

**EDITORIAL**  
A CHOICE TO BELIEVE

**FEATURE**  
ASI NORTHWEST:  
LOVE SERVES

**PERSPECTIVE**  
THE WIDOW'S ECHO

# gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



  
**VISION  
2020**

**RE-ENGAGING WITH HIS MISSION**

MAR/APR  
2019  
VOL. 114, N° 2





And what does the LORD require  
of you? To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God.  
Micah 6:8



23



42



34



4

JOHN FREEDMAN

**FEATURE**

- 8 Vision 2020: Re-Engaging With His Mission
- 14 ASI Northwest

**PERSPECTIVE**

- 58 The Widow's Echo
- 60 The Socializing Gospel

**JUST LIKE JESUS**

- 62 The Hound Scan

**CONFERENCE NEWS**

- 18 Acción
- 20 Alaska
- 22 Idaho
- 24 Montana
- 26 Oregon
- 32 Upper Columbia
- 35 Washington
- 41 Adventist Health
- 42 Walla Walla University

**4 EDITORIAL**

**5 INTERSECTIONS**

**44 FAMILY**

**48 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**49 ADVERTISEMENTS**

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“Ladybug on Lily,”  
 in Vancouver, Wash.,  
 by Lynne McClure,  
 of Vancouver, Wash.





## A CHOICE TO BELIEVE



It's a common refrain in movie scripts: "I'll come back for you," says the hero. "I promise." And in those scripts, the hero always keeps his promises.

But real life isn't a make-believe script. God isn't beholden to our expectations. Prayers don't always get the answers we want. Many Christians have grown tired and frustrated waiting for God to act on their personal priorities. They are living as if God's promises can no longer be trusted.

That's a big problem. How can God's mission be accomplished if His people simply don't believe Him? Is God's apparent inaction at fault, or is there something wrong with our human inability to see the big picture?

Scripture reminds us Abraham waited 75 years for a God-promised son. Noah reached out for 120 years to his community, urging them to return to God before the promised judgement day. What kept Abraham or Noah from giving up their faith in God's promises after all those years?

Let's not forget the "longest" promise of them all. The promise of a Messiah, first given to Adam and Eve, took almost 4,000 years to be completed. Scripture testifies that

"in the fullness of time" Jesus, the Messiah, was born of Mary.

These and other examples in Scripture are a rebuke to our impatience regarding God's promises. As He departed from His disciples, Jesus promised that He would come again. It's been nearly 2,000 years — but so far that's only half the time it took for the prophecy of the first Advent to be fulfilled. Those of us who have been schooled to expect two-hour movie conclusions or half-hour television resolutions have much to learn about faith in God's timing. It affects not only how we relate to Jesus' assurance as He left the first time — "I will come back for you, I promise" — but also everything else He said.

I have determined to take Jesus at His word. It's my choice to believe. His timing is often different than mine, but His promises always work together for good.

Jesus also promised Holy Spirit power to His followers in words recorded in Acts 1: "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." This promise must be fulfilled for God's church to carry out the mission He has given us. Therefore, I believe this promise is one He wants to pour out

upon each of us right now.

Here's why. Jesus said in Luke 11:13, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" Once we accept Jesus as Savior and Redeemer, our greatest need is the Holy Spirit. This is a gift given, not earned. Yet the Spirit is given in response to our request, to our willingness to ask, seek and knock.

Our North Pacific Union Conference executive committee and office staff began 2019 with 20 days of prayer for spiritual renewal. We spent a week of prayer together focused on spiritual renewal. Our prayer is for the fire of revival to spread across this entire union.

To be mission-focused is to believe in the promises of God — the One who said, "I'll come back for you, I promise," the same One who searched for the lost coin and the one lost sheep. Belief in His promises will cause us not only to seek for spiritual renewal, but also for the salvation of souls throughout our communities.

I invite you to join us.

*John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president*

Respond to any *Gleaner* topic by emailing [talk@gleanernow.com](mailto:talk@gleanernow.com).



AUTHOR

John Freedman



## NORTHWEST MEMBERS RAISE NEARLY \$500,000 FOR FIRE RECOVERY

**W**hen the Camp Fire swept through Paradise, Calif., and the surrounding area this past November, it became the most deadly, costly wild fire in the state's history. During the conflagration, which raged from Nov. 8 through Nov. 25, 2018, in the state's Butte County, many lives were lost and countless structures destroyed. The ongoing impact is still being counted.

When the Northern California Conference (NCC) and other church organizations set up special help funds to respond to this devastating tragedy, hundreds of members in the Pacific Northwest joined others from around the country to donate toward church-organized relief efforts.

The six local conferences throughout the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) eagerly mobilized their members for this critical need. As of Dec. 31, 2018, more than \$481,000 in donations was collected — much of the funds directed toward relief efforts for Paradise victims, with a smaller portion for the wider service needs through Adventist Community Services.

Northwest members have historically been generous donors toward world mission projects. The response to this crisis, closer to home, was perhaps heightened by many personal connections. Paradise was a desired destination

for many Adventist retirees who had Northwest roots. The local Adventist church, academy and grade school were impacted by the fire, affecting all the members and students.

Paradise was also the location for Feather River Hospital, an Adventist Health institution. NPUC members had family and friends who worked there, who were part of the heroic efforts to evacuate patients during the height of the fire. The stories of dramatic, selfless rescues touched heartstrings across the Northwest. And NPUC members responded.

Mark Remboldt, NPUC vice president for finance, helped to coordinate the donation efforts along with local conference treasurers. He shares words of gratitude for the response: "Thank you to our Northwest members for your willingness to help displaced families within Butte County, Calif. Your donations have helped give members who lost their homes some funds to get back on their feet. Your help has given some hope. Thank you for all

you have done for our church members, friends and for our kids. You are a part of their lives too."

The long-term effects of this fire on those who have lost homes, jobs or loved ones have yet to be measured. Financial donations provide an obvious boost, but Northwest members must remain mindful of the ongoing needs of those who continue to live with the burdens of this traumatic event. Let us be in prayer for them and ever vigilant to understand and respond in tangible ways during the days ahead.

*Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor*



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he 2019 Images of Creation winners are now online at [gleanernow.com/creation2019](http://gleanernow.com/creation2019). The print contest winners will be featured in each bimonthly print edition, beginning with this current issue. The online winners will be posted each week at [gleanernow.com](http://gleanernow.com). Thank you for all who participated by sharing their photographic vision of our Creator's handiwork.



# VISION 2020

**RE-ENGAGING WITH HIS MISSION**

A FRANK DISCUSSION AROUND A WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY LUNCH TABLE HAS BROUGHT HOPES FOR RENEWED FOCUS ON THE GREAT COMMISSION THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.





**AT THE TABLE**, local conference presidents, John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) president, and Bill McClendon, NPUC vice president and evangelism director, found solid agreement. They envisioned every part of the Northwest working together with the Holy Spirit in a collaborative effort for God's kingdom. While we debate about church unity and policy compliance, they thought, we are not making disciples like our Master has intended. That is our main purpose and why we must find a way to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in turning the tide.

Since then, McClendon has worked with each conference to develop an adaptive process to encourage and resource Northwest churches and members in leading people to Jesus and fellowship with His family. With the Holy Spirit empowering each congregation, it could help us witness the rebirth of characteristics currently absent from many Northwest churches — passionate soul-winning and robust church growth.

Called Vision 2020, this collaborative effort across each local conference throughout the NPUC is beginning to roll out with resources to churches this month. The initial cycle culminates with a series of meetings in 2020, but it will not stop there. With a toolbox of new resources from Voice of Prophecy, it can be adapted by each conference or church to help members to renew their commitment, refocus their spiritual passion, relate to their communities, reclaim former members and reach new converts for Jesus.

## THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION WITH FREEDMAN AND MCCLENDON OUTLINES THE ESSENCE OF THE VISION 2020 INITIATIVE.

**FREEDMAN:** I believe the Holy Spirit has collectively awakened us to our critical need to be personally and actively engaged with God's call in Matthew 28 and the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14. Around that lunch table at WWU, it was clear that God was bringing us all to the same conclusion — that it's high time for us to put our collective hearts together, to partner in giving the gospel of Jesus centrality in our own lives and a clear presence within our Northwest communities.

**MCCLENDON:** Each of our conference presidents was already realizing on their own the need for growth. Then, as we continued to talk about the challenge, the next question was: If we did something together, would there be added value to collaboration? After all the turmoil during last fall's meetings over policies and measures of compliance, the rather ironic thing that emerged in the hearts of our presidents was unity — unity in mission. And we began to have a real sense that the Holy Spirit was leading us together toward this common purpose.

**RESOURCES** BECAUSE OF THIS COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE NPUC AND LOCAL CONFERENCES, EACH NORTHWEST CHURCH WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE A ONE-YEAR LICENSE FROM THE VOICE OF PROPHECY TO THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES FOR LITTLE TO NO COST:

### ALL-NEW DISCOVER BIBLE SCHOOL

- » Newly designed Bible lessons
- » Bible study tracking software
- » Customizable Bible study lessons

### EVANGELISM TOOLS

- » Discovering Revelation, 23 customizable sermons
- » Children's Bible studies
- » Children's evangelistic program
- » Discover Mountain Vacation Bible School kit
- » Evangelistic meeting tracking software
- » Campaign coaching calls
- » Access to seasoned evangelism hotline
- » Professionally designed handbills, invitations, postcards etc.

Interested churches can access additional resources for a nominal cost. This includes education: a suite of current training and teaching resources, recorded and live training seminars, and cost-sharing options for in-person local church training. Another tier is community: a full package to reach your community with Discover seminars such as *Shadow Empire*, *A Pale Horse Rides*, *The Appearing* and all new events, including a health series called *DiscoverLife*. Continually updated information on all resources is available online at [npuc.org/vision2020](http://npuc.org/vision2020).

### LIVESTREAM TRAINING

Two upcoming online livestream events are currently planned, with more in the pipeline. Connect with these at [npuc.org/vision2020](http://npuc.org/vision2020) and click on the livestream link.

- » **Discover Bible School Boot Camp**, April 6, 2–4 p.m. Pacific Time. Discover how to connect with new Bible study interests using the VOP suite of tools.
- » **The Mission Driven Church**, May 11, 2–3:30 p.m. Pacific Time. Learn how to move beyond the stagnant status quo and help your church refocus on its biblical purpose.

# “VISION 2020 IS A



**GLEANER:** THE MAIN ELEMENTS REVEALED IN THIS PROCESS ARE NOT NEW IDEAS: RENEWAL, REFOCUS, RELATE, RECLAIM AND REACH.

**FREEDMAN:** But the first step embraces the most important element that overarches everything — the Holy Spirit. You can't bring new members into God's family without recognizing it is the Holy Spirit's work, not ours. The Holy Spirit is not a tool that we use; we are a vessel that the Spirit uses. For our churches or members to be successful at reaching new members, we have to be praying for God to work upon the hearts of people — first ours and then our community. Ellen White says that one sign of our renewed heart is that we will have a desire to tell others about Jesus. And that is what the initial step of this process is all about — renewal.

**MCCLENDON:** Growth has always been part of God's purpose. The very first command He gave to Adam and Eve was to go multiply and populate the earth. When we're born again into His family, He says the same thing: "Go, multiply this family, make disciples." All churches start out growing. But when they forget their mission, that growth begins to die back. In my experience, there's very little difference between a growing church and a dying church, as far as

what they do. It comes back to "why" are they doing it. Dying churches can be very busy churches — but they're busy in ways that don't promote organic growth. Vision 2020 is a process of revival and reformation that the Holy Spirit can use to revitalize our Northwest churches. In that way, it's sort of like a prescription. When we don't see good things in the fruit of our lives, we've got to look for a change.

**FREEDMAN:** A lot of our members have been in churches that have never seen growth — they don't know what it even looks like. The initial renewal part of the Vision 2020 plan is meant to strengthen our faith in what God can do and will do in our hearts and in our communities. This is not a plan to build up our own strategies, but rather to place ourselves in a position to be filled with the Holy Spirit across all of our conferences and churches throughout the Northwest.

## **GLEANER:** HOW DOES VISION 2020 SUPPORT OUR MISSION TO SHARE THE DISTINCTIVE, CHRIST-CENTERED, SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST MESSAGE OF HOPE AND WHOLENESS?

**FREEDMAN:** It provides a plan and resources that our conferences and churches can adapt to become the gospel connector Jesus has envisioned us to be. It's not a new priority or program, but rather a method we can all prayerfully use moving forward together. If our churches and our members are going to become healthy, growing, life-giving channels for the Lord, we all need Him to change our comfortable status quo into an active source of light and salt for our world.

**MCCLENDON:** Our NPUC motto, "Moving Forward Together," implies that our efforts to live out God's intent for our lives on this earth will be most successful if we work together with Him *and* with

each other. The strategic plans and priorities already at work within the NPUC and each of our conferences are important. They will continue forward like strings on a guitar that are individually wound yet tuned to work together in harmony. Our plans to foster young adult engagement, encourage total member involvement, and grow healthy churches and schools as we grow together in Christ — these are areas that will only be enhanced as we work together with the process of Vision 2020.





# GREAT PARTNERSHIP THAT USES A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO WITNESSING. WE ARE EXCITED TO BE A PART OF IT ALONG WITH THE OTHER GREAT CONFERENCES IN THIS UNION.”

— DOUG BING, WASHINGTON CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

**GLEANER:** SO, IN THIS PROCESS OF REVITALIZATION, IF OUR NORTHWEST CHURCHES AND MEMBERS EMBRACE THE PROCESS TO *RENEW*, IT ALSO BRINGS THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO *REFOCUS*?

**MCCLENDON:** It’s an absolute need. Our church growth slows and stops when our experience becomes all about us — what we want, what we like. So, when we come to church, we have a great time and perhaps a wonderful worship experience because it’s what we like. It’s the key factor that causes a growing church to become satisfied with status quo. But when we refocus on God’s purpose for us — to be outwardly focused, mission-minded — that answers the question of “why is the church here.” There is a reason we seek to put a baptistery in every church. Even some of our most stoic congregations sense great joy during a

baptism, a reason to celebrate what God has done in a life. We inherently know that is our purpose, so it’s like a victory party. It’s easy to lose that, when the baptisms are few and far between.

**FREEDMAN:** None of our conference leaders are anxious to see church baptisteries collecting cobwebs, junk or storage items. They and we are praying together for renewed, refocused purpose in reaching people for Jesus. When we refocus on why God has called us into existence, our church baptisteries will be repeatedly filled with water, with transformed lives being celebrated in new birth experiences.

**GLEANER:** ONCE WE HAVE EXPERIENCED A *RENEWAL* AND A *REFOCUS* ON WHAT OUR PURPOSE IS, YOU ARE SUGGESTING A THIRD STEP: *RELATE*.

**MCCLENDON:** Yes, how do I earn the right to talk to someone about their spiritual life without first knowing them? This Vision 2020 cycle recognizes we’re in the world to be the hands and feet of Jesus, to be light and salt, as He designed us to be. As we make friends, as we show people that we love them as God’s children, it opens the door for us to also talk about spiritual things.

**FREEDMAN:** It really is a sense of growing our love for people. Love is not just to get people into the church. Love is God’s Spirit within us to care for people’s needs, actively engaged with our communities, following Jesus’ method of mingling with people as one who desires their good.

**MCCLENDON:** Yet I do think we need to be intentional. The rest of Ellen White’s statement says that, after Jesus won the confidence of people in the community, He invited them to follow Him. When we remember the purpose God has placed within His church, with the intention of somehow connecting people with Jesus, it means events that we schedule — concerts, cooking classes and other things — are all done within this context. Or, to finish Ellen White’s thoughts, to mingle with people in desiring their good, but to also make that invitation for them to come, follow Jesus.



**“SOUL-WINNING IS WHERE GOD WORKS THE MOST, WHERE HE WORKS THE BEST. IT’S THE LEADING EDGE OF WHERE THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS GROWING. WHEN WE PARTICIPATE AS A CHURCH IN THAT, IT CHANGES WHAT WE TALK ABOUT, IT CHANGES HOW WE RELATE TO ONE ANOTHER.”**

**GLEANER:** THE FOURTH STEP IN THIS PROCESS IS TO RECLAIM THOSE WHO FOR VARIOUS REASON HAVE LEFT FELLOWSHIP WITHIN THE CHURCH.

**MCCLENDON:** Within each of our conferences there are many who have drifted away. They are not strangers. These are our aunts and uncles; they’re our children. This is personal stuff. But what’s exciting, and you’ll hear this from pastors who have really been mission-focused, is that when a church recommits to its mission, the Holy Spirit works in very powerful ways to bring people back. I believe when a church has found its renewed focus in mission, the Holy Spirit knows this is a place where people who have drifted away can safely be brought back into fellowship. So, the Spirit prepares their hearts to respond. There is certainly often a sense of family and home in those who return. God does live in our hearts, but He also exists powerfully in community.

**FREEDMAN:** Sometimes we get focused on how dysfunctional our local church might

feel, but God works in spite of our dysfunction. Satan would love to have dysfunction be an excuse to keep us from trusting God’s power to do great things is not dependent on our own abilities. It might take just one person in a local church to have the faith to allow God to turn that church into a powerhouse for Him.

**MCCLENDON:** Yes, I believe that soul-winning is where God works the most, where He works the best. It’s the leading edge of where the kingdom of God is growing. When we participate as a church in that, it changes what we talk about, it changes how we relate to one another. I believe it is a remedy for our lukewarm condition. This is what we are praying for with each of our local conference leaders.

**GLEANER:** WHAT RESULTS DO YOU HOPE FOR?

**MCCLENDON:** We believe that we will see many of our local Northwest churches revitalized as they intentionally work through this Vision 2020 plan. We’ll see churches come back to life, not just because there may be more people coming, but because they have reconnected with their God-given purpose. This is a road map to be brought back to life. And once a church has worked

through this cycle of renewal, refocusing, relating, reclaiming and reaching, if it’s working to revitalize their congregation, if new members are being baptized and disciplined, why would they want to stop? Why on earth would they say, “Well that was fun. Let’s do something else”? This can be like a wheel that keeps rolling forward as God blesses. Some of our Northwest churches have







already been active on this mission. The recent meetings completed in Idaho's Treasure Valley illustrate how churches working together on a common mission will see God's hand at work. It's been sort of a forerunner to this Vision 2020 initiative. They began well over a year ago to prepare and collaborate with Idaho Conference churches to refocus on mission, reach out to their

communities and connect with interested people to study in preparation for Brian McMahon's meetings. Even the tiny Heyburn, Idaho, group, with less than 10 regularly active members, got involved. And guess what? They had six guests make commitments for baptism — a nearly 100 percent growth rate!

**GLENER:** THE VOICE OF PROPHECY IS A KEY PARTNER IN THIS PLAN, PROVIDING RESOURCES FOR PASTORS AND CHURCHES TO USE IN ENGAGING WITH THEIR MISSION.

**MCCLENDON:** This is a notable shift for them, regarding their own mission. In the past, our media ministries have always been about a major personality. But now the idea that "we're going to draw everyone's attention to one media star" has been turned upside down. And I believe the VOP is now aligned with our philosophy here at the NPUC — and that is, the success of our corporate church is dependent on the success of ministry through the *local church*. The success of our mission is in challenging,

empowering and equipping the local church. And we are adapting the VOP's new model of resourcing to support this plan.

**FREEDMAN:** I think this is big for our conferences and churches. Our conference presidents know that every church pastor works hard to develop resources appropriate to their field. It costs money and time. These new resources from VOP will be a huge help. And most of them can be adapted locally to fit those specific needs.

**GLENER:** ARE THESE VOP RESOURCE PACKAGES EXPENSIVE?

**MCCLENDON:** Not to our churches within the NPUC. We are subsidizing the cost in conjunction with each local conference so these resources will be available for any church who wishes to use them, for little to no cost. I suggest checking [npuc.org/vision2020](http://npuc.org/vision2020) and then contacting your local

conference for its specific plan on obtaining the resource packages and options. We hope every church that has a heart for their community, every church that wants to bring people to Jesus, will consider becoming part of this plan.

**GLENER:** IF A CHURCH DECIDES LATER TO JUMP IN, WILL THEY BE ABLE TO?

**FREEDMAN:** There's no artificial deadline or penalty for coming in midstream, so late adopters can jump right in. Even those who decide late this year to get on board will benefit. The important thing is that your church adopts this as an ongoing church mission. We hope this can help move the approach of our churches from simply event-oriented outreach to becoming excited about ongoing mission opportunities and connections every day. It's a cultural change. Church is not a competitive sport. We should be working together, praying together, as a family. I believe God can work

greater things among us when we work together for Him.

**MCCLENDON:** This is who we used to be, very missionary-minded. I believe if we reconnect with that, we'll see the power of the gospel can still change lives. This is what our conference presidents and many of our Northwest pastors are praying for. And, when we all start there, praying for renewal to fall in love with Christ, be filled with His Spirit and then know His plan and purpose for us, miracles will happen. I believe when we pray earnestly that God would give us a harvest, we will see Him at work.

# LOVE SERVES

COMMITTED SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST MEMBERS AND ORGANIZATIONS, MANY OF THEM CONNECTED WITH ASI (ADVENTIST LAYMEN'S SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES) NORTHWEST, ARE MEETING NEEDS AROUND THE WORLD. THESE PAGES ILLUSTRATE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES. THERE ARE MANY MORE.

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## LOVE HEALS FREE CLINIC

Love Heals has provided more than \$3 million in free dental, medical and vision services to nearly 7,000 patients since 2017. Learn more at [lovehealsfreeclinic.org](http://lovehealsfreeclinic.org).



2

## INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S CARE

Dedicated to the care, education and spiritual growth of orphaned and vulnerable children in underdeveloped countries. Learn more at [forhiskids.org](http://forhiskids.org).

3

## SEARCH FOR ONE

Provides free medical, dental, educational and developmental help to the underprivileged people of the Kirabati island group in Micronesia. Learn more at [searchforone.org](http://searchforone.org).

4

## GOSPEL OUTREACH

Seeks to extend the Seventh-day Adventist mission with local Bible workers throughout the 10/40 Window and around the globe. Learn more at [goaiml.org](http://goaiml.org).







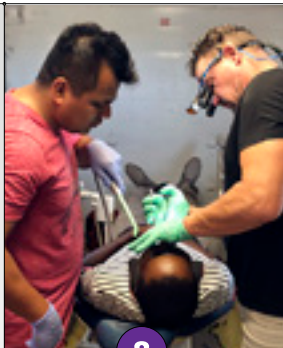
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### LIGHTBEARERS

Publishes and ships between 30 and 50 million publications every year in the local languages of the most needy people around the world. Learn more at [lightbearers.org](http://lightbearers.org).

### WATER FOR LIFE

Uses water technologies, water health education and basic research to help communities in Guatemala identify and solve water issues. Learn more at [h2oforlife.org](http://h2oforlife.org).



8

### CARING HANDS WORLDWIDE

Seeks to relieve suffering of those experiencing dental pain, combining these efforts with literature evangelism, VBS ministries and prayer. Learn more at [caringhandsworldwide.org](http://caringhandsworldwide.org).



9

### MARA VISION

Provides support for the Maasai and Samuru people of Kenya by sponsoring pastors and teachers, building churches, and providing for other essential needs. Learn more at [maravisionoutreach.org](http://maravisionoutreach.org).



# READY FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

**THE NORTHWEST CHAPTER FOR ADVENTIST LAYMEN'S SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES (ASI NW) IS FINALIZING PLANS FOR ITS ANNUAL CONVENTION, WHICH HIGHLIGHTS EFFORTS TO SHARE THE ADVENTIST MESSAGE AND MISSION ACROSS OUR REGION AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

Fred Cornforth, a Boise, Idaho, area businessman who continues in his role as ASI NW president, has worked to enhance business connections throughout the organization. "We want to help local business people within our local Northwest churches become part of the face of those churches," he says. "If they have a heart for God's children, that church and those members can become a force of active service within their communities. They can become a church that would be clearly missed in that town if they would cease to exist." Cornforth says that might mean a business person using their employees to feed the hungry once a week in the community, or helping with a free medical clinic, or going each Thursday morning to the local high school to serve breakfast.

ASI NW is increasingly collaborating with Walla Walla University (WWU) in encouraging business students to plan how their future careers can intersect with and support mission. This year's ASI NW Convention, coming April 18–20 to the Walla Walla University campus in College Place, Wash., will highlight this partnership. A unique Adventist "Shark Tank" program on Saturday evening will evaluate five to seven

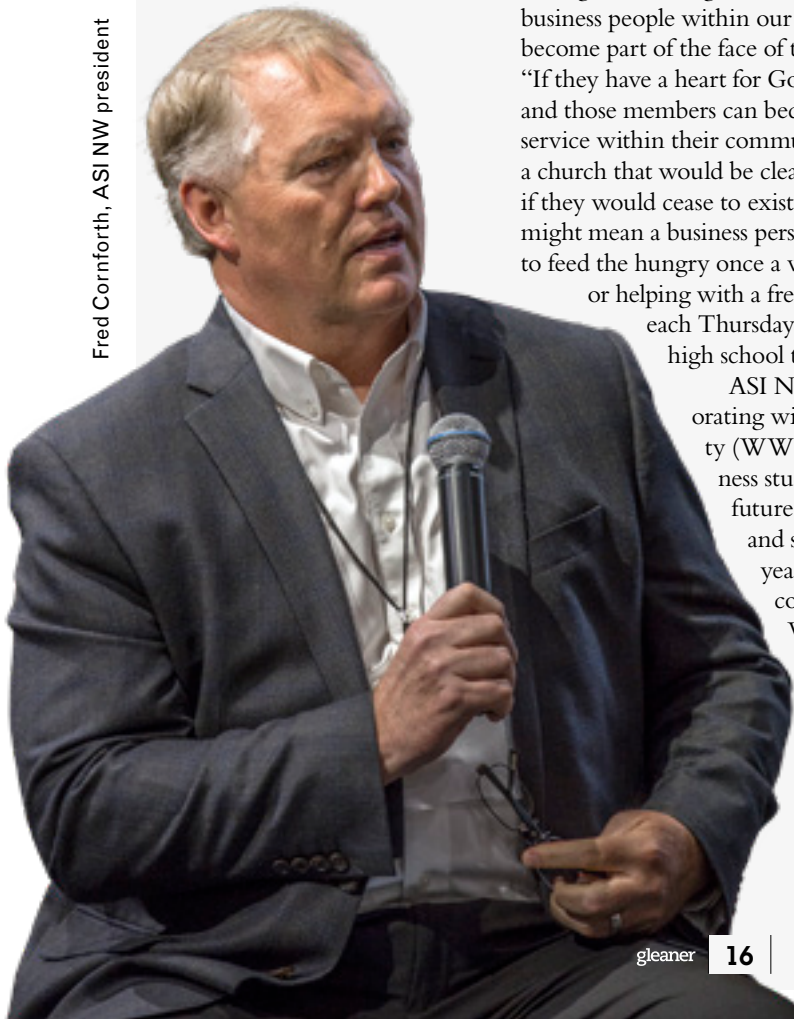
student business inventions. Each WWU student team will have 10 minutes to present their ideas. A panel of expert business judges will ultimately award prizes: First place gets \$5,000, second \$3,000 and third \$2,000. The audience at Village Hall that evening will get an opportunity to have their votes count as well.

This year's convention, with a theme of "Love Serves," will feature keynote speaker Karl Haffner, former WWU Church pastor and currently teaching pastor at Kettering Church in Ohio. Sabbath activities will also include a colorful mission pageant, highlighting the impact of ASI efforts around the world.

Directly following the convention in April, Cornforth's business group, CDI, is also partnering with ASI NW to sponsor a Nonprofit Bootcamp experience (see the ad on the inside back page of this issue). It will be held at the WWU Rosario Marine Station facilities, April 21–26. Cornforth says this effort is designed to help grow the capacity of nonprofits within the Adventist community. Training tracks will run the gamut from legal and marketing concerns to charting accounts, fundraising, cash flow and social media use. This initial effort will provide basic certification for 75 participants. More advanced training is planned for next year.

Cornforth is eager to see the gospel advance through Adventist members. "Instead of isolating our churches to protect the faithful," he says, "let's encourage our faith to grow by allowing the Holy Spirit to empower us for good."

Fred Cornforth, ASI NW president





**DOUBLE  
HEADER  
WEEKEND**

sponsored by

**ASI**  
ADVENTIST-LAYMEN'S  
SERVICES & INDUSTRIES

# KARL HAFFNER



▼ **April 18–20, 2019**

Melvin K. West Fine Arts Center  
Walla Walla University

**THURSDAY, APRIL 18**

**7 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19**

**7 P.M.**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20**

**11:30 A.M.**

**7 P.M. (Village Hall)**

Karl Haffner is one of the most dynamic voices with in Adventism today. He is internationally known as a gifted speaker, and is the author of 13 books! Karl is the Senior Pastor of the Kettering Seventh-day Adventist church, in Ohio and returns to his native NW for our event. He and his wife Cherie' have two wonderful girls, Lindsey and Claire.

**April 20, 2019**

**8–10 p.m.**

**Join us Saturday night,** for worship followed by a pitch event where students from Walla Walla University's schools of Business and Engineering lay their ideas before a panel of judges in an effort to claim a cash prize.



# PITCH EVENT

**A SHARK TANK TYPE EVENT**

Village Hall  
Walla Walla University  
204 S College Ave.  
College Place, WA 99324

QUESTIONS? [kaylieb@cdinet.us](mailto:kaylieb@cdinet.us) | (208) 649-1562

## VIDAGPS: ANTÍDOTO A LA EPIDEMIA NACIONAL DE SOLEDAD

**E**s innegable! Los estudios siguen comprobando que como humanos fuimos programados para vivir en conexión. A través de los últimos 20 años, lo que los oficiales de salud publica están llamando la epidemia de soledad, sigue creciendo a pasos alarmantes. Una cantidad de estudios que van en aumento siguen indicando que la experiencia de la soledad está resultando en una variedad de efectos psicológicos y fisiológicos nocivos. Además de sentirse sumamente aislados, gente que sufre de soledad moderada a intensiva, tienden a sufrir de trastornos del sueño, enfermedades cardiovasculares, alta presión arterial, un sistema inmune comprometido, e inflamaciones.

En uno de los últimos estudios publicados sobre la soledad en la revista profesional online, *International Psychogeriatrics* (18 de dic., 2018), el Dr. Dilip V. Jeste y su equipo de investigadores de la escuela de medicina de la Universidad de California en San Diego; le preguntaron a 340 personas entre las edades de 27 and 101 años acerca de sus sentimientos de aislamiento y utilizaron varias escalas, incluyendo la muy establecida Escala de Soledad de la Universidad de UCLA en Los Angeles, California. La soledad

fue mucho más prevaleciente de lo que esperaban encontrar. Setenta y cinco por ciento de los participantes reportaron niveles de soledad moderados a severos. Pareciera ser que nuestra sociedad actual, que evidentemente sufre de altos niveles de soledad, pudiera estar más disponible para aceptar una invitación a un grupo pequeño bíblico, que ofrece conexión, esperanza, inclusión y confraternidad.

### Es tiempo de **CONECTARSE al movimiento VidaGPS**

Grupos misionales en hogares dirigidos por el Espíritu Santo no son nada nuevo. Este tipo de grupos siguen el modelo bíblico de Hechos 2 que se enfoca en la comunidad espiritual como el centro de la multiplicación de discípulos que hacen discípulos que siguen la cadena de multiplicación. “Y perseveraban en la doctrina de los apóstoles, en la comunión unos con otros, en el partimiento del pan y en las oraciones” (Hechos 2:42).

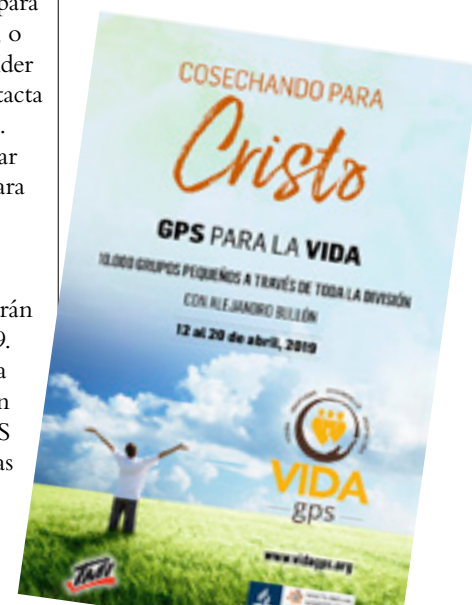
Alabamos a Dios por la gran cantidad de miembros hispanos que han aceptado la invitación de abrir sus hogares o aceptar el desafío de ser Líderes de Grupo al registrarse y unirse al movimiento de VidaGPS. Este no es simplemente otro

“programa evangelístico,” sino es una invitación a ser parte de un “movimiento misional” sostenible, tipo Hechos 2, que continuará marchando en la meta actual de formar 10,000 nuevos grupos en hogares de VidaGPS en el territorio de nuestra división en el 2019; y que esperamos, seguirá creciendo en número hasta la segunda venida de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. El departamento de Ministerios Hispanos de La División Norteamericana ha creado una página de internet, fácil de usar, que seguirá generando materiales continuamente para los líderes de grupo que ofrecerá un menú balanceado de lecciones bíblicas con temarios sobre el crecimiento espiritual y el discipulado en las áreas de crecimiento espiritual, emocional, mental y físico.

Si el Espíritu te esta animando a abrir tu hogar para formar un grupo VidaGPS, o sientes el llamado a ser el Líder de un grupo, por favor contacta a tu pastor inmediatamente. El tiene el código para entrar en la página [vidagps.org](http://vidagps.org) para que tu puedas registrarte y también tener acceso a los materiales y a las reuniones del Pastor Bullón que tomarán lugar este Abril 12–19, 2019. Estas reuniones se llevarán a cabo por primera vez, en un grupo pequeño de VidaGPS en un hogar actual, mientras

que todos los grupos VidaGPS a través de Norte América se sintonizarán a esta serie que será accesible solo a través de un grupo de VidaGPS. ¡Te invitamos a sintonizarte con lo que esta haciendo el Espíritu de Dios y que consideres unirse al movimiento de Vida: Grupos Pequeños Saludables!

*César De León, North Pacific Union Conference vice president for Hispanic ministries, and ministerial, multiethnic ministries, family life and men's ministries director, with Carolann De León, North Pacific Union Conference family life and Hispanic ministries assistant director*





# VIDAGPS GROUPS: ANTIDOTE TO THE NATIONAL LONELINESS EPIDEMIC

It's undeniable: The rapidly growing number of studies are providing the scientific data that shows humans were wired to live in connection. Over the past 20 years, what public health officials have deemed to be the loneliness epidemic has been rising at an alarming rate. A growing body of scientific studies shows the human experience of loneliness results in a disturbing array of negative psychological and physiological health effects.

Besides feeling incredibly isolated, people who suffer from moderate to intense loneliness are more likely to suffer from poor sleep, cardiovascular diseases, high blood pressure, reduced immunity and inflammation. In one of the most recent published study on loneliness in the online journal *International Psychogeriatrics* (Dec. 18, 2018), Dilip V. Jeste and his team of researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine asked 340 people between the ages of 27 and 101 about feelings of isolation and used several measures, including the well-established UCLA Loneliness Scale.

Loneliness was more prevalent than expected. Seventy-five percent of study participants reported moderate to high levels of loneliness. Our highly lonely society could be ripe



for accepting an invitation to a small Bible-based life group that offers hope, connections, inclusion and fellowship.

## It's time to CONNECT to VidaGPS Movement

Holy Spirit-driven, home-based missional-discipleship groups are nothing new! They follow the biblical, Acts 2 model of spiritual community as the center for the multiplication of disciple-making disciples. "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42).

We praise God for the hundreds of NPUC Hispanic church members who have accepted the invitation to open their homes and/or to become group leaders as they've registered with the

online VidaGPS Small Group Movement. This is not just one more "evangelistic program." It's an invitation to join a sustainable, Spirit-driven, Acts 2, "missional movement" that will not only continue to grow toward the present goal of 10,000 new VidaGPS small groups in 2019 but will continue to multiply until the Second Coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We are pleased to report that VidaGPS groups have been starting up all over our North Pacific Union Conference. The North American Division has designed a user-friendly, national website that offers what will be an ongoing flow of small group leadership materials so all group leaders in North America will have a steady, balanced array of spiritual growth and

discipleship lessons covering biblically based spiritual, emotional, mental and physical health needs.

If the Spirit is moving you to open your home to a VidaGPS group, or you feel called to become a group leader, please contact your pastor, who was given an access code to register you and your new group on the [Vidagps.org](http://Vidagps.org) website. Once registered you will be able to access your group materials as well as the upcoming online series this April 12–19, 2019, as evangelist Alejandro Bullón holds a reaping series. This is a first-ever, actual home-based VidaGPS group, from which he will broadcast to all the registered groups around the North American Division. We invite you to join what the Spirit is already doing and consider joining the VidaGPS missional-group movement.

*César De León, North Pacific Union Conference vice president for Hispanic ministries, ministerial, multiethnic ministries, family life and men's ministries, with Carolann De León, NPUC family life and Hispanic ministries assistant director*

More online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-ak\\_utqiagvik](http://glnr.in/114-02-ak_utqiagvik)

## WHEN GOD MOVES: A STORY FROM THE NORTHERNMOST TOWN IN THE UNITED STATES

**F**or many years the group of Adventists in Barrow (now Utqiagvik), Alaska, had been exploring options and praying for a church meeting place. Each potential location in the northernmost town in the United States was a bad fit or the sale would fall through.

Something to understand about Utqiagvik is how difficult acquiring a building is, as is constructing one. Yet, these Adventists continued praying God would open a door for them to have a building of their own.

Fast forward to Aug. 20, 2018. One of the

District pastor, and her husband, Zack, as well as Jim Jensen, Alaska Conference treasurer — was already scheduled to visit Utqiagvik that weekend. Immediately the group voted to make an offer for the property with the idea of turning the larger building into the church meeting place.

The seller, however, decided to go with another offer. The church family continued praying, and on Sept. 6, 2018, the property miraculously went back on the market.

With the leading of God and the work of the Utqiagvik group, Alaska Conference office and the North Pacific Union Conference, along with donor support, the building was purchased by the Alaska Conference. On Oct. 23, 2018, the Arctic Adventist Group met in their new church home.

In Matt. 7:7–8, Jesus encourages those listening to ask, seek and knock. Utqiagvik Church members have, year after year, boldly come before the Lord and done this very thing. Now the door has quite literally been opened.

*Celesta Babb, Utqiagvik, Delta Junction and North Pole District pastor*



The newly purchased Utqiagvik Church (left) and parsonage (right) represent God's leading in the country's northernmost town.

Adventists who was praying noticed a pair of buildings on one lot had come on the market. Providentially, a group — including Celesta Babb, Utqiagvik, Delta Junction and North Pole



The three wise men visit baby Jesus.

More online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-ak\\_savoonga](http://glnr.in/114-02-ak_savoonga)

## SAVOONGA CHURCH CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS ON BERING SEA

**T**he Savoonga Church was packed with about 100 people for the Christmas program on Dec. 21, 2018. Folks spilled into the foyer and the Sabbath School room. As the narrator began, 20 kids acted out the Christmas story as told in Luke 2:1–20 and Matt. 2:1–12.

The program was interspersed with opportunities for the audience to sing Christmas songs. At the conclusion, the children greeted people as they left and handed each person a goody bag with an apple, an orange and some Christmas candy.

Many adult volunteers

coordinated the children's parts, involved the guests in group singing and assembled the gift bags for guests. Nome Church members Ryan and Mel Woehler — along with their children, Thomas, Ruth and Lawrence — visited Savoonga for the weekend, and Ryan offered to play the guitar and lead the singing.

Savoonga Church members are praising God for this opportunity to share His Word with those in this small village on St. Lawrence Island in the midst of the Bering Sea.

*Elouise Hawkes, Arctic Mission volunteer in Savoonga, Alaska*

Savoonga Church filled to capacity for the Christmas program





# EMAIL FROM NOWHERE CONNECTS COUPLE TO NEW SOMEWHERE

More photos online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-ak\\_email](http://glnr.in/114-02-ak_email)

“**G**ood afternoon, I found your email online and was hoping you might be able to help us concerning getting baptized. My husband and I live in remote Alaska and are hoping to find a Sabbath church to be baptized in. Thank you for your time and help with our request.”

These were the words the Hillside O’Malley Church secretary read on the screen when she opened her email one Tuesday afternoon. They were penned by Eric and Denny Weathers, from a remote island in the Prince William Sound.

In follow-up, it was soon learned the Weatherses had been searching and studying online for more than a year since one fateful day when the book *Great Controversy* showed up in their mailbox. How did it get there? They don’t

know, but the whole town of Cordova, where they have a post office box, got one too. Denny brought it home, and her husband was the first to read it. Convinced of its truth and feeling like he had finally read something that connected all the dots, Eric shared it with Denny and began his third reading of the Bible cover-to-cover.

Eric was a third-generation crab fisherman. When he studied the Bible and came again to the clean and unclean foods listed in Genesis, he threw his catch overboard, gave his freshly fried prawns to the birds and began contemplating what to do with his crabbing gear.

Eric and Denny began searching YouTube and soon came across videos from Doug Batchelor. They also began tuning in online to an Adventist church in Calgary each week. Eventually, they



Eric Weathers (left) and Denny Weathers (right) stand with David Shin, Hillside O’Malley Church pastor.

both came to one conclusion: It was time to be baptized. After searching online for Adventist churches in the areas easiest for them to get to, they reached out to the Hillside O’Malley Church in Anchorage, Alaska.

What a joy and privilege to be a part of the Weatherses’ journey. They committed publicly to the Adventist truth through baptism on Jan. 5. The audience was encouraged and

uplifted as the couple shared their testimony of coming to the same truths through their study of God’s Word. Denny shared, “Seventh-day Adventists quote the Bible. They don’t make [their own] quotes. We didn’t know what we wanted to be. We just wanted something that went with the Bible.”

*Tennille Shin, Hillside O’Malley Church secretary*

## ARCTIC MISSION ADVENTURE ADOPT-A-VILLAGE

When you adopt a village like Savoonga, you bring Christ to Alaska by meeting the needs of the village community through Vacation Bible Schools, food banks, clothing drives, village day camps and Native leadership training. Learn more about the adopt-a-village ministry and how to support missions in your own backyard.



SAVOONGA, ALASKA

Visit [www.arcticmissionadventure.org](http://www.arcticmissionadventure.org)

Call 907-346-1004 x1020

Email [tandi.perkins@ac.npuc.org](mailto:tandi.perkins@ac.npuc.org)



More photos online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-id\\_longcreek](http://glnr.in/114-02-id_longcreek)

# SMALL CHURCH DEDICATES NEW BUILDING IN TWO YEARS

**A** church has a dedication service when their building loan is paid off. For most, that takes several years. One small church in Long Creek, Ore., accomplished it in two years. In fact, they never went into debt in the first place.



Long Creek Church current and former pastors, their spouses, and the Maranatha project director attended the dedication service: (from left) current pastor Monte and Dallena Wood, Sylvia and Fred Ellis, Judy and Rod Bieber, Ken Casper, Dan Rotthoff, Darold Bigger, and Jill and Fred Cornforth.

Preparation for building began in August 2016. The next month, volunteers from Maranatha joined with church members and locals from the community to begin building the new church. On Sept. 1, 2018, the church was dedicated, debt-free. Local community individuals provided materials and labor and contributed

financially to the project.

Long Creek Church has a membership of 52. According to the city's website, [cityoflongcreek.com](http://cityoflongcreek.com), the town's 220 residents engage in ranching, logging and natural resource-based industries.

Home-based enterprises and small businesses also provide residents with work opportunities. The Adventist church has been an important part of the community. They built a large fellowship hall to host funeral dinners for members of the community, free of charge.

Their next challenge is how to translate community goodwill into new members for God's kingdom. The church is in Grant County, population 7,185. The John Day and Dayville Adventist churches are also in Grant County.

One person from the local community who attended the Friday evening service chatted



Fred Cornforth, former Long Creek Church pastor, led in the dedication service.



David Prest Jr., Idaho Conference president, spoke to the members and guests in the new sanctuary.

with Leland Spencer, one of the church members. Although he did not stay for supper, he told Spencer, "I really respect you guys." Spencer says that is the type of comment they hear quite often.

Former pastors Rod Bieber, Fred Ellis, Fred Cornforth and Darold Bigger joined current Long Creek Church pastor Monte Wood and David Prest Jr., Idaho Conference president, in leading the congregation and visitors in the celebration events. Included in the church service was the ordination of a local elder, Caleb Morris. Tim Greenlaw brought a group of young people to provide music for the services. Dan Rotthoff, former volunteer lay pastor who led the church into the building project, and Kenneth Casper, project leader for the Maranatha portion of the building

project, were honored for their contributions to the new building.

A lot of reminiscing, good food, uplifting music, inspiring

messages and obvious blessings from God made the weekend event a highlight in the church's history. Cornforth received a framed piece of green shag carpet as a gift. When he was the Long Creek pastor, one of the first decisions he was asked about (before he had even officially started) was which color of carpet to pick for a church remodeling project. The gift brought laughter and good memories.

There are a few finishing touches to complete. Church members are ready to work on them and to continue sharing Jesus in their communities. But the church is dedicated after just two years — with God's blessings.

*Eve Rusk, Idaho Conference communication director*



Much more online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-id\\_bananabox](http://glnr.in/114-02-id_bananabox)



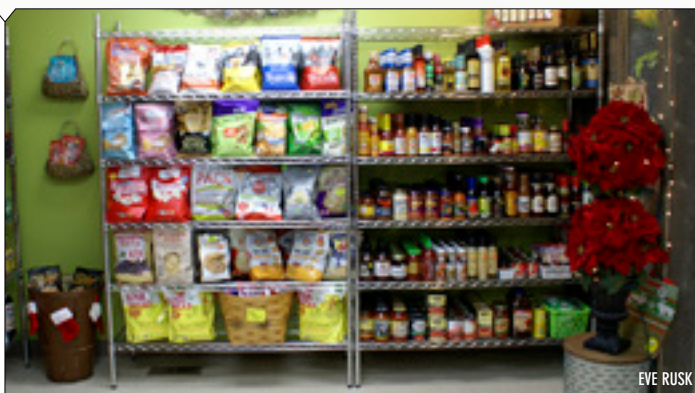
# BANANA BOX BARGAINS HOLDS GRAND OPENING

**W**hat happens when ideas, church members and an unstoppable force get together? At the Payette Church, it's Banana Box Bargains.

The Payette Church has had a community services ministry for many years. Some members were looking for a different direction, something with more community contact. Enter Charleen Williams, wife of Howard Williams, the Payette Church pastor.

In Alaska, the Williamses began a "thrift store" ministry in their district. It generated lots of community contact and provided low-cost food, clothing and other items to community members. It also generated income for church ministry. When they arrived at the Payette Church, the couple found members who were looking for a new way to impact their community.

With the help of many volunteers, Banana Box Bargains opened in early December 2018. Food is neatly displayed, and clothing in very good condition hangs attractively on the racks. Monkeys appear amidst the décor. A bowl filled with bananas sits on the checkout counter. Small household items are included as well. It's almost a one-stop shopping destination



Shoppers are welcomed as they first walk into the store.

for those who love a bargain, marked by a sign created by a young church member, Brianna Daugharthy.

The grand opening celebration included gifts of recognition for volunteers, yummy treats and a prayer of dedication. Because they had volunteered to help prepare the shop, students from Treasure Valley Adventist School attended.

Howard Williams shared with the group how Banana Box Bargains can provide good-quality food, even organic and specialty items, at low prices. He has done research on food product dating. For the most part, when a food has reached its expiration/best by/use by date, it doesn't mean that the food is no longer safe to eat. He provided reference material on the subject to any-

one who wanted it. That same material is available to shoppers who have concerns about food safety.

David Prest Jr., Idaho Conference president, had the honor of cutting the ribbon during the store's grand opening. As shoppers entered the store, they expressed their delight at its appearance. Many left the store with more than one bag of items.

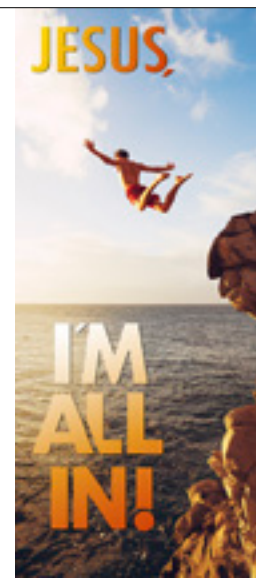
The *Argus Observer* newspaper based in nearby Ontario, Ore., ran a feature on the store in its Dec. 12, 2018, edition.

Currently, all staff are volunteers. Charleen is optimistic that they will eventually be able to hire employees, as they did in the Alaska store.

*Eve Rusk, Idaho Conference communication director*

## IDAHO CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING IS COMING!

**D**an Jackson, North American Division president, is coming to Idaho Conference Camp Meeting. He is the evening and Sabbath morning speaker and will host a Q & A session with young adults on Sabbath afternoon. Camp Meeting is June 11–15, on the campus of Gem State Adventist Academy in Caldwell, Idaho. Visit [facebook.com/idahocampmeeting](https://facebook.com/idahocampmeeting) or [IdahoAdventist.org](http://IdahoAdventist.org) for more information.



## BILLINGS SCHOOL HOSTS 'FUN-RAISER'

The word “fund-raiser” often conjures up a variety of reactions. However, whatever the reaction, there is one fact that cannot be denied. For many Seventh-day Adventist schools, especially small ones, fundraisers are an essential component in helping to keep the schools running or providing scholarship assistance to students in need.

A popular fundraiser in many areas is a dessert auction. Homemade delicacies are sold for exorbitant prices to excited bidders wanting to support their school and enjoy a baked treat.

Central Acres Christian School in Billings recently completed their annual dessert auction. Autumn Paskell, principal, was overwhelmed with gratitude at the generous outcome from the evening and



wanted the emphasis to go to the generous God we serve. The amount earned this year was a record. “This was a great opportunity for a fun outreach with the community . . . and the school was greatly blessed in the process,” says Paskell.

This annual event is held on the Sunday evening before Thanksgiving so the baked goods can be used during the holiday’s festivities. However, many of the items do not reach the intended destination and are consumed before leaving the building. Even Paskell baked some loaves of specialty bread that were sold hot out of the oven and immediately sliced. As a former home economics instructor, Paskell enjoys baking for the auction.

The auction evening starts

with a free supper, followed by an invigorating auction. This year, attendees enjoyed a baked potato bar, with all the ingredients donated, which produced a 100 percent profit evening. Paskell and her crew of helpers, including her husband and board members, worked tirelessly in the kitchen to provide the filling meal.

Paskell stated that the school’s auction typically offers more to buy than just baked goodies. There have been donated art work items as well as donated “treasures from senior citizens.” These senior citizens would rather their treasures benefit the school than collect dust on a shelf. An added benefit Paskell has observed is how her students’ perspective has changed when they

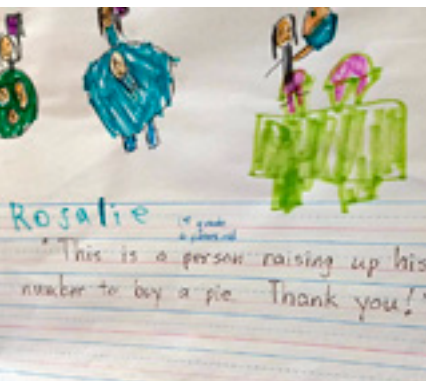
observe the seniors bringing in their donations. “Especially touching,” she adds, “. . . [is] at least three surviving spouses have chosen to donate items that belonged to their deceased loved one.”

Though the bidding on auction night may mimic a battle scene at times, one gentleman who had outbid a lady on a loaf of bread was seen later gifting it to her.

Always the teacher, Paskell says she uses this event to further her students’ language arts skills. Her students write thoughtful thank you notes, which attendees appreciate.

The dessert auction in Billings has proved to be more than simply a fundraiser. It is an event that builds community, inspires giving, increases faith and provides a chance for the younger generation to be involved, all while giving support to the school, teacher and students. A better term for the event would be “FUN-raiser.”

*Renae Young, Montana Conference education superintendent*





# MONTANA CONFERENCE

## Camp Meeting 2019

**MOUNT ELLIS ACADEMY**  
**JUNE 12-15**



### **BILL McCLENDON**

Elder McClendon serves as the North Pacific Union Conference Vice President of Administration and Director of Church Growth and Evangelism for the Northwest Territory of the United States.



### **STEVE DARMODY**

Steve Darmody is one of Gospel Music's finest voices. He has been serving Christ through concert ministry since 1979, averaging some 100 concerts each year with well over 3,500 concerts in his lifetime.



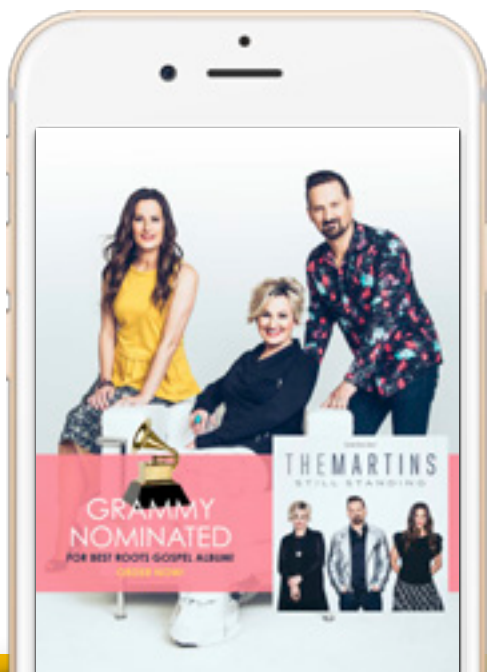
### **DR. CARLTON BYRD**

Dr. Byrd is currently the Senior Pastor of the Oakwood University Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church on the campus of Oakwood University in Huntsville, AL, and the Speaker/Director of the Breath of Life Television Broadcast for the SDA Church in North America.

## Guest Musicians

Siblings Joyce, Jonathan and Judy, collectively known as The Martins, have enjoyed countless radio hits and performances at concert halls, arenas, auditoriums and churches worldwide. During the 1990s, The Martins rose to national and international success, showcasing their stunning and distinctive harmonies before a vast array of audiences, from legendary singer/songwriter Bill Gaither's multi-award winning Homecoming Video and Concert Series to the White House to Carnegie Hall. Over the years, the trio garnered eight Dove Awards from the Gospel Music Association, as well as a prestigious Grammy nomination.

*For campsite reservations (\$50.00 / \$80.00) or room reservations (\$90.00) please call Laryssa Barlow at 406-587-3101 ext. 100*



**MONTANA CAMP MEETING JUNE 12-15, 2019**  
**3641 Bozeman Trail Road, Bozeman MT 59715**



MITCHELL KESSLER

More photos online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-or\\_reconnect](http://glnr.in/114-02-or_reconnect)

## HILLSBORO SPANISH HELPS RECONNECT FAMILIES

**O**n a chilly January morning, 280 people gathered at Holden Convention Center in Gladstone in anticipation of welcoming family members they hadn't seen in 10 or more years. Years before those gathered had immigrated to the United States, leaving loved ones behind.

With the help of the nonprofit *Uniendo Corazones* (Uniting Hearts) and Hillsboro Spanish Church, these residents of the Portland area were able to reconnect with their relatives from afar. By that afternoon, 22 people had landed at Portland International Airport and made the short van ride to the Holden Convention Center for a special welcome celebration organized by the Hillsboro Spanish Church.

Juan Pacheco, Hillsboro Spanish Church pastor, shared a message about the spiritual beauty in reuniting loved ones and the hope of reuniting hearts again at the Second Coming of Jesus. Guests were introduced to cheers, gifts and applause as they recon-

nected with their families. Throughout their two-week stay, Hillsboro Spanish Church members continued to connect with gifts and care, hoping to make eternal connections with these families.

"We recognize that people in our community need love," says Pacheco. "One way we express that is to help them reconnect with their loved



MITCHELL KESSLER

ones. We're thankful for the opportunity to express the love of Jesus and love our community well." The next Welcome Party for foreign guests is being planned for this spring.

*Jonathan Russell, Oregon Conference assistant to the president for multimedia communications*

More online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-or\\_lents](http://glnr.in/114-02-or_lents)

## LENTS COMMUNITY CLOTHING CLOSET DAY LAUNCHES

**L**ents Church and Lents Neighborhood Association (LNA) in Portland teamed up to launch Lents Community Clothing Closet Day on Jan. 3 at the Lents Activity Center.

The LNA chairman, Sabina Urdes, applied for a "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" grant from the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, and it was approved. The goal was to provide good winter clothing to those in need while helping the environment. Urdis says, "Reusing clothing in our community prevents waste. Discarded but usable clothing has a major negative impact on the environment when it goes into landfill." About 150 people browsed and took home bags of clothes.

Members of the Lents Church, Dave Specht and Vern Henry, help out a shopper of the PACS COW.



The LNA meets monthly in the Lents Activity Center. When asked if the Lent Church would hold the event in their activity center, the church agreed. Portland Adventist Community Services' Commodities On Wheels (COW) Mobile Food Pantry was at the event, loaded with food and providing groceries for 48 families. CareOregon signed up nine families for the Medicaid/Oregon Health Plan.

The event made a positive impact on the "reuse and recycle" objective. This reporter made new friends and found a butterfly jacket. *East Portland News* covered the event with an article showing several pictures.

*Carol Specht, Lents Church communication leader*





# OREGON LEADERS PONDER HOW TO LOVE WELL

**I**n January 2019, the entire pastoral and educational team of the Oregon Conference set aside two days for a celebration of united ministry. Together as One, an annual two-day meeting, brings front-line conference employees together to discover new ways of working hand in hand rather than serving separately in nearby silos.

“Our pastors and our teachers are the front line of ministry in the Oregon Conference,” says Dan Linrud, Oregon Conference president. “We are strongest when these men and women come together and work as one in ministry.”

This year’s meeting featured our 2019 Oregon



DICK DUERKSEN

from LGBT+ folks who wanted to join our church. In fact, issues of gender and sexuality were rarely spoken of publicly. Today they are a regular topic of conversation in church and school board meetings. Issues that were traditionally avoided or dealt with quietly are now “front and center” in the community, challenging God’s people with how to share the love of God with LGBT+ people.

“These are God’s kids,” presenter Bill Henson of Lead Them Home Ministries reminded us. “Remember, God doesn’t check us out before loving us. God loves each

human equally because of who He is, not because of who we are.”

Monday evening, after a stirring presentation by Linrud, the pastors and teachers were asked to raise their hands if they have LGBT+ people among their family and friends. Nearly every hand was raised, and some raised both hands high. The reality that most of us have family members, close relatives and good friends who identify as LGBT+ has changed the dynamic and added a new urgency to this conversation.

As part of the Oregon Conference’s commitment to “Loving Well,” the presentations and conversations at Together as One helped us see how, as Christ-followers, we are given the privilege and challenge to help communicate His love to all those around us. Our love, reflecting His love, cannot stop to “check out” another before loving them. We love openly, directly,

transformationally, as He loves us. If the lives of others include sins different from the ones in our lives, we still love them, as God loves us. We do not shun, bully or otherwise harm anyone, no matter how different they may be. We lift them up so they may more clearly see the face of God through us. Always.

It’s not easy to interpret how all of this works “on the ground.” This was grist for many hours of conversations around the conference-room tables. And it’s a conversation that continues. Learning to love well is a process — a process to which we are dedicated, a process we’ve begun, a process we will all be sharing in the years to come.

*Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference story catcher, and Jonathan Russell, Oregon Conference assistant to the president for multimedia communications*



DICK DUERKSEN

Conference theme, Loving Jesus and Others, with a focus on how we can all love LGBT+ people in our church and community.

“LGBT+” you ask? Yes.

Forty or 50 years ago our congregations seldom had to respond to baptism requests



DICK DUERKSEN

## ACADEMIES PURSUE ROCK-SOLID CONNECTION

**F**or Adventist academies, vespers programs and good connections (also known as networking) are key elements of the school environment. On Nov. 30, 2018, thanks to student leadership, connections and student-led vespers programming came together in Battle Ground, Wash., as Columbia Adventist Academy (CAA) chaplain Aaron Payne and the campus ministries team invited Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) to join them in worship and praise to the God who unites us.

The evening began with Mark Smith, PAA computer and robotics instructor and rock climber extraordinaire, donating several handholds from PAA's former bouldering gym to the new CAA climbing gym. Following that transfer, the vespers program continued in earnest as PAA chaplain Mackenzie Thomp-



Jackie James spoke during the evening of worship and praise for CAA and PAA.

son (CAA class of 2011) provided 30 extra-large pizzas, a sure-fire hit with any high school group. The praise music

was led by a combination of CAA and PAA musicians, joined by more than 100 of their classmates and friends.

A unique prayer activity followed. Students wrote praises or prayer requests on a slip of paper then slid them into balloons. Once inflated, the balloons were sent across the room for someone else to retrieve the slip and pray for that specific praise or request. Attendees were glad God knows what each of those praises and requests was and is, even if they may not have gotten a human intervention.

The speaker was Jackie James, Meadow Glade Church pastor, who drew analogies from the book *Into the Wild*, comparing the main character to each of us. "We are lost and don't even know it, although some are lost and don't care," James said. As the students left that evening, filled both physically and spiritually, they took with them the challenge James gave to realize how lost we are and desire to be found by the only One who can truly know us.

As students are found and united in Christ, both CAA and PAA students will climb mountains. The training can begin one handhold at a time in the CAA gym, where every wall can be overcome as kids take on each challenge with Christ as their Rock.

*Larry Hiday, CAA Gleaner correspondent*



More photos online at [glnr.in/114-02-or\\_beaverton](http://glnr.in/114-02-or_beaverton)

## BEAVERTON HOLDS 'YOUTH ONLY' WORSHIP

**T**hirteen youth, primarily from grades four through 12, provided piano or vocal selections to offer their talents and praises to God in the first "youth only" worship service at Beaverton Church to close the Sabbath the evening of Nov. 10, 2018. Other youth provided additional supporting roles as master of ceremonies, as well as hospitality greeters handing out programs.

Nearly 100 people attended this worship service in support of the young people in our church. Tears were shed and enthusiastic applause rang out as each performer offered



up their worship to God in individual ways.

Our children and young adults are some of the church's greatest treasures. Youth-led worship service is just one of the many initiatives the Beaverton Church is using to give opportunities to our young people as they seek to express their love of God and decisions made for Him in tangible ways.

*Cheryl Dondino, Beaverton Church member*





# SUNNYSIDE HOLDS INTERNATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

More photos online at [glnr.in/114-02-or\\_international](http://glnr.in/114-02-or_international)



**A**nticipation and eagerness was in the air, and people greeted each other with an extra sparkle in their eyes and warmth in their voices. Soon Sunnyside Church's Jan. 26 church service in Portland began with flags from 35 different countries proudly carried to the front of the church, each by someone who claimed that nationality.

Most were thrilled to be dressed in traditional clothing from their nation, and each flag bearer was accompanied by someone carrying a Bible. Most of the Bibles were in the language of that country, and many of those carrying the Bibles were children, also dressed in traditional clothing.

Sunnyside was celebrating International Day, honoring the many nations that make up a very diverse congregation. Each of the 35 countries was chosen because someone who calls Sunnyside "home" had answered the call to carry a flag representing their family's country of

origin. Even sign language was included through the special music. Throughout the morning service, Rev. 7:9–10 was read five different times in five different languages.

Sunnyside is proud to have such a variety of ethnicities represented in its congregation. Each Sabbath the sermon is translated live into Romanian and Kiswahili. Sabbath School classes are also available in languages other than English. Any given week you



BEN DALUSONG



BEN DALUSONG

will see various people coming to church wearing their native Sabbath best. The variety of clothing, shades of skin colors and languages combine each week in a beautiful taste of what heaven will be like someday. So why not celebrate it?

But the beautiful service in the morning was just the beginning. That evening after sundown, many people returned for the International Food Fair. There were tables set up to sell food with 18 different countries represented (many of which had several different families contributing

items). Participants purchased tokens as they arrived to purchase food items at the booths of their choice.

People walked around the room, checking out each booth before deciding which items they wanted to enjoy for their evening meal. Many of the tables were also decorated with items showing off the culture and style of their country, and most of those behind the tables were still wearing their traditional outfits.

The comment most heard as the day wore on was that the church definitely needs to do this again. While we cherish our unity in Christ, we can celebrate the unique cultures and backgrounds that make up this part of the body of Christ. One day, hopefully soon, we look forward to being a part of that "great multitude which no one could

number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Rev. 7:9–10).

*Elizabeth Fresse, Sunnyside Church communication leader*



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# THE FIELD TRIP THAT JUST KEPT GIVING

**I**t was an ordinary fall day for the students of Central Valley Christian School in Tangent. The Rich Room students (grades three through five) headed out with promotional postcards inviting the surrounding neighborhoods to the school's upcoming Fall Festival fundraiser.

As the students headed door to door, handing out mini pumpkins and postcards as they went, they came to the house of Bob. When Bob greeted the students on his doorstep, he informed them he would be unable to attend their Fall Festival but wanted to help. He came out and gave the chaperone \$20.

The students were ecstatic. The quick-thinking chaperone, Dan Bates, Sweet Home and Lebanon churches pastor, wrote down the address so the next day the class could write a thank-you note to their new friend, Bob.

And so they thought the story ended.

Fast forward one month. A letter arrived in the mail for the Rich Room. It was a thank-you note from Bob for their thank-you note. What a surprise! But even more of a surprise was what was also in the envelope — a \$100 check.



Bob expressed that the girls who visited his door that day showed Jesus shining through them. He gifted the class the money to have a class party.

But the story doesn't stop there either. Soon after, the local Pathfinder club, of which some of the Rich Room students are members, were out collecting canned food for the Adventist Community Services. When they knocked on a door and asked for a donation, the family expressed they were in need and sadly didn't have any donations. The Pathfinders came back to the meeting spot and shared

their story. The leaders quickly packed up a box, and the group returned to the family with this box full of food. The kids were once again ecstatic to be able to see service in action.

The next week a plan was hatched. The class would team up with the Pathfinder club and the church to help this family for Christmas. Using the \$100 check from Bob, the students went on a shopping spree field trip to provide gifts for the children of the family they met that Sabbath day.

The class wrote a thank-you note to Bob once again and explained how they used

his \$100 to provide toys for a family in need.

Shortly after the school went on Christmas break, another letter from Bob came in the mail. Bob was once again touched by these children's kindness and had sent *another* \$100 to go to that family.

The students truly never knew how a simple smile, a pumpkin, and a postcard could affect so many people in so many ways.

*Amanda Rich Nawara, Central Valley Christian School teacher*

## GOD WORKS WITH WATER FOR LIFE

**T**he Lord has been doing great things through water for life for the people of Guatemala. Through the blessings of generous donations from many individuals — primarily Art and Jeanette Fry and their company, Fry Industries of Sprague River, Ore. — Water for Life (WFL) was able to purchase, refurbish, ship and import a rotary drilling rig to

the machine. This is especially important because the demand for wells has expanded as word of WFL gets out in Guatemala. Requests come from across the country to come and help others. The new machine will help a great deal toward answering that need.

WFL was again the beneficiary of a radio appeal to the audience of Shine 104.9 FM in Spokane, Wash. This is



The rotary rig is essential to Water for Life's efforts to get clean water to the people of Guatemala.

day, more than \$22,000 was donated by listeners.

More donations surround a truck to be used in support of the new rotary rig. WFL received a donation of a large truck from Loomis Truck and Tractor of Lind, Wash. The truck needed some modification to work with the rig, and the owner, Wes Loomis, made the modifications at his cost.

Then a crane donated by one of a WFL volunteers, Jon Hansen of Tacoma, Wash., was mounted on the truck. The Lord put WFL in contact with a shipping company, Wallenius Wilhelmsen, of Oslo, Norway, to ship the truck out of Tacoma.

Brian Odell, a Wallenius Wilhelmsen manager with an interest in Guatemala, took it upon himself to investigate WFL and passed a good report on the organization up the chain of authority in this huge shipping company. He was able

to secure free shipment of the truck on one of their ships, the *Oberon*. He even intervened and got the Port of Tacoma to waive the preparation and loading fees of the truck. The Lord clearly wanted this truck in Guatemala.

Further, Wallenius Wilhelmsen hired a writer to tell the story of Water for Life's work in Guatemala. The article was featured on the opening page of [2wglobal.com](http://2wglobal.com), the company website. The Lord is working not only as a shipping agent but a publicity agent as well. The WFL team is praising His name.

To learn more about Water for Life, go to [h2oforlife.org](http://h2oforlife.org).

*Tim Rasmussen, Water for Life president*



Seth Weilage arrived in Guatemala from Iowa to help get clean water to the people there.

assist the work in Guatemala. Instead of progressing 30 feet per day as the old rigs did, this machine can make 30 feet in only an hour.

The driller currently running the machine, Seth Weilage of Council Bluffs, Iowa, drilled six wells in the first eight days of operation with

a Christian music outreach of the Upper Columbia Conference from their studio in the conference headquarters in Spokane. Each year, Shine 104.9 donates one day to appeal to their listeners to support the work of Water for Life. The recent appeal was made on Jan 30. At the end of the







Mentors and new members (from left) Sean Day, David Ramirez, Jose Ramirez, Monica Ramirez, Moises Ramirez, Margarita Ramirez, Esther Ramirez, Diego Ramirez, Zariel Zamudio and Blanca Ortiz gather on Dec. 22, 2018.

## THOUSANDS ENJOY ANNUAL NATIVITY SCENE

For about 30 years a beautiful Nativity display has sat next to I-90 in the Spokane, Wash., area, where hundreds of thousands of cars pass by and see the story of Jesus birth told simply with lights. This Christmas tradition began when a concerned member of the ACLU complained about a Nativity placed in a public, city-owned golf course in Spokane.

Each Christmas this golf course set up an abundance of lighted displays for the enjoyment of the community. But the story of Jesus had to go.

So the Nativity was purchased by Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) and placed by the freeway instead. The UCC staff gathered around



This lighted nativity display continues to shine along I-90 during the Christmas season as it has for the past 30 years.

the display and prayed for it to bless all who pass by. Since that time, hundreds of lights have been replaced over and over again, but every year the story of the birth of Jesus shines.

*Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant*

Darin Patzer leads the set up crew each year.



## ALL NATIONS CENTER WELCOMES NEW PASTOR, NEW MEMBERS

All Nations Center (ANC) in Wapato, Wash., was blessed to welcome its new district pastor, Sean Day, in September 2018. Day and his family moved from Florida and have been excited to be back in the Pacific Northwest, where they grew up.

Since arriving, Day and the All Nations Center has been blessed to welcome new members to God's flock. The church celebrated six baptisms and two professions of faith in 2018.

Robert Hall was welcomed to the family of God on Nov. 10, 2018. He was invited to attend church in 2017 by his neighbor. Hall has attended faithfully. He studied with Larry Soule for many months, before Soule passed away in September. Hall has been a blessing to the church, helping in many ways, some without recognition.

The Ramirez family was welcomed to God's flock just



Robert Hall is baptized by Sean Day, All Nations Center pastor, on Nov. 10, 2018.

before Christmas. They had been studying with Blanca Ortiz for many months before attending ANC. The children have attended ANC's Day Camp in the summers. They attend services most weekends and help behind the scenes.

Ortiz also had the pleasure of watching her daughter, Zariel Zamudio, be baptized. ANC members have enjoyed watching Zamudio grow from a little girl in to a young woman. Just like her mother and brothers, she has a heart full of God's love.

*Suellen Lines, All Nations Center communication leader*

## MOSCOW CHURCH SPREADS TRUE REASON FOR THE SEASON

The city of Moscow, Idaho, has a yearly Christmas parade down Main Street to welcome the Christmas season.

The parade has always been entirely populated with secular-themed holiday floats. That changed in 2018, and the Moscow Church was one of two Christ-centered floats.

Many people attending and taking part in the parade came by and thanked the participants for doing a float that showed the Nativity scene.

As the float was driven down Main Street and entered the main square, the introduction to the float was read: "The purpose of our float, 'Living Nativity,' is to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas, with emphasis on honoring family and friends."



a handmade lit sign with the Moscow Church name, which was custom made by Moscow members.

Church members were dressed up in biblical-era costumes as the characters of the Nativity. The children were dressed as little farm animals and walked beside the float. Each child had a basket with candy canes attached to notes with the church's information and the Christian story of the candy cane.

This fabulous demonstration of teamwork was a wonderful representation of how the Moscow Church works together to reach their community. All the participants enjoyed the opportunity to share Jesus with their local community.

*Natashia McVay, Moscow Church associate pastor*

The float was custom built by members of the church, mostly with donated materials. The float was decorated as a living Nativity, complete with wooden stable and manger. It was lit with hundreds of twinkling lights and two large stars. On each side of the float was

## TOWN HALL MEETINGS IN UCC

In advance of the Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) Constituency Session to be held Sept. 15 at Upper Columbia Academy, there will be six Town Hall meetings throughout the conference territory. Town Hall meetings are for every UCC member to come and hear what is happening in our territory. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and pray together.

The locations and dates for the Town Hall meetings are as follows:

- » **MAY 1: WENATCHEE CHURCH**
- » **MAY 2: YAKIMA 35TH AVENUE CHURCH**
- » **MAY 5: LEWISTON CHURCH**
- » **MAY 13: SPOKANE VALLEY CHURCH**
- » **MAY 15: RICHLAND CHURCH**
- » **MAY 16: WALLA WALLA CITY CHURCH**

Please find a location where you can attend and mark it on your calendar. Each meeting begins at 7 p.m. "Each of you are integral to our UCC mission, which is to reach our communities with the Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness," says Minner Labrador Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president. "Please plan to join us and discover the wonderful things that are happening throughout our conference territory. Also, come and learn the goals and plans that have been set for the coming years."

*Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant*

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## JESUS CHANGES LIVES WITH 'SECRETS OF HOPE'

More online at   
[glnr.in/114-02-wa\\_secretsofhope](http://glnr.in/114-02-wa_secretsofhope)

Our local members were excited to invite their community to the Secrets of Hope evangelistic seminar at Port Orchard Church in October 2018.

As the seminar speaker, my goal was to share the major beliefs of Scripture and the Adventist message illustrated with the places and stories of Israel I had experienced on a recent tour.

God brought the series together in a beautiful way, illustrated with the places and stories of Israel I had been able to capture while there. People

blessing of the Sabbath and the attempts of others to cover it up. Afterward, one attendee, Cindiann, shared how she had grown up Seventh-day Adventist. At age 17, both of her parents were killed by a drunk driver in a car accident. Completely shaken, she left God and the church for many years but had recently sensed a desire to return.

"God has really been convicting me to follow His truth. I have known all along, but now I am ready to follow completely," Cindiann explained. Cindiann decided to rededicate her life to Christ through rebaptism. It was beautiful to watch her young children stand next to the baptistry with huge grins as they saw Mommy take a stand for Jesus and His truth.

Katelynn and her husband visited the Port Orchard Church for the first time only a couple months before the seminar. It was Katelynn's first time ever in

When Katelynn called her grandma and told her she was becoming a Seventh-day Adventist, her grandma said, "Wonderful! Seventh-day Adventists are some of the nicest people I have ever met!"

were not only fascinated by examples from Israel, they were transformed by the Bible truths connected to them.

One night focused on the



Cindiann decided to rededicate her life to Christ through rebaptism.



an Adventist church. She quickly got connected with the young adult group and began making friends. When church members asked for volunteers to help with the children's program for the upcoming seminar, Katelynn signed up.

Although Katelynn was busy helping, we invited her to take the Bible School Study Guides home each night after the seminar and check them out. By the end of the seminar, Katelynn had embraced the Bible truths from the lessons and was ready to get baptized.

Tom was the executive director of facilities and operations for the local school district. God had miraculously put local members in contact with Tom when the church was planning an AMEN (Adventist Medical Evangelism Network) Free Health Clinic last August. He and his wife began attending the Port

Orchard Church and came to the Secrets of Hope seminar.

Tom and Barbara's lives were changed. The Port Orchard Church family celebrated with all heaven as Tom and Barbara were baptized and became part of the church family. Now God is using them to host a Bible study group in their home and invite some friends from the church and community.

Jesus is changing lives all around us: "The harvest is plentiful ..." (Luke 10:2). Members praise God for what He has done in Port Orchard. It is thrilling to be a part of His mission. May He continue to use all of us to invite others to experience His Secrets of Hope.

Read more at [glnr.in/114-02-wa\\_secretsofhope](http://glnr.in/114-02-wa_secretsofhope).

*Dustin Serns, Port Orchard Church pastor*

# PASTORS MODEL CRUCIAL CONVERSATION PROCESS

**H**ow do you facilitate a crucial conversation?

You start small with one-on-one conversations, expand to a larger core group and then include a larger audience.

This model was demonstrated during Washington Conference Pastors' Meeting on Jan. 7 as pastoral staff engaged in a conversation about race and unity.

"This is a difficult subject because racism is a spiritual stronghold and the biggest impediment to love," acknowledges Bill Roberts, Washington Conference ministerial director.

Long before the gathering in January, Roberts began engaging in one-on-one conversations with pastors, leaders and church members with various ages, backgrounds and experience. "I heard and saw a lot of pain when talking with people," Roberts says.

In praying about how best to respond, Roberts felt impressed by God to bring together a core group to test the crucial conversation concept at a micro level with a panel of 10 pastors. The core group, for this first round of dialogue, included African-American, Caucasian and Caribbean pastors. Future core groups

will include Korean, Pacific Islander and Hispanic representatives.

"A high level of spiritual maturity is needed because this conversation only works if we are real with each other," Roberts says. "We want to grow and glorify God better."

## COMING TOGETHER

The core group of panelists helped shape the larger conversation with the whole pastoral team. The team day was specifically structured to begin with worship, prayer and a devotional message from

Magnifique Niyonizeye, who shared her experience with racism that began in sixth grade.

"Regardless of my skin color, I still have a voice," she explained about what she had learned. Now a student at Auburn Adventist Academy, she saw a need for cultural chapels and educating her classmates about the beautiful diversity represented on campus.

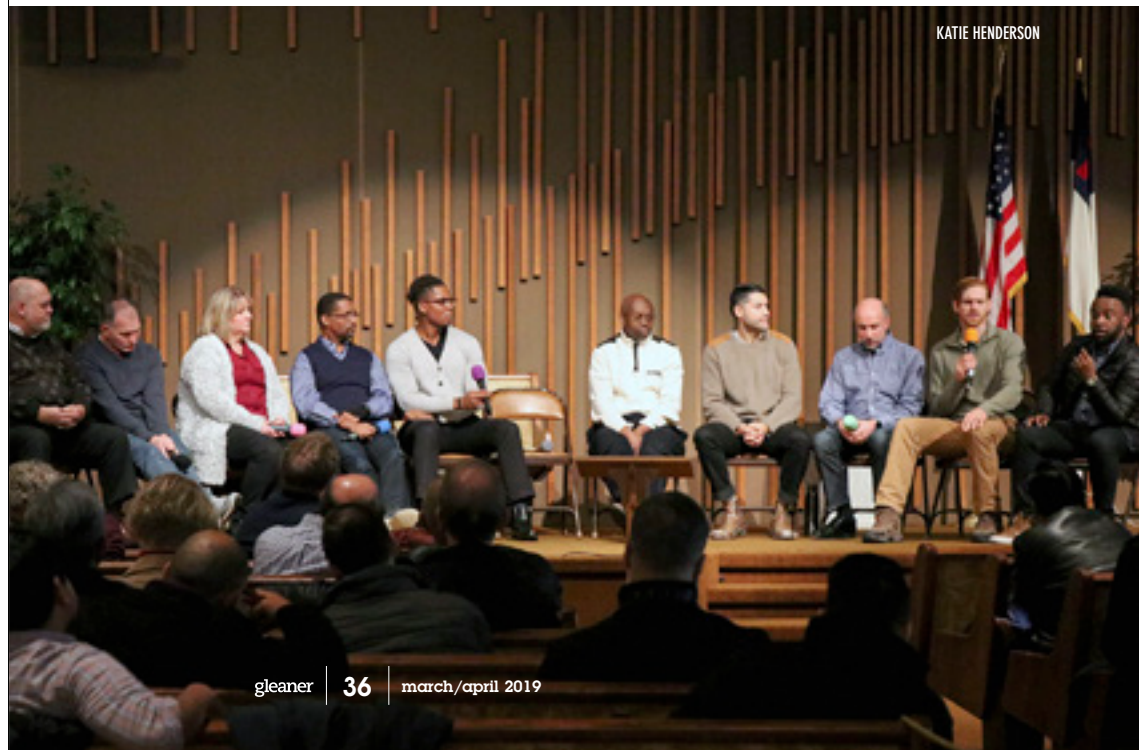
"In our society, we are so used to division that we crave and need a place for unity," Niyonizeye told the group. "Teens know how

to spot fake friends and fake churches. People will know we are Christian when we join together in unity ... just like it says in Psalm 133."

The pastoral panel then shared reflections in a one-hour presentation that turned into a three-hour conversation as additional colleagues spoke up and shared their stories, perspectives and life experiences.

"I thought it was a mistake when I was invited to participate in this panel," admitted Ryan Rogers, who pastors the Poulsbo district. "I thought I didn't have a voice,

During the Washington Conference Pastor's Meeting in January, a panel of 10 pastors share their personal experiences with racism and helps shape the larger conversation with the whole pastoral team.



KATIE HENDERSON





KATIE HENDERSON

In an afternoon session, racial equity trainer Erin Jones led an interactive discussion about crossing separating boundaries.

yet I learned that my privileges don't excuse me from this conversation. Quietness is not a solution."

"Sometimes you need someone else to be a voice for you," shared Wilma Bing, a panelist and an associate pastor for Auburn Adventist Academy Church. "It's important to listen well and be a voice for others."

"This group gave me hope," said Hanz Jouissance, a panelist and an associate pastor at Green Lake Church.

Jouissance once told his mentor Dwight Nelson, "I don't think racism will end before Jesus comes."

In that dialogue Nelson countered, "You may be right, but we could help if the church repents for past mistakes. How can we move forward if the past is still there?" Nelson had been scheduled to speak at these meetings, but an injury prevented him from coming.

During the panel discussion, Ron Sydney, 24-Seven and Eastside Fellowship District pastor, acknowledged, "Today won't solve race relations. It takes time. We need to take action because people are saying, 'Speak for me, listen to me.' This is a systemic issue, and we need to stand together."

## TAKING ACTION

Washington pastors then dialogued about practical steps local churches could take to engage in future conversations.

"Bill gave us a good example," Michael Demma, a panelist who is an associate pastor for Puyallup Church, shared with the group. "Start with a small group. Talk about sensitivities. Hear from other cultures. Read books. Educate yourself. I hope this conversation is the beginning of something significant in our conference."

From the audience, pastors brainstormed about creating space for positive interactions, paying attention to language nuances, studying multicultural communication literature, engaging in a variety of conversations, using children's stories to share unity themes with all ages, getting involved in community causes and identifying blind spots in life.

In an afternoon session, racial equity trainer Erin Jones led an interactive discussion about crossing the boundaries that separate people.

"The greatest danger is that we sit next to each other [for this conversation] but don't take any additional actions," Jones says. "It's fakey fake unity. If we can't talk about race here in the church, where



KATIE HENDERSON

Washington Conference pastors brainstormed about creating space for positive interactions, paying attention to language nuances, studying multicultural communication literature, engaging in a variety of conversations, using children's stories to share unity themes with all ages, getting involved in community causes and identifying blind spots in life.

can we talk about it? We need to establish common language so we can talk with each other. We know about people, but we don't know them until we talk face to face."

Jones went on to suggest starting bridge-building conversations from a point of commonality. She highlighted Gal. 3:26-29 (we are all heirs in Christ) and Eph. 4:1-6 (be patient with one another).

Jones defined race as something you don't get to choose; it's what others see. Ethnicity, she shared, is how you define yourself (or not) based on your nation of origin, language or traditions. In the third definition, Jones shared how we all have culture and this culture can be created. She

called the audience to be "color brave" vs. "color blind" as God made us to be different and beautiful in His eyes.

"This conversation is a real gift," said César de León, a guest attendee from the North Pacific Union Conference. "You don't hear this conversation everywhere. I am a better person because of today."

Earlier in the meeting, Roberts acknowledged and advised, "We live in a world that has a problem that needs to be addressed. Put on empathy. Have an open mind. Ask God to help you love others better."

*Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director*

# YOUNG ADULTS FIND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AT RETREAT

More photos online at [glnr.in/114-02-wa\\_empowerment](http://glnr.in/114-02-wa_empowerment)



KATIE HENDERSON

A group of 10 form a relationship panel at the Young Adult Retreat to answer real questions from the crowd.

**I**t began with a dream from a young adult — a dream to bring this generation’s western Washington young adults together and build a stronger community to take action. And that’s what nearly 140 young adults did at the Young Adult Retreat in January.

Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson was buzzing with excitement as young adults from western Washington, southern Oregon, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and beyond began to arrive for a weekend of community, spiritual rejuvenation and empowerment.

“The church is not a building but a group of people seeking after God,” says guest speaker Anil Kanda, Central California Conference young adult director. “It’s vital and



KATIE HENDERSON

Nearly 140 young adults across western Washington and beyond attended this generation’s first-ever Washington Conference Young Adult Retreat.

crucial to stay connected with God, and church is a great way to connect and use your talents for Him.”

The retreat was filled with icebreakers, encouraging messages, workshops, outdoor activities and small-group studies. Small groups gave young adults the opportunity

to be open about what they were going through and share their point of views on the book of Ruth.

“There was nothing but blessings at the Washington Conference Young Adult Retreat at Sunset Lake. Seeing God’s miracle in action in the lives of so many young

vibrant people is amazing,” wrote Tana Phaletioe, a young adult leader at the retreat, on Facebook.

During the process of planning, the leadership team grew to include young adults from all over the community. Even as the retreat began, young adults were willing to jump in, lead and be an important part of this retreat. The retreat became an atmosphere of support, leadership and empowerment as young adults were encouraged to take action.

A summer young adult retreat is planned for Aug. 16–18.

*Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern*





# EVANGELISM SERIES 'REVEALS' PERSONAL CHURCH MISSION

More photos online at  
[glnr.in/114-02-wa\\_reveals](http://glnr.in/114-02-wa_reveals)



Have you ever come to a crossroad or felt stuck in your life and prayed, “God, what is your plan for me?” Mount Tahoma Church in Tacoma addressed this very question by hosting an evangelism series called “REVEAL — Knowing God’s Plan for Your Life.” Through much prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit, the one-week series with dynamic speaker Michael B. Kelly, pastor of Mount Rubidoux Church in Riverside, Calif., led to many blessings, including 14 baptisms.

During the nightly meetings, Kelly focused on how the devil attempts to derail God’s people from fully believing and accomplishing what he knows God has called us to do. Kelly emphasized that, while the enemy can delay God’s plan for His people, he can’t stop it. Whether young

or old, God still has plans for everyone. We are to follow in faith, believing that the One who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it. God’s people don’t need to look for signs, only simply trust in God’s promises.

### TWO KEY POINTS FROM KELLY’S SERIES:

- » Following God’s purpose for our lives requires complete childlike faith in Him;
- » God can not only turn our trials around to fulfill our purpose, He can also use our reaction to life’s challenges as inspiration to lead others to trust in Him.

Kelly challenged the church to approach ministry to the surrounding community as instructed by God in Isaiah 58:6–8: “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter — when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Then your light will break forth like the dawn and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you.”

These verses illustrate a church that cares for its



M’KAYLA LEWANDOWSKI

“REVEAL — Knowing God’s Plan for Your Life,” the one-week series with dynamic speaker Michael B. Kelly led to many blessings, including 14 baptisms.

community in such a way that its reputation will draw many to the love of Jesus. Mount Tahoma Church members are now committed to ministering in this way.

The success of REVEAL came from more than just social media, print and word-of-mouth marketing. It took commitment from volunteers, collaboration between church departments, and constant, fervent prayer. The REVEAL team purposefully prayed together nightly for two weeks before the event, every night before the meeting and always after each meeting.

Each night, the kitchen staff prepared sack dinners

for every guest. The Sabbath School department led a simultaneous children’s program, while the music department led worship. Deacons greeted guests from the parking lot, and the deaconesses, ushers and youth helped with registration and seating. The goal was to have guests feel at home and connected from the parking lot to the pew.

Truly, much prayer equals much power, and Mount Tahoma Church members praise God for this prayerful, powerful revival.

*Shavonne Samuels, Mount Tahoma Church member*



M’KAYLA LEWANDOWSKI



## THREE GENERATIONS OF CHURCH PLANTS GROW

This is a God-sized story about three generations of church plants: one established, one growing and one just getting started.

Kent Spanish Church was one of six new churches planted between 2012 and 2016. In four years, it grew from 37 members to 150 members using a small group and door-to-door neighborhood church growth model.

When this congregation grew from “company” to full church status in October 2016, the leaders committed to planting a new Spanish-speaking church in Auburn. And they did.

“We were a little surprised at how many Hispanics we met in Auburn as we knocked on doors,” remembers Francisco Brito, Kent Spanish Church pastor.

Brito arranged for four Adventist families and their new community friends to



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Time with church family — whether in worship, prayer meetings, small groups or community outreach — allows Auburn Spanish Company members to experience the joy of Jesus.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

What started as a church plant with four families is growing into bigger ministry dreams.

meet in the gymnasium at Buena Vista Seventh-day Adventist School in Auburn for about six months. The group kept growing, and soon they rented a hotel meeting room for church services and then another location in Auburn.

The group kept praying and looking for a church home. “It was our desert experience,” Brito recounts, until the church finally found an ideal, flexible and large enough location near downtown Auburn.

“We went right to work with permission to grow,” Brito says. “Each Sabbath, we have an average attendance of 100. We have 18–20 children, 30 young adults and 50–60 adults who regularly worship with us.”

The congregation has active ministries for men, women and children. Many members have their children in an Adventist school for the first time. Small groups are quite active,

and neighborhood outreach strongly continues. The church family celebrated 20 baptisms in 2018.

“We are happy with what God is doing,” Brito says. “This is a healthy church where people feel comfortable inviting their friends. They feel loved here.”

Washington Conference recognized Auburn Spanish Company on Dec. 1, 2018.

“This is a season to keep growing, serving God and sharing in the community,” Doug Bing, Washington Conference president, told the congregation. “Be joy-givers to everyone you encounter in the community.”

Auburn Spanish Company could be satisfied with their current level of church growth, but they aren’t. Beyond 20 friends who are active in small groups and Bible studies, the church’s monthly involvement in a community homeless

feeding program, and dynamic prayer meetings on Tuesday nights, Auburn Spanish leaders have bigger dreams.

Across the atrium from the sanctuary at their rental church is a perfectly sized chapel. The dream: to start an English-speaking young-adult church plant.

“We saw how our young adults were not connecting as well with the services in Span-



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Young adult leaders from Auburn Spanish Company pray together for the next church plant.

ish, and we wanted to offer them a way to be involved in ministry,” Brito explains.

On the same day as the company formation for Auburn Spanish, the young adult leaders invited Washington Conference leaders to join them for a prayer of dedication and hope.

Pioneering young adult leaders met in January to pick a name, define their ministry and pray together about partnering with God.

*Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director*



## LIVING GOD'S LOVE THROUGH PUBLIC SERVICE

**A**dventist Health employees embrace their mission — living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope — by striving to serve and improve the communities in which they live through their work as well as during their personal time.

Chris Kruebbe, a licensed clinical social worker and certified alcohol and drug counselor who works at Adventist Health clinics in Manzanita and Tillamook on the north Oregon coast, is one of those employees who takes seriously his commitment to his community. Kruebbe recently stepped up his commitment to community service to run for mayor of Bay City, Ore., the small town in which he lives.

Kruebbe will continue working for Adventist Health Tillamook, as his new role as mayor is a part-time volunteer position. Serving as mayor is just the latest in a long list of his volunteer activities. Kruebbe is a Bay City Fire Department volunteer firefighter and Nehalem Bay Fire and Rescue District Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member.

This passion for public service and public safety is partly an outgrowth of Kruebbe's own trauma. A New Orleans native, Kruebbe was there when Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005. He became part of the diaspora of about 250,000 people who had to leave New Orleans after Katrina destroyed much of the city.

Kruebbe arrived in Oregon in 2007 and began the work of building a new life and career. He uses his



Chris Kruebbe

own trauma to shape his work and to help other survivors of trauma. He brings empathy to his patients and builds bridges based on understanding.

In addition to helping people individually through his work at Adventist Health, Kruebbe has devoted himself to contributing to the safety and preparedness of his community. In his new role as mayor he continues to support

the Bay City Fire Department. He would also like to see a local CERT team assembled in Bay City and reinstate a neighborhood watch program.

"I believe in community service," Kruebbe says. "I believe very strongly in becoming involved, to be involved for the people. As Bay City mayor I look forward to helping our community be safe, prepared and a great place to live."

Through his work and his volunteer efforts, Kruebbe is truly living God's love and reshaping the health, wholeness and hope of his entire community. This is one more way the associates of Adventist Health demonstrates how love matters in their own backyard.

*Adventist Health Tillamook*



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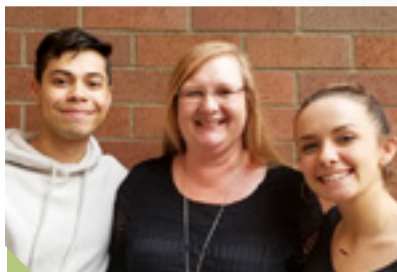
## WWU CLASS OFFICERS



### SENIOR CLASS, COLLEGE PLACE, WASH., CAMPUS:

(From left) Daniel Wilkinson, spiritual vice president; Natalie Schmidt, executive vice president; Matthew Shankel, social vice president; Andrew Yamada, president; Ryan Isaacs, treasurer; Josephine Stubbs, secretary; Jordan Tamaleaa, historian; and Dane Ocampo, marketing vice president.

(Not pictured) Mason Parks, parliamentarian; and class sponsors, Joel Libby, art department chair, and Brian Roth, dean of the School of Engineering.



### SENIOR CLASS, PORTLAND, ORE., CAMPUS:

(From left) Samuel Gonzalez, co-president; Deanna Ludwig-Bos, sponsor; and Taylor Stanic, co-president.



### JUNIOR CLASS:

(From left) Elliott Claus, spiritual vice president; Nicolas Belliard, social vice president; Nicholas Iwakoshi, historian; Nicholas Ault, parliamentarian; Katie Wagner, president; Mufaro Pazvakawambwa, treasurer; Abbie Underhill, executive vice president; and Grant Hartman, secretary.

(Not pictured) class sponsors, Susan Gardner, professor of English; and Brian Hartman, assistant professor of education.



## NEW WWU PEER-REVIEWED E-JOURNAL TO CULTIVATE INCLUSIVITY IN EDUCATION

The Walla Walla University Center for Educational Equity and Diversity (CEED) is launching a peer-reviewed e-journal to cultivate inclusivity by encouraging research and discussion within education. The CEED was formed in 2017 by faculty in the School of Education and Psychology to strengthen practices related to diversity and fairness in education.

“One of the ways we thought this could be accomplished is by starting a journal that would be an organ for serious scholarship on the subject,” says Austin Archer, professor of psychology and education, who will also edit the e-journal.

The e-journal will be titled *Diversus: Equity and Diversity in Education*. Before being published, submissions will be peer-reviewed by experts in psychology,

education, special education, health and physical education. The editorial team will include Maria Bastien, assistant professor of education; Neria Sebastien, assistant professor of special education; and Brian Hartman, assistant professor of education, who will also assist with technical support.

The CEED team is currently seeking research articles, book reviews and commentary by educators, parents and others interested in educational equality and diversity. Potential topics include special education and inclusion, gender and ethnic representation, discrimination by race, ethnicity, educational processes, and more.

For *Diversus* submission guidelines and other questions, contact Archer at [austin.archer@wallawalla.edu](mailto:austin.archer@wallawalla.edu).

*T. Brooke Sample, WWU university relations student writer*



## DODDS PRESENTS PLENARY LECTURE AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Greg Dodds, professor of history and chair of the Walla Walla University Department of History and Philosophy, gave the Roland Bainton Plenary Lecture at the 2018 annual meeting of the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference, which met in Albuquerque, N.M., in November. The conference, which just celebrated its 50th year, is a major international conference focusing on the early modern era — circa 1450 to 1660 — and covers a broad

Greg Dodds, Walla Walla University history department professor and chair.



area of interdisciplinary studies.

“It was a significant honor, but also rather intimidating, to be asked to give the plenary address at a conference attended by hundreds of scholars from all over the world. Fortunately, it was well-received, and I was pleased to be able to represent Walla Walla University,” says Dodds.

In his lecture, “The Last Erasmians: Contesting the Public Memory of the Reformation in Restoration England,” Dodds explored how, 150 years after the Protestant Reformation, English Protestants were engaged in a heated debate about the nature of that Reformation. He explored how England was struggling with questions: Was the English Church the offspring of Erasmus or of Luther and Calvin? Should Protestants tolerate Catholics in England? How much unity was necessary in a church? Should England tolerate Quakers, Baptists and other dissenters? Dodds explains these were the questions that dominated public debate in an era characterized by the first newspapers, the first coffee houses and the first two political parties: the Whigs and the Tories.

“The central factor was the struggle to shape the public

memory of the Reformation in order to control the future of the English nation,” says Dodds. As he said near the end of his lecture, “The world they created is, it would seem, our world: party politics, propaganda, ideological news and the battles for public memory.” By examining the works of English political writers Henry Care and Roger L’Estrange — the authors of the first two rival political newspapers — Dodds’ lecture explored how a society’s memory of the past, whether accurate or false, shapes how that society interprets and responds to current issues.

Dodds’ other areas of research include the life and reception of Desiderius Erasmus, the history of Christianity, religious toleration in Restoration England, post-Reformation England and the scientific revolution.

Learn more about the faculty in the WWU Department of History and Philosophy and their areas of interest and research at [wallawalla.edu/history](http://wallawalla.edu/history).

*Charles Riseley, WWU university relations student writer*



Odette and Len Maniscalco

### Maniscalco 65th

Len and Odette Maniscalco married Aug. 23, 1953, at Central Church in San Francisco, Calif. Len graduated from the College of Medical Evangelists the year they were changing to Loma Linda University (1959). He graduated as a physical therapist.

The Maniscalcos moved to Castro Valley, Calif., and had their children there. The whole family moved to Idaho in 1979. The Lord has blessed the Maniscalcos with a long and happy marriage, a loving family and the best of church families.

Their family includes Susan and Patrick Sorentino of Sandpoint, Idaho; Guy and Debby Maniscalco of Dalton Gardens, Idaho; Beckie Keeny of Sandpoint; Gary Maniscalco (deceased); Lenette and Dwight Tucker of Priest River, Idaho; 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

### Roberts 90th

The Pendleton (Ore.) Adventist Church members, friends and family celebrated M. Jean Roberts' 90th birthday in July at the fellowship dinner,

hosted by her family.

Jean was born July 1928 in Erie, Pa., the only daughter of Audie and Margaret Vigrass Engel.

She attended Kearsage Grade School. Her college degree was earned at what is now Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md.

Jean met Ernest L. Roberts of Keene, Texas, while he was stationed at Fort Meade, Md., prior to serving in Korea during the 1950s. They were married on Dec. 27, 1953.

Ernie succumbed to cancer in 2007. They had been married for 53 years.

Ernie worked for Harris Pine Mills for 35 years while Jean taught 30 years in elementary schools.

Jean's family includes her children — David, Keith, John and Sandra — and 4 grandchildren.



Jean Roberts

### Sichley 100th

Russ Sichley was blessed to have two 100th birthday parties. He celebrated on his actual birthday, Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018, with his family. Then his Village family held a big celebration on Monday, Oct. 29, at the Village Retirement

Center in Gresham, Ore. The recreation room was filled as his fellow residents came to wish him well.

Russ was born in Colome, S.D., to Russell and Lu Lu Sichley, Oct. 28, 1918. He was the seventh child of 12: six girls and six boys.

He grew up in Beatrice, Neb., attending school and working various jobs. In the sixth grade he was the marble champion and had the notice in the local paper. He won a small prize and a lapel pin.

Russ loved golf and was a caddy starting about age 10. The pay was good: 25 cents an hour for nine holes. There was a very nice banker who would give him 50 cents for nine holes. When the banker won, Russ got a \$5 bill — a lot of money in those days. Russ used his money to purchase school clothes.

Another job was at the roller skate rink, where he earned 10 cents per night putting skates on the kids.

Every summer Russ would travel with his father and uncle setting up their Ferris wheel, merry-go-round and glider. They went up to Minnesota, then south to Texas. They worked very hard catching as many carnivals, fairs and picnics as they could.

He also worked for the Works Progress Administration and the National Youth Administration. They worked in the parks mowing grass and splitting wood. He got a good paying job at Steel Tansk earning 35 cents per hour. He told his family, "I don't know what to do with all this money."

In 1943 Russ joined the Navy and was on the destroyer *USS Lange*. He proudly served until January 1946.

In March 1946 Russ married Mary Langley in Marysville, Kan. Their first daughter, Linda, was born in 1947. They decided to move out west to the Portland, Ore., area. They eventually built their home and raised four more children: Sandy, Scott, Patsy and Cindy.

Cindy passed away in 1961. Soon after her passing, the family became Seventh-day



Russ Sichley

Adventists. At this time Russ worked for the city of Portland on maintenance and road repair. He worked there about 18 years. He later retired from United Medical Laboratory.

His doctor told Russ to stay busy in retirement, and Russ did just that. He and Mary started working at Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS) in the early 1960s and eventually contributed more than 24,000 hours. They also volunteered more than 8,000 hours at Portland Adventist Hospital. Russ loved driving the trucks and did thousands of pickups of food, clothing and household items.

Russ' family offers a couple of words to describe him: "totally unselfish" and "always giving" to others. Russ has lived at the Village for 36 years and considers everyone there



his “family.” Knowing Russ is a joy and delight.

**States 90th**

Newton H. States, known to his friends as “Newt,” is 90 years young. Through the years he has been a driving force in both health care innovation and the local church.

Newt was born on Feb. 5, 1928. When he was young, his father passed away and he survived illness. But he thrived and became independent at a young age working in various occupations.

In 1946, when he was 18, he met and married the lovely Esther Pack. During the next several years they had four sons.

He enrolled in college in 1959, without having completed high school, and graduated in 1961 as a registered nurse.

He worked in Boise, then Challis, Idaho. In 1963 he took employment at the Caldwell Memorial Hospital as an instructor and created several departments. He also launched Idaho’s first hospital-based home care service and was appointed director of nursing services. He was appointed



Newton States

as an associate administrator in 1965 and was instrumental in the establishment of the Idaho Commission on Nursing Education.

On his 40th birthday he applied for the position of administrator of the Walter Knox Memorial Hospital in Emmett, Idaho. He got the job and served there for 25 years until his retirement in 1993.

Community service has been a big part of Newt’s life. A number of local groups have benefited from his administrative abilities including the Community Service Optimist Club, Hospital Association Board of Directors, Kiwanis Club, the Southwest Idaho Conference of Hospital Administrators and the Southwest District Health Department.

Newt and his sons helped build the new Emmett Church, which was completed in 1972. He has served as an elder for many years and even now is an honorary elder. He and Esther have a strong commitment to spreading the gospel. For 15 years Newt has written a devotional column for the local newspaper, providing more than 600 articles.

Newt’s family includes Tim and Nancy of Payette, Idaho; George and Mary of Emmett, Idaho; Newton Jr. and Karen of Sandpoint, Idaho; Thomas of McCall, Idaho; 10 grandchildren and, at last count, 27 great-grandchildren.

**Thompson 90th**

Elsie Jane Gross was born Sept. 30, 1928, at Monterey Park, Calif. She grew up in San Gabriel, Calif.

Elsie graduated from La Sierra Academy in California in the spring of 1945. While at La Sierra Academy a teacher introduced Elsie to Jesus; she met and fell in love with Him passionately.

After her high school graduation, Elsie attended

Walla Walla College at College Place, Wash., where she was known as “Ellie.” She met Robert Tennyson Thompson in October 1946; they wed on Christmas Day of that year.

Robert and Elsie farmed during their first year of marriage. Then they moved to Loma Linda, Calif., where Robert milked cows for five years. Their first two daughters, Tenny and Sandee were born while living at Loma Linda. Four more daughters and one son were born when they returned to Vale, Ore. These seven children include: Tenny Garner, of Troutdale, Ore., a teacher at Orange Wood Academy for 10 years; Sandee Fuller of Carlsbad, Calif., registered nurse; Roberta Blankenship of Troutdale, a nurse for 40 years; Christine Ludwig of Battle Ground, Wash., retired professor from Washington State University in Vancouver, Wash.; Rudolph K. Thompson of Princeton, Ore., with 30 horses and large acreage; Cora Lee Thompson of Oracle, Ariz., a doctor; and Rose Thompson of St. George, Utah, a beautician.

Tenny, Roberta and Christine are graduates of Walla Walla College, which is now Walla Walla University.

The Thompson family left Loma Linda to farm in Vale, Ore., in 1952. They also lived in Payette, Idaho, where Robert had a bakery delivery service for six years. He became a literature evangelist in 1965. While living in Payette, Halloween was acknowledged by their family as a “treat instead of a trick” — they gave out literature while asking for an offering for Jesus.

After being wed 25 years, both Robert and Elsie returned to their education by attending Boise State University. Robert received a degree in horticulture, while Elsie received a degree in nursing.

Robert and Elsie farmed on yet another farm in Plymouth, Idaho. Robert milked 45 cows morning and evenings while Elsie milked 40 goats. They fed their calves with goat’s milk. They retired from farming to Kimberly, Idaho.

Robert, Elsie’s loving husband, passed away in 2008. In 2009, Elsie moved to the Village Retirement Center in Gresham, Ore., where she has resided happily for 10 years.

All seven of Elsie’s children gathered for her 90th birthday. The family filled two pews for church on Sept. 29, 2018. The family invited everyone for ice cream and cake right after Sabbath lunch.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

**RASCO-BONIFANT**

Mallory Rasco and Joshua Bonifant were married Aug. 18, 2018, in Sequim, Wash. They are making their home in Lacey, Wash. Mallory is the daughter of Jeff and Miriam (Risby) Rasco. Joshua is the son of Mike and Lori (Yarborough) Bonifant.

FAMILY AT REST

**BAILEY** — Jean B., 93; born May 25, 1925; died Oct. 20, 2018, Port Angeles, Wash. Surviving: son, Larry, Bonney Lake, Wash.

**BEHNEY** — Eldon Luther, 94; born Dec. 6, 1923, in California; died Dec. 12, 2017, Hood River, Ore.

**BELLERUD** — Marilyn Kathryn (Guishard) Johnson, 86; born March 3, 1932, Sauk Centre, Minn.; died Dec. 1, 2018, Apache Junction, Ariz. Surviving: husband, Bernt; sons, Eldon Johnson, Bemidji, Minn.; Jerry Johnson, Cosmos, Minn.; Lee Johnson, Great Falls, Mont.; daughters, Carolyn (Johnson) Darcy, Walla Walla, Wash.; Kim (Johnson) Evans, Minneapolis, Minn.; Lisa Johnson, Brooklyn Park, Minn.; 12 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

**DANIELS** — Beverly Christine (Smith), 75; born May 21, 1943, Takoma Park, Md.; died Nov. 10, 2018, College Place, Wash.

**DAVIDSON** — Danette (Davidson) Fernan, 69; born March 3, 1949, Healdsburg, Calif.; died Sept. 16, 2018, East Wenatchee, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Jana (Fernan) Wiley, Great Falls, Mont.; Stephanie (Fernan) Peterson, Everett, Wash.; brothers, Dan Davidson and Frank Davidson and 3 grandchildren.

**DEAL** — Evonne (Froman), 93; born July 5, 1925, Messena, Iowa; died Aug. 21, 2018, Portland, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Elizabeth Deal Vandross, Gresham, Ore.; and 2 grandchildren.

**DRURY** — Edna Charlotte (Borton), 95; born Dec. 10, 1922, Baker Valley, Ore.; died Nov. 12, 2018, College Place, Wash. Surviving: sons, Don, College Place; Dan, Buriram, Thailand; 4 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**FORSTER** — Klaus, 79; born February 1939, Glogau, Germany; died Oct. 4, 2018. Surviving: wife, Madelaine; daughters, Erika Miller, College Place, Wash.; Ingrid Chapman, Winston,

Ore.; and 3 grandchildren.

**GRANT** — Benjamin E., 93; born Nov. 8, 1924, Los Angeles, Calif.; died June 5, 2018, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: son, Brad, Atwater, Calif.; daughters, Kathi Wilson, Dallas, Ore.; Suzanne Dassenko, Eugene, Ore.; 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**HARDING** — Donna Louise (Newman), 75; born March 23, 1941, Salmon Arm, British Columbia, Canada; died Jan. 22, 2017, Seattle, Wash. Surviving: son, Greg, Yakima, Wash.; daughters, Mardi Bock, Blaine, Wash.; Karla Lamberton, Naches, Wash.; sisters, Audrey Rice, Loma Linda, Calif.; Arlene Wright, Hermiston, Ore.; Verla Matacio, of California; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**HUKILL** — Janice (Brown), 80; born April 26, 1938, Prescott, Ariz.; died Nov. 12, 2018, Eagle Point, Ore. Surviving: sons, Jim Dean, Kayenta, Ariz.; Dave Dean and Bernie Jukill, both of Eagle Point; daughters, Jamie Steel, Payson, Ariz.; Cindy Dean, Jacksonville, Fla.; Tracy Juber, Parachute, Colo.; 12 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**JURGENSEN-WATSON** — Mary Lee (Nally) Watson, 86; born Aug. 16, 1932, Fayetteville, Ark.; died Nov. 19, 2018, Forest Grove, Ore. Surviving: husband, David Jurgensen; son, Brian Watson, Klamath Falls, Ore.; stepsons, Timothy Jurgensen, Banks, Ore.; Russell Jurgensen, Issaquah, Wash.; daughters, Corinne Nieman, Forest Grove; Roma Gryte, Klamath Falls; stepdaughter, Marcie Aldred, Yacolt, Wash.; sister, Della Grace Nally, Mt. Shasta, Calif.; 5 grandchildren, 11 step-grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 16 step-great-grandchildren.

**KREUDER** — Kent Anderson, 70; born Sept. 3, 1948, Turlock, Calif.; died Oct. 26, 2018, Meridian, Idaho. Surviving: daughters, Nichole McLendon, Cheney, Wash.; Angela Lowman, Eagle, Idaho; sisters, Edith Deming, Loma Linda, Calif.; Kathleen Kreuder, Modesto, Calif.; Janet Way, Bismarck, N.D.; and 4 grandchildren.

**LAABS** — Kevin Eugene, 52; born June 18, 1966, Walla Walla, Wash.; died Sept. 3, 2018, Potlatch, Idaho. Surviving: parents, Gary and Alice (Ziegele) Laabs, College Place, Wash.; and sister, Bev Laabs, Aumsville, Ore.

**LAMBERTON** — Gregory Lyn, 59; born July 11, 1959, Corvallis, Ore.; died Sept. 16, 2018, Naches, Wash. Surviving: wife, Karla (Harding); sons, Danny, Selah, Wash.; Jeffrey, Loma Linda, Calif.; parents, Lyn and Janet (Flahaut) Lamberton, Selah; brother, Dale, Brush Prairie, Wash.; sister, Karen Lamberton, Pasco, Wash.; and 4 grandchildren.

**LARSON** — Beverly Annetta (Bunnell), 94; born July 18, 1924, College Place, Wash.; died Oct. 18, 2018, Portland, Ore. Surviving: foster daughter, Sherry Tenhet.

**LARSON** — Sylvia Marilyn (Ford), 91; born July 10, 1927, Cavabamba, Ecuador; died Sept. 28, 2018, Lewiston, Idaho. Surviving: son, Ronley, McMinnville, Ore.; daughters, Verna Ames, Battle Ground, Wash.; Nancy Saunders, Birchwood, Tenn.; Marilyn “Medgy” Larson-Dettwiler, Lewiston; stepbrother, Bill Ford, Kingsville, Mo.; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

**MACLAUGHLIN** — Beverly Anne (Forrester), 77; born March 20, 1940, Douglas, Mich.; died July 3, 2018, Surprise, Ariz. Surviving:

husband, Sam; sons, Sammy and Chris, both of Phoenix, Ariz.; 2 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**MARTIN** — Nita Rae (Calvert) Killen, 84; born March 27, 1934, Tulsa, Okla.; died Oct. 22, 2018, Portland, Ore. Surviving: husband, Ralph Martin; sons, Rod Killen and Randy Killen; daughter, Debra Stanley; 9 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**MCLEMORE** — Barbara Kay (Patterson), 80; born Sept. 11, 1938, Yakima, Wash.; died Oct. 5, 2018, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: sons, Tom and Robert, both of Prosser, Wash.; daughter, Julie McLemore Schlaman, Yakima; 8 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

**NELSON** — Elmer Thomas, 84; born Nov. 5, 1934, Allahabad, India; died Nov. 27, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Beverly (Trussell) Thompson Nelson; sons, Thom Nelson, Bishop, Calif.; Keith Nelson, Tampa, Fla.; stepson, Karl Thompson, Walla Walla; daughter, Susan Priddy, College Place, Wash.; stepdaughters, Lorrelie Montgomery, Walla Walla; Shorna Haubry, Touchet, Wash.; sister, Florence Stuyvesant, Berrien Springs, Mich.; 6 grandchildren, 7 step-grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**NISCHUK** — Alex, 88; born April 24, 1930, Tomakhiv, Ukraine; died Sept. 30, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Sharon Witcombe, Helena, Mont.; Laurie Ramos, Addy, Wash.; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**NORBERG** — Jean Ann (Canton), 92; born Sept. 19, 1926, Hibbing, Minn.; died Dec. 4, 2018, Ridgefield, Wash. Surviving: son, Jon, Brush Prairie, Wash.; daughters, Sandra Kadow, Ridgefield; Patti Norberg, New York, N.Y.; Lori Funk, Ridgefield; Linda Watson, Bat-



tle Ground, Wash.; 9 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**ORTNER** — Clifford Abraham, 93; born Sept. 19, 1925, Clinton, Mo.; died Nov. 15, 2018, Portland, Ore. Surviving: son, Kenneth, Hidalgo, Texas; daughters, Cheryl Ortner, Portland; Debbie Bruer, Tulsa, Okla.; 7 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

**PAULSON** — Arden Vernelle, 87; born Feb. 18, 1931, Portland, Ore.; died May 17, 2018, Bandon, Ore. Surviving: son, Jerry, Yamhill, Ore.; and daughter, Nancy Paulson, Myrtle Point, Ore.

**PIERCE** — Barbara Jean (Rogers), 83; born Sept. 26, 1935, Milton-Freewater, Ore.; died Oct. 26, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviv-

ing: husband, Larry, Touchet, Wash.; sons, Roger, Seattle, Wash.; Vincent, Touchet; daughter, Helen Scotson, Kennewick, Wash.; brother, Francis “Frank” Rogers, Richland, Wash.; sister, Janet McCubbins, Touchet; and 2 grandchildren.

**RICE** — Verla Wyoma (Colaw), 95; born Dec. 19, 1922, Casper, Wyo.; died Nov. 9, 2018, Hillsboro, Ore. Surviving: sons, Howard A., Cornelius, Ore.; Robert W., Biddeford, Maine; daughter, Shirley A. Smith, Cornelius, Ore.; 15 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

**ROWLAND** — May Adell (Mae Adell Stroud), 100; born March 1, 1918, Saint Paul, Minn.; died Nov. 22, 2018, Sedro-Wool-

ley, Wash. Surviving: husband, Ken; son, Gael Rowland, Sedro-Woolley; 4 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**RUNYAN** — Denton James, 74; born Sept. 23, 1943, Cottage Grove, Ore.; died May 29, 2018, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Donna (Barrett); son, Tracy James Runyan, Happy Valley, Ore.; sister, Sally Burkett, Roseburg, Ore.; and a grandchild.

**SCHEIDEMAN** — Helen G. (Hussey), 92; born Feb. 16, 1926, Elmira, N.Y.; died Dec. 5, 2018, Portland, Ore. Surviving: sons, Rob, Sacramento, Calif.; Randall, Roseville, Calif.; Richard and Roger, both of Sacramento; daughter, Ann (Christianson) Axt, Vancouver, Wash.; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**SIEVERS** — Beryl (Fisher), 96; born June 22, 1922, Antelope, N.D.; died Dec. 22, 2018, Richardton, N.D. Surviving: husband, Ivan, Taylor, N.D.; son, Dennis, Taylor; daughter, Luanne GoldSmith, Lincoln, Neb.; brother, Sheldon Fisher, Richardton; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**SUNKEN** — Bertha Rae (Dickinson), 92; born May 18, 1926, Port Angeles, Wash.; died Dec. 11, 2018, Bend, Ore. Surviving: sons, Kenneth, Gresham, Ore.; Randall, Salem, Ore.; daughter, Diana Shamberger, Eagle, Idaho; 5 grandchildren, a step-grandchild, 3 great-grandchildren and 4 step-great-grandchildren.

**TORKELSEN** — Ardis (Carle), 93; born Oct. 17, 1925, Austin, Minn.; died Oct. 26, 2018, Portland, Ore. Surviving: sons, Max C. Torkelsen II, La Center, Wash.; Monte Torkelsen, Kettering, Ohio; daughter, Myrna Smith, Moscow, Idaho; 7 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**VAN STANE** — Randy E., 82; born Dec. 28, 1935, Los Angeles, Calif.; died July 19, 2018, Corvallis, Ore. Surviving: wife, Doreen (Wilkinson), Lebanon, Ore.; son, Richard, La Center, Wash.; daughter, Heather Smalley, Rosburg, Wash.; adopted daughters, Patty Jo Schulte and Anji Silverman, both of Lebanon; 9 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**WESTERGARD** — Wayland “Wes” Gordon, 89; born Aug. 30, 1928, Morgan Hill, Calif.; died July 19, 2018, Talent, Ore. Surviving: sons, Paul Brewer, Laguna Niguel, Calif.; Gordon Westergard, Rogue River, Ore.; Raymond Brewer, Fredericktown, Ohio; daughters, Linda Whitaker, Medford, Ore.; Jenny Rasmussen, Talent; Beth Wyman Kendall, Payson, Ariz.; 9 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

**WINSTON** — Kelly, 96; born May 20, 1922, Hood River, Ore.; died Oct. 2, 2018, The Dalles, Ore. Surviving: son, Tim, Hood River; daughters, Debbie Berkey, Enterprise, Ore.; Mary Jacobs, The Dalles; 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

**Go to [GleanerNow.com/](http://GleanerNow.com/) contribute to submit family announcements.**

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.

1922-2018

ANDREW E. KABANUK

Early on Nov. 7, 2018, Andrew “Andy” Kabanuk, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather passed away in his home in College Place, Wash. He was 96 years old.

Andy was born Aug. 26, 1922, in Dunn County, N.D. He attended the local one-room school through eighth grade, then Sheyenne River Academy, graduating in 1941. In 1949 he met and married Dorothy Aichele, his wife of 69 years.

Andy received a degree in biology and became a naturopathic medicine practitioner. He joined United Medical Laboratories in Portland, Ore., where he was an administrator in several areas including cytotechnology. In 1974, the Kabanuk family moved to Walla Walla, Wash., where Andy was employed with the Davis Sameh Meeker Laboratories until retirement.

He was active in the Adventist church, even watching the weekly service on television



when unable to attend. Andy spend many hours reading and learning. With a particular fondness for poetry, he often surprised his family with poems he had committed to memory. He also enjoyed traveling, camping and gardening.

Andy is remembered by his wife, Dorothy Kabanuk; his children, Valerie Chapin, Gregory and Sharon Kabanuk, Cynthia and Melvin Sorensen; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren; extended family and many dear friends. Andy was preceded in death by his parents, four sisters and three brothers.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

### Offering

- March 2** — Local Church Budget;
- March 9** — World Budget: Adventist World Radio;
- March 16** — Local Church Budget;
- March 23** — Local Conference Advance;
- March 30** — NAD Evangelism;
- April 6** — Local Church Budget;
- April 13** — World Budget: NAD Christian Record;
- April 20** — Local Church Budget;
- April 27** — Local Conference Advance.

## OREGON CONFERENCE

### 'Investing in Heaven' Seminar

**March 9** — You are invited to Albany to hear Chuck Burkeen present the "Investing in Heaven" all-day seminar. Lunch will be provided. Albany Church, 3085 Grand Prairie Rd. SE, Albany OR, 97322.

### Columbia Academy Alumni Homecoming

**April 5-7** — CAA alumni and friends: We are looking forward to seeing you on campus for our alumni homecoming. Honor classes are 2009, 1999, 1994, 1989, 1979, 1969, 1959, 1949, 1939 and Trail Blazers (all those pre-1959). Programs are presented by various classes: vespers (2009), Friday 7 p.m. in the CAA Forum; Sabbath School (1999) and church (1994) on Sabbath; and a Sabbath afternoon program (1969) in the church sanctuary. Saturday night will be a basketball game in the new gymnasium. For further information, contact Tami Congleton, office manager, at [tami.congleton@caaschool.org](mailto:tami.congleton@caaschool.org) or 360-687-3161; or Larry Hiday, alumni and development director, at [larry.hiday@caaschool.org](mailto:larry.hiday@caaschool.org), 360-687-3161 or text 360-931-2828.

### PAA Alumni Weekend

**May 3-5** — Portland Adventist Academy is so excited to invite their alumni and friends back to campus at 1500 SE 96th Ave., Portland, Ore., for a full weekend of activities designed to reconnect friends, teachers and community. Enjoy free Sabbath lunch, special speakers, a Gospel Choir concert and a golf tournament. For more information, call 503-255-8372 or go to [paasda.org/alumni/](http://paasda.org/alumni/).

### Oregon Men's Summit 2019

**May 31-June 2** — Oregon Men's Summit featuring Dick Duerksen as speaker, at the Grove Christian Camp, just south of Eugene, Ore. Activities and events in the works to include: excavating into the Bible, a basketball tournament, learning no-spin knife-throwing, survival skills (both spiritually and worldly), birding, photography, mountain biking, gold mines, hiking, kayaking/canoeing, campfire gatherings, church safety and more. There are great cabins and tasty meals. All you need is a sleeping bag and appropriate gear for the activities you want to join. Register in March at an early bird discount rate. Join us for a weekend of getting back to nature (where men can be men),

spiritual food and great comradery. Have any questions? Contact Jerry Bowers at 541-281-3388 or [jbowers@bowersfencing.com](mailto:jbowers@bowersfencing.com). More information available at [glnr.in/2019ORMenssummit](http://glnr.in/2019ORMenssummit).

### Missing Members

The Ashland Church is looking for the following missing members: Kyle B. Cochran, Sharon Davis, Terry Fuller, Louis O. Haartz, David King, Tony Looman, Travis McMullen, June M. Mitchell, Mark K. Peterson, Laura A. Reed, Marlene A. Scudder, Bernice E. Shadwick, William L. Shadwick, Donald L. Smith, Wendy Smith, Matthew Taylor, Constance Townsend, Chad Weedall, Donna Weedall, Matthew Weedall and Melinda Weedall. If you have any information about these missing members, please email [jacqcornwell@gmail.com](mailto:jacqcornwell@gmail.com). Or you can send mail to Ashland Adventist Church, 1650 Clark Ave., Ashland, OR 97520.

## UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

### The Living Last Supper

**April 19-20** — The 35th Avenue Church invites you to *The Living Last Supper*. This live portrayal includes individual testimony and the consequences of walking with Jesus for three years and knowing Him intimately. Now that He has proclaimed that one of His disciples will betray Him tonight they are stunned. This is a must-see performance, beginning at 7 p.m. Location: 507 N. 35th Ave., Yakima, Wash.

### Hermiston Junior Academy Homecoming

**May 4** — Hermiston Junior Academy is celebrating its belated 75th birthday with a homecoming and Christian education Sabbath. All friends of HJA, former faculty, board members and students are welcomed for a full day of inspiration, fellowship, food and reminiscing. Come see how God continues to bless Adventist Christian education in the great Hermiston, Ore., area. For further information or to RSVP, please call 541-567-8523 or 541-567-9625.

### Maplewood Academy Reunion and Potluck

**May 4** — Maplewood Academy alumni are invited to a reunion and potluck at Walla Walla Valley Academy, 300 Academy Way, College Place, Wash., at 1:30 p.m. For more information, call Lois Pegel at 509-529-4837.

### Egypt Bible Tour

**Dec. 11-22** — Discover the land of the Pyramids, the Pharaohs, Moses and the Exodus, including a Nile cruise and much more, with Carl Cosaert, Walla Walla University professor. Wonderful weather, all meals and accommodations are included in the price, plus airfare. For more information, contact Sharon Searson at [Sharons@uccsda.org](mailto:Sharons@uccsda.org).

**MORE EVENTS LISTED AT** [GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS](http://GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS).



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

### How We Love Workshop

**April 12-13** — Milan and Kay Yerkovich, authors of the books *How We Love* and *How We Love Our Kids*, are coming to the Northwest to do a workshop. They will teach us how to love other people and how to understand the way other people love is based on the way they were loved as children. It can enhance every relationship you have. The North Cascade Church is partnering with other area churches for this workshop at the Skagit Center, 1000 Fountain St., Burlington, Wash. Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Space is limited so register soon at [marriagemosaic.org](http://marriagemosaic.org). No child care at the venue. More information available at [glnr.in/041219workshop](http://glnr.in/041219workshop). If you have any questions about lodging or any other detail, contact Vic and Monique Woodward at [vicandmo@marriagemosaic.org](mailto:vicandmo@marriagemosaic.org) or call 360-298-1138.

### Washington Conference Session Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 60th Regular Session of the Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at Auburn Adventist Academy Church, Auburn, Wash., on Sunday, April 28, 2019, 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 31 to elect the Nominating Committee for the Session, and the Nominating Committee will begin meeting on April 14. Instructions have been sent to pastors, clerks and first elders of each organized church concerning delegate selection and other preparations for the Conference Session.

*Douglas L. Bing, president*

*Craig H. Carr, secretary*

### Missing Members

The Port Orchard Church is looking for the following missing members: Jimmy Andrews, Lorraine Andrews, Sandy Blackburn, Jay Bogar, Ben Eliakim, Lois Emery, Paul Emery, Gwynever Ferguson, Sean Ford, Julie Hart, Christine Holmes, Juliet Macias, Christa Moran, Darlene Morris, Gerald Morris, Rebecca Morris, Heidi Nack, Bonnie Pagano, Jack Romo, Cami Seaton and Robert Tate. If you have any information about these members, please email Barb Dietrich at [barbdietrich@hotmail.com](mailto:barbdietrich@hotmail.com).

## WORLD CHURCH

### 'Ye Olde' Cedar Lake Academy Reunion

**June 7-8** — "Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion for alumni and classmates will be at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich. Honor classes include 1939, 1949, 1959 and 1969. For further information, contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit [glaa.net](http://glaa.net).

## Classes

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S DEGREES** in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit [southern.edu/graduatestudies](http://southern.edu/graduatestudies).

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## Employment

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks Seventh-day Adventist, full-time nursing faculty member. Teaching and/or clinical experience in medical-surgical nursing and pathophysiology preferred. Additional information can be found at [ucollege.edu/faculty-openings](http://ucollege.edu/faculty-openings). Send CV and references to Dr. Nicole Orian, [nicole.orian@ucollege.edu](mailto:nicole.orian@ucollege.edu).

**SMALL SDA BOARDING SCHOOL** in South Bend, Wash., is seeking a Christ-centered dorm supervisor for grades eight through 12. \$1,500/month, plus room and board and benefits. Call 360-875-6050 or 360-942-9068.

### THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

(GC) of SDAs Office of General Counsel is seeking a law student for an 8- to 10-week paid summer clerkship. This position is not a full-time, hire-track position and is best suited for 1Ls. Duties include legal research and other projects, emphasis is on religious liberty and First Amendment work. Must be SDA church member. Interview and/or relocation expenses will be applicant's responsibility. Send resume, writing sample, and transcript to [karnikd@gc.adventist.org](mailto:karnikd@gc.adventist.org).

### ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

seeks occupational therapy program director. Founding program director of the new doctoral program in

occupational therapy (OTD). The director will lead efforts in developing and supervising the program including leading the accreditation process. Primary responsibility includes developing an innovative program, including crafting the program's mission, vision, goals and strategic planning, administration, budget, faculty and staff recruitment, and assessment. The director will provide professional leadership and support for teaching faculty, serve as a mentor and facilitator for faculty, and enable an environment that fosters creativity. [andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job\\_9](http://andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_9).

### ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS

administrative assistant M.Div. The administrative assistant manages the functions of the Master of Divinity office. Provide both academic and policy advice to students enrolled in the program. Writes, develops and maintain effective web, electronic, written and verbal communication with students, prospective students, faculty and university departments. [andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff\\_hourly#job\\_7](http://andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_hourly#job_7).

### ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

seeks a faculty marketing professor. Teach marketing and related courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Have an earned doctorate in marketing and sufficient teaching experience in marketing at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Be actively engaged in research, service, student advising and supervising student projects. [andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job\\_5](http://andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_5).

### ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

seeks library dean. The dean of libraries reports to the provost and shall consult with the provost regularly. The dean is responsible for the James White Library, the Architecture Resource Center, the Music Materials Center and the Center for Adventist Research, as well as all personnel and activities within those facilities. With the assistance of the directors, the professional librarians and the staff, the dean shall perform the essential functions. [andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff\\_salary#job\\_3](http://andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job_3).

**ADVERTISEMENTS**

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks full-time teaching faculty for the School of Music. This position will provide curricular oversight to and teach lower- and upper-division courses in area of primary expertise — either music history or music theory. Master's degree in musicology, music history, or music theory required; doctorate preferred. Full job description: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs).

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** School of Nursing seeks a full-time faculty to join a mission-focused team. Teaching responsibilities are primarily at the undergraduate level. An earned doctorate is preferred. Requisite qualities include successful teaching experience, interest in research, flexibility and commitment to Adventist nursing education. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to search committee chair, Christy Showalter at [cshowalter@southern.edu](mailto:cshowalter@southern.edu). SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. Full job description: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs).

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks full-time faculty

for the chemistry department with expertise in organic chemistry effective June 1, 2019. Teaching responsibilities may be expected to include organic chemistry lectures and labs and chemistry. A master's or doctoral degree (Ph.D. is strongly preferred) in organic chemistry (or closely related field) is required, with demonstrated knowledge of and experience in applying best practices for teaching chemistry at the undergraduate level, and a commitment to teaching from a biblical foundation. Full job description: [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs).

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**MILO ACADEMY** seeks full-time campus industry assistant. Qualified applicants will enjoy working with students, have an eye for detail and possess excellent communication skills. This position provides assistance to the industry manager concerning inventory, production, quality control and order fulfillment. For more information, contact Tara Quero at [tara.quero@miiloacademy.org](mailto:tara.quero@miiloacademy.org).

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to [jobs.wallawalla.edu](http://jobs.wallawalla.edu).

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks a director of institutional research and planning. The director coordinates a comprehensive, university-wide program of data evaluation and analytics to support the evaluation of success in achieving the institutional mission, vision, values and goals. A master's degree is required, doctorate preferred, with course work in higher education, research and statistics, educational research, data analytics, or related field. Applicants must evidence strong research, analytical, technical

and evaluation skills; possess a solid grasp of issues and trends in higher education; and demonstrate competencies in oral and written communication and interpersonal relations. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. For more information and to apply for the position, contact Robert Young, Senior Vice President for Academic Administration, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

**IT IS WRITTEN** is seeking applications for a full-time planned giving field representative. The candidate must be a highly motivated individual, able to work from a home office, travel routinely to communicate with supporters and represent the ministry at assigned events. NAD trust services certification is preferred but not required to apply. If interested, please visit [adventistmediacenter.com](http://adventistmediacenter.com) to download an application. Email application and resume to [mmendoza@adventistmediacenter.com](mailto:mmendoza@adventistmediacenter.com).

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**Events**

**JOIN TOM AND ALANE WATERS** and their guest speakers, Frank and Veda Barcello, for Restoration International's Northwest Family Retreat, July 3-7, 2019, Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Wash. This year's theme is "A Heart of Love." For information and to pre-register, visit [restoration-international.org/nwfr](http://restoration-international.org/nwfr) or call NWFR hosts, Vernon and Karina Pettey, 406-890-1185.

**SAVE THE DATE** for Uchee Pines Institute's 50th Anniversary on June 23-29, 2019. Speakers include Mark Finley and John Bradshaw. More

information at [ucheepines.org](http://ucheepines.org) or 877-UCHEEPINES.

**CENTRAL OREGON CAMP MEETING** June 20-22, 2019 at 60508 Old Lake Rd., Christmas Valley, OR 97641. Main speaker is Ryan Day from 3ABN. Other speakers include Stan Beerman and Jeff Coleman. Meals included and camping available. More information at [COSDACAMP.com](http://COSDACAMP.com), [facebook.com/SDAChurch97641/](https://facebook.com/SDAChurch97641/) or call 541-306-0384.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Moses Lake Church will celebrate their 100-year anniversary July 26-28. More information at [moseslakeadventist.org](http://moseslakeadventist.org). Contact Judy Twigg at 509-771-1353 or [jrtwig@gcpower.net](mailto:jrtwig@gcpower.net).

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|                                  | MARCH |      |      |      |      | APRIL |      |      |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|
|                                  | 1     | 8    | 15   | 22   | 29   | 5     | 12   | 19   | 26    |
| <b>ALASKA CONFERENCE</b>         |       |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |       |
| Anchorage                        | 6:22  | 6:40 | 7:59 | 8:17 | 8:35 | 8:53  | 9:11 | 9:29 | 9:48  |
| Fairbanks                        | 6:04  | 6:26 | 7:48 | 8:09 | 8:31 | 8:53  | 9:14 | 9:37 | 10:00 |
| Juneau                           | 5:26  | 5:42 | 6:58 | 7:14 | 7:30 | 7:45  | 8:01 | 8:17 | 8:33  |
| Ketchikan                        | 5:19  | 5:34 | 6:48 | 7:02 | 7:16 | 7:30  | 7:44 | 7:57 | 8:11  |
| <b>IDAHO CONFERENCE</b>          |       |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |       |
| Boise                            | 6:32  | 6:41 | 7:50 | 7:58 | 8:07 | 8:15  | 8:23 | 8:32 | 8:40  |
| La Grande                        | 5:38  | 5:47 | 6:57 | 7:06 | 7:15 | 7:24  | 7:33 | 7:42 | 7:51  |
| Pocatello                        | 6:18  | 6:26 | 7:35 | 7:43 | 7:51 | 7:59  | 8:07 | 8:15 | 8:24  |
| <b>MONTANA CONFERENCE</b>        |       |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |       |
| Billings                         | 5:59  | 6:09 | 7:18 | 7:28 | 7:37 | 7:46  | 7:55 | 8:05 | 8:14  |
| Havre                            | 6:01  | 6:12 | 7:22 | 7:33 | 7:43 | 7:53  | 8:04 | 8:14 | 8:2   |
| Helena                           | 6:12  | 6:22 | 7:32 | 7:42 | 7:51 | 8:01  | 8:10 | 8:20 | 8:29  |
| Miles City                       | 5:48  | 5:58 | 7:07 | 7:17 | 7:27 | 7:36  | 7:45 | 7:55 | 8:04  |
| Missoula                         | 6:20  | 6:30 | 7:40 | 7:50 | 7:59 | 8:09  | 8:19 | 8:28 | 8:38  |
| <b>OREGON CONFERENCE</b>         |       |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |       |
| Coos Bay                         | 6:04  | 6:13 | 7:22 | 7:30 | 7:39 | 7:47  | 7:55 | 8:03 | 8:12  |
| Medford                          | 6:00  | 6:08 | 7:17 | 7:25 | 7:33 | 7:40  | 7:48 | 7:56 | 8:04  |
| Portland                         | 5:56  | 6:06 | 7:15 | 7:24 | 7:33 | 7:42  | 7:51 | 8:01 | 8:10  |
| <b>UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE</b> |       |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |       |
| Pendleton                        | 5:40  | 5:50 | 7:00 | 7:09 | 7:18 | 7:27  | 7:36 | 7:45 | 7:54  |
| Spokane                          | 5:33  | 5:43 | 6:53 | 7:04 | 7:14 | 7:24  | 7:33 | 7:43 | 7:53  |
| Walla Walla                      | 5:38  | 5:48 | 6:58 | 7:07 | 7:16 | 7:26  | 7:35 | 7:44 | 7:53  |
| Wenatchee                        | 5:45  | 5:55 | 7:05 | 7:15 | 7:25 | 7:35  | 7:45 | 7:55 | 8:04  |
| Yakima                           | 5:46  | 5:56 | 7:06 | 7:16 | 7:25 | 7:35  | 7:44 | 7:54 | 8:03  |
| <b>WASHINGTON CONFERENCE</b>     |       |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |       |
| Bellingham                       | 5:52  | 6:03 | 7:13 | 7:24 | 7:34 | 7:45  | 7:55 | 8:06 | 8:16  |
| Seattle                          | 5:52  | 6:03 | 7:13 | 7:23 | 7:33 | 7:43  | 7:53 | 8:03 | 8:13  |

March 10 DST begins  
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*Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.*  
 Philippians 1:27, NASB

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# THE WIDOW'S ECHO

In Ovid's rendition of the tale of Narcissus, he writes of a talkative nymph, much admired by Venus, the goddess of love, for her beautiful voice. The nymph plays a trick on the wife of Jupiter, making her think Jupiter is in the city when he really wasn't.

Jupiter's wife, Juno, curses the nymph, making it so she can only repeat the last words of other people, unable to say anything on her own. She is called Echo because that's all she can do.

Tragically, Echo falls in love with Narcissus and tries to explain her feelings to him but can only repeat the last bits of his words to her, which he takes as mockery. He rejects her, and, heartbroken, she prays to Venus, who makes Echo vanish, except for her voice that everyone can now hear when the acoustics are right. Shortly after, Narcissus falls in love with his reflection and pines away, thus

concluding a gloriously depressing love story and providing us with the term narcissism, as well as a metaphor for a lesser known, but just as devastating condition: echoism.

In *Rethinking Narcissism*, Craig Malkin, suggests narcissism describes a spectrum of behavior. On the low end of the scale are echoists, which he defines as people who cannot allow themselves to feel special or receive positive attention, who are self-effacing

and self-abnegating to the point where they lose their sense of self and feel worthless and impotent, *out of a fear of becoming narcissists*.<sup>1</sup> One of my friends who struggled with echoism told me, "They feel shame for taking up space."

You want to cause damage to an echoist? Praise them, and they will shrivel like a salted slug. They also suffer from "need-panic" — terror at the thought that they need something from someone else. This is especially challenging for Christians, as the Bible seems to support this behavior.

Some "echo texts" (my term) say things like: "For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matt 16:25), "Greater love has no one than



AUTHOR Seth Pierce







this, that someone lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13) and “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 14:11). These texts promote humility, regard for the other and self-sacrifice; but as an often-cited saying goes, the devil likes to mix truth with error to throw people off. Often these texts are twisted by a spiritual-sounding interpretation that reads these texts through a lens of self-loathing rather than self-sacrifice. Instead of actions being motivated by a love for others, they are motivated by a fear of becoming a narcissist or deep feelings of unworthiness.

Because the Bible records

people who spoke and acted, it is difficult to find echoists, but there are *echoes* here and there of what we are studying. One case study might be the tale of the widow’s mite (Mark 12:41–44). This is a classic offering-call text: The widow gave her all and so should you! Yet the context (v. 38–40) is Jesus indicting religious leaders for “devouring” widows’ houses and then parading their wealthy selves around the temple while acting as though they are giving sacrificially. Widows had very little voice, which is why throughout Scripture God calls on His people to take care of them and others who dwell on the periphery of our experience. This seems to be a

A story meant to challenge those of us with means to sacrifice more has become, in the hands of some, a story to get those already in poverty to give more.

woman whose basic needs have been absorbed by wealthy religious leaders who contribute to culture where those barely able to survive are still expected to give to support the very system stripping them of their ability to live.

This doesn’t diminish the generosity of the widow, but all of this together makes the words of Jesus an indictment of the religious leaders and broken system, not primarily a story about how people should give more. The irony here is a story meant to challenge those of us with means to sacrifice more has become, in the hands of some, a story to get those already in poverty to give more. The widow’s actions, honored by God, are also an echo of the needs of abusive people. The widow’s echo shows how easy it is to vanish someone’s true identity into something others can use.

Echoists need to remember the words of Jesus: “You shall love your neighbor as

*yourself*” (Matt. 22:39, emphasis added). We can’t give what we don’t have. If we don’t allow ourselves to receive love, how can we give it to others? Flight attendants tell you, should there be a change in cabin pressure, oxygen masks will drop from the ceiling. Who do you put masks on first? If you can’t breathe, you will pass out before you can love other people the way Jesus calls you to do. We have value, a voice and a life that needs to be lived in a way that only echoes the love Jesus has for others and the love Jesus has for us.

1. Malkin, Craig, *Rethinking Narcissism: The Secret to Recognizing and Coping With Narcissists* (NY: Harper Perennial, 2016), p. 23.

*Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor*



# THE SOCIALIZING GOSPEL

**E**

arnest voices among us warn about a “social gospel” movement. With good reason. Some well-intentioned Adventists are so committed to good neighborliness they diminish our doctrine or even fundamentals of Christian faith.

But the golden rule is not the gospel. Doing unto others as we would have them do unto us is not how we get saved. If so, why did Christ die on the cross for us? All we would need is to be reminded that Jesus wants us to be nice.

That said, walking your sick neighbor’s dog is a natural fruit of salvation by grace. Although there’s no such thing as the social gospel, the gospel does socialize us.

Consider the incarnation of Christ: “The Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness” (John 1:14\*).

Since we could not find our way up to God, He came down to us. Jesus scandalously socialized with us sinners, and now He likewise commissions us: “As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you” (20:21). “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples” (13:35).

Such love from Christ through us is not icing on the cake

of religiosity. It is the very fulfilling of the law we purport to obey. In fact, Adventist doctrine properly perceived and presented radically socializes us.

## THE SOCIAL HEART OF TRUTH

Consider the Sabbath. Each week we set aside personal works, not to forsake the assembling of ourselves but to socialize. We don’t devote two hours in church attendance before rushing home to watch a ballgame. The whole day involves relationality, first in worship and then in fellowship — including those outside our circle of friends. Pure religion invites widows, orphans and parolees to participate in our potlucks and nature hikes.

All Seventh-day Adventist doctrine is (or ought to be) intrinsically social. Christ’s Second Advent will be a totally socialized event. Faithful evangelists correct the misconception that disembodied souls float away at death to heaven, one by one. Instead, we rest until the grand resurrection at Christ’s coming, when we all travel as one triumphal procession to the New Jerusalem. Imagine the great arrival when we parade together through heaven’s gates!

What about our historic (and now neglected) sanctuary doctrine? Its heart and soul is the



AUTHOR

Martin Weber





## Christ's description of His end-time people presents a probing question to each Northwest Adventist.

presence of God: "Have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them" (Ex. 25:8, NIV). God with us — that's the social heart of true Adventism.

So why aren't Seventh-day Adventists famous for being the most social people in town? Much of it has to do with our perceptions of prophecy. For example, we traditionally trumpet signs of the times in Matthew 24 while overlooking Christ's social scenario that immediately follows in chapter 25. There He describes how He will separate those who are eternally saved from those who are lost. Please ponder the following pronouncement from Jesus about His end-time remnant:

"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom

prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

"Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you

hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

"And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'" (Matt. 25:31–40).

Christ's description of His end-time people presents a probing question to each Northwest Adventist: Do you want a merely cerebral religion that inflates the head but

leaves your heart empty? Or will the love of Jesus socialize your heart, your home, your church?

Let's not wake up a thousand years too late to discover what matters most to God.

\* Unless noted, all Scriptures are from the New Living Translation.

*Martin Weber, retired from denominational service, is a hospice chaplain.*





# JUST LIKE JESUS

## THE HOUND SCAN

M

arcy has cancer — at least that’s what the medical gurus say. It began, most likely, as a small tumor in breast tissue and has expanded to lymph nodes, liver cells and other places identified by scans named after animals. Now her life is all about the Hound scan.

We thought about the Hound, 22 of us standing around Marcy, our hands outstretched to touch her diseased body as we celebrated her commitment to the Hound who has caught her and made her His own.

Though the “Hound” is never mentioned in Scripture, He is the reason for each of its verses. First described by Francis Thompson in his 1893 poem, this family friend is known by other names such as Jesus, the Christ, Redeemer, Elder Brother, Son of God, Messiah and Grace — all synonyms for the Hound of Heaven.

J.F.X. O’Connor, in his 1912 treatise on the poem, described the Hound’s work this way: “As the hound follows the hare, never ceasing in its running, ever drawing

nearer in the chase, with unhurrying and unperturbed pace, so does God follow the fleeing soul by His Divine grace. And though in sin or in human love, away from God it seeks to hide itself, Divine grace follows after, un-

wearingly follows ever after, till the soul feels its pressure, forcing it to turn to Him alone in that never ending pursuit.”

Marcy’s been caught. For long she’s been His, finding pleasure in His embrace and in the “deliberate speed” of His chase.

During the Friday evening hour we spent with Marcy, each of us recited a verse of Scripture to remind both the “Hound” and Marcy of how eager He has been to catch her and use her as His voice, as His arms of love and as His voice of encouragement. Often, it seems, He has even used her to help chase down others who needed catching.

You will quickly recognize some the verses we chose:

- » Jer. 29:11 — For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. Plans for good things, not bad. Plans to bring you a future filled with hope.
- » Psalm 103:17 — God’s love is everlasting. Never-stopping. Continuous.
- » Psalm 23:1 — The Lord is my Shepherd. I lack nothing.
- » Is. 40:29–31 — He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
- » John 3:16 — God loved Marcy *so much* that He sent His Son to chase her down, capture her with His love and bring her home.

Marcy’s CAT scan shows cancer. Ugly. Active. Devouring.

Marcy’s PET scan shows it even more clearly. Body parts turned traitorous.

Marcy’s HOUND scan shows something more, something deeper, something irresistible. Its clarity is far more meaningful than the miraculous visions of modern medicine. It shows Marcy — caught in the safety of God’s grace, enmeshed in the net of His love, safe in the Shepherd’s arms, alive in a future defined by Hope.

Francis Thompson’s poem of 182 lines, filled with hard to understand old English adjectives, is remembered more for its title than the details of its content. The Hound of Heaven never stops chasing.

*Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference storycatcher and storyteller*



AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen



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**PITCH EVENT**—April 20, 8:00–10:00 pm  
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\*\*See page 17 for more info on the pitch event.