

EDITORIAL
THE BEST GIFT

PERSPECTIVE
THE POWER OF
APPRECIATION

JUST LIKE JESUS
LAST CALL

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

*HIS NAME
SHALL BE
CALLED
IMMANUEL
GOD WITH
US*

NOV/DEC
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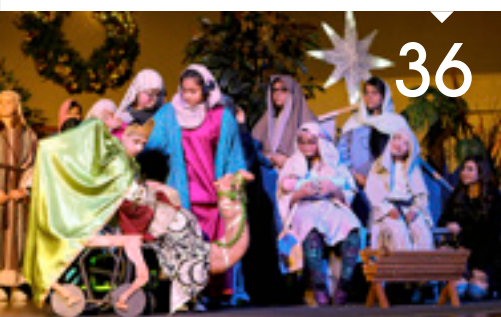


He brought streams
out of a rocky crag
and made water flow
down like rivers.
Psalm 78:16

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



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STEVE VISTAUNET

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Gleaner STAFF

Editors: Steve Vistaunet and Jay Wintermeyer

Copy Editor: Laurel Rogers
Advertising and Project Manager: Desiree Lockwood

Digital Media Coordinator: Anthony White

Digital Media Assistant: Nina Vallado
Design: GUILDHOUSE Group

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“Silky Autumn Falls,”
in Silver Falls State Park,
Silverton, Ore.,
by Nathanael Martin,
of Sheridan, Ore.

THE BEST GIFT

An old proverb says, “If you chase two rabbits, you will not catch either one.” There’s wisdom in these few words. The idea is to focus on just one thing. If we keep our eyes on what is most important and pursue it with all our heart, we will have a better chance of success.

One of my favorite business books is Richard Koch’s, *The 80/20 Principle*. Also known as the Pareto principle, the 80/20 principle states that in many cases, approximately 80% of your results come from 20% of your activities. Rather than chasing every rabbit that scurries across our path, the best rewards will come when we concentrate on the thing that really counts — that will truly make a difference.

So, what essential thing should be at the center of our focus as Christians? As a pastor and church leader, I’ve discovered the biggest driver of lasting success is a person’s character. Without a godly character, even the most talented people are often derailed somewhere along the line.

And, earthly acclaim is no guarantee of eternal good.

The apostle Paul found his eternal focus later in life. “This one thing I do,” he said, “forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling

of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:13–14).

If, like Paul, we make this “high calling of God in Christ Jesus,” this focus on developing a godly character, our priority, where do we begin in order to see our desired results? How do we become like Jesus?

One of the first Scripture texts I memorized as a new Christian was Matt. 6:33, which invited me to “seek first His kingdom and His righteousness” Sure, there were

things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.” Jesus did not say that serving others is bad. But there was just “one thing” that was necessary, and Mary had chosen it. Mary was focused first on seeking for and understanding God’s kingdom and His righteousness. Sitting at the feet of Jesus, she was being transformed into His image — receiving His character. She said no to some good

things to pursue the “one thing” that was best — Jesus.

Jesus was the best thing for Mary and Martha, and He’s the best thing for you and me. The best gift you

The 80/20 principle: 20% of our efforts result in 80% of our results.

could give to your family and yourself this holiday season is time with Jesus. He will grant you more patience, kindness and love to share with those you love the most. You will discover true success in its rightful place. But most of all, Jesus will become your best friend.

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John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president

Respond to any *Gleaner* topic by emailing talk@gleanernow.com.



AUTHOR

John Freedman

BACK TO THE FUTURE

“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language. And next year’s words await another voice.”—T.S. Eliot

knew it was coming sometime in the future. I just didn’t realize the future would be here so quickly. That old cliché on how time flies when you’re having fun must be true.

As of December, I will be history, an afterthought in aging *Gleaners* bound in hardcover repose on the office shelf. Retirement, it’s called, and I couldn’t be happier.

Strike from your mind an image of the aging horse put out to pasture. Expunge any thought that pajamas and slippers are soon to become the daily couture. I’m not hanging up the cleats, just switching saddles, changing lanes into areas perhaps less traveled.

It does feel a bit odd. After writing “thanks and goodbye” editorials for two former *Gleaner* editors, I’m now crafting my own eulogy. Yet nearly four decades of putting thought, energy and action into our Seventh-day Adventist Church mission have made me grateful for a personal identity not confined by the four walls of an office, the title on a business card or profile on LinkedIn. As sons and daughters of the King, we can share the richness of His presence and gifts of His Spirit anytime, anywhere.

Older church workers bring seasoned experience to our mission. Yet those of overripe age and ability should never be reluctant to step aside when new energy and inspired gifts are mentored and waiting from younger workers. So, I am doing my part, eagerly making room for fresh ideas and methods. That is how we move forward, refusing to accept status quo, willing to translate good intentions to positive action.

I like the apostle Paul’s plan. “Reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus”

(Phil. 3:13–14). When we set our sails to the wind of the Spirit, our personal and corporate journeys will be blessed.

Almost 50 years ago, a brash young troubadour penned an anthem of change that is strangely relevant to this path we are all on. “Your old road is rapidly agin’,” Bob Dylan wrote. “Please get out of the new one if you can’t lend your hand, for the times, they are a-changin’.”

Indeed they are, Bob, and I’m moving out of the corporate way. But this changing world needs an unchanging message of love and redemption shared in narratives it understands. Down through the ages this has been the musical score given to God’s people on the grand cosmic stage, and we have yet to fully embrace it. We must avoid shrinking behind church walls. God calls our church movement in every corner of the Pacific Northwest to find harmony in reaching current cultures and communities for Jesus. Only then will each unique part of the score blend into the anthem of the redeemed.

Speaking of change, some among us can easily recall their old automatic record album changers, with spindles holding up to six vinyl disks. The first album would play through one side of five or six songs, then, reaching the end, the mechanical contraption would swing the arm back and trigger the next disk to fall and the needle drop. That cycle would repeat until all six records had finished.

Scanning through the years, it’s clear that several albums have been completed. But, looking ahead, I know there are more, ready to play. Change is in the air, and I can hardly wait to hear what songs are next.

Steve Vistaunet, (retiring) North Pacific Union assistant to the president for communication and Gleaner editor



+ PICTURE THIS



Celebrating a new beginning.

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Home for the hurting.

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Bringing the land to education.

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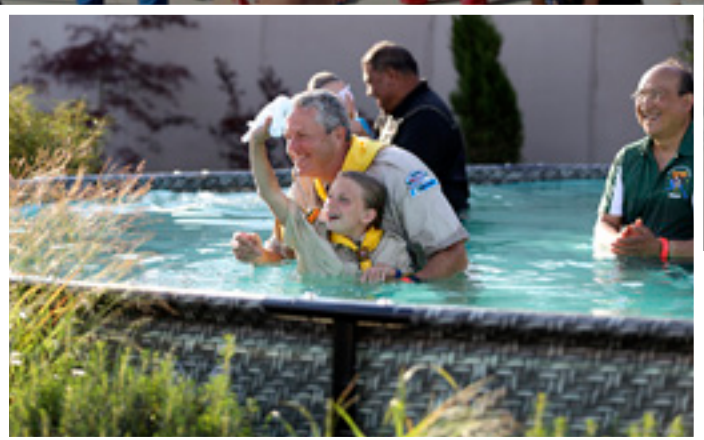
ARTIST ACADEMY



The hands of Jesus.

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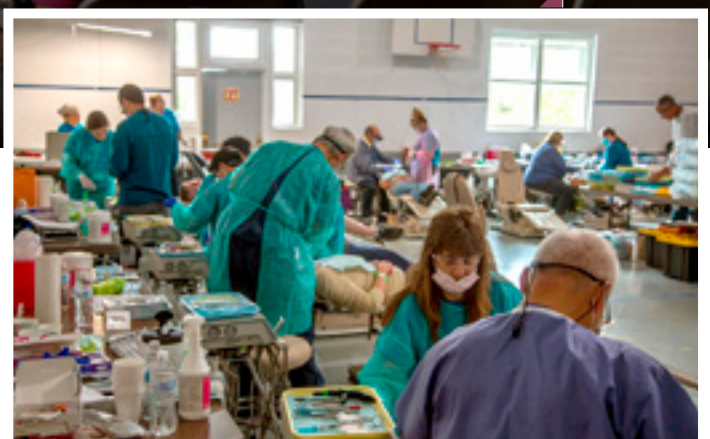
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A long way for a baptism.

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HIS NAME
SHALL BE
CALLED
IMMANUEL
EXCERPTS FROM *the* DESIRE OF AGES
GOD WITH
US

“FROM THE DAYS OF ETERNITY THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WAS ONE WITH THE FATHER; HE WAS THE ‘IMAGE OF GOD,’ THE IMAGE OF HIS GREATNESS AND MAJESTY, ‘THE OUTSHINING OF HIS GLORY.’ IT WAS TO MANIFEST THIS GLORY THAT HE CAME TO OUR WORLD. TO THIS SIN-DARKENED EARTH HE CAME TO REVEAL THE LIGHT OF GOD’S LOVE — TO BE ‘GOD WITH US.’ THEREFORE IT WAS PROPHESED OF HIM, ‘HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED IMMANUEL’” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 19).



**“TO THIS SIN-
DARKENED EARTH
HE CAME TO REVEAL
THE LIGHT OF GOD’S
LOVE — TO BE ‘GOD
WITH US.’”**

.....

“LUCIFER, THE COVERING CHERUB, desired to be first in heaven. ... With his own evil characteristics he sought to invest the loving Creator. Thus he deceived angels. Thus he deceived men. He led them to doubt the word of God, and to distrust His goodness. Because God is a God of justice and terrible majesty, Satan caused them to look upon Him as severe and unforgiving. Thus he drew men to join him in rebellion against God, and the night of woe settled down upon the world” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 21).

.....

“THAT THE GLOOMY SHADOWS might be lightened, that the world might be brought back to God, Satan’s deceptive power was to be broken. This could not be done by force. The exercise of force is contrary to the principles of God’s government; He desires only the service of love; and love cannot be commanded; it cannot be won by force or authority. Only by love is love awakened. To know God is to love

Him; His character must be manifested in contrast to the character of Satan. This work only one Being in all the universe could do. Only He who knew the height and depth of the love of God could make it known” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 22).

.....

“THE PLAN FOR OUR REDEMPTION was not an afterthought, a plan formulated after the fall of Adam. It was a revelation of ‘the mystery which hath been kept in silence through times eternal’ (Romans 16:25, RSV). It was an unfolding of the principles that from eternal ages have been the foundation of God’s throne. From the beginning, God and Christ knew of the apostasy of Satan, and of the fall of man through the deceptive power of the apostate. God did not ordain that sin should exist, but He foresaw its existence, and made provision to meet the terrible emergency. So great was His love for the world, that He covenanted to give His only-begotten Son, ‘that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life’ (John 3:16)” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 22).

.....

"REBELLION HAD STRUCK its roots deep into the heart, and hostility of man was most violent against heaven. It was demonstrated before the universe that, apart from God, humanity could not be uplifted. A new element of life and power must be imparted by Him who made the world. With intense interest the un-fallen worlds had watched to see Jehovah arise and sweep away the inhabitants of the earth. And if God should do this, Satan was ready to carry out his plan for securing to himself the allegiance of heavenly beings. He had declared that the principles of God's government made forgiveness impossible. Had the world been destroyed, he would have claimed that his accusations were proved true. He was ready to cast blame upon God, and to spread his rebellion to the worlds above. But instead of destroying the world, God sent His Son to save it" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 37).

.....


"WITH AMAZEMENT, the heavenly messengers beheld the indifference of that people whom God had called to communicate to the world the light of sacred truth. The Jewish nation had been preserved as a witness that Christ was to be born of the seed of Abraham and of David's line; yet they knew not that His coming was now at hand. In the temple the morning and evening sacrifices daily pointed to the Lamb of God, yet even there was not preparation to receive Him. The priests and teachers of the nation knew not that the greatest event of the ages was about to take place" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 44).

.....

"BUT IN THE CITY OF THEIR ROYAL LINE, Joseph and Mary are unrecognized and un-honored. Weary and homeless, they traverse the entire length of the narrow street, from the gate of the city to the eastern extremity of the town, vainly seeking a resting place for the night. There is no room for them at the crowded inn. In a rude building where the beasts are sheltered, they at last find refuge, and here the Redeemer of the world is born" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 44).

.....

"MEN KNOW IT NOT, but the tidings fill heaven with rejoicing. With a deeper and more tender



interest the holy beings from the world of light are drawn to the earth. The whole world is brighter for His presence. Above hills of Bethlehem are gathered an innumerable throng of angels. They wait the signal to declare the glad news to the world. Had the leaders in Israel been true to their trust, they might have shared the joy of heralding the birth of Jesus. But now they are passed by" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 47).

.....

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, and on earth peace, good will toward men.' Oh that today the human family could recognize that song! The declaration then made, the note then struck, will swell to the close of time, and resound to the ends of the earth. When the Sun of Righteousness shall arise, with healing in His wings, that song will be re-echoed by the voice of a great multitude, as the voice of many waters, saying, 'Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth' (Revelation 19:6)" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 48).

.....

"HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE no wider apart today than when the shepherds listened to the angels' song. Humanity is still as much the object of heaven's solicitude as when common men of common occupations met angels at noonday, and talked with the heavenly messengers in the vineyards and the fields. To us in the common walks of life, heaven may be very near" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 48).



***“HEAVEN AND EARTH
ARE NO WIDER APART
TODAY THAN WHEN THE
SHEPHERDS LISTENED
TO THE ANGELS’ SONG.”***

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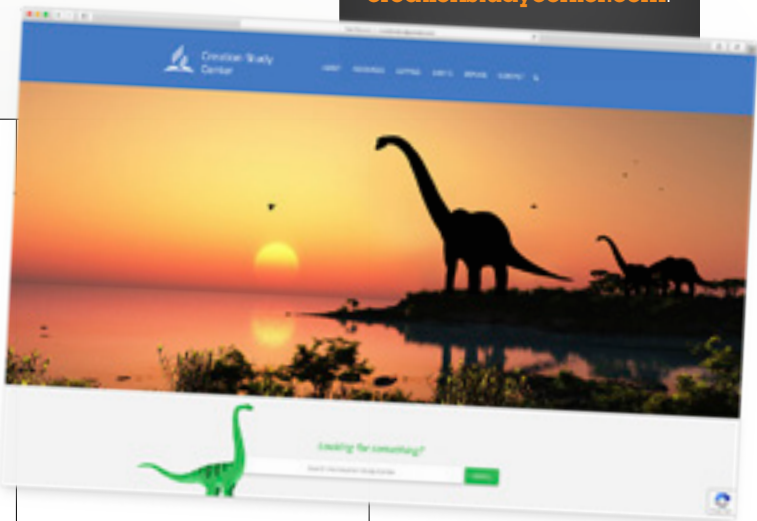
“THE STORY OF BETHLEHEM is an exhaustless theme. In it is hidden ‘the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God’ (Romans 11:33). We marvel at the Saviour’s sacrifice in exchanging the throne of heaven for the manger, and the companionship of adoring angels for the beasts of the stall. Human pride and self-sufficiency stand rebuked in His presence” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 48 and 49).

.....

“THE HEART OF THE HUMAN FATHER yearns over his son. He looks into the face of his little child, and trembles at the thought of life’s peril. He longs to shield his dear one from Satan’s power, to hold him back from temptation and conflict. To meet a bitterer conflict and a more fearful risk, God gave His only-begotten Son, that the path of life might be made sure for our little ones. ‘Herein is love.’ Wonder, O heavens! and be astonished, O earth!” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 49).

NPUC CREATION STUDY CENTER LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

Visit creationstudycenter.com.



As of this year's worldwide "Creation Sabbath" on Oct. 26, there has been an addition to the North Pacific Union Conference's media outreach: a new website for the Creation Study Center. Its internet address is a simple one: creationstudycenter.com.

The Geoscience Research Institute in Loma Linda, Calif., has a wonderful website full of advanced articles on origins. They feature a number of topics that have been addressed by Ph.D.'s from around the world. But what the NPUC wanted to provide was a source of solid scientific and scriptural support aimed specifically at the average church person, by trying to avoid super-technical language.

Many times Adventist members go to sources beyond the church for information on creation and evolution. Those sources sometimes include information that conflicts with

official Adventist beliefs. The new Creation Study Center website was designed to give Adventists an additional resource that is supportive of the church's stance on creation.

Thanks to generous donors and the web developing skills of Curious Media of Nampa, Idaho, the website is now operational. It features information on the Creation Center's many services, including the scheduling of Stan Hudson, North Pacific Union Conference Creation Study Center's director, as a seminar speaker. People can watch Hudson's seven-part creation lectures from the site or call to order their own DVD set.

The center itself is a museum. And it has been recently revamped with new rock and fossil displays and a large new case has been added. There is now an "Aaron's Breastplate" display with stones similar to the original 15th-century B.C. settings. Minerals from the

colored gems designed by the creator ... all can be seen at the center. Visiting hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tours are available upon request.

The Creation Study Center has been busy with activities throughout 2019. Hudson and the NPUC team took nearly two tons of museum artifacts to Oshkosh, Wis., in July for the International Pathfinder Camporee. Supported by the church's Geoscience Research Institute, the team hosted more than 10,000 curious visitors during the event. They taught classes for an estimated 1,400 Pathfinders in three areas: rocks and minerals, meteorites, and geology.

Hudson has traveled throughout the NPUC during 2019, presenting nearly 25 creation seminars in churches and seven weeks of prayer in Adventist elementary schools. Hudson loves encouraging

students to study God's works in nature. The more we study God's creation, the more we learn about Him.

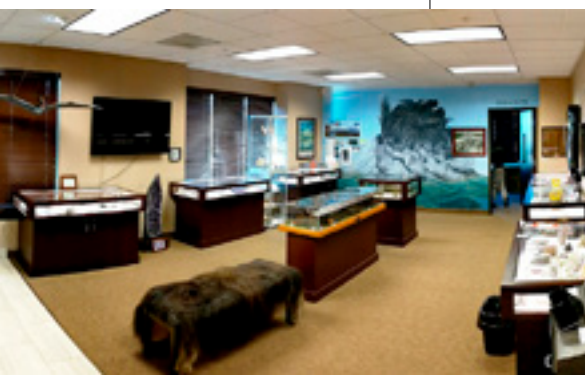
Study Center staff and a number of NPUC-area pastors and teachers have also been active participants during the past two years with the annual Dino Dig, sponsored in Wyoming by Southwestern Adventist University. Another opportunity for pastors, teachers and students to join the "Dig" is available for 2020.

Contact the NPUC Creation Study Center for more information on any of their activities and opportunities at the new website, creationstudycenter.com.

Stan Hudson, North Pacific Union Conference creation ministries director

Holy Land, natural cross-shaped stones, brilliantly

The Creation Study Center is a museum with rock and fossil displays. Tours are available upon request.



TODO ES POSIBLE PARA EL QUE CREE: LA JORNADA DE FE DE UNA FAMILIA EN LA CONFERENCIA DE UPPER COLUMBIA

Para leer más haga glnr.in/114-06_accion



Mi historia comienza con mis padres, que debido a experiencias trágicas en su niñez, fueron despojados de la oportunidad de completar una educación formal. Cuando mi padre era un muchacho joven, su padre fue asesinado en México. El fue enviado a California donde su única opción fue trabajar en el campo para proveer para su familia.

A la edad de 13 años, mi madre paso por una tragedia cuando su padre cometió suicidio. Siendo una de las mayores, fue obligada a abandonar la secundaria para mantener a su familia. Ella también se encontró trabajando largas horas bajo el sol en el campo. La vida fue difícil para ambos; pero Dios nunca los abandono. Eventualmente, sus caminos se cruzaron en el estado de Washington. Quebrantados y golpeados por la vida, pero con una fortaleza de acero, decidieron unir sus vidas. Después de la muerte de su primer hijo juntos, Dios envió a un pastor a sus vidas. Un par de años después, mis padres se casaron y se bautizaron en la Iglesia Adventista.

Mis padres fueron impresionados por el Espíritu que sus hijos deberían recibir la mejor educación posible. En un increíble salto de fe, mis padres, que todavía trabajaban en la agricultura y ganaban apenas suficiente para pagar sus cuentas, inscribieron a mis hermanos en la academia local. En una ocasión después que mi hermano y yo habíamos nacido, mis padres tuvieron a una de mis hermanas en el Colegio de Walla Walla, un hermano y una hermana en UCA, y a mi y a mi hermano menor en otra academia. Este milagro solo fue posible a través de la determinación y la fe tenaz de dos padres cristianos devotos, que trabajaron en múltiples trabajos para pagar nuestra matrícula, donantes generosos, y sobre todo, un Dios amoroso cuyos innumerables milagros nos sostuvieron.

Yo era chica, así que no me di cuenta que vivíamos en la pobreza. Mis padres compensaron por lo que no teníamos materialmente, con su amor y su apoyo.

Comparto la historia de mis padres porque continúan siendo una inspiración para mi.

A demás del regalo

de la educación, ellos nos introdujeron a Jesucristo. Antes de asistir a la Facultad de Medicina de la Universidad de Loma Linda, luche para saber si debía estudiar medicina o ingresar al ministerio. Después

de mucha oración, Dios me impresionó que de alguna manera haría las dos cosas. Como resultado de muchos milagros, deje la Escuela de Medicina después

de los primero dos años para obtener mi Maestría en Religión en la Universidad de La Sierra. Me gradué con una Maestría en Estudios Teológicos en el año 2017 y regrese al hospital al día siguiente para comenzar los últimos dos años de la escuela de medicina.

Como medico, ahora tengo el privilegio de no solo ofrecer sanidad física pero también puedo guiar a mis

pacientes hacia Aquel que cura el alma! ¡El llamado que me hizo Dios me llena de humildad y regocijo! Mi esperanza y oración es que yo pueda ser un *testigo fiel*, de la misericordia, la generosidad y



Dra. Rubicelia Perez durante la ceremonia de "Día de Oración y Votos" de la Escuela de Medicina de Loma Linda.

Rubicelia Perez during a ceremony at the Loma Linda University School of Medicine.

el amor de nuestro Dios, no solo en los encuentros con mis pacientes, sino en todas mis actividades."Fiel es el que os llama, el cual también lo hará" (1 Tesalonicenses 5:24, LBLA).

Dra. Rubicelia Perez



Read more online at
glnr.in/114-06-action



ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE: A UCC FAMILY'S FAITH JOURNEY



Dra. Rubicelia con sus padres el día de su graduación de la Escuela de Medicina en la Universidad de Loma Linda.

Rubicelia Perez stands with her parents at her Loma Linda University School of Medicine graduation.

M

y story begins with my parents, who, due to tragic

early life experiences, were stripped of their opportunity to complete their formal education. My father was a young boy when my paternal grandfather was murdered in Mexico. My father was sent to California where his only option was to work in the fields in order to provide for his family back home.

At the age of 13, my mother underwent her own tragedy. She lost her father to

for her family. She too found herself working long, grueling hours in the hot sun cutting or picking whatever was in season.

Life was difficult for both of them, but God, though not necessarily acknowledged by them at the time, never abandoned them. Eventually, their paths crossed in Washington. Broken and beaten, but highly resilient, they decided to start a life together.

After the death of their first child together, God sent a pastor into their lives. A few years later, my parents were married and baptized into the Adventist church.

My parents were impressed by the Spirit that their children should receive the best education possible. In an incredible leap of faith, while still working in agriculture and barely earning enough to cover their family expenses, they enrolled my siblings in the local junior academy. At one point after my brother and I were born, my parents managed to have one of my sisters at Walla Walla College, another brother and sister at the boarding academy, and myself and my younger

brother in the junior academy. This impossible feat was only possible through the determination and unshakable faith of two devoted Christian parents who both worked multiple jobs to pay our tuition, scholarships from generous donors and, ultimately, a loving God whose countless miracles sustained us.

I was young, so I didn't notice our degree of poverty. My parents made up for our lack of material comforts in love and support. They not only taught us to place God at the center of our lives but showed us education was the key to our success.

I share my family's story because they continue to be an inspiration to me. Even greater than their gift of education is the fact they introduced us to Jesus Christ. Before attending Loma Linda University (LLU) School of Medicine, I struggled with knowing whether I should pursue medicine or go into ministry. After much prayer, God impressed me that I would somehow do both. As a result of many miracles, I left

LLU after two years to attend La Sierra University's H.M.S. Richards Divinity School. I graduated with a Master of Theological Studies degree in 2017 and was back in the hospital the next day to begin the final two years of medical school.

As a physician, I now have the privilege of not only being able to offer physical healing, but I also point my patients to the One who heals the soul. The calling God gave me is both humbling and exhilarating! My hope and prayer is that I can be a faithful witness, not only in all of my patient encounters, but in all my life activities, in glory and honor of my merciful and generous God. "Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass" (1 Thess. 5:24, NASB).

Rubicelia Perez



Dra. Rubicelia Perez y su familia en su graduación.

Rubicelia Perez with her family at her graduation.

suicide. As one of the eldest, she was forced to drop out of high school in order to provide

MESSIAH'S MANSION COMES TO ANCHORAGE

More photos online at glnr.in/114-06-ak_mansion



Pastors from Anchorage and the Mat-Su Valley gathered together for prayer and fellowship in October 2018. The conversation eventually moved towards answering, “How are we going to be salt and light in Alaska’s largest metro area in 2019?”

and handing out brochures. The Russian Orthodox archbishop, who caught Adventist pastor Jim John’s enthusiasm, asked one of their leaders to encourage the entire congregation to attend.

In September the truck arrived, with staff arriving the following day. The first tour was conducted for local evangelical pastors by Clayton Leinneweber, Messiah’s Mansion director. The tour was a humbling account of the measures God has taken to bring us all back to personal communion with Him.

Public tours began the

they wanted to learn more. They attended the follow-up meetings at Northside Church and have now started Bible studies. Pastor John writes, “Miles and Kaitlin are seeking for a deep relationship with God and their sincere efforts to learn about His character was sparked by attending the Messiah’s Mansion.”

By the final day, 2,920 people toured the sanctuary,

and there were more than 285 requests for follow-up. Volunteers continue to meet these requests with invitations for sanctuary classes, studies on Daniel, mailouts of *A Divine Design* as well as invitations to the Brian McMahon evangelism series that will be held February or March 2020.

Mike Osborn, Anchorage Northside Church member



Guests wait to learn about the Sanctuary.

After much prayer, work began to bring the Oklahoma-based Messiah’s Mansion (the life-sized wilderness tabernacle) to Anchorage in September. As area churches caught the vision, the Alaska Conference offered to cover up to 50% of the proposed budget, as bringing Messiah’s Mansion included considerable expense to move equipment and people from Oklahoma to Alaska.

At the Alaska State Fair in August, a booth with a full-scale model of the Ark of the Covenant was displayed. Volunteers promoted the event, talking with people

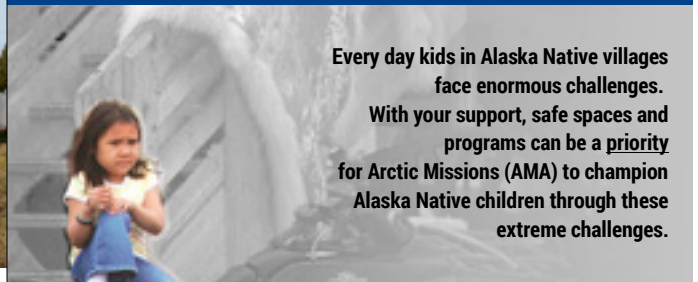


Another view of Messiah's Mansion

next afternoon, and despite the heavy rain there were more than 330 visitors. One young couple, Miles and Kaitlin, had recently arrived in Anchorage and been convicted they needed to get back to God and attend church. The tour they attended hit the mark, and

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Many more photos online at
glnr.in/114-06-ak_oshkosh

PATHFINDERS ANNOUNCE 'WE ARE ALASKA!' AT OSHKOSH

Finally, at 2:30 p.m. on Aug. 14, a loud and crisp “forward, march!” was sounded by area coordinator Seven Toleafoa, as 115 Alaska Pathfinders and staff from clubs all over the state took their first step in parade formation. As the formation passed the review stand at the International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., the shout “We are Alaska!” exploded in unison as the group passed by. Surprised union leaders later commented to Tobin Dodge, Alaska Conference youth director, “Everyone knows Alaska is here!”

How did this happen? In 2018, the Alaska Conference made a bold decision to step out in faith and prepurchase 100 tickets for the 2019 Pathfinder Camporee even though previous attendance records showed less than 20. The Holy Spirit began inspiring big dreams. Prayers ascended, costs were calculated, leaders stepped forward, clubs began fundraising, and donors joined in the adventure that led to the largest showing of Alaska Pathfinders at the International Pathfinder Camporee in



Alaska Pathfinders smile en route to Oshkosh, Wis.

conference history ... and God gets all the glory!

The vastness of the Alaska Conference and the limited access young people have to attend Adventist schools is challenging. This is why the Pathfinder ministry is especially meaningful there.

Opening night ceremonies at the camporee included flags and fireworks as 57,000 Pathfinders from all over the world joined with praise team leader Chad Angasan, Nome Church pastor, in the theme song, “Chosen.” Each of the six evening programs included singing, powerful preaching

and a compelling drama of how David the shepherd-boy became king of Israel and how he always came back to God.

Throughout the week’s activities and excitement, hearts were responding each night to the powerful call of the Holy Spirit to make decisions for Jesus. One of these young hearts was sitting next to a pastor from Alaska. When the evening appeal was given to “grab the hand of an adult near you and make your way forward for baptism,” Samantha Lonser from Anchorage’s Hillside O’Malley Church grabbed that pastor’s hand and ran to the front of the enormous stadium. The pastor

could barely keep up and will never forget that moment. Eight Alaska Pathfinders joined 1,302 other young people in the single largest youth baptism event in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Is the ministry of Pathfinders making an eternal difference? Ask Lonser and the other Pathfinders baptised at Oshkosh. C’mon Alaskans, let’s get Pathfinding! “We are Alaska!”

Jim John, Anchorage Northside Church pastor



Samantha Lonser (middle) prepares for baptism by Celesta Babb (left), North Pole and Utqiagvik districts pastor, and Mel Santos (right), conference vice president of administration.

Alaska Pathfinders prepare to march at the 2019 International Pathfinder Camporee.



IDAHO HOLDS 54TH REGULAR CONSTITUENCY SESSION

Much more online at
gleanernow.com/idahosesession2019

Idaho Conference delegates reelected their officers and departmental directors during the 54th regular quadrennial constituency session held Sept. 22 in Caldwell.

From a possible 428 delegates selected as representatives for the session, 318 chose to carve time out of their Sunday to be present and accounted for in the Gem State Adventist Academy (GSAA) gymnasium. They voted to reelect officers David Prest Jr., president, and John Rogers, vice president for administration and finance. They also reelected Patrick Frey as education superintendent and director of senior youth; Eve Rusk as communication, planned giving and trust director; and Jim Bollin

as ministerial director. Bollin adds this responsibility on top of his full-time calling as the Kuna Church pastor. Both officers also direct additional services for the conference: Prest also oversees ASI, church ministries, personal ministries and Sabbath School services, while Rogers adds stewardship to his list of duties.

DEVOTIONAL THEME

The overarching theme of the day, “Partners for Heaven,” was echoed unmistakably in John Freedman’s devotional



ANTHONY WHITE

Newly reelected Idaho Conference leaders (from left): John Rogers, vice president for administration and finance; David Prest Jr., president; Eve Rusk, director of communication, planned giving and trust services; Jim Bollin, ministerial director; and Patrick Frey, superintendent of schools and senior youth director.

message to kick off the proceedings. Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) president, asked the delegates, “Do you love Jesus?” Following their resounding “amen,” Freedman responded, “Good, I’m in the right place!” He reminded delegates “this is

God’s time, this is God’s place, this is holy ground — we are here to worship.” That important thought helped to maintain a sense of mission throughout the day.



ANTHONY WHITE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In his president's report, Prest outlined several areas in which the conference is moving ahead with purpose. Members have increasingly embraced the priority of evangelism and church growth. Two programs helping with this are the Partners for Growth and Vision 2020 initiatives throughout the NPUC. During the past quadrennium, the conference has provided assistance for 101 soul-winning events, leading to 466 baptisms, 126 professions of faith and 37 rebaptisms.

The net annual membership growth during that period averaged 1.5%. Prest's vision moving into the future is to increase growth each year to 3%. Michael Gee, conference Bible worker trainer, has personally worked with eight churches and trained 235 lay people.

CONFERENCE FINANCES

While conference finances have struggled in recent years, Rogers brought upbeat news in his financial report. After miniscule tithe increases in the former quadrennium, reports from 2015–2018 show 6.4% growth — a good trend. Tithe from Hispanic churches, now

accounting for nearly 10% of conference membership, is up almost 30% in each of the past two years.

Available cash versus receivables for conference operations has gone from practically zero in 2012 to \$1.5 million at the end of 2018. This cash reserve allows the conference to approach mission a bit more

aggressively. Debt by schools to the conference has also been significantly reduced. For example, Gem State Adventist Academy's debt to has been cut in half, from \$600,000 to \$300,000.

ADVENTIST SCHOOLS

Conference members are indeed invested in their schools, seeing them as evangelistic centers. A survey of all schools, including GSAA, shows the averages between Adventist students and those from other religions or none at all, is roughly 50-50. While GSAA shows 90% of students are Adventist, several of the elementary schools show non-Adventist students make up from 60 to 100% of the enrollment.

Patrick Frey noted overall enrollment in elementary schools climbed from 243 at the beginning of the quadrennium

Vern Pritchard (right), constitution and bylaws committee chair, joins John Rogers at the podium to walk delegates through the various suggested changes.

ANTHONY WHITE



to 275 for the 2018–19 year. Enrollment at GSAA is still a bit tenuous, dropping from a recent high of 75 students in 2015–16 to 62 students for the 2019–20 year. Those challenges are being met by Marvin

Great and stirring reports came from Camp Ida-Haven and Barefoot Media Ministries. Camp Ida-Haven reaches many campers each year for Christ — 73% of whom are not from Adventist families. Decades ago, current camp directors Doug and Darla Roe said they'd commit to five years. Now, 27 years later, they're still at it. Barefoot Media, with radio ministries KTSY-FM The Bridge and Project 88.7, is powerfully connecting with the target communities. KTSY ranks No. 3 of all stations in the greater Boise market overall and No. 1 within its target demographic. Project 88.7, perhaps the only “hip-hop” radio station partnering full time with a local conference on mission, has



Delegates use handheld remote devices provided by the North Pacific Union Conference to register their votes and keep the process moving forward smoothly.

seen engagement rise by 150% within the past year.

THE VISION AHEAD

Prest laid out his vision for the conference as it looks ahead at the next four years:

- » Facilitate exponential, Christ-centered church growth — spiritual, discipleship and numerical;



Karen Pearson, conference prayer coordinator, introduces a season of prayer during the opening minutes of the session.

Thorman, principal, and vigorous donor development efforts, which are showing an upward trend.

OTHER ACTIONS AND REPORTS

Delegates also approved three committees for the new quadrennium: the conference board of directors, board of education, and articles and bylaws committee — all listed online at gleanernow.com/idahosession2019. Of special note is the decision to add two additional slots to the board of directors: a Hispanic pastor and a lay person in order to maintain the lay person to employee ratio at 60:40.



The nominating committee continues its report.



More than 300 delegates



- » Recruit, grow, equip and empower strong Christian leaders;
- » Engage youth and young adults in all aspects of ministry;
- » Strengthen and grow our Adventist schools.

At the end of day, as delegates got ready to adjourn, Prest left them with one simple, final thought: “By His Spirit,” he said, “let’s win souls for Jesus.” It thoughtfully and effectively underscored the philosophical essence of the “Partners for Heaven” session.

More details and a full photo gallery are available online at GleanerNow.com/idahosession2019.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

Delegates pause for prayer.



filled chairs in the Gem State Adventist Academy gymnasium.



ANTHONY WHITE

Gerald Margil presents abundant growth figures for Hispanic churches within the conference.

ALUMNUS TAKES FAITH JOURNEY TO CREATE BEAR CANYON FARM



Y

ou might say it all started with an accident.

Eric Harris, a 2003 graduate of Mount Ellis Academy (MEA) in Bozeman and a board member since 2013, had a lot of time to think while recovering from crushing his foot between a fully loaded trailer and a hitch. While researching water rights for his own property, he discovered MEA had great water rights to irrigate all of its property. Harris began envisioning a large-scale commercial farming enterprise to financially help MEA.

Around that time Merlin Knowles, former Montana Conference president and Mount Ellis Academy board

chairman, challenged his board members to read Ellen White's counsel. While reading White's words and her vision for agriculture in Adventist schools, Harris' conviction grew stronger. White wrote, "It is God's plan that agriculture shall be connected with the work in our sanitariums and schools. Our youth need the education to be gained from this line of work" (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 228). Harris was certain MEA needed an agricultural program.

Having recently graduated from Walla Walla University, Harris and his wife, Katie, were living in Fairfield making a go at farming and nursing, respectively. Living on Katie's earnings from

nursing, they purchased land from Eric's family and reinvested all profits back into the farm until they were operating loan-free — a rare occurrence for beginning farmers. They were considering expanding their operation, but God had other plans in mind.

That was around the time of the accident.

Unable to sleep or waking in the night, Eric couldn't get the idea of an agricultural program at MEA out of his mind. After crunching the numbers, a lot of prayer and Katie's encouragement, he proposed a plan to the school board. As he remembers, he was "shot down immediately."

The Harrises were not deterred. To Katie, it was out

of character for Eric to think about something daily for months on end. "It was so clear to me that God really wanted him to act on the thoughts that were consuming him," she says.

After further research, Katie learned time spent in a garden helps improve academic performance. Eric learned the importance of small-scale, high-intensity crops to give more students hands-on experience with agriculture — in essence, to obtain the "education to be gained by this line of work" White was talking about. They brought their new plan back to the school board and came away with a five-year, five-acre lease. Their work had just begun.





LIZ GEARY PHOTOGRAPHY



More photos online at glnr.in/114-06-mt_farm

planting, pruning, weeding and harvesting the fruits of their labors. When they are not working on the market garden, they are “home” in Fairfield, managing their ranch and the production of hay and cattle. And when they are busy in

Bozeman, Eric’s parents, Keith (a 1968 MEA graduate) and Gayle, help make the dream possible by taking care of the cattle in Fairfield.

Eric and Katie’s dedication to MEA and their vision is palpable. They are certain God wanted an agriculture endeavor at MEA, and they know without a doubt this is God’s leading. Eric explains, “God calls us to be unselfish. He prompts us to move forward in faith, despite what we may want, even if He is calling us out of our comfort zone. When I understood that, I felt confident that God was calling us to create a farm at Mount Ellis Academy. After all, God planted the first garden, and I believe He wants us to enjoy a piece of that experience.”

Jeni Schmidt, Mount Ellis Academy communication director



LIZ GEARY PHOTOGRAPHY

Their original thinking was to volunteer for two to three years, setting everything up — the farm, greenhouses, a farmhouse, planting, working with the school — and then find a “qualified” farm manager to take over once the farm was generating sufficient income to support one. But if that farm manager doesn’t materialize, they are prepared to stay longer: “It’s not that we don’t want to be here; it just wasn’t a part of our original plan. We know God wants us here now. We’re here until He brings someone better suited to replace us, in His time.”

Students working on the farm have built fences, planted and harvested crops, and even helped sell some produce. But

that is only part of the vision. Eric and Katie don’t just want students working on the farm; they want them learning on the farm. Last year, Seth Ellis, MEA math teacher, brought his students to the garden, where they calculated the plastic needed to cover the end walls of the newly erected hoopouses. According to Ellis, because the field wasn’t level, it quickly became a “real-world problem, more challenging and messy than a book problem.” This fall, the home economics class learned about food preservation, Brix tests and garden planning.

If you visit Bear Canyon Farm on any given day, you will find Katie, Eric and their two children, Elika and Colter,



LIZ GEARY PHOTOGRAPHY



More photos online at
glnr.in/114-06-or_pacs

PACS HOLDS GRAND OPENING FOR NEW DENTAL CLINIC

After years of preparation and prayer, Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS) held the official ribbon cutting for its new dental program, the Gateway Grace Clinic, on Monday, Sept. 9.

Robert Stafford, dentist and dental services director, and Carol James, clinic manager, plied the ceremonial scissors, while an appreciative crowd applauded the historic moment on a rainy Monday.

Jonathan Russell, PACS board chairperson, says this new effort is an outgrowth of the organization's longtime mission. "As long as we've existed," he says, "our passion has been to minister just as Jesus did — to meet the felt needs of the people in our community while we build relationships."

Dental care is indeed a difficult need to fill for those often referred to as the "working poor." Stafford says this includes individuals and families who earn too much to qualify



STEVE VISTAUNET

Sharilyn and John Ritacca provided dental and hygiene services to patients during September, while the clinic seeks additional dentists willing to donate time and talent for the months ahead.



STEVE VISTAUNET

Robert Stafford, dental clinic director, explains more about the clinic to a fellow dentist, Robert Hessong.

The initial patients will receive care by John Ritacca, dentist, assisted by his wife, Sharilyn, dental hygienist. Ritacca volunteered his services through September.

for the Oregon Health Plan but not enough to afford private dental insurance. The Gateway Grace Clinic will focus on this important segment, providing ongoing care for each patient

who meets the basic parameters. Fees will be set at \$25 per hour to see a dentist and \$15 an hour for dental hygiene work. Initially, the clinic will be open for patients two days a week, expanding as funds and staffing becomes available.

"We are paying for a core team to be on-site," says Stafford. "Our clinic manager, receptionist and a hygienist will be paid to provide any incoming dentist with not only the proper equipment and supplies, but also a consistent support group."

The clinic is housed in a former residence behind the main PACS facilities. When

the location first became available several years ago, PACS leadership initially planned to move their medical services there. But, with the changing tapestry of medical care, they realized that dental care was fast becoming the main area of need. Clinic renovation was quickly altered to accommodate a dental facility. The new space features treatment rooms, offices, work space and a waiting/reception area.

In addition to dental services, the clinic's dream, says Stafford, is to eventually add vision care and also social services to help patients fill other critical needs in their lives.



Ready for the official opening are (from left) Robert Stafford, dental director; Becky Drury, receptionist; Carol James, clinic manager; and John and Sharilyn Ritacca, initial dental team.



Following the ribbon-cutting on a rainy Monday, the crowd gradually moves inside for a first look at the brand new dental clinic.

Russell acknowledges the project is a venture of faith, along with a clear need for the community to rally around the new services. The clinic depends on donations, not only to help cover additional equipment and operational needs to date of about \$50,000 but also ongoing expenses. Dentists with a heart and ability to give some of their valuable time and expertise are needed to fill the two-days-a-week schedule after the Ritaccas finish their stint at the end of September. “We are earnestly looking for

people who believe in this project and are ready to help it make a difference in the community,” says Russell.

Carol James, clinic manager, says faith has been a cornerstone of the project. “Time and time again during this project,” she says, “we came up against challenges that caused us to ask God, ‘Well, what do You want to see done here.’ And every time, He would just bust right through those barriers. We have a beautiful clinic thanks to Him.”

The Gateway Grace Clin-

ic will continue to be a journey of faith for the PACS staff and community volunteers. God’s blessings have brought it this far, and they will be evident for every patient who enters the clinic doors. During initial space renovation, the PACS staff and community volunteers wrote inspiring words and Bible verses on the drywall as they dedicated the project to God. One such verse says simply, “You will be blessed when you come in and when you go out” (Deut. 28:6). That will continue to be the hope and

the promise of this prayerful project.

There are a number of specific needs at the clinic for interested donors. Call PACS at 503-252-8500 or go online at pacsonline.org/donate.

Steve VistauNET, Gleaner editor



STEVE VISTAUNET

The Gateway Grace Clinic stands ready to serve individuals who make too much to qualify for the Oregon Health Plan but not enough to afford private dental insurance.



SHADY POINT CHURCH REAPS HARVEST IN COMMUNITY

It was a quiet weeknight as church and community members made their way through the front doors of the Shady Point Church in Eagle Point. Smiling church members distributed reading materials, and the excited murmurs of those gathering broke the silence of the sanctuary as they began to find their seats in the pews for the start of a Bible prophecy evangelistic series.

James Ash, Shady Point Church pastor, watched with church members as 58 guests arrived on opening night.

Leading up to the evangelism series, the church followed a five-step process in creating an inviting and involved church culture, reaching out to neighbors,

and connecting with their community through service and seminars.

“Eagle Point and our area are extremely difficult to reach into. So, we had to shift our thinking in how to reach our community,” says Norm Allred, Shady Point Church member. “I was afraid holding it in the church wouldn’t reap any benefits because of the location. But people showed up and stayed through the entire series.”

“This was my first evangelism series, and I was admittedly nervous about the whole process,” Ash recalls. Wanting to reach as many people as possible, he worked with SermonView Evangelism Marketing on an innovative

campaign that included direct mail and social media marketing, leading to all those guests on opening night.

During the series, Shady Point Church handed out Bible study lessons and other material in hopes of planting seeds in those who attended. Some attendees who had missed a night would even come to ask what materials they had missed.

After the series, Shady Point Church saw an influx of new believers as a result of their seed-sowing. Members are changing some of their Sabbath School and other programs to help nurture these new believers.

“Sometimes I think we bring someone new into the

church and expect them to fit right in,” says Allred. “After the series, we started a class for new members that I’m teaching where we focus on deeper questions and where people can interact with one another. I feel like it’s helping to stabilize new members in our church.”

“We had six baptized and two professions of faith at the end of the series,” says Ash. “We are a small cog in the plan of the Holy Spirit, and I praise God how He is able to use our small efforts for His greater plan.”

Katie Fellows, SermonView Evangelism Marketing freelance writer

PAA EMBRACES ONE-TO-ONE LEARNING

More online at
glnr.in/114-06-or_paa

This school year at Portland Adventist Academy (PAA), every student was issued their own Google Chromebook. One computer to every one student creates a “one-to-one school” where powerful tools and resources support meaningful learning.

Mechelle Peinado, PAA principal, says that becoming a one-to-one school is more than just teaching digital fluency. “Questions are now geared to-

ward deeper understanding and application of concepts rather than on facts alone,” she says.

“In 21st-century learning, we’re focusing on the four C’s: communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking,” Peinado explains. “That means that communication and collaboration is efficient and streamlined. It gives more time for creativity and critical thinking, which is essential for working through complex challenges.”

“One-to-one is equitable because students will no longer feel left out if they don’t have a personal device,” adds Drechelle McCray, PAA vice principal of administration and technology director. “Each student has access to the exact same resources and tools.”

And the tools are powerful. TurnItIn.com is where students can upload their English papers for quick peer review and where teachers can be alerted to plagiarism they may not have discovered without it. Teacher Kelli Rosenquist says even her calculus students are benefiting from online tools like Desmos and Khan Academy.

GoGuardian software is installed to monitor activity on each device. It’s set to prevent the latest viral cat video from upstaging a writing assignment.

“Some parents have legitimate concerns about the amount of screen time students might be getting,” says Peinado. “But the Chromebooks are purely a tool for communication, research, writing and presenting.”

“I like that my Chromebook is just for school and homework,” says Debi Mengis. “When I’m doing an assignment at home, it helps me

stay focused. If I want to play games or listen to music, I use my home computer.”

To support and encourage purposeful and responsible use, digital citizenship curriculum is a part of required classes. All students at all grade levels are learning to ethically manage challenges like cyberbullying, copyright infringements, plagiarism and a lifetime digital footprint.

The PAA Digital Code of Conduct is reviewed by both parents and students, who sign a contract promising to uphold its values. Parents are encouraged to be partners in this effort by staying informed on digital citizenship topics.

“The PAA motto is ‘Christ-centered, character-driven,’” says McCray. “And at the end of the day, we want that to be reflected in the content students view, receive, and post online.”

Technology will, no doubt, continue to drive change in 21st-century learning. But core values are forever. Curiosity, courage, concern, leadership and integrity are the foundation of a Christ-centered and character-driven community.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent



“With one-to-one learning, questions are geared toward deep understanding and application of concepts rather than on facts alone and the focus is on the four C’s: communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking,” says Mechelle Peinado, PAA principal.

LIVINGSTONE OPENS NEW SCHOOL BUILDING



Much more online at
glnr.in/114-06-or_livingstone

Livingstone Adventist Academy (LAA) celebrated the grand opening of its brand-new school building on Aug. 22. Founded in 1898, LAA offers pre-K through 12th grade in Salem. The grand opening was well attended by students and families, as well as constituent church members and members of the community. Speakers included George Personius, LAA principal; Gale Crosby, Oregon Conference vice presi-



GABBY GARRIDO, SALEM AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The crowd cheers and applauds after the ribbon is cut at the grand opening of LAA's new school building.

BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA

The new school building was completed this summer and is in use by all grades. Now the industrial arts complex will be used as classrooms for things like auto shop, metal working and wood working/carpentry.

The last few years at LAA have been truly remarkable. It has been amazing to see God working through the generosity of donors and the support of the constituency. Livingstone Adventist Academy is beginning a new era with both a sense of humble gratitude to

cheered her on. The completion of the school building comes after five years of major changes that have improved and upgraded the campus significantly.

A BRIEF HISTORY

For a number of years, the LAA community had known the old gymnasium

beyond the point of being fixed and would need to be torn down and replaced. The financial cost of demolition and replacement was well beyond what the school was able to afford. Things looked grim — but God had a plan.

Generous donors who were aware of the situation with the gym visited the campus to see what could be done to help. As they toured the school, they discovered the main school buildings were also in poor condition. After seeing the need, the donors decided to fund construction of a brand-new school.

The first phase involved construction of a gymnasium/auditorium as well as an industrial arts complex, which housed the elementary grades temporarily. The next phase began in 2016 with demolition of the old school building.



TOBY WAGNER

The new student center provides a new meeting space for the LAA family.

dent of education; Dan Linrud, Oregon Conference president; Chuck Bennett, Salem mayor; and Kevin Cameron, Marion County commissioner. The Salem Chamber of Commerce was also there and presided over the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Student body president Aspen Forshee had the honor of cutting the ribbon as members of the LAA community



TOBY WAGNER

The home ec room provides space for students to explore essential life skills.

wasn't in good shape. A 2014 engineering study of the gym confirmed the building was



TOBY WAGNER

Computer labs are available for both elementary and high school students.

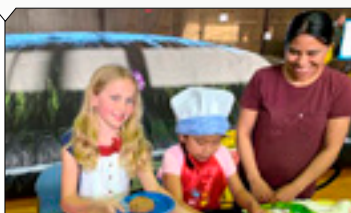
God for past blessings, as well as faith in His leadership in the years to come.

Toby Wagner, Livingstone Adventist Academy school board member and parent

LINCOLN CITY SCHOOL CELEBRATES LEARNING

Over the past couple of years, the Oregon Conference Office of Education has challenged its teachers to provide every learner in the conference the opportunity to have a project-based learning (PBL) experience at some point during each school year. When John and Tanya McCombs moved to the Lincoln City Seventh-day Adventist School from another conference, they eagerly embraced the opportunity.

For their PBL activity in the spring quarter each lower-grade student chose a product to create, market and sell at the school's Educational Open House. These enterprising first through third graders learned product planning, marketing plan development and positive sales techniques.



Two lower-grade students sell their creations under the watchful gaze of a proud parent volunteer.

The upper grades explored STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) projects. Each fourth through eighth grade student picked a science experiment of interest, researched it and brought their findings along with a demonstration of the experiment to the Educational Open House. Attended by school families, church members and the community at large, the evening was a huge success and resulted in several

possible new students for the coming school year.

The McCombses have generated a buzz of excitement around the Lincoln City school



An upper-grade student demonstrates how to light a fire in your hand without causing injury.

with John's interest in practical applications for technology and Tanya's training as a reading specialist and fine arts educator. John has made connections within the community that have resulted in donors provid-

ing the funds to purchase 30 iPads, two 3D printers and a laser engraver. Tanya's students have shown remarkable growth in reading levels, while John's students have devoted many hours learning design software and collaborating together to use technology to bring their digital creations to life.

Although it's only a small school in a small town, the Lincoln City Seventh-day Adventist School is poised to make a significant impact within the local educational community because of the leadership and determination of two dedicated Adventist educators.

Dan Nicola, Oregon Conference education associate superintendent, and Tanya McCombs, Lincoln City Adventist School teacher

LIVINGSTONE STUDENTS EXPERIENCE RAD LEADERSHIP

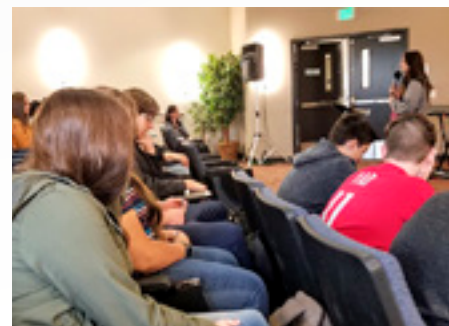
For the past three years, Big Lake Youth Camp in Sisters has provided the Oregon Conference academies the opportunity to spend a week with their RAD camp staff on a five-day journey through RAD Leadership.

Every year Livingstone Adventist Academy has taken

this opportunity to grow our student leadership. Among other things, this year while taking RAD Leadership, student leaders chose a yearlong theme that encompasses both social and spiritual aspects of student life — yearbook theme, school theme, spiritual theme — “2020 Vision.” To

kick off the school year with that theme, these students planned a mini week of worship first week of school. Each student leader gave a short testimony and shared their vision for the year.

Chris Sequeira, Livingstone Adventist Academy teacher



UCC HOLDS 78TH CONSTITUENCY SESSION



More online at
gleaner.com/uccsession2019

Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) delegates met Sunday, Sept. 15, on the campus of Upper Columbia Academy for the 78th Constituency Session for the conference.

The 523 registered and voting delegates present reelected the four conference officers for the 2019–2023 term: Minner Labrador, president; Rodney Mills, vice president for administration; Allee Currier, vice president for finance; and Brian Harris, vice president for education. All current departmental directors were also returned to their respective roles.

While each officer was elected individually, the directors' names were voted on as a block. In relation to these

votes, no discussion on individual names was entertained on the session floor. This customary practice at conference constituency sessions avoids uncomfortable oversharing of personnel matters in a public forum. The nominating committee process before the session allows concerns about every candidate to be vetted in a more confidential manner. On Sunday, during the lunch hour, the nominating and constitution and bylaws committees met in separate rooms to allow any delegate to address

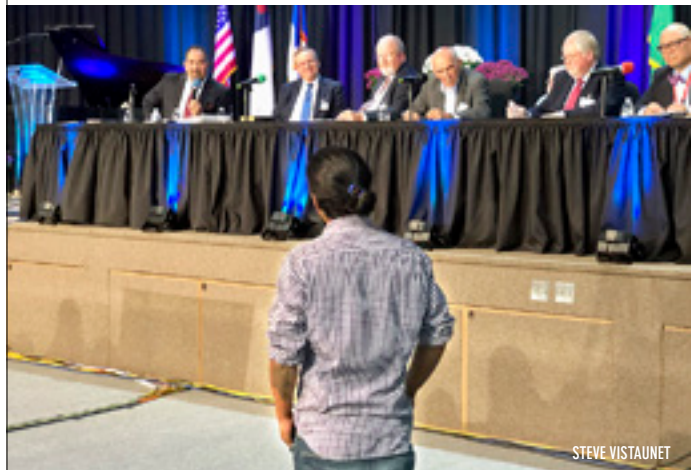
specific concerns with them before the agenda items were brought to the floor for a vote.

John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president, anchored the morning agenda with a devotional. Drawing from Jesus' exhortation to the disciples in Acts 1, he reminded delegates that the Holy Spirit was heaven's promise of power within each believer and through each

believer. "No Spirit," he said, "equals no power, no witness, no unity, no strength and no ability to love one another." We have a choice today and everyday, he said, to grasp control in our own hands or relinquish control to the power of the Holy Spirit.

Labrador formally introduced the session theme of "One More" — a clear allusion to the iconic prayer

A delegate addresses the chair during the discussion on how to proceed with the constitution and bylaws agenda item.



STEVE VISTAUNET



STEVE VISTAUNET

Minner Labrador, UCC president, encourages delegates to ask what must be done in their community to get just one more for Jesus.

one more for Jesus. It won't be easy, but it is His will for us." The overall spirit of Sunday's session was one of passionate but respectful dialogue. Foregoing Sunday football games or other activities, these delegates took their responsibilities seriously. Beyond the conference officers and direc-

time surpassed \$100 million for the quadrennium.

- » In just the last year, the leadership team has visited seven of the eight regions throughout the conference on Equipping for Service weekends.
- » Conference finances have shown an operating gain

would conduct its mission in reference to the denominational structure, delegates voted to defer the discussion to the next regular session. Other options, such as holding a special midterm session to address the issue, were entertained and voted down. A majority accepted that the current UCC constitution and bylaws are working just fine and are not in need of crisis intervention.

With the agenda wrapped up, a dedicatory prayer for the newly elected leaders and for the entire conference body of believers concluded a day of productive business focused on moving the mission forward. It's a mission to equip and empower "ministries that reach our communities with the Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness."

of Desmond Doss as he saved lives on the battlefield, "Lord, help me get just one more." Labrador tied that theme to Jesus' parables in Luke 15 that affirmed the value of the one lost sheep, the one lost coin, the younger son who squandered his inheritance but was welcomed back by his father. The reality, said Labrador, is that out of every 10 members on the membership books



STEVE VISTAUNET

Delegates watch the screen for final voting tallies.

tors, they elected a new slate of executive committee members and a fresh board of education. They also updated the nominating, constitution and bylaws and the financial and statistical review committees. The positive work that conference leaders have done in recent months to listen to members and cast a vision has helped to foster a forward-moving spirit.

In fact, much good news was shared.

- » Four congregations were welcomed into the "sisterhood of churches": Grandview Spanish, Othello Spanish, Pullman and Walla Walla Spanish churches.
- » Gross tithe throughout the conference for the first

in three out of the past four years, with the largest boost just last year.

- » Departmental reports, with a plethora of positive nuggets, were shared in short videos interspersed in on-screen programming throughout the day.

Perhaps the most vigorous discussion of the day's session happened toward the end of the day over an agenda item with a myriad of suggested changes to the constitution and bylaws. Many voiced concerns that the information had not been sent out in time for them to be adequately informed. With underlying concerns about how the proposed alterations might or might not define how the conference



STEVE VISTAUNET

The nominating committee is ready for lunch hour action.

within the conference, six are missing in action on Sabbath. Recognizing that some are unable to come due to illness or disability, the numbers still point out the challenge. "If our Savior is all about reaching one more," Labrador exclaimed, "so should we. I encourage each of our church boards, as they kneel in prayer together, to ask what must be done in their community to get just



STEVE VISTAUNET

Richie Brower pauses for a moment of prayer with the Pathfinder color guard.

The officers, directors and committees approved for the 2019–2023 term are listed online with this article at GleanerNow.com/uccsession2019.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

CHURCHES SHARE GOSPEL AT NORTHEAST WASHINGTON FAIR

Volunteers from northeast Washington's Colville, Inchelium and Chewelah churches helped create a health booth for the Northeast Washington Fair in Colville. This year the theme for the health booth was the "Sanctuary of Health," in keeping with the words from 3 John 1:2: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

The booth was laid out to mimic the sanctuary with each of the articles of furniture representing one of the eight laws of health. At each of the stations questions pointed visitors to spiritual matters. Different tasks tested their physical health. One teen came in and said, "Are these tests to determine how I am doing physically or spiritually?" Health counselors also talked to people and encouraged



Lonita Fattic was at the peak flow meter station, and Ken Marsh assisted with the step test.

them about lifestyle changes based on their health data.

At one point church members were distributing tobacco, alcohol and temperance cards. One gentleman in the next booth over, took one of the papers and kept on asking for another one. He then proceeded to tell teenagers standing in front of him about what he read. Isn't that how the gospel is spread? It's



Ivan Maeda gives lifestyle consultations.

by hearing the good news and telling it to others.

Lloyd Caudill came in with his own unique method of spreading Christ's love to others. He made up his own sign, brought his own GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts and started sharing with people and walking about the fair.

Many precious children came through the booth, and members loved talking to them about the sanctuary and pointing them to their Bibles and to the time of Moses when



Lloyd Caudill distributed literature, and Hector Torres helped with massage.

the sanctuary existed. Volunteers handed out bookmarks for Discovery Mountain and gave airplanes to the kids. They also distributed flyers on the upcoming seminar by



Kris Van Allen provided massage and prayed with the participants.

Scott Ritsma on "The Media Mind," which aired Sept. 7. People had so many community connections that it was a blessing to minister to them about health education. It is so exciting to share the gospel to other people, and the more we share the more we can hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark Wong, Kettle Falls Church health evangelism leader



Many young people participated and learned how to take care of their health.

Many precious children came through the booth, and members loved talking to them about the sanctuary and pointing them to their Bibles

CLARKSTON VBS OFFERS LESSONS FROM DANIEL



for timekeeping and a palace zoo with live animals. The marketplace included five different market vendors where attendees could make musical instruments. There were live hanging gardens, astronomy globes, metal work projects, weaving and food court. Patio tables with umbrellas were outside for people to enjoy the food. Character-building skits interrupted the marketplace



Vacation Bible School 2019 in Clarkston, Wash., was host to 53 attendees with 51 helpers, including 40 in costumes. The backdrop was Babylon, and the costumes were Hebrew and Babylonian. There was nearly 100% participation from the congregation. Nearly all were in costume, and prayer warriors on site and in homes prayed before, during and after VBS.

Members chose to take on a large project despite a small membership, so they started many months early on the props. This was their first VBS that invited the entire family

to be present. Little babies to grandma and grandpa were able to sing, pray, do crafts and see Daniel's story depicted.

As much as possible, everything was as true to Babylonian culture in Daniel's time with a real "gong"



commerce each day.

This VBS demonstrated to the Clarkston community this church's love and commitment to children.

Doris Bevins, Clarkston Church head deaconess

OMAK HOSTS SECOND FREE DENTAL CLINIC



More online at
glnr.in/114-06-uc_omak

Patients lined up outside the doors hours before opening, in order to receive services at the second annual Free Dental Clinic, Sept. 13 and 15, at the Omak (Wash.) Church.

The Free Dental Clinic was initiated by Adrian Tomarere, a dentist in Brewster, Wash., and a member of the Omak Church. “Since so many adults do not have dental insurance, many in our rural community need the help,” says Tomarere. In both 2018 and 2019, he enlisted the help of the nonprofit ministry Caring Hands Worldwide, which provided the equipment and supplies that temporarily transformed the Omak Adventist Christian School gymnasium into a dental clinic capable of providing X-rays, cleanings, fillings and extractions.

During the two-day 2019 event, nine dentists and three hygienists donated their services. Many of them drove several hours to volunteer. Local church members of all ages provided nurse prescreening, dental assisting, sterilization and patient coordination. Other volunteers offered free haircuts and health assessments. Pathfinders from the Omak Appaloosa Pathfinder Club escorted patients between stations.

After their procedure, each patient received a gift bag of spiritual books and health



David Rumbolz, who received services at Omak's first Free Dental Clinic in 2018, was thrilled to be able to give back by assisting dentist Adrian Tomarere during this year's dental clinic.

information. “Their mouths might have been full of gauze from their extractions,” says Dave Saulsbury, who staffed the final station, “but they would come out beaming.”

One patient left this note: “Thank you so much for being here; [it is] much needed around here. I've been waiting one year for dental help.” The 2019 clinic was able to give free dental procedures to 135 community members.

During the 2018 Free Dental Clinic, David Rumbolz had 17 teeth extracted, which was life-changing. Not only was his constant dental pain eliminated, but his physical health drastically improved once his decayed teeth were gone. Other changes are continuing to unfold. “I had been looking for the right church forever,” Rumbolz remembers. “After my extractions, I said I

was interested in Bible studies — and I am still studying.” Rumbolz started attending the Omak Church.

This year, Rumbolz, after receiving an early dental procedure, stayed to volunteer as a dental assistant. “I think the dental clinic is a really fabulous

thing and is hitting where people really need help,” says Rumbolz.

Saulsbury recently received an enthusiastic phone call from a young woman who had received care a year ago. “I just loved your dental clinic!” she exclaimed. She went on to explain she had been deeply impressed by how the hygienists were able to be a blessing. Several months later, when she was offered the opportunity to go back to school, she knew what career she would choose: dental hygiene.

The connections created through service continue to bless. It was truly a privilege for each volunteer to be part of extending hands of healing and hope in the Okanogan Valley.

Julene Cole, Omak Church communication leader

The Omak Adventist Christian School gymnasium is transformed into a dental clinic.



Filling the



Missing Something?

DISCOVER THE GAPS WITHIN THROUGH PERSONAL STORIES EXPLORING TOPICS FEW HAVE COURAGE TO ADDRESS. FILLING THE GAP PODCAST FROM THE NORTH PACIFIC UNION TELLS THE STORIES OF GAPS IN LIFE AND SEEKS PATHS TO WHOLENESS AND COMMUNITY.

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“This podcast is LIFE. It’s ups and downs, it’s good and bad. It has hope & grace interwoven into it and it gives me hope that the ugly parts of life can have a light at the end of the tunnel. The storytelling is impeccable it captivated my attention the entire time.” – VALERIE

“This podcast is so genuine. It really helps give insight to people’s lives. It’s not always a happy ending that we would expect and that’s life. We need more stories and outlets for this sort of thing for people to be heard and just take the time to listen to others, especially in the church, especially those who have been hurt by the church. I love this idea and this podcast! Keep it up. Can’t wait for more.” – DAN

“It’s SO GOOD. You’re touching on subjects nobody in the church talks about, from an official venue. I’m really enjoying.” – HEATHER

SEEING GOD IN ACTION

Five years ago, our ministry team in western Washington took a closer look at our mission and purpose. Within the context of sharing “Hope and Wholeness” to invite people to become fully devoted disciples of Jesus, we discovered a theme as we talked and prayed: “Living generously, sharing faithfully.”



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

But the question remained: Why do we live generously and share faithfully? The answer: because we desire to grow spiritually. When you grow spiritually and pray continually, God gives you the right motivation for caring and ministering to others.

Continuing these leadership conversations, we asked each ministry, church and school to define at different levels how they could live generously, share faithfully, grow spiritually and pray continually. This resulted in four core “ACTS” of ministry:

- Adventist Christian education;
- Coaching leaders;
- Totally involved members;
- Spiritual growth.

This focus allows us to be purposeful, steady and innovative. This focus allows us to fulfill our commitments and adapt to new opportunities to share the Gospel message in words and in actions.

Washington ACTS. There is no question about this in our minds as we see a high level of ministry activity and dreams for new ministry ideas. But there is a greater reason why we act: We act because God still ACTS!

In this season of thanksgiving and celebration, we



praise God for how He is working in and through your lives. As 1 Thessalonians 5 says, we rejoice always, we pray continually, and we give thanks in all circumstances as we see God in action.

We invite you anew to join us in seeing others through the eyes of Jesus, to invest in your spiritual growth, and to partner with God in service and ministry as He acts in your life in 2020 and beyond.

Your friends in ministry,
Doug Bing, Craig Carr, Jerry Russell, Craig Mattson and the Washington Conference team



WASHINGTON

GROWING SPIRITUALLY, PRAYING CONTINUALLY // CONFERENCE +

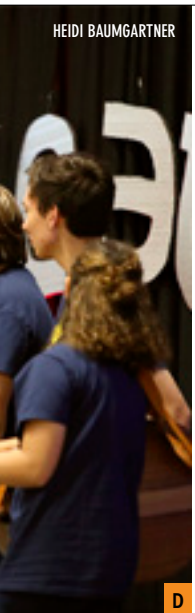


JUSTIN KHOE

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER



C



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

D



KATIE HENDERSON

E

A Children's ministries is finding creative ways to involve children of all ages and abilities in sharing about Jesus through a community Christmas program, Vacation Bible Schools and age-appropriate activities.

B Growing Young Adventists is bringing generations of local congregations together for mentoring, leadership development and growth.

C Church, school and community interaction are leading to young people deciding to follow Jesus and commit to living a life filled with faith.

D Our 19 Adventist Christian schools in western Washington are training 1,208 young people to be leaders, learners and thinkers.

E Throughout the year, caring adults pour life, skills, time and love into young people enrolled in Pathfinders and Adventurer clubs. Our growing number of clubs are helping children and teens to know God better through physical activities and learning life skills.

F Samoan Adventists say "Show Me Your Way, Lord" at the North American Division Samoan Camp Meeting, where 44 young people (and a few young at heart) responded to Jesus' calling for baptism.

G Collaboration between Adventist education, Sunset Lake Camp, Pathfinders and local community partners allows for fifth and sixth grade students to experience hands-on science learning at outdoor school.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER



More photos online at
glnr.in/114-06-wa_sage

SAGE BUILDS A LEGACY

SAGE celebrated its 25-year history of volunteer mission service and senior citizen fellowship on Sept. 28 with a special day of heritage and mission stories in Bellevue.

The organization began when Jerry and Beverly Brass had a vision for seniors in the Washington Conference. Seniors gathered in the 1980s and 90s each year at Camp Hope in British Columbia, Canada, and had quarterly lunches for retirees. Bob Grady stepped in when Jerry Brass retired and expanded the ministry to include mission service.

One of the first officers of the group, Margaret Tan, suggested the name SAGE, meaning Seniors in Action for God with Excellence. The name clicked, the volunteer leadership team expanded, and SAGE quickly grew to more than 1,000 members (membership is free).

A DAY OF REMEMBERING

The SAGE 25th Celebration started with Howard Brenton, from Aberdeen, sharing about his first of many mission trips. “Don’t think you are too old to serve God,” he says. Through the years, SAGE volunteers have taken mission

trips throughout South and Central America, in Africa and even within the United States. Mission trips typically involve partnering with Maranatha Volunteers International.

Closer to home, SAGE provides regular work bees for Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson and helps local churches and schools with specific facility improvement tasks. To date, SAGE has painted more than 240 denominationally owned buildings in North America and around the world.

“SAGE is a vibrant demonstration of ‘second mile’ living, serving and fellowshiping,” says Doug Bing, Wash-

In his last public sharing of his story at SAGE’s 25th Celebration, Ralph Watts tells how he and 410 medical professionals and others escaped from Vietnam in 1975. Watts’ story is available in book form from major booksellers under the title “Escape From Saigon.”



Esther Finerty reads a miraculous story about an apparent tragedy of a young man being run over, appearing to be badly hurt and dead, and then unexpectedly coming back to life.

ington Conference president. “SAGE volunteers have beautified our ministry facilities and addressed loneliness among senior citizens through hands-on service and interaction.”

Beyond service opportunities, SAGE members participate in fun activities such as baseball games, picnics, concerts, banquets, whale watches, travel tours and other

activities to strengthen senior cohesiveness and build a better walk with God. Replicas of the SAGE organization have been started now in several conferences around North America.

With each project, SAGE volunteers like to give an extra gesture of generosity to improve local ministry. The September gathering raised \$71,659 for a girls’ dormitory in Kenya (built in memory of SAGE member Ken Lauren) and for aiding SAGE’s future mission trips.

“Who would have thought that so much good could be done by basically retired Adventists seniors?” Grady says. “As a result, God’s work has prospered, and SAGE members have also been blessed and have greatly enjoyed being of service to God’s children everywhere.”

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

More online at
glnr.in/114--06-wa_guest

GREEN LAKE SAYS 'BE OUR GUEST'

John and Karin McLarty were in the midst of an arranged hospital visit with a family whose young son was in the burn unit. Karin asked the grandparents, "Where are you staying? Your family is likely to be here for a while."

Green Lake Church had recently opened a guest suite for out-of-town guests who come to the area for specialized medical care. Karin offered this service, but the family declined, so she left a phone number.

"They called me later and said their hotel rate was going up to \$400 a night," recounts Karin, who now serves as the housing ministry coordinator. "This family was our first guest in the new guest suite. They were grateful and so appreciative."

Seattle is a tertiary center for medical treatment, and patients come from around the Pacific Northwest to receive specialized treatment for diseases and accidents. Area churches frequently receive requests for housing assistance and/or pastoral visits.

Just since January 2019, Green Lake Church has helped a dozen families. The church now owns two furnished guest apartments with two addition-

al guest apartments available through the generosity of church members.

"As a family, we share the good times and the heavy times," says McLarty, Green Lake Church pastor. "We are helping people in a time of need."

HOUSING WITH A MISSION

Most ministry dreams take time to become a reality, and this is true with Green Lake's housing ministry. The church's foundation for funding ministry purchased housing in 2013. Members renovated the home and

While receiving medical treatment away from home, Green Lake guest suite families need to be able to cook a meal and run some laundry.



GUMMI IBSEN

The Meridian House guest suite offers two cozy bedrooms, a nice bathroom, a compact kitchen, a tankless water heater, a refinished garage and a storage area.

finalized ministry guidelines. The first guests were served by 2017 — mainly through word of mouth connections. Another property was purchased and dedicated in September 2019.

The main living area is rented to cover mortgage and expenses, and the separate guest suite is provided free of charge to guests for stays that average two nights to two months. Each guest, after initially contacting the Green Lake Church office, goes through an application and screening process to determine needs, scheduling and placement, since the guest suites are in different neighborhoods.

If you or your family find yourself in the Seattle area needing temporary housing during your medical treatment, you are welcome to contact the Green Lake Church office at 206-522-1330. The church would be honored to help you if at all possible.

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

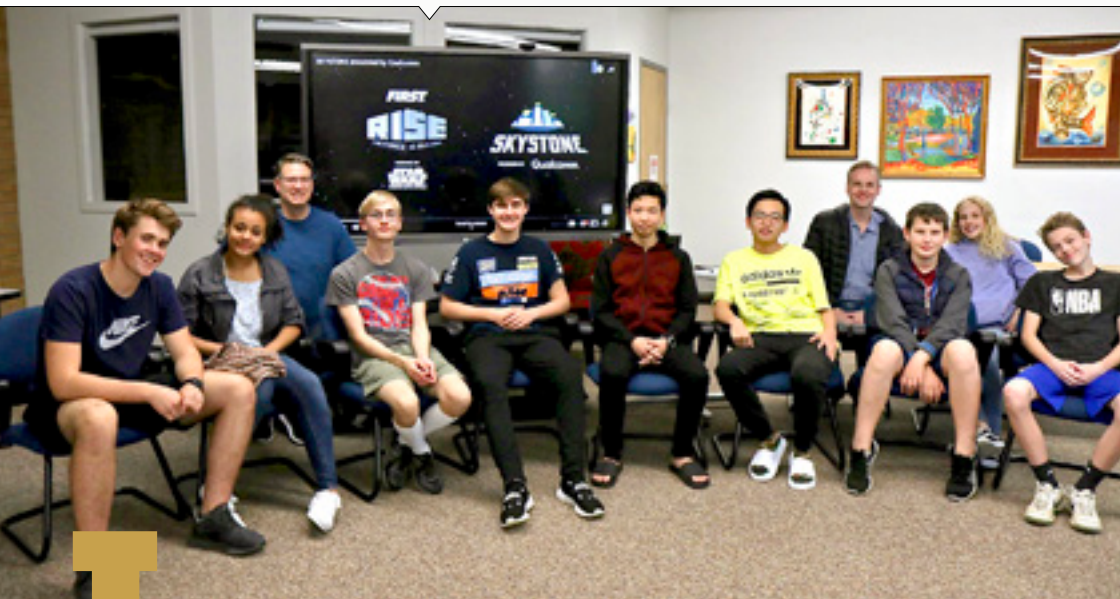


GUMMI IBSEN

AUBURN LAUNCHES NEW ROBOTICS CLUB



Read more online at
glnr.in/114-06-wa_robotics



If you walk by the Auburn Adventist Academy library on Tuesday evenings between 6 and 7 p.m., you'll find a dozen eager faces seated and staring intently at a 58-inch computer screen. It's not movie night or a study hall. Rather, they're going through the *FIRST Tech Challenge Game Manual* for 2019–2020.

The facilitator is Tom Butler, one of the adult coaches. Discussions revolve around sensors, solenoids, Java programming, core servo controllers and other foreign-sounding terms.

Welcome to the weekly meeting of Falcon Robot-

ics, the freshly inaugurated STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) club at Auburn Adventist Academy. FIRST Tech Challenge brings together teams of up to 15 members in grades seven through 12 and challenges them to design, build, program and operate robots to compete in a head-to-head challenge in an alliance format.

FIRST Tech Challenge is pioneered by FIRST — an organization founded in 1989 and now the world's largest nonprofit dedicated to youth STEM education. Fifteen years ago a group of Adventist students, teachers and mentors partnered with FIRST in order

to promote the importance of STEM education in Adventist schools. The result: Adventist Robotics League (ARL), sponsored by the North American Division education department.

The goal of Falcon Robotics is to build a robot that will be ready to compete and play a floor game against other teams' creations at the annual FIRST Tech Challenge competition April 26, 2020, in Orlando, Fla.

The idea of starting a robotics club at Auburn Adventist Academy was inspired by Butler as well as Jeffrey Walker, two local parents who work in the tech industry. It really was born out of a season

of prayer and intercession. Both gentlemen started weekly meetings last spring to pray over their businesses. But they soon sensed a mutual burden to help prepare young people for leadership skills in technology within a Christ-centered environment.

As Walker points out, "The idea that we're living on the edge of one of the world's major technology hubs spells so many opportunities for our youth to get involved in technology and to be 'salt and light' in their communities."

Falcon Robotics is not just about kids building robots, but rather about "robots building kids." "The kids are really the key decision makers," says Butler. "We're just facilitators, but they're ultimately responsible for branding, marketing and fundraising this initiative."

If you'd like to learn more about Falcon Robotics or how to contribute financially to this exciting initiative, please reach out to falconrobotics@auburn.org.

AAA growth and development department

ADVENTIST HEALTH LEADERS CONNECT WITH PATIENTS

W

hen we think of patient care in a hospital, we often think

of doctors and nurses. But Adventist Health Portland leaders recognize that creating the best experience possible for patients is the responsibility of every hospital employee.

In an effort to increase the level of involvement from all departments, leaders from across the organization have committed to a new process that will allow them to create personal connections with patients each day. “Sometimes



as leaders in nonclinical departments we start to lose our connection with the patients we’re here to serve,” says Joyce Newmyer, Adventist Health Portland president.

Beginning in September, leaders have volunteered to take on three to four specific patient rooms in the hospital. Each weekday the leader

visits these patient rooms to welcome the patient, share a note of encouragement and offer prayer.

“Leader welcome visits are a chance for our associates to remember why we do what we do. In a day packed with meetings and tasks, spending a few moments with patients grounds our work and is a meaningful chance to re-connect with our mission to provide health, wholeness and hope,” explains Newmyer.

Patients have noticed the new practice and have been reacting positively. Eleasa Norris, diagnostic and imaging manager, says she visited a patient who has been in and

out of hospitals for years. The patient told her, “This is the best hospital I have ever been in. The people really care about me, and it shows.”

Norris also talks about visiting a patient who was in the hospital for more than a week. This patient looked forward to the daily visits and notes of encouragement. At the end of her stay, she told Norris she was inspired to return to school to become a nurse because of the care she received at Adventist Health Portland.

A hospital stay can be a scary and lonely experience. Small interactions like caring visits from leaders help patients feel heard and loved during a

particularly vulnerable time in their lives. And for staff, these visits have quickly become an irreplaceable opportunity to connect with their reason for being in health care and their personal mission to be the healing hands of Jesus through every facet of their workday.

Adam Lee, Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region marketing and communication director

IWASA BECOMES WWU DEAN OF STUDENTS

David Iwasa has joined the Walla Walla University student life team as the new assistant vice president for student life and dean of students. In this position, Iwasa will oversee the Associated Students of Walla Walla University, lead development of campus student well-being initiatives and help oversee the university judicial system.

Iwasa joins WWU with 19 years of experience in student life, most recently at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., as well at Thunderbird Adventist Academy in Arizona and dean for Gem State Adventist Academy in Idaho. His experience includes accounting, management and administration for various companies.

“David brings to Walla Walla University a passion for Adventist education, a deep love for students, and years of experience in residential life and higher education,” says Doug Tilstra, vice president for student life. “His generous spirit, seasoned faith, thoughtful engagement with tough issues, and love for helping students find and express their fullest and beautiful potential are fully aligned with the core values of WWU.”



David Iwasa

Iwasa has a Bachelor of Science in business administration and a Master of Arts degree in educational leadership from WWU. He is a certified student development educator and a member of the Adventist Student Personnel Association. In 2015 he was awarded the Faith Development Leadership Award from Andrews University for his contributions to university spiritual life.

He and his wife, Kathleen, are the parents of two college students, Kaily and Dawson.

Jodi Wagner, WWU vice president for university relations and advancement

BIBLICAL SCHOLARS CONTRIBUTE TO NEW NIV STUDY BIBLE

A recently released study Bible features editorial commentary from four biblical scholars connected to Walla Walla University. The Andrews Study Bible, which was released by Andrews University Press in 2010 in the New King James Version, was released in September 2019 in the New International Version.

This presentation of the Scriptures from the Seventh-day Adventist perspective includes commentary from Jon Dybdahl, former WWU president and professor emeritus of biblical studies; John McVay, current WWU president and professor of theology; Zdravko Stefanovic, former WWU professor of biblical studies; and Pedrito Maynard-Reid, WWU assistant to the president for diversity and professor of biblical studies and missiology.

Dybdahl, who was general editor of the NKJV of the study Bible, also oversaw any

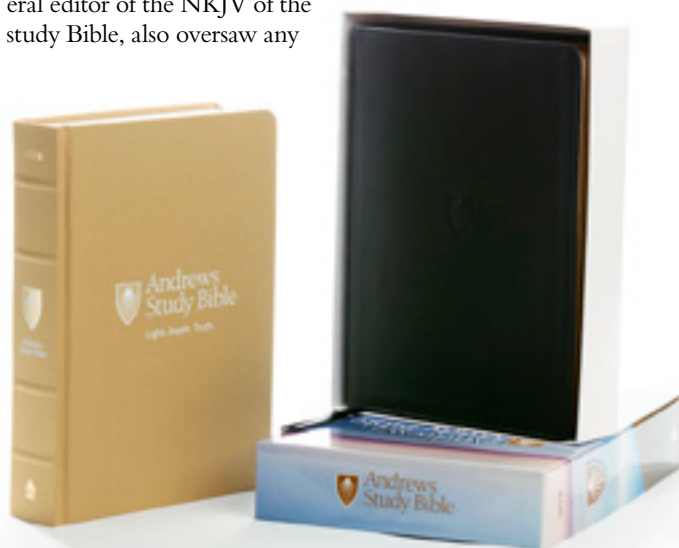
necessary adjustments related to the recently released NIV version.

The Andrews Study Bible was the first scholarly Seventh-day Adventist study Bible to be produced. The study Bible includes more than 12,000 study notes written by an international group of Bible scholars and theologians.

“I enjoyed the unique discipline of attempting to distill scholarly discussions of Bible passages into brief remarks that could help people make sense of and apply the works of Scripture to their personal lives,” says McVay.

To learn more about both versions of the Andrews Study Bible, visit universitypress.andrews.edu.

Kiersten Ekkens, WWU university relations student writer





WWU MATHEMATICS PROFESSORS PRESENT TEACHING STRATEGIES TO EDUCATORS IN THE NPUC

Walla Walla University mathematics professors recently shared two specific teaching approaches — standards-based grading and the flipped classroom model — with educators in the North Pacific Union Conference.

Standards-based grading allows students multiple attempts to reach the required standard on an assignment. The student's final grade is then calculated by how many course objectives were mastered rather than by traditional exam points.

In the flipped classroom model, students spend class time working homework problems in a group with the professor present to answer questions. Students prepare for class by watching assigned videos about the topic and reading the textbook.

“While these approaches

are not necessarily cutting edge, they are different from what happens in a traditional mathematics classroom at the college level,” says Jonathan Duncan, WWU Department of Mathematics and Department of Computer Science chair.

The goal is always to create student-centered learning processes. “Educators in multiple fields are pursuing more active learning strategies and adjusting their teaching to accommodate a new generation of students that is more diverse in academic backgrounds and learning styles,” explains Duncan.

To learn more about strategies for effectively teaching math, contact Jonathan Duncan at jonathan.duncan@wallawalla.edu.

Kiersten Ekkens, WWU university relations student writer

WWU RECOGNIZED FOR EXCEPTIONAL CAMPUS DIVERSITY

Walla Walla University is ranked No. 135 out of 2,238 colleges and universities analyzed in the United States for diversity. This puts the university in the top 10% of all schools in the country.

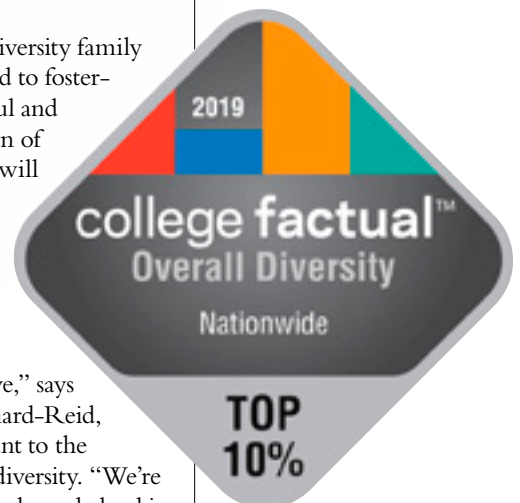
WWU earned this ranking by having one of the most diverse student populations in the country with respect to race, age, gender and geographic origin. WWU is also ranked No. 3 out of 42 colleges in the state of Washington for diversity, placing WWU in the top 5% of all colleges in the state. The rankings were provided by College Factual, the leading source of data analytics and insights on college outcomes.

“Our university family has committed to fostering a respectful and durable pattern of diversity that will enrich each individual, strengthen Walla Walla University and bless the world we serve,” says Pedrito Maynard-Reid, WWU assistant to the president for diversity. “We’re pleased to be acknowledged in these rankings, but we are al-

ways eager to learn more about how we can better recognize and benefit from the diversity of our university family and the world around us.”

“Walla Walla University has been on an important journey, one that brings focus to our mission statement, which affirms that ‘every person is created in the image of God as a being of inestimable value and worth,’” adds John McVay, WWU president. “Viewed through that lens, WWU celebrates and cultivates diversity as a sacred calling.”

Kim Strobel, WWU university relations supervisor

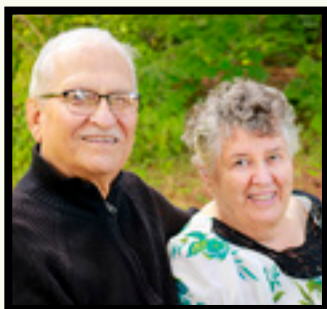


Carambot 60th

George and Yvonne Carambot celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary with a family reunion in College Place, Wash.

George Carambot and Yvonne Becker were married on July 5, 1959, at La Sierra College Church in Riverside, Calif., before heading to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., where George received his Master of Divinity, minoring in biblical languages while Yvonne worked as a certified nursing assistant.

George began his pastoral career in Arizona, where they



George and Yvonne Carambot

also began raising their family. After their third son was born, they accepted a call to the Netherlands Antilles Mission, which consisted of Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire islands. George worked as a pastor, evangelist and departmental secretary. Four years later, the Carambots moved to Venezuela, where George was president of the West Venezuelan Mission. After a brief furlough, the couple finished their mission service with George as the president of the Columbia/Venezuela Union office.

After 12 years in the mission field, the Carambots, now a family of five boys and one

girl, spent time in Angwin, Calif., where George was the director of student finance at Pacific Union College. Transitioning his career, the family moved to Pleasant Hill where George became a trust officer and spent time at the Northern California Conference (1981–1985), Loma Linda University trust services department (1985–1989) and Upper Columbia Conference (1989–1993). He finished his career at the North Pacific Union Conference before retiring in 2004.

Dedicated to health care services, once the Carambots were home from the mission field, Yvonne's career moved forward as a home health aide. She spent 10 years in hospice providing safe and compassionate care for those in need. In the early 1990s, Yvonne transitioned to owning and operating her own business for 20 years. She was committed to providing outstanding 24/7 elder care in her adult foster homes. In her spare time, Yvonne had a passion for creating beautifully catered events, helping fellow church members by sewing wedding dresses and decorating cakes, and coordinating a network of women to support the Lord's work.

George and Yvonne began their retirement in beautiful northeast Washington, where they built and lived in a log cabin on the Pend Oreille River in Ione, Wash. George volunteered at the Ione Church, and Yvonne assisted the local museum with their donation network during their free time. Then, in 2012, George and Yvonne moved to College

Place, where they live near two of their sons.

George and Yvonne Carambot are the proud parents of six, grandparents of 12 and great-grandparents of five. In honor of their 60th wedding anniversary, the family hosted a reunion celebration in Walla Walla, Wash., where George and Yvonne were honored for their dedication to each other, to their family and to their church.

Freitas 75th

Bob and Beth Freitas celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on June 25, 2019. They were married in Reno, Nev., on June 25, 1944. They have been retired for 30 years, living in Sequim, Wash. Recently moved to Auburn, Wash., to live with their daughter, Karen Hackett, and near their son and his wife, Bob and Linda Freitas. Their daughter Patti is deceased. They have 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

The Freitas family spent their years in service to their God and church at Upper Columbia Academy for 18 years and then Auburn Adventist Academy for 20 years. Bob taught industrial



Bob and Beth Freitas

arts, which included woodworking, mechanical drawing, arts and crafts, driver's education, and many other classes

such as Bible and math as needed by the school. He also built many of the homes on both academy campuses which allowed many students to learn skills in building.

Beth supervised in various departments at the academies including furniture factory and laundry and was the accountant and treasurer. She also worked in both Upper Columbia Conference and Washington Conference offices for several years during their years of service.

Henry 95th

Imer Henry turned 95 on June 27, 2019. Imer was born on June 27, 1924, in Monitor, Ore., by Mount Angel. Imer remembers wonderful times, such as hikes in the Columbia River Gorge, with his dad, mom, brother, sister and grandparents until his mother died when he was 5 years old.

At the graveside of his mother, Imer said, "I'll never see my mother until Jesus comes" as his mother had taught him about death when he was quite young. With that knowledge, Imer kept his faith strong all his life.

After Imer's mother passed away, his dad became Sabbath School superintendent and taught Imer a verse without anyone else knowing Imer knew it. The verse was "If I could find a \$ or a dollar bill, I would send it off to missions as fast as it could go; for they are needing teachers there; my teacher told me so. I can give some now, and Dad can give some more and you and you and you." Imer always said that verse, and he said it at the Monitor Church for their 100th anniversary when he was 76 years of age.

About the time he learned the verse, relatives in Canada needed someone to run Imer's grandfather's homestead farm. Imer's family moved to Canada when he was 8 years old and remained there until he was 13. Imer says, "These five years were a beautiful part of my life."

"We then returned to the USA, and I went to church school and Laurelwood Academy. I had nearly three years in the U.S. Navy, and then the Lord led me to the most beautiful and spiritual wife, whom I had for 65 years. Her name was Mayetta. We were married on Sunday and attended church on our first Sabbath as husband and wife. Mayetta and I have two sons, Vernon (Gresham, Ore.) and Norman (Clackamas, Ore.). We spent a lot of time in nature with our sons, having Sabbath as a very important part of our life."

Jackson 95th

Ben was born to Jim and Viola Jackson on Aug. 26, 1924, in Colville, Wash. Ben got to be big brother to four sisters who followed. He lived in several small towns in Washington until the age of 12, then his family moved to Susanville, Ore. Ben attended a one-room school house with a total of six kids.

At age 17, Ben joined the Navy. He spent several years aboard the *USS Hammond*, a destroyer escort. During World War II, they made 25 trips across the Atlantic and were never hit.

At the end of three and a half years in the Navy, Ben came to the Willamette Valley and found work in a sawmill. Shortly thereafter, Ben transferred to the sawmill's



Ben Jackson

powerhouse and stayed on that job for 40 years. In 1947, he married Katherine Warren. They had a son, Charles, in 1960.

Ben and his family moved to Falls City, Ore., in 1961. An Adventist neighbor visited Ben and Katherine weekly, bringing them literature. Later, Ben and Katherine attended an evangelistic series in Dallas, Ore. They were baptized and joined the Falls City Church in 2000. Charles joined the church a little later. Katherine went to sleep in Jesus in 2015.

Ben spends his time visiting and ministering to shut-ins and older folk in the area. He attends church regularly and is a faithful deacon and PA operator. Ben is a real blessing to his church family and to his community. Happy 95th birthday, Ben!

Williams 90th

Carol E. Williams celebrated her 90th birthday on July 23, 2019, with family and friends at a reception at Missoula Manor in Missoula, Mont. Carol Buckmiller was born July 23, 1929, in Oroville, Wash. She married Charles E. Williams in 1948 in Oroville, Wash., and they settled in Missoula in 1955.

She worked for 21 years as an office manager at an auto parts store prior to retiring to travel with her husband. Carol has been a devoted member of the Missoula Church for 64

years, serving in many capacities such as pianist and church organist for many years as well as church treasurer for eight years. Carol and her husband were married over 57 years before his passing in 2006.

Carol's favorite activities are music, swimming, frequent walks around the local duck pond park and crocheting hats for the Head Start program. Since 2002 Carol has led out in the Amazing Grays Bible Study at the Missoula Manor and every Sabbath afternoon she plays piano in the rec hall for a hymnal singalong. Her favorite Bible verse is Rev. 22:14 (KJV): "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city."



Carol Williams with son Alan Williams.

Carol's family includes Alan Williams of Wallace, Idaho; Mike and Julie Williams of Rathdrum, Idaho; Susan (Williams) and Thomas Chamberlain of Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; 7 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

COONCE — Dallas Rae was born June 4, 2019, to Trevor and Katy (Lucas) Coonce, Modesto, Calif.

COONCE — Heidi June was born June 4, 2019, to Trevor and Katy (Lucas) Coonce, Modesto, Calif.

ERICKSON — Sara Mei was born May 11, 2019, to Phillip J. and Aurie (Whitlock) Erickson, Newberg, Ore.

GEORGE — Gwendolyn Iris Lee was born July 11, 2019, to Ben and Christina (Perry) George, Camas, Wash.

RAE — Aiden Mark was born March 26, 2019, to David and Melissa (Tessier) Rae, Walla Walla, Wash.

ROUTT — Zoe Lee was born July 15, 2019, to David G. and Erin (Lee) Routt, Meridian, Idaho.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

MINNER-CADWALLADER

Laurie Kathleen (Redmer) Minner and Dale Lansing Cadwallader were married Aug. 14, 2019, in Seattle, Wash. They are making their home in Collagedale, Tenn. Laurie is the daughter of Gordon Redmer (deceased) and Audrey (Cramer) Redmer. Dale is the son of Duane "Bill" Cadwallader (deceased) and Joy (Lansing) Cadwallader.

ANDREGG — Marie (Bryant), 89; born Jan. 8, 1930, Jefferson City, Mo.; died July 6, 2019, Eagle, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Daniel; sons, Randy, Eagle; Rodney, Middleton, Idaho; daughter, Linda Wagner, Rogue River, Ore.; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

BALL — James F., 83; born Nov. 30, 1935, Shinglehouse, Pa.; died April 9, 2019, Crescent City, Calif. Surviving: wife, Patricia (Chase); son, James T., Angwin, Calif.; daughters, Cheryl Nelson, Bellingham, Wash.; Diana Cefalo, Tracy, Calif.; Becky Asbury, Abington, Va.; brother, Ron Ball, Turnersville, N.J.; sister, Vicki Weiss, Tonawanda, N.Y.; and 7 grandchildren.

BARKSDALE — Bernelda Jean (Johnson) Cash, 79; born Dec. 3, 1939, Hutchison, Minn.; died March 26, 2019, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Donald; brother, David Johnson, Montrose, Colo.; sisters, Dianne Vyskocil, Bellingham, Wash.; and Evie Swanson, Hutchison.

BEERS — S.F. “Red,” 89; born Feb. 6, 1930, Milton, Ore.; died May 30, 2019, Pendleton, Ore. Surviving: sons, Lloyd, Pendleton; Michael, Pilot Rock, Ore.; daughter, HollyJo Beers, Athena, Ore.; brother, Jack, Pendleton; sister, DeeDee Walker, Walla Walla, Wash.; 13 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

BOUCHER — Ron Devere, 88; born Sept. 30, 1930, Caro, Mich.; died May 1, 2019, Pendleton, Ore. Surviving: wife, Loretta (Wood); son,

David, Citrus Springs, Fla.; daughters, Eileen Renee Sanders, Merrimack, N.H.; Melody Ingebretsen, Spokane, Wash.; Merry Walker, Citrus Springs; Sam Wehunt, Prairie Village, Kan.; sister, Pat McCoy, Lenore, Idaho; 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BOWMAN — Lawrence “Gene” Eugene, 96; born Dec. 27, 1922, Princeton, Ill.; died May 9, 2019, Enterprise, Ore. Surviving: wife, Velma Louise (Wallace); sons, Dwight, Enterprise; Glen, Stanwood, Wash.; Tim, Yankee Hill, Calif.; Art, Escondido, Calif.; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

COOK — Margaret Madeline (Osgood) Trautwein, 97; born April 15, 1922, Chicago, Ill.; died May 16, 2019, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: brother, DeWitt Osgood, Tigard, Ore.; sisters, Charlotte Rollenhagen and Betty Sue Keller, both of College Place, Wash.

COOK — Richard Lowell, 86; born Sept. 4, 1932, Goodhue, Minn.; died April 19, 2019, Gladstone, Ore. Surviving: wife, Gerda Gartner, West Linn, Ore.; son, Ronald Cook, Algonquin, Ill.; and 3 grandchildren.

CRAMER — Marilyn Jeanne (Sturdevant), 85; born June 9, 1933, Seattle, Wash.; died April 21, 2019, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Sylvia Cramer, Redlands, Calif.; Linda Sloop, Yakima; and 3 grandchildren.

DRAKE — John Emmett, 76; born July 30, 1942, Lovelock, Nev.; died June 11, 2019, Klamath Falls, Ore. Sur-

viving: wife, Diane Drake; sons, Jason and Josh, both of Washington; daughter, Jamell Drake Williams, of Washington; 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

DRURY — Linda J. “Lynn” (Hooten), 69; born Nov. 27, 1949, San Jose, Calif.; died May 9, 2019, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: husband, Charlie; son, Michael “Zak” Sullenger, Portland, Ore.; stepson, Charlie Drury, College Place, Wash.; stepdaughter, Lacy Drury, Honolulu, Hawaii; sister, Terri (Hooten) Hartel, Kettle Falls, Wash.; and 4 grandchildren.

HAGEN — David George Louis, 81; born Feb. 16, 1936, Stillwater, Minn.; died July 28, 2018, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Sandra (Moody); daughter, Kelly Jean Hagen, Anaheim, Calif.; stepson, Ronald McGrew, Bailey, Colo.; stepdaughter, Seana Sperling, Boise; and 2 great-grandchildren.

HART — Elmer E., 95; born April 17, 1923, Moscow, Idaho; died March 16, 2019, Gig Harbor, Wash. Surviving: wife, Esther (Kephart); son, Wesley, Lakewood, Wash.; daughters, Shirly White, Oak Harbor, Wash.; Sherie Hart, Auburn, Wash.; Sandra Hall, Fort Bragg, Calif.; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

LAMBERTON — Darrell Ray, 72; born June 27, 1946, Brewster, Wash.; died March 29, 2019, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: wife, Ann Louise (LaFontaine); daughters, Ruthann Crowe, Whitehall, Mont.; Marylou Alcaraz, Santa Rosa,

Calif.; Suellen Lines, Yakima; brother, Mike, Grangeville, Idaho; and 4 grandchildren.

LINDSAY — Curtis Edward, 90; born Oct. 27, 1928, Wahkon, Minn.; died May 17, 2019, Tonasket, Wash. Surviving: sons, Galen, Mesa, Ariz.; Gerry, Hermiston, Ore.; daughters, Alice Kerk, Tonasket; Eileen Richmond, Mill Creek, Wash.; sister, Ardys Tanaka, Port Hardy, British Columbia, Canada; 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

LOVELY — Harlin Guy, 88; born July 16, 1930, La Grande, Ore.; died May 1, 2019, Tillamook, Ore. Surviving: wife, Donna Lee (Whisenhunt); sons, Terry Guy Lovely, Sweet Home, Ore.; Anthony Guy Lovely, Tillamook; Gary Hayes, Tillamook; daughter, Pam Sue (Lovely) Hawkins, Fort Worth, Texas; 14 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

MCINTYRE — Helen Ruth (Fuller), 94; born Nov. 20, 1924, Walkon, Iowa; died July 12, 2019, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: son, Richard Donald Robert McIntyre, Boring, Ore.; and daughter, Janet McIntyre-Corcoran, Vancouver, Wash.

MILTON — Britta Mae (Johnson), 94; born June 11, 1924, Gottenburg, Sweden; died March 27, 2019, Clackamas, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Patti Hanson, Gold Beach, Ore.; 3 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

MOYER — Bruce Campbell, 82; born May 3, 1937, New York City, N.Y.; died May 11, 2019, Berrien Springs,

Mich. Surviving: wife, Shirley (Nagy); son, T.J. Moyer, Baltimore, Md.; daughter, Lisl (Moyer) Sukachevin, Silver Spring, Md.; and 4 grandchildren.

OLSON — William “Bill” Fredrick Jr., 85; born Jan. 21, 1934, Paris, Tenn.; died June 13, 2019, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Donna (Emmerson); sons, William “Bill” Olson, Snohomish, Wash.; Robert “Bob” Olson, St. Johns, Newfoundland, Canada.; Stanley Hendrickson, Vlora, Albania; daughters, Debby Harmon, Walla Walla; Joleen “Kathy” Yasa, Noblesville, Ind.; sisters, Nancy (Olson) White, Sacramento, Calif.; Lucy Olson, Vacaville, Calif.; 21 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

REID — Jean L. (Griffin), 88; born June 1, 1931, Rushville, Neb.; died June 16, 2019, Klamath Falls, Ore. Surviving: sons, Rick and Bill, both of Klamath Falls; daughters, Judy Reid Hall, Center, Texas; Teresa Reid Pitt, Klamath Falls; Betty Reid Hetterle, Wenatchee, Wash.; Amy Reid Davis, Salem, Ore.; Bobi Reid Crenshaw, Idaho Falls, Idaho; and 26 grandchildren.

RIGGINS — Iva Schrilda (Baze), 87; born Sept. 19, 1931, Outlook, Wash.; died March 27, 2019, Shelton, Wash. Surviving: son, John Jr., Shelton; brother, Ted Baze Sr., Huntsville, Ala.; and a grandchild.

SCROGGS — Lorraine (Parker) Ortmann, 70; born Feb. 23, 1948, Seattle, Wash.; died Nov. 12, 2018, Portland, Tenn. Surviving: husband, Donald; daughter, Kelli (Ortmann) Pellegrini,

San Mateo, Calif.; Missy (Ortmann) Barsam, Flower Mound, Texas; stepdaughters, LaVonne Scroggs, Livermore, Calif.; LeAnne Scroggs, Newbury Park, Calif.; sister, Patricia Parker, Portland; and a grandchild.

WHITE — Merlin Luane, 86; born Aug. 13, 1932, Mott, N.D.; died April 24, 2019, Simi Valley, Calif. Surviving: wife, Josefita (Galiz); son, Phil, Simi Valley; daughters, Rose White, Simi Valley; 6 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

WOHLCKE — H. Charles, 87; born Feb. 2, 1932, Topeka, Kan.; died May 20, 2019, Pendleton, Ore. Surviving: wife, Larene (Southworth); son, Van, Pendleton; daughter, Deborah Mulder, Pilot Rock, Ore.; 20 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren.

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.

Go to [GleanerNow.com](https://www.gleanernews.com)/contribute to submit family announcements.

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

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

- Nov. 2** — Local Church Budget;
- Nov. 9** — World Budget: Annual Sacrifice/Global Mission;
- Nov. 16** — Local Church Budget;
- Nov. 23** — Local Conference Advance;
- Nov. 30** — Walla Walla University;
- Dec. 7** — Local Church Budget;
- Dec. 14** — World Budget: NAD Adventist Community Services;
- Dec. 21** — Local Church Budget;
- Dec. 28** — Local Conference Advance.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

Annual WWU Christmas Concert

Dec. 6 — Join your WWU campus family in person or online for the annual WWU Department of Music Christmas Concert on Friday at 6 p.m. with a repeat performance at 8 p.m. To watch the livestream, visit wallawalla.edu/concert.

How to Pay for College — Online Webinar

Jan. 8, 2020 — Walla Walla University will host a free online webinar for prospective students and their parents titled “How to Pay for College” on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. This 40-minute presentation will be led by experts from WWU student financial services and marketing and enrollment services. After the presentation, attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions. Register at sfs.wallawalla.edu/webinars.

MONTANA CONFERENCE

Missing Members

The Belgrade Church is looking for the following missing members: Rick Benson, Donna Faulkingham, Robbie Hardesty, Holly Jackson, Randy Jackson, Lee G. Johnson, Sandy Levine, Chris Mathisen, David W. Moore, Lois Wallace and Christina York. If someone knows the whereabouts of any of these people, please contact Ruth Stanton at 406-600-9693 or rstanton67@gmail.com.

OREGON CONFERENCE

Dinner With the Doctor

Nov. 7 — You’re invited to Dinner With the Doctor at 6:30 p.m. We will serve you a delicious plant-based meal while you take in vital health information about “Eating to Heal From Autoimmune Disease” from Joyce Choe, ophthalmologist and co-author of *The Autoimmune Plant Based Cookbook*. Hosted by the Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N. Castle Rock, Wash. For more information, contact Wanda at 360-967-2165.

All About Jesus

Nov. 15–23 — The revival series “All About Jesus” with Gary Venden is coming Nov. 15–23, nightly at 7 p.m., at the Woodland Church, 1300 Atlantic Ave., Woodland, Wash. Are you planning to be there? Take your calendars and reserve these dates. Soup and

ANNOUNCEMENTS

salad supper will be served at 6 p.m. The series continues on Sabbaths during Sabbath School and church, and after potluck at 2 p.m. You won't want to miss this opportunity to see Jesus in a new and richer way.

'Seeing Jesus Through Muslims' Eyes'

Nov. 16 — This seminar and Q&A will equip the attendees to get to know and reach out to Muslims using the gospel. Presenter Gerald Babanezhad, Pacific Union Conference Muslim outreach coordinator, will share the historical setting and perspective of Islam, the role of the Adventist Church in sharing the Three Angels' Messages with Muslims, Muslims' understanding of Seventh-day Adventists, practical ways to relate, and much more. Church members will learn to have meaningful relationships with Muslims and lead them from knowing Jesus as one of their prophets to knowing Jesus as their Savior. Invite Muslims neighbors and friends too! Come at 10:45 a.m. and 2 p.m., Lents Church, 8835 SE Woodstock Blvd., Portland, OR 97266.

'The King's Brass' Concert

Dec. 11 — The The King's Brass will be performing a concert of innovative sacred music at 7 p.m., at the Sunnyside Church, 10503 SE Market St., Portland, Ore. For more than 20 years this group has performed more than 100 concerts a year featuring music from Gabrieli to Handel, hymns to jazz to spirituals. Their artistry on trumpet, trombone, tuba, keyboard and percussion will delight and inspire. Free admission.

FountainView Orchestra and Singers in Concert

Dec. 15 — The Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Singers will perform two free concerts at the Grants Pass Church, 1360 NE Ninth Street, on Sunday at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Come and hear "What Can I Give Him?" We spend so much money, effort and time in selecting the perfect Christmas gifts. These gifts are supposed to show our love and appreciation for the recipient. What if we spent the same amount of time preparing our gift for Jesus? The greatest and only gift we can offer Him is our heart. Join Fountainview for an inspiring and festive evening of Christmas music and fellowship. Soak up the joy of Christmas while focusing on the real reason for the season. The acclaimed Fountainview Orchestra and Singers have toured Europe, as well as Central and North America. Fountainview concerts regularly broadcast internationally on Three Angels Broadcasting Network. They have recorded performances in national parks and spectacular historical settings overseas. Tickets are free and will be available through the Grants Pass Church. Seating is limited and available on a first-come basis. For more information, please call the church office at 541-476-6313.

Sunnyside Christmas Musical Program

Dec. 20 — Lloyd Wescott and the Sunnyside Church will present our 38th-annual Christmas musical program, Friday evening at 7 p.m. You will enjoy an evening of Christmas music presented by some of Portland's finest musicians. Invite your friends for this program. Bring your musical score and participate in the finale, Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" from *Messiah*. An offering will be received to support feeding

Portland's homeless each Sunday morning in O'Bryant Square in downtown Portland, Ore. This may be the last for Lloyd as he is turning 91 in March. Refreshments will be served after the program. Location: Sunnyside Church, 10503 SE Market St., Portland, Ore.

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

Egypt Bible Tour

Dec. 27, 2020–Jan. 7, 2021 — Travel with Carl Cosaert of Walla Walla University enjoying wonderful weather as you discover the land of the pyramids, the pharaohs, Moses, the Exodus and much more. You will stay in four-star accommodations, travel in a private, deluxe coach and cruise down the Nile. Included in the cost of the tour are all your meals, entrance fees for all tour sites and museums, basic travel insurance, and the tips for the guides and driver. For more information, contact Sharon Searson at Sharons@uccsda.org.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Bremerton Church Celebrating 25 Years

Nov. 16 — The Bremerton Church is celebrating 25 years in their current location at 4949 Taylor Rd. NW, Bremerton, WA 98312. All former pastors and members and friends are invited to come on Sabbath morning. There will be a special narrative history of the church and a celebration of God's leading.

Missing Members

The Seward Park Church in Seattle is looking for the following missing members: Brian Afuso, Eddie Afuso, Randy Barber, Andrew Becraft, Bonnie Becraft, Nathan Becraft, Carolyn J. Brown, Katsuko Carter, Bryan B. Falatago, James Gutierrez, Bonnie Harlins, Clay Holden, Esai Kamino, Koshi Kamino, Edith Karafas, Narom Khath, Phoeun Khim, George Kosue, Hatsue Kosue, Julie Kosue, Takashi Kosue, Taniqua Lynn, Ana Mohenda Malolo, Samiuela Malolo, Ayoko A. Mochizuki, Cassandra Pullon, Chris Pullon, Aubrey L. Ratcliff, Chiyoko Ratcliff, William A. Ratcliff, Aaron M. Rodel, Connie H. Staerk, Vivian Stites, Hiupeti Teulilo, Mahealani Tonu, Linda J. Warner-Bishop, Albert Washington III and Tisayoshi R. Ybarra. If you have any information about the missing members, please contact Lina Wall, Seward Park Church clerk, 5200 S. Orcas St., Seattle, WA 98118; email address RWall82675@aol.com.

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS.

Images of Creation

Photo Contest

Submit your entries
online by Nov. 13,
2019 at 5 p.m.

Don't forget to **vote** for
your favorite images,
Nov. 20–Dec. 11, 2019.

GleanerNow.com/photocontest

Gleaner

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

This Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation was filed on Oct. 29, 2019, with the U.S. Postal Service for the *Gleaner*, for publication number 0746-5874, a magazine owned and published by the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642. It is published 6 times a year at a subscription price of \$13.50. The following figures for the extent and nature of the circulation apply to the year ending with the Sep/Oct 2019 issue of the *Gleaner* and were printed in the Nov/Dec 2019 issue of this publication.

	Year Average	Sept. Issue
Total number of copies	38,731	38,656
Paid circulation mailed outside-county	38,497	38,423
Paid circulation mailed in-county	0	0
Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors	0	0
Other classes mailed through USPS	0	0
Total paid distribution	38,497	38,423
Free or nominal rate outside-county	134	133
Free or nominal rate in-county	0	0
Other classes mailed through USPS	0	0
Free or nominal rate outside the mail	0	0
Total free or nominal rate distribution	134	133
Total distribution	38,631	38,556
Copies not distributed	100	100
Total	38,731	38,656
Paid Electronic Copies	0	0

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16
weekly worship
opportunities

46
campus clubs

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NEWSTART ADULT FAMILY HOME in Puyallup, Wash., is RN/LPN operated 24/7. We cater to your physical, social, psychological, emotional and spiritual well-being. Contact Teresia at 253-314-3206 or trizkin@yahoo.com for more information.

Classes

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY Learning Through Doing. Training missionaries using Madison model. Academics, vocational training, mission trips. Boarding high school located on a 2,000-acre property in Dayton, Tenn. Most affordable academy. Call 423-244-5430 or visit laurelbrook.org.

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

Employment

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY Looking for a new ministry? Available positions: electrician, grounds, auto mechanics, auto body teacher, cooks, teachers, CNAs, CNA instructor, nurses and more. Visit laurelbrook.org/positions/ or call 423-244-5430.

ARE YOU A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL desiring a career rich with mission and passion? Providing a unique opportunity in the breathtaking Palouse region of Washington state and Idaho, Total Health Physician Group is seeking a progressive,

conscientious, and lifestyle focused physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. Prioritizing the optimal health of our patients and providers, Total Health Physician Group is innovatively developing a digital health platform and insurance system to focus on value-based outcomes. To learn more about this exciting mission and opportunity, go to totalhealthphysicians.com/jobs or email Jayne Peterson at jayne@healthmotivate.org.

STALLANT HEALTH RURAL HEALTH CLINIC in Weimar, Calif., is accepting applications for a nurse practitioner or a physician assistant, as well as a licensed clinical social worker. Please contact Marva at marva@stallanthealth.com for further information.

WANTED: Experienced, adventurous radio broadcaster! This mission field is not overseas. Details at radioofhope.org/production.

CHILD IMPACT INTERNATIONAL IS SEEKING a general manager. Applicants must have management skills including experience in marketing, fundraising, planning, effective communication, and church events; a passion for education and orphans/underprivileged children; the ability to lead a small but growing ministry based in Collegedale, Tenn. Applicant works closely with CEO in strategic planning and operations. Domestic and international travel required. Application deadline is Jan. 31, 2020. For more details, email support@childimpact.org.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks candidate for public services librarian. The public services librarian provides principal information literacy instruction and serves as a reference librarian as part of the research coaching team. They coordinate Campus Research Day, provide library tours, and contribute to managing the expert systems of the library. Qualified candidates will have a graduate degree in library/information science from an ALA-accredited program (or international equivalent). Experience with public services and information literacy instruction, preferably three years; working knowledge of current reference and database applications, as well as knowledge of various library expert systems. For a full list of responsibilities and qualifications, southern.edu/jobs.

UNION COLLEGE invites applicants for an accounting teaching faculty position. Qualified applicants will be committed members of the Adventist church and have a master's/doctorate degree or significant experience and willingness to pursue a master's degree. Find more information at

ucollege.edu/faculty-openings or contact Lisa Forbes at lisa.l.forbes@ucollege.edu.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS FACULTY PHYSICAL THERAPY The clinical sciences coordinator/professor holds a faculty appointment in the PT department and has academic service, scholarship and administrative responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the physical therapy department. This individual demonstrates competence in clinical sciences teaching, and curriculum development. In addition, the clinical sciences coordinator's primary responsibilities are to plan, coordinate, facilitate, administer and monitor activities on behalf of the academic program. andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_12.

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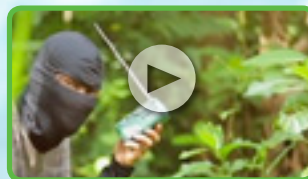
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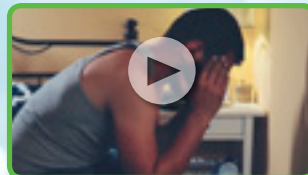
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	NOVEMBER					DECEMBER				
DST ends Nov. 3	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	
ALASKA CONFERENCE										
Anchorage	6:01	4:42	4:25	4:09	3:56	3:47	3:41	3:40	3:45	
Fairbanks	5:33	4:09	3:47	3:26	3:07	2:52	2:42	2:39	2:44	
Juneau	5:11	3:55	3:40	3:27	3:17	3:10	3:06	3:06	3:10	
Ketchikan	5:10	3:56	3:43	3:33	3:24	3:18	3:16	3:17	3:21	
IDAHO CONFERENCE										
Boise	6:37	5:28	5:21	5:15	5:11	5:08	5:08	5:10	5:14	
La Grande	5:41	4:32	4:24	4:17	4:13	4:10	4:10	4:11	4:15	
Pocatello	6:24	5:15	5:08	5:02	4:58	4:56	4:56	4:58	5:01	
MONTANA CONFERENCE										
Billings	6:02	4:53	4:44	4:38	4:33	4:30	4:30	4:31	4:35	
Havre	6:01	4:50	4:41	4:33	4:27	4:24	4:23	4:25	4:29	
Helena	6:14	5:04	4:56	4:49	4:44	4:41	4:40	4:42	4:46	
Miles City	5:50	4:40	4:32	4:25	4:20	4:17	4:16	4:18	4:22	
Missoula	6:22	5:12	5:03	4:56	4:51	4:48	4:47	4:49	4:53	
OREGON CONFERENCE										
Coos Bay	6:10	5:01	4:53	4:47	4:43	4:41	4:41	4:43	4:47	
Medford	6:06	4:58	4:50	4:45	4:41	4:39	4:39	4:41	4:45	
Portland	5:59	4:50	4:41	4:35	4:30	4:27	4:27	4:29	4:33	
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE										
Pendleton	5:44	4:34	4:26	4:19	4:14	4:12	4:11	4:13	4:17	
Spokane	5:34	4:23	4:14	4:07	4:02	3:59	3:58	3:59	4:03	
Walla Walla	5:41	4:31	4:23	4:16	4:11	4:08	4:08	4:09	4:13	
Wenatchee	5:46	4:36	4:27	4:19	4:14	4:11	4:10	4:12	4:16	
Yakima	5:49	4:39	4:30	4:23	4:18	4:15	4:15	4:16	4:20	
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE										
Bellingham	5:52	4:41	4:31	4:24	4:18	4:14	4:13	4:15	4:19	
Seattle	5:54	4:43	4:34	4:27	4:22	4:18	4:18	4:19	4:23	

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THE POWER OF APPRECIATION

I have a new respect for teachers. Of course, I respected them before accepting my new role as a faculty member at Union College, but now I really respect them. While having summers off and weekends free is a new (and welcome) experience, first-year lesson planning is rather . . . intense. Even though I have a reduced teaching load for this year of initiation, all my free time is spent lesson planning. Every entertaining video I see, every funny meme, each interesting article is immediately assessed for its potential use in a classroom. It's ironic that I tell my students not to cram for class, but that's exactly what all first-year teachers do, at least in my experience so far.

While things are moving much faster now, the first week of first-year "professoring" seemed to stretch on forever, with so many new rhythms, new faces and new challenges. However, when I got to the end of the week, there was a little present in my office. It was a little goodie bag with some treats and an encouraging note from our office manager, Elena. Each of the professors received one of these gifts congratulating us on making it through week one. It meant a lot and provided a much-needed shot of encouragement to press on.

In the book *How Full is Your Bucket?* researchers at Gallup

discuss the power of appreciation. They open their comments with a moving story about how negativity affected POWs in the Korean War. The North Koreans' approach was to "deny men the emotional support that comes from interpersonal relationship." The result was men would die of "give up-itis" or "mirasmus." The researchers indicate the death rate in those camps was increased by 38% due to these intentional efforts to discourage the captive soldiers. One prisoner simply retreated to a corner, covered up with a blanket and died two days later.

The question then becomes, if negative emotion can do so much



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce



By refusing to appreciate and encourage people we create a culture of entitlement.

damage, what can positive emotion do? How can we appreciate each other consistently enough that we have the strength to continue to thrive? This issue has vast possibilities for applications, but I am drawn to the challenge we have in churches.

A frequent stalemate I found in ministry is people's reluctance to appreciate someone because it would allegedly infuse them with spiritual pride or force us to thank everybody. Neither of these reasons are valid, not only because common sense backed up by research says so, but because

Scripture speaks frequently of encouraging one another.

Paul often practiced the ministry of encouragement and being thankful for God's people. Acts 20:1–3 says, "Paul sent for the disciples, and after encouraging them, he said farewell and departed for Macedonia." This was an intentional act to sow positive seeds in the mission field. In the opening words of Romans, Paul writes, "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world" (Rom. 1:8). While Paul gives God glory, he does so in light

of the blessing that God's people are to Him — and He lets them know the contents of his personal prayer appreciating them. In another passage, when Paul contrasts the spiritual gifts of tongues and prophecy he describes prophecy as significant for the church body because, "the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation" (1 Cor. 14:3).

Jesus also found ways to express encouragement and appreciation. When a Roman soldier demonstrated more faith than the those inside the Jewish religious community the Bible records, "When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, 'Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith'" (Matt. 8:10–11). Notice Jesus didn't feel compelled to thank everyone, but had no trouble singling out someone deserving of special recognition. Toward the end of His earthly ministry Jesus tells His disciples, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer" (Luke

22:15). Jesus didn't make this expression because he had another sermon to give and He wanted the disciples to know how much He liked preaching. It was the last moments He would be able to spend with His closest friends, and He wanted them to know He cared for them.

The real danger is that, by refusing to appreciate and encourage people, we create a culture of entitlement in which we expect everyone just to give us what we need (which is also a form of pride). This month take time to speak or write an expression of thanks or appreciation to friends, family, clergy or anyone else who may need some positive feelings sent their way. Who knows? Maybe if we spent more time filling each other's "buckets" we might fill more seats at churches and schools.

And, oh, by the way, thank you, Elena, for your gift of encouragement.

Seth Pierce, associate professor of communication at Union College in Lincoln, Neb.



BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

T

he night was Christmas Eve, 1914. World War I raged across the ravaged countryside of France.

British and German troops crouched in mileslong trenches across the scarred battlefield, from which they blasted each other with machine guns and mortars. Between the belligerents lay “no-man’s land,” a narrow strip of craters and shattered trees. Within that zone, anything that moved got shot.

During occasional lulls in fighting, shivering soldiers heard the clinking of cooking utensils in enemy trenches. Suddenly a strange new sound wafted across no-man’s land.

In a German trench, one soldier began singing “Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht” — a tune the British sentry recognized as

“Silent Night, Holy Night.” He fearlessly hummed along. Another Brit crawled over and joined in. Soon voices from both sides blended into a harmonious chorus — the same tune uniting two languages.

Then the Germans offered a second carol, “O Tannenbaum.” British soldiers responded with “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen.” Throughout the dark hours, singing continued. As dawn



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



broke, signs appeared: “Merry Christmas!”

Amazingly, soldiers from both sides crawled beneath barbed wire into no-man’s land and ventured toward enemy brethren with arms outstretched in peace. Scores of Germans and British embraced one another, sharing candy and showing pictures of their families.

Although accounts vary regarding what transpired that night, Christmas Eve 1914 remains one of history’s most remarkable battlefield engagements. The “Soldiers’ Truce,” as it came to be known, reflected what an army of peaceful angels proclaimed on another holy night outside the little town of Bethlehem.

PEACE AT BETHLEHEM

Angels from the realms of glory brought joy to the world while shepherds watched their



Correct doctrine itself cannot save us from our strife.

less, for a few hours the master of the battlefield was neither a dictator nor a general but heaven's Prince of Peace.

Thank God, the day is coming when that same Lord of Glory will break through earth's dark clouds and eradicate war, pollution, abuse, greed, hypocrisy and crimes of all kinds. God's peace will reign unchallenged and eternal throughout the universe.

OUR OWN MISSION OF PEACE

Where will you be on that day? More immediately, where will you be on Christmas Day this year? Limiting your giving to the customary courtesies among family and friends? Or will you also include enemies and other unfortunates on the battle-scarred landscape of your workplace and neighborhood — even in your local church congregation?

This holiday season, politicians cannot save us, nor can our own churches. Only Jesus can! Biblical truth is essential amid prevailing lies, but correct doctrine itself cannot dissolve our strife. On Christ the solid rock we must stand, otherwise church

policies and practices are sinking sand.

Once we experience and then express Jesus as our peace, our churches become safe places for neighbors and workplace associates to find hope and healing.

As in past holiday seasons, I'm suggesting one particular group to rally around — single mothers. The heart of the Christmas story is a single mother-to-be with no man in her life to depend upon. It took an angel's visit for Joseph to take responsibility. What will it take to convince us to care about lonely mothers among us, struggling in their own no-man's land to teach their children to fraternize and not fight?

How about a Christmas dinner invitation from you to a single mother, with toys for the kids and a \$100 Walmart or Amazon gift card for her? She will know how to spend it. And Jesus guarantees you will be even more blessed than those receiving His holiday cheer through your giving.

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

flocks by night. Announcing God's unspeakable gift of an infant Savior, the angels sang: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" (Luke 2:14, ESV).

Two millennia have passed since our Savior came to us in Bethlehem. It should be obvious to everyone everywhere this world has not achieved peace and goodwill. Things are worse than ever. Global leaders behave like schoolyard bullies. Local politicians pander to constituents and ridicule competitors. Business as usual is social brutality.

Even many churches are war zones, falling far short of God's purpose of peace — a word better understood as *shalom*. *Shalom* goes beyond avoiding fights or even

facilitating geniality. It means unselfish loving and sharing, extending equal opportunity without regard to race, gender or economic status.

BACK TO 1914

Let's go back to Christmas Eve 1914 and the Soldiers Truce. Picture the miracle of bitter enemies embracing and exchanging greetings. Tragically it was over all too soon. By midmorning Christmas Day, furious officers from both sides ordered their peace-making soldiers back into the trenches. The command came from British headquarters: "We are here to fight, not to fraternize!"

Deadly bullets resumed whizzing back and forth as soldiers obeyed orders to kill their newfound friends. Neverthe-



JUST LIKE JESUS

LAST CALL

E

veryone knew her, or at least recognized her voice. For 29 years she had been the Tillamook County, Ore., emergency response dispatcher. When you heard her call sign, “813,” on your radio, your heart began to beat faster.

Rosalind attended Tillamook Adventist School and then Laurelwood Academy, but after graduation she chose to go a different direction. Not that she was ever far from God, just disinterested in church. When her health diagnosis left no more options, she planned her funeral service and asked that it be held by the Adventist pastor at the Seventh-day Adventist church in Tillamook.

Her husband, Tillamook’s assistant fire chief, told Pastor Tim of his wife’s request. “We want the service to be short,” he said, “with classical music but no hymns, and with whatever you Adventists do for a funeral service.” The two men are good fire-fighting friends, for Pastor Tim is part of the community, one of the local firefighters, a man well acquainted with “813” and all of the county first responders.

The next time the chief called it was to say they had decided to give Rosalind a full “Line of Duty” call, for she was serving as the emergen-

cy dispatcher when she died. “And this includes a procession from the sheriff’s office to the church,” he said, “and a Last Call for Rosalind.”

“I called our organist,” remembers Pastor Tim, “and told him Rosalind’s desires. I called a couple deacons to help care for parking, invited a friend to play bagpipes, asked a violinist to play a classical Bach piece, and brought in the Tillamook Adventist Hospital president, a key spiritual leader in the community, to read the Scriptures. And I went online and ordered a Class A uniform.”

They came. All of them. Oregon State Police vehicles, police cars, fire trucks, dispatch vehicles and ambulances — 37 vehicles filled with uniformed men and women who had heard Rosalind’s radio voice so many times. Each one remembering the moments when she had called. Each one ready to experience one more “813” memory.

Two ladder trucks stretched tall and suspended an American flag over the church entrance.

Pastor Tim’s message was brief and clear. “We’re going to do a Last Call for Rosalind today, and though Rosalind will not hear this Last Call, she will hear the next one, the great Final Call when God’s trumpets will sound and those

who died believing in Christ will hear His call and rise to everlasting life.”

Then one of the dispatchers got on the radio, called “800-813” and waited for Rosalind to answer. When there was no response, the dispatcher called again. “800-813.” Three times the call went out, and three times there was no response. The third time the dispatcher ended the call with the words “call terminated.”

“It was,” Pastor Tim says through teary eyes, “a very emotional moment. I was very glad we had placed a tissue box on each pew. I’m eager for the final trumpet to call!”

Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference storycatcher and storyteller



AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen

acquainted with “813” and all of the

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Matthew 24:37

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