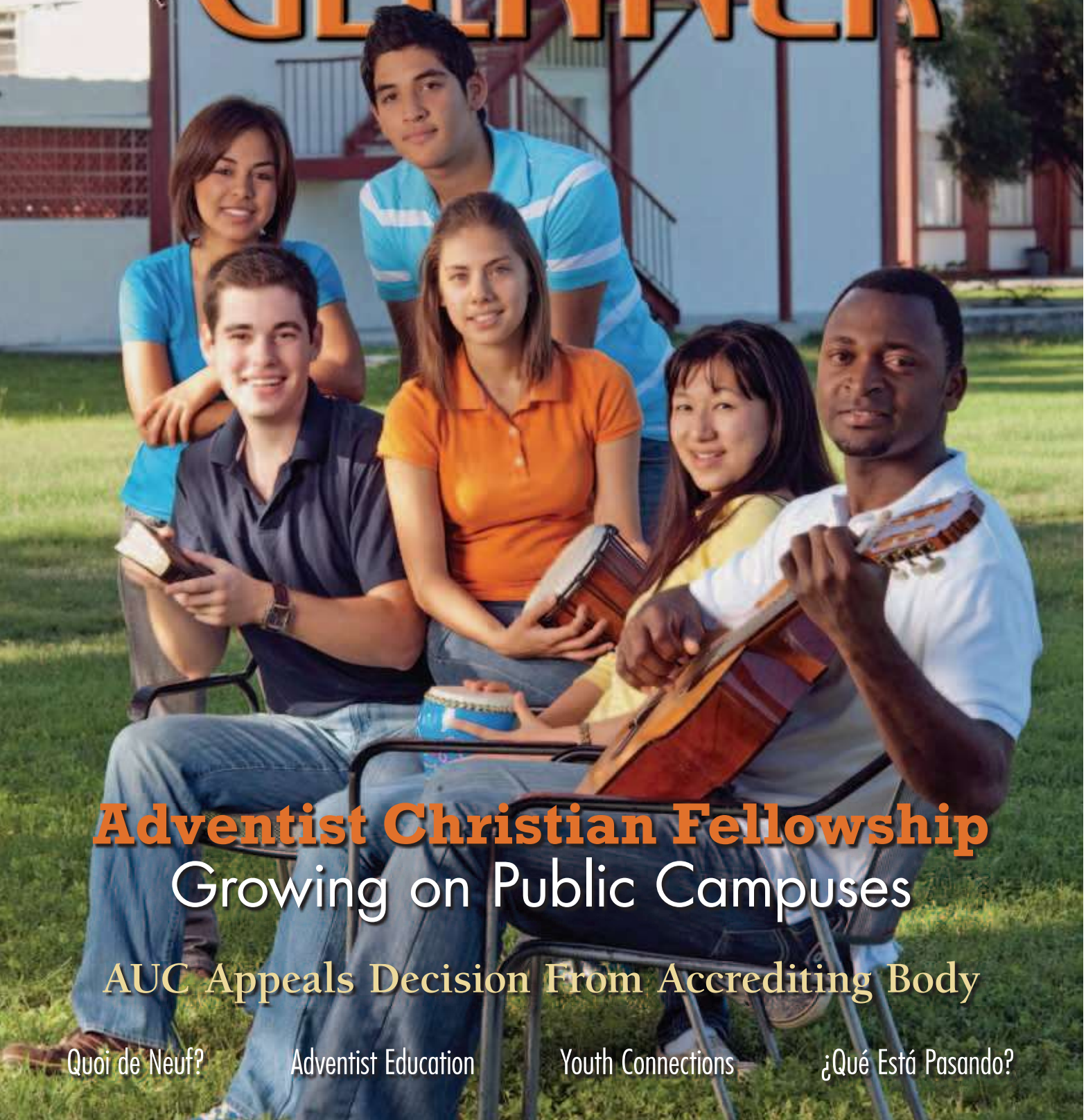


THE ATLANTIC UNION

AUGUST 2010

GLEANER



Adventist Christian Fellowship Growing on Public Campuses

AUC Appeals Decision From Accrediting Body

Quoi de Neuf?

Adventist Education

Youth Connections

¿Qué Está Pasando?

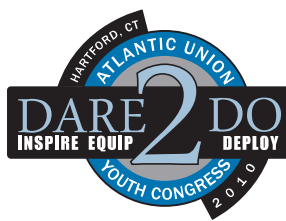
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IN THIS ISSUE...

Nearly 70 percent of Seventh-day Adventist students attend public colleges and universities. They are, in many instances, largely forgotten. Pastors, administrators, and youth leaders in the Atlantic Union have a deep concern for these students. In this issue, we share a few of the endeavors that are helping to encourage and nurture Adventist students on public college/university campuses while, at the same time, giving them an opportunity to share the Adventist faith with others in their community. Our regular features include: Adventist Education, Positions of Our Faith, and Youth Connections. The cover photo is from iStockphoto.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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October 2010	August 13
November 2010	September 10
December 2010	October 8

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

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Fulfilling the Mission at Every Opportunity



Every day we live, we have an opportunity or opportunities to do, say, or be, positive, productive, and inspiring. We have the opportunity to grow spiritually and develop strong faith-connectors and commitments. Jesus said in Matthew 24:13, 14 (NIV): “But he who stands firm to the end will be saved.” And He went on to say that, “This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

Standing firm to the end, that is, the Second Coming of Jesus, and preaching the gospel to all the nations as a testimony to the saving grace of Jesus are two challenges and opportunities for every Christian.

For many Adventist students attending public colleges and universities, these two challenges of Christian endeavor are being carried out in a variety of ways. I well remember visiting a public university campus in Boston to be a part of the Friday-evening worship service. Among the Adventist students, there were also non-Adventist friends present. What a testimony to the power and presence of Jesus to begin the Sabbath by singing songs of praise and worship, engaging in prayer, sharing testimonies of God’s blessings through the week, and having a spoken Word from the Bible.

Across the North American Division, and perhaps around the world, Adventist students are realizing the opportunity to fulfill Matthew 24:13, 14 on public college campuses. Reflecting again on my Boston Friday-evening experience, present in our group were individuals from Africa, Asia,

the Caribbean, and the United States. In sharing their testimonies and discussing the Bible, these students were witnessing to their faith, the Sabbath, and the Three Angels Messages of Revelation 14, which are the recognized messages of the Adventist Church to the world. Such an inclusive group provides the opportunity to share one’s beliefs and, at the same time, to accomplish the mission of carrying the gospel to the whole world in a unique way.

Consider that on public campuses where international students gather, it is possible for them to become acquainted with the Adventist message and even embrace the message and become members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. These students, now as members, are then equipped, not only with the message but with the language skills to carry the message to their fellow countrymen and countrywomen. This, in my judgment, provides an opportunity for our students to have a part in fulfilling Matthew 24:14.

It is, therefore, my prayer that every Adventist student who finds himself or herself in such a setting as a public campus or an Adventist campus will stand firm to the teachings of the Bible and of the church and use every opportunity to spread the good news of salvation, the blessed hope, and the soon return of Jesus Christ. ①

Carlyle C Simmons is the Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary and director of the Health Ministries, Human Relations, and Prayer Ministries departments.

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A Divine Encounter

By Ednor A. P. Davison

My first encounter with the Seventh-day Adventist Church was as a result of the invitation of two students on a Jewish university campus. As a Christian, not Adventist, I traveled some 15 miles to Boston, Massachusetts, to attend church every Sunday.

Two Adventists were among the student body on campus during my second year. They were from my home country, Antigua, and they knew my family of origin. Having invited me to attend church with them, we worshiped at the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church in Dorchester, Massachusetts, and I was delighted to be among young people who loved the Lord as I did. The church welcomed students from campuses in the Boston and surrounding areas. I will always remember the warmth and ministry of two families in particular, John and Wilma Germany (John is now deceased and Wilma has retired to Alabama) and John and Euince Grayson (both recently deceased). Their lives exemplified true Christ-like behavior as they shared their love and compassion in a way that drew young people to the church again and again.

I will always remember the Sabbath School class and lunchtime discus-

sions, the trips to take Sabbath programs to other churches, the Saturday evening get-togethers in their homes, and much more.

It was 13 years before I joined the Adventist Church as a full-fledged member, but week after week for that entire period of time I was a part of the worship, fellowship, the ups and downs, the good and bad, and happy and sad times of the Adventist Church.

There are thousands of students on college/university campuses today who will never hear the news of Jesus Christ if someone does not go and tell them. It could be through an Adventist student that God has placed on the campus or it could be through church members who intentionally reach out to the college community and welcome students into their fellowship.

Campus ministry now has an official name; it didn't back then. Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) is the ministry under which the North American Division Youth and Young Adult Ministries Department is reaching out to the approximately 70 percent of Adventist students on public campuses and the many others who need to hear the good news about Jesus. There are ACF chapters springing up everywhere, including in the Atlantic Union.

The mission of ACF/NAD (www.acflink.org) is to:

- Build Christian fellowship chapters on non-Adventist campuses that honor God and nurture the spiritual lives of students.
- Engage students in the mission of the church through relational evangelism and Christ-like student fellowships.
- Empower local ACF chapters, churches, and sponsors through pastoral support, professional training, and access to resources.

Many years ago, Yvonne Sheridan (nee Philip), now an ordained elder at the Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Bronx, New York, and Tony DeSuza, a deceased member of the Corona Seventh-day Adventist Church in Corona, New York, took the time to plant a seed, and the rest is history—I have never looked back.

What are you doing to reach out to students in your area? ☺

Ednor A. P. Davison is the editor of the Atlantic Union GLEANER and assistant to the president for communication in the Atlantic Union Conference.



Baptisms at the Boston Temple

By Candis Joseph and Solveig Turner

Members of the Boston Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church in Boston, Massachusetts, have seen blessings resulting from their 40 Days of Prayer campaign. One only needs to look closely at the results of the campus ministry effort.

Three young people, Trajan "TJ" Baxton, Rout Asefa, and Abeba Wildes were baptized by Kenroy Malcolm, pastor of the Boston Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church, at the conclusion of the 40 Days of Prayer.

On March 27 at the conclusion of the 40 Days of Prayer, Kenroy Malcolm, the church's pastor, baptized three young people: Rout Asefa, 14, a student at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School; Abeba Wildes, 20, a junior at Salem State College studying social work; and Trajan "TJ" Baxton, 24, who had come to Boston during a low period of his life in response to his brother's

Visit the Atlantic Union Web site

Adventist Christian Fellowship in Upstate New York

By Gary Wagner

Nearly 70 percent of Seventh-day Adventist students who go to college attend public colleges and universities. Even with this, we seem historically to have forgotten these precious young adults, and have lost many of them.

The New York Conference is not willing to lose any more. Building on the many Adventist students at several New York campuses, ACF/NY (Adventist Christian Fellowship in New York) has set a goal of having a ministry on every public college and university campus in the conference territory. The students are leading this drive. Student organizations already exist in Syracuse, Binghamton, Cornell, Rochester, Geneseo, Buffalo, and Albany.

In Binghamton, students have conducted evangelistic meetings on their campus and plan to do so again this year. Already this year, Syracuse University students hosted students from several campuses to compare notes and learn to build their talents to reach out to the other students. Cornell University ACF invited stu-



The training seminar, held at the Ithaca Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ithaca, New York, was organized by students at Cornell University and was attended by representatives from eight campuses.

dents from around the state to inspire them to see what can be accomplished by ministering on campus, and to help them learn how to find those who want to study the Bible.

Thanksgiving 2009 gave ACF at SUNY Geneseo an opportunity to invite fellow students and other ACF groups from Rochester to sit around a table set with a vegetarian feast. A Bible study followed, reminding all to Whom the thanks should be given.

ACF/NY is looking to the future.

Many Adventists receive their higher education at public campuses. . . . It is time to find them, minister to them, and empower them to grow in their walk with the Lord.

For more information on how you can help, contact Wagner at Dr.GaryWagner@gmail.com. ☺

Gary Wagner is the pastor of the Rochester Genesee Park and Sandy Creek Seventh-day Adventist churches and the New York Conference Adventist Christian Fellowship leader.

prayers and found Christ through a new Boston Temple ministry collaboration, Campus HOPE Fellowship.

By bringing church to campus through the Campus HOPE Fellowship, that is located on the campus of Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Boston Temple has found a way to synergize the enthusiasm of local youth actively involved in campus ministry with its

mission to minister to the needs of the many college and university students in Boston.

With weekly services held on campus every Sabbath, students and young professionals, who would not usually attend church in a formal setting, are provided with a forum on campus where worship and Bible study take place. In addition to the Bible-based messages that inspire and

challenge their spiritual development, students and young professionals are introduced to a community of believers who can relate to the questions, challenges, and distractions that can hinder them from maintaining their walk with God. ☺

Candis Joseph is a member of Campus HOPE Fellowship and Solveig Turner, is on the Boston Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church Communication Department staff.



As He Leads

By Sheena Sterling

I was raised in the Seventh-day Baptist Church, and I never once thought that I would leave my church for another, nor had I ever questioned its teachings.



Sheena Sterling

When our family migrated to America from Jamaica, West Indies, in 1996, we couldn't find a Seventh-day Baptist Church and we attended my uncle's Seventh-day Adventist Church

in Elmont, New York. I did not know much about the Adventist Church, other than the fact that they kept the Sabbath in pretty much the same way we did. Eventually we found a Seventh-day Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. Not long after, a Seventh-day Baptist Church was planted in Queens and my father became the pastor.

I was actively involved in this church until leaving for college at Stony Brook University in New York. In college I met many Adventist students and went to church with them every Sabbath since there was no Seventh-day Baptist Church. In time, we decided to study the Bible together to find answers to relevant issues.

One semester, we began studying the prophecies in the book of Daniel. I was intrigued because I did not know about these prophecies. About a year later, we began studying the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation and focused more closely on the beast and Babylon. I will never forget how I felt as the thought hit me that perhaps I was in Babylon. *Was I supposed to get out? Would I be in spiritual danger if I remained content with my own church?* The questions plagued me, and challenged me to be more open to hearing God's voice on the subject. Thus began my search for the church that the Lord wanted me attend.

When I moved to Boston in July

2007, I decided to make Boston Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church in Boston, Massachusetts, my church home. It was there that I connected with the Boston Campus HOPE group. I found a community of young adults who were just as interested in studying the Word of God and who provided a place of fellowship outside of church. I loved being with them!

The Bible studies and sermons helped deepen my understanding of God and His Word. The retreat I attended afforded me a view of the Adventist Church that I had never had before. By February 2009, I made up my mind to become a Seventh-day Adventist Christian and joined the church by profession of faith. I was rebaptized on April 18.

My baptism was only the beginning of a deeper walk with Christ. Looking back over my life, I am convinced that the Lord had been preparing the way for me to receive the truth since I moved to this country. I am grateful that there were laborers in New York and Boston to plant seeds of truth and cultivate and reap the harvest. I thank the Lord that such a community exists to nurture young people who are seeking truth. ☺

Sheena Sterling is a member of the Boston Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church in Boston, Massachusetts.

Adventist Students Share Their Faith on Campus . . .

"I try and invite my college friends to Bible study on Friday nights. Many of them have come and have enjoyed it; some have even come to church. One of my closest friends even started bringing her mother with her to Bible study as well as her boyfriend, who has not been to church in a long time."—*Courtney Johnson, Utica College*

"I share my faith using God-hints—little mentions of God in passing dur-

ing conversation. By dropping 'hints,' those who don't believe aren't offended, and those who are curious can use that comment to jump-start a conversation."—*Theodore Lee '09, Cornell University*

"It's next to impossible to plan a good witnessing 'moment.' God plans them for us. We have to be prepared, because we never know when the opportunity is going to arise. I want to

work with the Spirit, and so I do my best to always be ready and to always have the time to talk when He impresses on someone's heart to ask."—*Thomas Whitson, Kansas University*

"Weekly, I help lead out in Bible studies on campus that are meant to be evangelistic, addressing Bible doctrines that are fundamental to a correct understanding of God's character."—*Sorochi Esochaghi, '09, Boston University*





By Rondi Aastrup

Adventist Christian Education Matters

Students at Greater Boston Academy (GBA) in Stoneham, Massachusetts, have always known their education is special. True, they don't always admit to it, and they often take it for granted, but if a stranger were to ask them what is so different about their education, their list of accolades would look something like this:

1. You're in an environment where God is being brought into your classes every day.
2. You're more at ease knowing that you're not alone in prayer and that your school is also praying for you.
3. You get a great education (maintains brain power).
4. There are smaller classes so the teacher can focus on all the students.
5. There is a family-like education and atmosphere.
6. It keeps a reminder in your head that there is a God.
7. You get the best of both worlds. You learn about the Bible as well as the other stuff.
8. You're in an environment where you share the same faith with others.
9. You learn important things to get a good job in the world but also realize that without God it isn't really meaningful.
10. You feel safer on the school grounds.

11. You are in an environment where God is the main focus. You are not exposed to things that are more worldly.
12. Teachers, along with students, study the Bible and, together, form a bond with each other and with God.
13. The godly environment gives room to do lots of things because students behave well.
14. Kids have the opportunity to

"Students who attend

Adventist schools are more

likely to remain in the church

than those who don't."

share ideas and beliefs about God without being afraid.

15. People from bad homes are given the opportunity to be cared for and to learn in a safe environment.
16. You learn, first of all, that Jesus Christ created this world, that He loves us, and will be back to take us to heaven.
17. You learn not just knowledge, but how to live in the world, under many temptations and confusions.

18. You learn how to apply Christianity, even in the other subjects, like science and math.
19. It gives students a good foundation in their lives so they can effectively stay in the church more often than those who are not in Christian schools.
20. Our faith can grow strong so that no matter what comes our way in life, we can overcome it.

This list was actually drawn from a much longer list collected from Greater Boston Academy students over a period of 20 years. No doubt, many of the same things could be said about other Adventist schools. The truth is, Adventist education matters. Students who attend Adventist schools are more likely to remain in the church than those who don't. The longer they stay in Adventist schools, the more likely they are to stay in the church. This is the eternal benefit of Adventist education and why it should matter to you. ☺



Rondi Aastrup is a freelance writer and educator who served the Southern New England Conference for 25 years and Greater Boston Academy for the past 17 years.



How Fit Are You as a Youth Leader?

There are a lot of books, magazines, and other materials out there that tell you how to look fit and healthy. Each time I look at the front cover of MEN'S HEALTH magazine, which shows what good abs should look like and how to look like the model in the picture, I get envious. Our church places a lot of emphasis on staying healthy and fit, and rightly so. Have you ever thought about what healthy youth leaders should look like?

Let me share a 10 point plan on staying healthy as a youth leader.

- 1. Stay spiritually fit**—If we expect our young people to grow spiritually, we should be growing spiritually, as well. It is important that every youth leader keep Jesus as the focus in their lives. Commit time each day for prayer, devotion, personal worship. Ministry flows from who we are rather than what we do, and being is much more important than doing in youth ministry.
- 2. Stay physically fit**—I work out in a gym on a regular basis. A long time ago, I made a promise that if I was going to work with youth, I needed to stay physically fit. Investing time for exercise and healthy eating can produce real results in extra energy and longer life. Take time to spend 30 to 60 minutes daily on intentional exercise!
- 3. Care for your family**—So many of our youth come from broken homes, single parent homes, and dysfunctional homes. It is important that the youth leader model a stable home. Make sure you're spending quality time with your own family. Make sure your priorities are where they should be—God, family, youth ministry.
- 4. Be yourself**—Don't try to be like a youth leader in a neighboring church. Don't pretend to be someone you're not. God made you the way you are for a purpose. Let Him speak through you just the way you are. Young people are looking for genuine adults who really show that they care and who are passionate for God.
- 5. Maintain a positive attitude**—Having a positive attitude is one of the most important traits of a

healthy youth leader. Even though things may be bad, always maintain that smile and a positive attitude. A positive attitude is catching, and your youth will catch on, as well.

- 6. Build a personal support network**—Build a network of those whom you can freely call on and who support you regularly in prayer. There will be times when you will need the support of those who share your passion for youth ministry.
- 7. Live in the real world**—It is easy to lose site of what is really happening around us. Find ways to stay connected. Stay tuned, read, observe, or log onto the Internet to tune in to the outside.
- 8. Invest your time wisely**—A good youth leader is a multi-tasker. What are you doing to stay organized so your valuable time is always used wisely? Is your purpose clear? What is God calling you to do where you are now?
- 9. Don't reinvent the wheel**—The old saying "There is nothing new under the sun" is true in youth ministry. Just Google youth ministry and you will find a plethora of youth ministry sites that will give you great ideas or ideas you can make your own. Subscribe to two or three good youth ministries journals.
- 10. Invest in people**—You can't do youth ministry by yourself. Build a team of committed volunteers who can work with you. You can't, on your own, reach everyone, but with dedicated partners you can touch the lives of everyone in your youth group.

As I reflect on these 10 points, I readily acknowledge that my own life and leadership is still a work in progress. May God give you and me a teachable heart and spirit to become the leader He wants us to be.

So, are you healthy? ☺



Bill Wood is director for the Youth Ministries, Pathfinder, and Adventurer departments in the Atlantic Union Conference.



Adventists in Bermuda Take to the Streets in a March for Peace

Hundreds of people took to the streets of Pembroke, Bermuda, in a march against the violence that has claimed the lives of six men so far in 2010. The June 19 march, organized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda, took place just a few days after a teenager and a 22-year-old man were shot on Friswell's Hill.

Leading the march with more than 200 Seventh-day Adventists present were Jeffrey Brown, Bermuda Conference president; Damon Hendrickson, Bermuda Conference Youth Ministries director; and Ryan Simpson, Devonshire Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor.

The group marched through the streets of Friswell's Hill, Glebe Road, St. Monica's Road, Palmetto Road, and Bishop Spencer Road. The march ended with a community rally at the Victor Scott School field.

Holding the march and rally was a way of saying to the perpetrators of gun violence *Enough is enough, stop the violence*; and to the citizens of those streets, *We hear you, and we've come to stand by you*.

Pathfinders, Roy Butler, the club's director, and members of all ages brought up the rear of the march. Placards with statements such as *God loves you, No weapon formed against you shall prosper, Prayer changes things, and Unity in the community* were displayed.

People came out of their homes, clapping and cheering, as the group marched along.

In addition to the six men killed this year, there have been 97 reported firearms incidents, which is more than the whole of last year.

The event was one of the final activities to conclude the church's annual camp meeting normally held at the Bermuda Institute in Southampton, but held this year in the heart of a wonderful community that symbolizes the pain the whole country is feeling.

The Bermuda Conference has more than 3,700 members worshipping in 10 churches and one company. It operates a K-12 school with about 359 students.

—Sheila Holder, communication director, Bermuda Institute



Seventh-day Adventists leading the march against violence included conference officials, front row left to right, Damon Hendrickson, youth ministries director; Jeffrey Brown, president; and Roy Butler, Pathfinder director. Immediately behind these individuals are Ryan Simpson, Devonshire church pastor; Claudette Manders; Willy Ramos, aka the Ghetto Preacher, who was the guest speaker for the conference's youth and young adult camp meeting and speaker at the community rally; Kenneth Manders, executive secretary; Lynette Ramos; and behind her Ariel Manzueta, Warwick church pastor.



Pathfinders from the Bermuda Conference, led by the drum corps, joined the march against violence through the streets of Pembroke Parish on Sabbath, June 19.

Photos: D. Randolph Wilson

OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Bermuda

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Bermuda, a legal corporation, will be held in connection with the Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church Complex, Hamilton, Bermuda, Sunday, September 26, 2010. The first meeting of the legal corporation will be held at 11:00 a.m.

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

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

Jeffrey O. Brown, President
Derek R. Furbert, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 9th Triennial Session of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church Complex, Hamilton, Bermuda, on Sunday, September 26, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. The Organizing Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., and the Nominating Committee will be meeting on Thursday, September 23, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. (Article V). The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers, executive, trustees and constitution and bylaws committees, and departmental directors for the ensuing term; to receive reports; and to transact such other business as may properly come before the session.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof. Additional delegates are members of the executive committee, the constitution and bylaws 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 (Article V, Section 3).

Jeffrey O. Brown, President
Kenneth Manders, Secretary

North Bronx Church Hosts Traveling Bible

For 20 months, leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church promoted the reading of the Bible through the Follow the Bible initiative. From October 2008 to June 2010 the traveling Bible was taken to the 13 divisions of the 16.3 million member Adventist Church. On the last stop of the initiative, the Bible arrived from South Africa on June 2 to the North American

Division (NAD), the final division on its journey. Immediately after its arrival, George Johnson, NAD associate communication director, took the Bible to its first destination in the NAD, the North Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bronx, New York, for a special program planned by the Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries Department.

Participating in the pro-



Photos: Lemox Corbell

Greater New York Conference youth ministries directors with the traveling Bible following the program at the North Bronx church. Second from the left in the front row is George Johnson, North American Division associate communication director.



José Cortés and Nigel Lewis, Greater New York and Northeastern conference Youth Ministries directors, respectively complete the last two verses of the handwritten Bible during the program at the North Bronx church.



One-hundred-one-year-old, Blanca Salaverria, from the Central Mount Vernon Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church in Mount Vernon, New York, represented the oldest generation at the beginning of the line that passed the traveling Bible down the center aisle of the North Bronx church.



Adventurers Stacey Barnes, left, and Ja'Lil Reynolds represented the younger generation carrying the Bible to the platform of the North Bronx church.



Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president, challenged the entire audience to read, obey, and follow the Bible.

gram at the North Bronx church were Horace Russell Jr., the church's pastor; Richard Marker and Trevor Baker, presidents of the Greater New York and Northeastern conferences, respectively; David Cadavero, Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools; José Cortés and Nigel Lewis, Greater New York and Northeastern conference Youth Ministries directors, respectively; and several other colleagues in ministry.

The spiritual charge was presented by Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president. King challenged the entire audience to read, obey, and follow the Bible. "It only makes sense, it's God's Book," King said.

Two very important Bibles were presented during the program prior to the traveling Bible. The Greater New York Conference presented a Bible that was handwritten by more than 3,000 children, youth, young adults, and adults in churches throughout in the Greater

New York Conference over a period of one week and four days (May 22 to June 2). Following that, the GNYC traveling Bible was presented. It traveled for a period of 358 days, from January 2009 to January 2010, to each church and organized group in that conference. Finally, the world-traveling Bible was brought into the church in the hands of one of the most experienced GNYC members, 101-year-old Blanca Salaverria from the Central Mount Vernon Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church in Mount Vernon, New York.

This Bible was passed down the center aisle of the church by individuals representing the various generations until it reached the platform in the hands of two young Adventurers, symbolizing how the Bible has been passed from grandparents to children through the ages. In addition to those in the congregation, individuals were able to watch the service that was streamed live

on the Internet on www.auam.tv by Atlantic Union Adventist Media (AUAM).

Cortés, in his challenge to the youth, encouraged each present to take time to read and understand “the book” as early Adventists were known to be people of “the book.” He called on Adventists to be people of “the book” and not of tradition.

If there is any doubt that the youth of New York were excited to receive, touch, and hold this special Bible, then the closing scene of the evening program tells the story. Individuals formed lines to take a picture with the largest celebrity in the house, the Word of God. Picture after picture,

Facebook profiles came alive with young people showcasing, “I took a picture with the book—the Bible.” I can’t remember the last time a Bible created such a stir.

Cortés expressed special thanks to the coordinators and instructors who worked on this project, under the leadership of Teddy Williamson, program coordinator, and Yuri Rivas, GNYC traveling Bible and handwritten Bible coordinator. Special thanks to many youth, young adults, Adventurers, Pathfinders, and adults who came in the middle of the week for the event.

—Rohann Wellington, associate communication director, Greater New York Conference

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the first regular quadrennial and fifty-fourth regular Constituency Session of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m. (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) on Sunday, September 19, 2010, at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, New York, 12594.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and departmental directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization, and one for every 60 members. Each church is entitled to elect alternate delegates who may be seated at the Conference Session in place of any regular delegate not present (Article III, Section 2: 1, 2).

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Organizing Committee is being called for Sunday morning, August 29, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., at North Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3743 Bronxwood Avenue, Bronx, New York 10469. All members of the Organizing Committee should plan to be present.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Nominating Committee is being called for Sunday morning, September 12, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., at the Greater New York Conference Office, 7 Shelter Rock Road, Manhasset, NY 11030.

Richard Marker, President
G. Earl Knight, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the first regular quadrennial and fifty-fourth regular meeting of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in conjunction with the fifty-fourth regular Constituency Session (first regular quadrennial) convening at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday, September 19, 2010, (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, New York, 12594. The delegates to the first regular quadrennial session of the Conference are also delegates to the first regular quadrennial session of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect a board of trustees for the coming quadrennial period, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Richard Marker, President
Lloyd Scharffenberg, Secretary

GNYC Collaborates on Second Film Project

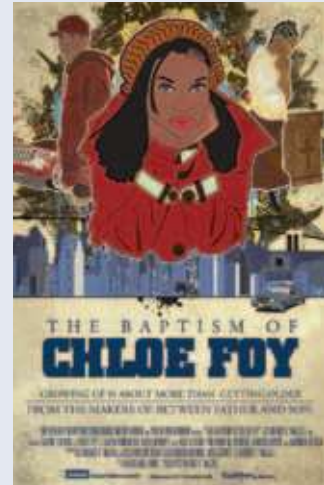
The Greater New York Conference Media Center and Youth Ministries Department are working on their second film collaboration called *The Baptism of Chloe Foy*. You may remember the first project, *Between Father and Son*, that premiered in 2008.

Like *Between Father and Son*, *The Baptism of Chloe Foy* will address youth retention in the Adventist faith. *The Baptism of Chloe Foy* takes a look at growing up Adventist from the perspective of a young lady. It tells the story of Chloe Foy who, after turning 18, decides she wants to venture out into the world to have some “fun.”

After making new friends and learning a number of painful life lessons, Chloe finds her way back to church. The movie can be seen as a prodigal son story with a female lead that takes place in modern-day Harlem.

To learn more about this ministry, you can find information online at www.facebook.com/thebaptismofchloefoy or www.chloefoy-themovie.com, and follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/clamccall.

—Clarence E. McCall, volunteer, Greater New York Conference Media Center, and, member, Co-Op City church



What's Happening in Your Church?

If you have news or other inspiring stories from your church that you would like to share with our readers, we would love to hear from you!

E-mail your stories with the photos attached as separate files (not embedded in a Word document or the e-mail message) to the Greater New York Conference communication director. Be sure and include a caption with each photo and name of the photographer if that is available.

For information on what types of stories to submit, visit www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner.html and click on “Guidelines for Submitting Articles.”



Alonzo Smith
Communication Director
Greater New York Conference
E-mail: aljune77@aol.com





AUC Appeals Decision from Accrediting Body

Atlantic Union College (AUC) has a proud 128-year-old heritage and a special Christian higher education mission. Since 1882, AUC has educated thousands of women and men. Their lives have made a difference in the lives of millions—in families, business, healthcare, education, churches, surrounding communities, and around the globe.

Over the years, the leadership of Atlantic Union College has faced many challenges while vigorously working to maintain its accreditation. With recent word from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), AUC is facing its greatest challenge yet. In June, NEASC's Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE) recommended that the college's accreditation be terminated for financial reasons. NEASC's primary concern is the reserve fund.

There were many years, including at least three accreditation rounds, when the college was in worse financial shape than it is now, and yet was reaccredited. However, AUC is in a stronger financial position now and is operationally in the black for the first time since the 1980s.

If AUC had a larger reserve fund (or endowment), it would not face the current problem with accreditation. State colleges and universities are financially supported by tax dollars while private colleges and universities, such as AUC, are supported only by tuition, subsidies, and gifts. The college needs to build and maintain a large reserve fund because all schools need to be protected against emergencies.



Norman Wendth, Atlantic Union College president

The Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees voted to appeal NEASC's decision. AUC will retain its accreditation and financial aid eligibility through the appeal process. The AUC community of trustees, staff, faculty, students, alumni, friends,

and benefactors hope that the presentation of new information to NEASC will result in a successful appeal.

AUC remains accredited, is teaching courses this summer, and is actively prepar-

The Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees voted to appeal NEASC's decision.

AUC remains accredited, is teaching courses this summer, and is actively preparing for the fall 2010 semester.

ing for the fall 2010 semester. The college remains open for all college business, and students are registering. No course credits already received or degrees earned are threatened in any way.

In spite of the current challenges, AUC has experienced remarkable growth during the past four semesters. In the last two years, the overall enrollment has grown nearly 40 percent. The board of trustees made a deliberate decision in December 2007 to move to a new curriculum focusing on social justice, community engagement, Christian leadership, and health professions. Since the adoption of that curriculum, student enrollment climbed every semester. AUC is also accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission. The nursing class carried a 100 percent pass rate this past spring on its NCLEX-RN state board exam. This placed AUC graduates top in the nation—one of 157 schools and colleges with a 100 percent pass rate.

Barring any loss from the announcement about the college's accreditation, AUC would likely enroll a head count of more than 500 this fall, and FTEs (full-time equivalent) in the mid-to-high 400s—an FTE increase of more than 100 in these two years.

AUC is among scores of other

small and large, tuition-dependent, religious institutions who face similar financial challenges. The college remains committed to its students and to its greater community. In addition to providing a higher education option for area residents, the college plays a vital role in the area economy.

As you read this report, perhaps you are asking the question, *Is there anything that I can do to help?* The answer is yes. There are several things you can do:

- You can continue to pray earnestly for the college.
- Check with the college directly to verify any negative information you are hearing about AUC.
- Continue to enroll your child(ren) at AUC and encourage others to do the same.
- Support the college with your tax-

deductible gifts and be counted among those who are assisting the college in building its reserve fund. Invite your friends to join you in this endeavor.

- Keep up-to-date on the latest information regarding AUC by visiting the college's Web site at: www.auc.edu. Click on the link to the right that says "Accreditation Updates."

We are all in a spiritual battle "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age" (Ephesians 6:12). AUC is no exception. In spite of the challenges, the leaders of this institution have great confidence that the same God who for so long led us in the past will continue to lead Seventh-day Adventist education in the Northeast. Please join us in praying for all those associated with the college.

Norman Wendth is the president of Atlantic Union College.

What You Can Do for AUC. . .

- Keep the administrators, faculty, staff, students, and all those associated with the college in prayer.
- Visit the college's Web site at: www.auc.edu for information regarding AUC. Click on the link that says "Accreditation Updates."
- If you wish to support the college with your tax-deductible gift, make your check payable to the Atlantic Union College and mail it to: Atlantic Union College Office for Advancement, PO Box 1000, South Lancaster, MA 01561-1000. If you wish to use a credit card, contact the Atlantic Union College Office for Advancement weekdays at (978) 368-2340.

You can make a difference in the lives of students!



First Annual North County Women's Retreat

Fifty-three women participated in the first annual North County Women's Retreat held at Camp Cherokee in Saranac Lake, New York, in May. This event was the brainchild of Susan Windover-Drurey and Wendy Stumph, from the Plattsburgh Seventh-day Adventist Church in Plattsburgh, New York. It became a reality when Dan Whitlow, New York Conference youth ministries director, agreed to open the camp early because he understood the women's need for an affordable retreat.

Many individuals helped make the weekend a success. Plattsburgh church members worked in the snow on the first weekend in May to get the camp ready. Don Drurey,

Debbie Livergood, and Sandy Caster provided gourmet meals, including vegan options. Justin and Dawn Drurey, and Shawna Thomas were hardworking chefs' helpers. Diane Reed stepped in and helped wherever needed.

The speaker was Charlotte Thoms, Atlantic Union Conference women's and disabilities ministries director. Her theme was "Drinking at the Springs of Living Water."

Using the idea that nature is God's prayer room, Adirondack chairs with a view of the lake were strategically placed outside as special prayer places. A decorated glass bowl in the cafeteria provided a place for written prayer requests. The women were encouraged to

take a request out of the bowl, go to a special prayer place, and pray. My favorite memory is that of seeing eight women in a row of chairs on the dock praying for these requests.

The weekend ended Sunday morning with worship by Dan Whitlow's wife, Lisa, a special prayer of blessing was given by Dan Whitlow for the Stumph family as they head to Papua, Indonesia, where my husband, John, will be a mission pilot, and for the Windover-Drurey family as they move to Texas.

Jenni Carr, Donna Gilmore, and Sharon King have volunteered to coordinate next year's retreat scheduled for June 11-13, 2011.

—Wendy Stumph, co-organizer, North County Women's Retreat

Out-of-the-Box Witnessing Ideas

Natural Bridge Seventh-day Adventist Church members in Natural Bridge, New York, are using some out-of-the-box approaches to positively impact their community. These non-threatening methods create relationships that are opening doors, literally and metaphorically.

In March when the clocks "spring forward" and everyone should be checking their smoke detector batteries, church members insert in a Ziploc bag a 9-volt battery and a business card with the church's contact information on one side to give to their neighbors. The other side says, "Protecting God's Children—We care about you and your family. Please change the battery in your smoke detector."

During April when Arbor and Earth days are celebrated, church members put a small tree in a bag, properly

packaged to preserve the tree's life, and a business card that says "Celebrating God's Creation—Plant a Tree for All to See."

In July they give out small flags.

The community is invited to the Vacation Bible School scheduled for August.

A monthly free dinner called "Stone Soup" is offered to the community, as well as a Thanksgiving dinner.

Other ideas they are working on include offering boating and hunting safety courses.

Church member Kelly Lawton reports that people often come up to her and others, thanking them for all that the church is doing for their community.

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference

Help Needed in Prison Ministry

In a letter from an Adventist inmate pleading for someone to come and encourage him and at least 12 others who would attend services, he writes, "This is your brother at Great Meadow Correctional Facility. You recently sent me a Christmas card. . . . A couple months before that you sent me a quarterly Bible study, and I appreciate it very much. This is a follow-up letter about helping us here at Comstock with a Seventh-day Adventist minister. I wrote about it to you last year or so. . . . Sis. Pat Kimble wrote me and told me that the Lord probably had someone who was willing to come up and do Bible studies with us. . . . Well, I checked with the chaplain here and he said no one contacted him." This brother adds that he makes very little money, but he is sending his tithe.

Ron Vincent and a small team of helpers are working to organize prison ministry across upstate New York, but the task is daunting. Nearly all of us live within close proximity to a correctional facility where there are hundreds of people in need of Jesus. What could you do to free up a little time each week to partner with God in creating miracles? Could you be the person they are waiting for at Comstock? It has been more than a year, and a year is a very long time in prison. Don't make them wait any longer. If you sense God calling you to this ministry, contact Ron Vincent at (518) 228-0454.

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference

Witnessing for Christ to a Motorcycle Gang of Veterans

In 1999 when Rob “Turtle” Turlington gave his heart to the Lord, he was riding with a motorcycle gang of veterans. He told his pastor that he was going to quit the club because of Sabbath concerns, but his pastor advised him to wait for the Lord’s leading on that. Turlington started reading the Bible and after being directed to read it through twice, and the New Testament seven more times, he asked the Lord if he was ready for a ministry. The Lord told him to stay in the

club and buy 50 Bibles for the club brothers. He found Bibles that came 50 to a case with a motorcycle on the cover and purchased them.

Armed with Bibles, Turlington went to the first meeting of the year that was to include a motorcycle “blessing” (really an excuse for partying) and distributed the Bibles. At a subsequent event the Lord told him to share his testimony. Turlington argued against this, but eventually gave in sharing his conversion story for the first time with 67 men

who were not in the best condition. These men begged for Bibles for people who weren’t present. To date he has passed out more than 1,700 Bibles and hundreds of Ellen White’s books. Turlington and his wife, Sharon, regularly attend meets where they set up a table to give away books. She makes bookmarks and painted rocks with spiritual messages that she shares with women who attend the meets.

At one point Turlington asked the club why they were paying a priest to do the bike blessing when he could do it for them. Since then he has been routinely attending these events where he tells his story and that of Jesus. For the past three years he has served as the national chaplain for the club. When a member is in crisis,



Rob “Turtle” Turlington, who gave his heart to the Lord in 1999 while he was riding with a motorcycle gang of veterans, now witnesses to the veterans about Jesus.

Turlington goes to that member and ministers in whatever way the Holy Spirit directs him. He says, “When you tell God you will do whatever He wants, put on your seat-belt and hold onto your hat. You’re in for a good ride.”

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference

Baptisms at New York Conference Camp Meeting



On the far left at the microphone are Ronald Lopez and Angel Rodriguez. Baptismal candidates responding to the baptismal vows, from left to right, are Silvia Perez, Jennifer Hazard, Elisha Miranda, Mark Henry, Seth Courtad in front of Tim Raymond, Cabel Witt, Miguel Arturo, with Randy Courtad.

Seven individuals from churches in the New York Conference were baptized on June 19, the second Sabbath of camp meeting. Angel Rodriguez, the conference’s executive secretary, and several pastors read the baptismal vows as Ronald Lopez, pastor of Utica Seventh-day Adventist Church, translated for, and later baptized, Silvia Perez, who is in the process of learning English. Randy Courtad, pastor of Bay Knoll and East Plyra Seventh-day Adventist churches, baptized young Mark Henry following a song of commitment that he sang with family members. Courtad also baptized Jennifer Hazzard; his own son, Seth; and, on behalf of Joel Pena, pastor of Syracuse Seventh-day Adventist Church, Miguel Arturo. Union Springs Academy Bible teacher Tim Raymond baptized a recent USA alumnus, Elisha Miranda, and current student Cabel Witt. We look forward to seeing what great things God will do through these new members.

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference

NEW YORK CONFERENCE WOMEN’S FALL RETREAT

A Touch of Faith

October 22 - 24, 2010

Watson Homestead Center
Painted Post, NY



Keynote Speaker ~

Renee D. Sims
POWER OF PRAISE MINISTRIES

Contact Lynee Hamm, New York Conference women’s retreat coordinator, for a registration brochure at (315) 391-6263 or e-mail abcshopgirl@yahoo.com



And the Caring Heart Award Goes to . . .

Eight academy students in the Atlantic Union who exemplify lives of service and witnessing are the recipients of the Caring Heart Award. Each student received a special scholarship award of \$500 and a plaque.



Alesha Johnson began attending Bermuda Institute in Southampton, Bermuda, in kindergarten and is currently a junior. She is a role model and an example to her fellow classmates.

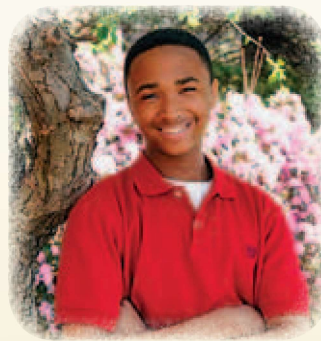
Her willingness to assist teachers whenever called on has gained her the respect and trust of the faculty and staff. Alesha is willing to assist students in understanding concepts or being the voice of reason when necessary.

She serves as a Prefect at Bermuda Institute and class pastor. While serving as a member of the high school pastoral staff, she has demonstrated her care for the spiritual atmosphere of the campus. She has delivered very powerful and thought-provoking devotional messages to the student body. Alesha has learned through trial and error that

leadership is complex and demands self-denial. She has declared that her mission is to remind the student body that their sole responsibility as Christians is to bring others to Christ, not just through words, but in uncompromised living.

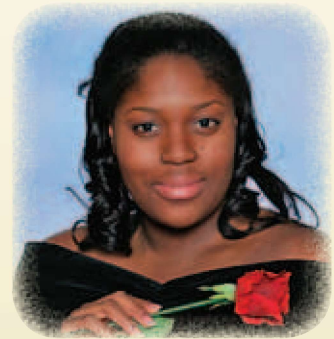


Hannah Kathryn Frigon is an active member of the student body of the Central Vermont Academy in Barre, Vermont. She served as the Student Association president. Her strong relationship with God shows in her everyday life. Hannah has particularly enjoyed the Spiritual Leadership class at Central Vermont Academy. She looks regularly for opportunities to share her faith. Hannah plans to attend Atlantic Union College in the fall and hopes to major in religion.



Eddy Phanor is a four-year student and graduate of Greater Boston Academy in Stoneham, Massachusetts. He has a history replete with leadership and service roles. Elected to the National Honor Society as a sophomore, he served his class as pastor, president, and vice president. He served his school as the choir director's assistant and volunteer student recruiter. He served his church as greeter and usher at health fairs. He served his community as tour guide at the Massachusetts State House. Fluent in three languages, Eddy enjoys playing basketball, reading, and singing. He is interested in environmental issues, computers, music, electronics, and electronic repair. This summer, he will work as an intern and tour guide at the United Nations and as

a page in the United States Congress. Eddy plans to major in political science, languages, and music at Atlantic Union College and hopes to one day write a book on Haitian Seventh-day Adventism.



Victoria Forde-Tuckett has developed into a dignified citizen and student leader over the past four years at Greater New York Academy in Woodside, New York. She is respectful, respectable, and has an excellent relationship with students and faculty alike. As senior class president she has been an efficient leader. She is organized, hardworking, and dedicated.

She has a passion for service and is active in school, her church community, and in the community in which she lives. Because of her dedication and organizational

skills, she was selected to be the president of her senior class. As class president, she has demonstrated to her peers what it means to be a servant leader. She participates in all areas of school life and leads by example as she makes responsible choices and counsels her peers to do the same.

She has shown her commitment to service by her involvement in the Adventist Youth for Better Living Club of Greater New York Academy. This club performs acts of service to individuals in the community in which the school is located and throughout the Greater New York Conference community.



Kathy-Lee Lewis, a student at Northeastern Academy in New York, New York, assisted the guidance counselor at the school and assisted with the gardening at Camp Victory Lake in Hyde Park, New York. She spent most of her community service time helping her church with the weekly food pantry drives. In the summer she assists at the Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church with packing food to give to those who are in need in the community. Kathy-Lee

says she is happy to know that she can help those who are less fortunate.



Yolanda Lopez Cordova started attending Pine Tree Academy in Freeport, Maine, three weeks late into her sophomore year, due to visa problems. Even though she knew very little English, she immediately took on a full load of classes.

Yolanda started working at eight years old in order to help her mother and three siblings after her policeman father was killed. She also helped provide care for an older brother with cerebral palsy. For several years after her father died, Yolanda and her mother tried many religions and became Adventists when Yolanda was 11 years old.

Without being asked, Yolanda sees the need and willingly lends a helping hand. In her home church of Playa del Carmen, Mexico, she taught a children's Sabbath School class, was Sabbath School secretary, and preached.

She is a spiritual leader at PTA having been voted junior and senior class pastor and Student Association pastor. During her three years at PTA, she has

helped with Red Cross blood drives, MOPS (mothers of preschool children), the 30-hour famine, a few times at the Brunswick Community Services Center, and is the volunteer academy math reader.

She is an honor student and member of the National Honor Society. Her goal is to study medicine at Montemorales University in order to help her people.



Eric Morris, 13-year student and senior at South Lancaster Academy in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, is a "stand out" in the student body—in academics, leadership, and service. He towers above his peers at a eye-catching 6' 7" in height. Without a doubt, he is a respected spiritual leader and role model for his classmates. He has been a speaker for two "From The Heart" evangelistic meetings. For this year's series, he was not only a speaker but organized and led out as well. He has served as a prayer conference leader, led Bible studies at the school, and preached in community churches. Most important of all, Eric's everyday life is a sermon that speaks of his love and dedication to Jesus.

Eric organizes service projects to fill needs in the community. He doesn't have to be asked to help, he recognizes and responds to needs as he sees them.

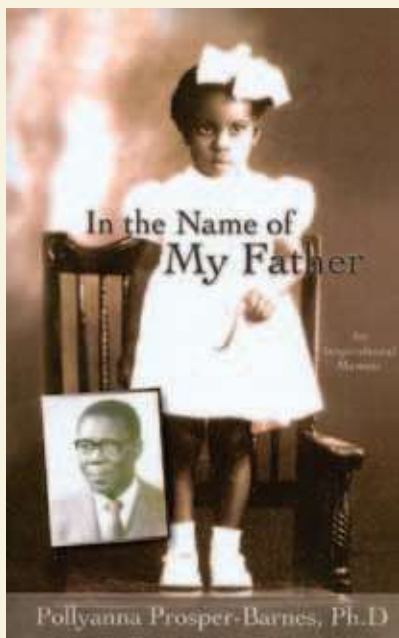
Eric held class and Student Association offices while at South Lancaster Academy and still graduated with a 4.0 GPA. And yes, he managed to be involved in basketball, volleyball, and cross country.



Adam Boyd is a four-year student and senior at Union Springs Academy in Union Springs, New York. He is the senior class president and active in music and sports. Adam shows a genuine love for the school and its students. He takes his leadership seriously and encourages and supports those with whom he comes in contact. He is always willing to pitch in and help make things better at Union Springs Academy. He leaves a legacy of outstanding character, spiritual leadership, and a positive, caring attitude.

—Information on the Caring Heart Award recipients was provided by the academies.

Prosper-Barnes Authors New Book



Pollyanna Prosper-Barnes, Northeastern Conference Children's Ministries director, is the author of a new book titled, *IN THE NAME OF MY FATHER*. In her book,

Prosper-Barnes shares how watching her father live in the name of his Heavenly Father gave her the foundation for her own life of service.

The book provides a personal glimpse into Prosper-Barnes' life and the lessons her father taught her about God, His will, and His plan for her life. Naasson Belizaire-Prosper, or Papa as she fondly called him, was an evangelist and preacher who exhibited great faith in God and made it his mission to ground his children in faith and with a strong sense of family ties. Although she did not always appreciate his rules, his guidance, or his instruction, Prosper-Barnes grew to respect her father, his wisdom, and his faith in God.

The stories of fame, failure, and faith will take you beyond the pulpit to see the importance of practicing what you preach and developing

an unflinching faith in God. *IN THE NAME OF MY FATHER* takes you on a journey through Prosper-Barnes' life as she recounts good times and bad, miracles and struggles, and life's failures and triumphs—all with the support and guidance of Papa and God.

Prosper-Barnes has followed in her father's ministerial footsteps and serves the church in many capacities, including her years as a director in the Northeastern Conference and as a partner to her husband, Baldwin Barnes, who is pastor at the City Tabernacle Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York, New York.



Pollyanna Prosper-Barnes

IN THE NAME OF MY FATHER is available in the Northeastern Conference Adventist Book Center (ABC).

—Gabrielle Barnes, member, City Tabernacle church

Highlights from the Lawrence Hispanic Church Communication Department

Education Department Establishes Library

About a year ago, the Lawrence Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church's education department established a church library to provide members with reliable resources to help deepen their understanding of the Bible, ground them in Adventist doctrine, and better prepare them for preaching and giving Bible studies. The library features the complete Spanish SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST BIBLE COMMENTARY eight-volume set donated by church members and the complete Spanish HANDBOOK OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST THEOLOGY nine-volume set

donated by Dionisio Olivo, Atlantic Union Conference Hispanic Ministries vice president. Other books that cover such topics as theology, Bible study, youth, witnessing, family, Sabbath School,

and medicine were donated by Domingo Francisco, the church's pastor; Juan Borges, Southern New England Conference executive secretary; and Henry Bordes-

Saturné, Atlantic Union College vice-president for enrollment management.

The church's education and children's ministries departments teamed up to use the Spanish *GOD LOVES*

secretary of the children's ministries department, says, "It's a great resource that helps children to know what we believe as Seventh-day Adventists." Also presented during a special AY program was the movie *Gifted Hands, The Ben Carson Story* to promote Christian education, and high school graduates were presented with a copy of Ellen G. White's book *EDUCATION*.

The education department also established a computer lab equipped with computers and printer donated by a local community college. The computer lab is a technology center for members and the community.

A special "thank you"

"The [Lawrence Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church's] computer lab is a technology center for members and the community."

ME 28 WAYS by Charles Mills and Linda Koh to teach kids the Seventh-day Adventist fundamental beliefs during the children's story time on Sabbaths. Dolores Mercado,

is extended to all those who made contributions in support of the Lawrence Hispanic church library.

New Spanish Television Ministry in Greater Lawrence Area

The Lawrence Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist

English Hope Channel available on DIRECTTV.®

LCAT granted a one-hour slot on Mondays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. That was an answer to the prayers offered asking God to allow the original 30-minute slot to be expanded to a one-hour slot so that viewers

“La Verdad Presente is a weekly one-hour television program on the Lawrence Community Access Television station [that is sponsored by the Lawrence Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church].”

Church launched *La Verdad Presente (The Present Truth)*, a weekly one-hour television program, on May 10 on the Lawrence Community Access Television (LCAT) station. The program features Stephen Bohr's *Descubriendo los Misterios del Genesis (Cracking the Genesis Code series)*, and will be followed by *Un Ancla Inmutable (The Three Angels' Message series)*. Bohr is an internationally known lecturer on subjects relating to Bible prophecy. According to the LCAT executive director, *La Verdad Presente* will be aired in 14 cities in Massachusetts, not just in Lawrence, whose current population of about 70,000 is largely Hispanic.

La Verdad Presente is the answer to a prayer made after listening to *Palabra del Rey (Word of the King)*, the weekly one-hour radio ministry sponsored by the Lawrence Hispanic church on Sunday mornings on a regional radio station. Bohr's Spanish presentations on *La Verdad Presente* will gap the language barrier most Spanish-speaking residents face when turning to the

could watch the complete one-hour presentations once a week.

Second Annual Festival of Praise Held in Massachusetts

The second annual Festival de Alabanza 2010 (Festival of Praise 2010) was held on the weekend of June 4-6 in Massachusetts. The event featured Japhet Ruiz and the Puerto Rican, Miami-based husband-and-wife duet, Wilson Torres, Jr., and Leyda E. Colón de Torres, better known as Peregrinos y Extranjeros (Pilgrims and Foreigners) during their first-ever visit to New England for a triple concert series.

The Lawrence High School Performing Arts Center concert on Sabbath evening brought church members and friends from Adventist and other Christian churches in greater Lawrence, Clinton, Boston and Worcester, Massachusetts; Connecticut, and Rhode Island. The Sunday performance at Atlantic Union College's

Machlan Auditorium in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, also brought people from New Jersey. At the Sabbath concert everyone who attended was given a copy of Ellen G. White's *EL CAMINO A CRISTO (STEPS TO CHRIST)* and a wallet-size card invitation to watch *La Verdad Presente (The Present Truth)*, a Spanish Lawrence-based television ministry recently launched by the Lawrence Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

The audience listened to the Peregrinos y Extranjeros' live performance of their classic and new hits such as “Es Hora de Alabar a Dios” (“It’s Time to Praise the Lord”) and “¡Vuelvel!”

(“Come Lord!”). All three concerts featured an Atlantic Union College booth at the entrance and a 10-minute AUC promotion spot during the concert intermission. According to Magla Huérfino, a member of the AUC recruitment team, AUC received a total of 22 prospective students at their booth. Fourteen people filled out a card requesting more information on how to enroll at AUC and eight filled out the AUC admission application on site.

The Festival of Praise, organized by my brother Isaías Alexis Rojas and me, was a success.

—Nelson Rojas, communication secretary, Lawrence Hispanic church



The Festival of Praise at Machlan Auditorium on the campus of Atlantic Union College featured, from left, Wilson Torres, Jr., and Leyda Torres (Peregrinos y Extranjeros) with Japhet Ruiz.

What's Happening in Your Church?

If you have news or other inspiring stories from your church that you would like to share with our readers, we would love to hear from you!

E-mail your stories with the photos attached as separate files (not embedded in a Word document or the e-mail message) to the Northeastern Conference communication director. Be sure and include a caption with each photo and name of the photographer if that is available.

For information on what types of stories to submit, visit www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner.html and click on “Guidelines for Submitting Articles.”



Stephen Williams
Communication Director
Northeastern Conference
E-mail: swilliams@northeastern.org

Volunteers Carry Gifts of Love to Haiti

Carl Behrmann, pastor of the Manchester Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bedford, New Hampshire, and the Nashua Seventh-day Adventist Church in Nashua, New Hampshire, along with a group of 15 doctors, nurses, and health care workers put their busy lives on hold for nine days as they traveled on March 14 to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to use their talents at the Diquini Seventh-day Adventist Hospital.

Behrmann put together the team from several Southern New Hampshire and Massachusetts hospitals, as well as from the Manchester and Nashua churches. The effort was coordinated with the medical staff at Loma Linda

University in Loma Linda, California.

The Manchester and Nashua congregations, along with other volunteers in the local community, worked in advance of the trip to gather medical supplies and clothing for the Haitian people. Eighty-six boxes of supplies were packed! The boxes were shipped to Port-au-Prince by American Airlines at the generosity of Atrium Medical Corporation in Hudson, New Hampshire. Behrmann was able to retrieve the supplies at the Port-au-Prince airport shortly after their arrival. The people of Port-au-Prince expressed their gratefulness for the clothing, shoes, and personal hygiene items that were distributed to them. The staff at Diquini Hospital

expressed their appreciation with the vast quantity of medical supplies they received.

The volunteer team flew to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. There they boarded an ADRA bus, which took them on an eight-hour ride to the Diquini Hospital in the earthquake-ravaged city of Port-au-Prince. The volunteers were shocked to see the more than 30,000 people living in tents surrounding the hospital grounds.

Within minutes of arriving, the team was divided into two groups—those who volunteered to work 12 hours during the daytime and those who worked 12 hours at night—thereby providing around-the-clock coverage in the hospital emergency room. As soon as they stepped into the hospital, they put down their bags and got right to work. The patients were lined up everywhere! The working conditions were challenging, as the hospital is not equipped with the modern technology that we are fortunate to have available in the United States. Supplies and important drugs were limited. The outside temperature was 105 degrees, and the hospital has no air conditioning and the windows have no screens. The overwhelming presence of mosquitoes in the evening hours created challenges for the patients and hospital workers. The team slept in



Carl Behrmann, pastor of the Manchester Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bedford, New Hampshire, and the Nashua Seventh-day Adventist Church in Nashua, New Hampshire, along with a group of 15 doctors, nurses, and health care workers put their busy lives on hold for nine days as they traveled on March 14 to Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

shifts on cots that lined the hallways of the hospital. Despite all of the challenges, the group labored bravely and unselfishly to minister to the Haitian people through their gifts of healing, praying, and counseling.

The team touched the lives of hundreds of people during their weeklong stay. The combined efforts of the pediatricians in the group allowed them to see as many as 80 children per day! The Lord was truly able to use these dedicated professionals to make a positive impact on many lives, and the patients responded with heartfelt appreciation and hugs.

Despite the difficult working and sleeping conditions, there were no complaints among the group. Members of the group were grateful that they had the opportunity to touch so many lives. Thank God for the opportunity He gave us to make an impact on the desperate and hurting people of Haiti. If the Lord makes it possible for us, the team would like to make another trip to the Diquini Hospital in Port-au-Prince later this year.

Please continue to keep the Haitian people in your prayers.

—Robert McMurray, communication correspondent, Manchester church

BORDOVILLE 146TH ANNUAL HOMECOMING

September 18, 2010



Sermon: Nikolaus Satelmajer,
MINISTRY Magazine Editor



Afternoon Events:
Fellowship Dinner
Afternoon Program

Directions: The location is in West Enosburg, Vermont, on 6941 Chester A Arthur Road off Route 108. Don't take Bordoville Road as it gets impassable in the middle of the road.

Friends Reunite in Jesus

Carl Behrmann, pastor of the Manchester Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bedford, New Hampshire, had the privilege of rebaptizing Ronald Descheneau on May 15. Descheneau had left the church some 20 years ago.

According to Descheneau, the Lord had been tugging at his heart. For the past two years, Descheneau had spoken with the pastor and others in the congregation. Descheneau finally yielded to the calling of the Holy Spirit. As he made his commitment for rebaptism he said, "Let's finish this work and go home!"

The head elder of the Manchester church 20 years ago—at the time of Descheneau's departure—was John Lindquist. Lindquist and his wife, who had transferred to another church 18 years ago, recently transferred back to the Manchester church. Lindquist had the honor of escorting his old friend into the baptistery!

After a riveting sermon that Sabbath, Behrmann extended a call for baptism to the congregation. By God's providence, nine individuals came forward, including another former member, Jim Merrill, who was a good friend of Descheneau, and had also left the church around the same time. Merrill, who lost contact with his friend, was impressed by the Spirit to visit his old church for the first time in nearly 20 years. What a delight it was for Merrill to see his old friend getting rebaptized. Merrill has been attending the Manchester church regularly since that time and is preparing for his own baptism soon.

The members of the Manchester church are excited to see the Holy Spirit working in the congregation and among some of the long-lost members. As Ron Descheneau was preparing for baptism that Sabbath morning, he quoted the Lord when he said, "Get behind me Satan," as he recommitted his life to Jesus Christ.

—Robert McMurray, communication correspondent, Manchester church



Carl Behrmann, pastor of the Manchester Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bedford, New Hampshire, rebaptized Ronald Descheneau on May 15. Descheneau returned to the church after being away some 20 years.

Gang Beautifies Church Landscape

The Newport Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newport, Vermont, has a "Giddy Up for God Gang." The group, along with some friends, cleaned up the Newport church yard on the second

Sunday in May, by mowing, trimming, planting flowers, and mulching. The group ranged in age from four to 60 years old.

They also went door-to-door giving flowers to the surrounding neighbors. "They would have done all of Newport if they could have," said Amy Buck, the group leader.

"Every time my children go into church they're reminded of this experience as they anxiously watch the flowers grow and feel proud to have had a part in



Newport Seventh-day Adventist Church members of the "Giddy Up for God Gang," ranging in age from four to 60 years old, worked together cleaning up the church yard.

it," said Christine Seipel, a mother of three children.

According to Buck, the group came up with the name "Giddy Up for God Gang" because of their mutual love of horses and feeling on fire for God.

"We want you to know that God was with us," added Buck. "We started out with prayer and ended in prayer—praising Him! Sometimes it's not what you do, it's simply that you do something."

—Kathy Johnson, communication correspondent, Newport church

LEGAL NOTICE

Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the fourth quadrennial session of the Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., will be held at Pine Tree Academy, Freeport, Maine, on Sunday, October 31, 2010. The first meeting of the session is called for 10:00 a.m. The purposes of this meeting are to elect officers, an executive committee, and the departmental directors for the ensuing quadrennial term; to receive reports; and to transact such other business as may properly come before the session. Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each fifteen members (Article III, Section 1a). The Organizing Committee shall meet on Sunday, October 3, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. at the Portland Seventh-day Adventist Church (White Memorial), Portland, Maine. The purpose of this meeting is to elect the nominating committee to serve the constituency, constitution and bylaws committee, and any other committees as may be necessary (Article IV, Section 1e). The nominating committee shall meet on Sunday, October 24, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. at the Northern New England Conference office headquarters (Article IV, Section 2a).

Michael F. Orel, President

Merlin L. Knowles, Secretary

Visit our Web site: www.nnec.org



President's Corner

The 59th Session of the General Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, June 23-July 3, had as its theme, "Proclaiming God's Grace." While the word grace appears frequently in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, and while, in fact, it is the very theme of salvation, for some it may be a word with negative connotations.

This is called "grace abuse." Protestant theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer coined the term "cheap grace" to describe a grace that justifies sin rather than the sinner. The concepts of "cheap grace" are as prevalent today as they were in the days of the early church when the New Testament author, Jude wrote, "Certain men have crept in unnoticed . . . who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ"—Jude 4. The word "lewdness" is translated "licentiousness," "permissiveness," "we can do just as we like," and "an opportunity for immortality" in other versions of scripture.

Paul then corrects our understanding of grace when he wrote the words we find in Titus 2:11-13: "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Grace not only forgives our sins and restores our relationship with God, but grace also empowers the recipient with the presence and power of Christ in the life. It is grace that teaches us to live "godly in the present life."

—Frank Tochterman, president, Southern New England Conference

Laurel Oaks Groundbreaking



Bethany Parker, left, Laurel Oaks school teacher; Neil Clauson, Laurel Oaks principal; Eileen Brown, Laurel Oaks school board chair, Randall Terry, Southern New England Conference treasurer; Gary Swinyar, Southern New England Conference superintendent of schools; Juan Borges, Southern New England Conference executive secretary; Whitford Shaw, Southern New England Conference ministerial director; Sandy Viniczay, Laurel Oaks Home and School leader; Frank Viniczay, building project manager; and Dennis Smith, New Haven church pastor, participated in a Laurel Oaks Seventh-day

Adventist School groundbreaking ceremony on Sunday, March 14.

The addition will provide additional space for a new classroom and restrooms, as well as installation of gas heating for the new addition and the existing school building. The gas heat is expected to bring significant savings compared to the present electric heating system. Thankful to be in a good fiscal position, and with

church members' strong support, the school did not have to borrow any money for the addition. This is a wonderful example of area pastors working together for the educational and spiritual well-being of our children. The supporting pastors are Alexandru Breja, North Stamford, Connecticut, district; Eduardo Rodriguez, New Haven, Connecticut, Spanish district; and Rollin Shoemaker, Meriden, Connecticut, district. Clauson hopes the new addition will be completed for the 2010-2011 school year.

—Dennis Smith, pastor, New Haven church

Southern New England School Feature

The Lincoln Seventh-day Adventist School in Lincoln, Rhode Island, is working to become known as the Rhode Island Seventh-day Adventist School. It all began on a warm summer day in September 2003 with 16 students. This year we had 61 students. Why the increase in enrollment? The school was established with a good foundation, a dedicated staff, and a solid curriculum. This high standard remains today and is truly blessed by the Holy Spirit.

www.sneckids.org, Click on "Schools"



The SNEC Family is Growing

The Framingham Spanish and Jamaica Plain Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church district in Framingham and Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, added 27 new members this past year. Noel Ojeda, pastor, was amazed at what God accomplished through the evangelistic campaign of Abuelito Jim.

One moving experience was that of Dalita, a young lady who is suffering from a serious physical illness and not able to speak. She requested baptism by gestures and screaming sounds. Her smile and joy after her baptism showed the peace of Jesus Christ.

God continues to work mightily during this year. One of our baptismal candidates, Gerardo, who suffered a heart attack, was told by his doctor that only 25 percent of his heart was working and after several



Dalita after her baptism.

hours in surgery, he had a very slim chance of surviving. The entire church began praying for Gerardo, and God did it again by restoring his physical health, and, most importantly, he has been blessed with a new spiritual life. On May 1, Gerardo gave his life to Jesus through baptism.

—Reprinted from the May 2010 issue of *MAKING A DIFFERENCE*, a publication of the Southern New England Conference Ministerial Department. Current and previous issues can be found at www.sneconline.org/article.php?id=100.

Sabbath, June 5, was an extra special Sabbath for the congregation of the Springfield Seventh-day Adventist Church in Springfield, Massachusetts, when six young people dedicated their lives to Jesus. Coming from different backgrounds and cultures—Burundi (Africa), Haiti, Moldova, and America—all these individuals understood the importance of salvation and their desire was to let everybody know that Jesus is their Savior.

One week later on Sabbath, June 12, the church family of the Warren Seventh-day Adventist Church in West Brookfield, Massachusetts, had the opportunity to witness Kylee, a student from the Warren Seventh-day Adventist School, being baptized in a lake in East Brookfield, Massachusetts.

This year, four students from the same school were baptized as an expression of their faith and love for Jesus.

These decisions show us the importance of Christian education for our children.

—Mihail Baciu, pastor, Springfield and Warren churches



Six young people, Ashley, Alin, Everiste, Helton, Rokunda, and Debbie, were baptized on Sabbath, June 5, at the Springfield Seventh-day Adventist Church in Springfield, Massachusetts.



Luis Barba, speaker at the New Haven Spanish church, with newly baptized members: Pablo Acevedo, Camilla Ayala, Bonnie Grier, Julia Caban, Jose Caban, Carol Ayala, Marcela Campoverde, Aida Ramirez, and Eduardo Rodriguez, the church's pastor.

The New Haven Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church in New Haven, Connecticut, was blessed with eight baptisms and 10 new Bible studies, which began after two weeks of evangelistic meetings. Luis Barba, president of the South Central Conference in Peru, was the speaker for the first week. Mario Rondon, a pastor from the Dominican Republic, spoke for the second week. Visitors for both meetings totaled 48.

—Marisol Galarza, member, New Haven Spanish church



New members joined the Meriden Seventh-day Adventist Church in Meriden, Connecticut, on March 27. Pictured from left are Rollin Shoemaker, the church's pastor; Donald Porrazzo, elder; Jennifer, Shawn, Dameon, and Johanna O'Donnelle; Troy and Danielle Carson; Byron Walker, elder; and Alvin Vaz, elder.

—Rollin Shoemaker, pastor, Meriden church



The Pleasant Street Seventh-day Adventist Church in Worcester, Massachusetts, had a total of nine baptisms—four in April and five in May. All were baptized by Michael Henry, pastor. Those pictured are from the May 1 baptism.

—Ben Ogunjobi, member, Pleasant Street church



The Framingham Centre Seventh-day Adventist Church in Framingham, Massachusetts, celebrated the baptism of Henry Kagoda, left, and Nadia Telpiz, right, who were baptized by Pastor Van Sailo, center, on April 17.

—Reprinted from the Framingham Centre church newsletter, *THE GRAPEVINE*, April 2010, volume 3, issue 1, p. 3. www.framinghamdsda.org

Accomplir la Mission à Chaque Occasion

Chaque jour, nous vivons, nous avons une occasion ou des occasions de faire, dire, ou être, positif, productif, et d'inspirer. Nous avons l'opportunité de grandir spirituellement et de développer de fortes connections de foi et de forts engagements. Jésus déclara dans Matthieu 24:13, 14 (VLS): "Mais celui qui persévéra jusqu'à la fin sera sauvé." Et il continua pour dire que: "Cette bonne nouvelle du royaume sera prêchée dans le monde entier, pour servir de témoignage à toutes les nations. Alors viendra la fin."

Rester ferme jusqu'à la fin, c'est à dire, le Second Retour de Jésus; et prêcher l'évangile à toutes les nations comme témoignage de la grâce salvatrice de Jésus, sont deux défis et opportunités pour chaque chrétien.

Pour beaucoup d'étudiants adventistes qui sont dans des universités publiques, ces deux défis de tentative chrétienne sont exécutés de plusieurs façons. Je me souviens avoir visité un campus d'université publique à Boston pour faire partie du service d'adoration du vendredi soir. Parmi les étudiants Adventistes, il y avait aussi des amis non-adventistes qui étaient présents. Quel témoignage de

la puissance et la présence de Jésus, de commencer le Sabbat en chantant des chants de louange et d'adoration, s'engageant à la prière, partageant des témoignages de bénédictions de Dieu durant la semaine, et avoir un message tiré de la Bible.

À travers la Division Nord Américaine, et peut-être autour du monde, les étudiants Adventistes se rendent compte de l'occasion de remplir la mission de Matthieu 24:13, 14 sur les campus des universités publiques. Reflétant encore sur mon expérience de vendredi soir à Boston, présents dans notre groupe étaient des individus d'Afrique, Asie, les Antilles, et les Etats-Unis. En partageant leur témoignage, et discutant la Bible, ces étudiants se faisaient témoins de leur foi, du Sabbat et les Messages des Trois Anges d'Apocalypse 14, qui sont les messages reconnus de l'Eglise Adventiste dans le monde. Un tel groupe fournit l'occasion de partager leur conviction, et en même temps accomplir la mission de porter l'évangile au monde entier d'une façon unique. Considérons que sur les cam-

pus publics, où les étudiants internationaux se rassemblent, il est impossible pour eux de faire la connaissance du message Adventiste, voire embrasser le message et devenir membres de l'Eglise Adventiste du Septième-Jour. Ces étudiants, maintenant comme membres, sont alors équipés, non seulement du message, mais aussi de la compétence de langues pour porter le message à leurs propres concitoyens. Ceci, dans mon jugement, fournit une occasion pour nos étudiants d'avoir une partie dans la mission d'accomplir Matthieu 24:14.

C'est, donc, ma prière, pour chaque étudiant Adventiste qui se trouve dans un tel paramètre soit au campus public ou Adventiste, de se tenir ferme aux enseignements de la Bible et de l'église, et utiliser chaque occasion de propager les bonnes nouvelles du salut, l'espoir béni, et le prochain retour de Jésus Christ.

Carlyle C. Simmons est secrétaire exécutif de l'Atlantic Union Conference et directeur des Ministères de la Santé, Relations Humaines et les départements des Ministères de la Prière.

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Cumpliendo con la Misión en Cada Oportunidad

Cada día que vivimos, tenemos una oportunidad u oportunidades para hacer, decir o ser positivos, productivos e inspiradores. Tenemos la oportunidad de crecer espiritualmente y desarrollar una fe sólida y con compromiso. Jesús dijo en Mateo 24:13-14 (NVI): “Pero el que se mantenga firme hasta el fin será salvo.” Y continuo diciendo, “Este evangelio del reino se predicará en todo el mundo como testimonio a todas las naciones y entonces vendrá el fin.”

Mantenerse firmes hasta el fin, esto es, hasta la segunda venida de Cristo Jesús; y predicando el evangelio a todas las naciones como testimonio de la gracia salvadora de Jesús son dos desafíos y oportunidades que tiene cada cristiano.

Para muchos jóvenes adventistas que asisten a colegios y universidades públicas estos dos desafíos de la vida cristiana están siendo llevados a cabo de varias maneras. Recuerdo muy bien cuando visite una Universidad pública en Boston para participar de un culto el viernes en la noche. Entre los estudiantes adventistas estaban

otros estudiantes que no eran adventistas. Que testimonio del poder y la presencia de Jesús el comenzar a recibir el sábado con himnos de alabanzas y adoración, oración y compartiendo testimonios de las bendiciones de Dios durante la semana además de leer la Palabra de Dios.

A través de la División Norteamericana, y quizás alrededor del mundo, estudiantes adventistas se están dando cuenta de la oportunidad que tienen de cumplir el mandato de Mateo 24:13, 14 en los colegios e universidades públicas. Reflexionando en mi experiencia en Boston ese viernes de noche, presente habían personas de África, Asia, el Caribe y los Estados Unidos. Al compartir sus testimonios y discutir la Biblia, estos estudiantes estaban testificando de su fe, el sábado y el mensaje de los tres ángeles de Apocalipsis 14, los cuales son los mensajes reconocidos por la iglesia adventista en el mundo. Este grupo inclusivo provee la oportunidad de compartir sus creencias y a la misma vez, de llevar a cabo la misión de llevar el evangelio a todo el mundo en una forma única.

Considere que en estos colegios y universidades públicas donde se reúnen estudiantes de todo el mundo, es posible para ellos llegar a conocer el

mensaje adventista y aún aceptar ese mensaje y convertirse en miembros de nuestra iglesia. Estos estudiantes, ahora miembros, están equipados, no solo con el mensaje sino con las destrezas del lenguaje para compartir este mensaje con sus compatriotas. Esto en mi juicio, provee las oportunidades para que nuestros estudiantes sean parte del cumplimiento de Mateo 24:14.

Es mi oración, que cada estudiante adventista que se encuentre en una Universidad pública o un Colegio Adventista pueda mantenerse firme en las enseñanzas bíblicas y de la iglesia, que pueda usar cada oportunidad posible para compartir las buenas nuevas de salvación, la bendita esperanza y el pronto regreso de Cristo Jesús.

Carlyle C Simmons es el Secretario Ejecutivo y Director del Ministerio de Salud, Relaciones Humanas y Ministerio de Oración de la Unión del Atlántico.

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Values Statement

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).

Our Values

Seventh-day Adventist values are rooted in the revelation of God provided through the Bible and the life of Jesus Christ. Our sense of identity and calling grows from an understanding of Bible prophecies, especially those concerning the time immediately preceding the return of Jesus. Consequently, all of life becomes a growing experience and demonstration of involvement with God and His kingdom.

Our sense of mission is driven by the realization that every person, regardless of circumstances, is of infinite value to God and thus deserving of respect and dignity. Through God's grace every person is gifted for and needed in the diverse activities of the church family.

Our respect for diversity, individuality, and freedom is balanced by regard for community. We are one—a worldwide family of faith engaged in representing the reign of God in our world through ethical conduct, mutual regard, and loving service. Our faithfulness to God involves commitment to and support of His body, the church.

This statement was approved and voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee at the Annual Council in Silver Spring, Maryland, October 10, 2004.

A Statement on Tolerance

Seventh-day Adventists support the United Nations proclamation of 1995 as the Year of

Tolerance. This proclamation comes at an opportune time when intolerance is abounding on all continents—bigoted religious extremism, racism, tribalism, ethnic cleansing, linguistic enmity, and other forms of terrorism and violence. Christians carry their share of the blame for prejudice and inhumanity toward humans.

Tolerance, the capacity to endure unfavorable circumstances, is only a beginning. Christians and all people of good will, must go well beyond this negative concept and develop sympathy for beliefs or practices that not only differ, but even conflict with their own. Dialogue is certainly much better than diatribe. Human beings must learn to agree or disagree without violence; they must be able to discuss varying viewpoints without hate or rancor. This does not mean docility or abject submission, but partnership and respect for the equal rights of others. Every person has the right and the responsibility to express both ideas and ideals with verve and vigor, but without reaching the boiling point of violent words or actions.

Finally, tolerance at its best means not only acceptance of other views and people, but moving in benevolence, responsiveness, and understanding toward others—every other human being.

This statement was approved and voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administrative Committee (ADCOM) and was released by the Office of the President, Robert S. Folkenberg, at the General Conference session in Utrecht, the Netherlands, June 29-July 8, 1995.

Resources

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

Web sites

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

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

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

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

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

Visit the Atlantic Union Web site



Coming September 12

**CAMP MEETING
BOOK SALE
IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME!**

On **Sunday, September 12, 2010**, the Adventist Book Center® will hold its first-ever book sale on both the **Hope Channel®** and **AdventistBookCenter.com**. Avoid the crowds and long lines as the ABC brings blessings and bargains to your doorstep. With great deals on 30 new books, you won't want to miss this event! Check your local listing on Hope Channel for viewing times.

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A retreat for collegiate young professionals
ATLANTIC UNION INSPIRE **EQUIP** DEPLOY
YOUNG ADULT CONGRESS
October 15-17, 2010

BulletinBoard



Sunset Table

September 2010	3	10	17	24	Eastern Daylight Savings Time
Bangor, ME	7:06	6:53	6:40	6:27	
Portland, ME	7:11	6:58	6:45	6:33	
Boston, MA	7:13	7:01	6:48	6:36	
South Lancaster, MA	7:15	7:03	6:51	6:38	
Pittsfield, MA	7:22	7:09	6:57	6:45	
Hartford, CT	7:19	7:07	6:66	6:42	
New York, NY	7:23	7:11	7:00	6:48	
Albany, NY	7:22	7:10	6:57	6:45	
Utica, NY	7:30	7:18	7:05	6:52	
Syracuse, NY	7:34	7:21	7:09	6:56	
Rochester, NY	7:40	7:27	7:15	7:02	
Buffalo, NY	7:44	7:32	7:19	7:07	
Hamilton, Bda	7:38	7:29	7:19	7:10	

OUT-OF-UNION

Oak Park Academy Alumni Homecoming, October 8-9, 2010, Gates Hall, Nevada, Iowa. Honor classes: '35, '40, '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75 and '80. For more information, visit: opainiowa.com.

Hiram Edson Farm Visitor Center Dedication, August 20-21. Meetings begin Friday

evening at the Bay Knoll Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2639 Ridge Rd. East, Rochester, NY, at 7:30 p.m. Sabbath morning services will be held at the Bay Knoll church beginning with Sabbath School at 9:15 a.m. Featured speakers include James R. Nix, Ellen G. White Estate director and Adventist Heritage Ministry board chair; G. Edward Reid North American Division stewardship director, Lewis R. Walton, Adventist

author and lecturer. For more information, contact Jo Ellen Walton at (661) 872-0156 or (661) 345-9782 or visit: www.adventistheritage.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

South Lancaster Academy (SLA) Annual Alumni Weekend, Oct. 8-10, Friday, Oct. 8: registration at SLA, 198 George Hill Rd., So. Lancaster, MA at 3:00 p.m., followed by a spaghetti supper and a musical event. Sabbath, Oct. 9: Sabbath School, worship service, lunch at the Chan Shung Dining Commons, tickets available in advance or at the door. Contact Jon Nosek at (978) 365-5225 or at jnosek@sla-browning.org for tickets

or more information. On Sabbath, honor classes will meet at 3:00 p.m.; an art exhibit will be on display at the Bartlett Gallery by Wayne Hazen, '65, and Jeff Dever, '72, or John Schumacher-Hardy will present an historical lecture and tour starting at Founders Hall, followed by Sabbath vespers. Saturday evening activities include an Evening at Thayer dinner, or a basketball game of students vs. alumni for women followed by the same for men. Sunday morning breakfast, 9:00-11:00 a.m., in the College Church Fellowship Hall, 337 Main St., Lancaster, MA, followed by a brief business meeting. Honor classes are 5 and 0 years (50, 55, etc.). SLA alumni that are interested in participating, contact Janice Kendrick at jankendrick@hotmail.com or at (978) 660-4193.

New York Conference Annual Singles Retreat

Camp Cherokee

Upper Saranac, New York

August 25-29, 2010

Theme: Fruits of the Spirit

Speaker: Richard O'Fill

Author, Speaker, Servant, Host of 3ABN's Radio Crossroads Program

Fees: 4 days \$150.00

Weekend: \$75.00

Application deadline is August 16

Fees include all meals, lodging, and camp activities.

For more details, call Carmen Gonzalez at (315) 451-4017 or Barbara at (315) 469-6921.

Don't miss out on the great spiritual fellowship, growth, and fun camp activities. Sabbath afternoon concert with Sounds of Joy and Saturday night talent show. Bring a friend!

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Address: _____

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