

**EDITORIAL**  
LIVING GOD'S LOVE

**PERSPECTIVE**  
BREAKING BOB

**JUST LIKE JESUS**  
NO GOATS IN HEAVEN

# gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

OUR LEGACY

# Hands of Hope







Bright eyes give joy to the heart;  
good news strengthens the bones.  
Prov. 15:30



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*“Perky Red Squirrel” in Anchorage, Alaska, by Gary Lee Lackie, of Anchorage, Alaska*



## LIVING GOD'S LOVE

P

redicting what health care in America will look like as we move into the future is like trying to walk outside during a hurricane. The winds of debate are strong, outcomes often unpredictable. During last year alone, more than 100 hospitals around our nation experienced a major ownership transition. Church and community members

Every opportunity taken to bring hope to those in need reverberates throughout the universe.

in Walla Walla, Wash., have personally felt the pain and uncertainty associated with the closure of our Adventist hospital there. While we are grateful that many staff members and physicians will remain actively engaged with health care in the Walla Walla Valley, our hearts continue to desire new ways to fulfill our Adventist Health mission there and beyond.

Navigating through uncertain times requires intentional, prayerful course corrections to face the changing landscape. I am impressed with the new mission focus and strategic priorities our Adventist Health administrative leaders have implemented. We need to keep them in our prayers, asking for divine guidance and wisdom during these rapidly changing times.

AUTHOR

John Freedman

and strategic priorities our Adventist

The Adventist Health mission statement is both simple and profound: “Living God’s love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope.” Living God’s love reminds me we are human examples of God’s character of unconditional love and acceptance, loving others as He has loved us.

One image that recently went viral in the midst of hurricane devastation portrayed a police SWAT officer carrying in his arms a young mother and her baby through floodwaters to a rescue vehicle. That was a tangible picture of how living God’s love can bring hope. Opportunities are everywhere, if our hearts are full of Him, to bring hope and wholeness to those in need.

Storms come in all shapes and sizes. We have them in the political arena, in health care, in hurricanes, in floods and fires, in the governance issues affecting the denomination, and in the generational crisis affecting the North American Division. There are no easy answers for any of these crises we face. Yet every crisis creates unlimited opportunities to demonstrate the love of God.

Every decision we make, every action we take, has a million consequences, very few of which we can predict or control. Every opportunity taken to bring hope to those in need reverberates throughout the universe. The message is clear: God is alive and on the move

in mighty ways. He is changing lives. His love never fails!

The real question for each of us is how will we respond to crises, for they will surely come! In every situation, God gives us the ability, in Christ, to choose our response. Will we intentionally live God’s love? Will we bring hope to those in need? Will we glorify God in our responses? The many storms around us are providing countless opportunities.

My prayer for our Northwest family of believers is that we will live out God’s love and bring hope to those in need. Scripture is plain: It is God’s will for us. Beyond the wonderful and familiar reminder in John 3:16, we also read, “He who does not love does not know God, for God is love” (1 John 4:8). And Jesus couldn’t have made it more clear. “You know,” He said, “that the rulers of the gentiles lord it over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave — just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many” (Matt. 20:28).

*John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president*

Respond to any *Gleaner* topic by emailing [talk@gleanernow.com](mailto:talk@gleanernow.com).



## LETTERS

### Relational or Not?

I have been reading over your August edition and can't help but share my assessment of two articles. The editorial ["Be Courageous"] by John Freedman shows a pastor's heart for his church, and his recognition of our need to build relationships is absolutely right on. The Martin Weber "perspective" is a classic example of "how not" to build a relationship. His name calling and labeling (*terrorists of the testimonies, the church's jihadists*) are divisive at best. . . . Pastors seem to have forgotten that ALL sheep need shepherding. I suggest that our leaders should attempt what seems impossible and work towards a blended worship including old sheep and young sheep working together.

*Bart Shields, Athol, Idaho*

### We Appreciate Our Pastors

[In honor of Pastors' Appreciation Month] we are grateful for the dedicated leadership of our pastoral team and their families. We are so blessed that the Lord has guided Seth and Angela Pierce, Michael and Tara Demma, and Natalie Dorland to serve our congregation and the entire community with Holy Spirit-guided passion. Thank you, and may God bless each of you richly!

*The members of the Puyallup Church, Puyallup, Wash.*

### Treating Just the Symptoms?

I applaud Elder Friedman [sic] for recognizing that a problem exists and calling it a "failing" [Editorial, "Be Courageous," August 2017]. . . . Ironically, the very illustration he uses about the Uber Company, . . . "We have found the enemy, and it is us," fits in more

than one way. . . . I am not a doctor but I know that rarely is a disease healed by merely treating the symptom. The physician must arrive at the root cause of the disease before an adequate cure can be found or a treatment plan arrived at. [Elder Freedman] raises a very legitimate issue, but is his solution, "building relationships," one which treats only a symptom of Laodicea or does it cure the root cause of our illness? . . . Even though we develop relationships with our youth, which I am in complete harmony with, the fact remains, we are in a state of being "wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked." Until we find the cure for that, anything we try to dream up in order to solve the "youth crisis" is only treating a symptom.

*Howard Williams, Payette, Idaho [Read the full version of the letter at [glhr.in/112-10-letters](http://glhr.in/112-10-letters)]*

North Pacific Union Conference  
**DAY OF PRAYER**  
 Sabbath, October 7, 2017

Join members from across the Northwest for a day of prayer for the Adventist world church annual meetings, October 8-11, 2017.

We need...

- God's Spirit
- God's Words
- God's Wisdom
- God's Love
- God's Power
- God's Solutions
- God's Unity

More info: [gleanernow.com/2017dayofprayer](http://gleanernow.com/2017dayofprayer)

# + PICTURE THIS



Teamwork at Sunset Lake.

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Ministry in the park.

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A vision for the community.

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TVA ornithologists.  
See [glnr.in/112-10-or\\_tva](http://glnr.in/112-10-or_tva)



Water for Life milestone.

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# Transforming Our Communities Through Mission

**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN HEALTH CARE FOR MORE THAN 150 YEARS. THE IMPETUS FOR THIS WAS NOT ONLY PROPHETIC CALLING, BUT A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT WE ARE SUPPOSED TO GROW THE KINGDOM OF GOD USING CHRIST'S MODEL OF CARING FOR "THE LEAST OF THESE" AND USING HEALING AND WHOLENESS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE THE GOSPEL.**

The legacy of Adventist Health has always been a healing focus for communities as well as the individual. In the climate of today's health care discussion, Adventist Health has a tremendous opportunity to continue and even expand their ministry in this trajectory.

Our goal is to transform lives and communities — through

our mission of "living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope."

To this end, Adventist Health has developed what is called the Mission Integration Model, a framework for a future of expanded service and community transformation featuring three key areas: calling, culture and community.

Calling is a reflective personal journey where we ask ourselves who we are, what is our purpose and why do we exist. Culture is how we embed our calling into our everyday lives and as an organization how we can expand that into the communities we serve. We recognize our communities are facing complex challenges, and Adventist Health is committed to being a part of the solution.

The mission integration team, led by Dustin Aho, vice president of mission integration, has developed this model and is working to make it a reality. Prior to joining Adventist Health in 2016, Dustin was the administrative pastor at Loma Linda University Church. Along with Paul Crampton, assistant vice president of mission integration, the team will work with leaders throughout our organization to implement the newly developed model.

Our calling, as Adventist Health, is to embed the principles of Jesus into our care, our community and our culture. To this end, we are excited about building the Mission Integration Model into everything we do, particularly where we intersect with our patients, partners and community.

*Scott Reiner, Adventist Health president and CEO*

# World for Rural

Brett LaFleur examines Jerry Dove's knee.



Scott Reiner, Adventist Health president and CEO



Dustin Aho, Adventist Health vice president of mission integration





# -Class Care Patients



Brett LaFleur and Ruben Franco Garcia joined Aspire Orthopedic Institute to make state-of-the-art care available to rural communities on Oregon's coast.

**ADVENTIST HEALTH'S TILLAMOOK REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**, a critical access hospital on the Oregon coast, is determined to improve access for patients by hiring highly qualified specialists who live and work in the communities they serve. Coastal patients no longer have to drive 60 or more miles over treacherous roads to receive specialty care in Portland. Based in Tillamook, the team of Brett LaFleur, a highly skilled orthopedic surgeon, and Ruben Franco Garcia, a physician assistant who specializes in orthopedics, is changing lives on the north Oregon coast for the better.

Former Tillamook County Commissioner Jerry Dove had both knees replaced by LaFleur in December 2016, and he's loving the result. "I walk every day, a half mile or more, and I swim at the YMCA three times a week for an hour. I did physical therapy at rehabilitation services for four months. Rehab is fantastic. We started right away, the same day of my surgery," Dove says. "Dr. LaFleur told me I'd feel a lot better at six months, and it would be a year until I was fully recovered. It's true I still have some soreness, but I'm feeling really good."

Dove can't help but tell others about his experience. "I have told umpteen people about Dr. LaFleur," Dove says. "I see people walking at the YMCA in preparation for knee surgery, and I ask them, 'Where are you going to have it done?' If

they say over the hill, I tell them to do themselves a favor and make an appointment with Dr. LaFleur. I couldn't have had a better surgeon anywhere, and it was good for me and good for my wife to have it done right here at home."

LaFleur has made a huge difference in Dove's life. "Having my knees replaced here has been excellent. I'm glad to be active again, doing the things I enjoy. I can do more for my wife now, and I don't have to take pain pills for my knees anymore," Dove says. "My quality of life is 100 percent improved. I am a big supporter of Dr. LaFleur and this hospital. If I had it to do over again, I would do it here, with him. It's really great to have this quality of excellent care in our community."

Sometimes orthopedic patients need a highly specialized surgery that can't be performed in Tillamook. Recently LaFleur and Franco Garcia joined Aspire Orthopedic Institute, based at Adventist Health Portland. Being part of Aspire Orthopedic Institute means LaFleur can perform surgeries on local patients in state-of-the-art facilities. It is a big advantage to patients in far-flung rural communities to get the surgical care they need without changing doctors and to receive rehab and follow-up care in their own communities.

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



# Hands of Hope

**EARLY ONE SATURDAY MORNING IN JUNE, SEVERAL HUNDRED UNDERINSURED PEOPLE LINED UP AROUND THE PERIMETER OF A CHURCH IN EAST PORTLAND, OREGON, HOPING TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ATTENTION AND SECURE ONE OF JUST A FEW SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR THE MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC. MANY OF THESE PEOPLE REPRESENT THE WORKING POOR IN THE COMMUNITY. ELIZABETH, A MOTHER OF SEVEN CHILDREN, PRAYED HER YOUNGEST SON, WILLIAM, WOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE A CAVITY FILLED AND ADDRESS HIS HEALTH CONCERNS.**

As the doors opened, men, women and children gathered in the church's multipurpose room to begin filling out paperwork. One by one, people were called back to see physicians, nurses, dentists and chiropractors or to get their vision screened and even receive a haircut.

While William waited to see the dentist, he bravely sat in the chair to get his shaggy hair cut. For most people, getting a haircut is no big deal, but for William it was a momentous occasion. His father explained this was only William's second haircut. Due to his sensitivities to noise, the hair clippers always bothered him, but that morning William grinned from ear-to-ear as the barber handed him a sucker for his bravery.

Elizabeth and her family have attended several Compassion Clinics, specifically for pediatric dental care. "We're right on that

borderline for income. We have a little insurance but also huge deductibles and copays," she says. "With multiple kids it really starts to add up. I'm so excited that the oldest kids are finally cavity free." Gratitude freely spilled from her soul as she found a place of hope for her family.

Each year Adventist Health in Portland engages in a large number of community health fairs because the mission of living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope extends far beyond the walls of hospitals or doctors' offices.

In Elizabeth's case, the care she received from Adventist Health occurred in collaboration with Compassion Connect. The group is committed to working with local churches to serve others and lift up Christ through health and dental clinics. For years the group specialized in a large annual event but asked

the hospital to partner with them to address community needs on frequent basis at times and locations most convenient for the working poor.

Together, Adventist Health and Compassion Connect are now inspiring hope through a network of mini clinics. The network's goal is to offer quarterly mini medical/dental clinics each year throughout various communities in the Portland metro area where chronic health problems and social needs are great and resources are limited.

Ed Hoover, Adventist Health Portland's community wellness manager, has been integrally involved with Compassion Connect for more than 10 years. He's excited about the opportunities that come from more frequent connections with community partners and neighbors. "This is ministry the way Jesus did it," says Hoover. "His compassionate healing ministry occurred whenever and wherever people gathered seeking help."

The mini clinics are also an intimate space — perfect for allowing Adventist Health Portland team members, volunteers and others to live God's love.

"Volunteer prayer teams care for the spiritual needs of guests, which is just as necessary as the care they receive for their physical needs," says Hoover. "These events are just bathed in prayer."

Before the clinic begins, volunteers gather for orientation and a time of prayer.





Jack Loomis, urgent care and family medicine physician, takes time to visit with each patient to address their health concerns.



A clinic participant receives a free eye exam from a local volunteer.

“I always think, wow, this is really terrific stuff,” says John Loomis, a doctor who works at the Adventist Health Portland urgent care clinic in the underserved Rockwood neighborhood and has been a regular Compassion Connect volunteer for years. “You just know the Lord God is looking down favorably on our work.”

Loomis enjoys having the freedom to spend as much time with each person as they need. “We talk and share and enjoy each other first, and then talk about their health problems. But really, most of it is education around wellness, their health and how to navigate the complex American health care system.”

He continues, “I do provide medical care, but it’s actually less important than our work to get them connected to more frequent access to care and to build those ongoing relationships.”

In the future, Adventist Health Portland hopes to connect food-insecure families to community resources, as

well as provide appropriate referrals to Adventist Health clinics, medical center or other health services in order to help communities live well together. Partnership and teamwork are a core component of all Compassion Clinics and opportunities to expand are endless.

“We partner with local

churches and many Christian volunteers. In fact, a lot of the fun for me is mixing with the other volunteers. We have people from everywhere volunteering as translators, barbers, people in charge of snacks. I enjoy getting to know their background and why they have a heart for service.

That’s my big shot in the arm,” says Loomis.

The other big takeaway from Loomis’ experiences? “Opportunities to volunteer are out there,” he says. “You don’t have to be a specialist or expert at anything — you just need to show up and be part of the fun and show that you care. Just do it.”



## BENDICIONES EN ALASKA

Las bendiciones del cielo continúan fluyendo entre los miembros de la iglesia hispana en Anchorage, Alaska, con la adición de nuevos miembros, esfuerzos, y un entusiasmo e interés creciente para el adelanto y crecimiento de la obra.

La iglesia estaba encantada de recibir una visita del Dr. César y la Sra. Carolann De León en marzo, su primera visita oficial a la iglesia hispana de Anchorage desde que asumió el cargo de director de obra hispana en la Unión del Pacífico Norte (NPUC) el año pasado. El Dr. De León fue el conferencista en la Convocación de Anchorage 2017, un evento anual

organizado por la comunidad y el distrito pastoral hispano. Esta visita fue una fuente de inmensa inspiración y estímulo, no sólo para los miembros hispanohablantes, sino también para la comunidad en general que asistió a las reuniones.

Este verano, la iglesia dio la bienvenida a cuatro nuevos miembros. Maridalia Pimentel, Francisco Serrano, Ivelisse Aristy y Georges Guerrero fueron bautizados el 8 de julio después de expresar su deseo de convertirse en miembros permanentes de la familia hispana de Anchorage. Se unen a los veintisiete nuevos conversos que fueron bautizados en 2016, aumentando la membresía de la iglesia en más de 50 por ciento



El pastor Don West con miembros recién bautizados de la Iglesia Hispana de Anchorage.

en los últimos 12 meses.

El fin de semana de agosto de 25-26, la iglesia organizó un fin de semana especial de inspiración con la conferencista invitada Diana Jaworski, directora del ministerio de la caja creativa. Este ministerio ha sido una bendición para las mujeres que luchan con la depresión y baja autoestima, ayudándoles a ver el valor que Dios ha puesto en ellas como su creación especial, y cada una tiene el propósito de cumplir el llamado de Dios. Durante este fin de semana, Jaworski desafió a las mujeres y a las familias de las iglesias hispanas para abrir sus corazones más cada día a Dios, con el fin de descubrir su propósito y visión para sus vidas. Hubo múltiples testimonios de los invitados presentes sobre la utilidad de sus seminarios.

La iglesia está finalizando ahora los planes para el mayor alcance evangelizador de este

año en septiembre. La serie será conducida por la evangelista María Navarro de Puerto Rico. Navarro es el director de programación de radio sol (WZOL/98.3 FM), una estación Adventista en Puerto Rico. Esta campaña promete ser una bendición, y la iglesia local solicita las oraciones de toda familia hispana en NPUC, junto con la continua orientación de Dios en este campo de misión especial, para alcanzar aún más almas para el reino de Dios.

*Pastor Rodney West, coordinador de la obra hispana en Alaska*



Diana Jaworski presentando su tema durante el fin de semana de inspiración en Anchorage, Alaska.



# ALASKA CONFERENCE GETS 'FACE-LIFT'

The Alaska Conference has been blessed to have Howard Williams and his wife, Charleen, lead the efforts of a much-needed remodel of its offices, which has not been updated since the conference opened in the early 1980s. The purpose of the remodel was three-fold: 1) to have a warm, inviting reception area designed to welcome visitors and members, where they could sit and enjoy the wall-mounted fireplace in comfortable chairs; 2) to emphasize the work in Alaska with displays highlighting Arctic Mission Adventure and Alaska Camps; and 3) to

share the conference goal to “go therefore and make disciples of all the nations ...” (Matt 28:19), with the text displayed on a main wall for all to see.

The first phase of the remodel encompassed the office lobby, large conference room and the offices of the president, vice president of administration and the administration’s secretary. These areas were the first to be updated to make visitors feel comfortable and welcome. The second phase will be accomplished a few years down the road and will include the remaining offices on the



Quentin Purvis, Alaska Conference vice president of administration, works away in his remodeled office.

upper level. In tandem with the upstairs renovations and remodeling, the guest rooms were all updated as a separate project.

Some may be curious as to how the conference

was able to afford these improvements. Well, God is good! He gives us wisdom and understanding to use His blessings wisely and prepare for the upkeep and maintenance of facilities He has provided to further the sharing the good news of His grace and salvation. Accordingly, the conference set aside a small amount of nontithe funds. Over time, monies grew sufficiently to fund the repairs and remodeling (along with a direct donation or two from our church family).

The conference invites local members and extended church family to visit the conference office or stay in one of the guest rooms when you find yourself in Anchorage and see our “face-lift.”

*Brenda Campbell Johnson, Alaska Conference communication director*

*Are you a young adult, age 18-30, who wants to energize your church? Plan to attend the Alaska Conference Young Adult Convocation.*

*The convocation is not you sitting and someone talking at you. Rather, it is small, interactive round-table discussions on how to become more involved in church ministry.*

*Facilitated by Pastor Tobin Dodge, Young Adult Ministries Director for the Alaska Conference, discover ways to join or start new ministries in your church or community on topics that today's young adults face.*

*Please RSVP at [alaskainfo@ac.npuc.org](mailto:alaskainfo@ac.npuc.org) if you plan to attend.*

## young adult convocation

OCTOBER 20-21 • ALASKA CONFERENCE OFFICE

## NORTHSIDE VBS MAKES BIBLE FUN

More online at  
[glnr.in/112-10-ak\\_vbs](http://glnr.in/112-10-ak_vbs)

Can you imagine inventions and God in the same sentence? If you can, then you should have been at Northside Church in Anchorage during the end of July. The basement was transformed into the Maker Fun Factory Vaca-



Kristi Lewis leads a group of kids in a cooking activity.

tion Bible School filled with incredible Bible stories, Science-Fun Gizmo, team-building games, cool Bible songs and tasty treats.

This was Northside's fourth year of having VBS, and each year has experienced different struggles and incredible joys. The first day there were more staff than kids (that had never happened), but the next day attendance almost tripled.

The kids learned they were created by God and He has a wonderful purpose for their lives. Each day

the children participated in Bible activities and learned about mighty Bible heroes like Gideon, Abigail, Rahab and God. God is the most incredible hero in the Bible because He showed His unending love by sending His Son, Jesus, to build a bridge between our wrongs and God's perfect love.

Attendees had fun learning about different Bible buddies who helped them understand the Bible point for the day. One example is termites traveling far in search of food for the entire community. God loves us so much He will go much further to let us know "God is for you."

Everything in the Maker Fun Factory VBS showed and taught the children God loves them very much. Not surprising, some of the kids are still singing the VBS songs.

Is all the work worth it? Yes! "I had so much fun last year at VBS," said one boy. "This is my most favorite thing I do every summer." Let us always work diligently to let our youth know how important they are to God and to us.

*Teresa Jensen, Anchorage  
Northside VBS director*



Patti Revolinski and Lanelle Cobbin presented during the Alaska fall teachers' meeting.

## ALASKA TEACHERS' MEETINGS BRING EDUCATORS TOGETHER

Alaska educators gathered during August at the conference office in Anchorage for their biannual teachers' meeting. The new school year brought numerous changes to the teaching team, with five new members joining the conference and the introduction of a new student information system.

Teachers spent the first of the three days with Martha Ban, North American Division technology and support director. Ban provided training for Jupiter, the new student information system implemented conference-wide for the 2017-18 school year.

The second day was spent certifying teachers to teach *Encounter*, the newest curriculum that brings the Bible to life in Adventist schools. Lanelle Cobbin, New Zealand Pacific Union Conference curriculum specialist and *Encounter* trainer, led a lively, interactive presentation during which the teachers joined in hands-on training, sharing thoughts and leading out.

The meetings closed with Patti Revolinski, North Pacific

Union Conference elementary and curriculum director, who shared the latest updates on the *Pathways* integrated literacy program. Conference staff was also on-hand to help answer questions for the teachers.

Because Alaska schools are physically so far apart, the meetings are a critical way of bringing Alaska teachers



Kerri Thomason and Missy Harriss, teachers from Amazing Grace Academy in Palmer review *Encounter* materials.

together to bond and begin the year on a positive start.

*Brenda Campbell Johnson, Alaska  
Conference communication director*

More online at  
[glnr.in/112-10-ak\\_teachers](http://glnr.in/112-10-ak_teachers)



# SPANISH CHURCHES HOLD GREAT WEEKEND FOR GREATER FUTURE

**O**n the weekend of Aug. 18–19, the youth of the Idaho Conference Spanish churches participated in an event just for them: Youth Impact: Called to Be the Sermon.

This time the event was divided in two parts: one for the Treasure Valley Spanish District and one for the Southeastern Idaho Spanish District.

The event in the Treasure Valley took place at the gym of the Boise Valley Adventist School on Friday evening. Young people from Caldwell, Nampa and Boise churches joined together to learn how to work better for the Lord. The congregations in Caldwell and Boise are relatively new, having been organized as companies in 2015 and 2017, respectively. A family from Tacoma, Wash., also joined the event.

On Sabbath, the youth in the Southeastern Spanish District gathered in Jerome to

participate in the same event. Youth and their adult sponsors representing the Idaho Falls Spanish and Jerome Spanish churches enthusiastically participated, wearing the event's T-shirts.

In both events, Jose Vargas, pastor, and Daniel Rodriguez, lay pastor, were the instructors. They had the responsibility to share with the youth what they can do to reach others with the gospel. The combined membership of the two companies in Idaho Falls and Jerome is 77. Youth of all ages participated. Of the 19 present, two-thirds were youth.

After the seminars, the newly trained youth were challenged to organized their own youth evangelistic meetings to take place this year. The enthusiastic youth planned a total of five series of meetings for the glory of the Lord — one in each church represented. Both groups were given educational tools, which



Youth from Boise, Caldwell and Nampa Spanish congregations attended the event in the Treasure Valley.

included a CD with all the sermons, fliers and music ready to be used during that special week of evangelism.

They also received hard copies of the sermons, to make it easier for everyone who would like to take the challenge to preach in that event. At the end of the programs in each area the participants enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by church members.

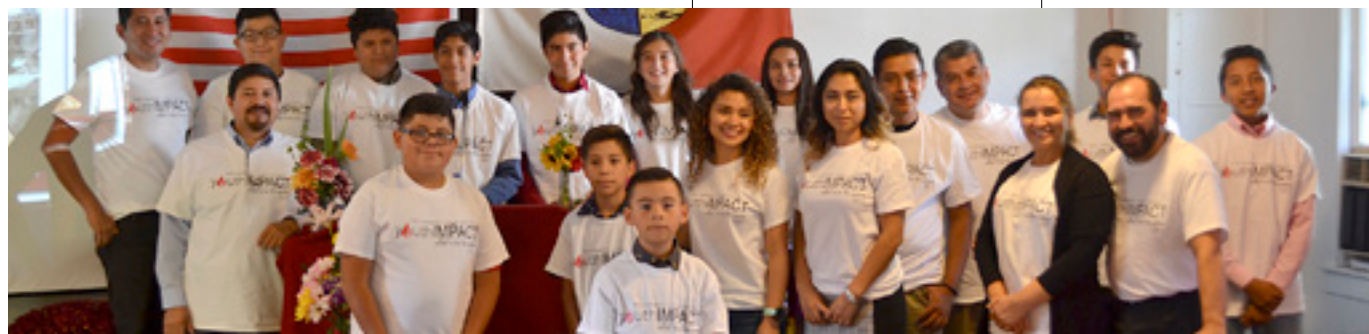
Every year, Hispanic ministries has an evangelism goal of presenting two to three evangelistic series per church and company, including a

baptism goal. For the past few years, baptisms in the Hispanic churches, companies and groups have exceeded their goal. Church members are thankful for Idaho Conference's support as well for the support shown by the leaders of each church.

The challenge is here. Now these youth need our prayers to back them up on it so they can fulfill the mission given by our Lord.

*Daniel Rodriguez, Boise Spanish Company lay pastor*

Nineteen youth and adults attended the Southeastern Idaho Spanish District seminar at Jerome.



## RAMIREZ ACCEPTS PRESIDENT ROLE



Elden and Jenny Ramirez with daughters Jasmine and Elennie.

Elden Ramirez has accepted the invitation of the Montana Conference board of directors to serve as conference president. Ramirez, who has directed the North American Division (NAD) Office of Volunteer Services since 2013, hopes to make a full transition with his family as quickly as possible.

Ramirez began his full-time ministry for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1996, working for eight years in Iowa-Missouri Conference as an academy chaplain, pastor, church planter, youth camp

director, and youth and family life director, among other responsibilities. He spent eight more years as a youth director and executive camp director in Central California Conference.

He is fluent in English, Portuguese and Spanish. He is a published author, has hosted and produced radio and television programs, and is a dedicated team builder for the mission of the church.

“We are grateful for the

Lord’s leading and in answering our prayers for a president in the Montana Conference,” says John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president. “Please continue to pray for the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon Elden. Pray also for his family as they prepare to move from Maryland to Montana.”

*Steve Vistauemet, Gleaner editor*

## MONTANA YOUTH RUSH 2017

Since this is the third consecutive year Montana Youth Rush has been working in the conference, we had the privilege of seeing some of the results of this door-to-door ministry work of past summers.

Junior Ola showed a lady the book *Peace Above the Storm*. The lady said she had bought something like this before. Ola asked her to show him what she had bought. She went into her home, grabbed the book *Man of Peace (Desire of Ages)*

and showed it to him.

She went on to say she had been an atheist before she bought the book. But by reading the book and learning the lessons and teachings of Jesus she became a Christian. She told him she had read the book five times and showed him

how she had underlined in the book and how she loved the cross references to the Bible.

We had many other experiences where people said they love seeing us come by year after year with the books. They would end up getting more books and giving big extra donations. One said he passed books around to friends and family.

Pray for the people who received the books this summer, that they might read and be prepared for the soon coming of Jesus.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Montana Conference Convocation**  
**Oct. 7**

**SPEAKER:** David Klinedinst  
**TOPIC:** Living an Evangelistic Life  
David Klinedinst serves as the evangelist and seminar speaker for the Iowa-Missouri Conference. He has been involved in various forms of evangelistic ministry for 20 years — as a district pastor, personal ministries director and full-time evangelist. He conducts public evangelistic campaigns in the United States and overseas and teaches practical training seminars on witnessing and personal evangelism. His desire is to see a mission-minded, lay-driven church reaching people for Christ.

**Mount Ellis Academy**  
**Week of Prayer**  
**Nov. 6–11**



## BOZEMAN HOSTS MESSIAH'S MANSION

**H**ow much of your imagination do you use when reading through the Bible? Are you able to picture what it was like to cross the Red Sea on dry ground? What kind of imagery comes to mind when you hear the story of Jericho?

As we read through the Word of God, from Genesis to Revelation, we have many descriptions of events that took place long ago and some yet to come. For those of us who learn best by visual means, having a life-size model can help bring history to life and give us a glance into a culture we have only read about.

Messiah's Mansion is a full-scale model of the sanctuary described in Exodus. The Oklahoma-based ministry currently has three traveling exhibits that have been making their way across the globe, sharing the beautiful message of salvation through the Mosaic tabernacle.

After months of planning, the Messiah's

Mansion crew arrived at the Montana Conference Office in Bozeman on July 25 for setup. The two-and-a-half-day process of unpacking, setting up and finalizing details was a big job, made lighter by many helpful hands that came to support this special outreach event.

Tours began on Sabbath, July 29, and ran daily, 1–7 p.m., through Sunday, Aug. 6. Visitors came from all over the state and beyond to take their free tour through the tents that were drawing attention as they sat just off of Interstate 90.

People were led through a quick overview of the tabernacle and taken through the courtyard, holy place and most holy place, where knowledgeable guides would share with them the importance of each piece of furniture. Guests were able to see firsthand how every part of the system pointed directly to Jesus and His mission of setting His people free from sin.

The custom-built replica was full of rich and meaningful



MELISSA STUBER

colors that displayed important themes throughout the entire tour. The painted bronze, silver and gold pieces gave exciting insight to the beauty of what the sanctuary of old must have looked like.

The final stop before people were given a chance to peruse the book tent was the survey tent, where a life-size model of the high priest stood. Tour guides explained the meaning and purpose of his colorful garments and accessories.

A short survey asked visitors how they heard about the tours and offered them the chance to learn more in a variety of areas: further sanctuary study, depression

recovery, marriage seminar, health and financial classes, Bible studies, and K–12 Christian education. More than 1,100 people came through the tours representing more than 120 churches. Of those, 263 people asked for follow-up.

The Messiah's Mansion exhibit has opened doors into the lives of many in the Bozeman community, and local members look forward to see what God has in store for them.

*Melissa Stuber, Bozeman Church member*



MELISSA STUBER

## HUNDREDS RECEIVE CARE AT IMPACT YOUR HEALTH EVENT IN PORTLAND

Take one gymnasium; add carpet to cover the hardwood floor; bring in folding tables, 55 dental chairs (for hygiene, anesthesia and surgery); add a very long and complicated table for supplies and sterilization; fill the stage with a medical practice office for seven physicians; overflow into the cafeteria for optometrists, opticians and an ophthalmologist; head into the hallway for body and foot massage, into two classrooms for haircuts and professional photos, and into the library for child care — and you're almost ready to conduct a free health clinic.

There was also the crew cutting lenses for glasses in the auto mechanic shop and the volunteer registration and meal center in the tech room. And the back-to-school supplies and backpacks table outside the school entrance.

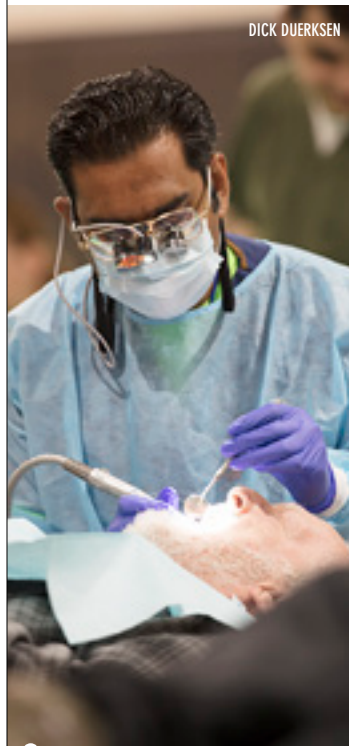
And, equally important, the half-hallway packed tightly with registration computers.

It took about 18 hours on Thursday to set up for the two-day Impact Your Health Portland clinic, held at Portland Adventist Academy Aug. 18 and 20.

One of the most exciting aspects of a free clinic is seeing who comes. Event organizers knew about the 600 volun-

teers, since each of them had to sign up on the clinic website in advance. They included:

- » 50 dentists;
- » 20 Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) dental students;
- » 23 dental hygienists;
- » Seven physicians;
- » More than 30 nurses;



DICK DUERKSEN

Fifty-five dental chairs were used for the event, providing everything from hygiene to surgery.



Nearly 800 people came for care of some kind.

- » 19 Walla Walla University nursing students;
- » Four optometrists;
- » One ophthalmologist;
- » Six beauticians;
- » Two photographers, hospitality escorts and servers of nourishing smoothies.

And planners knew the event's partners:

- » Adventist Health;
- » AMEN (Adventist Medical Evangelism Network);
- » Pacific University School of Optometry;
- » OHSU School of Dentistry;
- » Walla Walla University School of Nursing
- » George Fox University School of Physical Therapy.





DICK DUERKSEN

More photos online at [glnr.in/112-10-or\\_impact](http://glnr.in/112-10-or_impact)



DICK DUERKSEN



a couple questions, and then weep as we massage their feet and pray for them. Compassion goes a long way.”

“I’ve always wanted to do something like this but didn’t know how I could take time to go overseas on a mission trip,” said one dentist. “I am so pleased that I can serve those in need right here in my hometown of Portland.”

Yes, there will be an Impact Your Health Portland in 2018. Prepare to volunteer!

*Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference assistant to the president for creative communications*

But the big question is always, “Who will come?”

“We advertise everywhere, promise good care and pray,” said one of our marketers.

“Don’t forget,” added one pessimist, “this is the eclipse weekend.”

On Thursday, a woman and her daughter were asking God how they were going to be able to pay for the mom’s dental and vision needs. That evening someone sent them a copy of the Impact Your Health advertisement.

“It was a total answer to prayer,” the mom said. “Since we live in Idaho, we got in the car right away and drove six hours to be sure we could be at the front of the line Friday morning.”

Yes, her needs were met — and those of 775 others who came to the clinic on

Friday and Sunday.

“I have never had a professional photo taken. Never!” exclaimed one attendee. “And I love the picture Ben took for me!”

“We’re almost the last stop for each patient,” said the leader of the “footwashing” station. “But people see us, ask

DICK DUERKSEN



Volunteers included 50 dentists, 20 OHSU dental students, 23 dental hygienists, seven physicians, more than 30 nurses, 19 Walla Walla University nursing students, four optometrists, an ophthalmologist, six beauticians and two photographers.

Eye care professionals saw patients and provided glasses on location to fit each person’s needs.



More photos online at  
glnr.in/112-10-or\_deaf

## TABERNACLE DEAF GROUP HOSTS VISITORS

July 8 was a special Sabbath for the deaf group meeting at the Tabernacle Church in Portland. Several deaf visitors were in the area as they were on their way to the annual Western Deaf Camp Meeting held at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, which began the next day.

The deaf at Tabernacle Church have two options for Sabbath School: a regular and a beginners class, both taught by deaf members. David Trexler, Three Angels Deaf Ministries speaker/director based in Greenbelt, Md., was the guest speaker for worship services. After a delicious fellowship meal and a quick group photo,

an afternoon seminar was given by Francisca Trexler, Three Angels Deaf Ministries Bible worker. More than 55 people were present for Sabbath services.

Tabernacle Church has had deaf worship services each week since December 2009. In fact, this is the largest group of deaf Adventists meeting in North America. It is an active group with its own worship services in the chapel. Deaf members also put on several events, including the annual deaf camp meeting.

*Esther Doss, North American Division deaf ministries coordinator*



The worship service's schedule welcomes the Tabernacle deaf group.



Milo students listen to an update on the progress of fighting the Falcon Complex wildfires.

## MILO ACADEMY HOSTS FIREFIGHTERS

In early August, lightning strikes ignited more than a dozen wildfires east of Milo Adventist Academy near Tillier. Milo provided the firefighters an ideal location to set up camp

included their mobile cafeteria, laundry, shower trailers, store, command and communication tents, and much more. Milo's athletic director, Chad Lambie, says, "I enjoyed the radar that was in place to see the smoke and weather patterns. They were also able to communicate with satellite communication (Sat Com), high frequency (HF) and very high frequency (VHF). This capability is usually only [used] by the military. It was also interesting how the supply store had anything they needed when it came to clothes, shovels and lights."

"I cannot say enough about the Milo Seventh-day Adventist Academy," says incident commander Tim Keith. "They were terrific hosts for our camp, gracious, generous, helpful, and our firefighters really loved the ice cream and cookie packets that the students handed out."

Milo principal Randy Thornton expressed appreciation to Team 8 when they were reassigned. "It's been an honor and privilege to host this fine wildfire management team over the past couple of weeks here at Milo Academy," he told them.

*Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter*



Sophomores Samantha Fuller and Frank Jones thank firefighters for their work by offering cookies.

near the fires known as the Falcon Complex but outside the danger zone. The Northwest Incident Management Team 8 quickly took action, and within two days 700 personnel were working 12-hour shifts for 14 days straight and sleeping in the Milo gym or in tents on campus.

Each Sabbath evening during fire camp, Milo staff and students distributed treats to the firefighters as they arrived back on campus in the evening.

The freshman and sophomore classes and several staff had the privilege of visiting the fire camp for a guided tour that

More online at  
glnr.in/112-10-or\_milo



## PAA SERVES FARM-TO-TABLE LUNCHES

**I**t's the first day of school at Portland Adventist Academy (PAA). Students are lined up for lunch and their pick of vegan or cheese lasagna, both stuffed with spinach, carrots, zucchini and onions with roasted broccoli on the side. At the end of the line they find a bowl of fresh fruit and a colorful salad bar. Salad greens harvested from PAA's gardens are ready to be topped with fresh veggies, beans, nuts, hummus and more.

Behind this meal is Stephanie Torgerson, PAA's food service director and a graduate of the Culinary Institute of

American. Torgerson helped successfully launch a farm-to-table model in public schools, and she came to PAA a year ago with the same mission. "Healthy eating is part of our heritage," says Torgerson. "With urban farms cropping up all over our city, and vegan and vegetarian lifestyles trending, why shouldn't we be leaders in this movement?" Torgerson serves vegan choices and skips processed foods. "Teenagers are far more adventurous than we give them credit for," she says. "I'm definitely in favor of the healthy food," says Ben Krueger-Blehm, a PAA junior. "Chef Stef is very creative and good at making food that wouldn't normally appear in a school lunch."

Thanks to "Chef Stef," PAA now has thriving blueberry bushes, an herb garden and six garden beds filled with food destined for the salad bar. And produce isn't the only thing growing. Teams of volunteers came for work parties to build garden beds and compost bins and to prepare the soil. Students volunteer to weed, water and harvest.

Torgerson's visions include a greenhouse where Bible teachers can teach firsthand lessons on reaping and harvesting. She wants to open the kitchen for culinary and agriculture classes as well as guest chefs.



River Neil, PAA senior, feels good knowing some of his lunch is right out of the school gardens.



"Healthy eating is part of our heritage," says Stephanie Torgerson, PAA's school chef. "With urban farms cropping up all over our city, and vegan and vegetarian lifestyles trending, why shouldn't we be leaders in this movement?"

Someday she hopes to sell the school's produce at the local farmer's market and to introduce neighbors to the school's unique educational benefits. Greater yet, she dreams of seeing this modeled throughout Adventist schools.

"I could talk for hours about the importance of this and my passion for it," says Torgerson. "What a wonderful chance this gives us to witness to our community."

"I've come to realize that Chef Stef isn't merely providing healthy meals," says PAA

teacher Mark Smith. "For her, this is a mission focused not just on its health benefits but on connecting others to a healing ministry — one of the very foundations of our church."

*Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent*

More photos online at [glnr.in/112-10-or\\_paa](http://glnr.in/112-10-or_paa)



# Always

"I am with you always . . ." Matthew 28:20

## Women's Retreat

October 27&28, 2017

UCC CONFERENCE CENTER  
Spokane, Washington

Registration Information:  
[uccsda.org/women](http://uccsda.org/women)  
(509) 838-2761

Keynote Speaker:  
Janet Page



UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



## SHINE 104.9 HOSTS NEW OUTREACH

**S**hine 104.9 FM radio hosted its first ShineFest in Riverfront Park in downtown Spokane, Wash., Aug. 20. About 4,500 listeners showed up for an afternoon and evening of testimonies and music from local bands as well as recording artists Matthew West, MercyMe, Matt Maher and Jordan Feliz.

This seven-hour family-friendly event was held in the Lilac Bowl in Riverfront Park, which is right along the north side of Spokane River and between two bridges. Attendees enjoyed two stages with inspirational music, food from local vendors and a variety of booths hosted by organizations like Water

4,500 ShineFest attendees fill Riverfront Park's Lilac Bowl.



for Life, the Union Gospel Mission and Life Center Church. And, of course, there was a Shine booth selling T-shirts and hats and handing out free bumper stickers.

"It was a powerful witness for Christ and His kingdom," says Paul Hoover, Upper Columbia Conference president. "I'm already looking forward to next year."

Shine 104.9, owned by Upper Columbia Conference, is a top-10 radio station in the Spokane community and has been ministering to listeners for nearly 25 years. Conference leaders started the station with the vision to share truth with the largest population area in the conference.

In the summer of 2016 the station relaunched as Shine 104.9 and added a translator at 94.9 FM in Coeur d'Alene,



Staff, announcers and board members of Shine 104.9 include (in front) the Patzer kids, (from left) Darin Patzer, Ron Hessel, Karen Robison, J.J. Hemingway, Lorenda Rae and child, Kristen Browning, Derek Cutlip, Dave Arthur, Karrie Stoldt and Eric Brown.

Idaho. Shine 104.9 utilizes local announcers to enhance the station's community focus while serving the large urban area of Spokane and Kootenai counties.

The station takes its name from the heavy use of the word "shine" throughout Scripture. The staff and station board seek to daily reflect the light of Jesus.

Ron Hessel, the station's weekend pastor says, "I

meet with local pastors [of various denominations] on a monthly basis to pray together. Without exception, they are so appreciative of the [Shine 104.9] ministry for them, their church and their members."

You can listen to Shine 104.9 at [shinel049.org](http://shinel049.org).

*Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant*





## FIRST WEEK AT UCA SETS TONE FOR YEAR

More online at [glnr.in/112-10-uc\\_uca](http://glnr.in/112-10-uc_uca)

**T**he beginning of each school year is a defining time. At Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., the precedent has been set for Jesus to be the focus throughout the entire year.

Registration day began with a powerful blessing. A special effort, called Prayers for a Miracle, made UCA possible for 22 new students.

The first Friday evening began with an agape feast that emphasized the importance of the act of communion. “Having a communion service at the beginning of our school year not only connects our students to each other but also connects them to Christ in a real and meaningful way,” says Eric Johnson, UCA principal. The UCA family of students and staff engaged in the program as participants and program coordinators.

While introducing the discussion topic to the student body, Misa Barba, school chaplain, explained, “We want to try out different things in

Sabbath School this year, and we want your input.” Student leaders led small-group Sabbath School discussions on what makes Sabbath School a personal connection time with Jesus.

Class night was the first Saturday night event of the year and began with a familiar start to any UCA activity: a prayer dedicating that time to God while having fun. Sabbath had ended and the scheduled worship program time was over, but Jesus continued to be at the center of it all. Class night overflowed with traditions of competition as freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors created victory tunnels for each class every time they had a victory.

The first weekend clearly demonstrated how at UCA Jesus, too, is part of every aspect of campus life.

*Brisa Ramirez, Upper Columbia Academy communication taskforce worker*

## CANCELLATION CREATES NEPALESE VBS IN THE PARK

**W**hat would you do with an unexpected gift of time? This summer His Travelers Vacation Bible School taskforce workers had that gift given to them.

In the midst of their busy summer schedule one church canceled their VBS plans — “leaving in its wake a week’s ‘gift of time,’” explains Patty Marsh, Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) children’s ministries director.

After talking to a Spokane, Wash., Nepalese leader about a possible VBS in nearby Ruth Park, Gayle Haeger, Gerald Haeger and Wendy Urbin made a decision: “God has opened a door. Let’s move forward.”

They quickly designed/wrote their own VBS program and recruited five Students in His Service to help along with His Travelers.

About 45 children registered for VBS. Every evening the children would be escorted from the apartment buildings to the park and back when it was over.

On the first night a pre-teen Nepalese girl mentioned to a His Travelers team member that Wednesday would be her friend’s birthday. So the VBS team made that evening’s snack a beautiful birthday cake. An adult guest quietly told Urbin the girl’s family had not been able to purchase a cake so this was especially appreciated.

His Travelers is a group of young people and adults who provide Vacation Bible School support for churches around Upper Columbia Conference.

*Jennifer Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference communication correspondent*



Helpers for the Nepalese VBS included youth and adults from His Travelers and students who participated in the Students in His Service program through Upper Columbia Conference.





# UPPER COLUMBIA

CONFERENCE // NEWS +

## WATER FOR LIFE REACHES MILESTONE

More online at  [glnr.in/112-10-uc\\_water](http://glnr.in/112-10-uc_water)

**W**ater for Life (WFL) International is happy to announce the completion of 100 wells serving people in remote villages of northwest Guatemala. This milestone was passed at the end of the drilling season in April. This means nearly 30,000 people are drinking water every day as a result of the efforts of this charity based in Spokane, Wash.

The well drilling began 14 years ago as a result of the donation of a drilling rig by a Mennonite family drilling company in Silverton, Ore. Through the blessings of God, the endeavor has grown into an organized charity with 501(c)(3) status in the United States and a nonprofit corporation in Guatemala with nongovernmental organization (NGO) status with the government in Guatemala.

Water for Life has a growing presence in the Peten region and works closely with the ministry of health in the region and the government hospital.

The ministry of health director says they can tell the child mortality rate is down in the area and the general health of the people is better as a result of the accessibility of clean water to drink.

The majority of wells are hand pumps because they are placed in regions where there is no power. Villagers are happy to have the safe water and will walk long distances to get to the pumps. The wells are always placed on public property, in churchyards or with landowners who com-

mit to making the water freely available to the public. Water for Life employees in Guatemala maintain the wells and pumps year-round to keep the water available.

Providing water to improve life is a natural platform for delivery of the gospel. As the water is provided, the hearts of the people are open to the message of a loving God and Bible truths from the health teams of nursing or dental professionals providing free basic health care and literature in these villages. Eventually mission groups from organizations like Upper Columbia Con-

ference build churches. So far, 14 churches have been built in the area near Water for Life headquarters, and hundreds of people have been baptized in the region.

In one village recently, an entire congregation of another Christian church became convinced of the truth of the Sabbath and began to worship on the Sabbath as a result of WFL evangelism efforts in the area.

*Tim Rasmussen, Water for Life International president and chairman*

### Join us in commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church

#### Friday October 13

7 p.m. Dan Jackson

#### Saturday, October 14

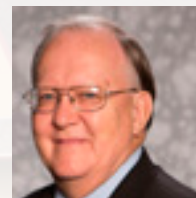
8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Dan Jackson

9:30 a.m. Commemorative Sabbath School

12:45 p.m. Complementary Meal in Fellowship hall

3-5 p.m. Remember, Reflect, Resolve - A Panel Discussion

6:45 p.m. The "Good Ole' Days" Social at the Youth Center



**Dan Jackson**  
NAD President

Village Seventh-day Adventist Church, 715 SE 12th Street, College Place WA 99324  
[www.villageadventist.org](http://www.villageadventist.org)

## SUNSET LAKE CAMP HOSTS ARTS FESTIVAL

+ More online at [glnr.in/112-10-wa\\_arts](http://glnr.in/112-10-wa_arts)

**B**irds chirping, kids laughing and music humming in the background provided a soundtrack to the final week at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson, which featured aquatics, advanced horsemanship and the Festival of the Arts program.

them produce and record the music video. This is the third music video the music production class has created in three years.

Carrasco wanted to give campers an experience with the professional music and video industry: how it works, the steps that happen and the idea process. He had the campers come up with original ideas to present Christian and godly value to the rest of the campers.

“We discuss their own belief system to a deeper level to help them ‘see’ the gospel in a way that might spring up a catch phrase, a concept, a ‘hook’ that might be useful to convey a strong message,” Carrasco says. Carrasco has seen campers from his class feel challenged to revise their own concepts and to research God more profoundly and see Him in a far more personal way.

Two new Festival of the Arts classes were introduced



Campers and staff gather together for a night of worship.

this year: bell choir and drama. Staff interacted with campers in the bell choir, filling out their numbers to produce a musical piece for the end-of-the-week show. The drama class was filled with excited campers just waiting to get their act on.

At the end of the week, parents enjoyed a showcase put on by campers and staff. “Parents were overwhelmed by what their children could do in a week,” says David Yeagley, Sunset Lake Camp director.

During that week, it wasn’t just the music moving people. A young aquatics camper came to the immediate decision she wanted to be baptized, and she needed to be baptized that very day. Camp staff called her grandmother for the family’s permission, and it just so happened that she was right there on campus. Her grandmother was thrilled at the decision, and that very same day the young girl was baptized.

Yeagley recalls the girl coming up from the water after her baptism and proclaiming, “I feel like a new person!”

That young camper (along with a full summer of 720 campers) truly learned to be free in Jesus.

*Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern*



CALEB RISTON

A young camper gets baptized during Festival of the Arts week at camp.

The Festival of the Arts is designed to encourage the musical, artistic and spiritual involvement of children. The program offers many creative outlets, from photography and drama to instrumental, vocal, bell choir, strings and music production.

The music production class is especially popular because campers help write, create, record and produce a music video. This year’s music video is called “To Be Free.”

Werner Carrasco, Out of Shape Productions director and owner of Werner Music, spent the week with the music production campers helping



Campers enjoy some recreation time before evening worship.

LOGAN SEIBOLD



## PSAA TEACHER BUILDS INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

**H**oward Munson could have kicked back and had a relaxed vacation to Indonesia. But he didn't.

The history teacher from Puget Sound Adventist Academy (PSAA) in Kirkland, along with his wife, Jeneil Legoh-Munson, went on a summer vacation tour of Adventist schools in Sulawesi, one of four islands in Indonesia.

Adopting a small school Howard Munson (second from right), PSAA teacher, visits with the principal and staff at an Adventist school in Indonesia.



in Indonesia and supporting students to attend is a passion and a mission for Munson. He wants schools and school groups to get involved with supporting an international school or student.

Sulawesi has many schools available to be "adopted," and Munson is actively looking for school sponsors. "The school builds the church. Our schools are our outreach," Munson says.

Through Munson, Puget Sound Adventist Academy has adopted Kairagi, a small school in Sulawesi, to support the students. Where \$100 can buy groceries for a week in America, \$100 can send a child to school for an entire year in Indonesia.

"They start asking them what they want to be when

HOWARD MUNSON



Adventist education teaches Indonesian children to have values that will impact the rest of their lives.

they are very young," Munson says. "There's a lot of bright kids in there: doctors, pastors, teachers and so much more."

In a place where eight out of 10 people are non-Adventist and 60 percent of the population needs assistance, Munson's goals are to pay tuition for every child that needs it, create an international community, and provide a project with transparency to involve parents, students and schools.

"There are a lot of Adventists in Sulawesi," Munson says. "The mayor of Sulawesi appreciates the honesty of

Adventist people and wants to integrate them into his government. The principal is on the education advisory board for the city. Adventists have a good reputation."

Sulawesi is one of the few areas where Christians and Muslims get along, Munson believes it is good for Adventists to a part of Indonesia's development as a country.

Interested in adopting a school? Email [hmunson@psaa.org](mailto:hmunson@psaa.org).

*Katie Henderson*

## FEJA ENJOYS SUNSET LAKE CAMP RETREAT

**T**he Federation of Adventist Youth (FEJA) recently had a retreat with more than 100 youth at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson enjoying spiritual enrichment and fun activities.

The seminars and worship services focused on making the Word of God the foundation of their lives and learning to resist temptation.

Youth also enjoyed

activities like speed-greeting and treasure hunts to help with team building. Sabbath ended with an evening walk to the lookout tower and a bonfire.

David Salazar, new Washington Conference youth director, interacted with the youth and leaders. "I had a good time and enjoyed the conversation," says Salazar. "I was getting my purpose there by getting to know people,

talking and coordinating with church leaders."

Everyone had the opportunity to share and enjoy the activities planned just for them. Among the spiritual meetings, they enjoyed a day at the lake, canoes, horses and fun activities Sunset Lake Camp offers.

*Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern*

HECTOR BRITO



## AAA WELCOMES NEW EDUCATORS

**A**uburn Adventist Academy is welcoming new teachers and administration to the faculty family.

Peter Fackenthall, Auburn's new principal, is no stranger to the school's campus. He taught at Auburn Adventist Academy from 1994 to 1999 and served as vice principal 1996–1997. Most recently, Fackenthall worked as principal at Pacific Union College Preparatory School in Angwin, Calif.

Joy Fackenthall teaches Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Bible 9 and fundamentals of composition. Fackenthall received her Master of Arts in Spanish from Sonoma State University in California and has eight years of experience teaching

Spanish, Bible and English as a second language (ESL) classes.

"Mrs. Fackenthall is easy to talk to," says senior Maria Hall. "She seems really excited to get to know everyone, and she seems like she can relate well to students."

Alumnus Matthew Sandvik joined the team to teach Bible 11, 20th-century and world history, civics, and precalculus. He has a Bachelor of Arts in theology and music and a Master of Arts in teaching. Previously Sandvik taught at Amazing Grace Academy in Alaska.

"I like Mr. Sandvik because he's very approachable. I feel like if I ever have questions, he will always be willing to help me and make sure that I learn everything right," says

senior Madlyn Ellis, who also works for Sandvik.

Trina Sandvik is the academy's new registrar. She has her Bachelor of Arts in business with a concentration on management and previously worked in Oregon Conference in human resources and as an office manager.

Demetrio Villar has a Bachelor of Science from Pacific Union College in mathematics and has previously worked at Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy in California as a math teacher and registrar. Villar teaches prealgebra, algebra 1, algebra 2, FST (functions, statistics and trigonometry) and calculus.

"I can tell he is very excited about teaching," comments senior Emily Carlton. "He brings a good energy to the classroom."

Most recently, Auburn

welcomed Jay Kissinger to be the new industrial arts teacher. He previously served in the United States Air Force, where he taught maintenance to basic trainees and earned two associate's degrees in airframe technology and instructor in military science. He went on to get a master's in aeronautical science.

"I'm excited to make longboards in Mr. Kissinger's woodworking class because he is awesome," says junior Marko Miller.

Faculty and students are excited to welcome the new teachers and administrators to the Auburn Adventist Academy family for a great school year.

*Sienna Hubin and McKenna Butler, AAA media literacy students*

New staff at Auburn Adventist Academy include (from left) Jay Kissinger, Matthew Sandvik, Trina Sandvik, Joy Fackenthall, Peter Fackenthall and Demetrio Villar.





# Design solutions that drive innovation.



**Pablo Wenceslao, professor**  
DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

What do companies like Tesla, Apple, Dyson, Nike, and Braun have in common? The answer: They all esteem design to the highest level within their company. For these companies, and many others like them, design is not an afterthought or merely a stylized aesthetic, but a process that leads to market solutions and innovations.

Successful designers today are the “re-definers” of our culture. They must anticipate a need or problem before it arises and capitalize on a design solution. With the help of 3D printers, laser cutters, and other methods of rapid prototyping, products have become more tangible, earlier in the design process.

Product design at Walla Walla University is at the nexus of innovation and human-centered design. Our students focus on designing user-friendly products and systems, through an insight-driven design

process. Students work in a studio environment where collaboration and critical thinking are encouraged. They are taught how to innovate through a process of research, discovery, insight development, ideation, prototyping, rendering, and manufacturing.

Product design is an exciting and rewarding industry. There is no better model than a project-based, hands-on approach to absorbing the practice of design. Here at Walla Walla University, we strive to educate product design students with the skills necessary to impact the world and bring God glory through the design of innovative products. Most importantly, our product design student understand that design is not just about the aesthetics of a product but the journey and discovery process that connects people’s lives with the products they use.

## **Product designers work in a variety of industries:**

automotive and transportation  
bathrooms, spas, and wellness  
design strategy  
environmental design  
entertainment and digital design

interior and furniture design  
office and productivity  
sports, recreation, and outdoors  
packaging and graphics  
and more...

## **Degree offered:**

Product Design (B.S.)

► For more information about studying product design at Walla Walla University visit [wallawalla.edu/product-design](http://wallawalla.edu/product-design).



## WWU STUDENTS IGNITE SPARK IN PERUVIAN VILLAGES



**B**reathing is hard at 13,000 feet. Anything is hard really, but regions like the Peruvian Andes serve as a testament to humankind's will to survive. Indigenous communities survive on what they can grow, which isn't much — mostly potatoes and corn. In part because they are so remote, many of these communities lack basic necessities such as health care, schools, potable water and electricity.

The Walla Walla University Engineers Without Borders (EWB-WWU) chapter — a multidisciplinary group comprised of WWU students and faculty — has spent the past four years working in one of these remote districts. The communities are so remote that when engineers first

arrived, many of the locals had never seen foreigners before. Many were initially hesitant to trust EWB. In fact, EWB members were once accused of coming to mine the land for gold, but their commitment to partnership has slowly built trust. Alongside community members, EWB-WWU has constructed two potable water systems and, most recently, completed its first electricity project in Japura, Peru.

When asked why electricity was so important, Japura community members gave a unanimous response: We want our children to study at night. Japura is large enough for a two-room primary school, but in order to attend secondary school, children must walk about two hours each way every

day. The sun sets in Peru at around 6 p.m. year-round, leaving children barely any time to study. Electricity would also revolutionize primary education. One teacher dreamed of purchasing a multimedia projector so “the children [wouldn't] have to draw their lessons.”

EWB does not believe in quick fixes, barging into new territory, building something and leaving. The organization partners with communities to self-identify needs, which involves various assessment trips and lots of relationship-building. Once a need has been identified, engineers design a system with the intent that all parts can be sourced locally so the economy will benefit and community members can replace parts as needed. The

community and local government pay for 30 percent of the project, ensuring their commitment and financial capacity to sustain the system.

As of June 2017, 76 homes in Japura have electricity. Individual photovoltaic (PV) systems provide each home with three lights and two electrical outlets, supplying light for up to 10 hours each day along with a small amount of power for other appliances such as televisions, radios and cell phone chargers. Families are using electricity to start and expand small businesses, which will allow them to achieve financial independence and to support their children. Children are able to study at night, and teachers are implementing technology in the classroom.

An electrical committee, comprised of dedicated community members, has been educated on how to properly care for and maintain the system. EWB's vision is that these systems will continue to meet the community's needs for years to come.

See what life is like in the village of Japura and watch a video of the EWB project in action at [ewb-wwu.org/blog/media](http://ewb-wwu.org/blog/media).

*Stephanie Septembre, EWB-WWU cultural understanding lead*





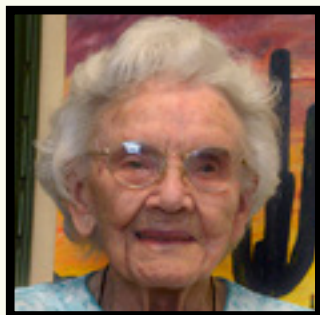
### Hooper 100th

Irmgard Hooper celebrate her 100th birthday on June 25, 2017, with a luncheon in Albany, Ore.

Irmgard S. Siemsen was born June 29, 1917, the third of five children born to Herman and Auguste (Hartwig) Siemsen in Roundup, Mont. She attended small, country schools in Montana and Idaho until enrolling at Granger Academy in the Yakima, Wash., area. She graduated there and continued her education at Walla Walla College (WWC), obtaining her degree in modern languages in 1944.

While attending WWC, her older brother introduced her to John “Jack” Hooper. He and Irmgard were married on her parents’ farm in Idaho on Sept. 3, 1944. She returned to WWC and taught languages there while Jack continued his education.

After his graduation in 1953, they and their children, Clyde and Jeanie, joined “The Great Advent Movement,” as they called it. Irmgard taught languages for many years to academy students across the country: Auburn Adventist Academy in Washington state, Maplewood Academy in Minnesota, Walla Walla College Academy/Walla Walla Valley Academy in southeast Washing-



Irmgard Hooper

ton, Jefferson Academy in Texas, Sheyenne River Academy in North Dakota, Campion Academy in Colorado and Rio Lindo Adventist Academy in California. After retirement, she joined her husband Jack on two years of mis-

sion service to Hawaiian Mission School and on a mission trip to Africa.

An avid homemaker, Irmgard always had a large garden and froze and canned the produce that wasn’t eaten fresh by the family. Most summers would find the family traveling by car around the nation to explore parts as yet unseen — that is, when Jack and Irmgard weren’t working on their master’s degrees. In 1967, they were the first married couple to earn their master’s degrees in the same graduation ceremony at Walla Walla College.

Irmgard’s son, Clyde, died unexpectedly in 2002, and in 2005 Jack, her lifelong companion, closed his eyes to rest until Jesus’ return. After reaching the advanced age of 90, Irmgard fell in love with Jesus all over again and chose to be rebaptized — because, as she put it, “Now I know what it means.”

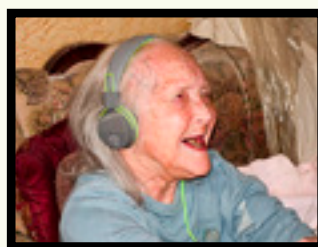
A recent move into an assisted-living setting closer to her daughter brought a change of location and life patterns, but Irmgard is content with her situation, eager to see her Jesus return.

Irmgard’s surviving family includes her daughter, Jeanie and Daniel Reed of Albany, Ore.; daughter-in-law, Carol Hooper of Grants Pass, Ore.; 3 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

### Sampson 100th

Gail Sampson celebrated her 100th birthday July 30, 2017, at her longtime home in Pullman, Wash. Though no longer able to attend church, she keeps up with what is going on, prays for church and community members, and stays engaged on church and community matters.

The Pullman Church opened its doors in 1997. Gail was instrumental in both getting the church started and keeping it going. Prior to this, she was active in outreach to the Pullman community, including student-led Adventist Christian Fellowship campus out-



Gail Sampson

reach and the Studio 7 vegetarian restaurant on the Washington State University campus.

She remembers well the old Adventist church building in Pullman, which closed down sometime in the mid-1970s. She was persistent in reminding the remaining Moscow Church members of the promise to build a church in Pullman. This came together in 1996 with the help of pastors John Mcghee and Ron Gladden (both full-time church planters at the time), the pastor of the Moscow Church, Ray Roth, and Doug Venn, a pastor and trained church planter. Pullman members thank God for Gail’s hard work, prayers and influence over the years.

### Zollbrecht 50th

Henry and Mary Jane Zollbrecht celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 18, 2017, in a country setting near Oregon City, Ore., at the John Jones residence. The celebration took place exactly 50 years after their marriage at the Northbrook Church in Minneapolis, Minn. All their children, children’s spouses, grandchildren and a host of friends joined them at the celebration.

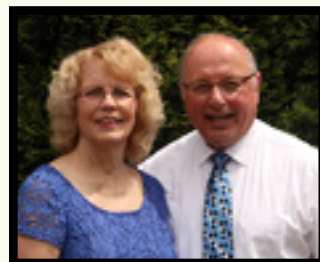
Henry met Mary Jane Albertsen at Union College in Lincoln, Neb. They were married after Henry’s graduation and then moved to Andrews University in Michigan, where Henry completed his Master of Divinity degree.

The Zollbrechts moved back to Minnesota, where they pastored for several years. When a call came to move to eastern Oregon, they came and spent 17 years in the

Idaho Conference pastoring the John Day and Long Creek (Ore.) churches, Baker City (Ore.) and Richland (Ore.) churches, and then the Payette, Idaho, District.

During this time Henry completed his Master of Public Health degree from Loma Linda University in California. Mary Jane completed a secretarial degree and worked for many years for various CPA firms.

In 1990 they moved to Medford, Ore., and pastored the Valley View Church for 10 years. Then they moved to Portland, Ore., where they pastored the Tabernacle Church for 13 years while Mary Jane worked at the Oregon Conference.



Mary Jane and Henry Zollbrecht

They have enjoyed gardening and cruising, and Mary Jane enjoys quilting. They have been retired in the Oregon City area since 2013.

The Zollbrecht family includes Karen and Brian Carlton of Chehalis, Wash.; Tim and Brenda (Foulston) Zollbrecht of Damascus, Ore.; Les and Marschelle (Bowes) Zollbrecht of Damascus, Ore.; and 7 grandchildren.

### FAMILY BIRTHS

**ERICKSON** — Mia Rose was born April 12, 2017, to Phillip and Aurie (Whitlock) Erickson, Hillsboro, Ore.

**THOMPSON** — Emily Grace was born April 16, 2017, to Allen and Heather (Becker) Thompson, Caldwell, Idaho.

## FAMILYWEDDINGS

### FINCH-JARDIN

Brittany Mae Finch and Stephen Paul Kevin Jardin were married July 16, 2017, in Forest Grove, Ore. They are making their home in Hillsboro, Ore. Brittany is the daughter of Steven and Donna (Morton) Finch. Stephen is the son of David and Christine (McDonald) Jardin.

### KEIM-STONE

Yvette Rachelle (Loeks) Keim and Dale Richard Stone were married June 18, 2016, in St. Helens, Ore. They are making their home in Portland, Ore. Yvette is the daughter of Vernon and Yvonne (Jurgensen) Loeks. Dale is the son of Albert Stone and Patsy (Raines) Stone (deceased).

## FAMILYATREST

**BAUMAN** — Vera Tinne, 98; born Dec. 26, 1918, Stephenville, Texas; died May 16, 2017, Coos Bay, Ore. Surviving: husband, Jerry Bauman; sons, Gary Kirschtmeir, Wilcox, Ariz.; Elvis Kirschtmeir, Spokane, Wash.; daughter, Mona Judd, Redmond, Wash.; and 4 grandchildren.

**BIGHAM** — Albert A., 87; born Feb. 1, 1929, Sacramento, Calif.; died Dec. 3, 2016, Bandon, Ore. Surviving: son, Richard, of Colorado; daughters, Kathleen Porter, Bandon; Cherie Porter, Fortuna, Calif.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**BIRO** — Andrew R., 87; born Dec. 7, 1929, Detroit, Mich.; died June 4, 2017, Dallas, Ore. Surviving: wife, Patricia (Christensen); sons, Chris, Houston, Texas; Jeffery, Kailua, Hawaii; Vern Griffin, Reno, Nev.; Jim Griffin, Conover, N.C.; daughter, Alta Coate, Bellevue, Neb.; 11 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**BOEPPLE** — Erma Ida (Vietz), 93; born Oct. 17, 1923, Denhoff,

N.D.; died May 25, 2017, Fallon, Nev. Surviving: daughters, Mavis Lawrence, Fallon; Connie Lackie, Anchorage, Alaska; 5 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**BRADSHAW** — David F., 82; born April 14, 1935, Phoenix, Ariz.; died May 6, 2017, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Elaine (Reiswig), Gresham, Ore.; sons, David L. and Jack A., both of Milton-Freewater, Ore.; daughter, Lori Wardlaw, College Place, Wash.; brothers, Robert, Snohomish, Wash.; William, Gresham; sisters, Dorothy Oman, South Bend, Wash.; Mary Quishenberry, Loma Linda, Calif.; Lavaun Linde and Lois McCombs, both of Deer Park, Wash.; 3 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

**BROOKS** — June Lucille (Morris), 89; born March 14, 1927, Haviland, N.D.; died Jan. 28, 2017, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: son, Errol, Yakima; daughters, Irma “Connie” Maley, Portland, Ore.; Stella-Renee Schmidt, Selah, Wash.; Tara Stockton, Troutdale, Ore.; 13 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great-grandchildren.

**BROOKS** — Robert Allen, 65; born Dec. 11, 1951, Happy Valley, Ore.; died July 25, 2017, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Sharon (Kettner), Camas, Wash.; daughters, Michelle Coutu and Mindy Gershuny, both of Portland; mother, Doris (Stearns) Brooks, Camas; brother, Bill Brooks, East Point, Ga.; and a grandchild.

**CASEBOLT** — David Neal, 49; born Dec. 27, 1966, Puyallup, Wash.; died Nov. 26, 2016, Gig Harbor, Wash. Surviving: wife, Tawnya (Harter); son, Connor N., Gig Harbor; daughter, McKenna Casebolt, Gig Harbor; parents, Bryce and Ellen (Gerard)

Casebolt, Covington, Wash.; brothers, Fred L., Covington; and Scott A., Albany, Ore.

**CHRISTENSEN** — Wayne Arnold, 77; born March 6, 1940, Williston, N.D.; died June 9, 2017, Sequim, Wash. Surviving: wife, Sandra (Reimann); daughters, Kristi Kaas, Puyallup, Wash.; Sheri Christensen, Spanaway, Wash.; and 3 grandchildren.

**CHURCHILL** — Normagene “Gene” (Hunt), 88; born Oct. 19, 1928, North Branch, Mich.; died June 19, 2017, Monroe, Mich. Surviving: husband, Byron; son, Garwin, Grayling, Mich.; daughter, Vonnie Jo Acre, Monroe; sister, Edith Peterson, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**CULVER** — Travis Wesley, 39; born Dec. 10, 1977, Spokane, Wash.; died June 5, 2017, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Salena (Reber); son, Drew, Caldwell; daughter, Emily Culver, Caldwell; parents, Rance and Nancy (Cooper) Culver, Puyallup, Wash.; brothers, Kelly, Caldwell; and Fred, Graham, Wash.

**CURRIER** — Clarence Edwin, 87; born March 12, 1930, Orlando, Fla.; died March 19, 2017, Riddle, Ore. Surviving: wife, Joy (Tucker); sons, Randall, Grants Pass, Ore.; William, Adair Village, Ore.; daughter, Carol Nelson Sumerlin, Riddle; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**DIXON** — Harold Romain Jr., 97; born March 1, 1920, Kiukiang, China; died May 3, 2017, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Verna May (Thompson) Dower Dixon, Portland; sons, Harold Romain Dixon III, Spangle, Wash.; James Dower and Edward Dower, both of Sacramento, Calif.; daughter, Evvalee Rushold, Portland; sister, Aileen Bohner, Loma Linda, Calif.; 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**EASTHAM** — Katherine Lucille (Money), 91; born Aug. 27, 1925, Heron, S.D.; died June 28, 2017, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: son, Bill, Ketchikan, Alaska; daughters, Nancy Manly, Juneau, Alaska; Judy Waldrip, Fall Creek, Ore.; 9 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

**FARR** — Jack William, 84; born April 15, 1933, Neodesha, Kan.; died July 14, 2017, Kettering, Ohio. Surviving: wife, Marilyn Roxana (Welsh), Miamisburg, Ohio; son, Michael, Gresham, Ore.; daughters, Lisa Farr, Hammond, Wis.; Lori Farr, Miamisburg; 12 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

**GIBSON** — Verlin, 88; born May 8, 1928, Cathlamet, Wash.; died Feb. 24, 2017, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Priscilla (Dietrich); sons, Tim, Titan, Wash.; Ron, North Port, Wash.; Larry, Brush Prairie, Wash.; Jim, Washougal, Wash.; Ted, Springfield, Ill.; daughter, Jannine Gibson, North Port; 12 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**GRANT** — Lucille Rose (Kenville) Brannan, 86; born Sept. 26, 1930, San Jose, Calif.; died June 17, 2017, Camas, Wash. Surviving: husband, Donald Grant; sons, John Brannan and Ron Brannan, both of Stayton, Ore.; daughter, Wendi (Brannan) Henderson, San Jose; 9 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**HAFFNER** — Clifford Wendell, 82; born Sept. 28, 1934, Tolstoy, S.D.; died June 30, 2017, Happy Valley, Ore. Surviving: wife, Barbara (Peck); sons, Karl, Waynesville, Ohio; Paul, Happy Valley; Randy, Winter Park, Fla.; daughter, Cheryl Haffner, Knoxville, Tenn.; and 7 grandchildren.

**HARDWICK** — David Lee, 74; born May 17, 1942, Seattle, Wash.; died May 15, 2017, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Lynda (Cook), Longview, Wash.; sons,



Josh, Portland; Matt, Ridgefield, Wash.; sister, Althea Heaton, Richland, Wash.; and a grandchild.

**HOOPER** — Harriet U. (Schwender), 95; born May 21, 1922, Bridgeport, Neb.; died June 5, 2017, Glendale, Calif. Surviving: sons, Jim, Oakland Hills, Calif.; Dan, Sunland, Calif.; daughter, Jan Lind, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; 9 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 4 step-great-grandchildren.

**HULSE** — Kenneth A., 86; born Dec. 21, 1930, Port Angeles, Wash.; died Nov. 9, 2016, Sequim, Wash. Surviving: wife, Ellen Hulse; son, Larry, Monroe, Wash.; daughters, Janie Holm, College Place Wash.; Janet Schwisow, Sunnyside, Wash.; 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**LEWIS** — Leonard Dale, 83; born July 5, 1933, Grants Pass, Ore.; died July 3, 2017, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Ellen (Sell) Carkhuff; son, Steven Lewis, Clackamas, Ore.; stepsons, Alan Vanarsdell, Clatskanie, Ore.; Roy Vanarsdell, Warrenton, Ore.; Dennis Carkhuff, Madras, Ore.; daughters, Patty (Lewis) Riggerberg, Phoenix, Ariz.; Linda Lewis, Vancouver; stepdaughter, Jackie (Dietrich) Farley, Medford, Ore.; 19 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

**MALEY** — Irma "Connie" (Brooks), 73; born Jan. 29, 1944, New England, N.D.; died Feb. 22, 1917, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: husband, Steve, Portland, Ore.; daughters, Sherry Wallace, Lewiston, Idaho; Laurie Olson, Bellevue, Wash.; Jolene Lakey, Selah, Wash.; brother, Errol Brooks, Yakima; sisters, Stella Schmidt, Selah; Tara Stockton, Troutdale, Ore.; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

**MCCONNELL** — Richard

Eugene, 86; born Oct. 26, 1930, in Washington D.C.; died June 25, 2017, Salem, Ore. Surviving: wife, Evelyn (Kingman); sons, Chris, Lees Summit, Mo.; Michael, Santa Cruz, Calif.; Patrick, Salem; daughter, Bonnie Lamalfa, Boyce, Va.; 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**MITCHELL** — Johnathon, 50; born July 1, 1966, in southern California; died June 9, 2017, Medford, Ore.

**MOLSTAD** — Dennis, 73; born March 19, 1943, Arlington, Wash.; died March 7, 2017, Arlington. Surviving: wife, Nina (Matterand); son, Jason, Arlington; daughters, Melissa Molstad, Everett, Wash.; Janine Stumpff, Surprise, Ariz.; Jayne Montrose, Montrose, Colo.; Ann Reagan, San Diego, Calif.; 10 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**MONTGOMERY** — "Ann" Cynthia (McInturff), 84; born Aug. 24, 1932, Long Beach, Calif.; died Feb. 19, 2017, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, Charles and Thomas; daughters, Nancy Montgomery and Cynthia Person; and 6 grandchildren.

**NOWLIN** — John William, 60; born Aug. 19, 1956, Choteau, Mont.; died May 28, 2017, near Dupuyer, Mont. Surviving: mother, Laura Nowlin, Dutton, Mont.; brothers, James, Sam and Doug, all of Dutton; sisters, Laura Karges, Hebron N.D.; and Luella Vorce, Lyle, Wash.

**SMITH** — Vera Yuen Oi (Lyu), 90; born Feb. 11, 1926, Honolulu, Hawaii; died July 10, 2017, Avondale, Ariz. Surviving: daughters, Jeanine Linder, Goodyear, Ariz.; Joanne Fletcher, Avondale; Janelle Muthiah, Riverside, Calif.; Colette Kirkwood, Damascus, Ore.; brother, Chester Lyau, Las Vegas, Nev.; 9 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

**THOMAS** — Shirley Anita (Brane), 80; born Oct. 12, 1936, Cincinnati, Ohio; died May 15, 2017, Fort Worth, Texas. Surviving: husband, Griffith L.; sons, Lloyd, Coyote Flats, Texas; Joseph, Lake Jackson, Texas; Hugh, Moses Lake, Wash.; daughters, Marcene Thomas, Keizer, Ore.; Delbe Meelhuysen, Burleson, Texas; Jill Walcker, Spokane Valley, Wash.;

stepsisters, Ann Johnson, Woodbury, Tenn.; Jean Welsh, North Vernon, Ind.; 14 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**TINLIN** — Walter Ned Douglas, 91; born Feb. 2, 1926, Portland, Ore.; died Feb. 23, 2017, Whitefish, Mont. Surviving: wife, Jean (Brooks); son, Carl, Whitefish; daughters, Marcia Schalesky and Barbara Tritt, both of Cuenca, Ecuador; and 3 grandchildren.

**WELLS** — Emma Lou (Bryant), 79; born Oct. 7, 1937, Gainesville, Ga.; died Dec. 16, 2016, Morton, Wash. Surviving: husband, Wilfred, Bandon, Ore.; daughters, Julie Wells-Hansen, Morton; Linda Wells-Kolodka, Topeka, Kan.; Chana Wells-Albracht, Morton; and 4 grandchildren.

**WINTER** — Thelma V., 101; born Aug. 24, 1915, Hankingson, N.D.; died July 6, 2017, Castaic, Calif. Surviving: son, Robert, Stanwood, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

**YURKE** — Helmut Fritz, 93; born May 21, 1923, Gortitz, Germany; died April 29, 2017, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Bernard (Jeanne), Boise; Martin, Meridian, Idaho; and Otto, Eagle, Idaho.

1931 - 2017

DORIS WILLIAMS

Doris Elaine (Jauch) Williams, a resident of Portland, Ore., passed away on Aug. 5, 2017, at the age of 86. She leaves behind her children, Celene Williams Cross and Grant and Cecily Williams Geschke; her grandchildren, Sydney Cross, Joel Cross and Annika Geschke; her brother, Bob Jauch; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard "Dick" Williams, and both of her parents, Ernest and Sadie Boss Jauch.

Doris retired in 1990 after 36 years of teaching both first and second grades almost her whole career in both private and public schools. She was born in Lodi, Calif., and resided in the state until moving to Sandpoint, Idaho, in 1979. She attended high school at Lodi Adventist Academy and college at Pacific Union College in Angwin, Calif. After their grandchildren were born, Dick and Doris moved to McMinnville, Ore., where Doris lived until Dick's passing in 2016. She moved to Portland in February 2016 and resided close to her daughters and family.



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

Go to [GleanerNow.com](http://GleanerNow.com)/contribute to submit family announcements.

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

### Offering

**Oct. 7** — Local Church Budget;

**Oct. 14** — World Budget: emphasis Voice of Prophecy/La Voz de la Esperanza;

**Oct. 21** — Local Church Budget;

**Oct. 28** — Local Conference Advance.

### North Pacific Union Conference Association

OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given that a Regular Membership Meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists is called for 2 p.m., on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2017, at the North Pacific Union Conference in Ridgefield, Wash. The membership is comprised of the members of the North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee. The purpose of the Regular Membership Meeting is to hear reports and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

*John C. Freedman, president*

*Charles B. Simpson, secretary*

## OREGON CONFERENCE

### Free OAMC Concert

**Oct. 28** — Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus and guest singers from other faiths will be featured in "A Festival of Hymns and Anthems" celebrating the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation at 7 p.m. Greg Dodds, Walla Walla University history department chairman, will deliver a preconcert lecture titled "500 Years of Reformation" regarding the historical setting of the Reformation at 6 p.m. Sunnyside Church, 10501 SE Market St., Portland, Ore.

### Take Heart Ministry's Embrace the Hope

**Nov. 5** — Take Heart Ministry's next event is Embrace the Hope at 11:30 a.m. at the Salem Convention Center, 200 Commercial St. SE, Salem, OR 97301. The event is open to all those who are hurting and those who support them. There is a catered lunch, guest speaker, inspiring music and supportive friends. You will leave with tools to help you navigate the holidays while acknowledging the pain and embracing the Hope. You're on an unexpected journey, and you don't have to travel alone. Register at [TakeHeartMinistry.info](http://TakeHeartMinistry.info).

## UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

### Village Church 125th Anniversary

**Oct. 13-14** — Join us, Friday evening at 7 p.m. and Sabbath in commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Village Church, 715 SE 12th St., College Place, Wash. Special guest speaker is Dan Jackson, North American Division president. Sabbath afternoon seminar and panel discussion (3-5 p.m.) on "Adventist History and Mission: Lessons and Challenges."

Presenters include: Terrie Aamodt, Walla Walla University (WWU) history professor; Gregory Dodds, WWU history professor; Paul Dybdhal, WWU theology professor; Dave Thomas, WWU School of Theology dean; and Dan Jackson.

### 50th Anniversary of Richland Church

**Nov. 10-11** — Richland Church is celebrating its 50th anniversary. We are excited to invite all charter members and all who have attended the church to join in this weekend as we praise and worship together in the church you helped to build and support. 1807 McMurray Ave., Richland, Wash. Get additional event information or sign up for the church newsletter at [myrichlandchurch.org](http://myrichlandchurch.org).

### Walk Through Bethlehem

**Dec. 1-4** — Join us for a free, unforgettable, interactive, guided walking tour of the re-created town of Bethlehem. Encounter Roman soldiers. Visit the shops, tax collector, wise men with their live camel, innkeeper, stable and more. Watch the story of Christ's birth unfold before your eyes. Dress warmly and wear comfortable walking shoes. Open 5-8:30 p.m. at the Yakima Church, 507 N. 35th Ave., Yakima, Wash. Walk-ins are welcome, or you can reserve a tour time at [yakimasda.org/journey](http://yakimasda.org/journey).

## WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

### Auburn Academy Class of 1969 Reunion

Auburn Academy's class of 1969 is planning their 50-year reunion with a seven-day Alaska cruise with talks from Lee Venden. The invitation is for all family members and friends from 1967 through 1970. We are missing many classmates from 1969. Please send contact information or questions to [jan69reinking@comcast.net](mailto:jan69reinking@comcast.net).

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT [GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS](http://GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS).



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Stay in touch with the latest news, video links, calendar events, photo galleries, past issues and more at [gleanernow.com](http://gleanernow.com)





# Images of Creation

Photo Contest

The *Gleaner* needs your images of creation for the inside front cover of the magazine, as well as an online Photo of the Week at [GleanerNow.com](http://GleanerNow.com) and the *Gleaner's* social media.

Submit your entries online at  
**[GleanerNow.com/photocontest](http://GleanerNow.com/photocontest)**

Deadline: Thursday,  
Nov. 9, 2017, by 5 p.m.

The **2018 Images of Creation** nature photo contest updated and specific rules are online at **[GleanerNow.com/photocontest](http://GleanerNow.com/photocontest)**

- **Vertical** photos submitted (up to 15 digital entries) will be considered for the print edition of the *Gleaner* magazine. Winning entries will receive \$200 per photo
- **Horizontal** photos submitted (up to 15 digital entries) will be considered for Photo of the Week on [GleanerNow.com](http://GleanerNow.com). Horizontal photos may also be included in a preliminary Web-based gallery to allow individuals to go online Nov. 22–Dec. 11 to vote for favorite images.
- Only images of nature taken within the state of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington.
- Photo dimensions and file requirements available online.
- Final selection of both vertical and horizontal image winners will be at the discretion of the *Gleaner* staff.
- **BE SURE TO READ THE COMPLETE PHOTO CONTEST RULES AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [GLEANERNOW.COM/PHOTOCONTEST](http://GLEANERNOW.COM/PHOTOCONTEST) BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR PHOTOS.**





## Classes

### SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S DEGREES in

business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit [southern.edu/graduatestudies](http://southern.edu/graduatestudies).

## Employment

**WEIMAR INSTITUTE** seeking master's-prepared nurses for 2017-2018 to teach psychiatric/mental health, mother/infant, pediatric, community, medical-surgical. B.S.-prepared nurses in adjunct positions to teach clinicals. Email [winursing@weimar.edu](mailto:winursing@weimar.edu).

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**UNION COLLEGE**, Lincoln, Neb., seeks a vice president for enrollment services. This person will be responsible for achieving the college's enrollment goals and managing financial aid to meet overall financial goals. Full description at [ucollege.edu/staff-openings](http://ucollege.edu/staff-openings). Send application and resume to Dr. Vinita Sauder, [vinita.sauder@ucollege.edu](mailto:vinita.sauder@ucollege.edu).

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**UNION COLLEGE** seeks committed Adventist to direct its NCATE-accredited education program, effective December 2017.

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church schools essential. For further information, [ucollege.edu/faculty-openings](http://ucollege.edu/faculty-openings). Apply and submit CV to Dr. Frankie Rose, Academic Dean, at [frankie.rose@ucollege.edu](mailto:frankie.rose@ucollege.edu).

## Events

**10 DAYS OF PRAYER** returns Jan. 10–20, 2018, with the theme “Our High Priest.” Congregations worldwide continue to be blessed by this powerful prayer initiative. For more information and to sign up your church, visit [tendaysofprayer.org](http://tendaysofprayer.org).

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Monday–Thursday 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

President . . . . . John Freedman	Legal Counsel . . . . . André Wang
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## Local Conference Directory

### ALASKA CONFERENCE

6100 O'Malley Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99507-7200  
907-346-1004 • [alaskaconference.org](http://alaskaconference.org)  
Kevin Miller, president; Quentin Purvis, v.p. secretariat; James W. Jensen, v.p. finance

### IDAHO CONFERENCE

7777 Fairview  
Boise, ID 83704-8418  
208-375-7524 • [idahoadventist.org](http://idahoadventist.org)  
David Prest Jr., president; John Rogers, v.p. finance

### MONTANA CONFERENCE

175 Canyon View Rd.  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
406-587-3101 • [montanaconference.org](http://montanaconference.org)  
Elden Ramirez, president; Elaine Hagele, interim v.p. administration and finance

### OREGON CONFERENCE

19800 Oatfield Rd.  
Gladstone, OR 97027-2546  
503-850-3500 • [oregonconference.org](http://oregonconference.org)  
Dan Linrud, president; Dave Allen, v.p. administration; Brian Gosney, v.p. finance

### UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

3715 S. Grove Rd.  
Spokane, WA 99224  
509-838-2761 • [uccsda.org](http://uccsda.org)  
Paul Hoover, president; Doug R. Johnson, v.p. administration; David Freedman, v.p. finance

### WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

32229 Weyerhaeuser Way S.  
Federal Way, WA 98001  
253-681-6008 • [washingtonconference.org](http://washingtonconference.org)  
Doug Bing, president; Craig Carr, v.p. administration; Jerry S. Russell, v.p. finance

### WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

204 S. College Ave.  
College Place, WA 99324-1198  
509-527-2656 • [wallawalla.edu](http://wallawalla.edu)  
John McVay, president; Volker R. Henning, v.p. for academic administration; Steven G. Rose, v.p. for financial administration; Doug Tilstra, interim v.p. for student life and mission; Jodeene Wagner, v.p. for university relations and advancement

## Adventist Book Centers

800-765-6955 • [adventistbookcenter.com](http://adventistbookcenter.com)

### NAMPA ABC

1350 N. Kings Rd., Nampa, ID 83687-3193  
208-465-2532  
M–Th . . . . 8:30 a.m.–5:45 p.m.

### OREGON ABC

19700 Oatfield Rd., Gladstone, OR 97027  
503-850-3300  
M–Th . . . . 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.  
F . . . . 10 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Sun . . . . 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

### UPPER COLUMBIA ABC

3715 S. Grove Rd., Spokane, WA 99224  
509-838-3168  
M–Th . . . . 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.  
Sun . . . . 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

### COLLEGE PLACE ABC

505 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324  
509-529-0723  
M–Th . . . . 9:30 a.m.–6 p.m.  
F . . . . 9 a.m.–3 p.m.  
Sun . . . . 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

### AUBURN ABC

5100 32nd St., Auburn, WA 98092-7024  
253-833-6707  
M–Th . . . . 10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
F . . . . 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.  
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give you \$250 after your loan has closed. Matthew R. Watkins, NMLS #1404135, cell 971-413-2300, email [mwatkins@hmkey.com](mailto:mwatkins@hmkey.com). Website [hmkey.com](http://hmkey.com). Equal Housing Lender NMLS #1393742. For current licenses, visit [nmlsconsumeraccess.com](http://nmlsconsumeraccess.com). HomeKey Lending LLC, 250 N. Litchfield Rd. Ste 261D, Goodyear, AZ 85338.

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**Sunset Schedule // DST**

October	6	13	20	27
<b>ALASKA CONFERENCE</b>				
Anchorage	7:17	6:56	6:34	6:14
Fairbanks	7:03	6:38	6:13	5:48
Juneau	6:19	6:00	5:41	5:22
Ketchikan	6:11	5:53	5:36	5:20
<b>IDAHO CONFERENCE</b>				
Boise	7:18	7:06	6:55	6:44
La Grande	6:25	6:12	6:00	5:48
Pocatello	7:04	6:52	6:40	6:30
<b>MONTANA CONFERENCE</b>				
Billings	6:46	6:33	6:21	6:09
Havre	6:49	6:35	6:21	6:08
Helena	6:59	6:46	6:34	6:22
Miles City	6:35	6:22	6:09	5:57
Missoula	7:07	6:54	6:41	6:29
<b>OREGON CONFERENCE</b>				
Coos Bay	6:50	6:38	6:27	6:16
Medford	6:45	6:34	6:23	6:12
Portland	6:43	6:30	6:18	6:06
<b>UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE</b>				
Pendleton	6:27	6:14	6:02	5:51
Spokane	6:20	6:07	5:53	5:41
Walla Walla	6:25	6:12	6:00	5:48
Wenatchee	6:32	6:19	6:05	5:53
Yakima	6:34	6:20	6:08	5:56
<b>WASHINGTON CONFERENCE</b>				
Bellingham	6:40	6:26	6:12	5:59
Seattle	6:40	6:26	6:13	6:01

GleanerNow.com/sunset



## ADVERTISING DEADLINES

**DECEMBER** OCT. 26  
**JANUARY** NOV. 27

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# BREAKING BOB: THE \$50,000 BAKE SALE

**D**uring my family vacation in California this summer, I received a text from my associate pastor informing me Bob, an outstanding long-time member of our church, wanted to have a bake sale the first day of school. Admittedly, I was reluctant, and, after some thought, I concurred with my team that we should look for a better day. This was not due to any philosophical issues with a bake sale. After all, who in their right mind is really going to object to the promotion and proliferation of pastries? It was simply a logistical difference.

However, Bob was passionate and plans had already been set in motion.

The reason for Bob's passion had to do with a special season of fundraising at my church in Puyallup, Washington. A gracious donor agreed to raise \$500,000 toward our performing arts center/sanctuary and match what was raised

by December 15 to go toward our mortgage debt with the conference. Understand, we've met in a gymnasium for almost nine years, due to placing Christian education needs first. We have longed to end the era of setting up/tearing down in the gym.

Bob has been one of the prime movers urging us to reach this goal. As plans came together for

the bake sale he declared he would match whatever came in from the baked goods. This is where things get interesting.

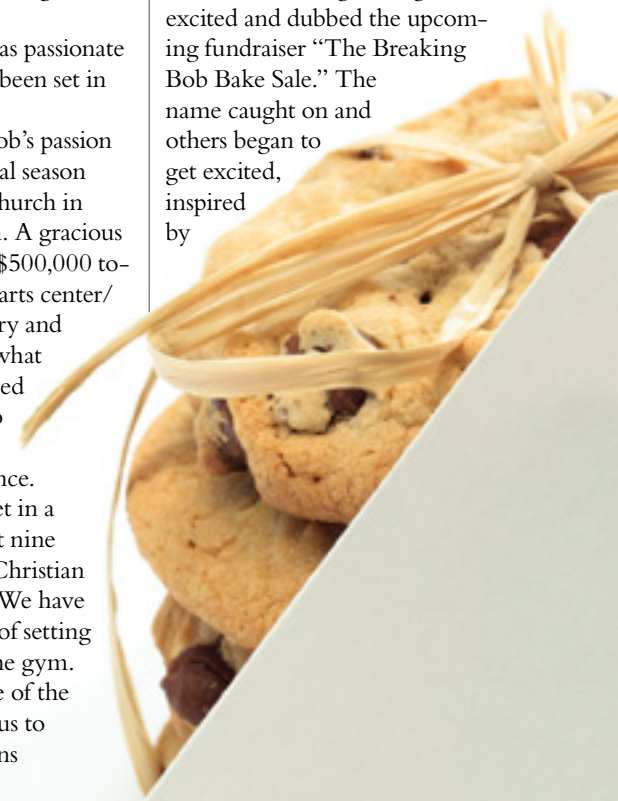
Bob informed me a couple weeks prior to the sale he had two other donors willing to match whatever he had to give. This meant if someone bought a plate full of cookies for \$20, it would become \$80 toward our goal. Then that gift would be matched by our original donor, so the total would actually be \$160 — half for debt and half for our project.

After hearing this I got excited and dubbed the upcoming fundraiser “The Breaking Bob Bake Sale.” The name caught on and others began to get excited, inspired by



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce







the generosity of Bob and the other donors, as well as his enthusiasm. People talked, people baked, people planned, and when the day of the sale arrived people gave ... a lot.

When all the donations were counted and matched three times over, we had raised \$26,000. That isn't a typo. Not \$260. Not \$2,600. Twenty-six thousand dollars. American. Seriously.

## May the Spirit lead us all to share our gifts and talents generously and to encourage each other's visions for ministry.

It gets even better. When factoring in the match of our benefactor who is contributing towards our conference debt, the bake sale netted \$52,000.

I don't know if there is an Adventist record for bake sales, but I will go ahead and optimistically claim it right now.

I remember Bob giving me the privilege of announcing the totals at church and watching eyes widening, jaws dropping and applause erupting praising God for His goodness, appreciating the volunteers for their time in organizing the event and appreciating those givers who helped multiply our efforts (thank you Bob, Dawn and Brittany!).

As I have thought about how we nearly missed a \$50,000 blessing, I was reminded of something Paul wrote to the Ephesians.

Paul reminds the church God gave the church "apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes" (Eph. 4:11–14). Part of a pastor's job includes getting out of the way sometimes to let members do ministry. This doesn't mean the role of a minister is totally hands-free or lackadaisical but to resource more than restrict. Had we moved to another day who knows what would have happened?

Paul continues by saying that when the gifts in the church operate together it "makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in

love" (Eph. 4:15–16). Watching church members and community members buy plates of cookies for hundreds (in one case, thousands) of dollars due to a desire to build up the church (and maybe to give Bob a hard time, just a little) was exciting. It testifies to what our church bodies can do when we work together and give generously. And, if you felt the impulse to add something to our Puyallup effort, how could I refuse your conviction? Perhaps your local church, though, needs your partnership in a new and special way. May the Spirit lead us all to share our gifts and talents generously and to encourage each other's visions for ministry as we seek to grow the kingdom for God's glory.

*Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor*



# GOOD NEWS ABOUT HELL

W

hat's happening with the Seventh-day Adventist Church? Members worldwide are worried about this month's Annual Council, where global representatives will debate what should happen to elected leaders and their constituencies who are "out of compliance" with church policy on women's ordination.

Most of us have strong convictions one way or the other.

Whatever yours may be, I respect your conscience. Seeking common ground upon which we can stand together, I'm hoping here to encourage you with what all Seventh-day Adventists have in common — no matter what gets voted at Annual Council. I'm thinking specifically about our fundamental beliefs. Based upon Scripture, they transcend all committee actions and church policies.

Christians around us believe in Jesus yet suffer confusion regarding "the truth that is in Jesus" (Eph. 4:21, NIV). But God has entrusted Seventh-day Adventists with a coherent and compelling

system of truth that no other denomination offers. These doctrines are intrinsically grace-based and Christ-centered (despite being catastrophically misrepresented by well-intentioned legalists throughout our history). When unencumbered by unbiblical baggage, Adventist beliefs exude spiritual and psychological life and health. Moreover, our doctrines uniquely support God's grand narrative of Eden lost to Eden restored.

Consider, for example, our teaching about hell. Most Christians deny God will put an end to evil. Their notion of eternal hell ceaselessly mingles screams of damned souls with the cursing of demons. And that nightmare is supposedly happening now as loved ones who died away from Jesus are already writhing in the flames.

## REFORMING THE REFORMATION

Five hundred years ago this month, Martin Luther thundered in his 95 theses against purgatory, which purports that even saved



AUTHOR

Martin Weber





## Popular views of eternal punishment violate the gospel — the gift of Jesus Himself.

people suffer in flames upon death — being purged from sin to become perfect enough for heaven. Yet some Protestants envision a worse hell for unbelievers than Catholics do — that God has predestined billions to be lost before they are even born! So the nice guy next door who plows your driveway every winter but doesn't believe in Jesus will suffer eternal torment without even having had a chance to be saved!

Such is the good news of the gospel for those lucky enough to find themselves among God's pre-elected saints. No wonder many thoughtful people today reject such monstrosity and despise religion. Some Christians, desperate to salvage God's reputation amid endless tyranny, have invented a kinder and gentler hell involving eternal darkness rather than painful flames. Well, just sit inside your broom closet and shut the door for five minutes, imagining how

long it would take to go crazy amid darkness that never ever ends.

Granted there are figures of speech in Scripture regarding hell that are difficult to understand — but one thing is plain: God will judge with righteousness and fairness, “not wanting anyone to perish” (Ps. 98:9; 1 Pet. 3:9).

Popular views of eternal punishment violate the gospel — the gift of Jesus Himself. People without Christ will “perish” (John 3:16) — not suffer eternal life in hell. According to 1 John 5:12, only those in Christ have eternal life to spend anywhere, in heaven or in hell. Besides, God alone has immortality (1 Tim. 6:16). How could those without Christ obtain life to spend eternity anywhere? No wonder more and more Christians embrace annihilationism. (Visit the fascinating website [rethinkinghell.com](http://rethinkinghell.com).)

Another concern about

eternal hell is its denial of Christ's finished sacrifice. Evangelicals say Christ took all punishment for sin on the cross — but He hung there for just part of one day, not for all eternity. So if eternal torment (whether in flames or darkness) is the penalty of sin, Jesus failed to suffer adequately for our sins. This denies the gospel!

### GRACE-BASED TRUTH: THE ADVENTIST ADVANTAGE

Amid popular confusion, Adventists stand united in proclaiming our loving God will not eternalize punishment for a few decades of unbelief. There will be merciful closure, with peace on the new earth forever. What's more, we will all go together in community when Jesus comes — not float away at death as isolated spirits.

In light of such grace and truth, Adventists ought to be the happiest Christians in town. (Why are we not? That's the subject of another column to come.) But let us beware of

arrogance, since Jesus warns, “To whom much is given, from him much will be required” (Luke 12:48, NKJV).

So let us expect the best from our leaders at Annual Council this month. But in case you find yourself unsatisfied with their decisions, you can still rejoice in the fellowship of your local Adventist congregation. You can cherish and share what we all hold in common: precious Bible truth with its healing message of love and hope.

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



# JUST LIKE JESUS

## NO GOATS IN HEAVEN



I'm not sure what God has against goats, but it looks like they'll be missing in the New Earth. Sheep make it, but no goats.

Jesus' own words are recorded in Matt. 25:31: "When the Son of man shall come

funny thing was, both groups were surprised!

The sheep were surprised because they didn't think they had spent that much time caring for sick people, making sure widows had food, sending care packages to Somalia and visiting the outcasts in prisons.

"Sure, Lord, we did that, but it wasn't anything special," they said. "It's just what we learned to do as You led us to

love being loved by You."

The goaty folks were also surprised.

"Wait a minute, Lord. We did all that stuff too. Just like You told us to. We even kept track of it on a magnetic chart that hung on the refrigerator door. We visited prisoners 734 times, helped 23 widows and bought 19 heifers for ADRA. Wasn't that what You asked?"

I like the way Ellen White wrote about the Judge's decision in Chapter 70 of *The Desire of Ages*:

"Thus Christ on the Mount of Olives pictured to His disciples the scene of the great judgment day. And He represented its decision as turning upon one point. When the nations are gathered before Him, there will be but two classes, and their eternal destiny will be determined by what

they have done or have neglected to do for Him in the person of the poor and the suffering."

I'm amazed THE ONE THING that determines my eternal destiny is how I cared for the poor and suffering. Nothing is said about understanding prophecy, or being a martyr, or memorizing all of Ezekiel, or even keeping Sabbath. Only ONE THING. *Have I loved the unlovely?*

Goats or sheep. What makes the difference?

If we're "doing" because Jesus said "do," we're goats.

If we're "doing" because we've asked Jesus to get inside us and change the way we look at our world, we cannot help but serve. We're sheep.

That takes me back to Ellen White and a prayer she challenges me to pray:

"Lord, take my heart; for I cannot give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for Thee. Save me, in spite of myself, my weak, unchristlike self. Mold me, fashion me, raise me into a pure and holy atmosphere, where the rich current of Thy love can flow through my soul."

Sounds like sheep to me!

*Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference assistant to the president for creative communications*

**THE ONE THING that determines my eternal destiny is how I cared for the poor and suffering.**

in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: and before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another."

Jesus told the "Sheep and Goats" parable to people who really wanted to get into heaven. They listened eagerly, taking careful notes on how to make it through the gates.

As Jesus described the Great Judge placing the sheep at His right hand and the goats on His left, some of the people poked each other and made "baaaaing" sounds, assuming, of course, that they would all be sheep.

No such luck. Yes, there were sheep, but there were a whole lot more goats! And the



AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen





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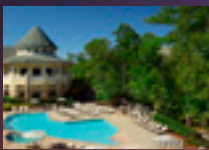
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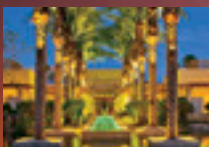
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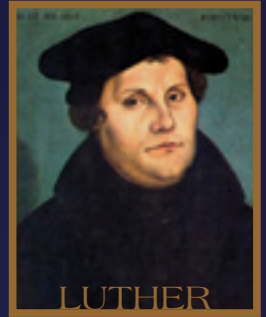
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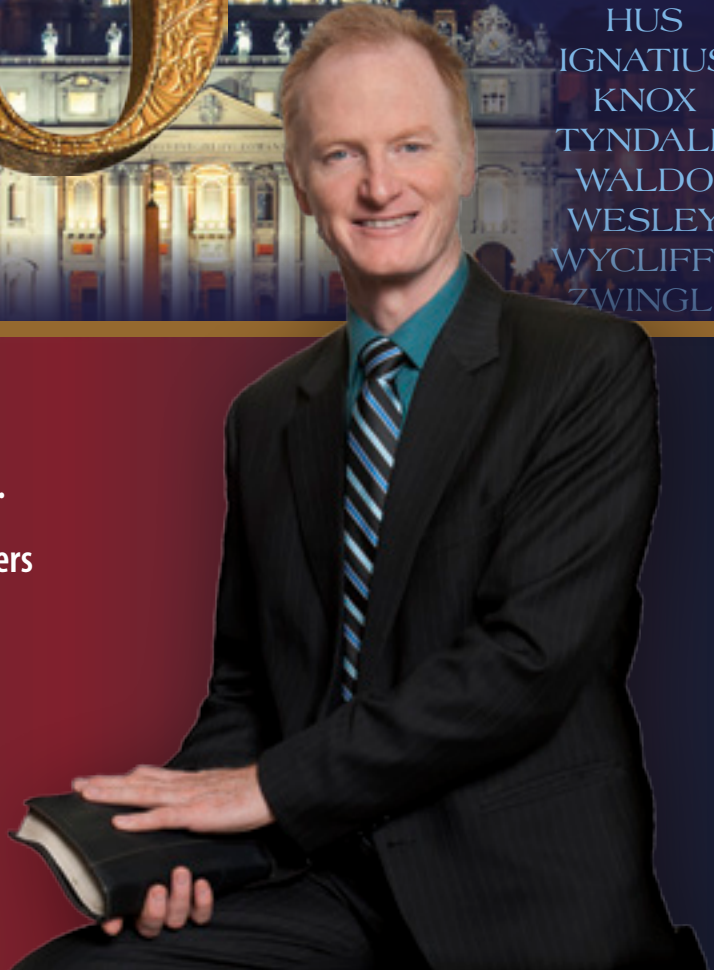
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