

EDITORIAL
REGAINING OUR MEMORY

PERSPECTIVE
NO FEAR IN LOVE

JUST FOR KIDS
BLESSING BOTTLES

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

GOD'S

*fascination with
remembering*

| GEORGE R. KNIGHT |

MAY/JUN
2021
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IMAGES of CREATION

*In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
Proverbs 3:6*



CONTENTS

MAY/JUNE 2021

At first, the symptoms are not obvious. Most people don't even notice anything is wrong. Suddenly life is different. What is this disease and how can we learn from it? As we exercise our corporate memory, we aim to find new energy and remember what really matters.

4

JAY WINTERMEYER

GOD'S

fascination with remembering

Ministry in 2021 seems radically different than it did a mere 18 months ago. What is the way forward? This issue celebrates 115 years of *Gleaner* history and looks at our early roots to gain insight into the challenges and opportunities the Adventist Church faces today.

6



NORTHWEST ADVENTIST NEWS

16
ACCIÓN

18
ALASKA

20
IDAHO

22
MONTANA

24
OREGON

30
UPPER
COLUMBIA

36
WASHINGTON

41
ADVENTIST
HEALTH

42
WALLA WALLA
UNIVERSITY

ACTION

HispanosUCC Launches
Virtual Children's Ministry

17

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 44 : FAMILY
- 46 : ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 47 : ADVERTISEMENTS
- 56 : JUST FOR KIDS
- 58 : PERSPECTIVES

OUR TABLE

Zesty Baked Eggs

14





REGAINING *OUR MEMORY*



JAY WINTERMEYER
Gleaner editor

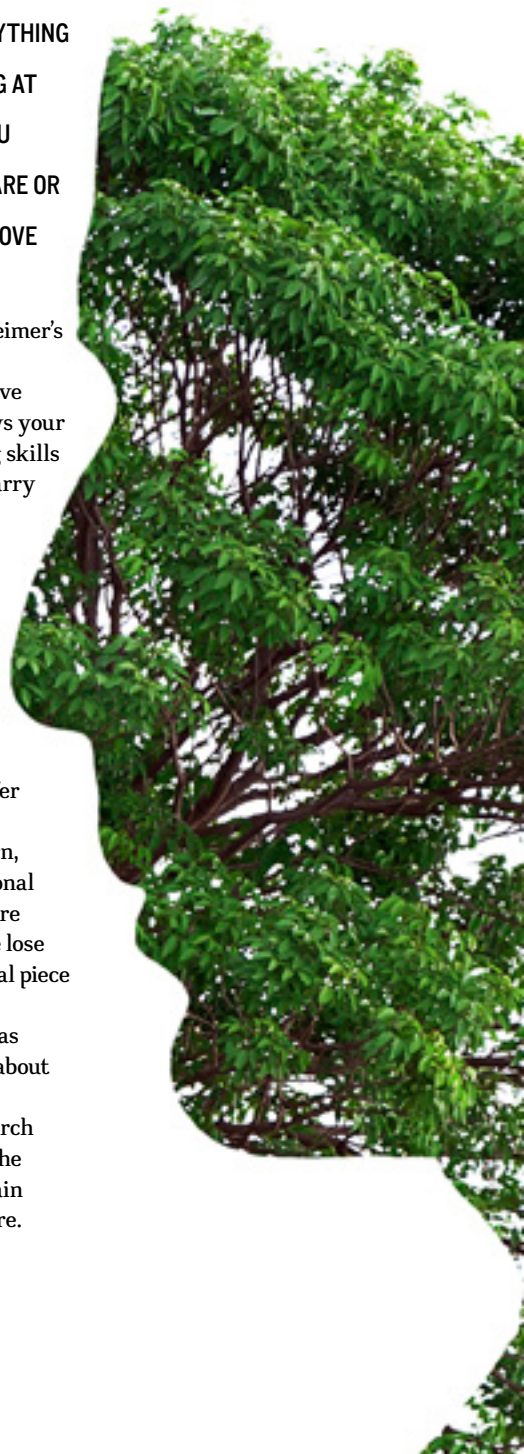
AT FIRST, THE SYMPTOMS ARE NOT OBVIOUS. YOU CAN STILL SPEAK AND HOLD SIMPLE CONVERSATIONS. MOST PEOPLE DON'T EVEN NOTICE ANYTHING IS WRONG. THEN YOU'RE SITTING AT A RED LIGHT, AND SUDDENLY YOU CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE YOU ARE OR EVEN HOW TO MAKE THE CAR MOVE FORWARD.

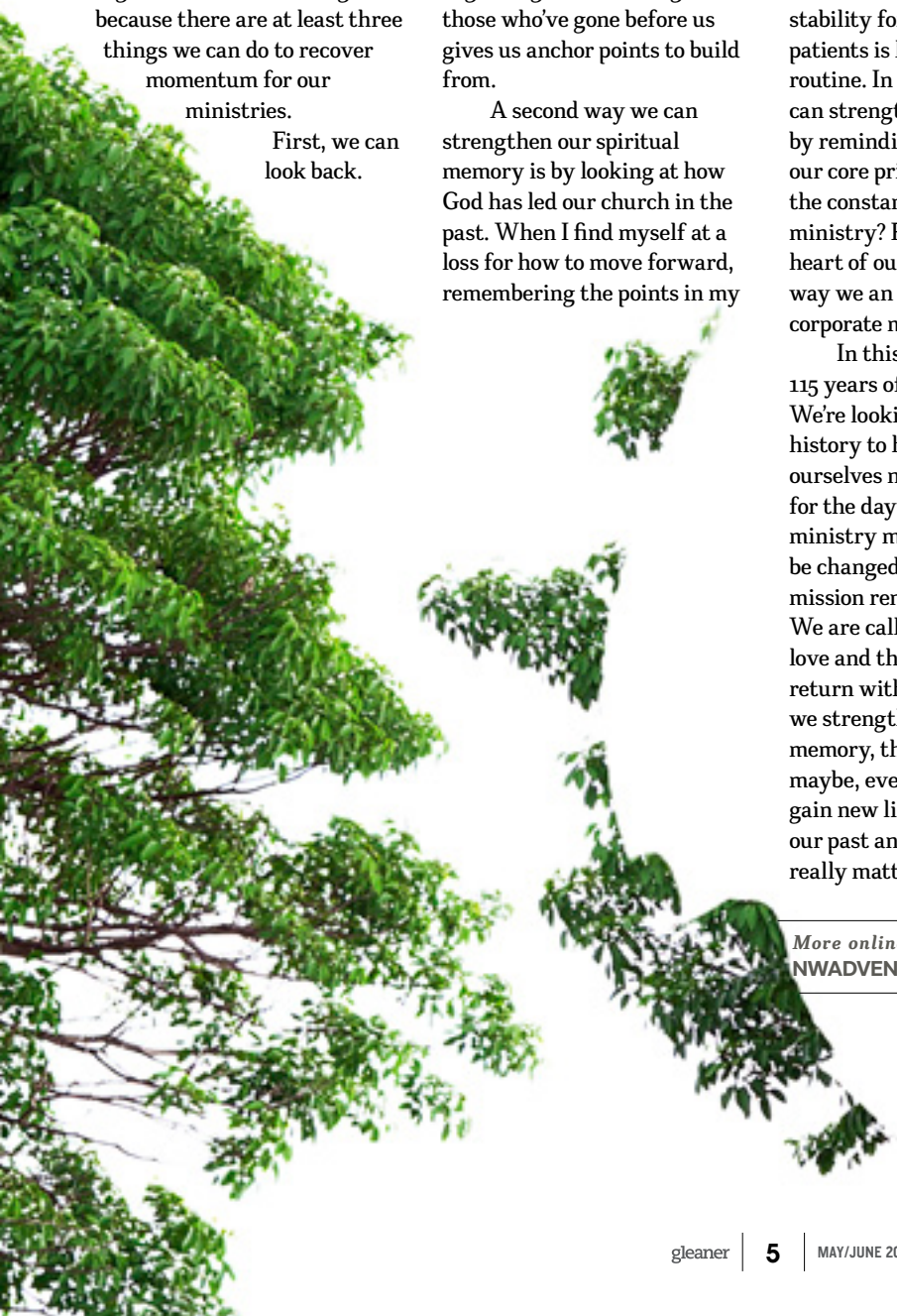
That's how Alzheimer's disease works. This irreversible, progressive brain disorder destroys your memory and thinking skills and, eventually, the ability to carry out the simplest tasks.

According to the Centers for Disease Control more than 5 million Americans 65 or older suffer from this form of dementia. The pain of memory loss and cognition not only affects the person with the disease but entire family groups of those who suffer from it.

In a similar pattern, our churches and personal spiritual lives suffer dire consequences when we lose our corporate memory and a vital piece of our faith dies.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed so many of the things about life and ministry as we know it. I've talked with pastors and church leaders who feel unclear about the way forward. These are uncertain and unprecedented times for sure.





At the same time, I feel we can learn an important lesson from Alzheimer's patients to illuminate our current path forward.

Unlike the physical disease, which is irreversible, our corporate memory can be regenerated. I'm encouraged because there are at least three things we can do to recover momentum for our ministries.

First, we can look back.

When we're faced with a time of uncertainty, we can look back at how our church began and see what is important. A historical perspective is critical to regaining our sense of purpose and direction. Reminding ourselves about our beginnings and learning from those who've gone before us gives us anchor points to build from.

A second way we can strengthen our spiritual memory is by looking at how God has led our church in the past. When I find myself at a loss for how to move forward, remembering the points in my

life, in my family and even in my church when I have seen God working gives me hope and courage. Even remembering a single moment when I believe God has touched my life or showed up can be enough move me forward.

One way to provide stability for Alzheimer's patients is keeping a daily routine. In a similar manner, we can strengthen our ministries by reminding ourselves of our core principles. What are the constants of our faith and ministry? Remembering the heart of our calling is a third way we can strengthen our corporate memory.

In this issue, we celebrate 115 years of Gleaner ministry. We're looking back through history to help anchor ourselves now and find courage for the days ahead. Some ministry methods may need to be changed, but the core of our mission remains unchanged. We are called to share Christ's love and the hope of His return with a dying world. As we strengthen our corporate memory, the sluggish and, maybe, even dying parts can gain new life when we look at our past and rediscover what really matters.

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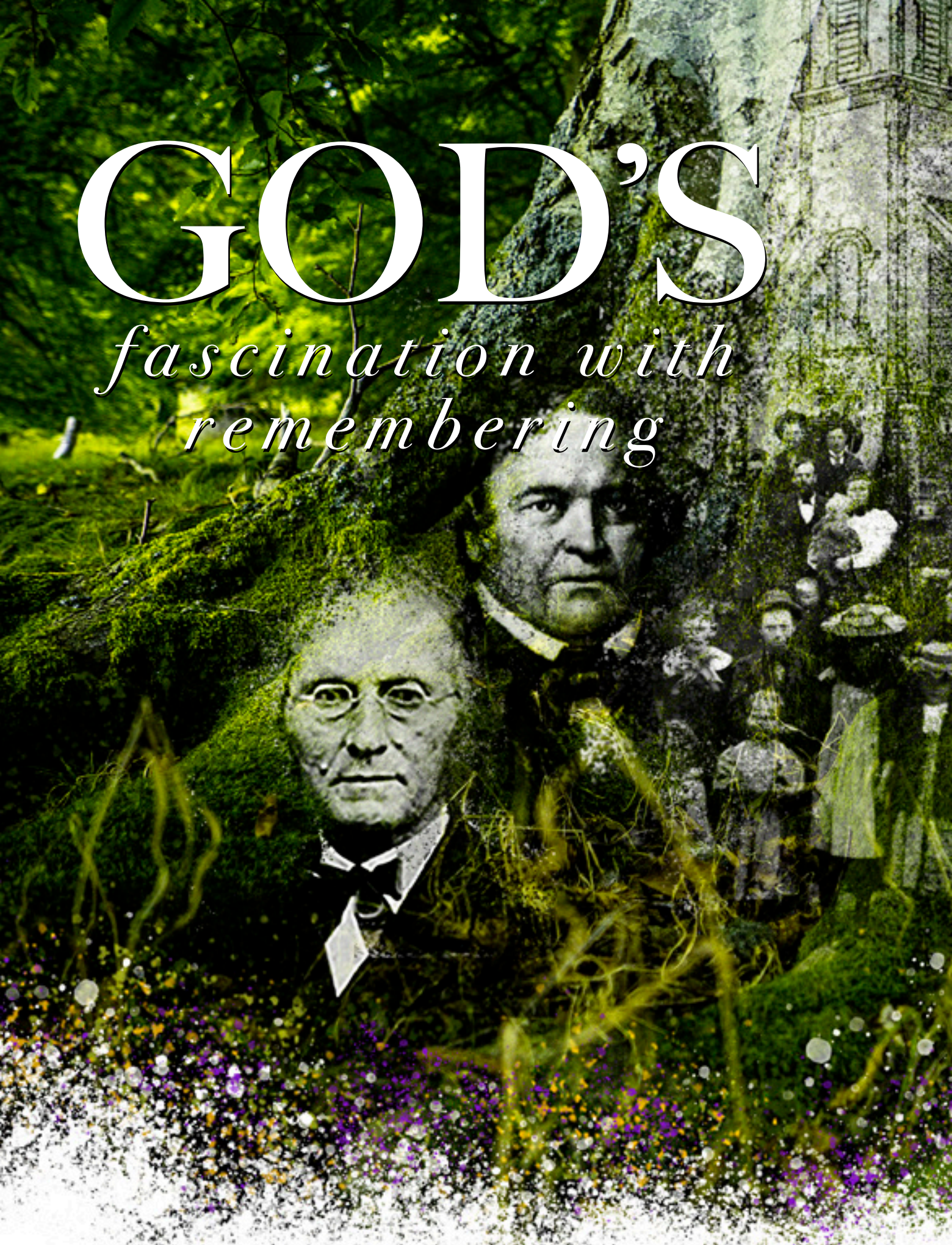
IMAGES OF CREATION, P. 2



"Siouxon Creek Trail," in Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Washington, by Adam Cornwell, of Vancouver, Washington.

GOD'S

*fascination with
remembering*





GEORGE R. KNIGHT

GOD HAS A GENUINE INTEREST IN THE HISTORY OF HIS PEOPLE. AND HE DESIRES HIS FOLLOWERS TO HAVE THAT SAME CONCERN. IT IS NO ACCIDENT THE FIRST WORD IN THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT IS “REMEMBER.” GOD WANTED HIS PEOPLE NEVER TO FORGET HE WAS THEIR CREATOR. SO HE GAVE THEM A WEEKLY REMINDER (EXOD. 20:8–11).

B

UT GOD WAS not only Creator. He was also Redeemer. So He provided daily and yearly reminders of the importance of the blood of the lamb “that makes atonement” (Lev. 17:11). Regarding the blood of the Passover lamb, for example, during the annual celebration of the feast children were to ask, “What do you mean by this service?” And the elders were to recount the saving effect of the blood of the lamb (Exod. 12:26, 27). The Old Testament is filled with illustrations of God’s interest in His people remembering their history.

That fascination with the remembrance of history flows right into the New Testament. Perhaps the most important is the periodic commemoration of the Last Supper. Paul wrote that “as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you

proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes” (1 Cor. 11:26). Interestingly enough, that statement highlights the fact that remembering often has two edges. In the communion event, one points backward to the death of Jesus while the other points forward to the Second Advent.

Remembering God’s leading in the past is important for our future. Just think, for example, how different the history of Israel would have been if the Jewish people had focused less on Messiah as a conquering king and more on the daily temple lesson and the annual Passover illustration related to the blood of the lamb. God, through John the Baptist, tried to redirect their minds when He inspired the prophet to

proclaim Jesus as “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). But the Jews, having forgotten the central symbolic lesson in their history (the blood of the lamb), found the death of Christ to be a “stumbling block” (1 Cor. 1:23).

Their neglect of another historical lesson was no less consequential. Namely, that the covenant through Abraham was to lead Israel to become a blessing to “all” nations. In spite of the fact that Isaiah and others sought to drive that lesson home, by the time of Christ Israel had come to see their Lord as the God of the Jews, while the gentiles were seen as unclean. That misreading of history led to a tragedy that could have been avoided.

God’s emphasis on His people remembering their



1874

Isaac and Adelia Van Horn arrived in the Walla Walla Valley as the Northwest’s first Adventist missionary couple. In 1876 they and their assistant, Alonzo T. Jones, shifted their efforts to the Willamette Valley, making their home in Salem.

Northwestern Adventism Timeline

1861

The Thomas and Augusta Moorhouse family traveled over the Oregon Trail from Iowa to the Walla Walla Valley. Augusta was the first Adventist in the Pacific Northwest.

1874

Isaac Van Horn organized the first Adventist church in the Northwest in Walla Walla, Washington Territory. Other early churches included Milton, Oregon (1876); Dayton, Washington Territory (1876); Salem, Oregon (1877); Beaverton, Oregon (1878); Damascus, Oregon (1879); East Portland, Oregon (1882); Farmington, Washington Territory (1883); and Coquille, Oregon (1883).

history hasn't changed. Nor has its importance. One only has to think of the oft-quoted statement in *Life Sketches* that "in reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. *We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history*" (p. 196). In short, knowing and recalling Adventist history is important as His Advent people continue to journey toward the "blessed hope" (Titus 2:13).

And central to Adventist history are the messages of the three angels of Rev. 4:6-12: a series of prophetic events that began in the 1830s with William Miller preaching the return of Christ and climaxes with the proclamation of the

In short, knowing and recalling Adventist history is important as His Advent people continue to journey toward the "blessed hope" (Titus 2:13).

third angel, which set the stage for the purpose and mission of that group of ex-Millerites who formally became Seventh-day Adventists in the early 1860s. "Here is the patience of the saints," we read in the third message, "here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (KJV). And right after those three progressive messages we find Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven (Rev. 14:14, 15). It is no wonder that Ellen White pointed to the cry of the third angel as the last message to be given to the world before Earth's end. Those three messages need to be at the core of Adventist remembering and understanding of God's leading in the denomination's history.

Adventism forgets its prophetic heritage at its peril since the messages of Revelation 14 have shaped in every way the denomination's development and present purpose and mission. One only has to think of Rev. 14:6, which notes that God's last day message would go "to every nation and tribe and tongue and people" to grasp why the budding denomination sent its first official foreign missionary in 1874. That was a small start, but today the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the most widespread, unified Protestant denomination in history.

In addition, the mission imperative of Revelation 14's angels has led to the development of each aspect



1877

The North Pacific Conference was organized to coordinate the denomination's efforts in the Pacific Northwest. In 1880, it launched the Upper Columbia Conference to better promote Adventism east of the Cascade Mountains.

1885

Denominational leaders sent J.J. Smith to work in the Boise area and southern Idaho Territory; he soon died of peritonitis. Daniel Fero followed from Pennsylvania and organized churches in Boise City and Franklin in 1886.

1886

The small conferences of the North Pacific Conference (301 members) and Upper Columbia Conference (240 members) started the denomination's fourth and fifth post-elementary schools — North Pacific Academy in Portland and Milton Academy in Milton, Oregon. Both schools closed in the early 1890s. Walla Walla College opened in 1892.

1880

The first attempt by Adventists to evangelize the Puget Sound took place by book salesman A.W. Benson. By 1886, a church had been established in Seattle, followed by one in Tacoma the next year.



GOD'S *fascination with remembering*

of the denomination's present outreach. Thus in the late 1840s James White began a publishing work to help spread the message of Revelation's angels. And the 1860s and 1870s witnessed the development and refinement of church organization to facilitate world mission. The 1860s also saw the initiation of Adventism's health message and medical work since people can understand and spread the gospel more efficiently if their bodies and minds are in as healthy condition as possible. And then there was the beginning of Seventh-day Adventist education in Battle Creek in the 1870s to train individuals to take the three messages to Earth's remotest bounds.

Remembering has been central to God's people from Genesis until today. When religious people forget their history they lose their way. Churches who forget their past lose purpose and relevance. "We have nothing to fear" if we remember God's leading.

George R. Knight
Andrews University professor emeritus of church history, has written many books on Adventism's past, including A Brief History of Seventh-day Adventists.

*ALL BIBLE REFERENCES ARE FROM THE RSV UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.



COURTESY OF WWU | © WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY



1888

General Conference leaders sent O.A. Johnson (1888) and Daniel Fero (1889) to Montana Territory to conduct evangelistic meetings during the summer months. The next year, J.W. Watt of Missouri was asked to permanently locate in the region, where he started churches in Livingston (1890) and Bozeman (1891).

1893

Lewis Belknap, a doctor, established a sanitarium in Portland. During the first decade of the 20th century, small sanitariums were operated by Adventists in Spokane Falls, College Place, Seattle, Tacoma, Bellingham, Yakima, Port Townsend, Boise, Missoula, Salem and Cottage Grove. Most closed either before or during the Great Depression.

1902

The North Pacific Conference changed its name to the Western Oregon Conference. That same year it also spawned the Western Washington Conference, with headquarters in the Seattle area to better serve the western portions of the state.

1901

Following her return from Australia, Ellen White made a trip to the Pacific Northwest. She visited the Upper Columbia Conference camp meeting in Waitsburg, Walla Walla College and Sanitarium, Portland Sanitarium, and the North Pacific Conference camp meeting. She had made earlier trips to the Northwest in 1878 (for the Northwest's first camp meeting in Salem), 1880 and 1884.





ELLEN WHITE JOURNEYED TO THE NORTHWEST THREE TIMES. EACH TIME SHE SPENT TIME PREACHING AT CAMP MEETINGS IN THE REGION.

like icebergs melted

TERRIE DOPP AAMODT

IT WAS A PLEASANT but breezy June day on San Francisco Bay. The steamer *Oregon* wove through clusters of working vessels and pleasure craft, pointing toward the center of the unbridged Golden Gate. There the voyage changed: The breeze freshened into a howling northerly wind. The ship creaked and rolled as it turned to starboard and headed north, slamming into the heavy oncoming waves, sending sheets of water over the few hardy souls shivering on deck.

Soon only a dignified, middle-aged woman remained. Her calm presence may have convinced the crew she could brave any storm. Actually, staying above deck reduced

seasickness, and it was less frightening to watch the waves than to lie below imagining what they looked like. She later recalled, "... The deep ... is terrible in its wrath. ... I could see ... God's power in the movements of the restless waters ... which tossed the waves up on high as if in convulsions of agony."¹

What prompted Ellen White to embark on this dangerous voyage in 1878? She was 50 years old, and constant stress had worn down her always-frail health. A trip of such magnitude wasn't an easy undertaking for a sick woman. However, she and her husband, James, had agreed that if her health stabilized, she should make this trip to Oregon to

1907

The Upper Columbia Conference spanned the Southern Idaho Conference, with headquarters in Boise to better serve the territory of southern Idaho and eastern Oregon.

1932

Western Oregon Conference spawned the Southern Oregon Conference in 1910 to better serve the territory of southwestern Oregon. Because of the economic challenges during the Great Depression, the two conferences reunited in 1932.

1920S

Because of the influence of Ellen White's writings and an education reform movement at Battle Creek College, the number of church-operated elementary schools rose from 18 to more than 200 by the turn of the century. This education emphasis also resulted in every conference in the Northwest except Alaska establishing a secondary boarding school by the early 1920s.

1951

The Harris family donated their thriving business (Harris Pine Mills) in Pendleton, Oregon, to the Adventist Church. This company operated many branch factories near Adventist schools, which provided work for students. Harris Pine Mills closed in 1986.



like
icebergs melted

help the new churches there. When she felt strong enough for the journey, she had boarded the ship headed to Portland.

As darkness overtook the ship, the captain feared for her safety and guided her to one of the deserted public rooms

These men who had stood like icebergs melted under the beams of the Son of righteousness.

where a bed was prepared for her. It was Monday evening. Seasickness overcame her as it had the others, and she stayed put until the ship moved into the calm haven of the Columbia River on Thursday morning.

As White recovered during the last few miles to Portland, she realized that both storm and seasickness had delivered a spiritual lesson: "God had spoken to my heart in the storm and in the waves and in the calm following. And shall we not worship Him?"²

White traveled on to Salem by train to attend the first Adventist camp meeting in the Pacific Northwest. It was pitched in a grove just outside of town beside the railroad.

COURTESY OF WWU | © WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

Hundreds of believers and curiosity-seekers flocked to the site. This camp meeting was a deeply spiritual experience for Northwest Adventists, and White, aided by the Holy Spirit, was the chief contributor. If she had lived an easier, less stressful life, the intensity of her inspiration would not have been the same.

Two years later, in the summer of 1880, Ellen White returned to the Northwest. The voyage was uneventful; this time the storms occurred on dry land. The work had grown impressively since her last visit — there were two camp meetings to visit — but the problems were bigger too. While White had spent her 1878 visit spiritually nourishing the fledgling church members in Salem, in 1880 she zeroed in on church leaders.

Her first stop was the Milton camp meeting. "I think there never was a place where my testimony was needed more than in this region of country," she noted. "They seem to be deeply affected with what they hear."³ She did not hesitate to

call out the local ministers for their shortcomings. At one point she summoned conference leaders Isaac Van Horn and Alonzo T. Jones into her tent and read them the riot act.

Why couldn't she be more, well, ladylike? In Ellen White's camp meeting tent, Elder Van Horn and Elder Jones learned a spiritual lesson they might never have gained elsewhere. "It was a weeping, and confessing time," White noted later. "There was a humbling of soul before God."⁴ These were blunt tactics for a guest speaker to wield, particularly for a woman speaking to churchmen.

After this needed but difficult episode of spiritual training in Milton, Salem may have looked hopeful by comparison. This time the camp meeting met right in town, at Marion Square. One day White lectured the packed tent audience for two hours on the subject of temperance. More temperance sermons followed at the packed, 700-seat Methodist church nearby. White reported to James that one Methodist told an Adventist member "he regretted Mrs. White was not a staunch Methodist, for they would make her a bishop at once; she could do justice to the office."⁵ At the Methodists' request, she stayed an additional week.

1984

Alaska became a conference. The first Adventist missionaries had arrived in 1901.

Pacific Press Publishing Association — started by the church in 1874 to serve the American West — moved its headquarters and printing operations to Nampa, Idaho.

2020

The North Pacific Union Conference has significantly less population to reach (15.5 million) than any other union in the North American Division, but it has a considerably better member to population ratio (1 to 151) than the other unions. The Upper Columbia Conference has the best member-to-population ratio (1 to 77) of the Northwestern conferences.



COURTESY OF WWU | © WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

Would those guest sermons have been as compelling if she had not just spent hours unraveling difficulties with church members in Milton? Something about her spiritual intensity made her message stick. This visit to Salem had a larger public dimension than the first one, and there was a larger public affirmation of her ministry.

As early Adventists were learning, the path to peace and unity was not easy. White's third and final visit to the Northwest in 1884 was the most difficult of all. James had died in 1881, and Ellen threw herself into solving all kinds of church problems. But the church in the Pacific Northwest was a problem like no other. Leaders had become harsh and critical, and they failed to inspire. The congregations had stagnated; certainly no one else would be drawn to this quarreling bunch. Northwesterners, caught up in their troubles, needed fresh eyes. So six ministers from California accompanied Ellen White on this crucial mission.

The fireworks began in Milton. Local church members met the visitors and instructed

the visitors how they should preach; White recalled that she and her companions "preached the word of the Lord without any reference to their suggestions."⁶ Milton Adventists yelled that they were being clubbed. The California delegation proceeded, calling church leaders forward in public, laboring with them and praying for them. Slowly, painfully, the atmosphere became more positive. As the Milton camp meeting closed, church members were once again ready to put their spiritual energies to good use.

Ellen White was exhausted. As she and her companions headed for another camp meeting in Portland to face similar problems, she developed a burning fever and was unable to leave her tent for four days. Finally, early on Friday morning, White was ready to speak. She told the assembled members they would all wait until the leading men in that region took a position that God could approve, so His Spirit could enter the meeting. "I had two front seats cleared," she recalled later, "and asked those who were backslidden from God and those who had never started to serve the Lord to come forward. They began to come." What happened next was unbelievable.

White reported, "Then the Spirit of God like a tidal wave swept over the congregation. ... These men who had stood like icebergs melted under the beams of the Son of righteousness. ... Confessions were made with weeping and deep feeling. ... It seemed like the movement of 1844. I have not been in a meeting of this kind for many years. After the hard fought battle the victory was most precious. We all wept like children."⁷

What a transformation! The 1884 journey began in severe conflict. Failure to resolve it would have set back the church in the Northwest for decades. This difficult, stressful, wrenching situation developed into an intensely spiritual experience. In one way it resembled White's first trip in 1878; it began in a storm, but out of suffering grew an intense blessing. The dramatic results—the once-stagnant church membership in the Pacific Northwest tripled in the next few years—occurred because church members who cared, with Ellen White at the forefront, humbled themselves before God.

Were certain things easier for White? Singled out as a visible recipient of God's blessing, did her spiritual gifts make her more certain of the right path? How do believers with ordinary levels of spiritual giftedness find their way? Wouldn't it be nice to know? So often it seems like groping in the dark.

When we watch Ellen White function in her own world, we see the source of her own sense of certainty was her intense, daily connection to Jesus Christ. It was a complete commitment, undertaken in 1878 at the peril of her own life and, in 1884, risking her health. Today, we might not be able to pray like Peter, preach like Paul, electrify a congregation like John Wesley or prophesy like Ellen White, but each of us can make a commitment to Jesus Christ, without reservation.

This key to this complete commitment is to give up—give up our pride, our insistence on our own way, our deep desire to stumble around alone in the dark. It happened in Salem, in Portland, in Milton and in Walla Walla over a hundred years ago, and it happened in the Great Awakening before that and at Pentecost before that. It can still happen.

Terrie Dopp Aamodt
Walla Walla University
history professor

1. ELLEN WHITE, *TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH, VOL. 4* (MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA: PACIFIC PRESS, 1948), P. 287.

2. *IBID.*, P. 289.

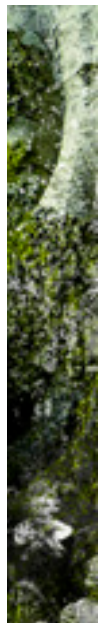
3. WHITE, "LETTER 29, TO J.S. WHITE" (MAY 29, 1880).

4. *IBID.*

5. WHITE, "LETTER 33A, TO J.S. WHITE" (JUNE 23, 1880).

6. WHITE, "LETTER 19, TO BR. AND SR. URIAH SMITH" (JUNE 15, 1884).

7. WHITE, "LETTER 20, TO URIAH SMITH" (JUNE 27, 1884).



DESIREE LOCKWOOD
Gleaner managing editor

Zest

Baked Eggs

THEY SAY EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN LOVE LANGUAGE — THEIR OWN SPECIAL WAY OF SHOWING THEIR LOVE AND AFFECTION. IN MY FAMILY, FOOD SEEMS TO BE CLOSELY KNIT WITH LOVE AND CARE.

My family has a few recipes we save for special occasions. Each time they're brought to the table, these cherished dishes warm our hearts and make special memories.

One of these recipes is zesty baked eggs. This dish makes an appearance during holidays, on family trips or sometimes even on Sunday mornings.

I love this recipe and recently asked my mom where it came from. I discovered this family recipe originally came from the Walla Walla College (now WWU) cafeteria back when my mom attended as an education and home economics major. She enjoyed this dish so much she was able to convince one of the cooks to share the recipe with her. The recipe originally served 100! Mom broke it down and fine-tuned things so it would work for a family of four.

Thank you, Walla Walla College cafeteria, for introducing to zesty baked eggs to our family.

Let's eat!

INGREDIENTS:

1/3 cup mayo
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1/4 teaspoon Vegemite
1 tablespoon chives
1/2 cup milk
1 cup cheddar cheese
8 eggs

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. In saucepan, combine the first six ingredients, and cook on the lowest setting.
2. Gradually add milk, stirring constantly until smooth.
3. Add cheese and cook over low heat, stirring until cheese is melted.
4. Pour a little of the sauce into a 9-by-12 baking dish, just enough to cover the bottom of the dish.
5. Break eggs into sauce.
6. Top with remaining sauce.
7. Bake at 425 degrees for 17-20 minutes.

NOTES

Try adding chopped meatless breakfast sausage or bacon (such as Stripples) into the sauce.



HispanosUCC Lanza Su Primer Ministerio Virtual Para Niños: NiñosUCC

ANTE LOS DESAFÍOS que todas las iglesias experimentaron cuando los servicios de adoración fueron cerrados en abril del 2020, el departamento hispano de la Upper Columbia Conference encontró maneras creativas de reagruparse.

Ancianos de iglesia, maestros de biblia, pastores locales, miembros de iglesia, hombres y mujeres, jóvenes y niños, unieron sus talentos para plantar una iglesia virtual. El plan fue transmitir oportunidades para seguir adorando en español en Facebook y YouTube.

Las responsabilidades fueron delegadas y compartidas entre el equipo pastoral local con el fin de proporcionar servicios de adoración virtuales. Rápidamente se creó una programación completa:

Lunes a viernes: Devocionales a las 7 a.m.

Lunes: "Hogares Sanos, Iglesias Poderosas"

Martes: "La Revelación de Cristo"

Miércoles: Centros Virtuales de Oración y Adoración

Jueves: Ministerio Del Hombre "Según el corazón de Dios"

Viernes: Ministerio y Testimonios de los Grupos Pequeños: "Mi Casa y Yo"

Sábado: "Iglesia en adoración – "Didáctica Bíblica y Escuela Sabática"

- » 5 p.m. Para los Niños – "NiñosUCC"
- » 7 p.m. Ministerio de la Mujer.

A demás, cada tres meses se desarrollan "Semanas de Evangelismo y Énfasis Espiritual" con múltiples

predicadores. Las estadísticas muestran que cada mes un promedio de 89,000 personas hacen clic en HispanosUCC mensualmente, y que 57,000 de las mismas participan.

NiñosUCC es uno de los programas virtuales semanales más recientes. Uno de los líderes es el pastor Saul Domínguez. Él, junto con su esposa, Katie, identificó la necesidad de desarrollar un programa infantil virtual multicultural. Rápidamente se pusieron en contacto con otros pastores locales que se unieron en la planificación y lanzamiento de este ministerio. Además, muchos de los líderes del ministerio infantil en las iglesias locales se unieron para apoyar en la grabación de varios segmentos del programa.

Los dos títeres anfitriones, Poncho y Laila, dan la bienvenida a los espectadores semanalmente. Los niños adoran a través de alabanzas, una historia bíblica dinámica, y luego terminan con un proyecto artesanal interactivo dirigido por los anfitriones. Los padres también participan enviando fotos y vídeos que se integran en sus segmentos pregrabados semanales.

Alabamos a Dios por todos nuestros

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/116-3-HSP-92](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/116-3-HSP-92)

amigos, hermanos, líderes y pastores, que bajo la coordinación del Pastor Cristian Barrera (que también pastorea Wapato, Granger y las iglesias del Valle Central) planifican, ministran y producen HispanosUCC para la gloria de Dios. También apreciamos profundamente a los hermanos y amigos que sintonizan a diario y le proporcionan a esta iglesia virtual, un propósito de existir y seguir predicando las buenas nuevas de Jesucristo.

CÉSAR Y CAROLANN DE LEÓN
North Pacific Union Hispanic ministries

PASTOR SAÚL DOMÍNGUEZ
y La Oficina del Ministerio Hispanos de Upper Columbia Conference



CHURCH

HispanosUCC Launches Virtual Children's Ministry



FACED WITH THE challenges all churches experienced when worship services were shut down in April 2020, the Upper Columbia Conference Hispanic department found creative ways to regroup as church elders, Bible teachers, local pastors, church members, men and women, young adults, and children to create a virtual church plant, HispanosUCC. This novel church produces services in Spanish on Facebook and YouTube twice a day, Monday through Saturday, with the goal of providing worship opportunities in the midst of the challenges, social isolation, pain, crises and loss.

Virtual worship responsibilities were delegated and shared among the local pastoral team in order to offer virtual

worship services at both 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and minister to the growing challenges the following virtual ministries were quickly developed. The services include:

- Daily:** 7 a.m. devotionals;
- Mondays:** "Healthy Homes, Powerful Churches";
- Tuesdays:** "A Revelation of Jesus";
- Wednesdays:** Multiple worship and prayer meetings;
- Thursdays:** Ministry to men: "According to the Heart of God";
- Fridays:** Small group ministries: "Me and My House";
- Saturdays:** Church at worship, biblical didactics and Sabbath School;
 - » 5 p.m. For children – "NiñosUCC";
 - » 7 p.m. Women's ministries.



In addition to the daily and weekly programming, quarterly evangelism/spiritual emphasis weeks featuring multiple pastors and speakers. Program

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/116-3-HSP-93](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/116-3-HSP-93) +

statistics show 89,000 individuals are clicking on HispanosUCC and 57,000 are actively participating.

NiñosUCC, one of the newest weekly virtual programs, began on Feb. 6, after much prayer, teamwork and a deep desire to see children disciplined into knowing and loving Jesus Christ as their lifelong Friend and Companion. One of the leaders is Saul Dominguez, who is pastor of the Hermiston, Pendleton and Rekindle District. He, along with his wife, Katie, identified the need to develop a virtual, multicultural children's program with the help of other local pastors.

The two host puppets, Poncho and Laila, welcome the viewing children weekly. The kids worship through songs, a dynamic Bible story and an interactive craft project led by the hosts. Viewers participate by sending in pictures and videos that are integrated into their weekly prerecorded segments.

We praise God for all of our friends, brethren, leaders and pastors, who under the coordination of Cristian Barrera—who also pastors the Wapato, Granger and Central Valley churches—plan, minister and produce HispanosUCC for the glory of God. We also deeply appreciate the brethren and friends who tune in daily and give this virtual church a reason to exist and to continue sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

SAUL DOMINGUEZ
Upper Columbia Conference Hispanic ministries and pastor

CÉSAR AND CAROLANN DE LEÓN
NPUC Hispanic ministries

Winter Fellowship Helps at Camp Tukuskoya

AFTER MANY MONTHS of wildlife being the sole company for quiet cabins by Flat Lake, human guests arrived at Camp Tukuskoya, located north of Anchorage. They built a bonfire by the lake and a fire in the lodge fireplace. Heat and music filled the lodge. Children ice skated, sledged and roasted hot dogs, while the social committee served hot drinks to guests from across Anchorage and the Mat-Su Valley.

About 15 people from five families camped in the lodge. Some of them got up early to circumnavigate the lake by dog sled or heavily tractioned running shoes before tackling camp improvements. One group piled brush for the wood chipper to cover muddy areas this spring. Another framed the partition for our newest cabin, Eagle/Polar Bear. A third group completed the wallboard installation and began painting living quarters for the first one-man mission trip camp ranger this summer.

Join Alaska Conference in prayer as they design financially and logistically viable ministry opportunities for the summer of 2021. Now more than ever, the Camp Tuk staff are grateful to provide a setting where campers can experience Christ in His great outdoors.

JERILYN BURTCH
Camp Tukuskoya board member

A volunteer parks their plane next to the makeshift ice rink.

Sharing His Word 'Bit' by 'Bit'

PLANNING A SCHOOL PROGRAM IS CHALLENGING ENOUGH WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT SOCIAL DISTANCING, MASK WEARING, SANITIZING AND SURVIVING A PANDEMIC.

Like it or not, COVID-19 was here, so Dillingham Adventist School needed to find alternate ways of sharing with family members, friends and the community.

The internet and social media are effective tools that allow fast and easy ways to communicate with several individuals in a well-organized manner. For this small school, using any platform outside of Facebook was something out of the ordinary. Now DAS had to do what most everyone was doing: learning how to make online schooling work efficiently. As scary and intimidating as this task appeared, it was also a perfect opportunity for the teacher and students to learn something new using project-based learning (PBL).

According to the Autodesk Foundation, one of the advantages to using PBL is significant improvements in classroom engagement. The platform also gives teachers the opportunity to build stronger relationships with students as they work together through the learning process. After significant time away from face-to-face classroom learning, these benefits seemed especially appealing. This wonderful instructional method allowed DAS students

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/116-3-AK-61](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/116-3-AK-61)



CHURCH

Declan Baumgartner, Dillingham Adventist School sixth grader, ensures the necessary equipment is connected to the computer.

to collaborate as they “learned by doing.”

Narrowing down what medium to use highlighted the Wi-Fi challenges of living in the Bristol Bay area. For those who have high-speed Wi-Fi service, YouTube and Instagram provide the best mediums for sharing. However, in Dillingham the church’s local radio station was the best platform.

The technology-rich era we live in makes connecting with family, friends and the community easy. However, it was PBL that allowed DAS students to collaborate, problem-solve, and enhance their creativity and critical thinking. Most importantly, technology is allowing the school a larger platform to proclaim the gospel message through their music and messages.

By God’s grace, DAS’s new outreach will help fulfill the Great Commission of Matthew 28, as it is the school’s mantra. Through the Holy Spirit’s working, the school will use



Kadence Bowers, fourth grader, and Erica Shade, ninth grader, work to position and focus the camera for shooting.

the tool God has blessed us with to present “Jewels for His Kingdom.”

The internet and social media are tools with the ability to reach every person even to the “uttermost parts of the earth.”

Please keep DAS in your prayers as the student body continues to learn and share His Word, bit by bit.

SUEAL CUNNINGHAM
Dillingham Adventist School head teacher

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-AK-63

EDUCATION

STUDENTS ENJOY P.E., ALASKA-STYLE

GOLDEN HEART CHRISTIAN SCHOOL in Fairbanks has a unique approach to kids getting to exercise as part of their school curriculum. Over the past few weeks, teachers lined up equipment so students can ski during school hours on a neighboring groomed ski trail.

Older students blaze the trail, while the younger and less-experienced skiers follow. If a novice skier falls or needs help, a more experienced student eagerly gets them back on their feet.

Physical education at GHCS is the last class of the day on Tuesday and Thursday. Head teacher Cindy Dasher expanded the class to an hour to allow more time to get equipment readied and clothing piled on to face the cold winter afternoons before heading out to the ski trail. Teachers and students alike look forward to the fun of ski days.

Nature has provided the perfect backdrop with the snow-covered mountains, ski trails and wildlife. Squirrels scamper up the trees while ravens soar above. One day, skiers saw an eagle flew (or at least what they thought was an eagle) fly high overhead, which is a rare sighting in winter in Fairbanks.

What a blessing to exercise and enjoy PE outdoors! Not only is it educational to learn to ski, but this provides excellent exercise for the students and perhaps encourages a lifelong love of skiing and enjoying God’s beautiful creation.

ANIKA BERGERON, BECCA BADOR AND IRELAND SHERLOCK
Golden Heart Christian School fifth graders

MORE ONLINE AT NWADVENT.ST/116-3-AK-67

LEADERS GROWING LEADERS



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Gem State Joins Idaho Interscholastic Sports

THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM HAS ALWAYS BEEN STRONG AT GEM STATE ADVENTIST ACADEMY IN CALDWELL, AND BASKETBALL HAS BEEN A BIG PART OF THAT. THROUGH THE YEARS, THE GEM STATE JAGUARS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN VARIOUS INTERSCHOLASTIC GROUPS, BUT IT HAS BEEN ALMOST 10 YEARS SINCE THEY WERE A MEMBER TEAM OF THE STATE LEAGUE.



• Jeremy Perkins, GSAA athletic director, petitioned to rejoin the Idaho athletic association for readmittance and Sabbath accommodations.

During in the 2019–2020 school year, Jeremy Perkins, GSAA athletic director, petitioned the state athletic association for readmittance. Once approved, Perkins petitioned to consider making allowances for Sabbath. This entire process of petitions, presentations and consideration took almost a year. In the end, the league granted both petitions, thanks to Perkins' ongoing efforts as well as the officials being familiar with the Sabbath precedent and accommodations set by

Oregon's Portland Adventist Academy.

Amid the pandemic, questions remained about what a basketball season would look like. The association developed a set of guidelines and requirements to allow the athletes to play with the hope everyone could be kept safe and healthy.

One of the requirements was no fans at the games. Parents and friends made the best of it, thanks to one of GSAA's very supportive volunteers, Harold Becker. At



All-star Caleb Smith spends time on the basketball court.

the beginning of the school year, Becker made it his goal to obtain and learn the equipment needed for livestreaming events, thus bringing GSAA to the community when the community could not come to campus.

The season proceeded successfully. By the end, GSAA boys ranked high enough to be invited to the district playoffs. As promised, the games in





Caleb Smith, GSAA senior, was selected to play in the all-conference and all-star games.

which GSAA were to play were scheduled outside of the Sabbath hours.

The boys' team advanced to play for third place. Although in the end they lost, GSAA students, staff and families were proud of the athleticism and, more importantly, sportsmanship of the players. In addition, senior Caleb Smith was chosen to play on the all-conference team and, from there, selected to play in the senior all-star game. Again, the Sabbath hours were taken into consideration when scheduling practices and games.

"Sports provide such great opportunities to learn life lessons," explains Perkins. "Developing the character to pick up when you fall and deal with ups and downs is something that will serve whether on the basketball court or on the job. Teamwork is another important skill for many areas of life."

As for sportsmanship, it is a priority, particularly as GSAA's teams have opportunity to witness while interacting with other schools. "And," says Perkins, "this starts with the coach. The coach has to model it."

GSAA participates in multiple sports in addition to basketball, including volleyball, cross-country, baseball and golf.

GSAA's mission is "Engaging in Service, Training for Leadership, Preparing for Eternity." The athletic program is one of the many ways staff and students strive to fulfill that mission.

MARTA STONE

GSAA teacher and campus communications assistant

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/116-3-ID-23](https://www.nwadventist.org/news/116-3-ID-23)

EDUCATION

SUPERINTENDENT REJOINS THE CLASSROOM

A SERIES OF CIRCUMSTANCES early into the new school year left Boise Valley Adventist School without a middle school teacher, and hiring so late in the season proved difficult. After a fervent but futile effort, the Idaho Conference superintendent, Patrick Frey, returned to the classroom to lend a hand. This is the first time since he's been the superintendent that he had to step back into the classroom as a teacher, a role he held for 30 years.

"My first day at school, students had to show me where everything was and what had been taught up to that point," Frey recalls. "The first week was a wild time, and I was flying by the seat of my pants. However, I was blessed by a really great group of students that were kind and patient with me as I learned."

Frey quickly embraced the classroom experience and dove into the curriculum. Staff admired his willingness to reacquaint himself with teaching in today's world after an eight-year absence. They noted his energy rivaled that of any child, and he had a great ability to relate with the students. Principal Ken Utt notes, "He has done a fantastic job of teaching and building student morale." In addition, Frey did an admirable job of continuing his superintendent duties while teaching full time.

Frey notes that one adjustment has been greeting the principal as "boss" and having the principal greet him the same in return depending on which hat he's wearing at the time. He hopes his efforts are helping to make a difference in the school and in the

lives of his students. "I feel very blessed to be in the classroom this year," he says. "It has been a great experience and has reminded me of all the hard work dedicated teachers do every day."

MELANIE LAWSON

Boise Valley Adventist School teacher



Idaho Conference education superintendent Patrick Frey has returned to the classroom temporarily.

MORE ONLINE AT
[NWADVENT.ST/116-3-ID-24](https://www.nwadventist.org/news/116-3-ID-24)

Camp Paxson Offers Memories and Jesus

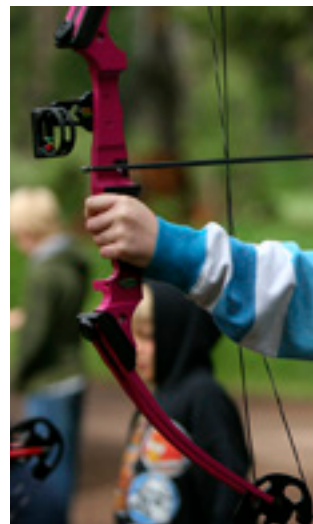
THE LAST MORNING OF CAMP PAXSON HAD ARRIVED, AND THE TYPICAL CRAZINESS OF THAT LAST DAY AT CAMP WAS IN PROGRESS. BREAKFAST WAS OVER, AND THEN BEGAN THE MAD RUSH TO GET ALL OF THE CAMPERS READY TO HEAD HOME.

The hour had arrived, and it was time to load the bus. Things were going as per usual – counting and recounting campers, making sure all of those campers had all of their gear and, of course, offering goodbyes. Those were always hard. That’s when word began to spread that one of the campers was trying to take a bat home – not of the baseball variety but of the rat-with-wings variety common around Camp Paxson.

Batboy was one of Casey’s kids, a group of kids that Casey Higgins, pastor, and his Helena Church would sponsor each year. For many of these kids, the week at Camp Paxson was one of the best weeks of their lives.

Batboy was soon receiving a pat-down from the bus driver, Ray Wheeling. Sure enough, Batboy had hidden a bat under his clothing. To be sure, he was highly disappointed he wasn’t leaving camp with a bat, but he was still leaving with something. He left with memories of Camp Paxson. He left with friends he had met.

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-MT-34 ⁺



He left with thoughts of water skiing, water toys, archery – a week of learning and fun. Most importantly though, he left knowing Jesus in a way he hadn’t before.

Camp Paxson has been and will continue to be a blessing. Campers will always take home two of the best things Adventist summer camps have to offer – memories and Jesus.





JIM JENKINS
Camp Paxson director



CHURCH

NORTON ACCEPTS CALL AS MONTANA PRESIDENT

KEN NORTON HAS ACCEPTED the Montana Conference's invitation to serve as the next conference president. This comes after the departure of Elden Ramirez to the North American Division. Norton and his wife, Julie, are moving from Guam, where Ken has served as the president of the Guam-Micronesia Mission since 2016.

Norton has a rich ministry history both in pastoral ministry and education. While president of the Guam-Micronesia Mission, he oversaw a mission field that sees numerous missionaries each year, many of them student teachers serving the mission's more than 10 schools. He has a passion for church planting and evangelism, having served as Florida Conference church planting director and as president/director of the Lay Institute for Evangelism.



Ken and Julie Norton

His more than 12 years of pastor ministry experience has included serving on the pastoral team of the Collegedale Adventist Church on the campus of Southern Adventist University in Tennessee. He also served as an adjunct professor at SAU.

"We believe God led us to choose Elder Norton and God has led him to accept our invitation to serve in Montana," says John Freedman, North Pacific Union president. "It will be God, in answer to prayer, who will make him a successful leader."

ANTHONY WHITE
*North Pacific Union Conference
associate communication director*

[MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/116-3-MT-94](http://NWADVENT.ST/116-3-MT-94)

EDUCATION

STUDENTS BECOME TOOTHPICK ENGINEERS

WHAT CAN YOU MAKE WITH 750 or fewer toothpicks and wood glue? This year all nine students in grades one to seven at Trout Creek Adventist School built toothpick bridges that spanned 12 inches and was 4 inches wide.

An idea bridge was presented to the students, then they started creating their own designs. The two students in grades one and two worked together to create a bridge, and the rest of the students worked independently.

Each bridge was named and the engineer also predicted how much weight they thought their bridge would hold. Last school year none of the bridges built held more than 200 pounds, so this year the students aimed to beat last year's record. Two students succeeded in reaching beyond 200 pounds, and all the bridges holding more than 100 pounds.

This project takes a lot of perseverance and precision. The contest was held at the local grange hall, and the crowd was loud and enthusiastic for every bridge builder. The local newspaper front-page story of the event generated a lot of attention. There is talk about adding an adult division for next year's contest.

MAURITA CREW
*Montana Conference assistant superintendent and
Trout Creek Adventist School head teacher*

[MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/116-3-MT-50](http://NWADVENT.ST/116-3-MT-50)

Gold Beach Food Bank Forges Deep Community Connections



"IT ALL STARTED WAY BACK IN THE '80S

when my grandson would not go to sleep," says Lila Thorp. "I drove him around town and up in the mountains and up the river on the back roads where we saw people who were houseless, cold, wet and hungry. My mother often came along, and we couldn't stand it. We'd drive home, get some food and blankets, and take the stuff back to the people who really needed it."

That car ministry soon outgrew what could fit inside a vehicle, and they began serving meals to their community in the Gold Beach Church fellowship room.

The little church may only have 47 members on the books, but more than a hundred folks come to the food bank every Tuesday for hot soup, shoes, perfect sandwiches and a food bank that looks like a mini supermarket. A table is lined with clothes, shoes, blankets and towels for people in need. People can select the produce and bulk food they prefer. There's always potatoes, fruit, fresh salad, cereals and canned vegetables.

"We're never sure where the stuff will come from," Thorp says, "but God always provides a sure supply. The Lion's Club and the electric company run food drives for us, and last month a lady came in, looked

around and wrote us a check for \$6,000."

The food bank takes a village of people to run it. Father Jim, the priest from the local Catholic church, says, "I love meeting people, and the people who come here really need help. Before we open the doors, I ask if anyone has a prayer request, then we pray for everyone."

"Prayer is about the most important thing we do," Thorp notes. "We pray for the people we're serving, for the police and for the community. I think the community's a better place because we're all praying all the time."

Randy is one of those who initially came for food assistance. "For a long time I was coming just because we needed the food," he says. "Tommy, one of the volunteers here, asked if I would help bring

• Though the food bank team is never sure where the stuff will come from, heaven always comes through.

some boxes inside. I guess I've been working here every week since."

Volunteers know most of their customers pretty well. When someone is missing at the Tuesday meal, they go search for them to make sure everything's okay. "We're more than cooks and grocery clerks," says Terry, one of the volunteers. "Sometimes we fix flat tires, fill gas tanks and meet other needs."

DICK DUERKSEN
Oregon Conference storyteller and storyteller

(From left) Volunteers include Barry Kimbrough, Gold Beach Church's pastor, and Theis Corneliussen, a truck driver.

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-OR-74 ⁺



PAA ACTIONS ADDRESSING RACISM

FOLLOWING THE tragic death of George Floyd last year, Portland Adventist Academy joined Adventist organizations worldwide in condemning violence and racism.

In written public statements PAA administrators announced their commitment to eradicating hate and violence and living out Christ's command to "love your neighbor as yourself." That commitment became action immediately:

- » The school began an educational partnership with the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.
- » PAA teachers and staff studied perspectives of black Americans.
- » Professional growth sessions continued this school year with the OJMCH. The school used Micah 6:8 to inspire its theme.
- » Seven more professional development sessions explored identity and intersectionality, inclusive education, and more. One session included alumni voices revealing experiences with racism at PAA.
- » Five PAA parent workshops with the OJMCH gave adults tools to talk to young people about racism.

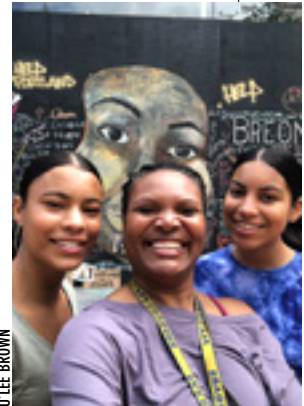
"We are only at the beginning of this journey," says Mechelle Peinado, PAA principal. "We must be purposeful in growing and learning about the experiences, challenges and barriers each of our students of color experience."

One PAA student deeply impacted by the social unrest last summer is senior Ulani Brown. She chose to use her senior project to explore racism in the Adventist Church. "What inspired me to choose my senior project was to be the change that I wanted to see," says Brown. "Living in a world full of racism is very difficult, but instead of running away from the problem I wanted to face it head on. ... I realized that it is more important to try and make a change in the community that I love rather than leaving it for someone else to do."

"We are committed to doing better and loving better both individually and as a whole school," says Peinado. "We are so grateful for our staff, families, students, church members and constituents of color. We look forward to learning more and growing into better advocates and partners."

Read more at paasda.org.

LIESL VISTAUNET
PAA Gleaner correspondent



U'LEE BROWN

PAA graduates (from left) Shaianne Willis-Brown (2018) and U'Lee Brown (1989), with PAA senior Ulani Brown, visited downtown Portland last summer to view art inspired by social injustice. See this entire mural at paasda.org.

[MORE ONLINE AT NWADVENT.ST/116-3-OR-85](http://NWADVENT.ST/116-3-OR-85)

Livestream this year's worships, seminars, workshops, children's programs and more from home, and/or join others in-person at a local church each evening!

Derek Morris,
Hope Channel president



John Bradshaw,
It Is Written president

“

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”

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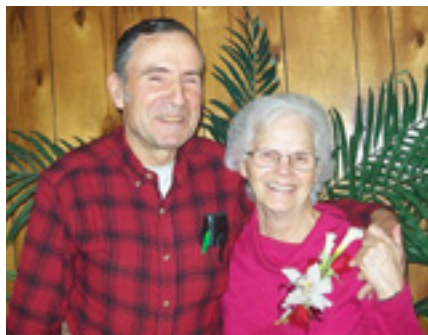
CHURCH

Showing Love to the Community

AT LOT HAS CHANGED SINCE A GROUP OF 50 MEMBERS OF THE BONANZA COMPANY MET ON JAN. 5, 1980, TO HOLD THEIR FIRST SERVICE IN THE BONANZA CITY LIBRARY IN SOUTHERN OREGON. WHAT HASN'T CHANGED IS THE ENERGY THESE BELIEVERS BRING TO SERVING THEIR LORD AND THEIR COMMUNITY.

NANCY YODER
Bonanza Church member

JUDY WHITLOCK
Bonanza Church communication leader



Bonanza Church charter members include Art and Jeanette Fry.

With the encouragement and guidance of Ray Erwin, pastor, and his wife, Dorothy, the Bonanza Company chose officers on Dec. 29, 1979. As the group began meeting in the library, the local café buzzed with the news, which in turn attracted visitors to Sabbath services. Jon Speyer agreed to speak, with assistance from his wife, Kinzie, in the Erwins' absence. They and the church were supported by the officers: Elbert Davis, head elder; Elsie Davis, Dorcas leader; Jim Yoder, treasurer; Nancy Yoder, Pathfinders; Art Fry, elder; Jeanette Fry, pianist and Pathfinders; Will Thompson, musician; Vicky Thompson, kids' classes; and many others.

In spite of near-death experiences and crowded conditions, the little company persevered over the last 40 years, finding prayer to be the key. Max Torkelson, former North Pacific Union Conference president, while making a surprise visit, commented on the group's remarkable togetherness as they partner to achieve their goals.

Members were soon busy presenting Vacation Bible School and a community Thanksgiving dinner. The church children's classes at the library became so crowded they moved outside in the summer of 1981. A small house with land was purchased,



Charter members Jim and Nancy Yoder attend the Sweetheart Brunch on Feb. 14, 2016.

and the first service was held there on Nov. 27, 1982. The company finally became an official church on April 23, 1983.

Darylene Dysert filled her van with people wanting to come to church. Nancy Yoder and Jeanette Fry organized an Adventurers club, which grew into a large Pathfinder club. Yoder spent 43 years in Pathfinder leadership.

Pathfinder Daisy Mae Yoder never let her severe handicap stop her desire to achieve. Following her death, her name was engraved on a Pathfinder achievement plaque at the conference office. Each year at camporee, a special Pathfinder or staff member is now honored and their name added to the plaque.

The church family needed more room, so Sid Dyer and Bob Roach were asked to work on plans for a new church and fellowship hall. Thanks to Maranatha volunteers, the church moved into the fellowship hall in 2015 and the sanctuary in 2017.

In spite of the recent pandemic, the Bonanza Church continues to help the community. The church has actually experienced growth in membership since COVID-19, while wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Its members are full of energy to serve the Lord and help their community. To quote one community member, "If you have a question about church involvement in the community, call the Adventist church. They care!" Bonanza Church is still alive for Jesus.

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-OR-58

CHURCH

Springfield Creates COVID-Safe Kid Connections

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-OR-53 +

COVID-19 MEANT online church at first and then no children's Sabbath School classes, even though members could gather at church in limited ways. "How can we get our families and especially our children involved in church?" Lutz Binus, Springfield Church pastor, was wondering.

• Springfield Church brought Sabbath School to the kids at their home.

He had an idea: to take Sabbath School to kids. He and a couple helpers got the Sabbath School papers together and some treats and started visiting each family with children regularly. Pretty soon the children were the first at the door when their pastor arrived.



As weeks turned into months, Binus started wondering if they could do a family worship time. He imagined filling 30 minutes of worship time with stories, songs and special features involving the young families. The Sabbath School teachers got excited and helped prepare fun craft and activity bags for every family. Whether they were able to come to church or watch the program at home, every child could participate.

These family worships had themes. One month they covered the adventures of Paul,

while another whole month focused on creation miracles. The Nativity theme included angels, shepherds and the birth of Jesus with different families and children taking turns to dress up as the characters of the story.

During the special Christmas service on Dec. 26, 2020, one family with young children, including a baby, dressed as the Nativity participants. The three older boys dressed as wise men and the newborn baby brother,



Theodore, acted as the baby Jesus and "no crying he made," just like it says in the Christmas carol. The parents played Mary and Joseph. The story featured the wise men, the gifts (presents) and how they followed the star to find baby Jesus to give Him their gifts.

Storyteller Cheryel Whitsell involved all the children as they followed a lighted star and an angel to see little baby Jesus quietly resting in his mother's arms. The three young "wise men" were perfect gentlemen during the presentation. "Theodore," Binus explained, "actually means 'gift of God.' So, your little boy is your gift from God, and Jesus is God's gift for all of us."

It was a very special service with carols, sermon, lights and joy – just what we all

needed during this time of the pandemic because "the people walking in darkness have seen a great light ... For to us a child is born" (Is. 9:2, 6).

Church families have been important to these projects. They have been involved in creative ways, like putting together Bible stories with Legos or sharing their rock collection during creation story time.

Now the Sabbath School teachers are planning for the next months' activities and programs – "The Circle of Love" and "Hosanna to the King" – with the hope that soon the children can all be back safely in their different classes.

CHERYEL WHITSELL
Springfield Church
communications leader

Albany Prophecy Seminar Brings Decisions for Christ During Pandemic

JEANIE HOOPER REED
Albany Church secretary

THE ALBANY CHURCH ACTIVELY PLANNED to share Jesus Christ with the community despite COVID-19 difficulties. Church leaders decide to host an in-person evangelism seminar at the beginning of 2021. Brian and Heidi McMahon were invited to share the good news of “Prophecy Unsealed” with the community and church family. The series began Feb. 13.

Multimedia promotions throughout the community led to positive responses, both directly to the local church office and via online registration. People volunteered to serve as staff, prayer team and musicians, and mailings were sent. Members wondered how COVID-19 would impact attendance, while trusting that God is in control of all things.

Guests and church members were very enthusiastic about opening night – the air seemed electric. COVID-19 precautions were followed and welcomed. Church member Mary Gaslin commented, “I joined the Adventist Church many years ago through a Revelation seminar. I have never seen our church members as excited and involved as we are now.”

During the three weeks of meetings, the prophecies of the Bible were laid out in logical order, each subsequent topic building onto the previous

topics. Brian McMahon calls his style of presentation “teaching,” rather than “preaching.”

People attending expressed serious interest in getting to know Jesus and His Bible better. Many guests responded they were convicted on the topic of the evening, whether about the Sabbath or other core Bible truths. Barry Taylor, Albany Church pastor, and Brian McMahon followed up on questions, interests or requests for visits, either in person or via phone.

As the baptismal candidate list developed, it



“Grandma” Elaine Marshall (middle) welcomes Robert Cunningham III, and his son, Bob, to the Albany Church family as they check over their baptismal certificates.

portrayed a wonderfully diverse representation of God’s children: new believers, youth of Adventist families, people who had left the church.

One such person, Robbie Gomon, was raised in a nonpracticing Catholic home. When he was “encouraged” to join the military as a way out of some trouble in his life, he did. In the military he was also encouraged to take advantage of the Sunday church services because, as the sergeant stated, “You won’t get any other time off.”

With his previous background, Gomon joined the Catholic lineup, but his Protestant buddies urged him to join them in their line, which he did. In those nondenominational services, he learned about a loving God. His heart was stirred.

After Gomon left the military and he and his wife moved to Albany, his wife attended church sporadically and shared about the Sabbath this church observed. Gomon was intrigued. Here at last was a church that obeyed all 10 commandments.

Gomon attended all of the recent Albany Church meetings. On March 13, he was joyfully baptized into a loving church family – one of 12 seminar attendees who have joined the Albany Church family through baptism as a result of this series of meetings.

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-OR-41

BIBLE READINGS
for

May

Follow the daily list and in one year you will have read the entire Bible.

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 Judges 13:1–14:20 John 1:29–51 Psalm 102:1–28 Proverbs 14:15–16
2 Judges 15:1–16:31 John 2:1–25 Psalm 103:1–22 Proverbs 14:17–19	3 Judges 17:1–18:31 John 3:1–21 Psalm 104:1–23 Proverbs 14:20–21	4 Judges 19:1–20:48 John 3:22–4:3 Psalm 104:24–35 Proverbs 14:22–24	5 Judges 21:1– Ruth 1:22 John 4:4–42 Psalm 105:1–15 Proverbs 14:25	6 Ruth 2:1–4:22 John 4:43–54 Psalm 105:16–36 Proverbs 14:26–27	7 1 Samuel 1:1–2:21 John 5:1–23 Psalm 105:37–45 Proverbs 14:28–29	8 1 Samuel 2:22–4:22 John 5:24–47 Psalm 106:1–12 Proverbs 14:30–31
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30 2 Samuel 15:23–16:23 John 18:25–19:22 Psalm 119:113–128 Proverbs 16:10–11	31 2 Samuel 17:1–29 John 19:23–42 Psalm 119:129–152 Proverbs 16:12–13	<p><i>For previous Bible Reading Plans, go to nwadvent.st/2021BibleReadingPlan.</i></p>				

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

New Spokane Christian Television Station Launched

More online at 
NWADVENT.ST/116-3-UC-88

IN FEBRUARY, a new Christian television station was launched in Spokane, Washington, with a different focus—African Americans. The station, Rays of Light TV, will serve as a delivery system for content produced by local Seventh-day Adventists pastors, churches and individuals around the country. In particular, it will carry programming produced by Adventists of color.

Rupert Salmon, who will become the first black Seventh-day Adventist to own a television station when he purchases Spokane's Channel 35 later this year, announced that Rays of Light TV will present a unique voice in the community.

"I feel quite strongly that God has called me to lead this ministry," says Salmon. "African Americans in Spokane have not really had Christian programming that speaks directly to them. What we are starting here is something special."

Channel 35 has been in operation in the Spokane area for several years. It has been operating as a ministry by a group of local churches and providing four Adventist channel streams to the local community.

When Salmon first began volunteering with Channel 35 as a consultant, the idea of buying the station was an impossible dream. Originally, Salmon had joined the Spokane Valley Adventist Church. His abilities led him to the church's audiovisual department and eventually to advising the group of churches that owned and operated Channel 35. However, the churches struggled to maintain the station financially.

After more than three years as a management consultant for the station, Salmon saw an opportunity to not only continue the ministry to the Spokane area but also expand the vision.



"The Word declares that 'things that are impossible with man are possible with God,'" says Salmon. "What was once an impossible dream for me, I can see God's hand in making it a reality."

Three of the Channel 35 streams will continue to rebroadcast Adventist programming, including local programming. The fourth stream, operating as Rays of Light TV, will focus on programming from people of color for people of color.

"These stations are providing hope and continuing the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church," says Salmon. "As with other ministries of this type, we are dependent on financial support from our viewers."

Rays of Light is currently showcasing the series *40 Days of Preaching, Teaching and Prayer*. This program is presented nightly, with the exception of Mondays, in collaboration with the North American Division prayer ministries department and the Office for Regional Conference Ministries. It can be accessed via Apple TV, Roku and Glorystar and by downloading the Rays of Light app. For more information on programming, how to watch and how to support this ministry, visit roltv.org.

DUSTIN JONES
*Upper Columbia Conference
communication director*

Upper Columbia President Hosts New Radio Series

MINNER LABRADOR JR., Upper Columbia Conference president, recently launched a new radio series, *Live by Faith*. Each week Labrador shares a short message of hope and renewal by focusing on topics such as being a blessing and a role model, dealing with loss, and how to be a successful Christian. The segments usually run about a minute and a half.

“With this series,” says Labrador, “we are able to speak directly to people in Spokane and the surrounding communities. These are important messages for our time to help those in need prepare for His soon return.”

The series has recently been picked up for rebroadcast by LifeTalk Radio nationwide. It is recorded in the Shine 104.9 (KEEH-FM) studio and reaches the Spokane, Washington, and Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, regions.

To listen to the podcast series, you can turn your radio to 104.9 FM in the Spokane area or 94.9 FM in Coeur d’Alene. You can also listen to *Live by Faith* online at uccsda.org/livebyfaith.

DUSTIN JONES

Upper Columbia Conference communication director

Minner Labrador Jr.,
UCC president



UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

LIVE

by
Faith

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-UC-83



CHURCH

SHINE 104.9 SHOWCASES CHANGED LIFE

DUSTIN JONES

JUSTIN FOUND HIMSELF in a rough patch. After turning to drugs and alcohol, he discovered he was getting in deeper and deeper. After 15 years and two suicide attempts, Justin hit rock bottom. His friends kept telling him, “The first thing you need to change is the music you listen to.” That’s when Justin found Shine 104.9 (KEEH-FM) in Spokane, Washington.

“God hit me right in the heart,” says Justin. He is now a leader in his church and celebrating two years sober. His story is part of a new promo for Shine 104.9. To watch the promo of how lives are being changed, go to news.uccsda.org/shine31721.

MORE ONLINE AT NWADVENT.ST/116-3-UC-91

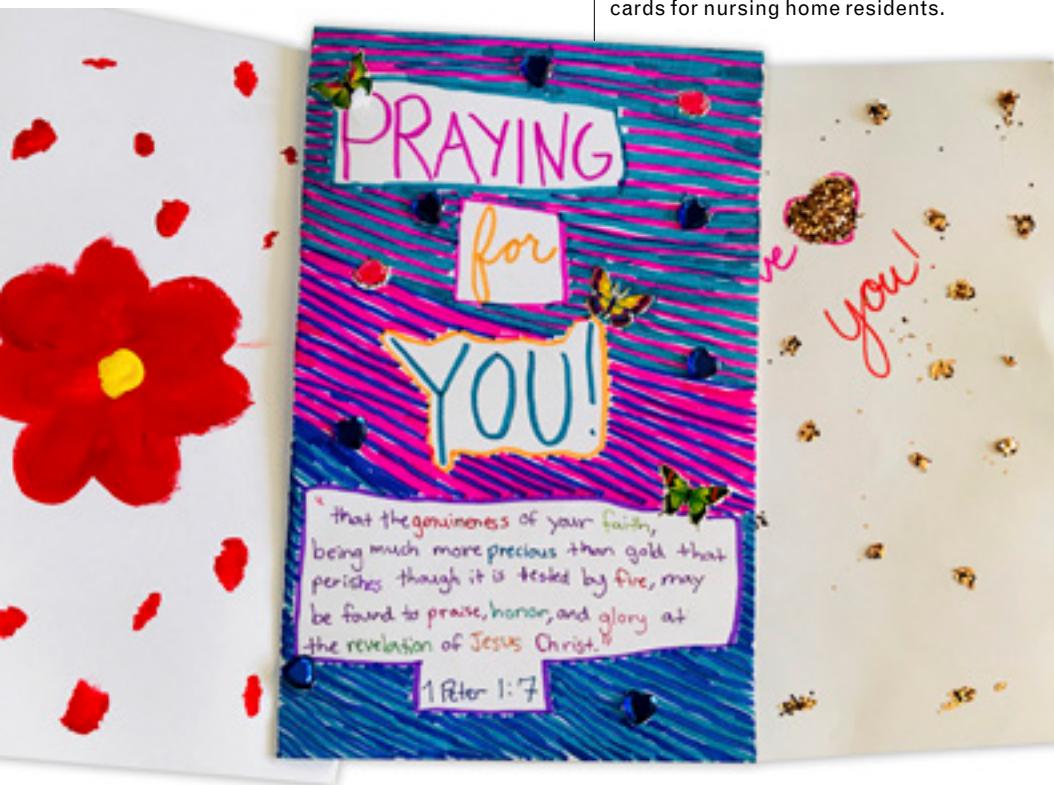
CHURCH

Kettle Falls Provides DVDs to Community

BEFORE THE PANDEMIC, A GROUP FROM KETTLE FALLS CHURCH IN NORTHEAST WASHINGTON USED TO GO ONCE A MONTH AFTER CHURCH TO SING TO TWO LOCAL NURSING HOMES. THE EVENT INCLUDED INSTRUMENTS, SPECIAL MUSIC AND A WORSHIP THOUGHT. THE RESIDENTS ENJOYED SINGING WHILE FOLLOWING ALONG IN THE SONGBOOKS. SOME JUST ENJOYED LISTENING TO THE SINGING.

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-UC-87

Children from Kettle Falls Church prepared cards for nursing home residents.



With COVID-19 restrictions in place, the group missed doing this outreach ministry. This brought up the idea to record the singing on DVDs to circulate among the residents of the nursing homes to watch and sing along.

Following church service one Sabbath this winter, the nursing home group got together. Church children made cards for the residents. Then the members spread out into five family groups in the church and sang some songs. There was also a beautiful special music on a harp and a solo by one of the children.

One of the members livestreamed the program so her sons across the country could watch. She invited others to watch the recording too. It turned out several people from all over joined the singalong. Some have not been able to attend in-person church since the start of the pandemic about a year ago, and they said it was such a blessing.

Kettle Falls Church members really wanted to take to heart Ps. 108:3-4: "I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations. For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds."

It was a wonderful blessing to sing together and bless others with music. The group enjoyed it so much they have decided to get together once a month, as they did before the pandemic, and record their singing. They can share the DVDs to the nursing homes, let people join them via livestream and distribute the recordings to anyone who would like a singalong DVD of hymns.

CHRISTINE WONG
Kettle Falls Church member

HEALTH

Chewelah Takes Steps to Health

THE HEALTH MINISTRIES

team at Chewelah Church wondered how to bring health to their community during the pandemic. The solution was to take their message virtual. That is how Steps to Health 2021 was born.

A series of four meetings covering NEWSTART, weight loss, heart health, and simple remedies – with healthy food demonstrations also included – was presented via Zoom (to allow for interaction) and YouTube. NEWSTART stands for nutrition, exercise, water, sunlight, temperance, air, rest and trust in God.

God has blessed these videos and allowed them to reach people from all over the world (Australia, England, Japan, Peru) who would have never been able to attend in person. The videos continue to reach people over time.

Interestingly, one member of the health team with relatives in Japan received a call from a cousin after she saw the NEWSTART presentation. The presenter had briefly mentioned Adventists do not believe in an eternally burning hell, and this generated a discussion about the state of the dead.

If you or anyone you know are interested in learning more about these health topics, please visit the Chewelah

Adventist YouTube website at news.uccsda.org/chewelah4121. All four presentations are available under the Steps to Health Playlist.

LARELEE MISSEGHERS
Chewelah Church member

- Eiji Minami (left) introduces Rosanna and Dave Reid (right), who demonstrated home remedies like fomentation.

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-UC-96



CHEWELAH ADVENTIST CHURCH

EDUCATION

‘ANYWHERE, ANYTIME, ANYONE’ SHAPES LIVES

STUDENTS AT Palisades Christian Academy in Spokane, Washington, felt the blessings of this year’s associated student body spiritual retreat. Due to pandemic restrictions, the retreat was held on campus rather than Camp MiVoden as usual.

The speaker for all five meetings, Minner Labrador Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president, has such a heart for teenagers and genuinely connected with them. Labrador centered his talks around the theme “Anywhere, Anytime, Anyone.”



“I felt as though Minner Labrador was talking straight to me,” says Hannah DePaula, a PCA ninth grader. “Each talk hit the point hard that God really loves us so much that He will try everything within His power to save each one of us.”

Tya Bourget, another ninth grader, shares what Labrador’s talks meant to her. “He touched so many hearts, including mine,” she says. “I feel he helped me realize that I don’t have to be a perfect ‘Christian’ to be saved”

Students enjoyed good food, fellowship and a 1950s party. Students participated in some of the oldies games like musical chairs and “On the Barrelhead.”

Freshman Haylee Simpson summed up the weekend: “No matter how many times I mess up, God will still forgive me and try to shape my life to follow whatever plans He has for me.”

RUTH LENZ
Palisades Christian Academy teacher

MORE ONLINE AT NWADVENT.ST/116-3-UC-78

CHURCH

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-UC-84 **+**

Upper Columbia Celebrates ‘Mission Ignition’

AT A STAFF RETREAT HELD MONDAY, MARCH 29, UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE CELEBRATED THE OFFICIAL KICKOFF FOR ITS “ONE MORE” CAMPAIGN. TITLED “MISSION IGNITION,” THE EVENT SERVED TO FOCUS STAFF AND DEPARTMENTS ON HOW BEST TO BRING ONE MORE TO THE KINGDOM.

“During these tumultuous times, our conference is singularly focused on serving Him and completing His mission,” says Minner Labrador Jr., UCC president. “In our churches, our schools and our communities, the love of Christ is so needed. It is our goal to support and inspire others to maintain focus and finish His work strong.”

Each director presented their department plans for 2021–2022 and how they would support the overall strategic plan. Initiatives ranged from building a new studio set for video recording to working with schools and churches to successfully navigate polarizing topics.

The overarching themes of the strategic plan are unity, engagement, equip and empower, and excellence. Each department organized their strategic priorities under

these themes to better facilitate a cohesive approach to the One More campaign.

“As we work together with one focus, we allow the Holy Spirit to better work through us to His glory,” says Labrador. “Jesus is coming again soon, and it is time for all of us listen to His calling, use our spiritual gifts and work to save as many as we can.”

The conference is planning several local workshops to train and empower churches to better connect with their communities and bring “One More” to the kingdom. These workshops will range from developing strong children’s programs to establishing a strong web presence and reaching out to those in

need through Adventist Community Services.

The One More campaign was developed during the constituency meeting of 2019. Work to establish the campaign began soon after. The campaign continues the mission of the conference to equip and empower churches and ministries that reach communities with the Christ-centered message of hope and wholeness.

More information about the One More campaign and the strategic plan of the conference will be released in the coming months. To learn more about what is happening in UCC, visit uccsda.org.

DUSTIN JONES
Upper Columbia Conference communication director

Eric Brown, UCC ministerial director, presents his department plan during the “Mission Ignition” planning event at the UCC office.



MISSION IGNITION



KATHY MARSON

BIBLE READINGS
for

Follow @NWAdventists
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JUNE

Follow the daily list and in one year you will have read the entire Bible.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 2 Samuel 18:1–19:10 John 20:1–31 Psalm 119:153–176 Proverbs 16:14–15	2 2 Samuel 19:11–20:13 John 21:1–25 Psalm 120:1–7 Proverbs 16:16–17	3 2 Samuel 20:14–21:22 Acts 1:1–26 Psalm 121:1–8 Proverbs 16:18	4 2 Samuel 22:1–23:23 Acts 2:1–47 Psalm 122:1–9 Proverbs 16:19–20	5 2 Samuel 23:24–24:25 Acts 3:1–26 Psalm 123:1–4 Proverbs 16:21–23
6 1 Kings 1:1–53 Acts 4:1–37 Psalm 124:1–8 Proverbs 16:24	7 1 Kings 2:1–3:2 Acts 5:1–42 Psalm 125:1–5 Proverbs 16:25	8 1 Kings 3:3–4:34 Acts 6:1–15 Psalm 126:1–6 Proverbs 16:26–27	9 1 Kings 5:1–6:38 Acts 7:1–29 Psalm 127:1–5 Proverbs 16:28–30	10 1 Kings 7:1–51 Acts 7:30–50 Psalm 128:1–6 Proverbs 16:31–33	11 1 Kings 8:1–66 Acts 7:51–8:13 Psalm 129:1–8 Proverbs 17:1	12 1 Kings 9:1–10:29 Acts 8:14–40 Psalm 130:1–8 Proverbs 17:2–3
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For previous Bible Reading Plans, go to nwadvent.st/2021BibleReadingPlan.

YOUTH

Youth Show 3 Ways to Be the Sermon

PACIFIC ISLANDER AND HISPANIC YOUTH IN WESTERN WASHINGTON LED THE COMMEMORATION OF GLOBAL YOUTH DAY ON MARCH 20 THROUGH THREE KEY ACTIVITIES: A WEEKEND RALLY, COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS AND BAPTISMS.

“Washington youth did an excellent job of showing faith, creativity, resolve and courage to #BeTheSermon even during a pandemic,” says David Salazar, Washington Conference youth director. “They reached out across cultures, colors and community.”

The 2 Percent

by Dannelly Boggs, AAA student

The Pacific Islander community, who make up 2% of the Adventist world

The Pacific Islander community makes up 2% of the Adventist world church and represent a growing community in the Pacific Northwest.



church, held a rally at Auburn Adventist Academy Church to encourage youth and young adults on pushing forward with God.

Naomi Mulitauaopele Tagaleo'o, executive director of the Education with a Purpose Foundation for Pacific Islanders, joined the program virtually to share her testimony of graduating from Stanford University and starting an educational program for young people.

Ofa Langi, Auburn City Church pastor, described starting a drive-through food site to help provide fresh produce to families in desperate need after the pandemic began. Auburn City Church's mission expanded to include financial aid and helping people find health care, as well as hosting free COVID-19 testing.

Then Olga Falakiseni, a pastor from Texas, recorded a powerful poem explaining how, while growing up, she embraced being different in her home. To finish, Rome Ulia, Auburn Academy Church pastor, shared how, even though life has been hard, you need to give it everything you got and do it for the Lord.

The afternoon also



included contests, testimonies, sermons and worship. By the end, three people were baptized and many more asked to be.

Where There Is Food

by David Salazar

It's often said in ministry that, where there is food, there you will find people. Hispanic Youth Federation for Global Youth Day recruited youth from nine churches—Auburn, Auburn-Triumph, Bellevue, Burien, Federal Way, Kenmore, Lynnwood, Renton and White Center—to distribute 588 food boxes.

Tacoma Hispanic youth reached out to their youth group and hosted an open house to share friendship and



- Eli Campbell makes a personal choice for Jesus.

God is moving in the Pacific Islander community to transform hearts of old and young alike.



Rome Ulia, associate pastor of the Auburn Adventist Academy Church.

champurrado, a warm and thick Mexican chocolate-based drink. Bellingham Spanish youth held a similar type of gathering with interactive activities.

KhaiKhai Cin, a pastor working with the Burmese community in western Washington, was invited “back home” to Michigan’s Grand Rapids and Battle Creek Zomi Adventist youth to encourage them to reach out to others.

A Personal Choice for Jesus

by Heidi Baumgartner,
Washington Conference
communication director

When Port Orchard Church reopened its facility and began offering children’s classes again, Eli Campbell started



showing up with his mother. One week Campbell witnessed a baptism. This stirred something in his heart, and he told the interim pastor, David Salazar, he was interested in Bible studies.

“Eli is always so excited to study the Bible,” Salazar says. “Most people seem to dread

online meetings. Not this kid! He kept it up because he said it was his choice.”

In all, three Port Orchard pastors – Salazar, Dustin Serns and Natalie Dorland – were part of discipling this young man. All three were present for his baptism on Global Youth Day.

Ofa Langi, Auburn City Church pastor, shares stories about how God is greatly providing for feeding the community through weekly food boxes. The church’s volunteer base includes many young adults.



More online at
NWADVENT.ST/116-3-WA-56



Souper Service Feeds Bonney Lake

IF RESTAURANTS can have curbside food pickup, why can't the church do something similar? In a defining moment, the youth and young adults of Bonney Lake Church answered that question and found a ministry outlet: a drive-through soup kitchen.

The young people had been studying the story of the Good Samaritan and were brainstorming ways they could serve their community. Every idea presented a pandemic-related hurdle—that is, until the curbside idea.

With a vision in mind,

leaders Marty Beard, Kaitlyn Herman and Mikeala Herman pitched the idea to the church board and obtained permission to use the church's front entry and parking lot.

"After we got our food handler's training, we began reaching out to community partners to advertise," shares Kaitlyn Herman. "We talked with the food bank, the senior center and the local grocery stores. We also posted on our community Facebook group."

The church's history of community service served as a benefit for establishing or

reestablishing contacts for sharing advertising handouts and receiving donated goods.

With just enough planning and plenty of prayer, the volunteers offered the first drive-through soup pickup and served 81 meals to their neighbors the last Saturday of October 2020. The next month was significantly smaller in turnout, yet the volunteers—a combination of youth, young adults and parents—persisted. Now, they serve about 50–55

• Chef Mikeala Herman and her sister Kaitlyn Herman prepare hot soup to serve to their community.

meals the last Saturday of each month.

"God keeps showing us His better plans," Herman says. "And we've learned that Instant Pots are our friends."

Each meal features a vegetarian or vegan soup option (prepared by chef Mikeala Herman with sous chef assistance), bread (now donated by Oroweat Bakery Outlet), fruit cups and other food items to round out the meal-to-go. Guests can choose from the available soup options and place their "order" when they arrive. There are even treats available for four-legged friends.

"We see both new and familiar faces, and we're starting to build relationships," Beard says. "It's a reality check when you realize many of the people are living in their cars or on the street."

"You can see the worry and stress of pandemic on people's faces," Herman says. "There is a lot of appreciation for the warmth of human interaction."

"We usually have an opportunity to listen and pray with people," Beard says. "We always pray beforehand that the Holy Spirit will guide our interactions."

Ultimately, Herman notes, "We want to provide both physical and spiritual food."

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER
Washington Conference
communication director

More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-WA-49

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

4 Ways to Aid Refugees

IMAGINE YOU WERE GIVEN THREE DAYS TO PRODUCE CERTAIN CITIZENSHIP PAPERWORK. IF YOU RESIST, YOU WILL EITHER LOSE YOUR LIFE, END UP IN JAIL OR BE FORCIBLY RELOCATED.

This is part of the story of Santa Pradhan, who fled with her family in 1992 from Bhutan, a small country in the Himalayas.

"I grew up in a refugee camp in Nepal," Pradhan recounts. "I have more memories of the refugee camp than I do of my own motherland. Often the rations were not enough; however, scarcity taught me to be stronger."

Pradhan and her family lived in the refugee camp for 18 years, continually hoping to go back home. In 2008, they applied for resettlement in the United States. It took three years until the family was reunited.

"God sent many angels to help me when I first settled here," Pradhan remembers.

It's not easy to get started in a new community, and that's where resettlement agencies like World Relief Seattle come in.

A caseworker met Pradhan at the airport, took her to a furnished apartment and showed her how to use the oven, the thermostat, hot and cold water, and even a flushing toilet. Caseworkers, volunteers and instructors helped Pradhan quickly adjust to living, working and being self-sufficient in a new culture.

"My voice was suppressed for 18 years, so it was hard to learn how to speak up," shares Pradhan, who now serves as an employment manager for World Relief Seattle.

Washington is the fourth most welcoming state for refugees, with most



COLETTE NEWER

Lauren Epperson, an elder at Refuge Church and a caseworker for World Relief Seattle, interviews and interacts remotely with her colleagues Santa Pradhan and Chitra Hanstad to provide churches with information and education about walking alongside refugees.

currently arriving from the Ukraine, Afghanistan and the former Soviet Union.

With an anticipated uptick in refugee resettlement expected this fall, Refuge Church in Seattle (a young adult church plant) and Washington Conference outreach ministries hosted a webcast with World Relief Seattle to learn how church families can walk with refugees in their resettlement journey.

In the webcast, Chitra Hanstad, World Relief Seattle executive director, shared four ways for you and your church to be involved:

» **Advocate:** Advocacy starts with listening and learning. World Relief Seattle, for example, offers to interact with virtual house parties where you and your friends can learn more about supporting refugees and calling senators and representatives on behalf of refugee resettlement issues.

» **Volunteer:** Whether virtual or in-person, volunteers are needed for tutoring children and adults, helping with garden work parties, and assisting with family support. This commitment can be one-time or repeated over time.

» **Donate:** Welcome kits are one of the needed items for refugees and a project a

church could adopted. A list of items is available.

» **Pray:** God has so many answers to prayer ready to offer because those closest to His heart are the widow, the orphan and the refugee.

"Wherever you live, get involved," says Hanstad. "These are mutually beneficial relationships. As we are in relationship, misconceptions are torn down. It will transform your heart."

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER
Washington Conference communication director

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/116-3-WA-48](https://www.nwadvent.org/st/116-3-wa-48) +

CHURCH

LACEY FOSTERS INTERGENERATIONAL FELLOWSHIP DESPITE ISOLATION

JASON CANFIELD'S last sermon before COVID-19 pandemic closures was about being a community in Christ and not forsaking assembling together. Little did he know the extent of what the next year of ministry would entail for Lacey Church and countless others throughout the world.

"Like most pastors, I began scrambling to find ways to hold the church together and minister to my church family," Canfield remembers. "After the first week passed, I realized that something needed to be put in place to fill the void that existed from the lack of fellowship in community."

Looking for options, Canfield found thousands sermons online, yet very few options that would allow all generations to interact in



genuine fellowship and be spiritually fed.

The breakthrough came when a Sabbath School teacher decided to host a class on Zoom videoconferencing so adults could interact for an online Bible study time. "That one class created a spark that turned into a flame," Canfield says. "One week later we not only had two adult classes (one quarterly and one nonquarterly), we also had earliteen/youth, juniors, primary, kindergarten and beginner classes. A few weeks later we added a collegiate class, with a young member leading from over three hours away."

At its peak, more than 70 devices (often representing multiple people) logged in weekly for Sabbath School. The church utilized its Zoom Pro account to recreate a reoccurring meeting ID. All participants initially met in a shared Zoom space before dismissing into breakout rooms. When the class ended, all ages then rejoined for the sermon time.

"Sabbath School was designed to be a place of rich fellowship and growing together as a church family," Canfield says. "Several parents shared how much it meant to them that we created a space for every age. A focus on intergenerational relationships is aiding us in sharing the love of God that brings hope, healing and peace through Jesus Christ to our community."

[MORE ONLINE AT NWADVENTST/116-3-WA-57](https://www.nwadventst.org/116-3-WA-57)

Washington Conference
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HEALTH

Adventist Health Care in the Pacific Northwest

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GLEANER AS THEY MARK THEIR 115TH ANNIVERSARY OF SHARING NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE! ADVENTIST HEALTH IS GRATEFUL TO BE PART OF THIS MINISTRY BY PROVIDING HOPE AND HEALING TO THE COMMUNITIES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

In celebration and reflection of this shared purpose, Alex Bryan, Adventist Health chief mission officer and a Washington resident, offers his thoughts on the history of Adventist health care in the Pacific Northwest.

Question: When did the Seventh-day Adventist health care presence begin in the Pacific Northwest, and where are the Adventist Health hospitals in this region now?

Answer: Pacific Northwesters are trailblazers and often on the leading edge of progress. In 1893, Lewis Belknap, an Adventist physician who had studied under John Harvey Kellogg, moved to Portland, Oregon, and launched the Portland Sanitarium. Six years later, Isaac and Maggie Dunlap (a physician and a nurse, respectively) began treating patients on the campus of Walla Walla College. Their work matured into the formation of a sanitarium in 1907. Adventist Health now operates two hospitals and more than 35 clinics in the Pacific Northwest.

Q: Why is it important for Seventh-day Adventists to be involved in caring for people's health and well-being? Does Adventist health care as a whole support the mission of the church?

A: To follow Jesus is to be a healer, plain and simple. The Gospels are marinated in medical miracles. The grand finale of the gospel epic is the resurrection; life prevails over death. Ellen White and the first Adventists went *all in* on the Great Physician's vision with a powerful health message. What is the Second Advent? "No more death or crying or pain" (Rev. 21:4). So how do we live as hopeful Adventists? We actively provide

healing and hope amid death, crying and pain. Adventist health care is, along with our churches that preach and our schools that teach, the mission of Christ in action.

Q: With the rich health care history we have, how is

Adventist Health working to improve the future of health care and in the Pacific Northwest specifically?

A: Adventist Health is on the leading edge of envisioning well-being and health in America. For example, Adventist Health recently

acquired Blue Zones. Dan Buettner, the founder of Blue Zones, discovered that the habits of longer and better life in the 21st century were what? The habits taught by Ellen White and the first Adventists back in the 19th century! This "good news" has now been operationalized, and the expertise of Blue Zones has helped numerous communities become healthier by essentially teaching people to live an *Adventist lifestyle*. Adventist Health now oversees their work across the country, and the first new community we are investing in is Walla Walla, Washington.

BRENDAN COLLINS

Adventist Health Office of Mission project manager

ALEX BRYAN

Adventist Health chief mission officer

Portland Sanitarium.



More online at NWADVENT.ST/116-3-AH-70

WWU Student Missionaries Experience Life

THE WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY STUDENT MISSIONS PROGRAM IS CELEBRATING ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR. WE CAUGHT UP WITH TWO STUDENTS — KRISTEN ZOLLBRECHT AND MARTESSA DAVIS — SERVING THE NAVAJO NATION IN ARIZONA DURING THE 2020–21 SCHOOL YEAR.



WWU: Where are you working this year?

Davis: We are doing children's ministry in Chinle, Arizona, right in the heart of the Navajo Nation. The Navajo culture is unique and beautiful, and I feel privileged to have such a diverse opportunity even in the United States. We live at 5,500 feet above sea level, so our winter months are not Arizona's stereotypical mild weather. My duties include leading in-home Bible studies, planning and leading addiction prevention programs at kids' homes, teaching kids' Sabbath school, and cohosting weekly kids' addiction-prevention radio programs.

Kristen Zollbrecht: Every week we write, record and edit a six-minute radio segment that is aired across the reservation on Sunday. Three days a week we have kids' meetings at the church, where we do music, stories and crafts. On the other days we visit several families at their homes and do Bible studies.

WWU: What are some of the highlights so far?

Davis: Many here are slow to trust because of painful pasts. Like closed rosebuds hugging themselves tightly for protection, these souls ache for sunlight. When I let Jesus shine through me, a transformation takes place before my eyes — their petals unfold. ... Somehow, I get to watch Jesus warm their rosebud hearts and open their petals to His love. I am honored to be Jesus' heartbeat to the hurting.

WWU: Are there any Bible stories that have really come alive for you this year?

Zollbrecht: Yes, when Nehemiah was rebuilding the wall, his enemies tried to get him to come down from where he was laying bricks and stop working. But he said, "I am doing a great work so that I cannot come down. Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?" (Neh. 6:3, NKJV). God has given each of us a great work to do. It might be kids' ministry like I am doing here or simply finishing a degree in school. Satan tries hard to distract us.

• Martessa Davis and Kristen Zollbrecht are providing programs and support for Navajo children.



• Kristen Zollbrecht (left) and Martessa Davis are working as WWU student missionaries in Chinle, Arizona.



• Zollbrecht says watching God transform lives is one of the best parts of her work.

Nehemiah had the focus and guts to give a straight “no,” and that has inspired me to narrow down what my focus is and be OK with saying “no” because it allows me to say “yes” to my great work.

WWU: Has there been anything that surprised you?

Davis: I think it’s safe to say there is a surprise awaiting me every day. One particular surprise is how westernized many Navajos have become. Few speak fluent Navajo anymore, and sighting someone in traditional clothing is rare. It is also shocking how poverty-stricken this area of America is. Our neighbor friends live in a small shack with no running water. Many literally freeze to death without adequate heat. Another surprise is the plethora of wild horses. It is not uncommon to spot a herd galloping past our church. There are also many shepherds. Sometimes we are stopped on the highway due to a flock of sheep crossing.

WWU: How has this experience affected your personal walk with God?

Davis: Something that has really impacted me is how often everyone around here prays. More than that, people here really believe in the power of prayer. ... I am



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/116-3-wwu-71](https://www.nwadvent.org/st/116-3-wwu-71)

• Taking a little break from the student missionary duties, Martessa Davis (left) and Kristen Zollbrecht enjoy exploring the nearby rock mesas and canyons.

learning to ask God for more in prayer and lean more on His strength. The more God answers my prayers, the more my faith is strengthened.

WWU: How have you seen God working?

Zollbrecht: There is one lady who Martessa and I study with every week. She had her son taken away from her about two years ago. She has been praying he would be able to come home. Just a few weeks ago her prayers were answered, and that little boy is now back at home. God really does answer prayers.

WWU: What advice would you give students looking into a year as a student missionary?

Zollbrecht: Martessa and I have been so much stronger working together than

we would have been separate. Reach out to a friend who you would like to work with and invite them to apply. You never know if they will come along too!

Davis: Slow down enough to cherish and inhabit each moment—engage. People are more important than tasks. Prioritize people. Show that you care genuinely by listening without an agenda. ... Most of all, take time to pray. Connection time with Jesus is what fuels every other interaction. Find a spot, find some time, find tea and settle down with Jesus every day. I promise it will make a difference.

Read the complete interviews at [wallawalla.edu/news](https://www.wallawalla.edu/news).

KIERSTEN EKKENS
WWU university relations student writer

Reiswig 50th

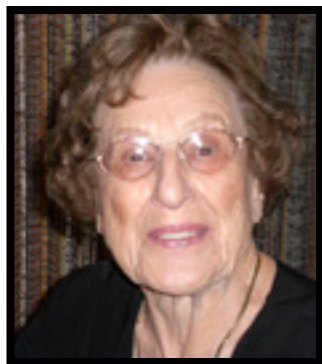
Glen and Carole Reiswig celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 15, 2021, in Chelan, Washington. They were married on Jan. 15, 1961, after meeting in grade school.

The couple lived in Wenatchee, Washington, running an orchard business for more than 30 years before moving to Wauconda, Washington.

The Reiswig family includes Shannon and Jodi Reiswig of Leavenworth, Washington; Jennifer (Reiswig) and Lance Urwin of Ephrata, Washington; Cassandra (Reiswig) Butler of Salem, Oregon; and 8 grandchildren.

Rudy 100th

Berniece Rudy celebrated her 101st birthday on April 5, 2021, in Spokane, Washington, at the Royal Park Retirement Center with only a few family members, because of COVID-19 restrictions. She celebrated her



Berniece Rudy

100th birthday in 2020, without family, due to COVID-19.

Berniece Elizabeth Dick was born April 5, 1920, in Portland, Oregon. She was the second of four children of Carl and Matilda Dick.

She graduated from Laurelwood Academy in 1938

and attended Walla Walla College where she met and married Delbert J. Rudy in 1941. They had two children, Kenneth Richard and Virginia "Ginger" Elizabeth, and lived in Thornton/Oakesdale, Washington, area most of their 73 years of married life. Berniece now lives in Spokane.

Berniece's family includes Ken and Joan Rudy of Spokane, Washington; Ginger and Jim Edwards of Fairfield Glade, Tennessee; 4 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, a great-grandchild, a step-great-grandchild and a great-great-grandchild.

family AT REST

APT – Russell Neal, 96; born Jan. 17, 1924, Fresno, California; died Nov. 26, 2020, Corvallis, Oregon. Surviving: son, Bill, Portland, Oregon; daughter, Gloria Rasmussen, Corvallis; 2 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

BACON – Steven Dale, 65; born May 11, 1955, Glendive, Montana; died June 9, 2020, Sequim, Washington. Surviving: wife, Cindy (Thomsen); daughter, Amanda Lynn Bacon, Sequim; father, Bill, Sequim; and brother, Scott, Sequim.

BISHOP – Patricia Ann (Wilson) Huber, 69; born Dec. 20, 1950, Roseburg, Oregon; died Nov. 17, 2020, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Surviving: husband, Jim; stepdaughter, Jennifer Bishop, Vancouver, Washington; brother, Norm Wilson, Lebanon, Oregon; sisters,

Connie Boskind, Ridgefield, Washington; and Jeanne Battenburg, Port Hadlock, Washington.

BOYD – Keith O., 89; born Aug. 17, 1931, Jamaica, West Indies; died Sept. 10, 2020, Palm Springs, California. Surviving: wife, Valda (Morrison) Boyd, Loma Linda, California; daughters, Karita Goulbourne, Yucaipa, California; June Robinson, Temecula, California; Karen Beard, Port St. Lucie, Florida; and 7 grandchildren.

CASEBOLT – Gerald, 95; born July 22, 1925, The Dalles, Oregon; died Sept. 1, 2020, Tucson, Arizona. Surviving: wife, Shirley (Barnett); son, Don Casebolt, Santa Maria, California; daughters, Challis Lutes, North Bend, Oregon; Carol Casebolt, Perth Australia; Melanie Casebolt, Vancouver, Washington; stepdaughters, Rosalie (Lockard) Mashtalier, Vail, Arizona; Debbie (Lockard) Singleton, Waveland, Mississippi; brothers, Don, Walla Walla, Washington; Bryce, Covington, Washington; Wilfred Casebolt, Walla Walla; sister, Lillian Christian, La Center, Washington; 6 grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

CRUMLEY – Florence H. (Dick), 96; born Sept. 30, 1924, Portland, Oregon; died Dec. 13, 2020, St. Joseph, Michigan. Surviving: son, Jack, Lacey, Washington; daughters, Dorothy Carscallen, Berrien Springs, Michigan; Linda Dassenko, Charlotte, North Carolina; 6 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

DAHL – Arthur Daniel, 102; born Feb. 21, 1918, Loyalist, Alberta, Canada;

died Oct. 18, 2020, Clinton, Washington. Surviving: son, Cyril, Jacksonville, Florida; daughters, Alena Jordan and Connie Streifling, both of Clinton; brother, Alfred, Winston, Oregon; sister, Dee White, Winston; 9 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 9 great-great-grandchildren.

DAVIS – Deanna, 69; born May 23, 1951, Seaside, Oregon; died Aug. 31, 2020, Caldwell, Idaho.

DELLA – Naomi Ruth, 96; born May 24, 1924, Portland, Oregon; died Nov. 3, 2020, College Place, Washington. Surviving: son, Jonathan M. Della, Lynnwood, Washington; stepson, Michael H. Dell, Spokane, Washington; and daughter, Jennifer A. Della, College Place.

HALL – M. Ed, 80; born May 23, 1940, Tonasket, Washington; died Aug. 12, 2020, Fresno, California. Surviving: wife, Joyce (Wolfe); daughters, Tamara Hall Fuchs, Enterprise, Oregon; Terri Hall Haskins, Myrtle Creek, Oregon; stepdaughter, Jody Foutz, Fresno; brother, Don, Indio, California; sister, Shirley Holmes, Chewelah, Washington; 8 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

HOLT – Joe R., 84; born Nov. 6, 1936, Wyandotte, Oklahoma; died Aug. 27, 2020, Hood River, Oregon. Surviving: wife, Nadine (Christopher); son, Randy, Hood River; and a grandchild.

KRAFT – Dallas G., 68; born July 20, 1952, Billings, Montana; died Nov. 7, 2020, Eagle, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Susan; son, Jeremiah, Mile City, Montana; daughter, Cherie Reynolds, Eagle; and 2 grandchildren.

KROMMINGA – An-Maria (Jackson), 84; born March 23, 1936, Yakima, Washington; died Aug. 21, 2020, Benton City, Washington. Surviving: sons, Charles E., Benton City; Donovan R., Tacoma, Washington; stepdaughter, Nancy Penarick; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

MARTIN – Sandra L., 72; born Nov. 26, 1947, Santa Barbara, California; died Oct. 25, 2020, Eugene, Oregon. Surviving: son, Mark McGown, of California; sisters, Penny (Martin) Bryant, Aurora, Colorado; and Linda (Martin) Charles, Springfield, Oregon.

ROSEMARK – Downey L., 79; born Dec. 17, 1940, San Antonio, Texas; died Dec. 12, 2020, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Arlene (Hale); son, Troy Rosemark, Post Falls, Idaho; daughter, Melody (Rosemark) Getzer, Miami, Florida; stepdaughters, Sheri Grindley, Boise; Sandy (Grindley) Ward, Boise; sister, Nancy (Rosemark) Tomsic, Bedford, Virginia; 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

STOWELL – Benjamin Harrison, 92; born Sept. 17, 1928, Minneapolis, Minnesota; died Dec. 1, 2020, Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: wife, Delores (Paulson), College Place, Washington;

son, Robert, Walla Walla; daughters, Karen Lafferty, Walla Walla; Lavon Metzker, Troy, Idaho; brother, Darril, Cleburne, Texas; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

TADEJ – Peter T., 94; born Aug. 20, 1925, Fort Benton, Montana; died March 27, 2020, Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: wife, Eleanor Jean (Lorenz); sons, Gerald, Scottsdale, Arizona; Keith, Santa Clara, California; and daughter, Lana Fletcher, Chehalis, Washington.

THIEL – Shirley Miriam (Owens), 92; born May 23, 1927, Ann Arbor, Michigan; died March 24, 2020,

Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: sons, Arthur, Redlands, California; Loren, Douglas, Wyoming; Norman, Walla Walla; daughter, Nancy Thiel, Tacoma, Washington; and 7 grandchildren.

WILSON – Virginia H. (Owens), 100; born Aug. 14, 1919, Cottage Grove, Oregon; died July 8, 2020, Vancouver, Washington. Surviving: son, Norman, Lebanon, Oregon; daughters, Connie Boskind, Ridgefield, Washington; Jeanne Battenburg, Port Hadlock, Washington; 6 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

WOLD – Dolores (Siegle), 89; born April 25, 1931, Glendive, Montana;

1935–2021

CHARLES CLAYTON

Charles Clayton Horner was born June 4, 1935, in Salem, Oregon.

He graduated Laurelwood Adventist Academy in 1954 and Walla Walla College (now University) School of Engineering in 1958, with a degree in mechanical engineering. He married Janice Young, also a student at WWC. Chuck interned with the Army Corps of Engineers until being drafted into the U.S. Army in 1958. After his service ended in 1960, he returned to the Corps. In 1964, he transferred to Portland, Oregon, until he retired in 2000 after 40 years.

Chuck built his family's home in Hillsboro, Oregon. He saw himself as a gentleman farmer and started a small nursery. Chuck was not afraid to knock out walls and redesign spaces. He led the addition of the fellowship hall, sanctuary and redesigned foyer for his home church, Hillsboro Adventist Church. In his retirement, Chuck remodeled his and Janice's snowbird home in Tucson, Arizona, and summer quarters in Ryderwood, Washington.

Chuck was 85 when he went to his rest on Jan. 26, 2021, surrounded by family. He is survived by his wife of 63 years; twin brother, James, Portland; his children, Mark, Scappoose, Oregon; Cary Ursino and Sherri Houston of Kirkland, Washington; Steve, Fallon, Nevada; Beth Plush, Oak Harbor, Washington; 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.



1939–2020

VERGIL E. HANSEN

Vergil E. Hansen, 82, of Emmett, Idaho, passed away on Nov. 17, 2020, with complications from diabetes, cardiac disease and pneumonia. He was born Feb. 25, 1939, in Paso Robles, California.

Vergil graduated in 1959 from Auburn Adventist Academy, where he met the love of his life, Julia Arlene Carter. They married on April 30, 1961, in Ballard, Washington, and made their home for 30 years in Sandpoint, Idaho. They had two daughters, Zendi Meharry of Emmett and Lana Hauge of Tacoma, Washington; and a son, Mark Hansen of Redlands, California.

An active member of the church, Vergil volunteered his time regularly. His career moved in many directions: He worked as a residential contractor, owned and operated Star Supply (a plumbing and electrical store), managed retirement centers for Holiday Retirement, and drove Access bus for King County until his retirement in 2009.

Vergil is survived by his wife, Julia Arlene Carter Hansen; his sister Elsie Hansen Gossett of Covington, Washington; his three children and 9 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his sister Euella Hansen Roy of Kent, Washington in 2019.

"Bye, Pops ... see you in heaven."



died Oct. 8, 2020, Billings, Montana. Surviving: daughters, Claudia Brisbin, McMinnville, Oregon; Lonna Lindsay, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Renee Albert, Park City, Montana; brothers, Raymond Siegle, Belgrade, Montana; Robert Siegle, Glendive; David Siegle, Miles City, Montana; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

WOODRUFF—Melvin Ray, 78; born Nov. 29, 1942, Mountain Home, Idaho; died Oct. 19, 2020, Grants Pass, Oregon. Surviving: wife, Virginia “Gini” (Northrop), Yreka, California; sons, Ben, Yreka; Brad, Lincoln, Nebraska; daughter, Bonnie Griffin, Boise, Idaho; father, Robert McCoy, Desert Hot Springs, California; sister, Jean Woodruff, Nampa, Idaho; and 10 grandchildren.

All family announcements are published online at NWAdventists.com/family.

To submit family announcements, go to NWAdventists.com/contribute. To publish an expanded obituary with a short bio and photo, contact info@nwadventists.com or call 360-857-7000 for submission and cost information.

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

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

- May 1—Local Church Budget;
- May 8—Disaster and Famine Relief (GC and NAD);
- May 15—Local Church Budget;
- May 22—Local Conference Advance;
- May 29—Alaska Conference (NPUC);
- June 5—Local Church Budget;
- June 12—Women’s Ministries (NAD);
- June 19—Local Church Budget;
- June 26—Local Conference Advance.

IDAHO

Idaho Camp Meeting

June 8–12—Idaho Conference is planning a modified, in-person camp meeting June on the campus of Gem State Adventist Academy. This year’s theme is “Remember Gethsemane!” Lee Venden will speak for the English language camp meeting. Robert Costa is the Spanish language speaker. Evening and Sabbath morning services will be held for both English and Spanish languages and will be livestreamed. No lodging or meals will be available—attendance will be limited to those who can drive in. Safety protocols of distancing, face coverings, hand hygiene and sanitizing will be in place and highly encouraged. No daytime meetings will take place Wednesday through Friday. Children’s meetings will be postponed until June 2022, and we are working on providing remote activities and/or activity packets for children who attend the evening meetings with a parent. For more information, see our website IdahoAdventist.org or follow us on social media at facebook.com/IdahoAdventist, facebook.com/IdahoCampMeeting, or @IdahoAdventist on Instagram and Twitter.

MONTANA

Camp Paxson Summer Camp

June 27–July 4—Camp Paxson Summer Camp is an event operated by the Montana Conference youth department. This one-week summer camp is open to ages 9 through 14. Sign up now to reserve a spot. Register at montanasda.regfox.com/camp-paxson-summer-2021-registration. We hope your child has a great experience, learns new skills and sees Christ in new ways! If you have questions, contact the Montana Conference

at 406-587-3101. Due to COVID-19 concerns, we must follow the guidelines set forth by the Missoula County Health Department. In order to adequately follow the guidelines, the number of campers may be limited.

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

Women and Young Women’s One-day Spring Retreat 2021

May 1—Themed “Up From the Ordinary,” with keynote speaker Jean Boonstra. Starting at 10 a.m. and going until 4 p.m. Register today at uccsda.org/womensretreat.

AMEN Northwest Conference

May 6–8—The AMEN Northwest 2021 conference will be a virtual conference due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions. The theme is “Saving More Than Bodies: Righteousness by Faith and the Health Message.” Speakers are doctors Brian Schwartz, Richard Hart, John Kelly and Ron Kelly. This conference is for pastors and Bible workers, all levels of health care providers, and anyone who is interested in reaching our community for Jesus. Preregistration is required. More information online at uccsda.org/amenconference.

2021 Virtual Camp Meeting

June 14–19—Join us for Camp Meeting 2021. This year we will again be virtual. Watch via livestream or organize a watch party in your church. More information online at uccsda.org/campmeeting.

Cowboy Camp Meeting

June 29–July 3—Are you looking for a live, in-person camp meeting to attend? Consider Cowboy Camp Meeting sponsored by the Adventist Horseman’s Association. It has been a blessing to many for the past 35 years and includes five “cowboy preachers”; real camping in the Umatilla National Forest at Spring Creek in the Blue Mountains between Pendleton and La Grande, Oregon; time for fellowship and recreation; special activities for children; people without horses are welcome; and country gospel music. Everything will be COVID-compliant. Questions? Email christianrider@gmail.com. Ask for our newsletter and find directions included.

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT NWADVENTISTS.COM/EVENTS.

English | Spanish | Portuguese | French | Tagalog | Afrikaans | Ukrainian | Russian | Bahasa | Mongolian | Tamil
Telugu | Hindi | Marathi | Malayalam | Bengali | Mizo | Bhojpuri | Santali | Cebuano | Nepali | And Many More!

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Adult Care

SEEKING ADVENTIST ASSISTED LIVING/MEMORY CARE HOME for elderly lady in the Coeur d'Alene/Sandpoint, Idaho, or Spokane, Washington area. Please call 208-916-7445.

ADULT FAMILY HOME, Adventist owned and operated, specializing in vegetarian meals. Gardening for residents on fenced five acres, church transportation and 5–8 minutes EMT service. Contact 360-904-9092, 254-314-6956, countryassistance@gmail.com.

Classes

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

Employment

WANTED: CHRISTIAN TRUCK DRIVER for short haul delivery, full-time or part-time, Monday through Friday in Moses Lake, Washington. CDL class A or B required. For more information, email m1productions@yahoo.com.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS FACULTY – school counseling-program coordinator and professor. Oversee all aspects of the counselor education program. Responsibilities include managing the program to maintain accreditation standards with CACREP and the state, teaching graduate courses in the field of counseling and school counseling, providing academic advisement support to students in the program, responding to inquiries regarding the overall academic unit, participate in committees, maintaining an active research agenda as documented through publications and presentations, sitting on dissertation committees, and

other duties as assigned to the position. andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty*job_2.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is currently seeking teaching faculty in the following: School of Education and Psychology, Chemistry, Biology/Allied Health Department, School of Business in the area of finance and economics, School of Computing, School of Visual Art and Design, Department of History and Political Science, and School of Journalism and Communication. For a full list of job openings, summaries and qualifications, please visit southern.edu/jobs.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is currently seeking qualified candidates for the following salaried staff positions: Associate Director of Catering Services-Food Services, Admissions Counselor, Web Designer and Mental Health Coordinator - Student Success Center. For a full list of job openings, summaries and qualifications, please visit southern.edu/jobs.

PET EMERGENCY CENTER, an Adventist-owned small animal veterinary hospital in Missoula, Montana, is hiring veterinarians. Flexible Schedule, 10–12 shifts per month. Generous compensation. New hospital being built. Owner transitioning full time to foreign missions. Opportunity for partnership/ownership. Email theanimaldoctor@hotmail.com.

COMPENSATION ANALYST SR. at Loma Linda University Shared Services. Assisting with the development, implementation and administration of compensation practices. Monitors and audits pay practices to ensure compliance with policies, guidelines, and wage and hour laws. Conducts job analysis, conducts benchmark reviews and market price jobs. Develops, reviews and updates job descriptions. Conducts FLSA assessments. Participates in compensation surveys. Reviews common law questionnaires. Requires a bachelor's degree and



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three years of compensation experience. luh.referrals.selectminds.com/jobs/compensation-analyst-sr-12062.

CASE MANAGER at Loma Linda University Medical Center. The case manager utilizes clinical expertise, discretion and independent judgment in assessing, providing, coordinating and monitoring healthcare services for all assigned patients. Ensures medical appropriateness criteria (medical necessity) are met for level of care provided and is documented from admission through discharge. Practices in a collaborative health care environment to oversee implementation of a well-thought-out interdisciplinary plan of care with an individualized discharge plan that is comprehensive and best meets the continuing health care needs of the patient. Reevaluates plan of care and ensures continued appropriateness based on the patients changing needs and

condition. Maintains working knowledge of specialized case and utilization management methodologies and practices; applies concepts to every-day practice. luh.referrals.selectminds.com/jobs/case-manager-10167.

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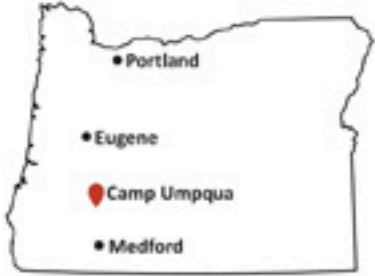


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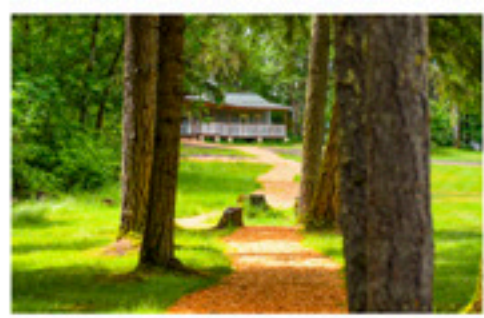
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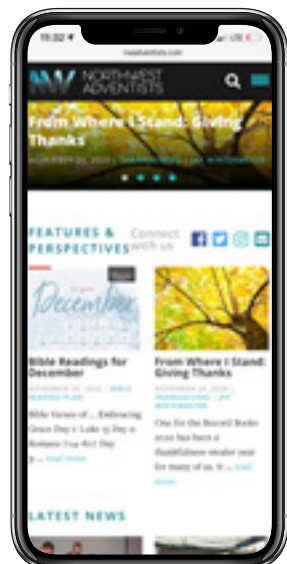
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Blessing Bottles

SOMETIMES A PROBLEM IS SO BIG, it's hard to know what you can do to help. Homelessness is one of those big complicated problems. But just because it's hard to understand doesn't mean there isn't anything you can do. There is something you can do to show Jesus' love to the homeless people you encounter.

Put several of these blessing bottles together with your family or Sabbath School class and then hand them out to people in need. You can also give them to your parents and church members to keep in the car and hand to people soliciting at stoplights.

Get some wide-mouthed reusable water bottles. Fill them with helpful items (many of them can be found at a dollar store) such as:

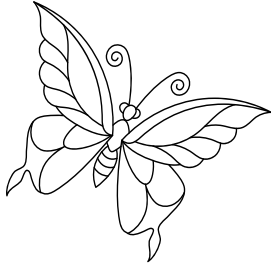
- » A pair of socks—because when you can't do laundry, clean socks are highly prized;
- » Personal hygiene items like hand wipes, toothbrush/paste, adhesive bandages, lip balm and lotion;
- » Gift card for fast food or a grocery store;
- » Resource card listing nearby shelters and other social services.

And last, but not least, add either a note of encouragement inside the bottle or a label on the bottle that says something like ... "You matter! Here are a few things to brighten your day and to let you know you matter to God."

Desiree Lockwood
Gleaner managing editor



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3 REASONS TO

Encourage Your Kids to Participate in Outreach



Since 2000, my husband has worked in ministry, specifically evangelism to local communities.

We now have two kids in school and a busy life, yet I believe it's important to continue to provide opportunities for our kids to participate in outreach.

Outreach is much more than handing out Bible brochures, giving Bible studies and inviting the neighborhood to an evangelistic seminar. Outreach is all the things we can do day-to-day to help others.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these (Mark 12:30-31).

REACHING OUT FOSTERS EMPATHY

The ability to understand and share the feelings of others is not always easy. We can foster empathy in our children by providing outreach opportunities. Make and deliver sandwiches to homeless people, plan stuffed animal drives for a local children's hospital, donate canned food to the food bank, and serve hot chocolate and apple cider at the homeless shelter to give children the ability to see real people in our local community who need our help.

Debrief with the kids after outreach. Talk about how they are feeling and what the people

they've helped must be feeling. Encourage your children to be empathetic.

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep" (Rom. 12:15).

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Kids who are involved in active community outreach are truly making a difference. Making a difference in another's life not only helps that person—it's also good for our kids. My husband and I often say helping others is really helping us. It



AUTHOR | LaVonne Long





makes us happier and more connected to God. Teaching that to our children is very important. Giving our children positive feelings of self-worth by helping others and showing them how important their identity in Christ is are both examples of how family outreach can make a lasting difference.

“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased” (Heb. 13:16).

LEARNING

While doing community outreach, kids are also learning. Depending on the type of outreach, kids can learn organization skills, leadership skills, and physical and mental strength. Children can also learn better social skills when they are doing outreach to various people in the community. It can give your kids the ability to communicate with people they might not have had the chance to. Most importantly outreach gives our

kids the ability to grow closer to God.

“We are also called to follow Christ’s example by compassionately ministering to the physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of humanity. As we give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in witnessing to His salvation, His constant presence with us through the Spirit transforms every moment and every task into a spiritual experience” (Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Belief No. 11: Growing in Christ).

Kids who are involved in active community outreach are truly making a difference.

In addition to helping homeless people, shelters and food banks, outreach can include adopting an elderly neighbor. Kids can take out garbage, mow the lawn, rake leaves, walk the dog, and read or play board games with their neighbor. Outreach can even be city park cleanup. Kids working side by side with others to make the outdoors more beautiful is a fun outreach opportunity. Get creative and take your kids on outreach adventures!

LaVonne Long

LaVonne works at her kids’ school, Skagit Adventist Academy. She is also a family lifestyle blogger and social media influencer. You can find her on Instagram @lavonnelong.

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/116-3-POV-39](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/116-3-POV-39) 



No Fear in Love

PART 1

*There is a crack in everything;
that's how the light gets in.*

—LEONARD COHEN

A

s my girlfriend walked through the door, I could immediately tell something was wrong. She was crying, and, as I listened to her, I discovered I was the reason she was crying. She liked me, but she wanted to be in a relationship with a guy who took God seriously. At that time, that was not me.

I was a social work major and wasn't interested in religious things. I even fell asleep while sitting in the front row of Pedrito Maynard-Reid's class on the history of Adventism. Those of you who know Pedrito understand this is not an easy thing to do. Yet as my girlfriend explained to me the importance of her faith, it made me question my own. Fast forward one year, and my girlfriend, Danelle, became my wife. Little did we know our adventure with each other and our journey with faith was just beginning.

One night we were at a friend's house and ended up having one of those great conversations where you stay up half the night talking. We were talking about the meaning of faith and religion, and my friend Jason said, "If we believe this stuff, we should do it." We were talking specifically about Adventism and the role of Ellen White.

His statement — "If we believe this stuff, we should do it" — made sense to me. So, I did what any able-minded millennial would do: I typed in "Seventh-day Adventist" and "Ellen White" into Google. The first websites I came across were

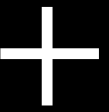


AUTHOR

Kevin McGill

from ex-Adventists and people "exposing" Ellen White. I spent the next four months devouring those websites. I became convinced the Adventist Church had it wrong. I no longer found myself "believing this stuff."

The decision to leave a faith community can be excruciating. Relationships and belonging are all tied into what we believe. Some people think most people who leave the institutional church leave because of their "love of sin." I know this is not true; it was not true of me.



There were cracks in my theology, but that is how the light came in.

being a missionary overseas.

I didn't know it at that time, but many of the books and sermons I was absorbing had a fundamentalist bent with an emphasis on something I now know as Last Generation Theology. Though many in Adventism see their religion through this lens as if it is a fundamental belief, it actually isn't historically—or, I would argue, currently—what Adventism is about.

Last Generation Theology is the idea God has not come back yet because there has not been a generation of people that has perfectly reproduced His character here on Earth. They are convinced God is raising up that generation during the end times. I became convinced I could be one of these people. Theoretically I knew the Bible taught justification by faith, but I believed those who REALLY had faith would strive to be perfect. However, this led me to silently judge the people who did not take their religion as seriously as me.

I scrutinized everything from what I ate to what I wore. I removed my wedding band and convinced my wife to do the same. I became convinced veganism was akin to righteousness. I remember at a prayer time during Upper Columbia Conference's camp meeting I even confessed to a small group I had eaten eggs that morning. I went from

skeptic to zealot, and my wife, Danelle, was willing to go along for the ride. But my newfound religious intensity scared her.

She wanted to be in a relationship with a guy who had a genuine relationship with Jesus, and now she was married to a guy who thought eating eggs and wearing a wedding band were sins. I thought God was looking for perfection, though I wouldn't have stated it like that then. I still needed to learn that what God really desires is a broken spirit and a contrite heart. There were cracks in my theology, but that is how the light came in. In part 2 of this series, I'll share what I had to learn before I could see the light.

Kevin McGill

wrote from Troy, Idaho where he shepherded three churches and loves spending time with his family. Currently he is transitioning to pastor the Green Lake Church in Seattle.

All of this was going through my mind as I thought about what I would tell Danelle. Through tears I prayed, "God please show me truth. If it is in this church, You have to help me because I am not seeing it right now. If it's not, lead me out because I don't want to be part of a false system."

Immediately after my prayer, I got a phone call from my friend Vicky inviting us to attend a Bible study. I took this call as a sign we should check it out. The Bible study

didn't address or answer my questions, but it encouraged me that maybe answers could still be out there and that I should not give up on religion just yet.

As I worked through my crisis of faith, I started listening to hours of sermons and read many books by popular Adventist leaders. I went from nearly leaving the church to becoming a missionary for it. I started going door to door with some of my Bible worker friends. I told Danelle I was interested in

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PERSPECTIVE

A STREET CONVERSATION

FROM WHERE I Stand

"I

believe in Jesus. I believe in God. I just don't know if I believe in the god I grew up with or Christianity."

I listened as my friend shared how he felt about his spiritual worldview. His honesty about something so deeply personal moved me in a way many Bible studies have not.

What I discovered from this socially distanced visit this week was enlightening. My friend's disassociation with the religion of his youth wasn't because he stopped believing. He no longer believes in what he sees as a flawed system. My friend has been deeply wounded by people who claim to be Christians. He's also disillusioned because no one has been able to provide satisfactory answers to difficult questions he has about the Bible.

My friend represents so many across the Pacific Northwest and the United States. He is part of the group known as the "nones," the fastest growing religious group in America. This group isn't necessarily atheists; in fact, most aren't. They're not necessarily antireligious; some of them believe in God.

A more precise term for my friend and others who identify with him would be the "religiously unaffiliated." According to recent research conducted by the Pew Research Center, they are the fastest-growing religious category in the U.S. Additionally they are the second-largest religious category in the country.

In Pew Research Center telephone surveys conducted in 2018 and 2019, 65% of American adults describe themselves as Christians when asked about their religion, down 12 percentage points over the past decade. Meanwhile, the religiously unaffiliated share of the population — people who describe their religious identity as atheist, agnostic or "nothing in particular" — now stands at 26%, up from 17% in 2009.

These numbers show a significant increase in religiously unaffiliated people.

At the same time, as my conversation with my friend illustrates, there is a huge opportunity to minister to this growing segment of our population.

As I've talked with nones, something becomes quite clear. Many are open to the gospel and Christian friendships. This isn't merely anecdotal evidence. Current research supports this. In other words, we shouldn't write them off as unreachable.

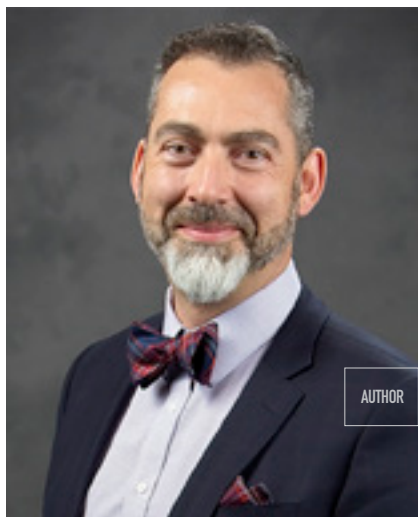
Ed Stetzer, in a December 2020 article from *Christianity Today*, offers, "Creating spaces where the unaffiliated can express their doubts without judgment, demonstrating genuine care for people, and focusing on the gospel over current issues can help to build pathways to reach them."

My experience attests that Stetzer's advice is solid. I've been looking for ways to get to know people in my community. Whether it's a local business owner whose shop I patronize or a neighbor down the street, I'm seeking opportunities to build friendships. Simple things like joining my neighbor on their morning walk or inviting someone over for dinner creates time for meaningful conversations.

Stetzer says the best way to reach those with no religious affiliation is to first befriend them. I've made friends in my community, and in turn my life is so much richer. In addition, I'm seeing God at work. The Holy Spirit is orchestrating divine opportunities for me to encourage and have spiritual conversations with my new friends.

When we get to know people and make friends, we naturally create opportunities for meaningful conversations built on trust of honest relationships. God can and does use those relationships. We have "street cred" to share our faith journey and our personal witness.

It reminds me of an outreach method I seem to remember reading about before. Someone actually took a personal interest in people, met their needs and only then said, "Follow me."



AUTHOR

Jay Wintermeyer

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PERIODICALS

2021

Camp Meeting Calendar

May 14–15

NPUC Regional Convocation
regionalministries.org

June 8–12

Idaho Camp Meeting
idahoadventist.org

June 11–12

Montana Convocation
montanaadventist.org

June 14–19

Upper Columbia Camp Meeting
uccsda.org

June 18–19

Alaska Interior Camp Meeting
alaskaconference.org

June 18–26

Washington Camp Meeting
washingtonconference.org

July 20–24

Oregon Camp Meeting
oregonadventist.org

July 22–24

Alaska Southcentral Camp Meeting
alaskaconference.org

July 30–Aug 1

Alaska Southeast Camp Meeting
alaskaconference.org

