

Gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

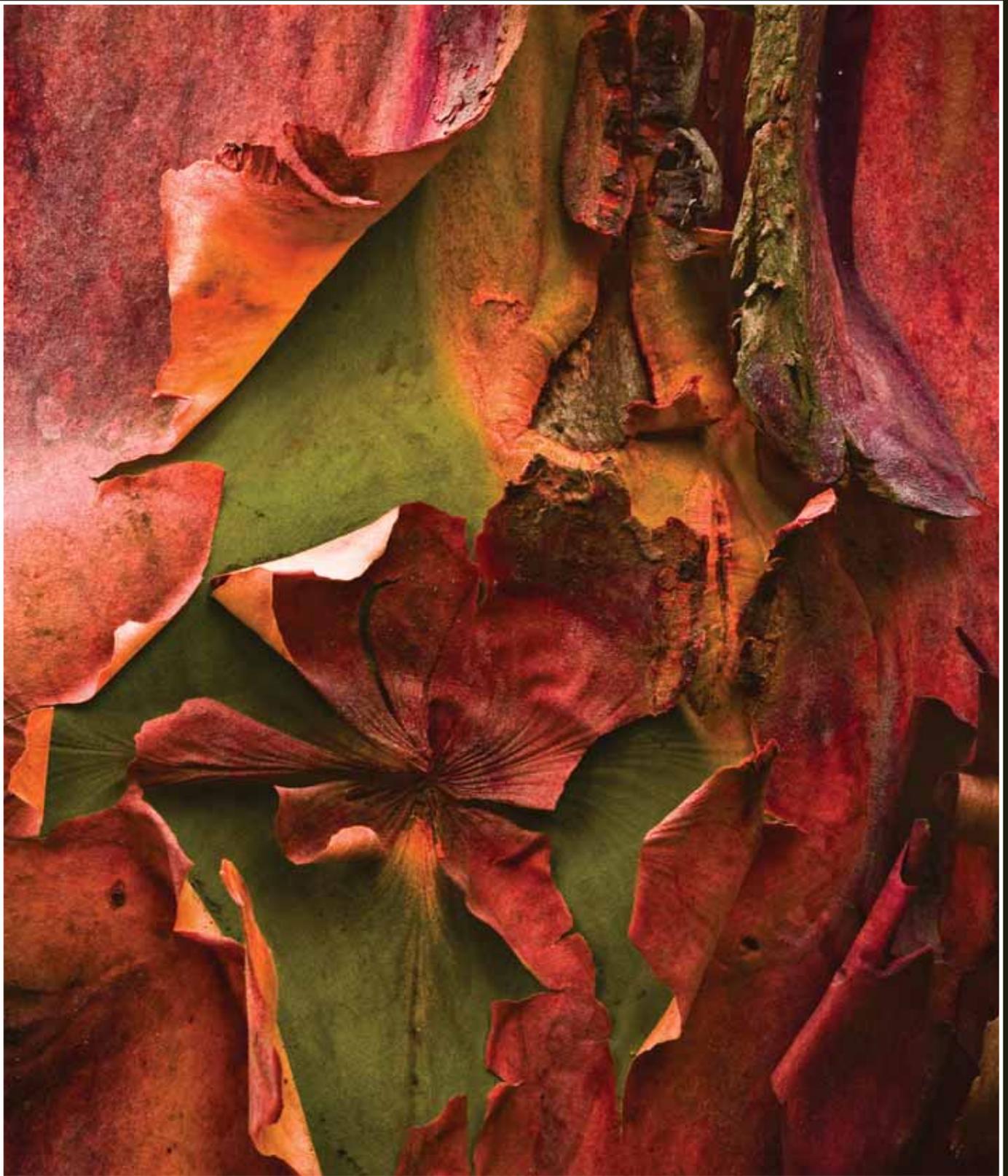
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CARING
is OUR SACRED CALLING

ADVENTIST HEALTH | SPECIAL ISSUE

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IMAGES OF CREATION



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 (NIV)

'Coming Close to Nature' from Sucia Island, Washington, by Gary States of Gaston, Oregon.

Ryan White Story

We were just finishing supper when the phone rang. The voice was filled with emotion. Could I come please right away and anoint the baby in the pediatric intensive care unit at Portland Adventist Medical Center?

Mindful of the James 5 promise and counsel, I thought first of Elder Mel Rees and asked him to accompany me. Knowing the grandfather of the baby was also an ordained local elder, I was aware we would have three “elders of the church.” We would “pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.”

As we stepped out of the elevator near the pediatric ICU, we heard a voice on the intercom calling a Code Blue. We watched through the viewing window as several hospital staff gathered around the incubator of the baby, tending to his urgent physical needs — doing everything medical science knows to bring healing to a struggling new life.

Some minutes later, with the immediate crisis past, we were allowed to gown up, including face masks and gloves, and go stand around the infant — so tiny, so pale, so vulnerable as he struggled to live. We each prayed, first asking God to clear our hearts and lives of any unconfessed sin so that through God’s grace we might be open channels through which He could work. We prayed that according to God’s will this baby would be healed and live a life of blessing to his family and his church. I reached my gloved hand into the incubator and touched the baby’s forehead

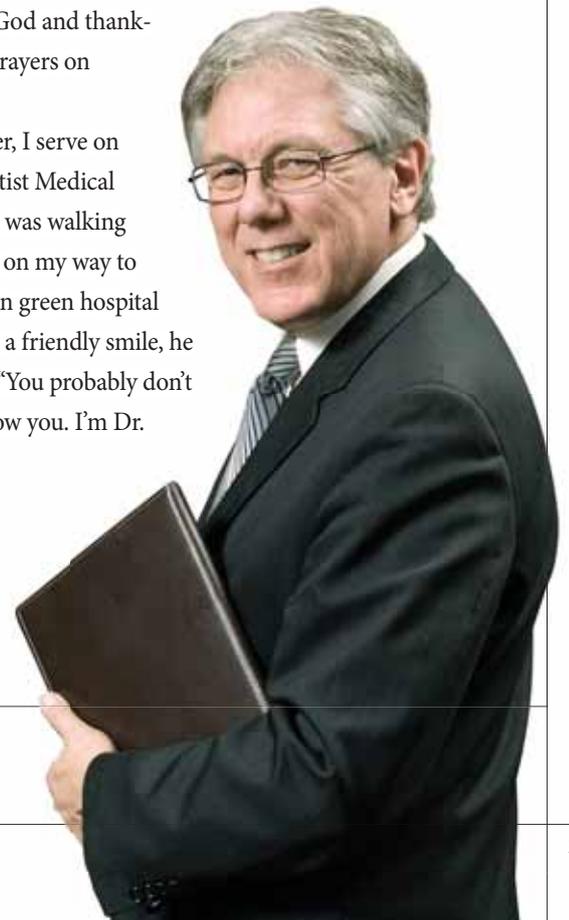
with the oil as a symbol of our desire to reach out with an extra measure of faith in God’s power to do this miracle.

As the last voice finished praying, we lingered briefly, just watching the baby, hesitating to leave after experiencing a special sense of the Lord’s presence with us. Soon the nurses stepped up to check again the vital signs and the baby’s pediatrician arrived to check on him. The doctor commented that the baby’s color seemed to have improved and perhaps he had turned the corner.

On Sabbath, our Woodland (Washington) Church family joined with Terry and Carol White, the parents of the newborn, and the rest of the White family in offering praises to God and thanking Him for answering our prayers on behalf of baby Ryan.

Now some thirty years later, I serve on the board of Portland Adventist Medical Center. Not long ago, while I was walking down the hall of the hospital on my way to the boardroom, a physician in green hospital scrubs approached me. With a friendly smile, he stuck out his hand and said, “You probably don’t know me, but I feel like I know you. I’m Dr. Ryan White.”

“Several hospital staff gathered around the incubator of the baby, tending to his urgent physical needs.”



MAX TORKELSEN II

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT



Pifher Returns to the Northwest

Gordon Pifher has accepted an invitation by the North Pacific Union Conference executive committee to become the NPUC director of stewardship, leadership and creative ministries. Currently serving as president of the British Columbia Conference, Pifher and his wife, Marie, are returning to the Northwest where they worked for a number of years. He previously served as Upper Columbia Conference youth and family life director, Walla Walla University Church associate pastor, and Upper Columbia Conference executive secretary from 1997–2005. “We’re excited to have Gordon join our Northwest team,” says Max Torkelsen, NPUC president. “He will bring creative energy as a passionate partner for each of our local conferences.”

Mays Assumes Disaster Coordinator Role

Larry Mays, Upper Columbia Conference pastor, will add the responsibilities of North Pacific Union Conference disaster response coordinator to his ongoing pastoral role. He takes over for Doug Venn, who is “retiring” from this volunteer position, which uses a small subsidy from each conference to coordinate this important area of church readiness and community outreach.



Light Bearers and ARISE Unite

Two active, growing ministries have agreed to merge their operations in the Northwest. Light Bearers, which produces millions of evangelistic materials for worldwide mission work, and ARISE, a training institute for Bible workers in Sonora, California, are now co-located on the Light Bearers’ campus in Jasper, Oregon. Ty Gibson, Light Bearers president, says the two organizations are casting creative vision for what specific projects they will undertake together.

New Blogs



Mike Jones Wonders: Why Don't We Raise the Dead?

“Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 10:8 (and presumably you and me) to ‘heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and cast out demons’ as an integral part of sharing the gospel message.

“We cheerfully discuss healing the sick and cleansing lepers. But when’s the last time you heard modern Adventist Christians talking about raising the dead or casting out demons?”

Read more thoughts from Mike Jones on this month’s *GLEANER* Blog at gleaneronline.org.



Dear Counselor

“My boyfriend has recently become ultra-religious. He is constantly reading spiritual books or watching sermons on video. I feel he has become entirely unbalanced to the point where he has no desire to just spend time with me. While I appreciate and love spiritual things, I believe there are other areas of life which are also important. What can I do to help him understand how his attitude is affecting me and his other friends?”

Read the answer from the staff at the Walla Walla University School of Education and Psychology this month on the *GLEANER* Blog.

Add your comments to the *GLEANER* blog at www.GleanerOnline.org.

Report Misses a Few Facts

[In the Ad Hoc Mission Advisory Group report contained in the September *GLEANER*] I noted that the summary of the “Evaluating the Structure and Organization” section changed format and left out the recommendations. A summary of the recommendations in this area were to: 1) Explore ways by which the administrative structures within the North Pacific Union might be reduced in order to decrease the amount of funds needed to maintain the current arrangement of conferences; 2) Look for ways that conferences can share service with each other; and 3) Consider hiring a consulting firm to evaluate the structure of church organization for redundancies.

In the full report there is even a more detailed breakdown of recommendations. Multiple concepts were discussed including the restructuring of conferences

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5709 N. 20th St.
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within our Union or alternate structures other than a Union. The committee's lack of specific recommendation on major structural change should not be construed as an endorsement of the current structure nor was there agreement on the committee that changes should not be made. The committee's lack of recommendations recognized that the ramifications should such changes be deemed necessary needed a much more in-depth study for which we did not have the time.

Jim Berglund, Caldwell, Idaho (and committee member)

August Archival Photo

The little girl in the lower right is me. My father, Harold W. Jewkes, is holding my sister, Marilyn. My mother, Glenna Haynes Jewkes, is standing next to my sister. My dad was the MV/education superintendent for the Idaho Conference. My guess is that the picture was probably taken in the fall of 1944 or early in 1945 on the steps of the Gem State Academy administration building.

Elaine Jewkes McGee, Spokane, Washington

FROM THE *GLEANER* ARCHIVES

Are You in This Photograph?

Here's a big group of people at some auspicious event and place. Were you in this photograph? Do you know someone who was? Do you have any idea where it might have been taken or why the people were there? We'd like to know. Visit the Monthly Archival Photo on the *GLEANER* Blog at gleaneronline.org and join the discussion. Or email your thoughts to talk@gleaneronline.org. Do you need to see a larger version of the photo? Click on the image at npuc.org.



GLEANER Blogs

CARING is OUR SACRED CALLING



Robert G. Carmen,
Adventist Health CEO

At Adventist Health, we are in the business of care and caring. You probably already figured that out, as we are a system of hospitals, clinics and other health-care services. What we do, however, is far more than just business.

Every day hundreds of people enter our hospitals because they trust us to care for them as we would care for our own families. And I am proud to say that is exactly what we strive to do. Why? Because caring is our sacred calling.

The essence of our Adventist Health mission — Sharing God’s love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing — is caring for patients and their families. In carrying out this mission, all Adventist Health employees — whether dietitian, accountant, housekeeper, nurse or physician — strive to make a positive difference in the lives of those with whom they come in contact.

Throughout this special issue of the *GLENER*, you will read stories from across our four-state system, demonstrating that our mission is more than a few words on a page. From spiritual care and its effect on physical healing and what it means for our patients, to excerpts from our newest inspirational book, you will read stories emphasizing the emotional connections our caregivers make with patients and their families. We’ll also show you how one Northwest hospital is caring for its community by expanding the campus, as well as offering new services.

As you turn these pages, you will see our employees living the Adventist Health mission — a mission that finds its true expression through care given. I don’t want to give anything away, so read the following pages for yourself. I hope you enjoy this spotlight on Adventist Health. If you wish to know more about us and our sacred calling, please visit AdventistHealth.org.

FACTS ABOUT ADVENTIST HEALTH:

17 hospitals in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington

More than 263 service sites, including 130 medical clinics

14 home care agencies offering home health, hospice, personal care, medical equipment and infusion therapy services

Four joint-venture retirement centers

Headquartered in Roseville, California

Approximately 19,500 employees

More than 2,500 beds

FACTS FROM 2010

123,540 admissions

448,155 emergency department visits

2,336,167 outpatient visits

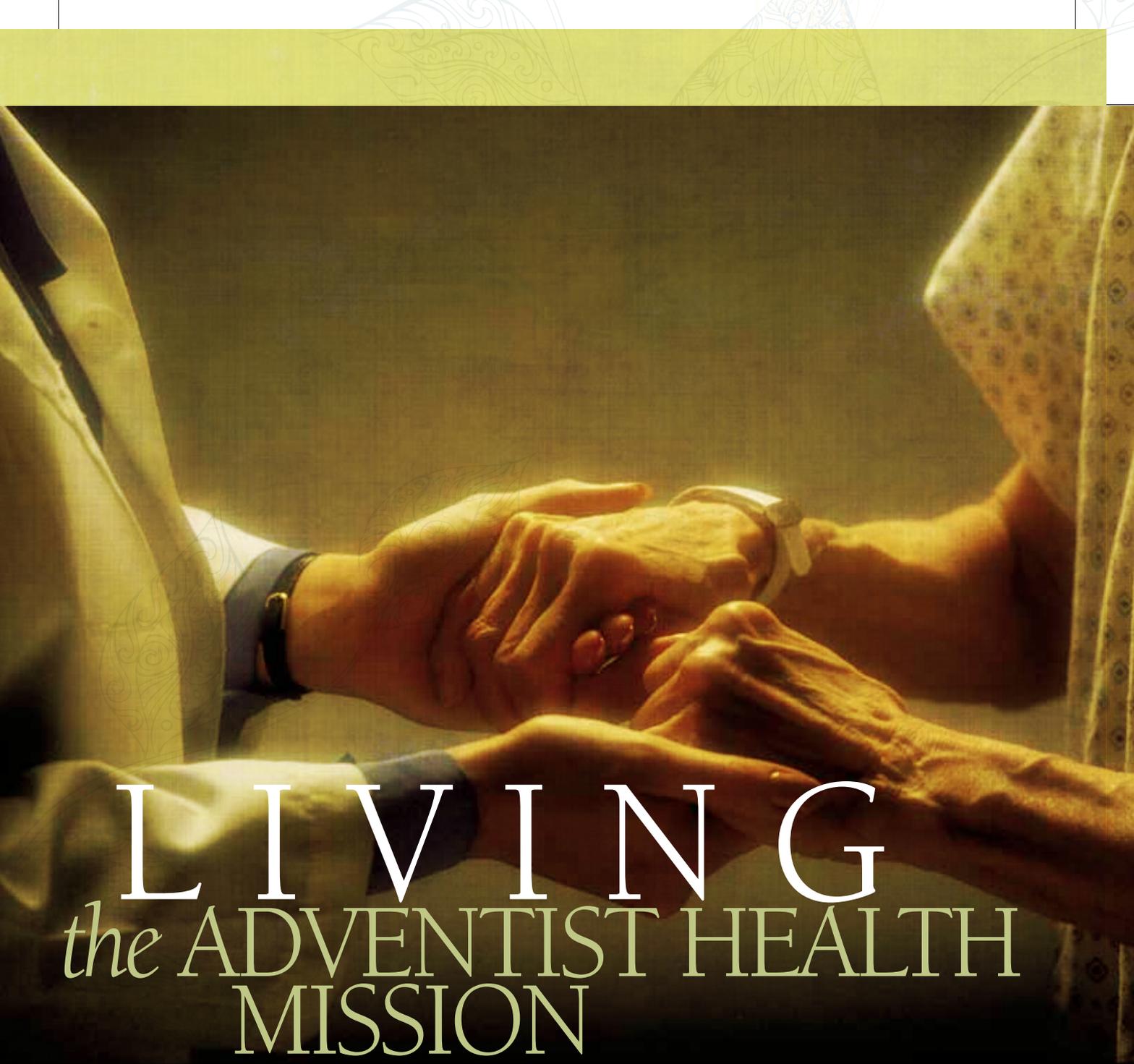
211,195 home-care visits

86,047 hospice days

763,190 rural health visits

Provided nearly \$300 million in free and low-cost services to our communities

The *GLENER* thanks Heidi Tomlinson from Heidi Design for the leaf artwork used in this feature. Cover photo taken by Richard Dower, retired *GLENER* editor.



LIVING *the* ADVENTIST HEALTH MISSION

“At Adventist Health, employees take these moments very seriously”

*H*ealth-care professionals have the unique opportunity of sharing some of life’s most difficult and precious moments with their patients. At Adventist Health, employees take these moments very seriously. By gently offering the love, compassion and care that they would offer their own loved ones, Adventist Health staff have made impressions on many patients and their families.

Many of these encounters have been captured in the most recent book, *Our Stories: Living the Adventist Health Mission*. This is the second edition of the book that shares devotional-like stories — written by Adventist Health employees — from all of our hospitals and many different professions. This series was spearheaded by patient care executives from all the medical centers, and illustrates how caring really is Adventist Health’s Sacred Calling.



Richard Dower

THE FLOWER BUSH

A few years ago, a tiny Japanese woman was admitted at the end of my shift on the ICU at Tillamook County General Hospital. I helped her settle in, spoke with her son, gave her husband a cup of tea and showed them to our family room. I was eager to get home, so I left right away.

Months later, when another change-of-shift admission required my assistance, I got the patient settled in and placed a chair close by for his son. The next night, I heard all about “that old Japanese man in 224.” He was refusing to speak, eat or take his medication.

I sat down and told him if he’d take his medicine, his heart rate could be controlled, and he could go home to his wife. He looked at me and said, “My wife died. You put her in this room to die, and now you put me in this room to die.”

I researched her chart and discovered that she was the lady I had briefly helped several months earlier. She had died shortly after admission. The man who was now in room 224 was listed as her husband.

So I set up another room far from 224 and called the son to assure him that his father was not dying. I apologized for placing his father in the same room his mother had died in.

I had a cup of hot tea waiting for the father when he arrived in his new room. I apologized to him, too, asking him to forgive me for being impatient to get home to my garden and my family when he was in such great need. He never said a word. He just started to drink his tea.

A few weeks later, a flowering bush was delivered to the floor with my name on it. It was from my Japanese patient. The card said, “For your garden, because you took time to understand.”

THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT

As a chaplain at Adventist Medical Center, in Portland, Oregon, I intended to bring calm, hope and healing to the pre-op patient before her impending

procedure. We made eye contact. I introduced myself as chaplain, inquired about her morning and asked the middle-aged, slight-framed woman if she would like me to offer prayer.

Normally, people are receptive to receive spiritual support during my brief visit. They are either glad to have some company, or they have serious issues they would like to talk about. I inquire if they would like me to pray for them, and the majority of patients respond positively.

That morning, the patient replied with hostility when the question of prayer arose. I respectfully acknowledged her response. As I concluded my brief visit, her friend sitting across the room said, “Maybe you ought to let him pray so you can cover all the bases.”

The patient glared at her friend, glanced back at me, snapped her head back on her pillow, defiantly folded her hands and, with a frown on her face, tightly closed her eyes.

“Okay,” she barked in her gravel-pitched voice. “Pray.”

My prayer was simply, “Thank you, Father, for covering all the bases of life today. May peace and comfort abide in this journey of life.”

All of a sudden, a sense of stillness filled the room. I didn’t dare move an inch. Within a few seconds I heard her whisper, “Hmm ... that’s strange. I feel different.”

It was evident that the Spirit was doing something amazing, and I wasn’t about to interfere. As I opened my eyes, I noticed that her entire countenance seemed to soften.

I left the room in awe of God’s Spirit and found myself reflecting on the experience of Jesus, who told Nicodemus that the winds are blowing. I am convinced that the winds of the Spirit were traveling through her pre-op room. Ah, the power of prayer!

*Brittany Russell Dobbs, Adventist Health
GLEANER correspondent*

These stories are excerpts from *Our Stories: Living the Adventist Health Mission*. To read the book in its entirety, download the free PDF at

www.adventisthealth.org/about-us.





The architectural rendering of Walla Walla General Hospital's expansions shows a larger entrance for better patient flow.

WALLA WALLA GENERAL HOSPITAL EXPANDING *to* SERVE

Since 1899, Walla Walla General Hospital has been providing whole-person care to the community. In 2010, WWGH had 1,449 admissions, 259 babies delivered, 10,000 emergency room visits, 40,599 outpatient visits and 5,889 home-health visits. In the 112 years since the hospital was founded, many things have changed, but the dedication to whole-person care has stayed the same.

WWGH GROWS OUT

Now several other things about the hospital are undergoing transformation. To better serve the community, WWGH has started a \$15-million expansion to improve patient care, convenience and privacy. The first major renovation since the current building was finished in 1978 will include:

- Total renovation of the front entrance to enhance patient flow;
- Expanded emergency center, which will double in size to better serve patients;
- Centralized registration and waiting areas for increased privacy and convenience;
- Upgrades to physician offices;
- Enlarged cafeteria highlighting healthy food options;
- A new volunteer gift shop.

Groundbreaking took place on July 20, and the project is expected to last 18 months.

"We're excited about these significant



Adventist Health executives break ground for the hospital's

upgrades to Walla Walla General Hospital and what that means for health care in Walla Walla," says Monty Knittel, WWGH president and CEO. "Our services continue to expand, and it's time for our facility to match the quality of service and patient satisfaction we provide on a daily basis."

MORE SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY

The building isn't the only thing the community can get excited about. WWGH has also recently partnered with the Northwest Cardiovascular Institute, based in Portland, Oregon, to enhance cardiac



care in the Walla Walla Valley.

Through this partnership, Brad Titus, M.D., will be located on the WWGH campus. Titus's arrival coincides with the opening of the hospital's new state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization lab. The high-tech lab, which opened in July, provides rapid, accurate diagnostic tools to help determine the best course of care for a patient with cardiac symptoms.

"This is just one part of our cardiac service line," says Stan Ledington, WWGH Imaging, Cardiology and Rehab Services administrative director. "It starts with educating at-risk individuals about heart health. We know that through this program we can enhance the health of the community."

For more information about the hospital expansion or the new cath lab, visit WWGH's website at www.wwgh.com.

Brittany Russell Dobbs

CARING
is OUR SACRED CALLING

the
SCIENCE
BEHIND SPIRITUALITY
& HEALING

New research has shown spirituality and religion have an impact on physical healing. Harold G. Koenig, M.D., is out to scientifically prove this link. Trained at Stanford University and Duke University Medical Center, he is considered by biomedical scientists one of the world's top experts on religion and health. Koenig's research has been featured on many programs, including *The Today Show*, *National Public Radio* and *Newsweek*, to name a few. Currently, Koenig is the director of Duke University's Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health.

Recently, Adventist Health sat down with Koenig to talk about the research. Here's what he had to say.

DR. HAROLD G. KOENIG



“In our diligence to share God’s love by providing the highest quality health care, we are constantly looking to improve our systems and expand our

Adventist Health: Explain the clinical trials at Glendale Adventist Medical Center in Southern California.

Harold G. Koenig: At GAMC and Duke University Medical Center, we are recruiting religious patients who have depression and cognitive medical illness. We will randomize participants where some will receive state-of-the-art cognitive behavioral therapy and some will receive the same treatment, but with a religious twist. By following participants for 3–6 months, we will be able to monitor if their depression changes, follow up on lab results and see if there are any differences.

AH: Why are these findings significant?

HGK: Most studies just observe. In our study we are going to intervene. We will ask, “Is religion causing these changes in behavior?” The results of this could show real scientific evidence that other scien-

tists and health-care practitioners can use.

AH: How does religion help people heal physically?

HGK: Three factors contribute to this:

- Religious coping, which is the use of religious beliefs and practices that help people deal with difficult life circumstances, counteracts changes that adversely affect health — physiological changes, healing, vulnerability to diseases, etc.
- Giving and receiving support influences the same physiological factors: immune, endocrine and cardiovascular. This affects their treatment and response.
- Health behaviors practiced due to commitment to religious beliefs include not smoking, drinking or engaging in risky sexual behaviors. The belief that the body is God’s gift encourages patients to comply with medical treatments.

AH: Does science support this?

HGK: It is not proven, but there have been more than 3,000 quantitative studies on this topic, two-thirds supporting this theory. That is why I am working with GAMC to scientifically prove that religion promotes healing.

AH: Why should health-care practitioners use religion to help patients heal?

HGK: There are many reasons why health-care professionals should address the spiritual needs of patients. This is essential for high-quality care of the whole person. Many patients in our hospitals turn to religion for comfort, hope and meaning. Since the mind and emotions are directly connected to the body’s natural healing systems, health-care practitioners, chaplains and pastors can use religious tools to positively influence patient outcomes.

Paul Crampton, Adventist Health assistant vice president for mission and spiritual care, offers what he believes this means for Adventist Health ...

Thanks to dedicated scientists like Koenig, there has been a marked increase in research and published articles on the relevance of spirituality in health over the past decade. This trend has compelled nursing and medical schools to include this topic as an integral part of their standard curriculum. Currently, virtually all nursing schools and more than two thirds of all medical schools include this subject.

Many organizations are now experimenting with mechanisms that integrate this new learning into practice. Although this is an emerging extension of contemporary, quality patient care, Adventist Health care institutions have understood its relevance since the first sanitarium opened its doors nearly 150 years ago. Our history with whole-person care (mind, body and spirit) places us at an advantage as we move toward the future.

Adventist Health has already established education and systems that appeal to a new generation of health-care

professionals expecting methodology that assesses patients’ religious/spiritual needs and incorporates these into the care plan. The modern age of health care expects its leaders to do more than provide for the physical needs of our patients. It requires them to care for the whole person by acknowledging the scientific role spirituality plays, as well as how to integrate it in all aspects of care. This includes the ability to unite the diverse segments of our organizations: physicians, administrators, clinicians and ancillary staff through a common bond of service that is integral, sustainable and measurable; one that transcends the superficial aspects of work and gives meaning and fulfillment in every person’s job.

In our diligence to share God’s love by providing the highest quality health care, we are constantly looking to improve our systems and expand our knowledge. By forming collaborative relationships with educational institutions that are on

the cutting edge of these processes — partnerships with Adventist universities and collaborative efforts with Duke and George Washington universities — we are opening groundbreaking possibilities for the very near future and ensuring our place as a top provider of quality, whole-person care.

The most exciting aspect of these efforts is the significant opportunities that are emerging to creatively collaborate with our Seventh-day Adventist Church family in not only advancing our health message, but in healing the people of our communities by sharing Jesus’ love through our religious practices.

Brittany Russell Dobbs, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent and Paul Crampton, Adventist Health mission and spiritual care assistant vice president

ACCION

Idaho: Oportunidades y Desafíos

Hasta hace poco, Nelson entendía que su suerte estaba escrita en cemento: Trabajar duro en los soleados campos de Jerome, región agrícola y ganadera de unos veintidós mil habitantes ubicada al suroeste de Idaho, y envejecer rumiando sus derrotas. Su mirada nostálgica y hablar pausado hacen pensar en la historia de su vida. Sus veinticinco años de edad han estado marcados por la adversidad y las lágrimas. Como resultado, se acostumbró a refugiarse durante la semana en el trabajo duro y en el alcohol los Sábados y Domingos.

Pero este año Nelson decidió entregar su vida al Señor después de asistir a una de las dos series de reuniones evangelísticas que los Adventistas han celebrado



Nelson junto a sus dos hermanos quienes están preparándose para ser bautizados en un futuro cercano.

en esa ciudad. Este paso le ha abierto una nueva perspectiva de la vida. Por ejemplo, ahora él sabe que todavía está a tiempo de iniciar una carrera universitaria en alguna de las instituciones educativas de la iglesia. Incluso sus dos hermanos todavía adolescentes han sentido el impacto del bautismo de Nelson. Uno de ellos ya está haciendo planes para matricularse en la Academia Adventista Gem State operada por la Asociación de Idaho. Muy pronto, él y su otro hermano darán también el paso del bautismo.

Con Nelson y otras cinco personas que se han unido este año, el grupo de personas Adventistas en Jerome ya alcanza los veintidós miembros. Antes de fin de año, serán organizados en una Compañía.

Ochenta kilómetros más adelante se encuentra la pequeña ciudad de Heyburn. Toda la región suroeste del

estado de Idaho es agrícola y ganadera, razón por la que muchas familias hispanas se mudan para trabajar aquí. Si usted visita Heyburn, se sorprenderá al ver cuán receptivas al evangelio son las personas allí. Se palpa entre ellas un serio deseo por conocer las verdades del evangelio. Por ese motivo, esta ciudad será el blanco evangelístico de la obra hispana en Idaho para el año 2012.

En total, la obra hispana de Idaho cuenta con dos iglesias organizadas, una compañía y dos grupos desparramados en una distancia que sobrepasa las cuatrocientas millas entre los dos puntos más lejanos. ¿Cuál es la mayor necesidad de la obra hispana en este estado? Capacitar y seguir equipando a los miembros que ya conocen el evangelio para que lleven adelante la tarea de fortalecer la obra que ya existe, y penetrar nuevas áreas. Según el Instituto

de investigación PEW, casi el once por ciento de la población del estado de Idaho es hispana.

El nuevo presidente de la Asociación de Idaho, el Pr. David Prest, se ha interesado de tal manera por las oportunidades que nuestra obra tiene en este lugar, que ya se ha lanzado a la tarea de desarrollar un plan junto con el Pr. Edwin López para financiar el crecimiento del reino de Dios entre los hispanos de Idaho.

Apreciado hermano lector, usted también es un agente del reino de Dios en el territorio de nuestra Unión. A medida que cumple con su misión, por favor recuerde en sus oraciones la obra Adventista en Idaho.

*Pastor Edwin Lopez,
Pastor y Coordinador de la
Conferencia de Idaho*

Siete nuevas personas se han unido a la Iglesia de Jerome durante el presente año.



El pastor López celebrando una boda como parte de una serie de reuniones evangelísticas en Jerome.



Summer Fun at Camp Lorraine

Forty-five children just completed seven days of fun-filled activities at Camp Lorraine. This rustic camp is located in southeast Alaska, a 30-minute boat ride from the town of Wrangell, Alaska. Camp Lorraine has been around for a long time, and many residents of Wrangell are now sending their grandchildren there.

Each year the camp is run by a group of dedicated staff sponsored by the Alaska Conference. We interviewed a few of the returning campers and asked them to tell us what is so great about Camp Lorraine. Here are some of their replies:

Samantha: You get to meet other kids and make new friends, and I enjoyed the spiritual meetings and crafts.

Kindsey: It is lots of fun. We had an awesome hike on

Sabbath. I was able to take two classes. One was called "Hands in Motion" and the other was "Christian Drama." It was great because there was no technology and it was a

great Christian experience.

Cory: I loved the beach combing. Making new friends was great and so was the food.

Courtney: Going to this



Howard Williams, Petersburg and Wrangell (Alaska) district pastor, stands with the newly baptized members at Camp Lorraine.

camp is the highlight of my summer. This year was my ninth year to attend. I have attended longer than the existing A-frame cabins have been on the property. I always receive from the staff such an inspiration. I am planning in two years to become part of the camp staff. Camp is awesome.

There you have it, right from some of those who can tell the real story. Attending a Seventh-day Adventist summer camp is something that all children should be able to experience at least once in their lifetime. Maybe next year, you could help sponsor a child so they too can say, "Summer camp is so awesome!"

Howard and Charleen Williams, Petersburg and Wrangell district pastoral couple

Health and the Gospel

In March of this year I, as a companion, attended the NEWSTART Lifestyle Change Institute at Weimar, Calif. As a result, I have lost 20 pounds and have an increase in energy. Now as health and outreach coordinator for the Alaska Conference, I am establishing CHIP seminars, cooking classes, an exercise facility and various health reform clinics.

Health reform is to stand out more prominently in the proclamation of the third angel's message. "The principles

of health reform are found in the word of God. The gospel of health is to be firmly linked with the ministry of the word. It is the Lord's design that the restoring influence of health reform shall be a part of the last great effort to proclaim the gospel message," (Ellen G. White).

We covet your prayers.

Tina Steenmeyer, Alaska Conference Health and Outreach coordinator



Tina Steenmeyer focuses on health and lifestyle changes as part of her job as the Alaska Conference health and outreach coordinator.

Happenings at Eagle Church

The Eagle (Idaho) Church has been busy the past few months. Some of the congregation's highlights include:

Dedication and Baptisms

July 9 was a high day in the Eagle Church with the dedication of Nolan Matthew James Wardle and the baptism of Ken Litzinger.



Tim Roosenberg, pastor, baptizes Ken Litzinger.

Litzinger was raised in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and baptized at age 8. For the past 16 years, his wife, Kris, prayed every day for him and the salvation of her family. Ken knew that Jesus was an important person and the Son of God, but did not believe that Jesus was divine or the Creator, nor did he believe in the Trinity. Recently Ken has been listening to the Spirit of Prophecy audio books.

One day this spring, Kris tearfully told him she was going to heaven and she had spent all these years loving him and she could not imagine spending an eternity without him.

Consequently the Litzingers, including their daughter, Kandalee, and son, Lane Davis, are all members of the Adventist Church and looking forward to the Blessed Hope of Jesus' return. Kris is still praying for their other children to come to believe, love and trust in Christ.



Kelly Wardle watches as Tim Roosenberg, pastor, dedicates her son Nolan.

Women's Ministries

The women of the Eagle Church were treated to a beautiful garden brunch at the home of Sandra Cortez on Sunday, Aug. 7. The guest speaker was Cheri Peters, True Step Ministries director. Peters can be seen in *Celebrating Life in Recovery*

on 3ABN. Cortez comments, "After hearing this woman's amazing, miraculous story, I stopped to think how many women out there were going through the same thing that Cheri Peters went through, of being unloved from the start of her life. Cheri is a living testimony of how God takes care of those who trust in Him. If we just knew what Cheri and others have gone through in their lives, we would stop complaining about the little things. Those who attended certainly took something special home that day."

Transitions

Tim and Karen Roosenberg are leaving their pastorate at the Eagle and Garden Valley (Idaho) churches after



Pictured here: Tim, Karen and Caleb Roosenberg.

servicing four and a half years. They are excited to begin their Daniel 11 ministry with the Idaho Conference.



Sophia and Patrick Fleming hold up a "You're going to get wet! God bless! Noah," sign.

As Roosenberg left, he encouraged members to always keep Jesus number one, keep spending time with Jesus in Bible study and prayer, and follow the Holy Spirit's leading in all things.

The local congregations are pleased the Roosenbergs will maintain their Emmett, Idaho, home as they travel with the "Islam and Christianity" seminar ministry and look forward to seeing them occasionally. The Eagle and Garden Valley churches will truly miss them and pray God's blessings on their family.

Shannen Schmitz, Eagle Church communication leader

Montana Holds Baptisms

The Montana Conference has experienced some special baptisms these past few months.

Kalispell Church

June 4 was a special day for the Kalispell (Mont.) Church. Caleb and Seth Reeves, along with Logan Harris, were all baptized during the church service. Casey Higgins, pastor, encouraged other youth to follow these young men's example, which resulted in several more youth requesting baptismal studies.

Following baptism, each of the young men was presented with the Pathfinder baptismal pin by Josh Holloway, Pathfinder leader, and gifts of recognition from their church and the Montana Conference.

Louise Atkinson, Kalispell Church communication leader

Eureka Church

The Eureka (Mont.) Church had two baptisms. The first was 14-year-old Hannah Rayne, baptized by her father



Hannah Rayne is baptized by her father into the Eureka (Mont.) Church on Feb. 5.



Pictured, from left: Casey Higgins, pastor, and Josh Holloway with newly baptized members Seth Reeves, Logan Harris and Caleb Reeves on June 4 at the Kalispell (Mont.) Church.

(with the Montana Conference leadership's blessing) on Feb. 5. Rayne has been raised by her parents, Paul and Carolyn, to embrace Adventist Bible teachings. She helps with evangelism through a family life ministry, Restoration International by *Happy is the Home* on the 3ABN television network.

The second baptism was Deborah Wagner on Sabbath, July 9. One of Wagner's ties to Adventism came through the Depression Recovery Program the church held for the com-



Deborah Wagner is baptized into the Eureka (Mont.) Church.

Custer Church

On July 23, siblings Dillon and Traci Kempf were baptized in the Mission Reservoir near their home, just east of Custer, Mont., by 88-year-old Richard Knapp, a retired pastor living in Livingston, Mont.

One interesting thing about this baptism was the same pastor who baptized brother and sister, also baptized their father, Travis, and uncle, Joe Kempf III, in the Yellowstone River in 1985. At Travis' and Joe's baptisms, Knapp was newly retired from full-time ministry, yet still working as a stipend pastor at the Custer Church. Furthermore, this same pastor, when he was pastoring the Billings (Mont.) Church in 1964, also baptized Dillon's and Traci's grandfather, Joe Kempf Jr.

Archie Harris, Montana Conference communication director

munity. This was followed by personal Bible study on the book of Daniel with Jim Poch, AFCEC graduate, and then Lonny Liebelt, pastor.

Angela Poch, Eureka Church communication leader

On July 23, siblings Dillon and Traci Kempf were baptized in the Mission Reservoir near their home just east of Custer, Mont.



Pathfinder Leaders Convention

Focus on Teens



GARY MCLAIN

Guest speaker Chuck Hagele, Project PATCH executive director, addresses convention attendees.

It was a gorgeous summertime weekend at the Gladstone Park Conference Center as Pathfinder leaders from around the Oregon Conference and beyond came for the annual Leadership Training. The theme for this Pathfinder year is “Send Me,” based on Isaiah’s experience of seeing God on His throne “high and lifted up,” and his response to the question, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” As recorded in Isaiah 6:8, Isaiah said, “Here am I. Send me.”

Guest speaker Chuck Hagele, Project PATCH executive director, shared insights on how to build relationships with teens, de-escalate issues, stay clear of

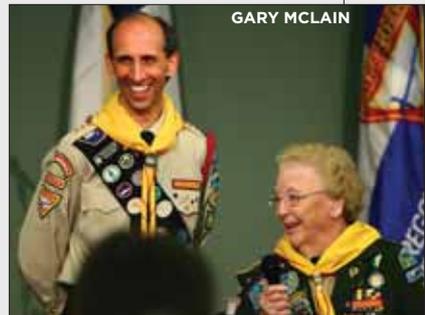
danger areas, and most importantly, model Christ.

Throughout the weekend, Pathfinder leaders and TLTs (grades 9–12 Pathfinders) attended workshops that provided relevant ministry training Pathfinder-style. Fay Ziegele, Pathfinder leader from Hood River, Ore., who retired after 58 years of Pathfinding, shared on Sabbath morning how to “continue to make Pathfinders fun for the kids as you lead them to Jesus.”

The convention closed at the flag poles with Tracy Wood, Oregon Conference Pathfinder director, quoting Isaiah 6:9: “And He said, ‘Go ...’ Go to wherever the Holy Spirit calls

you! Go forward for Christ! Go and lead your Pathfinders to Jesus! Go!”

Tracy Wood, Oregon Conference youth ministries associate director

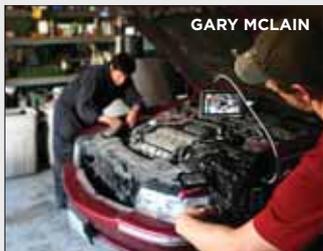


GARY MCLAIN

Tracy Wood, Oregon Conference Pathfinder director, interviews Fay Ziegele, who has retired after 58 years of Pathfinding.

General Conference Shoots TV Commercials on Gladstone Campus

The General Conference is in the process of printing an updated version of *The Great Controversy* entitled *The Great Hope*. This version is only a portion of the original book, intended for the non-Adventist.



GARY MCLAIN

The other commercial portrays a mechanic who is touched by what the book shares.

Two TV commercial spots were shot on the Gladstone Conference Center grounds Sunday, Aug. 15, to promote the book. The first commercial, shot in the lobby of the Oregon Conference headquarters, portrays a young woman learning about the *The Great Hope*. The second commercial, shot at the maintenance shop on the Gladstone grounds, shows a mechanic who is touched by the new book and what it has to offer.

The Great Hope will be available this fall at your local Adventist Book Center. The television commercials will



GARY MCLAIN

Two commercial spots were shot on the Gladstone (Ore.) Conference Center grounds. One commercial portrays a young woman learning about *The Great Hope*.

be offered on stations such as Hope Channel as well as a variety of stations across the country.

Gary McLain, Oregon Conference communication director

PAA Block Party

Grows in Size and Purpose



Portland Adventist Academy connected with neighbors at its fifth-annual Block Party, where the school and guests donated more than 300 pounds of food to Portland Adventist Community Services.

and popcorn, slurped snowcones, and drank lemonade. The local K9 Police Unit stopped in for a visit, as well as firemen who drove and operated one of Portland's largest fire trucks. Children enjoyed face-painting, a bounce house, games, arts and crafts, and learned about the nearby Sunnyside Church's Adventurers Club and the Kids Alive programs.

The event also gave guests the chance to donate food to the nearby PACS Food Pantry. More than 300 pounds of food, including fresh ears of corn, were delivered to PACS the following morning. "Every ear of corn was shared with clients," says Traci White, PACS Social Services director. "Nothing went to waste. And the food that was donated in the barrel was [of] very good quality. At many food drives we get donations of old and outdated food, but not at this event."

The Block Party, in correlation with National Night Out, gives neighbors a platform to meet each other and discuss safety concerns and changes to the neighborhood. It also serves as an opportunity for PAA to share information on its upcoming land development and school rebuild.

Each year the Block Party

grows in size and purpose. PAA's efforts to make a safe and secure place for neighbors to live and young people to develop continue through positive community building efforts like the Block Party.

Story and photos by Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent



The free event brought more than 400 neighbors to the PAA campus. Visitors enjoyed live music and information booths from local organizations and businesses, ate grilled corn-on-the-cob



Scotty Sanders, Portland Adventist Academy senior and Block Party volunteer, holds a pile of corn to be donated to the Portland Adventist Community Services food pantry.

Baptism At Gladstone Park

Angela Whitbeck was baptized by Bob Uhrig, pastor, at the Gladstone (Ore.) Park Church during the Sabbath worship hour on July 23.

Whitbeck says, "I started attending Gladstone Park in 2008 with Mike and Ingrid Whitbeck, my father- and mother-in-law. When they were baptized, I was able to see their joy as they came out of the water and see the change in their lives.

"My fiance, Scott, and I were going to be married, so we asked Pastor Uhrig if he would perform the ceremony. He agreed only on the condition we would go through a



Angela Whitbeck gets a hug from a church member while her son, Glen, stands beside her.

marriage counseling class prior to the wedding. After the class was over, we went through the Amazing Facts Bible study. After the wedding, Scott and

I began attending church on a regular basis and came to know many of the members.

"I started participating in the Women's Ministry group and was welcomed by Corleen Johnson, Connie Andrews, Lori Azrack and Eugenia Shipowick.

"About a year ago, I started listening to a Christian radio station called Air 1, and that is when I decided to be baptized. The first song I heard was by Tenth Avenue North, called "You Are More," and this specific song spoke straight to my soul."

On the day of her baptism and being voted into church

membership Whitbeck said, "I am honored to be an official part of the Gladstone Park Church and hope I can bring others to the Lord and His love."

Richard Cook, Gladstone Park Church communication leader



Bob Uhrig, pastor, stands with Angela and Scott Whitbeck and their son, Glen.

In-Service Held by Webinar

The Oregon Conference education department conducted their teacher in-service meeting on Aug. 11. This year the meeting was conducted via live video streaming.

Nineteen speakers presented from a meeting room at the Oregon Conference office. A couple of present-



Blaze Streaming Media brings along equipment, including multiple cameras, a switcher, an encoder and other items, for live streaming on Aug. 11.

ers Skyped in from offsite locations — one from Walla Walla, Wash., and another from Seattle, Wash. The Skype signal was then ingested into live video stream. There were no attendees onsite, but there were presenters.

A crew of four from Blaze Streaming Media brought equipment, including multiple cameras, a switcher, an

encoder and other items, to make the live stream flow smoothly. The attendees (teachers) met at their respective local schools, viewing the live stream on a big screen or on personal computers. Not only was \$10,000 saved, 481 combined driving hours were saved also. The good news was, at the end of the meeting, everyone either stayed

home or commuted via their regular travel to and from school. In addition, the entire session will be archived for future reference and training of newly arriving staff. The response from administrators and instructors has been positive and overwhelming. The next live video streaming will provide upgrades and innovations learned during this session.

Live video stream will not replace all future meetings as individual interaction is still needed for certain venues, but it could possibly allow more frequent informational encounters at a likely savings.

Gary McLain, Oregon Conference communication director



Nineteen speakers present various topics to teachers, administrators and staff during the Oregon Conference education department's teacher in-service live stream.

More Blessed to Give than to Receive

Seniors Donate Trip Funds

This year, as hard economic times got tougher, a Milo Adventist Academy senior student had to go home because of past unpaid tuition with no hope of further payments. Another senior proposed that instead of a trip, the funds that had been raised since their freshman year to go toward a class trip, be used to bring this student back, and to help the four or five others struggling to pay their tuition. The class discussed their options and voted to do just that, leaving tears in the eyes of their sponsors. They wanted to make sure no one was left – “We want to graduate all of us together!”

The students got busy, calling businesses and writing letters, hoping to bring in enough money to pay the students’ tuition. In all honesty, the senior class was hoping enough money would come in to allow them a tiny class trip, instead of the California trip they’d been thinking about. But as time passed, and donations did come in, they began to realize there were not enough donations to allow for any trip. They discussed options, and the silly suggestion was made that the class trip would have to be to Camp Umpqua, the junior camp a mile down the road from the dorms; still on the MAA campus.

As the days ticked by, the joke of the junior camp being the destination became reality. As one senior stated, “It’s what we make it!” The seniors decided they were going to have fun. They brought camping supplies back from home leave and worked to make menus that



Pictured here is the Milo Adventist Academy’s 2011 graduating class.

would not go over the cafeteria’s normal food budget.

Clarissa Hughes, class president and a 4-year senior from Longview, Wash., wanted to have a class trip send-off like every other class had since she’s been here. So they made the plan of everyone saying goodbye in the parking lot, Saturday night, with the intention of circling around and sneaking back into the dorms for a good night’s sleep.

The sponsors and a few parents from Roseburg, Ore., and the surrounding areas had other plans. As the bus crossed the Milo bridge and the seniors hollered out the windows, Dale Milam, class sponsor, pretended they were being stolen away for their class trip. The seniors were baffled about the destination but having a great time. The bus stopped and students were asked to close their eyes and were led in a long line into the Canyonville (Ore.) Adventist Community Services Center where parents were waiting with pizza, ice cream, old-time music and graduation decorations. The class had a wonderful evening with their surprise.

But the surprises weren’t over. Evan Smith and Ben Hubbard, two of the seniors, had set up a giant woodpile with wood donated by Mark Starr. The bonfire was so huge that the worship circle had to stand well back from the blaze!

Others had also heard of the sacrifices of this group. The Rogue Valley (Ore.) Adventist School Student Association decided to give up one of their end-of-the-year activities, donating the money to Milo’s seniors for a few hours of bowling. A board member of RVAS, Rory Wold, and his wife, Darla, opened up their home for the afternoon, offering pizza, salad, cookies, movies, games, and a heated swimming pool. On the way home, the bus stopped at a mall for some shopping.

The sponsors arranged more surprises. A big hit was what the seniors affectionately call the “red-neck hot tub.” Jeff Miller, plant services director, lined two pickup beds with plastic and filled them with water from the school’s boiler – providing private hot tubs for men and women. There were many games and activities

throughout the three days of the senior class “trip” (campout), but the best thing about the trip was the time the class was able to spend together: hanging out, playing games, cooking the food exactly how they wished, watching movies on a wall lined with white butcher paper, building wind chimes for the lodge, doing repair work on a cabin at the lodge, singing songs, painting a big senior mural and practicing for graduation.

At graduation, when all 28 of the seniors marched together, the parallel could not be missed. This class cared enough to make sure all were together at graduation; the prayer was made that they would continue that love and care and make sure all reached the great reunion in heaven as well — all 28, with no one missing!

The Milo senior class of 2011 chose to be happy. They chose to give, and in the end, they received many blessings from others and from each other.

Carol Bovee, MAA GLEANER correspondent

Wenatchee Remembers

Sam Knutson, Wenatchee, Wash., businessman, believes collective memory is as important to a church as short-term memory is to an individual, so he proposed a Sabbath for “Remembering.”

“A person with amnesia or a church with Alzheimer’s loses a sense of identity and purpose,” agrees Mike Aufderhar, senior pastor. With help from people who attended church ‘50s or more years, “Pioneer Sabbath” took shape.

From the dim mimeographed bulletins to men in dark suits, ties and white shirts, to women in hats and gloves, and on through the order of service, the church service represented a time from the 1940s or ‘50s.

Sabbath School teachers willingly gave up the quiet of individual classrooms to lead lessons in the sanctuary. A nostalgic reading of a secretary’s report written by Lucy Naes-



CARL BUICK

Many express appreciation for the choir directed by Bob Brody and request it be a part of the worship services regularly.

eth, Jan. 26, 1957, was read by her daughter, Helene Krikris. Naeseth is fondly remembered for her creative secretary’s reports spanning a quarter of a century. Elders marched in and knelt while the choir sang “The



CARL BUICK

Participants in the Sabbath of Remembering, pictured here, are members who have attended church 50 years or more.

Lord Is in His Holy Temple.” Aufderhar gave a brief homily titled “Remembering.”

A panel of five people shared vignettes from their combined 430 years of church attendance.

Ursella Ball recounted how the church became her social safety net and won her sailor-husband’s heart during World War II. Because she was only 17 years old, her parents refused to give permission for her to marry. When the couple eloped, the church became family and gave them a wedding shower. This confirmed Ball in the faith and her husband, Vern, took Bible studies that led to baptism.

Carl Campbell recalled the mission stories and 13th Sabbath offering. He says, “Though we were dirt poor, we planned investment projects to augment what we could give. There were few visual aids. Pastors sometimes read the sermons. That wasn’t so good, but there was solid Bible content.”

Earl Bolton recalled hearing Roy Henneberg, former pastor, share a memory: A man sitting

next to his father began to snore during church. The noise became so disruptive the pastor stopped and said, “Brother Henneberg, would you please arouse the sleeper?”

To which Henneberg’s father said, “Pastor, you put him to sleep — you wake him up.”

Until he was 14, Richard Litke dreamed of becoming a communist organizer. He believed the Karl Marx axiom, “Religion is the opiate of the people.” Then he saw a lecture on astronomy advertised.

Though he didn’t know it at the time, he attended his first Seventh-day Adventist meeting. That led to an evangelistic

series — baptism in Bellingham, Wash., school at Auburn Adventist Academy and Walla Walla College, and later a teaching ministry spanning 65 years.

“I remember those chapels, MV meetings, worship services and Sabbath Schools with investment offerings, mission reports and memory verses,” Litke says privately. “That’s where I learned to love God and understand grace — to me that was and is the ideal.”

Glenn Aufderhar, Wenatchee Church communication leader



MIKE AUFDERHAR

These five members have attended church for a combined total of 430 years. Pictured here, from left, are Ursella Ball, Carl Campbell, Richard Litke, Earl Bolton and Marie Dawes. One Sabbath is not long enough for even a small sampling of their stories filled with praise and humor, but when they finished, teenagers in the balcony were heard saying in surprise, “Those old people are fun!”

Newly Ordained to the Gospel Ministry

David “Dayv” Lounsbury was ordained on May 28, at the Spokane (Wash.) Central Church. This occasion is a significant occasion in his spiritual journey. Lounsbury was born and raised in Yakima, Wash. Growing up in another denomination, he did not become an Adventist until 2001. His baptism became the catalyst to his ministerial calling and the beginning of this journey.

One of Lounsbury’s favorite themes and symbol for the Christian life is “The Journey.” God invites everyone on a journey of faith and discovery. No two people are alike, and no two journeys are exactly alike.

Lounsbury graduated from Walla Walla University in 2001 and was hired by the Upper Columbia Conference. Since that time he has served in churches in three states, obtained his Master’s Degree in theology from Andrews University and currently serves the Spirit Lake (Idaho) and Spokane Central (Wash.) churches.

Lounsbury is married to Gena, a nursing student, homemaker and gifted musician. Together they have three children: Bailey, Timri and Tobey. The Lounsburys are excited to be a part of the spiritual journey for God’s people. They count it a privilege to see the miracles that take place as the love of God transforms them into his children.

*Kathy Marson, UCC
communication administrative
assistant*



Pictured here are Gena and Dayv Lounsbury with their children, Tobey, Timri and Bailey.



*“I have no greater joy than to hear
that my children walk in truth.”*

—3 JOHN 4

DiscipleShip

A Children’s, Youth & Education Ministries Event

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St. Maries Church Family Rejoices over Baptism

On July 9, John Peirce, pastor, had the pleasure of baptizing Filip Slansky in the St. Joe River in St. Maries, Idaho. Slansky is from the Czech Republic. He came back this summer to visit his former host family, Syd and Sue Clark, whom he affectionately calls his American mom and dad, and his church family, the St. Maries Church. The whole church family rejoiced with Slansky in his decision to live for Christ. He made a deep impression on all. He blesses others with his musical talents and his joy for life. I interviewed Slansky about his decision to be baptized (the Mom and Dad he speaks of in his answers are his real mom and dad).

Martha George: Filip, why did you come to the United States? And when?



Filip Slansky rejoices in his new commitment to Christ.

Slansky: I came to the United States as an exchange student for the school year 2009–2010. My brother was an exchange student two years before me in St. Maries, and brothers always want to do the same things, so that's why I wanted to go, too. I wanted to master my English, become independent, and get to know new people and their culture. I had many

expectations, but what that year meant to me surpassed them all.

MG: Filip, were you a Christian when you came to the United States?

Slansky: I was led to Christianity by my mom. My dad is an atheist. I was baptized in the Catholic Church around the age of 13. However, I lacked faith, and going to church was rather a formality. My character wasn't changed, and after a false feeling that something was different with me, my life was in the old tracks again. My mom stopped going to church and so did I. So if I was a Christian, I was a very dead one.

MG: What drew you to Christ while you were here in the United States?

Slansky: I really enjoyed

the time spent on Saturdays with the St. Maries Church and the extra time with some of its members. My personal experience with Christ began at the end of my exchange student year. I realized that in order to become a Christian, I must make the choice myself. That, in my opinion, is very important. Parents can lead children to faith, but just



John Peirce, pastor, baptizes Filip Slansky in the St. Joe River.

so far and not any further. Children need to make the steps (at least the final steps) willingly by themselves. After this exchange student year I stood up on my own feet, and I believe Jesus has been leading me since then. My old "I" died, and I experienced a radical shift in my behavior, interests, thoughts, etc. I began my personal Bible studies and started to do some research about the Adventist Church. Later I found this church in [the Czech Republic] and started going regularly there.

Martha George, St. Maries Church communication leader

Share the *Hope*
Christian Women's Retreat

Keynote Speaker: Carla Gober
Featured Musician & Teen Speaker: Kristie Stevenson

October 28-30, 2011
Camp MiVoden, Idaho

(509) 838-2761 - www.uccsda.org/women

Summer Campers Discover Sacred Space

Sunset Lake (Wash.) Camp volunteers and staff built, painted, sewed and assembled a full-size replica of the wilderness sanctuary to incorporate into the summertime program, where daily worship times and evening dramas retold the story of the Exodus.

“All summer I listened as groups of campers sat in the Most Holy Place of the sanctuary and poured their hearts out to God,” says David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director. “It is an amazing sight to see campers come to the altar to invite Christ into their life!”

The sanctuary provided a location for a staff communion service, torch-light worship services, times of prayer in the Most Holy Place and detailed tours for campers and more



David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director, gives a tour of Sunset Lake’s wilderness sanctuary replica and explains how the sanctuary is designed to be relational and to show God’s love.

than 250 camp guests.

“It’s really an exciting experience to see the different elements of the tabernacle,” says Joseph Underhill, Sunset Lake staff member. “You can really feel God’s presence.”



The Table of Showbread illustrates how God provides for our needs.

The sanctuary replica brought to life the 50 chapters of the Bible (in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy and Hebrews) that describe the Tabernacle and its ceremonies.

“Each item in the sanctuary represents God’s relationship with us,” says Yeagley, who served as sanctuary docent. “Just like the priest would meet a sinner halfway to the tabernacle, God wants to meet us halfway. God is not concerned with sin. He’s

already dealt with that. He just needs a place to dwell in our lives.”

In all, 635 campers attended Sunset Lake Camp this summer, 126 expressed an interest in preparing for baptism and three young people were baptized.

Read more Sunset Lake stories at sunsetlake.org.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director



The Alter of Incense illustrates our prayers ascending to heaven as a sweet fragrance to God.

the **BIG**
PICTURE
of ministry

Hometown missionaries made a difference in Seattle and Tacoma through service and witnessing projects. How are you sharing your faith?

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WASHINGTONCONFERENCE.ORG

Vacation Bible School

Teaches Children About God's Love

Vacation Bible School is a well-loved component of summertime evangelism in western Washington.

This is Chase Smith's third year at the Bellevue (Wash.) Church VBS, and he was full of energy for all the fun with 135 other children (a 50-50 mix of church and community children). He only missed two nights when he returned to Children's Hospital for another round of chemotherapy and radiation for leukemia.

"Your church does a wonderful job getting the kids so excited about God," says Teke Smith, Chase's mother.

Bellingham's Panda Mania VBS program involved church youth in ministering to 40 children, mostly from the church, with a few children from the community.

"Our supervised youth led the two-hour program every



JASON MEERT

Vacation Bible School offers a time to creatively teach children about God's love for them.

day for five days," says Allison Purdy, Bellingham VBS leader. "The children completely understood the theme and could recite the message that 'God loves you no matter what.' They want the program repeated

Leukemia treatments only keep Chase Smith, age 6, away for two nights from Vacation Bible School in Bellevue, Wash., where he learns with 135 other children about God's love.



TEKE SMITH

inclusion of children from a local day-care center.

"We want VBS to be fun, but most of all we want them to know Jesus, and to know that the stories we tell them are not something we made up. They are in the Bible and they can find them in their own Bible," says Kristi Candler, Graham VBS leader. "These kids may be young, but we saw how hungry they are to know Jesus."

Read the whole story at washingtonconference.org.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director



JASON MEERT

throughout the year."

The Graham Church once again wrote their own VBS curriculum called "More than Conquerors," where children learned about how Jesus, Mary, Martha, Peter, Paul and Dorcas used the armor of God. Attendance swelled to 60 with the

Vacation Bible School allows church and community children to make new friends, play fun games and learn more about Jesus.

Auburn Students Install Solar Panels

Auburn Adventist Academy engineering students recently designed mounting hardware and adjustable linkage to install a commercial solar power three-phase electrical system on campus as a part of Engineering 121 and 123 class requirements.

“This new solar laboratory will give our students a practical example of harnessing a small portion of the clean power of the sun, and also demonstrate responsible use of renewable energy for the dynamic planet God has loaned us,” says Tom Allen, AAA teacher and Walla Walla University adjunct instructor. “It is a great way to teach our students and community about the Great Provider.”



Students enrolled in engineering classes at Auburn Adventist Academy, install eight solar panels to help reduce the carbon footprint of the campus.

Within the first month, the array generated 238,593 watt-hours of electrical energy with the eight solar panels, and measurably reduced the carbon footprint of the school.

The hope for this project is to offset a large portion of the academy’s electrical needs and save up to a half million dollars per year.

If the Academy can dem-

onstrate effective use of solar power from their region of the United States, they will have the necessary data to write a grant through the Department of Energy and Puget Power for a major solar array.

The project was funded by a grant from the Committee of 100 (Auburn’s philanthropic organization), electricians and business professionals, and aided by Marshall Bain and Roger Bookter, Adventist electricians who are both Washington State licensed electrical contractors.

Raschelle Casebier, Washington Conference communication apprentice, with Tom Allen, AAA teacher

Educators Seek Jesus as School Year Begins

Adventist educators from western Washington met in early August for teacher in-service meetings.

These two-day meetings offered 125 educators an introduction to a new education leadership team, instruction through workshops and presentations, inspiration through times of worship and prayer, and interaction with fellow educators.

John Freedman, Washington Conference president, opened the session by introducing educators to Kelly Bock, vice president for education, and Paulette Jackson, associate superintendent, and offering a prayer of dedication.

Bock began his first presentation to teachers by asking conference educators to sing “I See Jesus Everywhere I Go” with him.

“I challenge teachers (and everyone else) to spend a thoughtful hour with Jesus,” Bock says. “Find a time in the morning or evening — you’ll see Jesus everywhere you go.”

Bock shared his story about attending nursing school, nearly failing college, finding direction in the Army and discovering his niche in education as a boys’ dean.

“I can’t imagine a career where I’d meet so many people and make so many memories,” says Bock, who has served as a

principal and education superintendent on conference, union and division levels in his career. “God led me in directions I never expected to go.”

Educators attended workshops on learning styles, classroom management, curriculum resources, school communication and technology. Teacher

groups also met for breakout sessions to share resources and ideas.

A photo gallery is available at washingtonconference.org.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director

Washington Conference administrators pray for the ministry of Kelly Bock and Paulette Jackson, who are the new educational leaders for the conference.



ASI Convention

Draws Record Numbers

Record numbers of attendees and exhibitors participated in the 2011 Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries International Convention Aug. 3–6 at the Sacramento (Calif.) Convention Center. They also gave approximately \$2.1 million — well above the \$1.5 million goal — to support 47 carefully selected ministry projects around the world, despite a volatile economy and uncertain times. Significant support and attendance from California locals seemed to drive numbers higher this year.

Extra chairs had to be set up for the more than 3,300 people who came to hear Ted N.C. Wilson, Adventist world church president, on Sabbath morning. The exhibit hall had a record-breaking 338 booths representing 221 ministries and organizations from all over the world.

The eight general session speakers and 24 seminar presenters spoke with notable urgency. On Friday night, Ivor Myers, a central California pas-



GERRY CHUDLEIGH
Marta and Ron Davis, Better Life Broadcasting Network managers, share what Better Life is accomplishing in the Northwest during a Wednesday evening “Members in Action” presentation at the 2011 Adventist-laymen’s Services & Industries International Convention.

tor and ministry leader, packed the entire Great Controversy theme, including all major doctrines and prophecies, into 38 breathtaking minutes that left listeners with a clearer understanding of the significance of the Adventist movement.

ASI conventions are rife with networking opportunities. Ron and Marta Davis, managers of Better Life Broadcasting Network in Grants Pass, Ore., say,



GERRY CHUDLEIGH
Brandon Schroeder from Eugene Ore., visits while assembling an exhibit booth for Digma.com, a ministry of Light Bearers Ministry in Jasper, Ore., at the 2011 Adventist-laymen’s Services & Industries Convention.

“It’s always so inspirational to hear how God is using just ordinary folk to share the gospel in so many ways and in so many places ... We always come away inspired to continue to seek God and go forward in faith.”

Many convention attendees who have never experienced a sense of calling find themselves establishing medical outreach centers in Zimbabwe, ministering to the needs of orphans in Haiti, or simply sharing their

faith with friends in their inner circle with new purpose and understanding. Paul Karmy, a cement business owner from Burleson, Texas, started a Christian radio station in the Dallas/Ft. Worth (Texas) metro area, based on interactions he had while manning an ASI convention exhibit booth.

During the convention, ASI officers were elected or re-elected for two-year terms, with Frank Fournier of Eden Valley Institute in Loveland, Colo., taking the helm as president. “My heart’s burden is to bring the focus around to spiritual

preparation of God’s people to ensure success in our ministries,” says Fournier.

General sessions and seminars from the convention will be available for online viewing or download on the ASI website www.asiministries.org. Next year’s convention will be held Aug. 8–11 in Dallas, Texas.

Conna Bond, ASI communication director



ADAM JACKSON
Norm Reitz (left), a California attorney and outgoing Adventist-laymen’s Services & Industries president, presents the symbolic Bible and gavel to Frank Fournier, incoming president from Loveland, Colo., on the final evening of the 2011 ASI International Convention.

A Collaborative 'War' Strategy

To Bring Hope and Wholeness to Our Communities

Our North America Division territory is at war — spiritual warfare. Can you see the signs? Mean-spirited politics? Personal addictions of every sort? Satanic entertainment? Inroads of secularism?

Rampant materialism?

The ominous threat

of terrorism? As the old hymn reminds us, we are living and dwelling in a "grand and awful time."

Against

this bleak backdrop, enter the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We're uniquely positioned for the battle. After all, we're a church with a distinctive message of hope and wholeness! If the world ever needed our message in the past, it *really* needs it now.

Our Message of Hope

Adventism is a message illustrated by Sanctuary truths, modeled in the life of Christ, communicated by the prophets throughout the ages and succinctly expressed in the three angels' messages of Revelation 14:6–12. This special message points prophetically to Christ's second coming — a concept embroidered in our very name, Seventh-day Adventists.

Our Message of Wholeness

Our distinctive message not only points toward the future; it adds abundant life to the present. Hundreds of scien-

tific studies have confirmed the benefits of our Adventist message of health — a key doctrine embraced by the Church early in its history. Coupled with the assets of physical health is the assurance of God's saving grace and protecting care.

Wanted! A 'War' Strategy to REACH North America

Success in any battle requires discipline. Ellen White says it best: "If discipline and order are necessary for successful action on the battlefield, the same are as much more needful in the warfare in which we are engaged as the object to be gained is of greater value and more elevated in character than those for which opposing forces contend on the field of battle. In the conflict in which we are engaged eternal interests are at stake," (*Evangelism*, page 115).

Last October, church leaders in the NAD assembled in Silver Spring, Md. They came from Bermuda, California, Maine and Florida and from all points in between. One thing brought them together — the desire to REACH North America. These leaders, differing in so many ways, unified around the following five themes as a way to organize our diverse efforts in communicating hope and wholeness to North America.

What REACH Is

Revival and Transformation — Connecting with God through public and personal worship.

Education for Discipleship — Helping every youth and adult to become more like Christ.

Alignment with the Church — Connecting within our diverse church family.

Community Outreach and Evangelism — Connecting our communities with hope and wholeness.

Healthy Leadership and Management — Insisting on personal and church-wide excellence.

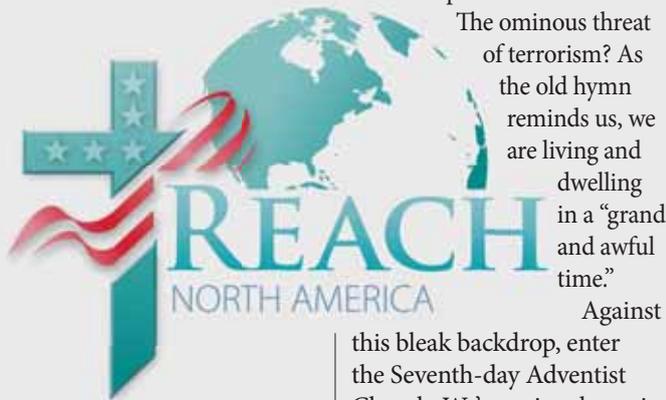
What REACH is NOT

REACH is not a program, project or slogan that expires in four to five years to make room for yet another catch phrase. Rather, the five REACH elements above are enduring principles that we as a Church value.

The Weymouth translation of Ephesians 6:12 states, "For ours is not a conflict with mere flesh and blood, but with the despotisms, the empires, the forces that control and govern this dark world — the spiritual hosts of evil arrayed against us in the heavenly warfare."

The North American Division is engaged in a different kind of war. It is not a conflict of hostility and bitterness, but a battle waged with God's amazing grace poured out to a world in desperate need of His love. And a glorious outcome is already decided!

Dan Jackson, North American Division president



Building Bridges

Hispanic Youth Explore Engineering and Sciences



CHRIS DRAKE

A Walla Walla High School student works on part of a robot students built during one of several sessions at an engineering and sciences camp co-hosted by Walla Walla University and Bonneville Power Administration in August.

In August, Walla Walla University and Bonneville Power Administration co-hosted a weeklong science and engineering camp for local high school students. Ten campers in the Hispanic Youth Exploring Engineering and Sciences Camp attended hands-on sessions. They built robots, bridges and pump rockets, and attended lecture/activity sessions about leadership, motivation and more.

Although the HYEES Camp was launched in 2005, this is the first year it has been held at WWU. Previously the camp was held at Washington State University. The program is organized by Bill Erickson, a natural resource specialist at

Bonneville Power, and Diana Erickson, Walla Walla Public Schools bilingual coordinator.

“We are enjoying being local this time,” says Diana. “All the presenters have been excellent and the students are even raving about the food at the cafeteria.”

“I didn’t know much about engineering, but what I’ve learned in the labs has made my mind go ‘wow!’” says Mitzzy Rodriguez, Walla Walla High School junior. She also says she now better understands how electrical, mechanical, civil and computer engineering build off each other.

Jazmin Duran, a WWHS freshman, is not sure if she will become an engineer, but is

interested in the WWU chapter of Engineers Without Borders, which is currently working with a Honduras community on expanding and improving their elementary school.

“HYEES is all about exposing these students to career options they may not have known before or hadn’t thought of as possibilities for themselves,” says Doug Logan, School of Engineering dean. “They are a great group of kids and represent a remarkable pool of talent.”

Rosa Jimenez, WWU
GLENER correspondent

KJV Celebrates 400 Years

Seminars and Events Planned at WWU

It is the 400th anniversary of the King James Version translation of the Bible. Walla Walla University’s history department, the English department, the School of Theology and the University Church are partnering to put together a celebration weekend Oct. 21–22 for all who are interested in learning more about the historical, literary and theological significance of the KJV.

Why is this important? “First, in the English-speaking world, this translation has introduced the story of Jesus for many

generations of seekers,” explains Alex Bryan, University Church senior pastor. “Second, financial investment in biblical scholarship was and continues to be an incredible prompt for the church. This anniversary should remind us to continue to invest in

new biblical translation, fresh commentary and popular access of written revelation.”

Terrie Aamodt, WWU history and English professor, agrees. “Publication of the KJV in 1611 was a landmark event in the religious history of English-speaking people,” she says. “It is also a notable

moment in the development of the English language. The scholars who prepared the KJV — all 47 of them — reflected the most refined features of Renaissance English, and its cadences have shaped both English and American literature and political discourse ever since.”

For more information on seminars at WWU celebrating this important anniversary, watch wallawalla.edu and WWU’s Facebook page for updates.

Becky St. Clair, WWU
GLENER correspondent



Bigger 90th

Garnet Bigger's 90th birthday celebration brought family from Washington, Oregon, Montana, Colorado and Maryland to College Place, Wash., on March 6.

Garnet McCoy was born March 4, 1921, in Yakima, Wash., the second of Allen and Alberta McCoy's four children. While a student at Columbia Academy, Garnet met Forrest Bigger. They married on Nov. 19, 1942, before he was drafted into the Army. After World War II, Forry worked in the lumber industry and they lived in Prospect, Ore. They then settled in Medford, Ore., and raised their four children. Garnet retired from the State Employment office. Garnet enjoys traveling. She and Forry went to Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Mexico, Central America and Ecuador. Forry died in 2005.

A pre-birthday family cruise through the Panama Canal last October fulfilled a long-held dream for Garnet. It recovered the memory of crossing the canal with Forry in their pickup camper while driving to Ecuador to help at a mission for several months in the 1970s.

Garnet's family includes Darold and Barbara Bigger of College Place, Wash.; Carolyn and Larry Evans of Laurel, Md.; Rick and Marty Bigger of Corvallis, Ore.; and Sandi and Rick Carlson of Everett, Wash.; 7 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren (soon to be 12).

Kannenberg 50th

Richard and Esther Kannenberg celebrated their 50th anniversary on Sept. 18, 2010, with a reception in Phoenix, Ariz., hosted by their children.

Richard Kannenberg married Esther G. White on Sept. 18, 1960 in Jamestown, N.D. They

met while attending Sheyenne River Academy in Harvey, N.D.

They began their married life working on the Kannenberg farm in North Dakota. In 1962, Richard reentered school at Union College, completing a B.S. in nursing. After serving in the U.S. Army Nurse Corp, he completed training as a certified registered nurse anesthetist. Richard continues a 40-plus-year career in this field.

Esther earned a B.S. in food service management in 1974. Years later, as a grandmother, she additionally completed a nursing degree, becoming a certified operating room nurse. Throughout her career, Esther worked in different arenas, including food service management, dietetics and registered nursing. She retired as an operating room nurse in 2009.

Richard and Esther have lived in many places, including North Dakota, Maryland, Washington, Hawaii, Texas, Arkansas and Idaho. They enjoy entertaining, travelling, supporting their church community and visiting with family and friends. Their current home is in Meridian, Idaho.

The Kannenberg family includes Wendi Kannenberg and Doni Andregg of Anchorage, Alaska; John and Elena (Atabeva) Kannenberg of Wahpeton, N.D.; and 4 grandchildren.

Parmele 70th

Earl and Eola Parmele celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on June 18, 2011, with family at their granddaughter Wendy Kleppe's home in Mill Creek, Wash. They toured the Hood River Valley via train this summer as further celebration.

Earl and Eola met while children living on the Oregon coast. They dated as teenagers and



Earl and Eola Parmele

were married in Taft, Ore., on June 28, 1941, soon after graduating from high school. Their early married years were spent in the Sheridan, Lincoln City, and Toledo, Ore., areas. Earl loved the outdoors and worked in the logging industry, owning and operating his own log truck for most of his career, until his retirement in 1986. Eola, a homemaker and stay-at-home mother to their four children, provided a warm atmosphere where other children felt welcomed and cared for.

When the logging industry slowed on the Oregon coast, the Parmeles moved to Hood River, Ore. There, as in previous churches, they were both actively involved in Pathfinders, school activities, Sabbath School and other church leadership. Supporting Adventist Christian education, Earl and Eola sacrificed to send all four children to Adventist schools.

Earl's work took the family to Pendleton, Ore., for several years. From there they moved to Joseph, Ore., where they enjoyed living until their move to Napavine, Wash., six years ago. Earl is deacon for the Winlock Church and Eola enjoys writing poetry. They both cheer for the Mariners (win or lose) during the baseball season.

The Parmele family includes Earlene and Bob Wohlers of Chehalis, Wash.; Gary Parmele of Portland, Ore.; Joe and Pat (Lorren) Parmele of Columbia, Mo.; Tom (deceased) and Ruby (Kuzma) Parmele of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada;

8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Santo 70th

Bill and Golde Santo celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on May 31, 2011, with a quiet celebration at the Regency Retirement Home in College Place, Wash.

Wilfred L. Santo and Golde E. Klebe were married on May 31, 1941, in Lewiston, Idaho. Bill leased the gas station where he had worked before their marriage. They saved money and bought his childhood home, but sold it when Bill was called to join the Army. After being sent to Oklahoma and Japan, Bill returned home and worked for Railway Express. They bought the old family farm back and raised their three children and fostered 50 more. They still connect with some of their foster children. Bill went on to work for the Union Pacific Railroad, retiring in 1980 after 27 years. Bill served many years as a deacon in the church. Golde served as a deaconess, a leader in the Sabbath School divisions and with the Dorcas for many years.



Golde and Bill Santo

She also volunteered at Walla Walla General Hospital and the Ladies Auxiliary president.

The Santo family includes Robert Santo of Walla Walla, Wash.; Dennis and Judy Santo of Walla Walla; Jeannie Webb of Pasco, Wash.; 5 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

BIRTHS

ANDERSON — Sara Ella was born Jan. 13, 2011, to Gabriel and Elizabeth (Shreve) Anderson, Albany, Ore.

CHENEY — Peter Ellis was born Feb. 14, 2011, to Greg and Mari (Ferguson) Cheney, Salt Lake City, Utah.

DEDERER — Jayden Alexander was born Aug. 11, 2011, to Jered and Katie (Cordes) Dederer, Portland, Ore.

DRAKE — Morgan Douglas was born June 17, 2011, to Jeff and Melissa (Hackathorn) Drake, Eugene, Ore.

HOCKENSON — Jaden Claire was born April 5, 2011, to Loren and Clairra (Davis) Hockenson, to Auburn, Wash.

MCELVAIN — Simon Paul was born June 19, 2011, to Jonathan and Rachel (Taber) McElvain, Port Orchard, Wash.

PETTETT — Rowan Lewis was born May 5, 2011, to James and RaeAnn (Baker) Pettett, Richland, Wash.

RADKE — Audrey Grace was born July 28, 2011, to Adam and Colleen (Brundula) Radke, Bothell, Wash.

SCHWISOW — Eliana Ruth was born July 10, 2011, to Edwin D. and Sarah (Montague) Schwisow, Vancouver, Wash.

TEAGUE — Viviana Eden was born April 5, 2011, to Derrick and Rochelle (Kruger) Teague, Mt. Angel, Ore.

VILLA — Macy Alivia was born March 12, 2011, to Daniel and Megan (Norman) Villa, Richland, Wash.

VILLA — Normandy Amilia was born March 12, 2011, to Daniel and Megan (Norman) Villa, Richland, Wash.

WULFF — Rian Madison was born June 2, 2011, to Jason and Jamie (Eichman) Wulff, Roseburg, Ore.

WEDDINGS

BASSHAM-SPAULDING — Melissa Joy Bassham and George Edward Spaulding were married May 15, 2011, in Port Gamble, Wash. They are making their home in Bremerton, Wash. Melissa is the daughter of Don and Sue (Field) Bassham. George is the son of Cameron Spaulding and Julie Hetterle.

BOWERS-WITHERS — Sara Bowers and Joshua Withers were married May 29, 2011, in Ashland, Ore. They are making their home in Medford, Ore. Sara is the daughter of Jerry and Gretchen (Larson) Bowers. Joshua is the son of Dan and Patty (Godman) Withers.

ENGELMAN-FALLANG — Allison Engelman and Patrik Fallang were married July 24, 2011, in Miles City, Mont., where they are making their home. Allison is the daughter of Phil and Kathy (Wilson) Engelman. Patrik is the son of Rudy and Monica (Andersson) Fallang.

FISCHER-UHACZ — Lori Fischer and Zachary Uhacz were married July 17, 2011, in Battle Ground, Wash. They are making their home in Vancouver, Wash. Lori is the daughter of Curt and Maxine (Mercer) Fischer. Zachary is the son of Leonard and Beverly (Fosberg) Uhacz.

LEISKE-BRUNDULA — Melanie Leiske and Steven Brundula were married May 1, 2011, in Chehalis, Wash. They are making their home in Chandler, Ariz. Melanie is the daughter of Donn and Kathie Leiske. Steven is the son of Herman and Grace Brundula.

MARINO-JELLISON — Rocio Marino and Rocky Jellison were married April 3, 2011, in Loma Linda, Calif., where they are making their home. Rocio is the daughter of Celestino Marino and Mercedes Huancho Mateo. Rocky is the son of James and Cheryl (Reinke) Jellison.

REUER-HARDESTY — Jeanna Reuer and Kyle Hardesty were married July 31, 2011, in Arlington, Wash. They are making their home in Kent, Wash. Jeanna is the daughter of Kerry and Noriko Reuer. Kyle is the son of Brian and Debbie Hardesty.

SUNKEN-FORSHEE — Emily Sunken and Tye Forshee were married Aug. 7, 2011, in Portland, Ore. They are making their home in College Place, Wash. Emily is the daughter of Ken and Adele (Gudmundson) Sunken. Tye is the son of Mel and Jyme (Aime) Forshee.

AT REST

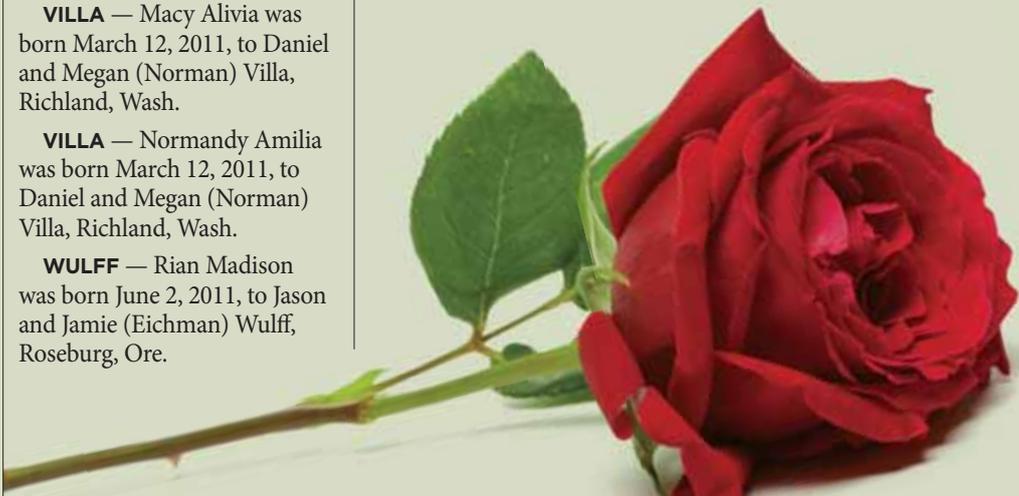
BEARD — Helen Imre (Berecz) Bockman, 94; born Feb. 2, 1917, Chicago, Ill.; died Feb. 21, 1911, Renton, Wash. Surviving: husband, Mel, Palmer, Wash.; sons, Stanley Bockman, Soledad, Calif.; Marty Beard, Issaquah, Wash.; daughters, Ginny (Bockman) Lessig, Republic, Wash.; Dickie (Bockman) Woods, Chanute, Kan.; Arta (Bockman) Price, Bonney Lake, Wash.; Bobbie (Bockman) Vedvick, Concrete, Wash.; Brenda (Beard) Hunt, Auburn, Wash.; brothers, Joe Berecz, Ridgefield, Wash.; Bob Berecz, Hermiston, Ore.; John Berecz, Berrien Springs, Mich.; 19 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

BECKER — Claude C., 90; born July 25, 1920, Culbertson, Neb.; died April 23, 2011, Highland, Calif. Surviving: wife, Kathrine (Harris), Walterville, Ore.; son, Duskin, Kona, Hawaii; daughters, Judy Jepson, Antonio, Texas; Mary Kathryn Coleman, Eugene, Ore.; sister, June Merritt, Denver, Colo.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

BREDEMEIER — Richard B., 83; born Feb. 28, 1928, Portland, Ore.; died March 6, 2011, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: wife, Joyce (Hardt); sons, Curt, Umatilla, Ore.; Chet, Thousand Oaks, Calif.; Gordon, Pendleton, Ore.; daughter, Jane Roe, Boring, Ore.; brother, Glen, Beaverton, Ore.; 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BRINSON — Sandra Ann (Wilson), 71; born March 6, 1939, Orofino, Idaho; died Feb. 28, 2011, College Place, Wash. Surviving: husband, Charles; sons, Garth, Milton-Freewater, Ore.; Darren, Walla Walla, Wash.; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BURDEN — Bruce, 85; born Sept. 5, 1925, Eugene, Ore.; died May 9, 2011, Shoreline, Wash. Surviving: wife, Edith (Stoehr),



Seattle, Wash.; sons, Robert, Richland, Wash.; Ronald, Snohomish, Wash.; Kenneth, Mountain View, Calif.; daughter, La Vonne Albertson, Portland, Ore.; 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

CHRISTENSEN — Leonard K., 87; born June 1, 1924, Rapid City, S.D.; died June 5, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, June (Page), College Place, Wash.; sons, Kenneth, Claremont, Calif.; Ronald, Auburn, Wash.; Gary, College Place; Dale, Walla Walla; daughter, Nancy Barnett, Reynoldsburg, Ohio; brother, Milton, Salem, Ore.; 11 grandchildren and 11 step-grandchildren.

COY — Hugh Marion, 87; born Aug. 7, 1923, Ames, Iowa; died June 25, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Jellen Lee, Angwin, Calif.; Linda Wernick, Polebridge, Mont.; sisters, Pat Swinsen and Phyllis Coy, both of Avon Park, Fla.; 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

CROOKES — Alice Claire (Gildersleeve) Goertzen, 84; born Aug. 25, 1926, Ocean Falls, British Columbia, Canada; died June 7, 2011, Port Angeles, Wash. Surviving: sons, Don Goertzen, Morton, Ill.; Alan Crookes, Tacoma, Wash.; Malcolm Crookes, Juneau, Alaska; daughters, Ann Morvai and Alice Clark, both of Port Angeles; Aleta Kreib, Myrtle Creek, Ore.; brother, Murray Gildersleeve, Maui, Hawaii; 13 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

CROSS — Nancy K. (Devitt), 67; born March 16, 1944, Corvallis, Ore.; died June 27, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Carlton, College Place, Wash.; son, Jeff, Salt Lake City, Utah; daughter, Tara Cross, Kent, Wash.; stepmother, Marjann Devitt, Redmond, Ore.; and sister, Shirley Gartung, Strathmore, Calif.

DAVIS — Glen Walton, 75;

born May 18, 1935, Salem, Ore.; died April 15, 2011, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Shirley (Amonson), Battle Ground, Wash.; sons, Gregory M., New Plymouth, Idaho; Bradley E., Citrus Heights, Calif.; Monte L., of Hawaii; sisters, Joyce Golden, McMinnville, Ore.; Mary Christensen, Salem; 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

DIETRICH — Edith C. (Pifer), 72; born Feb. 23, 1939, Miami, Fla.; died June 13, 2011, Burlington, Wash. Surviving: husband, Frank, Roseburg, Ore.; son, Scott, Roseburg; daughter, Vanessa Finch, La Connor, Wash.; stepdaughters, Jackie Fjarli, Medford, Ore.; Jeri Collver, McMinnville, Ore.; brothers, Eugene Pifer, Meadow Glade, Wash.; George E. Pifer, Fall River Mills, Calif.; sister, Juanita Byrd, Oregon City, Ore.; and 6 grandchildren.

DOUGHTY — Della L. (Wiles), 83; born July 15, 1927, Rushville, Neb.; died May 26, 2011, Federal Way, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Loreen S. Dougherty, Tacoma, Wash.; and 3 grandchildren.

EICHHORN — Johanna (Hansa), 84; born March 24, 1927, Zionsville, Ind.; died July 6, 2011, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Denise Eichhorn, Brier, Wash.; Rebecca Wheeler, Fife Wash.; Jacque Eichhorn, Ridgefield, Wash.; brother, Thomas Eichhorn, of Colorado; sister, Gloria Buckner, Uniondale, Ind.; and 3 grandchildren.

ENGLE — Russell P., 74; born Jan. 29, 1937, Los Angeles, Calif.; died July 4, 2011, Yuma, Ariz. Surviving: wife, Sybil (Daw); sons, Scott, Medford, Ore.; Greg, Ashland, Ore.; Tony Dortmund, of Germany; stepsons, Bill Daw, Thornton, Colo.; Ted Daw, Eagle Point, Ore.; daughter, Adrienne Wallace, Medford; stepdaughter, Debbie Daw, Eagle Point; brothers, Art, Portland, Ore.; Doug, Bullhead

City, Ariz.; 15 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

ERICKSON — Kay Darlene Lewis, 75; born June 11, 1936, La Crosse, Kan.; died July 10, 2011, Redlands, Calif. Surviving: son, Leonard W., Seoul, Korea; daughters, Cynthia K. Erickson-Gilman, Mission Viejo, Calif.; Lorie J. Speegle, Kelso, Wash.; and 3 grandchildren.

EVERETT — Marolyn R. (Gill), 69; born June 2, 1941, Dayton, Ohio; died June 1, 2011, Stanwood, Wash. Surviving: husband, Ronald W.; son, Mark R., Mt. Vernon, Wash.; daughters, Cheryl L. Olson, Aurora, Colo.; Rebekah C. Fisher, Sedro-Woolley, Wash.; brother, Steven Gill, Medford, Ore.; and 4 grandchildren.

FAIRCHILD — Muriel F. (McCloud), 76; born Nov. 12, 1934, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada; died May 26, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Ed; stepson, Gary Fairchild, Portland, Ore.; stepdaughters, Sandra Fairchild, Deborah Patterson and Deanna Adams, all of Portland.

FOWKE — Ernest H., 79; born April 18, 1931, in Michigan; died May 30, 2011, Goldendale, Wash. Surviving: wife, Cathy (Rhoads); sons, Robert, Canby, Ore.; Gerald, Troutdale, Ore.; stepson, Jeremy Johnson, San Francisco, Calif.; stepdaughter, Christina (Johnson) Nicolici, Everett, Wash.; 4 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and 5 great-grandchildren.

FRANCIS — Louise M., 88; born Aug. 21, 1922, Clearwater, Idaho; died May 3, 2011, Koote-nai, Idaho.

GIBBS — A. Juanita (Mason-Wright), 88; born Feb. 26, 1923, Pendleton, Ore.; died June 3, 2011, Pendleton. Surviving: daughter, Linda Bullock, Pendleton; 3 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

GILMAN — Dorothy

(Stewart), 103; born Dec. 19, 1907, Brinsmade, N.D.; died April 30, 2011, Gladstone, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Donna Necker, Fairview, Ore.; Diane Maxwell, Gladstone; Sharon Tonack, Happy Valley, Ore.; 13 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

GRIFFIN — Doris (Touhey), 89; born May 14, 1922, Little Rock, Ark.; died June 9, 2011, Salem, Ore. Surviving: son, Ron, Salem; daughters, Donna Webb, Arlington, Ore.; Linda Klein, Salem; 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

HALL — Margaret B. (Fund), 96; born Aug. 19, 1914, Prosser, Wash.; died July 7, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: son, James R., Walla Walla; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

HALVERSON — Harold Wilton, 86; born Dec. 7, 1924, Loma Linda, Calif.; died June 30, 2011, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: sons, Daniel C., Portland, Ore.; Kendall "Skip" S., Gresham; daughter, LeAnn S. Schoepfli, Riverside, Calif.; 5 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

HAMER — Violet I. (Stockton), 97; born Jan. 1, 1914, Frankfort, Ky.; died May 28, 2011, Sequim, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Esther Littlejohn, Sequim; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

HEINRICH — Frank D., 86; born Sept. 22, 1923, Midvale, Idaho; died Aug. 25, 2010, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: wife, LaVon (Olds); son, David O. Sr., Boring, Ore.; sister, Sarah Sheehan, Greenville, Calif.; and 2 grandchildren.

HENDERSON — Robert "Bob" A., 71; born May 26, 1939, Livingston, Mont.; died Feb. 19, 2011, Port Angeles, Wash. Surviving: wife, Solange (Carvajal), Walla Walla, Wash.; son, Robert A. Jr., San Fran-

AT REST

cisco, Calif.; daughters, Karen Henderson, West Richland, Wash.; Luz Hedmann, Portland, Ore.; mother, Elva Henderson, Pacific City, Ore.; and 4 grandchildren.

KASER — Mary Elizabeth (Elie), 81; born Feb. 6, 1930, Braceville, Ohio; died March 16, 2011, University Place, Wash. Surviving: son, Russell Kaser III, Lakewood, Wash.; daughters, Kathy Jones, Hillsboro, Ore.; Linda Ginn-Henson, Lakewood; multiple grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

LEISKE — Tillman James "Jim," 91; born Jan. 19, 1920, near Heaton, N.D.; died June 21, 2011, Kennewick, Wash. Surviving: wife, Erma "Aggie" (Schultz); son, Rod, Pasco, Wash.; and a grandchild.

LUCAS — Dale L. R., 72; born April 6, 1939, Littlefork, Minn.; died May 30, 2011, Fresno, Calif. Surviving: wife, Geraldine (Evans); son, Michael, Visalia, Calif.; daughters, Laurie Harris, Manteca, Calif.; Flora Hunt, Sanger, Calif.; mother, Ivy Lucas, Olympia, Wash.; brother, Leonard, Fairbanks, Alaska; sister, Lois Lucas, Olympia; and 4 grandchildren.

MABRAND — Leona Ellen (Fredrickson), 94; born Nov. 20, 1916, Kensal, N.D.; died June 25, 2011, Pendleton, Ore.

MCCARTNEY — Ellen, 98; born June 22, 1912; died May 1, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash.

MCGLOCKLIN — Lee Franklin, 88; born June 16, 1923, Bonners Ferry, Idaho; died July 3, 2011, Bonners Ferry. Surviving: daughters, Kathy Utter, Bonners Ferry; Debra Haven, Woodland, Wash.; Deanna Wong, Lynnwood, Wash.; Tammy White, Kearns, Utah; a total of 36 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

MEYER — Phillip C., 80; born Aug. 29, 1930, Columbus, Neb.;

died April 30, 2011, Olympia, Wash. Surviving: wife, Virginia (Betus); son, Gary, Redlands, Calif.; daughters, Lorrie Hagemann, Sparks, Nev.; Carol Jordan, Olympia; 6 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

MUNCIE — Arlene Rose (Fischer), 83; born Jan. 16, 1928, Oxford, Mich.; died March 11, 2011, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Terri Lundberg, Salt Lake City, Utah; Grace Muncie-Jarvis, Beaverton, Ore.; brother, Kenning Fischer, Paradise, Calif.; sisters, Wanda Long, Lake Oswego, Ore.; Donna Morris, Napa, Calif.; Ollie Eaton, Paradise; and 3 grandchildren.

OXLEY — Cloyde T., 89; born May 30, 1921, Brookfield, Ill.; died Feb. 21, 2011, Johnson City, Tenn. Surviving: sons, Dennis K., Pasco, Wash.; Edwin E., Walla Walla, Wash.; daughters, Sharon M. Borton, Eidsen, Tenn.; Freida L. Blood, Medical Lake, Wash.; sister, Ruth Wilson, Colorado Springs, Colo.; 4 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and 3 step-great-grandchildren.

PAULMAN — George A., 92; born Jan. 7, 1919, Hershey, Neb.; died June 12, 2011, Port Orchard, Wash. Surviving: sons, George, Steilacoom, Wash.; William, Silver Springs, Nev.; daughter, Claudia Arends, Port Orchard; brother, William, Wolbach, Neb.; sister, Betty Miller, Elk City, Okla.; 7 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

RADKE — Lena (Love), 99; born March 1, 1912, Ritzville, Wash.; died July 12, 2011, Tacoma, Wash. Surviving: son, Jack Essman, Tacoma; daughter, Darlene Hill-Leaming, Tacoma; 9 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

ROBINSON — Doris E. (Chappell), 85; born Jan. 24, 1926, Derby, Maine; died June 15, 2011, Troutdale, Ore. Surviving: son, Thomas S. III,

Gladstone, Ore.; daughters, Leslie Pederson, Portland, Ore.; Loretta Lund, Beaverton, Ore.; Autumn E., Milwaukie, Ore.; 7 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, 7 step-great-grandchildren and 3 step-great-great-grandchildren.

SCHMALE — Ronald E., 76; born Dec. 4, 1934, Longview, Wash.; died June 24, 2011, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Shirley (Perry), Salem, Ore.; daughters, Rhonda Randall, Hermiston, Ore.; Donna Michel, Caldwell, Idaho; Tamara Partney, Pendleton, Ore.; Sandra Henderson, Echo, Ore.; stepdaughters, Gwendolyn S. Hessong, Tigard, Ore.; Carolyn J. Boss, Rolesville, N.C.; Jacquelyn D. Carman, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; 16 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

SLAYBAUGH — Earl R., 98; born Dec. 31, 1912, Mabton, Wash.; died June 20, 2011, Portland, Ore. Surviving: sons, Richard, Sherwood, Ore.; Don, Beaverton, Ore.; daughter, Sharon Slaybaugh, Beaverton; 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

SPAULDING — Donald B., 86; born March 22, 1924, in North Dakota; died Oct. 22, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Surviving: wife, Ferol; daughter, Susette; 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

STAMM — Erin Elizabeth (Myers), 43; born Aug. 16, 1968, Phoenix, Ariz.; died May 23, 2011, Estacada, Ore. Surviving: husband, Brian; son, Logan, Estacada; stepson, Tyler, Portland, Ore.; stepdaughters, Danielle Stamm, Salem, Ore.; Stephanie McCauley, Fairbanks, Alaska; parents, LeRoi and Connie (Coyle) Myers, Seattle, Wash.; sister, Tanya Myers, Tacoma, Wash.; grandmother, Dorothy Coyle, Oregon City, Ore.; and 3 grandchildren.

STURGIS — Eugene Oliver, 75; born Sept. 15, 1935,

Norton, Kan.; died April 19, 2011, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: daughter, Stacy Tennent, Nampa, Idaho.

TUCKER — Ruth M. (Kincaid), 98; born Sept. 3, 1912, Ferdinand, Idaho; died May 19, 2011, Sandpoint, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Richard "Dick" and Wendell, both of Sandpoint; daughter, Marjorie Dillon, Parker, Colo.; 8 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

WATSON — Donnie "Don" Brooks, 78; born May 28, 1933, Gentry, Ark.; died June 14, 2011, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Shirley Mae (Jones); sons, Jerry Brooks Watson and Billy Joe "BJ" Watson, Collegedale, Tenn.; stepdaughter, Pamela Johl, Drayton, N.D.; brother, Ray Watson, Caldwell; and a grandchild.

WILSON — Bethel C., 91; born Dec. 23, 1919, Yakima, Wash.; died May 26, 2011, La Center, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Kay Johnson, La Center; Ann Stentzel, Newport, Wash.; brother, Bruce Craig, Portland, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

WOOFER — Freda K. (Adams), 89; born July 24, 1921, Warren, Ohio; died Dec. 31, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Surviving: daughters, Gail Peterson, Portland, Ore.; Nanci Harms, Redlands, Calif.; Cathy Mihalic, Amherst, N.Y.; 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

ZOETER — Violet L., born Feb. 19, 1929, Monmouth, Ill.; died Sept. 19, 2010, Sutherland, Ore. Surviving: husband, Thomas, Lookingglass, Ore.; sons, Marcus, of Hawaii; David, Lookingglass; and daughter, Jody Major, Roseburg, Ore.

North Pacific Union Conference

Offering

- Oct. 1** — Local Church Budget;
- Oct. 8** — World Budget: Voice of Prophecy;
- Oct. 15** — Local Church Budget;
- Oct. 22** — Local Conference Advance;
- Oct. 29** — North American Division Evangelism.

Walla Walla University

Oct. 1 — The Longest Table, 4th Street, College Place, WA. Hundreds of chairs and dozens of tables will be filled with WWU students as U-Church members host tables and feed and get to know students at this annual event.

- Oct. 1** — Faculty Organ Recital: Kraig Scott. 6 p.m., U-Church. Free admission.
- Oct. 8** — Portland Alumni Event. Old Spaghetti Factory dinner, 6:30 p.m., 12725 S.E. 93rd Ave., Clackamas, OR. RSVP to alumni@wallawalla.edu by Oct. 3.
- Oct. 16** — Faculty Piano Recital: Leonard Richter. 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Center Auditorium. Free admission.
- Nov. 5** — Omieron Pi Sigma (men’s club) Amateur Hour. 8 p.m., Alumni Gym. Admission charged. Call 509-527-2111 for more information.
- Nov. 13** — 2011 Distinguished Faculty Lecture: Joe Galusha. 7 p.m., FAC Auditorium. Free admission.

Oregon

Laurelwood Academy Alumni

Oct. 8 — Laurelwood Academy alumni plan to meet at the Gaston campus. We will have 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. church services in the Laurelwood Church, followed by a potluck in the grade-school gym. There will be class photos and other historical memorabilia available to look at in a couple classrooms. All alumni and friends are welcome, but the 1941, 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 graduating classes are encouraged to come visit with your classmates. If you have questions or plans for your class, contact Penny Messenger, LA Alumni secretary, 503-647-5868.

Religious Liberty Presentations

Oct. 29 — Greg Hamilton, Northwest Religious Liberty Association president, will make two presentations at the Gladstone Park Church, 1505 Ohlson Rd., Gladstone, OR. The 11 a.m. topic is “America’s Prophetic Image Makers.” Following a potluck dinner at 2 p.m., the topic is “The Class of Civilizations between Islam and Christianity in the Light of Prophecy.”

Missing Members

The Eugene Church is looking for the following

individuals: Gayle Andrews, Mary C. Bazar, Meidi R. Boggs, Carmen A. Garcia, James Giardina, Hal D. Gibbs, Dennis Gibbs, Lupe Gonzalez, Donald W. Henry Jr., Tracy D. Henry, April LaSage, Shelly Mattson, Simon G. Medew, D.J. Kersten, Staci A. Kersten, Linda Palin, Mike M. Possman, Matthew T. Robertson, Edwin G. Rugh and Emma Thomas. If you have contact information on any of these individuals, please contact the Eugene Church at eugene.sda.secretary@gmail.com.

Upper Columbia

UCA/YVA Alumni Weekend

Oct. 7-9 — The Upper Columbia Academy welcomes all former students and staff, their families and friends, to join us for Alumni Homecoming. Honored classes this year are: ‘41, ‘51, ‘61, ‘71, ‘81, ‘86, ‘91 and ‘01. Friday Evening Vespers at 7:30 p.m. is a new multimedia live music presentation on Creation by Jerry Lange, former music teacher. Sabbath services begin at 10 a.m. Honor classes meet after lunch. Campus tours and seminars available in the afternoon. Friday morning is the Upper Columbia Academy Foundation’s 7th-annual Golf Tournament at Hangman Golf Course. On Sunday morning there is the 2nd-annual UCAF Peach Fun Run and brunch. For more information and to register, go to the UCA Foundation website at www.ucafoundation.org.

Washington

Lacey Church 30th Anniversary

Dec. 9-10 — The Lacey Church invites all past and present members to the 30th-anniversary homecoming at the church campus, on 5831 Mullen Rd. S.E., Lacey, WA. The weekend begins with a candlelight vespers on Dec. 9 at 6 p.m.; Sabbath, Dec. 10, will begin with Sabbath School at 9:15 a.m.; Worship service will follow at 11, with guest speaker Rick Quast (Lacey pastor during the 1981 construction). Following worship, there will be a vegetarian buffet in Tuttle Hall next door. At 2 p.m., there will be a musical program and fellowship. For more information, call the church office at 360-459-5163 or visit <http://www.laceysda.org>.

World Church

enditnow Summit on Abuse

Oct. 15-17 — Attend a Summit on Abuse sponsored by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital and Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital Division of Forensic Pediatrics. Visit www.nadwm.org/summitonabuse for more information.

2012 Images of Creation Nature Photography Contest

The *GLEANER* is pleased to announce the immediate opening of its 2012 Images of Creation Nature Photography Contest.

Winning entries will be selected to:

- Appear on page two of the *GLEANER* magazine next year;
- Or be featured for one week on GleanerOnline.org.

The deadline for entries is 5 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 3, 2011.

The *GLEANER* will be accepting digital photos as well as slide transparencies, but several contest rules will apply to both media:

- Photographers may submit a maximum of 15 vertical images. Horizontal images will not be accepted.
- Only images of nature scenes taken within the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington will be considered.
- Photographers should be prepared to supply model releases for any recognizable people appearing in winning entries.
- Winning entries from past years are no longer eligible for submission.
- Twelve contest-winning images will be used in the print edition of the *GLEANER*, with payment of \$100 per photo.
- In addition to the 12 photos selected for print, 52 photos will be selected to appear on the www.GleanerOnline.org website in low resolution each week during the year, after which the photos may be seen in archival form for four weeks. Any requests for high-resolution versions of these photos for any other purpose will be forwarded to the photographer.
- Entries should be mailed to or delivered to 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642, during regular business hours, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Digital Entries

- If submitting photos taken with a digital camera, ensure that your camera captures at least three megapixels. Further, make sure that your camera is set to its highest resolution mode and the image is recorded at the largest JPG size. The file should be several megabytes in size.
- Files other than JPG will not be accepted. Virgin JPG files should be saved at the highest possible resolution. Avoid degrading the image by re-saving a JPG file to the same file name.
- Submit photos on a CD that is clearly identified "2012 Images of Creation Photo Contest" along with the photographer's name.
- For each photo, use the photo's title as its file name on the CD.
- Include a type-written cover letter with the following information: full name, mailing address, day and evening phone numbers, email address, and title of each photo submitted.
- Once the contest is complete, all CDs will be destroyed unless indicated they should be returned.

Slide Entries

- Only original 35-millimeter slides will be considered. Slide duplicates will be disqualified.
- On each slide mount, include the photo's title and photographer's name to avoid loss or confusion.
- Include a type-written cover letter with the following information: full name, mailing address, day and evening phone numbers, email address, and title of each photo submitted.
- Entries should be placed in a plastic slide page and protected in a large manila envelope.
- All slides will be returned by regular first-class postage at *GLEANER* expense or may be picked up in person by the photographer during regular *GLEANER* office hours after the winners are announced.



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October	7	14	21	28
DST				
Alaska Conference				
Anchorage	7:12	6:51	6:30	6:09
Fairbanks	6:58	6:33	6:08	5:43
Juneau	6:15	5:55	5:37	5:19
Ketchikan	6:07	5:50	5:33	5:17
Idaho Conference				
Boise	7:15	7:03	6:52	6:42
La Grande	6:22	6:09	5:57	5:46
Pocatello	7:01	6:49	6:38	6:28
Montana Conference				
Billings	6:43	6:30	6:18	6:07
Havre	6:46	6:32	6:18	6:06
Helena	6:57	6:43	6:31	6:19
Miles City	6:32	6:19	6:06	5:55
Missoula	7:04	6:51	6:38	6:27
Oregon Conference				
Coos Bay	6:48	6:36	6:24	6:14
Medford	6:43	6:31	6:20	6:10
Portland	6:40	6:27	6:15	6:04
Upper Columbia Conference				
Pendleton	6:24	6:12	5:59	5:48
Spokane	6:17	6:04	5:51	5:39
Walla Walla	6:22	6:09	5:57	5:45
Wenatchee	6:29	6:16	6:03	5:51
Yakima	6:31	6:17	6:05	5:53
Washington Conference				
Bellingham	6:37	6:23	6:09	5:57
Seattle	6:37	6:23	6:10	5:58

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Ken Crawford, president; Quentin Purvis, v.p. secretariat; Sharon Staddon, v.p. of finance; 6100 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507-7200; (907) 346-1004; www.alaskaconference.org.

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GLEANER STAFF

Editor: Steven Vistaunet

Managing Editor: Cindy Chamberlin

Copy Editor: Jana Cress Miller

Advertising and Copy Coordinator:

Desiree Lockwood

Consultant to the Editors: Mark Gutman

Design: GUILDHOUSE Group

CORRESPONDENTS

Alaska: Butch Palmero,

butch.palmero@ac.npuc.org

Idaho: Don Klingler,

idconf@idconf.org

Montana: Archie Harris,

info@montanaconference.org

Oregon: Krissy Barber,

info@oc.npuc.org

Upper Columbia Conference:

Jay Wintermeyer,

ucc@uccsda.org

Washington: Heidi Martella,

info@washingtonconference.org

Walla Walla University: Becky St. Clair,

becky.stclair@wallawalla.edu

Adventist Health: Brittany Russell Dobbs,

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Three boisterous, healthy children romp in the park. Their sturdy legs and ruddy complexions testify to an avid diet of outdoor activity. Their mother watches from a park bench nearby, gently rocking a stroller back and forth with the newest pink-cheeked, chubby cherub tucked inside. “We’ve really been blessed,” she murmurs with a contented smile.

A religious celebrity with carefully lacquered hair explains the most recent divine intervention on his behalf. A speeding car, a head-on collision, a crumpled wreck in the ditch — but he walks away with only a bruise and a scratch. “It’s a direct blessing from the Lord that I wasn’t killed,” he exclaims.

Sometimes I hear a children’s story on Sabbath morning echoing such themes. I look from face to face in the congregation, knowing many there have tragically lost children or health or home.

The unstated questions are written deep in their hearts: “What’s wrong with us? Why are we not worthy of such blessings? Why have we been selected for such pain?”

Who among us prays for pain or divorce or financial reverse? Abundant money, a flourishing family, faithful friends, good health — those are the things we desire. In our simple way of reckoning,

these constitute a sort of Good Housekeeping seal of approval, an affirmation of good choices, righteous living ... God’s blessing.

But until the problem of sin in this world is forever wiped clean, the formula of life and death, success or suffering, will often appear to be indiscriminate and unfair. The philandering husband lives to a ripe old age, while the faithful young mother gets breast cancer.

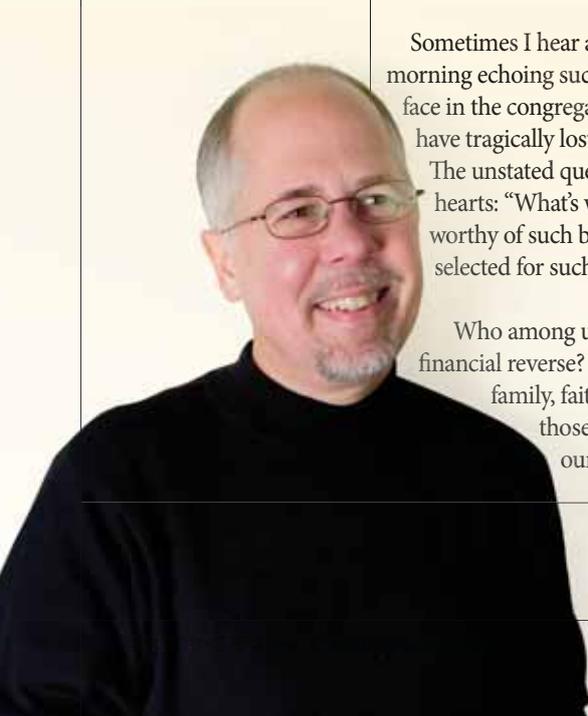
Perhaps this dilemma is why the incongruous book of Lamentations brings such a surprising message of God’s mercies, which are “new every morning.” Perhaps it is why the message of Laura Story’s song, “Blessings,” turns our familiar formulas upside down: “What if your blessings come through raindrops? What if your healing comes through tears? ... What if trials of this life are your mercies in disguise?”

Perhaps it’s why I’m intrigued with *The Message* version recorded in John 9 of Jesus’ response to His disciples about a man blind from birth. “Who sinned, this man or his parents?’ they asked. Jesus replied, ‘You’re asking the wrong question. You’re looking for someone to blame. There is no such cause-effect here. Look instead for what God can do.’”

Today we ask similar questions, with a constant refrain — “Why?” The answer comes when we turn instead to look for what God can do to redeem even the worst efforts of our enemy.

That’s when those morning-fresh mercies of Lamentations finally begin to ring true.

You may respond to any GLEANER topic by sending an email to: talk@gleaneronline.org.



Steve Vistaunet

NPUC ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATION



“Oh yes
you can!”

Emily Wilkens
2010 WWU graduate
Author of *African Rice Heart*

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