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PERSPECTIVE
THE END OF THE STORY,
PART 3

LET'S TALK
MISSIONARY

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

Images *of* Creation

FEB.
2016
VOL. 111, N° 2



All who have this hope
in him purify themselves,
just as he is pure.
1 John 3:3

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



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gleaner

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in Forest Grove, Ore.,
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GOT A BIG IDEA?

Does it involve digital media? Will it reach Northwest communities for Christ?

Project matching grants up to \$10,000 are available through the North Pacific Union Conference Digital Media Fund. Your project idea may qualify. Discover the details online at npuc.org/digitalmediafund.

DIGITAL MEDIA FUNDS NOW AVAILABLE

Projects don't all begin in conference committees. Members all across the Northwest have skills and ideas that can help advance the Gospel Commission to Northwest communities.

With this in mind, the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) is sponsoring a new resource for grassroots ideas. During 2016 the NPUC Digital Media Fund will provide a limited number of matching grants up to \$10,000 for selected projects that initiate creative ways to reach out via new media.

"Our church has been a pioneer in its use of traditional broadcast media," says Steve

Vistaunet, NPUC communication director. "We hope this fund will encourage new pioneers in digital media outreach — especially from some of our young adults who can most effectively reach their peer groups."

Project ideas may involve unique websites, smartphone apps, podcasts, YouTube video series or other creative approaches.

Those with digital media ideas should visit the online project page at npuc.org/digitalmediafund for specific information on how to apply for a matching grant.

+ PICTURE THIS



Children lead the way in church groundbreaking.

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A remote-access Alaskan Sabbath School.

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Milo students join Umpqua benefit concert.

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An experiential journey to Bethlehem.

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Six Adventist generations.

READ MORE AT

glnr.in/ucc_6generations

Images of Creation

We offer here a glimpse of several photos submitted for the 2016 Images of Creation photo contest, combined with thoughts from Ellen White excerpted from the book *Child Guidance*, pages 53–58. Nature is indeed a lesson book for young and old who are willing to learn from the Creator. Along with the image on the inside cover of each printed *Gleaner* this year, watch for the Photo of the Week and gallery at gleanernow.com.



“Wherever we turn, we hear the voice of God and behold His handiwork. From the solemn roll of the deep-toned thunder and old ocean’s ceaseless roar, to the glad songs that make the forests vocal with melody, nature’s ten thousand voices speak His praise. In earth and sea and sky, with their marvelous tint and color, varying in gorgeous contrast or blended in harmony, we behold His glory. The everlasting hills tell of His power. The trees that wave their green banners in the sunlight, and the flowers in their delicate beauty, point to their Creator. The living green that carpets the brown earth tells of God’s care for the humblest of His creatures. The caves of the sea and the depths of the earth reveal His treasures. He who placed the pearls in the ocean and the amethyst and chrysolite among the rocks is a lover of the beautiful. The sun rising in the heavens is a representative of Him who is the life and light of all that He has made. All the brightness and beauty that adorn the earth and light up the heavens speak of God.”

**GO ONLINE FOR MORE
WINNING IMAGES!**

gleanernow.com/creation2016

Twelve top photos will be featured
in print throughout the year.

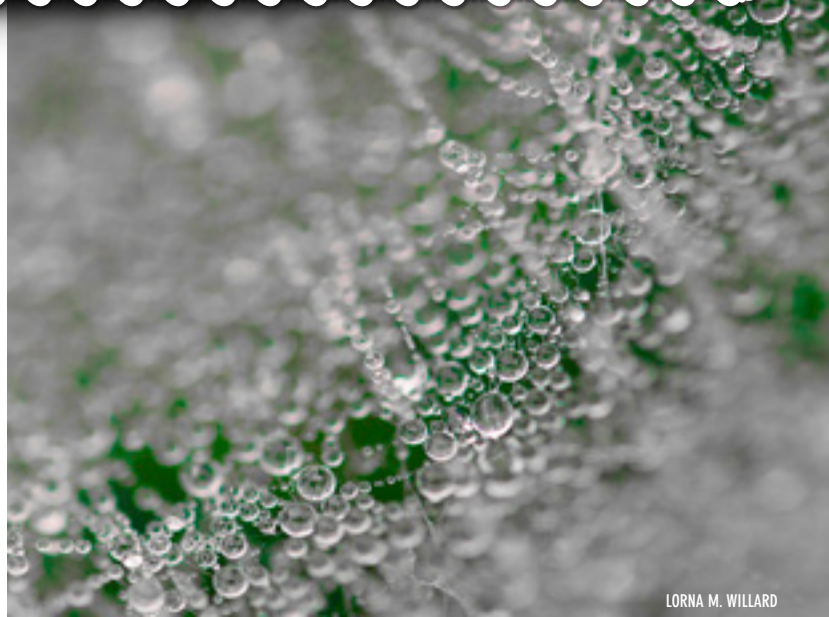


CHRISTINA ANGUICO



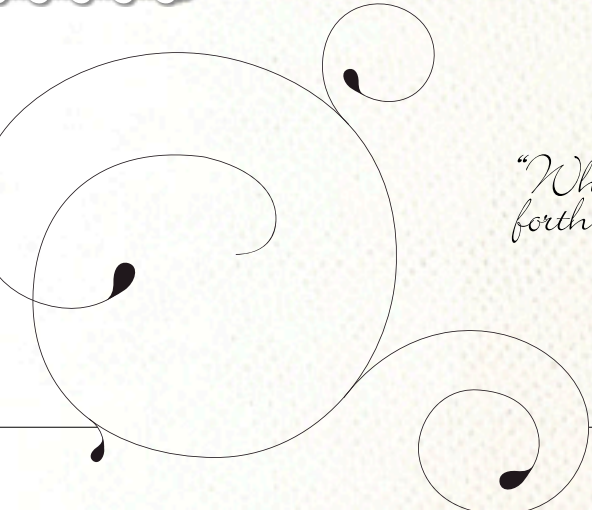
PETER HERNANDEZ

“Shall we, then, in the enjoyment of His gifts, forget the Giver? Let them rather lead us to contemplate His goodness and His love. Let all that is beautiful in our earthly home remind us of the crystal river and green fields, the waving trees and living fountains, the shining city and the white-robed singers, of our heavenly home — that world of beauty which no artist can picture, no mortal tongue describe.”



LORNA M. WILLARD

“Who gives us the sunshine which makes the earth bring forth and bear?” and who the fruitful showers? Who has given us the heavens above and the sun and stars in the heavens? Who gave you your reason, and who keeps watch over you from day to day? ... Every time we look at the world, we are reminded of the mighty hand of God which called it into existence. The canopy over our head, and the earth beneath covered with a carpet of green, call to remembrance the power of God and also His loving-kindness.”



Images of Creation



MARY LANE ANDERSON

“The same power that upholds nature is working also in man.”

The same great laws that guide alike the star and the atom control human life. The laws that govern the heart’s action, regulating the flow of the current of life to the body, are the laws of the mighty Intelligence that has the jurisdiction of the soul. From Him all life proceeds. Only in harmony with Him can be found its true sphere of action.”

“To him who learns thus to interpret its teachings,

all nature becomes illuminated; the world is a lesson book, life a school. The unity of man with nature and with God, the universal dominion of law, the results of transgression, cannot fail of impressing the mind and molding the character. These are lessons that our children need to learn.”





MARY LANE ANDERSON

“Constant contact with the mystery of life and the loveliness of nature, as well as the tenderness called forth in ministering to these beautiful objects of God’s creation, tends to quicken the mind and refine and elevate the character.”



MICHAEL WOODRUFF

“We are not merely to tell the child about these creatures of God’s.

The animals themselves are to be his teachers. The ants teach lessons of patient industry, of perseverance in surmounting obstacles, of providence for the future. And the birds are teachers of the sweet lesson of trust. Our heavenly Father provides for them; but they must gather the food, they must build their nests and rear their young. Every moment they are exposed to enemies that seek to destroy them. Yet how cheerily they go about their work! How full of joy are their little songs!”

RENAE SMITH

BENDICIONES CONTINUAS DE DIOS

Dios no ha dejado de bendecir los esfuerzos de los miembros de la iglesia hispana en Anchorage, Alaska, como se refleja en las bendiciones manifestadas a dos de los nuevos miembros que fueron bautizados recientemente durante una serie de reuniones evangelísticas que tuve la oportunidad de impartir.

Uno de esos nuevos miembros, Margarita Frías Gracia, es un vivo ejemplo del éxito al que se puede llegar gracias a un discipulado comprometido. Frías Gracia es una amiga de Rafael Maga, cuya historia fue relatada hace un par de meses atrás en las noticias hispanas de Alaska. Maga, un miembro recién bautizado de la iglesia hispana, cuya pasión y celo lo llevó a formar un grupo pequeño de estudio de la Biblia, incluso antes de ser bautizado.

Aunque por cuestión de horario Frías Gracia no tuvo la oportunidad de unirse a ese grupo de estudio, el cual por lo general se reúne los lunes por la noche, Frías Gracia tuvo la oportunidad de estudiar la Biblia gracias a la dedicación incansable de Maga. El no está dispuesto a negar a cualquier alma inquisitiva el privilegio de aprender más sobre el Dios

Bendiciones manifestadas en cadena. Todo gracias a Dios y a discípulos comprometidos con predicar el evangelio.

que había realizado grandes milagros en su propia vida.

Maga me preguntó si yo estaría dispuesto a programar reuniones con Frías Gracia y su familia en un día que fuera conveniente para ella. Presto acepte, y poco después me encontré inmerso en una aventura bíblica cautivante con

Frías Gracia y su familia.

Tiempo después llego su decisión de entregar por completo su vida al Señor, lo cual trajo una inmensa alegría a todos los miembros de la familia de la iglesia hispana, y ninguno más que Maga, para entender y compartir ese gozo. Maga sigue mostrando a sus

compañeros lo que realmente significa ser un discípulo, lo que lleva a otros a un encuentro personal con Aquel que trajo el cambio a su propia vida.”

Bendiciones manifestadas en cadena. Todo gracias a Dios y a discípulos comprometidos con predicar el evangelio. La Iglesia Hispana de Anchorage sigue comprometida.

Don West, Alaska Conference Iglesia Hispana de Anchorage pastor

Margarita Frías Gracia es presentada a su nueva familia de la iglesia antes de su bautismo.



THE BIG THREE

I'm sure this title caught your attention. What in the world is "The Big Three" — Ford, GM or Chrysler? Being from Michigan, I grew up where everyone knew what The Big Three meant.

But what about Alaska — what does it mean here? At Anchorage Junior Academy (AJA), it means prayer, Bible study and service. (And that's not serving yourself!) These are the necessary parts of a well-balanced relationship with Jesus. Having any one is nice, but all three will bring the joy and fulfillment of life that Jesus wants so much for His children.

In an Adventist school, it's easy to have Bible study and prayer. That's just built right into our educational time. However, serving others takes a bit more effort. Each year at AJA, we select an all-school community service project in addition to our regular individual classroom service activities.

What a blessing this has been! Over the last several years, we have made personal care packages for the local women and children's shelter, collected warm socks for the Anchorage Rescue Mission, made "bags of love" for Anchorage Child Protective Services, and collected and delivered food for the Kids' Kitchen — a local program that feeds supper to homeless and at-risk children.

Every spring we have a "week of care" that is filled with all kinds of community service activities. These are just some of the ways we serve and show our love for Jesus.

Our biggest service project ever is reaching far beyond Anchorage. This year, we are participating in the Maranatha \$10 Church Project. We wanted to help build places of worship for people all over the world so Jesus can come soon.

As the school year began, each classroom built their "church bank" to collect money. The second Friday of each month, the classes bring their church banks to chapel, and we count the money.



Kimberly Purvis

First, we see which classroom wins the challenge (a healthy competition). Then we see find the all-school total.

In the beginning, all the students thought we would build 40, 50 or maybe 100 churches during the entire school year. However, in our very first month, we were shocked to discover we had \$620 — 62

churches — and the excitement was phenomenal.

I learned that one of the third-grade boys, Grayson Libby, 9, had brought his entire savings of \$260 and put it in his class bank. His teacher, Mr. Smith, was impressed with Grayson's generosity but wanted to make sure Grayson's parents knew about it. They had no clue.

That evening, Libby's parents, Cam and Tricia Libby, had a conversation with Grayson. "No matter how we verbalized it, he insisted on giving all of his money to build the churches," explains Tricia. "We gave several scenarios to which he might want to save money for, like a new toy, snowboard lessons, donation to American Heart Association and so on. His response was, 'Nothing is more important than spreading the word about Jesus, and I believe that churches can help. Isn't this what Jesus wants me to do? I want Jesus to come soon.'"

Needless to say, the money remained in the church bank. Grayson was beaming with pure joy knowing that he made a huge difference for Jesus. As of Dec. 31, 2015, AJA has helped build 102 churches.

Grayson and his fellow AJA classmates understand what Ellen White wrote so well: "Every youth, every child, has a work to do for the honor of God and the uplifting of humanity" (*Education*, p. 58).

Maranatha! The Lord is coming!

Kimberly Purvis, Anchorage Junior Academy principal

WOMEN'S RETREAT OFFERS GLIMPSE OF 'A HEALTHIER YOU'

A "Healthier You," the theme of Bristol Bay's recent women's retreat on Dec. 6, 2015, in Dillingham, provided a unique opportunity to meet the needs of women in southwest Alaska. As part of a community initiative to foster improved health and wellness, the full-day retreat drew 29 women from several regional villages, including Dillingham, Ekwook, Togiak, Naknek and South Naknek.

Sponsored by the Dillingham Church and coordinated by Anita Alers, women's ministries leader, and Howard Williams, pastor, this special event brought together congregational and community volunteers dedicated to advancing positive physical, emotional and spiritual health



Attendees enjoy an elegant brunch.

within their community. Among the numerous volunteers were health care professionals, local experts in women's safety, attorneys, spiritual care leaders and those with talents in personal care.

Theme colors of the event represented the attributes of royalty, wealth and uniqueness

(purple) and purity (white) afforded to each woman of God.

After enjoying an elegant brunch, retreat attendees had the opportunity to participate in a variety of instructional seminars. Presentations incorporated a biblically based approach to health and focused on topics including victory over depression, diet and



Native elder and local church member Alice Fox is pampered by Charleen Williams and Prunie Shade.

health, abuse, knowing your legal rights, and developing spiritual maturity.

An additional retreat highlight included individualized personal pampering services. Women were able to enjoy complimentary haircuts, facials and manicures. Based on positive feedback, planning has begun to make this an expanded, annual event next year.

Wendi Kannenberg, Dillingham Church communication leader

REMOTE-ACCESS SABBATH SCHOOL UNITES DISTANT MEMBERS

In a land where roads are nearly nonexistent and air travel is the rule, radio and telephone close the gap. Richard Dennis and Paul Kildal lead out in the Alaska Conference's distant-delivery Sabbath School every Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. This Sabbath School makes the adult lesson available to virtually every person in Alaska, but it wasn't always so.

Up until the late 1970s, most Alaskan bush villages did not have telephones and the only means of communication was marine radio. Dennis recalls a call coming in one day from a marine operator (ship-to-shore) from a school in the Aleutians. The interview followed with a job offer, and Dennis started his 25-year career as a teacher in remote villages in Alaska. From his experience, he can tell you living in the Alaskan bush can be pretty lonely because

it usually means not having access to a church family or other church members.

Alaska Remote Sabbath School class has changed that, making possible this formerly impossible dream. From Barrow on Alaska's North Slope and the far reaches of the Aleutians to the distant fjords of the southeast and the rugged interior, virtually all Alaskans have access to an online Sabbath School class via the telephone.

If you know someone without access to Sabbath School, perhaps even someone living remotely in any area of the United States, invite them to join this unique Sabbath School class. Sabbath mornings at 9:30 a.m. (AKST), call 800-920-7487, access code 53383143#.

Richard Dennis, Copper Basin Adventist Company church member

From remote locations throughout Alaska, people can join a lively Sabbath School class via the telephone.



GARNET MEMBERS RENEW COMMITMENT



EVE RUSK

David Prest Jr. shares a message, "Revive Us Again," based on 2 Chronicles 7.

Reconsecration is a time to remember what drives you, what your purpose is.

Like renewing a marriage vow, reconsecrating is recommitting yourself, or in this case, your church, to that which you love.

On Dec. 19, 2015, Garnet (aka Homedale) Church members renewed their commitment to each other and to the work God has placed before them in the communities of Wilder and Homedale.

It was a celebration of their new name, chosen to more accurately reflect where the church is located, on Garnet Road in Wilder. The church initially had its start in Homedale and kept the Homedale name when property was donated in Wilder for a new church. With a recent remodel and refurbishing, the members felt the need of a reference point, an affirmation



EVE RUSK

David Hoewing likens the events of the day to the atmosphere surrounding the return of captive exiles to Jerusalem.

of their commitment to God's work.

David Hoewing, church treasurer, shared from Nehemiah 7. Like the inhabitants of the city of Jerusalem when it was rebuilt under the direction of Nehemiah, the Garnet congregation is small in number but mighty in their plans for reaching their communities.

Notable in the list of exiles who returned to Jerusalem after captivity in Babylon are Azariah and Mordecai, who played large roles as recorded in the books of Daniel and Esther, respectively. Notable in attendance for the Garnet Church was Helen Payne, sole remaining charter member of the Homedale Church.

Members of all ages

participated in the special service, including the beginners and kindergarten Sabbath School children's special music. Mostly the parents sang as the young ones, dressed as angels, performed simple gestures to emphasize parts of the song.

David Prest Jr., Idaho Conference president, shared a message, "Revive Us Again,"



EVE RUSK

The Hoewing cousins delighted the congregation with their hand motions during special music.

based on 2 Chronicles 7. John Rogers, Idaho Conference vice president of finance/administration, and Eve Rusk, Idaho Conference communication and planned giving director, participated in the service with an offering call and special music. Bonnie, Nidia and Heather Hoewing shared their musical talents through piano and voice.

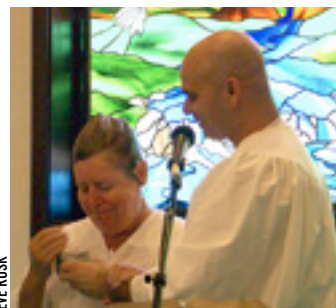
At the end of the service, Sue Asselin was baptized by

Jason Hoewing, local church elder. Asselin's introduction to the Adventist Church came through her neighbor, Rudy Garcia. When no one else would help, Garcia was a friend indeed. Through that friendship, Asselin was invited to a Bible study led by Hoewing. The members of the Garnet Church loved Asselin into a growing relationship with Jesus.

Following the Adventist tradition, a wonderful potluck followed the service. One person missing that day was the pastor, Michael Pearson, and his wife, Karen, due to an unavoidable conflict. Pearson shared greetings via a note to the church members.

Plans for 2016 include getting to know more of their neighbors. Subdivisions are popping up around the area, and, while many church members live in other local communities, they recognize that their greatest mission field surrounds their church property.

Eve Rusk, Idaho Conference communication director



EVE RUSK

Jason Hoewing baptizes Sue Asselin.

More online at
glnr.in/111-02-id_salmon

SALMON CHURCH HAS NEW LOOK

Members of the Salmon Church have, over the last couple years, given their 65-year-old church building a face-lift.

The old windows over the entry doors were first replaced with three stained-glass windows. They feature the Three Angels' Messages, a white dove representing the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the Adventist Church logo. Stained-glass artist Ileen Barnett, who lives in Salmon, donated her time in creating the windows.

The church was painted inside, and new energy-efficient windows were installed, each with a sliding window at the bottom for fresh air and ventilation. Interior designer Paula Hackathorn worked with the design committee to select new blinds for the windows and choose the new carpet for the foyer, mother's room and sanctuary. New tile was also installed in the foyer in front of the entry doors.

New doors, between the

foyer and sanctuary, with an inset glass design, were donated by a member in memory of a loved one.

God blessed the faith of church members, as these projects were paid for before the work was undertaken.

During a special service held Nov. 14, 2015, Denny Evans, former Salmon Church pastor, presented an inspiring sermon on the church and its purpose. He began with the tabernacle in the wilderness, built because God desired to dwell among His people and reveal His plan of salvation more completely. Evans spoke also of Solomon's temple, the rebuilt temple and the church today.

The true church is God's people, not just a building. With prophecy being fulfilled right before our eyes, it is evident He is coming soon to take His people home.

Shiela Johnson, Salmon Church member

Salmon Church is enjoying a face-lift that came one step at a time.



The Long Creek Church congregation held its third annual Christmas Outreach Dinner on Dec. 9, 2015.

LONG CREEK HOLDS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OUTREACH DINNER

The Long Creek Church congregation held its third annual Christmas Outreach Dinner on Dec. 9, 2015. The goal was to get each member in Long Creek, Ore., and surrounding areas together with some food and fun activities. Members hoped to use the Christmas season to emphasize how God has blessed during the past year.

Sherry Schultz provided overall organizing expertise, Pearl Spencer handled most of the decorations, and Vi Pflugrad added specially wrapped goodies by each plate. The wonderful food was a combined effort by the church members. The occasion was also an opportunity to promote the

proposed plan to build a new church.

The 48 people attending the program included nearly twice as many people from the community as the local church. Schultz, Tim Greenlaw, Carolyn Pitcher and Leland Spencer recounted God's blessings with music and the spoken word.

As many who were there can testify, when God calls a community together to celebrate in His name, good things happen.

Leland Spencer, Long Creek Church member

Read more online at
glnr.in/111-02-id_longcreek

CHILDREN BREAK GROUND FOR NEW KALISPELL CHURCH

Armed with uniquely decorated shovels, more than 30 children kicked off the groundbreaking ceremony for Kalispell Church. They were among the more than 100 people who were on hand for the dedication, held on Sept. 12, 2015.

As the key to the future of the Kalispell Church, the children were asked to take a central role in the groundbreaking ceremony. The ceremony also featured a brief history of Adventists in the area, a dedicatory prayer and singing.

“You have a long journey ahead,” said Merlin Knowles, Montana Conference president, during the event. “You may not agree on the color of the carpet or what paint should go on the walls, but you can always agree that we have the same mission — sharing the ministry of Jesus Christ with everyone we come in contact with.”

The church was founded in Kalispell in 1910 and has been located on U.S. 93 North for the past 45 years. The congregation has experienced more than 15 percent growth over the past few years and currently has an attendance of about 175 people.

“It was not that long ago that our members fit comfortably into our little church,” explains Casey Higgins,



The children of the Kalispell Church dig into the ground, signaling the beginning of construction for the new church building.

Kalispell Church pastor. “Now we regularly have close to 20 kids and parents in each of our children’s Sabbath School classes.”

The church sits on top of a large hill next to Kalispell Regional Medical Center. Two years ago, the medical center offered to purchase the church property and gave the church a two-year lease to find a location that could accommodate the growth in membership.

“Several young families have moved to this area in the past two years,” says Higgins. “We are truly blessed to have so many children in our church.”

The property has plenty of room for future expansion, according to Higgins. The new 7,400-square-foot church will

have an expanded educational wing to accommodate the rapid growth the church is experiencing. Additional space will serve as both a sanctuary and fellowship hall. Higgins and the church’s building

committee members plan to add a separate sanctuary as part of the second phase of construction.

“We’re excited about what it represents — future growth and more potential for serving our community and our families,” Higgins says.

The church runs a radio station, KANB-FM, that will also relocate to the new property. In addition to the radio station, the church operates a church school and a community service center.

The new church will be built on the corner of Old Reserve Drive and Spring Creek Road in Kalispell. Construction on the 20-acre property is underway and should be completed in May.

Dustin Jones, Kalispell Church member

Casey Higgins, Kalispell Church pastor, indicates where the property lines are.





Read more online at
glnr.in/111-02-or_centraloregon

CENTRAL OREGON SHARES THE WORD VIA TELEVISION

Christ Loves You Broadcasting (CLU-TV) was started when a dedicated group of church members prayed for help bringing 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network) television programming to central Oregon. The Lord answered, and they received a permit to build a low power television (LPTV) station in April 1990.

CLU-TV is dedicated to bringing Christ-centered television to central Oregon. Its purpose is to bring its listeners programming that will lead them to the love Jesus Christ has for them. CLU-TV aims to show the love of Jesus Christ and thus the love of God for all His creatures.

This viewer-supported station is dedicated to broadcasting multifaceted television programs that are uplifting and lead to holistic Christ-centered living. CLU-TV is supported by donations and volunteers

Christ Loves You Broadcasting officers: Larry Ferguson, Art Bigelow, Jack Dillon, Jeanne Brower and Doris Page.



Christ Loves You Broadcasting studio: Gerry Driver, board member; Arland Sandborn, president; and Larry Ferguson, station manager.

and not subsidized by the Adventist Church or 3ABN.

The CLU-TV station manager, Larry Ferguson, changed CLU-TV from analog to digital in June 2009 and began operating off of Mount

Grizzly. This made it possible for CLU-TV to broadcast 3ABN, 3ABN Latino, Hope Channel and Loma Linda Broadcasting Network.

The station was moved from Three Sisters School in Bend to a room in the Redmond Church in October 2015, and equipment for the new station is getting set up. In addition to Ferguson, CLU-TV board members include Arland Sanborn, president; Doris Page, treasurer; Jeanne Brower, secretary; Randy Cottrell, webmaster; and Doug Buzbee and Gerry Driver, board members.

Lorene Ferguson, Redmond Church member

LENTS PRESENTS 'STORY OF JESUS' CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

More online at
glnr.in/111-02-or_lents



Before He came to the earth, Jesus was the Commander of the angel hosts” began the Christmas pageant at the Lents Church in Portland on Dec. 19, 2015. Maria Frias and Joe Maier compiled the script and were actively involved in all facets of bringing the “Story of Jesus” to life. The story moved from Jesus leaving heaven for Earth, through His conception and on to the stable in Bethlehem. Vocal music performances enhanced the dramatic presentation, which wrote the loving story of Jesus upon many hearts.

Carol Specht, Lents Church communication leader

MILO JOINS OREGON ADVENTIST MEN'S CHORUS FOR BENEFIT CONCERT

Nine young men and four staff members from Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek joined the Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus (OAMC) on Nov. 14, 2015, for the worship service at the Milo Academy Church and a benefit concert at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg. The performance raised more than \$3,000 to assist victims' family members and survivors of the October mass shooting on the college campus.

Milo's music director, Leonard Hild, guest-conducted two numbers, "Let Thy Holy Presence" and "No More Night," which expressed the choir's longing for that day when there will be "no more pain, no more tears, never crying again." The message

resonated with audience members, many of whom had been personally touched by the recent tragedy.

Thirty-seven Milo students volunteered as greeters, ushers, and rehearsal and orchestra assistants and helped with technology, guest services, wardrobe management and registration.

Milo senior Jared Sexton says he always enjoys singing with OAMC. "I think [we were] able to have an impact on the community," he says.

For more information about the music program at Milo Adventist Academy, contact Hild at leonard.hild@miloacademy.org.

Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter

Milo students and staff joined OAMC for a concert, which raised more than \$3,000 for Umpqua Community College shooting victims and their families.



FOUNTAINVIEW ACADEMY SPREADS CHRISTMAS CHEER IN GRANTS PASS

Blessings were many at the Grants Pass Church with the return of the Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Singers from Lillooet, British Columbia, Canada, on their "What Kind of King?" Christmas Tour 2015. For Grants Pass Church, the event spanned two days, Dec. 6 and 8, 2015, and featured four free concerts. Hundreds of people filled the sanctuary who otherwise would not have visited an Adventist church.

Audiences were treated to sacred Christmas music, plus personal testimonies and Scripture. Attendees received resources, including health evangelism literature, to learn more about Jesus and the Bible. Appeals were given to commit to Christ.

Students from the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School participated with the academy in two songs, and the results of quality Adventist education were on full display by both schools.

Fountainview students participated in more than

just concerts. They led a chapel service at the Grants Pass Adventist School, as well as caroling at Gospel Rescue Mission. They also performed at Rogue Valley Adventist Academy in Jacksonville. These young people even distributed several thousand GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts while in town.

Better Life Broadcasting Network (BLBN) sponsored the musical event and provided live online streaming. BLBN Television rebroadcast concert highlights during the Christmas season. Evergreen Federal Bank, as in years past, assisted with the underwriting of free concert tickets and provided promotional materials.

Grants Pass members anticipate continuing this event annually. The music provided by these young people is but a sample of heavenly sounds that will be enjoyed when Christ returns.

Jennifer Burkes, Grants Pass Church communication leader



ZACH ALCANTARA



PAA STUDENT RALLIES COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT LIFELONG FRIEND

Sarah Halversen and Brogan Baker wobbled together as toddlers while their siblings and parents grew in friendship as well. Baker and Halversen followed in their sibling's footsteps. They attended Tualatin Valley Academy (TVA) and then Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) and shared a love of basketball.

But Baker began to struggle with problems that affected his ability to succeed in everyday life. "After much research, soul-searching, prayer and tears," says Kim Baker, Brogan's mother, "we felt God lead us to an intensive therapeutic environment designed to meet Brogan's complex needs."

A year ago, with the support of family, friends and PAA



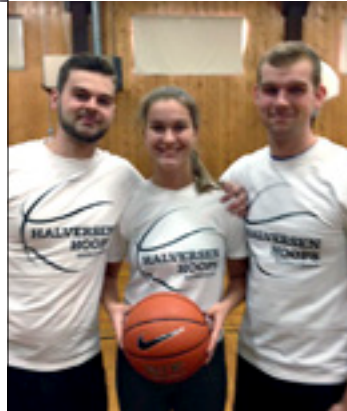
Sarah Halversen and Brogan Baker wobbled together as toddlers while their siblings and parents grew in friendship as well. Halversen knew right away her school project must benefit her friend and his family.

staff, Baker enrolled at a school centered on outdoor education, therapeutic mentorship and long-term success.

The specialized education came at a cost. Not only did this opportunity require leaving his home, the financial investment was more than the

family could bear alone.

"Brogan is like another big brother to me," says Halversen, a PAA junior. "It was sad to see what he and his family have gone through. I felt like helping them financially was the best thing we



Sarah Halversen and Brogan Baker wobbled together as toddlers while their siblings and parents grew in friendship as well. Halversen knew right away her school project must benefit her friend and his family.

could do besides being there for them and praying. I wanted to do more."

Halversen's hope to help her friend was perfectly timed with a PAA Bible class. At PAA, students complete Change Agent Projects (CAPs). They organize service projects of their choosing that must challenge them to impact God's kingdom.

Through careful planning, Halversen, with the help of

her athletic older brothers Ryan and Nick, organized a basketball camp for first-through eighth-graders.

Halversen's CAP turned into a collaborative effort from an entire community. TVA supported the project with the use of its gymnasium and equipment for the more than 20 children enrolled in the camp. Each child's parents gave a donation to the Baker family as their enrollment fee.

"We're so proud of Sarah and her brothers," says Kim Baker. "The support from everyone has meant so much to our family."

Brogan's success story is still being written. In less than a year, he earned his high school diploma and raised his overall GPA. "He is planning to begin some college coursework through distance learning by the end and study for the SAT," says Kim Baker. The Bakers hope he'll be home this spring in time to attend and possibly participate in PAA graduation ceremonies with his classmates.

"We are grateful for all that Brogan is gaining," wrote Kim Baker in a letter she wrote to the PAA staff. "We're so grateful that he had the foundation of such an extended family through PAA and TVA."

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent

PAA student Sarah Halversen's Bible class project turned into a collaborative effort from a loving community. TVA opened its gym for Halversen's basketball camp, the enrollment fees for which were donated to support Halversen's lifelong friend.



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INCHELIUM LAUNCHES KIDS' CLUB

Creative crafts and learning about Jesus are what the Inchehium Kids' Club is all about.

When Inchehium (Wash.) Church members held two weeks of tent meetings in the community in 2014, they put up a smaller tent for the children. To their surprise, more Native American children than adults attended the nightly meetings. The kids joined wholeheartedly in the singing, crafts and gospel presentations via the Truth4Youth program.

When the meetings ended, there were many more Truth4Youth programs the children had not heard. Members asked, "Why not continue the meetings on a weekly basis? Would the children come?"

The kids did, in fact, return, and 10 to 12 children faithfully attended, with about half representing the Native American community. When

the children arrived at the church each Tuesday evening, members offered snacks, a program and a craft.

Following the completion of the Truth4Youth program, the group did a series based on Psalm 23, with lots of interactive elements like the "paths of righteousness" and the "valley of the shadow of death." By the end of the series, most of the kids could recite all or part of the Shepherd's Psalm.

After a summer break, a local parent insisted members start up the weekly program again — and offered to round up children herself. With this encouragement, how could the Inchehium team refuse?

This time, they gave the program a name, Kids' Club. The first week, about a dozen Native American kids ages 4 to 12 attended and enthusiastically participated. The kids

are going through the Bible, starting with the creation story. They also make crafts and take home prizes.

Children who had had no concept of the plan of salvation are not only learning but sharing what they know with others. A 10-year-old girl reported having spoken with more than 20 of her friends about God's power during the previous week.

A dozen children may seem like a small number, but, to this church congregation, it is huge. Members believe that many parents will be touched through their children — and they are already seeing this happen.

One parent — the mother of a lively little boy — said, "Thanks so much for teaching my son." She then asked if church members would be willing to pick him up for

Sabbath School as well. Several other parents have attended church services and have requested Bible studies.

Offering a quality weekly children's program is quite a large undertaking, but church members have rallied behind the project, helping with the club meetings and even volunteering with the Adopt-a-Lamb program, in which individual children are matched with a mentor.

The Inchehium Church family knows there will be setbacks. However, members also know that if they are faithful, God will bless — and they will see these precious children in the kingdom.

Janet Evert, Young Disciple Ministries founder

SPOKANE CENTRAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REACHES NATIVE AMERICANS



More online at glnr.in/111-02-uc_spokanecentral

Reaching Native Americans for Jesus is what All Nations Warriors for Christ at Spokane Central Adventist Church does in a variety of ways and most recently through their Christmas program.

They began holding a Christmas program for Native American families in 2004. The event grew from 50 attendees the first year to 250 in 2013. The program was canceled for 2014 due to lack of funds, but members determined to hold the Christmas program in 2015, even including a Native taco meal and presents for the children.

Members began in June to raise funds through yard sales and a car wash. They also had a sharing tree in the church, which brought in more than 40 gifts. Church members offered to make the fry bread, enchiladas and Spanish rice. By God's grace, fundraising and monthly donations, the church family was able to hold the Native American Christmas program.

The team advertised with flyers at the American Indian Community Center and local clinic and used the Internet and word of mouth. Ninety children and 110 adults came to the event, which was held in the church fellowship hall.

The Native children loved dressing in Bible costumes to

stage an impromptu nativity scene. Everyone sang Christmas carols with gusto. Each child received a present, plus 10 adults won door prizes.

Fourteen people who attended indicated they would enjoy a health fair this spring, and 18 would like to receive a Native health magazine. Twenty-four are interested in children's programming, and 25 requested Bible studies. Spokane Central Church members are excited to follow up on these interests.

The Spirit-filled duo of Loretta Kern and Denise Ellenwood worked behind the scenes to put on the special program. Kern is particularly committed to Native Ameri-



PAM MALMOE

The children love wearing the costumes for the nativity scene.

can work and helping children know Jesus and puts her commitment into ministry in many ways.

Ellenwood is also passionate in her work with Native American ministries. She

believes the key to ministering to Native Americans is in reaching the children: taking care of them, loving them and teaching them. As Jesus reminds us, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matt. 19:14).

"The Christmas program is so needed, and I'm excited to see so many Native Americans together," says Ellenwood. "This is the biggest Native American Christian event in our area, and it makes me happy to see people happy and enjoying themselves."

Gatherings are important to Native Americans, and to celebrate the birth of Jesus with every nation, tribe and people is exciting.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

This happy girl is one of 90 Native American children receiving gifts at the Christmas program put on by Warriors for Christ at the Spokane Central Church.



PAM MALMOE

HAYSTACKS PROVE TO BE A FAVORITE FOR HOMELESS TEENS

“We love haystacks” is a common strain heard at Crosswalk youth shelter in Spokane, Wash., the first Tuesday of every month.

For the past 25 years, staff members of the Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) office have been sharing Christ’s love by taking a monthly meal downtown to serve about 20 street youth and their adult mentors at the shelter. And this classic Adventist entree of vegetables, cheese and beans piled on corn chips is proving as popular at Crosswalk as it is in church fellowship halls.

Crosswalk is a ministry of the nonprofit organization

Volunteers of America and mentors teens who have fallen through the cracks — many of whom live on the streets — because of abuse at home or dropping out of school. Crosswalk provides education toward obtaining a GED and offers life-coaching, as well as providing an overnight drop-in shelter.

Ken Jernberg, Crosswalk head teacher for the past 30 years, says, “When I first started here, the kids would have to leave the shelter to find food then come back for their afternoon education tutoring and other services. But with all of these churches helping provide meals, the kids’ days no longer have to be interrupted.”

“Nutritious meals are an important staple of need for our kids. And we love haystacks,” adds John Robertson, Crosswalk program manager.

Over the years, the monthly UCC outreach has passed from department to department but has continued without interruption. Staff of KEEH-FM, the Positive Life Radio station in Spokane, were even allowed to host a weekly youth group for more than a year, with five to seven kids attending regularly.

The teens’ language can be coarse and the kids often appear rough on the exterior. But once the team members relax, they gradually realize

most of these kids are just hungering for encouragement, kindness and a chance to experience healthy relationships.

One highlight of the outreach experience was that a young adult shelter volunteer started coming back to church due to the friendship he and his wife made with members of the KEEH team. Sadly, a few months later he passed away, but the team will always be grateful he reconnected with Jesus before his untimely death.

Tiffany Neil, the current team meal coordinator, shares why she keeps the outreach going: “I can’t imagine some of the circumstances these kids have been through, but I am happy there is a program they can choose to participate in and empower themselves. The monthly Crosswalk meal we prepare is helping provide the stability these individuals need to thrive.”

As the popular quote — often attributed to Francis of Assisi — says, “Preach the gospel, and if necessary use words.” Upper Columbia Conference staff members are wordlessly sharing the gospel through their love, their time and, yes, haystacks.

Darin Patzer, UCC meal project partner

Tiffany Neil, Darin Patzer and Doug McCoy have volunteered to take haystacks to Crosswalk each month.



GUESTS JOIN EXPERIENTIAL JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

More photos online at glnr.in/111-02-wa_j2b



For the last 10 years, Peter Vukshich is the first face guests see each year at Journey to Bethlehem after meeting their guides. Depending on the script, he is either King Herod in his court or Simeon in the temple.

“After playing the role of King Herod, I like being Simeon because it is a chance to improve my public image,” Vukshich jokes. “In a two-and-a-half minute sketch, I have to present a total psychopath presentation of King Herod. It can scare children at times (and even myself).”

The Journey to Bethlehem (J2B) ministry in Auburn just completed its 10th anniversary of presenting an interactive outdoor nativity story for the community to



JONATHAN BAUMGARTNER

From beggars to guides, from market sellers to angels and shepherds, academy and elementary students are highly integrated into the Journey to Bethlehem production in Auburn.

experience. Through the years, nearly 50,000 guests have experienced the nativity story — and sometimes in ways they didn't expect.

EXPERIENCING BETHLEHEM

Faith groups have a rich history of sharing the treasured story of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. These presentations vary in scale and concept.

Auburn's presentation of Journey to Bethlehem is designed as an experiential encounter in which guests join a journey as they visit wise men, enter the city gates to a Middle Eastern marketplace, face Quirinius to pay their taxes, join the shepherds in the field after being expelled from the city, see the angels appear and discover Baby Jesus at the manger.

“I have seen several situations where people were resisting being pulled into the story and what it means,” remembers Bill Roberts, one of the guides. “But the manger scene quiets them every time. The Holy Spirit uses that moment to tug on the heart and draw people to long for peace and hope.”

The two key alternating scripts have interesting backstories in which Herod's spy discovers how he wants to serve a new King or the prodigal son who desires to reconnect with his father.

Ticket coordinator Cheri Fletcher recalls one year when a lady told her how God was prompting her to come back to church and how she had discovered a promotional flyer. “I worked her in,” Fletcher

says. “Helping people get into J2B and hearing the stories of how this was their first time in church or to hear the story of God's gift was worth every hour of my time.”

Beyond acting, designing the city and building the set, Vukshich highlights another important theme. “The big story for us is how Journey to Bethlehem bonded our church,” says Vukshich and his wife, Branka. “We've found a better sense of community. Journey to Bethlehem is where you get to know people in your own church.”

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Auburn Adventist Academy Church continues its connection points with the community by inviting them to an Easter musical production of Journey to the Cross and providing information about Adventist education.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Branka and Peter Vukshich, in their roles as Anna and Simeon at the temple, launch the story of the nativity and offer a reminder of the long-awaited Savior.

CHEHALIS MEMBERS SING ALONG TO *MESSIAH*

The first Chehalis Church *Messiah* Sing Along was in 1996, but it really began years earlier and far away.

Helgi Heidar, born and raised in Iceland, was introduced to music at an early age by his organist/composer father. Heidar's musical talents were dormant as a young boy. Even though he went to choir practice regularly with his father, Heidar would get noticeably weary as he waited for it to end. This attitude was not lost on his father.

At about age 16, Heidar told his father he wanted to play the violin. His father admonished him not to do so because he "wouldn't do well."

It is quite possible that Heidar's violin skills and strong love of music developed just to show his father he was wrong.

Fast forward several years to when Heidar and wife, Drusilla, moved to Chehalis. They enjoyed the community Christmas performance of Handel's *Messiah*.

At that time, two different high schools hosted the *Messiah* on alternate weekend days. A large choir and orchestra performed each year, but when the Presbyterian minister, who was the driving force behind the event, moved, the *Messiah* was discontinued.

The Heidars did not forget the thrill of the Christmas

oratorio. When the Chehalis Church congregation moved into their new church in 1996, the Heidars, along with others in the congregation, wanted to once again bring the gift of Handel's *Messiah* to the community. It was revived that Christmas as the *Messiah* Sing Along and has been performed every year since, with the exception of 2007, when the "big flood" usurped all events and activities.

This past December's first Saturday once again found the church full of guests for this popular community event. For many, attending the *Messiah* Sing Along is when their Christmas season begins.



Community musician David Judd conducts the *Messiah* Sing Along in Chehalis.

The choir and orchestra consisted of performers from a variety of local churches. Many, including Auburn Adventist Academy students, came a far distance to participate.

Carolyn Vian of St. Mary's College in Olympia directed the event from 1996 to 2011. Now David Judd, a longtime community musician, brings Handel's 1741 oratorio alive with his baton.

And Helgi Heidar? The violin still has a place under his chin each year. His love of the instrument is also shining brightly in his granddaughters. His father would be proud.

Earlene Wohlens, Chehalis Church member



A community sing along of Handel's *Messiah* continues to be a treasured tradition thanks to the efforts of Chehalis Church.

REGIONAL MINISTRY CLARIFIES PURPOSE, RECOMMENDS LEADER

After months of meetings and hours of discussion interspersed with moments of prayer, the Regional Advisory Committee fulfilled a multilevel mission and visioning process by selecting a leader to represent African American churches in the ministry activities of Washington Conference.

The committee ultimately decided to recommend EuGene Lewis to serve in this role and worked together to redefine the associated roles, responsibilities and expectations for the coalition of churches, the conference and the union.

OFFICIAL VOICE

The Regional Advisory Committee allows all six African American churches in the Seattle area to have a voice and invested contribution to the mission and ministry of regional churches.

Church head elders and pastors are trained to listen to concerns or questions, and respond by taking the matter to the church board (if it is a local matter) or to the Regional Advisory Committee (if it is a larger matter). Based on the issue or complaint, the committee can elect to involve the conference or the union through requesting resources, coaching or additional mediation.

TEAM APPROACH

The Regional Advisory

Committee formed in 2014 after constituents referred the selection of a regional ministries leader back to the Washington Conference executive committee.

In the first 18 months, of the Regional Advisory Committee, the mandate from the executive committee was threefold: define a joint mission for African American churches, address communication barriers between churches and recommend a new regional ministries coordinator.

The mission conversation yielded seven areas of passionate spirituality for fulfilling the Great Commission: Christ-empowering leadership, life-transforming worship, community-impacting ministries, kingdom-building evangelism, seeker-supporting discipleship, love-enhancing fellowship and growth-producing ministries.

The team leadership approach allows the committee to support and guide churches in fostering proactive unity and improve communication between regional churches.

As disciples of Christ, the leaders associated with the Regional Advisory Committee give voice to the needs of the African American church community and serve as team members to promote respect and awareness of cultural heritage while seeking to grow this faith community.



Eastside Fellowship collaborates with church and community partners to assemble care packages for homeless men.

EASTSIDE FELLOWSHIP ASSEMBLES CARE PACKAGES

Eastside Adventist Fellowship members pooled their resources to provide care packages for the homeless men served by Congregations for the Homeless (CFH).

The congregation from Kirkland filled 50 sturdy waterproof backpacks from Citypak (citypak.org) with a blanket, socks, underwear, an undershirt, hat, gloves, toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, deodorant, razor, shaving cream, lotion, sunscreen, adhesive bandages, antibiotic ointment, cough drops, hand warmers, nail clippers, protein bars, a rain poncho, *Steps to Christ* and a handwritten note of encouragement.

"We are determined to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our part of the vineyard,"

says Ron Sydney, Eastside Fellowship pastor.

Eastside Fellowship members donated all items and assembled and delivered all the packs to CFH's year-round men's shelter in Bellevue. Since 2005, CFH has offered a comprehensive case management program to assist the transition from homelessness to permanent housing.

Eastside Fellowship is seeking to establish ongoing connections with organizations such as CFH to make a difference in the lives of the needy in its immediate neighborhood.

Naryung Lee, Eastside Fellowship member

More photos online at glnr.in/111-02-wa_eastside



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WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY: MEET THE FACULTY

By the time winter quarter classes began last month, Walla Walla University faculty had logged countless hours preparing lab experiments, syllabi and lectures — not to mention a few quizzes and exams. They take seriously their responsibility to pass on knowledge to the next generation and to shape the way students think. Meet three faculty members who have recently spent many hours themselves in classrooms and research facilities honing their skills and exploring their various fields of study.

CHRONIC PAIN IN TEENS

Kari Firestone, WWU School of Nursing associate professor of nursing and associate dean, was named a 2014–2016 Jonas Nurse Leader Scholar, a program that supports doctoral nursing students. With the award, Firestone is pursuing a doctorate from Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland.

Firestone is interested in advancing health for children and

Kari Firestone



families and is researching the use of low-intensity exercise for pain-management in adolescents experiencing chronic, widespread pain.

“One of the biggest areas of interest to me was how much kids who experience chronic pain do not participate in the ‘work’ of childhood — playing with other kids, participating in school and sports, etc.,” says Firestone.

Firestone presented her research last October in Washington, D.C., at a national conference on the future of nursing.

DNA DAMAGE AND REPAIR

The research of David Lindsey, professor of biology and chairman of the biology department, has recently been published in the online biomedical and life science journal *eLife*.

In the article, Lindsey and eight other contributors provide key insights into the process of

DNA repair by identifying key protein interactions within cells.



David Lindsey

Lindsey is an expert in this field and joins scientists from as far as Grenoble, France, to compile the research.

“DNA repair is a critical process,” Lindsey explains. “If DNA is damaged, it must be repaired before cell division. If not, the genetic defect is replicated and passed down to the daughter cells.” Further understanding this process sheds light on serious medical issues such as determining how diseases like cancer begin and spread.

“I greatly value working with undergraduate students here at the university,” says Lindsey. “My roles as a teacher and a researcher are interconnected.”

STUDY OF FAITH-BASED CREDIT UNIONS

Bruce Toews, associate professor of business, recently

completed a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) degree with a concentration in finance from Walden University in Minneapolis, Minn.

Toews successfully defended his dissertation on the question of whether the religious culture of faith-based credit unions influenced their financial results. “I found some significant differences at faith-based credit unions, which indicated that religion may indeed affect financial performance and risk tolerance,” says Toews.

Zachary White and Libby Knapp, WWU university relations student writers, and Kim Strobel, WWU marketing and university relations supervisor



Bruce Toews

FIRST FRIDAY PROGRAM PROVIDES SPIRITUAL HOME IN PORTLAND

W

JOIN US FOR
FIRST FRIDAY
ON FEB. 5 AND
MARCH 4

hen Steve* was discharged from Adventist Medical Center (AMC) in Portland, Ore., in early December, he had no idea how soon he would return to the hospital — in good health. “I can’t believe that I was a patient at this hospital last week, and now I’m here praising God,” he said just days after his stay.

Steve returned to AMC for First Friday, an evening program that the hospital hosts on the first Friday evening of every month to provide a

spiritual home for patients, community members and employees. The program, which launched Dec. 4, offers music, testimonies and prayer time for those who might not be comfortable attending a traditional church service or whose work schedule makes attendance difficult.

“Our goal is to create a safe atmosphere to be able to connect these people to a church on their

own time,” says Terry Johnson, AMC mission integration executive director. “That’s why we’ve partnered with area churches.”

The partnerships First Friday leaders have developed with Adventist churches across the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area are key to the project. “When someone wants to connect with a church, we’ll be able to recommend one in their community where a team will be ready to nurture and welcome them,” says Johnson. “Then they’ll know someone at the church from the beginning, someone to invite them over for Sabbath lunch.”

The new outreach also allows the hospital to become involved in the spiritual health of the community. “We love to be able to connect with people when there’s not a health crisis,” says Joyce Newmyer, president and CEO of Adventist Health’s Pacific Northwest region. “Our mission calls us to care not only for people inside our hospital walls, but also those outside — whether they are sick or not.”

Newmyer has been involved in the development of First Friday since Johnson joined AMC administration



Terry Johnson, AMC’s mission integration executive director, helps spearhead the First Friday program.

in 2015. She even sings and plays the piano in a praise and worship band led by hospital administrators who provided the worship music for the first program.

“The attendees were blown away to see the CEO of the hospital leading praise and worship in the community,” says Johnson. “It really shows a high level of involvement from administration.”

By the end of the evening of the first event, a total of 254 people had come to worship — double the amount estimated by project leaders. Since the service takes place in the hospital facility, the program is easily accessible for patients and employees. “People were coming in scrubs at the end of their shifts to join us in praise,” says Johnson.

“What a great way to welcome the Sabbath,” says Newmyer. “We cannot wait to see where God takes this. We started with 250 people — what’s next?”

*Patient name changed for privacy

Shelby Seibold, Adventist Health communication specialist



Attendees enjoy an evening of music, inspiration and prayer.

Fowler 65th

Harris and Colleen (Wood) Fowler's children organized a celebration for the couple's 65th wedding celebration at the Wenatchee (Wash.) Adventist Family Life Center on Aug. 29, 2015. It was wonderful to see all their friends from many years celebrating with them.

Colleen was in eighth grade when the Alvin Fowler family moved to Wenatchee. The Fowlers had a daughter named Yvette, who was the same age as Colleen. Colleen and Yvette became good friends and went to Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., together.

Colleen later fell in love with Yvette's older brother, Harris. They started dating, and Harris asked for her hand in marriage. Colleen graduated from UCA in 1950, and she and Harris were married in an old church on the corner of Spokane Street and Okanogan Street on July 9, 1950.

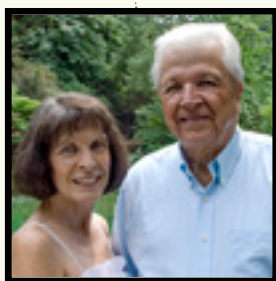
They moved to Montana, then the Korean War started. Harris was called to serve for his country, then, with faith and God's care and protection, he was given the opportunity to go to college at Walla Walla College. Harris graduated in 1955 with a degree in education and three busy children.

His first teaching position was in Leavenworth, Wash., where the Fowlers' fourth child was born. After a few years there, Upper Columbia Conference asked Harris to come work there. The family first moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, then to Hermiston,

Ore., and Spokane, Wash., where he stopped teaching for a few years.

Then they decided to move to Wenatchee to be close to Colleen's folks, who were getting older. Harris started teaching again in 1972 at Cascade Christian Academy. He started working on trail work then drove semitrucks.

The Fowler family includes four children, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, plus one on the way. Harris and Colleen are living at Colleen's parents' old place on Stemilt Hill in Wenatchee. Their grandson, Alex, is buying the farm and keeping it in the family for the fourth generation.



Dick and Carol Hanson

Hanson 50th

Dick and Carol Hanson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 28, 2015, with a brunch at Lakeside Gardens in Portland, Ore. The special day was hosted by their daughter and son-in-law, Tami and Jon, and their grandchildren, Megan and Matthew.

Some couples go on a cruise or special trip to celebrate, but Dick and Carol wanted to share a day with some of the friends and family who have given such joy and meaning to their life's journey. So they chose the beautiful Lakeside Gardens, complete with a pair of swans, bridges, trails and a picturesque lake. They then invited more than 100 friends and family members to come and enjoy great food, fellowship and fun. Dick told everyone who attended,

"This is our cruise."

Dick met Carol Hochstetter at Portland Union Academy (now Portland Adventist Academy). Their first date was part of the school-sponsored Harvest Ingathering program on Dec. 11, 1961, and they continue to date some 54 years later.

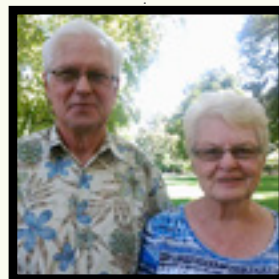
They were married on June 27, 1965, at the Mount Tabor Church in Portland. Some of the original wedding party, including the Bible boy and flower girl, attended the anniversary celebration.

The event was highlighted by a group called Tricky Dick and the Syncers. The group was composed of Dick, as the lead singer, and three wonderful friends providing the backup parts. All four were dressed in 1960-70s outfits complete with wigs. Dick sang seven carefully chosen love songs, from the era, to Carol, through the magic of lip-syncing. Everyone had a great time with lots of joy and laughter.

The event really embodied some of the central themes of their marriage: friends, family, sharing, service, love and laughter. And, Carol adds, "Our deep abiding faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior is the 'glue' that keeps us close to each other."

Ringing 60th

Elmer and Marilyn Ringering celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary and Elmer's 80th birthday with family at Pioneer Park in Walla Walla, Wash., on Aug. 1, 2015.



Elmer and Marilyn Ringering

Elmer Ringering and Marilyn Morris met at Auburn Adventist Academy in Auburn, Wash., where they graduated in 1954. They both worked at Harris Pine Mills for a time and were married June 30, 1955, in Pasco, Wash.

They had their first son, Stephan, in March 1956. Stephan passed away in January 1957, and another son was born in December 1957.

Elmer was offered a job in Hillsboro, Ore., as a cartographer for Washington County in August 1958. He worked there until 1961, when the family moved to Pendleton, Ore. There, three more children were born. Elmer worked for the Umatilla County Assessor's office until his retirement in July 1994.

Marilyn ran a day care service in her home for 27 years.

They enjoy spending time with their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

They also enjoy traveling south to Arizona for the winter and Elmer's rock-hunting hobby.

The Ringering family includes Gary and Cheryl (Holmes) Ringering of Long Creek, Ore.; Jeff and Lori (Mund) Ringering of Walla Walla, Wash.; Brent and Anita (Mund) Ringering of Lewiston, Idaho; Brenda and Scott Salsbery of Brush Prairie, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

FAMILY BIRTHS

BALLERT-DALRYMPLE — Nolan Wesley was born Feb. 18, 2015, to Evan Christian Ballert-Dalrymple and Emily Cate Walters, Salem, Ore.

ENDERS — Natalie Katelyn was born Nov. 14, 2015, to Matthew and Heather (Chrowl) Enders, Olympia, Wash.

MANN — Gabriella Jeanette was born Nov. 24, 2015, to Lowell J. and Elena A. (Khrapova) Mann, College Place, Wash.

MINTON — Adeline Rose was born Nov. 9, 2015, to Richard M. and Ashley N. (Poteet) Minton, Medford, Ore.

ST. MICHELL — Violet Deanne was born Dec. 8, 2015, to James J. and Erica D. (Westman) St. Michell, Everett, Wash.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

BROTHERS-HALEY

Cecilia Joy Brothers and Jonathan David Haley were married Sept. 13, 2015, in Aldridge Gardens, Hoover, Alabama. Cecilia is the daughter of Greg and Narelle (Toepfer) Brothers. Jonathan is the son of David and Jann (Eaton) Haley.

LEE-ROUTT

Erin Michelle Lee and David Glenn Routt were married July 31, 2015, in Yakima, Wash. They are making their home in Nampa, Idaho. Erin is the daughter of Kenneth and Pamela (McEwen) Lee. David is the son of Glenn Routt and Anne (Mann) Routt (deceased).

MITCHELL-MOORE

Alyna Mitchell and Charley Moore were married Aug. 16, 2015, in Ryderwood, Wash. Alyna is the daughter of Kenneth and Virginia (Zaugg) Mitchell. Charley is the son of Jerry and Marlene (Weber) Moore.

FAMILY AT REST

ANDERSEN — Kendall Lee, 57; born Oct. 25, 1957, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada; died Oct. 4, 2015, Kirkland, Wash. Surviving: wife, Teresa (Benjamin), Sammamish, Wash.; and son, Jeffrey, College Place, Wash.

ASH — John Lawson, 68; born Oct. 14, 1946, Pasadena, Calif.; died Feb. 19, 2015, Coos Bay, Ore. Surviving: sisters, Cecilia Ash Watson and Susan Ash Watson.

BECK — Hazel Marie (Story), 94; born Oct. 22, 1920, Valley, Wash.; died March 5, 2015, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: son, Gordon Beck; daughter, Sharon Ammon, Liberty Lake, Wash.; sister, Mary Marron, of Maryland; 6 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

BOLANDER — Charles M., 86; born Feb. 27, 1929, Lodi, Calif.; died April 18, 2015, Buckley, Wash. Surviving: wife, Victoria (Henner); son, Sten Bolander, Sacramento, Calif.; daughter, Kirstin (Bolander) Rich, Lake Tapps, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

COFFEEN — Willis A., 91; born Oct. 29, 1923, Medford, Ore.; died Aug. 9, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Josephine; sons, Nathaniel and Jonathan; and 4 grandchildren.

DALE — Elfreda “Billie” Ruth (Sievers), 85; born Oct. 8, 1930, Taylor, N.D.; died Oct. 10, 2015, Clayton, N.M. Surviving: husband, Virgil; sons, Roger and Kevin, both of Roseburg, Ore.; daughter, Shirley Comstock, Salem, Ore.; 3 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

DAVIS — R. Lee, 91; born July 7, 1924, Groom, Texas; died Sept. 20, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: son, Ron, College Place, Wash.; sister, Anna Luella Bronsert, Loveland, Colo.; 2 grandchildren

and a great-grandchild.

DENNIS — William Bert, 92; born May 11, 1923, Eagle Point, Ore.; died Sept. 6, 2015, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: wife, Ava Dunks Dennis; son, Daryl Dennis, Wlterville, Ore.; stepson, Jeffry Dunks, Brownsville, Ore.; daughters, Cheryl (Dennis) Griffen, Battle Ground, Wash.; Marla (Dennis) Crabbe, Hayden Lake, Idaho; stepdaughter, Kelly (Dunks) Wescott, Battle Ground; 11 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

DUFUR — Helen Martha (Eighme), 81; born May 27, 1934, Granite Falls, Wash.; died Oct. 11, 2015, Issaquah, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Kathy Dufur, Renton, Wash.; Susan Smith, Black Diamond, Wash.; Carolyn Stiver, Woodland, Calif.; and 2 grandchildren.

EGBERT — Frances B. (Ritter), 93; born in Rexburg, Idaho; died Aug. 6, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: son, Robert, College Place, Wash.; sister, Verla (Ritter) Tartar, Twin Falls, Idaho; 3 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

EILERTSEN — John Eilert, 62; born Dec. 27, 1952, Salem, Ore.; died March 27, 2015, Wrangell, Alaska. Surviving: wife, Jacqueline (Paull); sons, Eilert and James, both of Wrangell; daughter, Jennifer Eilertsen, Sitka, Alaska; mother, Blodwen Eilertsen, Trout Creek, Mont.; brothers, David, Anchorage, Alaska; Steven, Trout Creek; sister, Ronda Evans, Trout Creek; and 8 grandchildren.

ERBENICH — Inge Irma (Leitzbach), 86; born March 21, 1929, Pfeddersheim, Germany; died Aug. 15, 2015, Sequim, Wash. Surviving: sons, Gerhard, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada; Alfred, Walla Walla,

Wash.; Norman, Maple Valley, Wash.; Gordon, Seattle, Wash.; daughter, Lorika Erbenich, Sequim; 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

FEYEN — Dorsett George, 92; Sept. 21, 1922, Mexia, Texas; died, Aug. 4, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Betty (Swihart) Pearson-Feyen, College Place, Wash.; sons, Monty Feyen, Laguna Beach, Calif.; Donald Feyen, College Place; stepson, David Pearson, Bothell, Wash.; daughters, Loni Draeger, College Place; Jacque Feyen, Walla Walla; stepdaughters, Sheri Burgess and Becky Rogers, Shelton, Wash.; and 4 grandchildren.

GAENZ — Reuben Kerner, 88; born July 7, 1927, in North Dakota; died Aug. 29, 2015, Trout Creek, Mont. Surviving: wife, Joyce (Sloan), Tenino, Wash.; sons, Randy, Tenino; Sam, Terrace Heights, Wash.; Joseph, Eugene, Ore.; daughters, Jolene Marshall, San Diego, Calif.; Suzette Gaenz, Trout Creek; Courtney Gaenz, Eugene; 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

GEDDIS — Maxine “Molly” A., 88; born June 18, 1927, Los Angeles, Calif.; died Sept. 28, 2015, Portland, Ore. Surviving: son, Thomas Young, San Diego, Calif.; daughter, Gayle Palachuk, Yakima, Wash.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

HALL — Evelena “Evie” B. (Brandon) Corley, 88; born May 2, 1927, Centerton, Ark.; died Sept. 9, 2015, Tillamook, Ore. Surviving: sons, Larry Corley and Tim Hall, both of Tillamook; daughter, Bonnie (Hall) Sanders, Canby, Ore.; 6 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

HARVEY — LouWanna Mae (Budd), 89; born Dec. 8, 1925; died July 23, 2015, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: son, Dennis Morton,

Sandpoint, Idaho; daughters, Claudia Johnson, Helena, Mont.; Phyllis Bohlman, Donnelly, Idaho; brother, David Budd, Peachester, Queensland, Australia; sisters, Loretta Steahling, Walla Walla, Wash.; Louise Matterand, Mt. Vernon, Wash.; Vonnie Nichols, El-lensburg, Wash.; June Fanning, Moses Lake, Wash.; 12 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

HOPKINS — Sarah Jeanette (Osborne), 77; born Oct. 3, 1937, Myrtle Creek, Ore.; died Sept. 29, 2015, Klamath Falls, Ore. Surviving: husband, Clifford, Chiloquin, Ore.; daughters, Debbie Smith, Bend, Ore.; Crystal Lancaster, Chiloquin; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

KEYMER — Gail Louise (Johnson), 67; born Jan. 30, 1948, Glendale, Calif.; died Aug. 24, 2015, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Mike, Noxon, Mont.; sons, Marshall and Mark, both of Walla Walla, Wash.; daughter, Kristy Varley, Magna, Utah; brother, Steve Johnson, Casper, Wyo.; and 3 grandchildren.

KING — Frank Dana, 100; born Feb. 14, 1915, Lewiston, Mont.; died Aug. 23, 2015, College Place, Wash. Surviving: sons, Ray, Bend, Ore.; Alan, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Art, College Place; Larry, Bozeman, Mont.; 19 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

LUCAS — Ivy Eleanor (Cain), 94; born Nov. 10, 1919, Brainerd, Minn.; died July 16, 2014, Lacey, Wash. Surviving: son, Leonard, Fairbanks, Alaska; daughter, Lois Lucas, Lacey, Ore.; sisters, Lois Herbig, Missoula, Mont.; Mardelle McMagnamon, McMinnville, Ore.; 10 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 31

great-great-grandchildren.

MEHLING — John Fredrick, 83; born Feb. 22, 1932, Granger, Wash.; died March 8, 2015, Palm Springs, Calif. Surviving: wife, Marlene (Reimche) McMillen; son, Steven Mehling, Nampa, Idaho; daughters, Caryn (Mehling) Baerg, Fresno, Calif.; Vicki (Mehling) Turano, Walnut Creek, Calif.; stepson, Robert McMillen, Medford, Ore.; stepdaughter, Gwyn (McMillen) Reen, Medford; brother, Bert, Talent, Ore.; sisters, Vera Robertson and Clara Toews, both of Hillsboro, Ore.; Lillian Stutz, Burlington, Wash.; 10 grandchildren, 10 step-grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

MILLER — Janis Ruth (Fenn) Ramsey, 66; born Jan. 3, 1949, Marysville, Calif.; died July 3, 2015, Naches, Wash. Surviving: husband, Ed; sons, Victor Miller and Carl Ramsey; daughter, Michell Ramsey; and 5 grandchildren.

NELSON — William Wayne, 89; born Oct. 1, 1925, in Saskatchewan, Canada; died Sept. 12, 2015, Oliver, British Columbia, Canada. Surviving: wife, Aris; sons, Wilf, Prince George, British Columbia, Canada; Frank, Grover Beach, Calif.; Kevin, Osoyoos, British Columbia, Canada; daughter, Colleen Gonzales, Fillmore, Calif.; 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

REITER — Bonnie Faye (Wellman) Orlando, 79; born Aug. 18, 1936, Topeka, Kan.; died Sept. 7, 2015, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: husband, John Reiter; sons, Frank Orlando and Ray; daughter, Jodi Genson; 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

ROUSE — William Leon, 83; born June 20, 1932, Grand Junction, Colo.; died Sept. 24, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash.

Surviving: wife, Charlotte Rae (Shillete), College Place, Wash.; son, Craig L., Walla Walla; daughters, Charell Ane Pester and Konnie Rae Mountain, both of Walla Walla; brothers, Bowman D., Lynden, Wash.; Dennis R., Portland, Ore.; sisters, Bonita Carol Worden, Walla Walla; Shirley Louise Hardey, Everson, Wash.; 12 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

SCHULTZ — Lillyann I. (Rivinius), 94; born Aug. 10, 1921, Cole Harbor, N.D.; died Oct. 10, 2015, Terreboone, Ore. Surviving: sons, Wayne, Madras, Ore.; Neil, Yorba Linda, Calif.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

TANAKA — Jeremy Donald, 38; born Nov. 24, 1976, Portland, Ore.; died July 24, 2015, Port Hardy, British Columbia, Canada. Surviving: wife, Lynette (Carlson); sons, Ezra, Elias and Finn, all of Port Hardy; daughter, Scarlet Tanaka, Port Hardy; father, Donald Tanaka, Nanaimo, British Columbia; mother, Gail Corn, Yacolt, Wash.; brothers, Craig Tanaka, Ryan Tanaka and Travis Tanaka; and sister, Hannah Corn.

TRIMBLE — Carol (Deck), 84; born July 6, 1931, Wilder, Idaho; died Sept. 17, 2015, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Larry and Jeffrey, both of Nampa; Brian, Boise, Idaho; daughter, Julie Schroeder, Newport, Ore.; and 8 grandchildren.

WATTS — Rosemary Alberta (Bradley), 74; born July 15, 1941, Kenya Medical Mission Hospital; died Sept. 30, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: stepsons, John Watts, Kevin Watts, James Watts; daughters, Alice Watts, Mary Watts; stepdaughters, Linda (Watts) Vernon, Laurie Watts, Donna Watts; brother, Scott Bradley; and 7 grandchildren.

WHITT — Raymond Douglas, 87; born Oct. 18, 1927, Sonora, Calif.; died Sept. 28, 2015, Klamath Falls, Ore. Surviving: wife, Eliwina "Winnie" (Ontko); daughter, Carol Edgren, Modesto, Calif.; 3 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

WICKWARD — Joyce G. (Zirkle), 86; born Nov. 26, 1928, Yakima, Wash.; died Sept. 7, 2015. Surviving: son, Mike; daughters, Nancy Caldera, College Place, Wash.; Judy Christopherson; 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

WIEDEMANN — Wilhelm Rudolf, 92; born Dec. 26, 1922, Bremen, Germany; died Sept. 27, 2015, Klamath Falls, Ore. Surviving: wife, Georgia (Strong); sons, Peter, Merced, Calif.; Guenter, Tillamook, Ore.; Werner, Luray, Va.; 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

ZOOK — George Truman Jr., 78; born Aug. 10, 1937, Portland, Ore.; died Aug. 30, 2015, Newberg, Ore. Surviving: wife, Harriett (Lane), Aurora, Ore.; son, John, Aurora; daughter, Jennifer Siems, Astoria, Ore.; and 5 grandchildren.

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

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

- Feb. 6** — Local Church Budget;
- Feb. 13** — NAD/WB Adventist Television Ministries;
- Feb. 20** — Local Church Budget;
- Feb. 27** — Local Conference Advance.

More events listed at GleanerNow.com/events.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

- Feb. 9** — Senior Recognition, University Church at 11 a.m.;
- Feb. 19–20** — ASWWU Weekend of Worship;
- Feb. 23–26** — Ancient Words Bible Reading Marathon;
- Feb. 25** — Engineering Egg Drop Contest, KRH lawn at 12 p.m.;
- Feb. 27** — Engineers Without Borders Gala at 6:30 p.m.;
- Feb. 27** — OPS Amateur Hour at 8 p.m.

More WWU events list at glnr.in/wwufeb2016events.

OREGON

First Friday at Adventist Medical Center

Feb. 5 — Join Adventist Medical Center in Portland on the first Friday of each month for joyful praise and fellowship, 7–8:15 p.m., at Adventist Medical Center Amphitheater C.

Big Lake Registration Opens

Registration for Big Lake Youth Camp (BLYC) opens on Feb. 1 at 10 a.m. To plan your awesome summer adventure at BLYC and to register online, please visit biglake.org. See you at the lake!

Oregon Conference Marriage Getaway

Feb. 26–28 — “It’s a Wonderful Life!” is the theme for the Oregon Conference’s marriage getaway featuring Richie and Timi Brower and Gary and Shelly Parks. No writing assignments, confrontations or confessions, just great concepts to explore with great people, great food, great music ... and a lot of fun! Bonus session: Starting a marriage ministry in your church. Held at the Village Green Resort and Gardens in Cottage Grove, Ore. Early bird rate available through Feb. 14. For more information, visit <https://orgcfamily.netadvent.org>.

A Fair of the Heart

Feb. 28 — Learn five keys to heart health at this free event with physician presentation, Q-and-A breakout sessions, prizes, healthy samples and screenings. At the Adventist Medical Center Amphitheater 12–3 p.m. To register, call 503-256-4000 or visit AdventistHealth.org/NW.

Craig McDougall Presents at Hillsboro Church

Feb. 28 — Dr. Craig McDougall will be sharing on the importance of a plant-based diet at the Hillsboro Church at 3 p.m. A light meal will be served following the presentation with a Q-and-A time with McDougall. For more information, contact Teresa Lyons at 503-784-8342.

Winter Weekend at Big Lake Youth Camp

March 4–6 — Come and enjoy a winter weekend at Big Lake Youth Camp. Bring snowmobiles, skis, snowshoes, sleds, snowboards and clothes for playing in the snow. Don’t forget to bring your Bible, sleeping bag, pillow and personal items in an easily identifiable

snowproof bag. Snowmobile rides available for all. Early bird rate available until Feb. 13, then the price increases. The cost includes a 5:30 p.m. snow cat ride in from Ray Benson Sno-Park (Oregon Sno-Park permits required and available from Oregon DMV and various retailers), five meals and two nights’ lodging. Your check is your reservation. For more information, call Jerry 541-998-3593 or 503-789-8911.

UPPER COLUMBIA

UCC Teen Pathfinder Leadership Retreat

Feb. 5–7 — at Camp MiVoden in Hayden, Idaho. The speaker will be Jeremy McCombs, Pendleton Church pastor, with the theme “Higher Ground.” Attendees must register through a local UCC Pathfinder club.

Winter SkiFest 2016

Feb. 13–15 — Come join the UCC youth department for Winter SkiFest 2016 at Camp MiVoden and Schweitzer, where we will enjoy food, fun and fellowship! Must be at least 14 years old. For more information, go to uccsda.org/youth or contact the youth department by email wendye@uccsda.org, denisek@uccsda.org or call 509-242-0506.

UCC Pathfinder Bible Experience

Feb. 20 — UCC Pathfinder Bible Experience (formerly called Bible Achievement) will be held at Walla Walla Academy in College Place, Wash., beginning at 2 p.m. All are welcomed to attend. For more information, go to uccsda.org/Pathfinders/bibleachieve.

Upper Columbia Academy Senior Recognition Weekend

Feb. 26–27 — The weekend to recognize the class of 2016 will culminate in a senior talent program Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m.

WORLD CHURCH

Six-day Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop

July 31–Aug. 5 — Six-day Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop at Andrews University. Details available at Andrews.edu/go/nrhw, email janinec@andrews.edu or call 269-471-3541.



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Employment

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is looking to fill several full-time tenure-track faculty positions in the areas of education psychology, English education/ children's literature, industrial design, 19th-century British literature, research services librarian, music, psychology and social work. For a detailed

description of each position and to apply, please visit jobs.wallawalla.edu.

WORDPRESS/WEB DEVELOPER: HTML, PHP, CSS, FT, work from your location. Compensation depends on experience. Send resume to info@CenterForOnlineEvangelism.org.

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY is seeking College of Arts and Sciences dean candidates. Should hold earned doctorate or terminal degree, preferably in the arts and sciences; be a member of the Adventist denomination; and have demonstrated effectiveness as a teacher, scholar and administrator. Additional details and application instructions available at <https://goo.gl/ZTQrY2>. Position open until filled.

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 MARCH 12, 2016

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SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S seeks development director. Responsibilities include fundraising, special events and donor recognition. Exceptional communication skills are essential. Bachelor's degree and previous fundraising experience required. Submit cover letter and CV/resume to human resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu.

UNION COLLEGE seeks vice president for student services beginning in July 2016. The VPSS leads out in the vision, strategy and

execution of the college's student services goals. Qualified Adventist candidate will be student-centered and an experienced leader in higher education. See ucollege.edu/staff-openings. Send resume to Dr. Vinita Sauder, visauder@ucollege.edu.

Event

NATIONAL FAMILY RETREAT, March 30–April 3, 2016. Practical messages — breakouts — family recreation — exhibits. Topics: Parenting, family, marriage, youth, young adult and media. Speakers: Waters, Rayne and Nebblett families with Scott Ritsema. Wewoka Adventist Center, near Oklahoma City. For more information: www.restoration-international.org/nfr, 918-827-7012.

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Miscellaneous

SOULS NORTHWEST students need cars for canvassing and Bible work ministry. If you have a car that you could lend or donate, please contact SOULS Northwest at 360-857-7062 or email info@soulsnorthwest.org.

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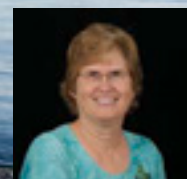
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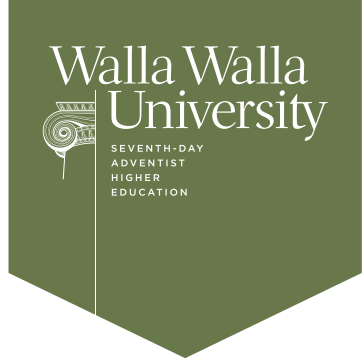
Sunset Schedule

February	5	12	19	26
ALASKA CONFERENCE				
Anchorage	5:15	5:34	5:54	6:13
Fairbanks	4:42	5:07	5:30	5:53
Juneau	4:26	4:43	5:00	5:17
Ketchikan	4:28	4:43	4:58	5:13
IDAHO CONFERENCE				
Boise	6:00	6:09	6:19	6:28
La Grande	5:03	5:13	5:23	5:33
Pocatello	5:46	5:56	6:05	6:14
MONTANA CONFERENCE				
Billings	5:24	5:34	5:45	5:55
Havre	5:22	5:33	5:44	5:56
Helena	5:36	5:47	5:57	6:08
Miles City	5:12	5:22	5:33	5:43
Missoula	5:43	5:54	6:05	6:15
OREGON CONFERENCE				
Coos Bay	5:32	5:42	5:51	6:00
Medford	5:29	5:38	5:47	5:56
Portland	5:21	5:31	5:41	5:51
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE				
Pendleton	5:05	5:16	5:26	5:36
Spokane	4:55	5:06	5:17	5:28
Walla Walla	5:02	5:13	5:23	5:33
Wenatchee	5:07	5:18	5:29	5:40
Yakima	5:10	5:21	5:31	5:42
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE				
Bellingham	5:12	5:24	5:35	5:46
Seattle	5:15	5:26	5:37	5:47

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THE END OF THE STORY, PART III

A

s a child of the 80s I saw a lot of weird things — I mean really strange. Hair took unnatural shapes, music was doused in synthesizers, and fashion that seemed like a good idea at the time now hides in photo albums that one hopes never sees the light of social media. One of the novelties of the era I was subjected to came in the form of a film entitled *The NeverEnding Story*.

In that story, one part of the protagonist's quest includes passing through a trial involving a mirror. Some of you reading may be thinking, "Amen, I know that trial personally — every morning." However, in this case, this mirror has the unique ability to show the viewer more than physical appearance — it reveals one's true self.

When the hero's friend remarks that the mirror trial shouldn't be too hard, a wizened sage exclaims, "Oh, that's what everyone thinks! But kind people find out that they are cruel. Brave men discover that they are really cowards!

Confronted by their true selves, most men run away screaming!"¹

I'm not sure I want that mirror; I'd probably hide it up in the attic under a blanket, although it might be fun to hang in the hallway just to see how company reacted.

Truth can cripple people — it can even kill them. Writing about the end of the story, Paul pens, "And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will

kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming" (2 Thess. 2:8). Paul isn't speaking of heavenly halitosis, but alludes to the word of truth being spoken which, according to Scripture, is "sharper than any two-edged sword" (Heb. 4:12). In other words, at Jesus' coming, there's nowhere to hide, no more "looking through a glass darkly."

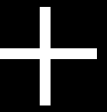
At Jesus' return, the full weight of reality will be revealed in the unfiltered presence of God, something the Bible describes as a "consuming fire." The final book of the Bible, Revelation (Greek *apocalypses*) literally means to unveil something previously hidden. The book unveils Jesus Christ and speaks of His literal revelation to the world. The book describes the wicked crying out for rocks to fall on them rather than face the presence of the Savior. The book points towards the fulfillment of Jesus' words that "everything done in secret will be brought into the light" (Luke 8:17). Those who have chosen to identify with shadow, even though Jesus has already done that for them on the cross (2 Cor. 5:21), will be unmade in presence of God.

The New Testament says, "Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce



The Adventist theology of hell is a gift to the world because it's about a good ending, not fiery punishment.

works of the devil” (1 John 3:8). Some people, by their dark practices and choices, allow their identity as a child of God to be taken over by darkness — to become a work, a living testimony, to the power of evil.

That power cannot hold together in God’s presence. Ellen White comments, “The glory of His countenance, which to the righteous is life, will be to the wicked a consuming fire. Because of love rejected, grace despised, the sinner will be destroyed.”²

Jesus calls Himself the “Light,” and His forerunner, John, calls Him the “Light of the World.” When we choose to follow Jesus He somehow makes US the “light of the world” (Matt. 5:14). What if, in the end, God isn’t a passive, or

an overreactive, monster. What if in the final execution of judgment God is simply God? What if the end of the story for the wicked is God finally bringing an end to humanity’s game of hide and seek, begun so long ago in Eden? Ready or not, here He comes. In the meantime, for those who respond to His Spirit, He gives us His Spirit, grace and revelation to make us ready to meet Him?

The Adventist theology of hell is a gift to the world because it’s about a good ending, not fiery punishment. It’s entering the reality and beauty of God’s presence — motivated by love instead of fear — a desire to dwell in a world free from the works of the Liar with the One who is able “to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with

great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever” (Jude 1:24–25). May the Author and Finisher of our faith prepare us to enjoy the end of the story.

1. W. Petersen, *The NeverEnding Story* (1984).
2. E. White, *The Desire of Ages* (Nampa, Idaho: Pacific Press), p. 600.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor

ADVENTISTS: SHEEP OR GOATS?

S

eventh-day Adventism parachuted onto the public square through the presidential campaign of Benjamin Carson. But in connecting with his political constituency, Carson felt it necessary to downplay his denominational identity.

Must Adventists distance themselves from their church and its distinctive doctrines to impact the 21st century? Transcending partisan politics as well as religious prejudice, I believe that genuine Seventh-day Adventism is uniquely capable of connectivity in the public square. This is because our fundamental beliefs are naturally

relational, spreading from our hearts and homes

into the neighborhood, marketplace and classroom.

Evidence for this is the gregarious nature of the two doctrines that give us our name: the Sabbath and Christ's coming advent:

1) God's day of rest brings us all together, no matter who we are or what our circumstances. On the seventh day, nobody is out of work, since everyone is at rest. Whatever their socioeconomic

status, all believers worship side by side and fellowship face to face.

2) Christ's coming will transport us together to heaven in joyous fellowship — we don't journey there upon death as an isolated, disembodied spirit.

ETERNAL LIFE GOES BEYOND LONGEVITY

Life in Christ involves more than a heart that never stops beating. It's also a loving heart that rejoices in relationality. Jesus declared: "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" — not just perpetually (John 10:10). Such a life draws us into community with one another as the flock of the Good Shepherd (see verse 16).

Nevertheless, many Christians (Adventists included) focus more on spending time alone with God than sharing life together. Both are essential in balance, like rest blended with exercise. Getting close to Jesus as individuals naturally brings us closer to one another as His body of believers.

And yet, evangelists often call people out of the world to "stand alone" for Jesus, their "personal savior." Converts naturally become



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



PERSPECTIVE



Salvation transcends getting one's own sorry soul pardoned and then sanctified in personal purgatory.

Christianity is actually living a lie — as if Jesus never came to unite us to one another in His body. “Love is the fulfilling of the law” (Rom. 13:10). *Thus any doctrine that does not support the spiritual discipline of community with Christ and one another is false teaching.* And any scenario of final events that enshrines personal perfectionism is spiritually bankrupt as well as useless in the public square.

RELATIONALITY IN THE REMNANT

Early Christians after Pentecost lived in community among themselves and their neighbors. The apostles’ teaching nurtured empathetic outreach (Acts 2:42) as believers shared material goods (verse 44), thus winning “favor with all the people” (verse 47). Dramatic church growth resulted from such caring Christianity.

A renaissance of relationality will flourish among God’s final remnant before Christ returns. Jesus will pass judgment upon the world by separating His community

of compassionate sheep from Satan’s selfish, isolationist goats (Matt. 25:31–46.). Often we Adventists overlook those 16 verses with their powerful warning about what really matters to God in the judgment. Evidence of being saved by grace is a life of gracious sharing. True faith blossoms into the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy and peace, primarily) in compassionate ministry to the sick, homeless and imprisoned. Such is God’s purpose for His people.

May we as Northwest Seventh-day Adventists love the Lord with all our hearts and then love one another as He has loved us. Thus will our neighbors recognize Jesus in our message and mission of truth and grace.

1. Unless otherwise noted, all texts are from the *English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Standard Bible Society, 2001).

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

holy loners seeking personal perfection to supposedly survive divine scrutiny in the celestial judgment.

Actually, biblical perfection is a corporate enterprise in which individual believers contribute their part in a symphony of grace-based obedience and heartfelt worship, fellowship and service. We are “being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit” (Eph. 2:22, NKJV¹); thus spiritual maturity requires sharing Christ’s communal righteousness.

Humanity is intrinsically relational, made in the image of a Creator who exists in Trinity. Adam and Eve’s fall into sin-introduced isolation and alienation — hiding from God and strife with each other.

The promised death they suffered on the day they sinned expressed itself in the demise of relationality.

To save us from sin, Jesus suffered its fatal isolation on the cross and by His subsequent resurrection created a new human race (Eph. 2:14–16) — the church. As Son of God, Jesus bonded us to His Father; as the Son of humanity, He connects us with each other. Thus the fundamental function of our new creation in Christ is in Spirit-ed community with God and one another.

Can you see that salvation transcends getting one’s own sorry soul pardoned and then sanctified in personal purgatory? Whatever one’s sincerity about sinlessness, whoever neglects the communal core of

MISSIONARY

Our country, our culture, our communities are also part of the mission field. They always have been.



A

n old story tells of a lighthouse overlooking the foggy Atlantic. This lighthouse had a gun that sounded a warning every hour. The keeper who tended the beacon kept enough shells in the gun so it would keep firing. After decades, he could sleep right through the now-routine blasts.

Then the inevitable happened. He forgot to load extra shells, and, in the dead of night, the gun did not fire. The rare silence awoke the keeper who leaped from bed shouting, “What was that?!”

For decades, North American Adventists saw themselves as the keeper of the worldwide lighthouse. As a 5-year-old, my prayers consistently included missions: “Please bless the missionaries and colporteurs all over the sea.” At that age, the vagaries of sentence parsing, with goodhearted volunteers scattered randomly upon the waves, escaped me. But the reality of world missionary agents of the gospel fanned out across the globe was burned into my thoughts even in those preschool years.

AUTHOR

Steve Vistaunet

Mission for many here in North America often carried the intent of sending physical, mental, spiritual help out to unenlightened continents in remote corners of the Earth. My early prayers echoed this

idea — the missionaries were all out there somewhere “over the sea.” Here at home we already knew the truth. Our roles were clear — we gave and others received.

It felt good to give. Offerings in the plate sent missionaries far and wide to spread the gospel. Church members here gave liberally, feeling somehow it would be enough to finish the work.

Indeed the work around the world has flourished. Offerings and efforts blessed by the Spirit have kindled thousands of converts, churches and schools. Many of us have gone beyond dollars to contribute time and talent in short-term mission trips to all corners of the globe.

With an overseas focus on mission, it’s easy to forget something critical to our own calling. The world includes North America. Our country, our culture, our communities are also part of the mission field. They always have been.

And while our imaginations are often lured by spectacular events, press coverage and headlines, the real essence of personal mission is just that — personal. Each one of us is a missionary. It starts with human relationships inspired by divine impression. In other words, your neighbors and work associates, your family, your inner circle of influence.

We are guilty of mission-myopia when we ignore the needs right at hand in favor of something more exotic and remote.

During those early formative years, while I prayed for the worldwide missionaries, I also often joined my Sabbath School classmates in singing a cute little ditty with words more profound than I ever then imagined. Written by Ina Ogdon more than 100 years ago, the words are a simple sermon directed to each of us today:

“Do not wait until some deed of greatness you may do; do not wait to shed your light afar; to the many duties ever near you now be true; brighten the corner where you are.”

So give to world missions. Give liberally. But don’t neglect to give yourself, right here, right now.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

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

NEW FROM
PACIFIC PRESS*13 Weeks to Love*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jennifer Jill Schwirzer has authored or co-authored 10 books and has published many articles that have featured in several magazines, including the *Adventist Review* and *Liberty*. She is an accomplished musician and over the last 30 years has recorded more than 150 original songs. Schwirzer holds a master's degree in mental health counseling and has her own counseling practice. She is a frequent speaker at camp meetings and women's ministries retreats.

The idea for Schwirzer's latest book, *13 Weeks to Love: Allowing Jesus to Heal Your Relationships*, came about as she was writing her previous book. "As I was working on *13 Weeks to Peace*, it occurred to me that because God made us in His image of love and because love can't be experienced alone, we can't really be in sync with God's design, and thus be healthy, without being in relationship. Right then and there, I determined that I would write a sequel. It would move the focus from healthy individuals to healthy relationships, both of which are essential and paradoxically intertwined."

13 Weeks to Love examines the universal hunger for love that transcends gender, age and social status. Beginning with the fracturing of relationship that occurred in the Garden of Eden, Schwirzer skillfully traces the fallout from Eve's choice and shows how the resulting brokenness is not necessarily a bad thing — because of Jesus who promises to give "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness" (Isa. 61:3, NKJV).

Schwirzer says, "We can't be healthy individuals without relationship. Loneliness is on the rise and can increase mortality by 50 percent. That is comparable to the mortality risk of smoking, and it's about twice as dangerous as obesity. We need a vital connection both to God and to our fellow human beings."

13 Weeks to Love looks at many of our relationships: our first bonding lessons at birth; siblings and friends; dating, courting, engagement and marriage; and the relationship we have with one another in the church — as the body of Christ. It also explores healthy communication in the chapter "The Lost Art of Talking." Filled with helpful diagrams and well-researched data, this book is also formatted as a workbook and can be used in a group setting. Discussion questions are included at the end of each chapter, and, as in *13 Weeks to Peace*, the "Toolbox" section at the end of the book provides an invaluable resource for readers.

FIND *13 WEEKS TO LOVE*

13 Weeks to Love is available at Adventist Book Centers everywhere, online at AdventistBookCenter.com, and can also be ordered on the toll-free line at 800-765-6955.

Karen Pearson writes from Nampa, Idaho, where she works as publicity director for Pacific Press Publishing Association. As a favorite part of her job, she gets to read all the great books reviewed here.

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