



CHILDREN'S MISSION



2021 • **QUARTER 3** • NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION



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On the Cover: Katelyn, 11, riding a horse at Holbrook Indian School in the U.S. state of Arizona. Her smiles and songs testify to others about her love for Jesus. Story, Page 12.

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Your Offerings at Work



Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago that helped kickstart a new gym and health center called New Life Center at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. Your offering this quarter will help finish the second phase of the center. Read stories from Holbrook on pages 4-13.



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12501 Old Columbia Pike,
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6601
1-800-648-5824 • AdventistMission.org

Dear Sabbath School Leader,

Andrew McChesney
Editor



This quarter we feature the North American Division, which oversees the Seventh-day Adventist Church's work in the United States, Canada, the French possessions of St. Pierre and Miquelon, the British overseas territory of Bermuda, the U.S. territories of Guam, Wake Island, and Northern Mariana Islands in the Pacific Ocean, and three nearby states in free association with the United States—Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia. The region is home to 367 million people, including 1.25 million Adventists. That's a ratio of one Adventist for every 293 people.

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath projects are in the U.S. state of Arizona, in the Canadian territory of Nunavut, and on Palau, an archipelago of more than 500 islands that is part of the Micronesia region in the western Pacific Ocean. A fourth project aims to assist refugees in the North American Division.

If you want to make your Sabbath School class come alive this quarter, we offer a variety of photos and other materials to accompany each mission story. More information is provided in the sidebar with each story. For photos of tourist sites and other scenes from the featured countries, try a free photo bank such as pixabay.com and unsplash.com.

In addition, you can download a PDF of facts and activities from the North American Division at bit.ly/NAD-2021. Follow us at facebook.com/missionquarterlies.

You can download the PDF version of *Children's Mission* magazine at bit.ly/childrensmision and the youth and adult *Mission* magazine at bit.ly/adultmision. Mission Spotlight videos are available at bit.ly/missionspotlight. A printable mission bank image, which the children can color, can be downloaded at bit.ly/bank-coloring-page.

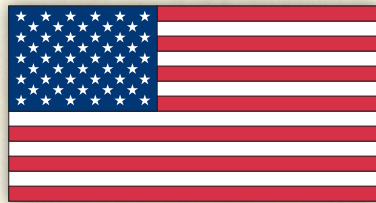
If I can be of assistance, contact me at mcchesneya@gc.adventist.org.

Thank you for encouraging children to be mission-minded! 🌍

Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help the North American Division to construct:

- Staff housing, Palau School, Palau
- Second phase of multifunctional gym, Holbrook Indian School, U.S.A.
- Churches for refugees and to grant scholarships, Canada and U.S.A.
- Church and community center, Igloolik, Canada



ARIZONA, U.S.A. | July 3

Shawnewa, 18

Finding the Right Spirit

My name is Shawnewa. I am a student at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. I am from the Hopi and Navajo nations. Like many students at Holbrook, my family practices traditional beliefs. My grandparents on my father's side are Christian.

One summer, my younger brother Naracaho and I attended a Vacation Bible School program held on the Navajo reservation. I loved what I learned about God. I wanted to know more, so I went to Vacation Bible School the following summer.

During my eighth-grade year of school, my grandfather tried to encourage me to enroll at Holbrook. The school is several hours by car from my home, and I didn't want to be so far away from my family. So I chose not to go. Then, tragically, my grandfather died. In my sadness and out of respect for him, I decided I would go to Holbrook for ninth grade.

When I arrived at Holbrook, I loved the atmosphere. I especially loved what I was learning about God. It gave me so much peace. One day in class, the Bible teacher asked if any students wanted to be baptized. I wanted to be baptized but was afraid of what my family would think. So, I did not raise my hand. A few weeks later, the teacher asked again. This time I decided that I did not care what other people thought. I wanted to follow Jesus. I was baptized with five classmates at the end of the school year.

When I went home for summer vacation, members of my family would not talk to me. If they did, it was only to tease me. My mother told me she was not going to allow me to go back to Holbrook. They were angry with me for becoming a Christian.

I asked some staff at the school to pray for me.

Not long after, my mother changed her

mind. She told me that she saw a change for the better in me. She said I seemed happier than she had ever seen me before and that she did not mind me believing in Christ, even though she did not share the same beliefs.

Now I am finishing my last year at Holbrook. Recently, my brother Naracaho was baptized. He went through a similar experience. He was told that if he got baptized the spirit that was in him would be replaced by another Spirit, the Holy Spirit. He struggled with the decision but, by the end of last school year, he, like me, chose to follow Jesus.

We are thankful for all of the people who made it possible for Naracaho and me to learn about God's love for us at Holbrook Indian School. 🌍

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago that helped kickstart plans for a new gym and health center called New Life Center at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. Your offering this quarter will help finish the second phase of the center, where the school will address high rates of obesity, heart disease, diabetes, depression, and suicide among Native American children and youth.

By Shawnewa, as told to Diana Fish

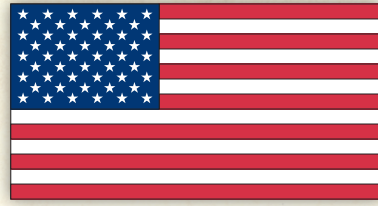
Story Tips

- Find the U.S. state of Arizona on the map.
- Ask a girl to read this first-person account.
- Pronounce Shawnewa as: SHAW-neh-wah.
- Pronounce Naracaho as: NAH-rah-cah-hoe.
- Shawnewa is not identified by her full name to respect her privacy.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's "I Will Go" strategic plan: Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5 "to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives" through two KPIs — a "significant increase in ... unbaptized children and youth regularly attending divine service and Sabbath School" (KPI 5.2) and a "significant increase in acceptance and practice of the church's distinctive beliefs" (KPI 5.3); Spiritual Growth Objective No. 6 "to increase accession, retention, reclamation, and participation of children, youth, and young adults" (KPI 6.3); and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 7 "to help youth and young adults place God first and exemplify a biblical worldview." Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.



MISSION
RECORD

Holbrook Indian School was opened in 1946 in Holbrook, Arizona. As well as teaching the regular curriculum of English, history, math, and science, classes are held in vocational subjects such as auto mechanics, horsemanship, welding, and woodworking. The school also works to preserve Native American culture by teaching the traditions of pottery making, Navajo language, and government. Currently the school is funded 20% by the Pacific Union Conference and 80% through donations.



ARIZONA, U.S.A. | July 10

Quentina, 15

Praying Sisters Into School

When I was in the fifth grade, I traveled with my father to Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. I was excited about living there because my auntie, who is my age, often came home on vacation and told me stories about what she was learning, the fun things the children were doing, and the vegetarian food that they ate in the cafeteria. Before agreeing that I could go to Holbrook, Grandma showed me a big cookbook with recipes for vegetarian food.

“This is what you will be eating,” she said.

Once I got to Holbrook, some girls in my class bullied me, and I got caught reacting to the teasing. I was sent to the principal’s office a lot.

Then I fell behind with my schoolwork. School was very frustrating for me. One time I told the teacher, “Just give me an ‘F!’” She patiently worked with me, but I still was failing in most of my subjects.

One day, a teacher gave me some extra credit work to do and it raised my grade to an “A.” I was so excited! Soon my grades began to improve. I began to like school.

The staff noticed a positive change in me. I did not know how to accept compliments and, when a staff member told me that she was proud of how well I was doing, I found a way to get in trouble the next day. To my surprise, they did not send me home. Instead, they worked with me to help me learn to make better choices.

Then my auntie got into trouble and decided she did not want to study at Holbrook. My grandmother said I also had to return home because she didn’t want to make the two-hour trip to the school just for me. The staff made arrangements to take me home and pick me up during vacations so I could continue studying at Holbrook. When I went home on vacation, I shared Bible stories that I had

learned at school and in church with my younger sister. She decided that she also wanted to come to Holbrook.

Each year at Holbrook, I learned a little more about God. Because of the trouble that I got in, I began working with a mentor. She shared things with me about God and did nice things for me to show that she cared about me. When I told her that I wanted to be baptized, she asked, “Why?” I explained that I wanted to help my family. I thought if they could see a positive change in me, then they also would want to change. My mentor studied the Bible with me and three friends at Holbrook. I learned more about Jesus and how He came to show us what God is like. I learned that I could pray to Him and ask Him to help me. I began praying for my older sister.

At first, I did not see a change in her, but then one day she announced she wanted to study at Holbrook. Then my younger sister came, too. I am thankful that I came to Holbrook I and learned that God loves my family and me. 🌍

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that will help Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School this quarter.

By Quentina, as told to Diana Fish

Story Tips

- Find the U.S. state of Arizona on the map.
- Ask a girl to share this first-person account.
- Pronounce Quentina as: KWEHN-teena.
- Know that Adventist Mission does not identify Holbrook students by their full names to respect their privacy.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s “I Will Go” strategic plan: Spiritual Growth Objective No. 6 “to increase accession, retention, reclamation, and participation of children, youth, and young adults,” and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 7 “to help youth and young adults place God first and exemplify a biblical worldview” by encouraging “youth and young adults [to] embrace the belief (FB 22) that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, abstaining from alcohol, tobacco, recreational use of drugs and other high-risk behaviors, and embrace church teachings (FB 23) on marriage, and demonstrate sexual purity” (KPI 7.2). Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.



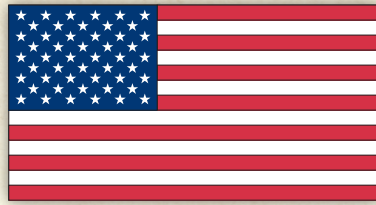
AMAZING
NATURE

The Gila monster is the largest — and only venomous — lizard native to the United States. It can grow up to two feet (60 cm) long, and is heavy and slow moving, so it is rarely a danger to humans. It is named after the Gila River Basin in Arizona and New Mexico, where it was once plentiful.



BigStockPhoto.com

Adrian



ARIZONA, U.S.A. | July 17

Stubborn Malena

Naomi Jackson, 35

The girls' dean thought she herself was stubborn, but then she met 11-year-old Malena.

Naomi, the assistant girls' dean at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School, tried to awaken Malena by singing a song at 6 a.m. Malena remained asleep.

She tickled her, patted her arm, and gently rocked her. Malena still slept.

She challenged her to an energetic match of blanket tug-o-war. Malena played the game but was sound asleep 25 minutes later.

Malena also did not want to clean her room or do her homework.

But the girls' dean's biggest challenge was convincing Malena to take a shower. She tried everything that she could think of to convince the girl to bathe. It wasn't that Malena didn't want to take a shower. She simply wanted to wash when she felt like it. Unfortunately, Malena rarely wanted to wash when the girls' dean

wanted her to wash.

The girls' dean might have been frustrated by Malena's stubbornness, but she was equally stubborn. However, you would never guess that anyone was frustrated at bedtime. The girls' dean and Malena always sang a song about Jesus. Then Malena took the girls' dean's hands to pray for a long list of requests.

"Dear Jesus, I say that You bless my grandma, and I say that You bless Mrs. Kennedy's son, and I say that You bless ..." Malena prayed.

When she finished, she locked her arms around the girls' dean's neck and screamed, "Blow dryer!" The girls' dean turned on an invisible hair blow dryer and proceeded, with sound effects, to melt Malena's arms away from her neck. As she blew the blow dryer, the challenges of the day also melted away.

As the months passed, Malena began to be less stubborn about taking showers. But then, after a few days of successful showers, the girls' dean would catch Malena fully dressed, sitting at her desk

with a peaceful expression on her face, passing the time away.

“Get in the shower!” she would bark.

Malena knew how to be stubborn. But so did the girls’ dean.

By the time the school year was more than half over, Malena rarely had an issue with showering on time. Working with her became easy. Then one evening, she came into the dorm with a beverage she wanted to drink before bedtime. She didn’t realize she wouldn’t sleep well if she drank it. A struggle ensued. Finally, tucked under the blankets with tears in her eyes, Malena refused to sing, pray, and turn on the blow dryer. When the girls’ dean left, she whispered by Malena’s bedside, “I love you.” Malena, still awake, remained silent.

The following morning, the girls’ dean was walking down the hall to ensure that the elementary girls were preparing for school when Malena entered the hallway. The girls’ dean stopped, thrilled at the sight of her beloved sleepyhead venturing so far from the comfort of her bed at that hour. Malena wrapped her arms around her with a good-morning hug. “I’m sorry for my behavior last night,” she said.

“I’m sorry I became so frustrated with you,” the girls’ dean replied with a hug.

The children aren’t the only ones learning at the school. The girls’ dean

Story Tips

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says, “As I try to teach Malena what it means to be a follower of Jesus, she teaches me about God’s grace.” The girls’ dean wants to be less stubborn, too. 🌍

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that will help Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School.

By Diana Fish

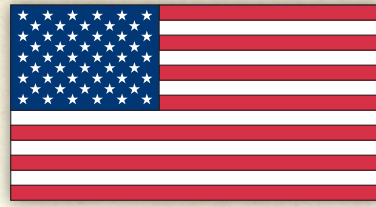


AMAZING
NATURE

If you cut down a cactus in Arizona you could end up in jail for 25 years. The saguaro cactus can grow up to 50 (15 meters) feet tall but it grows very slowly, and it can live for 200 years.



BigStockPhoto.com



ARIZONA, U.S.A. | July 24

Incredible Impact

Shima

What kind of impact can a mission school have on a family?

Shima, which means “mother” in the Navajo language, heard about Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School about 40 years ago.

An elderly friend spoke very highly of Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School, located on the Navajo Reservation in the U.S. state of Arizona.

“The school provides an excellent education to our Navajo children,” he said.

Shima listened carefully because she very much respected her friend. He had worked as a code talker for the U.S. military, using the little-known Navajo language as a means of secret communications during wartime. Shima enrolled five of her seven children at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School.

Her eldest son learned how to weld and do other metal work at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. He

loved working with metal and became a metalworker.

Shima’s second-eldest child, a girl, decided to go to an Adventist college after graduating from Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. She studied nursing at Pacific Union College in California and works today as a nurse on the Navajo Reservation.

Shima did not send her two youngest children to Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. She decided not to send them because she became unhappy with the school. One of her daughters, Nabaa, had some difficulties at the school, and the school ended up asking her to leave. Shima felt hurt that her daughter was not allowed to stay.

It turned out, however, that Nabaa not only had difficulties at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School but she also had difficulties at every school she attended. She eventually graduated from another school, where she lived with a Christian family, and went on to college

and became a teacher. Nabaa is still teaching and is a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church today.

Nabaa must have forgiven Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School for dismissing her because she enrolled all three of her children at the school. Nabaa's children, who are young adults, have graduated from Holbrook and are doing well. One is a teacher and another is about to become a teacher. The third child is the wife of an Adventist pastor and is studying to become a teacher, too.

What ever happened to Shima's two youngest children who never went to Holbrook? They learned about Jesus from their family members and both became Seventh-day Adventists. One of them teaches at an Adventist school today.

What kind of impact can a mission school have on a family? Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School has had a major impact on Shima's family and many others on the Navajo Reservation and beyond. 🌍

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago that kickstarted plans on a new gym and health center called New Life Center at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. Your offering this quarter

Story Tips

- Find the U.S. state of Arizona on the map.
- Pronounce Shima as: SHEE-muh.
- Pronounce Nabaa as: NAH-bah.
- Know that names have been changed for privacy reasons.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's "I Will Go" strategic plan: Spiritual Growth Objective No. 6 "to increase accession, retention, reclamation, and participation of children, youth, and young adults," and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 7 "to help youth and young adults place God first and exemplify a biblical worldview." Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.

will help finish the second phase of the center, where the school will address high rates of obesity, heart disease, diabetes, depression, and suicide among Native American children and youth.

By Diana Fish



AMAZING
NATURE

In the mid-nineteenth century, the Navajo people were forced from their traditional lands in Arizona by the U.S. government and were brutally marched 400 miles (640 km) (known as The Long Walk) to imprisonment in Bosque Redondo, an internment camp near Fort Sumner in the New Mexico Territory. The Treaty of 1868 established the "Navajo Indian Reservation" and the Navajos were able to leave Bosque Redondo and return to their traditional land.



ARIZONA, U.S.A. | July 31

Katelyn, 11, and Kallie, 9

Smiles and Songs

Eleven-year-old Katelyn and her 9-year-old sister, Kallie, ended up back at home on the Navajo Reservation right in the middle of the school year.

The COVID-19 virus was spreading, and schools were shutting down across the United States and the rest of the world. Katelyn and Kallie stayed in the girls' dormitory while they studied at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School. But when the school was forced to close to keep the children healthy, the sisters traveled home to a town located about 90 minutes away by car in the U.S. state of Arizona.

Being at home did not mean being on vacation. The girls still had classes to attend and homework to do. Their teachers were preparing everything online. The only problem was that Katelyn and Kallie didn't have Internet in their one-room log cabin. Their home also

has no indoor plumbing, and electricity came through an extension cord from a relative's house next door. Their neighbors also didn't have Internet. In fact, hardly anyone in the neighborhood had Internet — except for the Seventh-day Adventist church down the road.

When the church's pastor learned about the situation, he invited the girls use the church's Wi-Fi for their studies.

So it was that Katelyn and Kallie found themselves skipping along the dirt road day after day to do their schoolwork at the church. As they walked, they smiled as they remembered good times at Holbrook school. They also sang happy songs about Jesus that they had learned at the school.

Among the houses that they passed was one known as the local "drug house." The house's paint was peeling, and one of the windows was broken. People seemed to go in and out of the house at all hours.

Church members had visited and prayed in the home, and the neighbors' little children had come to church for Vacation Bible School. But none of the adults seemed to care about God.

Then one of those adults noticed the cheerful sisters. When Katelyn and Kallie's mother came walking by the house one day, the neighbor ran out.

"Why do your daughters smile so much instead of looking mostly sad like my little sisters?" she asked. "Why are your daughters always singing?"

The questions surprised Mother. But she was pleased that the neighbor had noticed Katelyn and Kallie, and she invited the woman to find out why they smiled and sang. "We're going to have a family worship this evening under the cottonwoods down by the streambed," Mother said. "Would you like to come?"

That evening, the children from the "drug house" came to the cottonwood grove. Mother read a Bible story, and everyone sang songs about Jesus. The children liked the worship. "Can we do this again tomorrow?" they asked.

Katelyn and Kallie did something spectacular. They became missionaries to their neighbors. Their smiles and songs

Story Tips

- Find the U.S. state of Arizona on the map.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's "I Will Go" strategic plan: Spiritual Growth Objective No. 6 "to increase accession, retention, reclamation, and participation of children, youth, and young adults" through two KPIs — "increased church member involvement in fellowship and service, both in the church and in the local community" (KPI 6.1) and "significant increase in number of church members regularly engaging in family worships" (KPI 6.4). Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.

showed Jesus' wonderful love to a family that seemed impossible to reach. 🌐

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that will help Katelyn and Kallie's school, Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School.

By Dale Wolcott

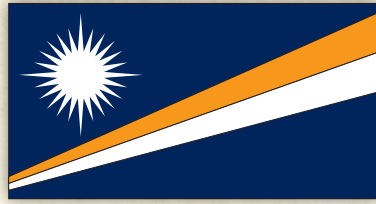


AMAZING
NATURE

Many Navajo families raise sheep and goats, processing the wool to sell, or turning it into yarn to produce woven blankets and rugs for sale. Navajo artists are also known for their turquoise and silver jewelry, sculpture, and pottery.



BigStockPhoto.com



MARSHALL ISLANDS | Aug. 7

Surprise Box!

Raijan, 15; Jehuraian, 11; Jaira, 9

A white cardboard box arrived at a Seventh-day Adventist mission school in the Marshall Islands.

The box was heavy, and it came from the faraway state of Texas in the United States. It was addressed to Father, the vice principal of the school. But Father knew that the box wasn't for the school. It was for his family and other missionaries.

Father couldn't wait to get home. He told Mother about the box while she was on a break from teaching first-grade students. Mother also couldn't wait to get home. When their three children learned about the box, they also couldn't wait.

"Let's open the box!" exclaimed the oldest, Raijan, who was 15.

"Yes, let's open the box!" said his 11-year-old brother, Jehuraian.

"Please open the box!" chimed in their sister, Jaira, who was 9.

Father smiled at their enthusiasm.

"Let's open the box at home," he said.

When school ended, the three children

grabbed Father by the arms and pulled him toward the door.

At home, the family gathered in the living room around the box.

"This box is a blessing from God," Father said. "Let's thank God now."

The family knelt, and Father prayed.

"Heavenly Father, we are thankful for this blessing that just arrived," he said. "We are very thankful that You have not forgotten us. Help us to bless others through the blessings that we have received. Thank you for Grandpa Bob and his kindness. Please bless him. Amen."

With Father's approval, Raijan grabbed a pair of scissors and tore open the box.

"Oh, wow!" he cried as he saw a toy car. "The yellow is mine!"

Jehuraian reached his hand into the box. "The blue is mine!" he declared.

Jaira didn't mind her brothers taking the cars. Her eyes were fixed on a doll and an accompanying set of doll clothing.

"I get the doll!" she said. "And Mommy,

I have new clothes for the dolls!”

Mother was peering into the box. A bag of golden chocolate coins caught her attention, and she fished it out.

“I’m not sharing this with you guys,” she said. “I will share it with my students. They need something to motivate them.”

Father looked through the rest of the box: notebooks, pencils, red rice, nuts, and instant mashed potatoes. He would share the goodies with student missionaries teaching at the school. Then he found his favorite: dried pineapple.

The arrival of the first box, three years earlier, came as a surprise to Father and Mother, who moved from the Philippines to teach in the Marshall Islands. Grandpa Bob had learned about their missionary work through mission stories in the *Mission* quarterly, and he had wanted to help. He put money in the Sabbath School mission offering every week, and he gave extra when a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering was collected to help the school. But he wanted to do more. So he began to send monthly boxes containing toys, food, school supplies, and more.

The boxes often come just when food is running low in the house, when Father or Mother need some encouragement, or when a child has a birthday. Every time a box arrives, the children jump for joy, and Father and Mother praise God for His faithfulness. Then they pray before opening the box. “Thank You, God, for showing Your love for us through Grandpa Bob,” Father prays. “Thank You for Your faithfulness.” 🌐

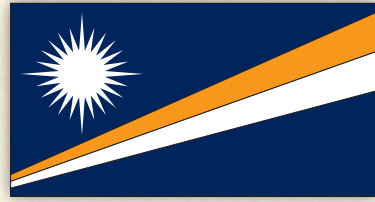
Thank you for your Sabbath School mission offerings that help missionaries spread the good news that Jesus is coming

Story Tips

- Find the Marshall Islands, where the family lives, and the U.S. state of Texas, where Grandpa Bob lives, on the map. Also find the Philippines, the family’s homeland.
- Pronounce Jaira as: JAY-rah.
- Pronounce Raijan as: RAY-jahn.
- Pronounce Jehuraian as: Jeh-HOO-ryan.
- Watch the children on YouTube: bit.ly/Surprise-Box-NAD.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s “I Will Go” strategic plan: Mission Objective No. 1 “to revive the concept of worldwide mission and sacrifice for mission as a way of life involving not only pastors, but every church member, young and old, in the joy of witnessing for Christ and making disciples” through “increased number of church members participating in both personal and public evangelistic outreach initiatives with a goal of Total Member Involvement (TMI)” (KPI 1.1); and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5 “to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives” through a “significant increase in numbers of church members regularly praying, studying the Bible, using the Sabbath School Bible Study Guides, reading the writings of Ellen White and engaging in other personal devotions” (KPI 5.1). Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.

soon. Thank you for being like Grandpa Bob and giving a little extra for mission.

By Andrew McChesney



MARSHALL ISLANDS | Aug. 14

Jaira, 9

Saying “Thank You”

What is the first thing that you do when you receive a gift? Do you play with it or eat it? The first thing that Jaira does is to write a thank-you letter.

Jaira started writing thank-you letters when a surprise box arrived in the mail from the faraway state of Texas in the United States. Jaira and her two older brothers are Filipino missionary kids in the Marshall Islands, and their parents teach at a Seventh-day Adventist mission school.

Inside the surprise box, Jaira found a doll just for her. She immediately wanted to play with it, but Father stopped her.

“We thank the Lord for these gifts, but at the same time we remember that the Lord gave them to us through Grandpa Bob in Texas,” he said. “You guys have to write thank-you notes to Grandpa Bob.”

Jaira looked puzzled. She was only 6 and didn’t know how to write. “How do I do that?” she asked. “How do I write?”

“Just think about how you want to say thank you,” Father said.

Jaira thought carefully. She looked over at her oldest brother, Raijan, who was already writing a letter on a piece of paper. He was 13, and it was easy for him to write a thank-you letter for the toy car that he had received. She looked at her other brother, Jehuraian. He was 8 and also already writing something about the toy car that he had received. What could she write? Suddenly her eyes lit up. She turned to Father, sitting on the couch.

“I can draw a picture,” she said.

“That’s a good idea,” Father said. “You can say thank you any way that you want.”

Holding her new doll in one hand, Jaira used the other hand to draw a big red heart. Then she drew several smaller hearts. At the top of the paper she carefully wrote her name, “Jaira.” Now Grandpa Bob would know that she was

very thankful for the doll.

The next month, another box arrived. Grandpa Bob had heard about the family's missionary work through mission stories in the *Mission* quarterly and wanted to help. He put money in the Sabbath School mission offering every week, and he gave something extra when a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering was collected to help her school. But he wanted to do more, so he began to send boxes every month.

Every month a new box arrived, and every month Jaira and her brothers wrote thank-you letters. A year passed. Two years. Three years. Jaira didn't really like to write letters at first, but it became easier as she wrote every month. She even began to write stories.

Father was pleased. Grandpa Bob had taught Jaira how to write. He had sent so many boxes that she had learned how to write through thank-you letters. Father thanked God for His big blessings. 🌍

Thank you for your Sabbath School mission offerings that help missionaries like Jaira's family spread the good news that Jesus is coming soon. Thank you for being like Grandpa Bob and giving a little extra for mission work.

By Andrew McChesney

Story Tips

- Find the Marshall Islands, where Jaira lives, and the U.S. state of Texas, where Grandpa Bob lives, on the map. Also find the Philippines, Jaira's homeland.
- Pronounce Jaira as: JAY-rah.
- Pronounce Raijan as: RAY-jahn.
- Pronounce Jehuraian as: Jeh-HOO-ryan.
- Watch the children on YouTube: bit.ly/Surprise-Box-NAD.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's "I Will Go" strategic plan: Mission Objective No. 1 "to revive the concept of worldwide mission and sacrifice for mission as a way of life involving not only pastors, but every church member, young and old, in the joy of witnessing for Christ and making disciples" through "increased number of church members participating in both personal and public evangelistic outreach initiatives with a goal of Total Member Involvement (TMI)" (KPI 1.1); and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5 "to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives." Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.



MISSION
RECORD

Delap Seventh-day Adventist School, also known as Majuro Seventh-day Adventist School, is a K-12 school run by the Guam-Micronesia Mission. It is located in Delap, on the island of Majuro, directly beside the Pacific Ocean, and is within 1,600 feet (500 meters) of the capitol building.

The Delap School was founded in 1978 and throughout the history of the school, it has been operated by student missionaries, mainly from North America, Brazil, and the Philippines. Classes are taught in English.



MARSHALL ISLANDS | Aug. 21

Jaira, 9

No Yellow Notebook

Nine-year-old Jaira has a favorite notebook in her home in the Marshall Islands.

The notebook has a bright yellow cover and a metal spiral binding. She draws pictures and writes letters on its pages. All her drawings and letters go to one person, the man who gave her the notebook: Grandpa Bob in faraway Texas.

But one day, Jaira couldn't find the yellow notebook. And she really needed it. She had written a letter to say thank you for a box of gifts that she and her family had received from Grandpa Bob. Father wanted to mail her letter to Texas.

"I need your letter," Father said. "Your older brothers, Raijan and Jehuraian, have given me their thank-you letters, and I want to mail them today."

Jaira stood at the living-room table where she had left the notebook. The table was empty. Jaira looked under the

table. No notebook. She looked on and under the sofa. Nothing. Where was it?

Going into the kitchen, she looked on the counter and in the sink. Nothing. She didn't think that the notebook was in the refrigerator, but she checked just in case. Inside, she found yellow squash and yellow bananas. But no yellow notebook.

Jaira searched in her bedroom. Nothing. Now she was worried. She didn't know where else to look. She had carefully written the thank-you letter when her missionary family had received the box from Grandpa Bob. She also had drawn a picture of a girl — herself — with a happy smile. Where was the notebook?

Jaira slowly made her way back to the living room. She clearly remembered putting the notebook on the table after showing her letter and the drawing to Father. She looked at the empty table.

Father was waiting. What could she do?

Jaira suddenly remembered what she could do. She could pray. Father always told her that she could pray to God about any problem. Now she had a big problem.

Jaira sat down on the floor in front of the table. She closed her eyes and folded her hands at the tip of her nose.

“Dear Jesus, please help me to find the notebook so I can get the letter to send,” she prayed.

Opening her eyes, her glance fell on the table. She blinked and looked again. There was her yellow notebook!

“Thank you, Jesus!” she exclaimed.

She grabbed the notebook and looked inside. Her letter and drawing were still there. “Wait, Daddy!” she called. “I need to write a letter.”

Sitting down in front of the table, Jaira wrote a second letter to send to Texas.

“I want to tell you that God answered my prayer,” she began. 🌐

Three years ago, your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped build a school in the Marshall Islands where Jaira’s parents, missionaries from the Philippines, taught children about the God who answers prayers. Thank you for your offering this quarter that will help another Pacific Ocean mission school, in Palau.

By Andrew McChesney

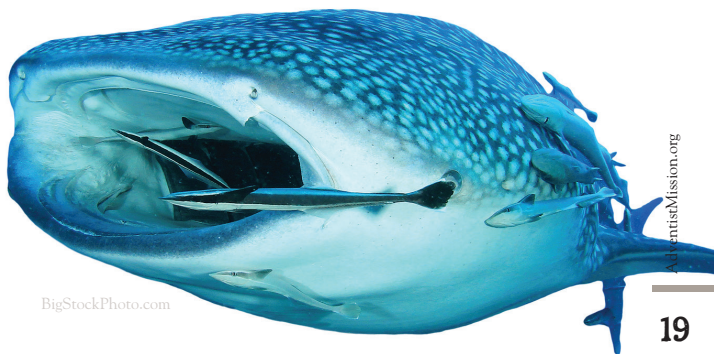
Story Tips

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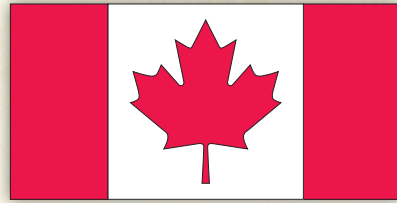


AMAZING
NATURE

The world’s largest shark sanctuary, an area covering nearly 772,000 square miles (2,000,000 sq km) was created in 2011 by the Marshallese government.



BigStockPhoto.com



NUNAVUT, CANADA | Aug. 28

Bakani

Fishers of Men

Bakani is in the fifth grade and lives in one of the remotest cities in the world.

His home is Iqaluit, a city of only 8,000 people in the Canadian Arctic. The city is so remote that it is located on an island without any roads or trains connecting it to the rest of Canada. In winter, the waters of Frobisher Bay freeze and ships cannot sail to Iqaluit. In winter and summer, the best way to travel in and out of Iqaluit is by airplane.

The city's name, Iqaluit, comes from a local word that means "place of many fish." Iqaluit received the name because it has been a traditional place where the native Inuit people have gone fishing for thousands of years. Even today fishermen still catch fish in Frobisher Bay.

Bakani loves fish and other wildlife. He believes that God created the world and everything in it, including plants, animals, and people, in six days and then

rested on the seventh day. But he heard another story at school. Teacher told the fifth graders that the world was created through a big bang and people evolved from animals. Bakani cannot understand why some classmates doubt that God created the world.

"How can the whole world, people, animals, and plants come from an atom?" he said. "It's not possible. I believe that God created this world and everything in it, including us people."

He continued: "There are also some people who think that we as people came from monkeys or baboons. This again is not true because God created us. There is no way we can come from animals. When are we going to see people coming from animals again?"

When Bakani plays with his classmates, they sometimes ask how he can believe in a Creator God whom he cannot see.

“We cannot see God, so how do we know that He is alive?” his friends say.

Bakani has an immediate answer. He asks a question of his own.

“You have never seen your great-grandparents,” he replies. “So how do you know that they once lived on this earth?”

Bakani wishes that he could tell his friends more about God. He tries to love them in the same way that God loves him. When classmates are unkind, he immediately forgives them. He reads the Bible nearly every morning and evening. He especially likes the Sabbath, when a small group of Seventh-day Adventists remember God’s Creation day of rest by studying the Bible together. His favorite Bible verse is Genesis 1:1, which says, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” It is because of the verse that he does not believe what Teacher teaches about a big bang and people coming from, perhaps, monkeys.

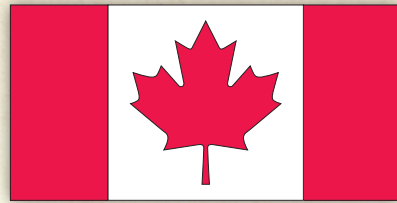
In a remote place like Iqaluit, there are no monkeys. But there is a lot of fish. After all, Iqaluit means “place of many fish.” Iqaluit has many fish waiting to be caught. Jesus told His disciples, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19). Bakani wants to be a fisher of men. More than anything, he wants his classmates to know that God created them. 🌐

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a church and community services center to share the good news about the Creator God in the Canadian territory of Nunavut, where Bakani lives. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

By Andrew McChesney

Story Tips

- Find Iqaluit, the capital of the Canadian territory of Nunavut, on the map. In introducing the Thirteenth Sabbath project, show Igloodik on the map and show how far it is from Iqaluit.
- Pronounce Iqaluit as: ee-KAL-oo-it.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division at: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s “I Will Go” strategic plan: Mission Objective No. 1 “to revive the concept of worldwide mission and sacrifice for mission as a way of life involving not only pastors, but every church member, young and old, in the joy of witnessing for Christ and making disciples” through “increased number of church members participating in both personal and public evangelistic outreach initiatives with a goal of Total Member Involvement (TMI)” (KPI 1.1); Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5 “to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives” through a “significant increase in numbers of church members regularly praying, studying the Bible, using the Sabbath School Bible Study Guides, reading the writings of Ellen White and engaging in other personal devotions” (KPI 5.1) and a “significant increase in acceptance and practice of the church’s distinctive beliefs, especially: Creation (FB 6)” (KPI 5.3); and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 6, “to increase accession, retention, reclamation, and participation of children, youth, and young adults” through KPI 6.6, which says, “Church members exhibit cross-cultural understanding and respect for all people.” Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.



NUNAVUT, CANADA | Sept. 4

Better Than Toys

Mariah, 9

Several friends gathered around Mariah at school on Monday.

“What are you doing after school?” one asked.

“Can we come over to your house to play?” said another.

Mariah shook her head. “Not today,” she said. “I have so much to do today.”

Nine-year-old Mariah was a busy girl in Pond Inlet, a small town located on an isolated island in the Canadian Arctic. She was in the fourth grade, and every weekday she went to school. Afterward she did her homework and helped her parents around the house. On Sabbath, she and her family worshiped at home by reading the Bible and watching online sermons.

But Mariah’s friends really wanted to play with her. On Tuesday, the children gathered around her again.

“What are you doing after school?” one asked.

“Can we come over to your house to play?” said another.

Mariah shook her head. “Not today,” she said. “I have so much to do today.”

The same thing happened on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. “But when can we come over to your house to play?” a friend asked.

“How about on Saturday?” said another. “You must have time to play on Saturday.”

Mariah’s eyes lit up. She did have free time Saturday. “You can come over to my house and join our Bible study,” she said.

Her friends looked confused. They had not read the Bible. But they wanted to spend time with Mariah, so they agreed to come over on Saturday.

On Sabbath, a few friends showed up at Mariah’s house to join her and her parents in reading the Bible. The young visitors looked confused when they heard Mariah read. They had not heard about God.

After reading, Father turned on the computer, and the small group watched an online sermon by a Seventh-day

Adventist preacher. Again, the small visitors looked confused. They had not heard a sermon, and they did not understand some of the things that the preacher said. Afterward, they asked Mariah to explain.

“What did he mean when he said that?” one asked.

“Or what about when he spoke about that?” said another.

Mariah tried to explain the sermon in really simple words. When she finished, her friends seemed to understand.

“Thank you for inviting us to your house,” one said as she left.

“Yes, thank you so much!” said another.

At school on Monday, several children asked Mariah’s friends what they had done at Mariah’s house on Saturday.

“We read about God in the Bible,” answered one.

“And we watched an interesting sermon,” said another.

The classmates also had not read the Bible or watched a sermon, and they wanted to know more.

“What did you read?” asked one.

“What was so interesting about the sermon?” said another.

Mariah’s friends did their best to repeat what they had learned about God.

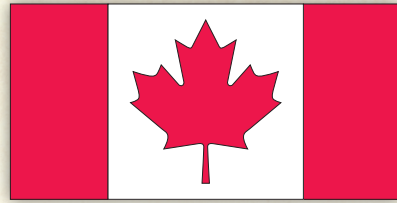
Mariah smiled as she listened. She felt good. This was better than playing with toys. She would welcome her classmates into her home every Sabbath. 🌍

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a church and community services center to share God in the Canadian territory of Nunavut, where Mariah lives. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

Story Tips

- Find Pond Inlet, a town of about 1,600 people in the Canadian territory of Nunavut, on the map. In introducing the Thirteenth Sabbath project, show Igloolik on the map and show how far it is from Pond Inlet.
- Pronounce Nunavut as: NUUN-ə-v-ut.
- Watch Mariah on YouTube: bit.ly/Mariah-NAD
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division at: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s “I Will Go” strategic plan: Mission Objective No. 1 “to revive the concept of worldwide mission and sacrifice for mission as a way of life involving not only pastors, but every church member, young and old, in the joy of witnessing for Christ and making disciples” through “increased number of church members participating in both personal and public evangelistic outreach initiatives with a goal of Total Member Involvement (TMI)” (KPI 1.1); Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5 “to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives” through a “significant increase in numbers of church members regularly praying, studying the Bible, using the Sabbath School Bible Study Guides, reading the writings of Ellen White and engaging in other personal devotions” (KPI 5.1); and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 6, “to increase accession, retention, reclamation, and participation of children, youth, and young adults” through KPI 6.6, which says, “Church members exhibit cross-cultural understanding and respect for all people.” Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.

By Andrew McChesney



NUNAVUT, CANADA | Sept. 11

Paula, 9

Big Changes in Canada

Life changed in a big way for 9-year-old Paula when she and her family moved across Canada.

Paula had lived in the city of Calgary in western Canada. But one day, she got onto an airplane and flew 1,850 miles (3,000 km) to the city of Iqaluit in the Canadian Arctic.

Before, Paula had lived in a big city with more than 1 million people. Now she lives in a small city with 8,000 people.

Before, Paula had lived in the middle of the big continent of North America. Now she lives on the edge of a small island.

Other things also changed.

Paula started going to church with Mother every Sabbath. “I started going to church here in Iqaluit,” she said. “The people at church were so welcoming and caring. It changed my life a lot.”

Before, Paula had never read the Bible. Now she reads the Bible regularly.

As she went to church and read the Bible, other changes started happening in her life. Before, she had been mean to other people. Now she is kinder because she read Jesus’ words, “Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you.” (Matthew 7:12; NLT).

One more big change took place in Iqaluit. Paula got a new sister.

It all happened when Mother announced one day that the family was going to take in foster children. In Iqaluit, some parents are unable to care for their children, and Mother decided that she and Paula could help. The children would stay until their own parents could take them back.

Paula was excited to meet her new sister, 2-year-old Joy. But she was surprised when they sat down for their first meal together. Joy didn’t know how to pray.

Before eating, Paula prayed, “Dear God,

thank You for this food. Please bless it. Amen.”

When she opened her eyes, she saw that Joy looked confused. Joy did not understand what had just happened. After the meal, Paula explained that all good things come from God and that she thanks God for the food before eating.

“Let me show you how to pray,” Paula said. “It’s easy.”

Joy obediently folded her hands and closed her eyes.

“Dear God,” Paula said.

“Dear God,” Joy repeated.

“Thank You for this food.”

“Thank You for this food.”

“Amen.”

“Amen.”

Paula smiled brightly. “Good!” she said. “Now you can thank God by yourself when you eat.”

On Sabbath, she invited Joy to go to Sabbath School and church. She felt good because she was sharing Jesus.

After a while, Joy’s parents were able to take their daughter back home, and other foster sisters and brothers arrived in Paula’s home.

Paula’s favorite Bible verse is Psalm 150:6, which says, “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!” (NKJV). “This verse means that everyone should praise the Lord,” Paula said. “God changes our lives, and we don’t even know it.” 🌍

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a church and community services center in the Canadian territory of Nunavut, where Paula lives. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

By Andrew McChesney

Story Tips

- Find Calgary in the western Canadian province of Alberta and Iqaluit, capital of the territory of Nunavut, on the map. Show the children the great distance between the cities. In introducing the Thirteenth Sabbath project, show Igloolik on the map and show how far it is from Iqaluit.
- Pronounce Iqaluit as: ee-KAL-oo-it.
- Pronounce Nunavut as: NUUN-ə-vut.
- The name of the foster child has been changed.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division at: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s “I Will Go” strategic plan: Mission Objective No. 1 “to revive the concept of worldwide mission and sacrifice for mission as a way of life involving not only pastors, but every church member, young and old, in the joy of witnessing for Christ and making disciples” through “increased number of church members participating in both personal and public evangelistic outreach initiatives with a goal of Total Member Involvement (TMI)” (KPI 1.1); Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5, “to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives”; and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 6 “to increase accession, retention, reclamation, and participation of children, youth, and young adults” through KPI 6.6, which says, “Church members exhibit cross-cultural understanding and respect for all people.” Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.



NAD REFUGEES | Sept. 18

Ciin Kiim, 19

Fleeing the Flood

Mother shook awake 7-year-old Kiim. “Wake up,” she said. “It’s raining really, really hard. It’s dirty here. Let’s go up to the second floor.”

Kiim had been sound asleep, and she groggily opened her eyes. Water was swirling around on the dirt floor of the house. She could hear rain pounding against the house. Lightning was flashing. Kiim obediently got up and followed Mother to the bamboo ladder leading to the second floor.

The man and woman who owned the house stood near the ladder on the second floor. They invited Mother and Kiim to come up to escape the rising floodwaters in the small village in Myanmar.

Mother told Kiim to climb up first. At the top, Kiim saw the man and woman and their two small girls. Kiim dearly loved Esther, who was 3 years old, and Muan, who was only a few months old. She fed

and bathed the girls as part of her work. When Esther didn’t eat all her rice and fried shrimp, Kiim was allowed to finish the food. But Mother wouldn’t allow her to eat the shrimp. She said that the Bible teaches that shrimp is unclean.

Mother worked as housekeeper for the family. She washed their clothes, cooked their meals, and fetched water in a bucket from the lake so they could drink and take baths. The man and woman, who lived on the second floor with their little girls, were too poor to pay Mother. Instead they allowed her and Kiim to live on the first floor and to eat their food. Kiim had never been to school.

Now the rain was falling, and little Esther and Muan were crying. They were frightened. The rickety bamboo house shook as if it might fall at any moment.

WHAP!

Suddenly, the plastic windows on the

second floor blew away in a gust of wind.

KERCHOP!

A mighty wind tore off the roof.

The pounding rain immediately soaked Kiim. She saw the floodwaters were rising rapidly and had nearly reached the second floor of the house. She could not swim. None of them knew how to swim. What would happen next?

Mother prayed.

“Dear God, if You save my daughter and me from this storm, I will give my daughter to You and believe that You will take us to a better place, the United States,” she said.

Mother repeated the prayer many times. Kiim also prayed. The man and woman prayed.

After a while, the rain stopped. But the two families were stranded on the second floor as they waited for the water to go away. They had no food or electricity. It was impossible to build a fire. They waited seven long days. Finally they were able to leave the house. Somehow, they had survived. Mother thanked God for answering their prayers. 🌍

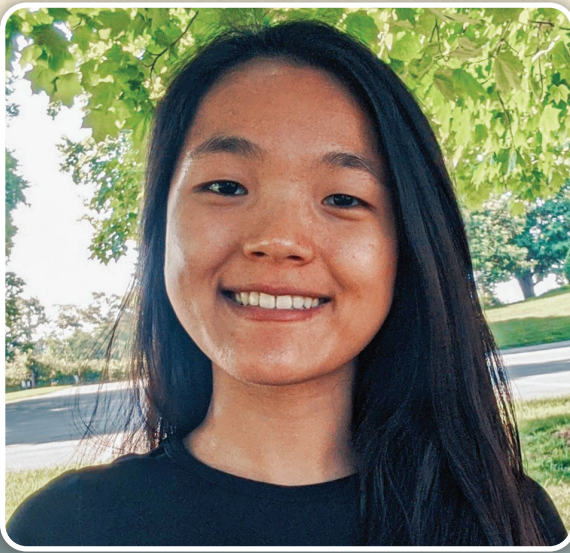
Three years later, God answered Mother’s prayers in a special way when she and Kiim were able to move to the United States as refugees. Kiim was 10, and she had never attended school. Mother kept praying, and Kiim ended up studying at a Seventh-day Adventist school in the U.S. state of Georgia. Children like you helped make it possible. Kiim was able to study at the Adventist school thanks to a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that helped refugee children in the United States and Canada. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth

Story Tips

- Find Myanmar and the United States on the map.
- Pronounce Kiim as: kim.
- Pronounce Muan as: MOO-an.
- Challenge the children to plan a generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to help refugee children like Kiim receive an Adventist education.
- Know that Kiim is now studying at Southern Adventist University and hopes to spend her life teaching others about the amazing God who answers prayer.
- Download photos on Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s “I Will Go” strategic plan: Mission Objective No. 2 “to strengthen and diversify Adventist outreach in large cities, across the 10/40 Window, among unreached and under-reached people groups, and to non-Christian religions” through KPI 2.7, which says, “Each division identifies all significant immigrant/refugee populations in their territories [and] has initiatives in place to reach them”; and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5 “to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives” through KPI 5.9, which says, “Increased number of children from Adventist homes and churches attending Adventist schools.” Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.

Sabbath Offering will again help refugee children. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

By Andrew McChesney



13th SABBATH | Sept. 25

Niang Muang, 21

Really, Really Hard

The first day of school was hard for Niang. Really, really hard.

The 9-year-old girl had arrived in the United States only a month earlier from her homeland of Myanmar. Her parents were refugees. She didn't know English, and she didn't have any friends. Making matters worse, the school year had begun long ago, and her first day of school was in November.

"Hello, what's your name?" a girl asked her.

Niang shook her head.

"No," she said.

"Oh," said the girl, confused. "Where are you from?"

Niang shook her head again.

"No," she said.

Later a boy came up to her.

"Hi, what's your name?" he asked.

"No," Niang said, shaking her head.

The boy didn't understand.

"Where are you from?" he said.

"No," Niang said, shaking her head again.

Niang was not trying to be rude. She just didn't understand what the children were asking.

Because she didn't know English, she sat quietly all morning in class. At lunchtime, she followed the other children to the cafeteria. The 25 fourth graders always sat together at their assigned tables. Teacher watched to make sure they behaved.

Niang looked at the food being served in the cafeteria: nacho cheese and shredded beef; mini-pizzas; chicken nuggets. The food was very strange to her. She was used to eating mustard leaves, potatoes leaves, watercress, brown beans, and orange lentils.

After tasting the strange food, she returned to the classroom and sat quietly until school ended for the day.

At home, she prayed to God for help.

“Dear God, please help me survive another day of school,” she said. “Help me not to get in trouble with the teacher. Keep me safe as I walk to school. Amen.”

Many things at school confused Niang. She didn’t know where anything was, and she couldn’t ask for directions because she couldn’t speak English. When Teacher gave her a multiple-choice test, she didn’t know what to do. She couldn’t understand the questions, and she didn’t know how to fill out the answers. She randomly circled answers.

Sometimes Teacher got angry. Several children would start talking at the same time, and the noise grew loud in the classroom. Teacher didn’t like that.

“Be quiet everybody!” she would snap.

The children would quiet down for a moment but then forgot. The talking would grow loud again.

“Shut up!” Teacher would shout.

Again the room was quiet for a while, but then the talking would start. Teacher could not take it anymore.

“Everyone is on silent lunch except Niang!” she would yell.

The classroom would get really quiet. The punishment meant that no one could talk during lunch in the cafeteria except Niang. Niang realized that Teacher was being nice to her because she never spoke in class. She decided that it would be better to keep quiet all the time than to be yelled at by Teacher.

At home, she anxiously prayed every day, “Dear God, please help me survive another day of school. Help me not to get in trouble with the teacher, and keep me safe as I walk to school.”

Fourth grade was tough for Niang. But fifth grade was better. She knew her way

Story Tips

- Find Myanmar and the United States on the map.
- Pronounce Niang as: nee-AHNG.
- Challenge the children to find a classmate who is very quiet and do something nice. The kind gesture could be as simple as asking, “What is your name?” and “Where are you from?”
- Know that Niang is now a student at Southern Adventist University and plans to become a mission dentist.
- Download photos on Facebook (bit.ly/fb-mq).
- Download mission posts and fast facts from the North American Division at: bit.ly/NAD-2021.
- Know that this mission story illustrates the following components of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s “I Will Go” strategic plan: Mission Objective No. 2 “to strengthen and diversify Adventist outreach in large cities, across the 10/40 Window, among unreached and under-reached people groups, and to non-Christian religions” through KPI 2.7, which says, “Each division identifies all significant immigrant/refugee populations in their territories [and] has initiatives in place to reach them”; and Spiritual Growth Objective No. 5 “to disciple individuals and families into spirit-filled lives” through KPI 5.9, which says, “Increased number of children from Adventist homes and churches attending Adventist schools.” Learn more about the strategic plan at IWillGo2020.org.

around the school, so she didn’t have to ask for directions. She began to speak English and to make friends.

“What’s your name?” a girl asked.

“My name is Niang,” Niang replied with a shy smile.

She understood the question!

“Oh, where are you from?” the girl said. “I am from Burma, which is also called Myanmar,” Niang said.

The girl nodded her head. She had heard of the country. Several other refugee children from Myanmar also studied at their school.

“Oh, OK,” she said. “Do you want to play?”

Niang felt happy. She was beginning to fit in. She felt even happier in seventh grade. She was able to transfer from the public school to a Seventh-day Adventist school thanks to money from a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to help refugees in the United States and Canada. She was glad to study with kind teachers who never yelled.

She thanked God in her daily prayers. “Dear God, thank You so much for helping me learn this new language and for taking care of me and for helping us overcome struggles little by little,” she prayed. 🌍

Part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help more children

Before 13th Sabbath

- Send home a note to remind parents of the program and to encourage the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on October 30. Remind everyone that their mission offerings are gifts to spread God’s Word around the world, and that one-fourth of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to help four projects in the North American Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover.
- The narrator doesn’t need to memorize the story, but he or she should be familiar enough with the material so as not to have to read it. Alternatively, the children can act out the story, playing the roles of Niang, Teacher, and the schoolchildren.
- Before or after the story, use a map to show the four projects in the North American Division that will receive the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. Describe the projects.

refugees like Niang study at Adventist schools. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

By Andrew McChesney

Future Thirteenth Sabbath Projects

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering next quarter will help the Northern Asia-Pacific Division to establish:

- Adventist Lifestyle Center in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- Care center for immigrant children in Ansan, South Korea
- Yeongnam Mission Center in Daegu, South Korea
- Three urban centers of influence in Taipei, Tainan, and Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- Internet evangelism program targeting the Internet generation in Japan

Sing a Song

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

CANADA (FRENCH)

FRENCH

C'est un rempart que notre Dieu,
Une invincible armure,
Un défenseur victorieux,
Une aide prompte et sûre.
L'Ennemi, contre nous,
Redouble de courroux:
Vaine colère!
Que pourrait l'Adversaire?
L'Éternel détourne ses coups.

Seuls, nous bronchons à chaque pas
Quand l'Ennemi nous presse.
Mais un héros pour nous combat
Et nous soutient sans cesse.
Quel est ce défenseur?
C'est toi, divin Sauveur,
Dieu des armées!
Tes tribus opprimées
Connaissent leur libérateur.

Que les démons, forgeant des fers,
Menacent ton Eglise,
Ta Sion brave les enfers,
Sur le rocher assise.
Constant dans son effort,
En vain, avec la mort,
Satan conspire.
Pour briser son empire,
Il suffit d'un mot du Dieu fort.

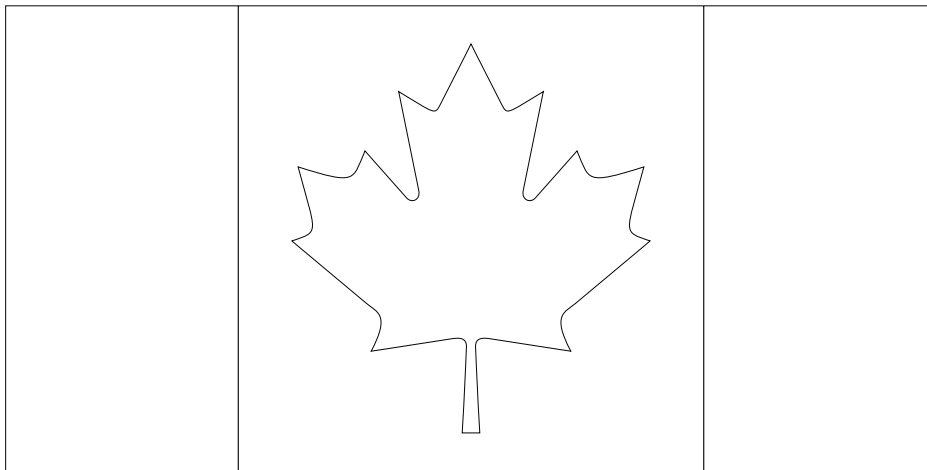
ENGLISH

A mighty Fortress is our God,
A Bulwark never failing;
Our Helper He amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing:
For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great,
And, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
The Man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth His Name,
From age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with
devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us:
The Prince of Darkness grim,
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo! his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

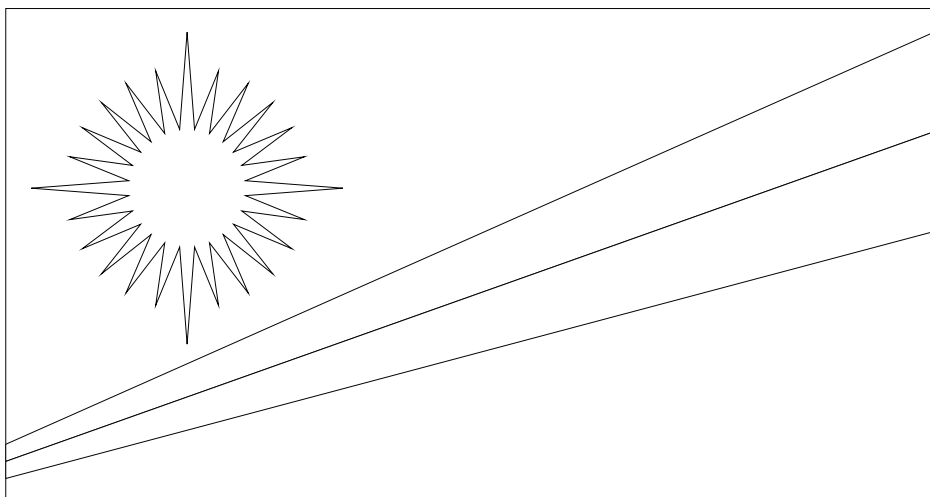
Color The Flag



CANADA

DIRECTIONS:

Color the left and right sections red. Color the maple leaf red. Leave the background white.

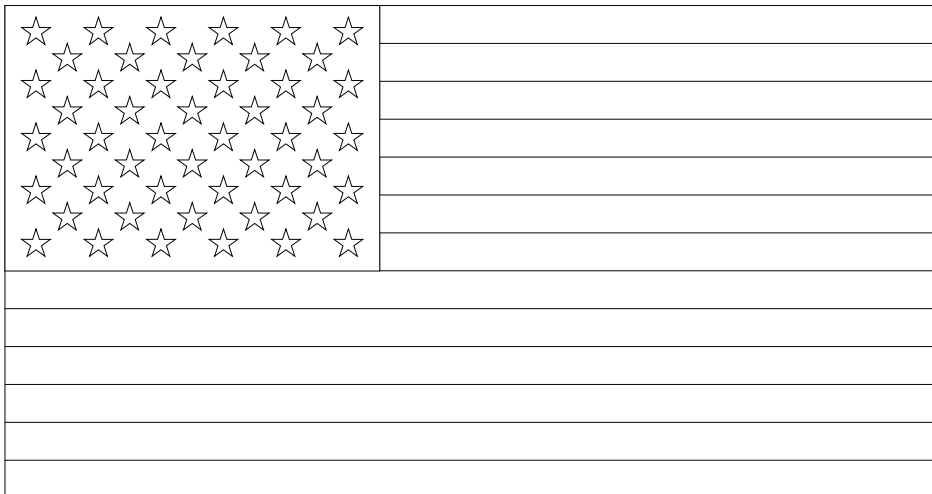


MARSHALL ISLANDS

DIRECTIONS:

Color the top left and bottom right triangles dark blue. Color the top diagonal stripe gold. Leave the bottom stripe and the star white.

Color The Flag



MARSHALL ISLANDS

DIRECTIONS:

Color the background of the stars dark blue. Leave the stars white. Starting at the top, color every other stripe red, leaving the rest white.

Let's Cook!

SWEET POTATOES AND FRIED BANANAS

(MARSHALL ISLANDS)

INGREDIENTS

1 1/2 lb (0.7 kg) sweet potatoes
2 bananas

2 Tbsp (30 ml) butter or coconut oil
A pinch of salt

INSTRUCTIONS

Boil the sweet potatoes until tender. When cool enough to handle, peel and cut into cubes about 1-inch (2 cm) square.

While the sweet potatoes are boiling, cut the bananas into thick slices and gently fry in the butter or coconut oil until lightly browned.

Toss the bananas with the cubed sweet potatoes and a pinch of salt.

Let's Play a Game!

THE HAND GAME (Stick Game)

NORTH AMERICA (NATIVE AMERICAN)

This game was played by nearly all the tribes that made up the people of the Plateau (the inland areas of the Pacific Northwest in North America) and is still played today. The game

pieces can be any objects you find lying around: originally sticks and bones or stones were used. The prizes would be something of value — a knife, a mat, a basket, a fishing spear.

WHAT YOU NEED

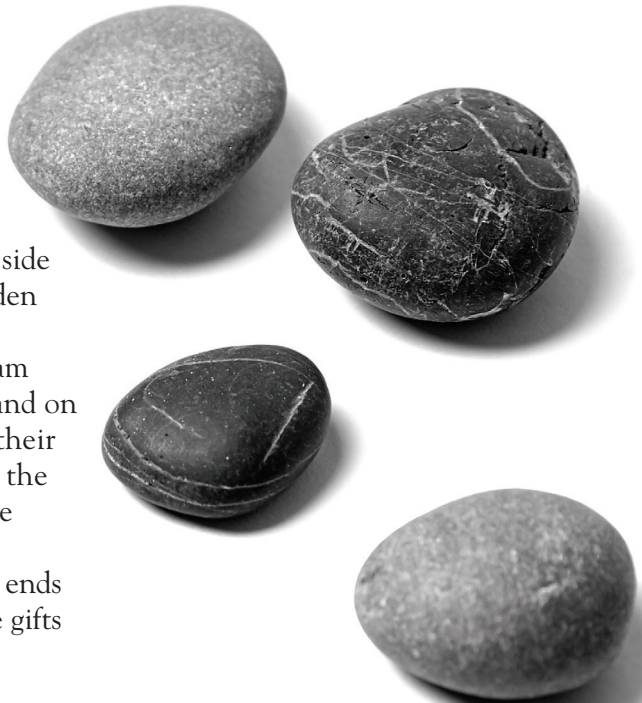
- 11 sticks or similar objects to keep score
- 4 pebbles, two each of two different colors, small enough to hide in a fist
- A small gift from each player to add to the prize pile

HOW TO PLAY

Each player puts in a gift: a small toy, a piece of candy, chewing gum, etc. The players are divided into two teams with the same number of players. Each side is given two of the pebbles, one of each color. Each side makes their hands into fists and hidden inside a fist is one of the pebbles.

To play, one person from each team guesses which pebble is in which hand on the other team. If they guess right, their team gets a stick. If they are wrong, the other team gets a stick. Then it's the opposing team's turn to guess.

The winning team is the one who ends up with all the sticks and gets all the gifts brought by both sides.



BigStockPhoto.com

Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free Mission Spotlight video, featuring video reports from around the North American Division and beyond. Download or stream from the Adventist Mission website at bit.ly/missionspotlight.

Online Information

Following are sources of information that may be helpful in preparing for the mission segment of Sabbath School. For more information on the cultures and history of the countries featured in this quarterly, visit:

Websites

Canada: government website	bit.ly/CanGov
Encyclopedia Britannica	bit.ly/Brit-Can
Lonely Planet	bit.ly/LP-Can
The Marshall Islands: government website	bit.ly/GovMarIsl
World Factbook	bit.ly/WFB-MarshIsl
Trip Advisor	bit.ly/TA-MarshIsl

U.S.A.: government website	www.usa.gov
National Geographic	bit.ly/NatGeoUSA
Visit the U.S.A.	bit.ly/VisittheUSA
Arizona: state website	az.gov
TripSavvy	bit.ly/TS-Ariz

Seventh-day Adventist

North American Division	bit.ly/SDANAD
Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada	bit.ly/SDACan
Guam-Micronesia Mission	bit.ly/SDAGMMiss
Arizona Conference	bit.ly/SDAAriConf
Holbrook Indian School	bit.ly/SDA_Holbrook

An offering goal device will help focus attention on world missions and increase weekly mission giving. Determine a goal for your class's weekly mission offering. Multiply it by 14, allowing a double goal for the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

Remind your Sabbath School members that their regular weekly mission offerings will help the missionary work of the world church and that one-quarter of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to the projects in the North American Division. On the twelfth Sabbath, report on mission giving during the quarter. Encourage members to double or triple their normal mission giving on Thirteenth Sabbath. Count the offering and record the amount given at the end of Sabbath School.

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ADVENTIST MISSION

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Special thanks to Diana Fish (Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School) and Terri Saelee (Adventist Refugee and Immigrant Ministries, North American Division) for their tremendous efforts to provide stories during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Web site: AdventistMission.org

Mission (ISSN 0190-4108) is produced and copyrighted © 2019 by the Office of Adventist Mission, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904, U.S.A.

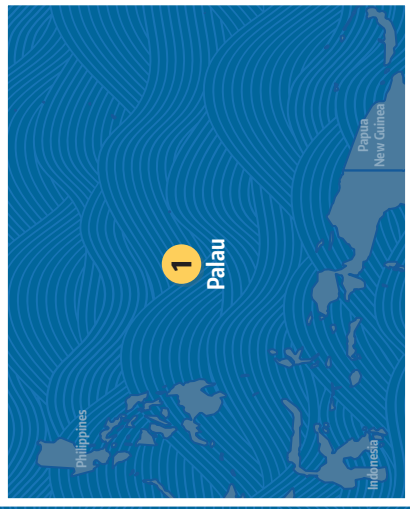
Printed in U.S.A.

Third Quarter 2021
Volume 110, Number 3

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NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

UNION OVERVIEW	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERS	POPULATION
Atlantic Union Conference	600	76	125,629	35,186,917
Canada, SDA Church in	391	80	72,289	37,419,000
Columbia Union Conference	740	101	145,394	52,190,829
Lake Union Conference	504	56	88,475	35,797,364
Mid-America Union Conference	458	64	64,589	27,957,972
North Pacific Union Conference	446	61	102,354	15,125,897
Pacific Union Conference	713	91	222,741	54,601,558
Southern Union Conference	1,149	211	301,359	66,182,135
Southwestern Union Conference	585	110	122,159	42,174,329
Guam-Micronesia Mission of SDA	22	15	5,805	414,000
DIVISION TOTALS	5,608	865	1,250,794	367,050,001

PROJECTS

- 1 Staff housing, Palau School, Palau
- 2 Second phase of multifunctional gym, Holbrook Indian School, U.S.A.
- 3 Churches and scholarships for refugees, Canada and U.S.A.
- 4 Church and community center, Igloodik, Canada