

THE ATLANTIC UNION

SEPTEMBER 2007

GLEANNER



ShareHim— *El Salvador Style*

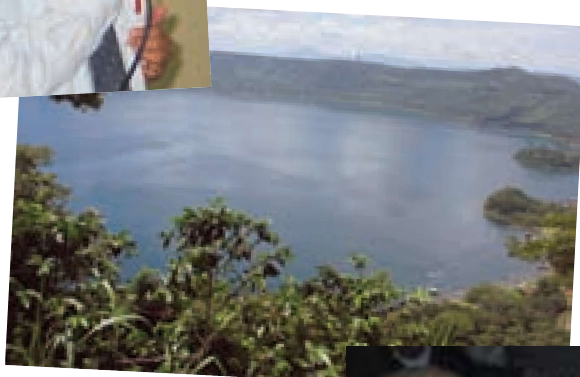
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More and more, families in the Atlantic Union are becoming involved in evangelism in the United States and other countries. Beginning on page 4 of this issue, read about one family's experience in El Salvador as part of the ShareHim evangelistic campaigns. Also included in this issue are our regular features: Positions of Our Faith, Adventist Education, and Youth Talk. The cover design includes a photo of a flower, commonly known as a Bandera, taken by Tamara Michalenko Terry on her recent trip with her family to El Salvador.

MISSION STATEMENT

To faithfully chronicle the work and progress of the church in the Atlantic Union territory and inform, instruct, and inspire our church members.

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November 2007	September 14
December 2007	October 12
January 2008	November 9

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Set Like **A Flint**

“For the Lord God will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed”—Isaiah 50:7.

This prophetic statement from Isaiah is a picture of the resolute Savior. Flint is known to be one of the hardest stones in existence. The Bible makes it clear that there was no flint in the heart of Jesus. But there was much in His face. He was as resolute as He was submissive. At Calvary He did not hide His face from shame and spitting (Isaiah 50:6). Through it all, gentleness and resolve were married. Even a short while before the crucifixion, the scriptures said of Him in Luke 9:51, “He steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem.”

In Jesus there was no turning aside, though no one helped Him and everyone seemed to be hindering Him. He was neither confounded by thoughts within His soul nor made ashamed by the scorn of others.

Another author said it this way: “In the heart of Christ, where reigned perfect harmony with God, there was perfect peace. He was never elated by applause, nor dejected by censure or disappointment. Amid the greatest opposition and the most cruel treatment, He was still of good courage”—THE DESIRE OF AGES, p. 330.

Christ’s steadfast resolve was tested as no other person’s on Planet Earth. People offered to make Him king. His relatives sought a very different career for Him. The one who ate bread with Jesus betrayed Him. Disciples forsook Him and ran. People conspired to destroy Him and, in response, He could have called legions of angels. The notion of coming down from the cross never had greater appeal. When He cried “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?,” the mocking multitude responded, “Let us see whether Elias will come to save him”—Matthew 27:49. But neither pain, thirst, fever, fainting, desertion, or death could move Jesus from His invincible resolve. The Redeemer had set His face like a flint!

What a marvelous exhibit of resolve for the glory of God. Like Jesus, our strength

must hold on to God’s strength. Isaiah 50:10 declares: “Who is among you that feareth the Lord...? Let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God.”

The faithful of all ages have endeavored to imitate the strong resolve of our Lord. Said one peasant, dying as a martyr on a Scottish scaffold, “I came here to die for Christ, and if I had as many lives in my hand as I have hairs on my head, I would lay them all down for Christ.”

Faith in God is the foundation for steadfast resolve. And firm resolve is the best preparation for a difficult undertaking. The harder Christ’s work became, the more determined He became. You could not turn Him from His mission or melt Him into self-pity. He was fixed upon His task. He must die because He must save His people. And He must save His people because He loved them better than Himself. His face was set like flint, but His heart was pure as gold.

As I reflect upon the face of Jesus, I am reminded of the immortal words of William H. Bathurst:

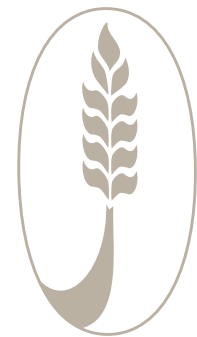
“O for a faith that will not shrink, though pressed by many a foe;
That will not tremble on the brink of poverty or woe;
That will not murmur or complain beneath the chastening rod,
But in the hour of grief or pain, can lean upon its God.
As faith that shines more bright and clear when tempests rage without;
That when in danger knows no fear, in darkness fears no doubt.
Lord, give me such a faith as this, and then, whatever may come
I’ll taste e’en here the hallowed bliss of an eternal home.”

As we go about the task of fulfilling the gospel commission, may we model the resolve of Christ while also possessing a heart of compassion for souls.☺

Donald G. King is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees.



*You could not turn
Him from His
mission or melt
Him into self-pity.
He was fixed upon
His task.*



ShareHim— *El Salvador Style*

Have you ever had a Jonah experience? You know the kind where you say, “Lord, you want me to go where?” I had one of those late last summer when my husband, Randy, phoned to say he signed us up for a ShareHim evangelistic campaign. “Overseas?” I questioned.

I enjoy traveling in the United States, but overseas is definitely out of my comfort zone. Since it is normal for us to do things as a family, I agreed, secretly thinking if the Lord didn't want us to go it wouldn't work out.

The funny part is that by the time we got ready to go I knew it was the Lord's will for us to have this experience and found humor in all the obstacles we encountered. Every time Satan did his best to mess something up, I knew the Lord would have a solution. It was a learning experience even before boarding the plane for El Salvador.

But board we did with 22 pieces of luggage. That included carry-ons for Randy, our boys: Joey (9), Jonathan

(7), and James (4), Randy's sister, Kim, and myself. We packed items to give to the people in El Salvador, so we flew home much lighter, even with our souvenirs and gifts.

Kim, a technology teacher at John Nevins Andrews Elementary School in Takoma Park, Maryland, came along to help me with the children's programs for our site, but ended up preaching her own evangelistic campaign when she learned some people didn't show up for sites that were expecting speakers. There were 41 meetings throughout El Salvador during the evangelistic campaign from July 13-28.

We were sent to the Scandia church to conduct our meetings. It was connected with one of the local Adventist schools. That worked out

well for our boys. They enjoyed playing soccer in the courtyard between the church and the school with their new El Salvadorian friends before and after the meetings. They even played “Mica” (tag).

Joey and Jonathan preached several sermons for the children's meetings with the help of Nahum Cristiano Gómez, our 14-year-old translator. We taught the children songs in English and they taught us some in Spanish to sing for the adult meetings. Nahum was with us every meeting, even though he had to go to school every day.

July is wintertime in El Salvador, which means it rains almost every day. Lots of prayers went up regarding the storms. Since most people walk to the meetings, we prayed that the Lord would hold off the rains until after the meetings. There were many nights we slept with heavy rains pouring all around us, knowing our prayers were answered.

Randy enjoyed preaching with the help of his translator, Lupita Aquino. She is a wonderful woman dedicated to serving the Lord. Many commented on Randy's conviction in preaching. They were surprised that such a quiet



Southern New England Conference treasurer Randy Terry with his wife, Tamara, center, and children, from left, James, Jonathan, and Joey, and sister, Kim, pose for pictures following the ShareHim orientation in El Salvador.

Visit the Atlantic Union Web site



The children in El Salvador were so sweet. Joey, Jonathan and James Terry had great fun playing with them before and after each meeting.

accountant could give such powerful sermons.

Several in attendance even wanted Randy to baptize them. It was fun trying to translate through my translator, who isn't familiar with the church, the policy that stipulates that even though Randy was preaching, he wasn't able to baptize.

Our site averaged about 30 visitors a night. During the first week there were 215 baptisms for all the sites. The church officials were really excited about that, as they usually baptize that amount in a month for all their churches.

The people in El Salvador were amazing. They were so gracious and helpful. We had fun communicating through the few words in Spanish we knew and the few words in English they knew, with a lot of hand gestures in between.

One universal item was the camera. They loved having their picture taken. One evening as we waited for our ride back to the hotel, I started taking pictures of the people and children that waited with us. We were having such a good time making faces and grouping people together that I hadn't even realized we were communicating without a translator until Nahum came running back.

It was such a blessing being part of

the El Salvador community, even for only a few weeks. It touched my heart in ways I didn't think possible. As we were saying goodbye I told the children that even if I didn't see them here on earth again, I would look forward to seeing them in heaven where we could communicate without a translator. After that the children's coordinator gave the children the opportunity to talk with me (through Nahum) before I left. I'll never forget what one little girl said, "The Lord will bless you for having been here." It still brings tears to my eyes, as I never thought about the blessings I would receive. I was going to help them. Randy sums it up best when he says, "It was a rewarding experience sharing the gospel with others. I feel like I received more of a blessing than I gave."

At the conclusion of the campaign there were 400 baptisms for all the sites, including 21 for ours, with another 10 expected. The most special baptism for us was our seven-year-old son, Jonathan. Church officials expect another 300 baptisms for all the sites as a result of the meetings.

Why not schedule a Jonah experience for you today? Log on to www.sharehim.org and ask the Lord, "You want me to go where?"^①



Nahum Cristiano Gómez, below left, shown with his family, translated for the children's programs throughout the entire campaign even though he had school everyday.



Saúl Enamorado, shown with his family, escorted the Terry's and Sharpe's to and from their meetings during the campaign using the Adventist radio station van.



That van was loaded with the Terry's 22 bags along with the Russell's and Jasmine Carter's luggage and seven people from the airport to the hotel. Saúl certainly knows how to pack a van.





The musical talents provided by the church were incredible. Many of the performers were young people.



Treasurers' Families Join the Evangelistic Experience

One unusual aspect of this trip was that three conference treasurers participated in this ShareHim campaign in El Salvador. Besides my husband, Randy, who is the Southern New England Conference treasurer, Rick Russell, Carolina Conference treasurer, and Kent Sharpe, Arizona Conference treasurer, participated and brought



Carolina Conference treasurer Rick Russell, left, participated in the ShareHim evangelistic campaign in El Salvador along with his wife, Kathy, left, and son, Bradley, center.



Lupita Aquino, shown with her daughter, Kristel, translated for Randy during the ShareHim campaign.



The Scandia church pastor, Santiago Avelar, poses with his wife, Elizabeth, son, David Alexander, and daughter, Elizabeth Alexandra.



The Scandia church family definitely became the Terry's church family away from home. It was such a special time during the campaign when people chose to be baptized. It was especially meaningful to the Terry family when Jonathan Terry asked to be baptized as well. The pastor's daughter, Elizabeth Alexandra Avelar, was baptized the same night.



Arizona Conference treasurer Kent Sharpe, right, and his wife, Lisa, second from left, son Zachary, left, and daughter, Allyssa, front row left, joined their Southeast Adventist Fellowship church pastor, Scott Hakes, center back, along with church members, Dr. Thomas Younggreen, and Dawn Webb in participating in the ShareHim evangelistic campaign in El Salvador. Dr. Younggreen, who became an Adventist by profession of faith last year, chose to be baptized at the end of the campaign along with those from his El Salvador church who chose to join him.

their families along.

Rick and his wife, Kathy, preached at different sites. Their 13-year-old son Bradley preached as well, alternating between Rick and Kathy's sites. Bradley shared the story of one young boy who came to his church while he was preaching. The family stopped to simply get out of the rain, but they were so impressed that Bradley was preaching that they stayed to listen and decided to be baptized. Another evening, at Rick's site, they had two weddings and seven baptisms.

Kent and his wife, Lisa, didn't preach this time, but watched as their 13-year-old son, Zachary, and 16-year-old daughter, Allyssa, preached. Kent said, "There is nothing like watching your children preach and then see people come forward to accept their calls." Kent, an ordained minister, baptized some of the people who were baptized at Alyssa's church. "Not only have they

experienced a deeper understanding of their own beliefs," Lisa said, "they've built friendships with others in another country, watched people give their hearts to Jesus and be baptized, and look forward to Jesus coming, so we can all live together in Heaven."⁰

Tamara Michalenko Terry is assistant editor for the Atlantic Union GLEANER.

A Seventh-day Adventist® Statement on Gambling

In order to increase awareness of the views of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on various subjects, the Atlantic Union GLEANER will publish monthly one of the position statements or guidelines voted by church leadership since 1980. These official statements were issued by the General Conference in session, the General Conference Executive Committee, the General Conference Administrative Committee, or the office of the General Conference president.

As the church continues to grow and make an influence, its role in the society will require that its views and what it holds true become known. Such will continue to be the demands of the society, and such will be the need to define Adventism's relevance, or present truth, to those who are asking questions and seeking answers to their dilemmas and problems.

The documents presented here are not an end in themselves, but a reflection of a movement sensitive to its calling and the people who "know how to answer everyone" (Colossians 4:6, NIV).

A Seventh-day Adventist® Statement on Gambling

Gambling—defined as a paid game of chance—increasingly impacts more and more people all over the world. The concept of winning at the expense of others has become a modern curse. Society pays the escalating cost of associated crime, victim support, and family breakdown, which erodes the quality of life. Seventh-day Adventists have consistently opposed gambling, as it is incompatible with Christian principles. It is not an appropriate form of entertainment or a legitimate means of raising funds.

Gambling violates Christian principles of stewardship. God identifies work as the appropriate method for gaining material benefit; not the playing of a game of chance while dreaming to gain at the expense of others. Gambling has a massive impact on society. Financial costs result from crime committed to pay for the gambling habit, increased policing, and legal expenses, as well as associated crimes involving drugs and prostitution. Gambling does not generate income; rather it takes from those who often can ill afford to lose and gives to a few winners, the greatest winner, of course, being the gambling operator. The idea that gambling operations can have a positive economic benefit is an illusion. In addition, gambling violates the Christian sense of responsibility for family, neighbors, the needy, and the church.¹

Gambling creates false hopes. The gambling dream of "winning big" replaces true hope with a false dream of a statistically improbable chance of winning. Christians are not to put their hope in wealth. The Christian hope in a glorious future promised by God is "sure and certain"—unlike and opposite to the gambling dream. The great gain that the Bible points to is "godliness with contentment."²

Gambling is addictive. The addictive quality of

gambling is clearly incompatible with a Christian lifestyle. The church seeks to help, not blame, those suffering from gambling or other addictions. Christians recognize that they are responsible before God for their resources and lifestyle.³

The Seventh-day Adventist Church organization does not condone raffles or lotteries to raise funds and it urges members not to participate in any such activities, however well-intentioned. Neither does the church condone state-sponsored gambling. The Seventh-day Adventist Church calls on all authorities to prevent the ever-increasing availability of gambling with its damaging effects on individuals and society.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church rejects gambling as defined above and will not solicit nor accept funding that is clearly derived from gambling.⁴

¹ 1 Thessalonians 4:11; Genesis 3:19; Matthew 19:21; Acts 9:36; 2 Corinthians 9:8, 9

² 1 Timothy 6:17; Hebrews 11:1; 1 Timothy 6:6

³ 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

This statement was voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administrative Committee (ADCOM), for release at the time of the General Conference Session in Toronto, Canada, June 29-July 9, 2000.

Resources

Listed are some resources that will help you learn more about the Seventh-day Adventist Church's beliefs, positions on specific topics, and established guidelines.

Web sites

Official Statements voted since 1980: www.adventist.org/beliefs/statements/index.html

Guidelines: www.adventist.org/beliefs/guidelines/index.html

Fundamental Beliefs: www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html

Church Manual: www.adventist.org/beliefs/church_manual/index.html

Other Documents: www.adventist.org/beliefs/other_documents/index.html

Books

Available online at AdventSource (www.adventsource.org) or your local Adventist Book Center (ABC) (www.adventistbookcenter.com)

STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH MANUAL

Une d te inoubliable – “Jusqu’ici, L’Eternel nous a secourus!”

L’ann e 2006 marqua le cinquanti me anniversaire de l’œuvre ha tienne dans la Division Nord-Am ricaine. En raison des contraintes financi res et du manque de temps, la c l bration fut recul e   la fin de semaine du 4 au 5 Mai 2007. Ce fut un moment de gratitude et de fiert  pour les 34,000 Adventistes du Septi me Jour Ha tiens vivant aux Etats-Unis et au Canada. Ce jalon nous permit de r evaluer et de r fl chir sur le chemin par lequel le Seigneur nous a conduits.

La c r monie d’ouverture d buta le Vendredi soir, 4 Mai 2007,   Calvary Cathedral of Praise, situ    Brooklyn, N.Y. Il y eut un sentiment de jubilation dans l’air, et la pr sence du Saint-Esprit  tait rendue manifeste. L’assistance fut chaudement accueillie par le Vice-Pr sident des Minist res Ha tiens de l’Union Atlantique. Puisque la F d ration Northeastern a  t  le berceau de l’œuvre ha tienne dans la Division Nord-Am ricaine, Pasteur Trevor H. C. Baker, Pr sident de cette dite f d ration, pr senta le sermon inaugural. Il nous rappela de ne jamais oublier la voie o  le Seigneur nous a dirig s dans le pass . Dans cette partie du service, l’ancien local, Luc Apollon, le seul survivant du noyau de dix membres qui commenc rent l’œuvre ha tienne au niveau de la Division Nord-Am ricaine re ut une plaque d’honneur de la part du Concile Ha tien de la susdite Division.

Le Sabbat 5 mai 2007, la c l bration atteignit son apog e. Plus de 2,700 membres et officiels de l’Eglise remplissaient l’auditorium.

Dr. Jose Joseph, le Coordinateur Ha tien de la F d ration Northeastern souhaita la bienvenue   la congr gation. Il fut suivi par Dr. Donald G. King, Pr sident de l’Union Atlantique, de Pasteur Trevor H. C. Baker, le Pr sident de la F d ration Northeastern et Dr. Richard Marker, le Pr sident de la F d ration Greater New York. Les dignitaires eccl siastiques pr sents comprirent

dership et de reconnaissance furent d cern es aux dirigeants et aux membres suivants: Pasteurs Alvin Kibble, Roscoe J. Howard III, George R. Earl, Leonard Newton, Stennett Brooks, Max Jose Pierre, les S eurs Naomie Prosper, Celia Honor  and Paulette Bermingham.

La c l bration fut rehauss e par l’ tude de la le on de l’ cole du sabbat pr sent e par Dr. Edner Corbier, le bulletin des missions racont  par Pasteur Maitland DiPinto, des groupes musicaux, des fanfares et des chorales. Au service du culte du matin, Pasteur Roscoe J. Howard III transporta la congr gation au sommet de la montagne dans son sermon titr : “En qu te d’un lieu de refuge.” Sa note dominante  tait: “Dieu est notre refuge. Ce qu’il a fait pour les autres, Il le fera pour vous.” Le d fi du jour fut lanc  par Pasteur Alvin M. Kibble, au service de cl ture.

Il nous ramena au pic d’une autre montagne, nous demandant de construire des monuments pour les g n rations futures.

A vrai dire, ce fut un moment ineffable de repasser ce que le Tout-Puissant peut accomplir. Il nous a fait passer de 10   34,000 membres; d’un pasteur   84; d’un groupe adorant dans un salon   146  glises et groupes; de quelques dollars   14,000,000 en d mes. Il convient de conclure par les paroles du proph te “Jusqu’ici, L’Eternel nous a secourus!”[ ]



Louis B. Metellus est le Vice-Pr sident pour les Minist res Ha tiens et le Directeur des Services Communautaires et le Minist re de la Prison de l’Union Atlantique.

Il nous a fait passer de 10   34,000 membres; d’un pasteur   84; d’un groupe adorant dans un salon   146  glises et groupes; de quelques dollars   14,000,000 en d mes.

certaines officiers de la Division Nord-Am ricaine, les administrateurs de l’Union Atlantique et de la F d ration Northeastern, le Pr sident de la F d ration Greater New York, le Pr sident et le Secr taire de la F d ration Southeastern, l’assistant du Pr sident de la F d ration de la Floride et les membres du Concile Ha tien de la Division Nord-Am ricaine. Des plaques de lea-

Una semana laboral más corta busca favorecer el hogar y la salud espiritual de los pastores

Al menos una asociación de la Iglesia Adventista en la región eclesiástica Norteamericana ha llegado a la conclusión de que los pastores agotados no contribuyen a un ministerio de éxito. Esta asociación, que abarca los estados de Iowa y Missouri, está animando a los pastores que limiten sus semanas de a veces 80 horas de trabajo a un límite más normal de entre 45 a 55 horas.

“Hemos notado muchos más incidentes de enfermedades relacionadas con el estrés, problemas maritales, divorcio, y conflicto entre padres e hijos en las familias de pastores adventistas,” dice Dean Corridan, presidente de la asociación.

La región está invitando a los pastores a que establezcan nuevas prioridades para sus vidas y su tarea en la iglesia. “Tiene que terminarse esto de trabajar 80 horas por semana. La iglesia no es dueña de nosotros,” les dice Corridan a los pastores en talleres, que ha llevado a cabo en la región durante 18 meses.

El ministerio no debería perjudicar la salud de la vida espiritual o la felicidad de la familia del pastor, dice Corridan. Pero a menudo los campos eclesiásticos, los feligreses y los mismos pastores poseen expectativas irreales acerca del ministerio pastoral.

La junta directiva de la asociación está desarrollando un currículo para enseñar a los ancianos de qué manera apoyar a los pastores como líderes espirituales. Corridan dice que la junta también espera desarrollar descripciones apropiadas de tareas para los pastores de la región.

“Es fácil seguir agregando tareas a la descripción inicial hasta que el pastor se siente abrumado y sobrepasado,” dice Corridan.

**“El ministerio
no debería perjudicar
la salud de la vida espiritual
o la felicidad de la familia
del pastor.”**

La solución, explica, requiere que los pastores deleguen y digan “no” a algunas responsabilidades. Corridan añade que si bien el plan podría no eliminar por completo el agotamiento pastoral, los ministros de la región lo han hallado de beneficio.

“Le digo a mis feligreses: ‘No me llamen el domingo para preguntarme cuántos folletos de Escuela Sabática pedir,’ dice

Cabrera. “Si es una emergencia, sí, allí estaré, pero si no, el domingo está dedicado a la familia.”

“Los feligreses aprenden a respetarte cuando se dan cuenta de cuánto valora uno a su familia.”

Muchos feligreses, dice Cabrera, están dispuestos a ayudar a sus pastores. “Les digo: ‘Miren, confío en ustedes. No tengo que hacerme cargo de todos los estudios bíblicos y el evangelismo,

definir el poder. Cuando uno delega, le está transfiriendo el poder a otros,” dice Corridan. “Algunos pastores se muestran reacios a hacerlo.”

Ningún pastor tiene que verse obligado a limitar su ministerio. “Si un pastor me dice: ‘Dean, no estoy de acuerdo; para mí es un trabajo de 24 horas por día,’ no voy a discutir con él, pero hay efectos devastadores por el exceso de trabajo que nos están costando mucho más de lo que imaginamos.”

Corridan dice que los índices de divorcio en la Iglesia Adventista avanzan al mismo ritmo que fuera de ella. También ha observado que cuando los pastores trabajan menos, tienden a pasar más tiempo con sus familias. Como pastor, Corridan dice: “Es tiempo de que entendamos qué significa realmente ser un padre y esposo piadoso. No significa sólo ganar el pan.

“Y como pastores, no somos un fracaso si no estamos involucrados en hasta el más mínimo detalle de nuestras iglesias.”¹

*Elizabeth Lechleitner, asistente editorial
Adventist News Network
22 de Julio del 2007
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi*

English translation available at: <http://news.adventist.org/data/2007/06/1184251726/index.html.en>

predicar todos los sermones o tomar todas las decisiones. Si tienen una idea, adelante.”

Cabrera aclara que estas semanas de menos horas laborales no crean pastores holgazanes que ignoran la responsabilidad o los problemas de los miembros. En su lugar, este programa, dice él, fortalece las iglesias porque todos los miembros deben participar.

“Definir el rol de los pastores significa en realidad

Warwick Pathfinders Participate in Cultural Exchange Program



The Pathfinders built a campfire in the snow. It was the first time that many of the Bermudians had seen snow.

On April 5 the Warwick Longtails Pathfinder Club flew to Nova Scotia Canada for a 10-day cultural exchange program. The Pathfinders shared a Bermudian tradition with our Canadian friends with the construction of three Bermuda kites. One of the kites was flown in the afternoon along with a flat kite, similar to the fennel stick and brown paper kites our children make as backup kites when the more traditional one gets too many holes in it to fly.

Sabbath proved to be a beautiful day. Since church in this part of Canada takes place in the afternoon, the

Pathfinders took a morning walk into the woods. Maple sap was collected from trees that had been tapped two weeks before. It takes 40 gallons of maple sap to make one gallon of maple syrup, so lots of sap had to be collected. A fire in an old wood stove was used to remove the excess water in the sap and this process took place over a three-week period. The first batch of the season was ready the following morning, so we all had maple syrup on our pancakes on Easter Sunday.

Saturday night our Pathfinders prayed for snow. To most Canadians' amazement, this prayer was

answered in a big way as we received a foot of snow. This was something most had not seen for 50 years in April. Our Pathfinders had a great time as this was the first time many of them had seen snow. The roads fortunately were cleared in time for us to share our faith at the Mountain Lee Old Folks Home. All patients were presented with a mug filled with fruit tea, pens, and SIGNS literature.

The Pathfinders did a town hike completing that part of our hiking honor. This took place in the historic town of Bridgetown. Other programs completed over the week included a visit to the Oaklawn Zoo where the Pathfinders had an opportunity to see some of the wildlife found in the area as well as some of the big cats that they had learned about in the cat honor. A visit to the natural history museum took place on Friday to see the minerals and fossils as part of the fossil and geology honor. Animal tracking was attempted in the woods behind Director Lightbourn's house in Nova Scotia, and

some dear tracks as well as a coyote track were cast in plaster paris.

On our last full day, Sabbath, the Pathfinders were responsible for the worship service. A puppet show for the children's story was a big hit with the children and the adults. In place of a sermon, the skit "Who Is this Man on the Cross?" was presented. Each person gave a testimony from the perspective of one of the people who knew Jesus. As a thank-you, a fellowship dinner followed with a sing-along held by the members of the Middleton Seventh-day Adventist Church. We thank them for the opportunity to share our culture and to learn from them a bit about the culture of Nova Scotia.

*Robert Lightbourn, Pathfinder director
Warwick church*

OFFICIAL NOTICE Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE is hereby given that the 8th Triennial Session of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church Complex, Hamilton, Bermuda, on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. The Organizing Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 26 at 6:00 p.m., and the Nominating Committee will meet on Thursday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers, executive and trustees committees, and departmental directors for the ensuing term, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the session.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof. Additional delegates are members of the executive, the constitution and by-laws committee, the board of trustees of the Bermuda Conference; members of the executive committee of the Atlantic Union Conference; all employees holding credentials and licenses issued by the Bermuda Conference; departmental directors, associate or assistant departmental directors, and members of the General Conference/North American Division (NAD) Executive Committee who may be present. The number of General Conference/NAD delegates shall not exceed 10% of the total number of regular delegates.

Jeffrey O. Brown, President
Kenneth Manders, Executive Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE The Trustees of the Seventh- day Adventist Church of Bermuda

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the Trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Bermuda, a legal corporation, will be held in connection with the Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church Complex, Hamilton, Bermuda, Sunday, September 30, 2007. The first meeting of the legal corporation will be held at 11:00 a.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect a board of trustees and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Delegates to the Conference Session of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the delegates to the Conference Session of the Bermuda Conference Legal Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

Jeffrey O. Brown, President
Kenneth Manders, Executive Secretary



The Bermudians shared the tradition of kite making with their Canadian friends. Pictured with one of the kites are, left to right, Peggy Heling, Katherine Lightbourn, Counselor Madeiros, Tereah Rayner, and Eshel Rayner.

New Hispanic Church in Brooklyn

The Cypress Hills Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist church was officially organized on June 9, 2007, in Brooklyn, New York. It is the third Hispanic Northeastern Conference church in the borough of Brooklyn. The church, which was organized with 49 charter members, was planted by the Jamaica Hispanic church.

It began as a small group of believers in 2001 as result of the vision and dream of Pastor Jose Alarcon, then pastor of the Jamaica Hispanic church. He saw the need for evangelizing the Cypress Hills community and pioneered the work with the help of Daniel Marquez, one of the elders of the Jamaica church. Those early efforts were continued by Pastor Manuel Medina who followed Pastor Alarcon as pastor of the Jamaica church. The current pastor, Pastor Javier Alcon, has led the fledgling congregation for the past two years, and is pleased to see it grow and become a lighthouse in the Cypress Hills community.

Officiating at the organization service were Trevor H. C. Baker, conference president, Ebenezer G. Agboka, conference treasurer, and Isaias Rojas, coordinator for Hispanic Ministries.

Reprinted with permission from the Northeastern Conference newsletter ENVISION, Vol. 5, No. 2, June 2007



Education Day at Capital City Church

On June 9, 2007, Capital City Seventh-day Adventist Church held an Education Day program during AY in the afternoon. Fifteen individuals graduated in the following categories: Pre-K (2), middle school (4), high school (5), master's (3), and a doctorate.

The keynote speaker was Leonard Slade, Jr., SUNY-Albany, African Studies Department chair. His message was titled "100 Things That Mom and Dad Taught me" and was aimed at the graduates, young, and young at heart, on how to treat family, ourselves, and our fellow man.

Pastor Arthur Morgan, above right, presented a plaque to Dr. Slade for his dedication in educating others and his involvement in the community.

*Ronald Husband, assistant communication secretary
Capital City church*

Flowers III Honored for Community Involvement

On June 18, Earnest Flowers III was one of 22 people honored by the Men's Caucus for Congressman Edolphus Towns of New York's 10th Congressional District at the Congressman's 25th annual awards gala where individuals were recognized for their active involvement

in the community. The honorees, which included a former Tuskegee airman, entrepreneurs, educators, law enforcement officers, community activists, and ministers, received a Congressional Proclamation that is now part of the congressional record of the 110th Congress, First Session.

Flowers and his wife, Alicia, are members of the City Tabernacle Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York, where he serves as an ordained elder. He is also a member of the Atlantic



Honorees included Earnest Flowers III, right, and Lieutenant Colonel John Mulzac, one of the Tuskegee airmen.

Union Conference Executive Committee and serves as president for the Northeastern Conference Bronx/Manhattan Youth Federation. Flowers serves on a number of boards in the church and the community, including the Atlantic Union Adventist Media Operations Committee in New York City, the Northeastern Academy Alumni Association, Inc., the Northeastern Conference Youth Advisory Committee, the Northeastern Conference Junior Basketball League, the Harlem Advent Care Center, and the Queens Sickel Cell

Advocacy Network.

In response to the honor he received Flowers says, "I thank the Lord for allowing me to receive this proclamation. It shows that my advice, influence, and work have been received and appreciated by our communities. I pray that God will continue to allow me and others the opportunity to bridge the gaps within our communities by sharing our gifts and talents, thereby restoring hope in mankind and renewing faith and obedience to God."

Ednor A. P. Davison, GLEANER editor

REVERBERATIONS

Meet some enthusiastic members of the great Atlantic Union College family. This month, we invite you to hear the reflections of members who came to Atlantic Union College from the Southern New England and Northeastern conferences.

“Attending AUC was divinely ordained. AUC has developed me into a disciple of Christ, a model citizen, a student leader, and a good friend. I have enjoyed my four years here and I plan to give back as soon as the Lord allows me to do so. I hope that those who follow me will have a similar or even better experience.”

—Kirosha Huggan, '07, business administration major, and Student Association president. She is a member of the Southern New England Conference.



Kirosha Huggan on the staircase inside the Miles Building.



Michelle Martell enjoys the sunshine on a bench outside of Founders Hall.

Cindy Kurtzhals

“Obtaining a Christian education is truly an honor and a privilege. With the exception of two years in public school, I have been blessed to attend Seventh-day Adventist Christian schools from kindergarten through college; from Anna Knight School in Huntsville, Alabama, to Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts.

“I was offered scholarships to other

been blessed to develop within the last four years. Dean [Jack] Mentges, Dr. [Issumael] Nzamutuma, Dr. Lois King, and Dr. Rick Trott all manifested a true concern for the students at AUC, whether about students’ issues or in the classroom.

“As a business major, I would especially like to commend the professors in the business department: Ebenezer Agboka, Jacob Nortey, and Edward

Lugenbeal. It has been a blessing to have professors who have imparted their knowledge to the business majors. Many times God used them to show me the confidence that He has in my abilities to be successful, even when I lacked such confidence. There was no time when I was unable to approach any of my professors and receive help and advice academically or even have a friendly conversation. In each instance, their Christian character has been reflected.

“All these professors and many other faculty and staff have enriched my stay at AUC. AUC has a rich heritage and I believe that God has His hand over the college. It is my prayer that the college will continue to provide the kind of education that can prepare students to be of service.”

—Michelle Martell, senior business administration major. She is a member of the Northeastern Conference.

This feature is presented by the office of the assistant to the president for administration, Dr. Bordes Henry-Saturné, assisted by Emmanuella Gibson.

35th Anniversary of the Adult Degree Program



Dave Sherwin

success of the Adult Degree Program. Another important validation came in 1978, when AUC's regional accreditation was renewed. After carefully scrutinizing the new program, a team of visitors from the accrediting association commended the college for its quality and Otilie Stafford for her strong leadership.

Building on the strong foundation of those early years, the Adult Degree Program would eventually enroll more than 100 students. Women and men would, and still do, come from around the world to attend January and July seminars and then return home to pursue their educational goals.

For information, contact adp@auc.edu or call 1-800-282-2030.

—Myron Wehtje
professor emeritus of history and
former Adult Degree Program coordinator

In 1972, during the presidency of William G. Nelson, an innovative group of professors and administrators took the lead in founding the Adult Degree Program. Two AUC alumni, Academic Dean Eugene Gascay and Professor Otilie Stafford, were especially prominent among the founders.

Strongly committed to Christian liberal arts education, the founders wished to make its advantages available to women and men who could not readily complete a college degree in a conventional setting. At the time, they believed that the program would benefit the college financially through the increased use of its facilities and resources during summers and intersession periods.

The idea of distance learning was relatively new. To learn first-hand how an established program operated, a delegation of the founders visited Goddard College in Vermont. As a result, they modeled AUC's external program quite closely after Goddard's successful program.

In July 1972 the first Adult Degree Program seminar met on campus in the

White House, the home of AUC's English department. Working closely with a small group of professors, the pioneer class of five students planned units of study to pursue at their homes for the next six months.

Within a year, enrollment in the ADP had grown to more than 20. By the time Otilie Stafford became the program's coordinator (and later, director) in 1974, it had become a significant part of the college's academic life.

Continued rapid growth was one measure of the

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GNYA Honored with Superintendent's Award of Excellence

On June 30 during the Greater New York Conference camp meeting at Camp Berkshire in Wingdale, New York, Greater New York Academy (GNYA) was given the highest award granted by the Greater New York Conference Office of Education, the Superintendent's Award of Excellence for outstanding achievement by its graduates.

For five consecutive years, 100 percent of GNYA's graduates each received a New York State Regents' diploma. To receive this diploma, students must earn appropriate credits in a number of specific subjects by passing year-long or half-year courses, after which they must earn a score of 65 or better on Regents' examinations in five subject areas: Mathematics, Global History and Geography, U.S. History and Government, Comprehensive English, and Biology/Living

Environment. "Our aim is to strive for academic excellence in our schools, and this award is a tremendous example of the hard work and effort our teachers and students put forth daily in the classrooms that I hope many will take notice of," said Lillian Mitchell, principal at GNYA.

The Regents Examinations are a set of standardized tests given to high school students through the New York State Education Department, designed and administered under the authority of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. Regents exams are prepared by a select group of New York teachers in each test's specific discipline.

David Cadavero, GNYS superintendent of schools, proudly says, "One of the components in determining the quality of the school



David Cadavero, left, Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools, and Kimi Roux-James, administrative assistant in the education department, right, with Lillian Mitchell, the Greater New York Academy principal.

Gerald Matterson

program is the number of Regents' diplomas awarded. The fact that GNYA students did this for five consecutive years is extraordinary and is a positive affirmation of the excellence and talent that each teacher brings into their instructional program. To God be the glory for this outstanding achievement."

Greater New York Academy is a fully-accredited high school affiliated with the Greater New York Conference. The school was founded in 1920 and is located in Woodside, New York. To learn more about GNYA visit: www.gnyacademy.org.

Kimi-Roux James, Office of Education administrative assistant Greater New York Conference

Mott Haven Church Holds Evangelistic Meetings

The Mott Haven Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bronx, New York, held a series of evangelistic meetings over a two-week period. During the first week, services were held at member's homes. These services were conducted by experienced preachers, among whom were Pastor Plinio Cruz, Pastor Wilson Santos, German Fernandez, Celeste Fernandez, and Senen Mutis, along with the communication leaders.

During the second week, the Dominican international evangelist Pastor Gerardo Bautista held services on the grounds of the Mott Haven church. It was a week that will long be remembered. Night after night Pastor Bautista presented spiritual messages that inspired individuals to step forward and make decisions to follow Christ.

Pastor Plinio Cruz, host of the event, and his assistant, Pastor Wilson Santos, worked together to make the meetings a success. Professor Angelo Arieta was the master of ceremonies and the communication leaders were in charge of welcoming visitors and helping the program to run smoothly.

Felipe S. Barrientos, communication director Mott Haven church



Pastor Gerardo Bautista, left, was the speaker for the second week of meetings at the Mott Haven church. He is joined here by the host, Pastor Plinio Cruz, and Angelo Arieta, who served as master of ceremonies.



The communication leaders were involved in making sure the meetings were a success.

Congresswoman Speaks at Greater New York Academy Graduation

Congresswoman Yvette Diane Clarke of the 11th Congressional District in Brooklyn gave the commencement address for Greater New York Academy's graduation at the Dunamis Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn, New York.

Clarke shared with the graduates the story of her Jamaican immigrant parents and the Christian values they instilled in her as a child, emphasizing the importance of education in lifelong success. She also spoke of the role of young adults in shaping the world around them.

"You are the innovators of the future that we will all inherit," said Clarke. She congratulated the parents of the graduates for their part in the success of their children. "We are the keepers of the promise that God has given us," she said. "We have made our community stronger because we are here."

She challenged the graduates to utilize the education, experience, and resources at their disposal to give back to the community around them. "Tomorrow is the next episode in your journey to success," she said. "Commit yourselves to doing something positive."

Senior class president Ashley Brown responded by accepting Clarke's challenge on behalf of the class of 2007.

In her valedictorian's

address, Jennifer Lacang reminisced about her time spent at GNYA and encouraged fellow graduates to cherish the memories while looking forward to the future.

Principal Lillian Mitchell presented numerous awards to the graduates on

Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, and Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, who presented more than \$350,000 in scholarships to the graduates.

The 43 graduates of the class of 2007 are a diverse

and the Philippines.

All graduates will be completing the requirements for the New York State Regents Diplomas, and two received the Advanced Designated Regents Diploma. Several have taken Advanced Placement exams in Biology, English, and Spanish. Forty of the graduates plan to attend colleges spread across the country, in California, Texas, Alabama, Tennessee, Michigan, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York.

Greater New York Academy is a private non-boarding high school located at 41-32 58th St., Woodside, Queens. The mission of Greater New York Academy is to provide a Christian educational environ-

ment within the context, philosophy, and teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Their philosophy of education is based on the belief that the development and edification of a noble character is the greatest asset to God and man. The role of

the teachers and administrators is to inspire the students with the principles of truth, love, obedience, honor, integrity, and purity. In this setting, young people from the New York metropolitan area can achieve their highest potential.

For more information about Greater New York Academy, contact Lillian Mitchell at (718) 639-1752.

Joy-Anne Mitchell, administrative assistant
Greater New York Academy

Councilman Matthieu Eugene, Congresswoman Yvette Diane Clarke, and David Cadavero, Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools.



Salutatorian Jennifer Valcin receiving her diploma from the principal, Lillian Mitchell.

The vice principal Loris LaBorde with class president Ashley Brown.

behalf of the New York State Department of Education, Comptroller and Attorney General, and President George W. Bush. Congresswoman Clarke and Councilman Mattieu Eugene presented awards for leadership and service.

Also attending were representatives from Atlantic

group, hailing from Queens, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan, and Nassau and Suffolk counties. Many of the graduates are first-generation Americans, and several are immigrants. Some of the countries they represent include Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Dominica, St. Kitts, Trinidad, St. Vincent, Brazil, Ecuador, England, Greece,

Educational Innovations in Upstate New York

Recent brain research, made possible through advancing technology, is having a significant impact on how teachers teach and students learn in classrooms throughout the world. Sophisticated equipment now enables researchers to view the activities of the brain as it conducts various processes, leading to greater understanding of how it works. Teaching practices are being impacted as teachers learn how to use “brain-compatible instruction.”

Teachers in elementary schools throughout the New York Conference are being trained in, and are implementing brain-compatible methods, but they also realize that there is a power far greater than the human brain that must be received in order to accomplish the higher goals of Adventist education. This power is the Holy Spirit and only He can bring about life-changing thought processes and habits reflective of the life of Jesus. Thus, the principles which are helping teachers create effective classrooms here are referred to

as “Spirit-compatible Instruction.”

Spirit-compatible Instruction begins by creating a safe and calming physical environment and then proceeds to establish a secure emotional and spiritual climate where students can be open and honest with each other and with God. At the core of this is systematic instruction in “light skills,” a set of positive character traits, such as patience, generosity, active listening, perseverance, and truthfulness. All of these traits develop from a greater trust in God and enable students to let their “light” shine for Jesus.

Behavior and classroom management are viewed through a spiritual lens and students are helped to see the eternal effects of their choices, whether good or bad. They are taught to resolve interpersonal conflicts through a process that employs the biblical model of “going to your brother,” and all of this is continuously integrated with strong and progressive academic instruction,

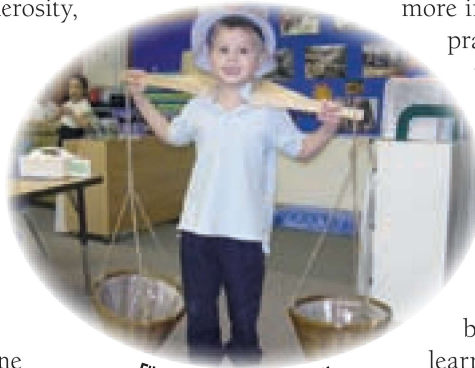
making our schools tools for creating useful citizens in this life, and disciples of Jesus for eternity.

Meanwhile, students at Union Springs Academy are participating in learning that is not only brain compatible, but consistent with biblical principles and the counsel from Ellen White. Their program is called Direct Education and focuses on teaching students, rather than subjects. Instruction is individualized for each student and integrates their personal interests. It is project-based learning through which students acquire the skills necessary to gather knowledge.

This enables them to become more involved in a practical way, and to process the information more deeply. It is designed to accomplish two things: 1) to teach students to become life-long learners, inspiring them to seek out answers and develop their own conclusions, rather than simply reflecting “other men’s thoughts,” and 2) most importantly, to ensure that all of our instruction is supported by the teachings of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. These goals help students see the whole world in light of God’s love, leading them to choose a life-long commitment to Him and to inspire the same choice in others. ①



Kapilina and Caitlin, students at Union Springs Academy, study together in the library.



Ethan learns about colonial life.



Hailey, foreground, plants a garden.



Kim Kaiser is the associate superintendent of schools in the New York Conference and Andrew Fish is the vice principal at Union Springs Academy.



Putting the Pieces Together



Youth Talk

Atlantic Union youth share their opinions and ideas on various topics.

What are some experiences you had participating in the Student Tell the World evangelistic meetings?

These are some responses from students who participated in the union-wide "Student Tell the World" evangelistic meetings presented by elementary and academy students during the 2006-2007 school year.



"I was in the evangelistic series. I learned more about God when I did this. When I stood up and preached, I felt very nervous. I thought I was going to mess up and I did, but I tried my best and I made it through. After I preached I wanted to do it again. It was very hard to do. I had to practice and practice. To some people it was very easy, but to me, it was hard. If I do this again, I would like to make some changes. I did some other jobs besides preaching, including running the P.A. system and being a greeter. The most important thing to me was preaching, so that I can spread God's word."—**Joanna Pitcher**, fourth grade, Parkview Jr. Academy



as I live far [away] from the establishment. However, it was continuously proven a sacrifice well made. I am glad that my school was able to see the potential that many of my classmates have and harnessed that talent for the good of the community. Many of the students I have spoken with, and I, would like this evangelistic series to become a yearly event. I have now become more comfortable speaking to others about Jesus and would readily accept any invitation to do so. Those of us who spoke see ourselves only as students who are ready to tell the world about Jesus Christ."—**Kimberly Valcin**, tenth grade, Greater New York Academy

"First, there was the sermon preparation. I worked with my dad in shortening the lengthy sermon, but still maintaining the message. Next, there was the rehearsing of the sermon. My mother helped me to insure a good and interesting delivery. Here I learned the importance of structure, content, and delivery. Then came the night for the presentation, which was well received. It became clear to me that good preaching requires thoughtful preparation. It was an interesting experience and I look forward to another chance to help spread the gospel."—**Esthanette Reid**, sixth grade, Berea Seventh-day Adventist Academy.



"I am blessed to be one of those chosen to speak during the series. With a sense of nervousness I would practice my sermon. Slowly, with guidance given to me by the religion teacher, I became confident that God would use me in the way that He wanted. All my reservations melted away. I received a blessing, and in turn was able to bless others.

I must admit, it was hard to travel to the church every night,

"It was a very good experience. I learned so much more about God. I had the closing service, meaning that I had more time to practice. I practiced a lot at home and at school in my spare time. Preaching was not all I did in the series. I was also a hostess, helped manage the P.A. system, was a greeter, and did special music, but most important to me was the sermon. It was really fun. Sometimes a pastor would come and help us with the sermon and sometimes our teacher would. Other times it was just us [practicing], but we learned.



This experience brought me closer to God and I loved it. During the series I think Satan was trying his hardest to ruin things, but we prayed about it and kept on going. Before the series began we had a special prayer for people who were speaking. The pastor prayed with us in church. The series was really great. I hope to do it again."—**Kudzwai Mutanga**, fifth grade, Parkview Jr. Academy

If you are 30 years or younger, and would like to join these young people in sharing your opinions and ideas, e-mail the GLEANER editor at gleaner@atlanticunion.org.

Couple Adopts Very Special Child

Deanna and Adam Mc Kelvey, Dexterville church members, extended their family in an unusual way. Seth, whose Chinese name is Wang Guo Ding, was recently adopted by them after he was left under a bridge by his biological mother in China. It is illegal for Chinese parents to surrender and/or abandon a child, so birth mothers must find a spot where they can leave their child without being seen and where the child will be found soon. Often, the mother waits nearby to make sure that the child is safe, just as Miriam watched in the reeds while Moses floated in the river.

After arriving in the U.S., Seth underwent surgery so that his seriously deformed feet could be replaced with prosthetics. The bubbly toddler now runs around on his "new feet." Seth joins the Mc Kelvey's biological daughter who was

born with a club foot, and a new baby brother, Nathan. Deanna says of Seth, "He filled a hole in our family that we didn't know we had. Without him, we wouldn't have known what we were missing."



Deanna and Adam Mc Kelvey recently adopted Wang Guo Ding who was left under a bridge in China by his mother.

Adam Mc Kelvey, a registered nurse, worked three jobs to help pay the expenses associated with realizing the dream of adopting Seth. Additional help was provided by the America World Adoption Association, a silent auction, Shao Hannah's Hope, A Child Waits Foundation, and Shriner's Hospital, which provided the prosthetics at no cost. Anyone interested in knowing

more about foreign adoptions may contact Deanna by e-mail at admckelvey@windstream.net.

*Kim Kaiser, communication director
New York Conference*

Adventurers Learn about the Fruits of the Spirit

The New York Conference held its annual Adventurer Fun Day at Union Springs Academy last April with approximately 40 Adventurers attending. As they arrived each child's

picture was taken to be used later in a craft. During worship, Pathfinders from the Westvale church led out in singing and Dan Whitlow, New York Conference youth director, prayed.

The theme for the day was "The Fruits of the Spirit." One of the decorations in the gym was a big tree with pictures of different fruits on it. Each fruit was labeled with one of the fruits of the Spirit. The Adventurers were divided into groups of about six, and each group chose a fruit. The group spent about half an hour looking up Bible texts about their particular "fruit." They then drew pictures with sidewalk chalk in the parking lot that illustrated their "fruit" and made up a skit to demonstrate a Bible story about their chosen "fruit."

The crafts that the children made included door

hangers, picture frames, and church-shaped birdhouses. The door hangers were black with a stick to write on the surface like a pencil, exposing the rainbow of colors under the black surface. The church-shaped birdhouses were really fun to put together and paint in bright colors. The picture frame looked like a bright sun face, with an opening in the center for each Adventurer's photo.

It was a special time together playing, making crafts, and learning about the fruits of the Spirit.

*Kathe Burghardt, Pathfinder
Westvale church*



The children made crafts as part of the Adventurer Fun Day.

Buskirk Church Sings Unto the Lord



On the first Sabbath of the month the members and friends of the Buskirk church gather in the evening for a hymn sing led by Heather Ford and Lance Reed. The event started out as a way of learning new hymns and teaching some of our newest members the songs that we enjoy so much. Each time we meet, Ford and Reed

prepare a list of hymns and offer opportunities for us to sing requests. Jennifer Ford presents the history of some of the songs such as "It Is Well with My Soul."

The hymn sing allows us to enjoy each other's fellowship, to invite guests who don't know our message, and to help our newest members become familiar with one of the special parts of worship.

Ellen White tells us, "As a part of religious service, singing is as much an act of worship as prayer"—EDUCATION, p. 168. Often we don't realize how overwhelming a new service, new music, and a new message can be to those who have not grown up in the Adventist church. But music is an area in which everyone can partici-

pate with a little help.

There is great joy in gathering for song and fellowship. An hour of joyful music is a wonderful way to close the Sabbath and face the new week. If you are in the area, join us on the first Sabbath of each month through December 2007.

*Susan Carpenter, member
Buskirk church*

"Passionate Prayer"

A Prayer Retreat with Brenda Walsh, author of *PASSIONATE PRAYER, BATTERED TO BLESSED, BETWEEN HELL AND HIGH WATER: SURVIVOR STORIES FROM HURRICANE KATRINA, COOKING WITH THE MICHEFF SISTERS* and *COOKING ENTREES WITH THE MICHEFF SISTERS*.

Brenda is the Producer and Host of *Kids Time*, a children's program on Three Angels Broadcasting Network.

September 21-23, 2007

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September 13
\$110 after
September 13

Prayer is not just words in a one-way conversation, it's a transforming relationship with our God and Savior. Brenda invites you to a prayer life that goes beyond prayer as a duty or a habit to something effective - passionate prayer that brings life-changing results.

To register, call Donna or Priscilla at the New York Conference Office (315) 469-6921

Outside of the Tackle Box



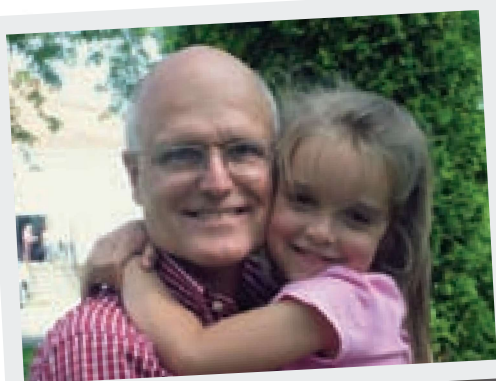
Nate Kellie had never fished before, but after some instruction, he caught the biggest fish in the fishing tournament.

I conducted a spiritual gifts seminar several months ago and discovered that one of the elders, Bill Roesser at the Lockport Adventist church has the gift of evangelism. He wanted to put his gift to use for God but didn't know quite how. I asked what his passion is and he said, "I love to fish." So, on June 23 and 24 the church held its first fishing tournament.

The event was open to friends and family of church members and while the attendees were fishing for fish, Bill was "fishing for men." He was able to combine his passion with his calling. Sabbath was spent getting to know one another and on Sunday the tournament began. One young man, Nate Kellie, had never fished before, but after some instruction from Bill he began to cast and caught the biggest fish of the day.

Evangelism is like farming in the sense that before you can reap you must sow the seed. This tournament helped Bill sow friendships that will someday, Lord willing, bear fruit in the kingdom. Next year's tournament is already in the planning stages.

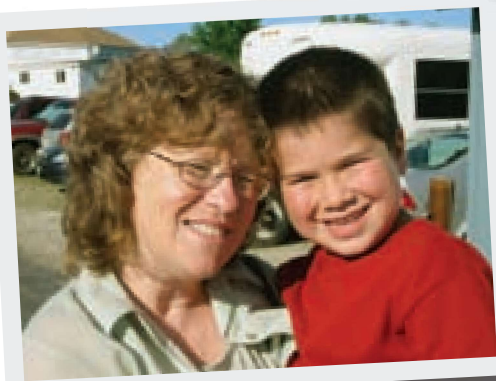
*Miguel Crespo, pastor
Lakeshore District*



Conference president, Mike Ortel, and Jordan, a kindergarten camper.



Rod Biswell, left, and conference treasurer, Bob Sundin, at the annual senior's banquet.



Kindergarten leader, Cheryle Matowitz, and Zachary, a camper.



There were many activities to keep the children occupied during the day.

Cheryl's Camp Meeting Report

For nine short days each summer, Pine Tree Academy opens its doors and fields to the Northern New England Conference for camp meeting. Tents are installed, campsites readied, menus prepared, and classes are planned. It's truly mind boggling to imagine all that goes into this one short week! And if you haven't taken full advantage of all it has to offer, you are missing out on such an outpouring of God's rich blessing.

In a quiet classroom, an exhibit of Norm McGuire's artwork was on display. Visitors were invited to come and spend a meditative hour contemplating the closing scenes of the life of Christ. The beautiful paintings depicted Christ and His disciples from birth, to boyhood, to the garden, the last supper, the trial, and the cross. What a blessing that Norm has such a gift and shares it with us!

Also sharing his gift was Peter Wannemacher, who translated the speakers' messages into sign language so those with hearing impairments could enjoy the wonderful meetings.

We were blessed to have many great speakers for evening meetings in the main tent. Lonnie Melashenko kicked off the first few meetings, including our first Sabbath worship service. He was followed by John Earnhart from Sunday through Thursday evenings, and Mark Finley concluded the week with powerful stories of the Lord's work being done across the globe.

Throughout the week there were meetings held in classrooms all over the campus, ranging from vegetarian

cooking classes to art classes, health seminars, Christ's Power in the Christian Man's Journey (Men's Ministries), Compassion Super heroes (Women's Ministries), seminars on witnessing, how to give Bible studies, and personalizing devotions. There was even an Adventist history tour, which included sites in Portland, Gorham, and Poland.

Participants enjoyed inspiring stories as they walked in the footsteps of Adventist pioneers. In addition, there was a blood drive, a seniors' banquet, a fun run, a watermelon feed, and lots of time to reconnect with family and friends.

The children were no less busy! There were classes for all age levels, starting with cradle roll where Dana Johnson was assistant leader this year. Activities, songs, and crafts kept more than two dozen toddlers and young children occupied for almost two hours every day (no small feat!). In the kindergarten class, "Bible Heroes" was the theme, while the boys and girls in primary class got a lesson in early Adventist history in a room that appeared as though they'd stepped back into the mid 1800s. On July 4 the kindergarten and primary classes treated campers to an Independence Day Parade as they marched all around the campground, complete with drums, flags, and red, white, and blue banners. Each day our Saco kids (Justin, Zach, Owen, Devin, and Yuliya) would complete a new art project corresponding to their class, and new songs were memorized and sung. What a treat it was to see them on stage

in the main tent as they sang during the worship service on Sabbath! Finally, on Sabbath, July 7, the Saco church welcomed two new members into its family with the baptism of Rita and Renata. We celebrated with all of heaven on that very special day! A potluck was held in their honor at the Griffins' camper, and good food and fellowship were heartily enjoyed.

What a beautiful week it was! It wasn't too hot, the bugs weren't biting, and the Lord kept the rain at bay for most of the week. We did get a few showers toward the end, though many agree that it just wouldn't be camp meeting without a little rain. Showers of blessing descended all week long; and for that, you never need an umbrella!

It really is true that coN-NECted we can make a difference, and what better way to stay connected to church family and friends far and near than to attend camp meeting? We hope you'll make the decision now to attend next year's meetings. It's never too soon to start planning!

*Cheryl Pelletier, clerk
Saco church*

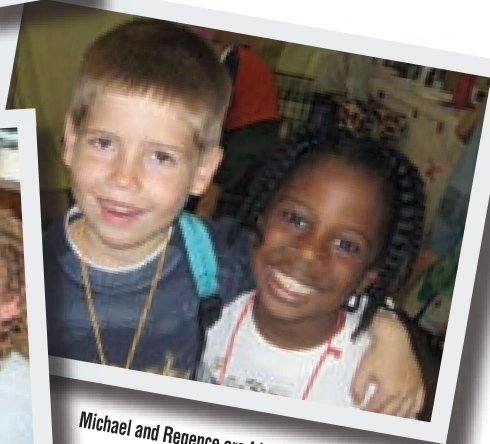
Primary leader, Karen Littell, sitting in an authentic buggy.



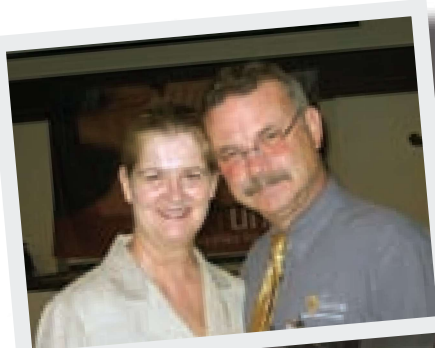
Several of the attendees at the annual senior's banquet.



Twins Chelsea, far left, and Brianna, far right, with brothers Macauley and Maxwell.



Michael and Regence are friends in kindergarten class.



Seminar presenters, George and Debra Brill, from the North American Division.



Mark Finley, General Conference vice president, and Isaiah.

Special Constituency Report

On June 24, 2007, the Northern New England Conference held a special constituency session to follow up on several items voted in the October 2006 regular constituency session. Three items were voted at this special session:

1. The Topsham Seventh-day Adventist Company in Maine was officially voted into the sisterhood of churches.
2. The delegates voted to proceed with the building of a new conference office complex in Freeport, Maine, that will include the construction of an adjacent Adventist Heritage Center.
3. The delegates also voted to combine the conference's multiple corporations into a single corporation for all conference business.

*Lynn Ortel, communication director
Northern New England Conference*

Boston Van Ministry Streamlines Service to Encourage Volunteers



Volunteers help visitors complete health questionnaires that provide computerized printouts for health counseling.

A van ministry is only as successful as the volunteers that help run it.

The Boston Van Ministry, founded by Seventh-day Adventist lay member Rita Vital, relies solely on fundraising and volunteers. During its nearly 20 years of service to the communities throughout Southern New England more than 300 volunteers have staffed the van ministry.

Currently, the Stoneham church manages the van ministry and works to provide simple methods of ministry that volunteers can be quickly trained to provide. Services include:

- Providing hot chocolate warmed on the new health van's kitchen stove top, along with serving peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and apples to the hungry.
- Distributing blankets, sweaters, socks, mittens, warm knit hats, and toiletry kits to those facing the oncoming winter weather on the streets.
- Health counseling from the personalized computer

Rodriquez, along with Pathfinders Sara Carrera, Rachel Kennedy, Madeline Kennedy, Ben Kennedy, and Rachel Perry were trained on-site for the event.

During the five hours the van remained at the Commons, an ongoing stream of guests stopped in. Up to six guests were accommodated at a time. Of these, approximately two-thirds were homeless. In all, more than 60 people passed through the van.

The Pathfinder volunteers proved an ideal size for staffing the various ministries in the new larger health van. They also showed that with a little coaching, those from ages nine and up can perform vital and acceptable ministry, even on their first attempt.

Since there is no full-time paid or volunteer staff devoted exclusively to the van ministry at present, the training of similar volunteer groups of all ages is essential for the ongoing operation of the Boston Health Van.

If there are groups (Pathfinder or otherwise) or individuals desiring to assist with the Boston Van Ministry outreach on the Boston Commons, or in other areas, contact the Stoneham Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church at (781) 438-2977.

*Skip Johnson, associate pastor
Stoneham Memorial church*



Blood pressure screenings are just one of the services offered by the Boston Van Ministry program.

the person's body age and offers personalized suggestions for adding extra healthy years of life based on individual lifestyle choices.

- Materials distribution such as Bible Secrets of Health and other topics, both to those who stop by the van and those passing by.

printout, a listening ear, and a warm place to sit, for anywhere from a few minutes to more than an hour.

The Quinebaug Pathfinders of Connecticut are just one of the groups that assisted with the Boston Van Ministry's outreach at the Boston Commons. Sponsors Maggie and Roy

Sandy Bent Honored at GBA Graduation

Commencement means "the beginning" or "the start" of something. At Greater Boston Academy's 63rd Commencement Service on June 10, another

graduation, or commencement, was celebrated alongside the traditional senior graduation.

For the past 35 years, Sandy Bent stood before her

students, leading them into the study of God's second book, nature. While studying biology and chemistry, her students examined God's creation in fine detail.

She never wavered in her own commitment to God's calling and for the past 32 years served Greater Boston Academy and its students with distinction.

Southern New England Conference honored Bent with a plaque and a formal acknowledgment of her contribution to Christian education. President Frank Tochterman and Superintendent of Schools Gary Swinyar made the presentation. "Ms. Bent now graduates into the next

phase—that of retirement," said Swinyar. "When the alarm clock rings, she can ignore it. When the shopping malls are covered with 'back to school' signs, she can know that her summer will continue as long as she wishes. Monday will be just another day."

This was the third such

recognition Bent received in her final weeks of service. Each time, the audience rose to its feet in applause, saluting her for her dedication and influence. The school board and staff honored her with an engraved Boston rocker.

"Although retired, she will never be forgotten by the hundreds of students that have been in her class," Swinyar concluded. "The results of her teaching will live on in the lives of those who have had the privilege to call her 'teacher.'"

Rondi Aastrup, principal
Greater Boston Academy



Rondi Aastrup

Sandy Bent sits in the Boston rocker that was presented to her by Greater Boston Academy as a token of their appreciation for her many years of service at the school.

Hispanic Women's Retreat...a Spiritual Weekend

"**U**nidas en Victoria" (United in Victory) was the theme for the Hispanic women's retreat at Camp Winnekeag this past April with almost 250 women attending.

The main speaker was Liz Polanco, an evangelist from Puerto Rico. "In terms of spirituality, this has been one the best women's retreats that I have attended," said Ana Salvador, a member from the Clinton Spanish church. "I had an excellent time. The prayer seminar on Sabbath morning was very helpful to me and the presenter was exceptional."

Seminars presented throughout the weekend included: "Prayer a Trusted Guide," "Woman and Her Temperament," "Decorating Your House Without Spending Much Money." The decorating seminar was presented by Maria Olivo, wife of Dionisio Olivo, Atlantic Union Conference Hispanic Ministries vice president.

The annual banquet was celebrated Saturday night. Since the theme was based on Victorian Times, some women wore beautiful Victorian dresses along with hats and umbrellas.

Next year's Hispanic women's retreat theme will be "Heirs to the Kingdom."

Rosalina Frias, Hispanic Women's Ministries director
Southern New England Conference



At the annual banquet on Saturday night, some of the women wore Victorian dresses depicting the theme centered around "Victorian Times."

Greater Boston Academy Alumni Weekend

September 28 & 29

FRIDAY EVENING EVENTS

OPEN HOUSE/RECEPTION

September 28 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

GBA /Edgewood Auditorium 108 Pond St., Stoneham

Visit with your classmates ~ Light refreshments

SABBATH MORNING PROGRAM

September 29 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Stoneham Memorial Church 28 Maple St., Stoneham

Guest speaker – Matthew Lombard

ALUMNI FRIENDSHIP DINNER

GBA/Edgewood Auditorium 1:00 p.m.

Alumni & friends welcome

FRIENDSHIP CALLS

2:00 p.m – 5:00 p.m.

Share your cell phone number with a friend

Paul Asgeirsson has the phone numbers

VESPERS

Stoneham Memorial Church 5:00 p.m.

Laurie Redmer Mass Choir Reunion

SATURDAY EVENING

Individual class reunion time

For information contact:
Arthur Barnaby, Alumni President
afbarnaby@juno.com, (951) 359-4344

Words of Truth

*M*y favorite time of the summer had finally arrived—camp meeting. Now I would have an entire week to get away with my family to a beautiful spot nestled by the lake. Some of the fondest memories I have as a child are of being at camp meeting. The sound of hundreds of believers singing under the big tent where the adults congregated for lectures is still a soothing melody to my soul. To me, camp meeting is like a taste of heaven—all my friends and family in one place, talking, singing, and learning about Jesus. Usually, camp meeting is a place where hearts are carefree, and spirits light. However, one year, I went to camp meeting with my heart heavily laden with fear and doubt.

I had just graduated from high school, and was scared about the future. All my friends were leaving and I would be off to college all by myself that fall. I felt that my life was flying past me, and everybody expected me to be an adult, even though I still felt like a kid. Responsibilities, changes, and new experiences were all flooding me like a tidal wave and I didn't know how to swim. The first few days of camp meeting, even with all the smiles, songs, and sermons, I was distant from what I craved—peace. Little did I know, it was on its way in an unlikely form.

The primary tent across from the big tent was my destination one particular evening. I was walking some kids from my home church to their meeting while their mom attended hers. I sat with them in the little wooden chairs, something I hadn't done in many years. I sang all the songs—you know the ones—with all the hand motions and the necessary yelling at the top of your lungs. Then the director shushed the kids, and began to tell a Bible story, complete

with costumes and props. The two older kids I was watching were completely enthralled, but their little sister, Janelle, who was two, was getting a little fidgety and needed to run around. Quietly, without disrupting the story, I whispered to the older ones that I was headed outside with Janelle.

As I put her down, she slipped her little hand in mine and we walked together, watching the sun melt into the lake and hearing the speaker from the big tent in the background. We ambled up the hill to her favorite spot—the swings.

*“I felt that my life
was flying past
me, and everybody
expected me to be an
adult, even though I
still felt like a kid.”*

Pushing her on the swings, we began to talk, first about animals (horses were her favorite), then about her favorite part of camp meeting, and finally, about what she was going to do tomorrow. We chatted for a while, until something urged me to ask her a question. The question was from a book we had read together on many occasions in which the main character asks, “Who loves you?” I didn't even know where that thought came from and yet, I felt I should ask. “Janelle,” I

smiled. “Who loves you?”

Grinning, she said with her little lisp, “God loves me!” My heart was undone, as I heard her declare those words. Tears started to well in my eyes, as something that I knew to be the greatest truth was about to unfold. My heart begged me to ask one more question and again I turned to her, with a catch in my voice, and asked, “Who loves me?” Smiling, she leaned her head close to mine and whispered in my ear, “God loves you.”

As the tears cascaded down my face, I knelt and hugged my little messenger, Janelle. Kneeling in the grass as the sun sank and with the voices of the saints rising to the heavens in the background, my heart beat to the truth that “God loves you, God loves you, God loves you.”

The uncertainty, the doubt, and being scared about the future and growing up, all washed away with my tears as my soul reached out and clung to God and His promise: “I love you, daughter of mine. With your hand in Mine, I can lead you anywhere.”

Have you ever heard the same words over and over, until perhaps their meaning has become distant to you, a simple rhetoric that is heard but not understood? I can't tell you how many times I had heard the words “God loves you” in a sermon. But it wasn't until I heard them from a toddler that I comprehended their meaning. When you've been taking words of truth for granted for so long, as I had, it's amazing when the depth of the words hits you, and you finally realize, “Wow. This is what it feels like.” Janelle had said, “God loves you.” And now I finally understood. ☺

Justine Lewis is an active member of the Ithaca Seventh-day Adventist Church and a sophomore in college.

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The Northboro Adventist Church presents

Dr. Kay Kuzma

FOUNDER OF FAMILY MATTERS MINISTRY



September 28 & 29

Dr. Kay Kuzma is a popular Christian family motivational speaker, author of many books that promote wholesome family relationships to reduce alienation and abuse, well-known columnist, and media personality.

Dr. Kuzma will begin her presentation Friday, September 28 at 7:00 p.m. and continue throughout the day on Saturday, September 29 starting at 9:30 a.m., discussing matters that mean the most to families today. You are invited to attend!

The Northboro church is located at 30 Brigham Street; Northboro, Massachusetts

For more information, contact Dawn Diproffo, personal ministries leader, at (508) 485-8839 or e-mail dawndipro@yahoo.com

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N OCTOBER 11-14, 2007
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Edward R. Murrow once said, "The newest computer can merely compound, at speed, the oldest problem in the relations between human beings, and in the end the communicator will be confronted with the old problem, of what to say and how to say it." In an increasingly technological world, communicators still face the issues of what to say and how to say it.

Due to the constant change in the world of communication, it is necessary for those in our field to stay informed; this is why the **Society of Adventist Communicators** was formed. Specifically, the annual SAC Convention is a time where communication personnel can learn about

Almost 200 Adventist communicators attended 2006's convention in Baltimore, Maryland.

the most recent trends in communication, discover the best technological tools available, and network with other professional communicators.

We hope you will attend the 2007 SAC Convention, where we will deal with both the newest computer technology and the communication basics – what to say and how to say it.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK FOR AN ADVENTIST INSTITUTION TO JOIN SAC, AND MEMBERSHIP IS FREE. JUST VISIT WWW.ADVENTISTCOMMUNICATOR.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION.

WWW.ADVENTISTCOMMUNICATOR.ORG

Photo Credit: Gary Layton

BulletinBoard

Sunset Table

October 2007	Eastern Daylight Saving Time			
	5	12	19	26
Bangor, ME	6:07	5:54	5:42	5:31
Portland, ME	6:13	6:01	5:50	5:39
Boston, MA	6:17	6:06	5:55	5:44
South Lancaster, MA	6:20	6:08	5:57	5:46
Pittsfield, MA	6:26	6:14	6:03	5:53
Hartford, CT	6:24	6:13	6:02	5:52
New York, NY	6:30	6:19	6:08	5:59
Albany, NY	6:26	6:14	6:03	5:53
Utica, NY	6:33	6:21	6:10	6:00
Syracuse, NY	6:37	6:25	6:14	6:03
Rochester, NY	6:43	6:31	6:20	6:09
Buffalo, NY	6:48	6:36	6:25	6:14
Hamilton, Bda	6:56	6:48	6:40	6:32

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ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE

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Earn the degree you've always wanted without sacrificing your professional or personal life. The Adult Degree Program at Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Mass., is a flexible program designed so you can continue to work while pursuing your education goals. Design studies around personal interests and earn prior learning credit for life experience. There are two mandatory 2-week seminars in January and July. The next seminar is January 7-17, 2008. Info: 1-800-282-2030, (978) 368-2300, adp@auc.edu.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

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Eyes Upward and Focused

OCTOBER 5-7

CELEBRATING
95
YEARS

October 5
7:00 p.m.

October 6
9:15 a.m.

October 7
5:00 p.m.
Banquet

*Lantana's Restaurant
Randolph, Massachusetts*

Church Location: 108 Seaver St.; Boston, Massachusetts

For more information or to place an ad in the 95th commemorative journal, e-mail Kahrin McLaughlin at kmclaughlin@cpsd.us or call at 617-349-6456.

OUT-OF-UNION

The International Association of Adventist Social Workers (IAASW) announces a conference for its members to be held Friday, October 26 at the Holiday Inn Civic Center, San Francisco, Calif! For more information, contact Lindsey Pitts at ceilidh_ze@yahoo.com, and visit www.iaasw.org.

Grand Reopening

Framingham Centre Church
252 Edgell Rd.
Framingham, MA 01701

September 15, 2007

9:15 a.m. Sabbath School
10:30 a.m. Rededication Ceremony

September 16, 2007

2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House

For more information call
(508) 872-1518
Web site: framinghamsda.com

South Lancaster Academy Alumni Weekend
Commemorating 125 Years

October 5-7, 2007

October 5

Registration - 3:00 p.m.
Fund-raiser Car Wash and Supper - 4:00 p.m.
South Lancaster Academy
Vespers 7:30 p.m.
College Church

October 6

Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.
Church - 11:00 a.m.
College Church
Annual Luncheon
Chan Shun Dining Commons
Sabbath Vespers - 5:00 p.m.
Village Church
Business Meeting and Supper
Following Vespers
Saturday Night Program

October 7

Full day of programs honoring the 125th anniversary

For information contact:
Jon Nosek: jnosek@sla-browning.org
Alumni Office: (978) 365-5225

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE



A great opportunity for adults and young people to experience God's power through witnessing.

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Robert Folkenberg



English

Sabbath, September 22
3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Machlan Auditorium
Atlantic Union College campus

Spanish

Sabbath, October 6
3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Hartford Spanish Church
174 Russ Street
Hartford, Connecticut



Join us for an incredible,
life-changing experience!

To register, please e-mail your name, church name,
and contact information to April Montoya at
apmontoya@sneconline.org

Sponsored by the Personal Ministries Department
Dr. Whitford A. Shaw, Director



Stop the Violence: "Don't Talk about It, Be about it"

Rally Weekend
September 21 - 22

For more information contact:
Rose Maynard at rose.maynard@gmail.com
or call (781) 249-4508
Lee Bulgin at lee.bulgin@gmail.com or call
(443) 762-5398

Friday, September 21
7:00 p.m.
Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church
108 Seaver Street
Dorchester, Massachusetts

Saturday, September 22
Beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center
1350 Tremont Street
Boston, Massachusetts

<p>Think About It! Violent crimes are on the rise, especially in major cities. What can we do, in addition to praying fervently, to stem the tide?</p>	<p>Talk About It! Listen to and speak with panelists from the many Boston individuals working on Anti-Violence Issues.</p>	<p>Be About It! Join the "Walk for Peace" parade. Then finish the day with a benefit concert.</p>
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Northeastern Conference New England North Adventist Youth Federation

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