

YOU SAID IT
EVANGELISM: POSTMODERN
ANSWER OR DILEMMA?

PERSPECTIVE
THE END OF THE STORY,
PART 2

LET'S TALK
PROGRESS

gleamer

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



SALT *and* LIGHT *in the World*

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

JAN.
2016

VOL. 111, N° 1



**My eyes are ever on the
Lord, for only he will release
my feet from the snare.
Psalm 25:15**

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JASON MORGAN

gleaner

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January 2016
Vol. 111, No. 1

Gleaner (ISSN 0746-5874) is published once per month for a total of 12 issues per year by the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642. It is printed and mailed at Pacific Press Publishing Association®, 1350 N. Kings Rd., Nampa, ID 83687-3193. Subscription rate: \$13 per year. Periodical postage paid at Ridgefield, WA 98642 and additional mailing offices.

OUR MISSION: Connecting Northwest Adventists with an expanding hub of news and inspiration.

POSTMASTER: send all address changes to: North Pacific Union Conference *Gleaner*, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642
Phone: 360-857-7000
info@gleanernow.com
gleanernow.com

SUBMISSIONS: Timely announcements, features, news stories and family notices for publication in the *Gleaner* may be submitted directly to the project manager at the address listed above. Material sent directly to local conference correspondents may be forwarded to the *Gleaner*.

PLEASE NOTE: Every reasonable effort is made to screen all editorial material to avoid error in this publication. The

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LIGHTING A GOSPEL WILDFIRE

On Nov. 6 and 7, 2015, more than 200 young adults gathered together in Gladstone, Ore., from around the North Pacific Union to be inspired, trained and equipped to share their faith in Jesus. Each of four speakers resonated with a different segment of the attendees.

The attendees were diverse: high school students from South Bend, Wash., college students from the nearby Walla Walla University School of Nursing, Oregon Conference young adult advisory members, youth from local Russian churches, students from SOULS Northwest and many young people who have participated in Youth Rush literature evangelism programs.

Round-table seating provided many opportunities for small group interaction and prayer between presentations. One key goal of the Wildfire event was to provide opportunities for real ministry planning so that participants would leave with more than just outreach theory.

Wildfire 2015 was the first of what organizers plan to be an annual youth and young adult outreach conference that will be alternately hosted in major cities in the Northwest. Wildfire 2016 will be held in



Tyler Long is the evangelism coordinator for the Washington Conference.

the Seattle area on Aug. 12 and 13. Organizers will be sharing stories of how Wildfire has transformed the outreach of young people in the Northwest.

Go to [facebook.com/startawildfire](https://www.facebook.com/startawildfire) to read stories and get updates on future conferences. Churches are encouraged to plan in advance to sponsor their youth and young adults to attend Wildfire 2016.

Groups discuss and share the impact of the speaker's message.



INTERSECTIONS



E.G. WHITE WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE

The year 2015 marked the 100th anniversary of Ellen G. White's death in 1915. To commemorate her prophetic gift and ministry within the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the North Pacific Union Conference partnered with Walla Walla University (WU) to host a weekend of special presentations Nov. 13-14, 2015.

Cindy Tutsch and Jonathan Thompson were welcomed on the WU campus as guest presenters. Both represented a wealth of knowledge about White's contribution to the

morning divine worship and afternoon seminars, Tutsch and Thompson addressed a number of areas that stressed White's relevance on current topics. These contemporary issues included concern for the environment, human trafficking, religious liberty, social justice, and the roles of women in the church and family.



Cindy Tutsch, former associate director of the Ellen G. White Estate, speaks on White's concern for God's created world, the environment.

Paddy McCoy, WU chaplain, welcomes those attending the Friday evening program.

church and society. Tutsch is a retired associate director the Ellen G. White Estate. Thompson directs the Ellen G. White Research Center at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala.

In services that included Friday evening vespers, Sabbath



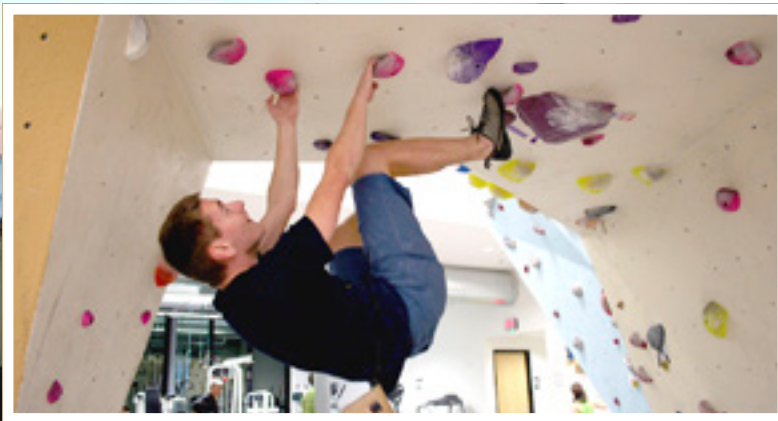
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On their way back to the frontier.

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Climbing for your life.

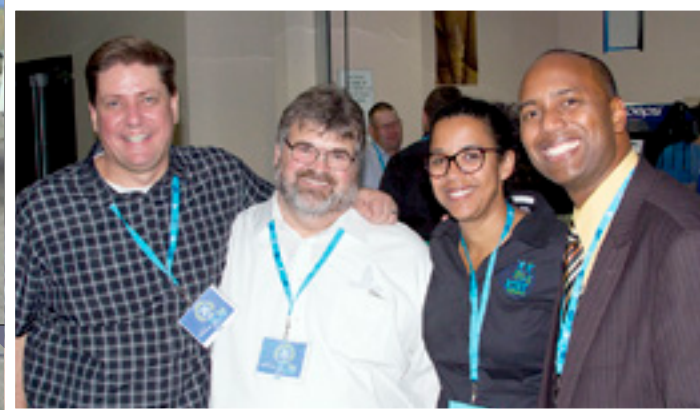
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Jaci Shankel

AREA OF STUDY: MAJORS IN HISTORY AND BUSINESS, MINOR IN SPANISH
HOMETOWN: CALIMESA, CALIFORNIA

During the scientific revolution, from the mid-16th century to the end of the 18th century, explains Jaci Shankel, cabinets of curiosities emerged as a way for explorers in Renaissance Europe to display items collected during their travels around the world.

"Cabinets of curiosities were the precursor to the modern museum," says Shankel. "I'm studying one collector in particular, Hans Sloane. He was the secretary and president of the Royal Society of London, a scientific community that still exists. My project is focusing on how Sloane facilitated and enabled the collection and dissemination of information through *Philosophical Transactions*, the journal of the Royal Society."

"My thesis revolves around how Sloane saw the primary role of the information he collected as providing information for the general public, for all people to understand and to think about long-held biases, such as inoculation against small pox, for example," explains Shankel.

Shankel finds the topic "completely fascinating" and one she plans to build her career around. She will graduate from Walla Walla University this spring and is looking into graduate school to study the history of science.

For senior projects such as Shankel's, history majors write a 30- to 35-page paper on the topic they've studied and make a presentation during spring quarter for a department colloquium. Leading up to the final paper and presentation, students take two classes their junior year and three quarters of seminar class their senior year that help them sketch out their topic and look at other writings on the subject.

Through the process, Shankel says she has been learning "how to do efficient and effective research — not just reading the information available, but documenting and supporting the content. I've been learning how to find sources that support your argument and what to do when you find sources that don't support your argument. I have learned an enormous amount as far as writing clearly and communicating clearly."

Shankel has her eyes set on one day working for a museum. She says, "The value of higher education is not just learning a skill that will make you a valuable member of society, but that it will place you in the larger context of society. Being able to interact with different disciplines helps you know how to interact with all kinds of people."

FOUR WWU SENIORS FIND THEIR PLACES

THEY'RE CREATIVE, perceptive, determined and smart. Meet four inspiring Walla Walla University students who are primed intellectually, socially, professionally and spiritually to rub shoulders with men and women in offices, labs and libraries spreading hope in a hurting world.

SALT *and* LIGHT *in the World*

Thomas Lemon

AREA OF STUDY: MAJOR IN BIOENGINEERING
HOMETOWN: CLARKSTON, WASHINGTON

A Vision for Vascular Grafts

"When I came to college, I was interested in working in prosthetics," says Thomas Lemon. "I started learning about tissue engineering, and this project took off from there."

When Lemon didn't have the tool he needed (and neither did Home Depot) he started last summer to complete assembly of and to program an electrospinner machine. "The electrospinner creates fibers down to nanometers in diameter that are used to make scaffolds that human tissue can be grown on," Lemon explains. (He is quick to credit 2015 graduate Michael Rafuse, who did the majority of the design work and assembly on the electrospinner.)

"I started working on the electrospinner because I needed it to create scaffolds for a project I wanted to work on. I was also motivated by the fact that there were others that needed the machine," says Lemon. One example is Janice McKenzie Radzikowski, WWU associate professor of biology, who is working to grow nerve tissue.

The electrospinner uses a stretchy, durable polymer to make a mat of tiny fibers. That mat, or scaffold, mimics the human extracellular matrix and provides a 3-D structure for tissue to grow on. And that, for Lemon, is where the real fun begins.

"The other project I want to work on is creating small-diameter vascular grafts," says Lemon. He envisions a day when engineered vascular grafts are per-

fectured and routinely used in surgery instead of veins and arteries that must be harvested from one area of the body to be transplanted to another or taken from a donor. He will spend the rest of this year optimizing the electrospinner and starting the process of creating vascular grafts.

"There are already vascular grafts in use today, but the small-diameter vascular grafts that are available could use major improvement," says Lemon. "There is quite a bit of research done in this field already, and scientists are very close to clinical trials with much-improved vascular grafts."

Lemon says his work has stretched and developed his analytical and programming skills, his level of persistence and attention to detail, and his creativity.

"A project like this requires that you look up a lot of information on electronic components of the machinery and understand how they communicate with the computer," he says. "Many problems arise that do not have ready-made solutions, and those take a lot of persistence to figure out. You have to be versatile in your thought process and know how you can take the next best step."

After graduating next spring, Lemon plans to spend a year working as a student missionary before heading to graduate school, where he will no doubt start the process of changing the world.

SALT *and* LIGHT *in the World*

For the Love of Art

Valeria Merino

AREA OF STUDY: MAJOR IN ART
HOMETOWN: GRESHAM, OREGON

"I don't remember a time when I wasn't interested in art," says Valeria Merino. "Every kid draws and doodles, but I just kept doing it. I started out in college as an art major. There was no other option. ... When I see people's faces, I see shadows, light and colors, and I think about how I would draw that. ... I want to make things. That makes me the happiest. And hopefully what I make will also be things that people like."

Merino says one of the most important lessons she has learned while studying art at Walla Walla University is the importance of good planning. "You don't always have to plan — sometimes with art it's good to be spontaneous — but usually it's good to do a lot of thumbnail sketches before you start working on a bigger piece. Then you can see any mistakes and correct them before you go on to finalize the piece."

Merino has taken classes that include design, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and the history of art. She also finds inspiration in general studies classes as well.

"A class that I'm taking now," she says, "'Issues of God and Faith' from Dr. Dave Thomas, has given me ideas for my art and has influenced concepts that I have for art that I'm working on or hope to make. I jot down phrases and ideas from that class and then base paintings on that. It's a really good class."

Merino plans to go to graduate school and pursue a career in illustration. "I do understand that if I want this to be my career, I will have to be marketable and promote my work," she says.

Her favorite media are painting and drawing. Right now she is working on charcoal drawings, pencil drawings and oil painting. She also creates digital art on a tablet. Some of the pieces she's working on will be included in her senior art show, which will be on display for two weeks during spring quarter in the WWU Fine Arts Center art gallery.

"I love everything about art," says Merino. "It can be a form of expression — an outlet. It can be political. It can make a statement. In every aspect of human life is art. That's why I like it."

FOUR WWU SENIORS FIND THEIR PLACES

Think Like a Scientist

Tori Burghart

AREA OF STUDY: PRE-MED WITH A MAJOR IN BIOLOGY, MINOR IN CHEMISTRY

HOMETOWN: BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

"If you would have told me when I was a freshman that I would be doing research on Dictyostelium proteins, I would have laughed. It just happened, and I'm really excited about it," says Tori Burghart.

Burghart is working with David Lindsey, professor of biology, on research into how cells regulate the transition from being a single cell to a community of cells with specific functions. "We are studying one particular pathway in the process — the pathway that degrades certain proteins," she says.

"With this type of lab work," says Burghart, "you don't know how it's going to work. You have to look at why it worked. Did it work? If it didn't work, why didn't it work? Working in that complex manner is fun. It forces you to change how you think."

Burghart spends 10 to 16 hours each week in the lab often using a fluorescent microscope. She tags proteins with molecules that fluoresce then tracks the behavior of those proteins.

"I'm making a contribution to answering the little questions that help answer the bigger questions," she says. "If I can ask how this one tiny piece works, the next student will ask, 'Okay, what about this piece?'"

Burghart will attend a biochemistry conference this spring and will have the opportunity to contribute the data she gathers to a scientific paper that will be presented at the conference. Coupled with her hands-on participation in research, she is learning to read research papers and to look at how the researchers put together the experiment and compiled the results.

"I've learned that it takes a lot of time and effort to contribute to the body of research," says Burghart. "I've applied to Loma Linda University, and I hope to go there and study medicine. I will need to be able to look at a medical research paper and understand the methods and the type of experiment they used to arrive at the information they are presenting.

"My involvement in this research is helping me think like a scientist. It's a different way of thinking than normal, everyday thinking and how you reason things through. I believe that thinking that way is going to be useful to me throughout my career. That's why I'm excited to be doing research. Knowing how to think like a scientist is going to help me forever."

Kim Strobel, Walla Walla University marketing and university relations supervisor

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EDUCATION



UNA CARAVANA EVANGELISTICA CON SABOR COLOMBIANO



Esfuerzo en conjunto donde personas entregaron su vida a Jesús.

Después de un verano muy bendecido, habiendo recibido la visita del Pastor Alejandro Bullón en nuestro Campesote Hispano y gozado de un retiro de jóvenes con la mayor asistencia en nuestra historia, el otoño se caracterizó por un fuerte énfasis evangelístico en la Conferencia de Oregon.

El trabajo de grupos pequeños que nuestras iglesias llevan a cabo cada año fue

semana todas las iglesias de la Conferencia de Oregon con el mensaje del evangelio el cual motivó, sanó, confirmó y llevó a la decisión a un buen número de personas. Comenzando el viernes 13 la caravana visitó a Gresham-Hood River-The Dalles. El sábado por la mañana en Gladstone a nuestra iglesias multiétnicas de Remix-Mosaic-Vivid fueron grandemente bendecidas con un programa en inglés enfocado a jóvenes adultos.

Woodland-Kelso-Longview. El miércoles la caravana visitó Hillsboro-Beaverton. El jueves McMinnville-Newberg. El viernes Woodburn-Canby-Monitor. Finalmente el sábado 21 por la mañana Salem-Keizer-Albany-Independence, cerrando la caravana con la visita a Milwaukie-Tualatin por la tarde. Por la gracia de Dios este esfuerzo en conjunto trajo como resultado que 145 personas entregaran su vida a Jesús a través del bautismo y muchas otras hicieran votos de reconsagración, entrega y servicio al Señor.

Otro elemento importante durante el recorrido de la caravana fue el lanzamiento de la iniciativa “Juntos Podemos” la cual tiene el propósito de unir a las congregaciones hispanas de Oregon con la meta de obtener un nuevo

templo para nuestra iglesia hispana en Eugene, así como lo hicimos con la Iglesia de Gresham en éste 2015.

Cada noche de la caravana los miembros y amigos de las diferentes iglesias generosamente compartieron de sus recursos para bendecir a sus hermanos de Eugene, los cuales recibían las noticias de lo que iba ocurriendo al momento de boca de su pastor. Así pues, la “Caravana de Adoración” nos trajo un sabor colombiano con nuestros pastores invitados, un evangelista de alto nivel y una oportunidad de fomentar la unidad entre el pueblo hispano adventista en Oregon.

David Paczka, Conferencia de Oregon director Ministerio Hispano



Lindos resultados de la “Caravana Adoración.”

clave. Además la Conferencia fue bendecida con la visita de 12 pastores colombianos que predicaron durante una semana en nuestras congregaciones complementando el trabajo evangelístico de nuestros laicos y pastores locales para entonces comenzar la “Caravana de Adoración” con el Pastor José Vicente Rojas del 13 al 21 de noviembre.

El propósito de ésta caravana fue visitar en una

Por la noche estuvimos en Forest Grove-Tillamook. El domingo gozamos de una tremenda reunión cuando las iglesias de Eugene-Medford compartieron juntas los alimentos y se gozaron de la alabanza al estilo guatemalteco y un tremendo mensaje en el templo de Medford. El lunes el turno fue para las iglesias de Portland-University Park. El martes nos dirigimos a Vancouver-

El énfasis evangelístico siempre presente.





Eagle River Valley Church members exceeded last year's total box count by 24.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DEPLOYED IN EAGLE RIVER

Sabbath afternoon, Nov. 14, 2015, found the Eagle River Valley Church family engaged in its fourth annual shoebox packing party for Operation Christmas Child.

While the outside temperature dipped below zero degrees Fahrenheit, inside the fellowship hall eager hands packed shoebox-sized containers with things that little children love: dolls, balls and toys of all kinds; socks; frocks; and toys that talk (well, at least a singing rabbit). There were picture books, crayons, pens, pencils and notebooks.

Why all the fuss? These gift-containing boxes are delivered to a local church collection center, where they will join millions of others traveling to distant parts of the world. The boxes will be distributed to needy children, many of whom have never received a gift before. While the immediate intent is to brighten the eyes of these poverty-stricken kids, the greater goal is to teach them of the wonderful gift of the love of Jesus.

At Eagle River, members have been blessed each year to exceed the previous year's total

of boxes packed. Last year, 125 boxes went out from the church. This year, the total was 149. The young, young at heart and even visitors to the church love to join together in packaging the various gifts that have been collected over the



Eagle River Valley Church members roll out Operation Christmas Child.

course of the year. One young lady called the event "more fun than getting presents."

Please add your prayers to those of the Eagle River Valley Church family that the Holy Spirit will accompany each gift-filled shoebox and guide it to the child who needs it most. More information about Operation Christmas Child can be found at samaritanspurse.org.

Jan Kiele, Eagle River Valley Church member

ALASKA CONFERENCE WELCOMES RETURNING MISSIONARY COUPLE

On a recent Sabbath afternoon, the newly arrived missionaries to Selawik, Dennis and Judy Skandunas, were flown to Shungnak by Jim Kincaid in a mission plane to meet their counterparts in mission work.

In the remote villages of Alaska, it is often difficult to meet and receive encouragement in the work. The loneliness and isolation take a toll on every missionary, so events like this are meaningful.

Dennis and Judy are returning missionaries who have spent a significant portion of their lives serving and surviving in the Alaskan arctic, so they are prepared for the long, cold and dark winters.

They have a love for the people in these arctic villages, and the Alaska Conference is delighted to see them return.

In Shungnak, the Skandunas visited with the families of Anthony and Airen Sherman and Caleb and Melody Parker, missionary couples in Shungnak. Soul-winning strategies were shared over a meal; a tour of the newly remodeled chapel completed the visit.

For further news, go to alaskaconference.org, then click on Arctic Mission adventure.

Jim Kincaid, Alaska Native ministries director



MISSION ON FIRE

Hispanic Ministry Report

In 2014, the Hispanic churches set their evangelistic goals for 2015. Today, these members can say, “Praise the Lord!” Their hearts are full of joy.

Why? Isa. 55:11 has been accomplished once again because 43 people were received with open arms into the family of God in this territory through mid-October 2015. It is not because of human effort; it is because of Him. Members did their part conducting 18 evangelistic series, including five by lay people with their small groups. The elders, deacons and deaconesses did their part, setting dates to have baptisms, filling the baptistry with water and planning the public meetings, but God performed the miracles.

The Hispanic advisory committee met recently to set up the mission goals for 2016, which include planting the first Hispanic church in Boise. Why Boise? Boise is the capital and most populous city in Idaho. Based on the estimated population in 2013, 7.1 percent are Hispanic, totaling 15,210 Hispanic people. Adding the Hispanic population of the two closest cities, Meridian and Eagle (5,684 and 1,017, respectively), the total increases to 21,911. The challenge is to reach 21,911 Hispanic

people with the fullness of God’s love as expressed in the Three Angels’ Messages of Revelation 14.

How many churches need to be planted to reach them? Church members will do their part with one church at a time. Another reason to keep planting churches is that new churches evangelize better than older churches. Studies show that churches under 3 years old lead 10 people to Christ per 100 members in the church.

“Lord, grant that the fire of my heart may melt the lead in my feet.”

— Unknown

Churches 3 to 15 years old win five people per year per 100 members in the church. When a church reaches 15 years



Francisco Altamirano (right) trains the Hispanic church members, as part of the evangelism plan for the conference.

old, that church wins three people per 100 members in the church. That is dramatic.

The Idaho Conference vision is to move us “from a top-down bureaucracy to a cutting-edge, equipping, lay-driven conference that is growing in personal spirituality and soul winning, with financial stability to fund

the mission and ministry.” Planting new churches will move members from the sideline to the frontline. Let’s move on!

Francisco Altamirano, Idaho Conference Hispanic coordinator and Treasure Valley Hispanic District pastor

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More online at
glnr.in/111-01-id_KTSY

KTSY CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF MINISTRY

Jennifer didn't want to live anymore. Plagued for years, blaming herself for her baby's death, she felt that if she hadn't slept in on her day off, her baby wouldn't have died in her sleep. Ten years of shame led to a dark night; drunk and ready to kill herself, she stumbled out of her home and heard someone listening to an Adventist radio station, 89.5 KTSY-FM in Boise, playing a song that started out, "Hello, my name is regret. I'm pretty sure we have met These are the voices, these are the lies, and I have believed them for the very last time"

The words broke through the darkness, and Jennifer heard the still small voice saying, "This family, they can help. Listen." Jennifer is alive

today and a follower of Jesus because of someone playing a song one night that saved her life.

That is just one story God has created through this little Adventist radio station, which held a party on Oct. 18, 2015, to celebrate God's legacy of the 25 years the station has operated. Mike Agee, the station's first general manager, and early KTSY staffers Ty McFarland and Jerry Woods came back to remember how it all began in 1990 with a dream for a low-power, on-campus radio station at a high school — a dream that quickly became a much bigger reality.

This frontline ministry launched another radio station in Twin Falls, Idaho, as well as repeating stations across



The longest-serving staff members had a chance to connect. (From left) Ty McFarland, one of the first two high school students hired at KTSY, who has since helped launch the new station in Twin Falls, served at WGTS on the campus of Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., and is now at KSBJ in Houston, Texas; Mike Agee, KTSY's first general manager, who now is shaping new minds as communication department chairman at Southwestern Adventist University in Texas; Michelle Yeager, current morning show co-host, who started at KTSY in 2002; and Jerry Woods, longtime KTSY morning show host who is now at WGTS.

eastern Oregon and southern Idaho. KTSY has won multiple national awards, received local recognition and maintains high ratings, especially for women ages 25–54.

It's the lives changed that matter. It's the community that has been impacted, the open doors that lead to open conversations about Adventism and its key beliefs, the church it

helped plant, and, most importantly, the souls that have been saved that are the greatest parts of God's 25-year legacy.

Find KTSY online at ktsy.org, thebridgeinteractive.org, [Facebook.com/895KTSY/](https://www.facebook.com/895KTSY/) and [Facebook.com/TheBridgeTwinFalls](https://www.facebook.com/TheBridgeTwinFalls).

Brian Yeager, Barefoot Media Ministry general manager

MIDDLETON CHURCH HOSTS FIFTH ANNUAL CRAFT AND HEALTH FAIR

What began with a question five years ago about community outreach has blossomed into a Middleton annual mainstay. This past fall marked the fifth year the Middleton Church Craft and Health Fair hosted

Children were able to pet the police dog with his Canyon County sheriff handler close by.



vendors and local community members to promote biblical principles of health and healing.

More than 200 attendees meandered through a variety of local and regional vendors, enjoyed a wholesome meal and smoothie bar, and listened to educational talks. The fair also included a massage demonstration, health tests, and a demonstration of canine police work.

The fair's youngest visitors enjoyed a bounce house and hands-on instruction about the

basic health laws in a booth designed especially for them.

Signs and personal, door-to-door invitations by the church's young people brought the community to the event, and Middleton members enjoyed interacting with their friends and neighbors in this fun and educational atmosphere.

Marilyn Purcell, Middleton Church communication leader

More online at glnr.in/111-01-id_middleton

MISSOULA AUTUMN TRADITION COMBINES FUN AND WITNESSING

On the evening of Aug. 10, 2015, while wind gusts ripped out trees, started numerous fires, and tore signs and shingles around Missoula, Earl [Redacted] and his wife, Christina, thought of the corn field. “I looked out the window and saw tumbleweeds rolling across our lawn, along with my neighbors’ lawn chairs,” [Redacted] remembers.

The [Redacted]s, who are members of the Missoula Church, have created a corn maze each autumn at Mountain View Elementary, the local Adventist church school. This year, an unusually strong summer thunderstorm threatened to destroy the maze. But somehow, while multiple trees and power lines were downed in the area, the maze was untouched. “Christina and I prayed that God would put His hand over the maze, and He did,” [Redacted] reports. “It’s a miracle.”

Missoula Maze began when the church school was closed for a year seven years ago. Since then, attendance at the school and at the maze has grown until the school has 24 students and the maze has days where attendance can exceed 1,000 people.

A loyal following has developed in the community. Some people make the maze part of their fall tradition,

returning year after year for birthday parties or just the joy of spending a day together solving the maze, visiting the petting zoo, and picking a pumpkin out of the pumpkin patch.

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, university groups, and nonprofits like the local children’s shelter are some of the groups that visit the maze each season. Schools bring students for field trips from area schools and from as far away as Superior, Ronan and Helena.

This year, a multimedia booth at the maze offered free literature, Bibles and Bible study correspondence cards along with a video playing short segments on who Adventists are and the benefits of the Adventist school system. Church members have also set up a health booth to offer

Earl [Redacted] and wife, Christina, make a corn maze every year by their local Adventist school.



The Missoula Maze opens the path to family fun as well as the door to conversations with local community members.

free blood pressure checks, grip-strength testing and BMI testing. The maze has certainly raised community awareness of the church school and has been featured in local TV, radio and newspapers, as well as in *Alaska Airlines Magazine*.

“Creating the maze is a lot of work, but making a positive impact in our community is worth what we do,” says [Redacted]. The maze starts many conversations about the church school and the unusual hours of operation (the maze is not open on Friday night or Saturday), and friendships have resulted in new students at the school and visitors to the local church.

In Missoula, being a light in the community includes sharing a flashlight or hand-warmer and helping lost people get safely out of the maze. More information and photos can be found at MissoulaMaze.com.

Don Ritterskamp, Missoula Church pastor

PAES SIXTH-GRADERS LEARN ABOUT BRAIN, BIBLE

For the past eight years, Linda Waagen's sixth-grade class at Portland Adventist Elementary School (PAES) has had a six-week course on how God created them, why God created them and why they were born on this planet. They learned they are unique and special and have a purpose for being born here.

This concentrated course, taught by Stan Hatkoff, focused on the amazing creation the brain is, the basic structures of the brain, and how the mind (and will) need to be controlled by the surrender of the person's spirit to Jesus Christ as Savior. They learned the truth and importance of Rom. 8:7: "... The mind set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so."

The curriculum emphasized

Read more online at glnr.in/111-01-or_paes making good choices and decisions by connecting the conscience — the moral center of the person — to the Holy Spirit through prayer and guidance from parents, teachers and other Christian influences.

Students learned how a grateful attitude toward classmates and family can increase their success in school and in life. One class session focused on how to defeat bullying and how to help prevent bullying being part of PAES.

Students were invited to take a character pledge to be honest and respectful, to not cheat, and to take a stand against poor behaviors, including bullying. The kids pledged to speak up instead of ignoring these problems.

Stan Hatkoff, Hood View Church member

As part of a special sixth-grade course at PAES, students participated in a brain, mind, spirit and character poster contest.



RIVERGATE TEACHER CELEBRATES LONG ADVENTIST EDUCATION CAREER

Ken Smith is the first-grade teacher that one college student thanks for her full-ride scholarship. She said the lessons she learned in Smith's class were the foundation of her love of learning.

During the 30 years Smith has taught at Rivergate Adventist Elementary School in Gladstone, Ore., this gentle giant of a man has made quite an impact. Smith has been so memorable that the school planned a surprise birthday party celebrating his outstanding leadership.

Rivergate's principal and teachers honored Smith with pictures, a speech, a plaque and a painting made from students' fingerprints.

Even if Smith looked a little shy during all the pomp and ceremony, he never stopped checking on his students, pausing now and then to give one of his waist-high friends a winning smile.

Smith said he was grateful for all the encouragement and kind words, but he was quick to stress that all the teachers at Rivergate are a team and students, teachers, parents and everyone involved create the family atmosphere that makes



GARY MCCLAIN

"It's having teachers that understand that deeper purpose that makes all the difference," Gale Crosby said during a celebration of Ken Smith's 30 years of teaching in Adventist education.

Rivergate what it is.

"It's having teachers that understand that deeper purpose that makes all the difference," said Gale Crosby, Oregon Conference vice president for education, during the program.

"These kids are going to live forever," Crosby said. "I think that's why Ken does what he does." Crosby smiled and added, "When you have a little one, send them to Ken."

Rachel Scribner, Oregon Conference communication department

More online at
glnr.in/111-01-or_milo

STUDENTS EXPLORE GOD'S SECOND BOOK AT MILO

In a world where life seems to be increasing in complexity, confusion and even chaos, students at Milo Adventist Academy are blessed to have the opportunity to study and work on 408 acres along the South Umpqua River in the forested hill country of southern Oregon.

It would seem Ellen White might have had just such a place in mind when she wrote, "Let our students be placed where nature can speak to the senses, and in her voice they may hear the voice of God" (*Life Sketches*, p. 353).

God's creation surrounds the miles of hiking trails and even fills the center of campus with deer, raccoons and myriad birds. And Milo teachers take advantage of their rural location to enhance their students' educational experience.

Sophomore Justin Corral writes about the beauty of God's creation.



KATHY HERNANDEZ

Dale Milam's biology students enjoyed an on-campus excursion to watch salmon migrate. The study of biology comes alive in such a setting.

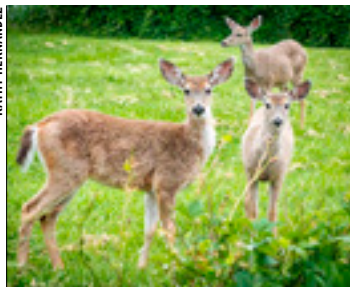
"We saw a few salmon jumping. There were also lots of salamanders and newts," says



DALE MILAM

Junior Natalia Tornel measures sophomore Adiel Gomez's shadow for a lesson in algebra, as freshman Carlos Corrales observes.

KATHY HERNANDEZ



Two curious fawns graze in a staff member's yard, under the watchful eye of their mother.

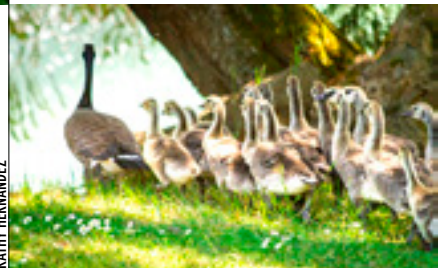
freshman biology student A.J. Smith. "It's good to be outside, especially working with the animals," adds Smith, who also enjoys Milo's horsemanship program.

Milam even takes his algebra 1 class outside. "First we measured our shadows and our height," says Natalia Tornel, a junior. "Then we measured the shadow of a tree and used algebra to guess the height of the tree."

Kilikina Richards, English and ELL (English-language learners) teacher, routinely takes her students into their beautiful surroundings for creative writing assignments. In her essay, junior Shae Edgerly wrote, "Every time I feel like I need someone and there is no one around, I go look at the stars and I pray to God and I feel Him there for me."

Bible teacher Kathy Hernandez invited students to think of something they wanted God to remove from their lives and write it in permanent marker on

a smooth river stone. Then her class walked to the swimming hole under the covered bridge to toss their rocks into the river, symbolically letting go. "It felt good on the inside to write down what you were feeling and what you did wrong and then throw it away. It was like giving



KATHY HERNANDEZ

Young goslings follow their mom to the South Umpqua River, which flows past Milo Adventist Academy.

it to God," says sophomore Taleigha Schnoor.

The outdoors are key for some elective classes such as horticulture, horsemanship and fitness. Participants in the work-study program can select outdoor jobs such as landscaping, maintenance or agriculture.

Students and staff at Milo heartily agree with Penysa Marquez, whose children attend Milo Adventist Academy, when she says that Milo is "an incredible place, full of the love of God, perfect for studying and being in contact with nature, God's second book."

Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter

SHARON CHURCH USHERS AUTUMN IN ON HIGH NOTE

Autumn may be a mellow season, but at Sharon Church in Portland, the season was anything but. Sharon Church was the host of two Spirit-filled events all about the goodness of God.

In partnership with three other churches (Your Bible Speaks, Oromo and University Park churches, all of Portland), the first event was the Fall Revival, titled “Breaking the Chains and Facing Your Giants,” held Sept. 13–26, 2015, with Calvin L. Watkins as the nightly speaker and musical guest Anthony Brown

and Group TherAPy.

The Word of God was delivered nightly with high energy and truth with a message of hope. The event led to 19 baptisms.

On Oct. 24, 2015, Sharon Church again hosted a homecoming celebration, Connecting People to the Promise, honoring its 69 years as a church family. The guest speaker was Sharon Church’s own Terry Lyndon Johnsson, Adventist Medical Center mission integration executive director and author of *For His Honor*. Past members from around the city, as well as from



Terry Lyndon Johnsson speaks during the Sharon Church annual homecoming.

out of town, came back to their home church to worship with current members.

Johnsson’s message, entitled “PHA” (Praising Him in Advance, based on 2



Homecoming at Sharon Church brings together former and current members for a time of Spirit-filled worship.

Chron. 20:21–22), emphasized that we serve a God who can take our test and turn it into a “TESTimony.”

Sharon Church members are marching to Zion and serving their Lord with zeal. For more information on events at Sharon Church, visit sharonsda.net and like Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church on Facebook.

Denise Williams, Sharon Church communication leader

ROCK CLIMBING ENHANCES LIFE SKILLS AT PAA

Will Howard has a fear of heights. Even so, he reaches great heights and scampers spiderlike up and across walls and under overhangs at the Portland Rock Gym.



You’d never guess that Will Howard has a fear of heights. He scampers spiderlike up and across walls and under overhangs at the Portland Rock Gym (PRG). He reaches great heights.

“My enjoyment of this is greater than my fear,” says Howard, a Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) senior and rock climbing club member. “It’s made me more confident, and it’s as satisfying as solving a difficult puzzle, so I feel like

my mind is stronger.”

PAA’s climbing gym was recently removed to accommodate campus development of a new school, but the school’s support of the sport remains strong. PAA’s academic standards committee recently included rock climbing in its physical education courses, and the school plans to reconstruct the gym as part of its building project.

Climbing supports PAA’s core values, especially those related to overall health and well-being. And the sport benefits more than the body, including mental health. “Those who have the most to gain from climbing are probably those who have the most fear. It builds

self-confidence, problem-solving skills, focus and stick-to-itiveness,” says Mark Smith, club sponsor and teacher. Climbing also builds strong friendship, trust and accountability.

“I feel like my brain gets a workout,” says Randy Le, PAA junior. “It’s hard, but I really like it.”

Smith says rock climbing and hiking are activities that can provide a lifetime of enjoyment in God’s creation. “Through climbing at PAA, I hope to instill a lifetime desire in students to seek places where God is more easily experienced,” he says.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent

More online at glnr.in/111-01-or_paa

GRANTS PASS STUDENTS AIM TO 'BE EXTRAORDINARY'

Read more online at glnr.in/111-01-or_extraordinary

It has been an extraordinary year at the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School.

In fact, this year's theme is "Be Extraordinary!" The pastoral staff of the Grants Pass Adventist Church has taken this theme to heart, devoting time three days each week to teach Bible classes for grades five through nine.

Pastors Christian Martin and Tony Rodriguez, along with church elder Chuck Austin, have viewed this interaction with students and teachers as extending their ministry right into the heart of the classroom.

"I've been very amazed how open [students] have

been. Some have shared of bouts of depression they have been facing, how they have been able to overcome. It's been exciting to see their transparency," says Rodriguez. His time at the school offers more opportunities for interaction, versus a once-a-week chapel time. "We can have discussions about baptism. It's easier, open and better received," he explains. This work is, indeed, very pastoral.

Another special blessing is the interaction with non-Adventist students at the school. "What a privilege it is to present the Bible to those who don't know the Adventist message — or the Bible, for that matter," Rodriguez points out.

At the center of each lesson is prayer time. The ninth-grade class even has an assigned prayer coordinator who takes prayer requests and praises, then shares updates to prayer and leads the class in prayer.

The return of ninth grade has been an exciting development at the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School. This ninth-grade class, says Martin, is "large enough to create engaging and dynamic teaching opportunities." The class is large enough that students receive all the

social benefits expected in a high school or academy. The majority of students in this grade come from families who have home-schooled their children through the elementary grades.

Austin's approach has been to treat the time as a typical Bible study. "It's very spiritual, not just academics, drawing [students] closer to Jesus," he says. Topics such as grace, love and fellowship are discussed. Other discussions have covered forgiveness, anger and how one might know God exists.

Martin's time has also been spiritually focused. He shares, "My personal goal has been [for the students] to say, 'How can I apply the lesson into daily life? How can this make a difference in my life?'"

Martin is aware how vital this school ministry is to the Grants Pass Church. "The time we're spending at the school with students is feeding into the relationship we have with them at the church," he says. "It communicates to the church at large that we support our school." Entire families are reached when church and school are brought together by pastoral support.

Jennifer Burkes, Grants Pass Church communication leader

Christian Martin, Grants Pass Church pastor, is connecting with students through his Bible classes.



WALLA WALLA-AREA SCHOOLS CREATE COLLABORATIVE BAND PROGRAM

More online at
glnr.in/111-01-uc_band

By working together, Walla Walla Valley Adventist schools are giving their students exceptional access, resources and, most of all, opportunities to make connections through a collaborative music program.

With resources always at a premium, Milton-Stateline Adventist School (Milton-Freewater, Ore.), Rogers Adventist School and Walla Walla Valley Academy (both in College Place, Wash.) started looking for unique ways they could work to provide a robust music program that would benefit each school.

Eric Anderson came to Walla Walla Valley Academy in 2014 wanting to build a strong and vibrant band program. He came to realize that the stronger students become musically in their partner schools, the more everyone benefited from the opportunities. Every student, every school, became stronger together.

Music is incredibly important in student success. According to Anderson, music teaches a student to identify emotions they then portray to their audience through the music. Interpreting these emotions leads to reflective thought and to a more loving, caring and empathetic person — all

attributes that make better Christians.

In addition to connecting spiritually, students improve in math and language arts through music performance. Studies have shown that learning to play an instrument helps your brain develop in ways nothing else can provide.



The Walla Walla Valley Academy Band performs for last year's WWVA AcroKnights home show. They performed throughout the West Coast and this year will travel to Hawaii to play for the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Music performance also develops important skills such as neurological multitasking, self-discipline, resilience, self-confidence, flexibility, creative problem-solving, cooperative learning, teamwork, generosity, manners and respect. Students learn the rewards of working hard, learn how to read music, and gain a glimpse of music history and theory. And last, but not least, musical groups are an



The Rogers Adventist School band performs for the University Church on Sabbath and at the Christmas Concert.

incredible place to develop positive and long-lasting friendships.

“Learning to play an instrument at the age of eight enabled me to participate in band music to this day,” says Leslie Briggs, Milton-Stateline Adventist School principal. “I have been able to supplement on several instruments in school bands where I have taught. It’s a great way to interact and see the kids outside the classroom. It is a very special connection.”

“Eric has done a wonderful job engaging our students in learning an instrument,” says Clare Thompson, Rogers Adventist School principal. “The band offers each student the opportunity to connect with their peers and to experience the joy of teamwork, no matter the skill level.”

Walking into a band

rehearsal you immediately feel the passion Anderson has for teaching his students. “I love it for many reasons,” he says, “but the key moment is when a student accomplishes something that they thought was impossible or extremely hard. Those are the moments you want for every student to experience.”

“What makes the biggest difference to these students,” says Brian Harris, Walla Walla Valley Academy principal, “is when you come and support them at concerts or any venue where they perform. When the community takes time to talk to them about experiences that you have had as a musician or audience member, it encourages them to continue their musical journey.”

Elaine Blake Hinshaw, Walla Walla Valley Academy marketing and recruitment director

UPPER COLUMBIA

+ CONFERENCE // NEWS

UCA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FEATURED AT MINI MAKER FAIRE

“**T**hat’s amazing!”
 “I’ve never seen that before.”
 “How does that work?”
 These statements were common at the Mini Maker Faire hosted at Spokane Valley’s Barnes and Noble store on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2015. Upper Columbia Academy Elementary School (UCAES) fifth- through eighth-grade teacher Christopher Duckett and a few of his students were featured “makers” at the fair. They brought their 3-D printer and happily explained

volunteer network of makers and philanthropists.
 A librarian from a Catholic school in Tri-Cities, Wash., was particularly fascinated with UCAES’s Helping Hands Project since she is in the process of setting up a maker-space at her school



During the Mini Maker Faire, the 3-D printer was busy making e-Nable paperclips to give away.

that will include a 3-D printer. She was very excited to see how a 3-D printer could be used to help others and plans on sharing this idea with her school. “I know that I was supposed to be here to meet you today. God bless you and your school’s project!” she said.

UCAES students and staff were grateful for the opportunity to share how they are using technology to help others and hope to continue to inspire local makers to lend a helping hand.

Jay Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference assistant to the president for communication

More online at glnr.in/111-01-uc_ucaes



The students helped visitors assemble the 3-D printed parts of the prosthesis, like this finished Raptor Reloaded hand.

to visitors how to make, modify and download a 3-D file to the printer, as well as their goal of printing and providing prosthetic hands to children without fingers.

Curious visitors learned how to assemble the 3-D printed parts of a Raptor Reloaded prosthetic hand, one of many designs provided by e-Nable, an international



Sixth-grader Wesley Oliver directs the Spokane Symphony.

SPOKANE VALLEY STUDENT DIRECTS SYMPHONY

When the Spokane Valley Adventist School (SVAS) sent in their required information to attend the Spokane Symphony’s concert for school children in the Spokane, Wash., region and north Idaho, little did they know they would make history for their school.

The application asked for the name of a student who might be able to conduct the symphony if chosen. Music teacher Marilyn Jorgensen wrote Wesley Oliver’s name, knowing he could handle it well, but Jorgensen kept it secret. Several weeks later she received an email on her phone stating, much to her surprise, Oliver had been chosen.

She excitedly phoned Oliver and his parents, Charlie and Tonya Oliver, along with the school principal, Beverly Church. It did not take long for the entire student body to get involved in the enthusiasm of the moment and the privilege of being recognized along with many public schools.

Preparation for Oliver meant rehearsal the evening before the concert with the Spokane Symphony and its new assistant conductor, Jorge Luis Uzategui, to get a few pointers on conducting Rossini’s *William Tell Overture*.



Wesley Oliver waits backstage to direct the Spokane Symphony.

About 600 students from across the region filled the Fox Theater, the home of the Spokane Symphony. It proved successful, and all cheered on Oliver’s professional debut — a musical experience the SVAS family will long remember.

Marilyn Jorgensen, SVAS music teacher



Spokane South Hill Church women attend the weekend retreat at Camp MiVoden.

UCC WOMEN'S RETREAT PROVIDES REST

Almost 200 women and young women were rejuvenated at the Upper Columbia Conference Women's Retreat held in October at Camp MiVoden at Hayden Lake, Idaho.

The theme, "Confident," was based on Phil. 1:6, which says, "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Jo Ann Davison, Andrews University professor, was the main speaker. "Her rich biblical knowledge given in such a practical way is so inspiring to our relationship with Jesus," says Patty Marsh, Upper Columbia Conference women's ministries director. There were also breakout sessions, plus music by vocalist and violinist Margie Salcedo Rice and the praise team.

Saturday evening provided extra fun like swimming, crafts and games. One of the best parts for many was not having to cook or clean. A prayer room gave attendees a place to share their requests and to pray with others.

Plan now to attend the 2016 women's ministries

More online at glnr.in/111-01-uc_retreat

events. The spring Women's One Day Retreat is scheduled for Sabbath, May 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the conference office. The fall Women's Retreat at Camp MiVoden is scheduled for Oct. 21–23. Online registration is available, and you can also register someone as a gift.



Jo Ann Davison gives practical ways to live for Christ.

For more information about the 2016 events for children's and women's ministries or Adventist Community Service and Disaster Response, or to request a CD of the main sessions by Jo Ann Davison, please contact Tamara Terry at tamarat@uccsda.org.

Tamara Michalenko Terry, Upper Columbia Conference administrative assistant for ACS, children's and women's ministries

PASCO EPHEBUS ACTIVATES MILLENNIALS

The Pasco (Wash.) Ephesus Church is proactive about including millennials in their church life. Members observed that many millennials were sporadically attending church and noticed that a majority of them liked sports.

So members began organizing a church basketball team and arranged for them to play in a yearly tournament. This fall was the third year of this event, which engages the whole church.

Diana Castro, Pasco Ephesus Church member, finds the event allows her to connect with the church, find her way back to a good path and feel again a fire for God. This tournament not only integrates the millennials back into church life, but it also creates a positive atmosphere for the church.

This year, the fall classic basketball tournament brought more than 100 individuals to the Pasco Ephesus worship service, and the event on

Saturday night had nearly 550 people in attendance. Eight teams participated, including one comprised of people with no church affiliation.

More than just a game, the event allowed Castro to introduce the wonderful love of God to a close friend. "What better way to be able to reach out as disciples to those around us and show our God's power and love?" asks Castro.

The winning team was from Walla Walla University. One of the players, Tehran Richardson, says, "To invite the world to see Jesus showcase His love and affection through us ... is exactly what we did." Richardson hopes those who came will continue to come to church and become on fire for God.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

More online at glnr.in/111-01-uc_pasco

This team came from the community and has no church affiliation.





LUNCHEON HONORS ACS VOLUNTEERS

More than 20 individuals were honored at the Upper Columbia Conference Adventist Community Services (UCC ACS) Appreciation Luncheon. Two of those honorees worked for more than 25 years in their areas of service. Others received five-year and 10-year honor pins.

Attendees had a good time sharing their stories of ministry in their own community while others gleaned ideas they could emulate in their neighborhood.

“It is so humbling to see the work these volunteers are doing in their community,” says Patty Marsh, UCC ACS director. “These people are truly following the Lord words in Matt. 25:35–36, which says, ‘For I was hungry and you

gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.”

If you know of someone in the Upper Columbia Conference who should receive a five-year, 10-year or 25-year ACS honor pin, please email Marsh at pattym@uccsda.org.

All ACS volunteers should plan to join the ACS National Convention, scheduled for Sept. 7–11 in Portland, Ore. Please contact Marsh at the email above if you are interested in attending.

*Tamara Michalenko Terry,
Upper Columbia Conference
administrative assistant for ACS,
children’s and women’s ministries*



Summit Northwest Ministries in Post Falls, Idaho, holds a Creative Youth Summit.

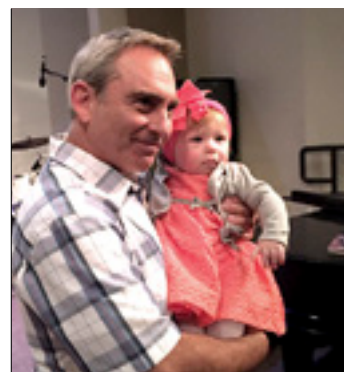
CREATIVE YOUTH SUMMIT HELD IN POST FALLS

Focusing on the life of Christ can always be a transforming experience, and recently the folks at Summit Northwest Ministries in Post Falls, Idaho, realized just how true this can be. Bruce Marchiano came to share how studying Jesus had deeply impacted him.

Marchiano is best known for playing the leading part in *The Visual Bible: Matthew*, which is a word-for-word depiction of the book of Matthew. As he was preparing and filming the movie, he spent several months of his life “being” Jesus, and it opened his eyes in new ways as to what that meant.

As part of their Creative Youth Summit, church members invited Marchiano to come for the weekend. This event was designed around two central ideas: to explore the artistic and creative side of worship and to provide training and experience for youth to get involved in being an active part of the worship at their church.

With Marchiano’s background as a professional Hollywood actor, he was able to illustrate how the arts can connect us to spiritual matters in ways that theology and cog-



Bruce Marchiano, best known for playing Jesus in *The Visual Bible: Matthew*, participates in the Creative Youth Summit.

nitive study aren’t able to. He shared how portraying Christ as He got down on His knees to heal filthy beggars gave him a completely new understanding of the depths of God’s love.

In the afternoon, the high school youth used workshops to prepare music and drama features they performed in the evening. The day ended with an energetic concert by the local praise band Realize, led by Jared Anderson.

Summit planners hope to make it an annual event for energizing and empowering youth to contribute in their home churches.

Terry McLeod, Summit Northwest Ministries youth leader

BIG PICTURE OF MINISTRY



Fundraising expert Lilya Wagner led nonprofit ministry leaders in a work session about funding their ministry activities. These leaders previously participated in two training sessions about developing strong and viable ministries in partnership with God.



Puget Sound Adventist Deaf Ministries leaders were surprised when 21 guests came to learn from deaf guest speaker Francisca Trexler about two topics: tithing and health. Ministry leaders are planning a second session with Trexler at Seattle's Volunteer Park Church in the fall of 2016.



Representatives from new and established thrift store ministries in the Pacific Northwest recently attended and networked at a Thrift Store Ministry Summit in Federal Way. Thrift store ministries provide a way to service working families to receive dignified and affordable services.

FOREST PARK INVITES COMMUNITY TO STUDY BIBLE

The gospel of Matthew is filled with many soul-winning examples in the life and teaching of Jesus Christ.

The most climactic and often quoted words of the Master are found in Matt. 28:18–20, where Jesus commissions His followers to “go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them” The promise is then given that He will be with us as we seek to do all in our power to reach and save souls that are seeking the truth as it is in Jesus.

One of the ways Washington Conference has taken the initiative to follow the commission of Jesus was by employing two Bible workers — Shayna Taumua and Ethan Peterson — for Forest Park Church in Everett in preparation for an evangelistic series in October 2015.

INVITATIONS TO LEARN

Lavonne Silva Sanchez, a mother of five, received one of the mailed Bible study invitations. She concurrently studied the Bible with the Jehovah Witnesses and the Seventh-day Adventists.

The Bible studies led into an Amazing Prophecies Revelation Seminar by Jason Morgan, North Pacific Union Conference evangelist. Sanchez attended each evening and learned about the love of God as illustrated in Daniel and Revelation. She and her family were baptized and joined the Adventist Church at the conclusion of the seminar series.

Dorothy Estelle received the handbill in the mail and immediately decided to attend nightly.

“After many questions have been left unanswered,” Estelle says, “I asked the Lord to send me something that would help me understand the book of Revelation in light of current events. I believe I have found the truth.”

Estelle invited her friend Sandi Randall to attend the seminar with her and was able to



Bible worker Ethan Peterson (right) works along with Forest Park members to greet guests and provide seminar resources.

come for most of the series. The two women decided to be rebaptized and join the Adventist Church. “I know the Lord has led me here,” Estelle says.

Amber McGonagill also attended every night and would often arrive early. Though she had previously professed a faith in Christ, she wanted a genuine heart-commitment to Him. As the truth spoke to McGonagill’s heart, she fully committed her life to Jesus in the waters of baptism.

At the conclusion of the series, the Lord blessed the Forest Park Church with 21 baptisms and several more in preparation.

There are many people within our communities waiting to receive the gospel invitation. As we work together to give ourselves to God for the work of the ministry, Jesus promises His power and grace to bring the results that will finish the work until His coming.

Jason Morgan, North Pacific Union Conference evangelist

STUDENT NEWSLETTER EARNS DOUBLE 'WAVE' OF AWARDS



See the full collection of "The Wave" issues at washingtontconference.org/education.

Ask students about who likes to win an award, and nearly every hand will go up in the air. Whether for academics, physical education, citizenship or creativity, students respond enthusiastically when their name is called to receive an award.

"The Wave" student newsletter won Best Newsletter and the Reger Smith Cutting Edge Award from the Society of Adventist Communicators. Since the awards presentation, the awards statue and certificates toured all three schools associated with the newsletter entered for awards.

"My kids loved reading all the articles (particularly in the BV issue)," says Nikki Kiger, a parent at Buena Vista Adventist Elementary in Auburn. "They loved recognizing names of fellow students. To see their work 'published' was a big deal to them."

THE FIRST WAVE

As a summer communication intern in 2014, Alix Harris dreamed up the idea



JONATHAN BAUMGARTNER

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director, accepts the Society of Adventist Communicator's Best Newsletter award on behalf of the schools who contributed to "The Wave" elementary school newsletter.

of a newsletter featuring the writing, artwork and creativity of various elementary schools in western Washington. She called it "The Wave."

Harris produced the first issue as an illustration of what schools could do. The schools loved the idea — and then did nothing for several months. Finally, grades kindergarten through eight at Skagit Adventist Academy in Burlington developed a heart-themed issue for February 2015. Skagit's example motivated Buena Vista, Cypress Adventist School

in Lynnwood, and additional schools to create newsletter content.

EYE-CATCHING CREATIVITY

The judges noted how the elementary school student-produced newsletter features creative and eye-catching artwork, design and stories. The closest comparison is the *Adventist Review's* "KidsView" newsletter.

Each four-page issue is driven by the type and quantity of content schools submit. Student artwork, when available, is used to illustrate the issue. As schools produce content, Washington Conference provides the design and distribution. Teachers and students often come up with their own content ideas usually associated with a curriculum unit.

Elementary students receive a hard copy of the newsletter to

share with their parents and/or grandparents. Extra hard copies are shared with conference committees and with camp meeting attendees as a school marketing piece. As new issues are released, they are featured in "Sailing With Jesus" e-news, in which the cheerful "The Wave" issues continue to be chart-topping in the number of clicks from readers.



ARCHIE HARRIS

Alix Harris, a graphic design major at Walla Walla University, first came up with the idea for an elementary school newsletter in summer 2014 while interning with Washington Conference.

"I'm really proud of the students who submitted their creative work (both written and artistic) and the teachers who encourage this creative expression," says Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director. "The trailblazing by these three schools is inspiring additional schools to participate in this newsletter venture."

Skagit Adventist Academy elementary students display their awards for "The Wave" student newsletter.



NERIDA HABENWICHT

PSAA HONOR STUDENTS PLAN SERVICE CAMPAIGNS

The Puget Sound Adventist Academy (PSAA) National Honor Society (NHS) chapter recently participated in three service campaigns with plans for more throughout the school year.

NHS students volunteered at Hopelink's annual fall fundraising banquet for hunger relief.

"Hopelink is a foundation that helps those in a crisis to get out of it and back on their feet," says Selina Riston, a junior student from Snohomish. The students' role at the fundraiser was to greet guests and help them find their name tags, Riston explains.

The NHS chapter worked with nearby Kirkland Church to collect food items for Thanksgiving baskets.

"I really looked forward to these [baskets] because it's the holiday spirit that especially gets to those who are not as fortunate," says Andrew Tampake, a junior from Everett. "Getting to help them out in any way is something

that really hits home to the heart."

During the Christmas holiday, NHS and faculty sponsor Karen Murcia wrapped gifts for Forgotten Children, a local organization that provides gifts for children in poverty in the Seattle area. They also once again hosted the Angel Tree project, which pairs local children with gifts from PSAA students.

What else is on the NHS agenda? A blood drive.

"This is a bit of an odd thing to be looking forward to, especially considering my aversion to needles, but I'm really looking forward to the blood drive we're going to be doing in the spring," says Emily Borg, a junior from Everett. "I've never donated blood before, but I know how important a gift it is. If my donation is beneficial to someone in need, I'm happy to help."

Anika Zebon, Puget Sound Adventist Academy teacher

National Honor Society students at Puget Sound Adventist Academy are contributing to the community through service campaigns.



GINA HUBBIN

Auburn students share at Sabbath School about their participation in Youth Rush this summer while another set of students (pictured) talk about why they came to Auburn Adventist Academy this year and how it has impacted their lives.

FAMILIES EXPERIENCE STUDENT LIFE AT AUBURN

When Melinda Newell decided to enroll her home-schooled son, Samuel, as a freshman at Auburn Adventist Academy, it came with a lot of adjustments.

"The first six weeks were difficult," remembers Newell, who lives in Oregon. "The first home leave could not come soon enough."

The Newell family returned in November to experience their first Family Weekend.

"We had a taste of what our son's daily schedule is like: busy," says Newell. "It was nice to see Samuel all dressed up in his choir tuxedo, meet his friends, taste the food in the cafeteria and meet some of his teachers."

Family Weekend in November is always a special time at Auburn Adventist Academy as parents spend time on campus, see a showcase of student work, and meet school staff and church members who have become part of their children's school family.

"We discovered that AAA

is a family that loves its kids and wants to do what is best for them," says Newell. "Teachers strive to show them God every day and are real with their students. They understand that learning and relationships are a process, not always a product."

The weekend included a Saturday night fall festival with food and game booths, Sunday morning parent-teacher conferences, and a special Thanksgiving send-off brunch.

Village parent Christine Reed appreciated Family Weekend. "It was a great weekend, and we enjoyed getting to know our daughter's teachers and other parents," she says. "We are so thankful for all the teachers and staff and their dedication and commitment to making AAA a Christ-filled, academically rich school."

Stacy Tejel, AAA teacher, and Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

COME TO THE TABLE

Tillamook Regional Medical Center Provides Dinner to Local Homeless Population



On a stormy night in November, Tillamook Regional Medical Center (TRMC) serves dinner at the Tillamook Adventist Church to the homeless. Folks come in from the dark, wind-whipped and wet, some arriving on foot, some in cars that double as their homes.

A tiny woman with curly black hair and snappy brown eyes arrives. She wears a sheet of contractor's plastic that falls to her shins with a hole cut for her head; rain sluices off her in sheets. Her shoes are covered in so many layers of duct tape they are comically large, like boats on her feet. Her name is Anya; she's a veteran.

Tillamook County is home to more than 300 homeless men, women and children. They live in the woods, in cars and in old trailers with no electric hookups or bathrooms. They live in tents and under bridges, and they "couch surf," staying with friends and family for a few nights at a time, always on the move.

With this in mind, TRMC has begun a monthly mission project to feed the homeless. "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share God's love in our community," says Danny

Parada, TRMC spiritual care director. "It is as much a blessing for us, to be of service, as it is for the people whom we serve."

The hospital provides the food, and TRMC employees volunteer their time. Free flu shots are offered, and hospital staff donate socks, hats and scarves to be given to guests. The Tillamook Church provides the fellowship hall and kitchen. It is a cooperative mission with the teachings of Christ at its heart.

Two shy mothers who don't speak English enter with five young children, whose eyes light up when they see the table laden with food. The kids are polite; they wait to be invited to the table while their small bodies quiver with anticipation.

A mountain of a man, tall and powerful-looking with long white hair and a big white beard, enters with a gust of wind. He carries all of his earthly possessions in a huge pack on his back beneath a hooded poncho. He looks like he has lived outside for years. His name is John.

The food is lovingly prepared at the hospital by Janice Wolk, TRMC nutritional services director. On this night, she has baked homemade pumpkin pies for dessert. One visitor asks for a second slice of pie and says that it is the best thing he's eaten in years.

When all of the guests have been served, TRMC staff serve themselves and sit down to share a meal with their visitors. This is the most meaningful thing that they do — breaking bread together, listening to the stories of their neighbors who have fallen on hard times, sharing their common humanity, all God's children come to the table.

Mary Faith Bell, Tillamook Regional Medical Center marketing and communications director

Janice Wolk, TRMC director of nutritional services, visits with Paul Irish and Elizabeth "Rose" Malott. Paul and Rose have been homeless since 2007.



MARY FAITH BELL

Currier 65th

Joy Tucker was serving on the boys' deck in the Pacific Union College (PUC) cafeteria when she first caught a glimpse of Clarence Currier. Their attraction quickly bloomed into romance, and she took Clarence home to Lincoln City, Ore., to meet her parents, Will and Alma Tucker. Joy and Clarence were married on Sept. 3, 1950, after which Clarence helped his father-in-law build homes on the Oregon Coast and in Forest Grove.

While working as carpenter and electrician building the new Milo Adventist Academy, in Days Creek, Ore., Clarence also served as assistant boys' dean, and it was there that he discovered a love for teaching teens. After completing his education degree at PUC, he taught science and math at Seattle Junior Academy in Washington and at San Diego Academy and Redding Junior Academy in California.

Joy earned her nursing degree and worked in hospitals in San Diego, Calif., and Anchorage, Alaska. After they retired, they provided care for senior citizens in Canyonville, Ore., volunteered at Milo Academy and have continued to be active in their local church.

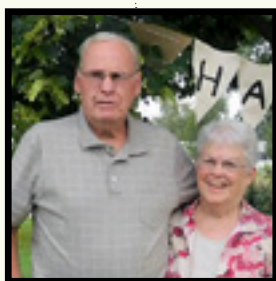
They celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary back at the Oregon Coast where they had spent their first years of marriage. Celebrating with them were their three children and children's spouses: Carol and Dave Sumerlin, Randall and Kris Currier, and Bill and Becky Currier — as well as

grandchildren Adrian Currier, Brandon and Mandy Currier, Luc Nelson, and Trudi Nelson, plus their great-grandchild, Lars Currier.

Hellie 60th

Paul and Lois Hellie celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 28, 2015, in College Place, Wash., with an outdoor dinner.

Paul Hellie met Lois Haraden while attending Walla Walla College (WWC). They were married Aug. 28, 1955,



Paul and Lois Hellie

in Portland, Ore. After years of denominational employment at WWC, as well as Loma Linda University and La Sierra University in California, they retired in College Place, Wash. They have enjoyed traveling during the winter months as snowbirds in the southwestern states. Lois volunteers with Gospel Outreach, and Paul has been active with the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The Hellie family includes Richard and Linda (Meharry) Hellie of College Place, Wash.; Lori and Tom Gray of Pendleton, Ore.; Michael and Lisa (Sprenkle) Hellie of Angwin, Calif.; and 7 grandchildren.

McKinstry 65th

Jim and Pearl McKinstry celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Sept. 11, 2015, dinner with friends and family in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Pearl Maguire graduated from Laurelwood Academy (Gaston, Ore.) in 1943, and Jim graduated from Auburn (Wash.) Academy in 1945.

They met at Walla Walla

College, where Pearl graduated in 1949. She went to work at Columbia Academy in Battle Ground, Wash., as the dean of girls. They were married Sept. 10, 1950, in Portland, Ore., after Jim had graduated and gone to work for the Upper Columbia Conference as the Book and Bible House assistant manager. While there, Jim handled the business of the literature evangelists (formerly known as colporteurs) for both the Upper Columbia and Washington conferences.

They were called to the Pacific Union Conference (PUC) to help establish a central office to handle the work of the literature evangelists for the entire PUC territory in 1955. This office, known as Home Health Education Service (HHES), was located in San Jose, Calif.

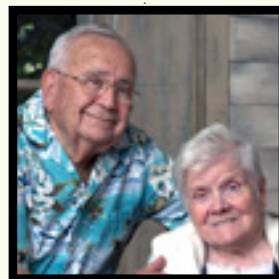
The McKinstry family loved camping along the Oregon coast as well as in Yosemite. They would go to Yosemite Valley and camp over the Memorial Day holiday and then again later in the summer to Camp Wawona for a retreat with the literature evangelists working in Central California Conference.

While living in San Jose, Pearl went back to school for her nursing degree, which she received the same year their son finished the eighth grade. As a registered nurse, she mostly worked in doctor offices and hospitals and worked out of a registry. Pearl liked to travel with Jim when he took business trips and attended rallies for the literature evangelists.

After 17 years in San Jose, Jim was asked to start HHES offices in several other unions: Southwestern Union office in Richardson, Texas, in 1972; Lake Union Conference in Berrien Springs, Mich., in 1975; and then to the North Pacific Union, in 1977, that had already established an HHES office in Portland, Ore. Then the couple moved back to Southwestern Union, where Jim served as assistant treasurer until the Atlantic Union in South Lancaster, Mass., asked him to establish an HHES office.

In 1984, as cancer surgery hit their family, the pair moved back to the Pacific Union HHES, which had been moved to Westlake Village in Southern California. They worked there until Jim's retirement in 1990.

Both Jim and Pearl thoroughly enjoyed being part of the church's publishing program. They thrilled to attend rallies and hear literature evangelists tell their experiences placing books in the homes of thousands of families.



Jim and Pearl McKinstry

They retired in the Portland, Ore./Vancouver, Wash., area and lived there until they recently moved to Sandy, Utah, to an assisted living facility memory-care unit near their son, Larry.

Their family includes Larry and Diane (Alsop) McKinstry of Murray, Utah; Anne Shiha-deh of Portland, Ore.; 3 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, a great-grandchild and 11 step-great-grandchildren.

Rexin 60th

Emil and Rosemarie Rexin celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 13, 2015.

Rosemarie Falstad graduated from Sheyenne River Academy in North Dakota and then attended college in Tennessee and Nebraska before transferring to Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Michigan. From there, she taught in North Dakota, Illinois and Oregon, while, Emil, her husband-to-be, was serving in the Army in Korea.

They were married in July 13, 1955, in Salem, Ore. During the next 45 years, Rosemarie ran a kindergarten while Emil worked at the state hospital for 38 years. They also had three children — one became a doctor, and the other two became nurses. The Rexins also have 7 grandchildren.

Finally, after retiring, they moved to Willamina on forestry land. They are still witnessing by sending money to 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network) to send the book *On the Edge of Time* to every address in Salem.

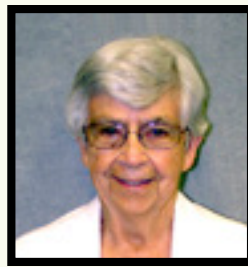
Schmechel 90th

Kaye Schmechel (“Grandma” to all who know her) celebrated her 90th birthday on Oct. 3, 2015, with her church family at a potluck in Newberg, Ore. She celebrated again with her immediate family on the evening of Oct. 10.

Kaye Pauline Boepple was born on Oct. 6, 1925, at home in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada. Her family moved to

Filer, Idaho, when she was 6 weeks old. She was the eighth child of 10, with five brothers and four sisters.

She married the love of her life, Chester R. Schmechel, in 1945 and lived happily through 69 years with him, until Chet passed away in 2014. Kaye lives with her daughter, Penny, and son-in-law, Doug Ausmus, on their farm near Newberg. She has 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.



Kaye Schmechel

moved to Yuba City, Calif., where Lorrell set up a dental practice and they raised their three children: Debbie, Tami and Jason. Lorrell spent many years as school board

and church finance committee chairman. Shirley faithfully served as a talented Sabbath School leader, creating memorable programs.

After retiring, they moved to Brush Prairie, Wash., and were very involved in the Hockinson Church and loved the many friends they made there. Recently, Lorrell and Shirley moved to Walla Walla, Wash., and have enjoyed renewing old friendships. Their 60th wedding anniversary was celebrated on Aug. 27, 2015, with family at Rosario Beach Marine Station near Anacortes, Wash.

The Smick family includes Phil and Debbie (Smick) Muthersbaugh of Walla Walla, Wash.; Tami Smick of Clackamas, Ore.; Jason Smick of Walla Walla; and 2 grandchildren.

Wageman 100th

On Oct. 11, 2015, about 100 relatives and friends gathered at the fellowship hall of the Newport (Wash.) Church. They were there to help celebrate the Oct. 13 100th birthday of longtime church member Minnie Wageman. Relatives in attendance came from different parts of the

United States and from as far away as Alaska, Hawaii, London and Australia.

Festivities included a time for fellowship, reminiscing and enjoying special music. The Loren Munson family sang “How Great Thou Art,” and Steve Cromwell, pastor, played a medley of favorite songs on his saxophone. Daughter Lou Heinrichs organized a special meal of lasagna, salad and juice with birthday cake for dessert. As a special touch, Minnie handed a rose (from a bouquet of 100 given to her by her family) to each guest as they left the party.

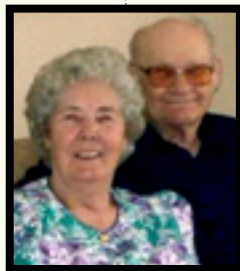
Minnie, whose parents came from Russia, was born in 1915 in Montana. She married Fred Wageman in 1935, and they raised four children: Lillian, Lou, DeLila and Jim.

In 1950, the family moved from southern Idaho to the Usk, Wash., area where Fred engaged in farming. Fred passed away at the age of 88 in 2001.

Minnie has 10 grandchildren and many great-great-grandchildren. She still keeps active today living at her own home in Usk, raising a garden (until a couple of years ago) and loving to bake and share her cookies. Minnie loves her Lord and prays daily for all of her kids and grandchildren.



Lorrell and Shirley Smick



Emil and Rosemarie Rexin

Smick 60th

Lorrell Dwight Smick and Shirley Mae Lewis were married on Saturday evening, Aug. 27, 1955, in Olympia, Wash. Shirley and Lorrell met at Walla Walla College (WWC) where Lorrell was studying zoology and Shirley secretarial science. Lorrell first remembers seeing Shirley in front of the college assembly reading the Associated Student Body secretary’s report. Shirley remembers her mom thinking Lorrell was a really nice young man because she had seen him on his knees praying and was proud he was a farmer from the Palouse.

Lorrell played basketball all his years in college and was a co-captain of the first Sonnenberg games held at WWC. He led his team to a winning trophy for the village team. Following graduation, the couple headed to Loma Linda University, where Lorrell completed dental school and they made many lifelong friends.

From Loma Linda they

The *Gleaner* also accepts expanded obituary announcements with short bio and photo. For submission and cost info, contact info@gleanernews.com or call 360-857-7043.

FAMILY BIRTHS

BARCLAY — Sadie Adelle was born May 28, 2015, to Andrew and Brooke (Carriker) Barclay, Olympia, Wash.

FITZGERALD — Giselle Sabine was born Nov. 11, 2015, to Orrin Walter and Kristi Lou (Steingas) FitzGerald, Springfield, Ore.

GOMEZ — Milo Elisha was born Aug. 27, 2015, to Jonathan and Shari N. (Jackson) Gomez, Vancouver, Wash.

JARDIN — Jace Michael Riley was born Sept. 26, 2015, to Johnathan and Jessica (Harvey) Jardin, Clackamas, Ore.

REYES — Shania Danielle was born Oct. 9, 2015, to Alex and Joneé (Harvey) Reyes, Salmon Creek, Wash.

SCHWISOW — Madelyn Grace was born Nov. 12, 2015, to Edwin D. and Sarah M. (Montague) Schwisow, Chattanooga, Tenn.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

KIRK-HUGHES

Kendra Kirk and Matthew Hughes were married July 19, 2015, in McMinnville, Ore. They are making their home in Longview, Wash. Kendra is the daughter of Mark and Vivian (Peterson) Kirk. Matthew is the son of Dan and Shelley Hughes.

SOLANKY-HERMENS

Snahal Solanky and Joseph Hermens were married May 24, 2015, in McMinnville, Ore., where they are making their home. Snahal is the daughter of Sidney (deceased) and Padmavati (Mohite) Solanky. Joseph is the son of John and Debra (Williams) Hermens.

Go to GleanerNow.com/contribute to submit family announcements.

FAMILY AT REST

BRYANT — Zella Mae (Shafer), 85; born Jan. 1, 1930, College Place, Wash.; died Sept. 23, 2015, Portland, Ore. Surviving: husband, Boyd; sons, David, Springfield, Ore.; Terry, Sausalito, Calif.; Gerald, St. George, Utah; Robert, Sonora, Calif.; Timothy, Ventura, Calif.; daughter, Janette Lu Ann Fitch, Portland; 19 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

FELLOWS — Marjorie Lou (Leinbaum), 87; born Oct. 25, 1927, Boulder, Colo.; died Sept. 1, 2015, College Place, Wash. Surviving: foster son, Dennis C. Markley Sr., Dickenson, N.D.; 2 foster-grandchildren and 2 foster-great-grandchildren.

JAMES — Arletia Ruth (Gibson), 85; born July 31, 1929, Cathlamet, Ore.; died May 2, 2015, Dallas, Ore. Surviving: husband, Wilbur; sons, Dennis, Forest Grove, Ore.; Will, San Diego, Calif.; Leroy, Dallas; daughter, Eudena Stroman, Seaside, Ore.; brother, Verlin Gibson, Vancouver, Wash.; 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

JAUSSAUD — Hilda Jane (Opp), 100; born Jan. 10, 1915, Hazelton, N.D.; died Sept. 14, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash.

LAMPSON — Charles L., 90; born June 8, 1925, Goldendale, Wash.; died July 22, 2015, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: wife, Elizabeth (Elliott); son, Larry, Idaho City, Idaho; daughter, Janice Alder, La Conner, Wash.; stepson, Ken Elliott, Mead, Wash.; stepdaughter, Maxine Young, Burnby, British Columbia, Canada; brother, Eugene Lampson, Vancouver, Wash.; sister, Ann (Lampson) Paddock, Vancouver; 4 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

LEMASTER — Ruth J. (Lentz), 83; born July 21, 1932, Hamilton, Ohio; died Sept. 8, 2015,

Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: son, John, Nampa, Idaho; daughters, Diane Liston, Tuju-na, Calif.; Tammy Congleton, Nampa; 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

MANSKER — William K., 65; born Aug. 7, 1949, Cleburne, Texas; died July 7, 2015, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Alix (De Chenne); son, William K. Mansker III; and a grandchild.

MC MILLEN — Mary Louise (Davis) Sweitz, 81; born Nov. 29, 1933, Dallas, Ore.; died July 10, 2015, Otis, Ore. Surviving: sons, James B. Sweitz, Robert Sweitz and Kerry Sweitz, all of Otis; Timothy Sweitz, Forest Grove, Ore.; stepson, Phil McMillen, Salem, Ore.; daughter, Debra (Sweitz) Hurd, Otis; stepdaughter, Carolyn (McMillen) Flock, Lyons, Ore.; 16 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

MUNROE — Erma Nadine (Scott), 95; born Feb. 16, 1919, Joseph, Ore.; died Aug. 2, 2015, Chehalis, Wash. Surviving: sons, Dean, Eau Claire, Mich.; Tom, Centralia, Wash.; Gary, Lebanon, Ore.; Cliff, Curtis, Wash.; daughters, Cindy Hansen, St. Helena, Calif.; Christie Wallin, Centralia; brothers, Ronald Scott, Rocklin, Calif.; Denny Scott, Azalea, Ore.; sister, Norma Momb, Paradise, Calif.; 11 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

NEWELL — Maybell Clara (Montgomery) White, 95; born June 18, 1920, Strong City, Okla.; died Sept. 7, 2015, Milwaukie, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Darlene (White) Burtch, Richland, Wash.; Janice (White) Reid, Milwaukie; 6 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

PARKER — Jacqueline Jean (Bauer), 87; born March 3, 1928, Battle Creek, Mich.; died

Aug. 16, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Wesley; son, Ken, Buckley, Wash.; daughter, Jan Roberts, College Place, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

PEDERSEN — Teri Lee (Gaffaney), 66; born March 27, 1949, Thompson Falls, Mont.; died Sept. 11, 2015, Kalispell, Mont. Surviving: husband, Jerry; daughter, Stacey Pedersen, Kalispell; and a grandchild.

WESNER — Denise Hallie (Cross), 73; born May 26, 1942, Miami, Fla.; died Aug. 29, 2015, Port Angeles, Wash. Surviving: husband, John Paul Wesner; sons, Robert Gerald Hendrickson, of Michigan; John Hunt Hendrickson III, of California; Arron Joseph Wesner, Port Angeles; daughters, Hallie Marie Hendrickson-Thomas and Heather Dawn Pearson-Ghrist, both of Port Angeles; Dawn Marie Wesner-Russell, San Antonio, Texas; Keren Ruth Pearson-Allen, St. Marys, Ga.; and 11 grandchildren.

WILSON — Virgil P., 91; born June 26, 1924, Kodaikanal, South India; died Aug. 25, 2015, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: wife, Nancy (Alcorn) Wilson; sons, Robert, Scottsdale, Ariz.; Larry, Battle Ground, Wash.; brothers, Hershel, Staunton, Va.; Stanley, Hollister, Calif.; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

- Jan. 2** — Local Church Budget;
- Jan. 9** — Local Conference Advance;
- Jan. 16** — Local Church Budget;
- Jan. 23** — NAD Religious Liberty;
- Jan. 30** — North Pacific Union Designated.

More events listed at GleanerNow.com/events.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

- Jan. 11–16** — ASWWU Week of Worship;
- Jan. 18** — Ricardo Graham speaks for Martin Luther King Jr. Day Community;
- Jan. 28–30** — Friendship Basketball Tournament.

OREGON

Depression: The Way Out Seminar

Jan. 26 — The newly updated “Depression: The Way Out” eight-week video seminar will begin Jan. 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N. Castle Rock, Wash. Neil Nedley, founder and speaker, inspires with tested tools to fight depression. There will be healthful food samples as seen in the book and breakout sessions with a depression coach. If you or someone dear to you is facing depression, this seminar is for you. Free introduction class is Jan. 11 at 6:30 p.m. There is a materials fee for taking the full eight-week class. Contact person is available at 360-967-2165.

Discover the Endgame of the Middle East Conflict

Jan. 29–30 — with John Witcombe, pastor, begins Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. continuing Jan. 30 for the morning service and an afternoon meeting at 2 p.m. Fellowship meal will follow the Sabbath morning service. You are invited to hear an easy-to-understand explanation of Dan. 11:45, revealing that we are on the verge of a stupendous crisis. Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N., Castle Rock, Wash. For more information, call 360-967-2165.

Missing Members

The Springfield Church is looking for the following missing members: Leslie Augsburg, Richard Baker, Marlin Bender, Don and Glenda Bolicek, Beverly Brooks, Alfrado, Antoinette and Aurea Carvajal, Kurt Dammel, Jane Fe'Aiu, Robby Hern, Kathy Jenness, Lisa Jenness, Kristen Jenness, Eugene and Carol Koenig, Sherry Lenheim-Smith, Jason Stewart, Audrey Whaley, Linda Young-Jackson, and Melody Ponder. If you have any information, please contact the church office at adventistchurch@gmail.com or call 541-746-8263.

WORLD CHURCH

Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend

April 30–May 1 — All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars. Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes: 1946, 1956, 1966, 1976, 1986, 1991, 1996 and 2006. Friday night vespers, Sabbath School, church, lunch and afternoon music program at North Aurora Church, North Aurora, Ill. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, we NEED your email address because postage is too expensive. Send your email address to Ed Gutierrez at edjulie1@att.net; or call 630-232-9034. More information to come. Don't miss it!

Sunset Schedule

January	1	8	15	22	29
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ALASKA CONFERENCE

Anchorage	3:51	4:03	4:19	4:36	4:55
Fairbanks	2:52	3:09	3:30	3:54	4:18
Juneau	3:14	3:24	3:37	3:52	4:09
Ketchikan	3:26	3:35	4:36	3:59	4:13

IDAHO CONFERENCE

Boise	5:18	5:24	5:32	5:41	5:50
La Grande	4:19	4:26	4:34	4:43	4:53
Pocatello	5:05	5:12	5:19	5:28	5:37

MONTANA CONFERENCE

Billings	4:39	4:46	4:54	5:04	5:14
Havre	4:33	4:40	4:49	4:59	5:10
Helena	4:50	4:57	5:06	5:15	5:25
Miles City	4:26	4:33	4:42	4:51	5:01
Missoula	4:57	5:04	5:13	5:22	5:33

OREGON CONFERENCE

Coos Bay	4:51	4:57	5:05	5:14	5:23
Medford	4:48	4:55	5:03	5:11	5:20
Portland	4:37	4:44	4:52	5:01	5:11

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

Pendleton	4:21	4:28	4:36	4:45	4:55
Spokane	4:07	4:15	4:23	4:33	4:44
Walla Walla	4:17	4:24	4:33	4:42	4:52
Wenatchee	4:20	4:27	4:36	4:46	4:56
Yakima	4:24	4:31	4:40	4:49	4:59

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Bellingham	4:23	4:31	4:40	4:50	5:01
Seattle	4:27	4:35	4:43	4:53	5:04

GleanerNow.com/sunset

Automotive

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



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Classes

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S DEGREES in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, 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.

Employment

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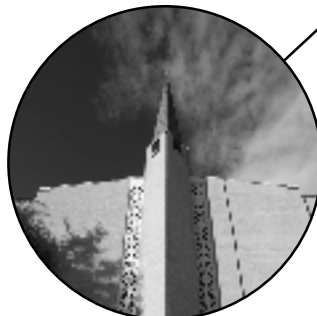
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EVANGELISM: POSTMODERN ANSWER OR DILEMMA?



D

oes the early church’s method of evangelism really work in the progressive, postmodern, liberal culture of today? Does publicly preaching our message really contribute to the growth and strengthening of our church in a post-Christian world, or is it nothing more than an exercise in futility to prove our propositional truths?

Think back for a moment to the apostolic church represented by Ephesus in the opening scenes of the book of Revelation. Here was a church, a movement, motivated by and unashamed of the preaching of the gospel that Jesus Christ had commissioned

them with.

Make note of Peter at

Pentecost who “... standing up with the eleven, lifted his voice, and said unto them ‘... hearken to my words’” (Acts 2:14).

The result of this public effort speaks for itself:

“Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?’”

THE APOSTLES AND THEIR CULTURE

Here is an amazing paradox!

The Apostles were sharing this public proclamation of the gospel in a culture that was steeped in Roman polytheism and infused with Greek mythology. Despite this, the “foolishness” of preaching resulted in an amazing number of souls being baptized. In what we would call a “postmodern,” progressive culture today, this public method of evangelism was patently effective.

The follow-up to this campaign is worthy of note. The Apostles believed that evangelism was not an event, but a process that needed to provide a healthy and conducive atmosphere for new converts to grow in faith. “And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers,” according to Acts 2:42.

The leadership of the church understood the importance of nurturing these souls in the doctrine and fellowship that Christ had entrusted to them. Fellowship, as Ellen White describes, is defined by “participation” and “partnership” (*Gospel Workers*, p. 392). Their commitment to Christ included a pledge of partnership with the church in the “faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3). “Continuing in the doctrine” was also another vital part of growing in grace. We can never say enough about the love of God in giving His Son to die in our place upon the cross, yet conversely we

AUTHOR

Jason Morgan



The work that involves lifting Jesus Christ before the world does not in any sense dismiss the foundational truths of the Third Angel's Message.

cannot neglect doctrine. The former doesn't invalidate or undermine the latter.

TODAY'S QUESTIONABLE INDIFFERENCE

It's unfortunate to see articles and sermons presented that give an obvious disdain for the method God has clearly ordained to reach and nurture the masses as characterized by the apostolic church and late advent movement. In Acts 17:6, the response was "these who have turned the world upside down" and eventually brought the world to recognize the power of the gospel through the "foolishness of preaching." Today, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is nearly 19 million strong. One thing is clear, the success of the early pioneers and later generations of our movement have not been attained by abandoning the apostolic method of evangelism and retreating to a less aggressive approach because of societal changes.

Why is there such indifference to the method that has brought success despite the ever-shifting sands of social and culture values of centuries past? Let's take a closer look at the *cause* and *effect* of preaching the message God gave the early church. In Acts 4:2, the disciples, who had taught

and preached to the people, received "many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand" (Acts 4:4).

In light of history, the fact that we see a growing disdain in some circles for traditional public evangelism and the proclamation of our special message for this time shouldn't surprise us. It existed in the early church, and we are told it will continue until Jesus comes the second time.

CHRIST AT THE CENTER OF DOCTRINE

The early pioneers of the Advent movement were dealing with the same issue when great and important prophetic developments were taking place. It was because of this Ellen White stated, "The present truth, the special message given to our world, even the third angel's message, comprehends a vast field, containing heavenly treasures. No one can be excusable who says, 'I will no longer have anything to do with these special messages; I will preach Christ.' *No one can preach Christ, and present the truth as it is in Jesus, unless he presents the truths that are to come before the people at the present time, when such important developments are taking place*"

(*Manuscript 33*, 1897).

What a sobering thought! The fact that Jesus Christ should be the center in the proclamation of the Three Angels' Messages will give the final gospel call power to move the masses to decision. We are further told in *Gospel Workers* (p. 156), "Of all professing Christians, Seventh-day Adventists should be foremost in uplifting Christ before the world. The proclamation of the third angel's message call for the presentation of the Sabbath truth. This truth, with others included in the message, is to be proclaimed; but the great center of attraction, Christ Jesus, must not be left out."

Notice the work that involves lifting Jesus Christ before the world does not in any sense dismiss the foundational truths of the Third Angel's Message. On the contrary, they are to be united together to flood the world with the light of the everlasting gospel.

As we see the fruit of

active churches bringing the good news to their communities, I believe every pulpit should be ringing with beautiful truths of the blessed hope and soon return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Let us not draw back as do others, but let us move forward with greater energy and perseverance "making full proof of the ministry" to reaching and saving the lost. The gift of evangelism, along with many other valuable avenues of ministry, has been employed by the Holy Spirit through the church, each unique and distinct, yet essential to working in unison together to bring the greatest potential impact to a dying world that is in desperate need of a Savior. We can hasten the coming of our Lord as we employ every gift God has given for this purpose, never fearing one moment for the future, "*unless we forget the way the Lord has led in the past.*"

Jason Morgan, North Pacific Union Conference evangelist

EDITOR'S NOTE:

As space allows, the Gleaner provides the You Said It section for Northwest Adventist members to share their personal testimonies or inspirational thoughts. The views expressed are those of the writer and may not fully reflect those of the North Pacific Union Conference or its leadership. We welcome submissions of 500-900 words for You Said It.

THE END OF THE STORY, PART 2



I hate bad endings — I always feel violated and like someone owes me an apology. I paid admission, risked a late fee at the library or wasted life by listening to someone forget the point of their own story while they are telling it to me. It's a worse feeling when I look at the story of my life and suspect that maybe Someone authored me into a tragedy, or a drama, or an R.R. Martin novel. What if God doesn't know how to end the story right?

Some people say that Jesus ends shadow and pain by torturing it, not to death, but for eternal life. They even go so far as to say watching those who follow the Liar writhe and burn and scream will make me happy; echoing Thomas Aquinas, Jonathan Edwards preached: "When the saints in glory, therefore, shall see the doleful state of the damned ... and hear their dolorous shrieks and cries, and consider that they in the mean time are in the most blissful state, and shall surely be in it to all eternity; how will they rejoice!"¹

I confess, sometimes I enjoy watching the bad guy get drop-kicked through a plate glass window, in a skyscraper, falling 60 stories, into a nitroglycerin truck with corresponding explosion of ice and fire. It's the same shadowy feeling that likes catching someone in a lie, delighting in the chance to shoot an intruder or winning an argument by proving someone

else wrong. The desire to see others hurt flows out of hurt not justice — Ellen White asks, "What would be gained to God should we admit that he delights in witnessing unceasing tortures?"² God and his people become monsters — except God says, "As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked" (Ezek. 33:11).

So others argue that if you reject the Light of the world, He will light you on fire. Jesus rains fire down from heaven turning the wicked into a lake of a billion human torches dancing before the throne until they collapse in a pile of ash — leading some to ask the question, "Is the gospel message 'accept my love or die'?"

So well-meaning theologians construct another ending that says God saves everybody! But then you lose free will to a God who won't take no for an answer, like a drunk frat boy on a first date. Exasperated, others put forward another idea that God just lets sin run its course. God reveals His love on the cross as an example for us and then ascends to heaven so He can sit on a throne — and on His hands. When sin burns itself out, He shows up to take the leftovers home. He's not violent; He's just impotent, like a Father who stands by and watches someone molest his children.

If the Hero is too aggressive, He becomes a monster. If the Hero is too passive, He becomes a monster. It seems like almost



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Seth Pierce



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every eschatological door has a monster lurking behind it. How do you vanquish darkness without becoming an agent of shadow yourself? J.R.R. Tolkien argued that myths, fairy tales and fables act as signposts to the one great story — which is why so many sound similar ... and sometimes they surprise with truth.³

Several years ago I read a four-volume epic with the usual trappings: Young farm boy discovers he is a legendary hero as he is thrust into a struggle between good

and evil (similar to my own story), mentored by an aging warrior, unlocks his unknown powers, which involve learning the ancient language — the true Word — that enables one to shape reality. The boy embodies the hope of overthrowing the evil wizard that has enslaved the world in darkness for thousands of years.

Nearly 3,000 pages of questing, training, romance and battles, and finally the hero and the great villain meet. Will the hero vanquish evil with the sword? Or by manipulating elements? Instead, the hero is

broken and lies bleeding out at the feet of Galbatorix. My first thought is, “I’ve been deceived by a dumb ending.”

And then, the hero utters something in the ancient true language and “the lines upon Galbatorix’s face deepened, and his eyes bulged from their sockets, ‘What have you done?’ he said, his voice hollow and strained. He stepped back and put his fists to his temples. ‘What have you done!’”

The hero replies, “Made you understand.”⁴

The ancient fiend

collapses crying out from the pain and grief of a full, objective, absolute understanding of every joy and every agony he has caused everyone since the day he was born. As the hero and heroine rush out of the crumbling fortress, they hear the dark wizard speak a phrase in the ancient true language: “Be not.” In a flash the evil one is vaporized — having unmade himself rather than endure anymore understanding. The Liar crumbles under truth — reminding the reader that darkness cannot overcome the light.

1. Jonathan Edwards, *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God: a Sermon Preached at Enfield, July 8th, 1741, 3rd ed.* (Boston: J. Kneeland, 1772).
2. Ellen White, *The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan During the Christian Dispensation*, 11th ed. (Oakland, Cal., New York: Pacific Press Publishing Company, 1888), 536.
3. J.R.R. Tolkien, J., “On Fairy Stories.” accessed Oct. 2, 2015, http://www.rivendellcommunity.org/Formation/Tolkien_On_Fairy_Stories.pdf.
4. Christopher Paolini, *Eragon* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003).

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor



RELATIONAL ADVENTISM

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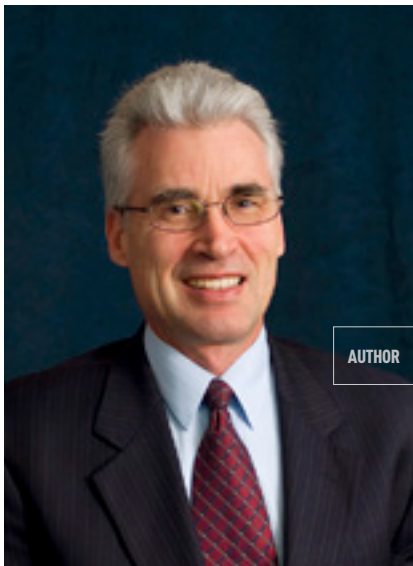
eventh-day Adventism parachuted onto the public square through the presidential campaign of Benjamin Carson. Suddenly we find ourselves talking about our faith with people who weren't interested before. What do we say?

Many Adventists are unaccustomed and perhaps uncomfortable in discussing doctrinal beliefs, preferring to bring on an evangelist to preach at people. Actually, Seventh-day Adventism is uniquely capable of connecting in the neighborhood, marketplace and classroom.

Let's consider the gregarious nature of Adventist beliefs, beginning with the Sabbath itself. It brings us together on the seventh day, professionals and working-class people interacting on the same level. Whatever one's socio-economic status, all believers worship side by side and fellowship face to face. For those suffering unemployment, on the Sabbath nobody is out of work since everyone is resting in Christ.

AUTHOR

Martin Weber



Adventism's belief in Christ's Second Coming is inclusive as well. We all go together to heaven in one grand reunion — not upon death as isolated, disembodied spirits. And our prophetic scenario offers God's plan for an eternally populated planet. While people around us talk wistfully about saving the earth, we can join them in its stewardship but also point to God's promise of an earth made new — humanity's long-sought utopia with the New Jerusalem, eternal city of peace.

The Adventist doctrine of heaven's sanctuary, as revealed in Scripture, is also relational. It's a friendly place where sinners flee for refuge to Jesus — not just our long-ago Savior but our real-time 24/7 Advocate with the Father (Heb. 7:25). Moreover, Christ in heaven brings us together for ministry on Earth. Heaven's sanctuary is the human resource center of the universe. From the time it opened for business on the Day of Pentecost, our High Priest has been incorporating us into His royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9). We become servants of His



PERSPECTIVE



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sanctuary — empowered for collaborative ministry through the symphony of everyone’s spiritual giftedness in reaching out to an alienated world.

EVEN HEAVEN’S JUDGMENT IS RELATIONAL

The Adventist doctrine of investigative judgment involves relationality between God and His creation. Closure from the reign of evil cannot be complete without disclosure, so our doctrine of pre-Advent judgment reveals a God willing to address the questions of His celestial universe. During the millennium that follows Christ’s coming, we humans receive insight about how God has allowed His people to suffer only what He can work for good. God will even involve us collaboratively as His jurists regarding the termination of sin and sinners (see Rev. 20:4 and 1 Cor. 6:2). This will call for much discussion and processing among ourselves as we stroll along the River of Life and sit

under the Tree of Life.

Unfortunately, some church members promote the “judgment hour message” by condemning neighbors rather than reaching out to them. Despite their denominational patriotism, they don’t realize that Adventism’s doctrine of judgment is relational not only in its process but also in what matters. Jesus foretold a judicial division between His community of compassionate sheep versus Satan’s selfish goats (Matt. 25:31–46.).

Amid their zeal regarding the timing of the pre-Advent judgment, early Adventists often overlooked those 16 verses with their powerful warning about what really counts in that judgment. Even today we tend to overlook that what matters to God in the celestial judgment is faith that bears the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy and peace, primarily) in compassionate ministry to the sick, poor and imprisoned. Jesus emphasized this in warning that the goats of

self-confident religiosity are on the high road to hell.

“Lord,” they will protest in vain, “when did we disobey You — did we not love You and keep your commandments?”

Jesus sadly responds, “But you did not care to love the least of these My brothers and sisters, so you do not care to love Me” (see verse 45). These religionists will wake up 1,000 years too late, finding themselves shut out from the community of grace-based, compassionate sheep.

Ellen White set us a good example by transcending the initial isolationism of Sabbatarian Millerites to become an example of how Adventists today may minister within the public square without forfeiting our unique message and mission. She mingled with fellow Christians who cared about moral and social issues. She even did God’s work with them, entrusting initial publication of her legacy book, *Steps to*

Christ, to Dwight Moody’s brother-in-law, Fleming Revell. In other writings, she often copied the language of non-Adventist authors, *effectively collaborating with their teaching*. (Both friends and foes of Ellen White usually overlook this.)

Sister White interacted whenever possible with non-Seventh-day Adventists, and we who claim her heritage can do no less. We can transcend isolationism and interact in the public square, without denying or diluting our divine mission. Our relational/incarnational doctrine both invites and requires it.

Martin Weber, Adventist product manager for Faithlife, maker of Logos Bible Software

PROGRESS

“

If I am voted in as pastor of this church,” said the prospective pastor to the search committee, “I will work hard to bring us into the 20th century.”

A rather astute soul spoke up, “Preacher, don’t you mean the 21st century?”

“Well, no,” quipped the pastor. “Given what I’ve seen here, let’s take it one century at a time!”

I smile at this, but progress is not always easy to define or accept. What initially appears as a bright idea is sometimes belatedly discovered to be dysfunctional and damaging. On the other hand, foundational pillars, undeniably important to the stability of any structure or organization, don’t necessarily prevent growth or renovation. Committees are full of this polarized dichotomy: While one member says, “We’ve never done it that way before,” someone else is undoubtedly thinking, if not saying, “Why not?”

Consider the ubiquitous automobile. In my estimation it’s a good thing they don’t make ’em like they used to.

Tires blew out with astonishing regularity. Carburetors flooded and stalled. Miles per gallon in the teens was a real achievement. Engines were grease factories — and starting

them required choreographed footwork between gas pedal and choke. Windshield wipers, powered by engine vacuum, stuttered slowly back and forth at stop lights. Gleaming chrome dashboard edges became deadly in any major accident. The good ol’ days they were not.

Decades later, things have dramatically changed. My former vehicle took me nearly 300,000 miles with nary a whimper. My current conveyance (knock on wood) is even better. But to peer under the hood is to be daunted. There a computer runs the show. You need a user name and password to change a spark plug.

I am glad my church still depends on people, who in turn depend upon our gracious God. But I do think progress would be good for us in areas where a breath of fresh air would do wonders. Here are some “what ifs” to consider.

What if Jesus treated those who are different than He is the same way we treat those who are different than we are?

What if our church leaders and committees actually reflected the demographics of our congregations?

What if we talked about Jesus as much as we did Donald Trump or Ben Carson?

What if we concentrated more on making a difference than we do on just being different?

What if each of us introduced just one additional person to Jesus each year?

I’m convinced our church must become more intentional about progress that is faithful to the biblical mandate of the gospel commission. If anything in our structure, policies, financial priorities or attitudes does not mirror our spiritual calling, it must be jettisoned as excess baggage.

The writer of Hebrews confirms the urgency we face: “Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us” (Heb. 12:1).

Our vision must be mindful of the past but focused on the goal ahead.

Yogi Berra, the iconic Yankee, had it right. “The future,” he said, “ain’t what it used to be.” While I can’t put Yogi on par with the prophets of old, I think he was on to something.

By God’s grace, I am counting on it.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor



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