

THE ATLANTIC UNION

SEPTEMBER 2008

GLEANER

Time Alone *with* God

Quoi de Neuf?

Adventist Education

Youth Talk

¿Qué Está Pasando?

inside **SEPTEMBER** 2008

FEATURES

4 COVER STORY:
Time Alone
With God



7 Teaching for Eternity

16 KIDSVIEW Doubles
in Size



16 Society of Adventist Communicators
Convention 2008 — October 9-12

IN THIS ISSUE...

Our cover story this month focuses on the importance of spending time alone with God. You will read about “three facets of Christ’s time alone with God” that will be helpful in your private devotion. To learn more, read the article beginning on page 4. Also included are our regular features: Adventist Education, Positions of Our Faith and Youth Talk. The photo on the cover is from iStockphoto.

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.

DEPARTMENTS

Editorial	3
Adventist Education	7
Youth Talk	8
Positions of Our Faith	17
Quoi de Neuf?	24
¿Qué Está Pasando?	25

NEWS

Bermuda	9
Greater New York	10
Atlantic Union College	12
New York	14
Northeastern	18
Northern New England	20
Southern New England	22

INFORMATION

Bulletin Board	28
Obituaries	28
Classifieds	29

DEADLINES

November 2008	September 12
December 2008	October 10
January 2009	November 14

The GLEANER deadline schedule is available online at www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner4.html.

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The Anatomy of Gossip

You've probably heard the words of the song: "Idle words oh let them never, from your tongue and bridle slip." I heard them as a boy, and of course, my understanding of the term "idle words" always seemed just that—idle, useless, empty, frivolous, or worthless. That was until I read a passage from the well-known bestseller, *THE DESIRE OF AGES*, page 321. The author, Ellen G. White, in the chapter entitled "Who Are My Brethren?" makes the point that idle and evil words are closely related to the unpardonable sin or the sin against the Holy Spirit. Let's tune in to what she writes.

"Closely connected with Christ's warning in regard to the sin against the Holy Spirit is a warning against idle and evil words. The words are an indication of that which is in the heart. . . . But the words are more than an indication of character; they have power to react on the character. . . . Often under a momentary impulse, prompted by Satan, they give utterance to jealousy or evil surmising, expressing that which they do not really believe; but the expression reacts on the thoughts. . . . The habit of careless and irreverent criticism [or gossip, typically defined as derogatory talk about other people] reacts upon the character, in fostering irreverence and unbelief. Many a man indulging this habit has gone on unconscious danger, until he is ready to criticize and reject the work of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, 'Every idle word men shall speak, they shall give an account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.'" (See Matt 12:36, 37).

In other words, when one practices the behavior of gossip or idle, derogatory, backbiting talk about other people, it is

not just idle, empty talk in which they are engaged. They are playing with their own eternal destiny by standing the risk of rejecting the work of the Holy Spirit in their life.

Wow, this ought to be a wake up call every time someone attempts to talk negatively about another person to you. After all, isn't it true that whoever gossips to you will gossip about you? Should we not stop them in their tracks by saying, "Please, let's make this positive so we can keep this person about whom you are speaking in our prayers."

Remember, gossip doesn't need to be false in order to be evil—there's a lot of truth that should never be shared or intentionally passed around!

It was Bertrand Russell, in his book *ON EDUCATION* (1926), who wrote: "No one gossips about other people's secret virtues." Which is what makes gossip so detestable—it thrives on dirt, not virtues. I'm often reminded, every time I pass by a gold mine (which is all I can do, just pass by), that in order to get an ounce of gold from the ground, one sometimes has to remove a ton of dirt. But people don't go into the mine looking for dirt, rather, they're looking for gold. Instead of looking for dirt in people (who doesn't have it?), let's look for the gold.

A Jewish proverb says: "What you don't see with your eyes, don't witness with your mouth."

The Apostle Paul also gives sage counsel: "Finally, brothers, whatever is true . . . excellent, or praiseworthy—think about such things"—Philippians 4:8 (NIV).[®]

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



"Whoever gossips to you will gossip about you. . . . Gossip doesn't need to be false in order to be evil—there's a lot of truth that should never be shared."



Time Alone *with* God

Although it is specifically mentioned only rarely in the gospels, time alone with God was the regular habit of the life of Jesus. It was the foundational practice of His spiritual development that began in His formative years and never left Him throughout His adult life; Jesus never outgrew the habit of spending time alone with God. “The early morning often found Him in some secluded place, meditating, searching the Scriptures, or in prayer”— THE MINISTRY OF HEALING, p. 52.

“And it was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God”—Luke 6:12 (NASB).

The lifestyle of personal devotion was the source of the spiritual power that always accompanied the ministry of Jesus. Never was He ill-prepared to meet the needs of those who looked to Him for healing and salvation, nor was He ever caught off guard for a face-to-face with His enemies when they came after Him, be they demons or men. If we would be like our Lord in every way, we need to practice being like Him in this way. The same commitment to a life of personal devotion is called for in our lives, for it is only as we commune with God that we are able to receive His peace and power. There are three facets of Christ's time alone with God that made it what it was.

1. The Character of the Time

Invariably, when we read of the devotional habits of Jesus, we find Him in search of seclusion for His time alone with God—early morning or late night. From His days as a child, Jesus would get away at first light to pursue time in prayer and the study of the Scriptures in some secluded outdoor place. In other instances it was nighttime that was best suited to His devotion, at the close of the workday when the obligations of the day were completed. In the time of seclusion Jesus could more easily focus on God without the distractions and confusion of everyday activity and listen for the voice that was His constant guide. This we may do as well.

Mark out a specific time in your daily schedule when the distractions are minimal for your time

You must be intentional about this time [alone with God] and fight for it, or you will fall into the pattern of missed appointments covered up with excuses.

alone with God. You must be intentional about this time and fight for it, or you will fall into the pattern of missed appointments covered up with excuses. There are always other things to do that are in themselves worthwhile, but no matter what else we have to do, there is always time for prayer. Do not make the mistake of substituting the useful for the essential. In the Christian life we cannot reduce everything to means. If getting things accomplished were His top priority, God would not use us in His work at all. He has a host of

perfect beings at His disposal that can accomplish His work with far greater efficiency than we can. But the Lord wants to use us so that as we labor in partnership with Him, we may develop into the image of His Son. The work of God in us is the key to our success in the work of God in the world.

2. The Content of the Time

The manner in which Jesus spent His time alone with God is instructive for every disciple; Jesus filled His devotional time with prayer and the reading of Scripture. These two spiritual disciplines are still the most direct links from earth to heaven, from the human heart to the heart of God. Nothing substitutes for prayer and the study of God's Word.

We may think that our devotional time is served just as well with the study of other inspired or inspiring books. We may find other books easier to read or think that they are more interesting than the Bible. But nothing can substitute for the ennobling and transformative power of the voice of God speaking directly to our hearts from Scripture without human commentary. The unique influence of this Holy Book, which was created to meet the needs of the human soul, is of greater consequence now than at any other time in salvation history as the last generation of believers faces the end of all things. All of Christ's disciples should be regular students of the Bible.

“The subjects treated upon in the Word of God, the dignified simplicity of its utterance, the noble themes

which it presents to the mind, develop faculties in man which cannot otherwise be developed . . . the student will come from a contemplation of its grand themes . . . more pure and elevated in thought and feeling than if he had spent the time reading any work of mere human origin”—CHILD GUIDANCE, p. 507.

Likewise, prayer is an indispensable discipline of our time alone with God. “It is impossible to carry on your life as a disciple without definite times of secret prayer”—OSWALD CHAMBERS, MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST, September 16.

The emphasis of Jesus when He commended this habit to His followers was on the aspect of secrecy: “Go into your inner room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret . . .”—MATTHEW 6:6 (NASB).

The importance of secrecy has to do with our focus, keeping our eyes on God with no distractions and no other motivation—no one to impress or report to, not even your spouse. This is something that belongs to God and you alone.

3. The Attitude of the Time

More important than the details of location or the specific activities that characterize our time alone with God, is the attitude we take into the secret encounter in the first place. Here is the vital element the disciple often misses. When Jesus went into His time of personal devotion with the Father, the Spirit within Him matched the natural setting He sought out. Jesus with-

The manner in which Jesus spent His time alone with God is instructive for every disciple; Jesus filled His devotional time with prayer and the reading of Scripture.



drew to lofty mountains where He could look up and exercise sincere faith and absolute dependence on God. He retreated to quiet fields where the simple beauty of nature

Prayer is an indispensable discipline of our time alone with God.

mirrored the simplicity of His soul. He hid Himself in the great outdoors where there was nothing artificial to conflict with His own genuineness of devotion.

Perhaps your access to the settings of nature is not as easy as Jesus' was, but the natural beauty may still exist in your heart as you pursue God in your time alone with Him. Purge your spirit of anxiety and fear as you come to the moment of private devotion. Settle your disputes with your loved ones beforehand and seek the Lord without any baggage of guilt or trepidation. Carry nothing in your attitude except the desire to know God better, so that your life may become more and more pleasing to Him, and you will grow in peace and spirituality. It simply cannot fail. ①



John S. Nixon is the senior pastor of the 3,000-member Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists in Collegedale, Tennessee.



Teaching for Eternity

The Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education staff meets on a regular basis to review our department's programs and focus on our goals. Each time Jerrell, Millie, Frances and I meet, I remind them that God is really the director of education in the Atlantic Union Conference and we are His privileged servants commissioned to follow His directives.

As we prepare to start a new school year with our annual New Teacher In-service, I had the following conversation with God.

God: Astrid, you have planned a theme for this year's in-service, thought of all the topics that should be presented, contacted the presenters, arranged accommodations and meals for the attendees, bought nutritious snacks and included special gifts for each teacher; but have you thought of how you will convey to the teachers that, in Seventh-day Adventist schools, teachers are different from those in other schools?

Astrid: Well, Lord, I'm scheduled to have worship on Monday morning. I will share with the teachers the importance of developing a personal relationship with You. I will urge them to take time to begin each day pleading for Your guidance, wisdom, and insight. I will remind them that faculty worship at the beginning of each school day shouldn't just be routine; it should be a time for faculty and staff to recommit their lives to You and plead for Your wisdom, understanding, and love to tactfully interact with students, parents/guardians, pastors, faculty, and staff.

God: How about the skills and subject areas teachers will be presenting to the students? Will these lessons and skills

focus only on academic preparedness? How will students learn about My love when they sit at their classroom desks, play on the playground, eat their lunch, go on field trips, and intermingle? I would like them in all their ways to acknowledge me in order for me to direct their paths (Proverbs 3:6).

Astrid: Father, our February Atlantic Union Curriculum Committee spent three days brainstorming on how to make spiritual connections in each subject area. These were added to the North American Division Web site, sdaed-spiritualresources.org. Teachers will be encouraged to follow this practice and come up with new, creative approaches.

God: Will students be given an opportunity to share their knowledge of My saving grace and soon-coming with their friends and family?

Astrid: Oh yes, Lord, for the last two years we've encouraged students to participate in Student Tell the World. Bible teachers and classroom teachers train students to write sermons and conduct evangelistic meetings in their local church or school. In addition, the union has already written sermons for these meetings.

God: All that sounds good, Astrid, but it concerns me that many children who attend Sabbath School each week are not in church school. How about those with special needs?

Astrid: Father, this is a frequent topic of discussion among our education administrators. Our principals faithfully attend the marketing seminars sponsored by the NAD every other year and apply the strategies they glean from the meetings. Yet the greater percentage of our school



New teachers in the Atlantic Union met at the union office in August for the annual New Teacher In-service.

enrollment consists of students who are not Adventist. We are planning to have the first union-wide Pastors/Teachers Convention on August 2-5, 2009, to strategize on how pastors and teachers can be an evangelistic team in our churches and schools. As for special needs students—we have a cohort of teachers representing every conference being trained to lead Inclusive Classrooms. If this pilot works, we can go union wide.

God: That's wonderful, but I didn't hear you mention anything being done to evangelize the parents of students who are not Adventist who are attending Seventh-day Adventist schools! The Great Commission that I gave in Matthew 28:19-20 should be a source of encouragement to reach out and touch everyone with the gospel.

Astrid: No, not really, Lord—nothing is organized at the union level. Thank you for laying that on my heart. I will share it with your people and seek their input on how to reach parents and family members of students who are not Adventist who are attending our schools.☺



Astrid Thomassian is the Atlantic Union Conference education and children's ministries director.

Readers, I would appreciate your input. Feel free to e-mail: athomassian@atlanticunion.org.

Youth Talk

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

What impact has participating in community service work had on you personally?



“Philippians 2:5-8 urges us to have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had; He took on the nature of a servant and humbled Himself. I believe Christ’s example of serving others was the greatest gift to mankind. I decided to enter the field of nursing because it is all about service to others. Working in

the community, in a healthcare position, allows me to assist people in regaining their strength and health, but also allows me to share the goodness of God. Serving others, even in the smallest way, is contagious! You get such a good feeling that you want to help people over and over.”—**LeAnnette F. Tucker**, nursing

“For the past two years, I have voluntarily served as one of the directors of the Black Christian Union Choir at Atlantic Union College. This experience impacts me aesthetically because I have gained an appreciation for music. It impacts me socially because I have the opportunity to get acquainted with various students and personalities. Most importantly this experience impacts me spiritually. Being surrounded by a group of my peers who love the Lord strengthens my relationship with Him. I truly believe that because of my experience with this choir, I have developed into a more patient, confident, and capable Christian young woman ready to go on God’s errands.”—



Celes T. McGeachy, secondary education



“Although Bermuda is a rich island, while attending high school, I realized that a handful of homeless and needy people exist there. I remember how appreciative they were when my Bermuda Institute class provided hot meals for them. Usually, they would report to a building for meals, but we

went the extra mile to seek them out. Today, because of my community service experience, my family makes it a monthly priority to meet the needs of a family or individual. By joyfully giving, it teaches me to be selfless.”—**LaToya Tull**, elementary education



“Participating in community service has impacted my life in a positive way. It gives me great joy and fills my heart to help and fill other people’s needs. It makes me want to help out more and more and even give more and it makes me happy to know that I am witnessing to someone of God’s love and

unselfishness. It is good for the people of your community to know that there is someone they can count on who is willing to help unconditionally. My reward is in heaven.”—**Katiuska Guerrero Durrant**, elementary education

We Would Like to Hear from You!

If you are 30 years old or younger, here is a question we would like you to respond to. “What impresses you most about the worship service at your church?” Send your response to the GLEANER editor at gleaner@atlanticunion.org. Be sure to include your full name, age, church, the town and city where you reside, and a good quality photo.

Youth Group Raises Money for Fire Victims

When Ryan Robinson learned that one of his classmates lost most of his possessions in a house fire, he decided he had to do something. He shared his desire to help the family with his Sabbath School class and their teacher, Marlene Warren.

The Goater family was left homeless when a fire destroyed their home and most of their possessions on June 2. The family of five is headed by Ruby Goater and includes her three children, Jahru, Jakeem, and Crystal, and her ten-month-old grandson, Crysaje.

Remarkably, Jahru and his brother, Jakeem, went back to school as usual

the day after the fire and reportedly, seemed to have handled the tragedy well.

Excited about helping, the class decided to have a bake sale and car wash. On June 29 more than 15 young people and adults from the Midland Heights church came to help. Through this event, the class raised \$600 for the family.

Ryan's classmate, 12-year-old Jahru and his brother, Jakeem, were presented with a check on Sabbath, July 12, at the church. Since the fire, the Goater family has received an outpouring of support from members of the community and non-profit organizations.

*Pete Saunders, communication leader
Midland Heights church*



On June 29 more than 15 young people and adults from the Midland Heights church helped with the fundraising bake sale and car wash for the Goater family.



Ryan Robinson presents Jahru and his brother, Jakeem, with a check for \$600 to help the Goater family after they lost most of their possessions in a house fire.

Midland Heights Youth Group Helps Buy Back Bermuda

In February, the Midland Heights church youth raised more than \$300 for the Buy Back project. The class presented the check to David Saul, Buy Back Bermuda chairman and former United Bermuda Party (UBP) Premier, on Sabbath, July 12, at the Midland Heights church. Saul said the small group was supporting a very important initiative with young people, such as themselves, being the main beneficiaries.

Buy Back Bermuda is attempting to purchase two separate pieces of properties with the objective of preserving them for future generations. The esti-



A member of the Sabbath School class, Jahroy Richards, hands David Saul, Buy Back Bermuda chairman and former UBP Premier, a check for the buy Back Bermuda project.

mated cost of these two pieces of property is \$1.2M.

*Pete Saunders, communication leader
Midland Heights church*

What's Happening in Your Church?

Do you have news or other inspiring stories from your church that you would like to share with our readers?

Submit all articles and photos to your conference communication director.

For information on how and what to submit visit www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner.html and click on "Guidelines for Submitting Articles."

We would love to hear from you!

Sowing the Seeds of God's Love

While watching the cable station News12 Brooklyn, Priya Choo-Ying heard an announcement for a sewing class. She was excited about the prospect of learning to sew and, best of all, it was free.

On Sunday, March 30, Priya, along with 16 other non-Adventist women and two men from various far-flung Brooklyn neighborhoods, turned out for the first in a series of sewing classes held at the Brooklyn church. Attendees, representing the ethnic diversity of New York City, formed a human quilt of various races, kindred, and tongues, all coming together to learn the craft of sewing.

Brooklyn church Women's Ministries leader, Debra Patterson, who spearheaded the effort, was pleasantly surprised by the overwhelming response from the community. "I was planning to get to the church early to pray over the room. When I showed up an hour and a half early, I



Brooklyn church member and talented seamstress, Audrey Marshall, shares her gift of sewing with the Brooklyn community. Audrey said: "I hope they will come to see Jesus through us. They might want to go beyond sewing; you never know how the Lord will work."

couldn't believe it; there were already two people waiting, a mother and her daughter." Debra, who got the idea for these classes from reading Ellen G. White's *THE ADVENTIST HOME*, took this as confirmation that God was indeed at the helm of this burgeoning Brooklyn church ministry: "I was just in total praise to the Lord!"

Ellen G. White, one of the most prolific American authors and an early

Adventist pioneer, counsels in *THE ADVENTIST HOME* on the importance of young women from an early age learning to be good stewards in the home: "If need be, a young woman can dispense with a knowledge of French and algebra, or even the piano; but it is indispensable that she learn to . . . take charge of the domestic affairs of home, should be a cook, a housekeeper, a seamstress" (p. 89, 91).

This is an idea Priya and the other attendees have come to embrace. "Learning to sew, especially for a woman, is essential," she said. With a baby girl due in a few months, Priya wanted to sew for her daughter the same way her mother sewed clothes for her when Priya was a little girl.

The classes, held every other Sunday, are an opportunity for church members to pattern Christ's earthly ministry and sow the seeds of God's love in the community.

Pastor Artemas Julien acknowledged this when he said: "The church is supposed to be a lighthouse and God has called us all to use our God-given talents and be a ray of hope in the sin-darkened world. The Bible tells us to let our light shine before men so they may see our good works and glorify our Father in Heaven (see Matthew 5:16).

*Debbie Michel, communication director
Brooklyn church*

Three Victorians Receive National High School Honor

Stephanie George, Este Marks, and Joanna Smith were among this year's inductees into the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS).

Stephanie George, a junior, attends the Collegiate Institute for Math and Science. Stephanie is planning to become a psychiatrist.

Este Marks, also a junior, attends Greater New York Academy. Este is an aspiring obstetrician.

Joanna Smith has her eyes on a career in civil engineering. She

graduated high school this year from the Harvey School. Her next stop is Morgan State University.

The National Society of High School Scholars . . . encourages members . . . to apply their unique talents, vision, and potential for the betterment of themselves and the world.

Formed in 2002, the National Society of High School Scholars recognizes academic excellence at the high school level and encourages members of the organization

to apply their unique talents, vision, and potential for the betterment of themselves and the world.

Membership in NSHSS entitles qualified students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, and member-only resources.

The Victory church is very proud of its three high school scholars. The church leadership noted that they are all very active in their church.

*Communication Department
Victory church*

Learning to Manage Our 24 Hours

Have you ever felt like you were the only person in the world who had less than 24 hours in your day, just because you had so much to do? Well, you are not alone. "Time Management" was the topic presented on Sabbath, July 26, to the Girl2Girl group at the Yonkers Seventh-day Adventist

Church. The fun and youthful spirit of our guest speaker, Geodaly Zabolotney, made it easy for us to listen and take her advice. We learned that everyone has 24 hours, and how you manage it is up to you. We talked about the things that take up our time

that we can't do anything about such as sleep, school, and work. We have to sleep; without it we wouldn't be able to do anything and would become very sick. School or work, depending on how old we are or what we are doing in life, is mandatory to make our lives much happier.

The most important thing we learned is that we must spend time with God. He is our provider and Father.

without company. We also learned that we must organize ourselves in the area where we spend the most time, such as our bedrooms. It seems that most youth do everything there, including eating, homework, and more.

Therefore, that place must be in order. So when we get ready to study, our desks are not filled with dirty laundry because the laundry should be where it belongs.

We also learned that there is a time for friends, family, fun, and other things we like to do. We have to make sure our time is spent fairly and balanced. We can spend time with friends, but should not let them dictate our life. More importantly, we have to spend time with our families; they will always be there for us no

matter the situation.

Moreover, the most important thing we learned is that we must spend time with God. He is our provider and Father. If it weren't for Him, where would we be? Family worship, reading the Bible, praying, and personal devotions are all examples of spending time. Whenever we can, we must praise Him for all He has done.

This was a wonderful session and I enjoyed it. As a teen, it feels as though I never have enough time. Now that I have learned to better manage my time, I think I will be able to do more with it. I hope the same is true for you.

*Lindsey Diego, 13 years old
Girl2Girl member
Yonkers church*



Cynthia Gonzalez

Geodaly Zabolotney, left, receiving a thank-you gift from the Girl2Girl group, presented by Lindsey Diego, right.

The multi-church event of the year is **BACK!**

taste of life

Sunday, September 7th
Central Park, New York City
Great Hill (106th St & Central Park West)
12 pm - 5 pm

- Live Concert!
- Free Food!
- Interactive Booths!
- Games & Activities!
- Bring your friends!

sponsored by GNYC Youth, NEC Youth, & AUC Youth Depts
for more info, contact info@tasteoflife.org

Singer Christine Sinclair

Featured on
Hope Channel's New Show
My Story, My Song

October 10, 2008



Tune in on Friday night, October 10 at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (6:00 p.m. Pacific) for *My Story, My Song* featuring singer, Christine Sinclair. Those chosen for the show are Adventist church members who display not only talent, but commitment to the music ministry.

For those without satellite dishes, log on to www.hopetv.org. The show will be aired throughout the week of October 10 to 16. Visit www.mystorymysong.tv for a complete schedule. To learn more about the music ministry of Christine Sinclair, visit www.sinclairmusic.com.

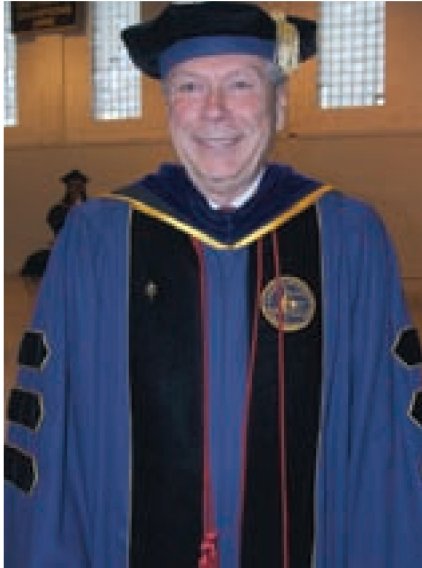
Davis Honored and Named Distinguished Lecturer

Theology/religion chair Dean Davis was honored for his 30 years of service to Atlantic Union College at the College Church on May 31. College president Norman Wendth and fellow religion professor Rick Trott presented Davis with a plaque. (See text at right.)

“Dr. Davis has served 30 years in the department and 29 of those years as chair, a new AUC record, I believe, for continuous chair appointment,” says Trott. “AUC board of trustees first appointed Dean as professor emeritus, and then President Wendth named him distinguished lecturer—the highest rank possible for AUC professors.

“The religion department also gave Dean an ornamental Japanese Red Leaf Maple tree for his home garden and took him and Vera, his wife, out for a celebration dinner.


“While Dean is retired, he will continue to teach a reduced classroom load in the religion department as a special adjunct professor, and maintain some of his favorite biblical lan-



Dean Davis was honored for 30 years of service.

guages and biblical studies courses,” explained Trott.

Trott has now been named department chair. He has served the college for 31 years, first as chaplain and religion professor for 21 years, and then as a full-time professor for the past 10 years.



OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP AWARD
Presented to
R. Dean Davis, Ph.D.

In Grateful & Deep Appreciation for 29 Years
as Chair of the Department of Religion and Theology
and for
30 Years of Loyal & Dedicated Service
at
Atlantic Union College,
1978 – 2008.

For Your Visionary & Christ-like Chairmanship,
Scholarship & Commitment to Excellence,
For Your Outstanding Instructional Style in Preparing Future
Pastors, Evangelists, Bible Teachers, Chaplains, and Bible Workers,
as well as
For Teaching the Truths of the Gospel to General Students,
For Your Generous Support & Inspiration
to AUC & the Religion Department's Endeavors,
and for
Your Donations of Time & Financial Support.

Presented May 31, 2008.

Cindy Kurtzhals

What A Student Says About Dr. Davis

Hanif Maragh is a junior at Atlantic Union College. He is from Roosevelt, New York, and is a member of the Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church.

“When I first came to AUC, I desired to learn more about Scripture and more about God. I’d heard a lot of stories about Dr. Davis and how he’s a super scholar, so I looked forward to meeting him.

“The first class I sat through with him was The Gospels. While in that class, I finally got to understand what righteousness by faith meant.

“Dr. Davis has been given a talent to take the Bible and bring very deep things out of it, yet at the same time show the simplicity of the gospel. I felt like that was amazing.

“Dr. Davis is always there to talk

to the students. As the semester progressed, I began to doubt my calling to become a minister. I decided to talk to him about it, and he told me that while he was in school, he had the same struggle. So, he was there for me as a teacher and also as a mentor.



AUC junior Hanif Maragh preaching in Ghana, Africa, in June on a ShareHim mission project.

“He’s very humble-hearted and though he has a vast amount of biblical knowledge, he still is able to communicate with his students and bring them closer to Christ.

“I enjoy sitting through his classes. Even when I am not registered for a class, I just want to sit there

and listen to him. And, it’s always a pleasure to stop by his office and to exchange words with him. He is definitely my favorite teacher.”

Cindy Kurtzhals, public relations director

Join us!—AUC’s Mission 2000 Winter Get-a-way

Atlantic Union College’s Mission 2000 building program will travel to the island of Barbados. AUC students, church members, and friends are invited to help build a kitchen and restrooms for a new auditorium being developed by the East Caribbean Conference.

The auditorium is at a camp in St. Philip Parrish and will provide a location for youth meetings, camp meetings, and more. AUC students and volunteers will also help paint the Caves Nursing Home in Britten Hills, St. Michael Parish, adjacent to the conference office.

Two and three-week trips are scheduled: January 1-19 or January 1-23. Cost: \$1200/per person for two weeks, \$1300/per person for three weeks.

Retired AUC employees, Henry and Dorothy Livergood, have hosted mission trips for 18 years. They invite those from the Atlantic Union and beyond to join the project. Call: (978) 368-8304 or dhLivergood@juno.com.

If you want to make a difference in a student’s life by helping him or her participate, please send your check to Atlantic Union College, Office for Advancement, Attn: AUC Mission 2000, P.O. Box 1000, South Lancaster, MA 01561.

Atlantic Union College Forges Nursing Partnership with Massachusetts Bay Community College

Atlantic Union College signed an articulation agreement on July 21, 2008, with Massachusetts Bay Community College (MassBay), offering scores of MassBay nursing students the opportunity to complete their Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Atlantic Union College.

“Strong partnerships, I believe, are the future of higher education,” says Atlantic Union College president, Norman Wendth. “This is certainly so at Atlantic Union College.”

MassBay Community College’s enrollment is more than 5,000 students at three sites: Wellesley Hills, Framingham, and Ashland, Massachusetts, all Boston suburbs.

Trend of New Partnerships

This is the second recent partnership Atlantic Union College (AUC) has executed. Last October, college officials signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Assumption College, allowing eligible AUC undergraduates to enroll in graduate-level courses in Assumption College’s B.S./M.B.A. program.

Assumption College is based in Worcester, Massachusetts, 20 miles southwest of South Lancaster. Its enrollment includes nearly 3,000 undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education students.

MassBay Community College

MassBay Community

College “desires to develop articulation agreements with four-year colleges and universities to serve its constituents and to facilitate transfer opportunities for its graduates who want to pursue a four-year degree in order to enter, or advance in, the employment market at a higher level,” according to the agreement.

Given the potential of the labor market and the proximity of MassBay and Atlantic Union College, both entities see the nursing partnership as a good fit. In the language of the agreement, “Both institutions are regionally accredited with long histories in higher education. This agreement will make opportunities for continuation and/or

advancement in nursing accessible to a wider student population in the surrounding communities.”

The agreement continues, “This agreement will provide graduates with an Associate of Science in Nursing from MassBay Community College with an opportunity to complete the Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Atlantic Union College within the equivalent of two years of full-time study or up to five years as a part-time student in a program that blends professional studies with the liberal arts.”

*Cindy Kurtzhals
public relations director
Atlantic Union College
South Lancaster, Massachusetts
—one hour from Boston*



Atlantic Union College president Norman Wendth and MassBay Community College president Carole Berotte Joseph sign the articulation agreement between the colleges. This agreement will benefit nursing students in the region at both colleges.



Both college's presidents flank Lenora Follet, left, chair of Atlantic Union College's Department of Nursing and Jo Ann Mackey, right, dean of Health Sciences at MassBay.

Photos: Mary Garrison

Pathfinders Experience Life as Refugees

For just one night and a half day New York Conference Pathfinders experienced a glimpse of what life would be like in a refugee camp during their annual Pathfinder Camporee held May 9-11 at Union Springs Academy.

The Pathfinders and leaders were placed in designated refugee camps. They were given boxes of all sizes to make shelters for sleeping. Items they could bring with them to this make-shift shelter included their sleeping bags, air mattresses, and blankets. Many noted that on a very chilly night the boxes actually kept them warm! The conference youth director, Dan Whitlow, and his wife, Lisa, created what they called "their cardboard condo."

In place of the usual pancakes, scrambled eggs, cereal, toast, and sweet rolls, the Pathfinders enjoyed a refugee meal, one prepackaged refugee biscuit with all the nourishment one needed for the day and water! I even commented that the biscuits actually tasted pretty good. The meal was also served for Sabbath lunch instead of the traditional "haystacks."

Various activities were planned throughout the Sabbath hours. Many of the activities were chores that one would do in a refugee camp, such as carrying water from the source to the camp or

dealing with first-aid matters. The water could either be carried on top of our head or attached to a pole with water buckets on each side of the pole.

Two of the Pathfinders were actually carrying the water on the top of their heads as though they had been doing it all of their life. As a matter of fact, these two Pathfinders had recently moved to Rochester, New York, from a refugee camp in Tanzania. On questioning them, it was discovered that they were Pathfinders in the refugee camp! I am sure these Pathfinders must have thought that sleeping in boxes was nothing like the conditions they had to endure in Tanzania.

Nadea McGill, a special guest from Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), shared some of the work ADRA is doing and suggested ways the Pathfinders could support this very important ministry.

Ron Whitehead from the Courage to Stand (CTS) Pathfinder Camporee had a message Sabbath for worship and promoted the CTS '09 Pathfinder camporee. Dan Whitlow, New York Conference youth director, and I presented various devotionals.

At the end of the Pathfinder camporee the Pathfinders returned to their comfortable homes, beds, and delicious home cooking more thankful for the way the Lord had blessed their lives.

*Bill Wood
Pathfinder director
Atlantic Union Conference*



Top: In place of the usual pancakes, scrambled eggs, cereal, toast, and sweet rolls, the Pathfinders enjoyed a refugee meal, one prepackaged biscuit with all the nourishment one needed for the day and water!

Center and bottom right: The Pathfinders and leaders camped in a designated refugee camp and were given boxes of all sizes to make a shelter for sleeping.

Bottom left: Various activities were planned throughout the Sabbath hours. Many of the activities were chores that one would do in a refugee camp, such as carrying water from the source to the camp or dealing with first-aid matters.

Good Times with God at the City Carnival

People said to us, "Don't go!" They were referring to the upcoming community carnival that was to take place at Hyde Park, almost directly across from our church in Niagara Falls, New York. "There is too much crime there and nothing good!" However, both the senator and mayor had determined that this year things would be much better.

As my husband and I pondered the possibility of reaching out at this event, we felt the overwhelming need to go and be a light for Jesus while interacting with the community in the immediate vicinity of the church. Having only four days to prepare, we embraced the opportunity to be servants and witnesses. The event lasted from Thursday through Monday, during the Memorial Day

weekend. We prayerfully made preparations for the event that included passing out literature for adults and kids, balloons for kids that said "Jesus' Light Shines in Me," and flyers for upcoming events.

As soon as we arrived to set up, it was very apparent that things could be what you might call "a little challenging." Police covered the area, preparing for possible gang fights, drug sales, and more. God continued to move us and we began our outreach there. God brought so many wonderful people to us who enjoyed talking with us and took reading materials. People praised the fact that we would come there and reflect Jesus.

During the weekend we gave out more than 500 balloons to kids. It was such a great sight to look around

and see Jesus' name being spread throughout the carnival. We had been warned to leave before dusk, as things could get very bad, but each night there were so many people coming to us that we trusted God and stayed, assured

of His protection and blessings. This year the carnival was favorably received by the community and the crime and problems were dramatically decreased. God's Spirit was there, working through us and touching people's hearts.

As a part of this outreach we surveyed 74 people at the event. Of those surveyed, 13 requested marriage seminars, 30, parenting classes, 12, anger management, 22, stress reduction, 12, cooking schools, 12, smoking cessa-



Jim Webber and Sabrina Chavers, right, pose at their booth with a community member during the community carnival near the Niagara Falls church.

tion, 30, weight management, 21, small group Bible studies, four, in-home studies, 11, Bible correspondence courses, and 28, kid's programs and Bible studies. Praise God!

We do not need to fear going out to work for Jesus. He promises that He will bless us and open the way for us. Please pray for us as we continue to form friendships for Christ with these and others in Niagara Falls.

Christina Webber
Niagara Falls church plant

Unto Everything There Is a Season
October 17 - 19, 2008



Collette Pekar is the associate pastor of the Brunswick Seventh-day Adventist Church and chaplain at Parkview Adventist Medical Center in Brunswick, Maine. She also works with older women who are experiencing life-changing medical challenges.



The New York Conference

invites you to the

Women's Ministries

Fall Retreat

Watson Homestead Retreat Center

Painted Post, NY

Registration fees range from \$155 - \$210 depending upon room selection. Check, money order, and credit card accepted. Please contact Lynee Hamm for registration forms and further details (315) 391-6263.

Praying with Power
with Shelley and J.D. Quinn from 3ABN



October 24-26, 2008

White Eagle Conference Center

Hamilton, New York

(40 miles southeast of Syracuse)

Rates: Single Occupancy \$250 (\$265 after October 1)
Double Occupancy \$150 (\$165 after October 1)
Sabbath Only \$60 (\$75 after October 1)

To reserve your space with a credit card by phone, call (315) 469-6921 or send payment to: New York Conference: 4930 W Seneca Turnpike; Syracuse, NY 13215. Please include your name, address, phone, e-mail, single or double occupancy (include both names), or Sabbath-only.

KIDSVIEW Doubles in Size

By the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year (August), KIDSVIEW, ADVENTIST REVIEW's magazine



for children, will expand from four to eight pages, doubling in size. Ideal for children ages 8-12, or those in elementary school grades 3-6, KIDSVIEW provides aspects of Christian living for kids and by kids around the United States.

The Ellen G. White Estate, Adventist Mission, and the North American Division's Department of Education (NAD) will provide content for kids, with the latter organization submitting student writing samples from around the division. Additionally, the NAD will furnish school-age children attending conference-sponsored Seventh-day Adventist schools with individual copies of KIDSVIEW.

Since there won't be enough space to feature all contributions, KIDSVIEW will feature some of the writing on a companion Web site, which will showcase some of the same material that is published in the print magazine. Kids can also print games or coloring pages by checking out kidsviewmagazine.org when the site launches in the fall.

KIDSVIEW took root when a mother approached former REVIEW editor, Bill Johnsson, urging the REVIEW to develop a periodical specifically for children. Current REVIEW staff members Kimberly Luste Maran and Merle Poirer, along with former assistant editor, Bonita Joyner Shields, developed a magazine for children that began publication in 2002. Since then, one issue appears monthly in the ADVENTIST REVIEW.

Each issue varies in content but contains stories, activities, and devotionals that appeal to kids. A colorful calendar, designed by Merle Poirer, features the upcoming month, with historical bits, national holidays, or even funny suggestions, like "Waffle Wednesday," to engage children in day-to-day happenings. Crafts, games, or puzzles are interspersed throughout various issues, providing color and variety.

Though kids read and enjoy KIDSVIEW, they also take an active role in developing material. Editors regularly poll children to find out what content they would like featured. Furthermore, child reporters produce material on interesting events at church, in school, or in their communities. Sometimes kids have created profiles on adults, developing interview questions and sharing their findings. Managing editor Wilona Karimabadi declared, "We find kids wherever we can and put them to work." This enables kids to help produce content for KIDSVIEW.

Subscribers to ADVENTIST REVIEW automatically receive KIDSVIEW free. For people interested solely in KIDSVIEW, however, the ADVENTIST REVIEW Web site (adventistreview.org) provides a simple means of subscription, with an option specifically for KIDSVIEW. Twelve issues cost \$10.95, and subscribers to the print version automatically receive access to the online PDF version.

For more information on KIDSVIEW, please contact Wilona Karimabadi at (301) 680-6633 or e-mail kidsview@adventistreview.org.

Bonnie McLean is an intern for KIDSVIEW magazine at the ADVENTIST REVIEW.

Society of Adventist Communicators Convention — October 9-12

Ednor Davison is a magazine editor who also directs communication, conducts workshops, consults on crisis management issues, and somehow personally manages to keep her organization's Web site updated. Andy Nash is a college professor who also edits a magazine and writes children's books. Clayton Kinney is a freelance graphic designer who pretty much works round the clock, yet has capably added Web design to his portfolio to meet client need.

What's your story? No doubt it's similar. In my 20 years of ministry, I haven't met one communicator who is bored at work. It seems all of us are inundated with "to-do" lists, e-mail inbox, and ever-expanding job descriptions. On top of that we're trying to keep up with technology and stay at the forefront of the information age.

As busy as I am, one of the highlights of my year is the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) Convention.

First, networking, sharing meals, worshipping together, and rubbing shoulders with people who do what I do every day (and often do it better) inspires me to grow personally, spiritually, and professionally.

Second, the opportunity to learn about new resources, technology, innovative projects, and practical suggestions for challenges I'm facing helps me do a better job.

Third, the chance to participate in workshops, tours, and general sessions with great speakers and leaders I admire educates me and gives me ideas that I often take home and implement.

Finally, the thought of missing out on the opportunity to catch up with colleagues like you, share ideas, and compare notes scares me.

That's just a few of the reasons I want to personally invite you to our 2008 convention on October 9-12 in Denver, Colorado, themed "The Communicator's Edge: Taking it to the Peak." (See ad on page 26.) If you're like me, and you want to be an effective communicator, you owe it to yourself to spend three days with us in Denver where, together, we'll take it to the peak!

Your SAC board has worked hard to plan this year's learning experience; we've even added a technology expo and a general session to showcase the inspiring work of our members.

The PRACTICING COMMUNICATING newsletter on the Society of Adventist Communicators Web site gives you an overview of the program (<http://www.adventistcommunicator.org/article.php?id=63>). Many of our offerings are first-come, first-served, so don't delay in registering or booking your hotel room.

Celeste Ryan Blyden is the Society of Adventist Communicators president

Article reprinted with permission, PRACTICING COMMUNICATING newsletter, July 2008

Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

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).

Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to proclaim to all peoples the everlasting gospel of God's love in the context of the three angels' messages of Revelation 14:6-12, and as revealed in the life, death, resurrection, and high priestly ministry of Jesus Christ, leading them to accept Jesus as personal Saviour and Lord and to unite with His remnant church; and to nurture believers as disciples in preparation for His soon return.

OUR METHOD

We pursue this mission under the guidance of the Holy Spirit through:

1. Preaching. Accepting Christ's commission (Matthew 28:18-20), we proclaim to all the world the message of a loving God, most fully revealed in His Son's reconciling ministry and atoning death. Recognizing the Bible to be God's infallible revelation of His will, we present its full message, including the second advent of Christ and the continuing authority of His Ten Commandment law with its reminder of the seventh-day Sabbath.

2. Teaching. Acknowledging that development of mind and character is essential to God's redemptive plan, we promote the growth of a mature understanding of and relationship to God, His Word, and the created universe.

3. Healing. Affirming the biblical emphasis on the well-being of the whole person, we make the preservation of health and the healing of the sick a priority and through our ministry to the poor and oppressed, cooperate with the Creator in His compassionate work of restoration.

OUR VISION

In harmony with the great prophecies of the Scriptures, we see as the climax of God's plan the restoration of all His creation to full harmony with His perfect will and righteousness.®

This statement was approved and voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee at the Spring Meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland, April 1993, and amended on October 10, 2004.

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

Bridgeport Tabernacle Braves March Toward the Future

The Bridgeport Tabernacle Braves Adventurer Club began about five years ago with only a few families. At that time, Cotrinia Wholley-Simmonds decided to take on this children's ministry to increase the visibility of the children and enable them to learn and love the Lord.

On Sabbath, April 7, children, parents, grandparents, and friends joined the Bridgeport Braves for their biggest induction service in club history. The club membership has grown to five little lambs, five eager beavers, and 23 Adventurers, along with six new dedicated counselors, three parent helpers, and one assistant director. What's great about this accomplishment is that

many new members are not Adventists. They are friends, classmates, and community members.

Five years in the making, molding and planning has finally paid off with spiritual success and witnessing. Walking the streets, participating in community events, collecting groceries for the Connecticut Food Bank, and planning car washes throughout the years has increased the visibility of the Bridgeport Braves.

What makes this story even more inspirational is that Wholley-Simmonds operates the club with no church funds and she is the primary caretaker for her 14-year-old disabled daughter. During this process, no task has ever been left undone. She states God is the inspiration for all her



good works and she loves the children.

This year has been very rewarding, with our primary focus on outreach ministry to the community. Our aim is: "If we can touch

one person with a word or song, then our living shall not be in vain."

*Jennifer Reid
communication director
Bridgeport Tabernacle church*

Ministries Combine to Share Health Message

The Women's Ministries, Family Ministries, and Health Ministries departments of the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church in Nyack, New York, combined efforts to present a special health Sabbath on May 3. They invited Marcia A. Harris, a board certified obstetrician, as their key note speaker.

Harris began her sermon by saying, "Every earthly journey began in the belly." Her message focused on the book of Jonah. The Scripture she referenced had an impact on many and turned a brisk spring day into warm thoughts of God's Words.

Vegan Delights Caterers, operated by church members Sandra Oates, Angela Barrett, and Angela Lewis, provided the lunch.

Harris then conducted an informative workshop on health, nutrition, and exercise. She shared information on the desired waistline: 35" for



Myra Bryce Richardson (Health Ministries), Marcia A. Harris, M.D., Elizabeth Hendricks (Family Ministries), Marcia Lewis (Women's Ministries), and Pastor Ucall G. Harris worked together to share a health Sabbath.

women and 40" for men—no more, no less.

*Frances E. Pratt, communication secretary
Berea church, Nyack*

Queens, New York, Community Honors Muriel C. Wheeler

It was a gloomy afternoon on Sunday, July 27, as raindrops pounded incessantly in the Queens area, but on the inside of Crowne Plaza Hotel near LaGuardia Airport in New York City, an exciting celebratory banquet was taking place in honor of a well-loved East Elmhurst resident, Muriel C. Wheeler.

Sponsored by the Corona Seventh-day Adventist Church, the banquet celebrated the life and music of Muriel Wheeler, a long-time member of the church and formerly an active resident of the local Queens community. Many banquet attendees gave warm tributes to the woman affectionately



Muriel Wheeler was honored on July 27 by the Corona church members for leaving an indelible mark on her community and church.

known as Sister Wheeler, including such special guests as Andrew Jackson, from the Langston Hughes Community Library; cho-

risters from Corona church's Alpha Choir; and seniors from Corona church's Golden Agers.

Wheeler is a native of Manhattan, New York. She attended Wadleigh High School and graduated by the age of 16. From there, she secured a scholarship to pursue higher education at Hunter College. At age 21, Wheeler successfully completed college with a B.A. in accounting and music.

A long-time resident of East Elmhurst, Wheeler has continued a legacy of etching an indelible

and worked alongside Helen Marshal to lead the Block Association.

Wheeler is one of the founding members of the Corona Seventh-day Adventist Church, where she served in the Music and Family Ministries departments for many years. A music aficionado, Wheeler helped to launch the Alpha Choral, a choir for adults, and the youth choir at Corona church. She even coordinated yearly piano recitals for her music students at the First Baptist Church in East Elmhurst, Queens. Wheeler is credited with starting the annual

mark in her community and church. On the community level, Wheeler has dedicated her service as an accountant to the Langston Hughes

Community Library in Corona, Queens; the Jerome Hardeman Day Care Center, and St. Marks A.M.E. Church. She also helped to launch the Civic Association of East Elmhurst,

Wheeler has continued a legacy of etching an indelible mark in her community and church.

“Messiah” concert for the East-Elmhurst community at First Baptist Church.

Wheeler still resides in East

Elmhurst, Queens, with her loving husband, Raleigh Wheeler. They have three children and one grandchild.

Noreen Malcolm
communication leader
Corona church

Revelation Worldwide®

Presents

The Purity Ball

Music By:

Jeremy James
Recording Artist

Lovener
Singing Artist

Timothy Anderson
Recording Artist

Poetry by:
Cliché

Master of Ceremony

Pastor Jaime Kowlessar
Ephesus SDA Church

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Carlton Byrd
Pastor,
Atlanta-Berean
Adventist Church

Linden Seventh-day Adventist Church
228-20 137th Avenue
Laurelton, NY 11413
Register free at
www.revelationworldwide.org



Worth the Wait

A purity ball is an event where youth assemble themselves and pledge before God abstinence until marriage. It is an event to celebrate God's plan for marriage.

Join us in a banquet with live band music, dinner, photos, and pledges.

Formal Attire

October 5, 2008

4:00 pm

For more information contact us at (607) 331-1952 or pastorwesley2@revelationworldwide.org



Muriel Wheeler, right, poses with members of the Corona church board in 1987.

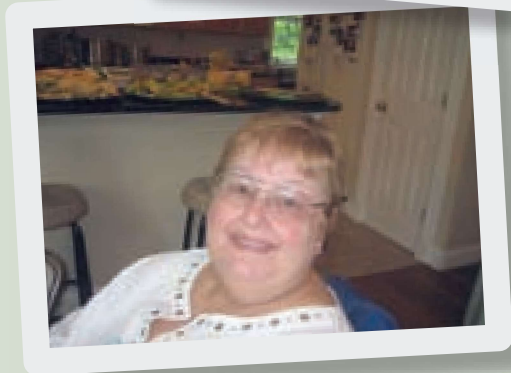
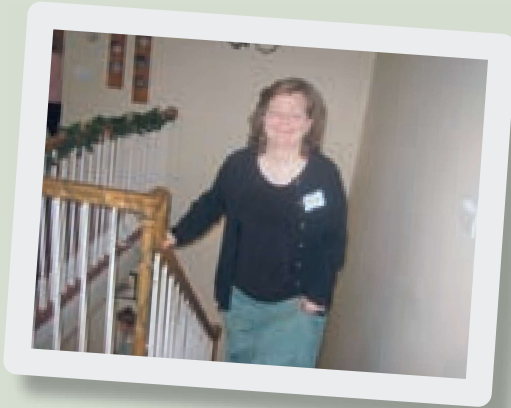
Pastor's Wives Treated to Brunch

On the first Sunday morning of the Northern New England Conference camp meeting, the wives of our pastors traditionally meet and greet during a deliciously prepared brunch in their honor at our home.

This year gourmet chefs David DePalma and Jeff Chase prepared home-made delicacies that were festively served buffet style. In addition to the gifts received, a spirit of cohesiveness, grace, and friendship set the tone for a wonderful connection.

We look forward to this annual event, one of four opportunities the wives have of being together at a conference event throughout the year.

*Lynn Ortel, communication director
Northern New England Conference*



Seniors Honored at Camp Meeting Banquet

Senior Banquet 2008 was attended by approximately 160 Northern New England Conference (NNEC) campers who met in the cafeteria on Wednesday evening, July 2, to enjoy a delicious meal prepared by this year's camp meeting chef, Lorraine Mathers, and her team, and served by both the Camp Lawroweld and NNEC staff.

There was great food, fun, fellowship, and entertainment. The seniors were kept busy throughout the evening. Mike Ortel, NNEC president, led them in a corporate farewell to Bob Sundin, our conference treasurer, and his wife,

Kathy, who accepted a position in the Pacific Northwest.

They joined in a game of "Who's Who" and Merlin Knowles, NNEC executive secretary, tried to determine such things as the

age range of those present (60 years young to age 97), who was the oldest, who has been married the longest, and more.



This year's Independence Day theme provided the opportunity for not only a colorful red, white, and blue backdrop of tableware and decorations, but also the singing of a series of patriotic songs led by Cheryl and Merlin Knowles, Family Ministries co-directors, and ending with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner."

At the conclusion of the event, many were heard expressing their continued gratitude for the free meal offered annually to all eligible NNEC camp meeting campers.

Rita Smith, administrative assistant
Northern New England Conference

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE

presents

*Trust in the Lord
with all thine heart,
and lean not unto
thine own under-
standing. In all thy
ways acknowledge
Him and He shall
direct thy paths.
Proverbs 3:5,6 KJV*

MUSIC CLINIC
2009

APRIL 2 - 4, 2009

Trust
AND OBEY

Hosted by

PINE TREE ACADEMY, FREEPORT, MAINE

APPLICATIONS DUE DECEMBER 1, 2008 FOR
EARLY REGISTRATION ♦ \$10 SAVINGS

FINAL PIANO APPLICATION DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 1, 2009

FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR
ALL OTHERS MARCH 1, 2009

FOR APPLICATIONS OR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE
CONTACT THE NNEC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT
207-797-3760, EXT. 13 OR VISIT US AT WWW.NNEC.ORG

Take a break from the busy noise of everyday life.

Set aside the "to do" list and your agenda and let the words of God sink in:
"Be Still and Know that I AM God." (Ps. 46:10)

Northern New England Conference Prayer Ministries

Annual Fall Prayer Retreat
Join us October 17-19, 2008
at beautiful Camp Lawroweld

We will explore the depth of
Psalm 46:10

"Be Still and Know that I AM God."

If you would like to go deeper in your personal relationship with Jesus, learn to listen to His voice, and become an effective Holy Spirit filled Christian, this retreat is for you. There will be breakout sessions, testimonies, singing, praying, and enjoying God's presence. This will truly be a one of a kind Prayer Retreat Experience!

Don't miss this Powerful Prayer Retreat Experience.

Register early before September 17 and pay \$50.00. Regular cost is \$65. Cost includes seminar materials, accommodations, meals, and a free gift!

For more info, including a registration form, go to: www.lawroweld.org.
Click on year-round events or e-mail Kelly at kellyv07@yahoo.com

New England ABC . . . Offering A Better Choice

For more than 100 years Adventist books have been sold in New England. Before the Southern New England Conference was even started, the Tract and Missionary Society was sharing the gospel. Today, the New England Adventist Book Center (ABC) services all the New England states.

Located at 34 Sawyer Street in South Lancaster, the Southern New England ABC has branches in Stoneham, Massachusetts, and manages the Northern New England ABC in Freeport, Maine.

Originally the Northern New England ABC was owned by the Northern New England Conference and was located in the basement of the conference office in Portland, Maine. Needing some assistance with the store, the Southern New England Conference purchased the Northern New England ABC in the 1980s. It is now located in Freeport, Maine, near Pine Tree Academy.



Gary Whittenburg has been the New England Adventist Book Center manager since 1998.

When camp meeting time comes, store personnel make sure all the stores are staffed. “It couldn’t be done without such great staff help,” says Gary Whittenburg, ABC manager.

In addition to camp meetings, the ABC has a delivery service every spring and fall that allows patrons to place their order with the ABC and have it delivered to a nearby church or school. It’s a busy six weeks each season as they visit about 30 sites, but it’s part of the customer service that has made the New England ABC so successful.

Last year, the New England ABC topped \$4 million in sales for the first time. “Some people find that hard to believe with such a little store,” says Whittenburg. “But the ABC has been in the top five in sales in the North American Division; top three for several years. We’ll have to wait and see where we stand for this year.”

“The staff works hard,” Whittenburg adds. “Between the camp meetings, delivery service, women’s retreats, SEEDS conferences, we’re going constantly. Basically,



The New England Adventist Book Center staff. Front row, left to right: Beth Currie, Haley Cutler, Mike Garrity, and Ann Simons. Second row, left to right: Terry Montoya, Cresidel Pelley, Mary Jo Daum, and Matt Bruso, assistant manager. Third row, left to right: Karen Perrone, Judy Gilleo, associate manager; Phillip Hodson, and Chris Daum. Top row: Eric Morris.

if there is an event and we’re invited, we’re there!”

That doesn’t even cover the active whole food distributorship they have had since the late 1990s, New York being their largest customer base, and the Web site: www.adventist-bookcenter.com. Any order placed online that is delivered to a New England address is probably pro-

Last year, the New England ABC topped \$4 million in sales for the first time.

cessed by the New England ABC.

Whittenburg is quick to add, that “any success we have with the ABC is due to the staff and to God. God has done tremendous things here. He has managed the store well.”

*Tamara Michalenko Terry
assistant communication director
Southern New England Conference*

<http://www.adventistheritage.org/article.php?id=53>

Southern New England
School Feature



South Lancaster Academy has been providing Seventh-day Adventist Christian education to the central Massachusetts area for more than 125 years. In the tradition of Adventist education, SLA offers solid spiritual and academic programs that prepare students for a future of service to the church and community.

Academically, the average academy student scores well above the national average, with standardized testing demonstrating the strength of the academic program at SLA. Service to the community, being a major component of Christian outreach, is another area where academy students demonstrate active, practical application of Christian principles while also providing good examples and outreach. Each student completes 20 hours of "giving back to the community each year."

We encourage any academy-age young person who has an interest in a Christ-centered education to contact our office at (978) 368-8544.

www.sneconline.org
Click on "Schools."

Edgewood Elementary 8th Graders Find Their "Life Song"

Sunday afternoons in early June are family times for many, and for nine Edgewood eighth graders, this was especially true on June 1. For more than three hours, they celebrated their academic accomplishments with their families and friends, first through their graduation service at the Stoneham Memorial church and then with a dinner reception at the school. It was an afternoon filled with joy and pride and a very clear sense of God's blessings as each graduate shared some spiritual advice with the audience.

Rodney Durand, a graduate's father, gave the commencement address, challenging the young people to keep their

focus on Jesus as they look for their life's purpose. The class sang "Life Song" in response. David Rittenhouse and Paul Gilbert shared their musical talents on the cello and piano. Youngjae Sung gave the president's address. The class donated money toward a new school sign.



Edgewood Elementary eighth graders celebrated their academic accomplishments during their graduation service at the Stoneham Memorial church.

Academic and leadership scholarships were awarded to several of the graduates and David Rittenhouse received the Principal's Award, recognizing his scholarship, service, and leadership. The program ended as it began, with prayer.

*Rondi Aastrup, principal
Edgewood Elementary/Greater Boston Academy*

Spiritual Miracles at Browning/SLA

One of the greatest miracles that can ever occur in the life of an individual is not the physical restoration from an illness or the restoration of one's mind, but when an individual recognizes the need and takes the steps to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

Throughout this past school year at Browning Elementary and South Lancaster Academy the Lord has blessed tremendously. The greatest blessing we received is the willing hearts of those students who accepted Christ as their Savior and, in turn, were willing to announce it to everyone through baptism.

We had more than seven Bible studies and four baptismal classes. Rosirys

Collado, Lauren Covey, Isadora Ferreira, Kate Henderson, Alex Munding, and Amber Sanchez were baptized during the school year. On graduation Sabbath, Kyle Linthwaite and Jenive Sanchez were baptized. Tyler and Megan Jones and Laura Mercurio were baptized in August.

May we all take part in these students' spiritual formation by lifting them up in prayer and praying for the current student body as we share the Word of God with them.

*Jonathan Nino
Bible teacher and chaplain
Browning Elementary/South Lancaster Academy*

Make it Count
www.sneconline.org
... Plan Your Legacy

Racontez l'histoire — Témoignage efficace

Le témoignage efficace ne consiste pas à raconter l'histoire d'un autre individu ou répéter simplement ce qui se trouve dans la Bible.

Chaque chrétien est appelé à témoigner et partager sa foi. Cela fait partie de notre patrimoine comme Adventistes du Septième Jour. La question pertinente est comment pouvons-nous le faire efficacement? Un témoin est “celui ou celle qui peut témoigner les faits portant sur n'importe quoi qu'il ou elle a observé directement; également l'attestation des faits impliqués.” SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST BIBLE DICTIONARY, vol. 8, p. 1179.

En ce qui a trait à son témoignage de Jésus, l'apôtre Jean écrit: Ce qui était dès le commencement, ce que nous avons entendu, ce que nous avons vu de nos yeux, ce que nous avons contemplé et que nos mains ont touché concernant la Parole de vie. . . .Ce que nous avons vu et entendu, nous vous l'annonçons, à vous aussi, afin que vous soyez en communion avec nous. (1Jean 1:1,3 Louis Segond, édition revue et corrigée)

La logique sous-jacente à cette vérité scripturaire est la croyance qu'un témoin doit être nanti de l'évidence visible, de la preuve palpable et de l'expérience audible. En ce cas, le témoignage efficace, c'est le fait d'avoir l'information de première main et partager sa foi et son expérience relatives à la Parole de Dieu et Jésus le Fils de Dieu.

Voici un modèle de témoignage inséré dans le récit de la résurrection (Jean 20 :1-17 (Louis

Segond, édition revue et corrigée). Dans le quatrième évangile, il est écrit: “Le premier jour de la semaine, Marie de Magdala se rendit au sépulcre dès le matin, comme il faisait encore obscur, elle vit que la pierre était ôtée du sépulcre. Elle courut vers Simon Pierre et vers l'autre disciple” (v. 1,2) qu'on croyait qui était Jean. Les deux disciples allèrent au sépulcre, ils virent le tombeau vide, les bandes et la linge. Mais Marie s'attarda plus longtemps au bord du tombeau pleurant. Enfin, ses yeux contemplèrent le Sauveur qu'elle prenait pour un jardinier. Et Jésus l'appela par son nom. Elle reconnut le Seigneur ressuscité qui l'avertit et dit: “Ne me touchez pas car je ne suis pas encore monté vers mon Père. Mais va trouver mes frères, et dis-leur que je monte vers mon Père et votre Père, vers mon Dieu et votre Dieu.” (v.17). Elle fut détentrice d'une nouvelle information et évidence que les autres disciples n'avaient pas reçues. Elle vit les anges et finalement elle rencontra Jésus qui lui parla et lui dit ce qu'elle devrait raconter en témoignage. La proclamation de la bonne nouvelle de la résurrection aux disciples était palpitante. Elle vit Jésus! Le témoignage efficace réclame qu'on reste plus longtemps, qu'on courbe ou s'agenouille au pied de la croix. On doit agoniser et pleurer en

connaître Jésus et la vérité. Il faut demeurer et passer plus de temps avec Jésus.

Tel était le cas du centurion (Marc 15:33-39 Louis Segond). Au début, il ne croyait pas. Mais quand il vit les nouvelles évidences, il témoignait avec conviction et disait: “Assurément cet homme était Fils de Dieu” (v.39).

Pour témoigner efficacement, notre expérience avec Jésus doit être renouvelée au quotidien. Notre compréhension de Lui doit être approfondie. Nos paroles doivent être similaires à nos actions. Alors, la vieille histoire de la croix deviendra la nouvelle et la vraie histoire du Salut. La Parole est faite chair.

Le témoignage efficace ne consiste pas à raconter l'histoire d'un autre individu ou simplement répéter ce qui se trouve dans la Bible. Le vrai témoignage c'est partager sa propre expérience. Il faut dire ce que Jésus est pour nous, ce qu'il a fait, ce qu'il est en train de faire dans notre vie. C'est une vérité découverte restée dans le présent, c'est un nouveau mode de vie expérimentée en Jésus que nous sommes désireux, heureux et passionnants de raconter et partager aux autres.



Louis Métellus est le Vice-Président de l'Union Atlantique des Ministères Haïtiens et le Directeur des Services Communautaires et Ministère de la Prison.

La Iglesia Adventista celebra cien años y se compromete con la comunidad

Miles de adventistas de toda Guatemala se reunieron en la capital del país el pasado 12 de julio para celebrar los cien años de la Iglesia Adventista en esta nación de América Central y para comprometerse con la comunidad.

“Puedo ver y oír vuestro compromiso expresado con claridad,” dijo el pastor Jan Paulsen, presidente de la Iglesia Adventista mundial, a los casi 9,000 líderes y feligreses reunidos en el Polideportivo de la ciudad para el evento, que duró todo el día.

Paulsen instó a la audiencia a garantizar la participación de los jóvenes en su obra. “Tenemos que pasar la antorcha a los más jóvenes,” dijo, y pidió una

decisión más firme para culminar la obra de la iglesia.

Durante un mensaje matutino, el presidente de la iglesia para Interamérica, Israel Leito, habló del “desafío de nuestros pioneros,” y comentó que la iglesia de Guatemala había crecido “gracias a los pasos” que dieron los primeros adventistas en la región.

Se honraron a varios de esos pioneros; entre ellos, a Policarpo López, de 105 años, adventista durante 78 años, y Javier Sosa, de 96 y adventista durante 71 años.

En preparación para la celebración, más de 60,000 adventistas participaron en treinta marchas en todo el país unas semanas antes.

La Iglesia Adventista de Guatemala comenzó en 1908 como una rama de la Escuela Sabática organizada por E.L. Cardey y C.A. Nowlen en Puerto Barrios, Ciudad de Guatemala. La iglesia opera allí en la actualidad más de 800 iglesias y grupos, 2,000 congregaciones, 25 instituciones y una casa publicadora.

*Libna Stevens, Staff
Adventist News Network
Juan Francisco Lopez contribuyó con este
informe
12 de julio del 2008
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi*

English translation available at: <http://news.adventist.org/data/2008/1216665643/index.html.en>

Jóvenes mexicanos aprenden cómo incorporar contenidos a los sitios Web de la iglesia

Los líderes de comunicación de la Iglesia Adventista entrenaron a cerca de 130 jóvenes de la iglesia para producir noticias y videos para la Web en una serie de cinco talleres de un día en la región Sur de México.

Quiero que la iglesia vea que existen maneras efectivas y divertidas de incorporar a los jóvenes en la misión divina.

Este entrenamiento fue ofrecido en respuesta al lanzamiento hace unos meses del software de publicación de sitios web netAdventist, que permite que cada iglesia tenga un sitio web gratuito.

Raúl Lozano Rivera, director de comunicaciones de la región, dijo que los talleres

fueron diseñados para capacitar a los jóvenes para que puedan mantener el sitio web de su propia congregación, haciendo las veces de periodistas locales de sus congregaciones.

“Quiero que la iglesia vea

que existen maneras efectivas y divertidas de incorporar a los jóvenes en la misión divina,” dijo Lozano. Estos jóvenes pueden lograr muchas cosas si se los entrena y se les permite participar”.

Los talleres, llevados a cabo entre el pasado 8 y 16 de julio, ofrecieron cursos básicos en

diseño web, publicación de noticias y podcasts, así como de video y fotografía.

“Me gustan las comunicaciones como carrera,” dijo Anahm Rodríguez, miembro de la iglesia adventista Bienestar Social en Tuxtla. “Vine para aprender cómo aplicar los conocimientos recibidos a nuestra iglesia.”

Algunos jóvenes miembros de la Iglesia Adventista en la región ya han estado experimentando con la tecnología de las comunicaciones mientras aguardan los sitios web de sus iglesias.

Oscar Ruiz y otros tres adolescentes de la iglesia adventista Pichucalco, en el estado de Chiapas, acordaron formar un equipo de producción de multimedia. Adquirieron una cámara digital y una cámara de video de alta definición

para comenzar la producción.

“Siempre nos ha gustado trabajar con multimedia,” dijo Ruiz. “Pero necesitábamos preparación”.

Los talleres fueron llevados a cabo en las ciudades de Tapachula, Chiapas, Tuxtla Gutiérrez y Pichucalco, en el estado de Chiapas, en Cancún, Quintana Roo, y en Mérida, Yucatán.

“Los jóvenes están entusiasmados porque ven muchas posibilidades y ven un vacío que pueden llenar,” dijo Lozano.

Los líderes planean repetir la experiencia el año que viene.

*Ansel Oliver, asistente editorial
Adventist News Network
21 de julio del 2008
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi*

English translation available at: <http://news.adventist.org/data/2008/1216656355/index.html.en>



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Alumni President
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(951) 359-4344

<http://www.greaterbostonacademy.com/alumni.htm>



South Lancaster Academy Alumni Weekend

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Write to dlsabol@charter.net
for more information or call
the SLA Alumni Office at
(978) 365-5225.

<http://www.sla-browning.org/links-alumni.html>

You are invited to submit your ideas for . . .

- a theme
- a theme song (may be original or already existing)
- a logo

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PURPOSE FOR THE CONVENTION:
Two of the primary conveyors of the Advent message are churches and schools—dual tracks. The goal of Atlantic Union Conference Pastors and Teachers Convention is to provide strategies and tools to fuse these tracks—churches and schools—so the gospel can be diffused with strength as these two conveyors join forces.

Suggestions for any or all of these components; theme, theme song, and/or logo may be mailed to the Atlantic Union Conference, Office of Education, PO Box 1189, South Lancaster, MA 01561 or e-mailed to athomassian@atlanticunion.org. The deadline is December 31, 2008.

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(NIV)

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Bulletin Board



Sunset Table

October 2008	3	10	17	24	31
Bangor, ME	6:09	5:56	5:44	5:33	5:23
Portland, ME	6:15	6:03	5:51	5:41	5:31
Boston, MA	6:19	6:08	5:57	5:46	5:37
South Lancaster, MA	6:22	6:10	5:59	5:48	5:39
Pittsfield, MA	6:28	6:16	6:05	5:55	5:45
Hartford, CT	6:26	6:15	6:04	5:53	5:44
New York, NY	6:32	6:21	6:10	6:00	5:51
Albany, NY	6:28	6:16	6:05	5:55	5:45
Utica, NY	6:36	6:24	6:12	6:01	5:52
Syracuse, NY	6:39	6:27	6:16	6:05	5:56
Rochester, NY	6:45	6:33	6:22	6:11	6:01
Buffalo, NY	6:50	6:38	6:27	6:16	6:07
Hamilton, Bda	6:58	6:49	6:41	6:33	6:27

Eastern Daylight Savings Time

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

South Lancaster Academy (SLA) Alumni Cruise, Oct. 20-27, 2008. You are invited to join us as we set sail for our next alumni cruise on October 20, 2008. We will be

setting sail from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on the Carnival Miracle, the very same ship we sailed on for our first alumni cruise. Our eight-day itinerary will take us to the beautiful Southern Caribbean where we will visit St Maarten, St. Lucia, and St. Kitts. You don't have to be an alumnus of SLA to join us. All are welcome. For more information, please contact our travel agent, Gene Farrell, at Twin City Travel. His phone number is 1-800-698-6015. You can also contact me with additional questions at (978) 368-1667. Space is limited so make your reservations early. July Hilbert Harris, SLA '65

OUT-OF-UNION

Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend: Oct. 17-19. All alumni of Emmanuel

Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy, and Andrews Academy, plan now to join us for special services on Friday evening and all day Sabbath. Honor classes are 1939, '44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, and 2004. For more details, contact the Academy Alumni office at (269) 471-6140, or e-mail: acadalum@andrews.edu.

OBITUARIES

GRAYSON, John F.—b. Jan. 2, 1919, in New Rochelle, N.Y.; d. Sept. 16, 2007, in Riverside, Calif. He was a member of the Berea church in Boston, Mass., where he sang in the sanctuary choir and served as deacon. He and his wife will be remembered for opening the doors of their home, especially to the young people, to give them a place to engage in Christian fellowship. He was preceded in death by his son, Glen, in Nov. 1985, and his wife, Eunice, on Jun. 20, 2004, in Boston, Mass. Remaining to cherish his memories and linger in his legacy of love, are three sons, Philip (Marlene), John, and Harold (Maceon); a sister, Girthel Goulbourne; a goddaughter, Valrie Gordon; 11 grandchildren, John, Jr. (Vanessa), Rochelle (Geoffrey), Philip, Jr. (Kisa); Latifa, Sharif, Karima, Fatima, Sasheea, Aisha, Rasheeda, and Hasaan; Thelma Smith, the mother of Glen's children, 23 great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Hazel Wilson, Hilda Furlow, Minnie Wilson; brother-in-law, Nathaniel Wilson; and several nieces and nephews.

music for church. She was predeceased by her husband, Louis Joseph, in May 1996. She is survived by two sisters, Gladys Banks of Ontario, Canada, and Maxine Giberson of New Brunswick, Canada; two brothers, Clifton Kinney of Ontario, Canada, and Milford Kinney of New Brunswick, Canada; four sons, Louis J. Kuntz of Trussville, Ala.; Brian Kuntz of Centerville, Ohio; Rick Kuntz of West Baldwin, Maine; and Jerry Kuntz of Paxton, Mass.; nine grandchildren, Jerry, Jr., Jason, Meleesa, L. J., Tim, Danny, Carlos, Roque, and Hannah Beth; and eight great-grandchildren, Linus, Lily, Evan, Colin, Jasmine, Kaniala, Justin, and Carlitos. She also had 16 nieces and nephews.

OLDHAM, Esther Mae—b. May 19, 1919, in Ohio; d. Apr. 20, 2008, in Littleton, Colo. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, Calif. She served as director of nurses at New England Sanitarium and Hospital in Stoneham, Mass. She also worked at Youngberg Memorial Hospital in Singapore; Saigon Adventist Hospital during the war in Vietnam; Battle Creek Hospital in Michigan; and Sycamore Hospital near Dayton, Ohio. She was preceded in death by a brother, George Oldham, and three sisters, Lola Butler, Helen Greer, and Nina Hodge. She is survived by one brother, Harold Oldham, and four sisters, Ruth Merrill, Miriam Mellish, Thelma Burton, and Grace Green.

WINCHENBACH, Anna L.—b. Oct. 5, 1918, in So. Waldoboro, Maine; d. Nov. 7, 2007, in Damariscotta, Maine. She attended the Camden church and served as Sabbath School superintendent and secretary. She was involved in prison ministry and visited the prison in Thomaston, Maine, for more than 20 years. Survivors include two daughters, Donna J. Berkeley and Claire A. Clifford. She was predeceased by her daughter, Lorraine D. Fowler.

Religious Liberty — Important Web Sites

Adventist Public Affairs & Religious Liberty North American Division . . . <http://www.nadfreedom.org>
 Liberty Magazine <http://www.libertymagazine.org>
 Office of Legislative Affairs <http://ola.adventist.org>
 Other Religious Liberty Links . . . <http://ola.adventist.org/Links.htm>
 Public Affairs & Religious Liberty General Conference <http://parl.gc.adventist.org>
 The Public Affairs & Religious Liberty (PARL) director in the local conference is also available if information is needed (see page 31 for the conference office numbers).

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Remembering . . .

Stennett H. Brooks

BROOKS, Stennett H.—b. Jul. 19, 1932, in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua; d. Apr. 4, 2008, in New York in a sudden and tragic accident. He served the Seventh-day Adventist Church for more than 40 years. He is a graduate of Oakwood College (now Oakwood University). He worked in the West Jamaica Conference as a accountant, book store assistant manager, and member of a quartet. In 1959, he married Erma R. Parchment and they migrated to New York where he joined the staff of the Northeastern Conference. He served in the Northeastern Conference as an accountant, secretary-treasurer, and treasurer before becoming president, a position he held for 12 years. Throughout his years of service, he held membership on several boards and committees, among them were Oakwood College, Atlantic Union Conference, Atlantic Union College, the Adventist Media Center, and Breath of Life.

He was honored by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) as the 2008 Distinguished Alumnus. He was a member of the Greater New York Inter-Alumni Council/UNCF for more than 10 years. He was a member of the Oakwood College Alumni Association and president of the A. Samuel Rashford Chapter of the Oakwood College Alumni Association. Just prior to his death he was elected president of the New York Chapter of the Northern Caribbean University Alumni Association.

He was a member of the City Tabernacle Seventh-day Adventist Church, and at the time of his death, he was the church's first elder and the Sabbath School superintendent.

He is survived by his wife, Erma; two daughters, Audra and Chris, their husbands, Ivan Allston and Walter Reddick; two grandchildren, Bryce Drew and Colleen Andrea; one sister Redella Hodge (Albert); one brother, Oril Brooks; sisters-in-law, Maritza Brooks and Oriol Brooks; brothers-in-law, Stuart Parchment (Joyce), Vaughn Parchment (Omia), and Russell Parchment; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives.

Reger C. Smith, Jr.

SMITH, JR., Reger C.—b. Sept. 3, 1953, in Niles, Michigan; d. May 8, 2008, at his home in Silver Spring, Md., following a lengthy illness. A Seventh-day Adventist musician, photographer, and graphic designer, he served as the world church's associate communication director for public relations.

He spent more than 27 years in service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, beginning in Battle Creek, Michigan. He was at the church-owned Review and Herald Publishing Association (RHPA) in Hagerstown, Maryland, from 1998 to 2001. He then served at the world church headquarters until his untimely death. He has been published in the Columbia Union VISITOR, the Lake Union HERALD, the ADVENTIST REVIEW, MESSAGE magazine, MINISTRY magazine, CORNERSTONE CONNECTION, and he designed the covers for the Atlantic Union GLEANER from Apr. 1998 to Mar. 2000. He also designed the GRACELINKS Sabbath School lessons.

He was the prime coordinator for the 2003 construction of a visitor's center at the world church headquarters. More than 7,000 people visit the church complex each year.

A talented musician, composer, arranger and singer, he performed with several musical projects, including the church-connected Breath of Life Quartet and the Heritage Singers. He was the lyricist for the official song of the church's 2005 world business session, which drew 70,000 people to St. Louis, Missouri. The song, entitled, "Jesus Christ How We Adore You," was designed to portray Christ's many facets as a provider, mentor, creator, and redeemer.

He is survived by his wife, Delores, a son, Reger III (Ross); a daughter, Ruth (Katie), his parents, Reger, Sr. and Katherine Smith of Berrien Springs, Michigan; and two sisters, Marjorie and Susan. His older sister, Meredith, preceded him in death 10 years ago.

at www.atlantic-union.org



Stennett H. Brooks



Reger C. Smith, Jr.

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