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# MARCH 2014

## NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION









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gleaner

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## MEET THIS ISSUE'S COLUMNISTS

### **SETH PIERCE**

Seth is an accomplished and published author but still loves his 24/7 calling as senior pastor of the Puyallup (Wash.) Church. Seth gained his Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University, and more than a decade of full-time ministry gives him an abundance of perspective at a relatively young age. But a well-rounded outlook is evident in the priorities he lists for himself: husband, father, pastor, author, follower of Jesus. A quick check

of AdventistBookCenter.com
reveals that Seth is the author of
several books including the Adventures of Peter Paul Pappenfuss
series and the best-selling What We
Believe for Teens. Rumor is he has
more in the works. He has written
for numerous publications and
enjoys making complex concepts

accessible for average readers. In his Perspective column, beginning on p. 42, he continues his focus on attitudes within the church.

### **MARTIN WEBER**

Martin is a new addition to *Gleaner* pages but a well-known name in Adventist ministerial and journalism circles. Although he has officially retired after more than 40 years of denominational work, he now resides in Bellingham, Wash., and works as the Seventh-day Adventist product manager for Logos Bible Software. With two post-graduate degrees, Martin has written more than a dozen

books, including the popular Adventist Hot Potatoes series. He most recently served as communication director for the Mid-America Union Conference but also spent a number of years as a pastor. His résumé includes time as associate editor of *Ministry* magazine and assistant to the director/speaker of the *It Is* 

Written telecast. He is an ongoing board member of the Hope of Survivors ministry to victims of clergy sexual abuse. In his Perspective column, beginning on p. 44, he hopes to begin a conversation that includes an inventory of where we are as Northwest Adventists versus where God wants us to be.

## **TRANSITIONS**

With the recent retirement of Alan "Lanny" Hurlbert as North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) vice president for education, Dennis Plubell has been selected to fill this important role for Northwest schools.



Lanny Hurlbert, retired NPUC vice president for education

Plubell returns to the NPUC, where he served as Hurlbert's associate for secondary education from 1997–2007. Since then he has worked as the director of secondary education and accreditation for the North American Division. Plubell holds a Master of Arts in teaching from Pacific Union College in Angwin, Calif., and also an additional professional degree in educational administration and leadership from La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif. His 14 years of experience in secondary teaching and administration along with two decades of conference, union and division leadership equips him well for his new NPUC role. His wife, Barbara, is the principal of Portland Adventist Elementary School in Portland, Ore.



Dennis Plubell, incoming NPUC vice president for education

Hurlbert leaves for retirement following more than two decades of educational leadership with the NPUC. He began as associate director of education in 1991, stepping into the director role in 1996 after the unexpected death of former director Don Keele. Before coming to the NPUC, Hurlbert served as principal of Walla Walla Valley Academy in College Place, Wash., and Garden State Academy in New Jersey. He also taught at Shenandoah Valley Academy in Virginia and South Lancaster Academy in Massachusetts. He and his wife, Duska, will be enjoying a well-earned retirement.

## ADD YOUR COMMENTS TO THE CONVERSATION

### BELFAIR RECOLLECTIONS

Thank you for posting information about the Belfair Church that is near and dear to my husband's and my heart. We love that little church, and God blessed us with being there at a time when we really needed them. God bless you all. — Gene and Kelly Kimball

### **FEAR NOT**

Thank you so much for your article ["Fear," Let's Talk, January 2014]. It resonated with my childhood experience in fear of the "time of the end." In turn I avoided this subject altogether with my children, which I'm not sure is any better. Falling in love with Jesus and trusting Him completely should be the goal. With Him as our friend we have nothing to fear in the future! - Cindy Jackson

## **DID YOU MISS THESE ONLINE?**

### DON GRAY'S OBITUARY

What a great article by Randy Gray on his dad! I knew Don Gray for most of my life. He was a tireless worker for the Lord with his evangelism, but he also truly lived out his beliefs in his day-to-day actions. Whenever our family or anyone in it faced challenges, such as the death of my dad, he was there for us. He not only was an incredible whirlwind of activity right up un-

til the end, he always found the time to personally connect. This world and church has lost a great man, but I have no doubt that many have found their God through him. — David Nutter

#### THE RECORD KEEPER UPDATE

Thanks for sharing about this project. It's encouraging to hear the hearts of the people behind the scenes. As I read what motivated them to go to all the effort of creating this series, it made me proud to be part of a church that really would take big risks for the sake of the kingdom. I look forward to seeing the full series. I hope it will be released on schedule and uncut. How exciting to use cutting-edge technologies to tell HIS story to those who have yet to hear. — Richie Brower

I'm glad to see the church using parables again. Web distribution allows for greater flexibility in viewing than broadcast television and enables sharing through social media. If non-Adventists are intrigued by the steampunk settings and want to share that aspect of the film, that's wonderful! Hopefully they'll also get engrossed in the story and learn the truth about the war between good and evil. And let's not discount the value of giving creative individuals an opportunity to apply their talents to God's work. — Wally Schmidt

> Send your letters to talk@gleanernow.com.

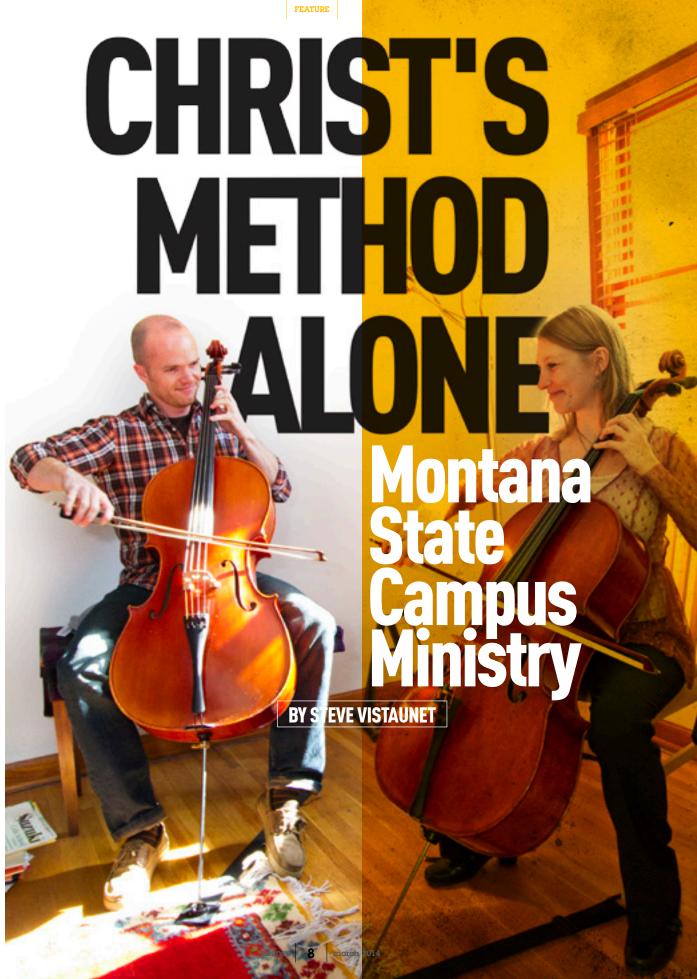


Choteau, Mont., turned Halloween into GLOW Tract Night.



Walla Walla University hosts its annual music festival for academy musicians.

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"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.'" Ellen White, *Ministry of Healing*, p. 143



Molly and Jere Cypher, Bozeman City Church members, are part of the support crew who regularly open their home as a gathering spot for Alan Newbold and the Montana Conference campus ministry.

Alan Newbold joins in an impromptu cello piece with Julia Cory-Slovarp, MSU assistant visiting professor of cello and faculty sponsor of Merge, the MSU chapter of Adventist Christian Fellowship.

campus like any other student. But he's not any other student. He's a pastor like few others. And more often than not, he feels all alone on this mission he has accepted. It seems too big, too impossible. But Scripture anchors his world, that with God all things are possible. So here he is, in Bozeman, Montana, in his own unique mission field.

Alan Newbold walks onto

On this particular crisp, cold Friday, he rises, grabs breakfast and heads to his 9 o'clock French class on the campus of Montana State University (MSU), home to 15,000 university students. He's attending classes for one main reason — it's where the students are. He's been spending his days at MSU since 2012, when the Montana Con-

ference decided to move a dream into reality by placing a full-time pastor into secular campus ministry.

But this is not what you might think. It's not a short-term push for student converts, not a benchmarked goal for baptisms. This is a focus on building or rebuilding relationships that lead to an ultimate and personal partnership with Jesus Christ. And relationships take time. They don't always follow familiar pathways. And, hence, Alan's challenge to answer the question: How many students have you baptized this year? It's the wrong question for this particular outreach, at this particular stage.

So with relationship-building in mind, Alan heads after his early morning class to The Daily, a coffee shop across from the university. He's got a 10 o'clock rendezvous at a table there with Justin, a freshman business/marketing major. Justin's had a rough background including a period of homelessness, but he's determined to turn his life around. Alan is an encourager and friend. Where will Justin be six months from now? 12 months? It's anyone's guess, but Alan is investing the capital of time, a listening ear, a friendly presence, with no hidden agendas. He believes it is what Jesus would do.

By the stroke of 12, Alan has made his way back across campus to the music building. He is in the select chorale, and today there are sectional rehearsals. In room 217, he and



The Friday evening gatherings are important times to connect with university students, build relationships and develop a desire for spiritual truth.

## He's passionate about what he is doing, but he has chosen a lonely road.

five other young men lay out the music for an upcoming concert. MSU has no particular empathy toward religion. But on this bright fall day, the Christmas-themed songs have religious themes that would resonate with any Adventist. Even a secular campus sees value in religious culture. Many students have Christian backgrounds. They may even occasionally attend church with their parents when home on vacation. But Christianity as a cultural experience is very different than following Christ as a daily journey of faith. And that is what Alan is here to encourage, little by little, step by step, relationship by relationship.

Practice over for the day, Alan is off to a brief meeting with the faculty sponsor of his on-campus group — Merge — a chapter of Adventist Christian Fellowship, a loose affiliation of campus ministries across the country. Julia Cory-Slovarp, MSU assistant visiting professor of cello, claims no particular faith tradition of her own, but Alan has often played in one of her cello groups, and she sees value in what he is trying to do on campus.

It's Friday, so that means a planned get-together in the evening at one of the local church member's homes. So, after a quick goodbye to Julia, Alan is back in his Subaru, headed toward Costco — to pick up supplies for a weekly gathering for students hungry for food and fellowship. He loads up the cart with tomatoes, lettuce, pesto, buns — a good indication that it's going to be a burger night. Alan's place has one good refrigerator and well-used freezer. They are both stocked with food — not for him, but for them, the collegiate men and women to whom he is both friend and pastor.

After the Costco supply run, this frenetic Friday continues in a short collaborative meeting with Julie Helwig, team leader for the MSU chapter of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF).

Preparing for the Friday evening gathering with 15–20 hungry students means a quick supply trip to the local Costco.



In contrast with Alan, who is the first and only full-time Adventist pastoral presence at MSU, IVCF has an entire team, with student leaders throughout the campus. They've been at it since the 1940s. So you can understand when Alan sometimes feels all alone in this fledgling Adventist campus effort. Certainly church members and conference folk have been invaluable as mentors and financial supporters. But there are precious few Adventist friends of Alan's age as a personal support group for him — with whom he can "defrost," who share his values and zest for life. He's passionate about what he is doing, but he has chosen a lonely road.

During the remaining couple hours in a waning afternoon, Alan heads back home to regroup with his own thoughts and plans for the evening. Who will come? What will they want to talk about? What will come up in the passage of Scripture they read? Will they have enough food?

Jere and Molly Cypher, Bozeman City Church members, have opened their home for this week's Friday evening gathering. The food is prepared and laid out. As the sun slips low on the snow-covered mountains around the Bozeman

valley, the group begins to arrive. Some consider themselves Adventists; others have a former Adventist connection. A few are just there for the food and the friendship. Alan surveys the room, moves from person to person, watches for an opening, waits for an opportunity. The Sabbath has begun, and Alan's parishioners have come.

One thing seems clear. Alan is respected and liked around campus. And in the brief but sustained relationships he is building, there is a growing respect for the belief system he holds. This is the nature of relational outreach. Alan believes in the need to listen and understand someone else before you have the right to suggest, before they can accept, life-changing principles.

Remember Justin, Alan's morning appointment in the coffee shop? He has since added "spiritual things" to his list of priorities. He even plans to join Alan's Merge group headed to Thailand during March to help Adventist Disaster Relief Agency (ADRA) install a gravity-fed water system for a remote Karen hill tribe community. This group will

# A PRACTICAL EXPERIMENT

For years, Jay Jutzy, a busy Bozeman-area radiology physician, had wished for a way to reconnect Adventist students in higher education with Jesus Christ. He saw many leave the security of Adventist academies, never to be seen in church again. So he and others at the Mount Ellis Academy Church began raising a seed fund toward establishing a campus ministry at Montana State University.

When the Montana Conference showed an interest in sponsoring such a ministry, Jutzy made sure that they were all on the same page about expec-

tations: no baptismal benchmarks or specific requirements for a number of Bible studies. It wasn't that he was against those important elements in church growth or discipleship. But this ministry was to be different: a practical experiment in ministering to a secular campus by developing relationships, following the example of Jesus' method of ministry as outlined by Ellen White.

Certainly there would be opportunities to bid people to follow Him, but first would come the relationship-building. "We wanted an Adventist pastor to lead a Christ-centered ministry," says Jutzy, "re-engaging our inactive Adventist students with the beauties of our beliefs and also attracting some who hate religion, as they have seen it misrepresented, to the beauty of Jesus."

Jutzy and Jerry Pogue were early proponents of this idea. And they are delighted with the results so far. Members of both the Mt. Ellis and Bozeman City churches have become part of the support team. There are a number of students, according to Jutzy, who are now working actively in churches and schools who likely would not

have done so without this campus program. "After college," he says, "they would have shown up a few times at church and then disappeared like so many others."

"I can't think of anything more undesirable than a secular campus where they feel they have everything but have no need for God," says Jutzy. "But when you talk to them, when you develop a relationship with them, you realize pretty quick that they all have deep needs for what only Christ can bring."

"So," he continues, "a core principle of Alan's outreach is one of planting seeds and allowing positive relationships to nurture those seeds. We want to plant principles in students' lives that will help them recognize Christ in everyday life situations, so they will be open to the Holy Spirit according to His timetable, not ours."



## "When you follow Jesus, get ready for the ride of your life. He doesn't just open doors; He pushes us through closed doors."

include students like Justin, just now open to a quest for spiritual meaning, and others who are not yet ready even for that. Does this sound like a reason for prayer support from all Northwest members? Yes, I believe it does.

In the world, but not of the world: That's a familiar mantra to Adventists. But some of us have become so adept at avoiding the "of the world" part that we have ceased to be effective "in the world." Jay Jutzy, one of the primary instigators of this campus ministry, believes Adventists need a rebirth in the gospel commission. "As followers of Jesus," he says, "we have a wonderful obligation to leave our comfort zone, our church pews, and mingle with people who need to know Him. But, when you follow Jesus, get ready for the ride of your life. He doesn't just open doors; He pushes us through closed doors."

That thought may be well kept in mind this March as conference leaders determine the future of this important endeavor. It's important to note that this effort has moved forward because rank-and-file members realized they could keep talking about the need or start doing something about it. They put their collective toes in the water, and God added His miracles. Spiritual seeds have been planted in the hearts and lives of students. Will the watering continue?

Will the story continue at MSU and in campuses around Montana? Will the spirit be caught and re-enacted in church groups and in university communities across the Northwest and beyond?

The question is a simple one. If Bozeman, Montana, can step out in faith, why not us?

## WHY WE SUPPORT THIS EFFORT

As Seventh-day Adventists, we do a good job of holding public meetings to introduce people to Jesus and to bring people into membership who have already been interacting with the church body. We don't do as good of a job of keeping people from slipping out the back door.

We also do an excellent job of educating our children and youth in Adventist schools in K–12 and beyond in many cases. However, graduation from acad-

emy as well as college far too often means graduation from church. We don't do as well with the 20-somethings as we do with the 0–20s.

We believe it is critical to keep in touch and provide social and spiritual interaction with this age group. Too many of our young adults do not choose to integrate with those who seem old, if not ancient. Concern for this age group has inspired some thinking members in

Montana to try an evangelistic experiment of mingling with this age group (see *Ministry of Healing*, p. 143) for the purpose of encouraging their walk with Jesus. We will see where God leads us in this.

Some forward-thinking church members have contributed significant sums of money to help make this happen. Our board has chosen to partner with these concerned members, and we are nearly through this





# Right Where be

This job is tougher than I could've imagined. Never in my life have I felt periods of such loneliness. And never in my life have I gotten as strong a sense as I have now that THIS is where I need to be, I'm learning, I'm being challenged, and I get to relearn a lot as well, such as how to talk about God, about faith, in words that don't carry the same negative connotations or emotional baggage as some of the "Christianese" that gets spoken so freely (and sometimes thoughtlessly) by some other Christians.

I run into people on a weekly basis who are jaded toward church (if not outright angry) or God and are skeptical of the approaches to faith they've seen modeled. And often, such as in the case of Andrew, one of the first students I

> connected with upon joining the choir — and who is a brilliant, self-proclaimed "agnostic atheist," who told me outright, "I want to believe" — they really do hope to find that there really is something more. They really hope there's Someone more.

> And those are the students I get to see daily and talk with from time to time, attempting to follow Christ's method of reaching people: He mingled with them, desiring the best possible life for them: He worked to meet their needs in tangible ways: He, in doing those things, won their trust, and then, and only then, He invited them to follow Him.

It's a tough job. It's nebulous; it's new to our church; it's lonely: it's anything but scheduled; it's unpredictable; and even though they are fully supportive of the role and the work I've been doing.

the conference is uncertain as to where the funding will come from once the pilot program ends in July.

Yet, in spite of those things, there's nothing I'd rather be doing. These students are far too valuable, too full of the potential and desire to change the world, and too desperate to encounter God for me to consider leaving for a job with more Adventist familiarity or with better pay or a clear structure. If I truly believe that to do the work of Jesus among the people around me means to plant seeds — or, as one professor put it, "time bombs" that will grow as the Spirit moves in their lives — then my role is here.

It's exciting to get occasional glimpses of how the Good Father is drawing students of all backgrounds, faith traditions, socioeconomic strata, sexual orientation, etc. to Himself. Getting to be a part of that movement, that development in their lives, is a real honor, a real gift.

Alan Newbold



## VERDADERAMENTE LIBRE EN JESUS

e gustaría entregar tu vida a Jesús? — fue la pregunta que le hice a Eric, al visitarlo cierto día en la cárcel. Sus ojos se llenaron de lágrimas y detrás del vidrio

¿Qué circunstancias habían llevado a Eric a endurecer de esa manera su corazón? Él era el mayor de dos hermanos, quienes tuvieron la bendición de haber nacido en una

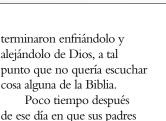
terminaron enfriándolo y alejándolo de Dios, a tal punto que no quería escuchar

Poco tiempo después

tomaron la decisión de bautizarse. estando en su trabajo, vinieron y lo encarcelaron por cargos no solucionados del pasado. Fue allí, detrás de las rejas, donde encontró la verdadera libertad. Fue allí donde aquella tarde, fui testigo de cómo Eric, entre lágrimas, decidió entregar su vida a Jesús.

Ese día oramos y hablamos de las paradojas de la vida. A veces Dios se manifiesta a través de las dificultades para entregarnos algo mejor. Ese día Eric entregó todo a Jesús, esperando y confiando en él. Había dejado su futuro en las poderosas

A partir de esa decisión, una serie de milagros comenzaron a ocurrir: Por un lado, después de estar en la lista



efectivos de la ley

manos de Jesús.

de deportación, Eric en consulta



Cuando los milagros del Señor son evidentes, no hay mas que testificar publicamente de ellos.

con un abogado, comenzó a ver una luz de esperanza. Por otro lado Erik comenzó a liderar, en la cárcel, a un grupo de 40 personas, con quienes entusiasmadamente compartía su nueva fe. Sus padres continuaron orando por él. Cierto día, recibí la maravillosa noticia de que había salido en libertad.

Hoy Eric es un líder en la iglesia, comprometido con Cristo y su causa. Su nueva vida es un poderoso testimonio de las maravillas que Dios hace en favor de sus hijos.

De esta historia puedo extraer tres poderosas lecciones que nos pueden llevar a tener una relación más íntima con Cristo.

- » Por encima de todas las circunstancias, Dios desea mi salvación.
- » En la vida, son mis decisiones las que conducen mi futuro.
- » No hay nada mejor que decidirse por Cristo y vivir para Él.

Abraham Acosta, pastor del Distrito de Eugene, Ore.



El gozo de finalmente entregar su vida al Señor para Eric era evidente.

que separan a los que están en libertad de los que no lo están, sonrió asintiendo con su cabeza.

Esa imagen me trasladó a unos cuantos meses atrás, cuando María y Felipe, sus padres, decidieron aceptar a Jesús como su Salvador personal. En esa ocasión Eric se había mantenido inamovible en su decisión, pese a que él era el que había llevado a sus padres a la iglesia. No quería aceptar a Jesús. No quería saber de Él.

trabajadora familia mexicana. Diversas circunstancias de la vida lo habían llevado prematuramente de la niñez a la adultez. Con el pasar del tiempo, Eric conoció a un amigo que le invitó a una iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día, donde comenzó a asistir junto a sus padres. Las cosas parecían ir bien, hasta que comenzó a tener problemas con quien en ese momento era su esposa. Las crecientes dificultades





## ROJECT POLARIS



or more than 50 years, Camp Polaris on Lake Aleknagik outside Dillingham has been serving children from impoverished homes and providing them with a week of learning how to study the Bible, have a relationship with God and have Jesus as their friend through all their challenges in life.



These children come from varied backgrounds, most of which are non-Adventist and many of which are Native American. Many are affected by alcoholic parents, substance abuse, incest and suicide, which is rampant in this area of Alaska. They love their week of camp,

learning the Bible stories through skits, songs, prayer and Bible study, and, yes, they even love vegeburgers. They enjoy keeping Sabbath and have made lifelong friends with the Adventist college students and staff. They are given tools to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Every year they return to their schools and families, singing Christian songs and telling the stories they have learned. We would love to have more weeks of camp for them and others, but the facility is primitive and the conditions are wet and cold. It is difficult to keep everyone well and energetic in this living environment. We feel that if the facility is upgraded, we can offer more programming to reach more children and maybe even some programs for adults in this region.

The North American Division has shown their support by voting that Alaska Conference will receive one-third of the 13th Sabbath offerings in January 2015. We will be soliciting additional funds and builders, so get out your long johns and keep us in your prayers.

Laurie Hosey, Alaska Conference youth director



#### CONFERENCE // NEWS

## PALMER'S VISION IS GOOD FOR ALL OF ALASKA

laskans have been praying for a 12-grade academy in their own state for more than 50 years. Long ago Adventists Alaskans understood the need to educate their youth at home instead of sending them away to the Lower 48. Today fewer and fewer families are willing or able to send their teenage children to boarding schools out of state. This leads to either having families move out of state looking for Adventist education or turning to the public school system.

Palmer Church is still dreaming of and fervently praying for a 12th-grade academy, and members are closer than ever to achieving this dream.

Once again God has proven Himself faithful. In the last five years the Palmer school, Amazing Grace Academy, has grown from 21 to 95 students. One year at a time, it has added grades nine, 10 and 11. The goal is to offer 12 grades next year. With added grades comes the need for funding for additional teachers.

But that's not all that God has been doing. Realizing the necessity of having a gymnasium for students to run and play during inclement weather, the church stepped out in faith and began fundraising for a gym. Members knew they couldn't raise \$1.5 million on their own, so they asked God to find others who believed in their vision for Adventist education.

In less than two years God has blessed them with \$775,000 — about half from outside of their church. They have received monetary gifts from 17 states and Canada. Their plan is to build as they have the money. At this point, the gym walls and roof are up. God is amazing.

Would you be willing to join in praying that Alaska's dream of having its own 12-grade academy would soon be realized? Would you join Palmer members in asking that God continue providing the needed money to finish the gym? May all Seventh-day Adventists in Alaska join Palmer in prayer so that when the dream comes to fruition, they can all celebrate.

For additional information, please go to ouralaskandream. com.

Aaron Payne, Palmer Church pastor

Palmer Church members are building a gymnasium, moving ahead in faith that God will provide funding for a 12-grade academy.





Anchorage Community Church youth perform to celebrate the advent season.

## ANCHORAGE CELEBRATES THE ADVENT

Ellen White notes, "We need deeper draughts from the well of Bethlehem, that we may refresh our own souls and refresh others" (Signs of the Times, May 29, 1884). In response, a Christmas effort by Anchorage City churches celebrated the advent season with music, plays, narration and several baptisms by area pastors, in keeping with White's advice,"Through the story of Bethlehem and the cross let it be shown how good is to conquer evil ..." (Lift Him *Up*, p. 255).

Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president



Don West officiates another baptism.



Kevin Miller, Anchorage's Northside Church pastor, baptizes Falkyn Vincent.

# RADIO, COMMUNITY AND CHURCH HELP KTSY LISTENER

omeone — I will call her Mandy — recently responded by email concerning a recorded spot I aired about not tolerating domestic abuse of any type. Mandy shared how encouraged she was by my words and the music on Idaho's KTSY-FM. I hear that often, yet I was about to be amazed in a way I did not think was possible.



The Experience Church has ioined KTSY-FM and the community to support a woman in need.

I spoke to Mandy, who said she had always listened to the station because it was the one thing that brought comfort to her. Her home has been a drug home for the last 30 years. People were always coming and going to buy, sell and do drugs at the same time they listened to KTSY. Thinking about the

contrast for a moment, I was astonished. That venue did not seem like a place where someone would be listening to positive, uplifting Christian music glorifying God.

Mandy, crying, explained that her husband was in prison for strangling her nearly to death. Upon hearing the spot about domestic abuse, she called asking for help finding a shelter, as her house was not safe and her utilities were shut off as well.

One of the first things I ask a person in this situation is, "Are you still using?" She said no at first. I told her the importance of being honest if she really needed help and that I, as a pastor, had no expectations from her to be living life perfectly. She then admitted to being a user.

I found her help to get her clean from chemical abuse and provide a safe place for her. She asked to come to church, so we have been picking her up to get her to the Experience in Meridian, Idaho. The Experience is a great place for anyone, no matter your background or belief, to find community and feel welcome.

On her first day worshipping at the facility, an offering time came during which we thanked God for all we have



KTSY-FM staff, the Experience Church members and community helpers are collaborating to help a KTSY listener.

time - time, treasures and talents. I watched Mandy as she pulled out a dollar bill. She sat there staring at it for what seemed like 10 minutes. She turned to me and said, "This is my last dollar." She then proceeded to stand up, march to our donation box and give all she had.

Members of the juniors Sabbath School at the Experience with Isaac Ontiveros, Elizabeth Thomsen and Tonya Rogers worked to make Mandy's home more livable.



She recently asked to be anointed. Upon learning about Mandy, our junior-division Sabbath School leaders, Tonya Rogers and Isaac Ontiveros, helped our kids clean up Mandy's yard, which is filled with garbage and debris.

We do not know what the future holds for Mandy, but for right now we are encouraged that God is helping her through a collaborative effort with the medium of radio, community partnerships and our own faith community as well as angels and His Spirit.

Anthony Thomsen, Barefoot Media Ministry chaplain and Experience Church Community pastor



## SHORTSIGHTED

f only I would have known ... that I would fall on the ice, I would have been more careful ... that the trooper was just over the rise, I wouldn't have been speeding ... that there was a quiz, I would have studied ... that there was a treasure chest buried under the roses, I would have dug deeper (Matt. 13:44).

We are by nature shortsighted. That is the way God made us. He created us with limits, with boundaries, unable to know everything. Only He is all-wise and all-knowing. If we are shown what is in our future, it is rare, and we are usually only shown the way ahead one small step at a time.

Originally, back in the garden ... God walked and talked with our parents openly. There was no veil between, no vale to cross over. They could develop a trusting relationship with Him partly because they could literally see and hear Him. Someday, on the other side, we will again have that privilege, but what about now? How do we get to know Him as our trustworthy friend, Savior and Lord? How do we know Him as provider, confidant, protector and our all-in-all?

It doesn't just happen. It is a process. It is first of all believing in (John 3:16) Him as my Savior, but then it is believing Him enough to take Him at His word (John 17:17). In other words, it is acting on our faith in Him (John 14:15).

Since eternal life is all about knowing God, we would be well-served to get to know Him. Here is the kicker ... unless we learn to take the promises in His Word seriously and act on them, we will remain relatively immature in our Christian experience and even run the risk of losing out altogether (Matt. 7:23).

His promises are practical, but usually they are also conditional. If we will take God at His word. He is able to bless us. Then, when we realize His blessing, we praise

Him for fulfilling His promise and are willing to step out even further from the false safety of self-dependence by claiming another promise. Step by step we learn to "Trust and Obey." As the process continues, He is able to bless us in a variety of ways, and we get to know Him better and better.

By trusting God to fulfill His promises relative to physical health, mental capacity, emotional well-being, financial security and spiritual growth, we get thick with God. When that happens, His wisdom and far-seeing knowledge effectively turns our shortsightedness into binocular vision. Why would any of us ignore a potential blessing like that?

By the way, a special Stewardship Summit is coming to Montana on April 5 and 6 that can lead to a multitude of blessings for you and your church. Don't miss it!

Merlin Knowles, Montana Conference president

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

APRIL 5-6 **Stewardship Summit** 

**APRIL 18-19** 

**Mount Ellis Academy Alumni Weekend** 

Everyone is invited to the MEA 2014 Alumni Homecoming, Spend an entire weekend reminiscing of the past and sharing dreams for the future. Honor classes are 2004. '94, '89, '84, '74, '64, '59, '54, '49 and '44. We hope to see as many of our MEA family as possible.

> MAY 6-8 **Ed Fest**

MAY 30-JUNE 1

Mount Ellis Academy Graduation

**JUNE 18-21** 

**Camp Meeting** 

JUNE 22-29 **Summer Camp** 

## CHOTEAU MAKES **HALLOWEEN**

he idea started when a Choteau Church member was perusing the GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) Facebook page. Someone had posted an idea that he and his friends were going to dress up like glow sticks and pass out GLOW tracts on Halloween. "What a great idea!" the member thought, and an interested Choteau Church group started brainstorming. The Sabbath before Halloween, they were encouraged by watching the short GLOW in the Dark promotional video sent in the weekly GLOW email.

On Halloween, participants set up a table for hot drinks and decorated it as others wrote GLOW on paper bags with glow-in-the-dark paint and stuffed them with GLOW tracts and fruit gummies. Two others went to work making two wooden signs on which

they spelled "GLOW" with lights. They were all ready and had a short prayer together just as the sun started going down.

As kids started to come by, the group gave them each a bag containing the GLOW tract and let them pick out a couple glow sticks in their favorite colors. Hot drinks were a big hit that cold night as well, especially with the parents.

Members felt blessed to be able to pass out the tracts, to come together as a church family and to share the light of Jesus in their community. They plan to make this a regular event at their church and would like to encourage others to make GLOW a part of future Halloweens, well as a regular part of their everyday lives.

Katie Harris, Choteau Church GLOW coordinator



he movie Hell and Mr. Fudge was presented for public viewing in Helena in December 2013. The movie is about evangelical pastor Edward Fudge and his quest to understand the biblical teaching about hell as opposed to Satan's delusion that people burn in eternal torment. It does an excellent job of addressing the

> issues without getting the viewer lost in the details.

Church members studied hell and the various teachings about the afterlife for six months. Advertising was posted, and members invited people they knew or met throughout the commuinity to see the

film. About 40 nonmembers attended the showings.

Knowing God will not burn people forever is critical to understanding God as a God of love. There were wonderful responses to the film's message. One man said, "I never had hope until I saw the movie, but now I know there is something more. My friends think it is weird I study the Bible now, but I don't care. I told my family that I had attended that movie and it has changed my life."

Members privately loaned out the movie, now on DVD, in preparation for a February follow-up series on death, hell and Christ's Second Coming.

Ben Lesofski, Helena Church member



Choteau Church members turned Halloween into an event that helped distribute GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts to their neighbors.

## PAA'S LAND **DEVELOPMENT**

property lease and development means visible progress toward a new school building for Portland Adventist Academy (PAA).

A busy construction site is leaving a mark on the east side of PAA's 25-acre property. Builders Jerry Erwin and Associates are constructing a 50-bed skilled nursing facility to face

east toward Adventist Medical Center. The building plan is on schedule for completion this summer.

The property lease of the skilled nursing facility will help to fund PAA's new school building. The facility construction is visible progress toward a future PAA.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner





The Canyonville and Myrtle Creek churches combined their efforts to participate in the annual Timber Truckers Light Parade.

he Canyonville and Myrtle Creek (Ore.) churches joined the 20th Annual Timber Truckers Light Parade, held in the Riddle, Tri-City and Myrtle Creek, Ore., areas on Saturday evening, Dec. 14, 2013. Semitrucks, fire engines, school buses and floats pulled by trucks, each decorated with Christmas lights, made a colorful parade that spread out more than a half-mile along the 12-mile parade route.

The church members let several thousand people along the parade route know who they are. Members of both

churches planned the construction of a float showcasing a manger, a star and 27 church members singing Christmas carols. On each side of the float a huge sign announced "Your Friends the Seventh-day Adventists."

The carolers spent nearly two and a half hours braving the elements. One participant said, "Though I am not sure I will feel my toes until sometime tomorrow, I enjoyed it and wouldn't have missed doing this for anything."

"I haven't had this much fun in a long time," says another caroler. Nearly 100 people met at the Myrtle Creek Church fellowship hall for warm cider and refreshments after the parade.

This event truly brought the Myrtle Creek and Canyonville churches closer together, and planning is underway to participate again next year.

Chester Schurch, Canyonville and Myrtle Creek churches pastor

## Are you in the NOW?

The new **GleanerNow** website offers

the latest news, additional photos and features, columns, media and more!

gleanernow.com





The new year begins with joy for Chansoo Oh as he is baptized.

ugene Korean Church celebrated a baptism on the first Sabbath of the new year. Chansoo Oh's decision for baptism came late Friday afternoon. However, plans were made right away so that he could be baptized before moving to Minnesota to continue his studies. The baptism took place on a cold day along the Willamette River, so church members gathered around a fire as they watched.

Oh found the Eugene Korean Church in late October 2013 after being invited by

members who own the Korean restaurant Arirang, where he had dined. He was moved by the warmth of the church members and began attending services along with weekly Bible studies with the youth group and Myung-Joon Choi, pastor.

Though it was a short three months that he spent with the church, he believes that it was one of the most meaningful times in his life as he began a lifelong relationship with God.

Hanna Lee, Eugene Korean Church member



Members of the Prineville Church's Sunshine Band with organizer and leader Lennie Warren hold the Afghan blankets given to care center residents.

race Hedlund, a longtime member of the Graham (Wash.) Church, gave her time and hard work to enhance the ministry of the Prineville Church's Sunshine Band, led by her daughter, Lennie Warren. Hedlund, 88, who now lives in Newport, Wash., crocheted and donated 25 Afghan blankets that were given to the residents of Ochoco Care Center as Christmas presents after the December program.

Warren organized the Sunshine Band and started a Sabbath afternoon program at Ochoco Care Center in January 2013. The group of church members sings hymns, shares Scripture and prays for the residents of the Prineville nursing home once a month. "The songs, the Bible readings, the prayers and the friendship we share bring joy to everyone," Warren says. "Many people are lonely, and bringing sunshine into their lives lifts them up and gives them hope. The reward



Grace Hedlund crafted 25 blankets for the Prineville Sunshine Band to give as Christmas gifts to residents of a local care center.

is immeasurable in terms of joy and contentment that we get ourselves. It is an opportunity God gives us."

The Sunshine Band ministry is one of the many ministries pursued by the Prineville Church in an effort to show friendliness to the community and to let people know of this caring and giving church, responding to the needs around it.

Yolanda Jahn, Prineville Church communication leader



#### CONFERENCE // NEWS

## CAA PLUS ELL EQUALS OUTREACH

s globalization and technology perpetually shrink our planet, parents whose native language is not English desire for their children to learn the language of the global market in hope that their children will remain competitive and relevant as they enter the work force. This phenomenon has supercharged the business of English instruction, both abroad and at home. Though this climate has helped Columbia Adventist Academy (CAA) in Battle Ground, Wash., to launch its foreign exchange student program — otherwise known as the English Language Learning (ELL) program — the focus has proven to be ministry-based rather than a business opportunity.

Since the program's inception three years ago, CAA has hosted between six and 10 Japanese students each year for three-month stints. Each exchange student who attends CAA enrolls in mainstream English, math and science

classes but also takes two special ELL classes — one on academic English acquisition and an ELL Bible class teaching the basic principles and beliefs of Christianity.

Abbey Ashton, CAA junior, has witnessed all three years of the foreign exchange program, and she has seen many positive relationships develop with the exchange students through the years. Personally she feels that "it is an outreach that [she] can do."

In fact, the CAA community as a whole has embraced the ELL program. Parents have opened up their homes, making the exchange students feel like family. The student body has befriended them, benefiting from a rich cultural exchange. The faculty and staff have worked tirelessly as a team to ensure academic success and meaningful language acquisition. All have provided a warm, inviting environment, introducing Christ to young men and women who have never had the chance to meet Him before.



Kenya and Yuki are Columbia Adventist Academy's first exchange students to stay an entire year.

With each passing year, this ministry continues to grow and add new dimensions to the school. This year, for the first time, two students — Kenya and Yuki — are enrolled full-time, earning credit for the whole school year. As the

ELL program grows, the CAA community hopes to plant seeds deep in the heart of Asia without ever leaving the United States.

Jeremy New, Columbia Adventist Academy teacher



## PIONEER PATHFINDERS **Club collects food**

The Salem Central Church Pioneer Pathfinder Club collected more than 450 pounds of food at a recent food drive. Salem Adventist Community Center distributed the food to needy and low-income families for the holiday season.

Charlene Bennett, Pioneer Pathfinder Club communication leader



The Event Center at Fall Creek serves East Lane County communities in rural Oregon.

## FALL CREEK OPENS EVENT CENTER

he Event Center at Fall Creek, operated by the Fall Creek Church, opened on Sabbath, Nov. 30, 2013, to serve East Lane County communities in rural Oregon.

Sponsored, built and operated by the 85-member congregation of the Fall Creek Church, the 4,000-square-foot building is commissioned as a venue for uplifting concerts and programs, family activities, community events, ministerial retreats, and evangelism.

The building was designed under the guidance of former Fall Creek Church member Ronna Hayden, a professional interior designer, and built by Cedric R. Hayden, current Fall Creek Church member and deacon, a dentist and general contractor. David Mc-Coy, district pastor, provided constant encouragement and support during the seven-year project. The center reflects the architecture of the adjacent 109-year-old Adventist Sanctuary, which was historically, in the early 1900s, known as the Fall Creek Unity Methodist Church. Both structures stand on the beautiful six-acre church campus adjacent to scenic Fall Creek, site of many baptisms.

Prior to the opening

exercises, former Lowell Mayor Warren Weathers toured the building, and stated, "It will be a fine addition to the community."

Faye Stewart, Lane County commissioner, also toured the facility during the Christmas season and said, "The building is a beauty and will be a gem of an addition to our community."

Head elder and current scheduler Randy Meyer engaged the Weimar Quintet for



The center and the church share a six-acre campus along Fall Creek.

the first concert in the Event Center and has confirmed a number of events to be held in the near future. The event schedule and other news can be seen on the Fall Creek SDA Facebook page.

Cedric Hayden, Fall Creek Church member

## OREGON

CONFERENCE // NEWS

## RIVERGATE STUDENTS DELIVER HALF TON OF FOOD

ids from families of Rivergate Adventist Elementary School in Gladstone, Ore., delivered 1,000 pounds of food to the Gladstone Park Community Services (GPCS) on Nov. 22, 2013.

Chris Binder, local leader, reports an average of 440 low-income individuals among 140 families were helped by GPCS last year.

Every other Tuesday and Wednesday, trucks from the Oregon

USDA Food Bank and Shop the Docks were unloaded, unpacked and distributed by Gladstone Park Church volunteers who showed up on a regular basis.

Richard Cook, Gladstone Park Church communication leader



Rivergate Adventist Elementary students delivered 1,000 pounds of food to the Gladstone Park Community Services.



## **UPPER COLUMBIA**

CONFERENCE // NEW

Paula Oltman, gift project coordinator, and Shirley York survey the bags.



# HERMISTON MEMBERS MAKE 2,000 GIFT BAGS FOR PRISONERS

embers of the Hermiston (Ore.) Church took Jesus' words seriously when they decided to make gifts for prisoners. Jesus said, "I was in prison, and you came to Me" (Matt. 25:35–36).

One day a prisoner mentioned the Christmas Behind Bars program to a Hermiston Church prison ministry volunteer. She brought the idea to the ministry group, and they decided to pursue the program at Two Rivers Correctional Institution in Umatilla, Ore.

Guy and Paula Oltman applied to the prison for permission and began to collect items for the prisoners. They selected books such as *Surprised by Love* 

by Elizabeth Talbot, gathered snacks, and included Bible study enrollment cards, cards for free books, puzzles and a letter from the Hermiston Church pastor. A local dentist donated toothbrush and toothpaste sets.

"We had a number of miracles along the way," says Paula, who gathered many of the items. A local potato chip factory, which had offered to provide snacks at a discount, ended up donating a run of chip bags with a wrinkle in the seams — saving them \$1,000. A Wal-Mart clerk, Stephanie Vandeman, offered to help Paula take boxes of purchased candy to her car. Paula learned that Stephanie had married into an Adventist family.

Many volunteers spent

hours in the Hermiston Junior Academy filling almost-grocery-sized paper bags, which were distributed on Friday, Dec. 13, 2013. "The chaplains had organized things well, and we had 40 volunteers," says Paula. "The inmates lined up, and we handed the bags to them. There

was a warm response from the prisoners." An immate who was reading the letter from the pastor asked Paula if he could use the address on the letter to send a thank you note or an offering.

The church has received many letters of thanks from the prisoners. Mothers have called the church to say they saw a softening of their sons' hearts since this event. Four Bible study requests have come through the church, and new members are attending because of this event.

The Hermiston Church board voted to participate again in 2014. Paula says, "We've



Gift bags for prisoners line long tables as Hermiston Church members work to fill them.

learned a lot from this experience, and I'm sure we will learn more this next year."

One of the inmates wrote, "You brought light to a dark place. Please know I will never forget this." Another wrote that he knew his life was changed and influenced by the generosity of people loving God.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant



(From left) Naomi Larkin, Beth Thomas and Linda Johnson work together to fill gift bags for prisoners.

## **UPPER COLUMBIA**

CONFERENCE // NEWS

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# FIRST KNOCK PROGRAM IN UCC: STUDENTS KNOCK WHERE GOD DIRECTS

ne of the many ministries the Lord has called His servants to do in these last days is the colporteur work. Just recently, the Upper Columbia Conference held its first adult training program, called Knock. With nine new students, fresh canvasses to learn and books ready to distribute in the greater area of Spokane, Wash., anticipation was high to see what God would do. There were many victories in the field during that two-week span.

"I want to remain faithful to do whatever and go wherever He wants me," said Tamela Mack, the outreach coordinator in Republic, Wash. The day following the program's end she prayed, "Direct me where You need me, whether to the right or to the left." She heard a clear voice telling her to go to a specific apartment door on her right.

"The lady told me she was getting baptized in two days," Mack shares. The woman decided to keep *The Great Controversy* and *Steps to Christ*, as well as a smaller *Steps to Christ* to give to her friend.

As Mack was leaving the apartment she realized she had forgotten to offer the lady a receipt. As she turned around, she noticed the woman was just about to pull out of the parking lot. With a great sense of what God had just done she thought, "God timing! If I hadn't followed the prompting of the Holy Spirit in answer to my prayer ... she would have already been gone."

What amazing truths are in those very words. God is working on the hearts of thousands to prepare them for our literature. Please join us in prayer as we spread the gospel through the printed page. For more stories and information about joining, visit uccsda.org/knock.

Cassie Dhole, Knock literature ministry assistant



The first nine Knock students canvassed in Upper Columbia Conference for two weeks.



Students and ministers prepare for baptism.

## UCA WEEK OF PRAYER YIELDS BAPTISMS

his past October, Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., hosted its annual fall week of prayer. Deon Chatman, Pasco (Wash.) Ephesus Church outreach coordinator, spoke. During his week with at UCA, Chatman shared messages with the focus on "Journey to Jesus." At the end of the week, he made an altar call for commitment to Jesus through baptism, rebaptism or recommitment. Nearly 50 academy students came forward to commit themselves to Jesus during that call.

On Dec. 7, 2013, four of these students, with Chatman present, made their public commitment through baptism. The following Sabbath, Dec. 14, another eight students joined their peers in following Jesus through baptism. A baptismal service is



Deon Chatman preaches during Upper Columbia Academy's fall week of prayer.

planned later in the spring as there is expected to be a trickle effect of baptisms through the remainder of the school year.

Jon Weigley, Spangle Church pastor

## UPPER COLUMBIA

Nearly 700 people filling the 750-seat auditorium let the event planners know that God is in control.



# GRANDVIEW ADVENTIST UNIOR ACADEMY

uring the summer of 2013, leaders from Washington's Lower Yakima Valley churches and the Upper Columbia Conference met to discuss the fate of the Grandview Adventist Junior Academy (GAJA). The meeting was called because funds were dwindling and the churches that support the school had barely enough funds to keep their church doors open, let alone sufficient funding to keep the school afloat. So leaders met to close the school.



Performing artist, Steve Green, is backed up by (from left) Richard Peterson, Bill Nickless, Melanie (Nazarene Church), Ben Sanford and Paul Daniel of the Desert Praise Quartet.

In its hay day, the school had nearly 70 students, four teachers and a bus that delivered 20 or so students from the sur-

rounding towns of Sunnyside and Prosser, Wash. It offered an educational system up to the 10th grade. But over the past several decades the area churches and the school have suffered a steady decline as demographics have shifted.

Things began to rapidly take a turn for the better in September 2013 when the English and Hispanic Grandview congregations united and combined forces to tackle the situation. One of the decisions was to invite Steve Green, a bilingual artist, to put on a benefit concert for the school. Green accepted and agreed to donate half of his usual commission to help in the cause. The concert was set for Jan. 18, 2014.

The expenses were substantial and the logistics for a large concert can be overwhelming and labor-intensive. Through key decisions to offer the tickets online and networking with other local churches, the group

forged ahead. They were apprehensive that they would make money for the school on the eve of the concert. It is then that God showed His hand.

On the evening of Jan. 18, the auditorium began to fill. By the time the lights went out and the performance was about to get underway, the auditorium was only about 60 percent filled. But before the end of the first act, the count was nearly 700 people in the auditorium, which seats 750. The school took in several thousand dollars that night through ticket sales and offerings.

Following the concert, money continues to flow in to the school, making the total more than \$12,000 to date. For a church of about 20 active members to step out in faith, there is no doubt that God and God alone made this a great and humbling success.

Don Alexander, Grandview School board member

Steve Green offers ministry in song to benefit Grandview Adventist Junior Academy.



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# ADVENTIST LEADER CALLS YOUTH TO BE A PART OF GOD'S HOUSE

nside a semi-dark auditorium, a few hundred chairs form a semi-circle around a stage where square light boxes form the shape of the cross. It's the first time Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson has hosted the annual Washington Conference Youth Rally, and you're not quite sure what to expect.

David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director, warms up the crowd of 350 teenagers with a quote quiz, "Is It Leviticus or Taylor Swift?"

Soon, the musicians start leading a worship set with "Blessed Be Your Name." It's not just the musicians singing; the teenagers are singing too and taking video clips with their cell phones.

The cell phones are pocketed though as the speaker takes the stage. Dan Jackson, North American Division president, is here to talk with teenagers about their place in the home of Jesus. They are listening.

"I'm never discouraged [about the church's future] when I interact with youth," says Jackson, who goes on to share a series of stories, examples, Bible verses and invitations.

"You need to be part of God's house," says Jackson. "The home needs to be



Dan Jackson, North American Division president, invites Washington youth to be ministers for God in their lives and future professions.

expanded; the fellowship needs to be increased."

Jackson expounds on how youth can be a part of God's house: be a minister, mediate God's grace and tell the world about Jesus. "Every one of us accepts a responsibility to minister when we accept Jesus into our lives," Jackson says.

The teenagers from throughout western Washington participated in five afternoon breakout sessions including a Bible study, a mass choir, community-building exercises, a prayer room and a Q&A session with Jackson.

A key question in the Q&A is: How can we as young adults fulfill the Gospel Commission? "Every day when you wake up," Jackson responds, "commit yourself to God and pray for God to bring you to the right people. This is how the Gospel Commission will be fulfilled."

Jackson continues this theme in his late afternoon presentation. "The church is in good hands," he says. "I see this when I look at you. Don't live your life without God's word. When it comes to making decisions, look to the Bible." Jackson closes his presentation with an appeal for young people to be ministers for God in their lives. The teenagers come forward to the cross to make a commitment to find a home in Jesus and finish the Youth Rally by singing "Jesus at the Center of It All.'

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director



David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director, shares at Youth Rally how there is nothing like walking in the front door and coming home. "We want to share a new perspective on the church and how there is a place for you," Yeagley tells youth.

## **WASHINGTON**

+ CONFERENCE // NEW



Fifty pastors from Washington Conference join more than 700 participants at the North American Division Prayer Conference in Monterey, Calif., in January.

## PRAYER CONFERENCE GIVES PASTORS RENEWED REVIVAL

tories of renewed relationships with Jesus are common among more than 700 Adventist pastors, leaders and members who attended the North American Division's Prayer Conference in January.

Within this crowd were 50 pastors and 10 leaders from Washington Conference. Donors funded the way for Washington pastors to attend the prayer conference and have a place to stay in Monterey, Calif. The investment of time and effort to arrange for 50 pastors to attend a national event paid off with continuing stories of revival among leaders.

"The prayer conference retooled our thinking about prayer and prayer fellowship," says Bruce Koch, Washington Conference stewardship director and pastor. "We came back with good resources [for our

Each January, Washington Conference brings its pastoral team together for ministry training. This year, 50 pastors went "on the road" to attend the North American Division Prayer Conference to learn more about prayer and prayer fellowship.

and a state of the state of the

churches] and a revolutionized way of doing our ministries."

Pastors are sharing their prayer conference experience and already implementing prayer ministries within their churches.

Eddie General, Greater Seattle Filipino-American pastor, led his congregation in a worship model he experienced at the prayer conference. "Our key Bible passage was Psalm 23," says General. "It was a great experience worshipping God by corporate memorization of Psalm 23 and singing hymns about it."

Rick Casebier, Olympia Transformation Life Center pastor, found a renewed passion for prayer. "We were challenged by Dwight Nelson's appeal for three key ingredients for transformational revival: desperation, urgency and expectancy," says Casebier. "We are already encouraged by what God will do in the months ahead in answer to united, persevering prayer."

Vince Saunders, Bonney Lake and Voice of Hope pastor, appreciated the opportunity to reconnect friends and colleagues. He attended a breakout session by Pavel Goia, a pastor from Lexington, Ky., where seminar attendees learned that "prayer is not about solving problems; it is about a relationship with God." The prayer conference included preaching services by Dwight Nelson, Freddie Russell, David Levy, John Ashcroft and Washington Conference's own Kevin Wilfley. In addition there were breakout sessions on prayer, Bible study, discipleship, personal witnessing, victorious living and much more. Prayer Conference participants had ample time for prayer in small groups, in large meetings and in private.

"God is growing our prayer life and taking us to new heights," says John Freedman, Washington Conference president. "This was a mini-revival for our pastors, and we hope to see this revival continue in our churches."

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director, with Kevin Wilfley, Washington Conference spiritual growth coordinator



## **WASHINGTON CONFERENCE SESSION**

Notice is hereby given that the 59th Regular Session of the Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at Auburn Adventist Academy Church, Auburn, Washington, on Sunday, April 6, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports of conference activities since the last Regular Conference Session; to elect officers, departmental directors, Conference Executive Committee, and the Board of Education for the ensuing quinquennium; for strategic planning; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

The Large Committee will meet on March 2 to elect the Nominating Committee for the Session, and the Nominating Committee will begin meeting on March 23.

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

John C. Freedman, president Douglas L. Bing, secretary



## WASHINGTON

CONFERENCE // NEWS

Art class is a place where students discover practical techniques to use in future art projects.

## DONORS GIVE AUBURN GREENER OIL PAINTS

nside the art classroom of Auburn Adventist Academy (AAA) is the smell of paint and the sound of happy chatter as students hunch over their respective paintings and mix their colors to just the right hue.

Art class is a place where students can be creative, learn with friends and discover practical techniques to use in future art projects. paints are "so nice" to work with and help bring sketches to life.

AAA offers fine art academic credit for painting, drawing, printmaking and graphic design. The fine art classes are taught by Robert Renfroe, who has a master's degree in painting and drawing. "My goal is for students to learn an appreciation for art and to know the time and effort it takes to make a piece of art," Renfroe says.

Hannah Justinen, AAA student, and Jessi Turner, AAA Gleaner correspondent

AAA art students enjoy having three types of paints for creative expression: watercolors, gouache and, now, watersoluble oils.



Donors gave Auburn Adventist Academy art students a new type of paint to work with: water-soluble oils.

This year, AAA art students are using water-soluble oil colors, thanks to a generous donation from the school's Committee of 100.

These water-soluble paints are a greener product for students to use in the class-room. They do not require the use of turpentine or mineral spirits, as regular oil paints do. This allows the classroom to remain free of harsh chemical smells.

The water-soluble oil colors are an art medium used in addition to gouache and watercolors. Students like how the new



## BIG PICTURE OF MINISTRY

Ten Washington Conference ministry leaders are still talking about their experience at the 14th Adventist Ministries Convention held in Monterey, Calif. The North American Division-sponsored event covered six Building Blocks of Ministry.



David Kinnamon, from the Barna Group, gave one of the conversation-generating presentations where he challenged leaders to minister in "Digital Babylon."

"The best biblical metaphor for the complexity of our times is Digital Babylon," says Kinnamon. The Young Adult Building Block presentation outlined five ways to "be faithful" in Digital Babylon: cultivate meaningful relationships, be culturally discerning, give young adults a voice and platform, provide vocational discipleship, and tune in to God's voice.

Read more about "What We Learned" at washingtonconference.org.



## VALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY



## **WELCOME HOME**

## **CLASS OF 2014 NAMES OFFICERS**

Zach Gilbert was elected president for the College Place, Wash., campus and Scott Rae and Michael Smith co-



## **ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS START NEW PROJECT IN PERU**

The WWU chapter of Engineers Without Borders plans a fundraising gala and trip to Peru for March.



In February, WWU students delivered blankets and coats to those in need in Portland, Ore. — an annual short-term mission effort.

### **BRITISH** REFORMATION TOUR

Alumni and friends are invited to join John McVay, WWU



president, for the British Reformation Tour, Sept. 2-16.

Look for these stories and more on the Walla Walla University home page at wallawalla.edu.



ould you agree that a delicious Sabbath dinner with good friends is a slice of heaven on Earth? When you throw in the chance to make new friends, then it's an even more memorable occasion. In early January, I had that opportunity when Sedro Woolley, Wash., alumna Joan, '61, and Jack Hilde, att., opened their home to our alumni team and more than 50 fellow Walla Walla University (WWU) alumni and friends for a Sabbath meal. The country setting along with the enchilada dinner and dessert buffet provided a wonderful opportunity for great conversations and a WWU update by John McVay, president. Jane Fish, '86, Joye Thorn, '61, and Kaarsten Lang Richards, '83, added their talents to the cooking and



alumni conversation. An added joy was to be able to visit the youth class of the North Cascade Adventist Church and give them WWU chocolate bars.

I'm very blessed. Since I became alumni director in 2012, I've sat with WWU alumni at restaurant tables in Redlands, Calif.; Portland, Ore.; and Berrien Springs, Mich. I've joined alumni at their places of worship in Desert Hot Springs, Calif.; Kirkland, Wash.; and Spokane, Wash. Everyone helped me and other WWU representatives feel welcome.

I would like to extend a personal invitation to alumni and any friends of Walla Walla University to join us on campus for Alumni Homecoming Weekend, April 24–27. Just like a good Sabbath dinner, there will be fellowship with friends new and old and delicious food. Our weekend schedule is packed with more than 60 events that will educate, entertain and inspire you.

Here are just a few of the highlights:

- » College Bowl Reunion;
- » Student Association 100th Anniversary;
- » Vernon Nye Art Exhibition;
- » Undergraduate Academic Symposium;
- » Seminars by Terri Dopp Aamodt, Jim Nestler, Jim Kincaid, Merlene Olmsted and others.

We are blessed — to have Walla Walla University in our "backyard," to observe students coming and going through its resounding halls, and to stay connected with our alumni and friends. Join us for homecoming. A complete schedule is listed at wallawalla.edu/homecoming.

Terri Dickinson Neil, WWU alumni and parent relations director

+

# MUSIC PROGRAM PROVIDES AVENUE FOR BEAUTY AND EXPRESSION

orthwest academy students experienced the joy and satisfaction of performing with a large musical group during January's Choir/Orchestra Music Festival. Every year, the Walla Walla University (WWU) Music Department hosts the annual festival for academy musicians, alternating between choir/orchestra and band.

Students arrive midweek on campus and have several days of intense practice before taking part in the University Church's Sabbath worship service and performing in an afternoon concert at the church.



Chelsea Spence directs the Music Department's new harp ensemble.



The Christmas concert is one of highlights of the year, bringing campus and community together.

Kraig Scott, who directs the choir, says the goal of the festival is "to allow serious young musicians from all across the Northwest to experience the joy of bringing great music to life."

For many of these students, their time at WWU may be the first of many experiences in bringing great music to life. Those who become WWU students, whether they major in music or not, have many opportunities to express their musical talents.

With more than 50 musical performances scheduled this year, two new ensembles

and several off-campus tours planned, the Music Department is thriving. The orchestra has a near-record number of members, reflecting the enthusiasm of student musicians for the department's expansion to a full symphony orchestra from a string orchestra about five years ago.

The department has also established a harp ensemble. The ensemble, under the direction of Chelsea Spence,



performed on campus for the first time as part of the annual PRISM concert last April. In June, the four-member ensemble performed its first full concert. The department also established a flute choir in 2013.

A complete schedule of music events through June is available at music.wallawalla. edu.

"The combination of students majoring in music with those who seriously maintain their musical skills while majoring in another discipline results in a vibrant creative environment," says Karin Thompson, Music Department chair. "Our goal, as expressed in our mission statement, is for students to 'be inspired and stimulated to further enrich the lives of others' because of what they gained from studying music at Walla Walla University."

Rosa Jimenez, WWU university relations director

## ADVENTIST HEALTH NEWS NOTES



Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore.

## ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER NAMED AMONG AMERICA'S HEALTHIEST EMPLOYER

Adventist Medical Center is the only health system in Portland, Ore., to be named among the Healthiest 100 Workplaces in America. The honor comes from Healthiest Employers, a leader in employee health analytics, best practices and benchmark data. Adventist Health was ranked the 12th healthiest company in the nation due to its viable success through a broad range of corporate wellness programs and employee wellness initiatives.

Adventist Health attained this recognition as the culmination of a year-long, highly selective two-stage assessment process spanning the United States to include companies of all sizes from all regions and industries.

The national award recognizes employers who have comprehensively incorporated the most effective employee wellness programs and practices. The Healthiest 100 have successfully implemented practical, effective and continuously improving corporate wellness strategies for creating a sustainably healthy workplace.

"A focus on wellness defined by treating the mind, body and spirit has been the

Adventist Health for more than a century," stated Tom Russell, Adventist Medical Center president and CEO. The wellness process begins with employees participating in an integrated corporate wellness program known as LivingWell. "Our employees understand that healthy caregivers provide better care to patients," continues Russell. The organization believes that providing employees tools for their wellness journey enables them to pay it forward by creating healthy communities.

## DAVID BUTLER NAMED PRESIDENT **MEDICAL CENTER**

David Butler has been named president and CEO of Tillamook Regional Medical Tom Russell, board chairman

foundation of our mission at



Center (TRMC), according to

along the Oregon coast.

Medical Center and look forward to helping meet the health and wellness needs of the coastal communities," said Butler. "It

Adventist Medical Center employees show off their favorite wellness activities.







for the Tillamook operations. Butler will be responsible for TRMC, multiple physician clinics and urgent care centers

"David has tremendous operational experience that will help facilitate the continued growth of Tillamook Regional Medical Center," said Russell.

Butler comes to TRMC with 25 years of experience leading large and rural-sized health care facilities.

"I am humbled and thrilled to be part of the continued growth of Tillamook Regional will be a privilege to collaborate



Karen Kellar

with a dynamic team and community partners in serving the needs of this vibrant region."

## KAREN KELLAR JOINS WALLA WALLA **GENERAL HOSPITAL AS PATIENT CARE VICE PRESIDENT**

Karen Kellar, a registered nurse, was named vice president for patient care for Adventist Health services in Walla Walla, Wash.

Kellar comes to Walla Walla from Tillamook, where she served as TRMC vice president for patient care since 2011. Kellar has a long history of service at Adventist Health and has functioned in key roles in TRMC, Adventist Medical Center and White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, Calif.

"We are looking forward to Karen joining our mission-focused team. Her clinical expertise will help us successfully navigate the changing health care environment while continuing to provide the highest quality care for the Walla Walla community," says Monty Knittel, Walla Walla General Hospital president and CEO.

Divya Joseph, Adventist Health Gleaner correspondent



Violet and Clay Brown

## Brown 65th

Clay and Violet celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Sept. 21, 2013, with a reception at the McMinnville (Ore.) Church.

Clay Brown met Violet Stephens while Violet was a senior at Laurelwood Academy and Clay was working and living in the area. They were married June 28, 1948, in Laurelwood, Ore. After a few years of marriage, they settled in McMinnville, Ore., where they still live.

They built a house and started their logging business. Violet did the books and kept house, and Clay managed the employees and worked in the woods. They had two daughters, Karen and Sharon. Through the years, there were annual Christmas road trips to Mexico in their camper with their daughters, a lot of Pathfinder events, and many bird-watching trips.

Eventually Clay retired from logging and driving truck, and Violet stopped babysitting. They are enjoying their retirement years together with their family.

The Brown family includes Karen and Paul Baumgartner of Molalla, Ore.; Sharon Anderson (deceased); and 4 grandchildren.

#### Rose 60th

Carl and Virginia Rose of Colville, Wash., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary and renewed their vows under the willow trees at the home of Carl's sister, Myrtle Age, this past August with family and friends.

Carl and his father attended an evangelism seminar at Gladstone Campground in 1948 during Carl's freshman year at Laurelwood Academy. Virginia Hegstad helped her local church serve meals at the seminar, and Carl was attracted. They were married August 20, 1953, in the Lents Church in Portland, Ore.

After three years at Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University), they spent several years doing mechanic work and logging, among a variety of other things.

Carl graduated from Pacific Union College in Angwin, Calif., with degrees in education and religion. Virginia graduated from Loma Linda (Calif.) University with a degree in education. Together they taught school across the



Carl and Virginia Rose

mountain West, including at Gordon School in Montana, Salt Lake Junior Academy in Utah, and Monument Valley, Utah. While there, Carl obtained his private and commercial pilot's licenses and was involved in medical air and ground transport and in search and rescue. He and Virginia were both EMTs, and he was an EMT examiner. He also became a certified flight instructor and was the fire chief.

They spent five years at Holbrook Indian School in Arizona, where Carl served as principal and also pastor of the local church. Virginia taught and worked in the school office. They were part of multiple Maranatha projects, including in Yellow-knife, Northwest Territories, where a church, parsonage and gym were built as one unit. They then spent two years in Casper, Wyo., teaching grades one through eight.

As a pastoral couple, they served in Arizona and throughout Oregon. They helped dismantled the girls' dorm at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, Ore. They retired in 1998. They are active in the Northport (Wash.) Church, and they both have HAM radio licenses.

The Rose family includes Bob and Sherrill Rose Hawley of Mount Angel, Ore.; Howard Rose of Jacksonville, Fla.; and 5 grandchildren.

## Wellman 70th

Dec. 7, 1941, was not only the start of World War II; it was the first date of Marilyn Cunning's and Ellsworth Wellman's romance. She was a sophomore and he a junior at Franklin High School in Seattle, Wash.

Ellsworth graduated in June 1943. He was immediately drafted into the Army and sent to Camp Barkley in Texas for basic medical training. He married Marilyn on Nov. 19, 1943, during his furlough. They spent two days together before he was shipped to Hawaii for landing craft training.

While there Ellsworth met Elden Chalmers and his wife, who were newly married and pastoring the Kapaa Church on Kauai. Their kindness, hospitality and Bible study impressed him so much he decided to be a pastor.

Letters flew almost daily for two years as Marilyn fin-

ished high school and worked. She was baptized Oct. 22, 1944.

Ellsworth was on his way home for furlough in October 1945 when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and the war was over. He was discharged in December 1945. Ellsworth graduated from La Sierra University in southern California in June 1949, and the couple began a 40-year career in Seventh-day Adventist ministry.

After eight years in California, they moved with four children to pastor in Washington. A fifth child joined the family in Bellingham, Wash.

When the children were all in school, Marilyn earned her nursing degree and became a registered nurse to "help



Ellsworth and Marilyn Wellman

educate this gang of kids." She worked for 25 years in four different hospitals.

The couple celebrated their 70th anniversary in the Connections Adventist Church in Yakima, Wash., with its members and the Wellmans' four children. Cathie and Cliff Kruse of Sequim, Wash.; David and Laura Wellman of Portland, Ore.: Greg and Debbie Wellman of Penticton, British Columbia, Canada; and Nancy and Steve Mack of Yakima. Also six of their 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren celebrated with them. The Wellmans' oldest child, Claudia, died in



**BORK** — Alexandria Katelyn was born Dec. 6, 2013, to Michael and Breanna (Mayne) Bork, Walla Walla, Wash.

**CARLSON** — Landon Russell was born Dec. 8, 2013, to Scott and Tiffany (Rider) Carlson, Everett, Wash.

### **FAMILYATREST**

**BEERS** — Jeffrey Clay, 56; born Sept. 14, 1957, Pendleton, Ore.; died Dec. 24, 2013, Richland, Wash. Surviving: sons, Brandon Beers, Elkton, Ore.; Travis Beers, Pendleton; daughter, Angie Aguilar, Pilot Rock, Ore.; father, S.F. Red Beers, Pilot Rock; brothers, Lloyd Beers, Pendleton; Michael Beers, Pilot Rock; sister, Hollylo Beers, Pendleton; and 6 grandchildren.

**CAMP** — Lovanda "Van," 75; died July 29, 2012, O'Brien, Ore. Surviving: husband, James; sons, Jamie and Edward; 4 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

**CARRIER** — Clara S. (Guenther), 98; born Sept. 4, 1915, New Leipzig, N.D.; died Dec. 29, 2013, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: son, William, Yakima; daughter, Janet Diehm, Yakima; sisters, Esther Hall, Nipoma, Calif.; Dorothy Lang, Kennewick, Wash.; 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**CLINE** — Mildred M. (Myers), 95; born Aug. 2, 1918, Freewater, Ore.; died Dec. 19, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: daughters, F. Jean Cline, Walla Walla; Diana Kay Gallo, Hermiston, Ore.; 2 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and a great-greatgrandchild.

**DAVIS** — Wilhelmina Clara (Ochsner), 85; born Nov. 18. 1928, Torrington, Wyo.; died Nov. 30, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, R. Lee; son, Ron, College Place, Wash.; brother, Robert Ochsner, Milton-Freewater, Ore.; sisters, Rose Coleman, North Fork, Calif.; Lillian Jordan, Burlington, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

**DECOURSEY** — Dora (Olson), 99; born July 8, 1914, Ryder, N.D.; died Oct. 16, 2013, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: son, Paul; daughter, Yvonne DeCoursey, Nampa; and 3 grandchildren.

**DODDS** — Robert Graham, 82; born April 25, 1931, Venice, Calif.; died Nov. 2, 2013, Cave Junction, Ore. Surviving: wife, Eunice; son, Tim Dodds, Medford, Ore.; daughter, Alice Kriebs, Medford; brother, Dale; and sister, Virginia.

### FERNANDEZ-ARAN-

**GUIZ** — Viola (Fernandez), 52; born July 21, 1961, Osorno, Chile; died Oct. 22, 2013, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Sergio Aranguiz; son, Vicente, of Chile; and daughter, Sarah, Nampa.

**GREN** — Donald O., 82; born Jan. 24, 1931, Duluth, Minn.; died Dec. 15, 2013, Medford, Ore. Surviving: wife, Jean (Hoefs); son, Conrad, Damascus, Ore.; daughters, Esther Bryson, Walla Walla, Wash.; Judy Weber, McMinnville, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

**GRIFFITH** — Miriam Marie (Spears), 76; born Jan. 18, 1937, Union, Ore.; died Dec. 17, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, David W., Caldwell, Idaho; daughters, Arlene Marie Nash, Walla Walla; Laura Lea Hendrickson, Pendleton, Ore.; Deana Cheri Washington, Brisbane, Calif.; Linda Glee Griffith, Portland, Ore.; and 11 grandchildren.

**HARMON** — Mack Allen, 75; born July 18, 1938, Jenkins, Ken.; died Dec. 17, 2013, Silverton, Ore. Surviving: brothers, Don and Lucky, Silverton; Bruce, White City, Ore.; Daniel, Silverton; sisters, Patsy Stroud, Sublimity, Ore.: Carol Sundet, Arbuckle, Calif.; Margaret Usher, Judy Harmon and Ellen Goldblatt, all of Silverton; and Jane Fish, Grants Pass, Ore.

**HERBEL** — Dwayne, 71; born Dec. 6, 1941, Hardin, Mont.; died June 25, 2013, Kent, Wash. Surviving: wife, Sherrie; son, Kyle, Portland, Ore.; daughter, Kierstin Clawson, Seattle, Wash.; brother, Marvin, Hardin; and 5 grandchildren.

**HERR** — June Marcia (Layman), 96; born May 30, 1917, Rush City, Minn.; died Dec. 19, 2013, North Port, Fla. Surviving: son, Larry, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada; daughter, LaDonna Krenz, North Port; 2 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**HINDS** — Donithan Dwayne, 53; born Dec. 19, 1959, Clovis, N.M.; died Nov. 20, 2012, Kennewick, Wash. Surviving: wife, Roxie (Jensen), Irrigon, Ore.; stepdaughters, Angie Schrage, Portland, Ore.; Amy

Schrage, Portland, Ore.; mother, Joy (Jones) Hinds, Hermiston, Ore.; brothers, Mike Hinds, Salt Lake City, Utah; Neal Hinds, Hermiston; sister, Jerri Crismon, Hermiston; and 2 step-grandchildren.

**KAPING** — Glenice J. (Lukens), 71; born Sept. 9, 1942, Glendale, Calif.; died Jan. 4, 2014, College Place, Wash. Surviving: husband, Richard; daughter, Stephanie Kaping, College Place; and sister, Sharon Calkins, American Canvon, Calif.

**KENNEDY** — James Edward, 79; born July 15, 1934, Providence, R.I.; died Aug. 9, 2013, Beverly Hills, Fla. Surviving: wife, Clarine (Kenaston); sons, James Jr., Brandon, Fla.; Thomas, Beverly Hills; daughters, Cherie Ada Milliron, Collegedale, Tenn.; Cynthia Leona Silver, Westborough, Mass.; brothers, George and Francis L.; sisters, Diane Jencks, Rita Jencks, Ruth Sequin and Rachel Mallette; 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

**MCDANIEL** — Virge Margaret (Tidball), 102; born July 30, 1911, Belle Fourche, S.D.; died Jan. 5, 2014, Tillamook, Ore. Surviving: sons, Dick, Lincoln, Calif.; Wayne, Jamestown, N.D.; Dean, Berrien Springs, Mich.; daughters, Sue Smith and Joyce Hustwaite, both of Tillamook; brother, Bert Tidball, Florence, Mont.; Bennett Tidball, Tillamook; sisters, Jennie Comer, Missoula, Mont.; Bess Frazen, Beaverton, Ore.; 15 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and many great-great-grandchildren.

MCKINNEY — William M., 85; born Oct. 25, 1928, Baldwin Park, Calif.; died Nov. 25, 2013, Brush Prairie, Wash. Surviving: sons,



Charles, of Texas; Brush, Silver City, N.M.; daughter, Kandace McKinney, Brush Prairie; brother, Robert, Battle Ground, Wash.; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

MOORE — Leah (Roberts) 98; born June 10, 1915 Ottawa, Kan.; died Oct. 2, 2013, Eagle, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Bob, Eagle; Don, Middleton, Idaho; daughters, Charolette Clegg, Siloam Springs, Ark.; Myrna Ferguson, Eagle; 14 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

MUSTARD — John Duncan, 74; born Feb. 23, 1939, Folkstone, England; died Dec. 2, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Jean (Hodder); son, Kelvin, Sterling, Mass.; daughter, Karen Larsen Shirley, Mass.; and 3 grand-children.

NOEL — Robert Lee, 90; born March 28, 1923, Manitowoc, Wis.; died Jan. 1, 2014, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Idana E. (White); son, David Noel, Walla Walla, Wash.; daughters, Diane Sue Rannow, Sutherlin, Ore.; Debra Brown, Canby, Ore.; brother, James Noel, Gladstone, Mich.; sisters, Grace (Noel) Waydick, Racine, Wis.; Alice Olcott, Oceanside, Calif.; and 3 grandchildren.

**PFLUGRAD** — Lulu Belle (Frank), 78; born May 13, 1935, Brazeau, Wis.; died Dec. 26, 2013, Moses Lake, Wash. Surviving: husband, Vernon; daughters, Renee Fritz, Fall Creek, Ore.; Tammy Hubensack, East Wenatchee, Wash.; and 3 grandchildren.

PRINCE — Hope Margaret (Munroe), 93; born July 23, 1920, in Canada; died Nov. 3, 2013, Hermiston, Ore. Surviving: son, Dan, Sunset, Texas; daughters, Jan Mills, Priest River, Idaho; Margaret Just, Middleton, Calif.; Carol Vandeman, Hermiston, Ore.; Cathy Karchefshis, Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; 16 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

RICHARDS — Eunice Opal (Phillips), 100; born Dec. 4, 1913, Ransomville, Kan.; died Dec. 19, 2013, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: son, Wilbur G., Caldwell; 4 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

ROBERTSON — John J., 95; born Aug. 22, 1918, Roslyn, Wash.; died Nov. 27, 2013, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Katherine (Martin), Gladstone, Ore.; sons, John M., Lawrence, Kan.; Douglas J., Vancouver; 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

ROCKWELL — Lotus Jewel (Perkins), 90; born Sept. 22, 1923, Tokyo, Japan; died Nov. 23, 2013, Portland, Ore. Surviving: son, Mark Rockwell, Lake Oswego, Ore.; daughters, Melody Ammon, Lake Oswego; Merrily Rockwell, Portland; brother, Curtis Perkins, Umpqua, Ore.; 7 grandchildren and 3 great–grandchildren.

**SEIBEL** — Marvin M., 88; born July 31, 1925, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; died Aug. 15, 2013, Gladstone, Ore. Surviving: wife, Eva (Nelson); son, Paul, Damascus, Ore.; daughters, Wendy Williams, Happy Valley, Ore.; Marlene Lovenguth, Gold Beach,

Ore.; 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**STARR** — Gloria L. (Starr) Roberts, 66; born Aug. 12, 1947, Auburn, Wash.; died Oct. 21, 2013, Moses Lake, Wash. Surviving: husband, Nicolus C. Roberts, Ephrata, Wash.: sons, Michael A., Moses Lake; Matthew A., Ephrata; brothers, Arthur "Bud" C. Starr, Wenatchee, Wash.; George S. Starr, Winston, Ore.; Eugene B. Starr, Rogue River, Ore.; sisters, Shirley B. Ringering, Ephrata; Sharon L. Loughran, Bonney Lake, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

**TEMPLEMAN** — Rachel, 83; born Nov. 27, 1930, Bremerton, Wash.; died Dec. 8, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sister, Evelyn (Templeman) Bergman, College Place, Wash.

TILLOTSON — Carl, 90; born May 25, 1923, Alma, Neb.; died Nov. 27, 2013, Oregon City, Ore. Surviving: son, Edward Tillotson, Oregon City; daughters, Carol Lundquist, Crossville, Tenn.; Connie Dahlke, Walla Walla, Wash.; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

TONACK — John, 80; born Feb. 22, 1933, La Grande, Ore.; died Nov. 28, 2013, Clackamas, Ore. Surviving: wife, Sharon (Gilman); sons, Greg, Clackamas; Jeff, Siloam Springs, Ark.; and 7 grandchildren.

UNTERSEHER — Loren Albert, 85; born July 21, 1928, Heaton, N.D.; died Jan. 8, 2014, Bullhead City, Ariz. Surviving: son, Jeff, Bowdon, N.D.; daughters, Debbie Clapp, Fargo, N.D.; Darliss Huss, Rochester, M.N.; Jana Weaver, Argyle, Texas; 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

VAN SANTEN — Mary Helen (Stanford), 94; born Oct. 29, 1919, Portland, Ore.; died Nov. 1, 2013, Salem, Ore. Surviving: son, Roger; daughter, Marilyn Van Santen; 2 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

WHITE — Dorothy Leona (Stark), 83; born July 21, 1930, Warsaw, Mo.; died Dec. 25, 2013, Pendleton, Oregon. Surviving: daughter, Judy Delf, Weston, Ore.; brothers, Wayne Stark, Yakima, Wash.; Eugene Stark, Priest River, Idaho; Norman Stark, Yakima; sisters, Daisy, Scappoose, Ore.; Nadine, Trona, Calif.; and 2 grandchildren.

WILLIAMS — Nancy Lee (Sherwood), 79; born June 2, 1934, Los Angeles, Calif.; died Oct. 17, 2013, Hayden, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Donald, of Alaska; David, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; daughters, Gloria Pearson, Spirit Lake, Idaho; Pam Poisel, Rathdrum, Idaho; brother, Jim Sherwood, Walden, N.Y.; 15 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

The North Pacific Union Conference *Gleaner* accepts family listings as a service to members of Adventist churches in the Northwest. While this information is not intended as an endorsement of any facts or relationships represented, the *Gleaner* does not knowingly print content contrary to the biblical beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

## Offering

MARCH 1 — Local Church Budget;

MARCH 8 — Adventist World Radio;

MARCH 15 — Local Church Budget:

MARCH 22 — Local Conference Advance;

MARCH 29 — Walla Walla University.

More upcoming events listed at **gleanernow.com/events**.

## WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

MARCH 6-8 — March University Days, WWU hosts prospective students. Tours, professor visits and more. See wallawalla.edu/marchudays;

MARCH 1,2,6,8,9 — The Festival of Shorts, drama productions directed by students. For ticket information, see drama. wallawalla.edu.

### IDAHO

## **Missing Members**

The Emmett Church is looking for information regarding the following missing members: George L. Scott, Cheryl A. Scott, G. Norman Scott and Dorris Stelling. Please contact the Emmett Church clerk at 208-467-5156 or stupe@cableone.net.

#### MONTANA

## **Missing Members**

The Glendive Church is looking for information regarding the following missing members: David Bower, Robert Christensen, Jerold Murray, Bruce Shafer, Austin Stratton and Christopher Tucker. If you have any information concerning these members, please call Marion Crane, church clerk, at 406-377-5782 or mail to PO Box 128, Glendive, MT 59330.

### OREGON

## Marriage Conversion Weekend

MARCH 7–8 — What if you could get a conversion kit for your marriage that would transform it into a relationship stronger than you had imagined possible? Richie and Timi Brower share how their own marriage was nearly destroyed and then converted into something better than they had even dreamed. The same powerful principles that are transforming their marriage can revolutionize your own. marriageconversion.com. Workbook, childcare and Sabbath meal provided. Session starts Friday at 7 p.m. at Whipple Creek Church, 302 NW 179th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642. For more information and to RSVP, call 360-263-4189 or email ksundin8@gmail.com.

## Keep the Fire Going Seminar

MARCH 14–15 — Dr. Tim Riesenberger will present a weekend seminar at the Albany Church. The topic will be Keep the Fire Going: The Secret to Lasting Change. Meetings start Friday at 7 p.m. and continue at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Sabbath. Sabbath lunch will be provided. Call 541-928-9555 for more information.

### WASHINGTON

### AAA Class of 1959 Reunion

MARCH 21–22 — Auburn Adventist Academy's Class of 1959 invites the classes of 1958 and 1960 to join them for a joint 55-year class reunion in Palm Springs, Calif. Alumni interested in attending should contact Lorena Jeske at Imjeske59@comcast.net or Leanna (Jeske) Rose at Imrose59@yahoo.com.

#### WORLD CHURCH

## Jefferson Academy Homecoming Weekend

**APRIL 18–20** — Jefferson Academy 100th Anniversary Celebration Homecoming weekend. Speaker will be Steve Darmody. Jefferson Academy Alumni, PO Box 187, Jefferson, TX 75657. For more information, email jeffersonacademyalumni@gmail.com.

## Kona School 50th Anniversary

**JULY 26–27** — Kona Adventist Christian School invites former students, friends and staff currently living in the North Pacific Union to attend its 50th anniversary. The school is located at 82-1013 Kinue Rd., Captain Cook, Hawaii. Contact Valerie Oskins 808-960-2406 or Cyndi Kiyabu 808-896-8646 for further information.

Sunset Schedule				
March DST	7	14	21	28
ALASKA CONFERENCE				
Anchorage	6:38	7:57	8:15	8:33
Fairbanks	6:23	7:45	8:07	8:28
Juneau	5:39	6:55	7:11	7:27
Ketchikan	5:32	6:47	7:01	7:14
IDAHO CONFERENCE				
Boise	6:40	7:49	7:57	8:06
La Grande	5:46	6:56	7:05	7:14
Pocatello	6:26	7:34	7:42	7:50
MONTANA CONFERENCE				
Billings	6:08	7:17	7:27	7:36
Havre	6:10	7:21	7:32	7:42
Helena	6:21	7:31	7:41	7:50
Miles City	5:57	7:06	7:16	7:26
Missoula	6:29	7:39	7:49	7:58
OREGON CONFERENCE				
Coos Bay	6:12	7:21	7:29	7:38
Medford	6:07	7:16	7:24	7:32
Portland	6:05	7:14	7:23	7:32
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE				
Pendleton	5:49	6:59	7:08	7:17
Spokane	5:42	6:52	7:02	7:13
Walla Walla	5:47	6:57	7:06	7:15
Wenatchee	5:54	7:04	7:14	7:24
Yakima	5:55	7:05	7:15	7:24
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE				
Bellingham	6:01	7:12	7:23	7:33
Seattle	6:02	7:12	7:22	7:32
5 4 4 6 7				

Daylight Savings Time begins on March 9. GleanerNow.com/sunset

#### **ADULT CARE**

"THE MEADOWS" ADULT FAMILY HOME in Meadow Glade, Wash. We believe we are placed on this Earth to bless others. Our delightful home is uniquely staffed with professional caregivers, awake and on-site 24/7. Come visit and you will see why our residents and families love this graciously appointed and peaceful place. Call 360-450-6143, pembrookservices.com.

#### **AUTOMOTIVE**

**NEW AUTOS COST LESS!!!** All makes FLEET PRICES. Out-ofstock or factory orders. Lowinterest financing % and factory rebate programs. Leasing = lower payments and taxes. Quality used vehicles available. TRADE-INS WELCOME. Quotations by phone or fax. Test drive and demo before you buy. Nationwide warranty on new autos. Delivery at your home, office, credit union or our facility. We ship nationwide, Alaska and Hawaii. Save thousands! Call or fax your specific vehicle desires: make, model, options, etc. Contact WESTERN AUTO WHOLESALE & LEASING: Portland, OR, 503-760-8122; Vancouver, WA, 360-263-6521; nationwide 800-284-6612; fax 800-300-0484; email wawl@aol.com.

#### **CLASSES**

#### **SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S**

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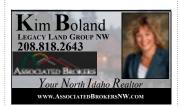
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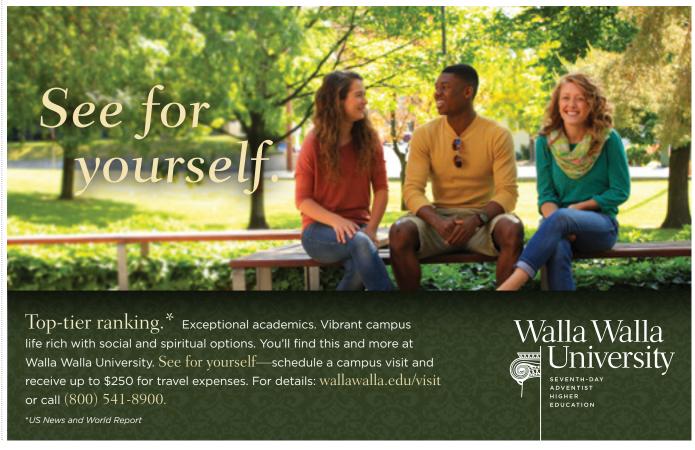
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# HOW TO JUDGE PEOPLE

"J

udge not lest ye be judged" is perhaps the most popular quote among people who haven't read the Bible.

The phrase usually appears in the heat of an argument over any number of things. Someone points out that a person's drug use or recreational activity is dangerous, and the person in question will say, "Don't judge me." Recently a friend of mine had her profuse misspellings and butchery of the English language called out — resulting in an online rant featuring Matt. 7:1, "Do not judge lest you be judged."

She misspelled most of the words in her rant.

I have watched friends critique another's ideas only to have another friend chime in with the refrain, "Do not judge ...." This leaves people confused. Is disagreeing with people judgmental? Is pointing out destructive behavior judgmental?

Seth Pierce

The words of Jesus have become the go-to

trump card when someone gets too close to pointing out your foibles and inconsistencies or, heaven forbid, holding you accountable for your responsibilities. We become uncomfortable within an argument or with someone else's view, so we grab this verse like a grenade and toss it into the mix in the hope of shaming everyone into silence while elevating us to Son of God status.

After all, we quoted His words — that makes us like Jesus, right?

Sometimes people adapt the phrase into something more pointed like, "The church and/or Christians are so judgmental."

Well, so are you, my friend. The fact that you label, or insinuate, someone as judgmental means that you, yourself, are judging them. In all of pop theology there is nothing that raises my blood pressure more than judgmental people misquoting Jesus as a feint to cover up their own critical spirits.

What's more, this phrase can be every bit as condescending as "love the sinner, hate the sin" or "bless their heart."

And, really, did Jesus tell people not to judge? What about the seldom-quoted words of Jesus, "Stop judging by mere appearances and make a right judgment" (John 7:24)? Not to mention, Jesus' affirming someone as having "judged correctly" in Luke 7:43.

#### THE ISSUE

In the immediate context of Matthew 7, Jesus is completing a scathing assessment of the destructive religious practices of the day — only to have those diabolical practitioners accuse Jesus of the same thing. Those who have misunderstood the law of God have the audacity to accuse the Son of God of misrepresenting God.

Jesus accuses the religious leaders of hypocrisy in His famous Sermon on the Mount and then tells His followers to be careful not to accuse others of the thing of which they are guilty. In a sense He is asking them to make a judgment call about themselves, before they judge others — to be self-aware before you can intervene in the lives of others, like the former addict who now helps heal the addicted or the divorcee that now helps people going through divorce.

Further, coupled with the passage in John 7, we can infer that while actions certainly can fall



# PERSPECTIVE E



into constructed and destructive categories we can't always judge motive. Ellen White says that "whoever presumes to judge the motives of others is again usurping the prerogative of the Son of God." She goes so far as to characterize these people as allied with the antichrist.2

So, when I see something that concerns me, I end up saying something like, "I don't know if you are a bad person or if you're going to heaven or hell — but I can tell you if you will end up in the hospital, in jail or alone if you keep doing what you are doing."

If people weren't al-

lowed to make judgments, we would cease to exist. We use judgment in everything from wearing appropriate clothes to work and driving our cars to raising kids and selecting a significant other.

You are probably judging me as you read my words.

A couple verses after Jesus' famous judging verse He tells us, "Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs" (Matt. 7:6).

How do we know "dogs" and "swine" unless we exercise some kind of judgment? Even Paul admonishes Jesus' followers to judge: "For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?"3 Paul is discussing the settling of conflicts within the body of Christ.

In the next chapter he takes it even further: "Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? Do you not know that

we are to judge

angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!"4

Did Paul forget the words of Jesus here?

Perhaps what we need is to take time to understand someone before handing him or her our judgment. How hard is it to pause and ask questions like, "What did you mean when you said ...? Are you being serious?"

Ellen White says, "Christlike love places the most favorable construction on the motives and acts of others."5 Understand that most people with whom you disagree aren't mean — they just differ in their view on a given subject. Don't prematurely end the dialogue (or escalate it) but throwing out the "do not judge."

What we need are more gracious ways to dialogue and disagree instead of a premature invocation of "do not judge ... ."

Otherwise, you leave me with the burdensome task of resisting the temptation of judging you as a biblical ignoramus or, worse, a hypocrite quoting a book vou haven't even read and yet presume to follow, which would be judgment in line with the biblical text.

- 1. Ellen White, Mount of Blessings, p. 125.
- 2. Ibid, p. 126.
- 3. 1 Cor. 5:2
- 4. 1 Cor. 6:1-3
- 5. Ellen White, Acts of the Apostles, p. 319.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor



If people weren't allowed to make judgments, we would cease to exist.

# THE ADVENTIST ADVANTAGE

on't curse the darkness; light a candle"

End-time Adventists can find value in that time-honored advice. As the world's moral midnight deepens around us — greed, lust, war, oppression, rebellion, unbelief — God has entrusted our church with a saving message of grace and truth and a healing lifestyle of love and hope. But let us beware of arrogance because Jesus warns, "To whom much is given, from him much will be required" (Luke 12:48 NKJV).

Seventh-day Adventists are significantly advantaged over those of other religious groups — but do we appreciate it or even realize it anymore?

Our pioneers certainly did.

Martin Weber Electrified the blesse

Electrified with the blessed hope of Christ's soon

coming and their discovery of the Sabbath, the sanctuary and other fundamental Bible truths, they sacrificed their possessions and themselves for the sake of our Adventist message and mission.

So what has happened to us in 21st-century America? About half of our kids and grandchildren abandon the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Some congregations are becoming hospices rather than maternity wards. Why?

Is it petty legalism on one extreme and a lax liberalism on the other? Traditionalism for some but loss of denominational identity for others? Institutionalism for some administrators but congregationalism for lay professionals impatient with cul-de-sac church committees?

Authoritarianism at the top and autonomy at the bottom of our denominational hierarchy?

"No worries," some say. "The church is going through!" Exactly what this means we shall discuss in an upcoming column. Meanwhile, ponder this: Does the treasure of truth God entrusted to Adventists give us immunity — or greater responsibility?

In this monthly column I hope to facilitate a conversation that includes a searching and fearless moral inventory of where we are as Northwest Adventists versus where God wants us to be. This won't be a gripe session — we'll be solutions-oriented, in view of our Adventist advantage. Rather than condemning the darkness around us and among us, let's strategize about how Christ's light of loving truth might illuminate our communities through our churches.

Here's where I'm coming from, in terms of personal perspective: I believe that among all faith groups, Seventh-day Adventists are uniquely positioned to meet the needs of our confused and hurting world. That's



After four decades of denominational ministry, Martin Weber now serves as the Seventh-day Adventist representative at Logos Bible Software in Bellingham, Wash., where he collaborates with Adventist authors and publishers to bring the Adventist advantage into Logos' unique digital "ecosystem." Visit logos.com/SDA.



# PERSPECTIVE |



quite a statement, but I think it can withstand scrutiny.

Well, exactly what is our Adventist advantage? Here are seven core elements:

- 1. Sabbath rest in Jesus, who invited us to rest in His finished work on the seventh day of creation week and then again on the Sabbath after securing our salvation at Calvary Seventh-day Adventists celebrate life and new life in Christ every week.
- 2. Our sanctuary message proclaims that when Jesus rose from the dead, He went somewhere to do something for His people. Specifically, He entered heaven's temple to serve as our real-time High Priest in touch with our daily need for pardon, purpose and protection (Hebrews 7:25).
- 3. Our view of life after death doesn't reduce us to disembodied spirits floating off by ourselves; we'll all go to heaven together at Christ's triumphant return as a newly embodied community.

- 4. Our concept of final events facilitates closure, in which sin will be eradicated and not eternalized in hell. This follows a judgment that explains and vindicates all God's dealings as wise and loving.
- 5. For a postmodern world craving identity through a shared story, we offer the Great Controversy narrative that encompasses our fundamental beliefs in the timeline of God's own story with us.
- 6. A holistic life healthier and longer than non-Adventists, as *National Geographic* magazine celebrated by proclaiming Seventh-day Adventists as one of its "Blue Zones" of optimal wellness.

7. A messenger from God who gave our church eight natural remedies that comprise our holistic lifestyle; Ellen White also envisioned both our health and educational systems — astonishingly now the largest and

finest in the Protestant world.

No other denomination offers a theology, worldview and lifestyle that compares with ours. Indeed Adventists are enormously advantaged. So why are we prone to preoccupation with trinkets and trivia, arguing about wedding rings and music rhythm while the world desperately needs our living, loving message and mission?

Among all faith groups, Seventh-day Adventists are uniquely positioned to meet the needs of our confused and hurting world.

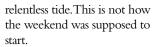


# LET'S TALK

## **MISERY**

sit here in moribund misery. The valiant efforts of my body to repel an unwelcome viral intruder are greatly appreciated. Yet I am flopped unceremoniously in a chair. A pile of crumpled tissues mounts beside me, evidence of a fruitless effort to stem the

## A pile of crumpled tissues mounts beside me ... . This is not how the weekend was supposed to start.



Great plans — a dinner date with friends, Sabbath fellowship, delightful hours with a grandchild — have all been placed reluctantly back on the shelf. I am a carrier of an enemy I do not wish to share — hence my self-imposed quarantine in the basement cave of recovery.

A stack of books sits awaiting my attention, but my puffed and bleary eyes have little interest in reading. Instead,

Steve Vistaunet

I lean back in the recliner

and wait for the next sneeze. O wretched man that I am, who will save me from this mortal flesh? I feel strangely akin to Emma Lazarus' "huddled masses yearning to breathe free." But this shall pass in a few days. I will be up and around with my usual verve and vigor. The inconvenient moment will be forgotten like morning frost.

Yet in the midst of my superficial suffering, I am cognizant that for many the frost never dissipates. It, in fact, has turned to a shell of ice that is no mere inconvenience, no passing trifle. Their challenging circumstances turn my temporary speed bump into a matter of little consequence.

Come to think of it, I cannot recall a passage of Scripture in which the writer complains of a runny nose. "The Spirit bade me to make haste to Corinth," said the apostle Paul, "but the enemy of souls delayed my departure with an insufferable ailment common to man." No, that has apparently been edited out. God's Word has bigger fish to fry, and so do God's people.

The woman who can barely move with the symptoms of fibromyalgia; the nonsmoker who discovers he is inexplicably riddled with lung cancer; the nerve-damaged back that affords no relief from pain; the 13-year-old girl who lives daily with the horror of an abusive

father; the single parent whose resources of time and money are never enough ... these include some who are most eager for a better land. They know they are in great need. They are more than ready for a permanent solution.

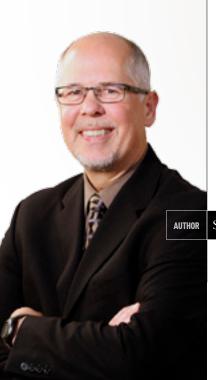
The rest of us sense that present discomfort is fleeting, that good times will come quickly again. And we are at risk of the greatest disease of all — being rich with things that are not truly of eternal value. When Jesus cautioned about the difficulty of a rich man entering heaven, He spoke

Ellen White notes that Jesus sometimes left whole villages healed of sickness and physical malady. Yet always the eternal purpose was paramount. He healed their bodies so He could heal their minds and hearts. This is where the promise of Scripture lies — not on physical healing, but the promise of abundant life now and forever.

In the meantime, please pass me a tissue.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

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