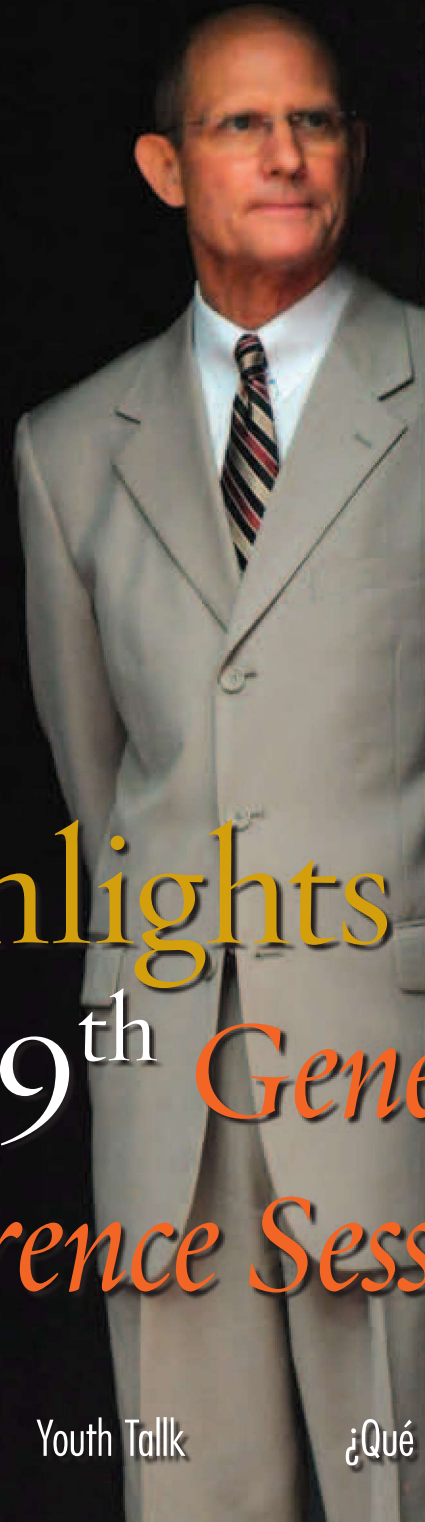


THE ATLANTIC UNION

SEPTEMBER 2010

GLEANER



Highlights of the 59th *General* *Conference Session*

Quoi de Neuf?

Adventist Education

Youth Talkk

¿Qué Está Pasando?

inside **SEPTEMBER** 2010

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This issue of the GLEANER includes highlights of the 59th General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church held in Atlanta, Georgia. The regular features include Adventist Education, Positions of Our Faith, and Youth Talk. **The cover photo** of newly elected General Conference president Ted N. C. Wilson watching the proceedings was taken by James Bokovoy.

Inset photos on the cover from the top down are: Amy M. Pacheco, from the Southern New England Conference, and Raysa Flores, from the Greater New York Conference, in the exhibit hall (Photo: Licci Zemleduch); Adam Carrington from City Tabernacle church in Harlem, New York, cleans the bathroom of a needy family for the IMPACT Atlanta project (Photo: Gary Wagner); Gary Wagner, left, a New York Conference pastor, his son, Jordan, and his wife, Deena, in the GC newsroom (Photo: Paul Spradley); and delegate Malcolm Clarke, from Midland Heights church in Bermuda, listens attentively during the morning session (Photo: Bryant Taylor). **Photos on the top of page 2**, clockwise, the Oregon Men's Chorus and GC Orchestra performing in the dome; Abigail Leonard of Conway, New Hampshire, gave tours through the tents of Messiah's Mansion; and Milton Cornado from the IMPACT Atlanta team, sprays the finishing touches on a "Say No to Violence Against Women" banner in Centennial Park in Atlanta.

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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DEADLINES

November 2010	September 10
December 2010	October 8
January 2011	November 12

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

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Who Is On the Lord's Side?

“Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD’s side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.” Exodus 32:26.

Recently, the world church of Seventh-day Adventists met for its General Conference Session to choose leaders for the next five years. I was honored to serve on the nominating committee of that august assembly whose work it was to nominate individuals to be voted on by the delegates to the session. Close scrutiny of each name was given to see whether the individual was spiritually and experientially qualified for the proposed responsibility.

Back in Moses’s day, there was also close scrutiny to see who was qualified to serve the Lord. Moses simply asked one profound question, “Who is on the Lord’s side? Let him come unto me.”

Our Savior still asks that question today of all who would be His followers/disciples and leaders in His cause. This question is not a simple one. It implies open allegiance, commitment, and consecration (see verse 29). It calls for coming out and rallying to the standard of God’s Word, boldly rebuking sin, testifying for truth, not conforming to the world, but conforming to our Lord, Jesus Christ (Romans 12:2).

Someone has said that that decision is what the Lord looks for in His children, and when He sees it He will reward it. Those who have chosen to be on the Lord’s side will know their cause is right and not be afraid to take a stand for it. A righteous cause is a firm foundation and a powerful stimulus of valor. We have such a cause in the principles of Scripture, the inspired writings of the Spirit of Prophecy, and the mission of the Third Angel’s Message as outlined in Scripture. Let us go forth with boldness, knowing that the battle is not ours but the Lord’s.

As leaders and disciples of Prince

Immanuel, the church needs you to help nurture other leaders and younger leaders with the character traits of those who are on the Lord’s side. And since leadership may be defined as one’s ability to get others to willingly follow, what are these traits that we’re looking for? Among several, may I suggest a few for your consideration, none of which require good looks or special intelligence:

- **Spiritual vision** – a clear and vivid picture of where you wish to take the organization while soundly being grounded in the principles of Scripture.
- **Integrity** – the integration of outward actions and inward values, being the same on the outside and the inside. A leader who is honest in his or her dealings will be approachable by followers.
- **Commitment** – spending whatever time necessary to accomplish the assigned task. A leader inspires dedication by example. Albert Schweitzer once said: “Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing.”
- **Openness** – the ability to listen to new ideas and methodologies that are anchored to the principles of Scripture. Openness builds mutual respect and trust among followers.
- **A sense of humor** – a vital skill in order to lessen tension and boredom, and help to defuse hostility. It energizes the base and fosters collegiality among the faithful.

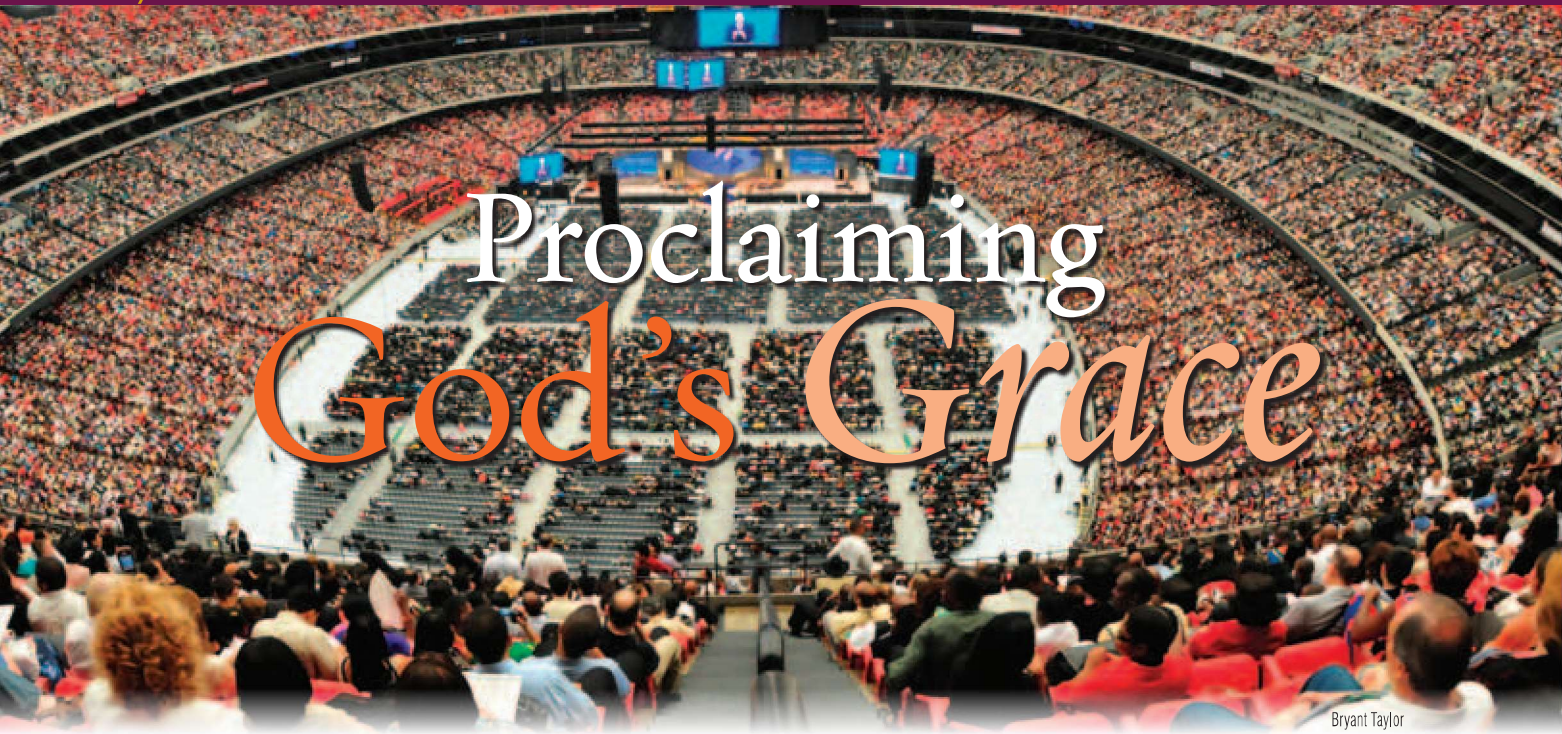
So, are you on the Lord’s side? Then put on the whole armor of God—the garments of love and holiness (Ephesians 6:13-18), and let us go forth to fight the good fight of faith with the Cross behind us, His Word to support us, and His soon coming ahead of us! ①

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



“A righteous cause is a firm foundation and a powerful stimulus of valor.”





Bryant Taylor

Proclaiming God's Grace

Thousands of Adventists gathered in Atlanta for the 59th General Conference Session

For the 59th time in 147 years, Seventh-day Adventists from around the world met from June 23 to July 3 for the church's business session where world leaders were elected, reports of the work around the world were presented, and other items were discussed. Delegates chosen to represent their respective fields traveled from near and far to the Georgia Dome and Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) in Atlanta, Georgia, to participate in this process that will impact millions of Seventh-day Adventists.

In addition to the election of world leaders, key discussion items included such topics as ordaining deaconesses, clarify-

ing the language in the church manual regarding marriage, reinforcing the church's stand on Creation, making church and church-related activities safer for children, and the desire to see the inclusion of young people ages 18 to 30 as delegates.

"I am happy to have had a voice in the decision making process," says delegate Myrtle Pickett, first

elder at the Bronx church in Bronx, New York.

While the business of the church was being discussed, many of the delegates' family members and other visitors occupied their time with activities in the GWCC and other locations. They had the choice of observing the business proceedings in the dome, visiting the exhibit

hall, attending seminars, joining youth activities, such as IMPACT Atlanta, going on field trips as a part of the Day Camp geared for children, visiting the prayer room, and much more. There was something for everyone.

Fifty-nine times, Adventist church leaders and delegates have had the



Bryant Taylor

Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president, standing facing the group, and the Atlantic Union delegates caucus to select members to serve on the General Conference Executive Committee.



opportunity to reflect in this fashion on the church's progress in accomplishing its mission "to proclaim to all peoples the everlasting gospel in the context of the Three Angels' messages of Revelation 14:6-12, leading them to accept Jesus as their personal Savior and to unite with His church, and nurturing them in preparation for His soon return."

So that we don't become complacent about the purpose of this significant event, perhaps it would be worth it to review the church's progress from time to time. Statistical reporting of the work of the Adventist Church began in 1863. At that time, there were six local conferences and missions, 125 churches, and 3,500 members. The first General Conference Session was held May 20, 1863, in Battle Creek, Michigan, with 20 delegates representing the states of New York, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota.

Since that time, the work has progressed phenomenally and the membership has grown astronomically. Slightly more than 16 million Adventists worldwide are worshipping in 68,225 churches and mis-

sions. The organizational structure includes 572 local conferences and missions, 112 union conferences and missions, and 13 divisions. The methods used to communicate is constantly becoming more and more sophisticated—a far cry from methods used back in 1863.

People from around the world followed the session events via television, radio, texts, cell phones, Twitter, Facebook, iPhone apps, e-mail, podcasts, and Web sites, just to name a few. No doubt, the medium for reaching out is there. The challenge is to embrace it and use it to advance God's work in a positive way.

For 13 days, the world church was showcased in magnificent fashion and culminated on Sabbath, July 3 beginning with the worship service that drew a crowd close to 70,000. But by far, the greatest reminder of the church's progress could be seen as the division reports were presented each evening and climaxed with the Parade of Nations on the final evening.

It is significant to observe that Adventism has grown so much in other parts of the world that the



Gary Wagner

Retired pastor Don Bozarth with his wife, Joyce, members of the Greater Albany church in Albany, New York, stroll through the exhibits constructed to educate the visitors about the multiple ministries of the church and lay members.



Steven Norman, III

Yvonne Alexis, a nurse from New York City and first-time attendee to the 59th General Conference Session writes about her experience.



The Atlantic Union College booth was one of 240 exhibits in the exhibit hall at the 59th General Conference Session. Featured in the middle of the display is the original pulpit used by Ellen G. White.

Thousands of people visited the exhibit hall each day during the General Conference Session. It served not only as a social venue, but also as the place to exchange information and to experience the varied cultures and ministries that comprise the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

More than 240 exhibits covered 200,000 square feet. The hall was open for at least 10 hours daily from Sunday through Friday and five hours on Saturday. There was something for everyone, including rock climbing, therapeutic massages, Adventist educational institutions promoting academic excellence, church ministries encouraging all aspects of evangelism, people dressed in colorful cultural attire from the world divisions, inspiring music, and much more. —Rosalie van Putten, member, Jamaica church





Gerry Chudleigh

The General Conference Session concluded with a Parade of Nations on Saturday evening, July 3, when Adventist representing their countries around the world marched across the stage wearing their native dress.



Bryant Taylor

Delegate Frank Tochtermann, Southern New England Conference president, takes a moment to converse with wife, Sally.

North American Division, once the world's largest division where Adventism was born and nurtured, is now the sixth largest division (7 percent), being surpassed by Inter-American Division (20 percent), East-Central Africa Division (16 percent), Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division (15 percent), South American Division (12 percent) and Southern Asia Division (9 percent).

Who knows how many more General Conference Sessions will occur before Jesus Christ comes

again. One thing is very clear from Scripture, "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come"—Matthew 24:14. While the Adventist Church has entered 203 countries in the world, there is still much work to be done. The reports on the church's progress were good, but as the earth groans in pain and the wickedness of its inhabitants seems to be on the rise, it would be well for us to redouble our efforts

and work to hasten His coming.

Yvonne Alexis, a nurse from New York City who attended the session for the first time says, "I have been spiritually uplifted by this experience. I am committed to go back to New York to minister to my Chinese, Russian, Philipino, and Indian neighbors and colleagues that I have been hesitant to witness to because of language and cultural differences."

The 59th General Conference Session is history. We've heard the

GC Day Camp provided a variety of activities, including crafts, swimming in Lake Alatoona, tours of the Georgia Aquarium and games in an atmosphere where the emphasis is on interactive Bible-based learning, nature, and music. Each morning of the session, approximately 40 children took the bus ride 18 miles to Carman Adventist School in Marietta where appropriate supervision and a support staff of energetic college and high school students led out in various activities.

GC Day Camp sponsored by FLAG Camp International, Shenandoah Valley Academy, Pioneer Memorial church, Andrews University, and Camp Blue Ridge, was born out of the frustration felt by parents regarding a lack of activities for children at adult events.

On Sabbaths the children once again had the opportunity to spend time with Mom and Dad experiencing Sabbaths under the Dome.—*Olson Perry, adjunct journalism and communication faculty, Southern Adventist University*



Colin Martin

Matthew Santana from the Old Westbury church, New York, participates in craft time at the GC Day Camp.



reports. The delegates have spoken on the issues. We've visited with long-lost relatives and friends and formed bonds with new ones. Now it's time to get back to the business at hand "proclaiming God's grace" to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. Then, and only then, can Jesus come. ①

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

Statistics were provided by the Office of Media Relations at the General Conference World Headquarters and the Office of Archives and Statistics.

For links to additional photos and related articles about the General Conference Session visit: www.atlantic-union.org/gcsession2010.html.



Tanara Terry

The Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries department's Praise and Worship Team performed for the junior/earliteen meetings. The team of young people were from the Spanish Delancey, Manhattan; Three Angels, Bronx; Spanish Sound View, Bronx; and Jackson Hights, Queens, churches under the direction of Franklin Mota (front, second from left), group director, and Ryan Sharp, spiritual leader (front right).



Bryant Taylor

Abraham Jules, pastor of the Mt. Vernon Seventh-day Adventist Church in Mount Vernon, New York, presents a sermon entitled "Grace for All" during the evening meeting in the Georgia Dome, Friday, July 2.

International vocal artist Christine Sinclair, a member of the North Bronx church, in Bronx, New York, sang at the dome on Sabbath evening, June 26.



Colin Martin



Elizabeth Anderson

Delegate Myrtle Pickett, front, first elder at the Bronx church in Bronx, New York, votes with other delegates on changes to the SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH MANUAL.

Newly Elected Leaders



The newly-elected president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Ted Wilson, and his wife, Nancy, were introduced during the worship service on Sabbath morning, July 3.



G. T. Ng, right, and his wife, Ivy, were introduced to the delegates after he was elected secretary of the General Conference during the world session in Atlanta.



Photos: Gerry Chudleigh

Robert Lemon, with his wife, Sherry, by his side, speaks to the delegates after he was elected treasurer of the General Conference during the world session in Atlanta



The newly-elected president of the North American Division, Dan Jackson and his wife, Donna, are backstage just after the delegates voted.



Youth Talk

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

Making Waves in Atlanta

IMPACT Atlanta makes an impression not only on local residents but on a young adult from the City Tabernacle church

When a delegation of Adventist young adults from around the world converged on Atlanta this past June to impact the city and its residents, they found that their own lives were impacted, as well. IMPACT Atlanta, a community outreach initiative for young adults attending the 2010 GC Session, provided them with opportunities to not only serve others, but to also benefit from training in the areas of leadership and discipleship. Led by Allan Martin, who serves as young adult ministries coordinator for North America, the 10-day outreach experience was designed to transform the habits and attitudes of young adults toward service and ministry, while at the same time, build community. Housed in dormitory apartments at Georgia State University, the young adults, along with their leaders, worked, prayed, and played together 24/7, learning the character-building lessons that come only as a result of close association.

Following daily seminars and orientation each morning, young adult delegates spent their afternoons reaching out to the homeless, gardening, doing street art ministry, or cleaning the homes of needy residents. And on Tuesday, June 29, an army of young adults headed for Centennial Park near the Georgia Dome to solicit signatures for the enditnow campaign, a church-sponsored project to end violence against women.

“We are challenging the young adults so that, as a result of us serving and being here, we will also be impacted and go back to serve in our own communities,” says Martin. “It’s not as much about coming and serving as it is about coming and being transformed.”

This was the first time Rolanda Kingston of the City Tabernacle Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York City has participated in an Impact event in connection with the General Conference Session. “I didn’t know about



Gary Wagner

Rolanda Kingston of the City Tabernacle Seventh-day Adventist Church in Harlem, New York, works in a community garden in Atlanta. Rolanda attends City College of New York.

it before,” she recalls. “I saw a bunch of young adults and asked them what they were doing. They invited me to Encounters Café and told me about IMPACT Atlanta. I’m all about outreach and service, so I decided to join them. I was involved in the Sweeney Project, cleaning bathrooms and kitchens, and working in the garden.”

Rolanda says one experience that made a strong impression on her was watching one of her young adult companions encounter a homeless person. “He was asking for money and food. We weren’t doing an official impact project at the moment, but she went out of her way to buy some groceries and make him a sandwich.” It was that experience that helped Rolanda to realize that outreach isn’t something that’s confined to a specific time or place. Rather, it’s a way of life.

Pat Humphrey is the associate communication director for the Southwestern Union Conference and associate editor for the Southwestern Union RECORD.



Wakefield on Fire: Revelations Revealed

The Wakefield Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bronx, New York, launched the Voice of Hope

Ten individuals were baptized and became members of the Wakefield church as a result of the evangelistic meetings.

Evangelistic Series on May 22 with a concert. The evangelist Neylon S. Samuel delivered messages from the book of prophecy night after night, preparing the people for Jesus' second coming. He was joined each evening by singing evangelist Dawn Samuels, who brought messages of hope through her music ministry.

On Sabbath, June 12, Samuel deviated from his usual routine and delivered a message entitled "He Cares for You." The message, hit home for many members, and was based on Mark 4:35-41. Samuel

told the congregation that "Jesus never said storms would not come, but the truth of the matter is that great storms will come." He reminded them that sometimes Jesus may not answer when they call and may appear to be asleep

during the tumult of the storm, but He will speak to their storm just as He told the sea and the winds to be still. He encouraged the people to step out in faith concerning salvation, just as Peter walked out on water. Samuel commissioned the people to "come" to Jesus and keep their eyes on Him. Using Mark 4:40 as a reference, he also



Niko Daye

Pastor Neylon Samuel baptizes Grace Robinson while Kenneth Jamieson, a church elder, looks on during the Voice of Hope evangelistic series.

encouraged them to have faith the size of a mustard seed and trust God to move the mountains.

Ten individuals were baptized and became members of the Wakefield church as a result of the evangelistic meetings that concluded on June 19 with a gospel concert.

—Kay-Ann Mitt, communication director, Wakefield church

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

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



Buskirk Grows from Church Plant to Company

The Buskirk Seventh-day Adventist Community church plant in Buskirk, New York, has officially become a company with a current membership of 32. This achievement was celebrated with New York Conference officials on July 10.

Outreach blessed by God is the reason for the growth of the church that started in March 2006 as a church plant with 17 members. Activities at the church included monthly hymn sings, cooking classes, and a Better Health Seminar to reach out with the health message. They have also held Bible seminars, including a Creation Weekend, 2012 Mayan Calendar and Bible Prophecy, and a Resurrection Weekend. After church, members go door to door distributing literature. One member sponsored zip code mailings of STEPS TO CHRIST that resulted in four Bible studies.

The church hosted its second annual Fishing Tournament with more than 90 people in attendance. Tournament participants were surveyed about their interest in other activities,



The Buskirk Seventh-day Adventist Community church plant in Buskirk, New York, became a company with a membership of 32 on July 10.

such as stargazing, building bird houses, Vacation Bible School, and wilderness survival skills. A Web site with information about the church and a Facebook page help to publicize the church's activities. All of these activities serve one purpose—to open doors so that the love of Jesus and the news of His soon return can be shared.

—Julie Marques-Lawwill,
communication secretary, Buskirk
company



Stan Rouse, New York Conference president; Dale Ford, Buskirk elder; Roman Kozlov, Buskirk company pastor; and Angel Rodriguez, New York Conference secretary, participated in organizing the Buskirk church plant into a company.

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

Visit our Web site: www.nyconf.com

5K Run Included in Annual Health Expo

A 5K Run was included in the second annual Union Springs Health Expo held during the New York Conference Camp Meeting. Both events were advertised to the community and included a Web site with details.

After registering and participating in a cookbook drawing, about 90 participants made the rounds to the various stations: body fat analysis, blood pressure, glucose, total cholesterol, the Harvard step test, hydrotherapy, chair massage, peak air flow test, health age assessment, and the counseling station, where the individual's test results were compared to recommended results. Each station featured one



About 90 individuals took advantage of the opportunity to get a health assessment at the annual Union Springs Health Expo. One of the stations included chair massages.

of the eight laws of health with colorfully attractive and informative banners as backdrops. Literature was offered and zero cholesterol, high fiber, low-fat delicious food samples were available for the participants to sample. This

year many of the stations were manned by youth and young adults and a literature evangelist book table was also on display. By the time guests arrived at the counseling station, they had met and been assisted by up to 12 smiling faces

that provided many positive connections—Christ's method in action!

Two church plants have expressed interest in holding a health expo. The New York Conference provides the banners and other basic materials so that the churches can be involved in this type of health ministry. God has given us a simple but powerful health message so that every Seventh-day Adventist may truly be a medical missionary, sharing the eight laws of health that are free to all, just as the good news of God's love, mercy, and salvation is free to all!

—Debbie Cox, co-organizer, Union Springs Health Expo

Neighbor's Wife Finds Jesus Too

Lawrence Grover, a neighbor of the Buskirk Seventh-day Adventist Community Company in Buskirk, New York, dedicated his life to Jesus and was baptized in May 2009. Following his baptism, Grover and his wife, Cora, faithfully attended church and continued their Bible studies with Miriam Ford.

The members have grown to love them both and were especially pleased when Cora announced her decision to follow Jesus and be baptized. She wanted to be baptized on their wedding anniversary to make this occasion even more special. Little did she know that her husband, Lawrence, had asked the church to surprise her with a special ceremony to renew

their wedding vows followed by a reception, something that they never had on their wedding day many years ago. The expression on Cora's face was priceless as she was handed a bridal bouquet and Dale Ford, an elder at Buskirk, started the ceremony! They were originally married by a Justice of the Peace, but this time the church members became their wedding party, surrounding them as they renewed their wedding vows.

What a glorious day to see a child of Jesus dedicate her life to Him and rededicate her life to



Dale Ford, left, an elder at the Buskirk Seventh-day Adventist Community Company, participated in the renewal of wedding vows for Cora and Lawrence Grover. Cora was also baptized on the same day dedicating her life to Jesus Christ.

her husband. God be praised for the beauty of marriage and for Cora's decision to become a part of God's family!

—Julie Marques-Lawwill, communication secretary, Buskirk company



Empathy-Driven Community Engagement

Nathalie Rodriguez wants to help others achieve emotional and spiritual health. The community engagement focus at Atlantic Union College (AUC) has fit perfectly with her plan. The Queens, New York, native is working on a psychology degree.

Rodriguez, AUC Class of 2013, structures her life around God and is adamant about doing His

me want to help them, and through AUC, I will.”

Rodriguez said AUC has caused her to be interested in doing God’s work on a larger scale. “AUC gets me closer to God,” she said. “That’s one of the reasons I chose the college. God wants us to care for each other, and psychology is a way to help people. My community engagement classes are teaching me to reach out to

Children in low-income families or children in foster care, because of neglect or abuse, are the primary recipients of these services.

Children who come to school malnourished, traumatized from abuse, or lacking intellectual stimulation have a difficult time paying attention in class. This makes it hard for them to learn at the same pace as their emotionally stable

last year, I played my flute for the enrollment department’s events for prospective students and their parents,” she said. “I have also played during recruitment events in Maine and Massachusetts, as well as the college’s open house. Inspiring people to attend AUC is something that will benefit them for life.”

Rodriguez is excited to learn more about commu-



Milton Montague

work. “I’ve always liked helping people,” said Rodriguez. “At my church, Queens Corona Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church, we had an orchestra and I played the flute. We performed for hospitals, soup kitchens, and retirement homes. I would see what sick, abandoned, and poor people were going through and I developed a lot of empathy. It made

the community. One thing in psychology that sounds pretty cool is wraparound services for children.”

Wraparound services focus on the physical, medical, social, emotional, behavioral, and educational needs of children in difficult situations. Psychologists and social workers “wrap” their work with a child around his or her school and home life.

peers, if at all. Wraparound services include food assistance, counseling, and early intervention for reading and writing. Well-fed, emotionally healthy, and intellectually engaged students are much more capable of learning.

Rodriguez has already done God’s work by helping get the word out about AUC. “During a student recruitment trip in Canada

nity engagement during the new school year. “The AUC professors are teaching me how to identify a need and then act to meet it. I would like to help people with their psychological needs and get them closer to God.”

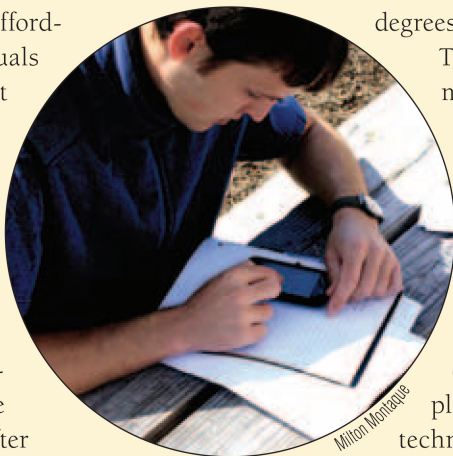
—John Weeks, writer

—Cindy Kurtzhals, public relations director, Atlantic Union College

AUC Starts M.B.A.

In order to provide a flexible and affordable graduate program for individuals who are unable to leave their present employment, AUC is starting an online/distance education M.B.A. degree in cooperation with Griggs University in Maryland.

The M.B.A. (Master of Business Administration) is a graduate degree that is awarded to students who have mastered the study of business. The M.B.A. is thought to be one of the most prestigious and sought-after



degrees in the world.

The program enables a student to master the theory and application of business and management principles. This equips students with knowledge that can be applied to a variety of real-world business situations. The AUC M.B.A. will emphasize the scope of business with a global perspective, the need for ethical behavior in the business place, and state-of-the-art business technology.

Future Life Flight Nurse Says . . .

I got my A.S. in nursing today. It's one of the greatest accomplishments I've made so far, and I couldn't be happier.

"My mom actually told me about this college. When she was in a hospital for surgery, she had a nurse from Atlantic Union College and said that was the best nurse she's ever had. She

told me about this school, and I've been here for the past three years."

What was the most meaningful thing you learned here to take into your practice? "Not judging people on religion. I

"I want to be a life flight nurse. I'll start off in an emergency room and then end up on my helicopter."

came to Atlantic Union College being a Catholic, and they were open and accepting of any religion. I think if you believe in God, that He can get you through anything."

What was the most

important aspect of your nursing education?

"Caring. They didn't teach us how to care. We knew how to care before we came here, but they taught us how to care better, how to give patients everything they need, and that we're patients' advocates. We are their voices."—*Katy Jezirski, Dudley, Massachusetts*



Cindy Kurtzals

Allison Carlson, left, Peter Latino, and Katy Jezirski were among 23 Associate in Science nursing graduates on May 9, 2010.

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."

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, P.O. 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!



Hanson Place Church Celebrates the Year of the Youth

Late in 2009, Melwyn Mounter, senior pastor of the Hanson Place Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn, New York, presented an unprecedented item to the church board, asking them to consider making 2010 the “Year of the Youth.” According to Mounter, this was “a way for us to galvanize the youth and our young people in service for God.” The plan was to hold a Youth Day each month, for ten months, with June and December as the only exceptions. This was something that has never been done before at Hanson Place church. The action was unanimously approved

and passed by the church board.

Planning ten Youth Day weekends for the year is daunting. The task includes mobilizing and including youth and young adults in the church in a way that has never been done before. Enlisting their support, assistance, and most importantly, their participation was not very easy to do initially, but as the Youth Day events progressed from January 23 to the present, the Lord blessed with each succeeding service.

Guest speakers and youth choirs have included Michael B. Kelly, Jr., senior pastor of the Mt. Rubidoux church in Southern California; the



A specially-designed T-shirt, using the logo “Back-2-Basics . . . Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit,” was created to commemorate the “Year of the Youth.”

Linden church youth choir; Bill Wood, Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries and Pathfinder director; Shiloh church youth choir; David Steed, II, senior pastor of the New Covenant church in Tennessee; Daniel Kelly, Jr., a ministerial student from Oakwood University; Nigel David, Sr., former senior pastor of the Breath of Life church in Seattle, Washington; Greater New York Academy School Choir; and Orville Brissett, senior pastor of the Macedonia church in Fort Pierce, Florida, and the Port

St. Lucie church in Port St. Lucie, Florida. Each Youth Day weekend includes a Friday-night rap session where the teenagers have the opportunity to meet the guest speakers in an informal, casual atmosphere for a question-and-answer session. The last Youth Day is scheduled for November 13.

A specially-designed T-shirt, using the logo “Back-2-Basics . . . Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit,” was created to commemorate the “Year of the Youth.” On each Youth Day Sabbath a commemorative bookmark is shared with the visitors. A specially-prepared bulletin is distributed that asks a question of a youth, young adult, and a senior member of the Hanson Place church—“What does the Year of the Youth mean to me?” The answers have varied greatly, but the common denominator has been seeing young people and young adults take an active part in all four worship services of the church—Sabbath School, morning worship, AYS, and prayer meeting.

—Chris J. Martin, AYS leader, Hanson Place church



Each Youth Day weekend includes a Friday-night rap session where the teenagers have the opportunity to meet the guest speakers for a question-and-answer session.

Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services Helps in New Orleans

Members from the Northeastern Conference once again embarked on an eight-day humanitarian endeavor to assist with reconstruction in New Orleans. The team, under the direction of the conference’s Adventist Community Services (ACS) department, left on June 6 to continue to offer assistance because of the devastation caused by Hurricane

Katrina in 2005. Though it is difficult to conceive, it is a fact that five years after the devastation there are individuals who have not been able to return home because their house is still in a state of disrepair. In some cases they lack the resources to rebuild their homes and lives. There are businesses that have not been able to reopen and some churches

have been unable to resume their weekly worship services.

Eighteen individuals joined W. Fitzgerald Kerr, the conference’s ACS director, on the trip to New Orleans to provide some much-needed assistance. The volunteers included Carl Chambers from Calvary church, Bridgeport, Connecticut; Lennox Mattison from Rogers

Avenue church, Brooklyn, New York; Joseph Aaron, pastor, Harris Davey, and Jared Russell from Shiloh church, Springfield, Massachusetts; Cornel Miller, pastor, and Todd Harewood from Jefferson Avenue church, Rochester, New York; Oswald Lewis from Hanson Place church, Brooklyn, New York; Shon Hugging from Bronx church, Bronx, New



Volunteers from the Northeastern Conference embarked on an eight-day humanitarian endeavor to assist with reconstruction in New Orleans.

York; Timothy Wilson from Central Islip church, Central Islip, New York; Anthony Swan from Solid Rock church, Far Rockaway, New York; Lloyd

Henry from East New York church, Brooklyn, New York; Robert Yee, pastor, from Emmaus church, Brooklyn, New York; Richard Calhoun, pas-

tor, from Flatbush church, Brooklyn, New York; Jonathan Saunders from Minnesota; Shon Hugging, Jr., from Maryland, a student of Oakwood University; Maureen Kellman from Linden church, Laurelton, New York; and Erica Robb from Old Harbor, Jamaica.

While in New Orleans the team completed the kitchen, installed the fence and roof guttering for the

New Orleans Seventh-day Adventist School, and installed insulation and sheet rock on two houses.

There is much work yet to be done and a constant stream of volunteers is needed to bring hope and comfort to those less fortunate in New Orleans.

—Steven Williams, communication director, Northeastern Conference

Northeastern
www.northeastern.org

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Submit articles/photos to:
Stephen Williams
Communication Director
E-mail: swilliams@northeastern.org



Ellenville Church Holds Community Health Fair

The Health Ministries department of the Ellenville Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ellenville, New York, held a Community Health Fair on May 23. Among the local agencies that participated were the Ellenville Police Department, Ellenville Hospital, Pregnancy Support Center, YWCA, Lex Rx Pharmacy, Healthy Start Program, the Health Department, Ulster County Sheriff Department, Healthcare Communication Project, and the Ulster County Office of the Aging.

On hand to show their support from the Adventist Church were the Ellenville, Poughkeepsie, and Middletown Pathfinder clubs, which held a marching demonstration. The Northeastern Conference Seventh-day Adventist Health Van was also on site. Throughout the day, health screenings were conducted for blood pressure, diabetes, and mental

health, including depression and anxiety disorders. In addition to the screenings, there were health talks on such topics as the importance of water, the dangers of caffeine, and stress management.

Free bicycle helmets were distributed and other services such as free massages were available. Participants also had the opportunity to purchase health food. Free activities were available for children, including face painting and storytelling.

Local businesses that helped sponsor the event include Shoprite,



Local health food store vendors staffed tables at the Community Health Fair, sponsored by the Ellenville Seventh-day Adventist Church Health Ministries Department.

Peters Super Market, Food Bank, and Lez Rx Pharmacy. “The Community Health Fair was a success,” says Bertha Horne, Health Ministries leader. “We thank God for His blessings, allowing the Ellenville church to sponsor this community-wide event.”

—Mirlande Jordan, Health Ministries associate leader, Ellenville church





By Astrid Thomassian

It Takes a Heap of Loving

This spring I had the privilege of celebrating Education Day in different churches around the Atlantic Union. Each was an eye-opening experience that filled me with gratitude and admiration for members of the congregation.

The members of the Peekskill, New York, congregation impressed me. In this small congregation, a group of dedicated members (the Daffodils) organize year-round fundraisers. In the spring, a \$500 education scholarship is given to young people in the church. They not only contribute

promotes a “back-to-school-fair” each year. At this event, church members donate sheets, pillows, pillowcases, blankets, irons, comforters, filler paper, pens, pencils, and money to the students returning to school. To keep in touch with youth while they are away from the church family, Hope Russell, the pastor’s wife, prepares a newsletter of church events and e-mails it to each student. The church received a donation of \$2,000 from the Kiwanis Club. Two students were awarded scholarships of \$1,000 each. Every Sabbath church members

should learn the golden rule.
The school will be a church school if
we meet the Master’s mind,
And when we do it’s marvelous what
treasures we will find.

It takes a heap of loving in a home to
make a school,
Since children need to learn the use
of every worthy tool,
The parents will cooperate with
teachers t’ward the goal
Of guiding ev’ry student and of sav-
ing ev’ry soul.

It takes a heap of loving in each heart
to make a school,
For each is guilty if one child grows
up to be a fool;
It means that all participate by
prayers and helping hands,
And lift the heavy burdens with a
heart that understands.
The church school does not happen—
it’s the product of a team;
When faith, love, and sacrifice fulfill
your fondest dream! 0

“To God be the glory for the faithful members who promote and contribute to Adventist education.”

financially to the education of the church youth, but also maintain communication with them while they are away in college/university. When the young people return to church during home leaves and the end of the school year, they are assigned responsibilities in the church’s program. The members of this congregation demonstrate by their action that they genuinely care about the youth in the church.

Another caring church family is the North Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bronx, New York, that

donate one dollar to the education fund. A total of \$3,000 was collected. This was used to assist five students with tuition expenses. From March through May, volunteer teachers tutor students in grades 6-8, preparing them for the New York State test. To God be the glory for the faithful members who promote and contribute to Adventist education.

In the words of Adlai Esteb*:

It takes a heap of loving in a church
to make a school.
The church decides that ev’ry child



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

* Used with permission; Scrapwood, *WHAT MAKES A CHURCH SCHOOL?*, p. 60, © 1967, Review and Herald Publishing Association.

Still Happily Married After 59 Years

At a time when one in three marriages end in divorce, Joan and Ronald Bean, members of the Devonshire Seventh-day Adventist Church, have counted time in years. And just how long have they been married? On August 31 they celebrated 59 years of marriage. They met while attending St. Mark's Elementary School in Flatts, Bermuda. Joan Bean remembers that it was not love at first sight. They didn't even date in high school. In fact, they started dating and began courting when they were both 19 years old.

Now, 59 years later, they still walk hand in hand and smile when they remember the years. Some of the things that have kept them together over the years include:

- Arguments that didn't last long. There have been disagreements in their marriage, but they don't last long. "About a day," they both said. "Sometimes we stop talking, but then we forget about it. It's not productive to 'not talk.' We simply forget about it, like it never happened."
- They focused attention on their nine children. That's right, nine children. They learned not to air their

disagreements in front of the children. The children were their priority.

One of her most memorable occasions, Mrs. Bean recalls, is the time she stopped to give her husband a ride on her Vespa scooter. "Well, I jumped the first gear,



On August 31 Joan and Ronald Bean, Sr., celebrated 59 years of marriage.

and left him standing in the middle of the road. When I came back for him, he was sitting on the wall." They still both laugh about it today.

"All of our anniversaries are memorable, but particularly the 30th and 50th. For our 30th, we donated our financial gifts (approximately \$1,000) to the church building fund. We enjoy traveling, and we traveled for our 50th wedding anniversary.

The couple enjoy grocery shopping together, although there have been times when Mr. Bean has

done a few things on his own, such as purchasing a dress for his wife to attend their daughter Karen's wedding. It was a two-piece lace dress. It fit perfectly and she wore it proudly as mother of the bride.

The Beans enjoy the simple pleasures of life, such as

years old. Later he became a member of the church.

The couple both worked outside of the home in the early years. Mrs. Bean remembers working outside the home, then coming home and continuing to work inside the home. This caused her some concern, so she asked the pastor, "What should happen at home?" The pastor's response was, "Your husband should help out." And she's had him doing his part ever since. She firmly believes in working together.

Mr. Bean no longer works outside; he now supports the family by fishing, a job he's had for more than 30 years. Prior to this he worked as a truck driver.

During the interview, several points about their relationship stood out. They do things together, pray together, attend church together, and work together. And in doing so, with God as the center of our lives, marriage will stand a great chance to cross the 50-plus year mark, just as the marriage of Ronald and Joan Bean.

—D. Randolph Wilson conducted the interview with Joan and Ronald Bean, Sr.

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





Kathy and Kevin Pepin were baptized by Clifford Gleason, left, pastor of the Laconia Seventh-day Adventist Church.

God's Perfect Timing

In Jeremiah 17:14 (NKJV) is this marvelous promise: "Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for you are my praise." This verse is especially applicable to the lives of Kathy and Kevin Pepin.

About 15 years ago, Kevin Pepin received a book entitled THE NATIONAL SUNDAY LAW via a mass mailing. He read it and found it somewhat confusing. He read it again several times throughout the years and still wasn't sure about its message. Within the past year, he and his wife, Kathy, became regular viewers of the Amazing Facts programs on public access TV in New Hampshire's Lakes Region. The more they learned, the more they wanted to know, and so he enrolled in the Amazing Facts Bible study course. Somehow that book from 15 years ago was beginning to make sense. When Kevin completed the last lesson, he found an invitation to have an Adventist pastor visit in their home. He checked the box that

said "No, Thank You," and returned the lesson.

A few weeks later, to Kevin's surprise, Cliff Gleason, pastor of the Laconia Seventh-day Adventist Church in Laconia, New Hampshire, phoned to extend the invitation once more. This time Kevin and Kathy accepted. Thus began six months of additional studies with Amanda and Kevin Schofield leading out, and Bible worker Steve Berry shepherding the group. Not only were the Pepins learning more about God's great character of love, they were forming a close friendship with the Schofields who, by the way, were baptized just one year ago.

One evening before his baptism, Kevin, who had battled cancer for 18 years, was suddenly hospitalized and was deathly ill. The elders visited him in the hospital, anointed him, and prayed for his healing. The next afternoon, he was feeling much better, and by Sabbath morning he was back in church.

The Wednesday before

his baptism, Kevin wound up in the hospital again, this time because of a painful kidney stone. That Friday he had surgery and was discharged that afternoon. One might think he would have postponed his baptism because of this ordeal, but that is not Kevin Pepin's style. "The Lord has blessed me," he said. "There's no way I won't be there tomorrow."

So, the next day, Kathy

and Kevin were baptized. "I have such a wonderful peace knowing that the Lord will handle any trials that come our way," says Kathy. "It's a happiness I could never imagine."

—Linda Griffin, communication correspondent, Laconia church

An Act of Respect, Patriotism, and Gratitude

The Green Mountain Volunteers Pathfinder Club from the Mountain View Seventh-day Adventist Church in Vernon, Vermont, participated as color guards, along with



Jordan Harris, Abigail Miller, Dennis Labby, Lisa Young, Kiera Ela, Lilly Ela, and Christian Miller, participated in Wayne MacBeth's memorial service.

veterans from the Vietnam War on May 8 in the committal service of long-time friend, Wayne MacBeth. MacBeth, who served the Mountain View church for many years as an elder, assistant treasurer, and much-loved Sabbath School teacher, died suddenly in the sanctuary just as the Pathfinder Sabbath program was ending on January 9. MacBeth loved the Pathfinders and they loved him. His wife, Joan MacBeth, wanted them present at his funeral service. Each young person and staff stood in full dress uniform in honor of MacBeth's long service to the church, especially with the young people.

After the service, the Pathfinders performed community service in four cemeteries in Vernon, Vermont. They removed old, tattered American flags and replaced them with new ones. About 250 flags, in all were replaced.

This was quite a moving project for all involved and many expressed the sense of patriotism and gratitude they felt for the veterans who have served this country.

—Diane Gaspard, communication correspondent, Mountain View church

Visit our web site:
www.nnec.org

Excuses, No — Trust, Yes!

In your walk through life, have you ever heard the still small voice of God tell you to do something? What was your next response? Was it “Yes, Lord?” or was it an excuse? What are some of your excuses?

- No money
- No education
- I’m too old
- I’m too young
- No one will believe me
- No one will follow me

The list of excuses is endless. Could you have lived your life without having been, done, or attempted one of God’s major pur-

poses for which He created you?

I remember hearing a much-admired speaker, author, and friend, Florence Littauer, tell the story of her mother. After her mom’s death, the family discovered in their mother’s personal belongings, evidence of offers to mom to exercise her God-given gift of music, to which she never responded, but lovingly desired to. Florence said, “My mother died with the music still in her.”

Do you believe that the still, small voice is from God? Do you believe the God who promised the fol-

lowing and the myriad other promises in His Word? “Fear not, for I am with you. Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you”—Isaiah. 41:10 (NKJV).

He said He will never leave us nor forsake us. He asks us to trust and obey, for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus.

Why are we so fearful and non-trusting of the God who believes in us and is right beside us? My favorite book, *MINISTRY OF HEALING*, p. 159, inspires me. It says, “There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart and lives a life wholly consecrated to God. All who consecrate body, soul, and spirit to His service will be constantly



Mike Ortel

receiving a new endowment of physical, mental, and spiritual power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command.”

God loves to take ordinary people and do extraordinary things. Please never let it be said that, “The music is still in her or him.” Excuses no, trust yes!

—Mike Ortel, president, Northern New England Conference

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE
PRAYER MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

PRESENTS...

Fall Prayer Retreat

"Encountering God in Prayer"

October 22-24, 2010

Camp Lawroweld

Cost: \$ 60.00

if registered by October 4th. \$75 after October 4th.
Price includes: Meals, lodging and materials.

Speaker: Juanita Kretschmar

Juanita is a powerful woman of God and prayer. She has many years of experience in ministry and lots of exciting stories of miracles and answered prayers. She will lead us to the Throne-room of Heaven as we "Encounter God IN Prayer".

Don't miss this Powerful Prayer Retreat Experience!

For more info including a registration form go to: www.lawroweld.org click on "year round events", or email Juanita at juanavodru@nne.org or Kelly at kellyv07@yahoo.com

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. Ortel, President
Merlin L. Knowles, Secretary

Northern New England

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Communication Director
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Stewardship Corner

To remind us of Christ's leading in our conference and in our own lives, a PowerPoint presentation was shown during camp meeting featuring pictures of our Southern New England family.

Do you remember that liberating moment when the cares and challenges of this life were set aside to make room for the breath-taking reality of Christ in you? Do you still have that peace? Do you cherish that hope? Are you living victoriously as a result of that life-changing decision? Our Lord wants that for each of us and for every human being on the planet.

The joy of evangelism is sharing the peace of Jesus and the hope of salvation with every man, woman, and child in our communities across this conference. There are 11 million residents in Southern New England Conference who are searching for peace and a reason to hope. You possess both. You are a blessed people, a royal priesthood, and a chosen generation . . . chosen to show His goodness because you have been called out of the darkness into His wonderful light. I invite you to bless this Christ-ordained work of evangelism as you have been blessed. This is our calling, our commission. A Great Commission!

Your evangelism offerings given on our Web site [www.sneonline.org] and in your own church throughout the year will help spread the gospel so others can be blessed with His peace, hope, and victory.

Thank you for giving to the Lord what He has so generously given you.

—Tom Murray, stewardship director, Southern New England Conference

Church Follows God's Command to Feed the Hungry

Johnston Seventh-day Adventist Church members in Johnston, Rhode Island, took the words in Matthew to heart and have been training for disaster relief for years. A recent training event for advanced Adventist Community Services Disaster Relief, under the direction of Tom McQuarrie, the Southern New England Conference Connecticut

State Disaster Relief coordinator, concluded with more than 40 people being trained from Connecticut and Rhode Island, including district members Maria Andolfo, Vincent and Jackie Andolfo, Joe

Ewing-Chow, Bruce Knight, Michael Pelletier, Ric Pelletier, Lisa Singleton, Frank Van Der Meere, Nathel Warcholik, and myself.

Because the Seventh-day Adventist Church has an agreement with FEMA to be responsible for operating warehouses whenever a disaster strikes, the district churches knew they needed a trained team to be able to carry out that responsibility. Then it happened.

The Rhode Island Food Bank called and asked if the Johnston church would be willing to open a food pantry to feed the hungry. What a perfect fit! The members had already been trained to receive, store, and distribute food and other items. Now they were being asked to do it not just for area disasters but also for personal disasters in the Johnston community.

The Burrillville Seventh-day Adventist Church in Burrillville, Rhode Island, had operated a food pantry for several years, so Charlotte Gilbert, Johnston church head deaconess, took Rita Ducharme with her to train with the sister church members.

The Wickford Seventh-day Adventist Church in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, our other

sister church, donated a refrigerator and freezer. With volunteer help a utility room was cleaned out at the Johnston church. A neighboring business, Yankee Shelving Company, donated shelves, pushcarts, storage bins, and other items. A small group assembled the large, heavy-duty shelves. Another group volunteered to clean and paint everything.

Within a month, the Rhode Island Food Bank inspectors came and certified that we were ready to open. They anticipate 50 families will be fed through the program which is open on the third Tuesday of every month.

It is a big responsibility for Gilbert and her team, since the food needs to be picked up at distribution points, unloaded at the church, organized, served to the public, reorganized, and cleaned. We know the same Lord who commissioned His people to conduct this ministry will give His church the stamina to do it!

—Bill Warcholik, pastor, Johnston, Burrillville, and Wickford church district

The Rhode Island Food Bank called and asked if the Johnston church would be willing to open a food pantry to feed the hungry. What a perfect fit!



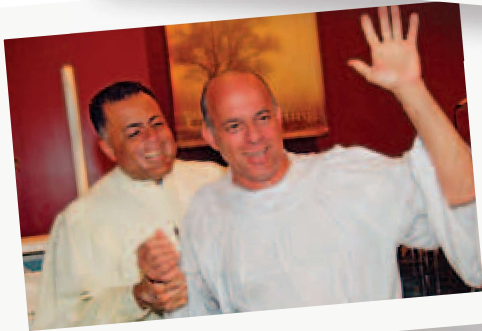
▲ Southern New England Conference Hispanic church pastors Elim Lopez and José Alarcon, (front row left) joined Dionisio Olivo, Atlantic Union Conference vice president for Hispanic Ministries; Eduardo Rodriguez, candidate for ordination; Juan Borges, Southern New England Conference executive secretary; Whitford Shaw, Southern New England Conference ministerial director; and SNEC Hispanic church pastors Noel Ojeda, Israel Mora, (back row left) Nestor Amparo, Gabriel Ruiz, and Julio Pagán for a picture after Rodriguez's ordination service held the afternoon of Hispanic camp meeting on Sabbath, July 10.

Baptism and Ordination Snapshots *from Camp Meeting*

► Julio Pagán, pastor of the Boston and Stoneham Spanish churches, baptized Jose Perez during the Hispanic camp meeting on Sabbath, July 10.

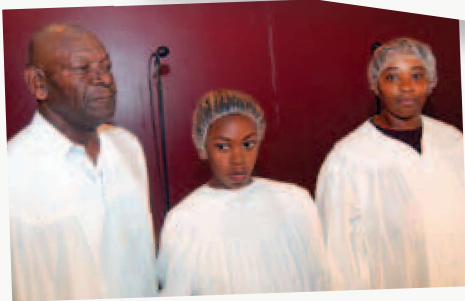


▼ Nelson Rossi, right, an associate publishing director working with the Light America Boston project, baptized Matias Bravo and Garnete Silva during Portuguese camp meeting on Sabbath, July 17.



▲ The Marrero family with Mihail Baciu, center, pastor of the Springfield and Warren churches, and his wife, Viorica, following the baptism of sisters Kaela, left, and Kassandra Marrero (in white robes) during the English camp meeting held on Sabbath, June 19.

▲ Eduardo Rodriguez, pastor of the New Haven, Willimantic, and New London Spanish churches, baptized David Ortiz during the Hispanic camp meeting held Sabbath, July 10.



▲ Felix Monteiro, right, pastor of the Brockton, Dorchester, Pawtucket, and Taunton Cape Verdean churches and the New Bedford Cape Verdean company, baptized Domingos DaSilva, left, Helena Lobo, and Francisco Barros during the Portuguese camp meeting on Sabbath, July 17.

► Franklin Jackson, left, pastor of the Grace and Christian Fellowship churches, with Whitford Shaw, Southern New England Conference ministerial director, baptized (above) Leibert Spencer, left, Dia Denny, and Jacqueline Moodie during English camp meeting on Sabbath, June 19.



To locate a church, visit www.sneonline.org "Churches."
To view more camp meeting pictures, visit www.sneonline.org "Photos."

Wachusett Hills Student Wins Contest

Wachusett Hills Christian School students in Gardner, Massachusetts, participated in a contest hosted by THE GARDNER NEWS this past spring. The students were given the option to submit entries in categories including: essays, design-an-ad, photographs, artwork, and editorial cartoons. Thirty-five schools participated. In all, 151 students were recognized. Olivia Oliveira, one of the fifth grade students from Wachusett Hills submitted an essay and won first place for her grade range. We are so proud of her accomplishment and look forward to participating in the contest next year, as well.



Olivia Oliveira was a fifth-grader at Wachusett Hills Christian School in Gardner, Massachusetts, when she won first place for her essay submitted in a contest hosted by THE GARDNER NEWS.

—Kendra Bisson, teacher, Wachusett Hills Christian School



Quoi de Neuf?

A Travers l'église Mondiale

Le Nouveau Président Adventiste Envisage Une Église Marquée par la Prière

Dans son premier discours aux employés du siège principal de l'Église Adventiste mondiale, le président Ted N. C. Wilson a esquissé un projet stratégique de dénomination dans le but d'inciter un renouvellement d'engagement des membres de la mission de l'église.

L'emphase sur la prière personnelle et collective et le lancement de réveil et d'un Comité de Réformation au siège principal de l'église a été présentée préalablement dans le projet.

La conviction que les chrétiens ne peuvent pas "hâter ou retarder" la seconde venue de Christ est une idée fautive, a dit Wilson. Pendant que le fabricant de programmes ou activités au siège principal de l'église ne peuvent pas «forcer» le retour de Christ, "un réveil de vraie dévotion" et "d'humble soumission à Dieu" parmi les chrétiens le peut, a-t-il dits, répétant une citation par la co-fondatrice d'église, Ellen G. White.

Dans le livre des Actes, du Nouveau Testament, Wilson déclara que les apôtres sont décrits comme être d'un "commun accord" et dans un "même lieu" - conditions qu'il a citées comme étant la cause de l'effusion du Saint Esprit de Dieu. Dieu est entrain de chercher des personnes avec cette même disposition parmi les Adventistes aujourd'hui, déclara-t-il.

Wilson a dit qu'il a reçu récemment un e-mail dans lequel quelqu'un a exprimé l'inquiétude qu'une poussée pour un réveil parmi les Adventistes pourrait introduire le légalisme ou un esprit d'exclusiviste.

Pas vraiment, Wilson a assuré plus de 400 employés rassemblés dans l'auditorium du siège principal de l'église aujourd'hui pour l'adresse. "Ceci n'est pas un message légaliste, ceci est un message d'amour, d'espoir et d'encouragement. Dieu nous a donné ce message et nous devons le partager, aussi inclusif qu'il soit," disait-il.

Partager ce message nécessite la prière, a dit Wilson tout en exhortant

les employés à embrasser l'emphase sur la prière personnelle et collective.

Aucun style de prière n'est obligatoire, déclara Wilson. "Si vous ne vous sentez pas confortable de prier à haute voix, vous n'êtes pas obligé de le faire - vous pouvez prier dans votre cœur. Nous n'essayons pas de forcer les gens dans une certaine 'chaussure' et faire l'ajuster. Mais nous devons prier. Je ne sais pas ce que les gens peuvent faire sans la prière" déclara t-il.

La prière est destinée aussi à ponctuer les réunions du nouveau Comité de Réveil et de Réformation. "Ne vous laissez pas intimider par le nom. Les comités ne vont pas nécessairement tout éliminer," il a dit. Le comité est destiné à rassembler des gens "sérieux" qui s'efforceront à "aider le peuple de Dieu à préparer un environnement pour que [Son] Esprit fasse son travail," a dit Wilson.

Armando Miranda, un vice-président général de l'église mondiale, a été nommé chairman du comité, avec Mark Finley vice-président général récemment retraité de son poste qui sert comme vice-chairman dans son nouveau rôle comme assistant-président pour l'évangélisation.

Wilson a souligné quelques anticipations spécifiques pour les prochains cinq ans. Il a introduit le lancement de la Bible internationale et la mission des conférences, les moyeux où les pasteurs, les professeurs, les travailleurs de Ministères de Santé et d'autres peuvent se rencontrer pour étudier la Bible ensemble afin de mieux saisir "la destinée spirituelle" de l'église. Pratiquement, Wilson a dit que les réunions inciteront l'assistance. "Nous n'allons pas juste nous asseoir et tout dessiner, mais sortir," il a dit.

Les cinq prochaines années verront aussi une emphase continue sur l'assistance par la technologie, déclara Wilson.

Wilson a dit que l'église, sous sa direction sauvegarderait aussi des

emphases fondamentales comme l'éducation Adventiste et les Ministères de Santé. "Redoubler" le projet Connecter avec Jésus, dans lequel les livres d'Ellen G. White sont distribués aux membres à travers le monde, est aussi une priorité, a-t-il dit. Les employés du siège principal ont participé dans le projet, ce matin [28 juillet] - une collection a été prise pour envoyer des copies du livre de White, LA GRANDE CONTROVERSE à chaque famille dans le quartier postal environnant.

Wilson a dit qu'impliquer aussi des jeunes dans la mission de l'église était son objectif—"pas seulement les mettre dans un comité, mais aller au-delà de cela."

Une concentration sur l'évangélisation et l'économat est destinée à être le catalyseur pour le succès de l'église dans les prochains cinq ans, Wilson a dit. "Quand vous avez ces deux choses-là se dirigeant dans la vraie direction, tout autre chose prend une place définitive."

Le projet stratégique n'est pas complet ou concret, et est ouvert aux la suggestions, Wilson a dit. "L'Église Adventiste n'est pas une organisation qui promeut 'le pouvoir du roi'. Nous n'avons pas juste quelqu'un à la tête qui dit, 'C'est ça, Faites-le', puis, cela arrive... La meilleure façon c'est de se rassembler ensemble dans la prière, dans un lieu où une multitude de conseillers apporte de la sagesse" il a dit.

Tout en sollicitant les prières et la participation des employés tandis l'église s'avance, Wilson a dit qu'il a voulu avoir "la communication ouverte" à travers le bâtiment et l'église. "Mon bureau est ouvert. Si vous avez une idée ou une suggestion— petite ou grande qu'elle soit—vous pouvez me contacter et me parler."

Source: Adventist News Network (ANN)

English translation available at: news.adventist.org/2010/07/new-adventist-presid-1.html.

Traduction: Margareth Morisset

¿Qué Está Pasando?

En la Iglesia Mundial

Nuevo Presidente Adventista Visualiza Una Iglesia Marcada por un Reavivamiento en la Oración

En su primer discurso a los empleados de la sede mundial de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día, el presidente Ted N. C. Wilson dijo que el plan estratégico para la denominación se resumía en estimular una renovación del compromiso de los miembros con la misión de la iglesia.

Un énfasis en la oración personal y corporal y el lanzamiento de un nuevo Comité de Reavivamiento y Reforma en las oficinas centrales de la iglesia son partes importantes del plan estratégico.

La creencia de que los cristianos no pueden “apresurar o atrasar” la segunda venida de Cristo es un concepto erróneo, dijo Wilson. Aunque la “fabricación” de programas o actividades en las oficinas centrales no pueden “forzar” el regreso del Señor, un “reavivamiento de la verdadera piedad” y “humilde sumisión a Dios” entre los cristianos si puede, dijo citando a la Sra. Elena G. de White, co-fundadora de la iglesia.

En el Nuevo Testamento en el libro de Hechos, dijo Wilson, los apóstoles son descritos como “a una voz” y “en un lugar”---condiciones que él nota son importantes para el derramamiento del Espíritu Santo. Dios está buscando esta clase de unidad entre los adventistas de hoy, dijo.

Wilson dijo que recientemente recibió un correo electrónico en el cual la persona expresó su preocupación de que un empuje al reavivamiento pueda traer entre los adventistas un espíritu legalista y exclusivista.

Claro que no, Wilson les aseguró a los más de 400 empleados reunidos en el auditorio de las oficinas centrales que se habían congregado para escuchar el discurso. “Este no es un mensaje legalista; es un mensaje de amor, de esperanza y de ánimo... Dios nos ha dado este mensaje y debemos compartirlo, incluyendo a tantas personas como sea posible,” dijo.

El poder compartir este mensaje depende de la oración, dijo Wilson, exhortando a los empleados a que

adopten un énfasis en la oración personal y corporal.

No se impone ningún estilo de oración, dijo Wilson. “Si usted no se siente cómodo orando en voz alta, no tiene que hacerlo—usted puede orar en su mente. No estamos tratando de forzar a las personas a que entren en cierto modelo y hacerlos que encajen a toda forma estamos aquí simplemente para orar. Realmente no se lo que las personas hacen sin la oración,” dijo.

La oración también será parte primordial de todas las reuniones del nuevo comité de Reavivamiento y Reforma, dijo Wilson. “No dejen que el nombre les incomode. Los comités no necesariamente cambian todo,” agregó Wilson. Se espera que el comité busque a personas “sinceras” que se esfuercen por “ayudar al pueblo de Dios a preparar el marco para que el Espíritu haga su trabajo,” dijo Wilson.

Armando Miranda, uno de los vice-presidentes de la iglesia mundial, fue escogido como el director del comité, al igual que el recientemente retirado vice-presidente general Mark Finley, el cual servirá como sub-director en su nuevo rol de asistente del presidente de evangelismo.

Wilson destacó algunas expectativas específicas para los próximos cinco años. El introdujo el lanzamiento de una Asociación Internacional de Misiones Bíblicas en donde los pastores, maestros, educadores de salud y otros puedan reunirse a estudiar la Biblia para obtener una mejor idea del “destino espiritual” de la iglesia. Lo ideal, dice Wilson, sería que estas reuniones estimulen el alcance misionero. “No estamos aquí para estar sentados solamente y absorber todo, debemos salir y compartir lo aprendido,” dijo.

En los próximos cinco años habrá un énfasis en el alcance misionero mediante el uso de la tecnología, dijo Wilson.

Wilson dijo que la iglesia bajo su liderazgo también salvaguardará su

énfasis en la educación adventista y en el ministerio de salud. “Redoblando” el Proyecto de Conectividad con Jesús (Connecting with Jesus Project), en donde los libros de la Sra. Elena G. de White serán distribuidos a los miembros en el mundo entero, también es una prioridad. Los empleados de las oficinas centrales participaron en este proyecto esta mañana [Julio 28]—una colecta se llevó a cabo para enviar copias del libro LA GRAN CONTROVERSI A de Elena G. de White a todos los hogares alrededor del distrito postal.

Wilson dijo que otro de sus objetivos es envolver a los jóvenes en la misión de la iglesia — “no solo que sean parte de un comité, sino ir mucho más allá de eso.”

Se espera que un énfasis tanto en el evangelismo como en la mayordomía sean los aspectos que traigan el éxito a la iglesia en los próximos cinco años, dijo Wilson. “Cuando estos dos aspectos están en la dirección correcta, todo lo demás cae en su lugar. “

El plan estratégico no está totalmente finalizado y está abierto a sugerencias, dijo Wilson. “La iglesia adventista no es una organización que promueve el ‘poder absoluto.’ No tenemos a alguien en la cabeza que dice, ‘Esto es, hazlo’ y sucede...La mejor manera es que nos unamos en oración en donde el consejo de muchos trae sabiduría,” dijo Wilson.

Al solicitar las oraciones y la participación de los empleados de la iglesia, Wilson dijo que le gustaría tener una “comunicación abierta” en todo el edificio y la iglesia. “Mi oficina está abierta. Si tienen una idea o sugerencia—no importa cuán pequeña o grande sea—pueden contactarme y hablar conmigo.”

Source: Adventist News Network (ANN)

English translation available at: news.adventist.org/2010/07/new-adventist-presid-1.html.

Traducción: Johanna Viteri



How Seventh-day Adventists View Roman Catholicism

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).

Seventh-day Adventists regard all men and women as equal in the sight of God. We reject bigotry against any person, regardless of race, nationality, or religious creed. Further, we gladly acknowledge that sincere Christians may be found in other denominations, including Roman Catholicism, and we work in concert with all agencies and bodies that seek to relieve human suffering and to uplift Christ before the world.

Seventh-day Adventists seek to take a positive approach to other faiths. Our primary task is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ in the context of Christ's soon return, not to point out flaws in other denominations.

The beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists are rooted in the biblical apostolic teachings and thus share many essential tenets of Christianity in common with the followers of other Christian churches. However, we have a specific identity as a movement. Our compelling message for Christians and non-Christians alike is to communicate hope by focusing on the quality of life that is complete in Christ.

As Adventists relate to Roman Catholicism in particular, both the past and the future enter into our thinking. We cannot erase or ignore the historical record of serious intolerance and even persecution on the part of the Roman Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic system of church governance, based on extra-biblical teachings such as papal primacy, resulted in severe abuses of religious freedom as the church was allied with the state.

Seventh-day Adventists are convinced of the validity of our prophetic views, according to which, humanity now lives close to the end of time. Adventists believe, on the basis of biblical predictions, that just prior to the second coming of Christ this earth will experience a period of unprecedented turmoil, with the seventh-day Sabbath as a focal point. In that context, we expect that world religions—including the major Christian bodies as key players—will align themselves with the forces in opposition to God and to the Sabbath. Once again the union of church and state will result in widespread religious oppression.

To blame past violations of Christian principles on one specific denomination is not an accurate representation of either history or the concerns of Bible prophecy. We recognize that at times Protestants, including Seventh-day Adventists, have manifested prejudice and even bigotry. If, in expounding on what the Bible teaches, Seventh-day Adventists fail to express love to those addressed, we do not exhibit authentic Christianity.

Adventists seek to be fair in dealing with others. Thus, while we remain aware of the historical record and continue to hold our views regarding end-time events, we recognize some positive changes in recent Catholicism, and stress the conviction that many Roman Catholics are brothers and sisters in Christ. ☺

This statement was recorded on April 15, 1997, by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administrative Committee (ADCOM) and released by the Office of the President, Robert S. Folkenberg.



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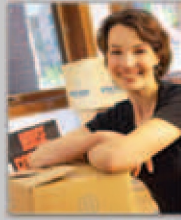


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October 2010	1	8	15	22	29
Bangor, ME	6:13	6:01	5:48	5:37	5:26
Portland, ME	6:20	6:07	5:56	5:44	5:34
Boston, MA	6:24	6:12	6:00	5:50	5:40
South Lancaster, MA	6:26	6:14	6:03	5:52	5:42
Pittsfield, MA	6:32	6:20	6:09	5:58	5:48
Hartford, CT	6:30	6:19	6:07	5:57	5:47
New York, NY	6:36	6:25	6:14	6:04	5:54
Albany, NY	6:33	6:21	6:09	5:58	5:48
Utica, NY	6:40	6:28	6:16	6:05	5:55
Syracuse, NY	6:44	6:31	6:20	6:09	5:59
Rochester, NY	6:49	6:37	6:26	6:15	6:04
Buffalo, NY	6:54	6:42	6:31	6:20	6:10
Hamilton, Bda	7:01	6:52	6:44	6:36	6:29

Eastern Daylight Savings Time

OUT-OF-UNION

Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend:

Oct. 15-17. All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy, and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Friday evening and all day Sabbath. Honor classes: '36, '41, '46,

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February 9-12, 2011	AUC Music Clinic
February 27, 2011	Winter Open House (10:00 a.m.)
March 31- April 3, 2011	Academy Basket Ball Tournament (Hoops 2011)
April 10, 2011	Spring Open House

South Lancaster Academy Alumni Weekend

OCTOBER 8-10, 2010

FRIDAY	SABBATH	SUNDAY
3:00 P.M. Car Wash [^]	9:20 A.M. Services*	9:00 A.M. Breakfast*
4:30 P.M. Supper [^]	1:00 P.M. Lunch (AUC)	11:00 A.M. Alumni
7:30 P.M. Vespers*	3:00 P.M. Activities	Business Meeting
	7:00 P.M. Dinner (Thayer)	(Village Church)

SATURDAY NIGHT: Basketball Games

[^]South Lancaster Academy, 198 George Hill Road, South Lancaster, MA 01561

*College Church, 337 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561

For additional information, contact Jon Nosek at (978) 365-5225 or jnosek@sla-browning.org or www.sla-browning.org "Alumni"

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OCTOBER 15-17, 2010

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7:30 P.M. Vespers*	John Grayson (1960)*	
	1:00 P.M. Fellowship Luncheon/Activity [^]	

SATURDAY NIGHT: Class Reunions and Alumni Basketball Games[^]

*Stoneham Memorial Church, 29 Maple Street, Stoneham MA

[^]Greater Boston Academy, 108 Pond Street, Stoneham, MA

For additional information or directions, contact Tom Giampa at (508) 243-7458 or tdg606@aol.com or call GBA at (781) 438-4253.

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EMPLOYMENT

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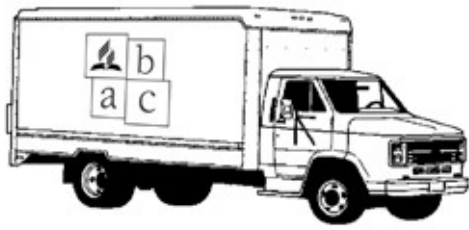
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11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Omega Church, New Haven Conn. (book display)

September 26 – Orders due September 22, 5:00 p.m.

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Three Angels Church, Whiting, Maine
 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Calais, Maine
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 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Oakfield, Maine
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 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. St. Johnsbury, Vt.
 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. South Newbury, Vt.

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10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Brooklawn Church, Bridgeport, Conn.
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 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. Waterbury Spanish Church, Waterbury, Conn.
 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. Hope Church, Bloomfield, Conn.

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2:00 - 6:00 p.m. Laurel Oaks School Fall Festival (book display)

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