

THE ATLANTIC UNION

JUNE 2011

# GLEANER

## New York: A City of Great Diversity, A City of Great Need

Adventist churches in New York City work to address critical needs of their communities

Quoi de Neuf?

Adventist Education

Youth Connections

¿Qué Está Pasando?

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With a population of more than eight million in the city proper and more than 20 million in the metro area, New York is the nation's largest city and one of the world's most ethnically diverse. In this issue we highlight the work in New York City. Also included in this issue are our regular features Adventist Education, Positions of Our Faith, and Youth Connections. The cover photo of the Midtown Manhattan skyline at night is an image from iStockphoto.

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

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## DEADLINES

August 2011	June 10
September 2011	July 8
October 2011	August 12

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## Is Your **Light “On” or “Off”?**

**T**he Bible is full of many gems. Take the one found in Matthew 5:14-16, THE MESSAGE, which says, “You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.” The light referred to, from my perspective, is one’s personal witness, which, if taken to heart, could be one of the most powerful tools for reaching people today.

Dictionary definitions of the word evangelism include “the winning or revival of personal commitments to Christ” and “the spreading of the Christian gospel by preaching or personal witness.” The Adventist Church has many preachers around the world who are presenting the gospel message at Sabbath services, prayer meetings, and evangelistic meetings, to name a few. In most cases they are preaching to people who already believe our message. It is true that invited guests, some curious people, and some who have been impressed to be there, will always be among the worshipers, but many more may never set foot inside the church, hall, or tent, or visit via the Internet.

The ideal practice in Adventist churches in preparation for evangelistic meetings is to plan several years in advance to “prepare the field.” Seed-sowing through “light-bearers” should be an ongoing process. At times, what actually seems to happen is that we end up preaching to ourselves because our ministry in personal witness to others often occurs just before the meetings begin and ends just after the meetings end. And as a result, those whom we are trying to reach are not drawn into the church body.

This is where “personal witness evangelism” comes in. It is the grassroots part of ministry that will open the doors for people to want find out more about Jesus Christ and the Adventist Church.

Personal witness evangelism should be a lifestyle. A person’s first encounter with our church should never take place only when we advertise in the community about a meeting at church. People should be able to see what we believe by the way we live. The light that emanates from us should glorify God 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for a lifetime.

Advertisers pay millions of dollars to promote their products. Their goal is to advertise in such a way that it makes people believe in their product, want to buy it, and will turn around and tell others about it so they can buy it. The advertisers’ bottom line is sure to tell how well their advertising worked.

By their actions, Adventist Church members are advertising something on a daily basis. The question is “What are we advertising?” “What are people seeing in us?” “Are our churches known only for holding services on Sabbath morning (and maybe Wednesday night), then closing the doors until the next Sabbath, or are our lights shining brightly for everyone to see our genuine care, concern, and compassion for those who live in the communities around us?”

A March 17, 2011, article in USA TODAY referred to the Seventh-day Adventist Church as the “fastest-growing Christian denomination in North America.” The article went on to cite “newly-released data” showing Seventh-day Adventism growing by 2.5 percent. While that is good news, if we stop to consider the population of North America and then consider the membership in the Adventist Church in North America, this should be cause for concern.

With destruction and devastation occurring at a rapid rate all around us, we have the opportunity of a lifetime to let our lights shine brightly and to make a difference to others. It’s time we really let our lights shine so that others will see our Christ-like character, that will hopefully cause them to glorify our Father in heaven. How brightly is your light shining? ☺

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



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# New York:

## A City of Great Diversity, A City of Great Need

*Adventist churches in New York City work to address critical needs of their communities*

**B**abel was the first mega-city. Located in the ancient land of Shinar, its name has been associated with rebellion. For, in the city of Babel, all families and tribes of the earth, speaking one language, came together to build a tower whose top reached to the sky. They boasted, “let’s make ourselves a name, lest we be scattered abroad on the surface of the whole earth”—Genesis 11:4.

God responded, “Come, let’s go down, and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech. . . . Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth”—Genesis 11:7, 9.

Ever since Babel, cities have carried the stigma of being “hot beds of vice” and indeed, many are. But cities are also places of large concentrations of persons needing to hear the gospel.

If Babel was a place where people spoke one language, then the modern megatropolis of New York is the polar opposite. New York City is the most linguistically diverse city in the world, with an estimated 800 languages



Aerial view over Manhattan with the East River on the left and Central Park to the right.

spoken, 176 of them by the children in public school. Although English remains the primary language, everything from Spanish to the obscure Hmong language is spoken.

With a population of more than eight million in the city proper and more than 20 million in the metro area, New York is the nation’s largest city and one of the world’s most ethnically diverse.<sup>1</sup> There are more

Jewish persons living in New York than in Jerusalem.<sup>2</sup> New York boasts six Chinatowns making it the largest Asian city outside of Asia.<sup>3</sup> One out of 50 New Yorkers of European ancestry have Irish roots,<sup>4</sup> and there are more than three million persons of Italian descent.<sup>5</sup> The Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn has the largest concentration of Black residents in the United States and the city



has the largest population of Black immigrants from the Caribbean.<sup>6</sup> Sam Roberts of the *New York Times* says, “New York has become a Babel in reverse—a magnet for immigrants and their languages.”<sup>7</sup>

**I**ndeed, if the purpose and calling of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to take “the everlasting gospel to every nation and kindred and tongue and people,” then what better place to do that than in New York.

As Ellen White stated nearly 100 years ago: “New York is ready to be worked. In that great city the message of truth will be given with the power of God. The Lord calls upon those who have gained an experience in the cause to take up and carry forward in His fear the work to be done in New York and in other large cities of America.”—TESTIMONIES, vol. 7, p. 55.

Two conferences of the Atlantic Union are working in New York City to meet this challenge, the Greater New York and the Northeastern conferences. Although each operates several successful and growing congregations throughout the five boroughs of the city, the work in the Borough of Manhattan has seen both great challenge and great triumph. Manhattan is the financial center of the city and its 1.5 million residents are squeezed into over 108 persons per acre. Manhattan is the city’s most diverse section.

**T**he Atlantic Union has 21 churches (Greater New York, 16, and Northeastern, 5) in



Rafael Sanchez

▲ More than 200 college and university students from the New York City area attended the Collegiate Summit on Sabbath, April 9, sponsored by the Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries Department, Adventist Christian Fellowship at Columbia University, and the Church of the Advent Hope. The group is standing in front of Earl Hall at Columbia University on Sabbath, April 9.

▲ REACH-NYC is a ministry that uses various outreach opportunities, such as vegetarian seminars (Veggie Seminar 4 shown) in a space that converts from an Adventist Book Center, to a place for vegetarian healthy eating and cooking seminars, to Cafe Reach, a Friday evening intimate, candlelit venue where New Yorkers are invited to hear about the gospel and to share in discussion.

Manhattan. The combined membership is slightly more than 5,000. And yet these churches are reaching out in some unique ways. The Greater New York Conference ministers to more than 30 language groups. The Seventh-day Adventist Church on W. 40<sup>th</sup> Street ministers to the unique linguistic and cultural features of the Hungarian and Ukrainian populations. Those of Russian heritage can hear the gospel preached in their native tongue at the Manhattan

Seventh-day Adventist Church at 232 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

During the past decade, as the Hispanic population has grown, so also has the outreach of the Greater New York Conference, with eight Spanish-speaking churches scattered across Manhattan from Delancey/Forsythe Streets in lower Manhattan to Washington Heights in upper Manhattan. Steve Cassimy, ministerial and family ministries director for the Greater New York Conference, says, “It



## COVER STORY

is a great challenge, but we are committed to reaching the diverse populations in our city.”

**T**he Northeastern Conference has chosen to focus on the growing Haitian population by operating two French/Creole-speaking congregations, Morija and Bethel French. Morija, with a membership of nearly 200, is one of the largest Haitian congregations of any denomination in Manhattan, and each year it boasts a healthy growth of 10 percent.

Nestled in the heart of Harlem, considered the center of African-American culture, are the City Tabernacle, New Hope, and the Ephesus churches. City Tabernacle offers a diverse range of ministries. With one of the largest food pantries in upper Manhattan, City Tabernacle provides food for hundreds of families monthly. Known also for its dynamic family ministries programs, it is addressing the critical needs of its community. Vibrancy and innovation characterize New Hope.

Contemporary services in the African-American tradition have sparked growth and a multimillion dollar facility expansion.

The Ephesus church, celebrating 87 years in its New York State landmark facility, is the largest Adventist church in Manhattan, with more than 1,200 members. Its three choirs ring out traditional tunes with its pipe organ in its main sanctuary, while a contemporary service is conducted simultaneously in the 400-seat youth sanctuary. Ephesus is one of the few churches in the nation to conduct a full youth church since 1955.

Partnering with New York University, Cornell Medical, and the Mailman School of Public Health, Ephesus has chosen the health message as an entering wedge, conducting Daniel’s Diet nutrition classes, cholesterol reduction programs, aerobics, bicycling, and walking programs. Its annual Health Fair on Lenox Avenue and Concert in the Park at Grant’s Tomb attract thousands. GED and computer classes are offered in the Ephesus Resource Center and its Harlem Education Guild reaches out to public school students in underperforming schools.



Greg Horiges



Greg Horiges

▲ The Ephesus church Sabbath School department periodically hosts Sabbath School classes outside. Anyone in the community who wishes to participate is welcome to do so.

◀ Medical personnel from hospitals in the local area are on site at Ephesus church to conduct screenings for church members, as well as community residents.

**W**hile some have likened New York to Babel, perhaps a better comparison is Jerusalem. For the Bible records: “Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under the sky. When



this sound was heard, the multitude came together, and were bewildered, because everyone heard them speaking in his own language”—Acts 2:5, 6.

What better place than New York City for a Pentecost, a Babel in reverse? At Pentecost diversity found commonality in Christ. For despite the hundreds of languages, one language cuts through them all, the gospel of Jesus Christ. “For I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven having the everlasting gospel to preach to them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation and kindred and tongue and people, saying with a loud voice, fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment is come.”

According to Oswald Euell, Personal Ministries director for the Northeastern Conference, in regard to our work in New York, “Perhaps it is time for us to stop managing our perceptions of New York City and manage our mission. Focus on the mission will bring success.” ④



*Dedrick Blue is the pastor of the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York, New York.*

<sup>1</sup> *Yearbook of Immigration Statistics: 2009, Supplemental Table 2.*

<sup>2</sup> [www.simpletoremember.com/vitals/world-jewish-population.htm](http://www.simpletoremember.com/vitals/world-jewish-population.htm).

<sup>3</sup> *New York-Newark-Bridgeport, NY-NJ-CT-PA Combined Statistical Area, 2008* (factfinder.census.gov).

<sup>4</sup> “A Y-Chromosome Signature of Hegemony in Gaelic Ireland,” *THE AMERICA JOURNAL OF HUMAN GENETICS* 78 (2): 334-338.

<sup>5</sup> [factfinder.census.gov](http://factfinder.census.gov).

<sup>6</sup> *New York-Newark-Bridgeport, NY-NJ-CT-PA Combined Statistical Area, 2008* (factfinder.census.gov).

<sup>7</sup> *Listening to (and Saving) the World's Languages*, [www.nytimes.com/2010/04/29/region/29lost.html?pagewanted](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/29/region/29lost.html?pagewanted).

## Reaching the Cities in 2013

**T**he General Conference has determined that 2013 will be the year of reaching the urban cities of the world, including New York City. The Atlantic Union Conference and its six conferences will be involved in this evangelistic initiative, especially the two conferences in New York City—Greater New York and Northeastern—in addition to the General Conference and the North American Division. Efforts are already underway to plan for this initiative by working with the local conferences, the leadership, and the ministerial directors to organize for this evangelistic thrust that will cover, for the most part, metropolitan New York. In keeping with the emphasis of revival and reformation as initiated by Ted Wilson, the General Conference president, we are encouraging all of our members in the Atlantic Union to pray earnestly that God will pour out his Holy Spirit as we engage in what probably will be the greatest and most expansive evangelistic campaign to date.

—Donald G. King is the Atlantic Union president.



Greg Hodges

**Dean Preddie, M.D., left, from New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center, works with Ephesus church members and residents in the community as they prepare to participate in the Daniel's Diet project.**

“What better place than New York City for a Pentecost, a Babel in reverse?”



## Four Adventists Receive Awards at Outstanding Teen Awards Event

Four young, exceptional Adventists, Alesha Johnson, Shakir Amory, VaShon Williams, and Mariangela Bucci, were among the 2011 winners at the Outstanding Teen Awards event in Bermuda. The Outstanding Teen Award program, an annual event that acknowledges the excellent achievements of teens between the ages of 17 and 19, is sponsored by Teen Services Bermuda. The nonprofit organization supports education, counseling, and encouragement for Bermuda's youth. It recognizes excellence in 10 categories: Community Service, Perseverance, Performing Arts, Sports, Leadership, Most Progress, Visual Arts, Spiritual Leadership, and Academic Achievement. Ultimately, one student is chosen as the Outstanding Teen of the Year. This prestigious event highlights the best of Bermuda's young achievers.

**Alesha Johnson, left, Southampton church member, received an award in the Most Progress category. The Hon. Zane DeSilva, Minister of Health, JP, MP is on her right.**

Alesha Johnson was nominated by Bermuda Institute (BI) for the category of Most Progress, because of her steady improvement in the area of academics and emerging leadership skills. She has steadily gained confidence in accepting academic challenges. She is a senior and a prefect at BI.

Shakir Amory, a Cedarbridge Academy student, was involved in a serious bike accident in November 2010 and was told that he would have difficulty with memory, reading, and comprehension. However, he has persevered and is on track for graduation in June.



**Shakir Amory, left, a member of the St. George's church, is the recipient of the Perseverance Award. On his right are Nina Jones, Outstanding Teen Award chair; and the Hon. E. Grant Gibbons, Shadow Minister for Education, JP, MP.**

He is the recipient of the Perseverance Award.

VaShon Williams and Mariangela Bucci won in two categories. Williams, head boy at BI, won the Spiritual Leadership Award and the Academic Achievement Award. He was highlighted as a focused, determined, and humble young man who models the traits of Christianity. He preaches before his peers, participates in the counselor training program,

and has joined the feeding program sponsored by his church. As a senior, Williams has maintained high academic standards and integrity and is committed to excellence. He has participated in the Bermuda Quiz Competition and the Center for Talented Youth at Johns Hopkins University. He is a member of the National Honor Society and an officer in



Photos: Anthony Wade

**VaShon Williams, left, a member of the Hamilton church, is the recipient of the Spiritual Leadership Award and the Academic Achievement Award. Independent MP Darius Tucker is on his right.**

the Youth Parliament.

Mariangela Bucci, a hard-working, dedicated student who attends Bermuda High School for Girls, won the Academic Achievement Award. She has maintained a GPA of 4.00 and achieved a 97th percentile ranking in the ACT standardized exam. She has passed 9 GCSEs (British external exit exam for high school seniors that covers all subject areas taught on the secondary school level), and has participated in the Harvard Summer School program, where she studied neurobiology and biomedical ethics and earned eight college credits. She participated in the Center for Talented Youth at John Hopkins



**Mariangela Bucci, right, a member of the Southampton church, is the recipient of the Academic Achievement Award and the overall Outstanding Teen of 2011 Award. Presenters include, from left Michelle Wade, director of Teen Services; Nina Jones, Outstanding Teen Award chair; Dame Jennifer Smith, Minister of Education.**



## Teacher's Assistant Receives Most Spirited Educator Award

For anyone who knows her, it would come as little surprise that Gina Richardson was recently recognized for her keen involvement with her students in a program to develop their life skills—but the recognition shocked her.

The sixth-grade teacher's assistant at Bermuda Institute received the Bermuda Sloop Foundation's Most Spirited Educator Award during a ceremony at the Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute on March 23.

Laughing, Richardson recalls, "I was shocked and surprised!"

The award, now in its third year, is given annually to thank the educator who best demonstrates involvement with and commitment to his or her students on voyages and programs aboard the 86-foot sloop, Spirit of Bermuda.

The students participate in five-day voyages in local waters and even ocean crossings, such as the one on which Richardson sailed from Maine to Bermuda in 2007 to add to her nine shorter expeditions.



**Gina Richardson, a teacher's assistant at Bermuda Institute, was presented with the Most Spirited Educator Award by the Bermuda Sloop Foundation.**

In the process, most of the students are converted from hesitant to confident, many wanting to repeat their journeys and adventures.

"I just love the whole program, the team spirit, the leadership, the cooperation," says Richardson, enthusiastically. "To see how the students have matured and how they've risen to the challenge that's set before them is remarkable."

While some teachers treat the excursions as simply a

break from the routine of school, others take a different approach, according to Alex Amat, the foundation's director of education and programs.

"They jump right into it and are an extra pair of hands and eyes," Amat explains. "Gina has always been

that, always right in the mix."

Indeed, the veteran of 21 years in the classroom is so into the mix of life on the ocean that she has qualified as a watch leader—someone who teaches the students the ropes of their functions and responsibilities as well as team skills that will help them throughout life.

Doing this is no mean feat, by the sound of it. The five-day voyages take on 21 middle school students, either boys or girls,

in three groups, with three educators from their school to endure the rigors of life on the high seas—without the comforts of home, and allowing no sweets!

"I feel honored," Richardson says with a tone of awe in her voice. "I feel that I am looked upon as a person who enjoys what the Spirit of Bermuda offers and I feel respected."

She also gains professionally from the experience, explaining that she incorporates Bermuda history and facts learned on the trips into her own teaching methods. "I'm looking at another way of learning. This broadens my horizons and I don't have to be in the classroom. I can bring it into the classroom and be creative."

Gina is presently pursuing her bachelor's degree in early childhood education through Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts.

For more information on the Bermuda Sloop Foundation and its programs, visit its Web site at [www.bermudasloop.org](http://www.bermudasloop.org).

—Coggie Gibbons, communication, Warwick church

University. Bucci is also involved in the challenging

prising that Bucci emerged as the recipient of the

humility, and leadership skills have earned her rec-

extends heartfelt congratulations to all teen winners. Our prayer is for continued success in their studies and more importantly, entrance into God's kingdom

—Sheila Holder, communication director, Bermuda Conference

## Four young exceptional Adventists . . . were among the 2011 winners at the Outstanding Teen Awards event in Bermuda.

International Baccalaureate (IB) program. It is not sur-

Outstanding Teen of 2011 Award. Her self-discipline,

ognition among her peers. The Bermuda Conference



## Ordained for Service

With only standing room, hundreds, including scores of pastors, packed the Gethsemane French Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn, New York, to witness the sacred act of “laying on of hands” on four pastors and one chaplain as they were ordained to the gospel ministry.

“It is with pleasure that I present to you, Mr. President, five pastors who are ready to be ordained to the gospel ministry,” said Steve Cassimy, Greater New York Conference ministerial and family ministries director. G. Earl Knight, Greater New York Conference president, read the names and a biographical sketch of each pastor. Here are some highlights:

- José Domínguez was born in Luperón, Puerto Plata, in the Dominican Republic. At the age of 16, he accepted the Lord Jesus as his Savior while attending an evangelistic meeting and then he made the decision to get baptized. It is his desire to see the Lord God together with his family and to join the eternal family of God in heaven. Dominguez is married to Luz and has three children. He is currently the Publishing Ministries director and he also assists at the Central Manhattan Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York, New York, under the leadership of Ephraim Peña, the church’s pastor.
- Carlos D. González was born into an Adventist home. He is the son of a pastor, and nephew



▲ Hundreds packed the Gethsemane French church for the ordination service of five pastors. Pictured from left are Andy and Roselene Lagredelle, Andrés and Martha Peralta, Dilcia and Carlos González, Raul Maria, and José Domínguez.

▼ Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president, delivered the sermon and charged each pastor to point their members to Jesus Christ. Angel Rodriguez, a pastor in the Greater New York Conference, was King’s translator.



Photos: Dawin Rodríguez

of several pioneers who worked for God’s cause in different capacities. The privilege of bringing souls to the feet of Jesus, praying with and for the members, helping them in their daily needs and visiting with them in their homes, has brought him to the feet of Jesus.

He and his wife, Dilcia, have two adult children. González serves the Greater New York Conference as treasurer.

- Andy Lee Lagredelle is a native of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Lagredelle completed his Master of Divinity degree at

Andrews University in May 2005 and today serves as the pastor of the Siloé French and Shiloh Bilingual French Seventh-day Adventist churches in Corona, New York, and Brooklyn, New York, respectively. Lagredelle is married to Roselene Joseph and they have

▲ Gerson Santos, left, Greater New York Conference executive secretary, presented the ordination certificates to the candidates.





**Yvonne Knight, Greater New York Conference Shepherdess Ministries leader, encouraged the pastors' wives.**

two children. Currently Lagredelle is a candidate for the Doctor of Ministry degree at United Theological Seminary, with an emphasis on the discipleship of youth in the postmodern era.

- Raul Antonio María was born in the Dominican Republic. He and his wife, Quyen, have five children. María is a graduate of Atlantic

Union College and Andrews University, with a bachelor's degree in religion and theology and a Master of Divinity degree. He is a chaplain for the 14th Combat Support Hospital in Fort Benning, Georgia. María is also an advisor to the commander on moral, ethnic, and religious matters for the well-being of the Army, the community, and the country at large.

- Andrés Peralta was born on the island of Dominican Republic. Peralta was impressed by the Holy Spirit and then moved to Puerto Rico to attend the Antillean Adventist University, where he earned a degree in theology. After his graduation, he continued his studies at Andrews University, where he earned a Master of

Divinity degree and where he is currently pursuing a doctorate in ministry outreach. Pastor Peralta's passion is to preach the Word and serve humanity. Peralta is married and his wife's name is Martha. He is very grateful to all those who have helped his ministry to be a blessing.

Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president, delivered the sermon and charged each pastor to point their members to Jesus Christ. Christ as intercessor, on behalf of all, is to be lifted up at all times in their ministry.

Gerson Santos, the Greater New York Conference executive secretary, gave the official instruments of ordination.

The pastors' wives were also included in the process, and Yvonne Knight, Shepherdess leader for the



**G. Earl Knight, Greater New York Conference president, shared biographical information on each of the candidates for ordination.**

conference, encouraged the pastors' wives to be a source of comfort and support for their husbands. Each wife was presented with a bouquet of flowers

Greater New York Conference congratulates and welcomes these five pastors to the ordained ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

—Rohann D. Wellington, communication director, Greater New York Conference

## Greater New York Conference Elects New Women's Ministries Leader



**Angelia Francis-Brown was voted by the Greater New York Conference Executive Committee as the new Women's Ministries leader.**

The Greater New York Conference (GNYC) Executive Committee, at its April 17 meeting, voted Angelia Francis-Brown as the new Women's Ministries leader for this quadrennial. The assignment is effective June 1. Francis-Brown comes to GNYC with a wealth of experience in women's ministries in the Greater New York Conference. She is a member of the North Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bronx, New York. Francis-Brown replaces Yvonne Knight, who served in that capacity for 10 years.

The executive committee has completed its appointment of officers as requested by the constituency at the September 19, 2010,

session. Other positions filled include:

- Adventist Book Center manager, Nereida Harris
- Auditor, Dalin Lindsay
- Camp Berkshire director, Hector Perez
- Trust Services, Claude Morgan
- Men's Ministries, Alanzo Smith
- Children's Ministries, Barbara Hyde.

—Rohann Wellington, communication director, Greater New York Conference



## 2007 Summer Ignition Student Graduated May 2011

Esther Steinkraus came from North Carolina to attend Atlantic Union College's summer *Ignition* program.

### Here's what she had to say after *Ignition* . . .

"After graduating from Mount Pisgah Academy, I chose Atlantic Union College for several reasons. The two most important were that AUC was offering the major I was interested in, and the *Ignition* program. My desire to be a massage therapist will [be fulfilled] when I begin classes in the fall of 2008.

"*Ignition* consists of select classes taught in a short amount of time. I was able to finish the math requirements for my major and gain knowledge on how to ease into the college experience.

"The teachers were fun, and I was employed before all the other students arrived. I really enjoyed *Ignition*. The head start was a great advantage academically."

### Four Years Later . . .

"I came to AUC with intentions to become a massage therapist. During the course of anatomy and physiology, I was considering the job field and felt that nursing would be a more stable occupation.

"I enjoy caring for people and continue to be fascinated by the human body. Combining my desires and the stability of the profession, I switched to nursing.

"Graduation is the beginning of a new adventure. Prayer, hard work, dedicated professors, multiple periods of frustration, and amazing friends and family have all influenced me in an unforgettable way."

—Cindy Kurtzhals, public relations director, Atlantic Union College



Cindy Kurtzhals

Esther Steinkraus, from North Carolina, enjoyed *Ignition*.



Cindy Kurtzhals

Esther Steinkraus graduated on May 15 with 78 other graduates.

## They Went to Give—Received Instead

Students twice visited the Massachusetts Correctional Institution (MCI) in Shirley, Massachusetts. While they went to be an inspiration to others, they came away with more than what they felt they gave.

"I went there to give them encouragement and bring them the Word of God," said Rachelle Leger. "Instead, I felt as though they gave me more encouragement and trust in the Word of God."

"This experience was priceless," said Willis Byas, president of the Student Ministerial Association. "I was encouraged when hearing some of the ministries the inmates are doing. They were going to have one week of fasting and prayer for the entire prison. They do discipleship seminars, have mentoring programs, and more.

"I learned from the inmates singing 'Great and Mighty is the Lord our God, Great and Mighty is He' that truly He is great and mighty."



Cindy Kurtzhals

Theology, biology, psychology, and nursing majors visited a regional prison as one of many spiritual-life activities sponsored by the Student Ministerial Association (SMA). Pictured from the left, back row, are Akeem Brett, Jean Thiebaud, and Duddley Francois. Seated from left, Willis Byas, SMA president, Daniella Remilus, and Caira Graci. Not pictured are: Daniel Mendoza, Steven Welch, Christina Clarke, Rachelle Leger, Nereida Lobo, and Karen Lindsey.



## AUC Professor Heard Daily Nationwide



Cindy Kurtzhals

Roger Bothwell, above left, writes and reads a daily devotional that is broadcast on 500 radio stations in North America, reaching an audience of five million people weekly. The practical, down-to-earth, God-loving devotionals are targeted to 20- to 35-year-olds.

"The network uses satellite-fed FM stations and broadcast translators to carry the signal across much of the United States. Some of the most listened-to stations are in Chicago, Denver, Phoenix, Kansas City, and San Antonio, each averaging between 200 and 400 thousand listeners each week." (K-LOVE)

"We can reach our audience even in non- or less-populated areas, like in Wyoming where there are only rabbits and coyotes. This strategy is that our signal can even be heard by motorists driving along the national interstate

highways," he says.

Bothwell has been doing this ministry for 20 years. He was a board member for

### Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching

Each year, the student body and faculty vote for Professor of the Year, based on compelling criteria. AUC's faculty is outstanding, and the top choices since 2004 were, from the left, Roger Bothwell, psychology, 2005, 2010; Dean Davis, center, religion, 2006; Rick Trott, religion, 2004, 2007, 2011. Not pictured are Tim Trott, biology, 2008; and Richard Brown, biology, 2009.

15 years of the educational, Christian, media foundation that created the radio network, and for some years served as its chair. "Radio engineers told us we were the first to stream on the Internet."

He is a professor of psychology at Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. His devotionals focus on his classroom experiences, friendships, and daily life experiences of himself and his wife, Ian. Ian is a professor of education and chair of the college's Psychology and Education departments.

The messages all illustrate God's tender love and give the reader encouragement. They are posted at [www.rogerbothwell.org](http://www.rogerbothwell.org) and have been archived since 1996. They can be heard by dialing (800) 808-4330, and are e-mailed to 1,000 people.

"Our mission is the proclamation to the world the wonder and love of Jesus Christ," says Bothwell. "It is our belief that the most abundant life possible is a life in Christ."

—Cindy Kurtzhals, public relations director, Atlantic Union College

### Midterm Musings . . . A Previous Devotional

Even of my students poured their thoughts onto their midterm papers as I sat wondering where they had come from and where they are going after I was finished with them in May. There was a young woman with blonde moussed hair, a young black man with a beautiful shaved head, another with 30-some six-inch braids all over his head, two Latino women with their hair pulled tightly back, and a third with her long black hair flowing over her shoulders. The 11 speak with Haitian, Jamaican, Bermudian, Massachusetts, and New York accents. They were a good-looking gathering of God's family.

The room was quiet as they waited for their brains to gestate good answers for me. An occasional cough and the soft sound of turning pages broke the silence. Watching them, I realized they could

not know how much I wanted them to do well, not only on that test, but also in life. To them, I was a teacher who could possibly give them a bad grade and ruin their future. To me, they were precious people for whom I would do all I could to help them prepare for a richer life.

I wondered if there was a parallel situation between me and them and God and me. Could it be that I do not understand just how much God wants me to prosper and do well? Real school is caring for this amazing collection of people. Real school is sharing concepts to help them grow into an even more amazing group of people. Jesus must have had similar feelings when He looked over the masses and said to His disciples, "Let's feed them before they go home."

Thanks for reading, and remember how very much you are loved.



## Growing in the Lord at Union Springs Academy

The time had come. We labored over this, praying, looking at options, and now we had to make a decision. Our youngest child had reached the age where we had to choose whether or not to send him to the academy. His sister spent three years at Union Springs Academy and did very well, but he is a different person than she. He would have to live in the boy's dorm. Would he be able to stand up to the peer pressure?

I was his teacher since he was in fifth grade, first at the local church

school and when that closed, at home for eighth and ninth grade. But he needed more. He needed other teachers to challenge him, give him new insights and points of view. Being very social, he needed young people to interact with—something in short supply at our church. He also needed work structure to teach him the values of being a good employee. So, with anxiety in our hearts, we turned our young man over to the care of the Lord and the staff at Union Springs Academy.

When our son came home for his first home

leave, I couldn't believe the change in him. He had matured so much in just a little over a month. He was struggling with social issues, having to live with other people in close quarters, but rather than turning him away from God and making him rebellious, it seemed to be doing just the opposite. He was working hard to get good grades, and was keeping out of trouble. But, most importantly, he was growing spiritually. He started

**“With anxiety in our hearts, we turned our young man over to the care of the Lord and the staff at Union Springs Academy.”**

having daily Bible study with the assistant dean, giving dorm

worship talks, and speaking about God in his daily conversation.

The growth has continued—maybe not as noticeably as in the first few weeks, but there is a steady maturity, both spiritually and emotionally. I praise the Lord for God-fearing faculty who make it their mission to educate our children for eternity. I thank Him for His promise to care for and save those children whom we have dedicated to Him and released into His ever attentive care.

*Wendy Dunn, parent, Union Springs Academy*



Sierra Trombley travels from the esophagus into stomach where ninth-grader Kyaw Shwe Aye explains the function and care of the stomach.

## Parkview Students Hold Health Fair

Students at Parkview Junior Academy in Syracuse, New York, held an unusual health fair in a local mall on the evening of April 14. One of the units of study for the school year was the human body. A goal of instruction was to integrate service and outreach to the community, so a health fair was a logical culminating project.

The K-2 class studied the amounts of sugar in various breakfast cereals and created a project that

helped visitors grasp just how much like a Snickers bar many breakfasts are. Students in grades 3 and 4 created display boards featuring the eight health remedies found in Ellen G. White's writings. Fifth- and sixth-graders created a huge food pyramid with quiz questions for guests to try to answer. Seventh- and eighth-graders built a gigantic model called "A Walk Through the Digestive System," in which children literally walked



Natalie Halbritter-Eells shares what she learned about the importance of rest.



or crawled through the mouth, esophagus, stomach, small intestine, liver, gall bladder, pancreas, and large intestine as students described the function of each organ and how to care for it. Ninth-graders created health brochures and distributed them, along with some commercially prepared documents.

The teachers at Parkview are moving toward more project-based instruction and intend to consistently incorporate these kinds of activities that make our presence known in the community and offer opportunities to serve.

—Kim Kaiser, principal, Parkview Junior Academy

## Lay Training Institute Inspires Again

The New York Conference hosted its fifth annual Lay Training Institute (LTI) at the Holiday Inn in Auburn, New York, on February 25-27. This event is designed to recruit and empower lay members to effectively share their love of Jesus in their communities and work places. About 75 percent of those who participated had previously attended an LTI event.

This year's presenters included lay leaders Ron Vincent, representing prison ministry, and Josh Schneider, director of ThisGeneration, a group of young adults committed to fulfilling the Great Commission. Charles Reitman, Bible worker, taught lay members a Bible-marking system helpful for giving Bible studies, and pastors Bill McNeil and Gary Wagner shared how to lead effective board meet-

ings and how to reach college-age youth, respectively.

Esther Knott, associate pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan, unveiled a training program called "The Contagious Adventist." This soon-to-be released program is a valuable tool for training in local churches. It prepares members to respond to challenging texts, but most importantly, to share in winsome ways the difference that Jesus has made in their lives and how obedience to the teachings of the Bible brings joy and blessing. One lay member who attended said, "What impresses me the most is the practicality of LTI. I am also inspired by the sense of purpose and commitment of those who consistently attend."

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference



Photos: Kim Kaiser

K-2 teacher, Suzy Gloudeman, and students help Melanie Miller compare amounts of sugar in cereals to that of a Snickers bar.

## Brocton Church Members Hold Quarterly Praise Sabbath

The Brocton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brocton, New York, held its first quarterly Praise Sabbath for 2011 in February. The church has been conducting these praise and worship services for the past two years, and members look forward to the regular event.

Before a praise Sabbath, members are asked to prepare a five-minute testimony of what God has done in their lives recently. On the Praise Sabbath this bouquet of testimonies replaces the sermon. Our people love it, and even though it usually takes more time than a sermon would, our people crave more. That is what happens when we share God's goodness with one another.

Robert Wahl, the first elder, says it is an excellent training and evangelistic tool for the following reasons:

When people share their experiences, others learn about the

**Lifting our praises to God should be one of our foremost joys.**

struggles and joys of their brothers and sisters.

Our members, including those who would never preach a sermon, get an opportunity to share their testimonies in a formal setting and, through experience, get better at it.

People learn to look for what God is doing in their lives and it strengthens their relationship with Him.

Those not of our faith who are present are usually touched by seeing that God is real and cares for His children. They often end up wishing for similar experiences and they start asking questions.

Lifting our praises to God should be one of our foremost joys. There will come a time when evangelism will end, missions will end, and Bible studies will end, but there will never be a time when praising God will end.

—Samuel Indreiu, pastor, Brocton church





By Jerrell Gilkeson

## An Army of Children

The voice on the phone said, “You should have heard the second grade student preaching on Sabbath. . . . And with such power!”



In my head I was thinking of the pictures in the old academy Bible textbooks that showed a child standing on a table preaching. The caption on the picture referred to the proclaiming of the Three Angels’ Messages by this small child as a fulfillment of the prophecy, “This gospel of the kingdom shall be proclaimed in all the world . . . then the end shall come”—Matthew 24:14 (MKJV). Then I thought, if that was a fulfillment of prophecy, then what must be the times we live in when hundreds of children are preaching every week around the world!

Recently I have had the opportunity to share a simple method of witnessing called the “5 Cs of Christianity.” This has proven effective in several places, including Brockton, Boston-Stoneham, Queens-Jackson Heights, and Bermuda.

Students learn that they can witness and have fun talking about Jesus. They start by learning, “I can tell you about Jesus with my hands.” It only

takes 45 seconds (if spoken slowly!) to share the plan of salvation.

**1-Creation:** “Jesus made my world in CREATION.” Psalm 33:6

**2-Conflict:** “Sin filled my world with CONFLICT.” Romans 6:23

**3-Commandments:** “God gave the COMMANDMENTS to protect me. I could not keep them by myself. I must die.” John 15:14

**4-Cross:** “Jesus went up on the CROSS to save me.” John 3:16

**5-Coming:** “Jesus is coming to take me home. Come quickly! Maranatha, I love you Jesus.” John 14:3

In the Jackson Heights school in Woodside, New York, children from kindergarten to eighth grade learned the 5 Cs as Astrid Thomassian, Atlantic Union Conference education director, joined me in providing activities, stories, and hand motions to fasten these key concepts into their minds. Aided by Veronica Quiñonis, the school’s principal; Raphael Gentles, the school’s chaplain; and all the teachers, these children were ready to lead the church service. On Friday I asked the children to become assistant pastors to help teach the 5 Cs to the congregation. During the worship service, 39 of the students helped the church members learn the hand motions to illustrate the 5 Cs.

The combination of hand motions, Bible texts, and stories helps the 5 Cs to become part of the permanent memory. When the time comes that we can only rely on our memory, it



will be important to have these principles cemented into the mind.

Children as young as three or four are able to learn the hand motions and tell them to family members by doing the 5 Cs in a variety of ways, such as a handshake, chanting/voice choir, and “patty cake” style. The basic motions can be seen on the Internet at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=brgu4qxAX4E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brgu4qxAX4E).

We are reminded in *THE ADVENTIST HOME*, p. 298, that “there may be a large army of children who shall be found faithful to God.” Children are ready to lead the army to finish telling of Jesus’ grace. Children need adults to give them transportation. Children need our money to finance their training and materials in church schools and Sabbath Schools. Children need our love and protection. Children need our prayers. Children are God’s army to finish the work of telling the world. This army must have us as the support battalions. That is what I signed up for in God’s army. Please join me in praying that we will be faithful. ☺



*Jerrell Gilkeson is the Atlantic Union Conference education and children’s ministries associate director.*



# My 12-plus Wonderful Years in the Atlantic Union

**W**hat a ride! I have spent 43 years working with young people—35 years of those years in direct youth leadership in three conferences and more than 12 exciting years in the Atlantic Union. When I was a young youth/education director in South Dakota, our union youth/education director shared with me that this was the best job the church has to offer. Looking back, I totally agree. Ellen White even backs that statement by saying, “To train the young to become true soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ is the most noble work ever given to man”—COUNSELS TO PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND STUDENTS, p. 166. I have been blessed to have carried out that work for 43 years!

This is my last Youth Connections for the GLEANER before I retire. I hope it has been a blessing to the youth leaders in the Atlantic Union. Hopefully, you have been able to glean some helpful information that has benefited you. As I look back over the 43 years, I have learned some valuable lessons. Here are a few that I want to pass on to you:

## **Love the “kids.”**

Young people will know that you care for them by how you interact with them, how you relate to them, how you speak to them, and how you care for them. Always have a happy smile on your face. By your actions they will know that love and care for them.

**Be a positive role model.** My favorite youth ministry Bible text is Luke 6:40. The bottom line of this text is that our example is more important than whatever we say to the young people. We need to not only “talk the talk,” we need to “walk the talk!” Remember, to the youth you are the face of Jesus. What do they see in you?

**Grow spiritually.** What are you doing to grow spiritually? Spend time in devotional reading and prayer. As we desire our young people to grow spiritually, certainly they need to see their leaders growing spiritually, as well.

**Have fun!** When I signed up for Facebook, almost immediately afterward, one of my former youth sent me a

Facebook message. I will never forget it. She shared with me that, as a result of my influence on her, she made a decision to remain a Seventh-day Adventist because I made it fun to be an Adventist Christian. Yes, I hope we can relay the message to our youth that you, too, can “have fun” in a good way. Let them see you laughing and enjoying life to the fullest. I think Jesus had fun with the children; they always wanted to be with Him.

**Keep your word.** When you make promises to the youth, keep those promises, whether it be a program plan and activity or a spiritual or secular event. Don’t make plans that you know you can’t keep. When something fails, acknowledge it to the young people. Be honest with them. They will respect you more for your honesty and truthfulness.

## **Respect and love all races and cultural groups.**

This is one of the greatest rewards I have had in the Atlantic Union—making friends from so many countries. What a beautiful rainbow of young people we have in the Atlantic Union. We are truly blessed.

**Stick up for the church.** I have no doubt that the Adventist Church is God’s church on this earth. Is the church perfect? No way, but it is the best God has. Let the young people know that you are a loyal Adventist and show them by the way you support the church through your lifestyle, your involvement, and your loyalty to all this church stands for.

May God continue to bless youth ministries in the Atlantic Union, with your help! 🙏

**“This is my last Youth Connections for the GLEANER before I retire. I hope it has been a blessing to the youth leaders in the Atlantic Union.”**



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



## Shiloh Church Launches “Operation Smell Good”

Members of the Adventist Community Services department at the Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Church in Springfield, Massachusetts, recently launched the “Operation Smell Good” campaign. Janet Lee, the Adventist Community Services leader, solicited the help of all department heads at Shiloh to donate such items as toothpaste, soap, shampoo, combs, and more. Once collected, the items would be distributed to the homeless during their visit to the Springfield Open Pantry. The Open Pantry serves meals from the church’s premises on Sundays, with the assistance of the community services department.

During one of the visits to the Open Pantry Lee spoke with a recipient and learned that, as much as they appreciated the hot meals, the greatest need was for toiletry items, socks, and underwear. The recipient explained how difficult it is to go without the basic items needed to take a shower and feel clean. This simple conver-

sation started the beginning of “Operation Smell Good.”

At work I spoke with my colleagues about “Operation Smell Good.” Immediately, four of them began a special drive with the help of 12 clients who volunteered to assist. This was particularly unique, since these individuals have mental and physical disabilities. Six of the individuals with two members of the staff started a “penny drive” and raised \$68.00. Others brought in donations after shopping with their guardians. Their efforts certainly went above and beyond, considering their own disabilities—some lack the ability to communicate verbally and others are in wheelchairs. This was a special project for all of them. One of the individuals said they found it a pleasure doing something good for others who are worse off than themselves.

Phanee Johnson, a member of Shiloh, also wasted no time in getting donated items. Her efforts were slightly more



From left, Donna Bunn, Brandi Jackson, Liz Spence and Zainab Tinsley (not pictured) organized the penny drive with the clients at the day habilitation program.

direct. Johnson went to two local stores, explained the dilemma the homeless were facing, and asked for help. Burlington Coat Factory and A.J. Wright both made donations. When asked what motivated her to do this, Johnson explained that, “While living in Thailand as a child, my mother always donated things to people in our village.” Johnson feels this rubbed off on her and because of her past experiences, could personally relate to people who have lost their jobs. She went on

to say that it’s difficult to see anyone suffering when she knows she can do something, no matter how small. Johnson has given money to help those in need. Her philosophy is, “Everyone can make a difference.”

Lee intends to keep the “Operation Smell Good” project going throughout this year. This is just another act of kindness that the Shiloh Adventist Community Services department continues to demonstrate to those in need.

—Janet Russell, assistant communication leader, Shiloh church



## Four Baptized at Capernaum Church

At the end of a two-week, Spirit-filled revival, four people were baptized on April 9 at the Capernaum Seventh-day Adventist Church in Rochester, New York. From left to right are David Lafalaise, René Widmaier, Jenny Lindor, and Jacqueline Dargout. The church members welcomed these new believers into the family of God and the worldwide church of Seventh day Adventists.

—Marie Adeline Lindor, communication director Capernaum church



## Portuguese Churches Conduct Evangelistic Meetings

The Portuguese-speaking churches in the Northeastern Conference launched several evangelistic meetings during the month of April. The series began with the Somerville Portuguese Seventh-day Adventist Church in Everett, Massachusetts, on April 2, where the Maranatha Choir presented the Cantata “Maior Amor” (“The Greatest Love”) followed by a week of evangelistic meetings. At the end of the meetings three people were baptized.

Then, at the Brockton Portuguese Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brockton, Massachusetts,

on April 16 the Maranatha Choir presented an Easter concert with the Cantata “The Greatest Love” for an audience of about 450 people, most of them visitors from a spectrum of cultural, religious, and language backgrounds. At the end of the program people were visibly touched. The event was also followed by a week of evangelism, conducted by Marcos Seifert, the church’s pastor. At the culmination of the meetings, five people were baptized and



The Maranatha Choir presented the Cantata “Maior Amor” (“The Greatest Love”) followed by a week of evangelism in Taunton Massachusetts.

many others answered the call to baptized in the future.

On April 30, the same cantata was presented in Taunton, Massachusetts, and the end result was as rewarding as it was in Somerville

and in Brockton. Church members are meeting with the visitors who attended the events and several of them are receiving Bible studies.

—Henrique Barbosa, communication director, Brockton Portuguese church

## Lawrence Adventists React to Saturday School

After a Wednesday night church service in early March, Laura Mariñez, a single parent, showed me a letter she received from her children’s school in Lawrence, Massachusetts. It read: “This Saturday (March 12) begins our fulfillment toward making up the two weeks of school time lost in October 2010. . . . We will be in school on the following Saturdays: March 13, 19, and 26, April 2 and 9, and May 7 and 14. . . . Absences will count the same as they do on regular school days. . . . We know that bringing your child to school on Saturdays may be challenging. . . . See you on Saturday!”

Seven Saturday school sessions were arranged to complete 10 school days required by the state to make up the time lost last October when mold was found at the elementary and middle school. Lawrence Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church member, Mariñez, says, “It was inconceivable the idea

of sending my children to school on Sabbath!”

Lawrence Public Schools superintendent, Mary Lou Bergeron, explained that they are “required to make up the

day of the week that they can spend time with their children is on Sabbath at church. Sabbath is our family day.”

As the PARL director for my church, I indicated that Adventist students shouldn’t have to attend school on Sabbath against their conscience.

In response to the concerns presented by members of the Lawrence Hispanic church, Bergeron

no parents brought up an option of Sundays.”

School committee vice chairperson, Samuel Reyes, pointed out: “We worked very hard not to have Saturday school. It was a final decision by the commissioner.” Reyes added, “Most parents also rejected having classes on Saturdays.” Following the school committee meeting, I presented Bergeron with a copy of Martin Doblemeier’s *The Adventists* documentary film.

Thanks to efforts of Mariñez, five students from the Lawrence Hispanic church and four students from the Methuen Hispanic church were excused from attending school on the Sabbath and were able to use the packets to make up the work needed to complete the school year. In addition, Francisco, his wife, Dolores, and I also discussed the Sabbath and religious freedom on a regional radio talk show.

—Nelson Rojas, PARL director, Lawrence Hispanic church



José Manuel Calderon, Jr.

**Pictured, following the school committee hearing, are, from left, Nelson Rojas, Lawrence Hispanic church PARL director; Mayor William Lantigua, City of Lawrence; Mary Lou Bergeron, Lawrence Public Schools superintendent; and Francisco Lendor, pastor of the Lawrence Hispanic church.**

10 days as days and not as additional hours added to the end of existing school days.”

The Lawrence Hispanic church pastor, Francisco Lendor, and I, advocated on behalf of the students and parents before the school committee. Lendor said, “Many of our parents work on Sundays, and the only

indicated that, “Adventist parents can request packets of work that their children can complete to equal the work completed during the Saturday sessions.” She went on to explain that the school committee met with more than 600 parents in October. “Through the discussion, Saturdays were raised, but



## Baptisms



Mary Rhoades was baptized at the Lincoln church by Frank Donald, the church's pastor.

### Lincoln Church

Mary Rhoades was baptized at the Lincoln Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lincoln, Maine, by Darrel Muehlhauser, the church's pastor. Rhoades' mother, Barbara Rhoades, and her aunt, Nina Rhoades, were among the many members who welcomed her into the church family.

—Janice Heath, communication secretary, Lincoln church



From left are Louise Pierce; Frank Donald, the Harrison church pastor; Ethel Hutchinson; and James Dickens.

### Harrison Church

Three people were baptized at the Harrison Seventh-day Adventist Church in Harrison, Maine. James Dickens was rebaptized after 28 years away from the church. Louise Pierce and Ethel Hutchinson were also baptized by Frank Donald, the church's pastor.

—Imelda Arris, communication correspondent

## Camden Church Ordains Elder



Peter Robinson was recently ordained as an elder at the Camden Seventh-day Adventist Church in Camden, Maine. Mike Ortel, Northern New England Conference president, presented the worship service message. His message on grace served as an encouragement to the congregation.

Robinson has been a valuable resource in disaster relief for the Northern New England Conference. He is actively involved in Adventist Community Services. He, along with his wife, Harriett, has spent years in the van ministry program, not only in the Northern New England Conference, but in other conferences, as well.

—Lanita Medina, communication correspondent, Camden church

## Friends Reunited for Eternity

Gerry Garland and Bob Farley were rarely separated. When they were younger, they lived on the same county road, traveled on the same school bus, and spent a lot of their free time together.

Farley attended the church school and Garland attended public school. In their late teens, they went their separate ways but still kept in touch. Then their families and careers kept them busy. Soon, however, Garland and his wife, Sandra, returned to Norridgewock, Maine, and Farley and his wife, Cheri, were back, as well! One can only imagine the catching-up they did!

In 2008, three couples started giving Bible studies on Friday evenings at the farm where Garland and his family once played. Several of his siblings and relatives later joined, and some began attending the Adventist Church. In fact, they filled the front pew! When a new teaching was presented, their response was, "Hey, I can do that."

When the fall of 2010 came, the Garlands stepped into the baptismal tank with Pastor Farley. The "two buddies" were reunited once again.

—Bette Luther, communication correspondent, Norridgewock church



## God-size Solutions

Our God is an amazing God. He asked the disciples to feed more than 5,000 people with seemingly no available food. He parted the Red Sea at the perfect moment to save His kids. He told a virgin she would have a son. He reduced an army and won the battle. Sometimes He says, “Stand still.” Sometimes He says, “Go fight.” Sometimes He says, “Sing.” Other times He says, “Break a flask.” Go figure—who can understand our creative God? Not me.

I cannot understand, but I am growing in my trust to believe His Word and trust His ways. I am learning that He loves me even in an incredible, lopsided relationship. He wants to be involved in every aspect of my life—the good, the rotten, the fun, the pain, the abundant life, and the devil’s devastation. Through it all, He wants to be my God!

That is not really easy for me to accept. I grew up with the philosophy that “if you want something done, do it yourself—especially if you want it done right!”

“Pull yourself up by your own bootstraps.”

I don’t hear that same slant from my Savior. He says to me, “You have a problem, I am here to help.” “You made a mess, I

car didn’t start. There was no way the jumper cables would reach from Mike’s car to mine. Mike, not too proud to ask for help in time of need, called our handyman neighbor, who

given me peace” position gives confidence to his concerned wife and family.

Like money for budgets, healing from radiation, peace in the conflicts, our God has God-size solutions suited for every situation. They are amazingly perfect, specific, and relevant.

Do you hear God inviting you to join Him for the solutions you need? He’s got what you need. Ask. Seek. Accept.

His unique and creative ways are far better than our ways. Seek His solutions.

—Lynn Ortel, communication director, Northern New England Conference

“When we really believe that God loves us and means to do us good, we shall cease to worry about the future”—THOUGHTS FROM THE

MOUNT OF BLESSINGS, p. 101.

will help you clean it up.” “Would you let Me help you?” “Will you let Me love you like you have never experienced before?”

“When we really believe that God loves us and means to do us good, we shall cease to worry about the future”—THOUGHTS FROM THE MOUNT OF BLESSINGS, p. 101. That is a keeper!

I am growing in my Christian journey. I am coming to believe that our Sovereign, grace-filled God is so in love with His kids (that’s me and you!) that whatever happens to us is important to Him.

Like the morning my

just happened to still be in the neighborhood.

Like my friend Winnie, whose husband is having surgery. His “no matter what happens, God has

### SAVE THE DATE!

Homecoming  
West Lebanon Seventh-day Adventist Church

July 15–17, 2011

A celebration of our history in West Lebanon, N.H. and our future in Plainfield, N.H.

See you there!

The event is listed on Facebook

### Washington Seventh-day Adventist Church Main Street, Washington, New Hampshire

Annual Meeting  
August 20, 2011

Guest Speaker



James Nix  
Director  
Ellen G. White Estate

#### Schedule

Pre-Sabbath School Music Program	9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:30 a.m.
Picnic Potluck	1:00 p.m.
Afternoon Meeting	2:30 p.m.



## Students Donate Time to People of Peru Project

Logan airport was ablaze with color as 45 wrinkled, grubby, students and adults in red T-shirts deplaned on March 22. Tired and suntanned, they enthusiastically trooped out into the snow to meet the South Lancaster Academy (SLA) bus and head home! Home has many new meanings for these mission students! Long warm showers, water to drink from the tap, home cooking, and comfortable beds were first on the “To Do” list for these travelers.

The SLA mission team spent spring break in Iquitos, Peru. It was hot and humid, similar to August days in Massachusetts. The People of Peru Project ([www.peopleofperu.org](http://www.peopleofperu.org)) hosted SLA for this mission opportunity. Our assignments were to prime and paint rooms and metal work; re-sod and line the clay dirt soccer field; and scrape, sand, and varnish the exterior orange bricks at POPPY’S House. POPPY’S House (People of Peru Project Youth Services Home) is an orphanage for victimized teen girls and their babies. These girls are cared for and sponsored through school. An SLA group of six were assigned to drilling three 40-foot wells through clay and sand, using a manual auger, to provide water in the local area.

The evening meeting for children and afterward, the adults, was the delight of the day! The simple programs, including singing, crafts, nature, and health information, drew the children. The first program at Union Church, a brick walled church, with a tin roof, and no finished windows or doors, was presented to 80 children, ages 2 to 10. By the



Paul Opp

▲ Students and sponsors from South Lancaster Academy spent spring break in Iquitos, Peru, completing projects with the organizers of the People of Peru Project.

► South Lancaster Academy students Victor Fernandez, left, a senior, and Demetri Kirchberg, a freshman, are varnishing a brick wall.

last meeting of the week there were 280 children singing, “Allelu, Alleluia, Praise Ye the Lord,” listening to stories, and participating in the crafts. Adult evangelistic meetings followed the children’s meetings. SLA students shared life-changing stories as they preached at each meeting.

The first Sabbath we were invited to provide a program for a government-owned and operated home where troubled teenagers have been placed. Several 13 to 15 year-old girls brought their babies to the program. The director of the home was so pleased with the program that he invited the group back for a second program the following Sabbath.

The group traveled the Amazon River via open boat for four to five hours to spend the night in a 60’ x 60’ round house (on 12-foot stilts) in pitched tents. The air was still, humid, hot, and filled with mosquitoes. The students developed a quick appreciation for toilets with sewage systems, running water, and air con-

ditioning. The property they visited was donated by the village across the river in appreciation for the People of Peru organization providing medical clinics and support. SLA played

a rousing soccer game with the village kids (who won by a landslide!), met a rescued three-toed sloth, visited a village home kitchen complete with caiman, any of several species of Central and South American reptiles that are related to alligators, prehistoric fish, and banana leaf packets roasting over the flames. One villager treated the group to refresh- ing, sweet, sugarcane.

One evening the team was taken to Iquitos and each was given one red ticket. Each



Roger Henderson

team member was to find one street person to bring to a street café for a meal. What happens when more than one child latches on to you? How do you choose who gets a meal? It was a heartrending experience!

Indications are that everyone who went on the trip received a huge blessing in giving of themselves. We hope that God will multiply our efforts in blessing the people of Peru!

—Jaime Daum, co-sponsor, South Lancaster Academy Mission to Peru



## Southern New England Conference Children's Ministries Hosts First Choir Fest

The Southern New England Conference Children's Ministries Department hosted its first Choir Fest on March 27 at the Providence Bible Institute in Providence, Rhode Island. The event showcased about 150 children from the Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts districts, representing children's choirs from five churches and the two elementary schools.

Filled with abundant energy and excitement, the

children marched down the aisles of the auditorium to the words of the African freedom song, "We Are Marching in the Light of God."

Representatives from the Southern New England Conference office who participated in the program included Gloris Shaw, volunteer children's ministries director; Frank Tochtermann, conference president, and his wife, Sally; and Juan Borges, conference executive secretary, and his wife, Betty. Also participating



The Seekonk Children's Choir is one of the groups that participated in the Choir Fest.

on the program was Israel Mercedes, pastor of the Providence Bible Institute, who shared greetings.

Maria Saillant, a past teacher at the Rhode Island school (originally the Lincoln school), served as the mistress of ceremonies for the program. She guided the audience through a combination of songs, instrumental items, and sign language renditions.

and as they sang, a video presentation of scenes from the second coming of Christ, created by Rosich, reminded all present of this glorious event soon to take place. This is the theme we desire to have our children reflect on daily.

The team of organizers, Jinny Rosich, Consuelo Rojas, and I, along with all the choir directors and teachers from the Cedar

### Hudson Church Says Farewell to David Dennis



David Dennis served the Hudson church as pastor for eight years before his transfer to another district.

Members of the Hudson Seventh-day Adventist Church in Hudson, Massachusetts, said farewell to their pastor, David Dennis, on March 26.

For the past eight years, Dennis and his associate, Robert Sierra, pastored two churches—the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, and the Hudson church. As a result of recent district realignments, Dennis will no longer have the responsibilities of the Hudson congregation. He will continue as the Village church pastor.

In his farewell sermon, Dennis recapped his years of ministry at the Hudson church, which increased in membership during his leadership. Sierra will continue as the church's pastor. The members of the Hudson church praise God for Dennis, who contributed so much to the work at their church.

—Bob LaForest, member, Hudson church

### The event showcased about 150 children from the Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts districts.

Highlights of the evening included the two songs by a mass choir comprised of children from Portuguese, Hispanic, African, Cape Verdean, Caribbean, and English families. They sang with gusto and enthusiasm the opening song, "Agnus Dei," and the closing rendition, "These Are the Days of Elijah," conducted by Jinny Rosich, the director for the Seekonk/Fall River choir.

Before the benediction, the audience was invited to join the mass choir in a repeat performance of the final song. The voices of children, parents, and visitors all joined in harmony,

Brook and Rhode Island schools, are grateful to the 500-plus supporters of this event for our children. They made a strong statement that they care about the children.

Plans are being developed to have one more district Choir Fest this year. The information will soon be released. Choir Fests in the remaining two districts are planned for next year. Congratulations to the Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts churches for setting the pace!

—Gloris Shaw, Children's Ministries volunteer director, Southern New England Conference



## Atlantic Union Children's Ministries Hosts Certification Workshop

About 80 people attended the Children's Ministries Track IV Certification Workshop on March 25-26. The event, sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference Children's Ministries Department and held at the union office in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, was filled to capacity. In addition to the presenters from the Atlantic Union Conference Children's Ministries Department, there were a number of guest presenters, including Phyllis Washington, North American Division Children's Ministries director, and the following conference Children's Ministries directors: Frederica Tucker, Bermuda; Barbara Hyde, Greater New York; Cecelia Hess, New York; Pollyanna Barnes, Northeastern; and Gloris Shaw, Southern New England.

"Families are bombarded with issues that are affecting their children. Bullying, sexting, children viewing pornographic material, and literature that focuses on spiritualism are major concerns of the Children's Ministries department," said Washington, whose presentation dealt with current issues impacting children today. Other topics covered by the presenters included "Organizing and Leading a Ministry for Children," "Diversity in Children's Ministries," "Communication and Committee Skills for Leaders," "Safety Issues for Children's Leaders," "Prayer

and the Christian Leader," and "Choosing and Leading Service Projects."

The certification workshop was the fourth in a

series of events geared to training children's ministries leaders around the conference territory.

—Ednor A. P. Davison, GLEANER editor

Photos: Ednor A. P. Davison



▲ The Children's Ministries Track IV Certification Workshop, sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference Children's Ministries Department, was filled to capacity. The photo shows several groups in discussion.

◀ Phyllis Washington, North American Division Children's Ministries director, presented current issues impacting children today.

## Laborers Together

The Atlantic Union Conference Pastors and Teachers Convention took place about two years ago. However, results from the initiatives established during that convention continue to make an impact. Around the Atlantic Union pastors play an integral role in schools—conducting worships and Weeks of Prayer, offering counseling when tragedy strikes a student body, nurturing students as they prepare for evangelistic meetings, supporting faculty and staff, and teaching Bible. Educators and students lend support to church programs by teaching Sabbath School classes, conducting prayer meetings, handing out fliers announcing evan-



Educators, ministerial directors, and their spouses get the materials ready to paint the walls and railings outside of the Bermuda Institute.

gelistic meetings, hosting pastors at prepared breakfasts, and conducting pastor appreciation assemblies.

When preparing for the convention, the conference ministerial directors met with the union education advisory each spring. That tradition contin-

ues, even after the convention. When the group meets, they discuss ways to tighten the bonds as they work together to save God's children.

One feature of this meeting is that a joint mission project is always sponsored in a designated school. This spring the ministerial directors, shepherdesses, and educators collaborated to beautify and touch up various parts of Bermuda Institute. They served the school by planting flowerbeds, painting railings and walls, and repairing benches. As each

faithfully executed his or her assigned task, I imagined God looking down and saying, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

—Astrid Thomassian, education and children's ministries director, Atlantic Union Conference





# Quoi de Neuf?

## A Travers l'Eglise Mondiale

### En Côte d'Ivoire, l'Église Adventiste poursuit son œuvre

**L**es employés de la Division de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre de l'Église Adventiste du Septième Jour sont de retour au travail après des semaines d'agitation politique nationale accompagnée d'une violence post-électorale.

Le 14 avril, lorsque les employés sont entrés dans les bureaux, ils ont

Mais ailleurs dans le pays, les membres de l'Église et de la communauté n'ont pas été aussi chanceux. Reuters a rapporté que durant les affrontements, plus de 1,500 personnes ont trouvé la mort et un million de personnes auraient fui la ville côtière d'Abidjan.

Un membre de l'Église adventiste a été tué dans la ville de Duékoué, à l'ouest

administrative du Département des Publications de la Division qui est restée au siège au plus fort des conflits.

Dans de nombreux endroits du pays, le service religieux s'est développé dans des petits groupes. Les membres d'Église étant réticents à s'aventurer dans les villes, ils sont nombreux à s'être regroupés chez des voisins pour le culte du sabbat. Kably Clotaire, membre de l'Église adventiste de Cocody, a pu partager le culte avec ses voisins d'autres religions.

En mars, quarante membres des familles des responsables de la Division ont été temporairement relogés dans le pays voisin du Ghana. Depuis l'élection du mois de novembre, les responsables de l'Église surveillaient la situation. Au mois de janvier, deux familles de missionnaires et plusieurs familles locales de la Division ont été relogées pendant dix-sept jours.

La Côte d'Ivoire compte presque 12,000 adventistes. La Division de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre font partie des treize Divisions mondiales de la dénomination et servent vingt-deux pays.

*Source: Adventist News Network*

*English translation available at: [news.adventist.org/2011/04/-employees-of-the-sc.html](http://news.adventist.org/2011/04/-employees-of-the-sc.html)*

### En mars, quarante membres des familles des responsables de la Division ont été temporairement relogés dans le pays voisin du Ghana.

trouvé des impacts de balle sur les fenêtres. Heureusement, le reste du bâtiment était intact.

Pendant le plus fort du conflit entre les forces du président entrant Alassane Ouattara et celles du titulaire sortant Laurent Gbagbo, un noyau d'employés était resté dans les locaux. Le 11 avril, c'est à son domicile qui se trouve à quelques centaines de mètres des bureaux de la Division que L. Gbagbo a été arrêté.

du pays, où 800 personnes ont trouvé la mort durant les affrontements du mois de mars, a également rapporté Reuters.

D'après Benjamin Gonkanou, président de l'Église Adventiste en Côte d'Ivoire, deux Églises adventistes ont été détruites, une dans le district d'Abobo à Abidjan et une à Duékoué.

"Nous avons été apaisés par les prières et mots de réconfort de nos frères et sœurs dans le monde entier" a dit Agnes Weeh, assistante

### Le film documentaire *Les Adventistes* remporte un prix pour le film télévisé

**L**e film documentaire *Les Adventistes* a remporté un Prix Gabriel comme étant film nationalement remarquable de cette année, publié et télévisé sur la religion.

Le prix Gabriel, établi en 1965, est considéré comme l'un des prix de médias les plus élevés de l'Amérique du Nord "centré sur les valeurs perçues par la société et l'humanité."

"Nous avons publié le film aux

[Stations de Radio Diffusion Publique] au printemps dernier, à un moment où notre pays a été profondément impliqué dans le débat sur les soins de santé comme une alternative à l'attention des médias sur la santé et l'économie," a déclaré Martin M. Doblmeier, producteur des Adventistes.

"L'histoire offre une façon de parler de soins de santé en matière de foi—que les soins de santé pourrait être

'un travail sacré,' que prendre soin du corps, c'est prendre soin du 'temple de Dieu' et que beaucoup de gens sont d'accord avec cet ordre d'idées," a dit M. Doblmeier.

Les prix Gabriel sont parrainés par les professionnels de l'Académie Catholique des Arts de la Communication.

*Source: Adventist News Network*

*English translation available at: [news.adventist.org/2011/05/documentary-film-the.html](http://news.adventist.org/2011/05/documentary-film-the.html)*



# ¿Qué Está Pasando?

## En la Iglesia Mundial

### Cuba: Se dedica la primera iglesia en el campus del seminario

**L**a semana pasada, Maranatha Volunteers International dedicó la primera iglesia en el campus del Seminario Adventista de Cuba en La Habana, en una ceremonia que puso fin a un largo proceso de obtención de los permisos de construcción y de recolección de fondos.

La organización sin fines de lucro, un ministerio de apoyo de la Iglesia Adventista, construyó el seminario allí hace diez años. Maranatha colocó la piedra fundamental del nuevo templo hace tres años.

El Seminario de La Habana, que ha graduado a la mayoría de los pastores que trabajan en las 294 iglesias del país, trabaja activamente por la comunidad circundante, dijeron los directivos del seminario. Los estudiantes han visitado cada casa de sus vecindarios, y han dado estudios bíblicos e invitado a la gente a que asista al nuevo templo.

“Un templo adventista en Cuba puede tener un tremendo impacto,” dijo Don Noble, presidente de Maranatha, en la dedicación del 26 de marzo. “La vida a menudo presenta grandes desafíos para la gente, que recibe esperanza e inspiración al ver que la iglesia se preocupa por ellos y les ha provisto de un lugar de adoración donde pueden testificar a sus vecinos y amigos.”

Caridad Diego, ministra de religión de Cuba, dijo a los presentes que el nuevo templo es “un ejemplo patente” de las crecientes libertades religiosas en el país.

“La presencia de la Iglesia Adventista ha sido una bendición para nuestras comunidades,” dijo Diego. “Este edificio y este seminario son una contribución para la sociedad.”

presidente de la Iglesia Adventista en Interamérica. “Muchos de nuestros ex líderes fueron educados allí. Ahora que tenemos la iglesia, este será otra vez un centro de estudios teológicos.”

En 1994, había poco más de 13,000 adventistas en Cuba. En el presente, los adventistas ya suman más de 31,000 en el país.

**Durante los días de semana, los estudiantes usarán el lugar para estudiar y practicar homilética, y los miembros de la comunidad se reunirán para encuentros de grupos pequeños.**

Durante los días de semana, los estudiantes usarán el lugar para estudiar y practicar homilética, y los miembros de la comunidad se reunirán para encuentros de grupos pequeños. La Iglesia Adventista de Cuba también usará el lugar para encuentros de entrenamiento y reuniones, dijeron los líderes.

El edificio tiene una capacidad de 336 lugares.

“Gente de toda Interamérica estudió teología en Cuba,” dijo Israel Leito,

“La vitalidad de la gente, el entusiasmo, la felicidad, es por cierto algo contagioso,” dijo Ted N. C. Wilson, presidente de la Iglesia Adventista mundial y orador destacado durante la dedicación. Wilson dijo que la obra de Maranatha ha sido “esencial” no solo en este caso, sino en muchos otros en diversos lugares de Cuba y del mundo.

Source: *Adventist News Network*

English translation available at: [news.adventist.org/2011/04/m-cuba-adventists-d.html](http://news.adventist.org/2011/04/m-cuba-adventists-d.html).

### El Documental *Los Adventistas* recibe premio por película televisiva

**L**a película documental *Los Adventistas* ganó el Premio Gabriel por ser la película televisiva de religión más sobresaliente al nivel nacional.

El Premio Gabriel, establecido en 1965, es considerado en Norteamérica como uno de los principales premios en los medios para los valores sociales y humanitarios.

“Dimos a conocer la película a

[Estaciones de difusión públicas] estaciones la primavera pasada, en un momento cuando nuestro país se vio envuelto profundamente en el debate sobre la salud como una alternativa al enfoque de los medios sobre la salud y la economía,” dijo Martin Doblmeier, productor de *Los Adventistas*.

“La historia ofrece una manera de hablar sobre el cuidado de la salud en términos de la fe—Que el cuidado de

la Salud podría ser una ‘obra sagrada,’ Que al cuidar del cuerpo es cuidar del “templo de Dios” mucha gente resonó con esas ideas,” dijo Doblmeier.

Los Premios Gabriel son patrocinados por la Academia Católica de Profesionales en Comunicación y Arte.

Source: *Adventist News Network*

English translation available at: <http://news.adventist.org/2011/05/documentary-film-the.html>.



# Seventh-day Adventist Call to Commitment to Health and Healing

In order to increase awareness of the views of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on various subjects, the Atlantic Union GLEANER will publish monthly one of the position statements or guidelines voted by church leadership since 1980. These official statements were issued by the General Conference in session, the General Conference Executive Committee, the General Conference Administrative Committee, or the office of the General Conference president.

As the church continues to grow and make an influence, its role in the society will require that its views and what it holds true become known. Such will continue to be the demands of the society, and such will be the need to define Adventism's relevance, or present truth, to those who are asking questions and seeking answers to their dilemmas and problems.

The documents presented here are not an end in themselves, but a reflection of a movement sensitive to its calling and the people who "know how to answer everyone" (Colossians 4:6, NIV).

**T**he Seventh-day Adventist Church affirms the commitment and objectives of its health ministry, aiming to achieve the well-being of its members and the communities it serves, and improving global health.\*

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists reiterates its commitment to the principles of human dignity and equity, social justice, freedom, self-determination, access to clean food and water, and non-discriminatory universal access to available health care. Through its ministry of preaching, teaching, healing, and discipling the church seeks to represent the mission of Jesus Christ in such a way as to be:

1. Regarded globally as teaching a wholistic model of evidence-based healthful living in primary health care.
2. Seen at all times as a trusted, transparent ally of organizations with compatible goals and vision, in alleviating suffering and addressing basic health and well-being.
3. Recognized for the unconditional scope of its embrace of all persons seeking this basic health and well-being.

4. Involved not only administratively but also functionally at every level, including each congregation and church member in this ministry of health and healing. ①

\* This statement follows the deliberations and recommendations of the Global Conference on Health and Lifestyle held in Geneva July 2009 in collaboration with the World Health Organization, and calls for cooperation with similar credible bodies aiming to improve global health.

This document was voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee at the Annual Council Session in Silver Spring, Maryland on October 14, 2009.

## Resources

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

## Web sites

Official Statements voted since 1980: [www.adventist.org/beliefs/statements/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/statements/index.html)

Guidelines: [www.adventist.org/beliefs/guidelines/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/guidelines/index.html)

Fundamental Beliefs: [www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html)

Church Manual: [www.adventist.org/beliefs/church\\_manual/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/church_manual/index.html)

Other Documents: [www.adventist.org/beliefs/other\\_documents/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/other_documents/index.html)

## Books

Available online at AdventSource ([www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org)) or your local Adventist Book Center (ABC) ([www.adventistbookcenter.com](http://www.adventistbookcenter.com))

STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

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## Sunset Table

July 2011	1	8	15	22	29
Bangor, ME	8:24	8:22	8:17	8:11	8:03
Portland, ME	8:26	8:23	8:19	8:13	8:06
Boston, MA	8:24	8:22	8:18	8:13	8:06
South Lancaster, MA	8:27	8:25	8:21	8:16	8:09
Pittsfield, MA	8:33	8:31	8:27	8:22	8:15
Hartford, CT	8:29	8:27	8:23	8:18	8:11
New York, NY	8:30	8:29	8:25	8:20	8:13
Albany, NY	8:34	8:32	8:28	8:23	8:16
Utica, NY	8:44	8:41	8:37	8:32	8:24
Syracuse, NY	8:47	8:45	8:41	8:35	8:28
Rochester, NY	8:53	8:51	8:47	8:41	8:34
Buffalo, NY	8:57	8:55	8:51	8:45	8:38
Hamilton, Bda	8:28	8:27	8:25	8:21	8:16

Eastern Daylight Savings Time

## OUT-OF-UNION

### Grand Ledge Academy First Years Reunion—

We are looking for all charter students, alumni, and faculty from 1959 to 1964 of Grand Ledge Academy, Grand Ledge, Mich. Plans are underway for a reunion on Aug. 5-7 at Elysian Fields Hunting Preserve near Bellevue, Mich. To be kept informed of plans as they develop send an e-mail to claudiabahnmler@gmail.com with contact information, or call Claudia at (360) 793-1883. Join the Facebook group "Grand Ledge Academy - First Years."

**The Burlington Seventh-day Adventist Church in Burlington, N.J.**, is celebrating its 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Jul. 16. We would like

to connect with descendants of early members of this congregation, such as Harry Adams, Howard L. and Vera Shull, John C. and Elsie Shull, Helen Dambrowski-Smith, William and Sarah Long, Warren and Vesta Adams, and more. We need pictures of the early activities of the church, pictures of the members, and anecdotes. Contact, Pastor Daniel A. Duffis, damardvffis@hotmail.com, or phone (908) 914-2787.

**The Elgin Seventh-day Adventist Church in Texas will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Jul. 8-10.** The weekend includes guest speakers, "Walk Down Memory Lane" and slides, and other special events. All former pastors, teachers, members, and friends are cordially invited. Bring old photos. For information contact Betty Hold at (512) 281-3268 or e-mail earhold@msn.com.

## 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 June 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 June 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 June 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 June 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 June properly come before the meeting.

Delegates to the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are delegates to the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

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

## CLASSIFIEDS

All advertisements should be sent, together with payment, to your local conference office for approval by the communication director. For advertisements originating within the Atlantic Union the rate is \$35 for each insertion of forty words or less, and 50 cents for each additional word. For all other advertisements the rate is \$40 for each insertion of 40 words or less and 50 cents for each word over the 40. There is an 80-word maximum. Check or money order should be made payable to Atlantic Union GLEANER or Atlantic Union Conference.

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.

Classified and display ads appearing in the Atlantic Union GLEANER are printed without endorsement or recommendation of the Atlantic Union Conference. The Atlantic Union GLEANER makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertisements, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns or for typographical or categorical errors.

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**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** has an opportunity for a Special Education Program coordinator in our Educational and Counseling Psychology department. Core functions of this faculty position will include curriculum development, program evaluation, and recruiting students. Candidate must have an earned doctorate in Special Education or Educational Psychology (or have ABD status). For more information on this

position, and to apply, please visit: [www.andrews.edu/HR/emp\\_jobs\\_faculty.cgi](http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi).

**LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** is seeking executive director. Education in writing, publishing, electronic media, and video production essential. Experience in managing, event planning, and relating to people a high priority. Send résumé to Search Committee at [cliffwalters@gmail.com](mailto:cliffwalters@gmail.com) or Search Committee, 11245 Anderson Street, Suite 200, Loma Linda, CA 92354.

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK** seeks M.S.W. faculty. Doctorate degree in Social Work and M.S.W. degree from a CSWE accredited institution required. Demonstrated clinical skills, technological abilities, leadership abilities, and effective teaching experience in higher education required. Must have strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, the teachings and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and be an Adventist church member in good and regular standing. Please submit a résumé and cover letter to Dr. René Drumm, Dean, [rdrumm@southern.edu](mailto:rdrumm@southern.edu).

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## SERVICES

### WILDWOOD WEIGHT MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

Intensive 14-day program focusing on health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. Jul.10-24. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Cost: \$740 (Includes room, vegan meals). Contact: Darlene Keith (931) 724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. Email: darlenekeith@gmail.com.

### WILDWOOD COUNTRY LIVING SEMINAR

Focusing on preparation and skills for Country Living, including Organic Gardening. Jun. 26-Jul.3. Morning and evening devotionals focus on Last Day Events. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat. Cost: \$279 (Includes room, materials, vegan meals). Contact: Darlene (931) 724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. Email: darlenekeith@gmail.com.

### ADVENTIST CHURCH SCHOOL

—Are you looking to move closer to a church with a church school? The school is located in Bourbon, Mo., with grades K-8. Beautiful countryside close to state parks. We invite you to go to the Web site: www.gatewaytochrist.com. E-mail: school@gatewaytochrist.com. Phone: (314) 562-3672.

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### SPONSOR A CHILD!

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**Greater New York:** G. Earl Knight, President; Gerson Santos, Secretary; Carlos Gonzalez, Treasurer. Office Address: 7 Shelter Rock Rd., Manhasset, NY 11030. (516) 627-9350. Web site: www.gnyc.org

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**Atlantic Union College:** Norman Wendth, President; 338 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561; (978) 368-2000. Web site: www.auc.edu

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**July 11-15, 2011**  
Age 10-16

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