

Gleaner

Northwest Adventists in Action

MARCH 2006, Vol. 101, No. 3

EVANGELICALS AND CATHOLICS

UNITED

AT WHAT PRICE

6

14 Call of the Wild—Sled Dogs and Mission Trips | 17 What I Learned at Nordstrom University

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I m a g e s o f C r e a t i o n



He brought streams out of a rocky crag and made water flow down like rivers.
PSALM 78:16 (NIV)

Waterfall Cascading photographed by Gary Haynes of Gresham, Oregon.

Feature

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UNITED
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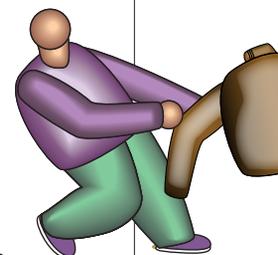
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Conservative Evangelicals and Catholics are coming together, not on the basis of shared doctrinal values, but on the basis of shared moral, social and political values.

Cover illustration by Lars Justinen.



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LITHO U.S.A.

Adventists, The Council of Trent & Hewlett Packard Part VI

BY JERE PATZER

*I*t was the midst of the Reformation. Men like John Knox, Martin Luther and John Wesley had shaken the Roman Catholic Church to its foundation. But a sincere group of cardinals, archbishops, bishops and priests determined that if the church were to regain its credibility and power, it would have to rely on the Bible and the Bible alone for its doctrine and its authority.

The church leaders were called together December 13, 1545, for what became known as the Council of Trent. The issue was debated intensely. Some pleading that the church must elevate the Scriptures as the final authority, while others disapproved, saying the church must rely on Scripture and tradition. The theological battle was waged for 18 years.

A Tragic Mistake

Finally in 1563, fatigued and frustrated, a leading theologian, the Archbishop of Reggio, addressed the council in these words. “The authority of the church could, therefore, not be bound by the authority of the Scriptures, because the church had changed ... the Sabbath into Sunday, not by the command of Christ, but by its own authority” (*Cannon on Tradition*, p. 263).

In essence, this archbishop was saying that if the Roman Catholic Church decided to stand on Scripture alone, it would have to return to keeping the seventh-day Sabbath. This was a watershed speech followed by a significant decision. The Council of Trent voted on December 4, 1563, that the church should accept the authority of both Scripture and tradition. Furthermore, if there was a conflict between the two, then tradition should take preeminence. What a tragedy!

Today Protestant churches in general and the Adventist Church in particular should learn a lesson from the Council of Trent. We face the same debate. When Scripture comes in apparent conflict with any discipline, what must be the final authority?

Observation or Revelation

If it appears that science and archeology do not agree with the biblical literal 24-hour, seven-day contiguous creation or a global flood, then which

position should we accept? In other words, is it observation or revelation upon which we take our stand?

Despite the fact that many Bible scholars do not believe the Genesis account of creation, they do believe two things about Moses’ writings. First, that he was an incredibly gifted writer. And second, that Moses believed what he wrote was true, but he was just uninformed.

Does it makes you wonder, however, that if what Moses recorded was inaccurate, why Christ didn’t correct it? Instead He said, “But since you do not believe what he [Moses] wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?” (John 5:47 NIV). And in reality, Jesus was the only one present when creation took place.

Maybe if Christ were here on earth today, he would say to some of the scientists and archaeologists that challenge the biblical record as He said to Job, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?” (Job 38:4).

So to each of us comes the decision as it did to the religious leaders at the Council of Trent, “What authority does the Bible have for me?” In areas of Scripture versus tradition, we’ve got that pretty well figured out. Could it be that in areas of science and archeology, the devil still wants the Scriptures to take second place? Do I put my trust in observation or revelation?

Could it be that now 500 years after the Council of Trent our church is facing the same test? Today we believe we are so much more sophisticated, advanced, and intelligent we couldn’t fall for the same deception of the devil. Or could we?

Maybe we better ask ourselves the question again in the words of the Hewlett Packard motto, “Do we know what we already know?”

Evidence Plus Faith Equals Assurance

I’d be the first to admit that in areas of science and archeology we don’t have all the answers. We don’t claim to have ultimate proof. But there is sufficient evidence, if you want it, to still believe that the biblical record is true. And, evidence plus faith equals assurance.

For me, that is how I can have peace in allowing Scripture the position of final authority. •



Jere Patzer, North Pacific Union Conference president, writes from Vancouver, Washington.

Did You Know?

The Orion Nebula



Star Factory at the Center of the Orion Nebula

Till Credner and Sven Kohle. www.allthesky.com

Belt Stars of the Orion Constellation

Window Curtain

Pillars of Gas

Mosaic of the Orion Nebula

Pillars of dust and gas

THE ORION NEBULA

Orion is one of the most recognizable constellations in the night sky. The nebula in Orion is one of astronomy's most dramatic and photogenic celestial objects. Through the technology of NASA'S Hubble Space Telescope, we are able to have an unprecedented look at this treasure house of beauty in astonishing detail. The prophet Amos tells us who made it for us to see and wonder at its complexity.

"It is the Lord who created the stars, the Pleiades and Orion.

He turns darkness into morning and day into night.

He draws up water from the oceans and pours it down as rain on the land.

The Lord is his name!"

Amos 5:8, *New Living Translation*

Sculpting the Landscape

Photos by: NASA, ESA, Hubble Space Telescope Orion Treasury Project Team

Source: <http://hubblesite.org>



EVANGELICALS AND CATHOLICS UNITED

A T W H A T P R I C E

Some people have taken their anti-Catholic activities to an extreme extent. This article is not intended as an attack on Catholics or conservative Evangelicals. (See www.adventist.org/beliefs/statements/main_stat42.html for the official statement about how Adventists view Catholicism.) The intent of this article is to alert Northwest Adventists to the unfolding events and movements that are taking place, which were foretold in Bible prophecy and the writings of Ellen G. White. — Editor

On the morning of April 7, 2005, I will never forget sitting on the edge of my bed in a Washington, D.C., hotel room, with my eyes transfixed on the front page of *The New York Times*. Pictured were President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush kneeling, along with former presidents Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush, in prayerful reverence beside the deceased body of Pope John Paul II as he lay on display in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

Even at a funeral wake, it was as if the leader of the free world had abdicated the throne to a deceased monarch—to Christ's so-called vicar or chosen representative on earth and to a system that James Madison once described as "the worst of governments ... [because] in the Papal system, government and religion are in a manner consolidated." As Howard Chua-Eoan, news director and senior editorialist for *TIME* magazine reminds us: "The pope is one of the world's last absolute rulers and answers only to God."

Towering behind them and looking on with reverential awe, were numerous Catholic cardinals, nuns and Vatican officials. They, perhaps more than most, were mindful of

this specific moment in history, when for the first time a U.S. president, representing the uncontested superpower of the world, attended the funeral wake of a pope. This powerful symbolic moment highlighted how far U.S.-Vatican relations had progressed since Vatican II and since President Ronald Reagan's appointment of a permanent U.S. ambassador to the Vatican in 1984.

If there was ever a moment—rich with prophetic imagery—in which the "deadly wound" of Revelation 13 was significantly healed and in which "all the world wondered after the beast," it was this event. More than 160 heads of state and diplomatic representatives, representing more than 90 countries, attended John Paul's wake—and millions more stretched out for miles waiting in line to pay their last respects. Who can doubt the restoration of Rome's enormous power and influence in the world? As William Johnsson, *Adventist Review* editor, summarized it: "Not in the entire history of the papacy has it commanded such universal attention."

The memory of this event has largely been forgotten by the public, but the prophetic implications remain fresh in my mind.

BY G R E G O R Y W. H A M I L T O N





Biblical and Prophetic Backdrop

Since these events, I have considered Adventist interpretation of prophecy and asked: If our Protestant, republican country—founded on the principle of religious freedom—is going to form an “image” to the “beast,” how will this happen? In my search, I discovered a definitive prophetic model: “In order for the United States to form an image of the beast [in the likeness of Rome], *the religious power must so control the civil government* that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends” (Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, p. 443).

In the current unfolding drama, we see evangelical Protestantism and Catholicism in the U.S., along with the Vatican, uniting

to dramatically shift the balance of power between church and state in America. Driven by a thirst for political power, unmatched since the days of the Holy Roman Empire, and inherently joined at the hip with the most powerful nation in the history of the world (more powerful than the Rome of the Caesars), this revolutionary realignment, this apparent national revival, this powerful “image” of Rome, will appear to be blessed by Christ himself.

Revelation chapter 13 first describes a beast interpreted by many Protestant scholars as papal Rome. During 1,260 years this beast persecuted millions of Protestants and Muslims, enslaved civilizations, and controlled emperors, kings, and the armies of Europe for its own spiritual and political kingdom purposes.

Verses 11–15 describe the development of a second beast power that appears like a lamb and yet speaks as a dragon. This second beast leads the world in a religious and political revival or awakening, represented in verse 13 as “fire” coming “down from heaven,” as if blessed by God himself. This religio-political revival with its great signs and miracles has been identified with spiritualism (and/or the charismatic movement) because we are told that it ends up “deceiving the inhabitants of the earth” (verse 14).

Nearly 120 years ago, Ellen G. White declared: “When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, our country shall repudiate

every principle of its constitution as a Protestant and republican government and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions” (*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 451). In the scenario depicted, the stage has been set and the line of no return has been crossed.

First, the unprecedented diplomatic alliance that the U.S. government has forged with Rome since the advent of Pope John Paul II is plain for all to see. Second, newly crowned Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger as Pope Benedict XVI, formerly the Vatican’s doctrinal enforcer of the faith, is offering Europe and the United States some lessons on what he believes the proper roles of church and state should be. Finally, combine this with the rapidly growing alliance between Evangelicals and Catholics in America, and the way it is changing the balance of power between church and state in ways once only imagined, and we can see how our country is on the road to repudiating its constitutional principles.

Pope Benedict XVI’s Advice for Europe and the United States

In January’s issue of *First Things*, an American Catholic journal, Pope Benedict XVI recently examined the moral decline of Western society and offered a subtle, yet radical, change in the modern relationship between church and state. In the essay titled “Europe and Its Discontents,” Benedict applauds the model of the Holy Roman Empire. Throughout the essay, based on his stated belief from the book of Daniel that God raised up the Holy Roman Empire on the ruins of the Roman Empire, he does not seem to believe that it ever dominated the state.

This comes at a time when President George W. Bush, shortly after the announcement of Pope Benedict XVI’s election, had already declared in a speech before the annual National Catholic Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C., that “Catholics and non-Catholics alike can take heart in the man who sits on the chair of St. Peter, because he speaks with affection about

the American model of liberty rooted in moral conviction.”

Benedict proposes that Pope Gelasius I’s (492-496 AD) model of church and state is the ideal model for the United States to adopt: “On worldly matters, priests should follow the laws of the emperor installed *by divine decree*, while *on divine matters* the emperor should submit to the priest.” The model he proposes is not in harmony with the American experiment. Nor does he intend it to be. While matter-of-factly observing that the American experiment in separating church and state has fostered the church’s ability to thrive, the church is not playing as effective a role as it could be.

Catholicism is gaining ground on every side.... These things should awaken the anxiety of all who prize the pure principles of the gospel.

Benedict asserts that the “dictatorship of relativism” has been the foundation of all secular governments throughout history—particularly in Western Europe and the United States—and is the cause of the precipitous decline of values and thus of the role of the church in Western society. Citing the French Revolution as the historical birth of the secular state, he argues that the result was the abandonment and exclusion of “any divine guarantee or legitimation of the political element... declaring that God is a private question that does not belong to the public sphere or to the democratic formation of the public will.” In his first encyclical, released in January, he argued that even though it is not the role of

the church to “replace the State, ... the church is duty-bound to offer, through the purification of reason and through ethical formation, her own specific contribution towards understanding the requirements of



justice and achieving them politically.”

In effect, Benedict argues that the transition to the secular state has caused all the corrupting ills of modern society, and that the solution is for the church to rebuild itself—without threatening to dominate the state (or so he assures)—so that it helps to reshape the governments of the world, including the United States, into governments that officially recognize the healing power of the church. The “dictatorship of relativism,” he argues, is what has restrained secular governments from having a meaningful and united relationship with the church in a way that heals the world. It is, he concludes, the only way to restore God’s society or kingdom on earth.

Benedict’s proposed solution to remake society by shifting the balance of powers between church and state is troublesome. If Benedict truly believes that America’s model of liberty is adaptable to Pope Gelasius’ model of church and state, one has to define what he means for the emperor to administrate God’s “divine decree.” If he is equating “decree” with the Decalogue, then how are the roles of church and state applied? If it is the role of the emperor to administer both tables, then Benedict clearly does not respect our American tradition. But then again, why should he? Neither do many Evangelicals

in America who see no problem with the state involving itself in both.

Paul Elie, in an exclusive article in *The Atlantic* entitled “The Year of Two Popes,” concludes that Pope Benedict will not be a significant pope because he does not truly understand or appreciate the American experiment in democracy. Mr. Elie misses the point. Could it be that just as the new pope has never seen a need to compromise with Protestants on doctrinal matters—citing as he has in the past the doctrine of papal supremacy—that he, like Evangelicals in America intent on rewriting America’s constitutional history and turning the constitutional clock backwards, see it as the church’s responsibility to influence, even compel, through democratic means, the state to constitutionally sanction and enforce acts of worship and devotion (particularly in public schools), acts that we understand are clearly

outside of the proper realm of the state? What would follow? A Sunday worship law? Certainly you get the picture.

William Johnsson states an ever present reality: “Seventh-day Adventists are still Protestants. We protest, as Martin Luther and the other reformers protested, because the more Rome changes, the more Rome stays the same.” And yet Evangelicals and Catholics are uniting as never before.

When one combines the thinking of Pope Benedict XVI with Evangelicals who are rabidly promoting the constitutionalization of prayer (i.e., an act of worship) in public schools, one has to legitimately wonder where this movement is leading—no matter how well-meaning. Is our nation, and the world, beginning to experience the dawn of a spiritual awakening, or are subtle social, cultural and spiritual forces gradually shaping the political and constitutional direction of our country—forces that demonstrate that Bible prophecy is right on target, right on time?

At the Edge of America’s Third Great Awakening?

In a public forum held in Key West, Florida, in May 2005, sponsored by The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, Rick Warren, author of *The New York Times* #1 bestseller, *The Purpose Driven Life*, and *TIME* magazine’s most influential Evangelical in America in 2005, pointed to a significant trend taking place in America. He said there are distinct “signs of a possible spiritual awakening in America” reminiscent of, but exceedingly more consequential than, America’s first two Great Awakenings, characterized by an “evolving alliance between evangelical Protestants and Catholics, particularly in the evangelical wing of Catholicism.” Three things in 2004 indicated the power of this developing ecumenical spirit: 1) the blockbuster success of the movie *The Passion* produced and directed by Mel Gibson, 2) the runaway success of his book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, and 3) the “values voters” who swung this

past presidential election. He observed, “In all three of those, Catholics and Evangelicals came down on the same side of the fence. Now when you get 25 percent of America, which is basically Catholic, and yet get 28 to 29 percent of America, which is evangelical, together, that’s called a majority. And it is a very powerful bloc, if they happen to stay together on particular issues.”

This reflects a growing harmony, and consequently a growing hegemony, of evangelical Protestants and Catholics involving social, cultural and political matters. An alliance of this magnitude is, by nature, transformational, becoming a very influential and politically powerful “lobby.” But it also indicates that doctrinal agreement—whatever supposedly exists—is being largely shaped by a shared effort to defeat nihilistic behaviors of depravity that are regularly advanced in the name of protected civil rights. Thus, what is depicted as a national spiritual revival is in fact political in nature and scope.

Unifying Political Factors

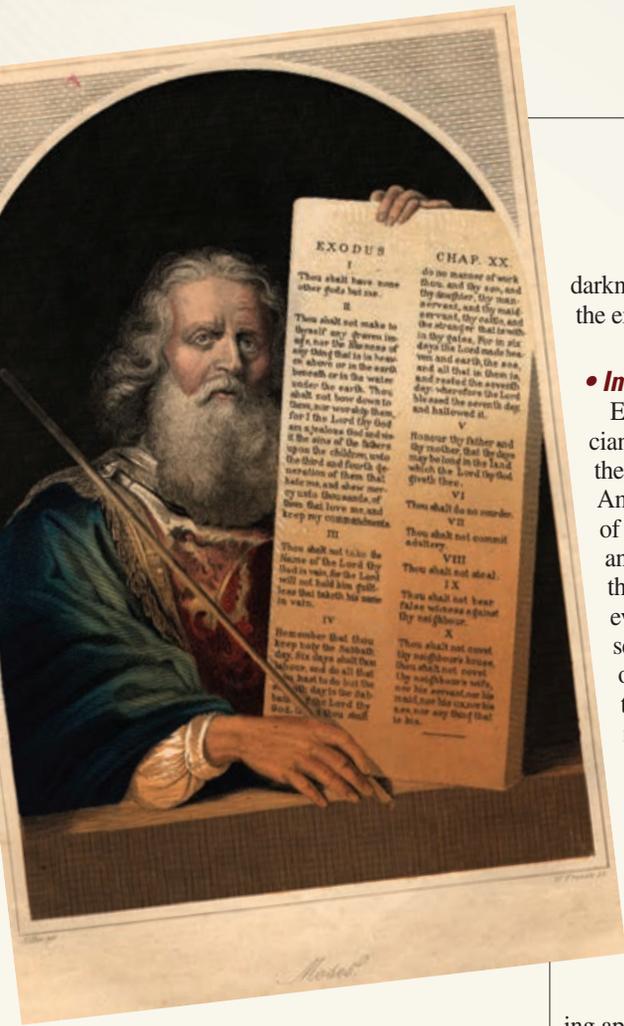
This can be seen in several other important ways.

• Para-church Organizations

Pastor Rick Warren observed that many types of para-church organizations were proliferating across the country and contributing to this sense of “awakening.” Largely independent of denominational financial sustenance, most of these organizations are charitable and clinical social-welfare programs. But many others have sprung up over a concern with moral values and have organized with a specific political mission in mind.

A primary example of this is a para-church organization known as The Catholic Alliance or Catholic Citizenship. Formed under the aegis of the Christian Coalition, it works in league with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, whose stated motto is: “In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue; participation in the political process is a moral obligation.”





It was the primary influence in getting out the Catholic vote for George W. Bush during the presidential campaigns of 2000 and 2004.

• **Political Ecumenism**

Employing the ecumenical mandate of Vatican II, leading Evangelicals and Catholics signed the groundbreaking document “Evangelicals and Catholics Together” (ECT) in 1994. The achievement of doctrinal unity by building on the foundation of shared cultural, moral and political values was the intent. As Wheaton College professor Mark Noll notes in his recent book, *Is the Reformation Over?*, ECT was a reflective response to appeals from the two principle founders of the Catholic Alliance, Keith Fournier and Pat Robertson. Keith Fournier, who is executive director of the American Center for Law and Justice (otherwise known as ACLJ and founded by Pat Robertson), wrote: “We Christians, regardless of our different confessions and traditions, desperately need to become allies to push back the

darkness with the light of the Evangel and the empowerment of His Spirit.”

• **Immigration Trends**

Evangelicals, especially politicians, are being forced to recognize the growth of the Catholic Church in America as a result of the rapid flow of illegal immigrants from Mexico and Latin America. Once many of these immigrants are naturalized, the eventual number of congressional seats will only increase the number of Catholics in office. As a result, the Catholic vote is likely to become more critical in communities all across the nation.

• **Electoral Trends**

Few realize that close to 30 percent of all members of Congress are Catholic, making up the largest single denominational representation. While Protestants dwarf that number—representing approximately 50 percent—the most significant factor is that a conservative contingency of evangelical Protestants and Catholics unmistakably controls Congress.

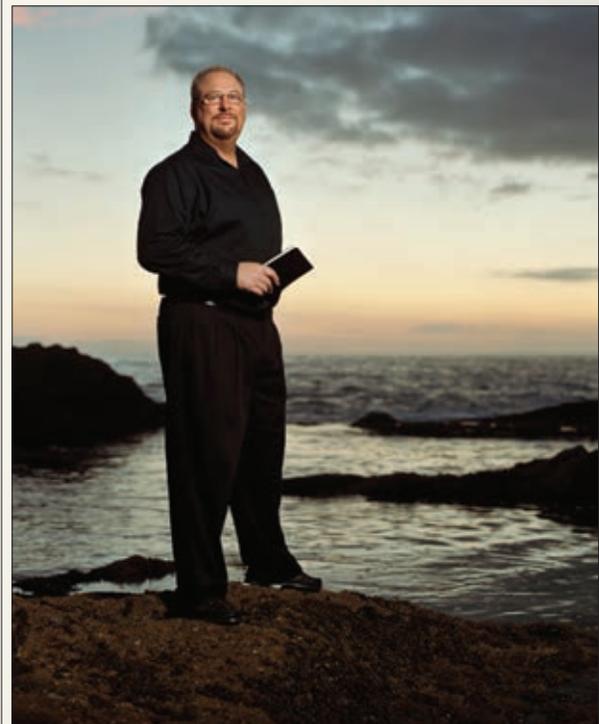
• **Supreme Court Appointments**

Equally significant is the unified effort to control the courts, particularly the U.S. Supreme Court. According to John Green of Pew Forum, this represents the ultimate prize and a source for much of why evangelical Protestants and Catholics have found unanimity on core cultural and political issues. They “believe that permissive judges are the root of much evil in America, and consequently they have allowed President Bush enormous latitude as long as they thought he would deliver on judicial nominees.” He has delivered, and the consequences could be devastating for religious freedom in America, particularly in the realm of Establishment Clause jurisprudence.

For the first time in our country’s history, the U.S. Supreme Court has a Catholic majority—Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas,

...there are distinct “signs of a possible spiritual awakening in America”... characterized by an “evolving alliance between evangelical Protestants and Catholics...”

—Rick Warren



Anthony Kennedy, and Antonin Scalia. With this composition, it is not surprising that the editors of *The Economist* magazine recently dubbed the new court “The Papal Court,” because that is indeed where we seem to be heading—a papal tradition of misapplying the first table of the law of God.

Consequences of Misapplying the Law of God

• School Prayer

One of the alarming things about the “Papal Court” is that all of the Catholics except Justice Kennedy are disposed to rule in favor of government sponsorship of prayer in school under the guise of preserving the original intent of the nation’s founders, otherwise known as “strict construction.” Prior to the Senate confirmation hearings, Judge Alito freely shared with Senator John Cornyn (R-Texas), a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, that he believed that the Supreme Court had erred in its

church-state separation decisions, particularly school prayer. And yet voluntary student-led prayers are already allowed under the Constitution. This signals to any rational observer that more is at stake: the allowance of government to officially sanction, and even enforce, acts of worship in the public sphere.

• The Ten Commandment Model for Church and State

This matter is of supreme importance to Adventists because it involves a fundamental misapplication of the proper roles of church and state. Acts of worship and devotion are proprietary and sacred between God and man. Unless there is a sufficiently compelling governmental interest to deny any specific act of worship—such as conduct that is blatantly harmful to one’s neighbor or the community as a whole—in the realm of worship, no state possesses the jurisdiction, even when invited and encouraged by the church or parachurch lobbies, to impose how, when, or where one should pray or who to pray to. Government sponsorship of prayer in public schools runs afoul of this principle.

However, the state has a divine obligation to regulate man’s relationship with man. Christians, and all others, have a societal duty to demand that government leaders maintain a high standard of public morality as depicted in the last six

commandments, which involve familial and spousal honors and duties, as well as criminal behavior. Regulating man’s relationship with man is a necessity in any society seeking order and peace instead of disorder and chaos. In this sense, Seventh-day Adventists should be champions of traditional moral values.

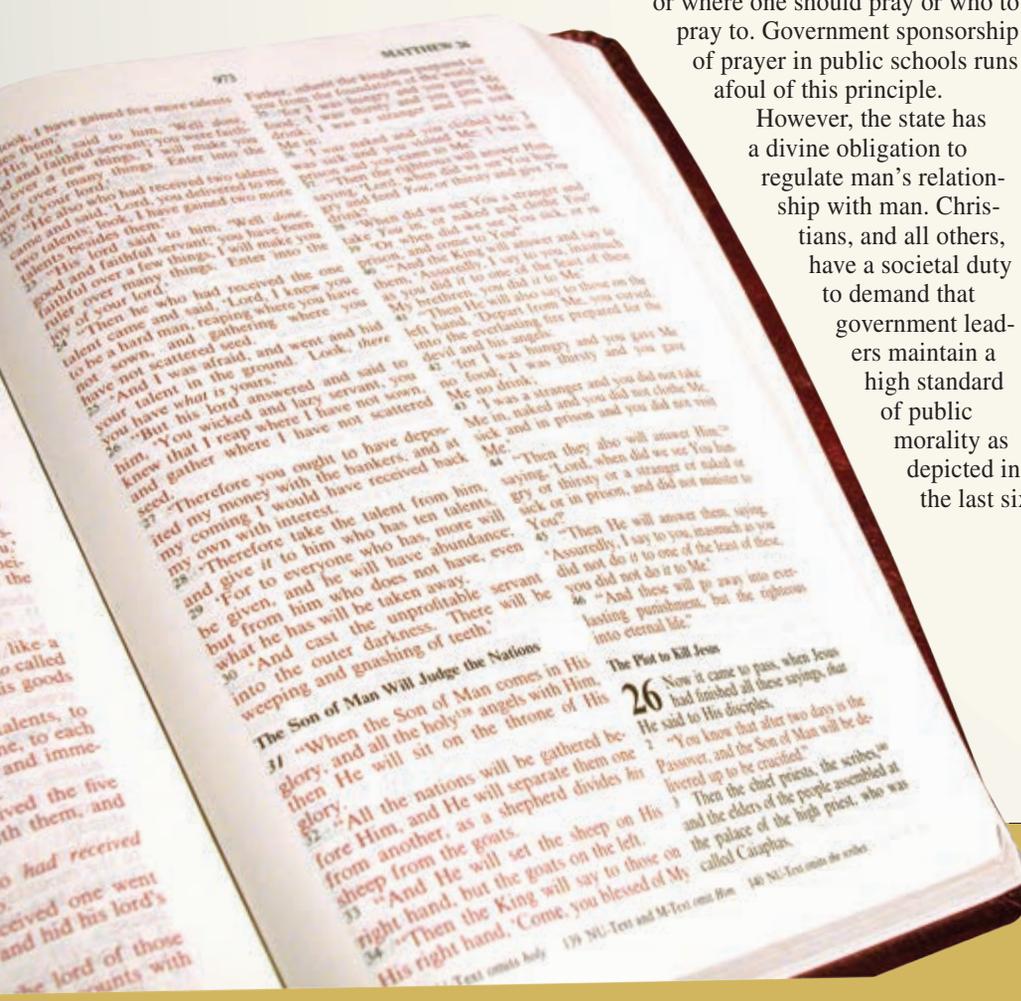
• Judge Roy Moore

Dubbed the “Ten Commandments Judge” for defying an Alabama Supreme Court order handed down by his peers to remove a 5,280-pound monument of the Ten Commandments from the Alabama Supreme Court building, Judge Roy Moore argues in his autobiography, *So Help Me God*, that “The Supreme Court of the United States and lower federal courts of this land have demonstrated their disdain for the fundamental morality upon which our country was established by creating ‘rights’ granted by man and not by God.”

In response, the question naturally follows: Whose rights, whose laws? Who is in charge of interpreting the law? If God, as Judge Moore claims, then the church or individual with the claim to a direct connection with God reigns supreme—potentially despising, discriminating, and persecuting all others refusing to align themselves with their religious pronouncements and enforcements in the public square.

• Abolishing the Constitution

This very spirit is alive and well in leading Catholic circles. Richard Neuhaus, co-author with Charles Colson of the seminal document “Evangelicals and Catholics Together,” once dabbled with the idea of abolishing the U.S. Constitution in a series of articles written by some of the signers of this document in his journal, *First Things*, back in 1996. The arguments were drawn from Francis Schaeffer’s classic book, *A Christian Manifesto*, that if America’s depraved tilt continued to spiral downward, at some point Evangelicals and Catholics, as “co-belligerents,” would need to overthrow their government in order to achieve its righteous demands.



THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY CHALLENGE

FOR ADVENTISTS

Richard Neuhaus is the same author who in *The Catholic Moment* declared, “This can and should be the moment in which the Roman Catholic Church in the United States assumes its rightful role in the culture-forming task of constructing a religiously informed public philosophy for the American experiment in ordered liberty.”

Appeal

“The Roman Church is ... employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world, to reestablish persecution, and to undo all that Protestantism has done. Catholicism is gaining ground on every side... These things should awaken the anxiety of all who prize the pure principles of the gospel” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 565).

We see the growing power and influence of Rome joining with evangelical Christians and the political might of the United States as never before. The predicted three-fold union appears poised to stage the last conflict on earth. The swelling multitudes are calling for transformational change—in political and judicial arenas, as well as in houses of worship. But who are they worshipping? What spirit is directing it? Their call for “Christian unity” is an appeal to strength in human might and voting power, cast as duty to God. Voices are clamoring even now for us to repudiate the principles of our constitution and to sacrifice doctrinal differences on the altar of moral and political reform.

As Seventh-day Adventists at this crucial time, we must bow, not to political or papal powers, but in renewed consecration to the Creator of the universe. He, too, is calling us to transformation: to a renewed study of His Word and a revival of primitive godliness among us. His kingdom is not of this world. We must fix our eyes on Jesus, the true vicar or representative of God, coming soon to end the Great Controversy. •

Gregory W. Hamilton, North Pacific Union public affairs and religious liberty director, writes from Vancouver, Washington.

- **With the first annual** “Ten Commandments Day” planned for May 7, evangelical groups are campaigning to force the Ten Commandments back into public places as the American standard for living and governing. Why are Adventists so cautious about these and other similar movements? Read on.
- **Ellen White warns** that “In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, the religious power *must so control the civil government* that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends” (italics supplied, *The Great Controversy*, p. 443).
- **Adventists support** the United States Constitution which provides safeguards protecting freedom of religion regardless of majority consensus or sentiment. These safeguards are in danger of being removed by Catholic and evangelical zealots.
- **Adventists believe** that while Christians should be at the forefront in promoting Bible-based moral values, they should speak out against judicial or legislative efforts to mandate or define the human relationship to God and worship as contained in the first four commandments.
- **Pope Benedict XVI has publicly stated** that Christians in America, and most specifically Catholics, are now in a position to dramatically influence U.S. domestic and foreign policy to reflect the divine commands of God.
- **Conservative Evangelicals and Catholics** make up roughly 60 percent of the voting electorate in the United States and are rapidly building unity, not on the basis of biblical doctrine, but on the basis of shared moral, social and political values.
- **Best-selling Christian pastor/author** Rick Warren contends that America is on the verge of a third Great Awakening. The question is, what kind of awakening?—a truly spiritual revival, or a move towards establishing religious values through political means?
- **Bible prophecies have been given to us** so we will not be deceived by otherwise sincere men and women who seek through traditional moral, social and political methods to save mankind by establishing what they believe to be Christ’s millennial kingdom on earth.

Northwest Spirit



THE CALL OF THE WILD

Sled Dogs and Mission Trips

MIRANDA CLAIRMONTE, 13, WANTED A WOLF PUP for a pet. Her mother, Jeanne, said “no” and got her a sled-dog puppy instead. Miranda named him Trace. At the time, Jeanne was living in Marion, Montana, working as a night technician and later as a cook at the Wilderness Treatment Center, a substance-abuse treatment facility for young men.

Paul Strahl worked in maintenance there and, hearing about the new puppy, invited Jeanne and Miranda to go for a ride with his dog team and sled. Miranda was instantly hooked. When Trace was a few months old, Paul gave Miranda a harness to put on him, and the puppy ran with his team, learning the ways of sled dogs.

While Paul was raised in California’s Bay Area by a devout Roman Catholic mother, he drifted into a destructive lifestyle. Finally wanting to take control of his life, he attended Alcoholics Anonymous.

As a boy, Paul read Jack London’s stories of the North and was fascinated with the idea of living in the far North and running sled dogs. After his recovery, he made friends with people who had sled dogs and learned to work them. Following his dream to go North, he ended up in Montana, living near the Wilderness Treatment Center. He decided to get work there, because he felt he could relate to what the young men were going through and wanted to give back for what God had done for him.

One day after a heavy snowfall, Paul harnessed 14 of his dogs, put both Jeanne and Miranda in the sled and took off for a run. They had just left the yard when one of the dogs came out of his harness. Paul fixed the harness and again started off. Soon the same dog had another harness problem. Paul asked Jeanne to stand on the ice hook, the sled brake, and went to fix the problem. Trained to run and frustrated by the delay, the dogs took off without Paul and quickly reached full speed. Surprised, Jeanne was able to hold on with one hand and finally climb on the sled.

Jeanne Strahl, right, gives vitamins, toothbrushes, and Sabbath School lesson papers to kids in the native villages along the 800-mile sled-dog trail from Nenana to Nome, Alaska.



BY JOHN KRIEGELSTEIN & RICHARD DOWER

KEYWORD



www.GleanerOnline.org



Jeanne Strahl and her dog team spent several days traveling on the frozen Yukon River on their way to Unalakleet, Alaska, during the Colonel Norman Vaughan 2005 re-enactment of the 800-mile, 1925 Serum Run.

“Whoa!” she yelled, Stop! The dogs did not know those words and kept running. All the time Jeanne was standing on the ice hook, but in the deep, fresh snow, it hardly slowed the dogs. They ran about a mile and, coming to a corner, suddenly stopped. Miranda ran up and grabbed the lead dog and held on to keep them from taking off again. Paul finally caught up with them and asked how they were able to get the dogs to stop. Jeanne said, “I think an angel stopped them.” That was Jeanne’s first experience at running a dog team.

Through working with the dogs, Jeanne and Paul became good friends, fell in love and ultimately were married. They talked about many things, and Jeanne discovered that Paul did not know anything about Jesus. Jeanne had not been going to church, although her membership was still in the Dayton Adventist Church.

One September day in 2001, Melissa, Jeanne’s oldest daughter, told Jeanne that there would be a Revelation seminar at the Kalispell Church. Jeanne asked Paul and Miranda to go with her, and at the conclusion of the meetings, both Jeanne and Paul were baptized and Miranda took her stand. During the studies with Rich Caviness, the Amazing Facts evangelist, Paul discovered that a good friend of his was also a good friend of

Rick’s, creating a bond between the men.

Two years after his baptism, Paul went on a mission trip to India with Tom Glatts, Kalispell Church pastor. On this trip Paul presented the health lectures during the evangelistic meetings. He had such a rewarding time that he would like to go back to India for more evangelistic adventures.

Paul and Jeanne had dreamed of running their dogs in Alaska—even competing in the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. However, they wanted an adventure with more meaning and purpose than just racing dogs. That dream came true when they were chosen to be part of the 26-member team of people for Colonel Norman Vaughan’s 2005 re-enactment of the 800-mile, 1925 Serum Run.

Nome was dying from a diphtheria epidemic during the winter of 1925. The annual Serum Run commemorates the 20 brave men and their dog teams who risked their lives to save Nome. It also gives the opportunity to promote the importance of vaccinations and a healthful life style in the remote villages.

It was this educational component of the trip that Paul and Jeanne capitalized on. The 19-day trip down the frozen Yukon River from Nenana to Nome passed

through a number of small villages. “At each village we would either have an evening meeting with the whole community or meet with the kids in their school the next morning,” Jeanne said.

The team was able to distribute vitamins and toothbrushes along with their presentations. Frequently, Paul and Jeanne were also able to distribute pocket Bibles or Sabbath School papers that were donated by the North Pole Church. “Once finished with my dog chores, I would hand out the gifts we had brought,” Jeanne shared. “You think you’re doing something sweet for someone, and it is handed back to you ten-fold! The radiant smiles, the thanks and the hugs from the children were far more precious than the meager gifts we had given!”

Paul and Jeanne now make their living as contract, wild land fire fighters during the summer and fall and own their own fire engine. Jeanne’s daughters, Mielissa and Miranda, are also certified fire fighters. They have lived in a tipi for the last four years and are building a cabin on their property near Marion. They each have their own sled-dog teams and frequently run in races. Much of their life revolves around the care and training of the 37 dogs and their other animals.

Their pastor, Tom Glatts, says, “Paul has the conviction that the things he does in life should help to share the gospel rather than glorify self. While he has had the dream to run the Iditarod, he went on the Serum Run to be able to witness.” •

John Kriegelstein, Alaska Conference communication director, writes from Anchorage, Alaska; Richard Dower, GLEANER editor, writes from Vancouver, Washington.

Each driving their own teams, Paul and Jeanne pose with their lead dogs in Nome at the close of the adventurous race from Nenana to Nome on which the Strahls were able not only to distribute vitamins and toothbrushes, but also to bring Bibles and kids Sabbath School lesson papers to village kids along the trail.





J . W . W a t t

TAKING ADVENTISM TO THE BIG SKY COUNTRY

B Y D O U G J O H N S O N

By the mid-1880s, the Seventh-day Adventist Church had established a presence in the eastern (Great Plains) and western (West Coast) portions of the American West, but was just beginning to target the more challenging regions—like the Catholic-dominated Southwest, Utah with its Mormon population, and the isolated territories of Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. In 1886, the General Conference assigned the Montana Territory to the Upper Columbia Conference, which already included the eastern portions of Washington Territory and Oregon and all of the Idaho Territory. In the next four years, this small conference with only four ministers was unable to do much to evangelize the remote Montana Territory.

Frustrated with this slow progress, the General Conference, in 1889, made Montana a mission under their direction and the next year sent J.W. Watt to serve as the region's first full-time minister. Watt, much like Elisha, had been called into the ministry as a young boy while plowing in a field. Several years later, he accepted Adventism in his home state of Missouri and soon became a minister.

Watt heard that Montana was a rugged country with tough people that made it a difficult place to raise a family. So he left his wife and six children in Missouri, and, for the next four years, saw his family only once a year.

When Watt arrived in Montana, there was a small group of about 20 meeting in Livingston and a few scattered members around the state. Watt, along with an assistant from Michigan, Eugene Williams, started by conducting evangelistic meetings in the new Livingston Church. Over the next three years they held meetings and organized churches or groups in Belgrade, Bozeman, Como, Helena, Livingston and Virginia City.

One of the Livingston Church members was a wealthy rancher by the name of A.W. Stanton who generously supported the Montana Mission work. In mid-1892, Stanton visited some Adventist friends in western Washington who held fanatical views. In a letter to W. A. Colcord, Watt wrote, "Brother A.W. Stanton has concluded that he has new light for our people, and this new light is to the effect that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is Babylon, and all true believers must and will come out of her. In view of this, he has withdrawn all his financial support."

Dan Jones of the General Conference attributed his (Stanton's) present course more to a mental disorder than to ordinary fanaticism. Whatever the cause, Stanton left the Adventist Church.

Stanton printed a 33-page pamphlet in 1893 entitled "The Loud Cry of the Third Angel's Message" and sent it throughout the United States. Ellen White, who was living in Australia, responded to this pamphlet with a series of articles in the *Review and Herald*. They were reprinted in *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, pp. 15–62.

Part of this message concerning Stanton included this well-known statement. "In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God. As I see what God has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us" (p. 31).

In 1894, Watt left Montana to be reunited with his family and became the president of the Indiana Conference. •

Doug Johnson, Upper Columbia Conference executive secretary, writes from Spokane, Washington.

Fresh Start

What I Learned at Nordstrom University

The telephone startled me awake. “Huh, um, hello?” I croaked.

“Sorry to wake you buddy. I know it’s early, but today’s the day!”

“Really?” Suddenly I was awake.

Within three minutes I was racing south on Interstate 405. No way was I going to miss this sale at Nordstrom.

Mind you, this was no ordinary sale. It wasn’t available at all stores—only at the Nordstrom Rack in the Tukwila Mall. Nor was it advertised. The only way to score on this jackpot was by getting a tip from an employee at the Nordstrom administrative office.

The reputation of the sale was as legendary as the Loch Ness Monster. I had heard the tales, but wouldn’t believe them until I experienced the sale for myself. As the stories went, you could buy top-quality clothes for the cost of a button. Friends showed me \$50 Nordstrom dress shirts they purchased new for one dollar at this sale. Five-hundred-dollar suits were twenty bucks. Tommy Hilfiger slacks? Two dollars! This was no ho-hum sale.

Arriving an hour early, I joined the small posse of people huddled by the front of the store. “Good morning,” I said to the woman next to me.

Too focused to acknowledge my greeting, she stared intently at the table stacked with clearance items.

Glancing to the woman on my left, I said, “How are you today?”

Again, it was like talking to a statue.

Fifteen minutes before opening, a large crowd milled around the outside of the store.

Ten minutes before opening, the people pressed against the gated entrance.

Five minutes before show time, I elbowed for position.

At exactly 7 a.m., the gate started to rise. Both women who sandwiched me in this melee got on all fours and crawled furiously under the rising gate. These were women who were decked out in business suits. These were women who voted for the

President of the United States of America. These were women who needed therapy!

When I finally clawed my way to the table, I noticed the women again. This time, they were engaged in a tug-of-war with a leather jacket.

“I had it first,” the one lady screamed. “It’s mine!”

“Is not!” the other countered. “Give it to me!”

One woman planted her foot on the table for improved leverage, thus exposing a bruised thigh. Meanwhile, the other lady launched a verbal assault of cussing.

The battle boiled until security guards arrived and manhandled both women to the exit. It felt like a nasty episode of the Jerry Springer Show.

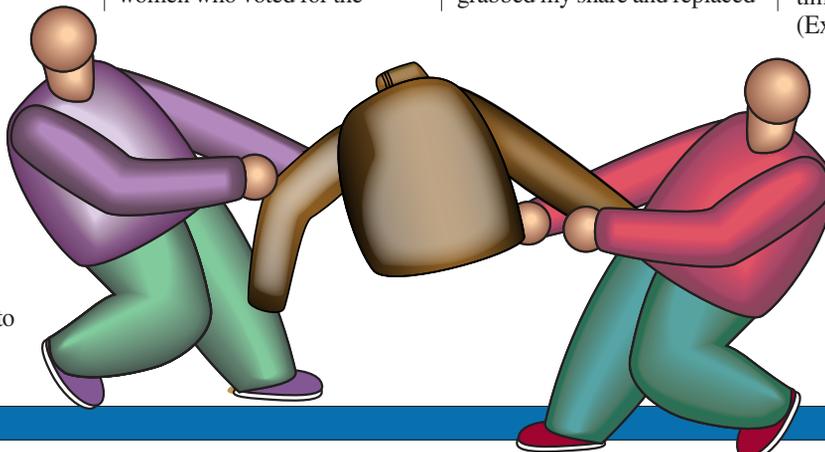
Meanwhile, the mountain of sale items quickly evaporated. I grabbed my share and replaced

my wardrobe for under a hundred bucks. The sale was worth it.

But that snapshot of selfishness is forever tattooed in my mind. Two women, acting like two-year-olds: “It’s mine!” “No it’s not! The jacket belongs to me!”

“Me! Me! Me!” You, too, can live that way, but it’s a dismal way to go. Jesus showed us a better way. He called His followers to recklessly give of themselves and their resources. By modeling the generosity of Jesus, we enter into the adventure of His kingdom. We discover that it really is better to give than to receive (see Acts 20:35). Ellen White comments, “Young people may reach God’s ideal for them if they will take Christ as their helper. Make an unreserved surrender to God . . . Christ can give you power to overcome. By his help, you can utterly destroy the root of selfishness” (Ellen G. White, *Youth Instructor*, 1903-04-05.001).

I think of this lesson every time I don my leather jacket. (Except for the claw marks on the arms, it’s still in decent shape.) At five bucks, it was a cheap education. •



Karl Haffner, Walla Walla College senior pastor, writes from College Place, Washington.

Mission Adventurers Move to Selawik

Warren Downs and his family are the first of the new wave of Arctic Mission Adventurers—families dedicating their lives to providing an Adventist presence and help by living and working in the bush villages of Alaska. The Downs family sold their home in Wasilla and literally moved in January to Selawik, a small native village in western Alaska north of the Arctic Circle. Warren recently reported the following:

We had our “Snowgo” (snowmobile) come in today, about 1 p.m. I spent the rest of the day trying to get it running and home from the airport. Living here is a challenge. Even basic things like heat cannot be taken for granted when you have to haul the oil yourself. Besides getting fuel, our challenges so far have included:

- Stopping a fuel leak in the church, which presented a health and fire hazard.
- Working with the vacuum flush system. First we had no flush in the sink, then continual flush.
- Trying to thaw a frozen sink drain.
- Getting boxes from the mail using a sled.
- Trying to get the Snowgo to start.

On the spiritual front, we have started our Sabbath School (in addition to church) and have had five kids attend. We hope that number will increase soon.

On a positive, yet challenging, note, one of our church members works as a counselor for alcoholics. She called today and said she has been referring people to our church as a help resource. She says there are many people



Warren Downs and his family take advantage of the warmer weather (–20 degrees) to pose by their Selawik home where they recently moved to work and be missionaries to the people in this native village.

wanting to stop drinking who need help. Maybe we need to start an Alcoholics Anonymous chapter here. We don't feel adequate for the task, but we sense the need and pray that God will

give us the wisdom to meet this challenge. •

John Kriegelstein, Alaska Conference communication director

City Council Honors Adventist Member for Services to Community

Recently the City of Sitka declared Jan. 10, 2006, a special day to honor the services of Althea Buckingham, a member of the local Adventist church. The proclamation presented by the mayor cited “faithful and excellent advocacy and service on city commissions and boards addressing health needs and community concerns for over 15 years.”

Buckingham retired and moved back to Sitka after pursuing a career as an occupational therapist. When she became aware of the number of seniors who were abusing their health with alcohol and medications,

isolating themselves from others and becoming depressed, she decided not to pursue a life of leisure but to use her skills to help neighbors.

Buckingham's accomplishments include:

- Being an activist in helping to establish Medicare-funded long-term care facilities in Sitka.
- Organizing community resources to provide activities for seniors, including whale-watching trips, fishing trips, opening the local swimming pool especially for seniors, and health-related lectures.

- Urging the Sitka City Council to pass a first-in-Alaska clean-air ordinance for public buildings. Attached was the stipulation that a tobacco tax be collected to fund stop smoking training for the community.
- Updating the local Community Guide listing community social services.
- Becoming trained to support a future Hospice service for the community.

Because she is still concerned about community health, she has been appointed to the Sitka Community Hospital Board and



is pushing for plans for future assisted-living facilities. •

Clyde Bright, Sitka Church communication director

Gem State Academy Business Club Holds Benefit Concert

The Gem State Academy business club partnered with Christian singer Bobby Michaels through a concert Jan. 20 at the Nampa First Church of the Nazarene. The concert was well-attended and raised more than \$2,300 for the club's trip to Cambodia, where they are working to start a business that will import Cambodian products into the U.S., giving work to new Christians that have graduated from a Christian trade school.

"I'm excited to start a business that will continue

to provide jobs even after we have come home," said Oscar Sanchez, business club member.

The concert also raised several hundred dollars for rice. A ton of rice, costing only \$280, will feed 20 people for 3 months. This year the needs are greater than ever because of a famine.

Gem State students left for Cambodia Feb. 8. They distributed school supplies and school uniforms purchased with \$1,500 they raised,

enabling poor Cambodian children to get an education. They also worked with Bobby Michaels to give concerts in Cambodia and to distribute the rice they helped raise funds for.

The purpose of our business club is not just to teach kids how to make money, but about the good they can accomplish in the world with their business skills. •

Debra McCarver, business club sponsor and GSAA GLEANER correspondent



Gem State Academy business students celebrate success with artist Bobby Michaels, 89.5 FM KTSY program director Jerry Woods, and sponsors Bob and Kay Petrick and Debra McCarver.

Garden Valley Church Burns Mortgage and Consecrates Church

The Garden Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated a consecration service and mortgage burning on Sabbath, Jan. 7, 2006. Stephen McPherson, Idaho Conference president, officiated along with Rick Roy, Idaho Conference treasurer, and Dennis Parks, Eagle and Garden Valley church pastor.

About 70 members and guests attended.

The Garden Valley Church began in the spring of 2001 as an ASI church plant/branch Sabbath School with 13 charter members. The small congregation was blessed with an opportunity to purchase a highly visible property with a single-

wide mobile home and a spectacular view.

"After acquiring a mortgage to purchase the land, church members donated their time and talents to build a sanctuary—paying as they went along. The early retirement of this mortgage, in addition to raising the funds required to build a sanctuary, is a testimony to what God can do with a small group of willing hands!" says Dan Ross, head elder.

Sharing Christ in the valley is the focus for church members who have held a *New Beginnings* DVD evangelistic series and several vegan cooking seminars. The Garden Valley Church, located 50 miles north of Boise, is asking God to provide Bible workers willing to share the truth of Jesus and would like to extend

an invitation to dedicated Seventh-day Adventists to consider Garden Valley as a mission field. •

Dene Sue Ross, Garden Valley Church communication leader



Burning the mortgage at the church rededication service are, from left: Gerry Essink, former church treasurer who signed the original mortgage; Dick Guthrie, current church treasurer; Dan Ross, head elder; and Rick Roy, Idaho Conference treasurer.

TRANSFORMED IN CHRIST

IDAHO CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING
JUNE 13-17

EVENING SPEAKER:
ALVIN KIBBLE, VP OF NAD

**GEM STATE ACADEMY,
CALDWELL, IDAHO**

Astounding Grace!

Two people gave glory to God by publicly returning to the church of their childhood on Sabbath, Oct. 22. For MLE Mason, 82, it was her third baptism. She declares this time it **TOOK**. She is joining the Dillon Church, where she has been attending the last several months.

Dave Segma recently gave his heart to the Lord. He hadn't been in the Butte Church for many, many years, but he also declared his commitment to the God who delights to forgive. We welcome both of these new members. •

Ron Dorchuck, Butte Church pastor



MLE Mason joined the Dillon Church through baptism on Oct. 22.



Dave Segma, who was recently baptized in the Butte Church, is grateful to the God who delights to forgive.



Glacier View Christian School students prepare a Thanksgiving dinner for their parents and guests.

Glacier View Reaps the Joy of Service

Glacier View Christian School students put on a Thanksgiving feast for their church family, parents and other guests. To the students, the food tasted extra good because they had prepared everything themselves and had felt the joy of doing it for others. More than 115 people were served.

An additional holiday season project was added this year to the annual Thanksgiving dinner feast. Students decided they

would start collecting food to assist with Christmas baskets. Their goal was to collect enough for 200 families. As the effort got under way, a few small groups of children from the community joined the project. Glacier View students collected 3,100 pounds of food to take to the Ronan Bread Basket to be distributed to needy families! •

Betty Toews, Glacier View Christian School teacher

Mount Ellis Academy Leaders *Associated Student Body Officers Are Elected*

Six notable leaders were selected recently by the student body at Mount Ellis Academy. The mission for their service at MEA is already being defined. "We are going to be leaders at this school by setting an example of Christ-like character," said Nick Gladden, MEA senior and newly appointed ASB president. "We plan to bring the school closer together."

Gladden is supported in his plans by Scott Norton, executive vice president;



Mt. Ellis Academy second semester student body officers, from left: Charisa Ransom, junior; Garrison SinClair, junior; Nick Gladden, senior; Paul Curtis, senior; Bailey Graham, junior; Scott Norton, senior.

Paul Curtis, chaplain; Bailey Graham, secretary; Charisa Ransom, treasurer; Garrison

SinClair, sergeant of arms.

Gladden's team members also have their individual goals

to accomplish. "I want to see every kid have a personal relationship with Jesus," said Chaplain Curtis, MEA senior. "That's kind of a big thing to me."

The officers, who will only serve for one semester, are already making plans to amend the school's constitution to a yearlong term in order to give future officers an opportunity for greater service. •

Keri Newell, MEA GLEANER correspondent

“Ellen G. White: Past, Present, Future” *Oregon Conference Ellen White Summit*



One thousand people registered for the Ellen White summit.

The Oregon Conference launched its first Ellen White Summit last November to clarify the role that Ellen White’s writings play in the mission of the church and in the personal lives of church members.

Scott LeMert, Oregon Conference assistant to the president, had heard about a similar event that happened in Australia, and he knew that the Oregon Conference needed such an event. “[He] came to me,” says Don Livesay, Oregon Conference president, “and said, ‘It’s time we have a summit about Ellen White to help our people understand and use this gift properly.’” Livesay agreed, and LeMert began to create the program and to develop a first-rate panel of speakers that included George Knight, Jon Paulien, Craig Newborn, and Jud Lake.

Believed to be the first such event sponsored by a conference in the North American Division, the Ellen

White Summit proved to be an overwhelming success. One thousand people registered for the live program at Gladstone Park Conference Center with recordings available to multitudes more.

During the summit, the featured speakers covered topics that included inspiration in general, critics of Ellen White, and how to use and interpret her writings. “The goal of this summit [was] for people to recognize the valid, true gift God has given His church,” says Livesay, “and to use it in a valid, true way.”

Recordings of the summit in CD and DVD formats are available through the Clackamas Adventist Book Center. For more information, call (800) 765-6955 (within the Oregon Conference) or (800) 772-4795 (outside of the Oregon Conference). •

Amy L. Schrader, Oregon Conference communication director

How Has This Summit Impacted Your View of Ellen White?



“It gives me a broader perspective. Admonitions given to specific people at specific times do not necessarily apply to everyone. But I’ve always had confidence in her.”

Vern Pritchard, Bend, Ore.



“It has brought everything into balance, seeing the right way to use Ellen G. White and seeing the real Ellen White.”

Walter Portillo, Canby, Ore.



“I didn’t know too much about her. The information has been interesting, especially recognizing the impact she has had on the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

Vonnette Thompson, Portland, Ore.



“My view was already clear, but I feel more secure. I’m so happy they came up with this. The information that they gave was so easy to understand.”

Zinia Agosto, Vancouver, Wash.



“I spent many years not wanting to read her and not understanding her; but after [Friday] night, it took it all away. [George Knight] made her look like a real woman and a real mother.”

Bill Glassford, Roseburg, Ore.

Milo Pets Lessons About God's Love

Have you ever had a dog or cat to love? Have you ever known the true meaning of "man's best friend"? Have you ever gone running to a furry friend when the rest of the world seems to have turned its back on you that day?

At Milo it may seem that we are denied that privilege, since we can't bring our pets to live with us in the dorm. Imagine the zoo it would create! However, I have not noticed the absence of my animals as much because there are pets on

campus. I can still pet a cat on my lap, play catch with a dog, chase goats down at the river, and listen to a bird chatter away while perched on my head.

"Hitler" is the queen of the girls' dorm.

Like people, they all have their own characteristics and attitudes to get to know. Hitler, the cat



"Emery Mitchell" rules the boys' dorm.



Dean Haley's three-legged "Nicki" guards the boys' dorm.

named for her famous black mustache, is the queen of the girls' dorm with quite an independent spirit.

Nicki, the boys' dean's three-legged dog, faithfully guards the boys' dorm. The dean, Kirk Haley, and his wife Lynda also have a blind cat whose sweet spirit wins everyone over. The Haleys have accumulated different strays and misfits over the years that they nurse back to health. Emery Mitchell, the boys' dorm cat, was found by Milo students a couple years back on a community service day. The stranded cat was immediately brought to our campus home to be fed and spoiled.

All of these animals, despite their physical problems, have been accepted and loved wholeheartedly. In the same way, I have felt the love and acceptance at Milo. None of us are flawless. We all have our own personalities and attitudes that are not always pleasant to be around. Yet at Milo, where

we are with each other every moment and see everyone's good and bad days, we learn to look past the imperfections in each other, just as God looks past our sins and accepts us as we are. He looks at each of us and sees the gold inside. What a great God we serve! •

Sarah Sexton, Milo senior

"Bird," one of the many animals rescued by Lynda Haley, loves to ride on her shoulder.



A Different Kind of Birthday

Touched by the dire need of the mountain people of Kashmir who experienced the earthquake in Pakistan, Kaitlyn Mayne, the daughter of Pastor Tim and Bonnie Mayne, of the Newberg Church, decided to do what she could to help.

She chose to prepare special invitations to her 13th birthday party, asking, in lieu of presents, that guests bring donations for Bagh survivors. When all of the "gifts" were counted, over \$1,275 had been donated for ADRA Pakistan. For more information about the relief effort in Pakistan, visit: www.savebagh.blogspot.com. •





Shock registers on the faces of the children of Israel as Moses raises his rod over the Red Sea. Moses (Jacob Benjamin) was one of three Bible characters featured in skits and sermonettes.

Riverside Youth Point the Way

An angry Egyptian overseer; three jealous, bumbling Persian officials; two gossiping friends; and one man who really rocked the boat.

These characters and more paraded past Riverside Church members Jan. 6 as their local Pathfinder club shared the Sabbath morning worship service. The program was written and performed almost entirely by teens and preteens in the club.

"I'm very happy to see how God is using the youth in our club to be such a blessing to our church family," said Julia



Intent on their work, Israelites in a skit on Moses stack bricks, from left: Rachel and Krista Scribner, Alexandria Martin, Sierra Watson.

Scribner, Pathfinder director.

The program offered close-up looks at the lives of Noah, Moses and Daniel and focused on faithfulness and courage. Sermonettes illustrating the power of faith in these men's lives were interspersed with short skits in costume and a variety of musical arrangements.

Ashley Dole, 11, narrated the skits. "I'm really glad to see everybody involved in this, because we can make a difference in other people's lives," said Dole.

"I liked how none of the kids were crying or complaining. Everybody was just watching and paying attention," added Sierra Watson, 10.

"I would encourage other churches to let their kids get more involved in the preparation and presentation of programs," Julia Scribner said. "It is exciting for the kids to be used by God and a blessing for those who see it." •

Rachel Scribner, Riverside Pathfinder and teen leader in training

Aitken Ordained to Ministry

Friends and family of John Aitken II gathered to participate in and celebrate his ordination on Sabbath, Jan. 21. "This is a high day," announced Scott LeMert, Oregon Conference assistant to the president, to a very full Scappoose-St. Helens Church.

"The calling to ministry is a very, very special and sacred process," said Don Livesay, Oregon Conference president. "We believe God has called John to be a gospel minister for Jesus Christ."

Blended into the church's 11 o'clock worship service, the ordination featured a special

musical piece performed by the choir, a sermon by Livesay, and a presentation of the ordination candidate by Aitken's father, Pastor John Aitken I. Immediately following the ordination prayer, Tom Lemon, Oregon Conference ministerial director, welcomed Aitken to the gospel ministry.

"You see life in pictures," Lemon said. "You create for people a picture of [God's] cause As long as this world exists and you have breath, God has a ministry for you." •

Amy L. Schrader, Oregon Conference communication director



John, Anna, and JD Aitken

Columbia Gorge Has Year-End Harvest

Columbia Gorge Church welcomed three new members through baptism before the end of 2005. Long-time member Nancy Willis has been bringing four young children to Sabbath School and church each week for several years. When 9-year-old Estelle Stedman-Crane requested baptism, studies led to her grandma

Mayrene Crane becoming interested as well. Although Mayrene was confined to a wheelchair and had trouble communicating, Willis patiently studied with her whenever possible, and on Nov. 26, 2005, Mayrene and her granddaughter Estelle were baptized together by Pastor Del Griebel and elder Bill Willis at Columbia Gorge Church.

Mayrene's face shone with pure joy that day. She had found her peace with God, and she was happy to belong to this family of believers. Sadly, Mayrene lost her 14-year-long battle with Lou Gehrig's disease one month later on Dec. 26, 2005, but her name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life, and her family rejoices that the next time they see her she will be running and leaping with joy, no longer confined and handicapped by her disease.

On Dec. 24, 2005, Scotty Judd sealed his decision to follow Jesus by being baptized

Estelle Stedman-Crane was baptized on Nov. 26, 2005, along with her grandmother Mayrene Crane.

by Pastor Del Griebel. Judd has his own unique and inspiring testimony of God's redeeming grace. Imprisoned for many years because of a crime committed when he was a teenager, Judd found God through prison ministries. Correspondence with Columbia Gorge Church member Rene Olivier led to a romantic interest and then marriage while he was still in prison. Columbia Gorge welcomed Judd when he was

Mayrene Crane was baptized in the Columbia Gorge Church.

released from prison several years ago, and he has been an integral part of our church family ever since. •

Rhonda Reedy, Columbia Gorge Church Sabbath School superintendent



Scotty Judd was baptized on Dec. 24, 2005.



Walk and Knock a Fun Way to Help Others

Despite the rainy weather, Dec. 3, 2005, found the Meadow Glade (Wash.) Pathfinders piling into the school gym to eat a quick meal and get final instructions before setting out on the annual Walk and Knock food drive campaign. More than 60 Pathfinders, staff and volunteers set out to collect food items from the surrounding community. Several hours and nearly 6,000 pounds of food later, the club members posed for this photo, knowing that their church Community Service Center's shelves would be full of food again, and that hungry people in their community would have something to eat this winter. One Pathfinder stated, "This is a fun way to help others." •



Fonda Cox, Meadow Glade Pathfinder program director

Outreach at Livingstone Adventist Academy

At Livingstone Adventist Academy in Salem, Ore., Proverbs 22:6 isn't just a memory verse. It's a mission.

Outreach activities are incorporated into every grade's curriculum. When asked why the staff makes outreach a priority, Sharon Dickerson, fifth-grade teacher, replied, "To teach them that even they are able to help others in need." Putting action behind those words, Dickerson's class and Adriel Cook's fourth-grade class collected money to buy Christmas toys for local needy children.

The holidays are not the only time that the spirit of giving is evident. When the hurricane victims needed funding, Sharon Cutz's eighth-grade class took a sweet fundraising route by teaming up with Cold Stone Creamery to raise funds. Also hitting a sweet tooth was Elizabeth Fish's seventh-grade class, which sold root beer floats for orphaned children in the Congo.

In the lower elementary, Daina Winslow-Rogers' second and third graders made a trip to WinCo, purchasing food to help fill

the school's donation barrels. Emillie Hathaway, a second-grader, commented, "I would do it again because it is fun helping out."

Livingstone's high school is also involved in outreach. The senior class is currently in the process of planning a mission trip as their senior class trip. Don Mansell, school chaplain, sums it up best by saying, "They are re-energized when they forget about their own needs and experience putting others first." •

Elizabeth Fish, Livingston sixth- to eighth-grade teacher



Seventh graders Anita Galeano, Jazmine Sequeira and Kiara Larson take a break from selling root beer floats.



Support Our Tillamook Troops

The Tillamook Church fellowship hall was used on Dec. 7, 2005, to put together 125 Christmas packages sponsored by Friends and Family of Active Duty Military of Tillamook County, a personal military support organization, whose motto is "God and Country." The packages were sent around the world to military service men and women who have family in Tillamook County, Ore. The packages contained Tillamook cheese, beef jerky, cookies, Rice Krispy treats, dried apples, popcorn, cider, chocolate, a pen, and a Christmas card. More than 75 people helped in different ways to make these packages possible. Our prayers go with these packages. •

Roberta Grunder, Tillamook Church member

Students Share Triple Joy

Fifth graders at Emerald Christian Academy in Eugene, Ore., found three ways to share Jesus' joy during the holiday season. First, they filled two shoe boxes with toys, warm mittens, and personal items for Operation Christmas Child, an organization that delivers Christmas shoe boxes to needy children around the world.

Next, they planned and presented a program for residents at an assisted-living center in Cottage Grove. Their program included piano solos, group singing, a readers' theater, and several instrumentals. In addition,

students gave hand-colored place mats to many of the residents, on which the students had written Bible verses.

Lastly, students decided to set a limit of \$1 on the annual class gift exchange and donate gift money to Heifer International, a world organization that provides livestock and training to families around the world. Students and their families donated \$200, which students voted to use to purchase a llama, a hive of bees, and a flock of chicks.

"I think it was a great idea," said Candace Joyner, fifth-grade student, "because we were helping people who don't have much." •

Suzanne Dassenko, ECA fifth-grade teacher



ECA fifth graders and teacher presented a special program at an assisted-living center.

Celebrating the Beauty of God's Love

Women of all ages from around Upper Columbia Conference received blessings as they converged on Camp Mivoden—first for the young women's retreat, and then the women's retreat. Both weekends were an opportunity to come together and celebrate the beauty of God's love and the value God places on each individual.

The young women, ages 13–17, spent their weekend as princesses with the constant reminder that each is a daughter of the King of Kings. The entire weekend was based on the princess theme and featured such activities as Banquet Table, Audience with the King, and Princess Chamber. Jesus was highlighted as the soon-returning Prince with John 14:2, 3 the focus verse.

Speaker Lisa Marie Buster connected in a special way with the group of attendees. Her talks reminded the young women that God is loving and forgiving, and that each person has a unique spot in the heart of the Creator. It was a weekend

Lisa Marie Buster from Roseburg, Ore., was the speaker for the young women's retreat.



Mable Dunbar directed a choir of seminar attendees, which provided some of the music and added a delightful part to the women's ministry weekend.

Her talks reminded the young women that God is loving and forgiving, and that each person has a unique spot in the heart of the Creator.

that left the young women looking forward to the next retreat.

Three weeks later, women, 18 and older, came to Camp Mivoden for a weekend of fun, fellowship and spiritual renewal. The topics for the retreat were grace, mercy and faith. There was also a women's health presentation given by Tawnywa Constantino, a physician, that opened or reopened many eyes to the health and lifestyle issues that face American women today. Carol Krum, Linda Spady and Cheri Corder contributed as guest presenters, and Natasha Nesteurk was

the guest musician. The East Central Praise Team lent their voices to lead the inspirational song service.

It was a full weekend, one that left the women with the consensus that this year was indeed the best retreat yet. In addition to meetings, attendees were given opportunities to spend time with the Lord. Some chose to spend the time alone in the natural beauty of the lakeside surroundings, while others spent this time sharing and participating in morning prayer as a small group.

Women's ministry coordinator Mable Dunbar

had this to say about the two retreats. "It was evident that the Holy Spirit is working with our women, both young and old, to empower them to live victorious lives through Christ. Our presenter for the teen retreat, Lisa Marie Buster, got to the hearts of the young women, and many rededicated their lives to God. Our three speakers for the women's retreat did not collaborate, but gave the same message about the power of God to heal broken lives and transform sin-sick souls for His kingdom.

What an awesome time to be a Christian woman. We praise God for helping us realize that our value comes from Him. Therefore, in His strength we are empowered. We are looking forward to next year's retreat."

For information on either retreat for next year, contact the Upper Columbia Conference women's ministries department. •

Jana L. Officer, Sunnyside (Wash.) Church member

Better Health in Yakima

If you were to drive into the Yakima Church parking lot on a Tuesday evening, you might have to swerve to miss the orange pylons and/or people walking. The walkers would be attending the “Guard Your Heart” class, one phase of the Adventist Healthy Lifestyle Series, and the pylons are set out in a quarter-mile course for them. Besides walking the course, attendees are weighed, at the beginning and end of this phase, and their blood is drawn. Tests are then done, determining their blood sugar, triglycerides, HDL, LDL, and total cholesterol.

Randy Sloop and William Santana, both physicians, started the Adventist Healthy Lifestyle

Series in 1999 to help people overcome depression. Because so few wanted to admit they were depressed, attendance was small. But Sloop and Santana

went ahead with the next part of the series, a cooking school. During that phase, Randy Sloop had to be gone, so his twin brother, Rick Sloop, who is also

a physician, reluctantly took over for him. Rick Sloop’s wife, Linda, a dietitian, taught the cooking school, and at the end of the cooking school, both Rick and Linda were hooked!

It grew in scope from there, and segments for the physical, mental and spiritual were added. The three phases in the yearly cycle are the cooking school (nine weeks), “Guard Your Heart” (10 weeks), and “Good News” (nine weeks). Average attendance from the community is approximately 35. There have been several baptisms as a direct or indirect result of attending the series. •



Linda Sloop, a dietitian, teaches the healthful cooking classes.

Nita Hinman, Yakima Church communication leader

Three Churches Join for Talent Show

When Jeff Crain, pastor for Omak, Tonasket and Oroville churches, began serving the north-central Washington churches in August 2004, he scheduled the fifth Sabbath of each quarter as a “high Sabbath,” a time when the churches meet together for a combined service and fellowship lunch. At the “high Sabbath” of Oct. 29, 2005, the Tonasket social committee chairman, Lucy Trapanier, expressed interest in holding a talent show in December for the combined churches. This started the ball rolling!

The appointed evening of Dec. 3 began with vespers at the Omak Church and a light supper, giving members an opportunity to fellowship before they moved



Country music performers ham it up at the Omak Church, from left: (front) Joey Crain and Seth Hoffpaur; (rear) Jeff Crain, Karen Kuiken, Kaiza Kuiken, and Alyssa Crain.

to the gym for the talent show.

And what talent there was! Gospel singing with guitar

accompaniment, classical piano solos, cowboy poetry reading, country music

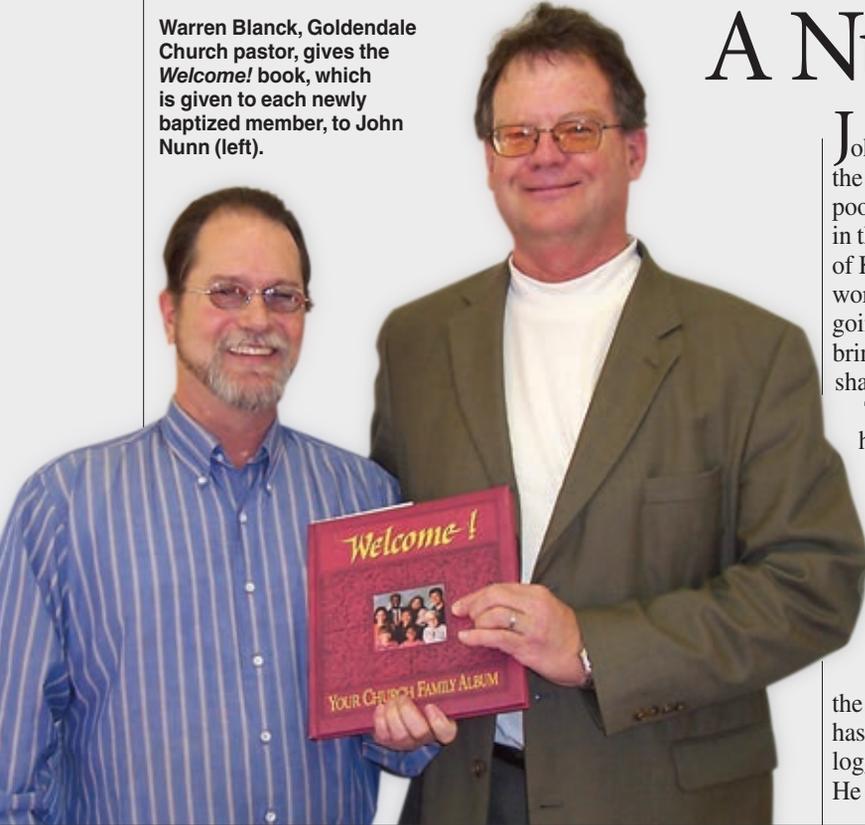
singing and Hawaiian folk dancing. The acts were blended into a delightful program by Harold Beebe, the humorous emcee.

The hits of the evening were probably the country music singing/acts by Karen and Kaiza Kuiken, singing “Those Cotton Balls,” and the lip-syncing rendition of “Thank God, I’m Just a Country Boy” by Jeff, Joey and Alyssa Crain and Seth Hoffpaur.

The program closed with expressed consensus that this talent show should be an annual event. •

Bernice Hartzell, Omak Church communication leader

Warren Blanck, Goldendale Church pastor, gives the *Welcome!* book, which is given to each newly baptized member, to John Nunn (left).



A Nunn is Baptized

John Nunn, 52, was born, the oldest of 14 children, to a poor coal miner and his wife in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky. He started his work career at the age of five, going into the coal mines to bring out the miners' tools to be sharpened.

The family lived in a hard-packed-clay-floored shack without electricity or running water, and his mother scrubbed the clothes on a scrub board. Many times John carried water until his hands bled. After John graduated from the eighth grade, he entered the work force full-time. He has worked as a mechanic and logger, among other things. He broke his back in a logging

accident in 1986 and has been disabled ever since.

One day in 2004, Nunn was strolling through the Klickitat County Fair in Goldendale, Wash., when he came upon the Adventist health booth. He stopped to pick up literature and started talking to Stanton Parker and Shirley James. They both invited him to start the *Discover* Bible course. After three weeks, Shirley sent him an invitation to come to church, and he has been in church ever since. He finished his Bible studies, accepted Jesus as his Savior, and was subsequently baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. •

Elaine Kubler, Goldendale Church communication leader

Lake City Junior Academy Gets a New Gym Roof

Lake City Junior Academy, the school for the churches in the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, area, has finally had a much-needed makeover, namely a new gym roof for its kindergarten

through 10th grades. The original flat gym roof, built approximately 50 years ago, served its purpose in times past, but many years of harsh weather had deteriorated it beyond one more patch job.

The project began on a summer day, July 23, and lasted through September. Volunteers from the Coeur d'Alene Church accomplished the task by working on Sundays.

The church had been saving for a long time to accumulate \$10,000 for trusses to take it from a flat roof to a pitched roof. Before it had no insulation, but now it has an insulation factor of R49. Other upgrades include rain gutters and vinyl siding on the

exterior and an updated heating system.

Approximately 40–50 volunteers—men, women and youth—nailed shingles, braced trusses, rolled roofing, did framing and cleanup each Sunday. Many people also gave their time to provide breakfast and lunch to keep everyone's energy up.

We are so thankful for Lake City Junior Academy in a world that so badly needs

Christian education. We appreciate the teachers and other mentors who provide our children with a good education and lead them into a relationship with Jesus. •

Stacie Wagner, Coeur d'Alene Church communication leader

A new pitched roof now covers the Lake City Junior Academy gymnasium.



Members in Coeur d'Alene work to put a new pitched roof on the Lake City Junior Academy gym.



A Boy and His Coach Are Baptized

In the spring of 2005 during family worship, Jeff Crain, Omak (Wash.) Church pastor, asked whom the family members would like to pray for. His son, Joey, asked for prayer for his coach, Jack Beers, "that he would love Jesus and come to church."

Beers. Family prayers for Beers continued for a period of months. In early summer, Beers went to his doctor and learned that he was seriously ill with cancer. The first person he called was Crain. Visitation by the pastor and George Wilson, Omak Church head elder, followed, and in time, Beers asked to be baptized.

Joey had asked to be baptized last year. In consideration of his age, the request had not been granted. When Joey continued his requests, his father told him that he would baptize him if he attended the October evangelistic services. Joey demonstrated his commitment by attending every meeting!

Tim Johnson brought his friend Misty Logan to the recent evangelistic meetings. She was baptized, and he re-committed his life through re-baptism. •

Bernice Hartzell, Omak Church communication leader



Jeff Crain, Omak Church pastor, introduces baptismal candidates, from left: Joey Crain, Misty Logan, Tim Johnson and Jack Beers.

Crain had first met Beers when Joey signed up to play softball. He had noticed how all the young boys loved

THE SEARCH

People Reaching People

The young adults at Eastgate Church in Walla Walla, Wash., have founded an exciting and innovative new service entitled "The Search." When this ministry was born, The Search stuck immediately as a title, since everyone is searching for something ... something to fill the empty void in their lives.

Since January of 2005, The Search has been offering a relaxed environment for young adults to establish relationships with Jesus. One of the main goals of the group is to offer an alternative service for those that do not feel comfortable or at home in a "normal" church environment.

Services at The Search include upbeat contemporary Christian music, thought-provoking dramas, and striking discussions that are relevant to young, new Christians today. Another focus of The Search

is to establish strong, fostering relationships with those beginning their walk with God. While The Search is directed toward the young in Christ, there is something for everyone to enjoy and be enriched by.

Spiritual leaders Cary Fry, pastor; Robert Lowther and Eric Saylor work in unison with coordinator Richard Davis to develop topics for discussion that will best serve those attending the meetings. The Search is currently meeting on the first and third Saturday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the Eastgate Church. New attendees are always welcomed and appreciated. Those involved in The Search look forward to seeing you and your friends soon! •

Heather Davis, The Search co-communication leader

Four Hearts for God

Gary Evans, Republic Church pastor, introduces four baptismal candidates, from left: Stephen Heckly, Luke Heckly, Jeiel Rafferty, and Daniel Fleck. These young men requested baptism at the conclusion of "The Appearing" series by *It Is Written* speaker Shawn Boonstra. Gary Evans studied with each of them, and on Sabbath, Nov. 5, they were baptized. •

Darlene Clark, Republic Church communication leader



LEGAL NOTICE

Washington Conference Session

Notice is hereby given that the 57th Session (Second Quadrennial) of the Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene in the Auburn Academy Church, Auburn, Wash., on Sunday, April 9, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports of conference activities since the last Regular Conference Session; to elect officers, departmental directors, Conference Executive Committee, and the Board of Education for the ensuing quadrennium; for strategic planning; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in the session. The large committee will meet on Feb. 12, 2006, to elect the Nominating Committee for the session, and the Nominating Committee will begin meeting on March 5, 2006.

Instructions have been sent to the pastors, clerks and first elders of each organized church concerning delegate selection and other preparations for the Conference Session. •

*John Freedman, president
Doug Bing, vice president for administration*

Sri Lanka Bound

AAA Prepares for Major Missionary Endeavor



Auburn students will probably encounter elephants in the streets of Sri Lanka's cities.

Auburn Adventist Academy faculty and students will be putting their faith into action through a mission trip to Sri Lanka in March. In the last 10 years, AAA students and staff have been trekking the globe to touch lives in the Philippines, Peru, Vietnam, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and Mississippi. This year 105 people will pack their bags for a two-week trip to Sri Lanka.

The mission trip volunteers will begin their service by building a concrete block addition to a local boarding school in Lakpahana. Next, they will travel to Anawanapura to build a pre-school building. The classrooms will provide an environment where the truth and love of Jesus may be shared with children for many years to come.

Mark Weir, AAA Bible teacher and mission trip

organizer, is excited to see how God is already blessing the trip as final preparations fall into place. During Weir's scouting trip, he met a man who owns a hotel. "He was willing to make room in his hotel for our whole team and is only charging us \$15 per person per night," Weir reported.

The commitment to be a part of AAA's mission trip is not an easy one. Participants each raised \$1,800 dollars to cover the cost of building materials and travel expenses. Participants also committed to attending weekly prayer meetings prior to the trip. In addition, the mission trip will occur during the school's spring break.

When asked why they are willing to sacrifice so much, one student put it this way: "When I think about what Jesus has given me, I want to give

to others. Seeing the looks on their faces makes it so worth it!"

Please pray for the safety and effectiveness of the Auburn Adventist Academy missionary team as they go to the ends of the earth to put their faith into action. •

Jondelle McGhee, AAA GLEANER correspondent



The Lakpahana Mission School principal and teacher stand at the site where AAA students will be building the new addition.

Washington Conference Welcomes New Company *Southside Samoan Is Formed*

Washington Conference leaders welcomed the Southside Samoan Group into company status on Dec. 10, 2005. The group formed in 1992 with a beginning membership of 35 people. As a part of the Tacoma Southside Church, the group initially met in the facilities for a Samoan Sabbath School class. A short time later, worship services in Samoan began.

Along with the English church, the Samoan group assisted in the construction of a new church facility in 1995. Worship services continued in the fellowship hall of the new church.

Since that time, the numbers continued to grow under strong lay leadership and the support of Tacoma Southside members. Now more than 100 worshipers gather each Sabbath to worship and praise the Lord.

The members are praying that they will continue to grow and are planning an evangelistic series for 2006. David Moench, Tacoma Southside Church pastor, provides strong support to the Samoan members and will continue to serve as pastor of both congregations. •

Doug Bing, Washington Conference communication director



The Samoan choir lifted voices of praise as a new company was formed.

New Health Ministries Van Arrives

A new health ministries van arrived in Washington Conference in late January. The van will expand the outreach options for churches desiring to expand their health-ministries programs. The van will initially be used in the “Healthier Harbors Project,” coordinated by the Elma, Grays Harbor, and Willapa Harbor churches.

As a prototype program, Healthier Harbors will

pave the way for additional health-outreach opportunities in Washington Conference. Already, the van is slated for use at the San Juan County Fair in August.

Healthier Harbors will be a complete health-evangelism program meeting all aspects of health issues—physical, mental, financial and spiritual wellness. During the next two-to-three years, these three churches will use the new conference health van as a means of connecting with and serving the public through these God-centered programs.

Washington Conference anticipates a much wider call for health van usage in the future as churches strive to meet people’s everyday needs. •



Hal Gates, former Washington Conference health ministries director, arrives with the new health ministries van.

Marjie Noll, Washington Conference health department administrative assistant

Did You Know?

- Churches in Auburn, North Cascade, Puyallup, and Tacoma started off 2006 by hosting an evangelistic series.
- Young adults are signing up to spread the gospel message this summer with Youth Challenge.
- More than 130 Pathfinders attended a teen weekend retreat at Sunset Lake Camp in February.
- Washington Conference has a new Web site available at washingtonconference.org.
- The Washington Conference treasury department recently implemented a new comprehensive accounting program.
- Every Wednesday night, students at Auburn Adventist Academy meet in small groups to study the Bible.
- SAGE members participated

in a mission trip to Kenya and an evangelistic campaign to Ghana in January.

- Washington camp meeting is June 16–24. Guest speakers include Randy Maxwell, Dick Duerksen and Heather Dawn Small. •

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication intern



Youth Attend “More Than Enough” Rally

Washington Conference youth confronted their daily struggles during Youth Rally 2006. The weekend of introspection challenged more than 650 high school students to pinpoint personal distractions and focus on worshipping Jesus Christ.

“We wanted to engage young people in life-changing, experiential worship,” said David Yeagley, youth director. “This weekend was about receiving God into our lives and seeing how He is ‘More Than Enough’ to answer our immediate needs.”

The worship emphasis incorporated music with Elia King and friends, worship art with Arnold Jimenez, and drama with youth group performances. Afternoon activities included opportunities for a prayer walk, communion, fellowship in the



Youth rally participants learn how service and missions are a part of a worship experience at the Youth Challenge display.

“Talk-a-Latte Fellowship Café,” and several practical workshops on music and worship leading.

Keynote speaker, Clarissa Worley, singer, songwriter, and worship leader, encouraged her audience to set aside life’s distractions and pursue a fulfilling relationship with God.

“Building a friendship with Jesus,” Worley said, “includes seeing oneself as God sees His children. This process involves discarding negative self thoughts, cultivating self-respect, and being open to forgiveness and God’s grace.”

“The greatest act of worship is how you treat you,” Worley

said. “God cares what happens to you.”

Teens from eight conference-wide youth groups submitted more than 180 prayer requests during the mid-January weekend rally held at Auburn Adventist Academy. Youth leaders prayed for the requests during a prayer summit and will use the issues teens face to guide the ministry and prayers of the youth department for the coming year.

The Washington Conference youth department is committed to fostering dynamic youth ministry in the local church context. For more information on how you can be involved, contact David Yeagley at (253) 681-6008. •

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication intern

Mayor Offers Community Involvement Vision

Mike Deal, Puyallup mayor, shared his vision for church involvement in community projects at the opening session of a *Revelation Now* series with Jac Colón at the Puyallup (Wash.) Seventh-day Adventist Church.

“A lot of people look to the government to solve all the [community] problems,” Deal said. “You as a faith community can do a lot to help relieve the suffering in Puyallup.”

Mayor Deal then suggested several community-service options, including

a volunteer health clinic, a tutoring program, and shelter for homeless people on particularly cold winter nights.

Inviting the mayor to speak offered the congregation several ideas to jump-start their community involvement. “We want to learn how to better benefit our community,” said Kieth Noll, Puyallup Church senior pastor.

“Jesus supplied people’s felt needs and then fulfilled their deeper need,” Noll explained. “We want to do the same. We want the community to know we are here, and we care.”

The *Revelation Now* series allowed Puyallup Church members to apply their friendship-building skills as an average of 75 community members consistently attended

the meetings.

As guests attend the Puyallup Church every weekend, it is important for the congregation to be intentional about personal ministries. It’s “a strong aspect” of the congregation, Noll said.

At the close of church services on Sabbath, the personal ministries team takes note of visitors, obtains contact information, and follows up with a phone call or brief visit and a popcorn package thanking guests for “popping in.”

As further personal ministries plans unfold, the Puyallup Church is looking forward to meeting more community needs. •

Heidi Martella



The Puyallup Church put friendship evangelism into action when they invited friends, family and neighbors to attend Jac Colón’s *Revelation Now* series.

Walla Walla College President Announces Retirement

Completing 40 Years of Service

“We will miss this godly leader who has provided a listening ear, ready smile, and prayerful heart.”

Jon Dybdahl, Walla Walla College president, has announced plans to retire effective Aug. 31, 2006, after completing 40 years of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Seventeen of those years were spent at WWC.

“My wife, Kathy, and I have decided it is time to refocus our energies on family, scholarship, and other interests,” Dybdahl says. They will continue to reside in College Place, where Dybdahl will spend time researching, writing, speaking and teaching. He will also serve part-time at the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary.

In a letter to the Board of Trustees chairman, Dybdahl said, “I have enjoyed this time immensely and consider myself and my family to be richly blessed. Walla Walla College has a very special place in our hearts.”

During his tenure at WWC, Dybdahl has overseen improvements in faculty



Jon Dybdahl, Walla Walla College president, will retire in August 2006.

salaries, the completion of an \$18 million capital campaign, and increases in student enrollment. He has also championed WWC as “a life-changing experience” and strived to build a stronger sense of community among the students, faculty and staff.

“Jon Dybdahl is the president Walla Walla College needed during these past four years. The college is a better

place because of his vision for the future of the college, his consistent focus on a hard-working master plan, and his ability to keep us moving forward toward realizing the goals of that plan,” says Ginger Ketting-Weller, vice president for academic administration. Ketting-Weller also served as acting president for six months while Dybdahl was undergoing cancer treatments. “He cares

deeply about the college, its employees, and students. We will miss this godly leader who has provided a listening ear, ready smile, and prayerful heart.”

Dybdahl joined the WWC administration in 2002 as the college’s 22nd president. A former professor of theology at WWC, he also served at Andrews University, where he chaired the Department of World Mission.

Mission service has been a focal point in Dybdahl’s life. His parents were missionaries, and he and his family spent six years in Thailand where he served as a pastor and evangelist. During that time, Dybdahl founded Chiangmai Academy and an adult education center. He then spent two years at Southeast Asia Union College in Singapore before returning to Thailand to assist in the founding of Mission College.

Dybdahl holds a degree in theology from Pacific Union College, a master’s degree in systematic theology and a master of divinity degree from Andrews University, and a doctorate in Old Testament from Fuller Theological Seminary.

A presidential search committee, led by Jere Patzer, WWC Board of Trustees chair, will be formed to begin the process of selecting a new president. •

Kristi Spurgeon, WWC GLEANER correspondent

Straight from the Heart

If kindness had a face, it would look exactly like Cricelia Smith. For the past five years, Cricelia—known as Cris—has lovingly tended to patients at Walla Walla General Hospital (WWGH) in southeastern Washington.

“I get to help people every day,” she beams. “If my patients are happy, so am I.”

For Cris every day she’s at work is the perfect day. “I take care of my patients from my heart.”

Workdays begin with a staff prayer. And every day, Cris, a certified nursing assistant, does her part to fulfill the hospital’s mission of restoring peace, hope and health as Christ did.

Cris is full of smiles as she makes her rounds—recording

vital signs, taking patients for walks, combing their hair or putting lotion on dry feet.

“I need more hours in the day,” she laments. “There’s never enough time to do everything I want to do for my patients.”

Cris carries the most important lessons of her youth with her always: Do what you say you’re going to do, and know you are loved. Today, Cris teaches those lessons to her own children and demonstrates them to her patients.

“I can’t see myself doing anything else,” says Cris of her career choice. “I could go to school to become a registered nurse, but that would take time away from my family.”

Cris adds that being an RN would also require her to give shots and perform other duties that, while necessary, can cause patients discomfort.

“I tell my patients, ‘I’m the good one! I won’t hurt you,’” Cris says with a laugh.

The occasional difficult patient doesn’t dampen Cris’ cheerful outlook. One woman—suffering from dementia—elicited sympathy from Cris even when she grabbed Cris’ hair so fiercely that neither the RN nor Cris could loosen the



Cris, a certified nursing assistant at Walla Walla General Hospital, does her part to fulfill the facility’s mission of restoring peace, hope and health as Christ did.

patient’s grip. Cris finally tickled her tormentor and was immediately released. Of the experience Cris says that she didn’t want to hurt the patient, so she thought of a way out that would not cause the woman any pain.

Cris believes that every health-care provider should have to be a patient at least once because it will help him or her learn things—little things—that make a huge difference in the patient-care experience.

Cris’ devotion to her job was evident when she was eight-months pregnant and began experiencing signs of labor. When her co-workers urged Cris to go to OB for an

exam, she told them she wanted to finish her rounds. Her colleagues insisted on escorting her to OB where Cris’ daughter arrived within hours.

“My family and my patients are the center of my world,” says Cris. She glows as she speaks of her husband, children and job at WWGH. “There’s nothing I want that I don’t have.”

For Cris every day she’s at work is the perfect day. “I take care of my patients from my heart,” she says. “It doesn’t get better than that.” •

Terri Croghan writes for the CMBell Company, WWGH’s marketing and communication firm.

W A N D E R I N G S

BY JEANNE BARRETT-USHER

I stood on the cliff watching the thunderstorm approach, with tendrils of rain feathered from the clouds ahead of me and the souging of the pines growing louder at my back. In the national forest, my vista was hundreds of acres of dark-green treetops; sharp, rocky exposures; and mountains silhouetted in shades of bluish gray.

I had hiked this rim often in the last month, with map and notebook tucked under my arm, relishing the time away from the madding crowd. This was a job that was hardly a job by logical definition, because I loved it there in the woods and looked forward to the solitude it afforded me among God's creatures.

My previous job as curator of a large museum left me sick from the gypsum dust of earlier renovations, and it was increasingly harder to breathe without coughing. Then I heard of an opening for an archeology technician in the forest service. Since I had been volunteering my time at the forest service offices, inputting data on their map-making system, it appeared that I was in the right place at the right time. In looking back

He must have been very patient with me as I slowly, very slowly opened my heart. I was awestruck by the wonders that God unfolded for me in the wilds of the Pacific Northwest.

though, I realize that God provided the perfect job for my physical healing and spiritual rehabilitation.

In that job, I hiked many miles a day and saw little glimpses of what heaven will be: springs high above the forest surrounded by lush, tall grass; herds of elk in fields of hellebore, rabbits curiously sneaking around a log to "share" my lunch, camp-robber jays that begged for food, stellar jays that quietly stalked me in the dark maze of blown-down trees, and wild flowers galore! It was a time of growing joy, feeling the presence of my Father, and realizing, as I never had before, that His angels guided my wanderings.

With the busyness of school, I had grown distant from God, and yet in the beauty and simplicity of the outdoors, I could almost hear Him calling my name. He must have been very patient with me as I slowly,

very slowly opened my heart. I was awestruck by the wonders that God unfolded for me in the wilds of the Pacific Northwest. And as time went by, I could also see how He protected me from logging trucks on precarious cliff roads, from drunken hunters, and from encounters with a bear and with a bull elk during hunting season.

As I worked, I found myself talking at first to no one in particular in the solitude, and then it became regular chats with God. Not as formal as a prayer; it was more like easy-going, relaxed conversations where I felt folded in His love. In my amazement over the beauty He provided all around me, I let my guard down. With childlike wonder, I recall finding Lady's Slipper orchids on the forest floor, or suddenly a family of pikas, chattering and whistling. Each surprise of nature was like a love note from God. So I gradually leaned on

my Father and spoke to Him of my concerns about my children, about finding a reliable car, and those mundane things of everyday life that I had told myself years ago that He was too busy to be concerned about.

And so, with the dry days of summer just ending, I stood there as the rainstorm drew closer and sniffed the air's clean smell. The scent of damp pine needles grew stronger as the wind picked up. My heart was filled with the exquisite panorama below me, and it was suddenly as though a message came to me on the wind—almost audibly.

I remember saying out loud in utter amazement, "You would have made all this just for ME!" My tears mixed with the onslaught of the storm, and then for the first time, I felt completely loved and cherished, knowing that I mattered to my Father in heaven. And I thought how patient He has been with my wanderings over the years, probably yearning for this day when I would finally understand His loving heart. •

Jeanne Barrett-Usher writes from Yakima, Washington.

Family
M I L E S T O N E S

Affolter 60th

Richard and Bette Affolter celebrated their 60th anniversary on Dec. 28, 2005, with a reception in College Place, Wash., hosted by their daughters. They are members of the Village Church, College Place, Wash.

Richard J. Affolter Jr. married Bette M. Hircok on Dec. 28, 1945, in the Des Moines (Iowa) Church, Cree Sandefur, Iowa Conference youth director, officiating.



Richard and Bette Affolter

Richard and Bette moved to Colorado in 1950. They began a construction business in Boulder. Richard served on the Boulder Memorial Hospital board and became the assistant administrator in 1974. They retired to Gentry, Ark. in 1979. Richard returned to work as

an administrator for Heritage Centers of American in Ft. Myers, Fla., and Overland Park, Kan. They served for two years in Moscow, Russia, where Richard was the administrator of the church-operated dental clinic. They moved to College Place in 2003.

The Affolter family includes Gary and Dianne Affolter, Gentry, Ark.; Karen and Darrell Johnson, Walla Walla, Wash.; Jan and Steve Enders, Chehalis, Wash.; 5 grandchildren; 3 step-grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; and 9 step-great-grandchildren.

Carner 90th

Leonard R. Carner, member of Walla Walla City Church, turned 90 on Sept. 28, 2005. As part of his birthday celebration on Sabbath, Sept. 24, he witnessed the baptism of a long-time logging friend, Milton Butler, and his grandson, Stephen Baker, at Pleasant Hill Church, Ore. He then celebrated his birthday with friends and family on Sunday at a park in Albany, Ore.

Born in Battle Ground, Wash., Leonard attended the

Meadow Glade Church in Battle Ground, Wash., as a child. For 30 years, he drove a logging truck for a lumber company in Springfield, Ore., then he moved to College Place, Wash., so his adopted daughter, Becky Carner, could attend Rogers Elementary School and Walla Walla Valley Academy. Leonard and his wife, De, still live in College Place.

The Carner family includes: Connie and Red Ayers of Albany, Ore.; Kenneth and Ilene Carner and Becky and Lonnie Harder, all of Beaverton, Ore.; and 4 grandchildren.

Engle 90th

Helen Engle celebrated her 90th birthday on Oct. 29 at the Deer Park Church where family, church members and friends were treated to a sacred musical program prepared by her daughter Debra.

Helen was born to Lawrence and Mary Batson Oct. 31, 1915, in Kettle Falls, Wash. She married Earl G. Engle in Millwood, Wash., July 3, 1936. At first they farmed and later moved to Deer Park where Earl

had a tire business. They were married 63 years when Earl died Sept. 19, 1999.

The Engle family includes: Earl and Carol Engle of Spokane, Wash.; Daniel and Jeanette Engle of Captain Cook, Hawaii; Christina Engle of Seattle; Tamara and Patrick Wetherell of Phoenix, Ariz.; Penelope and Roy Coffey of Du Pont, Wash.; Debra Engle of Phoenix, Ariz.; James and Karen Engle of Kirkland, Wash.; 16 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

Hoff 95th

Evlyn May (Joers) Hoff celebrated her 95th birthday Aug. 20, 2005, with a potluck at Tacoma Central Church where she is a member. That evening she enjoyed a private dinner with friends. She was also honored by her YMCA friends with a lunch on the 18th and a breakfast on the 19th.

Evlyn Joers was born Aug. 20, 1910, near Upham, N.D. She married Henry Hoff in 1929. They lived in Tacoma. She was a care-giver and helper most of her life. She still enjoys quilting.

Family
W E D D I N G S

ALMAZORA-WONGSAPROME—Eloisa Almazora and Aran Wongsaprome were married Nov. 27, 2005, in Healdsburg, Calif. They are making their home in Hillsboro, Ore. Eloisa is the daughter of Efren and Erlinda Almazora. Aran is the son of Carmen Vargas and Thawin Wongsaprome.

BATEMAN-HOCHREITER—Angela J. Bateman and Jason R. Hochreiter were married July 3, 2005, in Portland, Ore. They are making their home in Bethel, Alaska. Angela is the daughter of Perry and Patricia Scholder and

David and Karen Bateman. Jason is the son of Richard and Laurie Hochreiter.

CLARKE-MELASHENKO—Carrie R. Clarke and James P. Melashenko were married Nov. 26, 2005, in Rocklin, Calif. They are making their home in Sacramento, Calif. Carrie is the daughter of Richard D. and Penny G. (Pritchard) Clarke. James is the son of Joedy P. and Judy F. (Slusarenko) Melashenko.

FORD-MOCKO—Bethany Ford and Steven Mocko were married

Nov. 14, 2005, in Auburn, Wash., where they are making their home. Bethany is the daughter of Ernie L. and Lorene A. (Bennett) Ford. Steven is the son of Jackie Butler and Steven Mocko.

SUNDIN-LORENZ—Heather Sundin and David Lorenz were married Jan. 7, 2006, in Medford, Ore. They are making their home in Talent, Ore. Heather is the daughter of Robert and Florence Kathryn (Duncan) Sundin. David is the son of Dan R. and Betty Ellen (Pinkerton) Lorenz.

SUNDQUIST-CARBAJAL—Michelle Sundquist and Joe Carbajal were married Oct. 8, 2005, in Ridgefield, Wash. They are making their home in Vancouver, Wash. Michelle is the daughter of William and Denise Sundquist. Joe is the son of Henry and Santos Carbajal.

Family
A T R E S T

ANDERSON—Dorothy E. (Woodhouse), 91; born Nov. 2, 1914, Albert Lea, Minn.; died Dec. 28, 2005, Rogue River, Ore. Surviving: 2 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BROWN—Gilbert “Tick,” 84; born Feb. 22, 1921, Belfry, Mont.; died Nov. 23, 2005, Bridger, Mont. Surviving: sons, Leslie, Walla Walla, Wash.; Gene, Cleburne, Texas; Jim, Bridger; daughters, Susan Dahlman, Lincoln, Neb.; Elaine Adams, Berrien Springs, Mich.; Lois Ferguson, Wibaux, Mont.; Becky Brown, Laurel, Mont.; brothers, Howard and Melvin, both of Belfry; sisters, Josephine Obert, Belfry; Elsie Schultz, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Florence Kram and Minnie Young, both of Billings, Mont.; 12 grandchildren, 6 step-grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and 8 step-great-grandchildren.

CLAUSEN—Louise E. (Leech) Carter, 92; born Aug. 14, 1913, Avinger, Texas; died Nov. 30, 2005, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Lois Ryder, Rainier, Ore.; Phyllis Hensley, Albuquerque, N.M.; Sylvia Peterson, Beaverton, Ore.; 6 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

DREYER—Alma T. (Lindstrom) Anderson, 91; born Oct. 21, 1914, Aberdeen, Wash.; died Dec. 10, 2005, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. Surviving: husband, John, Post Falls, Idaho; sons, Clinton Anderson and Chuck Anderson, both of Post Falls; Carroll “Andy” Anderson, Phoenix, Ariz.; brother, Paul Lindstrom, Pasco, Wash.; 10 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

EDWARDS—Grace R. (Newell), 76; born Aug. 16, 1929, San Antonio, Texas; died Dec. 20, 2005, Sutherlin, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Katheryn Sanders, North Pole, Alaska; Frances Smith of Utah; sister, Evalena

Mancil, Fletcher, N.C.; a grandchild and a great-grandchild.

EDWARDS—John H., 85; born March 14, 1920, in Tenn.; died Dec. 16, 2005, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Lillian (Reich); daughter, Sheryl Holbrook, College Place; and 3 grandchildren.

EDWARDS—Lillian (Reich), 92; born Feb. 17, 1913, Cathay, N.D.; died Jan. 6, 2006, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: daughter Sheryl Holbrook, College Place, Wash.; and 3 grandchildren.

FELLOWS—James C., 77; born July 8, 1928, Stoneham, Mass.; died Dec. 18, 2005, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Marjorie (Leinbaum); foster son, Dennis Markley, Dickinson, N.D.; and sister, Martha Smith, Walla Walla, Wash.

FIELDS—Vida “Vi” M. (Freeman) Buffum, 95; born April 5, 1910, Crystal Valley, Mich.; died Dec. 25, 2005, La Grande, Ore. Surviving: stepson, Kenneth Fields, Bend, Ore.; daughters, Lois Magnuson, Scottsville, Mich.; Bev Riggs, Shelby, Mich.; Jan Hull, Union, Ore.; sister, Nerine Blount, Orlando, Fla.; 13 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

FORD—Melva (Moden), 84; born Jan. 26, 1921, Waterville, Kan.; died Nov. 29, 2005, Medford, Ore. Surviving: husband, Harold; stepsons, Randy, Wichita, Kan.; Leroy, Philomath, Ore.; and sister, Della Wright, Michigan City, Ind.

GARNETT—Vivian “Judy” V. (Davis), 85; born June 2, 1920, Waco, Neb.; died Jan. 6, 2006, Central Point, Ore.

HEFFEL—Herbert D., 87; born Dec. 28, 1918, DuBoise, Idaho; died Dec. 1, 2005, Meridian, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Betty (Willis) Hagen Heffel; son, Kenneth, Lodi, Calif.; stepson, John Hagen Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; daughter, Patricia Breckenridge,

Roseville, Calif.; stepdaughters, Vickie Kim, Puyallup, Wash.; Cathie Wick, Meridian; Cindy Craig, Walla Walla, Wash.; brother, Don Heffel, Meridian; sisters, Verdeen Bowker, Meridian; Lola Sellers and Pearl Ahl, both of Boise, Idaho; 3 grandchildren, 13 step-grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 14 step-great-grandchildren.

KINCAID—Sylvia A. (King), 94; born Dec. 29, 1910, Missoula, Mont.; died Dec. 25, 2005, Olympia, Wash. Surviving: sons, Wayne, Loon Lake, Wash.; Glenn, Las Vegas, Nev.; Dean and Neal, both of Sandpoint, Idaho; Keith, Olympia; daughter, Marilyn Hopkins, Olympia; 13 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

LARKIN—Howard C., 80; born Sept. 27, 1925, Buffalo, N.Y.; died Dec. 18, 2005, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Maryl (Blain); son, Grant, Aptos, Calif.; daughters, Dian Adrian, Watsonville, Calif.; Doris Elliott, Las Vegas, Nev.; a grandchild and a great-grandchild.

LITTLEFIELD—L’Marie A. (Porter), 81; born Feb. 21, 1924, Cicero, Ind.; died Dec. 27, 2005, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: husband, John; daughter, Susan Littlefield, New York; and 2 grandchildren.

MOLYNEUX—John Franklin, 90; born Feb. 5, 1915, McGill, Nev.; died Nov. 18, 2005, Twin Falls, Idaho. Surviving: daughter, Carolyn Rodgers, Twin Falls; brother, James, San Bernardino, Calif.; 6 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

MORRISON—Hilda Lorinda (Wood), 100; born Nov. 10, 1905, Glengoffe, Jamaica, West Indies; died Dec. 5, 2005, Walnut Creek, Calif. Surviving: sons, Leslie, Ontario, Canada; Kenneth, Oakland, Calif.; daughters, Kathy Vanderberg, Danville, Calif.; Valda Boyd, Banning,

Calif.; 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

PALMER—Marilyn D. (Belardell), 66; born Feb. 17, 1939, New York; died Dec. 25, 2005, Seattle. Surviving: husband, Jim, Walla Walla, Wash.; stepson, John, Walla Walla; daughters, Jeannine Smith, Bend, Ore.; Linda McCue, Redmond, Ore.; Donna Pringle, Walla Walla; stepdaughter, Janel Brasual, Lincoln, Neb.; brother, William Belardell of Florida; 12 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

ROGERS—Jeanne Weidman, 101; born Feb. 23, 1904, Darby, Mont.; died Nov. 3, 2005, Hillsboro, Ore. Surviving: stepsons, Rick Rogers, Newport, Ore.; and Jerry Weidman, Sherwood, Ore.

SHUMWAY—Howard H., 85; born June 3, 1920, Eau Claire, Wis.; died Oct. 26, 2005, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: wife, Beryl E. (Lewis); son, Rodney J., Redlands, Calif.; daughter, Karen Hamstra, Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

SMITH—Clifton C., 88; born Sept. 7, 1917, Beresford, S.D.; died Dec. 20, 2005, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, June (Merth); sons, Jack, Wenatchee, Wash.; Lee, Whittier, Calif.; daughters, Joy Robinson, College Place; Laurie Personius, Grants Pass, Ore.; sisters, Georgia Porter and Edna Henry, both of Portland, Ore.; Florence Adams, Pacifica, Calif.; 16 grandchildren, 6 step-grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, 14 step-great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

TUCKER—Winnifred (Glockner) Lund, 94; born Dec. 14, 1911, Ceres, Calif.; died Dec. 21, 2005, Grand Junction, Colo. Surviving: daughter, Lou Ann Cook, Clifton, Colo.; 2 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

WAGNER—Edna I. (Knopp), 90; born Aug. 23, 1915, Kulm, N.D.;

Family

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died Dec. 14, 2005, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: brother, Ernie Knopp, Casa Grande, Ariz.; and sister, Mary Jo Marion.

WILBUR—Janice “Pat” (Gohl), 75; born July 23, 1930, Yakima, Wash.; died Nov. 20, 2005, Cloverdale, Ore. Surviving: husband, Ken; son, Larry Gohl, Portland, Ore.; daughter, Ginger Robertson, Bainbridge Island, Wash.; stepsons, Ed Wilbur, Tensed, Idaho; Marvin Wilbur, Spokane, Wash.; Virgil Wilbur, Kent, Wash.; 13 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

EDWARDS—Camden Michael was born Nov. 29, 2005, to Paul and Kristin (Anderson) Edwards, Woodland, Wash.

ELLIS—Ashton Clay was born Nov. 25, 2005, to Daniel and Lynelle (Childs) Ellis, College Place, Wash.

ELLIS—Lauren Fay was born Nov. 25, 2005, to Daniel and Lynelle (Childs) Ellis, College Place, Wash.

HOEKSTRA—Isaiah Samuel was born Jan. 16, 2006, to Arnold and Connie (Weir) Hoekstra, Ridgefield, Wash.

Family

B I R T H S

KELLOGG—Micah E. was born Aug. 1, 2005, to Craig and Sarah (Bowman) Kellogg, Pendleton, Ore.

WAGMAN—Ari J. was born Dec. 21, 2005, to Matthew and Jane (Blackwood) Wagman, Lebanon, Ore.

Looking for someone's
Family listing
from a past issue?

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A N N O U N C E M E N T S

NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offerings

March 4—Local Church Budget; **March 11**—NAD: Adventist World Radio; **March 18**—Local Church Budget; **March 25**—Local Conference Advance; **April 1**—Local Church Budget; **April 8**—NAD: Christian Record Services.

Special Days

March 4—Women’s Day of Prayer; **March 5–11**—Adventist Youth Week of Prayer; **March 18**—Disabilities Awareness Sabbath; **April 1**—Missionary Magazines (*Signs, Message, El Centinela, La Sentinelle*); **April 8**—Stewardship Sabbath.

Felts for Missions

Many children’s Sabbath School teachers around the world have little or nothing to use in presenting Bible lessons. Jesus said, “Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost.” If visual aids are languishing in your Sabbath School cupboards or at home, why not donate them to missions? Materials will be sent to needy churches. Felts (even parts of

sets and older style uncolored felts will be colored and used), pictures, maps, puzzles, Bible story books, Bibles, crafts, scissors, colors, etc., are needed. (Crayons and felt markers, new only.) All items should be in good condition and appropriate for use in Sabbath School. Send to: Twelve Baskets, Attn: S. Davis, P.O. Box 309, Boring, OR 97009. Some Portland-Vancouver pickup. E-mail questions to: churchconnect@hotmail.com.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE

Calendar of Events

March 2, 4, 5—wwcdrama: Festival of One Acts. Performances begin at 8 p.m. in College Place Village Hall. Tickets available at www.wwc.edu/drama or (509) 527-2651. **March 27**—Spring quarter begins.

Continuing Ed Seminar

March 6–7—“A Hunger for God” is a spiritual-growth seminar for pastors, professionals and Christian leaders. Presented by Jon Dybdahl, WWC president,

“A Hunger for God” offers an opportunity for personal renewal that will enable you to be a catalyst for spiritual renewal within your local congregation. You will have time to reflect on your own spirituality, with practical suggestions for building and nurturing your relationship with God. You will also receive a study guide that can be used to conduct a similar program of spiritual enrichment in your local congregation. “A Hunger for God” is sponsored by the WWC Center for Adult and Continuing Education. More information and a registration form are available at www.wwc.edu/ace or by calling (509) 527-2395.

IDAHO

Extreme Marriage

April 2–6—Biblical Concepts in Counseling presents a seminar to help any relationship, good or bad, Boise, Idaho. This message has saved marriages and changed lives; it can change yours, too. For information or to register, go to www.boisextrememarriage.org or call (208) 362-9663.

MONTANA

Revelation Now

An evangelistic series of meetings with Jac and ‘dena Colon is coming to Kalispell. The meetings will open **April 7** at the Adventist Church at 1375 Hwy 93 North in Kalispell at 7:15 p.m. Come, and invite your friends and relatives.

OREGON

Celebration of Ken Smith’s 20 Years of Teaching

March 4—Rivergate Adventist Elementary School is celebrating Ken Smith’s 20th year of teaching first and second grades with a potluck lunch after the church service at the Gladstone Park Church, 1505 Ohlson Road, Gladstone, Ore. Friends, current and former students and colleagues are invited to attend the church service and potluck. Memories, pictures and well wishes can be sent to the school or e-mailed to renae@rgsda.org.

March Activities at Sunnyside Church

March 4—Festival of the hand bells. Bell choirs from Washington and Oregon will



A N N O U N C E M E N T S

be hosted at 5:30 p.m. by Kathy Manley and Rosemaryne Thompson. **March 10–April 8**—“Revelation Speaks Peace” via satellite, presented by Shawn Boonstra, *It Is Written* speaker/director, 7 p.m. daily, except Monday and Thursday. **March 11**—Portland Adventist Academy Allegria, directed by Linda Neel at 9 and 11:30 a.m., Sunnyside Seventh-day Adventist Church, 10501 S.E. Market St., Portland, Ore.; (503) 252-8080.

Retired Workers’ Fellowship

March 7—All retired denominational workers are invited to attend the 12-noon potluck meeting of the Oregon Retired Workers’ Fellowship. Gary Parks and family will bless us with a musical program and devotional. This monthly potluck is held in the downstairs multipurpose room of the Oregon Conference office, 13455 S.E. 97th Ave., Clackamas, Ore. Retirees are asked to bring food and their own table service. For information, call Frank Gearhardt at (503) 674-4951.

Beaverton Adventist Singles Activity

March 18—Regular church service at 10:45 a.m. After church—carpool to Columbia Gorge; hike to Horsetail and Oneonta Falls. We will eat our picnic lunch (bring a sack picnic lunch) when we arrive. After the hike, we will go to Cindy’s for games. Maps will be made available in the foyer of the Beaverton Church, 14645 S.W. Davis Road, Beaverton. For information, contact: Charlotte at (503) 579-9549; or Tom at (503) 684-7971, tom.te@verizon.net; hotline: (503) 654-6054, Option 4; www.beavertonsda.com/Singles.

CHIP Health Seminar at Hood View

March 23, 26 and 28—preliminary free informational and registration opportunity sessions for the **April 2 to 27** Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) seminar at the

Hood View Church, 26775 S.E. Kelso Road in Boring, Ore., will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. CHIP, a four-week health improvement program, offers instruction in prevention and reversal of coronary heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, overweight, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, cancer, arthritis, osteoporosis, depression and digestive problems. Health screenings by medical professionals will take place March 31 and April 28. A graduation celebration for those who complete the April program will take place at 6 p.m., May 7. For information, call (503) 658-2329.

Hood View Concert

March 25—A pan flute and violin duo, Tim and Sherah Berthelson of “Instrumental Artistry,” Tillamook, Ore., will present a sacred music concert at 6 p.m. in the Hood View Church, Boring, Ore. They perform old favorite hymns and some contemporary praise songs. Their new CD is “Breath of the Soul.” Freewill offering. Refreshments.

Columbia Adventist Academy Homecoming

March 31–April 1—The annual alumni weekend for Columbia Adventist Academy is scheduled for Friday and Sabbath. All graduates and attendees, former and present faculty and staff, along with families and friends of Columbia Adventist Academy are encouraged to attend. All services will be held in the newly remodeled Meadow Glade Church. We’ll see you there. Contact (360) 687-3161 for information about accommodations.

Milo Alumni Homecoming

April 7–8—Especially honoring the class of 1956 and all other years ending in 6 or 1. Klaus Forster will be the guest speaker. Worthy student benefit auction. Call (541) 825-3200 for more information. Update alumni mailing addresses at www.miloacademy.org.

King’s Heralds Concert

April 10—The internationally acclaimed King’s Heralds will present a gospel concert at Riverside Adventist Church, 463 N. Shepherd Road, Washougal, Wash., Monday evening at 7 p.m. The quartet will perform in a variety of styles, blending rich harmonies into an unforgettable musical experience you won’t want to miss. For more information about the group, visit www.theheralds.org.

Lasson Creek Camp Meeting

June 23–24—Danny Shelton and 3ABN will be featured at the 4th annual Lasson Creek camp meeting held at Lasson Creek National Forest campground (toilet facilities and lots of nature) a few miles south of the California/Oregon state line just off of US 395. Lots of room for RVs (dry camping), tents, sleeping under the stars or in your car reclining seat. Hiking trails and photo ops. Come prepared for a fellowship lunch after the Sabbath worship program. For detailed driving directions to Lasson Creek National Forest campground, e-mail g.p.white@hotmail.com. Put this in your vacation plans today; you will not want to miss it. Lasson Creek camp meeting is sponsored by Lakeview, Ore.; Alturas and Cedarville, Calif., churches, but everyone is welcome.

Missing Members

The Cottage Grove Adventist Church has lost contact with the following: Sarah Bentley, Donna Hoover, Tammy Hoover, Daniel Jurich, Tanya Land, Dianna Staten, Leslie Uptain, Debbi Gruenhagen, Kathy Estess, Jay Barnes, and Robert Chartrand. If you know where they might be reached, please call Pastor Len at (541) 285-4334, or write to the Cottage Grove Adventist Church, 820 S. 10th St., Cottage Grove, OR 97424.

Laurelwood Academy Reunion

The class of 1956 is seeking contact information for the

following classmates for the 50th reunion on **July 22**. Jackie Booth, Lonore Bricker, Betty Jane Jordan, Shirly Kozel, Stanley Langworthy, Shirley Mackie, Don Meyers, Gwen Olson, Bruce Randolph, Ruby Ratzlaff, Carol Stewart Panfilio, Bobbe Seeberg Godwin, Geri Tomlinson, Don Webb, John Whaley. If you know how to contact these individuals, please contact Ethel Rieley at (503) 666-7245 or lfrieley@att.net.

UPPER COLUMBIA

Youth Conference in Kettle Falls

March 17–19—“A Finished Work” with guest speakers Max Torkelsen and Louis Torres at Kettle Falls Adventist Church. For information, call (509) 684-5493.

UCA Reunion

May 5–7—UCA class of 1956 is looking for information regarding the following classmates; Darlene Carmen, Florence Easley, Denny and Dick Ellenberger, and George Lemmil. Faculty we wish to contact are R. Burton, Burton Jackson and Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Grams. Please contact Larry McGinnis at (503) 794-0434 or larrym@atpengineeringinc.com.

Spokane Linwood’s 50-Year Anniversary

July 7–8—Former members, pastors, and interns of Linwood Church are invited to attend their 50-year anniversary at 6525 N. Monroe. Any historical information and/or pictures of interest may be sent to Linwood Seventh-Day Adventist Church, P.O. Box 48273, Spokane, WA 99228 or to linwoodsda@asisna.com. For more information, call (509) 327-4400 or visit www.linwoodsda.org.

WASHINGTON

The American Dream Talent Showcase

March 4—A musical variety talent program, directed by Estyn Goss, 7 p.m., in the chapel/music department at NW University, one



A N N O U N C E M E N T S

block east of the Kirkland, (Wash.) Adventist School, 5520 108th N.E. (Turn E. on 53rd. St.). For more information, contact Juliette Church at (425) 828-7888 or (425) 785-7767. This event is sponsored by Puget Sound Adventist Academy "Impact" Chorale.

SAGE Seniors

March 5-10—Work bee at Poulsbo Adventist School. Workers needed to do interior construction, drywall, painting, landscaping. Meals provided. Lodging and RVs provided or bring your own. **April 9**—Historical points of interest tour in the Puyallup area. Includes lunch, bus transportation, Meeker Mansion tour, and VanLierop Bulb Farm tour.

Call Joan at (253) 681-6008, or visit www.sage-washington.com.

Enumclaw Homecoming

April 8—Please join us for a lot of praising the Lord, a little history telling, inspirational stories and photos of our 2006

Peru mission trip, great food, and awesome fellowship at 3333 Griffin Ave., Enumclaw, Wash.

Men of Kirkland Concert

April 15—The "Men of Kirkland" present their country gospel concert at 7 p.m. in the Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, Wash. For more information, go to www.menofkirkland.org.

WORLD CHURCH

CUC and PAA Alumni Reunion

March 7, 8—Canadian University College / Parkview Adventist Academy alumni association will be in Portland, Ore., and Walla Walla, Wash., this spring! We are inviting alumni and friends to dinner and an alumni chapter meeting. Join us in Portland on Tuesday, March 7, at 6 p.m. at the Portland Adventist Hospital in the Patio Room. Those in the Walla Walla area are invited to join us Wednesday, March 8, at 6 p.m. at the College Place Village Church Fellowship Room. For

more information, please contact the alumni office at (800) 661-8129 ext. 8, or alumni@cauc.ca.

Southwestern Adventist University

April 6-9—Alumni and friends are invited to homecoming 2006, "Bluebonnets and Barbecue." Registration is Thursday, April 6. For more information, contact (817) 202-6232, bevm@swau.edu, or www.swau.edu/alumni.

Cedar Lake Academy Reunion

June 8-11—Cedar Lake Academy alumni students of 1956 and earlier, are warmly welcomed to "Ye Olde CLA Alumni Reunion" on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA). Honor classes: 1936, 1946, and 1956. Guest performance by recording artists Buddy Houghtaling and Friends on Friday at 7 p.m. For information, call the GLAA alumni office (989) 427-5181, or visit GLAA's Web site at www.GLAA.net. Please pass the good word.

San Pasqual Academy Homecoming

June 24—San Pasqual Academy (Escondido, Calif.) homecoming at old SPA campus. Class of 1966 contact Cisco Wiggins: c2wiggins@hotmail.com or Patti Wright Rakis: pattirakis@sbcglobal.net.

Can't remember when that concert is?

check the Events Calendar on:

www.GleanerOnline.org



THE LOVE OF LIFE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2006

March 29 - April 2

Love of Life Fellowship
March 29-31 (7:00 pm)

31411 6th Avenue, South, Federal Way, WA 98003

&

Marriott Courtyard, Federal Way
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Sunset Table

March	3	10	17	24	31
ALASKA CONFERENCE					
Anchorage	6:30	6:49	7:07	7:25	7:43
Fairbanks	6:15	6:37	6:58	7:20	7:41
Juneau	5:33	5:49	6:05	6:21	6:37
Ketchikan	5:26	5:40	5:54	6:08	6:22
IDAHO CONFERENCE					
Boise	6:36	6:45	6:54	7:02	7:10
La Grande	5:42	5:52	6:01	6:10	6:18
Pocatello	6:22	6:30	6:39	6:47	6:55
MONTANA CONFERENCE					
Billings	6:04	6:13	6:23	6:32	6:41
Have	6:06	6:17	6:27	6:38	6:48
Helena	6:17	6:27	6:37	6:46	6:56
Miles City	5:52	6:02	6:12	6:21	6:31
Missoula	6:25	6:35	6:45	6:54	7:04
OREGON CONFERENCE					
Coos Bay	6:09	6:17	6:26	6:34	6:42
Medford	6:04	6:12	6:20	6:28	6:36
Portland	6:00	6:10	6:19	6:28	6:38
UPPER COLUMBIA					
Pendleton	5:45	5:54	6:04	6:13	6:22
Spokane	5:38	5:48	5:57	6:08	6:18
Walla Walla	5:43	5:52	6:02	6:11	6:21
Wenatchee	5:49	6:00	6:10	6:20	6:30
Yakima	5:51	6:01	6:11	6:20	6:30
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE					
Bellingham	5:57	6:08	6:18	6:29	6:39
Seattle	5:57	6:08	6:18	6:28	6:38

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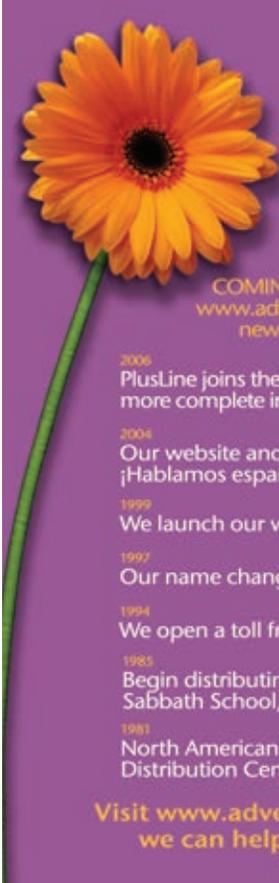
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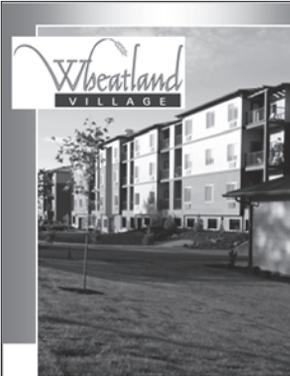
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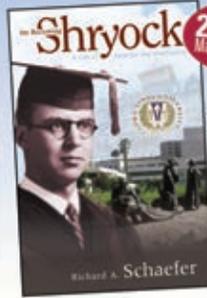
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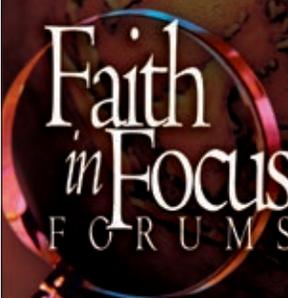
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NEXT MONTH

Sabbath School classes which feature a mission emphasis or follow the established lesson quarterly are on the decline in some NW churches. What do you think about this trend? Should we work to reverse it, or is this an appropriate change of church culture?

EACH MONTH

Let's Talk on a topic that causes us to think beyond the surface and respond with thoughtful perspectives. Send me suggestions about other topics you would like to discuss in future months. Go online at www.gleaneronline.org and simply follow the link to Let's Talk, or e-mail me at steve.vistaunet@nw.npuc.org.

ONLINE

On any given Sabbath around the Northwest, offering plates are passed just as they have been for decades. Whatever drops in, from tithe envelopes to loose change, begins its journey through an Adventist system that has garnered grudging praise from other denominations for its ability to spread resources where they are needed most.

Apparently Northwest Adventists still believe in that system. Year-end figures for 2005 show that our members increased their tithes significantly compared with 2004. That's great news!

How do you relate to tithes and offerings? Do you understand how the church handles these funds? Do you agree with how they are distributed? What word do you think best describes tithe: obligation, tax, or privilege? How would you respond to the following statements.

Attitude—True or False

Those who believe the Adventist Church has a specific prophetic mission are likely to engage with time, talent and financial support. Those who attend church mainly for fellowship do not necessarily embrace the larger mission of the world-wide church.

Structure—True or False

Older members are more comfortable with systematic giving to a general fund or "storehouse" which the church uses to fund various ministries. Younger generations are more interested in specific project giving, where they can see direct results.

Culture—True or False

Our tithe-collection system still depends on the quickly declining modes of cash or personal checks. Today, more and more people, both young and old, use debit cards or Internet banking—which simply do not work with conventional tithe envelopes.

Accountability—True or False

The more each member understands specific examples of how tithe dollars are translating into actual church mission growth, the more confidence

Internet banking doesn't work with tithe envelopes.

he or she will have in the process. And, in this information-weary age, it takes multiple tries to get our attention.

I'd like to hear your perspective. Choose the Let's Talk button at www.gleaneronline.org, or e-mail me at steve.vistaunet@nw.npuc.org. I'll look forward to your response.

As I see it, tithing is not just about money. How we respond speaks worlds about our connection with God and the mission He has asked us and this Church to fulfill. I believe it expands our focus from a 10 percent monthly gift to a 100 percent full-time relationship with the original Giver. •

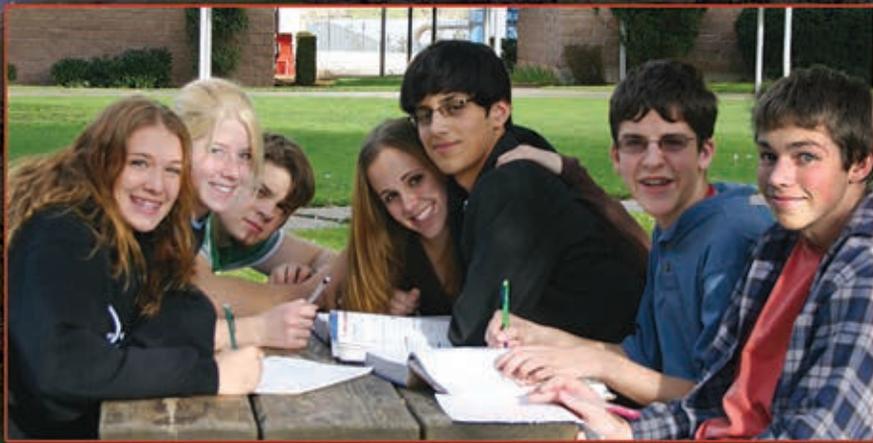


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