

THE ATLANTIC UNION

APRIL 2011

GLEANNER

Beacon of HOPE

Atlantic Union Commemorates
110 Years of Leadership and Service

Quoi de Neuf?

Adventist Education

Youth Connections

¿Qué Está Pasando?

inside **APRIL** 2011

FEATURES

4 COVER STORY: Beacon of Hope



6 Washington Adventist University and Atlantic Union College Vote Memorandum of Understanding

6 *Let's Connect LIVE* Hosted in Bermuda



7 Academy Students Attend Music Clinic



16 Jesus Loves Me

IN THIS ISSUE...

The Atlantic Union Conference will reach another milestone on April 16, commemorating 110 years of ministry for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Northeast United States and Bermuda. In this issue, we remember the past and look to the future with renewed reverence for the work we are called to do in preparation for the soon return of Jesus Christ. Our regular features include Adventist Education, Positions of Our Faith, and Youth Connections. The cover photo of the Portland Head Lighthouse in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, is from iStockphoto.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

DEPARTMENTS

Editorial	3
Adventist Education	16
Youth Connections	17
Quoi de Neuf?	22
¿Qué Está Pasando?	23
Positions of Our Faith	24

NEWS

Atlantic Union	6
Greater New York	8
New York	10
Atlantic Union College Northeastern	12
Bermuda	15
Northern New England	18
Southern New England	20

INFORMATION

Bulletin Board	28
Classifieds	29

DEADLINES

June 2011	April 8
July 2011	May 13
August 2011	June 10

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

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Jesus Loves Them . . . And So Should We



At a funeral I attended a couple of months ago, there was a young man with a disability. I could not help but notice that everyone passed him by without saying a word to him. He looked as if he was waiting for someone to make eye contact or to say something to him. Sad to say, no one did. My brother, who was with me, also noticed what was happening. Feeling sorry for the young man, he approached him, called him by name, and spoke with him. I did the same. The young man seemed happy that we were talking with him. Later, he commented to one of our friends that he appreciated us, because we made him feel happy and showed him love.

Jesus seemed to have had a special love and concern for people with disabilities. He displayed compassion for those who were blind, deaf, otherwise physically challenged, and those who were possessed with demons. He spent time with them and met their needs. When John the Baptist wanted assurance that Jesus was the One, Jesus said to John's followers, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: (eye witness news): The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them"—Matthew 11:4, 5, NKJV.

He seemed to have a special concern for those who were limited physically and ignored by the society. These types of people probably were many in Galilee in Jesus' day. There was no organized medical institution and there were no specialized hospitals for

the disabled and sick. Science and medicine were not advanced as they are today. Simple diseases and injuries could lead to loss of life, sight, hearing, and mobility. There were no trained medical personnel or emergency rooms to attend to urgent needs. There was nothing to give them hope and dignity except for the concern and love of family members and true friends and, of course, the healing touch of Jesus.

In Mark 7:32, NKJV, it says, "They brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech." Of course, a deaf person will have difficulty forming words and speaking. It is within reason to believe that, since he could not communicate, someone loved him enough to bring him to Jesus. It could have been his parents, a family member, or concerned friends. All we know is that he was very important to someone, because they begged Jesus to lay His hands on him. People with disabilities were loved so much that they were brought to Jesus to receive both physical and spiritual blessings and love. It has been said that there is always hope for people who are loved. No one is without hope if there is someone who loves them.

It is important for us to learn to love, respect, honor, and help all people, including those with disabilities. Everything that Jesus touched, He changed for the better. He wants to change our carnal nature to His divine nature and, in so doing, it will make us instruments of change for the better. ①

Leon Thomassian is the Atlantic Union Conference treasurer and trust services director.

People with disabilities were loved so much that they were brought to Jesus to receive both physical and spiritual blessings and love.



Beacon of HOPE

Atlantic Union Commemorates 110 Years of Leadership and Service

One of the sights that catches the eye while traveling along any coast, especially by boat, is the lighthouses at different points on the coastline. However, not all of them are on the water's edge. There are several that can be found throughout the Atlantic Union territory. Lighthouses are designed to emit light from a system of lamps and lenses and are used as an aid to navigation for pilots at sea to ensure the safe arrival of vessels heading to port. They mark dangerous coastlines, hazardous shoals and reefs, safe entries to harbors, and can also assist in aerial navigation. Today, many lighthouses have been replaced by modern electronic navigational aids.

From its earliest beginnings, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has placed a number of lighthouses in strategic locations as beacons of hope to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and His soon return for His people on planet earth. On a quiet street in the town of South Lancaster, Massachusetts, stands one such lighthouse—the Atlantic Union Conference, headquarters for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Northeast United States and Bermuda. The union's

history goes back to April 16, 1901, when it was first organized. The very first building (lighthouse) that housed the office staff was located on the corner of Prescott and Sawyer streets.

On April 16, the Atlantic Union will reach another milestone in its ministry. It will commemorate 110 years of leadership and service in this territory. The union now has more than 104,520 members worshipping in 566 churches and 63 companies, and the church places great emphasis on fulfilling the mission of Jesus and the Three Angels' Messages. It continues to raise the banner high and emphasizes religious liberty and human rights, lifestyle changes, education and personal growth, humanitarian aid and development, health and wholeness, and social issues which lead men and women to respect and love one another as God's children.

In Luke 11:33, NKJV, Jesus reminds us that "No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand, that those who come in may see the light." The light in the Atlantic Union is shining brightly so that many more individuals will gravitate to it and find hope in this troubled world.

Ellen White, in a November 29, 1881, entry in the *REVIEW AND HERALD*, writes, "Now is the time for the friends of Jesus to be decided,



faithful, and valiant for the Captain of their salvation. Now is the time to show who are the true Calebs, who will not deny that the walls are high, the giants mighty, but who believe that this very fact will make the victory more glorious. There are great difficulties and trials before us. It will require strong courage and persevering effort to go forward. But all now depends on our faith in the Captain who has led us safely thus far.”

The message for the members of the Atlantic Union, as we remember from where the Lord has brought us and as we anticipate the journey ahead is this:

- **Celebrate the milestones and high points of our past history.**

“We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history”—TESTIMONIES, vol. 9, p. 10.

- **Assemble together with one another.**

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near”—Hebrews 10:24, 25, NLT.

- **Show love and compassion and help someone.**

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from

another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to

become weak. The events are reminders that earthly treasures will fade and, as a result, people tend to lose hope. Each member, church, conference, and division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church has a responsibility to make sure the lighthouse stays lit as a beacon of hope for those looking to be rescued.

Thank God for the blessings of the past 110 years. Thank God for the difficult times He brought us through.



“The Atlantic Union has more than 104,520 members worshipping in 566 churches and 63 companies, and the church places great emphasis on fulfilling the mission of Jesus and the Three Angels’ Messages.”

drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ . . . The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me’ —Matthew 25:31-36, 40, NLT.

One after another, countries around the world are experiencing disasters of unusual magnitude. This is not the time to be frightened and

Thank Him for the challenges yet to come, and be determined that you will be a beacon of hope in your part of this vast harvest field. ☺

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

The seven stars in the seal on page 4 represent the six conferences in the Atlantic Union in the outer circle with Atlantic Union College in the middle.

Atlantic Union College and Washington Adventist University Vote Memorandum of Understanding

The Trustees of Washington Adventist University (WAU) [in Takoma Park, Maryland, on March 9, 2011] voted a Memorandum of Understanding with Atlantic Union College (AUC).^{*} This MOU calls for the two institutions to work toward an agreement to establish a branch campus of Washington Adventist University at Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. WAU would lease the facilities of AUC, and become the sole provider of higher education at the New England location. All provisions are dependent upon approval from the required accrediting and regulatory agencies.

This move follows a recent decision by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to discontinue AUC's accreditation July 31, 2011, for financial reasons.

"We're grateful that our enrollment growth and financial position enables us to continue to provide accredited higher education to the community and constituents that Atlantic Union College serves," said Weymouth Spence, Ed.D., president of WAU. "Our desire is to build upon the rich heritage they've established with a focus on the future."

Norman Wendth, Ph.D., president of AUC, added, "I have believed for many years that to unite Atlantic Union College with Washington Adventist University would create a truly impressive educational institution. I am deeply

now work together to complete a formal and binding agreement. This process will address key questions about governance, academic programs, and services in order to facilitate a smooth transition for both current and future students. WAU



Weymouth Spence, president of Washington Adventist University; Dave Weigley, chair of the Washington Adventist University Board of Trustees; Don King, chair of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees; and Norman Wendth, president of Atlantic Union College sign the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of their institutions.

pleased that we can respond to AUC's accreditation challenge in such a historically significant way."

The expansion positions WAU to serve the educational needs of students in 15 states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern United States and the island of Bermuda.

Officials from both entities will

will then develop a business plan and seek approval from their governing boards, as well as state, regional, and church accrediting agencies.

**The same Memorandum of Understanding was voted by the Trustees of Atlantic Union College on February 14, 2011.*

For more information visit www.auc.edu or www.wau.edu.

Let's Connect LIVE Hosted in Bermuda

Bermuda Conference was the host of the third *Let's Connect LIVE* program on February 18. Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president and host of the 90-minute show, was joined on the panel by Jeffrey Brown, Bermuda Conference president; Ryan Simpson, youth ministries director; and Kylah Allers, young adult ministries coordinator. It was the first time a conference president participated as one of



"The Let's Connect LIVE panel members, front from left, are Ryan Simpson, Donald King, Jeffrey Brown, and Kylah Allers. Behind the scenes personnel, standing from left, are Rohann Wellington, Gary Saunders, Steve Ingham, and Barry Richardson."

the panel members. About 120 people were in the audience at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Hamilton, Bermuda, and there were 195 direct hits from 47 countries/territories and cities via the Internet on www.auam.tv/letsconnect.

Along with the question-and-answer segments, the program included musical selections from local artists. Online viewers participated by submitting questions

using the live chat feature on Facebook. Some of the questions asked by the youth and young adults, included “What is the conference’s youth department doing to combat the upsurge in violent crimes in Bermuda, especially among young people?” and “Bermuda has a very active night life, especially on the weekends, what alternative, if any, is the youth department offering to teens and young adults?”

In addition to the audience at the church and those on the Internet,

Bermudians were able to watch the broadcast live on ATV Channel 80, Bermuda Conference’s 24-hour cable television station.

A number of individuals worked behind the scenes to make the program a success. They include Rohann Wellington, AUAM (Atlantic Union Adventist Media) managing director; Gary Saunders, Praizevision.com CEO; Pete Saunders, Bermuda Conference communication associate director; Barry Richardson, ATV technical director; Steve Ingham,

ATV engineer; and Damon Hendrickson, ATV assistant media director.

“Each opportunity to present one of the *Let’s Connect LIVE* programs gives us a chance to let the youth and young adults know how much we care about them and it gives us the opportunity to answer their questions on any topic,” says King. Those working behind the scenes are getting better with the technology that allows me to receive the questions right on my iPad.”

With the exception of

the first one or two questions that are asked to get the program going, the entire 90-minute program is unscripted. The panel members have no idea what question is going to be presented until it’s asked by the host, and the questions cover a wide range of topics.

In an upcoming issue of the *GLEANER* information will be included about the April 1 *Let’s Connect LIVE* that takes place at Machlan Auditorium on the campus of Atlantic Union College.

—Ednor A. P. Davison, *GLEANER* editor

Academy Students Attend Atlantic Union Music Clinic

The 2011 Music Clinic, co-sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference and Atlantic Union College, was held on February 9-12, bringing 110 academy students and 20 chaperones to the campus of Atlantic Union College. Students

from Bermuda Institute; Central Vermont; Christian Academy of Arts Science and Technology in Connecticut; Excelsior, Northeastern Academy’s Brooklyn campus; Greater New York; Northeastern; Pine Tree; South Lancaster; and Union Springs academies participated in the event. The music clinic is held annually, rotating the choral and band clinics.

Students in the choral clinic were under the direction of Kristjon Imperio, a 2008 AUC graduate. This year, an oratorical component was included for the first time, under the direction of Dedrick Blue, senior

pastor of the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York. The students spent three and a half days rehearsing for many hours in preparation for the Saturday night concert in Machlan Auditorium.

“Music Clinic was such an amazing experience for me. I met a lot of students from other Adventist academies who were so nice and warm,” says Lydia Felt, a sophomore at South Lancaster Academy in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. “We were always interacting with someone new every day. The music was phenomenal. The stories the oratorical students told brought us close to

God. You could really feel the presence of God.”

Astrid Thomassian, Atlantic Union Conference education director, says, “The music clinic is an opportunity for academy-age students to be present on the campus of Atlantic Union College and experience college life as well as enrich their artistic skills.”

The next music clinic, featuring the band, is tentatively scheduled for February 8-12, 2012. For more information, contact the Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education at education@atlanticunion.org.

—Ednor A. P. Davison, *GLEANER* editor



Following three and a half days of rehearsing, the 110 academy students who attended the music clinic presented a concert on Saturday night in Machlan Auditorium on the campus of Atlantic Union College.

Ednor A. P. Davison



Greater New York Conference: Making Marriages Stronger

The Greater New York Conference Family Ministries Department hosted the conference's annual Marriage and Family Enrichment Retreat, "Love Is a Gift of God." Twenty-five couples attended the event at Hilton Stamford Hotel in Stamford, Connecticut, on February 4-6.

After icebreakers on Friday evening, couples entered into an interactive phase of finding out how well they really know their spouse by answering 20 questions. The result: the men struggled to get as many questions right as they could, but the women easily came up with the answers. Three women answered all the questions correctly and received prizes.

Steve Cassimy, Greater New York Conference family ministries director, and his wife, Marilyn, the facilitators for the entire weekend, focused on the development of communication skills in marriage. A variety of strategies were utilized to enrich the bonds of love between spouses and to spend time communicating with God through fervent prayer. The couples will likely remember the many

"knee talks" and "eye-ball to eye-ball" conversations they had throughout the weekend. Each conversation ended with couples praying together.

"Your Spouse as a Gift," was the topic that Conrad White, pastor of the Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn, New York, chose to use to begin the Sabbath



Facilitators Steve Cassimy, Greater New York Conference family ministries director, and his wife, Marilyn, seated, are joined by several couples who attended the Greater New York Conference Marriage and Family Enrichment Retreat.

morning devotion. The Cassimys complimented his homily with the segment "Celebrate your Marriage." There were calls to celebrate not only on anniversaries, but also quarterly, by getting away for a weekend; monthly, by spending an entire day alone together, weekly, by setting aside one evening per week to spend together, and daily, by giving 30 minutes of undivided, loving attention to each other.

Such topics as "What

Can Kill Your Marriage?" "What Factors Affect Love and Communication in a Relationship?" "How Can I Improve My Marriage?" and "What Is the Role of Sex in Marriage?" dominated the Sabbath day before the movies *Fire Proof* and *Facing the Giants* were viewed by the couples in the evening.

The renewal of vows was the highlight on Sunday, following a devotion presented by Walix Valcin, a teacher at Greater New York Academy.

"My wife and I felt that this was such a beautiful seminar because it gave us plenty of practical strategies and tips to make our love better," says a young couple whose marriage was only two years young. A husband and wife seasoned with 20-plus years of marriage exclaimed: "After being married for so many years, the tendency for 'oldies' is to take each other for granted. We've become so caught up in the routine of making ends meet that we don't attend to our intimate life's needs, and you know we suffer a lot for it. This weekend was for both of us, a revival of our love life,

and it made us feel good. We call this workshop an 'intimate crusade' and the church needs more of it."

Combined, these two intergenerational commentaries captured the

spirit of the Greater New York Conference Marriage Enrichment Retreat.

—Chelston Lee, Communication Advisory Committee member, Greater New York Conference

The Cassimys led out in group discussions with Steve Cassimy working with the men and Marilyn Cassimy working with the women.

Greater New York

www.gnyc.org

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Submit articles/photos to:
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Communication Director
E-mail: rwellington@gnyc.org





More Than 1,200 Attend the Fifth Adventist Youth Evangelism and Leadership Congress

More than 1,200 leaders, youth, young adults, and adults gathered at the Stamford Hilton in Stamford, Connecticut, for the 2011 Greater New York Conference Adventist Youth Evangelism and Leadership Congress. The Theme for the event was “God’s City, my City.” The attendance at this event surpassed the 2010 event and an 50 additional rooms were needed to accommodate the crowd. Fourteen tracks and more than 150 workshops were presented. Hundreds of youth took time to go to the prayer room to pray early in the morning and throughout the day.

About 510 of those attending were dedicated before beginning their year-long training in nine areas of ministry, including Adventist Youth Leadership Certification, Adventist Youth Emergency Services Corps, Master Guide, Pathfinder Leadership Award, Pathfinder Instructor Award, Adventurer Leadership Award, Adventurer Instructor Award, Health Volunteer Corps, and Youth Media Ministry.

There were many highlights during the congress. One of the most vivid occurred in the halls of the hotel during free time. Groups of young people could be heard and seen singing and praying throughout the hotel lobby and halls. This was a spontaneous action and was



About 510 candidates were dedicated before beginning their year-long training in nine areas of ministry.

not a part of the planned program.

Several individual awards were presented that weekend. They include:

- Medal of Courage and Service: Kelvin Rivas, Rockville Centre Spanish church



Photos: Osvaldo Johnson

Three churches received the Adventist Youth Ministries of the Year Award. From left are representatives from the Dyckman Spanish, third place; Soundview Spanish, first place; and Manhattan, second place.



Bill Wood, Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries director, presented the Youth Service Award to Diego Fernandez, right, from the Soundview church.

- Teen of the Year 2010: Nathan Manongi, Manhattan church
- Young Adult of the Year 2010: Diego Fernandez, Soundview Spanish church
- Adventist Youth Leader of the Year 2010: Sunilbe Siceron, Soundview Spanish church
- Adventist Youth Coordinator of the Year 2010: Ryan Sharpe, coordinator in the Bronx
- Adventist Youth Ministries of the Year 2010: Soundview church, Manhattan church, and Dyckman Spanish church

director, presented the Youth Service Award to Diego Fernandez of the Soundview church. It is an award given by the Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Department to an individual who has made a significant difference in their conference.

The Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries leadership team is committed to equipping leaders who will make an impact, under the power of the Holy Spirit, in the communities, cities, towns, and villages in the New York area.

—Teddy Williamson, volunteer assistant for Adventist youth ministries, Greater New York Conference



Kelvin Rivas, center, was awarded the Medal of Courage and service by Rubin Merino, Greater New York Conference Adventist Community Services and Health Services director. On the left front is José Cortés, Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries director.

Bill Wood, Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries



God Opens Doors for Community Involvement in Perrysburg



The Vacation Bible School team from the Perrysburg church provided crafts for the children. More than 60 children participated.

Members of the Perrysburg Seventh-day Adventist Church in Perrysburg, New York, were surprised one Monday morning in December 2010 to find an article with a big, bold, color photo in the middle of the front page of the local newspaper showing church members singing carols on a cold wintery evening. The recognition in the newspaper occurred as a result of the church's

charge, and more than 60 children participated.

The well-attended event provided numerous opportunities for church members to mingle with others in the community. Contacts were made and children were invited to attend the August 2011 VBS. David Maines, a Perrysburg church elder, had been planning a service to honor military personnel and his conversation with the

church was subsequently invited to participate and help with the annual Village of Perrysburg picnic in the summer, as well as to continue with its involvement in the annual tree lighting ceremonies.

We must make prayerful and intelligent efforts to get out of our shell and be

involved in our communities. When we participate in their events and activities, people notice, and the results are positive. God will be able to open doors to many wonderful witnessing opportunities.

—Samuel Indreiu, pastor, Perrysburg church

Buskirk Youth Blessed at GYC

"I had never been around so many Adventists in my life, let alone Adventist youth," says Jeff Reed, speaking about the GYC 2010 convention held in Baltimore, Maryland, in late December. "I know it was God who led me there." Reed's attendance at the convention was sponsored by the Buskirk Seventh-day Adventist Community Church in Buskirk, New York.

The theme for the convention, "No Turning Back," was based on Luke 9:61, 62, where Jesus says, "No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." The emphasis of the conference was to encourage and challenge young people to dedicate their lives to Christ and to serve Him, never turning away. So many seminars were offered, Reed said that it was hard for him to choose which to attend, since all the topics were appealing. He settled on seminars presented by Mark Finley, Jeffrey Rosario, and Neil McNulty.

A prayer room was open throughout the day and Reed participated by spending about an hour in prayer. "I felt the peace of God and the Holy Spirit just fill the room," he says. "It seemed that everyone opened up to God and to each other and, by the time it was done, we were all one big family in Christ."

Reed says he believes that the work of the gospel is going to be finished to a large degree by young people. "It was incredible to see so many of them on fire for God and others rededicating their lives to Christ," said Reed. If everyone in the Adventist Church took an active part in finishing the work, how many more people could be reached and how much sooner would the great controversy come to an end!

—Julie Marques Lawwill, communication secretary, Buskirk church

"We must make prayerful and intelligent efforts to get out of our shell and be involved in our communities."

participation in the community events in Perrysburg Village Plaza the previous Saturday night. It was so cold that night that the guitar of Michael Nace, a minister, long-time friend, and attendee of the Perrysburg church, cracked. Following the evening's events, everyone hurried to the fire station for refreshments provided by the Methodist church.

mayor that night led to plans for the mayor to come and make a proclamation. Fred Webber, a Perrysburg church elder, says "It was a nice evening—nice to see all the people come out, nice to see the kids doing the crafts. While we don't get too much into the Christmas stuff, it was a really good opportunity for the church to be involved in our community." The

USA Students Participate in Annual ADRA Famine

More than 50 students participated in Union Springs Academy's annual ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) Famine in January. Students had to raise at least \$5 each to stay in the gym from Friday evening

the students to think about their own lives and experience what homeless people go through. The students walked in the snow to experience how cold the homeless must feel while walking outside trying to find a place to

The focus of this year's ADRA Famine was the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

to Saturday evening, without food. The focus of this year's ADRA Famine was the 2010 Haiti earthquake. The money raised was sent to Haiti through ADRA.

This year the campus ministries chaplain, Timothy Raymond, wanted

sleep for the night. They also watched several short videos of Haiti. Some students indicated that ADRA Famine was difficult for them because they couldn't eat for 24 hours. They also were not allowed to bring their cell phones.



Union Springs Academy students walked in the snow to experience some of the conditions under which homeless people live.

ADRA Famine is a time to think of someone other than yourself and to pray for someone you don't know. At the beginning of ADRA Famine, each student is given a card with a picture of a child that was born the same day they were. The students were given the cards so that they could pray for the child whenever they got hungry. The group was divided into four teams and each team had two flour bags that were called flour babies. Each team had to care for the babies, and if left unattended, another team could steal the baby. The purpose of the activity was to allow

the students to experience a sense of what it is like for family members have to carry their babies during difficult times.

A number of students at Union Springs Academy come from refugee camps. They gave a presentation on what it was like living in the camps. Members of the group expressed their surprise when they saw pictures of their friends living in those difficult situations. ADRA Famine is a Union Springs Academy highlight. It's a time to reflect on and appreciate what God has done for us.

—Yharitza Miranda, senior, Union Springs Academy



Great Preachers Series
presents . . .

**Dr. Hyveth
Williams**

Sabbath, August 6, 2011

Utica International
Seventh-day Adventist Church
1134 Herkimer Road (Rt.5), Utica NY 13502

9:45 am - Sabbath School

11:00 am - Worship

*Worship includes professional choir,
violin, brass and organ.*

Luncheon provided by the congregation.

**For more information,
please call (315) 429-9399**

"His Sheep Am I"

Second Annual North Country Women's Retreat
June 10-12, 2011

Camp Cherokee, Saranac Lake, New York

Guest Speaker

Lynn Ortel

Women's Ministries Director, Northern New England Conference

Fee: \$65.00 (includes room & meals)

For More Information Contact:

Sharon King at 315-463-4175 or e-mail sharonk108@yahoo.com



Alumni Homecoming—April 14-17, 2011

Reconnect with AUC Classmates and Friends

*Theme:
“AUC
Actively
Uniting
Communities”*



Friday Evening
Whitford Shaw '69
Ministerial Director
Southern New England Conference



Sabbath Worship Service
Walton Rose '81
Ministerial Director
Northeastern Conference

Three Highlights from Last Year's Homecoming

Alumna of the Year—2010

Dolores (Hernandez) Haritos, '50, served as a U.S. Air Force Colonel; is currently corporate director of the Brighton Marine Family Health Plan (military hospital) in Boston, Massachusetts; and was a 1950 graduate of the combined nursing program of Atlantic Union College and New England Memorial Hospital School of Nursing (NEMH).

When she became a registered nurse, she joined the USAF Nurse Corps and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. Assigned to the Dhahran Air Force Base in Saudi Arabia, she was involved in challenging medical and nursing care. This included caring for and transferring critically ill patients to Bangkok, Thailand; Eritrea, North Africa; and Athens, Greece.

“AUC me prepared for these roles,” she said.

Read the rest of her Alumna of the Year profile, and her cover story in a previous AUC TODAY, Vol 1, No. 5, August 2009 issue at www.auc.edu. Scroll down the home page and click on AUC TODAY E-newsletters.

—Leslie Wood, '74



Dolores (Hernandez) Haritos '50

Living Legend Award Honoree—Richard Trott

Rick Trott has served Atlantic Union College since 1977—20 years as chaplain and associate pastor of the College Church before becoming a professor of religion and chaplaincy in 1998. He was appointed chair of the Religion and Theology department in June 2007. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, he directs the Master of Education Chaplaincy Concentration.

Twice he was voted for and honored with the Presidential Award for

Excellence in Teaching, 2004 and 2007. This annual institutional award is based on ballots by students and faculty.

He earned membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and was a charter member of both the Association of Adventist Family Life Professionals and the American Association of Christian Counselors. He is also an Advanced Certificate/Trainer for pre-marital counseling in the Prepare-Enrich Inventory approach to marriage preparation.

Read more about Trott and his family of AUC graduates in the news section of www.auc.edu.



Rick Trott, D.Min., was honored as a Living Legend. A chestnut tree was planted in his honor.



Photos: Cindy Kurtzhals

Pictured, foreground, is Rick Trott and Living Legend's annual organizer Eugene "Pete" Christoph '52. Back, from the left, is Jack Mentges '75, AUC's vice president for student services; Angel Rodriguez '85, a guest speaker and executive secretary for New York Conference. At back right is alumnus Nathan Rice '58.



"We Are Persuaded" performed while they attended AUC and came back together for the BCU reunion. Today, some attend the Pleasant Street church in Worcester, Massachusetts, while others live throughout Maryland, New York, and beyond.

Four Decades of the Black Christian Union Celebrated at the 2010 Homecoming

The Black Christian Union sought to include all students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the Central Massachusetts community in dialogue about race relations within the context of Christ's love of mankind.

The BCU brought guest speakers to the AUC campus, held panel discussions on race relations, affectionately known as "rap sessions," and hosted soul feasts according to THE LANCASTRIAN student newspaper.

The BCU also put together the Black Christian Union Choir to sing the praises of Christ. The choir gained the love and support of residents throughout the area and still draws large

crowds for its performances.

Read more and enjoy MINUTEMAN yearbook pictures in the Alumni Homecoming edition of AUC TODAY, Vol. 2, No. 3, Spring 2010 at www.auc.edu.

—compiled by John Weeks

Professor is Published



Cindy Kurtzhals

Ernan Norman

Ernan Norman, D.Min., has authored two books since 2007, the second of which will be off the press this year. Norman is an assistant professor of theology and religion at Atlantic Union College.

His first book is titled A STRATEGY FOR REACHING SECULAR PEOPLE: THE INTENTIONAL CHURCH IN A POST-MODERN WORLD. This book underscores how secularization and secularism have impacted the mission of the Christian church in the postmodern context.

One example of the challenge facing the church's witness to postmodern

secular people is that they no longer believe in absolute right and wrong. For example, right and wrong are relative. In other words, "What's right for me may not be right for you." Other characteristics of secular people are:

- They profess a spirituality that combines various religious practices and beliefs ranging from secular humanism to eastern mysticism. In this respect, they retain the right to pick and choose what they want to believe—they do not subscribe to an objective standard or belief system.
- They no longer believe in traditional Christian values.
- They also believe in their own abilities to solve real-life problems. Faith in God is pushed aside in favor of one's own reason and reliance on the scientific method.
- They no longer have a basic knowledge of the Bible.
- Traditional Christian understandings of God and the church are irrelevant in their everyday lives.

In light of this, the book presents a suggested strategy, with adaptable principles, of how the church can be intentional in finding common

ground—areas where members can connect with secular people—in order to reach them for Christ.

The second book, now at the press, is entitled JESUS ONLY: REDISCOVERING THE PASSION OF PRIMITIVE GODLINESS. It draws lessons from the spiritual life and experience of early Christianity within the apostolic church as recorded in the book of Acts, chapters 2-4. It underscores a central focus on Jesus Christ as the secret to the power, life, and dynamism so badly needed in the church today.

Norman also had an article published in MINISTRY magazine entitled, "Reaching the Secular World." This article describes the impact of secularization on the mission of the church, and suggests ways the church can adapt its ministry avenues to reach a vast growing secular population that is unaffected by traditional methods of outreach.

The books are available at Authorhouse.com, Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, and Westbowpress.com.

—Atlantic Union College Department of Public Relations, South Lancaster, Massachusetts



Faith Church Celebrates Second Pastoral Anniversary

Faith Seventh-day Adventist Church in Hartford, Connecticut, celebrated the second anniversary of Jude Francis, the church's pastor, and his family at the end of January. It was a day of warm fellowship, soul-stirring praise, and dynamic preaching. A tremendous show of support and encouraging messages were received from the Northeastern Conference, sister churches, and community leaders.

"We have a good pastor, and we want him to know we love and appreciate his ministry here at Faith," says Lester Primus, a church elder, during the morning's presentations.

The pastoral anniversary committee worked tirelessly to coordinate the weekend's activities, which included the unveiling of an anniversary journal, guest appearances

by the Brooklyn Faith Seventh-day Adventist Church youth choir, and a surprise visit from close friend and colleague in ministry, Sherwin Jack. "It is good to affirm your pastor," said Jack, who delivered the sermon during the worship

"We are very excited about the community health center and the positive impact it will have in the lives of the people who live and work in this community."

service. He inspired the members and guests with a message entitled "Keep Hope Alive." One of the key lessons he shared was that success in ministry is achieved by focusing primarily on the "who" rather than on the "how." Our motives and focus will determine our outcome.

A special fundraising drive was connected with this anniversary celebration. Proceeds will go toward the launching of a community health center in the north end of Hartford. The health center will promote the Adventist health message through education and specialized health services.

"We are very excited about the community health center and the positive impact it will have in the lives of the people who live and work in this community," says Francis.

"God has given us a clear commission and we must be about our Father's business."

Faith church is a vibrant community of believers committed to the service of God and their community.

—Paul Haugton, treasurer, Faith church

Mt. Sinai Church Honors Seniors at Banquet



Pictured are some of the seniors who were honored at the first senior banquet hosted at the Mt. Sinai church. Thirty-two seniors were honored.

The senior members of Mt. Sinai Seventh-day Adventist Church in Queens Village, New York, were honored at the church's first annual senior banquet. The church's seniors are champions who advocate and support causes for the greater good of others. Honored were 32 men and women who reminisced about the

founding days of the church and their childhood experiences that led them to Adventism.

Present at the event was Hope Ashmeade, the church's senior pastor, with his wife, Avril; and Nicardo Delahay, the church's associate pastor. The idea that inspired the program was presented by Theresa

Faulkner, the church's family ministries director. The facilitators for the event were members Beresford and Joan Green. The honorees expressed appreciation in their own way. Through

it all, God kept these members faithful, and Mt. Sinai expressed its deep appreciation for its senior members.

—Toracia Williams, community services director, Mt. Sinai church

Tell Us What's Happening in Your Church

We are looking for news and other inspiring stories from your church to share with our readers.

E-mail your stories with the photos attached as separate files to the Northeastern Conference communication director. Be sure and include a caption with each photo and the name of the photographer.

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

We would love to hear from you!



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

Restoration Ministries Organized as the Eleventh Church in Bermuda

Restoration Ministries Seventh-day Adventist Church in Southampton, Bermuda, was organized on January 22 as the eleventh church in the Bermuda Conference. They began as a group of young adults who were concerned about a growing number of missing members. By early 2004 they started to meet regularly to discuss how they could make a difference. The consensus was to start a ministry to reach out to these missing members and those simply looking for the love of God. After much discussion, organizing, and prayer, Restoration opened its doors as a ministry for the first time on October 23, 2004. On January 15 the Bermuda Conference assigned Ulric



Restoration Ministries charter members sign the official book that records all members who were present for the church organization service.

Hetsberger as the church's first full-time pastor. They are still excited about their mission as they constantly explore new and innovative ways to introduce and reintroduce people to Christ.

At Restoration the belief is that worship is a lifestyle—

a continual, moment-by-moment deference to God's will that cultivates one's faith and allows one to focus on being a blessing to others—even if this means stepping outside of one's personal comfort zone to do something a little unconventional.

Sabbaths are extra special at Restoration because they are a culmination of a week of worship. Restoration's mission: "Restoration exists to lead men and women to a growing relationship with God, by providing a spiritually safe and open environment in which to restore, nurture, and maintain an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ."

More information about this young, vibrant church can be found on their Web site: www.restorationbda.com, or follow them on Facebook at RestorationMinistries Bermuda. Be sure to visit them the next time you are on the sunny isle of Bermuda.

—Conrad Roach, communication director, Restoration Ministries church

Bermuda Conference Women's Ministries Hosts "Women Around the World"

The Bermuda Conference Women's Ministries team sponsored an event called "Women Around the World" that acknowledges the growing diversity in the churches on the island. The event, held at the end of January, was a progressive supper that began at the Devonshire Seventh-day Adventist Church and featured the island of Hawaii. Sherma Clarke, Bermuda Conference Women's Ministries director, opened the event with prayer and introduced the other members of the team: Loretta Gibbons, assistant director; and Pattiejean Brown, secretary. The guests were treated to light appetizers and Gibbons led out in a meet-and-greet activity. The atmosphere soon became electric with excitement as anticipation of the successive stops grew.

The second stop, the Southampton Seventh-day Adventist Church, displayed a blackboard message wel-

coming the guests to Jamaica. The guests were treated with a buffet of popular Jamaican dishes. On display were books, information, and items from the Jamaican culture for guests to view while music from Jamaica played in the background.

to specially prepared Indian dishes under a canopied tent. Dawn Kirk, the visionary for the décor, talked about Indian culture using a slide presentation and Indian music.

The final stop was at the Midland Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church, where guests were treated to dessert.

Members and guests experienced an evening of fellowship while learning about four of the countries that are represented in the conference's membership. One member, who brought six guests, remarked that she and her friends thoroughly enjoyed the warmth and interaction among the

ladies and the chance to meet new people. With close to 100 women attending the event, there were plenty of new people to meet.

—Sherma Webbe, member, Warwick church



Celebrating their cultural diversity, the Bermuda Conference Women's Ministries Department hosted an event called "Women Around the World."

The third stop was at the Warwick Seventh-day Adventist Church, where India was the country of focus. Guests were greeted at the door by smiling members dressed in Indian attire and they were treated





By Pat Giese

Yes, Jesus Loves Me!

The day began as an ordinary school visit, but the visit ended with a profound impact! I was visiting the Worcester Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School. As I entered the building, I wondered if there were children in attendance that

reading a story to them. After hearing the story, the students were asked to go back to their desks to begin math. Quietly, the students obeyed. Nothing profound was witnessed—just an ordinary, well-managed classroom.

After my visit, I went to the upper-

restroom was open, she was standing at the sink washing her hands and just burst forth in singing. At first the upper-grade students, as well as the teacher and I, were startled by the sound. Then the reactions began. First, there was chuckling, followed by a whispered thought of what to do, then silent reflection of the words of the song. The words “Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so . . .” seemed to penetrate the very being of those who sat captivated by its message.

In the quietness of that moment, with only the words of the song hanging in the air, one got the message loud and clear that “Jesus loves me!” This small child, at the top of her lungs, in what she thought was a private moment, was sharing the message that she was learning at her school and it impacted her teachers, her classmates, and me. Now I share her story, that she knows that Jesus loves her, with anyone who will listen.

Is Christian education worth the sacrifice? Where else but in a Seventh-day Adventist school would you hear expressed in such a unique way the most basic component of the gospel—yes, Jesus loves me! ☺



Pat Giese

Students at the Worcester Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School engage in various learning activities.

day because of the quietness I met upon my entrance. When I walked past the upper-grade classroom, it was apparent that students were there because they were engaged in various learning activities.

When I entered the first- through fourth-grade classroom, the students were attentively listening to their teacher, Barbara Stowell, who was

grade classroom to observe. The room was quiet as the students were intensely working. That’s when it happened—the profound impact! A song penetrated the entire building. Not just a song, but a song with a message—“Jesus Loves Me.” Apparently a little girl from the lower-grades had gone to the restroom. Without realizing that the outer door to the



Pat Giese is the Southern New England Conference associate superintendent of schools.

What is the Name of Your Youth Group?

This year I have had the privilege of attending and participating in the youth ministries training conventions of the Northeastern and Greater New York conferences. What an experience! One highlight of attending these events was to see what the conferences selected as their theme for 2011. The Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries theme is, "God's City, My City," the Northeastern Conference Youth Ministries theme is, "Standing Tall for Christ," and the Southern New England Conference Youth Ministries theme has been "Together, We're Stronger."

If our conferences can have themes that help give direction and focus, why not each youth group? Recently, I found a Web site that lists hundreds names of youth groups, that in a way conveys the theme of that particular group. Youth group names were listed for each letter of the alphabet. It was fun going through them and noticing what the youth groups are focused on. I share a few of them with you that might encourage our youth groups in the Atlantic Union to develop their own names and also themes centered around their conference's theme.

- A.C.T.S.: Anointed Christians Taking a Stand, Matthew 10:38. Certainly all of our youth should take a stand for Jesus, wherever they are.
- B.L.A.S.T.: Believers Living as the Savior Taught. Certainly we want all of our youth to live as Jesus taught us and modeled for us.
- C.S.I.: Christians Saving the Innocent, Romans 16:19. This is a great takeoff on the popular C.S.I. television series.
- E5Youth Ministries: Edify, Exalt, Encourage, Equip, Evangelize, John 15:1-17.
- GPS: God's Power Station.
- FBI: Fun Believers in Christ.
- I-180: Changing Lives from the Inside Out. Hopefully, all youth groups will encourage our young people to turn their lives inside out.
- J.A.S.S.: Jovenes al Servicios del Señor. (Youth in the Lord's Service.)
- K.R.O.S.S.: Kids Reaching Out Saving Souls.
- MISTAKEN. We want to be mistaken for Jesus.
- N.A.S.C.A.R.: We exist to n-counter God through abiding, serving, caring, advancing, and reflecting, Philippians 3:14. I follow NASCAR racing, so I thought this was a cool one with a lot of meaning.
- OASIS: Offer, Accept, Show, Invest, Serve. Does your youth group have these elements?
- P.E.C.U.L.I.A.R.: Passionately, Expressing Christ Until Lives are Influenced and Redeemed. We are a peculiar people. Are we following this great youth group name?
- R.A.D.4C: Real and Different 4 Christ.
- S.O.S.: Share Our Strengths, Serve Our Savior.
- T.E.A.M.: Together Everybody Achieves More
- U-Turn: U Turn to Christ—U Turn Others to Christ.
- Venimos—Iniciando Desde Ariba.
- X4J: Extreme 4 Jesus.
- YOUTH: Young Outstanding Unusual Teens with Honesty.
- Zip lock: "Sealing" kids in Christ so they don't "go bad." Is your youth group like a zip lock bag?

When we take on the name of Christian, it tells the world who we follow. When take on the name Seventh-day Adventist, we let the world know who we are and what we are all about. Does your youth group's name identify just who you are and what you are all about? You might have fun with your group developing a name for your youth group. If you do, let us know about it, and we will post names of youth groups on the Atlantic Union Youth Ministries Facebook page. [📌](#)



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



Eat Well and Be Well: Vegan Cooking Made Easy

The St. Johnsbury Seventh-day Adventist Church in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, sponsored a four-part vegan cooking series featuring Mary Knott, M.S., R.D. At each session, two to four simple recipes were shared and demonstrated, and participants were invited to taste the dishes, as well. Freewill donations were received at the door.

The time was right. Bill Clinton's decision to move to a vegetarian diet in an effort to help his body heal from the gunk that continued to clog his arteries and threaten his life, had grabbed the nation's attention. The questions raised include: "Is there really a direct connection between what we put in our mouths and our long-term health?" and "What can we do to promote our own good health, and foil genetic predispositions?" Clinton's dramatic weight loss was evident as he moved from the typical American diet that emphasizes meat, milk, cheese, eggs, and sugary desserts, to a vegan diet that centers around whole grains, legumes, fruits, vegetables, and

nuts, with fewer and lighter desserts that are sweetened by dates, pineapple, applesauce, or fruit juice. But most people can't imagine what this kind of meal would look like or, more importantly, what it would taste like. Creamy soups without milk or cheese? Muffins without eggs? A dinner plate without a piece of meat on it? The public was invited to come learn, taste, and see for themselves.

Fourteen to 17 guests (all non-vegan) came each night and were surprised and delighted that vegan cooking could be so easy and taste so good. Creamy broccoli soup and oatmeal muffins were on the menu the first Monday night, and Special K loaf with mashed potatoes and garlic butter, the second. The News 7 crew from Lyndon State College came to cover this culinary extravaganza on night one, and returned on night three to report on (and taste) tomato bisque soup, Greek salad, and banana date cookies. The resulting two news spots were friendly and interesting.



The St. Johnsbury church sponsored a four-part vegan cooking series. A camera crew from a local television station reported on two nights of the event.

The sessions concluded with Abby's easy gluten stakes, mushroom gluten bake, pumpkin pie, and fruit tapioca. By the end of week four, friends were made, hope was given, and a positive impact was felt.

Students and teachers from Caledonia Christian School shared their classroom and their willing hands to make this event possible. God is to be praised for engineering the entire project and for showering His blessing on all those searching for and sharing what they know about sustainable good health.

—Mary Knott, communication correspondent, St. Johnsbury church

Madawaska Fellowship Ministers in the Northernmost Outpost of Maine

Madawaska, Maine, sits on the St. John River, right across from Canada. Nowadays you need a passport to travel to and fro, yet there are a people who live on both sides of the river who see themselves as one territory, one culture. These are the Acadians, who settled the St. John Valley in the seventeenth century. Walk or drive either side of the river, and you will hear French spoken in the stores, in the street, and in the home—seventeenth century French! This traditionally has been a strong Catholic community.

On Sundays and midweek the parking lot is filled and the road lined with cars, outside every Catholic church. These Catholic roots grow deep. They are an integral part of the culture.

Madawaska is a paper mill town with a population of only 4,534. Put together all of these factors and to human eyes this is not the most promising location for a series of Adventist meetings! But, mercifully, God looks with different eyes. "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on

behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him."—2 Chronicles 16:9, NKJV.

Yes, God's eyes have been on the St. John Valley for many years. Ten years



Rick Kuntz, evangelist for the Northern New England Conference evangelist and pastor of the Auburn church, right, performed the wedding ceremony for Jane and Lewis Plourde, center. Jane Kuntz, left, was also at the wedding.



About 15 people attend church at the Madawaska Fellowship church each weekend.

ago He found Jim Cyr, an Acadian, and called him through 3ABN television. The new, exciting truths he learned, he shared with his wife, Judy, and they both became Sabbathkeepers. The nearest Seventh-day Adventist church was an hour and a half away in Presque Isle, Maine, or one hour and a half into Canada. So, the Cyrs made a small chapel above their home and invited friends and family to worship with them. They also sponsored Adventist preaching on local television. Seeds were being sown. . . .

Fast-forward to 2010:

1. The Presque Isle church invited Rick and Jane Kuntz to hold a series of meetings in the St. John Valley.
2. Ouachita Hills Academy in Amity, Arkansas, sent a team of colporteurs to distribute books to the area homes.
3. Dennis and Lisa Bange accepted a call to come as Bible workers two and a half months before opening night.

God blessed all these efforts, and on opening night there were 23 visitors. One of the most enthusiastic was Jim Cyr's sister, Jane Plourde. It wasn't long before she decided to be baptized. In fact, she had two weddings

in one week—on Tuesday she was married to her fiancé, Lewis, and on Sabbath, to Jesus. Also baptized on the same day was Rebecca Legassie, who attended the evangelistic meetings in Caribou in 2009.

Another enthusiastic attendee was Bertin Pelletier from across the river in Edmundston, New Brunswick. Pelletier attended the meetings alone night after night. His wife, Marie-France, spoke only French, and could not understand the meetings. In fact, she was strongly opposed to his attendance. As he became more enthusiastic, she became less. Yet, he was so eager to attend that, on the day of the baptism, he walked through customs, across the bridge, and up the hill to Madawaska. But the day came when his wife delivered an ultimatum, "If you decide to continue with that church, then do not bother to return home!"

Pelletier hung his head sadly as he shared this news with the group. Bange prayed with him and shared God's counsel about being a saving influence on his wife, and letting Jesus be seen in his love for her. He encouraged Pelletier to keep the Sabbath at home and in his heart. Yet the next Sabbath, he was in church. He explained that his wife was

at work, and he felt strongly impressed that he must obey the Lord. Of course there were fireworks when he told her of his conviction, but the Lord had already softened her heart because she said, "Well, as long as you only go when I am at work, I suppose it will be all right."

Another miracle is God's providence of a delightful church in which to worship. For a couple of weeks the team looked at potential buildings to rent. They wanted to be involved in ministry to the community, so somewhere in town seemed to be the best location. A storefront became available, and it actually looked like a church. The members of the Presque Isle and Caribou churches

helped generously with rent. Donations from near and far provided funds for remodeling. Now, in place of a flower shop, there is a beautiful sanctuary, kitchen, and meeting room.

Fifteen people attend each Sabbath. The church will hold 32 people, 48 at a squeeze. The group is praying the Lord will fill it to capacity and beyond. Several people are currently preparing for baptism.

Dennis and Lisa Bange and the Madawaska Fellowship need your prayers. They are in the northernmost outpost of the Northern New England Conference.

—Jane Kuntz, communication correspondent, Northern New England Conference

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Testimonies of Answered Prayers

Johnston Seventh-day Adventist Church members started off the new year giving praise to God for answers to prayer. During a combination Communion service and agape luncheon at the church on January 1, Elisa Maccarone gave her testimony. She was raised in the Johnston church in Johnston, Rhode Island, where her mom still attends. However, Maccarone moved to California to work and complete her education. Not feeling connected with the local churches, she drifted away from worship. However, her praying mother at home in Rhode Island never gave up hope.

Maccarone was impressed to attend the Laguna Niguel Seventh-day Adventist Church, south of Los Angeles, when her mom came for a visit. She was touched by the music and the friendliness of the members. Unfortunately, her boyfriend, Lenny Spatola, did not attend church at the time. Weeks later, the

Laguna Niguel church hosted a Revelation Seminar and Maccarone encouraged Spatola to attend with her. Reluctantly he agreed to attend one of the meetings. Despite his initial hesitation, Spatola attended the rest of the meetings. During this time, the Holy Spirit brought Spatola under great conviction. The local pastor, Bob Streib, also invested a lot of time and prayer in the young couple. They were both baptized at the end of the series!

Maccarone also added that she was hoping to stay in Rhode Island a few more days before returning to California. God heard her request. The blizzard at the end of December caused her flight to be cancelled, so she was able to attend church on New Year's Day and give her testimony! The Johnston church members responded with praise and thanksgiving after hearing how God was leading in her life.

During the time of that same Communion service, another young woman, Jomecielle Agua-Tentoco,

was in crisis in the hospital in the eighth month of her pregnancy. The baby was healthy, but the mother's life was in danger.

My cell phone rang during the Sabbath School class. It was Agua-Tentoco's mother, who was visiting from the Philippines. She said, "I have to get to church because my daughter is in the hospital, but I have no ride to church."

It wasn't clear why she wanted to come to the church when her daughter was having a difficult delivery in the hospital, but, disregarding the temptation to recommend that she go to the hospital instead, I quickly arranged for a young man, Chip Langley, to go and get her. One hour later, during intercessory prayer, the congregation was about to kneel for prayer when the pastor remembered to ask for prayer for Agua-Tentoco, who was in the hospital. The mother was invited to tell the congregation what was happening with her daughter.

"My daughter needs our prayers for her to deliver the baby. She is having a hard time, but I know God will work a miracle! God will be glorified. God is so good to us. I believe He will help us," she said.

Her expressions of faith in God's



Erlinda Agua, mother of Jomecielle Agua-Tentoco, solicited the prayers of the church members on behalf of her daughter, who was in crisis in the hospital.

blessing for her daughter and the baby were so enthusiastically stated that one could wonder if she had already received word that the delivery had been successful. The congregation then knelt and prayed.

Two days later, the mother reported the rest of the story. Her daughter was in such pain that the doctors were afraid she was going to die. They had to deliver the baby, but complications were preventing them from proceeding. The breakthrough came during that noontime intercessory prayer! The pain began to diminish, the doctors were able to take action, and a healthy four-pound, three-ounce baby was delivered at 5:05 p.m. with no further pain.

Praise the Lord for the faith of a devoted Adventist mother who believed it was more important for her to be in church praying, than in the hospital worrying! God still hears and answers mothers' (and others') prayers!

—Bill Warcholik, pastor, Johnston church



Pastor Robert Streib baptized Elisa Maccarone and Lenny Spatola after they attended Revelation Seminar meetings.

The Miracle of Beholding

There's a spiritual law that goes like this: "By Beholding We Become Changed." Again and again counsel is given in Scripture to "behold" Jesus.

Twice John the Baptist proclaimed, "Behold the Lamb of God." When Nathanael questioned the authenticity of Jesus, Philip said to him, "Come and see." At another time certain Greeks petitioned, "We would see Jesus." And though he did not understand the meaning of his own words, the Roman governor Pontius Pilate proclaimed, "Behold the Man" and "Behold your King."

In the crucifixion story found in the Gospel of Matthew, we discover an amazing change in the lives of the rough and callous soldiers at the cross. Likely these were the same soldiers who mocked Jesus, spat on Him, insulted Him, planted a crown of thorns on His head, unmercifully scourged Him, and then impaled Him on a wooden cross. Speaking of these soldiers, Matthew says, "Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there" (Matthew 27:36, NKJV). A paraphrased Bible puts it like this: "Then they sat around and watched Him as He hung there" (TLB).

"It would be well for us to spend a thoughtful hour each day in contemplation of the life of Christ"

—THE DESIRE OF AGES, page 83.

The soldiers watched, and watched, and watched. They watched Jesus when darkness fell upon the land for three hours. They watched Him as the earth shook, the rocks split, and the graves opened. They watched Jesus for six long hours. Then, to our amazement, when one of them saw how graciously and majestically He died, so unlike other crucified victims, he cried out, "Truly this was the Son of God!" (Luke 23:47). Strange words for Roman soldiers, but not strange for those who keep their eyes fixed upon Jesus.

You and I have been given this counsel: "It would be well for us to spend a thoughtful hour each day in contemplation of the life of Christ. . . . As we thus dwell

upon His great sacrifice for us, our confidence in Him will be more constant, our love will be quickened, and we shall be more deeply imbued with His spirit"—THE DESIRE OF AGES, page 83.

Another quotation from the same book: "If the eye is kept fixed on Christ, the work of the Spirit ceases not until the soul is conformed to His image"—THE DESIRE OF AGES, page 302.

A thoughtful hour each day! Then we will have more confidence in Him. Then we will feel more love. Then we will become more like Him. Then we, too, will give this testimony, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

—Frank Tochterman, president, Southern New England Conference

New Literature Evangelism Director in the Southern New England Conference



Beginning April 1, the new Literature Evangelism director in the Southern New England Conference is Nelson Rossi, second from right. He replaces Luis Biazotto, left, who has been invited to serve as the North American Division Home Health Education Service (HHES) director. Conference officials Whitford Shaw, ministerial director, second from left; Frank Tochterman, president, center; and Juan Borges; executive secretary, right, were on-hand for the "changing of the guard," which took place in the Southern New England Conference office in February.

—Frank Tochterman, communication director, Southern New England Conference

Tell Us What's Happening in Your Church

We are looking for news and other inspiring stories from your church to share with our readers.

E-mail your stories with the photos attached as separate files to the Southern New England Conference communication director. Be sure and include a caption with each photo and the name of the photographer.

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

We would love to hear from you!



Frank Tochterman
Communication Director
Southern New England Conference
E-mail: ftochterman@sneconline.org



Dans la Division Interaméricaine, L'eglise Lance un Programme de Réveil Spirituel de "Prière Constante"

La semaine dernière, la Division interaméricaine de l'église adventiste a appelé plus de 3.3 millions de membres à rechercher le réveil spirituel par la prière et l'étude de la Bible grâce au lancement d'un programme de réveil et de réforme dans la région.

Exhortant les adventistes de la Division à un esprit de prière constante, le programme fait écho à l'accent mis récemment par l'église adventiste mondiale sur le réveil spirituel. Les dirigeants de l'Eglise ont expliqué qu'ils lancent également une initiative sur 160 jours pour prier pour les besoins spécifiques de chaque territoire de cette Division.

Interaméricaine. En juin, il s'agira de prier pour les familles adventistes afin d'aider les membres à avoir un impact sur leurs voisins.

"Dieu souhaite faire quelque chose d'extraordinaire en ces temps de la fin," a dit Ted N.C. Wilson, président de l'église adventiste mondiale, le 12 février lors du lancement du programme à El Palacio de los Deportes à Saint-Domingue. Plus de 13000 dirigeants et membres de l'église adventiste participaient à cet événement.

Ted Wilson a exhorté les adventistes de la Division Interaméricaine à s'engager dans l'initiative avec un esprit d'humilité, ce qui selon lui per-

"L'église de la Division interaméricaine a toujours été identifiée comme étant une église qui prie," a dit Israel Leito, président de la Division. "Aujourd'hui, nous organisons cette initiative de réveil pour remercier le Seigneur, pour lui dire que nous voulons être un peuple prêt à son retour, et pour dire au monde que nous sommes une église 'constante dans la prière' et que nous le resterons."

Les dirigeants de la Division interaméricaine rapportent que les églises se sont déjà engagées dans le réveil et la réforme spirituels car cela fait partie de leur stratégie pour fortifier l'église.

Juste après l'arrivée de Ted Wilson en République Dominicaine le 11 février, les responsables de l'église dans cette région ont rencontré le président de l'église mondiale pour prier pour ce projet. Ils ont écouté la vision qu'a Ted Wilson d'une église revitalisée et ils se sont engagés à prendre au sérieux l'appel à un réveil spirituel.

"Vous regardez le monde autour de vous et vous voyez ce qui se passe dans la nature, au niveau politique ainsi qu'au niveau du climat économique qui est fragile; les choses ne vont pas s'améliorer," a dit Ted Wilson. "Nous savons que Jésus vient bientôt."

Les dirigeants de l'Eglise ont expliqué que des plans sont en cours pour organiser, cet été, une initiative qui sera diffusée par satellite à partir d'El Salvador pour appeler au réveil spirituel.

*Source: Adventist News Network
English translation available at: news.adventist.org/2011/02/in-inter-america-chu.html.*

"Dieu souhaite faire quelque chose d'extraordinaire en ces temps de la fin."

Cet événement de trois heures, diffusé en direct par satellite sur Hope Channel et Esperanza TV, a mis en lumière les différentes activités planifiées pour les membres de la Division pour l'initiative qui se déroulera dans les mois à venir.

Le 12 mars, le programme prévoit de mettre l'accent sur la prière pour les enfants et les jeunes. Ensuite, les adventistes de la Division prieront pour les pasteurs chargés de conduire les églises locales vers un réveil spirituel. Puis, l'emphase sera mise sur les étudiants et enseignants de plus de 1000 écoles et universités adventistes que compte la Division

mettra à Dieu de travailler à travers eux. "Nous ne pouvons pas susciter le réveil et la réforme; nous pouvons seulement nous placer entre les mains de Dieu; alors la puissance de son Esprit prendra le contrôle," il a dit.

"Que les adventistes soient connus comme des gens qui pratiquent le christianisme. Que votre humble mode de vie . . . dirige toujours les gens vers Jésus et son prochain retour," a ajouté Ted Wilson.

Ted Wilson, qui a poussé les dirigeants de la Division interaméricaine à plaider pour une effusion de l'Esprit de Dieu, a contribué à inciter la Division à lancer cette initiative de prière.

En Interamérica, la Iglesia Lanza un Programa de Renovación Espiritual

La semana pasada, la Iglesia Adventista de la División Interamericana hizo un llamado a sus más de 3.3 millones de miembros para que busquen la renovación espiritual por medio de la oración y el estudio de la Biblia, al lanzar el programa de reavivamiento y reforma de la denominación.

El programa, que insta a adoptar un espíritu de oración constante entre los adventistas de la región, sigue los lineamientos del énfasis reciente de la Iglesia Adventista mundial en el reavivamiento espiritual. También cuenta con una iniciativa de 160 días de oración que se ocupa de las necesidades específicas de cada territorio eclesiástico de la región, dijeron los líderes.

El evento satelital de tres horas, transmitido en vivo por Hope Channel y Esperanza TV, destacó las actividades planificadas para los miembros de la región durante los meses siguientes.

El próximo 12 de marzo, un evento se dedicará a orar por los niños y los jóvenes. Más adelante, los adventistas de la región orarán por sus pastores, los encargados de guiar a sus congregaciones hacia el reavivamiento espiritual. Más adelante se orará por los estudiantes y docentes de las más de mil instituciones educativas adventistas de la región. En junio,

se espera que el énfasis en la oración en el hogar contribuya para que los miembros puedan ejercer un impacto en sus vecinos.

“[Dios] quiere hacer algo extraordinario en este tiempo del fin,” dijo Ted N. C. Wilson, presidente de la Iglesia Adventista mundial, al hablar el pasado 12 de febrero en El Palacio de los Deportes de Santo Domingo, República Dominicana. Más de 13.000 líderes y feligreses adventistas asistieron al evento.

siempre ha sido identificada como una iglesia que ora,” dijo Israel Leito, presidente de la iglesia en la región. “Hoy tenemos este evento de reavivamiento para orar al Señor, para decirle al Señor que queremos ser un pueblo listo para su venida, y contarle al mundo que somos una iglesia que es constante en la oración, y que seguiremos siéndolo.”

Poco después de llegar el 11 de febrero a la República Dominicana, los principales

Wilson instó a los adventistas de Interamérica a que adopten un espíritu de humildad que, dijo, permitirá que Dios obre por medio de ellos.

Wilson instó a los adventistas de Interamérica a que adopten un espíritu de humildad que, dijo, permitirá que Dios obre por medio de ellos. “No podemos iniciar el reavivamiento y la reforma; solo podemos colocarnos en las manos de Dios y entonces el poder del Espíritu tomará el control,” añadió.

Wilson, que desafió a los líderes de Interamérica a que clamen por el derramamiento del Espíritu de Dios, jugó un papel decisivo al motivar a la región a que lance la iniciativa de oración.

“La iglesia de Interamérica

directivos de la región se reunieron con el líder de la iglesia mundial para orar por la iniciativa. El grupo escuchó la visión de Wilson en relación con una iglesia reanimada y comprometida para asumir con seriedad el llamado al reavivamiento.

Actualmente se está planificando realizar otro evento satelital de reavivamiento espiritual este próximo verano en El Salvador, dijeron los líderes.

*Source: Adventist News Network
English translation available at: news.adventist.org/2011/02/in-inter-america-chu.html.*



A Seventh-day Adventist Call for Peace

We are living in an increasingly unstable and dangerous world. Recent events have resulted in a heightened sense of vulnerability and personal or corporate fear of violence. Throughout the world, countless millions are haunted by war and apprehension and are oppressed by hate and intimidation.

Total War

Humanity has, since the middle of the last century, been living in an age of total war. Total war implies the theoretical possibility that, except for the providence of God, earth's inhabitants could wipe out their entire civilization. Nuclear weapons and biochemical arms of mass destruction are aimed at centers of population. Whole nations and societies are mobilized or targeted for war, and when such war erupts, it is carried on with the greatest violence and destruction. The justification of war has become more complex, even though advances in technology make possible greater precision in destroying targets with a minimum of civilian casualties.

A New Dimension

While both the United Nations and various religious bodies have proclaimed the first decade of the 21st century as a decade for the promotion of peace and security in the place of violence in its various forms, a new and insidious dimension of violence has emerged: organized international terrorism. Terrorism itself is not new, but worldwide terrorist networks are. Another new factor is the appeal to so-called divine mandates as the rationale for terrorist activity under the guise of culture war, or even "religious" war.

The rise of international terrorism makes it clear that it is not only a nation or state that makes war, but human beings in various combinations. As one of the leading founders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church pointed out a century ago, "The inhumanity of man toward man is our greatest sin."¹ Indeed, human nature is prone to violence. From a Christian perspective, all this inhumanity is really part of a cosmic war, the great controversy between good and evil.

Terrorism Exploits the Concept of God

Terrorists, in particular, those having motivations based on religion, claim that their cause is absolute and that taking lives indiscriminately is fully justified. While they claim to be representing the justice of God, they wholly fail to represent the great love of God.

Furthermore, such international terrorism is totally at odds with the concept of religious liberty. The former is based on political and/or religious extremism and fundamentalistic fanaticism which arrogate the right to impose a certain religious conviction or worldview and to destroy those who oppose their convictions. Imposing one's religious views on other people, by means of inquisition and terror, involves an endeavor to exploit and manipulate God by turning Him into an idol of evil and violence. The result is a disregard for the dignity of human beings created in the image of God.

While it is inevitable that nations and people will try to defend themselves by responding in a military way to violence and terror—which sometimes results in short-term, success—lasting answers to deep problems of division in society cannot be achieved by using violent means.

The Pillars of Peace

From both a Christian and practical perspective, any lasting peace involves at least four ingredients: dialogue, justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Dialogue—There needs to be dialogue and discussion in place of diatribe and the cry for war. Lasting peace does not result from violent means, but is achieved by negotiation, dialogue, and, inevitably, political compromise. In the long run, reasoned discourse has superior authority over military force. In particular, Christians should always be ready to "reason together," as the Bible says.

Justice—Unfortunately, the world is rampant with injustice and a fallout of injustice is strife. Justice and peace join hands, as do injustice and war. Poverty and exploitation breed discontent and hopelessness, which lead to desperation and violence.

On the other hand, "God's word sanctions no policy that will enrich one class by the oppression and suffering of another."²

Justice requires respect for human rights, in particular religious liberty, which deals with the profoundest human aspirations and undergirds all human rights. Justice requires nondiscrimination, respect for human dignity and equality, and a more equitable distribution of the necessities of life. Economic and social policies will either produce peace or discontent. Seventh-day Adventist concern for social justice is expressed through the support and promotion of religious liberty, and through organizations and departments of the church which work to relieve poverty and conditions of margin-

alization. Such efforts on the part of the church can, over time, reduce resentment and terrorism.

Forgiveness—Forgiveness is usually thought of as necessary to heal broken interpersonal relationships. It is highlighted in the prayer Jesus asked His followers to pray (Matthew 6:12). However, we must not overlook the corporate, societal, and even international dimensions. If there is to be peace, it is vital to drop the burdens of the past, to move beyond well-worn battle grounds, and to work toward reconciliation. At a minimum, this requires overlooking past injustices and violence; and, at its best, it involves forgiveness, which absorbs the pain without retaliating.

Because of sinful human nature and the resulting violence, some form of forgiveness is necessary in order to break the vicious cycle of resentment, hate, and revenge on all levels. Forgiveness goes against the grain of human nature. It is natural for human beings to deal in terms of revenge and the return of evil for evil.

There is, therefore, first of all the need to foster a culture of forgiveness in the church. As Christians and church leaders, it is our duty to help individuals and nations to liberate themselves from the shackles of past violence and refuse to reenact year after year, and even generation after generation, the hatred and violence generated by past experiences.

Reconciliation—Forgiveness provides a foundation for reconciliation and the accompanying restoration of relationships that have become estranged and hostile. Reconciliation is the only way to success on the road to cooperation, harmony, and peace.

We call upon Christian churches and leaders to exercise a ministry of reconciliation and act as ambassadors of goodwill, openness, and forgiveness. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17-19.) This will always be a difficult, sensitive task. While trying to avoid the many political pitfalls along the way, we must nevertheless proclaim liberty in the land—liberty from persecution, discrimination, abject poverty, and other forms of injustice. It is a Christian responsibility to endeavor to provide protection for those who are in danger of being violated, exploited, and terrorized.

Support of Quality of Life

Silent efforts of religious bodies and individuals behind the scenes are invaluable. But this is not enough: “We are not just creatures of a spiritual environment. We are actively interested in everything that shapes the way we live and we are concerned about the well-being of our planet.” The Christian ministry of reconciliation will and must “contribute to the restoration of human dignity, equality, and unity through the grace of God in which human beings see each other as members of the family of God.”³

Churches should not only be known for spiritual contributions—though these are foundational—but also for their support of quality of life, and in this connection, peacemaking is essential. We need to repent from expressions or deeds of violence that Christians and churches, throughout history and even more recently, have either been involved in as actors, have tolerated, or have tried to justify. We appeal to Christians and people of good will all around the world to take an active role in making and sustaining peace, thus being part of the solution rather than part of the problem.

Peacemakers

The Seventh-day Adventist Church wishes to stand for the uncoercive harmony of God’s coming kingdom. This requires bridge-building to promote reconciliation between the various sides in a conflict. In the words of the prophet Isaiah, “You will be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets in which to dwell” (Isaiah 58:12). Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, wants His followers to be peacemakers in society and hence calls them blessed (Matthew 5:9).

Culture of Peace Through Education

The Seventh-day Adventist Church operates what may be the second largest worldwide parochial school system. Each of its more than 6,000 schools, colleges, and universities is being asked to set aside one week each school year to emphasize and highlight, through various programs, respect, cultural awareness, nonviolence, peacemaking, conflict resolution, and reconciliation as a way of making a specifically “Adventist” contribution to a culture of social har-

mony and peace. With this in mind, the church’s education department is preparing curricula and other materials to help in implementing this peace program.

The education of the church member in the pew, for nonviolence, peace, and reconciliation, needs to be an ongoing process. Pastors are being asked to use their pulpits to proclaim the gospel of peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation, which dissolves barriers created by race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, and religion, and promotes peaceful human relations between individuals, groups, and nations.

The Christian Hope

While peacemaking may seem to be a forbidding task, there is the promise and possibility of transformation through renewal. All violence and terrorism are really one aspect of the ongoing controversy, in theological terms, between Christ and Satan. The Christian has hope because of the assurance that evil—the mystery of iniquity—will run its course and be conquered by the Prince of Peace and the world will be made new. This is our hope.

The Old Testament, despite the record of wars and violence, looks forward to the new creation and promises, like the New Testament, the end of the vicious cycle of war and terror, when arms will disappear and become agricultural implements, and peace and knowledge of God and His love will cover the whole world like the waters cover the oceans. (See Isaiah 2:4, 11:9.)

In the meantime, we need, in all relationships, to follow the golden rule, which asks us to do unto others as we would wish them to do unto us (see Matthew 7:12), and not only love God, but love as God loves. (See 1 John 3:14, 15; 4:11, 20, 21.)

This statement was voted during the spring meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee on April 18, 2002 in Silver Spring, Maryland.

¹ Ellen G. White, *THE MINISTRY OF HEALING*, p. 163

² *Ibid.*, p. 187

³ Quote from Pastor Jan Paulsen, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists





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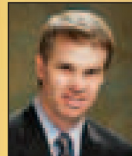
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Bangor, ME	7:47	7:55	8:03	8:10
Portland, ME	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:12
Boston, MA	7:50	7:57	8:04	8:11
South Lancaster, MA	7:52	8:00	8:07	8:13
Pittsfield, MA	7:59	8:06	8:13	8:20
Hartford, CT	7:55	8:02	8:09	8:15
New York, NY	7:58	8:05	8:11	8:17
Albany, NY	8:00	8:07	8:14	8:21
Utica, NY	8:08	8:16	8:23	8:30
Syracuse, NY	8:12	8:19	8:27	8:33
Rochester, NY	8:18	8:26	8:33	8:39
Buffalo, NY	8:22	8:30	8:37	8:43
Hamilton, Bda	8:02	8:07	8:12	8:16

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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OFFICIAL NOTICE

Atlantic Union College Corporation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the quinquennial session of the Atlantic Union College Corporation is called to convene Monday, June 13, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. in Machlan Auditorium, Main Street, South Lancaster, Massachusetts 01561.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect trustees, revise the articles of incorporation and bylaws, hear reports and to attend to any other business which may properly be brought before the body.

The members of this corporation are the members of the board of trustees of Atlantic Union College; representatives of the College who shall be regular, full-time employees elected by the college officers and academic and auxiliary department heads not to exceed one-third of the total number of constituents excluding General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist representation; the local conference educational superintendents, senior academy principals and either the secretary or treasurer of each local conference of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; the members of the executive committee of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; the members of the North American Division and or General Conference Committee of Seventh-day Adventists in attendance at any meeting of this corporation; the North American Division and or General Conference delegates shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the total number of delegates; the president and other elected officers of the Atlantic Union College Student Association; six laypersons and six denominational employees each, appointed by the executive committee of each local conference in the Atlantic Union Conference territory, plus one additional representative for each 10,000 members and major fraction thereof for local conferences having 10,000 or more members; up to ten Atlantic Union College alumni who are not included in the other categories, selected by the AUC alumni executive committee.

Norman Wendth, President
Clarence Ates, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 29th Regular Constituency Session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene in the Machlan Auditorium, Main Street, South Lancaster, Massachusetts 01561, June 12 and 13, 2011. The first meeting of the session will convene at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, June 12, 2011. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

This constituency session is being held for the purpose of receiving reports for the five-year period ending December 31, 2010, the election of officers, departmental directors and an executive committee; and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

The Atlantic Union Conference constitution, Article III, Section 1: Voting Representation – Regular Delegates, defines who are the members of this constituency and outlines the formula for arriving at the number of delegates to be chosen as follows:

- A. Each member organization shall be represented at Union Conference constituency meetings by duly accredited delegates as follows:
 - 1) Each local conference be entitled to one (1) delegate without regard to conference membership and (1) additional delegate for each two hundred fifty (250) church members or major fractions thereof. Calculations for delegate allotments shall be based upon the conference memberships as of December 31 of the year preceding the session.
 - 2) Delegates shall be chosen by each local conference Executive Committee and shall be representative of the diversity in the local conference membership including women, youth, and or representatives of major ethnic groups.
 - 3) At least one-half of the delegates appointed to the Union Conference constituency meeting provided for in Section 1. a (1) above, shall be persons who are not denominationally employed, of whom approximately one-half shall be women.

DELEGATES-AT-LARGE

- B. In addition, the following shall be delegates-at-large with all the rights and privileges of regular delegates, at the Union Conference constituency meetings:
 - 1) Members of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference.
 - 2) Members of the Board of the Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.
 - 3) Officers of the local conferences.
 - 4) Members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.
 - 5) Members of the General Conference and North American Division Executive Committees who may be present at any constituency meeting of the Union Conference. The number of such delegates representing the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the total number of delegates provided for herein above in Section 2.a.(1) of Article II of these bylaws.
 - 6) Such other persons from the Atlantic Union Conference staff, representatives from health care systems/institutions serving the Union, church institutions owned and operated by the Union or local conferences, as may be recommended by the Union Conference Executive Committee and accepted by the regular delegates in session; the total number of delegates from this category not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total number of regular delegates provided for herein above in Section 1.a.(1) of Article II of these bylaws.

Donald G. King, President
Carlyle C. Simmons, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, will be held in connection with the 29th session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, June 12, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. in the Machlan Auditorium, Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561.

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 29th session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are delegates to the 29th session of the Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

Donald G. King, President
Carlyle C. Simmons, Secretary

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The Atlantic Union GLEANER reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The rejection of any advertisement should not be construed to constitute disapproval of the product or service involved.

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EMPLOYMENT

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks an instructor in the School of Journalism and Communication to teach one or more of the following: public relations, journalism, photography, new media and speech. A doctorate in the field, plus professional work experience, is preferred. Candidates must have at least a master's degree, as well as membership in good and regular standing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Send CV to Dr. Greg Rumsey, rumsey@southern.edu, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

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GROW MINISTRIES with Brad Neeley offers a one-week, in-depth, hands-on gardening training for serious gardeners. May 29-Jun. 3 at New England Wellness and Education Center, Harrisville, N.H. For rates and lodging info go to NEWWellness.org or call (603) 827-3103/3183 or (603) 352-8595; or e-mail at infoatNEWWellness.org.

WILDWOOD WEIGHT MANAGEMENT SEMINAR—Intensive 14-day program focusing on health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. May 1-15. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Cost: \$740 (Includes room, vegan meals). Contact: Darlene Keith (931) 724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org.

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, counseling, education, nursing, religion, and social work. Flexibility is provided through online and on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call (423) 236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees.

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ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE Summer **Camp** Schedule **2011**

CAMP BERKSHIRE

Greater New York Conference • Web site: www.campberkshire.org
Junior Camp Jul. 10 – Jul. 17
Tween Camp Jul. 24 – Jul. 31

CAMP CHEROKEE

New York Conference • Web site: www.cherokeesummer.com
Teen Camp Jul. 3 – Jul. 10
Junior/Tween Camp Jul. 10 – Jul. 17
Adventure/Diabetic Awareness Camp Jul. 17 – Jul. 24
Family Camp 1 Jul. 31 – Aug. 7
Family Camp 2/Health Professionals Retreat Aug. 7 – Aug. 14
Home School Camp Aug. 14 – Aug. 18

CAMP VICTORY LAKE

Northeastern Conference • Web site: www.campvictorylake.org
Summer Camp Session 1 Jul. 10 – Jul. 24
Summer Camp Session 2 Jul. 24 – Aug. 7
Summer Camp Full Session Jul. 10 – Aug. 7

CAMP LAWROWELD

Northern New England Conference • Web site: www.lawroweld.org
Junior Camp Jul. 10 – Jul. 17
Teen Outpost Camp Jul. 17 – Jul. 24
Horse Camp (Limited to 6 Campers) Jul. 17 – Jul. 24
Blind Camp Jul. 17 – Jul. 24
Teen Camp Jul. 24 – Jul. 31
Family Camp 1 Jul. 31 – Aug. 7
Family Camp II Aug. 7 – Aug. 14
Motorcycle Weekend Aug. 26 – Aug. 28

CAMP WINNEKEAG

Southern New England Conference
Web site: www.campwinnekeag.com
Adventurer /Junior Camp I Jun. 26 – Jul. 3 (Ages 8-9)
Junior Camp II/Tween Camp Jul. 3 – Jul. 10 (Ages 10-14)
Teen Camp I Jul. 10 – Jul. 17 (Ages 13-17)
Teen Camp II Jul. 17 – Jul. 24 (Ages 13-17)
Family Camp I Jul. 24 – Jul. 31 (All Ages)
Family Camp II Jul. 31 – Aug. 7 (All Ages)

COURAGE TO STAND PATHFINDER CAMPOREE

Atlantic Union Conference
www.atlantic-union.org/camporee2011.html
May 4 – 7

Contact your local youth department for information on summer camp activities. Phone numbers for each conference are listed in the directory on page 31. Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Web site: www.atlantic-union.org/youth.html.

Photos courtesy of the camp staff from the camps in the Atlantic Union.