

THE ATLANTIC UNION

MARCH 2009

GLEANER

Utica Welcomes **Karen Families**



Resettled
Refugees
Enrich
Conference
Schools



Quoi de Neuf?

Adventist Education

Youth Talk

¿Qué Está Pasando?

inside **MARCH** 2009

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For the past year or more, the New York Conference territory has become home to individuals who have been resettled there from refugee camps. The largest group consists of Karen (pronounced kuh-REN) people from the country of Myanmar (formerly Burma). This month we share with you a few things the conference is doing to reach out to these individuals who are now a part of its community. Also included are our regular features: Adventist Education, Positions of Our Faith, and Youth Talk.

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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May 2009	March 13
June 2009	April 10
July 2009	May 15

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

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Prisoners of **Hope**

“As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit. Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you”—Zechariah 9:11.

In everyone’s life there comes a time of despondency and despair. No one is on top of their game always and forever. There are times when hopelessness sets in and we feel like we’re in Zechariah’s world—prisoners in a pit with no water or comfort.

Such is our world today. It is in a state of bondage—a pit or dungeon; and we’re all by nature prisoners in this pit. But thank God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and through His precious blood, many prisoners of Satan have been set at liberty from the horrible pit in which they would otherwise have perished without hope or comfort.

Even in 2009, Christ still rescues prisoners from the pit of despair. He is our stronghold, says Zechariah, a strong tower to whom believers can run for protection from the assaults of spiritual enemies. To Him we must turn with living, earnest faith; to Him we must flee and trust in His name under all trials and sufferings, especially when we’re in the valley of despair. Here we have a wonderful promise that the Lord would deliver His people.

Let us lift our sights from struggling prisoners in a pit to surviving prisoners of hope—an important reality for believers who trust in the Great Deliverer. Through the wondrous grace of Christ we are set free to help rescue others from the pit of despair. None of us is exempt from shouldering our part—however small and insignificant—in “bringing in the sheaves.”

In the book, PRISONERS OF HOPE, Dayna Curry and Heather Mercer tell the gripping story of their work in Afghanistan, their love for the people they served, their arrest, trial, and imprisonment by the Taliban, and their rescue by U.S. Special Forces. The core of the book describes how two American women from a middle-class background decided to leave the comforts and conveniences of home and instead embraced the opportunity to serve the disadvantaged. It details how their faith motivated them and sustained them through the events that followed. Their story is a magnificent narrative of ordinary people caught in extraordinary circumstances as a result of their commitment to serve humanity.

Put another way, prisoners of hope will often find a purpose greater than themselves. In the words of Charles Wesley:

*“Prisoners of hope, arise, and
see your Lord appear;
Lo! on the wings of love He flies, and
brings redemption near;
Redemption in His blood
He calls you to receive:
“Look unto Me, the pardoning God.
Believe,” He cries, “believe!”*

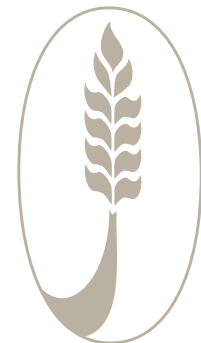
In this year of evangelism emphasis in North America and the Atlantic Union, let us do our part in helping to prepare others for the soon coming of our loving Lord.

Let each of us be a true prisoner of hope for a hopeless world!®

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



*“None of us is
exempt from
shouldering our
part—however
small and
significant—in
‘bringing in the
sheaves.’ ”*



Utica Welcomes Karen Families

December 20, 2008, marked the most recent celebration of church growth at Utica International Seventh-day Adventist Church through the arrival of numerous Seventh-day Adventists from Burma. They journey here via the refugee camps in Thailand. These families can trace their Adventist heritage to the missionary work of Eric B. Hare and his wife, Agnes. In recent years there has been an increase in the migration of this group of people throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia, and northern Europe. All this is made possible through the United Nation's Refugee Resettlement Program.

These Karen Adventists are faithful and devoted followers of Jesus Christ, who model His discipleship through their generosity, compassion, and great humor. They are an industrious and innovative people who have a strong regard for family values and teamwork. They remain steadfast in their loyalty to the church.

The second consecutive big wave of these incoming sojourners occurred in 2008. Higher expectations are forecast for 2009. Currently Utica, New York, boasts the second largest Karen population center in the U.S., while the Utica International church has well over 100 in

its ranks. There are pockets of this group throughout upstate New York covering Albany, Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse. Churches and schools are assimilating them and laying plans for church plants throughout the upstate landscape.



Church growth at Utica International Seventh-day Adventist Church has increased due to the arrival of numerous Seventh-day Adventists from Burma.



By Robert Mackay

Many of these folk have suffered hardship along with religious and political persecution. All this is endured in the interest of finding a better country, a land of opportunity, and a place for their children to thrive. Now they come to America where they can exercise the precious gifts of freedom, religious liberty, and self-determination. While many have come and continue to team in, there are multitudes who remain displaced in their own country. Who

will help them? The route to freedom includes some unusual twists. Some have escaped Burma by illegally entering Thailand. Once in Thailand, they seek political asylum in order to be placed in the camps. Many are treated as second class citizens there where they are provided rice and meager rations. They cannot leave the camps, yet the camps offer them new peace and hope.

Those left behind struggle to survive in the jungles, where they have retreated from the village raids by Burmese soldiers. Land mines are common obstacle courses that all villagers must maneuver.

We are blessed to have some of these refugees in our fellowship. They inspire us daily as we come to learn their stories and understand their deep roots in Jesus. Today they are no longer refugees, but Karen Americans, whose future is bright and their hope secure while still in search of a better country—where Jesus is King. ①

Robert Mackay is the pastor of the Utica Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Tin Tin Win, bending right, with her students who relocated to the upstate New York area from Southeast Asia.

Resettled Refugees Enrich Conference Schools

For the past year or more, the New York Conference territory has become home to individuals who have been resettled there from refugee camps. The largest group by far consists of Karen (pronounced kuh-REN) people from the country of Myanmar (formerly Burma) who have been living in camps at the Thailand border for many years, in some cases for their whole lives, in order to escape persecution. Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo is where many now reside and churches in these areas have been supporting them as they adjust to a new way of life. In return, these folks have enriched and blessed our congregations in a multitude of ways. Other people have come from Burundi having lived in camps in Tanzania, and most recently from the Democratic Republic of Congo by way of refugee camps in Zambia.

While in camps in Thailand, Karen children had access to Adventist education (a primary reason why there is such a large Adventist population among this group), but since coming to the U.S. they have had to enroll their children in public schools as their incomes don't make it possible to pay tuition at this time.

The conference has undertaken a project to provide the children of these and other refugee families with an Adventist education and many caring and generous donors are making this a reality. Schools have agreed to enter into a faith partnership with the conference trusting God to provide the needed funds each month. Thirty-one students are now enrolled in elementary schools and the administration at Union Springs Academy has found donors to assist seven academy-age students. Those who have become involved in this local mission project are enjoying the privilege of watching God make the impossible possible.

—Kim Kaiser, communication director and associate superintendent of schools, New York Conference

TOGETHER

In His Calling

Atlantic Union Conference will host its first Pastors and Teachers Convention on August 2-5, 2009

As we look at the deteriorating state of our world, we know the Lord is ready to come and take us home. However, in His love He lingers, giving each of us the opportunity to share the message of His saving grace.

In the spring of 2003, Atlantic Union Conference education administrators, along with Clifford Jones, associate dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Michigan, convened in Niagara Falls, New York, to discuss how church pastors and church school teachers could unite to promote Adventist education and ensure a vibrant church in the future.

Based on Valuegenesis and Barna reports, children are more likely to give their hearts to Christ and request baptism between the ages of 5-13—their elementary school years.

The Niagara Summit, as it is remembered, proposed that the Adventist Theological Seminary offer a field school for ministers enrolled in the program. This would provide hands-on experience with church-operated schools and boards. In addition, the Atlantic Union would produce a manual with resources written for ministers who are already in the field.

As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, so did these initiatives until the fall of 2007. Donald G. King, Atlantic Union Conference president, was invited to be a worship speaker at the annual fall Atlantic Union Conference Educators Administrative Council. He presented the two ministries for which the Seventh-day Adventist Church invests large amounts of financial support—the ministries of the church pastor and the church school teacher. He likened these two ministries to dual rails on a train track. Both are running in the same direction and sharing the same goal of leading parents and students, adults and youth to Jesus Christ. He challenged the educators to unite with church pastors and convert the dual rails to a monorail, thus maximizing evangelism in the church and in the school. Out of this, plans were immediately laid

and the idea was born for the first of its kind in the Atlantic Union—a union-wide pastors and teachers convention.

The convention concept led to an abundance of ideas and to the revitalization of the Niagara Summit's initiatives. A committee was established to write a manual for pastors and teachers, providing ideas for their joint ministry. Union and conference ministerial directors met with union education directors and conference superintendents in the spring of 2008 to plan a convention for the summer of 2009. This brings us to the present.

Several committees later, chapters for the manual are being edited with sections including the vital role of parents in the work of Christian education. This manual is a work in progress and, even though it will be distributed during the 2009 convention, the committee, which is comprised of pastors and educators, will continue to meet periodically to update its contents.

The venue for the 2009 Pastors and Teachers Convention will be the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, Rhode Island. The keynote speaker is George Knight, a veteran pastor and educator. General session speakers include Samuel Betances, Larry Blackmar, Dedrick Blue, and Lois Tucker. Devotions will be led by Clifford Jones, Ron Clouzet, and Donnett Blake. The convention will close with a consecration service led by Donald King. Information pertaining to the convention may be found at www.atlantic-union.org/pastors-teachers2009.html.

As we look at the deteriorating state of our world, we know the Lord is ready to come and take us home. However, in His love He lingers, giving each of us the opportunity to share the message of His saving grace. In John 17:21 Jesus prayed "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." What an awesome privilege we have to unite pastors and teachers in ministry to prepare individuals for God. The theme we have chosen for the convention is "Together in His Calling." May God help us to answer to His call.®

Collaboration by Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president and ministerial director, and Astrid Thomassian, Atlantic Union Conference education and children's ministries director.

BY DONALD KING AND ASTRID THOMASSIAN





JJL

By Trudy Wright

Where Does Excellence Begin?

“Where [does excellence] begin? In small places, close to home—so close and so small it cannot be seen on any map of the world. Yet, [it is in] the world of the individual person: The neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. . . . Without concerted citizen action to uphold [excellence] close to home, we look in vain for [excellence] in the larger world”—Eleanor Roosevelt.

Where does excellence in the Adventist school begin? It begins with each person who sacrifices his or her time and resources to help educate

a child for Christ. It begins with people who transport children to an Adventist school. It begins with people who pray for parents and students. It begins with people who volunteer in an Adventist school. It begins with the concerted effort of volunteers who organize and run the



At Pine Tree Academy, two parent volunteers, from left, Aurèle Dimond and Anne Goorhuis, oversee a volunteer crew of 14 parents and six high school students. The academy is blessed to have Aurèle Dimond, who possesses a degree in library science, overseeing the new additions to the school’s collection.

“Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation.”—Robert F. Kennedy



Volunteers, from left, Julie Reynolds, Barbara Haskell, and Donna Delaware were part of the 14 parents and church volunteers who helped replace the book pockets in each of the books in Pine Tree Academy’s library.

library, tutor children, supervise lunch or recess, conduct physical education classes, speak for a week of prayer, house students for events, supervise field trips, organize the Christmas program/cantata, and

teach music . . . or shop . . . or cooking . . . or sewing . . . or art classes. The list is endless.

“Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation.”—Robert F. Kennedy

What can you do? Ask God to show you.

We look in vain if we think an Adventist teacher can fulfill all the roles necessary to make Seventh-day Adventist education the place of excellence we desire for our children. ①



Trudy Wright is the Northern New England Conference superintendent of schools.

Bermuda Institute Choir Sings at Island Festival

Bermuda Institute's school choir was chosen to appear in concert with the Christ Church Cathedral Choir, Oxford, at the Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts. The performance was part of the island's activities to commemorate 400 years of Bermuda's existence since its discovery in 1609.

The Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts is an annual event that brings together artists of the highest caliber and varying genres to infuse the island with a unique cultural experience. Performers in the festival are both local and international.

When the Christ Church Cathedral Choir was invited to perform in Bermuda, they decided to continue their recently adopted tradition of sharing the stage with a selected local choir that possesses the adaptability and flexibility to harmonize not just musically, but culturally, as well. The search for such a choir ended when Bermuda Institute's choir, fresh from its victory in the island's first Choir Power Competition, was heard by those responsible for making the selection.

Under the leadership of Owen Simons, the choir accepted the invitation

and injected its own style, enthusiasm, and cultural flavor to create a rich effect when joined with the Cathedral choir's more classical sound. On the evening of Tuesday, January 13, the attending audience was soothed by the sounds of the Cathedral choir, moved by the music of Bermuda Institute's choir, and thrilled by the combination of styles and voices when the two choirs joined forces.

The program ended with the joint choirs singing "Great Day" and "A Jubilant Song" followed by "Handel's Messiah" for the grand finale. In keeping with tra-

dition, the audience rose to their feet and from the facial expressions and vigorous applause it was evident that this portion of the program was the highlight of the evening. The audience's shouts of "Encore!" brought the choirs back on stage to satisfy the request.

Overall, this was a tremendous opportunity and experience for the students of Bermuda Institute. Not only did it add to their exposure and versatility, it also provided a unique witnessing opportunity for the choir and the school.

—Coleen Birkett, staff writer, Bermuda Institute

Young Adults Meet to Discuss Life Matters

Why am I always depressed and how do I deal with depression? How should I choose my life partner? What am I doing here? Who is Jesus? How do I grow spiritually? These are some of the many issues being discussed at Café Eden, a young adult Bible study group.

Café Eden is the brainchild of Steve and Sandy Darrell, members of the Midland Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church who saw the need for young people of the church and community to have a place

where they can share their views and concerns, and at the same time develop their spiritual life. "Our goal was to create an environment where individuals between the ages of 21 and 40 can feel relaxed and comfortable enough to discuss things that matter to them," said Sandy. "Individuals also get the chance

to share their talents, such as poetry, with the rest of the group."

"The feedback we have received has been extremely positive," confirmed Steve. "We had initially planned to hold the sessions monthly, but members of the group have agreed that is not sufficient. The sessions [are now being held] every two weeks."

Café Eden premiered on Friday, October 31, 2008, and meets every other week in the fellowship hall at the church. Close to 20 persons turned out for the first session. The young adult group

is sponsored by the Midland Heights ShareHim team.

Café Eden provides supper and a relaxed setting for everyone who attends. It is open to anyone who meets the age requirements.

—Pete Saunders, associate communication director, Bermuda Conference



Café Eden, a young adult Bible study group, meets every other week in the fellowship hall of the Midland Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Special Constituency Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Constituency Meeting of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church Complex, Hamilton, Bermuda, on Sunday, April 5, 2009, at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to consider a proposal for the Conference Capital Development projects.

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/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

Youth Departments Partner to Further Ministries

When the Greater New York Conference youth traveled to Spanish Town, St. Catherine, Jamaica, West Indies, last year for a mission trip, their mission work didn't end when they left. José Cortés, Greater New York Conference youth director, vowed to help the youth of Central Jamaica Conference.

A partnership between the Greater New York Conference and the Central Jamaica Conference was formalized during a Sabbath ceremony in November 2008 at the Grand Concourse Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bronx,



Robbann D. Wellington

Participants in the partnership ceremony between the Greater New York Conference and the Central Jamaica Conference included, from left to right, Donald and Lois King, José Cortés, Ivor Harry, Sonia Newman, and Eion 'Teddy' Williamson.

New York. Donald G. King, Atlantic Union Conference president, Cortés, Ivor Harry, Central Jamaica

Conference youth director, and a host of church pastors, youth leaders, Master Guides, Pathfinder

leadership awardees, and Pathfinder instructor award-ees from both conferences attended the event.

Cortés committed to making the resources of the Greater New York Conference youth department available to the Central Jamaica youth for the development of their ministries. Harry expressed great appreciation for the partnership and affirmed his commitment to ensuring that it will be mutually beneficial to both conferences.

— Eion "Teddy" Williamson, Adventist Youth coordinator for Upstate New York and volunteer assistant to the youth director, Greater New York Conference

15th Annual Men's Prayer Convention

Sponsored by the Greater New York Conference Men's Ministries Department

Brotherhood in Christ — *Building Relationships for Eternity*

May 15-17, 2009

Honor's Haven Resort and Spa
1195 Arrowhead Rd.
Ellenville, New York

Speakers

Alanzo H. Smith
Men's Ministries Director
Greater New York Conference

Dionisio Olivo
Family Ministries Director
Atlantic Union Conference

Moab Honore
Haitian Ministries Director
Greater New York Conference

Bing Alabata
Itinerant Gospel Preacher
Hinsdale, Illinois

Shain O'Conoor
Family and Personal Ministries Director
Cayman Islands Conference

Cost:

Double Occupancy	\$229
Triple Occupancy	\$215
Quadruple Occupancy	\$205

For more information, contact the
Greater New York Conference
Men's Ministries Department
(516) 627-9272

21st Annual Women's Prayer Retreat

Sponsored by the Greater New York Conference Women's Ministries Department

"Come . . . NOW is the Time!"

April 30 – May 3, 2009

Hilton Stamford Hotel and Executive Meeting Center
One First Stamford Place
Stamford, Connecticut

Featured Speakers

English
Doris Gothard
Motivator, Teacher, Author

Shelly Quinn
Speaker and Co-director, Word Warriors Ministries
Program Development Manager, 3ABN

Spanish
Norka Blackman-Richards
President and Founder, 4 Real Women International, Inc.

Youth
Julian Jones-Campbell
Associate Pastor, Grand Concourse Seventh-day Adventist Church

Registration

Register online with plusline: www.plusline.org/eventdetail.php?id=10131 or call (800) 732-7587. Additional information about the event can also be obtained from the PlusLine Web site.

Lodging

To reserve your room, call (800) 445-8667. Use the code "GNYC" to receive the rate of \$99, plus tax, for up to four persons per room, per night. This rate is good through March 31, 2009.

For additional information, contact
Lisa Gonzalez at (516) 467-5219 or e-mail: lgonzalez@gnyc.org

Greater New York Conference
7 Shelter Rock Road
Manhasset, New York 11030
(516) 627-9350

Big Things From Small Packages

Just about everyone has visited a small rural church in their lifetime, and the quaint sense of closeness it provides tends to stick with them long after they make it back home to the big church. With the changes in the economy, it has become harder each year for rural churches to keep the doors open and meet the needs of the membership. Such is the case with the Tioga County Seventh-day Adventist Church, in Candor, New York.

Being small, however, has not prevented them from carrying on the Lord's work throughout the year with financial seminars, evangelistic gatherings, and monthly social events to recognize anniversaries and birthdays. They also provide assistance to those in need, and in 2008, for the second year in a row, this tiny church family pulled out all the stops and presented a heartwarming out-



The Tioga County Seventh-day Adventist Church members joined with surrounding community volunteers to participate in a re-enactment of Jesus' birth.

door living nativity. For one cold winter evening, the dark, three-acre flat behind the church became a representation of the birthplace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Countless denominations across the country and around the world participate in similar activities

each year in an attempt to share this glorious piece of our history with Christians and non-Christians alike, but Tioga's unique approach to its annual presentation is a recognition of answered prayers from throughout the year. With only a handful of active members, it would become an impossible task to obtain enough participants from within their own ranks. Instead, they call upon folks from their surrounding communities who have been the subject of prayer requests given during Sabbath worship services. The ages vary from young to old, from various faiths,

beliefs, and social backgrounds. Some have suffered the loss of family members or their income, while others battle problems of addiction or abuse. The common bond between them all is the fact that God has guided them and answered prayers on their behalf. Even those who are not believers soon learn that God can still believe in them and reach out with open arms. For one short evening, these wonderful volunteers banded together to participate in the re-enactment of the virgin birth. Afterward, members, actors, and observers moved to the basement fellowship hall for a meal and some pleasant conversation. For some who attend it may well be the best meal of the holiday season or the only night that they will not be alone.

Powerful blessings can indeed be pulled from small packages.

—Tim Main, elder, Tioga County church

Cortland Church Mobilizes its Members

“A church full of living, breathing, Spirit-filled Christians. A church that is growing, where every member realizes that they are agents of freedom in a world enslaved by sin. A church where former members and lost friends return through the doors every Sabbath. A church where the elders step up and lead using their gifts, and the rest of the members support the elders by using their own gifts. A church where every member gets the training they have been longing for so that they can lead their friends, coworkers, and even strangers to Jesus. A church that thrives on its

own, using a yearly cycle of operation so that the pastor is free to train the membership, visit the sick, build up the new believers, and go into dark areas.” This is

the vision that the Cortland, Ithaca, and Horseheads churches set two years ago and have been working toward ever since.

In January 2007 the

elders and I met to decide the future direction for our three churches. We decided that we were fed up with the status quo—that while we must uphold the standards

of the church, we were willing to work for growth at all costs. These elders and I made the promise that we would work toward making our churches look like

In the past 18 months God has blessed us with more than 40 baptisms, we are working with a Spanish church plant, and our churches are transformed.

the church described above. The elders made the commitment to lead the local church, to step up and take responsibility for our three churches, to lead and train their fellow members. Now two years later, what God has led us to is amazing. In the past 18 months God has blessed us with more than 40 baptisms, we are working with a Spanish church plant, and our churches are transformed.

The Cortland church has been totally inspired and driven. The members have been mobilized. They receive “discipleship training” once a month after church, and the

elders voted to meet monthly to discuss issues and receive specialized training for needed areas of ministry. God has taken a group of loving and happy Christians and He has truly begun an evangelistic juggernaut in Cortland, New York.

Programs that have directly contributed to the success of the church have been totally lay-member driven. A weekly small group Bible study has led many individuals to the church. Last year we held a Business Person's Inspirational Feast at a local bed and breakfast. We fellowshipped with the local business people and were served like royalty. In October 2008, the elders and a few lay people teamed

up to preach an evangelistic meeting and three new friends were convicted to profess their Advent faith. Twice a year the Eight Weeks to Wellness program is presented and more than 80 non-members have attended these meetings, learning more about what Adventists believe. Members within the church are conducting personal Bible studies with non-members. Every hour of every day Cortland Christian Radio broadcasts the gospel to the city. Even midweek prayer meeting is alive, vibrant, and well attended.

Numerous other personal ministries are happening as a way for individuals to witness in their daily lives. It is amazing how God blesses

when His people make a decision to labor in His vineyard. We realize that evangelism is not just a conference initiative, not just a program; evangelism is part of the process of becoming

more like Jesus. Jesus' main agenda was to save us by revealing heaven's truth to the world. We want to be like Him.

—Dustin Hall, pastor, Cortland church

Union Springs Academy

Alumni Weekend

April 24-26, 2009

Honoring the Classes of:

1999 - 10 Year Class

1989 - 20 Year Class

1984 - 25 Year Class

1979 - 30 Year Class

1969 - 40 Year Class

1959 - 50 Year Class

1959+ - Golden Years

For more information contact Andrew Fish
(315) 889-7314, afish@unionsprings.org,
or go to www.unionspring.org/alumni



Niagara Falls Youth Challenged to Do Something Big

The Niagara Falls church's youth group has been studying Bible examples with the theme "Do Something Big." The youth were challenged to "do something big" for God in their personal lives and in their church. In November 2008, the group participated in a canned food scavenger hunt as an outreach to those in need. This was their first experience collecting food door-to-door and sharing information about our church.

From many accounts, they loved it, and asked to do it again! We knew a few people in need, but we were looking for more. So we decided to place an announcement in the newspaper offering food bags and a free Thanksgiving dinner and church program. We went door-to-door to donate 30 food bags and 80 turkeys to those in need and God brought 92 people to the service and dinner, of which seven were Adventist! We

could not believe the turnout and how many people are searching for Christ. That day we also had a special ceremony for the Gordon family as they dedicated their son, Kevin, and themselves to the Lord.

We decided by faith to reach out again to the community and "do something big" for Christmas. We

As a result of our outreach endeavors at the Niagara Falls church, we have many new kids in our Kids Time program and our adult Bible study; and our church attendance has now doubled!

invited the community to come to our Christmas service and a Christmas party on December 20, 2008. There was standing room only as we welcomed 230 people, of which only nine were members! Approximately 90 percent of those who came at Thanksgiving returned,

and we more than doubled in size. The real highlight of the service was when we baptized our newest member, Elaine Gordon, who in November dedicated her son to the Lord. The Christmas outreach provided clothing to those who needed it, 60 food bags, and 60 turkeys.

As a result of these endeavors, we have many new kids in our Kids Time program and our adult Bible study; and our church attendance has now doubled! We have strong friendships with people in our community and almost every day people call, asking to join in our programs and even to join the church! The harvest is truly great in Niagara Falls, but the laborers are few, and there is a great need for support. Contact us if you would like more information about our program or to volunteer your services.

Christina Webber, member, The Master's Vineyard church plant

Top Juniors and Seniors —College Credit for High School Students!

Summer Advantage in New England
July 19-August 13, 2009, at Atlantic Union College—
One hour from Boston, three hours from New York.

Summer Advantage in New England is a four-week, pre-college program for academy and high school students with a GPA of 3.3 or better after completing their sophomore year.

This program is on a three-year cycle and is an opportunity for students to earn up to 18 credit hours at a reduced rate before entering college. Students can join the program any summer in the cycle and gain the advantage of earning college credits while studying and touring in New England—whether or not they plan to attend Atlantic Union College.

Summer Advantage is an enrichment program for students who meet the following qualifications:

1. The student must be entering their high school or academy junior or senior year or their college freshman year the following fall.
2. The student must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.3 or better through the first semester of the year prior to enrolling in Summer Advantage.
3. They must have scored in the 80th percentile or better in the verbal area of a recently taken national achievement test (ACT, SAT, PSAT, Iowa Basic Skills, etc.)
4. The student must be recommended by their principal as having the maturity, discipline, motivation, and ability to do college-level work.



Richard Brown

Pick a Pair of Classes

Wildlife Ecology of New England—3 credit hours. BIOL 207

Course description: Ever want to watch a whale hunt its prey? Curious about who lives under a fallen log or in a tree hole? Interested in catching snakes, crickets, frogs, bugs, and anything that creeps, crawls, swims, or flies? Don't mind getting a little grubby and your feet wet while having fun? Like to hike to the top of New England's highest peaks and wade through streams, or slosh through the warm water of a lowland swamp? Through this course, and the extensive field trips it requires, you'll have the opportunity to do all of these things and more. Plus, you'll have a lot of fun and learn much about the wildlife of New England.

AND

Outdoor Basics—3 credit hours. PEAC 210

Course description: Have you ever wanted to conquer a fear of heights? Do you want to be able to find your way in the great outdoors? Or maybe you would just like to experience the natural high of an adrenaline rush? If your answer to any of these is "Yes!"—we have the course for you. In Outdoor Basics, you will experience rock climbing, whitewater kayaking, low-impact camping methods, back country cooking techniques, and general outdoor safety. This course is tailored for those with a spirit of adventure and a love for the outdoors.

Listening to Music: Live Performances in New England—3 credit hours. MUHL 109

Course description: Learn about music while attending concerts to hear live performances in wonderful places. The range of musical performances you can listen to in New England is as wide as the world. You can eat a picnic lunch while listening to a symphony concert at the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, observe street performances in Boston, or attend the Newport Jazz Festival in nearby Rhode Island. This course aims to inform and sharpen your listening skills beyond the classroom and broaden your understanding of many styles of music from around the world.

OR

AND

Down to the Sea in Books: Literature of New England and the Seas—3 credit hours. ENGL 210

Course description: The lives and fortunes of New England and her people have always been inextricably connected to the world's oceans. Important port cities grew up along the Atlantic coast, and ships departed these ports for far-off oceans. The navies of Great Britain and America, fishing, whaling, manufacturing, domestic and foreign trade, and recreation have flourished here through the centuries. Not surprising then, that these places and adventures have inspired many writers. In this course, we will read some of this literature and visit some of the places that are so important to New England's—and America's—identity.

Boston Symphony Orchestra



Tanglewood

**It's a good deal!
Save money!**

Summer Advantage costs only \$180 per credit hour.

That's a savings of \$445 per credit hour off regular tuition, or \$2,670 in savings for two 3-credit-hour classes.

Tuition and Fees

Room:

\$170 per week single occupancy, \$100 per week double occupancy

Cafeteria:

Various meal plans available—\$200, \$400, or \$600

Tuition:

\$180 per credit hour—\$1,080 for six credit hours

Fees:

\$525 to cover books, supplies, and cost of activities

Application:

\$15 non-refundable application fee, due May 1, 2009

Note: There is a modest additional fee for the Outdoor Basics course.

For an application form or more information, contact the admissions office, (978) 368-2239 or the academic dean's office, (978) 368-2210. Both offices can be reached toll free at (800) 282-2030.

Alumni Weekend at Atlantic Union College—April 16-19, 2009. Welcome Alumni and Friends!



John Satekmajer, '98, president Atlantic Union College Alumni Association

There are many exciting things happening in the alumni association. In the past, we have enjoyed many wonderful homecoming weekends and, this year, we are planning another exciting weekend. Our theme is "Engaged and Leading in Our Communities."

We chose this theme to reflect the college's new focus on community engagement. We, as alumni and friends, have been engaged and leading in our communities for many years, so we decided to celebrate and highlight these accomplishments.

Homecoming starts Thursday night, April 16, with an Alumni Homecoming Banquet. Our featured speaker is Orlando Pacheco, town administrator for the town of Lancaster.

Friday night is the Honor Class Banquet, a special time to celebrate the Alumni of the Year and others who dedicate themselves to our alma mater. Reservations for both banquets can be made via alumni@auc.edu.

More details about the entire weekend will be posted on the alumni section of the Web site: www.auc.edu.

We look forward to seeing you!



Orlando Pacheco



Lilya (Vinglas) Wagner '62



Paul Schmitt, teacher

John Grayson '64



Leacroft Green '78

Thursday Night Alumni Homecoming Banquet—6:00 p.m.

Orlando Pacheco, town administrator Lancaster, Massachusetts

Friday Honor Class Banquet—5:30 p.m.
Sabbath attire.

Friday Night Vespers—7:15 p.m.

Lilya (Vinglas) Wagner '62, director,

Philanthropic Service for Institutions, North American Division, Silver Spring, Maryland

Sabbath School—9:15 a.m.

John Grayson, '64

Professor of religion

Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts

Sabbath Worship—10:50 a.m.

Leacroft Green, M.D. '78

Suffern, New York

Sabbath Vespers—6:30 p.m.

The Mabel Bartlett Art Gallery will be open for the weekend to host art exhibits and seminars.



Hope Church Holds Symposium on Health Care Costs

“Health care costs are skyrocketing, hurting our families as well as our economy. More than 45 million Americans have no health insurance. Our nation’s investment in prevention and public health is inadequate, leading to rapid spread of chronic diseases, many of which could be prevented entirely or managed.” These are abbreviated reports from the many health care reform discussions that took place across the country in December, in order to assist the new presidential administration in providing a comprehensive health care system for all Americans.

On the last Monday in December 2008, Kim Harriott, a pastoral studies graduate student at

Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, held a Power Hour Symposium where several residents of the community were participants. Harriott served as the moderator, along with other team members who assisted with the program. The meeting was held at the Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bloomfield, Connecticut. William Burke, a father from the Bloomfield area, expressed concern regarding his situation, because his wife just became unemployed and he works for a small company. The Burkes have a four-year-old daughter, and Mr. Burke says, “Since my wife lost her job, the insurance premiums are killing us and I am fearful of my little girl getting very



About 29 individuals attended the Power Hour Symposium at Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bloomfield, Connecticut, where they shared their suggestions for a better health care system.

Stephen Williams Sr.

sick.” Other attendees gave their scenarios as well as they shared suggestions for a better health care system.

Harriott has since submitted photos, a video, and compiled notes with suggestions to the new presidential

administration. Those who attended the meeting were encouraged to hold on, because help is on the way.

—Stephen Williams Sr.,
communication director,
Northeastern Conference

Northeastern Conference Communication Department Hosts Live Interactive Bible Study

If you were to go on the Internet and log into www.northeastern-communication.org each Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 p.m., you would be able to join a live interactive Bible study that allows people to connect long-distance. Sponsored by the Northeastern Conference Communication Department, the interactive Bible study uses different technology/media to spread the gospel while its guests sit comfortably at home.

This ministry has allowed classes with students from all over the world (sometimes in one sitting) to meet without anyone having to leave home. Guests are able to get instantaneous feedback and con-

tribute comments or questions. There are even vegetarian cooking classes you can watch and try out in your kitchen while your progress is checked!

Anyone looking to join an interactive Bible class by phone confer-

Anyone looking to join an interactive Bible class by phone conference or live stream video conference on the Internet is welcome to become a part of the class.

ence or live stream video conference on the Internet is welcome to become a part of the class. The class provides answers to questions, helpful personal applications to show how God’s Word is relevant to today, and expounds

upon such topics as salvation, prophecy, family life, relationships, prayer, Bible doctrine, and more. The class provides clarity and equips others with the knowledge and tools needed to spread the gospel.

Pastors, prayer warriors, Bible workers, and others are invited to volunteer by sending an e-mail to ministry@inspirit-ednetwork.com with a note about yourself and your talents. Please tune in and support this ministry. Imagine how fast the gospel can spread by this means! Get “totally interactive” . . . from home!

John Spellman, teacher, Bethesda school

Northeastern Conference Youth are Encouraged to Finish the Race

Photos: John Jean-Baptiste



Leslie Pollard, vice chancellor for community partnerships and diversity at Loma Linda University, was the keynote speaker at the Northeastern Conference Youth Convention.

About 600 youth leaders gathered at the Stamford Hilton Hotel in Stamford, Connecticut, on the weekend of January 15-18 to attend the annual youth convention sponsored by the Northeastern Conference Youth Ministries Department. "Finish the Race" was the theme chosen for the 2009 convention, which focused on giving the youth leaders what they need to be effective this year. The keynote speaker was Leslie Pollard, vice chancellor for com-

munity partnerships and diversity at Loma Linda University.

In his opening message on Friday night, Pollard spoke on the theme of "Running the Race." He challenged the youth to remember that in this race, we have witnesses or others who have run the race before us and were able to finish. Pollard also reminded the audience that because of Jesus, we can finish the race, since He also ran a mighty race. He concluded his message



Eighty-three Master Guides were invested at an Investiture Service held on Saturday evening.

with a litany, emphasizing that, no matter what we are going through, we should keep running.

Other speakers at the event included pastors Jaime Kowlessar and Nigel Lewis. The group "Laos in Harmony" presented the special music, praising the Lord in song, and encouraging the audience in their walk with the Lord.

Other main presenters included Donzell Cleare and Jeffrey Hunt, both sergeants in the New York Police Department, and

Joel A. Johnson from Pine Forge Academy. There were a host of workshops and presenters covering such topics as "How to Operate a Successful Pathfinder Club," "Pathfinder Ministries Response to Gangs," "So You Want to Be a Leader," "Body Snatchers," "Conflict Management and Public Speaking in Youth Ministry," and "Risk Management in Youth Ministry."

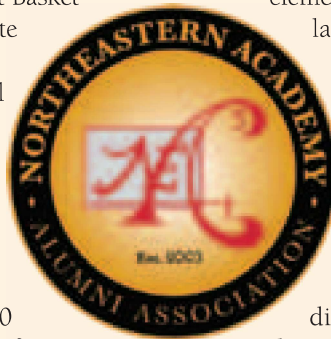
—Stephen Williams Sr., communication director, Northeastern Conference

NORTHEASTERN STEPHEN WILLIAMS, Sr., communication director

Northeastern Academy Alumni Association Reaches Beyond its Doors

In late 2005, the Northeastern Academy Alumni Association began a program of assisting families in need called the "Thanksgiving Holiday Gift Basket Program." The program provided a complete Thanksgiving meal to families at schools within the Northeastern Conference school system. Recipients of the meal are selected by the principals of these schools based on their familiarity with the family's circumstances. Stop and Shop Supermarket, in conjunction with Boston Market, produces the baskets.

Through November 2008, more than 20 families have received baskets as a result of this program. Last year's six recipients were from the following schools: Northeastern Academy, R. T.



Hudson, Bethel elementary school, Hanson Place elementary school, Westchester Area school, and Linden elementary school. In addition to the schools, last year, for the first time, the alumni association reached out to support a non-Adventist organization. The organization selected was H.E.L.P. Bronx, a homeless shelter in Bronx, New York. The shelter will be one of the regular recipients from the alumni association during the Thanksgiving holiday. In the future, as part of its ongoing endeavor to make a difference beyond its doors, the association hopes to include other such facilities.

—Crystal Satchell, secretary, Northeastern Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

YouthTalk

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

Youth leaders from the Southern New England Conference share what they believe is the most important aspect of their ministry as youth leaders.



“As a youth leader, I believe you first must show love like Jesus exemplified. If we break up the letters in LOVE, we have some key [concepts] that can be [conveyed] by these letters. “L” is for learning; learning about ourselves through children. “O” is for outreach; go and tell about Jesus’ love. “V” is for

victorious. Youth face temptations constantly and need to know that Jesus already paid for their sin. “E” is for exploring. If we explore God’s Word diligently, we will know Him better as well as ourselves.”—**Leanne Kulon**, *New Haven Seventh-day Adventist Church Adventurer co-director*.

“The most important aspect of my ministry as a youth leader is to teach the youth how to have a closer walk with Jesus so they can share it with others. When I listen in on their classes and hear the enthusiasm in their voices, as they uncover all the wonderful things that Jesus can do for them and others, it reminds me that what is shared with them now will help mold them in becoming a mouthpiece for the Lord. The youth are our future leaders; so I welcome their questions and try to quench their thirst for knowledge and pray that they may have the courage to share.”—**Sandra Barrett**, *North Stamford Seventh-day Adventist Church Pathfinder director*.



“Connecting, building trust, and, most importantly, showing that our Savior is real, relevant, and coming soon—that’s what I see as the “biggies” facing all of us who have a passion for youth and young adults! And, that should include all of us. They are our future and I find, more often than not, that they have

more courage than we ever had. They’ll serve if we ask them

and they’ll lead if we let them.”—**Cheri Daniels**, *New Haven Seventh-day Adventist Church youth leader*.

“The most important aspect of Lowell All Nations youth ministry is the willingness and commitment of the youth members. It would be really challenging and hard for me as a youth leader to put together youth events and gatherings if the youth did not dedicate their time and assistance in planning for the events. God looks at the willingness and availability of a person. He makes use of those who are willing by converting them into great preachers, musicians, leaders, Bible students, and evangelists. My prayer is that we surrender all to Jesus.”—**Ezra Kenyanya**, *Lowell All Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church youth director*.



“As Pathfinder and Adventurer leader I have had many tears—tears of joy and frustration. Praise God that the tears of joy outweigh those of frustration! Most important to me is that the Pathfinders and Adventurers see Christ, not me. By allowing the Holy Spirit to work in me and reflecting God’s love and character,

I pray that these hearts are accepting of God’s call to be leaders for our church, partakers in finishing the work, but most of all, to live eternally with our Savior, Christ Jesus.”—**Magda Rodriguez**, *Southern New England Conference Adventurer coordinator and Quinebaug Pathfinder Club director*.

This is your opportunity, if you are a youth leader who is 35 years old or younger, to participate in this segment of YouthTalk. E-mail your response to the question “What do you believe is the most important aspect(s) of your ministry as a youth leader?” to the GLEANER editor at gleaner@atlanticunion.org. Be sure to include your full name, age, church, position in the church, and a high resolution photo.

5

Awarded for Excellence in Ministry

Individuals from all levels of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America attended the North American Division's Adventist Ministries Convention in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, in January. At the biennial convention, North American Division department directors took time out to recognize individuals for their outstanding work. This year, five Atlantic Union leaders were among the 32 individuals presented with awards.

José Cortés —
Excellence in Ministry award

José Cortés proudly serves as the Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries director. With the assistance of his wife, Joanne, youth under his leadership are exposed to small group ministries, mission trips, youth-led evangelistic meetings, social events, and recreational activities. It is well-known that every youth event conducted at Camp Berkshire ends with a baptism in the pool. Cortés is a firm believer in taking the "Advent message to all the world in this generation" and lives it in his ministry.



Ednor A. P. Davison —
Distinguished Service award

Ednor A. P. Davison serves as assistant to the president for communication in the Atlantic Union Conference and the Atlantic Union GLEANER editor. A member in the

Northeastern Conference, she has functioned in the communication field with the Seventh-day Adventist Church since 1997. She is a communication consultant for the Atlantic Union's six-conference region, assisting in crisis management and leading out in professional development seminars for conference and local church communication leaders.

Kenneth Dunkley —
Excellence in Ministry award

Kenneth Dunkley is an active evangelist and a dedicated prison minister. Between caring for orphanages and building a church in South Africa, for more than 35 years, he has consistently and faithfully made weekly visits to one of the prisons in Bermuda. He loves nothing more than going into the prisons and conducting Holy Ghost-filled religious services, organizing Christmas programs, and preparing inmates for baptisms. Dunkley also conducts follow-ups with released inmates, encouraging them to attend church and to avoid recidivism.



Mellonie Furbert —
Excellence in Ministry award

Mellonie Furbert, a dietitian, has served as the Bermuda Conference Health Ministries director for the past five years. When asked how she feels about the work she does for the church, Furbert says, "My leadership skills are based on my faith in



God as I rely on Him for guidance and direction. I love working with people. As a health professional, my vision for the people of Bermuda, including my fellow church leaders, brothers, and sisters, is to see an improvement in the quality of life through healthy lifestyle practices. I want everyone to experience the rewards of following God in living a healthy life as I have. I am committed to supporting, training, and fostering a health-care center for the 11 churches and to facilitating island-wide health activities."

Kelly Veilleux —
Excellence in Ministry award

Kelly Veilleux is known throughout the Northern New England Conference as a woman of God and a woman of faith. She touches people of all ages across the conference and other places in the Atlantic Union. Her passion in helping teenagers and young adults in their personal spiritual journey is especially appreciated. She and her team meet in a teleconference every morning at 6:00 a.m., all across the conference, praying for a specific pastor each day. Often the pastor for that day joins them on the call. Veilleux stays on the "cutting edge" and keeps resources before her people that are challenging and a source of strength.



The Atlantic Union Conference administrators and staff congratulate these individuals for a job well done in representing themselves, their respective churches, conferences, and the Atlantic Union in their work for the Lord.

Greet When You Meet



Mike Ortel

As I approached the volunteer hostess at Parkview Adventist Medical Center that cold winter morning and our eyes met, she greeted me with a warm “Hello, and good morning!”

“What a great way to begin my 7:30 a.m. meeting,” I thought. After the meeting, Mrs. “Hello” was still at the information desk. I noticed she was reading a READER’S DIGEST article entitled, “Hello.”

“Is that why you said ‘hello’ this morning?”

“No,” she responded. “Back in 1945, while working as a bank teller, I learned that greeting people by saying ‘hello’ was one of the most polite things we could do for one another.”

Noticing her name tag, I inquired, “Georgia, would I be able to have a copy of that article?” Interestingly enough, the article by Joe Kita states that we all are winners when positive verbal exchanges are made:

- Students perform 27 percent better when their teacher greets them with “Good morning.”
- Marriages can be saved by simple acknowledgment with this courtesy.
- Hello is rarely shared without a smile.
- Smiling lowers blood pressure, boosts immu-

nity, and releases natural pain killers (endorphins) which in turn lowers stress, boosts happiness, and improves health.

No wonder everyone is a winner! Long before Joe Kita wrote his article, the writer of Galatians 5:22 told us that “friendliness” is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. A word search in the thesaurus

ness and not have the same positive results. Why not join me and ask God for His graciousness to us—those heavenly commodities that we can share to make this world a better place. Not only will we feel better, we’ll help make a difference in our world.

I’ll throw out a 30-day challenge to you. Greet everyone you meet with

“I’ll throw out a 30-day challenge to you. Greet everyone you meet with a warm ‘hello,’ and see what results you may find.”

informs that it comes from the same root or meaning as hello, greet, and welcome. Now, isn’t that fascinating? God knew that being kind and greeting one another would benefit us in many ways.

The flip side is that we cannot give what we do not have. We can fake friendli-

a warm “hello,” and see what results you may find. Remember, children and teens can be wary of strangers, and rightly so; be careful not to disrespect. Let’s do what Joe Kita and Scripture suggest—greet when you meet!

—Mike Ortel, president, Northern New England Conference

Pastor and Dog Team Up to Touch Lives

About a year ago my wife Brenda and I adopted Fawn, a beautiful five-year-old greyhound, who’d had a full career on the track (129 races, 15 wins). Weighing in at 80 pounds, he is still capable of running at speeds approaching 45 mph. Several months after we got him, I started taking him to visit the local nursing home, and it’s been one of the most effective and satisfying experiences of my 30 years as a pastor. I recommend it to anyone who loves animals, and is looking for an avenue of community service.

What I’ve noticed about Fawn is his ability to communicate straight to the heart of nearly every person we encounter. The connection is immediate and intensely tender as an elderly patient, his or her eyes lighting up, reaches out to stroke Fawn’s head or run a hand across his long back.

Words aren’t necessary. Counseling skills and techniques can be left on the shelf. Fawn and I just show up. As I learned in chaplaincy training, sometimes less is more.

I recommend adopting a retired greyhound—thousands are up for adoption every year. They’re gentle, striking to look at, and tall enough to be easily stroked by a person in a bed or a wheelchair.

After you’ve settled in with your new dog, take him or her with you, and pay a friendly call on the activities director at a local nursing home. Introduce yourself and the dog, and say you’re available to visit the facility regularly. I can almost guarantee that you’ll be accepted immediately.

Regarding official credentials for you and your dog, many nursing homes simply require updated canine vaccination certificates, but



some might also want the two of you to have completed “therapy dog” team training. This is not as hard as it might sound. Contact the Delta Society at www.deltasociety.org for all the pertinent information.

All the best as you launch your new greyhound ministry! Let me know how you’re doing.

—Phil Johnson, pastor, Derry-Portsmouth District (e-mail: rjohnsonjr@comcast.net)

Pine Tree Academy Girls Visit Children's Hospital

For five years it has been a tradition for the girls of Kellogg Hall at Pine Tree Academy in Freeport, Maine, to go with girl's dean Sara Huston to Build-a-Bear, where they build bears to take to the children at the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. Last December, after selecting various bears, stuffing them, and picking an outfit to give them, we headed out to the hospital. Our purpose was to bring hope and a smile to the faces of the children who were patients there.

When we entered the doors that led into the children's section, the nurses brought in some of the young patients and we handed out all the bears that we had made. We only

wish that we had enough bears for every patient. After spending time with the children, we braved the cold and headed back to the dorm.

Some people ask us why we go out and do this for the kids. It's pretty simple, actually—it makes the kids smile. They are so happy when they see the bears and get to choose one. One girl was in a wheelchair. Although we were not allowed to inquire as to her medical condition, it was clear that she was not in the best of situations, but she seemed so happy to get her stuffed bear.

Being involved in this project really does make a difference—not just for the kids in the hospital, but for us too. Being able to see

the kids and the smiles on their faces and their parents' faces is great. If you ever get the opportunity to do a kind deed for others, please do.

—Jenna Neil, junior,
Pine Tree Academy



Alesis Bragg, a Pine Tree Academy senior, with one of the patients at the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital who received a stuffed bear.

South Berwick Fellowship Shares More Than 7,000 DVDs

For the past three months my wife, Sheryl, and I have traveled to Manchester, Concord, and Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to Circuit City stores to



John and Sheryl Hersom have purchased more than 31,000 DVDs to be used for the South Berwick Fellowship church DVD ministry.

purchase blank DVDs for the South Berwick DVD ministry. The first run got the attention of the sales people and they realized something was happening when we purchased all their stock of blank DVDs that were on sale. By the third run we had accumulated more than 31,000 DVDs. Making these runs to the store has given us the opportunity to share the gospel with many of the sales personnel.

The Lord is working out His plan as we near the end of this earth's history. We are told to spread the truth of the gospel like "leaves of autumn." As the printed page was used by the early Adventists, now we must adapt to reach people by means of the modern media means such as DVDs. To date, the South Berwick Fellowship DVD ministry has shared more than 7,000 DVDs. By faith, we pray that the church will bear fruit for the Master.

—John Hersom, communication secretary, South Berwick Fellowship

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE

presents

MUSIC CLINIC

2009
APRIL 2 - 4, 2009

*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*



Trust AND OBEY

Program Schedule

Clinician &
Academy Concert
APRIL 2, 7:30 PM

Sacred
Concert
APRIL 3, 7:30 PM

Vespers &
Secular Concert
APRIL 4, 7:00 PM

Sabbath
Morning Concert
APRIL 4, 9:20 AM

Sabbath Church
Concert
APRIL 4, 11:00 AM

Guest Speaker PASTOR DENNIS FARLEY
SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE

FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2009

Hosted by PINE TREE ACADEMY, 67 POWNAL ROAD, FREEPORT, MAINE

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.NNEC.ORG OR CONTACT THE
NNEC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT 207-797-3760, EXT. 13

Blessings Poured Out From the Windows of Heaven

“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it”—Malachi 3:10 (NKJV).

The Southern New England Conference Treasury Department is charged with the sacred duty of administering the tithe. Leviticus 27:30 tells us, “And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s: it is holy unto the Lord.”

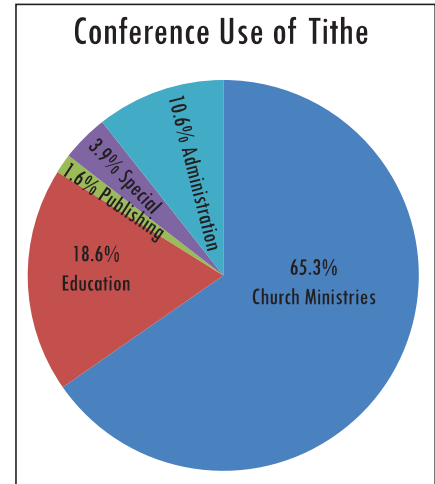
The total tithe received by the Southern New England Conference for 2008 was \$14.9 million. This is a two percent increase over the amount of tithe returned in 2007. We praise God for the faithfulness of the Southern New England Conference members. Even with the distress in our current economy, we see God’s blessing being poured out on the members of this conference.

Many people ask, “Where does my tithe dollar go?”

operation of the conference.

The next question usually asked is, “How does the conference spend the tithe?”

The Conference Use of Tithe graph breaks down the numbers. I’ll give you a little more detail about what each area covers. Church ministries includes pastor salaries and benefits, as well as, evangelism, the ministerial department, camp meeting, Camp Winnekeag, and the youth department. Education includes a portion of the teacher salaries and benefits, as well as funds for the education department. Special includes communication and Planned Giving and Trust Services departments. Administration includes the offices of president, secretary, and treasurer, as well as, the overall operations of



the conference office. mandated, the percentages are merely recommendations for you to contribute based on your income level. I encourage you to pray for the Lord’s guidance as to what He would like you to give.

I would like to give a word of appreciation to all the local church treasurers and the members of the conference treasury staff. They work tirelessly to get their reports done and complete their tasks in a timely manner. It would be a monumental task to create accurate reports without them. Without this team working together, very little would be accomplished in the conference.

Thank you again for faithfully returning your tithes and offerings and for allowing God the opportunity to bless you. ☺



Approximately four percent of the tithe sent to the Atlantic Union Conference and North American Division is returned to the conference in the form of an appropriation for education and evangelism. So, 63 percent of your tithe dollar is used in the

percent for evangelism, 30 percent for worthy student fund, 30 percent for church building appropriations.

The Southern New England Conference tithe envelope includes a percentage listed after each category. Other than tithe, which is biblically



Randall Terry is the Southern New England Conference treasurer.

Enrollment Increases Following Outreach Activity

About three-and-a-half years ago, Cedar Brook school conducted an outreach activity in its community. Literature about the school, along with some home-baked cookies, were distributed.

Little did we know what the Lord had in store for us. When we reached a particular neighbor, who lives only a block or two from the school, she was very receptive to our message. She was very concerned about what was going on in the local public school system, where her youngest son, Brandon, was currently enrolled. She

wanted to know if he could enroll in Cedar Brook. Principal Dausele Vieira, of course, said that Brandon could enroll in the school.

The good news doesn't end there. Brandon's family told friends about our school. The next academic year, Josh, Brandon's friend, also enrolled in Cedar Brook. And this year, Julie registered, another friend of Brandon's.

So from one God-sent visit we have been blessed with three new students. We truly have no greater joy than to show and teach God's wonderful love to all.

Thanks to our dedicated staff and God's everlasting grace, currently 26 percent of Cedar Brook's students are not members of a Seventh-day Adventist

church. We are thrilled that the importance of Christian education is being reached in these homes and that they have enrolled their



Josh, Brandon, and Julie enrolled in the Cedar Brook school following a school outreach activity in the community.

children in God's school.

—Lillian de Pina, teacher's assistant and volunteer music teacher, Cedar Brook school

Quinebaug Church: Making a Difference

The Quinebaug Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated a month-long theme of community service last fall. Each week, the church presented programs on community service and how to prepare for major emergencies. The church is an emergency shelter for the community.



Joe Donovan, fire chief, left, with John Amoah, pastor, center, and Roy Rodriguez, elder, right, present a community service program at the Quinebaug church.

John Amoah, pastor, shared various stories from the Bible of those with talents who used them to help the community. He encouraged us as Christians to use our talents to make the lives of others better. He shared that by providing the needy with clothing and food, and assisting with community service efforts on a regular basis, people will be able to see Jesus through our efforts, giving them hope for the future.

Joe Donovan, Sr., the local fire chief, talked about the fire department's role in the community. A 46-member volunteer crew, they service the 550 homes in the community and receive 100-120 calls per year. Fifteen years ago, the Quinebaug and Fabian fire departments held their first community Thanksgiving dinner for the elderly and needy in the community. Seventy-five people attended that event. Today, they have almost 130.

To say "thank you" to the Quinebaug fire department for their support to the community, the Quinebaug church members have an annual tradition of making apple crisp or pies for the firefighters.

—Ken Maynard, community secretary, Quinebaug church

Southern New England School Feature

The Amesbury Seventh-day Adventist School was established in 1922 to provide a learning environment where students develop Christ-like characters while developing mentally, physically, and spiritually. The teachers seek to teach students according to the highest academic standards. Presently, the two teachers have more than 70 years of combined teaching experience with 45 of those years at the Amesbury school. Students are educated to accept service as a way of life, to be sensitive to the needs of people in the home and society, and to become active members in their church.



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Le DVD de la mission adventiste est désormais disponible en quatre langues

La semaine dernière, le Bureau de la Mission Adventiste de l'église adventiste du septième jour a lancé pour la première fois sa première édition plurilingue du DVD de la Mission Adventiste, support qui informe les membres des différents projets missionnaires mondiaux.

En plus de l'anglais, le DVD trimestriel gratuit comprend maintenant le français, le portugais et l'espagnol.

Depuis 2006, le DVD trimestriel gratuit est envoyé à chaque congrégation adventiste d'Amérique du Nord et à chaque entité administrative du monde entier. Bien que certaines régions vont continuer à reproduire la bande audio pour leur propre groupe linguistique (comme le coréen et l'allemand), c'est la première fois que le DVD est fabriqué en série dans des langues multiples.

“Nous avons déjà reçu des remarques très positives à ce

sujet des pays hispanophones et lusophones” a déclaré Dan Weber, un des producteurs du DVD.

Selon plusieurs dirigeants de l'église, les personnes



Le DVD de la Mission Adventiste met en lumière les projets missionnaires mondiaux. Cette ressource trimestrielle est désormais disponible en quatre langues différentes.

qui utiliseront désormais ce DVD seront plus nombreuses. “Cela va nous permettre de proposer ce matériel à 80 % des congrégations d'Amérique

Centrale” a dit Carlyle Bayne, responsable des ministères à la Division Interaméricaine de l'Église adventiste.

Chaque DVD présente une douzaine d'histoires plus ou

tuellement diffusé à l'église, durant l'école du sabbat ou entre l'école du sabbat et le culte, ou dans les foyers. Chaque DVD comprend au moins une histoire écrite et racontée par un enfant.

Le DVD de ce trimestre comprend des reportages sur un bateau-clinique en Indonésie, l'engagement par la foi d'un croyant dans les environs hostiles de Côte d'Ivoire ainsi que d'autres projets en Asie du Sud-est et en Afrique.

Pour commander un exemplaire supplémentaire du DVD de la Mission Adventiste ou pour regarder les récits en ligne, allez sur www.AdventistMission.org.

*Adventist News Network Staff
6 January 2009
Traduction: Stephanie Elofer*

English translation available at: news.adventist.org/data/2009/1231255846/index.html

L'Église adventiste apporte de l'aide suite au tremblement de terre au Costa Rica

L'église adventiste du septième jour et l'Agence Adventiste d'Aide et de Développement (ADRA) du Costa Rica continuent d'évaluer les dégâts causés par un tremblement de terre de magnitude 6,1 qui a frappé le nord de ce pays d'Amérique Centrale le 8 janvier dernier.

Selon les dirigeants de l'Église adventiste, aucune perte humaine n'est survenue parmi nos membres. Mais ils disent qu'ils essaient toujours de retrouver tous les membres locaux et d'évaluer les dégâts alors que les routes redevennent petit à petit plus accessibles.

D'après les responsables locaux, le tremblement de terre, dont l'épicentre était situé à 35 kilomètres au nord-ouest de San Jose, près du Parc National du Volcan Poas, a fait des dizaines

de disparus et a laissé des milliers de personnes sans eau, sans électricité et sans téléphone.

“La situation est vraiment pénible” a déclaré Roberto Romero, directeur d'ADRA Costa Rica. “Le tremblement de terre a frappé une région montagneuse qui comptait peu d'habitants et d'habitations. Pourtant, 42 petites communautés ont complètement disparues et sont devenues des villes fantômes.”

Les rapports disent que des adventistes ont perdu leurs maisons, a déclaré Marlon Moodie, secrétaire exécutif et directeur des communications pour la Division d'Amérique Centrale et d'Amérique du Sud. L'église, la bibliothèque, la cafétéria et le bâtiment de l'école d'ingénieur de l'université adventiste d'Alajuela ont été endommagés.

La région nord de la Mission du Costa Rica, qui compte plus de 55 églises, a été très touchée, a expliqué M. Moodie.

Le lendemain du tremblement de terre, une vingtaine de jeunes élèves médicaux adventistes de San Jose ont proposé une assistance médicale. Des dizaines de jeunes adventistes se sont également portés volontaires auprès de la Commission Nationale d'Urgence du Costa Rica pour aider aux secours et opérations d'aide après le tremblement de terre, a ajouté R. Romero.

D'après R. Romero, ADRA Costa Rica continue d'agir en coordination avec les églises adventistes locales pour collecter de la nourriture afin de la distribuer dans les centres de gestion des catastrophes désignés par le gouvernement.

Fin décembre, ADRA a également réagi suite aux pluies torrentielles qui sont tombées sur la côte Est du Costa Rica, inondant la province de Limón, détruisant les habitations et isolant plus de 100 communautés. L'association a distribué des colis alimentaires d'urgence à plus de 570 habitants qui luttent pour se remettre, après les pires précipitations qu'a connu la région depuis plus de 60 ans. Au Costa Rica, quelques 60000 adventistes du septième jour se retrouvent dans 173 églises pour louer le Seigneur.

*Libna Stevens
Inter-American Division and
Adventist News Network Staff
13 January 2009
Traduction: Stephanie Elofer*

English translation available at: news.adventist.org/data/2009/1231862863/index.html

Brasil: Cómo hace un pastor en el Amazonas para atender 24 iglesias

El pastor Raimundo Viana toma una siesta en una lancha de motor mientras avanza río arriba. Su cabeza descansa en su bote salvavidas.

Aunque es domingo y no sábado (que es cuando normalmente trabajan más los pastores adventistas), Viana acaba de bautizar cinco personas y ahora el conductor de la lancha lo está llevando hasta otra de sus congregaciones, que visita cada dos meses.

“Siempre estoy ocupado,” dijo después de despertarse y admitir que no ve a su esposa y a sus cinco hijos todo lo que quisiera. Por

tes de Latinoamérica, África y el sudeste asiático.

En el norte de Brasil, donde cada año se unen a la iglesia unas 45.000 personas, los líderes están haciendo lo que pueden para adaptarse a este veloz crecimiento.

El próximo año, abrirá sus puertas un nuevo colegio adventista en Belén, cerca de la desembocadura del río Amazonas, y ofrecerá programas de teología para ayudar a satisfacer la demanda de pastores en la región.

Asimismo, la Unión Misión del Norte del Brasil será subdividida en una segunda unión que tendrá su sede en la ciudad septen-

más de cien miembros.

Después de un viaje de 45 minutos corriente arriba por el río Preguiça, el conductor empuja el bote contra una barrera de arena a unos pocos cientos de metros de una construcción de madera de 15x15 metros pintada de verde claro. Es el templo para una familia de pescadores que viven en el paraje conocido como Alazão en las riberas del río y frente a una duna de arena.

El año pasado, Viana fue el invitado de honor en la ceremonia de inauguración de la nueva ubicación del edificio. Cada pocos años, el templo es trasladado varios cientos de metros para evitar que las arenas lo cubran.

En el lugar, los adolescentes ayudan a sus familias a pescar en la mañana y asisten a la escuela por las tardes, después de caminar una media hora.

Viana dirigió un cántico y entonces ofreció un devocional en voz lo suficientemente alta como para superar al viento que sopla a través de las rendijas.

Después de visitar a los feligreses y de recibir un coco fresco como regalo, regresó al bote, ahora en dirección a su hogar. Había estado allí alrededor de una hora.

La Unión del Norte del Brasil cuenta en la actualidad con 320 pastores para una feligresía de 444.000, lo que significa un pastor cada 1.390 feligreses.

Otras divisiones de la iglesia han analizado el precio que tienen que pagar los ministros al llevar semejante

carga de trabajo. A pesar de ello, las conclusiones son escasas. Un directivo de la iglesia afirmó el año pasado que un crecimiento tan elevado podría sobrepasar la capacidad de la iglesia de producir suficientes ministros.

En julio de 2010, el Colegio Adventista del Amazonas, ubicado en Belén, aceptará su primera cohorte de estudiantes de teología.

Hace poco tiempo, un productor de video capturó las imágenes y sonidos de la construcción que se lleva a cabo en el predio. Se espera que el colegio reciba los fondos provenientes de una ofrenda de la Iglesia Adventista mundial y que aparezca en una futura edición del DVD de Misión Adventista.

Los obreros pintaron paredes y acomodaron los elementos de las instalaciones en una residencia estudiantil que espera utilizar la luz natural en las habitaciones y pasillos a fin de reducir el consumo de energía. Cada habitación tendrá puertos de Internet, un refrigerador, un televisor y un microondas.

Después de su inauguración, el colegio introducirá una carrera nueva por año, como por ejemplo títulos de grado en educación y tecnología informática, de manera de ayudar a sostener los hospitales, escuelas e instituciones de la iglesia en la región.

*Ansel Oliver, asistente director
Adventist News Network*

*Jefferson Kern contribuyó con esta historia
26 January 2009*

Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

*English translation available at: news.
adventist.org/data/2009/1233000060/
index.html.en*

La Unión del Norte del Brasil cuenta en la actualidad con 320 pastores para una feligresía de 444.000, lo que significa un pastor cada 1.390 feligreses.

lo general Viana no puede tomarse los lunes libre, como le han recomendado sus supervisores, ya que tiene que atender a 24 iglesias (con un total de 1.160 miembros) en el distrito de Lençóis Maranhense, en el estado septentrional de Maranhão.

Para Viana y otros pastores como él del Brasil, la única manera de atender a su esparcida grey es viajar sobre ruedas, en bote o a pie. Es común que en las regiones rurales los ministros tengan una docena o más de iglesias, y algunos llegan a cuarenta. Lo mismo sucede en otras par-

trional de Manaus, varios cientos de kilómetros río arriba en el Amazonas.

“Vemos muchas oportunidades allí y queremos tener la capacidad de apoyar de mejor manera a nuestros miembros,” dijo Erton Kohler, presidente de la División Sudamericana, a ANN en octubre pasado al referirse a esta nueva subdivisión.

El pastor Viana, de 51 años, y que fuera jugador profesional de fútbol, tiene el cabello corto y usa lentes de sol, pantalones negros y una camisa blanca que lleva el logo de Ministerios de la Familia. Sus congregaciones van desde los once hasta los

Family Violence (Part Two)

(This official Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Family Violence is continued from page 24 of the February 2009 issue of the Atlantic Union GLEANER).

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).

Family Violence (Part Two)

Regrettably, family violence occurs in many Christian homes. It can never be condoned. It severely affects the lives of all involved and often results in long term distorted perceptions of God, self, and others.

It is our belief that the Church has a responsibility—

1. To care for those involved in family violence and to respond to their needs by:
 - A. Listening to and accepting those suffering from abuse, loving and affirming them as persons of value and worth.
 - B. Highlighting the injustices of abuse and speaking out in defense of victims both within the community of faith and in society.
 - C. Providing a caring, supportive ministry to families affected by violence and abuse, seeking to enable both victims and perpetrators to access counseling with Seventh-day Adventist professionals where available or other professional resources in the community.
 - D. Encouraging the training and placement of licensed Seventh-day Adventist professional services for both church members and the surrounding communities.
 - E. Offering a ministry of reconciliation when the perpetrator's repentance makes possible the contemplation of forgiveness and restoration in relationships. Repentance always includes acceptance of full responsibility for the wrongs committed, willingness to make restitution in every way possible, and changes in behavior to eliminate the abuse.
 - F. Focusing the light of the gospel on the nature of husband-wife, parent-child, and

other close relationships, and empowering individuals and families to grow toward God's ideals in their lives together.

- G. Guarding against the ostracism of either victims or perpetrators within the family or church community, while firmly holding perpetrators responsible for their actions.

2. To strengthen family life by:

- A. Providing family life education which is grace-oriented and includes a biblical understanding of the mutuality, equality, and respect indispensable to Christian relationships.
- B. Increasing understanding of the factors that contribute to family violence.
- C. Developing ways to prevent abuse and violence and the recurring cycle often observed within families and across generations.
- D. Rectifying commonly held religious and cultural beliefs which may be used to justify or cover up family violence. For example, while parents are instructed by God to redemptively correct their children, this responsibility does not give license for the use of harsh, punitive disciplinary measures.

3. To accept our moral responsibility to be alert and responsive to abuse within the families of our congregations and our communities, and to declare that such abusive behavior is a violation of Seventh-day Adventist Christian standards. Any indications or reports of abuse must not be minimized but seriously considered. For church members to remain indifferent and unresponsive is to condone, perpetuate, and possibly extend family violence.

If we are to live as children of the light, we must illuminate the darkness where family violence occurs in our midst. We must care for one another, even when it would be easier to remain uninvolved.

(The above statement is informed by principles expressed in the following scriptural passages: Exodus 20:12; Matthew 7:12; 20:25-28; Mark 9:33-45; John 13:34; Romans 12:10, 13; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 5:2, 3, 21-27; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:12-14; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; 1 Timothy 5:5-8.)¹⁰

This statement was voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administrative Committee (ADCOM) on August 27, 1996, and was sent for consideration by the Annual Council in San Jose, Costa Rica, October 1-10, 1996.



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9:30–10:30 a.m. Laurel Oaks School, Hamden, Conn.
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Omega Church, New Haven, Conn.
2:00–2:30 p.m. Waterbury Spanish Church, Conn.

March 15 – Orders due March 11, 5:00 p.m.

9:30–10:00 a.m. Bennington Church, Vermont
11:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Rutland Church, Vermont
2:30–3:00 p.m. Morrisville Church, Vermont
5:00–5:30 p.m. South Newbury Church, Vermont

March 22 – Orders due March 18, 5:00 p.m.

10:30–11:00 a.m. Brooklawn Church, Bridgeport, Conn.
12:30–1:00 p.m. Danbury-Bethel Church, Bethel, Conn.
3:00–3:30 p.m. Hope Church, Bloomfield, Conn.

March 29—Orders due March 25, 5:00 p.m.

9:00–9:30 a.m. Three Angels Church, Whiting, Maine
10:30–11:00 a.m. Calais Church, Maine
1:30–2:00 p.m. Presque Isle Church, Maine
3:00–3:30 p.m. Oakfield Church, Maine
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April 3 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
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April 5—Truckload Food Sale (One day, in-store sale only)

10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. South Lancaster, Mass.
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April 17–19

Southern New England Conference Spanish Women's Retreat, Best Western, Marlboro, Massachusetts

April 24–26

Southern New England and Northern New England Conference Women's Retreat, Mount Snow, Vermont

May 3—Orders due April 29, 5:00 p.m.

9:30–10:30 a.m. Laurel Oaks School, Hamden, Conn.
11:30–12:30 p.m. Omega Church, New Haven, Conn.
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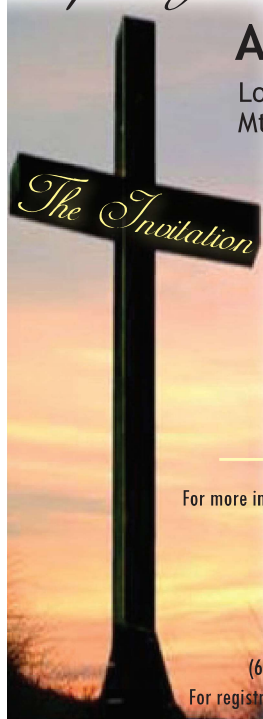
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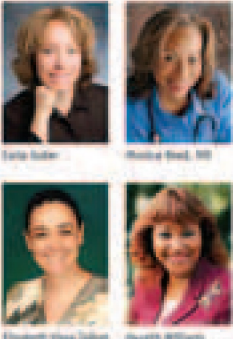
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Sunset Table

April 2009	3	10	17	24	Eastern Daylight Savings Time
Bangor, ME	7:06	7:15	7:24	7:33	
Portland, ME	7:11	7:19	7:28	7:36	
Boston, MA	7:13	7:21	7:29	7:37	
South Lancaster, MA	7:16	7:24	7:32	7:39	
Pittsfield, MA	7:22	7:30	7:38	7:46	
Hartford, CT	7:19	7:27	7:35	7:42	
New York, NY	7:24	7:31	7:38	7:46	
Albany, NY	7:23	7:31	7:39	7:47	
Utica, NY	7:31	7:39	7:47	7:55	
Syracuse, NY	7:34	7:42	7:50	7:59	
Rochester, NY	7:40	7:48	7:56	8:05	
Buffalo, NY	7:45	7:53	8:01	8:09	
Hamilton, Bda	7:39	7:44	7:49	7:54	

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NORTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

Mount of Olives Church Abundant Life Series—Seminars: Healthy Living, March 27–29, with Vernon and Sheree Dawson (medical and nutritional screenings and more); Relationships—Building and Maintaining Healthy Relationships, April 3–5, with Nancy Van-Pelt (one-on-one counseling sessions); Spirituality—Does it Really Matter?, April 10–12, with Pablo

Huerfano; Finances—Making Every Penny Count, April 17–19, with James Lewis (one-on-one financial planning sessions). Location: Mt. of Olives Seventh-day Adventist Church, 975 Bushwick Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11221 (bet. Menahan and Grove Streets), (718) 453-6312. Times: 7:00 p.m. on Fridays; 10:00 a.m. on Saturdays; 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. Free to all and includes special giveaways and refreshments. It can turn your life around! Discover how you too can enjoy the abundant life.

OUT-OF-UNION

100th Anniversary Celebration for the Beiseker Level Land Seventh-day Adventist Church, Jul. 31 to Aug. 2 Please come and celebrate with us! To register or for more information, contact beisekersdachurch@me.com or call Jim Tetz at (403) 947-2909.

"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion will take place June 11–14, for alumni

and schoolmates of 1959 and earlier, at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA). Honor classes: '29, '39, '49, '59. For further information, contact the GLAA Alumni Office at (989) 427-5181 or visit www.GLAA.net.

Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend is on April 24–25

All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars. Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes, '49, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 and '99. Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, and church. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, we need your e-mail addresses. Send it to: shona@cross.co.za, or call Shona Cross at (630) 428-4182.

OBITUARIES

SHERMAN, Phyllis Nadine (Ray)—87, b. Aug. 2, 1921, in Omaha, Neb.; d. Sept. 23, 2008, in Ridgecrest, Calif. Survivors include her husband, Alva L. (Bud) Sherman; two daughters, June Graham of McMinnville, Ore., and Ruth Schrems of Ridgecrest, Calif. The Sherman's served in the Southern and Northern New England conferences and in the Far East.

SLOCUM, Eleanor (English)—86, b. Sept. 15, 1922; d. Oct. 27, 2008, in Malinus, N.Y. She was a member of the Westvale

Seventh-day Adventist Church in Syracuse, N.Y. She was an active member who led Ingathering, sang in the choir, taught adult Sabbath School class, and supported Adventist education. Survivors include a son, Ronald Slocum of N.H.; a daughter, Rebecca Conable of Malinus, N.Y.; two brothers, Richard English of Sodus, N.Y., and Sydney English of Colo.; a sister, Mary Jane Shaven of Alton, N.Y.; seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference
Constituency Session

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the 35th Session of the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists called to convene at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, May 31, 2009, in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. The purpose of this meeting is:

1. To receive reports.
2. To elect conference officers, departmental directors, and executive committee.
3. To consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the conference.
4. To accept new churches or disband churches as may be necessary.
5. To transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

According to the constitutional provision, each organized church is entitled to one delegate and one additional delegate for each thirty-five (35) church members or major fraction thereof.

Lunch will be provided.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that a meeting of the Organizing Committee will convene at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2009, in Bailey Hall, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561, for the purpose of appointing the members of the Nominating Committee to serve for that meeting. There shall be one member chosen for the Organizing Committee for each constituent church plus an additional member for each 500 members or major fraction thereof.

Lunch will be provided.

Frank Tochtermann, President
Juan Borges, Executive Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference
Association
Regular Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

of the Regular Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference Association, a Massachusetts corporation, is called to meet in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561 on Sunday, May 31, 2009 at 9:00 a.m., concurrently with the regular session of the conference.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers and a board of trustees, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates of Southern New England Conference Constituency Session will be the delegates for the Southern New England Conference Association.

Lunch will be provided.

Frank Tochtermann, President
Jeff Linthwaite, Secretary

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ful teaching experience, enthusiasm, flexibility, and commitment to nursing and Adventist education. Doctorate preferred, but will consider other qualified individuals. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Desiree Batson, Search Committee Chair, drbatson@southern.edu. SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

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UNION COLLEGE seeks Adventist nursing instructor for Maternal-Child tenure track position. Doctorate with teaching experience preferred. Must have M.S.N. with teaching and/or clinical experience. Submit CV, cover letter, and three references to Jeff Joiner, Union College, 3800 S. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506 or jejoiner@ucollege.edu.

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Atlantic Union GLEANER Staff

E-mail: gleaner@atlanticunion.org

Editor: Ednor A. P. Davison
 Assistant Editor: Tamara Michalenko Terry
 Copy Editor: Pat Humphrey
 Layout & Design: Hazel Olivera

Correspondents

Bermuda Sheila Holder, sholder@bermudaconference.bm
 Greater New York Alanzo Smith, aljun677@aol.com
 New York Kim Kaiser, kim@nyconf.com
 Northeastern Stephen Williams, swilliams@northeastern.org
 Northern New England Lynn Ortel, lorTEL@nnec.org
 Southern New England Frank Tochterman, frochterman@sneconline.org
 Atlantic Union College Cindy Kurtzhals, cindy.kurtzhals@auc.edu
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