

EDITORIAL
FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

PERSPECTIVE
CLOTHING

LET'S TALK
UPGRADE

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

One day
at
WU

JAN
2017
VOL. 112, N° 1



He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Rev. 21:5

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



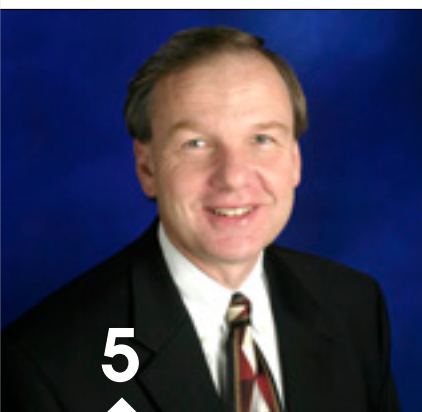
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INTERSECTIONS

An artist rendition of the planned transformation of Bowers Hall.

WWU SCHOOL OF BUSINESS LOOKS TO THE FUTURE



The Walla Walla University School of Business is growing. Performance metrics routinely confirm the quality of the program, and employers applaud the skills of our student interns and graduates.

To ensure we continue to develop excellent business leaders, the university will invest \$4 million to transform Bowers Hall into a modern, collaborative, efficient and flexible space for the School of Business.

Plans call for the addition of more than 3,000 square feet to the existing building, as well as classroom and office reorganization. The transformed facility will include an innovation classroom/laboratory, technologies that enhance digital learning, efficient group study spaces and multifunctional meeting spaces.

“The strength of our

School of Business lies in the strong relationships our faculty build with their students, relationships that result in highly effective student learning,” says Bob Cushman, vice president for academic administration. “For example, in 2015 our School of Business graduating class scored in the 96th percentile out of 68,594 examinees from 563 U.S. colleges and universities. This project will improve those collaborative, mentoring relationships and increase learning opportunities among students and staff.”

As part of the transformation planning, a project committee reviewed

everything from classroom capacity and future business curriculum to best practice teaching methods for tomorrow’s digital world. Jodi Wagner, vice president of university relations and advancement, expects that the transformation will be completed during the 2017–18 school year and will help the university attract more business students.

“Bowers Hall has durably served Walla Walla University in so many ways,” says Wagner. “Now, generous donors are ensuring that this tradition continues by transforming the space for the future. Their gifts are truly investments in tomorrow’s business leaders and in Walla Walla University.”

Among the most historic buildings on campus, initial construc-

tion on Bowers Hall was completed in 1924 and in 1955 named in honor of George Bowers, the college’s 13th president. It has been home to WWU science programs, the history and philosophy department, the archaeology laboratory, and the School of Theology. The School of Business moved into Bowers Hall in 2009.

The Bowers Hall project helps launch the WWU “Life. Changing.” comprehensive campaign, which, in addition to the Bowers transformation, includes creating a Student Life and Ministry Center and growing the university’s endowment.

You can join fellow alumni in supporting the “Life. Changing.” Bowers Hall project. Visit wallawalla.edu/give.



FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

D

ec. 7, 1892, was a banner day for 103 eager scholars enrolled for the first day of classes at the newly established Walla Walla College. Some of our current Northwest members have family ties to those first students who, along with the staff and faculty,

led this institution through the years.

But while our faith may find foundation in the past, it must actively find expression in the present and be stretched to grasp Providence for the future. Our current presidential couple, John and Pam McVay, along with the entire leadership team, faculty and staff, have brought great energy and vision to our university. I cannot imagine any better core themes than what they have embraced: excellence in thought, generosity in service, beauty in expression and faith in God. Not only our graduates but each of us would gain from a commitment to those great principles.

How many more years will we highlight those themes until the Lord comes? I do not know, but while we wait we are called to actively share the good news of salvation. I am confident that our university and its leaders are committed to furthering that mission. As chair of the university's board of trustees, I will be integrally involved with that team as we seek God's guidance in future plans. I ask for your prayers, that these important steps will not be shaped or limited by mere human understanding.

The apostle Paul had it right when he acknowledged that God was able to do "exceeding abundantly above all

that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." Those first four words are superlatives, all attempting to top the other — exceeding, abundantly, above, all. But the key is, as he points out, allowing God's incredible power to work within us. Ellen White reflects those thoughts in *The Desire of Ages*. "There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, by putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God."

Whether it's in the renovation plans for Bowers Hall referred to in these pages or in additional growth plans for the future health of our beloved Walla Walla University, let these structures or buildings always be in the service of our own spiritual journey with the Lord. We are all dry, dead branches unless we daily connect to the Vine. When we make Him our priority, only then will those great core themes of excellence, generosity, beauty and faith truly come to life. Only then will our future be blessed.

John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president

Let these structures or buildings always be in the service of our own spiritual journey with the Lord.

pioneered the first Adventist college in this corner of the country. Thousands of our members around the circle of the globe are still connected to the Adventist mission and message due to this vital institution so close to our hearts.

During 2017 Walla Walla University will reach the 125-year milestone in its heritage of Adventist higher education. Leaders who have guided this legacy through the years are still remembered: Prescott, Sutherland, Kellogg, Smith, Bowers, Christian, Reynolds, Sorenson and many others equally important. We will no doubt spend valuable time this year recounting treasured milestones of the past. Our faith will be strengthened as we recall the anchor points of how God has



AUTHOR

John Freedman

Sorenson and many others equally

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

+ PICTURE THIS

We believe
We believe



Executive praise.

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Signs of the times.

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BUILDING, WORKING, STUDYING CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF COMMUNITY AT WWU

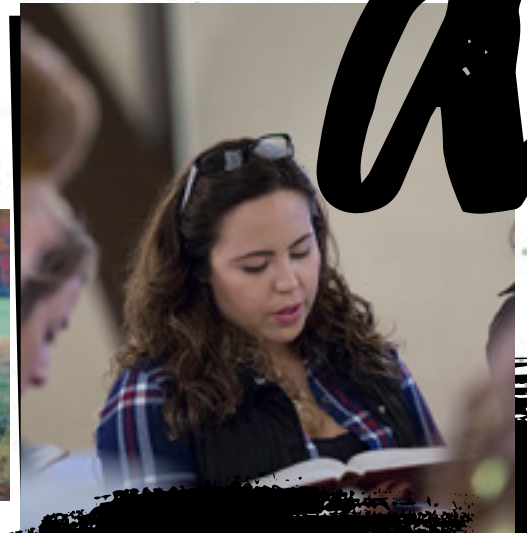
“Walla Walla College stirred to life well before dawn on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 1892,” wrote Terrie Dopp Aamodt in her book Bold Venture: A History of Walla Walla College. The school was primarily a residential campus then as it is today. The Administration Building – the only building on campus at the time – housed classrooms, kitchen, dining hall and worship facilities and was home to nearly all faculty and students.

On that first day of classes in 1892, after a layer of snow had accumulated on the ground overnight, work was still underway to install the heating system in the building, the only stove in the kitchen wasn't working, and the sound of hammers blended with preparations for classes. Yet, with faith and true pioneer spirit, a small group of students, administrators, faculty and staff gathered to sing “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow.”*

The growth of a close-knit community was nearly inevitable in those compact quarters situated on the isolated, open grassland of the Walla Walla Valley. This month, as Walla Walla University (WWU) begins a year-long celebration marking the 125th anniversary since its founding, that same sense of community is just one of God's many outpoured blessings we give thanks for and celebrate.

It was no doubt with hope and longing for the soon return of Christ those vanguards built and worked and studied. Now, 125 years later, we build on the foundation they laid as we work and yearn for Jesus' return in ways they couldn't have imagined. The following portrait of a day on the campus of WWU commemorates their legacy as we look to the future with hope.

Kim Strobel, WWU university relations supervisor



As the rising sun peeks over the top of Kretschmar Hall,

a small group of students, faculty and staff gather for morning worship in Heubach Chapel to sing hymns and pray. Sam Brown, senior history major, selects “In the Sweet By and By” – a hymn written in 1867 that could have been sung in 1892 by the first students at what was then Walla Walla College.

“It denotes to me that certain things just don't change over time,” says Brown. “I chose this hymn because it's one everybody knows, and yet here it is this very old hymn.” Brown says the value of hymns like this is “the sense of community and continuity over time. As things change, having something from the past to hold on to and center around is valuable.”

* BOLD VENTURE: A HISTORY OF WALLA WALLA COLLEGE, TERRIE DOPP AAMODT, 1992.

One day at WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

One day...



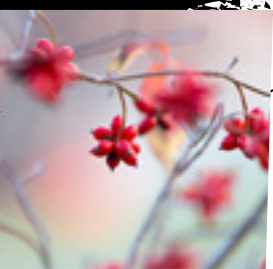
As the energy on campus revs up for the day and more students appear, sophomore bioengineering major Jonathan Muriu crosses campus from programming class in Kretschmar Hall to general biology class in Rigby Hall.



"I'm interested in bioengineering because I want to better our lives as human beings," says Muriu. "It's good to apply what we know within engineering and also with living organisms and then combine that for our benefit as humans. I'm interested in prosthetics."

For now, Muriu and his classmates are focused on the quiz they just received from Jim Nestler, professor of biology, about the central nervous system.

9 a.m.



8 a.m.



Computer programming class definitely wasn't on the list of class offerings for the first students at WWU, but it is now on the docket for even non-computer science majors seeking to broaden their skill set, such as David Cabbat, freshman communications major. Cabbat prepares to take a quiz at one of 34 new flip-top workstations, which allow the growing number of computer science and engineering students to use either a built-in computer screen or a flat desktop surface.





The lobby of Foreman Hall is quiet at 11:30 a.m., but front desk worker and sophomore social work major Alecks Mallory says, "It's definitely not always quiet. It's quiet during the day when there are classes; in the evening it gets much busier."

Keyara Williams, sophomore communications major, is on her way to the library – tea cup in hand and laptop tucked in her backpack – to work on a paper for Media Writing class.

"I like doing my work here in the library instead of in my room, especially because I get mega distracted in my room. I also go to The Atlas a lot, but that's also kind of distracting. It's a lot easier to focus here. Since everybody else is doing work too, they're not really trying to bug you."



Mallory is one of many students who work on campus – a long tradition at Walla Walla University – at jobs ranging from teacher's assistants to custodians to social media assistants. Part of her responsibilities include keeping a door activity report of students who arrive after the doors lock at midnight. "I like the social aspect of my job," she says. "I get to interact with a lot of people, and that's really enjoyable."



→ 10 a.m.



Also in the library is Sarah Ojeda, senior Spanish major, who is putting the finishing touches on a presentation for her next class, Rhetoric of Western Thought.

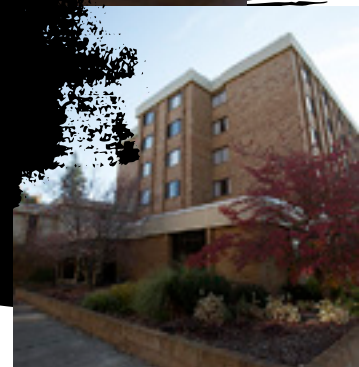
"We each present a chapter from the textbook," she says. "It's my turn to present Chapter 6. It's about neoclassicism and the Belletristic movement and Hugh Blair."

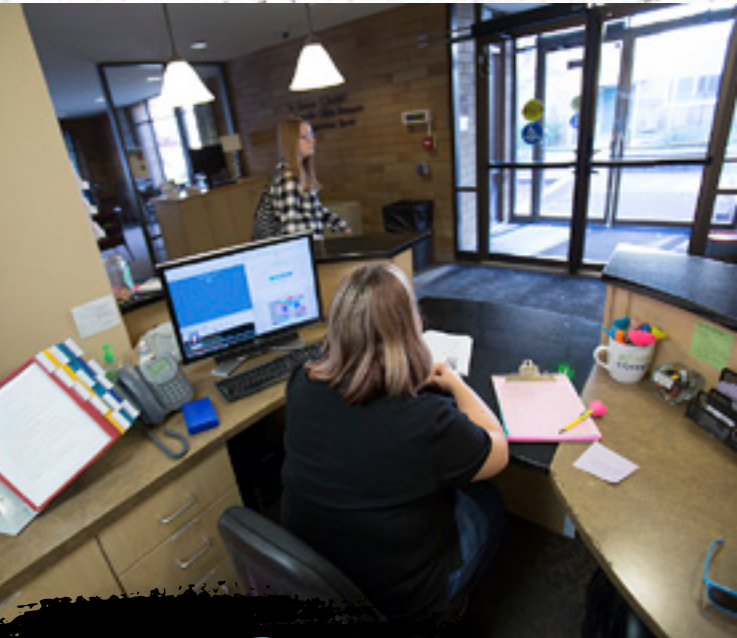
The class is meeting today in The Atlas, a popular gathering space on campus run by the Associated Students of Walla Walla University (ASWWU) where students can purchase hot drinks and study individually or in small groups.

Ojeda is working on a major in Spanish, a minor in art and an endorsement in secondary education. One day she would like to teach Spanish and art and, who knows, maybe Rhetoric of Western Thought.



11 a.m.

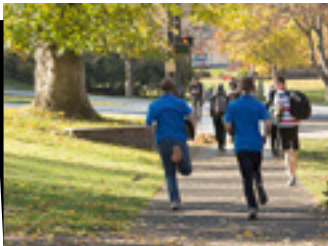




11:30 a.m.



In the *Alaska Room* next door to the caf, the university is hosting a luncheon to honor WWU alumni veterans. *I Cantori*, the select university choir, warms up outside and then files into the room where they perform three numbers. There is no rest for a few members of the choir who, after the performance, sprint across campus to their next class.



Noon

The cafeteria is packed at lunchtime, but no one seems to mind the lines that weave past each other heading to the stir fry station, the sandwich bar, the pizza deck or the main line, which offers tacos today.

Sabrina Mapes, freshman psychology major, checks her phone and chats with friends while she waits in the sandwich line. She says she usually eats sushi, sandwiches or salad for lunch and opts for pasta or something from the main line for dinner.

"It's nice to come here to the caf," she says. "You get that cafeteria anxiety at first when you're trying to find a seat, but once you find new friends it's really nice to sit down to talk—just to have time to interact with people and hear about their day. It's nice downtime."





I think God calls us to help the poor and the needy. I want to be able to spend my life doing that. — Sara Bumgardner

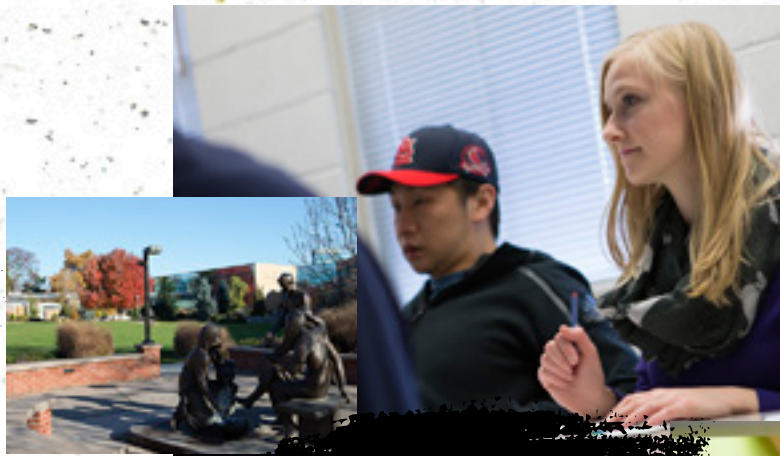
1 p.m.

Fortunately for the I Cantori

members sprinting to class, campus chaplains Paddy McCoy, Tommy Poole and Katie Palumbo are on front campus handing out “oranges, bananas, cookies and love.”

“Once a week we go to different locations on campus for an hour or two and hand out some goodies and just check in with students,” says Poole.

For the team of chaplains, whose office is located out of the normal traffic patterns for students, this “mobile chaplain” outreach helps keep them connected.



2 p.m.

“I feel very strongly about the need to help other people, especially as a Christian,” says Sara Bumgardner, junior sociology major. “I think God calls us to help the poor and the needy. I want to be able to spend my life doing that.”

This afternoon, Bumgardner is in International Trade and Finance class. “I’m also a business minor,” she explains. “I thought this class might be interesting and relevant to my goals because finance issues come up in politics all the time, and politics are closely related to social justice issues as well.”

Both Rippe and Hubin play on an intramural flagball team in the evenings and enjoy making time regularly to play basketball and work out in the fitness center at the Winter Educational Complex and in the Fitness Factory in Sittner Hall.



1:20 p.m.

For Danny Rippe, sophomore engineering major, a little physical activity during racquetball class in the middle of the day is the perfect way to “take your mind off the stresses of the rest of the day.”

His playing partner for the day, Connor Hubin, freshman engineering major, says that exercise definitely helps him think better and focus more. “It’s a good break from the books,” he says.

Both Rippe and Hubin play on an intramural flagball team in the evenings and enjoy making time regularly to play basketball and work out in the fitness center at the Winter Educational Complex and in the Fitness Factory in Sittner Hall.

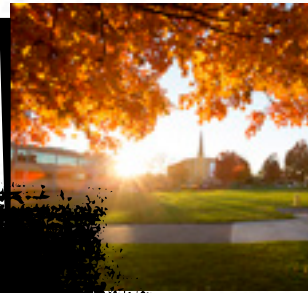


The lab for painting class feels at first like walking into a spa – lights are low,

voices are hushed. Serious work is underway.

Sarah Pierce, senior double major in industrial design and art, is working on a still life lab project that involves painting something transparent, something colorful, and something reflective.

Pierce has worked on this lab project for three days. “The first day we set up our still lifes and did a basic outline drawing. The next day we did the underpainting. And then today, we’re trying to make it more and more detailed.”



4 p.m.

As the day winds down for many,

The Collegian staff of 33 gears up for an evening of work on the weekly student newspaper. Matthew Moran, senior double major in bioengineering and music, started as a graphic designer for the paper before taking on the role of editor this year.

“I really believe in the mission of this school and the mission of the church,” he says. “I don’t want *The Collegian* to be something that would hinder that. I want to facilitate growth, not only academically, but also spiritually.”

“[Working on *The Collegian*] seemed like a good experience for me,” he says. “I was curious to see what kind of leadership skills I have, how I am able to manage and work with people, and how I can make things happen. I’m really blessed to be at an institution like this, which fosters a high academic standard, but which also fosters community with different kinds of people.”

To watch a video compilation of “One Day at Walla Walla University,” visit WALLAWALLA.EDU/ONE-DAY

3 p.m.



EVANGELISMO DISTRITAL EN EL VALLE DE WALLA WALLA

Durante la semana del 17 al 24 de septiembre del corriente las iglesias hispanas del Valle de Walla Walla tuvieron una campaña de evangelismo distrital. Nuestro orador invitado fue Cecilio Clayton, evangelista de Costa Rica. El tema de la semana fue “Por Qué Jesús No Ha Vuelto Todavía?” Tuvimos una semana de evangelismo bendecida, con asistencia completa cada noche. Al final de la campaña tuvimos 12 bautismos y se formó un grupo de interesados que continúan su preparación para el bautismo en un futuro cercano.

Cada noche hubo una asistencia de más de 100 personas que vinieron a la Iglesia Hispana de Milton-

Freewater, Ore., donde se llevó a cabo la campaña. Las iglesias hispanas de College Place y Walla Walla, Wash., hicieron un buen trabajo apoyando esta semana de evangelismo con su presencia y trayendo visitas. Cada noche el evangelista Clayton hizo un llamado al altar, y pudimos ver decenas de personas pasar al frente respondiendo al llamado del Señor.

Es de destacar que en los meses previos a esta semana de evangelismo nuestras iglesias hispanas de College Place y Milton-Freewater realizaron ferias de salud para la comunidad. La idea de estos programas de salud fue ayudar a que la comunidad nos conozca mejor y hacer contactos para futuros eventos.

Una noche de evangelismo con muchos presents y frutos para Jesus.



El Pastor Clayton habló cada noche con entusiasmo y convicción.

Los miembros del distrito estuvieron entusiasmados antes y durante la campaña, de ver el poder de Dios y su Palabra. El evangelista desafió cada noche no solamente a las visitas sino también a los miembros de iglesia a estudiar más la Biblia por su relevancia para la gente hoy día a la luz de los eventos que están sucediendo alrededor nuestro. Culminamos el programa de la semana con un potluck distrital con todas las iglesias unidas en la Escuela Adventista Milton-Stateline. Esta semana fue una demostración excelente de lo que el Señor puede hacer cuando trabajamos juntos para Él.

Pedro M. Canales, pastor distrital de las iglesias hispanas del Valle de Walla Walla



La asistencia completa cada noche.



'DIABETES UNDONE' COMES TO WASILLA

More online at
glnr.in/112-01-ak_diabetes

Wes Youngberg, a practicing clinical nutritionist and lifestyle medicine specialist in Temecula, Calif., came to the Wasilla Church Oct. 7–8, 2016, to kick off a Diabetes Undone seminar. This was the first time a seminar such as this was done in Alaska.

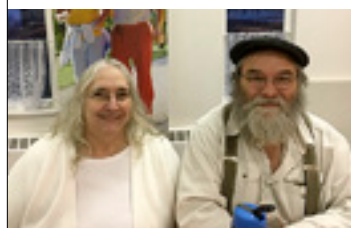
The Wasilla Church was packed that Sabbath with an overflow crowd that came to hear Youngberg's lectures on this preventable and reversible disease that has plagued so many people. The main title for his lectures was "Goodbye Diabetes, Heart Disease and

After the eight-day workshop concluded, which began immediately after Youngberg kicked off his two-day seminar, a Diabetes Undone support group started and met weekly at the church.

Ken Tyler, one of the attendees, who had been diagnosed with diabetes two weeks before the seminar started and had been prediabetic for several years, was one of the workshop attendees. He has gone from being diabetic back to prediabetic and now below prediabetic during the two-week seminar — and has lost nearly 10 pounds. Both he and his wife, Wanda, are really enjoying the weekly support group.

Through health evangelism the Wasilla Church is making inroads into the community, reaching people and preparing people for Christ's soon return. Plans are underway for another Diabetes Undone workshop during 2017.

Todd Ervin, Wasilla Church pastor



Ken and Wanda Tyler attend the seminar.



(From left) Jeff and Bonnie Burnette, Wes Youngberg, and Sharlene and Todd Ervin

Alzheimer's: Preventing and Reversing Disease the Natural Way."

The lectures were a segue into an eight-session interactive workshop, presented by trained volunteers from the church, that lasted for two weeks. Fifty-one people signed up, with 35 percent coming from the community.

MEMBERS FEED JUNEAU THE BREAD OF LIFE

The Juneau Church family supports their community by volunteering at the Glory Hole, a local soup kitchen/homeless shelter. Every fourth Sunday of the month, volunteers participate by helping to prepare and serve the dinner meal.

Since the ministry began in 2009, the church family has donated and prepared all the food on the Sundays when they serve. Members interact and pray with residents as well as sing with them before serving the meal.

In addition, church members work three plots in

want to pass on His blessings of hope to those around them.

A service of the Juneau Cooperative Christian Ministry, the Glory Hole is designed to help those in need and provides a wide spectrum of services. Its purpose



Juneau Church members serve Thanksgiving dinner at a local homeless shelter.



Children from the Juneau Church harvest food from the community garden for a local homeless shelter.

the local community garden, where this year they grew garlic, carrots and potatoes. Children from the church harvested the bounty, a portion of which was donated to the Glory Hole. The goal is not only to serve food, but to pass on the message of the Bread of Life — Jesus — who came to save the lost. Church members

statement says, "In response to God's commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, the mission of the Glory Hole is to provide food, shelter and compassion to achieve physical and spiritual well-being for those most in need." In addition to meals and emergency shelter, they offer transportation assistance, clothing, social service referrals, housing assistance, mental health services and counseling, as well as other services.

Liza Lowry, Juneau Church member



'TRANSFORMED' AND TRANSITIONS

SAVE THE DATE!

Coming to a church near you in 2017: Transformed for Ministry training Sabbaths.

This is part of our ongoing commitment to provide training for local church members to equip you in your avenue of church ministry.



DATES AND LOCATIONS:

Sept. 30, at the Pocatello Church;

Oct. 14, at the La Grande (Ore.) Church;

Nov. 18, at the Meridian Church.

Spanish language tracks will be offered on the Sept. 30 and Nov. 18 dates.

TRANSITIONS

Since the beginning of 2016, several new faces have joined the Idaho Conference family as employees and others have left.

Jim Bollin came from the Oregon Conference to serve as the pastor of the Kuna Church.

Randy Maxwell, previous pastor, moved to the Washington Conference as pastor of the Renton Church.

Tomm Lemon II moved from the Payette/Cambridge/Weiser district to pastor the Oasis/Mountain Home district, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of George Sova.

Gerald Margil, pastor of the Southeastern Idaho Hispanic district, transitioned from part-time to full-time employment.

Anthony Thomsen returned from a leave of absence to continue his ministry as pastor of The Experience Adventist Church and chaplain of Barefoot Media Ministry.

Dwayne Kluchesky retired as pastor of the Twin

Falls/Buhl/Olive Tree Ministry Center district.

Bob Atteberry retired as pastor of the Eagle/Garden Valley district.

Dean Lifshay moved from the Idaho Falls/Pocatello/Teton Valley Company district to serve as a pastor in the Upper Columbia Conference.

Marvin Humbert began his ministry to the Idaho Falls/Pocatello/Teton Valley Company district.

Jim Berglund moved from the Caldwell Church to the Texas Conference as pastor of the Killen Church.

Bob Stauffer, retired pastor, is now the bivocational pastor for the Salmon Church.

Steve McCandless is now the bivocational pastor for the Wood River Valley Church in Hailey, Idaho.

Rochelle Christensen became the head teacher at Baker Adventist Christian School, replacing Megan Morton, who moved to the Oregon Conference.

Jessyca Crew became the head teacher at Salmon Adventist School,

replacing April Copley, who moved to the Florida Conference.

Simon Chung became the teacher of grades six through eight at Boise Valley Adventist School, replacing Dan Tyler, who moved to pursue other opportunities.

Wendy Williams joined the conference as the half-time administrative assistant to David Prest Jr.



More photos online at glnr.in/112-01-id_veterans

LOCAL SCHOOL HONORS VETERANS

Caldwell Adventist Elementary School (CAES) honored 23 local veterans with a special program on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2016. The veterans represented all five branches of military service and included both past and current service men and woman.

Two hundred people from the local community attended the program. Each of the 23 veterans attending were recognized individually during the program and given the opportunity to state their rank, area of service and something about themselves.

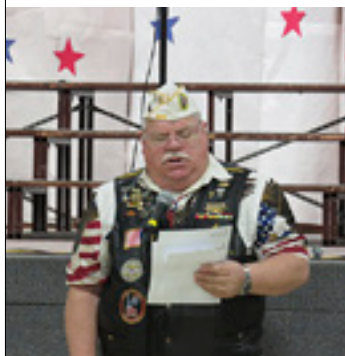
Idaho American Legion State Vice Commander Sterling Mathis spoke for the service. Mathis

said he was impressed with the students and the moving ceremony they put together. The student-led ceremony included patriotic choir pieces, a band number, a skit called *The 11th Hour*, a video titled *H Is for Honor*, two poems and historical facts about Veterans Day. Each grade participated in the program — even the preschoolers, reports CAES principal Miranda Starr.

“It was very emotional,” says Tina Williams, a first lieutenant in the Idaho National Guard. “I am so thankful to CAES for the beautiful program they put together.”

“We have so many veterans in both our church and local community, and we wanted

to show them our appreciation for their great sacrifice for our country,” says Starr. “We also wanted our students to learn about gratitude and honor. It touched us to see how much the program meant to the veterans who attended.”



American Legion Vice Commander Sterling Mathis spoke for the event.



The fifth- and sixth-grade boys perform *The 11th Hour* skit, (from left, front row) Wesley Kluchesky, Jesse Mauricio, Jeremy Waterhouse, Benjamin Starf, (from left, second row) Nathan Congleton, Everett Stone and Dennis Grade.

A complimentary lunch was served at the end to all of the veterans and grandparents in attendance.

CAES is a preschool-through eighth-grade Christian private school located in Caldwell.

Nicole Batten, Caldwell Adventist Elementary School business manager



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STUDENTS GET INVOLVED IN KALISPELL

Valley Adventist Christian School has adopted 2 miles of highway just south of Kalispell. This project has been a mission activity of the students for several years. Each year brings various levels of enthusiasm, but this fall the school's six students really did a great job.

The transportation department supplies safety vests, trash bags and two safety signs each time the students pick up litter. The department also picks up the full trash bags students leave along the highway. "Kalispell Adventist School" is posted on the Adopt-A-Highway sign at each end of the 2 miles of highway. It tells people how the school is involved in the community.

Usually the crew has a couple of adult volunteers to help with transportation and supervision. Pastor Casey Higgins, Valerie Middleton

and Trixie Neugebauer have all been a big help by sharing these responsibilities. This fall, students went out three times, and the Kalispell and Columbia Falls churches worked one Sunday morning as well. At least 37 bags were gathered all together in the 2-mile stretch of highway.

As students work in this mission activity, they are often able to help in another type of mission work. God blessed His work this fall with a \$100 bill and then a \$5 bill, which were found in the grass along the highway. When any money is found, the school team always adds it to Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) projects at school to help God's children around the world.

Ben Pflugrad, Valley Adventist Christian School teacher

BEN PFLUGRAD



PRIMARY SABBATH SCHOOL CLASS SUPPORTS LOCAL HOMELESS SHELTER

Last summer, the Missoula Church primary Sabbath School teacher, Earl [Redacted], asked his class a question: "Who do we know that we could share Jesus with?"

The kids came up with three groups of people: their friends, the homeless and the people holding signs at the street corners.

The first thing the class did was create care bags that could be given to anyone they met who was in need. During Sabbath School craft time, the class created cards featuring a Bible verse on one side and artwork on the other. The care bags were packed with a card, bottle of water, soft breakfast bar, GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tract, and a map of town with a list of locations that provide services like free meals, hot showers and a place to sleep for the night.

Class members pray for opportunities to share the

bags when they are out in the community. The kids have also shared bags with other members of the congregation so they could join in the blessing of giving.

In October, the primary class went door to door in the community to solicit items for donation to the local homeless shelter. Fliers were left at more than 300 homes ahead of the event. When the class went back to collect the donations, the generosity of the community filled two large bins to overflowing.

Primary and kindergarten Sabbath School class members were able to personally participate in bringing the items to the shelter. Best of all, class members experienced the truth of Jesus' words: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Christina [Redacted], Missoula Church member



More photos online at glnr.in/112-01-or_apple

APPLE FESTIVAL RETURNS TO RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

The 26th annual Riverside Christian School Apple Festival was held in Washougal, Wash., on Oct. 9. Church members and school families volunteered for weeks to prepare for the largest school fundraiser of the year. These volunteers spent two Sundays in October making pies and dumplings.



Tendo and Tapo Tsukurai enjoy quality time at the Apple Festival.

and activities and 10 percent of vendor sales directly benefit the classrooms and the students.

This year's funds will go towards helping pay for a remodel of the school's front entrance, adding a reception

area. It will also cover and enrich a new science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program at the school. Part of the project-learning program will allow students to use their technical skills to build a play area outside.

The Apple Festival has been a fixture in the community for 26 years. More than 1,000 people came to participate in the fall fun. Fun activities for kids included a petting zoo, a jumpy slide, games, face painting and balloon art. The cake walk, apple slingshot and pie-eating contests were also thoroughly enjoyed.



Audrey and Kristina Richards pick out a pumpkin donut from the delicious treat booth run by Kim Bennett.

As part of the community service outreach program, students visited local businesses and handed out posters advertising for the upcoming festival. They followed up by distributing pies and dumplings to thank the sponsors.

"This event gives our school and church campus a chance to reach our community in a way that we normally wouldn't do. The families that visit the event come on our campus each year and get to observe us being a 'family community.' The students benefit tremendously from the involvement as well as the funds raised," says Heidi Kruger, Riverside Christian School principal.

The school's other large event is the spring school auction in April.

To learn more about Riverside Christian School, visit riversidesch.com.

Julie Natiuk, Riverside Christian School home and school leader



The junior pie-eating contestants go for gold.

They baked and froze the 311 pies and more than 1,300 dumplings that were available for pick-up before and after the festival. On the day of the event, they served 160 dumplings and 20 pies for guests to enjoy hot out of the oven. All pies and dumplings sold out.

The event is the biggest fundraiser and outreach opportunity of the year for Riverside Christian School. All of the sales from the booths



Avery Natiuk, Brooklyn Scott and Rayna Kutch sport a festival favorite: face painting.

GRANTS PASS REACHES OUT DURING FIRST FRIDAY

It was Friday night, Nov. 4 — opening night for the movie *Hacksaw Ridge*. Reports and Facebook posts revealed this film could be a tool to bring the Seventh-day Adventist Church to the forefront of people’s minds. While some had first heard about the church through the political candidacy of Ben Carson, this movie was destined to bring additional questions about what Adventists believe.

Some of the juniors/earlites and the youth of the Grants Pass Church decided to capitalize on this unique opportunity to distribute the book *Hero of Hacksaw Ridge*, the condensed story of Desmond Doss. The books were purchased from Better Life Broadcasting Network (BLBN), which had the foresight to make fliers to stuff in the books. Inside were a bookmark with all the BLBN channels, a map of all the local Adventist churches and an attractive invitation to watch the Desmond Doss documentary on Better Life TV.

Knowing there would be many others passing the book out at the theater, a few young people went to downtown Grants Pass during First Friday, when all the stores are open

at night. Accompanied by an adult, they went out two by two up and down both sides of Sixth and G streets. Some went into the stores. In 30 short minutes, the five kids and two adults handed out 98 books.

Some interesting contacts were made when talking to the people on the street — some homeless, some out for a good time. Kayla Herndon felt blessed when she gave her foot warmers to a homeless man. Most of the people were glad to get a free book.

The team was excited to know they were witnessing to their community and some may be in heaven as a result. Talk about an endorphin rush — working for God has to be the ultimate experience.

Gloria Wilson, Grants Pass Church member

Youth from the Grants Pass Church distribute *Hero of Hacksaw Ridge*, the condensed story of Desmond Doss, in downtown Grants Pass.



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CAA'S LIFE WITH CHRIST STUDENTS 'DO SOMETHING'

Eleven Columbia Adventist Academy (CAA) students from Battle Ground, Wash., gave up a week of their own classes and activities to present week of prayer at Tri-City Adventist School in Pasco, Wash. The theme? “Do Something,” which CAA students certainly did as they lived the message they shared in being active in their Christianity.

The eleven students were all part of the Life With Christ class, a Bible elective taught

week. For most of the CAA students, this experience with public speaking was new and nerve-wracking.

Junior Kenny Garcia was nervous going into his talk but says, “Once I started talking it was amazing. I completely forgot about all my nervous feelings, and I was just focused on talking. These kids were so accepting.” Many of the students expressed similar feelings.

CAA students did more than just talk; they had opportunities to be involved with the Tri-City students in other ways as well. They played with the kids during recess and PE and helped out in the classrooms, getting a chance to brush up on their own elementary math skills or help kindergartners with geography. One group of CAA students even joined the fifth- and sixth-graders in another ministry: volunteering

at the food bank.

Students also enjoyed some downtime with each other, taking time out to play hide-and-seek tag, go to the river and go out for ice cream. They also got to enjoy dinner at Round Table Pizza, thanks to a grateful Tri-City family. The group appreciated time to form new friendships and strengthen old ones.

The Life With Christ class experienced the joy of active Christianity and the ways it strengthens their relationship with God. Junior Mariah Fernando observes, when you say yes to God, “You’re not only bringing others closer to God but you, yourself, get closer to Him.”

Kenny Garcia agrees, saying, “It is a humbling experience that I feel drew me closer to God.”

Freshman Madi Carlton encourages everyone to take



Alana Sheideman and Baylie Ermshar help in the classroom.

up active ministry: “Jesus is calling all of us. He may not be calling you to go speak to a bunch of kids for a week, but He is most likely asking you to do something in your skill set but still out of your comfort zone. You just have to say yes.”

The Life With Christ class members certainly left their comfort zones in order to experience the blessing of “doing something.”

Stacy Knight, Columbia Adventist Academy Gleaner correspondent

The whole CAA group leads song service at Tri-City Adventist School.



Sydney Dozark and Gaby Irias help at the food bank.

by chaplain Aaron Payne that helps provide students with the opportunity to be involved in ministry. Students in the class broke into groups of two or three to take on different grade levels of Tri-City’s kindergarten through 10th-graders and give talks throughout the



PAA PROJECT-BASED LEARNING AIMS TO HELP SOLVE WATER CRISIS

Portland Adventist Academy teacher Frank Jin has a passion for science and a heart for mission.

Jin wants to see his students' education being put to practical and meaningful use. So he challenged his freshman Physical Science students to study and create solutions for the millions of people in our world without easy access to clean water.

Jin's approach to teaching is part of PAA's efforts to



Physical Science students (from left) Rachele Sloop, D.J. Mugisha, Eli Haynal and Hawk Jin created a prototype for a water-moving product that would make a significant difference in the lives of millions of people for little cost.

further incorporate project-based learning (PBL) and mission-focused learning (MFL) throughout its academic program.

"PBL is exciting because students get to see the real-life importance of what they're learning," says Mechelle Peinado, PAA's vice principal of academics. "We see them owning their education and bringing critical thinking to a deeper level. They are creatively approaching real-world challenges and working together to come up with meaningful solutions.

And that's exciting."

You can see this excitement in the faces of four students who worked on a device they named the Wheel-Barrel. Not only did they drastically improve on the cost of similar water-rolling products, their prototype was also lightweight and easy to assemble and ship. The Wheel-Barrel also acts as its own container for all the moving parts.

The project was meaningful. "A device like ours would be useless if it didn't help to alleviate the water crisis in some way," the students shared in a presentation. "We designed the Wheel-Barrel to help mitigate spinal damage on women and children and to increase children's education time. This product can bring relief and better life to those people who have to perform a painful and necessary task."

Through projects such as these, MFL and PBL are experienced even if practical application is never guaranteed. Even so, Jin and his students want to see their hard work make a difference as they intended. The group who designed the Wheel-Barrel said even a small church could easily raise the money for several barrels and assemble them in an afternoon. They are sharing

these projects with pastors, teachers and church members who could be planning future mission trips to countries with water-access issues.

"Mission trip leaders or anyone interested in these solutions should contact me through PAA," says Jin. "Ultimately, it would be our dream to see these projects used in mission fields." To learn more, visit glmr.in/112-01-or_paa.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent



Freshman Physical Science students Eli Haynal and Rachele Sloop demonstrate that their Wheel-Barrel prototype can pack its parts into the barrel, making it more efficient for shipping. Their teacher, Frank Jin, said their project and presentation was quite impressive.



Eli Haynal and Rachele Sloop demonstrate how their Wheel-Barrel can be assembled in less than a minute.

ANSWERED PRAYERS LEAD TO MILO

Read more online at
glnr.in/112-01-or_milo



Diana Quiroz, a sophomore at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, was raised in an Adventist Christian home in southern California. She knew her Bible well and went to church at least twice a week with her family. But in public school last year, Quiroz fought a constant battle in her mind.

“I began to doubt everything about my beliefs,” she says. “I felt like God was far away, and I struggled to feel close to God. Someone asked me, ‘Why do you believe in God?’ I didn’t have a definite answer, and that frustrated me.”

Quiroz had the opportunity to attend Milo her freshman year, but her parents felt she was too young to be so far from home. She was disappointed but got involved in many clubs and activities at her local public school.

She thought she had lost the chance to study at Milo but “God had other plans,” Quiroz explains. “I prayed about it, and I suddenly had this burning desire again to go to an Adventist school. I know God put those desires in my heart.”

Minutes later, Quiroz received an email from Milo asking if she would be interest-

ed in attending in the fall. Her acceptance and financial plan would still be valid. But sadly, her dad still didn’t want her to go away to school.

Quiroz’s youth pastor had invited her to preach at their church. The sermon brought tears to her father’s eyes, and they had a long, heartfelt talk that evening. He told her she reminded him of himself when he was young and of the fire he had felt burning within him to work for God. He agreed his daughter could study at Milo.

Since coming to Milo, Quiroz says, “I have seen God work in ways that I have never seen before, and I have felt His joy and peace in my life so strongly. I have deeper friendships with the people here and with God. Milo is a little piece of heaven to me, and my heart overflows with joy and gratitude for the opportunity to be here. The green trees and hills surrounded by beautiful nature show me who our heavenly Father is. I love the kindness of the people here who make me feel right at home. I love being able to use my talents for Him and having the opportunity to connect spiritually with others. He is helping me become firmer in my faith and has eliminated all doubts from my mind so that I can truly live



Diana Quiroz

my life for Him and do what God has planned for my life in the future.”

For more information about Milo Adventist Academy, contact kathy.hernandez@miloacademy.org.

Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter

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UCA STUDENTS LEARN BY DIGGING POTATOES

Fred Riffel's Upper Columbia Academy Bible class went to the field by the school to dig potatoes on Oct. 4, 2016. It was a cold morning. But in spite of cold hands and dirty fingers, the different classes worked hard at digging out the sometimes stubborn potatoes.

The potatoes came in all different sizes, with the majority of them being small and sometimes insignificant. As the students worked on pulling them out, probably more than one person thought, "Why are we digging out the small potatoes?" Riffel reminded everyone the small potatoes could feed a lot of people. He also told them to think of spiritual lessons to be gained from the work of pulling out the potatoes.

The students learned several of these lessons. Many of the potatoes seemed small and insignificant, just like people seem when compared to the universe. Yet God cared so much about His children He came to Earth to die for us even though we are so insignificant — as insignificant as those tiny potatoes.

Another lesson students gleaned from digging potatoes is that no one is worthless. Just like the small potatoes are useful for something, so are God's children. He has never made anyone worthless.



Jordan Judge is a junior at Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash. This article is adapted from one he wrote for the November 2016 issue of *Echoes*, a student publication. To view more student articles, visit uca.org.

A third lesson is to avoid viewing people as worthless on the outside, just as a potato plant looks like a worthless weed above ground. But underground, the plant is producing lovely potatoes. It's the same with people. When you dig beyond the surface, you may find good fruit inside.

Beyond the physical benefit of hard work in the fresh air, Riffel's students learned some very good lessons. And they picked a whole lot of potatoes.

Jordan Judge, Upper Columbia Academy student

FOUNDATIONONE ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

FoundationONE is pleased to announce Mindy Weber, a 1985 graduate of Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., was elected president during the foundation's annual meeting on Sept. 29, 2016. Weber follows three visionary leaders: Terrence Finney, a superior court judge; Tom Stanyer, a lead engineer with Boeing Co.; and Doug Wells, a school administrator.

FoundationONE is a private, lay-led nonprofit organization dedicated to raising an endowment for scholarships for UCA students. The organization recently allocated \$100,000 to 109 students for the 2016–2017 school year.

"UCA had a significant impact in my life, and I am

excited to be a part of a group that helps students get that life-transforming experience," says Weber. "While we are pleased that our scholarships were able to get 109 students across the financial barrier, we worry about the other students who don't even attempt to enroll. ... Our ultimate goal is to ensure that no student who wants a Christian education is ever barred from UCA because of financial hardship."

For more information about FoundationONE, go to foundationoneuca.org or call 509-939-1716.

Linda Klinger, Upper Columbia Academy FoundationONE executive director



Doug Wells presents the key to FoundationONE to Mindy Weber.

WWVA STUDENTS VOLUNTEER IN COMMUNITY

Connecting with the larger community in Washington's Walla Walla Valley is a priority for Walla Walla Valley Academy (WWVA) students each year. Whether a part of the formalized service learning process or just because, students find that engaging with others outside their own circle of friends is very rewarding.



WWVA students clean and tidy signs on the fairgrounds.

Noelle Calkins and Alison Fenton, WWVA upper classmen, both show animals at the Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days each fall.

Calkins shows her miniature horse, Gracie, and has won eight ribbons over the last two years. "Miniature horses are stubborn, and I have had to learn patience, but she brings me a lot of joy," she says. "God made these little horses, who

have unique personalities and skills. I love being able to share her with people, especially children and people who are disabled. [Gracie] is absolutely great with them."

Fenton has shown animals at the fair for six years and especially loves chickens. This year she received a blue ribbon and was declared the Showmanship Reserve Champion. "Chickens are so varied in their personalities," she says. "Some love human attention; others definitely do not. Many people don't realize that. God knows what happens with sparrows, and each animal is precious to Him. My responsibility is to care for them and to appreciate their uniqueness."

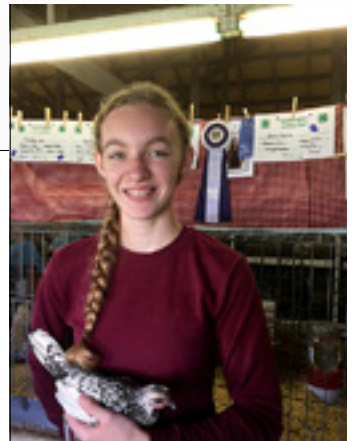
Students also volunteer as fairgrounds crew as part of academy history classes. According to history teacher Tyler Anderson, it offers students an opportunity to understand what is happening in their own

community and what makes the fair tick. From working with the concert crews to cleaning up when it's all over, students come back with a new appreciation of the work done within their community.

Other events offer similar opportunities for WWVA students. From biannual service days, during which students work for nonprofit organizations and individuals, to campus ministries projects, students focus on making a difference for others.

"This is an essential part of growing up and taking responsibility," says Brian Harris, WWVA principal. "The first step is to take responsibility for yourself. But the next step is to take responsibility for your community. It's not always just

WWVA students collaborate with Salvation Army volunteers to facilitate the valley's annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day



Senior Alison Fenton shows off her prize-winning hen.

about you, but instead about the people you serve."

The final project of the 2016 calendar year was working with the Salvation Army crew during the annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day. The students and community members loved collaborating so much they plan to work together during the Christmas season ringing bells for the annual Salvation Army fundraising campaign. The impact on students lasts forever.

"Volunteering is one of the most fun things I did at WWVA," says alumnus Aidan Hinshaw, now a senior at Walla Walla University. "It showed me there is always a lot more going on than what is happening in my own life, and that's something that I remember every day."

WWVA staff and students

CASCADE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY EMBRACES 1 TIM. 4:12

More photos online at
glnr.in/112-01-uc_cca



Each school year, Stephanie Gates, Cascade Christian Academy's (CCA) principal, chooses a verse from the Bible as a theme to set the tone for the new year. This year's verse is 1 Tim. 4:12: "Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be



1 Tim. 4:12 gets an even deeper meaning during CCA's fall week of prayer in October, with guest speaker Craig Heinrich.

Gabel, CCA music teacher, set the words to music so during the week students of all grade levels can sing the theme verse. Once a week in his daily 8 a.m. intercom announcements, Greg Ringering, CCA PE teacher, asks the students to join him in reciting the verse in their classrooms.

1 Tim. 4:12 was given an even deeper meaning during CCA's fall week of prayer in October. Guest speaker Craig Heinrich, director of Leoni

Meadows Camp and Retreat Center in northern California, based his daily chapel talks on the verse. Each day Heinrich told a story from his or a friend's personal life that honed in on each part of the verse so students were able to clearly understand what their mission is as Christians: to be good examples in all aspects of their lives.

Since week of prayer fell on the same week as Make a Difference Day, all CCA stu-

dents were involved in various community service activities. The high school made their annual trip to nearby Camp Zanika to do general cleanup. The middle school students raked bark at a local park for the city of Wenatchee, Wash., and did some cleaning at the Lighthouse Mission, a local ministry to help the homeless. Fifth-graders decorated Thanksgiving baskets for Serve Wenatchee Valley, while kindergarteners through fourth-graders delighted assisted living residents with their joyful singing.

In spite of the busy week and crazy schedule, CCA staff and students enjoyed the week during which the whole school could embrace the message of 1 Tim. 4:12.

Julie Savino, Cascade Christian Academy chaplain



Fifth-grade students decorate Thanksgiving baskets for Serve Wenatchee Valley.

an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith and your purity."

To aid the students in learning the verse, Cheryl

UCA ASB ENCOURAGES CHRISTMAS JOY

For the past two years, Associated Student Body (ASB) officers at Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., have decorated the Campbell Administration Building for Christmas. Bright lights and homemade decorations greeted students as they walked from class to class.

This past holiday, the ASB organized a door-decorating contest. From candy cane

forests to paper fireplaces and garland wreaths, each door showcased the talents of many students helping their teachers decorate. Who knew paper could be utilized with such detail?

"We knew it would be hard to choose the winner," says John Spano, UCA history teacher and ASB sponsor. "So we had all the students vote. It has been exciting to watch the

students getting into the decorating contest. Students are already saying that this should become a tradition."

See photos of the decorated doors on Upper Columbia Academy's Facebook page or website ucca.org.

Tamara Michalenko Terry, Upper Columbia Academy communication coordinator



The cafeteria staff and student workers creatively use paper cups to decorate the door to the Davis Fireside Room in the Wallace Dining Commons.

More online at
glnr.in/112-01-wa_military



PASTOR BLENDS CIVILIAN MILITARY LIFE

Gary Snyder, wing chaplain for McChord Field, sent Ryan Neill, chaplain, to read a specific letter at a marriage retreat for military couples that pastor and chaplain Scott Tyman was presenting. The letter: a surprise promotion for Tyman.

"I had no idea I was being promoted Oct. 1," says Tyman, who was promoted from a major to lieutenant colonel.

Sixteen years ago, while pastoring in Panama City, Fla., where a large number of his members were in the Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard, Tyman accepted the local base's invitation to a Clergy Day for civilian pastors.

"I went and heard what a chaplain does in the military," Tyman explains. "An Air Force chaplain asked me to join. I was 36 at the time and on the edge of being too old."

With a few reservations from his wife, Tyman went to Commissioned Officer

School (boot camp for lawyers, doctors, dentists and chaplains who have a minimum of a higher education degree) for four weeks. He was commissioned as an officer in 2000.

"It's a mission field,"

Tyman says. "I'm called to be a missionary to our men and women in the military. The main thing about a chaplain is to provide religious accommodations."

As a reservist Air Force chaplain, Tyman has regular squadrons he visits. He holds Bible studies, religious classes, chapel services and funerals. In his military chaplaincy career, Tyman has witnessed 70 to 80 people become a part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

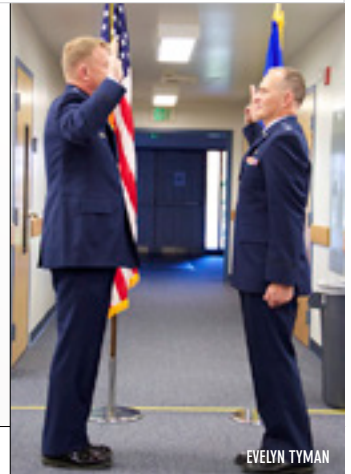
Tyman sees his chaplain work as his second congregation in addition to his home church, Tacoma Central Adventist Church. "I like both the civilian life and the military life," he says. "I can fit in both worlds."



EVELYN TYMAN

In the chaplaincy team at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, he serves along with two other Adventist chaplains in addition to chaplains of other faiths. Previously when seven Adventist chaplains were on the team, the chaplains discussed starting an Adventist chapel service. They ultimately decided instead to connect interested military families with nearby Adventist churches.

At Tyman's promotion ceremony on Oct. 16, during which he received his silver oak leaf cluster, Tyman shared



EVELYN TYMAN

Scott Tyman raises his right hand for his promotion ceremony to lieutenant colonel. (Left photo) Scott Tyman stands with his family.

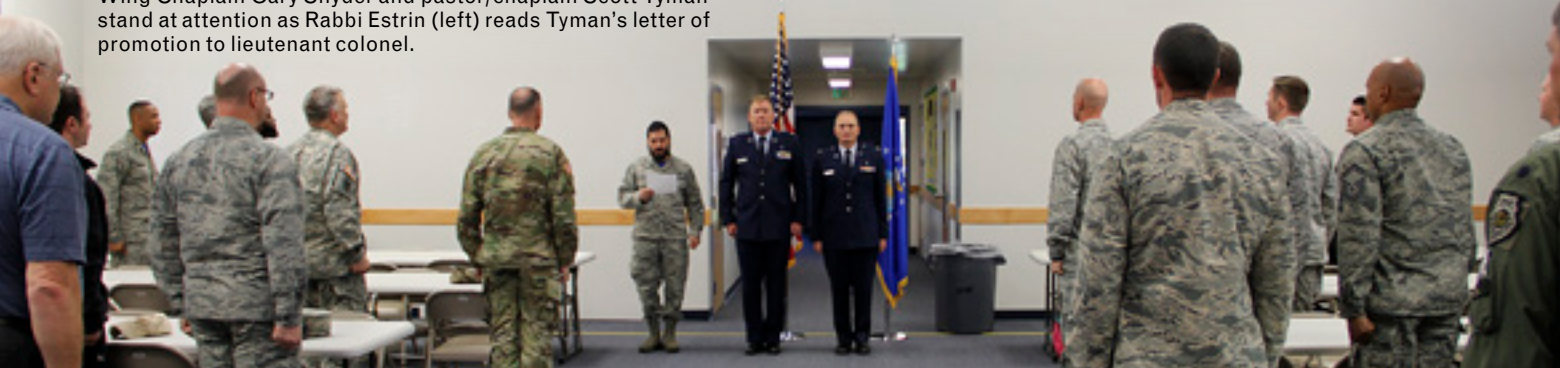
with 80 guests how he resonates particularly with the Air Force core value about "service before self."

"Why am I a chaplain? Because I believe in the principle of service before self," Tyman says. "Everything we do should be thinking of others, not ourselves. Jesus' entire life was thinking of others and so should ours."

Tyman says there are three best decisions in his life: "The best decision I made was when I became Seventh-day Adventist Christian. The second decision was when I married my wife, Evelyn, 28 years ago and we had our three children: Isaac, Anna and Joshua. Third decision: to become a military chaplain."

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

Wing Chaplain Gary Snyder and pastor/chaplain Scott Tyman stand at attention as Rabbi Estrin (left) reads Tyman's letter of promotion to lieutenant colonel.



BELLINGHAM PREPARES FOR CITY GROWTH

Thirty years ago, Bellingham Church members dreamed of having a church facility located on the same property as the school. But it wasn't feasible then.

The dream is becoming a reality now. With the current and projected growth of Bellingham to the north and to the east, the Baker View Christian School property is ideally located for building a new church facility.

"We noticed there were significant growth patterns," says Brandon Korter, Bellingham Church pastor, "and we did some demographic studies in consultation with the city fathers. The city of Bellingham is projected to grow significantly in the next 10 years."

Bellingham Church advertised their aging facility across the United States and Canada. Eight bids came in at a variety of price points. The bid winner offered the needed amount to build the new Bellingham Church with little to no debt.

"We see God's stamp of approval through all the phases and steps to get to where the church is today," Korter says.

At the groundbreaking ceremony on Sept. 29, 2016, all church members were encour-



PHIL NELSON

The dream of the Bellingham Church having a facility on the same property as the school is becoming a reality.

aged to bring their own shovel to participate in the breaking of ground for the new church facility.

"We all dug in the ground together and threw dirt together," Korter says.

On a nearby fence, the church hung a 20-foot banner listing the people, events and milestones associated with God's blessings in preparing to

build the church. "This is our faith chart," Korter explains.

The new sanctuary, designed to seat 312 people and with overflow room for up to 450 total people, is anticipated to be completed in late fall 2017. When the church facility is completed, the stained-glass window from the previous facility will grace the new church above the baptistry.

While the church is being constructed and members continue to meet in Baker View's gymnasium, the congregation is dreaming of ideas for reaching their community through evangelism, education and outreach activities.

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

AUBURN STUDENT ENCOURAGES FAMILIES OF AUTISM

Nadia Diaz, 18, walked out of the library and down the hallway to her classroom with purpose. But it wasn't just any classroom.

This was a local Auburn elementary school classroom where she volunteers each day she has off from school. Diaz comes at the teacher's invitation to specifically interact with young students who are on the autism spectrum.

"She's really good," says Lori Sheehan, Lake View Elementary School teacher. "Nadia knows the language to use to communicate with my students."

Diaz knows each student's likes, interests, dislikes, triggers and sensory attractions. She knows their language. She grew up interpreting the language and behavior of autism.

Diaz learned firsthand about autism in her household with her brother, Brandon, who is 15 months younger. She is a senior at Auburn Adventist Academy; Brandon is a junior at a local high school and was once a student of Sheehan's.

Previously, Sheehan asked Diaz to draw and illustrate an animal that most reminded her of her brother. Diaz chose a chameleon and drew multicolored



Lori Sheehan, Lake View Elementary School teacher, invited Nadia Diaz, a Auburn Academy senior, to specifically interact with young students who are on the autism spectrum.

ored autism awareness puzzle pieces into the body. This artwork is now the classroom logo and hangs on the classroom wall. It is also silk-screen printed onto team T-shirts for the classroom.

But this particular day, Diaz didn't come to volunteer with children. She came to talk with parents whose children are in kindergarten through second grade. This was her first time to speak and share her experience with Lake View parents in a joint parent-teacher resource meeting in the school's library.

Diaz eloquently shared — with no notes, stutters or nervous stops — what it's like to grow up with a sibling who has autism.

"Children with autism are special and part of a puzzle that

is unique," Diaz says. "These children are so amazing, and showing how spectacular they are will show everyone else that autism is not a bad thing but a beautiful thing."

Her words connected. Following her 10-minute speech, the parents shared with emotion their own experiences, laughed and cried together, celebrated wins, tracked

developmental progress, and indicated how they drew courage and reassurance from what Diaz shared. These parents will likely be on the same or similar learning journey at home and at school until their children are age 21.

Diaz sat on the sidelines with her mother, Lori Diaz, and her grandmother, Tricia Caldwell, for the remainder of the parent meeting. All three ladies actively listened so they could better interact with parents in one-on-one conversations.

Why? Because the Diaz family knows the importance of a team supporting a family as they raise a child with autism.

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director



Nadia Diaz, who grew up interpreting the language and behavior of autism, spoke with the parents of children in kindergarten through second grade.

ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER'S ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING



More photos online at gl.nri/112-01-ah_thanksgiving

Autumn in Portland, Ore., offers many reasons to give thanks — the return of the rainy season, hot drinks, generous spirits, good music. For each of the past eight years, Adventist Health in Portland has joined in this giving spirit by hosting a free Celebration of Thanksgiving concert to thank the community for 120 years of placing their faith in Adventist Health.

“It’s becoming a traditional kick off to the holiday season and this year’s concert was truly a blessing,” says David Russell, Adventist Health Portland president and CEO, who founded the event eight years ago.

Like the year before, the Nov. 19, 2016, concert began with a praise and worship singalong led by the Adventist Health Praise Band, made up of hospital team members and executives. “How many hospitals do you know with their own praise band?” joked Terry Johnsson, the evening’s master of ceremony, to the crowd of more than 2,000. Johnsson, who is Adventist Health’s executive director for mission integration, extended an invitation to the executive teams of the other health systems in Portland, challenging them to a sing-off.

Then the evening moved into a full concert by Grammy-award winning musical guest Laura Story. Among the biggest blessings of the night was a beautiful rendition of her chart-topping song “Blessings.”

Story rearranged her tour schedule to make room for Adventist Health’s community-based concert at the invitation of Johnsson, who has worked with her for many years. The mission of Adventist Health and its desire to give back to the community through this special concert helped the event rise to the top of Story’s priorities.

Though she’s worked with other hospital events, Story had never had a hospital’s administrative team join her and her band before a concert to pray the event would touch the community and help spread the good news about Jesus Christ.

Story loved the hospital’s participation and commit-



David Russell, Adventist Health Portland CEO and president, welcomes guests to the free Celebration of Thanksgiving concert.

ment to mission. Unlike her previous Portland concerts at Memorial Coliseum and Moda Center, the Adventist Health concert was free to the employees, volunteers and community members who support the mission of Adventist Health.

Though the concert tickets are free each year, Adventist Health invites attendees to bring donations of nonperishable food to support the community. About 3,500 pounds of food was collected this year

for the Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS) food pantry.

“This year we also asked concert goers to consider donating a pair of warm socks for the Portland Rescue Mission, and we were completely blown away by the response,” says Russell. “I was able to deliver a dozen large bags stuffed with 2,800 pairs of socks to the homeless in our community who desperately need warm feet in the winter.”

The Celebration of Thanksgiving concert is just one more way Adventist Health partners with the community to spread the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. And that’s another reason to give thanks in Portland, no matter the season.

Kristi Spurgeon, Adventist Health Portland marketing and communications director



A packed house enjoys Adventist Health’s eighth annual Celebration of Thanksgiving concert featuring Grammy-award winning artist Laura Story.

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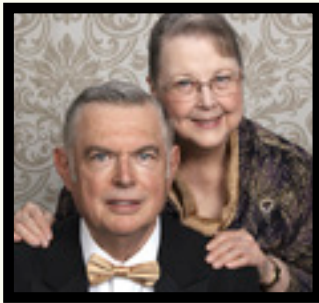


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Case 50th

Ronald and Joan Case celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 21, 2016, with a golden wedding anniversary party hosted by their family in Tuttle Hall at the Lacey (Wash.) Church. More than 110 relatives and friends shared happy memories, listened as Ron and Joan's son Brian played a violin solo that had been played at their



Ronald and Joan Case

wedding, and enjoyed a program narrated by their son Edward, along with a slideshow of many family pictures.

Ronald Case met Joan Harvey at Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash., where he was a senior religion major and she was a sophomore English major. After Ron's 1965 graduation, he attended Loma Linda University School of Medicine. Joan attended La Sierra College in Riverside, Calif.

They were married on Sunday, Aug. 21, 1966, at the Adventist church in Eugene, Ore. After their wedding, Ron continued with medical school, and Joan completed her senior year at La Sierra College. After her graduation, Joan taught English in Fontana, Calif., for three years.

In 1970, after Ron's medical school graduation and in-

ternship, Ron and Joan moved to Washington where their son Edward was born. Ron then worked as a family physician at the Steck Medical Clinic in Chehalis, Wash. Their son Brian was born in 1975.

In 1978 Ron took an allergy and immunology fellowship at the University of Wash., and in 1980, the family moved to Lacey, where Ron practiced allergy and immunology for 25 years in Olympia, Wash., until he retired. Joan taught ninth- and 10th-grade English and keyboarding at Olympia Junior Academy for several years.

Ron has served as an elder for 35-plus years, Olympia Junior Academy school board chairman for 10 years and on the Auburn Adventist Academy school board for many years. He is currently the personal ministries coordinator in Lacey Church. Ron now enjoys giving Bible studies and helping Edward with the Nedley Depression and Anxiety Recovery Program at the Lacey Church.

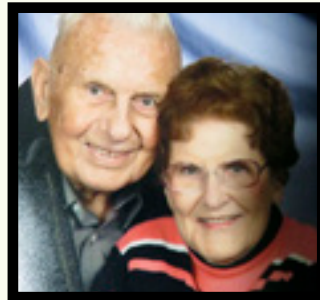
Joan has led primary Sabbath School, been a deaconess and Sabbath School superintendent, helped Ron organize vegetarian/vegan cooking schools, helped with the Depression and Anxiety Recovery Program, and, in earlier years, led Vacation Bible Schools and served as a member of the Washington Conference executive committee and board of education.

The Case family includes Ron's mother, Ella Mae Case, 93; Edward and Jennifer (Davenport) Case of Olympia, Wash.; Brian Case of Indianapolis, Ind.; and 6 grandchildren.

Dunks 60th

Wallace and Gerion Dunks celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 1, 2016, at the Springfield Church fellowship hall. Neighbors, business associates and church members gathered to celebrate and thank the Dunks for all they had done for individuals and for the church. About 50 cards of congratulations were received.

Wally and Geri met 60 years ago in Yuba City, Calif. It was a beautiful Sabbath in early September 1956. Three weeks and one day later Wallace Dunks and Gerion Sullivan were married in a lovely ceremony at the Yuba City Adventist Church, surrounded by family and friends.



Wallace and Gerion Dunks

Wally was raised in the Seventh-day Adventist faith and attended Adventist schools and was baptized as a youth. Geri was baptized April 2, 1955. She worked at the Fremont Hospital as bookkeeper and receptionist. Wally was a partner with the Peterson Construction Co. He later started his own trucking company which he drove for and managed until he was 88 years old.

The Dunks mutually agreed to move to Oregon for better employment opportunities and chose Springfield,

Ore., for their home in 1957. They promptly became members of the Springfield Church and began serving energetically and continue to do so.

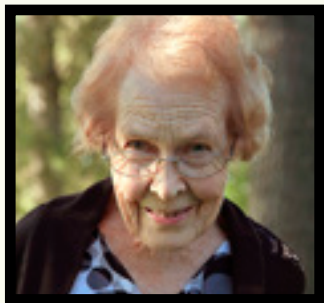
Wally has served as head elder, deacon, junior division teacher and greeter among other duties. Geri has served as Sabbath School Superintendent, Adult Sabbath School teacher, treasurer, clerk and both worked with the late Jim McHan with the churches' Better Living and Stop Smoking seminars. Both continue to welcome members and visitors at the door and give them warm welcomes and strong handshakes or hugs.

The Dunks family includes daughter, Dixie Wurscher (her husband, David, died in plane accident) of Eugene, Ore.; son, Mike and Connie Rohlf-Dunks of Jasper, Ore.; 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Martin 90th

The family of Marie (Merth) Martin celebrated her 90th birthday on Sabbath, Aug. 20, 2016. Family members gathered from as far away as New York, Michigan and California for a picnic in Fort Walla Walla Park in Walla Walla, Wash.

Marie was born in Portland, Ore., the sixth child in a family that would eventually include nine children. Her mother was a Seventh-day Adventist, but her father, raised a staunch Catholic, wanted Marie to attend Catholic school as a little girl. Her mother took Marie to Sabbath School on Saturday, but Marie also had to attend Catholic services on Sunday with her father.



Marie Martin

Eventually her father became an Adventist.

As a young girl growing up during the Depression, Marie's family moved around the Portland area while her father found various jobs. Some of her favorite memories are of living "out in the country" in Tigard, Ore. Marie attended Portland Union Academy (now Portland Adventist Academy) during her freshman year, where she became involved in music — singing in choir and trios. Her father's love of music had been passed on to her.

The family moved to Berkeley, Calif., where her father got a new job and Marie went to Golden Gate Academy her sophomore year. Her musical talents gained her many friendships there also. But once again the family moved, this time to Pendleton, Ore. Marie found herself at Yakima Valley Academy her junior and senior years, always involved in music and making new friends, including a Pendleton boy, LaVern Henderson. After her graduation in 1944, the two were married.

After LaVern served in the Army, he and Marie both worked at Harris Pine Mills in Pendleton, having three children. Unfortunately, the

marriage did not last.

Marie eventually married Jim Martin, a forester with the U.S. Forest Service, and continued to live in Pendleton, working as a secretary, medical transcriptionist and other office clerical positions. Her husband transferred to Walla Walla, Wash., in 1977, and Marie continued working — eventually retiring from the Veterans Affairs Hospital.

She has always enjoyed going back to see the many friends she made at Golden Gate Academy reunions, as well as those for Yakima Valley Academy. The couple live on 10 acres just west of Whitman Mission where they enjoy a herd of deer and many beautiful sunsets.

Marie's family includes Joan (Henderson) Santee of College Place, Wash.; Gary and Kathy (Ford) Henderson of Woodland, Wash.; Karen (Henderson) and Patrick Andrews of McBride, British Columbia, Canada; 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

McKercher 90th

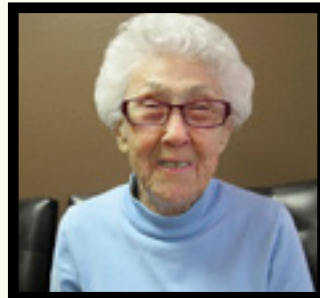
Family and friends gathered at the home of Madeline Mary McKercher on June 22, 2016, to celebrate her 90th birthday. A delicious dinner was prepared and served by her family to all the guests.

Madeline Mary McPhail was born in Craik, Saskatchewan, Canada, the eldest of three girls. Her father, Granger, was employed much of his life as a lumberjack. The parents separated, and the girls were basically raised by their father.

Her first seven years of

school were in the Rosedale Public School. Grades seven through nine were in Nampa, Idaho, and then Madeline went to boarding school at Canadian Junior College (now Berman University) in Lacombe, Alberta, Canada. She graduated from high school in 1945 and stayed for one more year of pre-nursing. Then she moved to Portland, Ore., where she studied nursing at the Portland Sanitarium and Hospital (now Adventist Medical Center), graduating in 1949.

Her work experience began at the same hospital where she had been a student, and she found her niche in the operating room. After years of operating room experience, she enrolled at the Mid-Ten-



Madeline Mary McKercher

nessee School of anesthesia in Madison, Tenn., graduating in 1966 as a nurse anesthetist. This allowed her to have job security and at the same time to get acquainted with much of her adopted country.

In 1973, Madeline began her employment at Tillamook County General Hospital (now Tillamook Regional Medical Center), which had just begun an affiliation with the Adventist Health system. She worked in Tillamook until her retirement in 1995. Interestingly enough, when she retired, it took three nurse anesthetists to

replace her.

She was married to Gordon Swanson in 1965, and they became the parents of two sons, Eric and Leif. Gordon passed away in 1997. In 2000, Madeline married Robert McKercher, who passed away in 2006.

Both of Madeline's sons live in Tillamook. She loves gardening and spends a lot of time and care in the upkeep of her yard and garden. She also enjoys handwork, especially cross-stitch and crocheting. She is a member of the Tillamook Church.

She is cherished by her sons; her daughter-in-law, Audra; two grandchildren, Tiffany and Taylor; 3 step-children; 4 step-grandchildren; and 5 step-great-grandchildren.

Teed 50th

Verne and Donna Teed celebrated their 50th anniversary with family and friends on June 10, 2016, at the Pomeroy Inn and Suites in Olds, Alberta, Canada.

Verne Teed met Donna Unterscher at the Portland School of Nursing when Verne was visiting his sister, Eileen (Teed) Steinke. He married Donna on Oct. 23, 1966, in Harrisburg, Ore. The pair lived in Williams Lake, British Columbia, Canada, until 1971, when they moved to Peoria, Alberta (the Peace River country). They lived there until retiring in Olds, Alberta.

The Teed family includes Todd Teed of Calgary, Alberta; Tammy and Steve Reitz of Spangle, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

BOYES — Helen Arlene (Madson), 100; born May 1, 1916, Harrison, Idaho; died Oct. 4, 2016, Hayden, Idaho. Surviving: daughter, Allis Rickey, Spokane, Wash.; brother, Dick Madson, College Place, Wash.; 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

BRATTEN — Lorraine, 84; born May 31, 1932, Cleveland, N.D.; died Aug. 23, 2016, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Orville; sons, Rick, Soda Springs, Idaho; Dale, Femley, Nev.; daughter, Sandra Kay Christensen-Rhoads, Boise; brother, Billy Bartles, Littleton, Colo.; sister, Irene Zoller, Portland, Ore.; 5 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

CANWELL — Dorothy Maxine (Storey), 94; born Aug. 24, 1922, Hailey, Idaho; died Sept. 16, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, Lee, Walla Walla; Keith, College Place, Wash.; sisters, Helen Culver, Eagle, Idaho; Freda Roe, Ontario, Ore.; Darlene St. Clair, Caldwell, Idaho; Fran Addy, Boise, Idaho; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

DASSENKO — Gladys May (Aufderhar) Fisher, 93; born July 30, 1923, Greeley, Colo.; died Sept. 22, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: stepsons, Gary Fisher, of Washington; Paul Dassenko, of New York; stepdaughter, Pam Dassenko, of California; and sister, Lois (Aufderhar) Helms, of Mississippi.

DAVIS — Harvey “Dave,” 84; born Nov. 7, 1931, Glendale, Calif.; died April 7, 2016, Richland, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Debra (Davis) Hoyt; brother, John Lefore, Milton-Freewater, Ore.; sister, Joan (Lefore) Wycoff, Milton-Freewater; and a grandchild.

DEPNER — Joyce Blanche (Johnson), 87; born Sept. 5, 1929, Dutton, Mont.; died

Oct. 4, 2016, Spokane Valley, Wash. Surviving: son, Wayne, Spokane Valley; daughters, Rae Rich, Chewelah, Wash.; Mona Morley, Priest River, Idaho; 7 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and 7 great-grandchildren.

EDWARDS — Oliver, 88; born Feb. 25, 1928, Wapato, Wash.; died July 24, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Angie Bartholomew, Spokane, Wash.; Diana Anderson, Walla Walla; brothers, Don Edwards, Milton-Freewater, Ore.; Ottis Edwards, Portland, Ore.; Bert Edwards, Sultan, Wash.; 4 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

ENTZE — Elizabeth “Beth” L. (Karr), 96; born July 20, 1920, Moscow, Idaho; died Aug. 12, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, Fred and Dan, both of Walla Walla; brother, Robert Karr, Newport, Wash.; 5 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

GLENN — Nancy Morlan (Geiger), 89; born July 5, 1926, Tacoma, Wash.; died June 23, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, David, Chehalis, Wash.; Paul, Silver Spring, Md.; Jonathan, Conway, Ark.; Lawrence, Walla Walla; daughters, Francie Davidson, Rhododendron, Ore.; Margie Ault, Walla Walla; 9 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

HACK — Richard Roy, 86; born Aug. 7, 1930, Egypt, Pa.; died Sept. 1, 2016, Lewiston, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Diana “Sue”; son, Richard Little, Spokane, Wash.; daughters, Janice Leaf, Spokane; Julie Dafler, Spokane; stepdaughter, Joanne Stearns, Ocean Shores, Wash.; brother, Donald Hack, Palmyra, Pa.; and 9 grandchildren.

HAYNES — Donald W., 90; born Oct. 11, 1925, Caldwell, Idaho; died July 10, 2016,

Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Marie (Hansen), Battle Ground, Wash.; sons, Wes, Battle Ground; Gary, Gresham, Ore.; daughter, Maretta Kandoll, Vancouver; brother, Robert, Sacramento, Calif.; 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

NELSON — Daniel Howard, 58; born May 11, 1958, Springfield, Mo.; died Sept. 12, 2016, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Joann M. (House); daughter, Elizabeth M. Nelson, Portland; father, Daniel N. Nelson, Tucson, Ariz.; brother, David Levy, San Antonio, Texas; sisters, Linda M. Shepherd, Ladson, S.C.; and Carolyn C. Lister, Banderas, Texas.

NICHOLSON — Michael Thad, 76; born Nov. 30, 1939, Hermosa Beach, Calif.; died Aug. 6, 2016, Sandy, Ore. Surviving: wife, Sally (Baker); son, Michael Jr., Sandy; daughters, Tami Hunter and Shelly Brooks, both of Sandy; mother, Jean Nicholson, of Oregon; 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

ONJUKKA — Aila Annikki (Issakainen), 92; born Oct. 5, 1923, Viipuri, Finland; died Aug. 18, 2016, La Grande, Ore. Surviving: husband, Lauri; sons, Sam, Imbler, Ore.; Rolf, Arlington, Texas; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

PALMER — James Wilson, 78; born July 29, 1937, Weiser, Idaho; died May 2, 2016, College Place, Wash. Surviving: son, John, Walla Walla, Wash.; daughter, Janel Palmer, Lincoln, Neb.; stepdaughter, Donna (Dunn) Pringle, College Place; and sister, Darlene Anders, Charlotte, N.C.

RICHARDS — Cherié (Evenson), 56; born June 15, 1960, Virginia, Minn.; died Sept. 2, 2016, Salt Lake City, Utah. Surviving: husband, Bob, Caldwell, Idaho; daughter, Melody Christensen, Cald-

well; brother, Steve Evenson, Fairbanks, Alaska; and 2 grandchildren.

SITTLER — Shirley Jean (Rader) Coleman, 80; born Jan. 24, 1936, Shelton, Wash.; died July 7, 2016, Shelton. Surviving: husband, Richard K.; sons, Ronald Coleman and Chris Coleman, both of Shelton; Jerry Coleman, Port Orchard, Wash.; daughters, Jalyne (Coleman) Devries, Shelton; Jonice (Coleman) Stritlin, Olympia, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

STANDLEY — Odis Lance, 87; born May 23, 1928, Taft, Calif.; died May 7, 2016, Fruitland, Idaho. Surviving: daughter, Judith Shields, Fruitland; stepson, Leonard Loe, Fresno, Calif.; 3 grandchildren and a great-grandchildren.

STANLEY — Kathryn Monell (Fisher) Bissember, 78; born Nov. 12, 1937, Artesia, Calif.; died Jan. 10, 2016, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: son, Roy Harold Bissember, Santa Monica, Calif.; brothers, William G.E. Fisher Sr., Salem, Ore.; David Fisher, Washtucna, Wash.; Thomas Fisher, Connell, Wash.; sister, Julianne Fisher, Salem, Ore.; sister, Claire (Fisher) Hart, Eugene, Ore.; and 5 grandchildren.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

Jan. 7 — Local Church Budget;

Jan. 14 — Local Conference Advance;

Jan. 21 — Local Church Budget;

Jan. 28 — NAD Religious Liberty.

UPPER COLUMBIA

UCA Choir Clinic

Jan. 19–21 — Upper Columbia Academy will hold a choir clinic. To request music or for more information contact, Curtis Anderson at curtis.anderson@ucaa.org or call 509-245-3600. The choir clinic is for seventh grade and up and is free. All are welcome to hear the grand finale performance on Sabbath, Jan. 21, 2017.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Men's Day

Feb. 4 — Join us for the second annual Washington Conference Men's Day in the Auburn Academy Chapel. The theme is "Finding a Father in God," and the featured speaker is Marvin Wray of the Napa Community Adventist Church. He is the author of *Journeys*, which tells the story of a 12,000-mile motorcycle ride across America where he visited all kinds of Adventist churches. Lunch will be provided.

WORLD CHURCH

Union College Homecoming

April 6–9 — Come to the 125-year celebration of Union College, 3800 S. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506. Honor classes are 1947, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1977, 1987, 1992, 1997 and 2007. For more information, contact the alumni office at 401-486-2503 or alumni@ucollege.edu.

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Employment

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY has two faculty openings in the School of Education and Psychology. For details and to apply, please visit jobs.wallawalla.edu. We invite you to share this announcement as you deem appropriate. To learn more about Walla Walla University, please visit wallawalla.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S English department is seeking applications for a full-time faculty member specializing in British literature of the 18th or 19th century. Preferred candidates will have a Ph.D.; a creative writing background is a plus. Send CV with cover letter to Dr. Judy Myers Laue lauej@swau.edu.

UNION COLLEGE seeks full-time professor of communications and English with strong skills in magazine journalism, editing and writing instruction for position beginning July 2017. Doctorate is preferred. Please submit curriculum vitae to Dr. Mark Robison, humanities division chair, at marobiso@ucollege.edu.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY has faculty openings in the School of Education and Psychology, the department of computer science and the department of chemistry. For details and to apply, please visit jobs.wallawalla.edu. We invite you to share this announcement. To learn more about Walla Walla University, please visit wallawalla.edu.

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UNION COLLEGE seeks an art and graphic design professor, beginning June 2017. Master's degree in art or graphic design required; MFA preferred. Responsibilities include teaching art and graphic design courses, academic advising, recruiting, and program development. Further information, ucollege.edu/faculty-openings.

Submit CV to Bruce Forbes, Fine Arts Division chair, at b2forbes@ucollege.edu.

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Sunset Schedule

January	6	13	20	27
ALASKA CONFERENCE				
Anchorage	4:01	4:16	4:33	4:52
Fairbanks	3:06	3:27	3:50	4:14
Juneau	3:24	3:37	3:51	4:07
Ketchikan	3:33	3:44	3:57	4:11
IDAHO CONFERENCE				
Boise	5:23	5:31	5:39	5:49
La Grande	4:25	4:33	4:42	4:51
Pocatello	5:10	5:18	5:26	5:35
MONTANA CONFERENCE				
Billings	4:45	4:53	5:02	5:12
Havre	4:39	4:48	4:57	5:08
Helena	4:56	5:04	5:13	5:24
Miles City	4:32	4:40	4:49	4:59
Missoula	5:03	5:11	5:20	5:31
OREGON CONFERENCE				
Coos Bay	4:56	5:35	5:12	5:21
Medford	4:54	5:01	5:09	5:18
Portland	4:42	4:50	4:59	5:09
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE				
Pendleton	4:26	4:34	4:44	4:53
Spokane	4:13	4:22	4:31	4:42
Walla Walla	4:23	4:31	4:40	4:50
Wenatchee	4:26	4:34	4:44	4:54
Yakima	4:30	4:38	4:47	4:58
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE				
Bellingham	4:29	4:38	4:48	4:59
Seattle	4:33	4:42	4:51	5:02

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CLOTHING

It is a cruel fact of life that clothes wear out — even the ones we like best. We sadly say goodbye to our favorite sneakers when they fall apart, grieve the miniature version of that special shirt that didn't survive the dryer, and hold a special ceremony for that pair of jeans — broken in through hiking trips and ball games — that needs to be properly buried and mourned as we turn our attention to the epic quest upon us to find another pair.

These quests intensify when clothing is needed for special events like weddings or interviews. While some cultures exist where clothing practices are minimal, most of us can't not have them — not having clothes is the stuff of nightmares.

A recurring nightmare in our culture is of appearing at school, work or church without any clothes on. Aesop even wrote a fable about an emperor who had no clothes. It's effective as a storytelling device because most of us dread that kind of exposure.

More than that, we recognize the role our clothing plays in our success. We fuss over school picture day, we have dress codes, and we put up signs that say “no shirt, no shoes, no service.”

But Jesus is the opposite. No shoes, no shirt moves Him to service. Jesus identifies with the naked of the world and tells

His followers to seek them out to clothe them: “For I was naked and you clothed me” (Matt. 25:36).

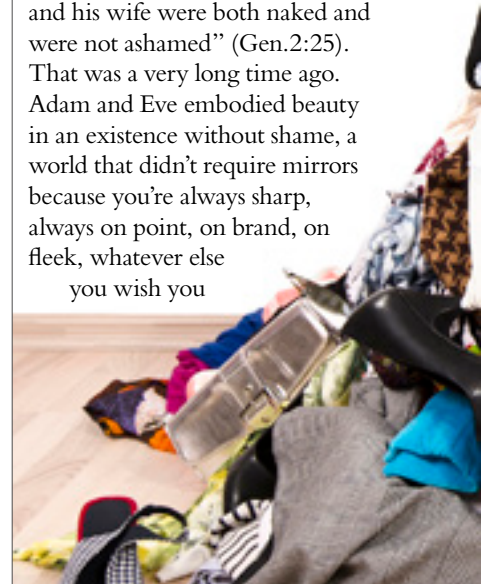
The ancient word for “naked” is *gymnos*, which is where we get our English word “gymnasium.” In the ancient world people competed in sports in the buff as a way of appreciating the aesthetics of the male form and honoring the gods. The thought of a nude gym class is the worst thing some people could imagine in the contemporary world, but it's important to note that, when we speak of clothing nakedness within the pages of Scripture, it isn't about body shaming or insulting God's creation. It has much more to do with dignity and protection against physical and social elements. It is something God has sought to do for humanity ever since the beginning when sin, selfishness and shame entered the world.

After God created humanity, the Bible records, “And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed” (Gen.2:25). That was a very long time ago. Adam and Eve embodied beauty in an existence without shame, a world that didn't require mirrors because you're always sharp, always on point, on brand, on fleek, whatever else you wish you



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce



Jesus identifies with the naked of the world and tells His followers to seek them out.

were on — it's on ... until Genesis 3 happens and man and woman try to become their own gods. Then “their eyes were opened, and they knew they were naked” (3:7).

Genesis 3 uses a different word for “naked” than Genesis 2 — it refers throughout Scripture to a “shameful exposure.” It's a relational shift that creates a dread of God. In Chapter 3, verse 10, Adam, who clothed himself with leaves (“fall fashion”), says he's naked, when in

fact he was physically clothed.

This is something deeper — it's an unmasking, an utter, painful nakedness of soul, where secret thoughts, sins and practices are laid bare. The world can now read your internal diary (or journal, if you're a man), and you are open to judgment. It's a horrifying form of hell, but God doesn't leave them there exposed to sin. God clothes man and woman with “skins” — the same term used in Leviticus and Numbers to describe priestly garments (Lev. 7:8, 8:7; Num. 20:28; Ex. 28:4, 29:5, 40:14).

In the early church, a woman named Tabitha earned the love of her faith com-

munity by clothing those in need. When she fell ill and died, those whose lives she had changed implored the apostles for help — an act of faith that led to Peter being present as she was miraculously raised back to life. Jesus' brother James writes that, if any of us see someone poorly clothed and don't help, our faith is a corpse (2:17). And Jesus Himself promises when the earth is made new people will be clothed in white robes of righteousness. Matthew 25 has less to do with style and more to do with removing shame.

Everything we do is an act of communication — even the clothes we wear make “fashion statements.” While standards and styles vary between cultures, clothes communicate. Badges, brand names, uniforms and straight-jackets all say something about us. In the relative wealth of the West, when we see someone modeling raggedy, dirty, torn up articles of clothing we know things aren't going so well.

So, where do we start? There's a lot of people who

have had dignity, power and status taken from them — it's overwhelming. Jesus uses the word “brethren” at the end of the list in Matthew 25 and then likens Himself to the “least of these.” When compared with Matt. 10:5–31, which describes the state of Jesus' disciples sent out in the world (without pay, clothes or shelter and how Jesus says whoever rejects them rejects Him), we see a parallel. Jesus is talking about those in communities of believers.

So, to start, practice clothing each other physically and spiritually with dignity — for a witness and for discipline as this practice trickles outward and draws people to Jesus.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor



SIX SUGGESTIONS FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR



Happy New Year” is a dubious prospect for the world in 2017. But for us who cherish God’s promise of a new heaven and a new earth, the trials of this present evil age are a prelude to the eternal glory awaiting us.

More than we may realize, workplace and classroom friends are ready now for what Seventh-day Adventists can offer. A loving local church that also teaches truth for our time is both a haven of healing from past hurts and a beacon of hope for the future.

What does that involve, in practical terms? I’m proposing six biblical qualities of congregational life that can attract visitors to your church.

1) PEOPLE WANT LOVE

Disillusioned with feuding politicians and disappointed with their own relationships, people crave love. Looking for it online and in secular media, they find instead profanity, arrogance and exploitation. As Jesus warned about the last days, the love of many has grown cold (Matt. 24:12).

What an opportunity for your church! Jesus said love will be the distinguishing mark of His people: “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35*). Is there loving, authentic

relationality in your congregation?

2) PEOPLE WANT WORSHIP

Worship is a basic human need — does your church experience it together? Tragically, many congregations do not, whatever their preferred worship style.

Some contemporary songs offer worshipful insights and inspiration from Scripture, while others are superficial or even narcissistic. Adventists who prefer traditional music might be surprised to discover not every song in our hymnal facilitates worship.

Consider the difference between the hymns “Fairest Lord Jesus” and “Sweet Hour of Prayer.” One in its opening verse heart-fully honors Jesus as Lord and Savior. The other hymn glorifies the hour of prayer itself, celebrating what we are doing (praying) and receiving (relief from distress and escaping temptation). It points us to the throne of our heavenly Father but not to His person or to His gift of Jesus Christ.

I don’t mean to criticize that old Adventist favorite — just to evaluate its worship content. I do believe in taking an hour to pray every morning, but not to focus on the act of prayer or what we get out of it. “Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend” (*Steps to Christ*, p. 93). Singing means “making melody to the Lord with your heart” (Eph. 5:19).



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



Disillusioned with feuding politicians and disappointed with their own relationships, people crave love.

There's a difference between experiencing real worship and a mere song service. Our guests can sense it, even if we can't.

3) PEOPLE WANT PURPOSE

Most people live their whole lives and die without knowing why they were here on Earth in the first place. They yearn for a church that will help them understand God's purpose for this planet and for their lives — particularly purpose in pain. They also need a mission, some great cause in which they can invest themselves. Will they find that in your church?

4) PEOPLE WANT HELPFULNESS

Life is tough. Your workplace colleagues may be over their heads in debt, trapped in addictions and unable to parent their kids effectively. Many adults are themselves sheep without a shepherd. God wants to have compassion on them through your church's helping them cope with life and its responsibilities. Does your church offer remedial seminars? Not just a handout for the hungry but a hand up for the helpless?

5) PEOPLE WANT TRUTH

People want to know what in the world is going on. What an opportunity to teach Bible prophecy, insightfully rather than "incitefully." We Adventists have answers, and we shouldn't be shy about sharing them with those curious to know — but only in the context of grace, love and relevance.

6) PEOPLE WANT DIVERSITY

Diversity is a key to relationality. Obviously this involves embracing various ethnicities and both genders, everyone interacting peacefully and productively in your church. Diversity also invites

people of different ages, personalities and socioeconomic strata to collaborate in the Spirit. This speaks powerfully to a world that gives lip service to diversity but lacks what only a loving church can offer: "All of you together are Christ's body" (1 Cor. 12:27, NLT).

Let's not forget diversity of thought — quite lacking both in society and in the church. We tend to cluster around people who think the same

way we do. Actually, we don't have to agree about everything to function as a healthy church. Unity doesn't require or even pursue uniformity.

To summarize: Our neighbors need a local Adventist church that offers love, worship, purpose, helpfulness, truth and diversity — Spirit-filled qualities that can make 2017 the best year ever for them ... and for us.

*Unless noted, Scriptures are from the English Standard Version.

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



2017 Goals

UPGRADE

It was entitled “A Nose-worthy Issue.” The title of the first Let’s Talk column in January 2008 led to an apology of sorts. Our malfeasance was undeniable. Recent issues of the *Gleaner*

Honesty about our common foibles encourages us along an often challenging journey to the kingdom.



AUTHOR

Steve Vistaunet

guiding principles, including the following three:

- » Honesty is a strength. Our individual paths and choices are more diverse than some might think. As much as we believe

in the ideals and mission of our divine calling, we are also undeniably human. Honesty about our common foibles encourages us along an often challenging journey to the kingdom.

- » Humor can be cleansing. Scripture says laughter is like medicine to the soul. Humor at its best has a purpose. We are all knee deep in daily and weekly concerns. I am gratified when through the thoughts on this page someone’s load has been lightened, when they can look up, not down.
- » We grow closer when centered in Jesus. Nearly 70 years ago, A.W. Tozer wrote in *The Pursuit of God*: “One hundred worshippers ... each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be were they to become ‘unity-conscious’ and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.” I agree with him and hope our conversations have brought us nearer to Jesus and therefore to each other.

My role in these back-page conversations is about to change. I’ve invited my friend and colleague Dick Duerksen to take over this treasured spot each month. Dick and I go back a few years — all the way to my senior year in academy when he sought mightily to instruct and teach me in the way I should go. A decade later, he and I collaborated on a series of daily radio programs we called *A Walk in the Word*.

I learned then that Dick has been and always will be a storyteller. Few can weave words like he does, with a storyline that grabs your heart. And now that he and his wife, Brenda, are back in our Northwest corner of God’s country, prepare to welcome him into your home via the *Gleaner*. May this page continue to be a monthly anchor point, a safe place for honest conversations about things that eternally matter.

The title will change with the author. But this time no apology is necessary. Consider it, instead, a free upgrade.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

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