

THE ATLANTIC UNION

AUGUST 2011

GLEANER



Evangelism, the Thrust for the Next Quinquennium

Quoi de Neuf?

Adventist Education

Youth Connections

¿Qué Está Pasando?

inside **AUGUST** 2011

FEATURES



Ednor A. P. Davison

At the 29th constituency session of the Atlantic Union Conference, delegates met to discuss the business of the church in the northeast.

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The Atlantic Union Conference held its 29th constituency session on June 12. Included in this issue are highlights of that event. Also in this issue are our regular features Adventist Education, Positions of Our Faith, and Youth Connections. On the cover are the individuals who were elected at the session. From left are José Cortés, youth ministries director; Trevor Forbes, associate treasurer; Pierre Omeler, Haitian and African ministries vice president; Carlyle Simmons, secretary; Donald King, president; Leon Thomassian, treasurer; Dionisio Olivo, Hispanic and Portuguese ministries vice president; Astrid Thomassian, education director; and Jerrell Gilkeson, associate education director. The cover photo was taken by Ednor A. P. Davison.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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October 2011	August 12
November 2011	September 9
December 2011	October 14

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Look At Us . . .

The story is shared in Acts 3 about an event involving Peter, John, and a certain lame man. About 3:00 p.m. one afternoon, Peter and John went up to the temple to pray. In Acts 3 it continues to say, that this lame man, from the time of his birth, daily requested financial gifts from those attending the temple. Upon seeing Peter and John, he not only requested assistance from them, it seems he anticipated a favorable response. Verse 4 says that the lame man fixed his eyes on Peter and John. Then Peter encouraged him by saying, “Look at us.” Then Peter said (verse 6), “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk” (NKJV).

We all know the results and the assistance that the lame man received that day. What a glorious gift! I believe it was worth more than silver or gold to this lame man. Verse 8 says, “So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God” (NKJV).

In many ways and forms, there are modern lame people, still requesting assistance. Within our homes, in our communities, and even in our work arenas, the question may not always be audible, but the needs are there for spiritual restoration, social connectedness, emotional healing, physical, and even

financial redress. People are looking at us, as Seventh-day Adventist Christians, as a church, and as individuals, to provide some type of response. What type of response are you providing? I would suggest that Peter’s response can be our response, if indeed we have been clothed in the garments of Christ’s righteousness. In that response, we can direct men and women to Jesus Christ and His commandments and to His way as the solution for their many needs. In our Bible study guide for last quarter we received graphic insights into what it means to be clothed in the garments of Christ’s righteousness.

In Romans 13:14 (NIV, 1984), the apostle Paul says, “Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature. E.G. White in MY LIFE TODAY, p. 348, writes, “All will be a happy, united family, clothed with the garments of praise and thanksgiving—the robes of Christ’s righteousness. . . . The world will be bathed in the light of heaven.”

May God help each of us to be a witness to the transforming grace of Jesus, through our personal living. ①

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



Within our homes, in our communities, and even in our work arenas, the question may not always be audible, but the needs are there for spiritual restoration, social connectedness, emotional healing, physical, and even financial redress.



Evangelism,

the Thrust for the Next Quinquennium

A report of the
29th Atlantic
Union Conference
Constituency
Session

The 29th constituency session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened on Sunday, June 12, in Machlan Auditorium on the campus of Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. Under the theme “We Shall Behold Him,” 433 delegates from the six conferences gathered to elect officers and committee members, and to receive reports on the work of the church in the Atlantic Union territory for the years 2006-2010.

José Rojas, director of the North American Division Office of Volunteer Ministries, presented the devotional message at the beginning of the session. Rojas encouraged the delegates, basing his message on the story of Gideon in Judges 6 and 7. “There are moments in history when we wonder where our church is going and what’s going to happen next, but make no mistake, God always intervenes,” said Rojas. “He knows how to take care of His church. Only God can deliver His



Pictured are the Atlantic Union Conference administrators who will serve for the next five years, along with their spouses, from left, Pierre Omeler, newly-elected Haitian and African ministries vice president; Marilyn Simmons; Carlyle Simmons, secretary; Lois King; Donald King, president; Astrid Thomassian; Leon Thomassian, treasurer; Maria Olivo; and Dionisio Olivo, Hispanic and Portuguese ministries vice president. Not pictured is Omeler's wife, Myra.

Ednor A. P. Davison



Philip Wesley II

Anthony Ashby, a member of the Cambridge church in Medford, Massachusetts, provided vocal and instrumental music for the morning devotional.

people. None of our strategies, none of our plans and positioning will do His work.” He encouraged the delegates to be included among those who believe and are not afraid to share the message. “It is time to do a holy thing and watch God work through us,” he said.

Administrators and departmental directors reelected to serve for the

next five years were Donald King, president; Carlyle Simmons, secretary; Leon Thomassian, treasurer; Dionisio Olivo, Hispanic and Portuguese ministries vice president; Trevor Forbes, associate treasurer; Astrid Thomassian, education director; and Jerrell Gilkeson, associate education director.

Two new individuals were elected to serve for the next quinquennium: Pierre Omeler will serve as the vice president for Haitian and African ministries, succeeding Louis Métellus. Omeler comes to the Atlantic Union from the Northeastern Conference, where he served as Haitian Ministries coordinator. He begins his new assignment on August 1. José Cortés will serve as the Youth Ministries director. He succeeds Bill Wood, who retired this year. Cortés comes to the Atlantic Union from the Greater New York Conference, where he served as the youth ministries director. He began his new assignment on July 1.



Philip Wesley II

José Rojas, director of the North American Division Office of Volunteer Ministries, presented the devotional message at the beginning of the session.

The newly-voted Atlantic Union Conference Executive Committee, at its first meeting, will consider the names of the individuals being recommended to serve in the other positions in the Atlantic Union, including Communication, Disabilities Ministries, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, and Women’s Ministries.

Outgoing Leaders Recognized

Atlantic Union president Donald G. King took time at the constituency session to reflect on the ministries of Louis Métellus and his wife, Dell, and Bill Wood and his wife, Janet. He expressed his thanks and appreciation to them for their years of dedicated service.



Louis Métellus

Louis Métellus served as the Haitian and African ministries vice president for five years. In addition, his other responsibilities included leadership in the prison ministries and Adventist Community Services departments. He handled difficult assignments in the area of community services disaster response, including the January 12, 2010, devastating earthquake in Haiti, over which he provided leadership, even while dealing with the effects of the earthquake on a personal level, since Haiti is his homeland; and the devastation from the tornadoes that touched down in western Massachusetts on June 1, just days before the constituency session was held.



Bill Wood

Bill Wood served as youth ministries director for 12 and a half years, beginning in January 1999. He served the conference youth leaders, the youth, young adults, Pathfinders, and Adventurers in the Atlantic Union. Wood was recognized by the conference youth directors and Pathfinders at the May camporee (see more on Wood in the July GLEANER, page 6).

The departmental directors and staff of the Atlantic Union have also been blessed by their presence and contributions as part of the office team. There is not doubt that wherever Louis Métellus and Bill Wood go from here, their ministry and witness will inspire others to look for a soon-coming Savior and King. They will be missed!



All agenda items were completed by the delegates, including electing members to serve on the executive committee, constitution and bylaws committee, and the association board. They also voted minor changes to the Atlantic Union Conference constitution and bylaws and association bylaws.

King expressed his thanks and appreciation to the representatives from the North American Division: Daniel Jackson, president, and his wife, Donna; G. Alexander Bryant, secretary; Tom Evans, treasurer; Alvin Kibble, vice president; and R. Ernest Castillo, vice president, who attended and provided assistance with the session.

The reelected and newly-elected administrators and departmental directors will, together, face the challenge of moving forward with the work in the Atlantic Union.

King announced plans for an evangelistic initiative in New York City in 2013, which will involve the General Conference, North American Division, Atlantic Union Conference and its six conferences working together, especially the two conferences in New York City—Greater New York and Northeastern. He asked the delegates to pray earnestly that God will pour out His Holy Spirit as the Atlantic Union engages in this campaign.

“While we do not know the future, we must plan for the future, even as we live every day for Jesus Christ,” says King. “Having just completed a five-year cycle in the Atlantic Union and beginning a new one, the next five years are an exciting opportunity to ‘shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light’—1 Peter 2:9. As such then, our number-one priority will continue to be evangelistic soul-winning efforts coupled with nurturing the faithful through extensive

Bible and devotional study guides and prayer ministries.

“It is our heartfelt prayer that every believer in the Atlantic Union will become passionately consumed with experiencing a reformation and revival of true godliness as we await the

soon coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.” ☉

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

Atlantic Union Conference Committee Members for 2011-2015

Executive Committee Members

Donald G. King, chairman
Carlyle Simmons, secretary
Javier Alcon
Larry Bailey
Trevor Baker
Maria Baretto
Carol Bassett
Juan Borges
Jeffery Brown
Manuel Cabral
Juan Canas
Bancroft Daughma
Seanna-Kaye Denham
Colette Dieujuste
Jason Dryden
Oswald Euell
Roberto Garcia
Sydney Gibbons
Linda Griffin
Cesar Johnson
Philippe Emmanuel Joseph
Jaik Koo
Ramana Lavas
Allen Martin
Noel McGregor
Gladstone McLean
Lillian Mitchell
Dionisio Olivo
Pierre Omeler
Mike Ortel
Nicole Robinson
Angel Rodriguez
Stan Rouse
Japhe Saint-Louis
Gerson Santos

Josh Schmeider
Arnold Schnell
Leon Thomassian
Frank Tochtermann
Renita Turner
Norman Wendth

Association Board

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Carlyle Simmons, secretary
Ebenezer Agboka
Lloyd Brown
Carlos Gonzalez
Pamela Greyson
Lester Primus
Rande Reynolds
Lloyd Scharffenberg
Leon Thomassian
Joel Tompkins Jr.
Florencio Zabala

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Carlyle Simmons, chairman
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Maxane Caines
David Duranmic
Charles Eusey
Sydney Gibbons
Daniel Honore
Betty Johnson
Pam McKinney
H Orette Mitchell
Claude Morgan
Angel Rodriguez
Peggy Schaufler
Arnold Schnell



By Sheila Holder and Colleen Birkett

Eight Sons and A Legacy of Excellence



The Williams family, from Left, Orlyn, Bernell, Delmont, Gwendolyn Elvin (grandmother), Bernella Williams (mother), Vashon, Shammah, Carlton, and Dantae. Not pictured is Nevin, who is doing his rotations at Howard University.

The words from Isaiah 54:13, “And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children,” must have been reverberating in the mind of Bernella Williams and her husband, the late Carlton Williams, as they enrolled their first son in kindergarten at Bermuda Institute. Little did they know that this was the beginning of a miraculous 30-year journey with Christian education.

Bernella Williams is the mother of eight sons. Each son has successfully graduated from Bermuda Institute over a 30-year period, and each son was an exemplary student. Theirs is a story that needs to be told, because it personifies the ideals of Christian education. Williams and her eight sons have demonstrated that true education elevates the mind, ennobles the character, and produces a standard of excellence that cannot be rivaled. The successes of the young men of the Williams family are a powerful testament of God’s intent for His children through the medium of Christian education.

A testament to a mother’s vision and a strong support system, all sons are productive citizens. Recognizing the power

of Christian education, each son chose to pursue his undergraduate studies in Adventist institutions, most of them at Oakwood College (now Oakwood University)—and that has made all the difference. Their excellence has permeated just about every facet of society.

Carlton, the eldest, is the inventory manager at one of Bermuda’s top telecommunications companies. On the verge of defending his doctoral dissertation at the University of Michigan is Bernell, the second son, whose major is in biomedical engineering. Third son, Orlyn, gifted with computers, pursued a major in computer information systems. The legacy of excellence continues with Nevin and Shammah, the fourth and sixth sons, respectively. They have both graduated from Loma Linda University with medical degrees. Nevin is doing his residency at Howard University in Washington, D. C., and Shammah, who recently graduated, began his residency with the University of Alabama in Birmingham in July. Dantae, who is the fifth son, completed a law degree at the University of Manchester in England. Delmont, son number seven and the only son who chose not to attend Oakwood University, has a degree in mathematics

from La Sierra University and teaches math at Bermuda Institute. Vashon, the eighth and last son, graduated in June, ending the 30-year journey at Bermuda Institute.

However, the high level of achievement continues with Vashon, who will major in physics and plans to attend Oakwood University in the fall. He was selected from among 100 applicants to receive a scholarship from an international company of \$25,000 per year for the next four years. Such an award is nothing new to the Williams family as they have always taken God at His word and experienced His abundant provisions in the form of scholarships and grants.

God is still showering the blessings of Christian education on this unique family. These blessings will have far-reaching effects in the fields of medicine, telecommunications, computers, education, engineering, law, and physics. All eight sons were taught of the Lord and great is their peace and the peace of their mother. ①

Sheila Holder is the superintendent of schools for the Bermuda Conference, and Colleen Birkett is a former teacher at Bermuda Institute, who taught at least two of the Williams’ sons.

The Future Is Now, and You Are Not Too Young (Part 1)

I vividly remember the first time I heard the phrase “Youth are the future of the church.” It happened during my Busy Bee Investiture in Esperanza, Cuba. I was five years old and the Cuban Union youth director told us that now we were part of “the future of the Adventist Movement.” I can also recall the last time I heard the phrase was in June in the Bronx while in one of our Atlantic Union churches. I wonder, have you ever heard anyone in your church say, “Our youth are the future of the church?”

This phrase is not contemporary, but goes back, even to Bible times. The Bible story of David and Saul, found in 1 Samuel 17, is a great example. Goliath had been terrorizing King Saul and his army for 40 days and no one had done anything about it. There was no end and perhaps no hope in sight; then young David showed up. His assignment was to bring some food to his older brothers who were mature enough to be part of Saul’s army. When young David saw Goliath and heard the insults he made toward God and God’s people, he decided that something needed to change. What had been happening for 40 days could not continue to happen. It seemed that business as usual had been an option for Saul and his army, but it was not an option for David. The biblical account in 1 Samuel 17:32,33 (NKJV) says that David said to Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.”

We can learn some awesome lessons from this Bible story:

1. Youth are not easily intimidated by giant challenges. Young people like to do rather difficult things. Super-easy tasks underestimate their abilities and tend to bore them. When youth and young adults are not the cause of the problem, they can



Nelson Colon

Young people at the May 2011 Atlantic Union Conference Courage to Shine Pathfinder Camporee.

be a part of the solution. Don’t take my word for it, just gather the youth and young adults of your church and present them with a big challenge and give them the freedom to solve it. Watch and see what happens.

2. Every adult is given the golden opportunity to empower a youth to greatness. I believe this opportunity was King Saul’s “golden moment” to go down in history as one of the greatest mentors ever. Saul could have said, “I am so glad you are young, willing, and ready to do what we have failed to accomplish, but with God’s help, perhaps you can do it.” Yet, when I read this verse, I see someone trying to put the lid on the endless potential of the already anointed king. Saul told David, “Goliath is very experienced, you are too young; maybe in the future.” King Saul will be remembered as the one who told David, “You are too young . . .”

To be continued in the October issue. ①



José Cortés is the director for the Youth Ministries, Pathfinder, and Adventurer departments in the Atlantic Union.

Connect with him on Facebook and Twitter at: <https://www.facebook.com/PastorJoseCortésJr>, <https://www.facebook.com/JoséCortésJr>, and <https://twitter.com/JoséCortésJr>.



Wendie Warren Receives National Award

Wendie Warren, an elementary teacher at Bermuda Institute in Southampton, Bermuda, is the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching award presented by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF). The award ceremony was held during the school's graduation at Bermuda Institute on June 19. Warren received a \$2,000 cash gift, a medallion, and a Certificate of Excellence. She is among 10 teachers selected in the spring by AAF to receive the award.

Warren, who is noted to be small of stature, but a giant of a teacher, encourages a high standard of teaching and learning. A walk into her classroom will reveal kindergartners performing well above average. Children are reading whole sentences, spelling advanced words, and even using times tables. Warren's classroom culture of inclusion, her advocacy for every type of learner, and part-

nership with parents, are just a few examples of how she fosters a positive learning community.

"Her students are constantly celebrating one another. One person's success is everybody's success," said Frigga Simmons, Bermuda Institute development director. "Her classroom is purpose-driven. Her students know that there are no limitations to what they can accomplish as God's children." Principal Lois Tucker says Warren is extremely versatile. "After 20 years of teaching experience, she can function almost anywhere and teach almost anything." Warren coaches the girls' netball team, led the completion of a reading resource area on campus, and makes it her personal passion to see that no student fails to graduate.

Award recipients are nominated by principals, superintendents, colleagues, and former students. The foundation



Lois Tucker, principal of Bermuda Institute, left, announces Wendie Warren as a 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award recipient. Warren received a medallion, a Certificate of Excellence, and a \$2,000 gift.

makes award selections on the basis of classroom innovation, community involvement, and leadership. AAF is a nonprofit organization that develops new ways to fund, advance, and sustain excellence in Seventh-day Adventist K-12 schools. Since its establishment in 1995, the organization has recognized 106 exceptional teachers with an Excellence in Teaching Award.

The Bermuda Institute, Bermuda Conference, parents, and students are blessed to have Wendie Warren, a dedicated and committed individual, in the Seventh-day Adventist education system.

—Sheila Holder, superintendent of schools and communication director, Bermuda Conference. Adapted from Alumni Awards Foundation press release.



Wendie Warren, an Alumni Awards Foundation 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award recipient, is congratulated by her colleagues at Bermuda Institute, along with Sheila Holder, superintendent of schools for the Bermuda Conference, back left, and Jeffrey Brown, Bermuda Conference president, right.

Bermuda

www.bermudaconference.org



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José Cortés, Jr., Departs Greater New York Conference

When Bill Wood stood at the podium in January 2011 during the Greater New York Conference Adventist Youth Evangelism and Leadership Congress and announced his retirement, the youth and young adults began asking, “Who will take the mantle at the Atlantic Union Conference?” About six months later, the lot has fallen on José

enjoyed his years of service, along with his wife, Joanne, who has been instrumental in the development of the GNYC youth department’s FYI (For Your Information) newsletter, as well as the youth department’s Web site. Their sons, José III and Joel, were born during their tenure at GNYC.

Cortés says, “It will be hard for our family to leave Greater New York, where

“Cortés thanks God for the unity among the various language groups in the youth department and for unifying all youth- and young adult-related ministries under the umbrella of Adventist Youth Ministries in Greater New York.”

Cortés, Jr., who, at the Atlantic Union Conference Constituency Session on June 12, was voted by delegates to serve as the union’s new youth director.

Cortés joined the Greater New York Conference (GNYC) in January 2003 and is in his eighth year as youth director. He no doubt has

we have received so much love and spent eight and a half of the best years of our lives.” Reflecting on those years, Cortés believes God has blessed his ministry. He thanks God for the unity among the various language groups in the youth department and for unifying all youth- and



During youth camp meeting at the dome, G. Earl Knight, left, Greater New York president, acknowledges José Cortés, center, for his many years of service in youth ministries in the conference while Teddy Williamson, volunteer assistant to the youth director, looks on.



The Greater New York Conference youth ministries has seen tremendous growth over the years. Included among that growth is the number of Master Guides invested.



José Cortés, Jr., and his wife, Joanne, joined the Greater New York Conference in January 2003. Their sons José III, left, and Joel, right, were born during their tenure there.

young adult-related ministries under the umbrella of Adventist Youth Ministries in Greater New York, as well as the growth that the youth department has seen. Here is just one highlight:

The Master Guide classes increased from three to 36 classes in different areas of youth ministries, organized through academies in each area of Greater New York: 10 Adventist Youth Leadership classes, one AYES Corps class, 14 Master Guide classes, two Adventurer Leadership Awards classes, one Adventurer Instructor Award class,

three Pathfinder Leadership Award classes, three Pathfinder Instructor Award classes, one Youth Media Ministry class, and one Volunteer Health Corps class.

Cortés no doubt has impacted the lives of the youth in Greater New York in a positive way and says he thanks God for the scores of youth and young adults who have accepted Jesus Christ over the years. He moves on to the Atlantic Union where he will serve a wider territory and do greater things for the Lord.

—Rohann Wellington, communication director, Greater New York Conference

Greater New York Academy Graduates from 1960s Reunite

Because Greater New York Academy (GNYA) was a wonderful part of their lives, a group of former students recently met in Sedona, Arizona, on Memorial Day weekend, at a joyful GNYA reunion. Most of the group who attended the reunion were graduates from the early 1960s. They brought husbands, wives, and friends.

Some had not seen each other in 45 years. Jerry Meyer, class of '61, and the members of the Sedona church hosted the event. Those who attended, from California to Massachusetts, say they felt welcomed, renewed in spirit, and renewed in their commitment to the Lord. The memory of attending Greater New York Academy, with its dedicated teachers who shaped them, will remain with them for the rest of their lives.

—Gabriele Cornelius Almasi, class of '63, Greater New York Academy



Several Greater New York Academy alumni from the 1960s reunited in Sedona, Arizona, on Memorial Day weekend.

PK Forum—A Ground-breaking Program for Pastors' Kids

Addressing the questions, thoughts, feelings, and concerns of pastors' kids was the purpose of the first-ever PK Forum, held at the Greater New York Conference office on Sunday, July 26. Hosted by Steve Cassimy, Greater New York Conference family ministries and ministerial director, the forum was created for Pks of all ages and was a novel ideal in the Greater New York Conference.

Pastors' kids, often called PKs, are quite different. They see it all firsthand. The majority of pastors' kids attend, for most of their formative years, the churches where their ministering parent pastors. The challenges of doing so differ as widely, as do the children and churches themselves. One constant, however, is that the majority of PKs face extraordinary pressure to be exemplary, regardless of whether those expectations are realistic, or even healthy. Many give up under the pressure, and a high number of PKs leave

the church. Sometimes they leave because of the pressure to be perfect, or the stress of knowing that their actions reflect upon their parents, while others leave the church because of what they perceive as hypocrisy on the part of people who call themselves Christians. On the other hand, PKs who do stay in the

PKs of almost every ethnic and age group attended the forum. The format allowed older and younger PKs to share experiences and lessons learned, so that all could benefit. G. Earl Knight, Greater New York Conference president, presented the opening devotion and shared experiences gained from rais-

gave a presentation from the perspective of being a pastor's son and a pastor. His insightful remarks provided tools to assist PKs in navigating challenges, and also addressed the reasons that so many PKs leave the church. Lavona Cassimy, a PK, led the reading and discussion of the article that spurred the most discussion, "Behind the Mask: From One PK to Another" by Julianna Preble. The article discussed the isolation and scrutiny experienced by the author as a PK, and her advice to other PKs.

The feedback from the program's attendees was positive. The overwhelming consensus was that every PK should be encouraged to attend future PK Forum meetings. During the lunch break, a male PK expressed his appreciation for the forum by suggesting that "the next PK Forum be made mandatory for all PKs."

—Donna Hay, PK participant

"The majority of PKs face extraordinary pressure to be exemplary, regardless of whether those expectations are realistic, or even healthy."

church often feel forced to regularly wear a "mask"—a face that smiles no matter what they feel or how deeply they are hurt by things said to and about their minister parent or their family. Still other PKs experience the perpetual absence of their minister parent, who is called upon to meet the needs of others, sometimes at the expense of those who need him or her first, or most.

ing his own two children. His powerful admonition to "be yourself"—while remembering that being yourself does not mean having to be unlike Christ—coupled with a handout he distributed entitled, "Ten Secrets to a Successful Life," marked an excellent beginning to the program. Rohann Wellington, Greater New York Conference communication director, also

New England Delegates Vote Go-ahead for College's Structural Partnership



Today's college leaders: Washington Adventist University president, Weymouth Spence, left, Atlantic Union College president Norman Wendth, and Atlantic Union Conference president and chair of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees, Donald King. Both Wendth and Spence are Atlantic Union College graduates.

Atlantic Union College (AUC) held its constituency session on June 13 in Machlan Auditorium on the campus in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. The business of this session included hearing reports, the election of board members for the next term, revising the articles of incorporation and the bylaws, and voting the endorsement of the plan for Washington Adventist University (WAU) in Takoma Park, Maryland, to create a branch campus in South Lancaster.

Included in his report, Norman Wendth, AUC president, shared that the financial management team ensured the college kept within its budget, several improvements have been made to campus facilities, the nursing program continued to have consistent improving pass rates and in some years a perfect pass rate on the NCLEX exam, and that several baptisms occurred on campus.

Wendth also informed the delegates of the decision of the New England

Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) to terminate AUC's accreditation effective July 31, 2011, because of financial reasons. The delegates were also informed that to ensure higher education continues to be available to students in the Northeast, discussion is ongoing with repre-

sentatives from WAU to establish a branch campus.

Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees, shared the chronology of events that led to the decision to create a structural partnership with WAU to establish a branch campus. He indicated that the entire process is subject to approval by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education (MBHE), Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), and the Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges (MSASC).

After discussion on the proposed plan, the delegates voted amendments to the bylaws to accommodate the plan; they voted to endorse the plan to allow WAU to create a branch campus; and they voted the proposed new members of the board of trustees, proposed new members of the constitution and bylaws committee, and proposed representatives of the Atlantic



Officers of the North American Division gave full support to Atlantic Union College and Washington Adventist University. From left are Tom Evans, NAD treasurer; G. Alexander Bryant, NAD secretary; Orley Anderson, delegate; and Daniel Jackson, NAD president. In the background are Ernan Norman, AUC theology professor; and Jackson's wife, Donna.

Photos: Lois King

Union Conference to membership on the WAU board of trustees.

The vice presidents of the college all presented reports, including Bordes Henry-Saturné, vice president for enrollment and retention, who shared enrollment trends for the past 10 years and indicated that after the restructuring in 2008, there has been a consistent increase in enrollment each semester, and the freshman retention rate also increased consistently. In addition, Lloyd Brown, vice

president for finance, outlined the steps taken to improve AUC's financial status and highlighted several accomplishments during this term. Brown also shared that in 2010 the college operated within a balanced budget and realized a small surplus.

Daniel Jackson, North American Division president, thanked the leadership of the Atlantic Union College and Atlantic Union Conference for what they have done for God and His church, and he specifically acknowl-

edged King and Wendth for what they have done in the past years and months to further Christian education at AUC.

"In the proceedings of the meeting, it was refreshing to witness that the delegates appointed to participate in the Atlantic Union College Constituency Session made a historic decision to partner with WAU, and also expressed strong support for Adventist higher education in the northeast," King said.

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

Washington Adventist University Proposed Branch Campus Update

AUC Students Invited to Enroll at WAU's Maryland Campus

Current and prospective students from Atlantic Union College (AUC) in South Lancaster, Massachusetts are being notified of a transition plan that will enable them to attend Washington Adventist University (WAU) at the Takoma Park, Maryland, campus for the fall 2011 semester.

After signing a memorandum of understanding and obtaining support from constituents of both the Atlantic Union Conference and Columbia Union Conference during the spring, leaders of the university have been working to secure approval from required federal, state, regional, and church accrediting agencies for the establishment of a branch campus in South Lancaster, Massachusetts.

As of this date, the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education is still processing the application and has not yet given its approval. As a result, the WAU campus will be unable to open in the fall in South Lancaster, but Atlantic Union College students will be able to attend Washington Adventist University at the Takoma Park campus.

Washington Adventist University will begin educational activities in

South Lancaster when the permission to operate in Massachusetts is granted by their Department of Higher Education.

"We're working through the process and are optimistic that we'll be able to operate soon after permission is granted by the commonwealth. Moving this process forward keeps our commitment to serve the educa-

tional needs of students in 15 states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast United States and the islands of Bermuda," said Weymouth Spence, Ed.D., president of WAU.

Norman Wendth, Ph.D., president of AUC, said, "Fortunately WAU has already been working with our students to provide a smooth transition to the Takoma Park campus."

Next Steps . . .

- AUC students who have already applied will receive information about the registration dates, financial aid, residence halls, and transferring credits shortly.
- Students who wish to continue their education without interruption, and have not yet applied to WAU, should go online to www.wau.edu or www.auc.edu and click on "Apply Online." Students may also call (800) 835-4212 or e-mail enroll@wau.edu for information.
- Watch for details and updates soon on the WAU Web site at www.wau.edu/WelcomeAUCstudents.
- Questions and media inquiries should be directed to William Jackson, vice president for marketing and recruiting at Washington Adventist University, at (301) 891-4475 or wjackson@wau.edu.



Second Annual Barn Conference Held in Fulton

More than 200 people gathered on the Hess property in Fulton, New York, for the Second Annual Barn Conference. A horse-drawn wagon was used to transport guests from the parking area. The event was reminiscent of those held by the church's forefathers decades ago, though the topics were very relevant to today. The guest speaker was Mark Howard, a pastor and the director of the Emmanuel Institute of Evangelism in Pullman, Michigan. It is a school specializing in intensive, practical soul-winning training for pastors and lay members, which desires that every Adventist member learn how to become an effective witness for Christ. Howard spoke on such topics as "The Rise of the Remnant," "God's Plan to Finish the Work," "How to Read Ellen White in the



21st Century," and "Agents of Satan." DVDs of the sermons are available by contacting Cecelia Hess at the New York Conference office.

Sabbath afternoon was characterized by fellowship and celebration—fellowship with a potluck lunch, and celebration for the baptism of two individuals, Sheena Gerrans and Dee Stiles. Gerrans, a teen, studied for baptism with Robert Hess, pastor of the Dexterville,

Pulaski, and Roosevelt churches, and Camden company. Stiles met Bible worker Jarod Caster while he was doing a survey. The survey led to Bible studies and the rest is history.

Members in area churches asked Hess and his wife, Cecelia, to plan a second barn conference after they were blessed by the first one last year. The request for a third has already been made and plans are under-way for

◀ Those who attended the barn conference were taken from the parking lot to the barn in a horse-drawn wagon by Les Holmes, the Hess' neighbor.

▼ Robert and Cecelia Hess, right, with Georgiana Parker, left, who was baptized on June 18.



a conference next year that will focus on the second and third angels' messages.

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference

New York Conference Hosts Women's Spring Retreat at Camp Cherokee

For the past two years the New York Conference has been blessed with two women's retreats with different "flavors." One is held in the fall at the Watson

Homestead in southern New York and has a more luxurious feel, with hotel rooms and many delightful gifts and special treats. A second retreat was held

on the weekend of June 10-12 at Camp Cherokee in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains. More than 80 women attended the retreat which had a more rustic and "back to nature" flavor.

The guest speaker for the weekend was licensed counselor Lynn Ortel from the Northern New England Conference, where she heads the departments of Support Ministries and Communication. She shared honestly and with humor about her own spiritual and emotional growth, inspiring others to take steps that will restore and enrich relationships. Other delights included meals prepared by Henry and

Doti Livergood, a seminar on medicinal plants by Martha Burns, free facials offered by Jane Kurtz, and gifts of homemade soap or bath salts.

Whatever your style, there is a women's retreat for you. Plans are already under-way for a third annual North Country Women's Retreat as well as the fall retreat at the Watson Homestead. Every woman deserves a break, so choose your retreat and look forward to it with anticipation.

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference



Lynn Ortel, Northern New England Conference support ministries and communication director, was the guest presenter for the women who attended the North Country Women's Retreat.

Westvale Church Celebrates Birth and New Birth

Members of the Westvale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Syracuse, New York, witnessed the baptism of Donté LaFlair, a sixth-grader at Parkview Junior Academy, on Sabbath, June 18.

LaFlair took Bible studies seriously and began to study about a year ago with teacher Jeremy Garlock. He continued studying with Bill Hrovat, the church's pastor, and then with Al Kaiser

(aka "Grandpa Al"), a church elder. Kaiser conducted the baptism after LaFlair and his five-year-old sister, Daphine, sang "The River of Jordan."

After the worship service, a picnic was held celebrating LaFlair's baptism, along with the birth of Ushindi Ndeze, son of Emmanuel and Sarafina Ndeze. Ushindi is the Ndeze's fifth child, and their first natural born U.S. citizen. The Ndezes

settled in the United States approximately three years ago, coming from a refugee camp in Uganda because of the persecution in their native home of Congo.

The picnic also included a sizable gathering of people who had participated in the 40 days of prayer, each with a partner, asking to be filled with the Holy Spirit. People shared stories of how God

has helped them grow spiritually as well as answered prayers for others for whom they were praying.

—Kim Kaiser, communication director, New York Conference



The Westvale church members held a picnic celebrating the baptism of Donté LaFlair, a sixth-grader at Parkview Junior Academy, right, and the birth of Emmanuel and Sarafina Ndeze's, son, Ushindi.

Adventist Singles Ministries Retreat "Enduring Faith"

Camp Cherokee
September 1-5, 2011

Join other singles throughout the Atlantic Union for both fun and fellowship in the great Adirondack mountains. For more information, call Carmen at 315-451-4017.

Special outings are planned plus the use of the camp facilities. Presenters: Jennifer Jill-Schwirzer, Licensed Professional Counselor and Christen Adolphi, Dexterville SDA Church.

Activities Include:

Waterskiing	Canoeing	Wind Surfing
Swimming	Horseback Riding	
Sailing	Tennis	Sea Sledding

Fees:

September 1-5	\$160.00
September 3-4	\$ 80.00

Register now. Bring a friend or meet a friend.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No. _____

Mail Registration to:

Singles Ministries, NY Conference,
4930 W. Seneca Tpke, Syracuse, NY 13215

Make Checks Payable to:

New York Conference—Singles Ministries

Native Ministries

Presents a Joint
Atlantic & Columbia Union Revival Weekend

"The Mighty Grace of God"

August 19-21, 2011

Camp Cherokee
Saranac Lake, New York

Speakers

Deb Claymore
Native Ministries
Dakota Conference

Doug Falle
Treasurer
Ohio Conference

Scottie Deal
Pastor
Carolina Conference

Hal Thomsen
Assistant to the President
Adventist Risk Management

Music

Merrilynn Braman
Tim Burnett
Scottie Deal
Union Spring Academy Students

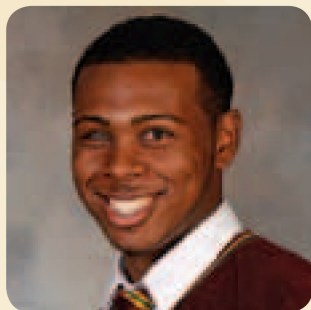
**To register and for more information, contact
Barb Bridgers**

Phone: (315) 469-6921 • **E-mail:** barb@nyconf.com



Students Recognized for Lives of Service and Witnessing

Eight academy students in the Atlantic Union recognized for their active involvement in service and witnessing are the recipients of the 2011 Caring Heart Award. Each student received a special scholarship award of \$500 and a plaque.

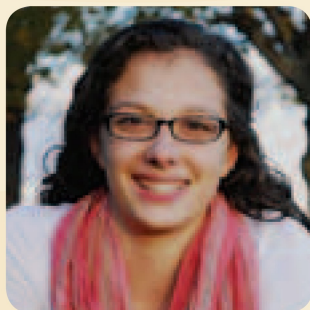


Keeivin Bailey started attending Bermuda Institute in sixth grade and is currently a junior. He is a responsible leader and serves as a prefect, and junior class pastor. He was one of the speakers at Bermuda Institute Day at the Somerset Seventh-day Adventist Church on February 19.

The students respect Bailey as he speaks out against injustice, no matter who is involved. He is fair in his judgments and has earned trust from students, teachers, and administration. He has been given the position of Student Council judge because of his good judgement and leadership skills. Bailey has become

a pillar of support for faculty and staff alike. He has become the model to other young men on how to speak appropriately to those in authority, to females, and how to be accountable for one's own actions.

In the community, Bailey was a part of the initiative of his class to visit the Sunshine League Children's Home to assist staff and children as assigned by the matron; the Cornerstone Preschool to assist teachers with the children; and The Barn (consignment store) to assist with sorting and organizing clothes for sale. He was also nominated this school year by students and teachers for a Young Citizen's Award given by the Universal Day of the Child Committee.



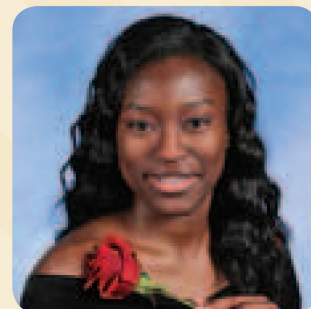
Juliette Young started attending Central Vermont Academy in the seventh grade, and she graduated this year. She has served as a class officer, Student Association officer, and has

been on the yearbook staff throughout her high school years. Young is known for her kindness to everyone she meets. She volunteers regularly in her church, school, and community. Young's plans for the future include attending Andrews University, where she will pursue a degree in elementary education. She lives her life for Christ each day and is an example to her peers.



Joel DeLeon, class of 2012, is considerate, respectful, trustworthy, modest, funny, and would do just about anything to help someone in need. He often is found helping out around the school in any imaginable capacity and is also a help to his church family at the Hyde Park Seventh-day Adventist Church. Carmen Nazario, office assistant, says, "I have known this young man for several years but really developed a closer relationship with him the last two years. DeLeon has become

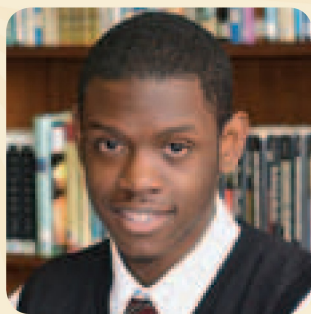
part of family. Although he is a little shy, once you really get to know him, he will win your heart."



Gifty Barfi is a student leader who is responsible, honest, respectful, respectable, and has an excellent relationship with students and faculty alike at Greater New York Academy. She is active in school, the church community, and the community where she lives. Barfi tutors elementary, middle, and high school students on a volunteer basis, serves as an English teacher in an after-school program, and promotes a healthy lifestyle by leading a community group in a walking program every Sunday morning.

She served as the president for the Adventist Youth for Better Living Club at Greater New York Academy, and as treasurer for the senior class. The club is involved in planning and executing the community service activities in the

school. She led the students in responding to the needs of children by packing shoe boxes with gifts to ship to Haiti. She spearheaded activities that have been a blessing to the school community, including hosting Adventist Youth programs in local churches, promoting Christian education, conducting food drives for the needy, and visits to nursing homes to minister to the elderly. Barfi also serves her church in different capacities. She has been the Sabbath School superintendent for the youth, Vacation Bible School counselor and, Adventist Youth leader. She is a model student spiritually, academically, and socially.



Eric Paul plays an active role in his church, Bethanie Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn, New York. He volunteered for three summers to work with Vacation Bible School and is a member of the youth choir. Throughout his high school experience, Paul, who graduated in June, has exemplified the meaning of service. He willingly devotes his time and energy wherever help is needed. He has

assisted with the registration process at the academy.

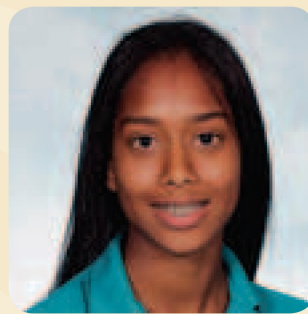
He persistently strives to perfect his leadership skills to serve as a positive role model to his peers. Paul's history teacher, McKisha Hugh Hampton, says, "Eric exemplifies responsibility. He is trusted with the little things." Paul serves as the president of Silent Movement, a drama ministry which focuses on spiritual concepts that are often overlooked. He creates ideas for skits, oversees rehearsals, delegates responsibilities, and makes decisions for the overall success of the ministry. He is a hardworking, innovative, and ambitious young man. Paul will continue his studies in social work at Alabama A & M University.



Jonathan Goorhuis graduated from Pine Tree Academy, in Freeport, Maine, in June. He had the opportunity to go to the Philippines in the summer of 2009 to assist his uncle by recording a series of evangelistic meetings and putting them on DVD. This year he traveled with other students to Mexico, where he helped at a medical clinic, worked on a construc-

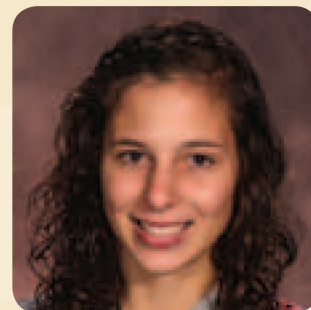
tion site, and assisted with Vacation Bible School.

Goorhuis volunteers for local programs, as well. For four years he watched children whose parents attended the local chapter of Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) meetings. He leads out twice a month in the youth-led Sabbath School at the Freeport Seventh-day Adventist Church and he plays with his church's praise team once or twice a month. In addition, Goorhuis has done some volunteer work at the Thorn Craig Nature Sanctuary in Lewiston, Maine. He was elected student body president, and performs in local churches with the school choir and bell ringers, as well as with a saxophone quartet.



Ardrianna Howard defines the word *leadership* for South Lancaster Academy. She uses every opportunity that comes her way to express and share her love for Jesus. Whether it is in sports, drama, speaking for a Week of Prayer, or serving in her home church, Howard's willingness and sweet disposition shines. Faculty and students alike

admire her for her commitment to do her very best at anything she undertakes. Ask others for a word that describes Howard and you will hear *goal-oriented, humble, fun, and friendly*.



Hannah Leonard, a senior from Chocorua, New Hampshire, has been at Union Springs Academy for four years and graduated in June with highest honors. She is a member of the National Honor Society, was Student Association president, and yearbook editor. But that is not why she is receiving this award. She has been a resident assistant in the girls' dorm for the last two years. In this position she has earned the reputation of guiding the other students through boarding school adjustments. She helps with homework and dispenses timely advice with a positive and encouraging attitude. She has earned the respect of her fellow students and all the staff of Union Springs Academy.

Information about the Caring Heart Award recipients was provided by the academies.

Reaching Out in Time of Disaster



Photos: John Johnson

Volunteers from Shiloh church assisted in distributing needed items to people in the shelters.



Volunteers from Shiloh church helped to collect, sort, and package the clothing that was distributed to tornado victims at the Mass Mutual Center Shelter.

A tornado swept through the city of Springfield, Massachusetts, at approximately 4:00 p.m. on June 1, causing devastation that was a surprise to all who were in its path and who barely escaped. Although announcements were broadcast on the radio and television, the community in the Pioneer Valley did not expect the force at which this tornado would come. In the short space of time it took the tornado to hit, areas of Springfield were left in a state similar to that of a war zone.

The Adventist Community Service (ACS) disaster relief volunteer teams from the Hartford and Springfield Seventh-day Adventist churches began to work. On the second day after the disaster, under the direction of W. Fitzgerald Kerr, Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services director, the team planned and implemented a relief effort. A survey of the neighborhood was taken, and it was determined that

personal care packets, food, and clothing were priority for the victims.

The Springfield church ACS department, under the leadership of Janet Lee and Marjorie Perry, made calls to the church members, asking for their assistance. The help ranged from volunteering time to donating money and food. Shiloh responded quickly and an offering of more than \$1,000 was

▼ Many homes and businesses were destroyed by the tornado that hit Springfield on June 1.



collected for the disaster relief fund. Lee, along with Joseph Aaron, the church's pastor, assisted with setting up cots at the Mass Mutual Center, which became a make-shift shelter for those affected by the tornado.

Avril Reid, Shiloh church's Children's



▲ Shiloh church members assisted in setting up cots at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield, Massachusetts, that housed victims of the June 1 tornado.

Ministries coordinator, organized the children who designed cards of encouragement and made snack bags containing items for the children. The department also collected more than 300 pieces of infant's and children's clothing. Volunteers from Shiloh church helped to collect,

sort, and package the clothing that was distributed to the tornado victims at the Mass Mutual Center Shelter. ACS distributed 275 adult care kits and 100 children's snack bags. Some of the victims were housed at one of the local hotels. ACS was able to deliver 15 bags of groceries with care kits to these families, and they continue to work with

them, giving support and counseling.

On June 11, ACS, in collaboration with the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs, including some members of Shiloh, assisted in making sandwiches and delivered 84 food packages to victims who were not eligible for shelter. Those

who remained in their homes had no electricity, so it was difficult to prepare meals, and most of their time was spent clearing away debris. Comments such as "God bless you," and "You don't know how much this means," were expressed by those in the shelter. Michael, one of the youth who

assisted, said it felt good to see the smiles on people's faces. The youngest Adventurer commented on how the team was showing lots of kindness.

The work is not done, so while our neighbors are picking up the pieces, Shiloh will continue to offer assistance and support during this traumatic time.

—Janet Russell, communication leader, Shiloh church

Jamaica Church Pathfinders on Parade

The Jamaica Royal Crown Pathfinder Club from the Jamaica Seventh-day Adventist Church in Jamaica, New York, celebrated their annual Pathfinder Day with guest speaker Philip Wesley II, Northeastern Conference youth ministries associate

blocks surrounding the church. They were led by the drum corps from the Bronx-Manhattan and Queens area.

The parade was escorted by police from the New York Police Department. Along the way, members of the Jamaica church's Personal

cell phones took pictures of this once-a-year event. Spectators were drawn to the scene and began to follow the parade, while others looked through their windows. Children from the neighborhood ran out of their homes to walk alongside the young people as they marched.

As the parade arrived back at the church, members of the church cheered and thanked the police officers for their services, and the drum corps continued to play many pieces for the crowd of spectators. It was a special day for the Pathfinders of the Jamaica church.

—Gilbert Atkins, member, Jamaica church

"Along the way, members of Jamaica church's Personal Ministries department distributed literature to the people on the parade route."

director. Following the worship service, about 35 Pathfinders, five Master Guides, 20 Adventurers, and six Little Lambs assembled outside in front of the church and proceeded to march around the four long

Ministries department distributed literature to people on the parade route.

Proud parents followed the parade shouting encouraging words to their children and others as those with cameras and

Northeastern Academy Alumni, Friends, and Family Weekend



September 3-4, 2011

City Tabernacle Church
562 W 150th St.
New York, NY 10031

Speaker: Weymouth Spence
Washington Adventist University President

**Kingsboro Temple
of Seventh-day Adventists
Celebrates 20 Years of Ministry**

Upcoming Events and Featured Speakers:

September 2	Opening Night Vespers
September 3	Dr. Abraham Jules Senior Pastor, Mt. Vernon SDA Church, NY
September 9-10	Pastor Calvin Watkins Director, Evangelism Ministries, South Atlantic Conference of SDA
September 16-17	Pastor C.D. Brooks Director, Breath of Life Ministries, 1975-98
September 23-25	Dr. Carlton Byrd Senior Pastor, Berean SDA Church, GA Current Director, Breath of Life Ministries

Friday Services:	7:00pm
Sabbath Morning Services:	9:30am
Sunday Services:	7:00pm

**Kingsboro Temple of
Seventh-day Adventists**
415 7th Street Brooklyn, NY 11215
718-369-3534
facebook.com/kingsboro
twitter.com/kingsborasda

Dr. Ainsworth E. Joseph, Senior Pastor Donnett M. Blake, Assistant Pastor
Veronica White-Farrell, First Elder

*An Evening of Praise
Grand
Celebration
Gospel Concert*

Featuring Renowned Artist
LARNELLE HARRIS

**5-Time Grammy &
11-Time Dove Award
Winner**

*The Man - The Music -
The Message*

PERFORMANCES ALSO BY ANTHONY ASHBY, 4 ALTOS 4 CHRIST,
CALLED TO PRAISE AND MORE...

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011
venue: Strand Theatre
343 Columbia Road, Doverchester, NY

Tickets available now Silent Auction 7:00 pm
Show Time 8:00pm

415 Church St. (Front)
545 Algonquin
575 Lower Battery
575 Upper Battery

For tickets and information, contact: 857-445-6831, 617-442-2622,
or CambridgeSDAevent@gmail.com, Web site: cambridgesda.org



Reflections of Camp Meeting 2011



The Indonesian church members met for worship in a classroom at Pine Tree Academy.

Enjoy a pictorial view of the 2011 Northern New England Conference camp meeting where the theme was “The Return.” From the opening evening with Dedrick Blue, pastor of Ephesus church in New York, through the impersonations of biblical characters with Dick Stenbakken, biblical narrator, to the closing session with Stephen Bohr, pastor of Fresno Central church in California, and all the practical daily seminars in between, camp meet-

ing was filled with people maximizing their week-long experience by enriching their hearts for Jesus’ return.

Two community outreach ministries included home improvements for low-income residents of Freeport, Maine, and a mini spa day by the women’s ministries at three homeless shelters for women. Additionally, residents of the Brunswick Retirement Village were given a loaf of homemade bread, and a bag of popcorn donated by Little



Sean Brace, pastor of the Bangor and Dexter churches in Maine, was ordained during camp meeting. His wife, Camille, was by his side.



Mike Ortel, Northern New England Conference president, left, with Dedrick Blue, senior pastor for the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church in Harlem, New York, who was the speaker for the first weekend of camp meeting.



Pathfinders, young and old, held a parade through the Pine Tree Academy campus and performed some songs in the upper parking lot outside of the main auditorium.

Lads of Corinth, Maine. Also, an annual event that attracts about 170 senior citizens is the Senior Banquet, which is a tangible expression of thanks to the senior constituents.



Jason Disch, pastor of the Norridgewock and Waterville churches in Maine, led song service in the primary division.



Members and friends were close neighbors in their “homes away from home” during camp meeting.



Angel Reyes, an elder in the New York Conference, taught the young adult Sabbath School.



Bill Wood, retired Atlantic Union youth ministries director, standing at the podium on the platform, was honored for his many years of service in youth ministry.

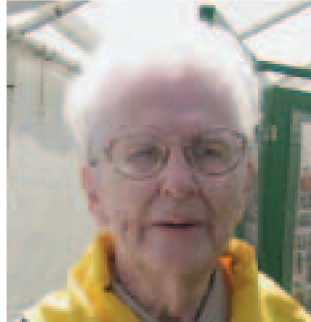
Our children and youth departments were filled with activities. A bonus for overflow campers was hosted by the newly-acquired Cedar Haven Family Campground, just a few miles away from the main campus.

Speakers, daily seminars, outreach ministries, and a continued upgrade of the

camp meeting campus are already in the plans for the 2012 camp meeting on June 22-30.

NNEC's welcome mat is always out to have guests enjoy the friendly, sweet fellowship at camp meeting.

—Lynn Ortel, communication director, Northern New England Conference



Rhoda Watson, 91 years young, is still active in Pathfinders.



Jamie Trott was commissioned as a teacher on Sabbath, June 25 in the main auditorium.

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE, INC

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Celebrating
Life

Every Life Restored

PRESENTER:
CHERI PETERS

Women's Fall Retreat

September 9-11, 2011
Camp Lawroweld
Weld, Maine

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
FMI: WWW.NNEC.ORG



Joy Huston and her mom, Sara, enjoying beginners Sabbath School.



Missionaries Barry Mosier and his daughter, April, shared their experiences with the juniors in the junior tent.



Kids Shine at First Springfield Church

Students in grades 1-8 from the Warren Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School in West Brookfield, Massachusetts, presented a special program entitled *The Christian Race* on Friday evening, May 20, at the First Springfield Seventh-day Adventist Church in Springfield, Massachusetts. During this presentation of the Great Controversy, the students combined music and memorized scripts portraying 21 Bible characters on their spiritual journeys through the Old Testament. The program concluded with an appeal by Angela Walton, principal of the Warren school, during which symbolic crowns were handed out to all who came forward to accept eternal life.

More blessings were in store on the following day, Sabbath morning, May 21! Nine students gave

their lives to Christ and were baptized by Mihail Baciu, the church's pastor. All had completed Bible studies during the school year and, on this day, their families joined them to celebrate this special occasion as they were accepted into church membership.

On Sabbath June 4, the Springfield Pioneers Pathfinders and Springfield Junior Pioneers Adventurers held their end of year Investiture program to recognize their achievements. Twenty Pathfinders and 15 Adventurers were recognized as they received honors and patches for complet-



Twenty-nine students from the Warren elementary school presented the play *The Christian Race* to an audience of more than 100 people at the First Springfield church.



Nine students were baptized after completing Bible studies during the school year. Front row from left, Julee Carlson, Jacqueline Atterberry, Winnie Nyabuty, Alexis Danault, Katelynne Atterberry, and Luisa Cabana (teacher). Back row from left, Angela Walton (teacher), Hadassah Wanyama, Jasoulay Walton, Kaylee Olander, Nivea Nyabuty, Eddie Diaz, Viorica Baciu, and Pastor Mihail Baciu.

ing honors in several areas. The Pathfinders who participated in the Bible Achievement also received Bible Achievement pins.

First Springfield is known as being a "kid-friendly church," not only because of programs especially designed for the different age levels, but because

they are included in the weekly church services. The church leaders believe that children are not only the future of the church, but they are a valuable part of the present also.

—Ellen Crossfield, communication secretary, First Springfield church

Churches Hold Evangelistic Meetings at Hotel

The Lord blessed with 89 people present on the opening night of an evangelistic series at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick, Rhode Island. Johnston Seventh-day Adventist Church member, David Baron, was the evangelist for the meetings that began on May 6. He preached to an audience that included 47 people who were not members of the Adventist Church.

The entire district—Burrillville, Johnston, and Wickford churches in Rhode Island—prayed and worked to reach the community. Direct mail postcards, ads on Christian radio and in a Christian newspaper, and invitations given by members to friends and family brought the most guests. The members provided the staff support needed to accommodate the crowd that filled the rented room.



Members of the Burrillville, Johnston, and Wickford churches in Rhode Island attended an evangelistic series with evangelist David Baron.

The members who completed Light America Bible Witnessing Training will now be able to develop their skills by mentoring the new people who attended the meeting.

Ron Catri and Elaine Stinson received a flyer in the mail for the prophecy seminar in May 2010 with Amazing Facts evangelist Jason Morgan. They attended a few meetings and expressed surprise at what they learned. However, the seeds sown did not sprout until they received another flyer for the prophecy seminar in May 2011. They attended all the meetings and were baptized on July 2. Other baptisms are planned. Another prophecy seminar is scheduled for October 2011 with David Baron once again serving as the evangelist.

—Bill Warcholik, pastor, Burrillville, Johnston, and Wickford churches, and Southern New England volunteer health ministries coordinator

Beverly Church Holds Evangelistic Meetings

Paul Maxwell, a lay-pastor, was the presenter for a 13-meeting evangelistic series held at the Beverly Seventh-day Adventist Church in Beverly, Massachusetts, in April. The church members assisted Maxwell with the presentations. Each evening consisted of prayer, music by the praise team, under the direction of Cleofas Galang and Sara Dondero, a short Abundant Living health nugget presentation, and a full-length feature from His Way of Hope, ShareHim's latest evangelism series.

Three baptisms were held midway through the series. Lili Dinu, from the Haverhill Seventh-day Adventist Church, Sarah Hudson and Richard Hetnar from the



Paul Maxwell, Beverly church pastor, presented His Way of Hope, ShareHim's latest evangelism series.

Beverly Seventh-day Adventist Church, all gave their hearts to the

Lord publicly and two baptisms were held halfway through the meetings on Saturday and Sunday evenings. The Haverhill Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church made available their portable baptistry, making this the first baptism to take place in the church.

ShareHim training was held at the Beverly church in March and will continue throughout the year. Another ShareHim event is being planned for the fall. ShareHim is a regular part of the Beverly church program, with two events held annually, along with cooking presentations, concerts, and other events held throughout the year.

—Communication department, Beverly church

Shrewsbury Church Hosts Community Service Health-focused Events

The Shrewsbury Seventh-day Adventist Church in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, hosted a vegetarian cooking class on May 1. More than 40 people attended, and a majority were from the community. The class was conducted by Craig Ashton, Jr., and his wife, Shayna, who are both veterans of natural cooking, having operated the Country Life Buffet in Boston for many years. The class included a meal so that participants could try the recipes that were demonstrated.

The church also hosted a ShareHim evangelism program from May 13 to June 4, with speakers Benjamin

Jacobs and Olric McPhoy, theology students from Atlantic Union College, who alternated preaching. Overall, about 100 people attended the meetings. On the final Sabbath, two decisions were made for baptism and six others indicated an interest in learning more about what Adventists believe.

In addition to the May events, since October 2010, the Shrewsbury church has hosted three other well-attended community service health-focused events:

- Health Expo at the Shrewsbury Senior Center in October—a one-day event with 100 people in attendance.
- Pre-Thanksgiving Healthy Tasting dinner at the Ray Stone Post (five days before Thanksgiving) with 70 in attendance.
- Reversing Diabetes Naturally at the Ray Stone



More than 40 people attended a vegetarian cooking class hosted by the Shrewsbury Seventh-day Adventist Church. The majority of those who attended were from the community.

Post (an eight-week class, February 23-April 13) with 40 in attendance.

—Barry Kimbrough, pastor, Shrewsbury and Worcester Airport Drive churches

Quoi de Neuf?

A Travers l'Eglise Mondiale

Pourquoi se Joindre à SAC?

Quelqu'un vous-a-t-il jamais invité à vous joindre à la Société des Communicateurs Adventistes (SAC)? Si non, considérez cette invitation officielle! Peut-être la question dans votre esprit en ce moment est: "Qu'est-ce que SAC exactement?" Contrairement à d'autres organisations dans le monde, dont les noms portent le titre "la

En bref, si vous êtes impliqué ou vous aimeriez être impliqué dans la communication aux autres, du message de l'Eglise adventiste, alors vous devriez être une partie de SAC.

Alors, qu'est-ce que SAC? C'est la connexion avec d'autres professionnels de la communication et la croissance des connaissances des uns et des autres, l'expertise et la passion pour le ministère. Il

professionnel de la communication, il s'agit d'utiliser vos talents et les connaissances acquises pour encadrer une jeune personne. Et si vous êtes un novice, c'est une opportunité de se connecter avec un spécialiste dans votre domaine qui, avec son sage mentorat, peut vous aider à progresser professionnellement.

SAC est composé de gens de toutes les facettes du domaine de la communication, y compris les producteurs de télévision, écrivains, éditeurs, graphistes, concepteurs de sites, les photographes, spécialistes des médias sociaux, spécialistes des relations publiques – et la liste continue. L'adhésion est ouverte aux étudiants et aux professionnels qui travaillent et qui sont employés par l'église ou dans les médias profanes, et ceux qui sont travailleurs autonomes.

Il y a beaucoup plus que je pouvais dire au sujet de SAC. Mais la seule façon de vraiment savoir ce qu'est SAC est de rejoindre, assister à un congrès annuel, et vous verrez que c'est une grande organisation. Pour plus d'informations sur l'adhésion, s'il vous plaît visitez www.adventistcommunicator.org et cliquez sur "Membres seulement." J'espère vous voir (et vos collègues!) à notre prochain congrès à Chicago en Octobre 2011!

Pat Humphrey est directeur associé de la communication pour l'Union Sud-Ouest et vice-président pour le recrutement de la Société des communicateurs adventistes.

SAC est composé d'une variété d'adventistes engagés qui ont une passion à partager notre message à travers leurs domaines uniques du ministère de media.

société," SAC n'est pas un groupe d'élite ou exclusifs. Au contraire, SAC est composé d'une variété d'adventistes engagés qui ont une passion à partager notre message à travers leurs domaines uniques du ministère de media—que ce soit par la page imprimée, photographie, télévision, radio, Internet, média sociaux, musique, art, ou beaucoup d'autres points de ventes créatives.

s'agit d'être enrichi et dynamisé, après avoir assisté à la convention annuelle du SAC et de retour à la maison prêt à mettre vos connaissances nouvellement acquises à l'action. C'est sur les réseaux, en faisant de nouveaux amis, des personnes qui vont devenir une source de soutien spirituel et professionnel dans les années à venir. Si vous êtes un

S'adhérer à SAC a ses avantages!

- Programme de Mentor/mentoré
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- Prix d'excellence de SAC
- Possibilités de réseautage
- Croissance professionnelle

¿Qué Está Pasando?

En la Iglesia Mundial

¿Por que ser miembro de la Sociedad de Comunicadores Adventistas (SAC)?

¿Te ha invitado alguien alguna vez a ser parte de la Sociedad de Comunicadores Adventistas (SAC por sus siglas en ingles)? Si no, considere esta su invitación oficial. Quizás la pregunta en su mente ahora mismo es ¿qué es exactamente SAC? Distinta a otras organizaciones en el mundo las cuales llevan

riencia y pasión por el ministerio. Se trata de ser enriquecidos y revigorizados al asistir a la convención anual de SAC y regresar a casa listos para poner todo el conocimiento adquirido en acción. Se trata de crear una red de contactos y conocer nuevos amigos—los cuales serán una fuente de fuerza espiritual, profesional y de apoyo por años por

SAC esta compuesto de personas de todas las ramas de la comunicación tales como, productores de televisión, escritores, editores, diseñadores gráficos, diseñadores de la Web, fotógrafos, expertos en redes sociales, especialistas en relaciones públicas, en fin, la lista es muy larga. La membresía está abierta a estudiantes y profesionales que son empleados por la iglesia o los medios de comunicación secular y aquellos que son trabajadores autónomos.

Hay mucho más que se podría decir acerca de SAC. Pero la única manera de realmente saber de lo que se trata SAC es uniéndote a nosotros, asistiendo a la convención anual y ver por ti mismo que gran organización es esta. Para más información acerca de la membresía, por favor visite www.adventistcommunicator.org y haga clic en el lugar de “Miembros Solamente”. ¡Espero verles (y a sus colegas) en la próxima convención que se llevará a cabo en Chicago en Octubre 2011!

Pat Humphrey es el director asociado de comunicaciones para la Unión del Sudoeste y vice presidente de reclutamiento para la Sociedad de Comunicadores Adventistas.

SAC está compuesto por una variedad de adventistas comprometidos, los cuales comparten una pasión por llevar el mensaje por medio de ministerios de comunicación.

el nombre de “sociedad”, SAC no es un grupo élite o exclusivo. Al contrario, SAC está compuesto por una variedad de adventistas comprometidos, los cuales comparten una pasión por llevar el mensaje por medio de ministerios de comunicación—ya sea por medio del papel impreso, fotografía, televisión, radio, el Internet, redes sociales, música, arte y muchas otras variedades de medios creativos. En resumen, si estás envuelto en o deseas involucrarte en comunicar a otros el mensaje de la Iglesia Adventista, entonces debes formar parte de SAC.

¿De que se trata SAC? Se trata de conectar a profesionales de comunicación y de crecer mutuamente por medio del conocimiento, expe-

venir. Si usted es un profesional de comunicación, se trata de usar sus talentos y conocimiento para ser un tutor para algún joven. Y si acaso eres un principiante, es una oportunidad de conectarte con un especialista en tu área el cual puede ser tu tutor y ayudarte a crecer profesionalmente.

La Membresía en SAC Tiene Sus Privilegios!

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- Publicación de Tabajos
- Convención Anual
- Oportunidades de Contactos
- Crecimiento Profesional



Statement on Freedom of Speech and Defamation of Religion

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).

A distinguishing feature of humans is our God-given ability to communicate in the abstract through speech, symbols, and the written word. Nowhere is this capacity more uniquely expressed than in the domain of faith. Communication concerning religious beliefs is central to our ability to explore meaning and purpose in life, discuss the values that guide our actions, and to share experiences as we search for a closer knowledge of God.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church strongly supports freedom of speech in general, and freedom of religious speech in particular. Although freedom of speech is guaranteed in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, efforts continue to limit speech at both the national level and at the United Nations. In both settings, significant focus has been placed on limiting speech that offends the religious beliefs of the hearer. Seventh-day Adventists affirm sensitivity and respect in all communication. We are thus concerned about speech designed to offend religious sensibilities. However, we believe that ceding the right to the state to control religious speech creates a far greater threat to the autonomy of people of faith than that posed by offensive speech.


Indeed, there are numerous examples today of states citing a desire to protect religious feelings to justify the forceful silencing of peaceful religious speech.

Our opposition to the restriction of speech is not without exceptions. The church recognizes that in limited circumstances, speech can result in significant, tangible harm to the right to physical safety, the enjoyment of one's property, and other similarly compelling rights. In such very limited instances, we recognize the responsibility of the state to act to protect its population. When such limits are necessary, the church expects governments to target restrictions narrowly to address only the dangerous speech in question.

The church recognizes a special responsibility of those in power to communicate a message that supports fundamental human rights, including all the facets of religious freedom. This responsibility is particularly pertinent to governments, as they are generally in a unique position to encourage robust respect for the rights of their people, and particularly minorities.

While recognizing the right to freely express religious beliefs, Seventh-day Adventists accept the responsibility to self-regulate their speech to ensure it is consistent with biblical teachings. This includes the obligation to be both honest and loving. This is particularly important when discussing another faith, as religious passions can prompt a one-dimensional view of others. Honesty does not mean merely stating facts accurately, but also placing information in an accurate context. Seventh-day Adventists will be constrained by Christ's law of love in all they say and do. When the God-given gift of speech is used to communicate in love, we will bless not only our fellow human beings; we will honor the God who made us all with the gift to express ourselves. 0

This statement was approved and voted by the executive committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists on June 23, 2010, and released at the General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia, June 24-August 3, 2010.



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Sunday, September 25, 2011

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Find resources and information at www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org 



Let's Move Day is an event of Adventists InStep for Life. It is sponsored by the North American Division Health Ministries Department in partnership with Adventist Community Services, Children's Ministries, Education, and Youth Ministries.



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Sunset Table

September 2011	2	9	16	23	30
Bangor, ME	7:08	6:55	6:42	6:29	6:16
Portland, ME	7:13	7:00	6:48	6:35	6:22
Boston, MA	7:15	7:03	6:51	6:38	6:26
South Lancaster, MA	7:17	7:05	6:53	6:40	6:28
Pittsfield, MA	7:24	7:12	6:59	6:47	6:34
Hartford, CT	7:21	7:09	6:57	6:44	6:32
New York, NY	7:25	7:13	7:02	6:50	6:38
Albany, NY	7:24	7:12	7:00	6:47	6:35
Utica, NY	7:32	7:20	7:07	6:55	6:42
Syracuse, NY	7:36	7:24	7:11	6:58	6:46
Rochester, NY	7:42	7:29	7:17	7:04	6:52
Buffalo, NY	7:46	7:34	7:22	7:09	6:57
Hamilton, Bda	7:39	7:30	7:21	7:12	7:03

Eastern Daylight Savings Time

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Washington Seventh-day Adventist Church Annual Meeting, Aug. 20, at the church on Main St., in Washington, N.H., Guest Speaker James Nix, director of the 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.; and afternoon meeting, 2:30 p.m.

OUT-OF-UNION

Sheyenne River Academy/Dakota Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend

Sept. 30-Oct. 2, at Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND. Come renew your friendships! Honor classes: '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '72, '82, '87, '92, '02, '07. For more information, call (701) 258-9000 ext. 236, or visit our Web site at: www.dakotaadventistacademy.org/alumni/alumnievents.

You are invited to the Association of Adventist Women's annual convention, La Sierra University, Oct. 13-16. "Total You - Body, Mind and Spirit." Chris Oberg, keynote speaker. Registration fee \$125. Register online at www.aaw.cc.

Men for Christ Retreat

Camp Cherokee, Saranac Lake NY

When: September 16-18, 2011

How Much: \$76.00 per person

Guest Speaker: Minervino "Minner" Labrador Jr.

Pastor Labrador is currently Carolina Conference Men's Ministries Director. He is also senior pastor of the Charlotte, Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church. His series "Old Man New Man" is airing on Hope Television and local Charlotte, North Carolina stations.



For more information, contact the Youth Ministries Dept, New York Conference at 315-469-6921

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

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.

EMPLOYMENT

ASSISTANT CAMP RANGER is needed. The Southern New England Conference is looking for applicants impressed by God to become involved in Camp Ministry who have the skills of carpentry, painting, landscaping, vehicle maintenance, and facility management. Call Roger Henderson at (978) 815-3377. Applicant deadline is September 30.

ASSISTANT FOOD SERVICE/HOUSEKEEPING DIRECTOR is needed. The Southern New England Conference is looking for applicants impressed by God to become involved in Camp Ministry who have the skills of preparing food for large groups and assisting in various housekeeping duties. This is an hourly position for up to 30 hours a week during most of the year and up to 40 hours a week in summer. Call Roger Henderson at (978) 815-3377. Applicant deadline is September 30.

JOURNEYMAN I—Pacific Press seeking Adventist bindery operator with experience; able to set up and operate numerous bindery machines; knowledgeable in variety of processes, operations, and machinery. Will monitor production for quality, quantity, and adjust machines to correct problems. Required: high school diploma or equivalent, ability to stand full shift, good vision, hearing, mechanical aptitude, ability to lift 40 lbs, 18 or older, and four years bindery experience minimum. Contact Ms. Alix Mansker, HR Director, Pacific Press Publishing Association: aliman@pacificpress.com, (208) 465-2567, fax (208) 465-2651.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is seeking an Assistant Chief Flight Instructor to teach aviation courses and assist the Chief Flight Instructor in flight training and program development. Bachelor's degree required, master's preferred. For more information and to apply, please visit: www.andrews.edu/hr/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi.

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WILDWOOD HEALTH EVANGELISM SEMINAR Sept. 4-25. Health Evangelism; Prophecy; Sanctuary; Leadership; True Education; Marriage For Ministry; Closing Events; Reaching the Unreached; Hydrotherapy; Nutrition; God's Healing Methods. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Cost: \$890 Contact: Darlene Keith (931) 724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. E-mail: darlenekeith@gmail.com.

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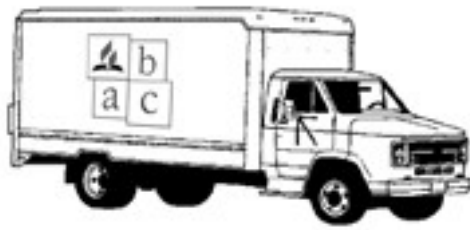
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September 9-11 – Orders due September 2

NNEC Women's Retreat, Camp Lawroweld, Weld, Maine

September 16-18 – Orders due September 9

SNEC Women's Retreat, Devens, Massachusetts

September 25 – Orders due September 16

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

October 9 – Orders due September 30

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Calais, Maine
12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Presque Isle, Maine
2:30 – 3:00 p.m. Oakfield, Maine
4:30 – 5:00 p.m. Lincoln, Maine

October 16 – Orders due October 7

9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Bennington, Vt.
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Rutland, Vt.
3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Morrisville, Vt.
4:30 – 5:00 p.m. St. Johnsbury, Vt.
5:30 – 6:00 p.m. South Newbury, Vt.

October 23 – Orders due October 14

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Brooklawn Church, Bridgeport, Conn.
12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Danbury-Bethel Church, Bethel, Conn.
2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Waterbury Spanish Church, Waterbury, Conn.
4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Hope Church, Bloomfield, Conn.

October 30 – Orders due October 21

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