “I am regretful that it has taken the church so many years to acknowledge this. It is an historical moment today, and I’m privileged to be part of it.”

Joanna Moses, a sophomore at Andrews University (Mich.), represented the younger conference membership they hope to encourage through this decision. “I’m blessed to call the Ohio Conference mine, and those in it my friends,” Moses said. “Unity and equality in Christ. How blessed we are.”



Ohio leaders lay hands on the conference’s first group of ordained women ministers.

Central Ohio Churches Screen 800 at Health Expo

This summer CBS affiliate WBNS held their annual 10TV Health & Fitness Expo at the Columbus Convention Center in downtown Columbus. The weekend featured national celebrity guests, cooking demos, health screenings and more than 150 wellness exhibitors—reaching 10,000 people during the weekend.

The largest provider of free health screenings was a team of more than 100 volunteers from six Adventist churches—representing the Ohio and Allegheny West conferences—in the Columbus area, led by the Worthington church. This was the first interaction for many from the public to learn about the Adventist health message and ministry. They were pleased to learn that programs like the Full Plate Diet and Complete Health Improvement Program are regularly offered at the Worthington church.

“The event was an overwhelming success,” said Dan Thorward, MSN, RN, co-director for Worthington’s health ministry program.

Muncie Jenkins, a Worthington church member, distributes free health literature at the health expo.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER HOWARD

Pennsylvania *Pen*

OCTOBER 2013

His Grace Turns the World Upside Down

He felt like a failure. He had let Jesus down big time. This was even after he proclaimed his commitment to go to prison or die with Christ. He just wasn't cut out to be a disciple. So he went back to the thing he knew well—fishing. But after a night on the water and not a single fish, Peter felt like a complete failure. He failed as a disciple. Now he failed as a fisherman too.

"Have you caught anything?" Fishermen love this question when they've had a great catch, but not when their boat is empty. "Cast the net on the right side of the boat."

It was pointless, but they did it anyway. And, the nets were so full that they couldn't even pull the catch into the boat. Wait. Peter had experienced this before! Just when Peter had to be feeling like a complete failure in every area of his life, Jesus showed up and offered grace. It's no coincidence that Jesus replayed the same story as when He first called Peter to follow Him. A night of fruitless fishing. Then, nets that were overflowing. It was like Jesus was telling Peter, "I called you then and I call you now—even after you've failed. Follow Me." And, He offered Peter a new beginning as an apostle. Peter accepted the call and turned the world upside down (see Acts 17:6).

The enemy would like us to believe that we've failed one too many times or fallen too far for Christ to forgive us or use us. But His grace says that's not true. His mercies are new every morning (see Lam. 3:22-23). He knows what we're made of and that we will fail and fall (see Ps. 103:14). Yet, He forgives us (see 1 John 1:9) and invites us to dust ourselves off and follow Him. Will you accept His grace and turn the world upside down?



Tamyra Horst
Communication Director

Mission Trip Leads to Rebaptism

Samantha Winkler was just getting to know God herself this summer when she landed in Guabito, Panama, as part of the Pennsylvania Conference Youth and Young Adult Evangelistic Mission Trip team. She preached a 19-sermon evangelistic series to an average of 50 people each night. Afterward she smiled and greeted people, but because of the language barrier, she couldn't understand them and had no clue how God

was moving on their hearts. Each night she made an appeal, inviting them to make a decision for Christ. By the end of the series, 14 people were baptized, with 20 more preparing for baptism.

The experience impacted Winkler as well. "Overall, this trip ... was about God and people and reaching them through words and emotions and stories and testimonies," she shares. "It was tough, draining, hot, exhausting, stressful and frustrating. But, what it took out of me physically and mentally and emotionally, it more than made up for me spiritually! God filled me back up, and His love is overflowing in my life! This trip was exactly as it was [titled], a 'mission.' And, my mission's not complete."

As a result of this experience, John Rengifo, pastor of the Chambersburg church where she is a member, rebaptized Winkler (pictured) at the Caledonia State Park near the church.

"We see our young adults returning with a stronger commitment to the service of Christ," states Ray Hartwell, conference president. "That is why we are passionate about engaging our young adults in this type of mission experience."

For more information on summer mission opportunities, visit the Youth Ministries page at paconference.org.



Pennsylvania Family Takes Mission Trip Vacation

Every other year, instead of taking a traditional vacation of camping, visiting family or theme parks, the Madding family travels abroad to share the love of Jesus Christ with others.

This summer they went to the city of Higüey in the Dominican Republic to preach an evangelistic campaign. Tim Madding, the director of Leadership and Spiritual Growth for the Pennsylvania Conference, preached a weeklong series each evening to some 77 guests plus church members. Andrea Madding, a physical therapist, shared a presentation on health each evening. Ethan Madding, an eighth-grader, preached each Sabbath in an area church. As a result of this vacation, 16 people were baptized.

"We wanted missions to be a part of our lives and the lives of our children," Madding said. "When we were married 19 years ago, we made the commitment to go on a mission trip every other year in order to reinforce that. Next time, Ethan will preach a full series."



In addition to the Dominican Republic, the Maddings have done missions in Belize, Guatemala, India and Honduras.

EQUIPPING MINISTRY LEADERS FOR MISSION

Equipping University is a powerful gathering of Pennsylvania Conference church leaders who love Jesus, see things missionally, and feel a burden in equipping our churches in being more effective at preparing as many people as possible for the second coming of Jesus Christ. The heart of God is actively drawing your family, friends and neighbors to Himself. To bring them into a saving relationship with Him, God will often draw them to His church, the stewards of the mysteries of His grace, where we might work in cooperation with Him. At Equipping University One Day Doctor Tim Madding looks at the subject of biblical hospitality and how as a church, we can best prepare for and minister to our family, friends and neighbors that God brings to us.



Join Us at One of Our Locations:

November 10, 2013 Harrisburg, PA

November 17, 2013 Philadelphia, PA

November 24, 2013 Shenango Valley, PA

December 8, 2013 Wilkes-Barre, PA

December 15, 2013 York, PA (Spanish Speaking)

Visit www.EU1day.com for more information and to register

Potomac People

OCTOBER 2013

Camp Meeting Concert Continues to Impact Community

It was a busy morning. I had borrowed the conference pickup to haul landscaping materials. I watched a service-man load the truck bed with rocks, then give me a thumbs up. However, as I pulled away, he motioned for me to stop. He turned off the tractor he was in and stuck his head out the door.

“Aren’t you the group that put on the free concert up in New Market for the community?” he shouted. He pointed to the Seventh-day Adventist Church logo on the side of the truck. I nodded.

“That concert was wonderful,” the man said, grinning. “We actually attempted to give a goodwill offering, but the ushers wouldn’t accept it. They kept saying, ‘This is our gift to you.’ I can’t thank you enough for your generosity. It changed me.”

Discipleship comes in many shapes and sizes. We never know when a kind act will touch someone’s heart, and Jesus reminds us that what we do for others we do for Him (see Matt. 25:40). I’m proud of our Potomac leaders and members for taking the initiative to invite the community to camp meeting and give them the best seats in the house.

Our goal is to bear fruit for the kingdom—Jesus clearly gave us that mission. What means more in life than when we are able to share the love of God with others? We have the privilege of encouraging one another on this journey home. Let’s continue to search for new, engaging ways to share His love.



William “Bill” K. Miller
President

Conference Ordains New Market Pastor

At the age of 16, Reed Richardi felt aimless. It was when he started working at the New Market (Va.) church’s FLAG Camp, and through service to Jesus and the influence of camp staff, that Richardi came to know Jesus.



Reed Richardi, his wife, Jade, and their two children, Josiah and Faith, are making an impact in New Market.

“The best thing anyone ever did for me was to put me to work for Jesus,” says Richardi, now the associate pastor of the New Market church. “At the end of the summer, God provided me with the opportunity to attend Shenandoah Valley Academy [SVA]. My roommate, Adam Williams, was also the Student Association pastor. Through Adam’s influence, I became involved in Bible studies and campus ministry at SVA. [Pastor] Buz Menhart’s amazing mentorship and the service opportunities at academy helped me continue on my journey.”

Richardi went on to study theology at Southern Adventist University (Tenn.), taking one year off to serve as a student missionary. That’s when he realized the beautiful truth of the priesthood of all believers. “I discovered that ministry does not belong to a select few, but that all have the privilege and responsibility of living a life of ministry and service,” he recalls. “My passion is to connect people to Jesus and put them to work for the kingdom. I want to put the act of God’s ministries into the hands of all people.”

On a recent Sabbath, conference personnel ordained Richardi. On that special day, he said he longs for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on everyone, and hopes to help make disciples who make disciples.

—Tiffany Doss

Potomac People

230 Gain Discipling Skills at Second EQUIP Training

EQUIP, a one-day event designed to empower people to effectively lead in their local churches, had its second debut. On August 24, more than 230 members from across the conference flooded the New Market (Va.) church to participate in seminars focused on leadership, technology, youth and discipleship.

"This event welcomes everyone," said John Cress, vice president for Pastoral Ministries. "As we organize it, we explore a variety of topics and try to present ones people find pertinent and are eager to learn more about. Our mission for the Potomac Conference is to 'grow healthy disciple-making churches.' EQUIP dovetails with that purpose. Our goal is to listen to the needs around the conference, then address, inspire, train and empower people to join Jesus in His mission of disciple-making."

Cress told attendees that one of the worst things any churchgoer can do is to be a hearer, not a doer. "The Apostle Paul writes that it is essential to *equip* God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up," he said. "We're excited about the tools and networking opportunities EQUIP is providing and look forward to where it leads."



Adventists from the Virginia Valley gather at EQUIP, where they are empowered to effectively lead in their local churches.

One attendee commented, "This is an awesome event. I thank God for the opportunity to attend, and I'm looking forward to the next one so I can attend other classes!"

The final EQUIP for 2013 takes place October 5 at the Patterson Avenue church in Richmond, Va. For a list of upcoming classes, visit pcsda.org.—*Tiffany Doss*

Southern Asian Youth Host Benefit Concert

It was noon on a Friday when youth members of the Southern Asian church in Silver Spring, Md., arrived to set up for a benefit concert they were hosting. The concert was their way of raising funds to support the Polaris Project, an organization that fights human trafficking.

As the young people, members of The Upper Room, spent hours preparing for the concert, they say they noticed a sense of nervousness. They wondered how many people would attend, if they'd have enough food for everyone or if they'd raise enough to benefit Polaris.

"We were nervous, but we had worked hard for



months to prepare for that day," recalls Naomi Pilla, an Upper Room committee member and the lead organizer of the concert. "Now that the day had come, there was nothing more we could do except place the event in God's hands."

Although the group did face some obstacles—including a last-minute move indoors due to inclement weather—the committee members learned to never doubt God. About 100 people turned up for the show.

Attendees said the local Adventist band Project 7 (some pictured above) and soloist Alisha Thomas inspired them with hope and further encouraged them to help victims of human trafficking. By the end of the night, Upper Room raised more than \$1,000.—*Savita Moses*



The Upper Room Committee: Sarah Singalla, Anu Kandulna, Savita Moses, Smitha Israel, Naomi Pilla, Samantha Singh and Sabina Besra

Sligo Members Give Educational Ops to Students

Anton Dormer, MD, and Yonnette Semple-Dormer, EdD (pictured, right), are a spousal team dedicated to the promotion of educational opportunities among diverse student populations. Attracted by the dedication and hard work of Takoma Academy (TA) principal Carla Thrower, the couple approached academy leaders to offer unique educational opportunities to their students.

Anton is an associate professor of biology at Washington Adventist University (WAU) in Takoma Park, Md., as well as a program coordinator for the university's Bioinformatics Interdisciplinary Program (BIP). Using decades of experience in education and biomedical research, he was able to conduct cutting-edge bioinformatics work with two of TA's 2013 graduating seniors earlier this year. The title of their project was "The Identification of Peptide Vaccine Candidate Using



Professional Enterprises, Inc. She also has decades of experience with special needs children. Through her company, she offered a unique opportunity for a TA senior to become an occupational therapy aide. She was able to bestow the first certificate of completion to Monique Fisher (below, right) during the 2013 graduation. The certificate will allow her to work in a rehabilitation facility found within a nursing home, hospital or health clinic.

"There is a great shortage of qualified occupational therapists though it is a field that pays well," explains Yonnette. "The occupational therapy aides program at Takoma Academy will help introduce their students to this field, in particular, but, in general, introduce them to healthcare settings while in high school."

Both professionals, members of the nearby Sligo church, plan to offer these opportunities to TA students again this school year.



Anton Dormer, MD (background), recognizes Marissa James and Karel Marshall for the research in bioinformatics they concluded under his direction this past year.

in Silico Tools for Diarrheal Pathologies."

Anton explains, "The goal of WAU's BIP is to expose high school and undergraduate students to the cutting-edge discipline of bioinformatics, which can be a part of many fields, such as nursing, medicine, biomedical research, computer science, information technology and even occupational therapy." He says the program also adds value to an undergraduate student's degree when they attend WAU. For TA students, "Having this experience before they enter college gives them an advantage in understanding research and scientific thinking," adds Anton.

Yonnette is a board certified occupational therapist and an executive of her own consulting firm, Semple



Alumna Spotlight: Housen Gives Back

Yvette Housen, Class of 1984, is the co-founder of the prosperous company Housen Homecare, Inc., which provides skilled and nonskilled nursing services to adults with disabilities and children with special needs. It is one of the fastest growing healthcare companies in Maryland, with four current offices and a fifth opening in Frederick.

Housen didn't always know what she wanted to do. As a matter of fact, in high school, she was indecisive about her future career field. It wasn't until her junior year at Andrews University (Mich.) that she decided to study the business curriculum. Shortly thereafter, she



Yvette Housen ('84), CEO of Housen Homecare, Inc., hands a file to one of her staff.



Yvette Housen gets professional help from her brother, David Lewis, who acts as her company's operations manager.

joined a healthcare company that managed long-term care facilities. Housen credits family, which includes several entrepreneurs, for her motivation in business.

Just a short time later, in 1991, Housen started Housen Homecare with her mother, Edna Housen-Kellman (pictured, left), who used to work multiple jobs to pay for her daughter's college education and who instilled in Housen the drive to always aim high and work hard to achieve goals. In fact, at the age of 70, Housen-Kellman opened another business in her new community of Palm Coast, Fla., where she is a member of the Palm Coast church.

Housen recently decided it was time to give back, and one of the recipients of her generosity is her alma mater. She made a significant donation to TA's Worthy Student Fund, the scholarship that gives students of modest financial means monies toward their tuition. Housen also demonstrated her long-term commitment to the school by serving as chairwoman of the Foundation Committee, whose main purpose is to assist the Department of Institutional Advancement to raise money for Takoma Academy.

Housen admits that, at TA, she was an average student, and therefore has a message to the current students: "Your life in high school doesn't define who you are. Know who you are, what you want to achieve and set out to accomplish it. Your goals are doable, keep your head straight, make smart choices and you can achieve what you want and what God intends for you to do."—Asia G. Norris



Unstoppable

Our Office of Ministry team recently launched our theme for the new academic year, “Unstoppable.” Throughout the year, at various convocations and worship services, the team will focus on showing us that, if our lives are aligned with the life and teachings of Jesus Christ—no matter the obstacles, despair and hard times in life—God is always present to support us through life’s challenges. Such alignment will prompt us, regardless of our calling, to give our best effort all of the time, knowing that there is never a situation during which our loving Lord is not with us, urging us on to excellence.

The daily routine of life is often overwhelming and takes us up against that which seems beyond us. However, being unstoppable takes hard work and diligence, which may take on various forms—work, study, time management, planning, prayer, etc. The pursuit of excellence in the execution of our daily routine must be enveloped by God’s strength (see John 15:4-5). No one is born excellent. Instead, excellence is a journey that is developed over time by experience and the testing of faith. James 1:2-4 tells us that trials produce perseverance and perseverance produces faith, which makes us mature and complete.

This is Washington Adventist University!



Weymouth Spence
President

NEWS

University Enjoys Best Credit Rating Ever

A recent report from Dun & Bradstreet, the world’s leading source of commercial information and insight on businesses, upgraded Washington Adventist University’s (WAU) Supplier Evaluation Risk Rating from a 2 to a 1. The current scale spans from 9 to 1, with 9

being the lowest score (high risk) and 1 being low risk. The rating is based on past payment history and the ability to pay or availability of working capital.

“Achieving the most favorable risk rating is further evidence that [WAU’s] financial position ... has been remarkably improved over the past five years and, at this moment, our vendors view us with a great deal of confidence,” said Patrick Farley, vice president for finance and administration.



University Celebrates First North American Print Edition of Russian Bible

WAU’s Russian Bible Translation Institute (RBTI), in partnership with the Zaoksky Theological Seminary in

Russia, recently celebrated the printing of the first North American Division (NAD) edition of the Russian New Testament and Psalms.

Michael Kulakov (below, left), professor of theology, history and philosophy at WAU and director of the RBTI, participated in a dedication service with Dale Galusha (right), president of the Pacific Press Publishing Association. The service was held at the publishing house’s headquarters in Idaho.

“[We] are working on the books of Joshua and Judges. The books of the major and minor prophets have also been completed,” Kulakov, chief editor for the translation project, said. “We praise God that He gives us strength to stay on target with the editorial process.”

Kulakov is currently in the third year of a five-year sabbatical to complete the translation.



WGTS Practices a Different Kind of Friendship Evangelism

It's a Sabbath afternoon and several staff members and volunteers of WGTS 91.9 FM, the university's radio station, can be found in Fairfax, Va., at DC Fest, a contemporary Christian music concert drawing 3,300 other people from disparate backgrounds and churches.

WGTS has an audience of 600,000, and about 41 percent of them are not connected to any religious organization. "Our listeners love the music. They love Jesus but have been hurt by their church," shared Terry Johnsson, DMin, the station's senior chaplain. "So, we have to think of creative ways to connect with these people, [and we do that] by extending what we like to call friendship evangelism, where we meet them where they are."

Where are unchurched people who happen to love Christian music? They are at Christian concerts and community events, and that's where WGTS staffers often are too.

Jerry Woods, a member of Chesapeake Conference's New Hope church in Fulton, Md., and a member of WGTS' morning show, acts as the station's promotions director. "I love my church and I love being a Seventh-day Adventist, but it's not the first thing I introduce people to," he says. "People need to know who Jesus is first, especially when they are addicted to crack or alcohol or whatever. At events like these, we have the opportunity to share some of our message, but it starts with who Jesus is."



Jennifer Anderson and Brian Ducharme, Leesburg (Va.) church members, got engaged at the concert with help from WGTS staffers.

Prayer Lays the Foundation

But, WGTS staffers and volunteers don't just show up at events, they offer something else that people are hungry for: prayer. The station started their virtual Prayer Works ministry four years ago, and each Wednesday a team of volunteers prays over some 500 requests. So, it was only natural that they would have a prayer tent at the concert.

Prithy David, a member of the New Hope church and prayer director at the station's Gateway Fellowship service, said, "Some of the people who come to us are going through some really difficult times. If they are really having serious problems, we'll have either Jerry or Chaplain Pete [Garza] talk to them. ... Prayer is an avenue to reach God. We also let [people] know that prayer is an important foundation of having a relationship with God."

Johnsson says after Saturday's concert, some 2,600 prayer requests came in to the station. "These events really serve ... to remind people that, not only are we there for the music, but we are also there to pray with them when they go through difficulties," he says.

Bridging the Gap

WGTS staffers and volunteers patiently build relationships with their listeners. When they see an opening, instead of inviting them to traditional Adventist church services around the D.C. metro region, they invite them to Gateway Fellowship. The contemporary service starts at 5 p.m. and is held each Sabbath at Takoma Academy in Takoma Park, Md. Johnsson said that because of WGTS, 22 families joined various Adventist churches in the region last year. Read more at columbiaunion.org/dcfest.com.—Taashi Rowe



WGTS' all-volunteer prayer team include Prithy David, Margo Chapell, Natasha Ryan and Milton Chapell.

Profiles in Caring



Washington Adventist Hospital
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
Hackettstown Regional Medical Center
Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital
of Maryland
Adventist Behavioral Health
Adventist Home Care Services
The Reginald S. Lourie Center for
Infants and Young Children
Adventist Medical Group
LifeWork Strategies
Capital Choice Pathology Laboratory

Stay calm — Don't be alarmed!

Our weekend destination was more than two hours away. I knew that we could get away a bit early if I participated in a phone conference in the car. The plan was for my wife to drive so I could give all my attention to the work and not create a public safety risk. My meeting would be done about the time we were ready to stop and get something to eat. It seemed foolproof.

Traffic wasn't too bad, and the call started on time. So far so good.

We were actually making better time than we anticipated so when we arrived at the sandwich shop just before my phone conference was over, my wife (who knew what I wanted to eat,) went in to place our order.

"Shall I leave my keys?" she asked quietly.

"No, take them," I whispered, "I'll be done in a minute and come right in."

Three minutes later I finished the phone call and reached for the door handle. It was locked. I looked around—they were all locked. As a matter of habit, my safety-conscious wife had locked the car doors—with her remote—as she headed into the restaurant. I wasn't worried because I had a key in my pocket (but no remote).

Sometimes the only useful response is to admit your limitations and find the person with the solution.

I unlocked and opened the door. At that instant, everything went awry. The alarm started screeching—as if I had tried to steal something. The horn started blowing—rhythmically, incessantly, loudly! The lights started flashing. I closed the door quickly and tried to lock it. The alarms continued. I looked around for my wife. She was nowhere to be found.

With the horn blasting in my ears I made a dash for the restaurant door, managed to get her attention, and motioned that I needed the remote.

Two squeaks of the remote control and the noise finally stopped. (Most of it, that is: the lady coming down the sidewalk toward us, who had witnessed the whole sorry episode, was still laughing quite loudly.)

It wasn't too long before we were laughing, too. Such unexpected consequences for such an ordinary act—unlocking the door to my own car. The sudden realization that there was nothing I could do about it, short of getting help from someone else. How foolish I felt standing there in the parking lot, fumbling with a key that had been rendered worthless.

Life is like that sometimes. Sometimes the unexpected happens and there's not much you can do about it. Sometimes the only useful response is to admit your limitations and find the person with the solution. Sometimes you just can't wait to be able to drive away from it entirely.

The laughter comes later.

William G. "Bill" Robertson
President & CEO of Adventist HealthCare



A New Era in Cancer Care

Shady Grove Adventist Cancer Center will support the mind, body and spirit of patients

This fall, the Shady Grove Adventist Aquilino Cancer Center will open its doors as the first comprehensive cancer center in Montgomery County, Maryland. Local cancer patients will no longer have to drive from location to location for medical appointments.



receive all of their cancer care in a single, convenient location, allowing them to spend more time with their families.”

The cancer center will have a dedicated parking area in front of the building for patients and their support team members.

Just steps away from Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, the cancer center will house comprehensive outpatient services that include multiple physician specialties and treatments, as well as education and support resources for patients and their families such as a navigation team.

Michael Aquilino and his Potomac family, key donors to the project, have a special connection to the center. Aquilino began supporting cancer care projects at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital when his late wife, Tammy, battled cancer.

“It was a difficult time,” he says, “But the treatment she received at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital was phenomenal.”

The comprehensive services that will be offered inside the Shady Grove Adventist Aquilino Cancer Center are also a source of pride and excitement for Aquilino.

“The caliber of doctors and the collaboration around the latest cancer research and clinical trials will really elevate Shady Grove Adventist Hospital to another level, offering the community access and proximity to top-notch care close to home,” he says.

Centralized Services

“When the Aquilino Cancer Center opens this fall, cancer patients in our area will have immediate access to a facility that centralizes academic-caliber cancer care with personalized, coordinated treatment plans,” says Jane Peck, executive director of cancer care services for Adventist HealthCare. “All of this will take place in a warm, inviting and unique setting.”

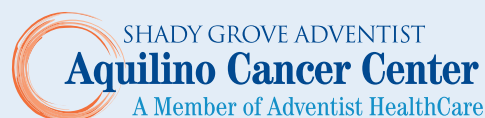
The Aquilino Cancer Center will provide specialty services supporting the mind, body and spirit of cancer patients and their families; physician offices in several areas of cancer care specialties; treatment options including radiation therapy, chemotherapy and infusion; imaging services; cancer navigation services; pain and symptom management; education and resource areas with Wi-Fi; space for health programs, support groups and screenings; pastoral care and spiritual support; rehabilitation; nutrition counseling; fitness activities; retail shop for wigs, prosthetics, skin creams and lotions; and a café.

Peck says, “By offering a wide range of resources and services at the Aquilino Cancer Center, patients will be able to

Medical, Scientific Campus

The latest advancements in treatment along with a holistic approach to cancer care will come together at the Aquilino Cancer Center. The location on a medical and scientific campus that includes the National Cancer Institute will mean that expert care teams, cancer patients and their families will have access to the latest in treatments and research through clinical trials. The Aquilino Cancer Center will also focus on addressing the individual needs of those affected by cancer with an integrated approach to care.

“Multidisciplinary care teams will be able to come together to support the patient,” Peck explains. “Medical, surgical and radiation oncologists, oncology nurses and the cancer care navigation services team will work together, in one facility, with a focus on personalized care plans.”



Visit www.yourcancerteam.com to learn more.

Adventist HealthCare In The News

Three New Members Appointed to Adventist HealthCare Board

Adventist HealthCare has appointed Rick Remmers, Thomas L. Werner and Donald Melnick, M.D., MACP, to its Board of Trustees for three-year terms ending March 2016.

“Adventist HealthCare is blessed to have these accomplished individuals join our Board,” says William G. “Bill” Robertson, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare. “I look forward to working with them as we continue our mission of improving the health of people and communities through a ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing.”

Adventist HealthCare is the first and largest health system in Montgomery County, Maryland, and the largest provider of community benefit programs and charity care in the county.

Remmers, Werner and Dr. Melnick all come to the board as active members of the Seventh-day Adventist church and are highly regarded for their years of leading church and health-care organizations.



Rick Remmers

“I am honored to take on this role and to support Adventist HealthCare as it provides services to our growing region,” says Remmers, president of the Chesapeake Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

As president, Remmers oversees 79 congregations, servicing more than 14,000 members. In addition, he holds membership on numerous boards including the Columbia Union Conference Board of Education, the

Washington Adventist University Board of Trustees and the Mid-Atlantic Adventist HealthCare Board of Directors.



Thomas L. Werner

where he served as president for six years. Werner also holds positions on several boards including the Adventist Health System Board of Directors and the Adventist Health System Executive Board.

“I am pleased to share my previous hospital experience to the Adventist HealthCare Board of Trustees so that we can work together in providing compassionate, whole-person care,” Werner says.

Dr. Melnick currently serves as president of the National Board of Medical Examiners. He focuses on improving the quality of care provided to patients through effective assessment of clinicians.

“I am excited for the opportunity to be a part of the Board of Trustees and to assist the organization in continuing to provide high-quality health-care services,” Dr. Melnick says.



Donald Melnick, M.D., MACP

Hospitals Ranked Among Top by ‘U.S. News & World Report’

Washington Adventist Hospital and Shady Grove Adventist Hospital — both part of Adventist HealthCare — have been recognized as top hospitals in the region by “U.S. News & World Report.” Of the more than 50 hospitals listed in the Washington, D.C. area, Washington Adventist ranked 7th and Shady Grove Adventist ranked 11th.

“I commend the Washington Adventist Hospital team on achieving these prestigious distinctions,” says Joyce Newmyer, hospital president. “These rankings reflect the high-quality and compassionate care that our physicians, nurses and staff provide to the community every day.”

The “U.S. News” rankings, released in July, were based on a number of adult specialties. Washington Adventist Hospital was recognized as high-performing in six areas: Cardiology & Heart Surgery, Diabetes & Endocrinology, Neurology & Neurosurgery, Gastroenterology & Gastrointestinal Surgery, Geriatrics and Nephrology. Shady Grove Adventist Hospital ranked as high-performing in: Neurology & Neurosurgery, Gastroenterology & Gastrointestinal Surgery, Geriatrics and Nephrology.

“I want to congratulate the Shady Grove Adventist Hospital team on these outstanding recognitions,” says John Sackett, hospital president. “These achievements are living examples of how we are fulfilling our mission to demonstrate God’s care by improving the health of people and communities through a ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing.”

Follow us for news and health tips at
blog.adventisthealthcare.com

Una nueva era en el tratamiento del cáncer

El centro oncológico de Shady Grove Adventist fortalecerá la mente, el cuerpo y el espíritu de los pacientes

Este otoño, el Aquilino Cancer Center de Shady Grove Adventist abrirá sus puertas como el primer centro oncológico integral en el condado de Montgomery, Maryland. Los pacientes de cáncer de la localidad ya no tendrán que trasladarse de un lugar a otro para acudir a sus citas médicas.

A pocos pasos de Shady Grove Adventist Hospital en Rockville, el centro oncológico albergará servicios integrales para pacientes ambulatorios que comprenden múltiples especialidades y tratamientos médicos, así como recursos educativos y de apoyo que incluyen un equipo de navegación.

Michael Aquilino y su familia del Potomac, los principales donantes del centro, tienen una conexión especial con el edificio. Aquilino empezó a apoyar proyectos de atención oncológica en Shady Grove Adventist Hospital cuando su esposa Tammy, ya fallecida, luchaba contra el cáncer. “Fue una etapa difícil”, dice, “pero el trato que recibí en Shady Grove Adventist Hospital fue estupendo”.

Los servicios integrales que se ofrecerán en el Aquilino Cancer Center de Shady Grove Adventist también son una fuente de orgullo y emoción para Aquilino.

“La alta capacidad de los médicos y la colaboración en torno a las últimas investigaciones y ensayos clínicos sobre el cáncer realmente elevarán a Shady Grove Adventist Hospital a otro nivel, al ofrecer a la comunidad acceso y cercanía a una atención de primer nivel a la vuelta de su casa”, indicó.



Michael Aquilino (cuarto desde la derecha) y su familia se unen a funcionarios de Adventist HealthCare para inaugurar la construcción del Aquilino Cancer Center en junio de 2012.

Servicios centralizados

“Cuando el Aquilino Cancer Center inicie esta etapa, los pacientes con cáncer en nuestra zona tendrán acceso inmediato a una institución que se centra en una atención oncológica de alto nivel académico y la coordinación de planes de tratamiento personalizados”, señala Jane Peck, directora ejecutiva de los servicios de atención del cáncer de Adventist HealthCare. “Todo esto se llevará a cabo en un ambiente cálido, acogedor y único”.

Aquilino Cancer Center ofrecerá servicios especializados de apoyo y fortalecimiento para la mente, el cuerpo y el espíritu de los pacientes que padecen cáncer y sus familias: consultorios médicos en diversas áreas de especialidades de atención oncológica; opciones de tratamiento que incluyen terapia de radiación, quimioterapia e infusión; servicios de exploración por imágenes (PET-CT); servicios de navegación para el cáncer; control del dolor y los síntomas; área de educación y recursos con Wi-Fi; espacios para programas de

salud, grupos de apoyo y exámenes de selección; atención pastoral y apoyo espiritual; rehabilitación; asesoramiento nutricional; actividades de acondicionamiento físico; establecimiento comercial de venta de pelucas, prótesis, cremas para la piel y lociones; y un café.

“Al ofrecer una amplia gama de recursos y servicios en el Aquilino Cancer Center”, manifiesta Peck, “los pacientes podrán recibir la totalidad de su tratamiento oncológico en una sola y práctica ubicación, lo que les permite pasar más tiempo con su familia”.

Campus médico y científico

Aquilino Cancer Center será el punto de unión entre los últimos avances en tratamiento y un enfoque integral en la atención del cáncer. Su ubicación en un campus médico y científico que incluye al National Cancer Institute significará que los equipos de expertos en la atención, los pacientes con cáncer y sus familias tendrán acceso a lo último en tratamientos e investigación a través de ensayos clínicos. El Aquilino Cancer Center también se centrará en abordar las necesidades individuales de las personas afectadas por el cáncer mediante un enfoque integrado a la atención.

“Los equipos de atención multidisciplinarios podrán unirse para apoyar al paciente”, explica Peck. “Los oncólogos médicos, quirúrgicos y radioterapeutas, las enfermeras de oncología y el equipo de servicios de navegación para la atención oncológica trabajarán juntos, en una misma instalación, centrados en los planes de atención personalizada”.

Visite www.yourcancerteam.com para obtener más información.



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MISCELLANEOUS

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TRAVEL/VACATION

JOIN OUR ADVENTIST GROUP: seven-day cruise to Roatan, Honduras; Belize City, Belize; Costa Maya and Cozumel, Mexico. From Tampa, Fla., on Norwegian Dawn, Feb. 16, 2014. Adventist service on ship. Foll Travel, 1739 Orangewood Place, Avon Park, FL 33825. Ph: (863) 453-7196, or email: bobkatfoll@embarqmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

50TH ANNIVERSARY

HOMECOMING for Hamilton Seventh-day Church, 3570 Hamilton-Middletown Rd., Hamilton, OH 45011. Former pastors, members and friends, please join us Sabbath, Dec. 7, all day, beginning at 10 a.m. Guests include Raj Attiken, Lonnie Melashenko (speakers) and much more. RSVP or questions, email Dianne, prayerrequest09@hotmail.com.

OBITUARIES

HORSLEY, Margaret Elizabeth, MD, MPH, born November 4, 1922, in Calcutta, India, to Alfred and Bertha Youngberg, who were missionaries, preachers and teachers; died July 2, 2013. The family moved from India to South Dakota when she was 11 years old, and as a minister's family, they moved frequently. On Christmas day in 1934, they left for Harlingen, Texas, where they lived the longest in the states and where Margaret was perhaps the happiest. If any one place were to be singled out as "home" this was it. In 1941 the family moved to Saugus, Mass., and Margaret graduated from South Lancaster Academy (Mass.), and attended Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster (then a two-year college) and she finished at Columbia Union College, now Washington Adventist University, in Takoma Park, Md. She sold religious books all summers to pay her way through college and medical school at Loma Linda University in California. One summer she had the highest sales of any student colporteur in the North American Division. While completing medical school, she met and

Sunset Calendar					
	Oct 4	Oct 11	Oct 18	Oct 25	Nov 1
Baltimore	6:45	6:35	6:24	6:15	6:06
Cincinnati	7:17	7:06	6:56	6:46	6:38
Cleveland	7:05	6:53	6:42	6:32	6:23
Columbus	7:11	7:00	6:49	6:39	6:30
Jersey City	6:35	6:23	6:13	6:03	5:53
Norfolk	6:45	6:35	6:25	6:16	6:08
Parkersburg	7:05	6:54	6:44	6:34	6:26
Philadelphia	6:39	6:28	6:18	6:08	5:59
Pittsburgh	6:58	6:47	6:36	6:27	6:18
Reading	6:42	6:31	6:20	6:11	6:02
Richmond	6:50	6:39	6:30	6:21	6:12
Roanoke	7:00	6:49	6:40	6:31	6:23
Toledo	7:12	7:01	6:50	6:39	6:30
Trenton	6:38	6:26	6:16	6:06	5:57
Wash., D.C.	6:47	6:37	6:26	6:17	6:08

married Ernie Horsley, who was then completing his residency. After completing their training, they put in a request to do missionary work and got an appointment to go to Puerto Rico. After five years in mission service, they moved to Paradise Valley Adventist Hospital in San Diego, Calif., and later to private practice in Inglewood, Calif. There they were asked to join the staff of the New England Memorial Hospital in Stoneham, Mass., where they happily spent the rest of their careers. In 2003 they moved to Fort Worth, Texas, where they lived close by their daughter, Sheila and her family. Margaret was a member of the Fort Worth (Texas) church. Besides being one of the first board-certified women in the field of ophthalmology, and did the original glaucoma research showing the benefit of screening everyone over the age of 40, especially African-Americans, this was the lead article in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, March 15, 1958, and was also covered in a *Life Magazine* article that same year. She raised seven children, six of who became physicians. She was a very well rounded wife, mother, homemaker; a church deacon, and Pathfinder Master Guide; and an author. Margaret came from poverty and did much hard work, earning her way through a Christian education, and subsequently spent her life in service

to God, family and country. She is survived by her sister, Olive, and her husband, Ari Hoogenboom; her brother, John Youngberg and his wife, Millie; her seven children, Will of Massachusetts, Brooks of Kentucky, Ross and daughter-in-law, Diane, of New York, Sterling of Texas, Joshua of California, Sheila and son-in-law Carl Hubbell of Texas, and Heidi of Texas; 20 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Kay Horsley, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernie, and brothers Stephen, Russell and Gordon Youngberg.

HOUSE, Harry R., Jr.

born January 17, 1928, in Port Allegheny, Pa.; died June 1, 2013, in Clemson, S.C. He was an active member of the Westminster (S.C.) church and a member of the Board of the Poplar Springs Church School in Westminster, S.C. He was a graduate of Takoma Academy and Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University), both in Takoma Park, Md. He was a longtime member of the Takoma Park church before retiring to South Carolina in the late 1990s. He was a teacher and guidance counselor in the Prince Georges County, Md., school system, and in 1957 began his tenure at the General Conference Insurance Services, located in

Bulletin Board

Takoma Park, now Adventist Risk Management (ARM) located in Silver Spring, Md. Over the next 13 years, he lent his expertise to executive management of the church's insurance operations. Even after leaving ARM for opportunities outside of denominational employment, Harry maintained his ARM connection by serving on the Board of Directors until the mid-1990s. He also served for more than 20 years as chair of the John Nevins Andrews School Board in Takoma Park; member of the Board of Trustees of Washington Adventist University and vice chairman of the Board of Trustees of Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Gaithersburg, Md. He was a key promoter of Christian education throughout his life and found delight in helping sponsor many students in their pursuit of a Christian education. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Dorothy H. House of Clemson; one sister, Joanna Crowe of Westminster, S.C.; and four nieces.

LUCHT, Russell G., born August 13, 1932, in Mequon, Wis., to the late Arthur and Mathilda (Krause) Lucht, Sr.; died June 29, 2013, at his home in Gambier, Ohio, surrounded by his family. Russell earned his BA in Religion from Andrews University in Michigan. He served as a minister for 15 years, retiring in 1995 after 26 years as secretary and treasurer of the

Ohio Conference in Mount Vernon, Ohio. He cherished the quality of time he spent with his children and grandchildren and always looked forward to the next family vacation. He enjoyed horses and taking care of his vegetable and flower garden. Russell was a past member of the Rotary Club and was a member of the Mount Vernon Hill church in Mount Vernon, Ohio. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dorothy Jean Jones, whom he married in 1953; two sons, Stephen (Peggy) Lucht of Springboro, Ohio, and D. Todd Lucht of Minneapolis, Minn.; two daughters, Deborah (Rob) Hayes of Ooltewah, Tenn., and Rebekah (Randy) Conley of London, Ohio; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a brother, Arthur Lucht, Jr., of Mequon; and a sister, Beverly (Alvin) Kind of Waukesha, Wis. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Victor and Alois Lucht; and two sisters, Irene Lucht and Marjorie Grant.

MATULA, Rosalia Dengel, born May 1, 1925, in Zalaegerszeg, Hungary; died June 10, 2013, in Sheffield Village, Ohio. She was a member of the Christ Our Righteousness church in Moose Lake, Minn. Rosalia was born to European colporteurs. Her father died when she was 4 years old and her mother when she was 16. Engulfed by World War II, she married a young soldier at age 19 and

fled Hungary ahead of advancing Soviet troops. She settled in Mattighofen, Austria, and was reunited with the church by a door-to-door visiting pastor. She attended Bogenhofen Seminary until her family sought greater opportunities and moved to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1956. She was a charter member of the Hungarian church in Cleveland. She moved to Blue Eye, Mo., after she married Frank Matula in 1976. They sacrificed to help build the Kimberling City (Mo.) church. She was a wonderful example of a trusting child of God. She is survived by her son, Fredrich H. Dengel, MD, and his wife, Polly C. Dengel, MD, of Avon, Ohio; her daughter, Marika Dengel Esham and her husband, William T. Esham, MD, of Portsmouth, Ohio; granddaughters, Anna K. Dengel, MD, of Colton, Calif., Caroline E. Dengel, of Avon, and Kristina Esham Clement, MD, of Salt Lake City, Utah; grandsons, Fritz P. Dengel of Avon, and William E. Esham, MD, of Columbus, Ohio.

MAURER, Carol L., born, March 2, 1955, in Mount Vernon, Ohio, to Floyd and Mary (Gosser) Hawkins; died June 16, 2013, in Canton, Ohio. She was a member of the Millersburg (Ohio) church. She married Dale Maurer on November 6, 1976. Carol received her RN degree from North Central and her BSN from Ashland University in Ohio. She worked as an MDS nurse at

Majora Lane Care Center and previously at the Pomerene Memorial Hospital for 30 years, many of those years in the ER department. She was instrumental in starting the SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) program while at Pomerene. In 2002 she received the Holmes County Nurse of the Year award. During her nearly 40 years of nursing, Carol touched the lives of so many patients and co-workers. She was very passionate about education and instrumental in guiding countless people into the medical field, especially nursing—many in her immediate family. She was a mentor and a counselor to anyone and would always go the extra mile to do whatever was right, even if it had consequences for her. Because of her passion for education and to keep her giving spirit alive, the Carol Hawkins Maurer Nursing Scholarship Fund has been set up with the Holmes County Education Foundation. She loved to read, travel and spend time with her family and a vast array of friends. She is survived by her husband, Dale Maurer of Shreve, Ohio; her daughter, Kim (Doug) Watson of Wooster, Ohio, her sons, Seth and Kyle of Shreve; her granddaughter, Tricia Watson of Wooster; and her sisters, Marcella Hawkins (Tim) Bartrum of Brinkhaven, Ohio, and Marilyn Hawkins of Canton. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Sam Hawkins.



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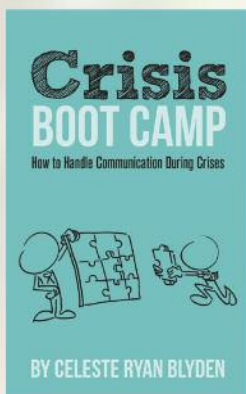
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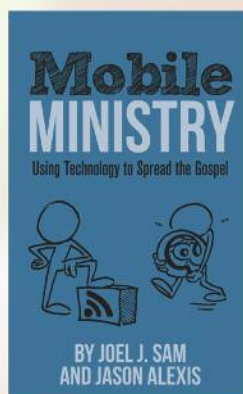
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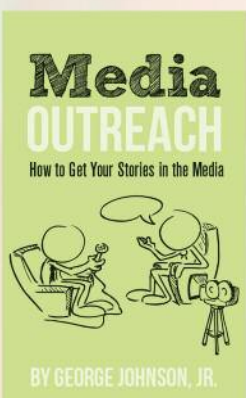


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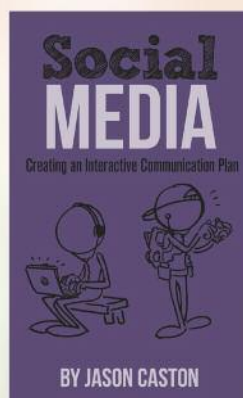
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