

THE ATLANTIC UNION

FEBRUARY 2014

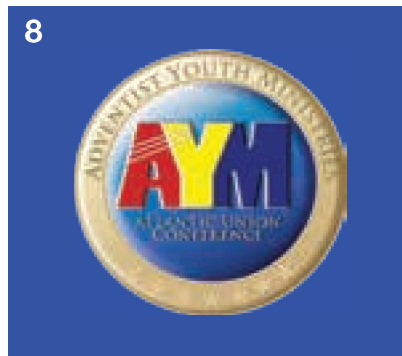
GLEANER



Leighnae's Story

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Faith and Prayer in Action

In Matthew 5:13, 14, Jesus uses two metaphors to describe the function and activity of Christians. In verse 13, Jesus says, “You are the salt of the earth.” In verse 14, Jesus says, “You are the light of the world.” Both metaphors are action words that denote some function and activity. Salt is essential for seasoning and preserving, while light dispels darkness and illuminates one’s surroundings.

In the spiritual context, I would like to suggest that these two metaphors can provide occasions to exhibit “Faith in Action,” and “Prayer in Action.” The commission of Jesus, Matthew 28:19, 20, is an ongoing call to exhibit faith and prayer in action. It is the Christian’s primary agenda. Our active response to this commission, in view of who we are and what we are, is necessary if we are going to accomplish the mission of Jesus so that “the end will come” (Matthew 24:14, NIV).

In 2013, the Atlantic Union Conference administration, in alliance with the North American Division and the General Conference, coordinated the efforts of five conferences to evangelize Metropolitan New York. The mission within the mission became known as NY13. During the months of April to October and on to December 2013, the good news of Jesus’ life, His death, burial, resurrection, intercession in the heavenly sanctuary, and promise to return to earth, rang out from church pulpits, from tent

meetings, small group settings, over airwaves, and on the Internet.

Almost 5,000 persons made decisions for Jesus Christ and were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It took “faith in action” and “prayer in action” to motivate and inspire those who preached, those who prayed, those who participated, those who responded through baptism, and others who renewed their commitment to Jesus Christ. Now, NY13 and Beyond is the new current emphasis for New York City going forward, and we anticipate many more decisions for Jesus.

Across the Atlantic Union in 2014, other cities and other communities will be targeted for similar “faith and prayer in action” events. My question to you and myself is, “Will you and will I be a part of these initiatives in fulfillment of our calling of being both the salt of the earth and the light of the world?”

As your union prayer ministries director, I want to take this opportunity to invite you to be a part of our Wednesday-morning, union-led prayer initiative from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. Call (443) 453-0034, use code: 579007. Let’s connect in prayer for the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit. ☺

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



“I want to take this opportunity to invite you to be a part of our Wednesday-morning, union-led prayer initiative.”



Leighnae's Story

God works a medical miracle in the life of a six year old

By Deborah Lowe and Lois Tucker

It began with a lazy eye in pre-school. Nothing to be concerned about. After all, Aunt Tina and Great-aunt Janet had one, so it was probably hereditary. An easy fix, according to the doctor. So, no hurry. No need to interrupt kindergarten studies. We decided to wait until the summer, go to Six Flags in Atlanta, and make it a family trip. Leighnae would be ready to start grade 1, all fixed up.

Fast forward. We are at Atlanta Children's Medical Center. It's time for the eye surgery. Leighnae is prepped for the surgery.

Hold on. God has other plans. A lazy eye? Nope. Too easy.

"I'm going to send you home with a real testimony!" He said.

Marc Greenberg, M.D., noticed that Leighnae's eye had really deteriorated since he last saw her in Bermuda and thought that something else might be going on, so he ordered an MRI.

It began with a lazy eye. But it had escalated to a brain tumor! The Lowe family was in shock. Their precious little six-year-old princess had a life-threatening tumor on her brain! Leighnae was referred to a cancer specialist and a brain surgeon.

God's plans are not always easy to understand! So here we were—midway—from lazy eye to brain tumor and with a less-than-hopeful prognosis. The surgeon could not foresee any effective treatment. The tumor needed to be removed, but it was in a critical area of the brain stem and he did not think

that chemotherapy or radiation would be effective. He was not prepared to do the surgery, because it was too risky.

So, what now, God?

"Go home and wait. I've got this!"

Go home? No treatment. Just do nothing?

"I've got this! Lazy eye—brain tumor—all the same to Me!"

The specialist, though unwilling to do the surgery himself, agreed to share Leighnae's slides to solicit other opinions from his medical colleagues around the nation. And the Lowes went home to wait.

News of Leighnae's situation spread like wildfire, not just at home, but around the world. Facebook and WhatsApp Messenger were proliferated with updates and appeals. Heaven was bombarded with prayers. Just five days after returning home to Bermuda, the call came. A doctor who had done this type of surgery before volunteered to do it. It was scheduled at LeBonheur hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, and Frederick Boop, M.D., was going to do the surgery, all at no charge—with living accommodations for the family, some meals, doctor's charges, and hospital charges—everything free!

God, you are truly awesome! Give us a testimony, and we will share it.

Before the surgery Leighnae was asked how she was doing and her response was, "I'm not scared because Jesus' angels are surrounding me."

Dr. Boop proved to be a capable, confident, and humble surgeon. The first order of business was to explain all the risks involved. The ordeal



The Lowe family, from left, brother, Shelton; father, Ronnae; Leighnae, and mother, Wendy.

“The ordeal that Leighnae faced included more scenarios than we wanted to accept.”

that Leighnae faced included more scenarios than we wanted to accept. Because of the location of the tumor she could end up blind, lose the ability to speak, become paralyzed, or slip into a coma and not wake up. Despite all of these harrowing risks, there was no other decision for us to make because without the surgery, she would surely die. Who would ever have thought that a lazy eye would cause us this much grief?

The surgery on August 30, 2013, was estimated to last between six and eight hours. The medical team gave us a detailed account of how the surgery was progressing, every hour on the hour. During the sixth hour, they closed her up. The surgeon emerged to speak to us face to face. Everything had gone well. They had removed 90 percent of the tumor; to proceed further was too risky. She was transferred to the intensive care unit, where she was expected to remain for at least two days. We would now have to wait to see if she would wake up.

Thank you, Jesus, for what you have done for our little girl thus far.

“You haven’t seen anything yet! Usually it may be a few days before the patient can talk or use her hands. But Leighnae, hours after the surgery, will open her eyes and reach for your chain, Daddy. Mommy, when you tell her to squeeze your hand if she can hear you, she will squeeze your finger. When you ask her if she can hear you, Nana, she will whisper, ‘Yes.’ She’s due to be in ICU for two days, but she will move to the general ward after a day.”

Thank you, Jesus. You are awesome!

On the general ward, despite all indications of a medical miracle,

Leighnae’s condition took a frightening turn. She stopped communicating; she seemed unaware of her family and her surroundings, and seemed to slip into a trance. How could this happen? How could we see such progress and then see her slip away from us when the worst was over? Papa was the first to break. None of us were prepared



Leighnae recovering following surgery.

for this turn of events. Daddy got into the bed with her and prayed, pouring out his heart to God. He submitted his little princess to the complete control of God, the Master Healer, the awesome God, who had done everything well so far.

“I’m still here. I am surrounding my little princess.”

The next day, day three after the surgery, Nana and Papa arrived at around 8:30 in the morning to find Leighnae walking from the bathroom, flanked by her parents, one on each side, saying, “Hi, Nana. Hi, Papa!” From that time on, she moved only forward. Five days after the surgery she was released from the hospital.

One day at meal time Nana observed that Leighnae was saying her grace and seemed to be praying for a very long time. She asked, “Princess, what are you and Jesus talking about?” She responded, “I’m telling him about my eye.” For Leighnae this was all about fixing her eye, not a brain tumor, but her child-like faith believes that the God who sent the angels to surround her will fix her eye.

Leighnae returned to school in November 2013, but at that time was not allowed to play outside with the other children. She is now allowed to play outside, if she is careful, and to participate in some limited physical education activities.

She completed her physical therapy sessions with flying colors and has no more need for them. After surgery her left side was severely weakened; it is now as strong as her right. She had her first follow up MRI in December which showed no change in the growth of the tumor.

She is so different than she was before the surgery. (She used to cry a lot.) She is very happy, talkative, and energetic. We can’t get her to stop talking and she now believes that she can sing opera.

Wendy and Ronnae Lowe, Leighnae’s parents, and her whole family give highest praise to God for the miracle that He has wrought in Leighnae’s life. Though 10 percent of the tumor remains, they are more than certain that it is in God’s hands. They are grateful for all the prayers of support that bombarded heaven on their behalf. This experience will be a testimony of God’s love that will remain with them forever. What an awesome God! ☺

Deborah Lowe is Leighnae’s grandmother and students accounts manager at Bermuda Institute, and Lois Tucker is Leighnae’s aunt and principal of Bermuda Institute.



Atlantic Union Churches Lead in Massive Global Outreach

Blueberries, a Book, and a Baptism

By Kim Peckham

“Churches in Northern New England have been leaders in the Great Controversy Project.”

This is a story about a guy who had never read a book in his whole life, and the couple who sent him a 384-page volume about Bible prophecy.

The book, of course, is *THE GREAT CONTROVERSY*. Ellen White’s book is part of a worldwide outreach movement that has gathered so much momentum in the past three years that it has left some people stunned and surprised. General Conference vice president Delbert Baker remembers when his boss, General Conference president Ted Wilson, asked him to lead an effort to share *THE GREAT CONTROVERSY*. They decided to set an ambitious goal of sharing 50 million copies of the book worldwide by the end of 2013. “Then Elder

Wilson mentioned in a meeting that his personal prayer goal for the project was 100 million,” recalls Baker. “We were still trying to wrap our arms around the 50 million number!”

Baker says that what happened next was a small miracle. “Hundreds of thousands of Adventists sacrificed to distribute the book to their friends.” Among them were Stan and Andrea Kotlow who live in Maine, up against the Canadian border. Both had come into the church in large part because of *THE GREAT CONTROVERSY*, and when they heard about the project, they wanted to get involved. “We’re not good sharing door to door,” says Stan. “But we thought this was something we could do.”

They arranged with the Review and Herald Publishing Association to send the book to several thousand homes in their area.” It would have been too much for them to afford, except for an act of providence in their own backyard. The wild blueberry bushes on their property brought forth a huge harvest that raised more than \$6,000. They earmarked the windfall for outreach.

That’s why Phil McVicar in nearby Alexander, Maine, got a copy of *THE GREAT CONTROVERSY* in his mailbox. “We couldn’t figure out where the book came from or why we got it,” he says.

Phil is the kind of guy who loves the outdoors more than sitting in a chair reading. “I never read a com-



Of the 142 million copies of *THE GREAT CONTROVERSY* shared around the globe, 26 million were digital downloads.



Ansel Oliver

General Conference publishing leaders celebrate sharing 142 million copies of THE GREAT CONTROVERSY over the past three years.



Student Jennifer Calhoun visits with a man while handing out copies of THE GREAT HOPE—an abridged version of THE GREAT CONTROVERSY. Individuals and churches in North America have distributed 12 million copies of Ellen White's book in the past two years.

plete book until I was 55 years old,” he admits. But God had been preparing him. Involvement with Amway had prompted him to start reading motivational books. Soon, he actually enjoyed reading.

After THE GREAT CONTROVERSY had sat in his bathroom for about a year, Phil felt God working on his heart. “I’ve got to get up a little earlier to read this book,” he said to himself. He determined he would read two or three pages a day. Then it became five pages a day. Then more. He was fascinated and noticed how it seemed to fit with Bible preaching that he had heard on an early-morning program called Amazing Facts.

Meanwhile, the church he attended with his wife, Vicki, left them empty. “The preacher would tell us what we wanted to hear, not what we needed to know,” says Phil. “I never learned how to get into the Bible or even to navigate it,” adds Vicki.

Convicted of the Sabbath truth, the McVicar’s just showed up one Saturday morning at the Calais church. They were welcomed and immediately felt at home. The pastor, Arnet Mathers, answered all their questions directly from the Bible. In September 2011, Mathers and the McVicar’s waded into the chilly waters of Howard Lake for the baptism.

Churches in Northern New England have been leaders in the Great Controversy Project, working with the Review and Herald to mail a quarter million copies of the book to local zip codes. Worldwide, enthusiasm for the project had resulted in almost tripling Ted Wilson’s original goal. “We had a thanksgiving service at the General Conference in October when we report-

ed that a total of 142 million copies have been shared around the globe,” says Baker. “I have not found a record of any denomination handing out this many books in a two-year period. This has been an extremely blessed project.” ①

Kim Peckham is in corporate communication at the Review and Herald Publishing Association.



Lorraine Mathers

Phil and Vicki McVicar come up from a Maine lake after being baptized by Arnet Mathers, pastor of the Calais church. Looking back at the series of events that led to that moment, Phil says it was “obviously all God’s plan.”



Compassion with Enemies: The Lifestyle of the Committed

What I am about to ask is radical and hard, perhaps one of the more difficult things you will do in your life. For the last year and a half, this column has been dedicated to Compassion, a movement of children, youth, young adults, and adults who have become the heart, eyes, hands, and feet of Jesus, with the priorities of Jesus central throughout the Northeast United States, Bermuda, and around the world. We have been challenged to be compassionate at home, in our churches, communities, cities, and anywhere we reside. Now, the challenge goes to another level, I would like to invite you to be compassionate with your enemies.

Who are your enemies? Jesus, during the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7), described the enemies as those who curse, hate, and spitefully use and persecute you (Matthew 5:43-47). Perhaps, you may be like me and have a difficult time identifying enemies, or maybe feel uneasy calling them enemies—after all, it is a strong use of the word. In this category, you may identify people who have caused you or your loved ones pain, are a thorn in your side, who have bullied you, spoken falsely against or about you, and never reach out to offer a hand of support, but go to the extent of doing all manner of evil against you.

Can you think of anyone like that in your life? If you can't, you are blessed! Some of you may perhaps be able to think of someone who could be considered an enemy. However, the challenge comes from Jesus, the very source of compassion. Show them compassion.

How can you show compassion to your enemies?

- Forgive unconditionally.
- Apologize, if they think it is your fault, even if it is not. (Matthew 5:23, 24).

- Pray that God will bless and change all of us.
- Look for the positive.
- Seek to understand and to be understood.
- Don't return evil for evil, such as seeking revenge.
- Walk the extra mile (Matthew 5).
- Use wisdom through a loving word, wise counsel, and a kind action.
- Treat all God's children with kindness, as Jesus did.
- Congratulate them when they succeed; help them when they fail.

These are just a few suggestions. The Bible is replete with principles, and they are not naive and wimpy. Yet the fact is that this is very hard and it takes a tremendous amount of God's grace to practice. The Jesus lifestyle and model is how to win and influence people, including ourselves.

Compassion is the lifestyle of the committed and Jesus' ideal for His followers. Years ago, He challenged us. He knew it was only by cultivating compassion by His grace that we begin to create lasting change in our professions, vocations, homes, churches, communities, and ultimately, the world.

My call during 2014 for youth, young adults, and adults from New York to Maine, and in the beautiful islands of Bermuda, and beyond, is this: let us go in the name of Jesus and become His heart, eyes, hands, and feet in our relationship with the loved and the unloved and show them compassion. More than a call, it is a necessity. It is our only option, if we want a better home, a better church, a better community, and a better world. ①



José Cortés, Jr., is the director of Adventist Youth Ministries in the Atlantic Union.

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Inaugural Year of School Inspires 41 Students to Become Evangelists for Christ

The Bermuda Conference School of Evangelism opened classes for study in February 2013. The school was established to prepare the constituent members of the conference to do the work of evangelists. A missionary, Sydney Gibbons, Bermuda Conference executive secretary, and his family, on returning to Bermuda in 2001, recommended that the conference establish a school of lay evangelism.

The Rockaway church in Southampton, Bermuda, became the first church in the conference to benefit from the program of study during the period of 2005-2007. All 11 churches are now benefiting from course offerings through the program that now operates as an entity of the Bermuda Conference Personal Ministries Department. However, the conference administration decided to give direct leadership to the school, and requires the operators to give account directly to ADCOM, the administrative team of the conference.

Forty-one students from the 11 churches completed at least one of the five courses offered in 2013. Courses taught in 2013 were: 1) The Bible Instructor, 2) Preaching Made Simple—Developing the Art of Evangelistic Preaching, 3) Retention and Reclamation, 4) Bible Doctrines and Biblical Hermeneutics, and 5) Health Evangelism.

Eighteen students completed two or more courses. Four churches were each represented by five or more students in the first year of study. The program permits students to begin classes at any course offering, and to complete any and every course considered of value to them. The program of study requires students to complete all 12 foundational courses, which are offered over two consecutive years.

“This course [Preaching Made Simple] has helped me to know how to organize a topic, from outlining, organizing, presenting the Word of God, to summarizing, to [making] an appeal for a decision to accept



Sydney Gibbons, School of Evangelism director and instructor, back row, far right, with Eloise Symonds, Bermuda Conference personal ministries director, back row, third from left, and Katherina Gibbons, wife of Sydney Gibbons, second from left, and other graduates of the “Preaching Made Simple” class at Southampton church on graduation day, July 6, 2013.

Christ. I now know that I can speak before a large audience, grasp and hold their attention, and speak to their hearts,” says Ann Jackson Pitcher from St. David’s church.

Classes are held at the Bermuda Institute on Sundays. Most classes require 12 hours of student-instructor interaction. Classes are scheduled to be taught over two intensive Sundays within a given month, for six hours per day. Gibbons, who is the pastor

of the Southampton church, is also the director of the program. Eloise Symonds, Bermuda Conference Personal Ministries director, is the associate director of the program. The course instructors are pastors and other conference workers.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The presenter [of The Bible Instructor course] was very knowledgeable of the subject matter and gave easily-understood examples. As a result, I am now beginning my first Bible study. Not only that, but I have experienced spiritual growth and also an improved prayer and devotional life,” says Keva Carter from Somerset church.

The program is operated by the conference at no additional cost to the members, except for the cost of books and materials. Students can learn more about the program via its Web site, where they can register online at any time, at schoolofevangelism.adventistbermuda.org.

—Communication staff, Bermuda Conference



Eloise Symonds, Bermuda Conference personal ministries director, top row, left, and Sydney Gibbons, Bermuda Conference executive secretary and School of Evangelism director and instructor, top row, far right, with the “Retention and Reclamation” class graduates at the Southampton church on graduation day, November 9, 2013.



Greater New York Academy Breaks Ground for School Renovations

“This groundbreaking is truly groundbreaking,” said Sydonne Whitter-Walker, English teacher at the Greater New York

Academy, speaking about that includes the building of a new, energy-efficient, state-of-the-art science lab, and a New York State high school-quality gymnasium,

which has been eagerly planning some long-needed renovations at the academy. The school was last renovated in 1984, and since then, both the student body and the need for advancements in technology and space rapidly increased.

“We already have all the equipment for the science complex, but we have no place to put it,” Mitchell said. She eagerly anticipates a clean, modern, and safe workspace for the students

is too small to hold proper gym classes, home games, and other events. The breaking of ground at the academy marked the beginning of gym renovations, that include the addition of locker rooms and new bleachers on both sides of a new basketball court.

Christopher Celis, student council president, says he believes that the new gymnasium will greatly raise school spirit at Greater New York Academy because the volleyball and basketball teams will then be available to hold home games and even encourage alumni to revisit their former school.

Mitchell says she is confident that these renovations will not only help the student body, but also further establish the school’s integrity and academic excellence in the surrounding community. Continue



School and conference administrators participate in a groundbreaking ceremony for renovations at the Greater New York Academy.



Greater New York Academy students attend an assembly and learn about the work ahead for the renovation of the school.

Academy, speaking about the December 3, 2013, groundbreaking ceremony held at the school. This event marked the beginning of what is estimated to be a 12- to 18-month renovation of the Greater New York Conference high school,



Architect, John Brown, president of Universal Design and Construction Management, holds the building permit for the work at Greater New York Academy.

that will also function as an auditorium with a seating capacity of up to 550.

For seven years, the Greater New York Conference K-12 Board of Education, whose members include Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools David A. Cadavero and Greater New York Academy principal Lillian Mitchell, had



G. Earl Knight, Greater New York Conference president, speaks at the assembly for the Greater New York Academy.

to be able to use the new, updated equipment.

The current gymnasium has also long awaited repair after water leakage permanently damaged the floors, walls, and ceilings of the gym. The academy’s gym

to pray for this exciting new venture at Greater New York Academy.

—Kerriann Hayman, reporter, GNYC Adventist News

Mirra and Ladiny Ordained to the Gospel Ministry

Pastors Michael Mirra and Brian Ladiny were both ordained to the gospel ministry on Sabbath, December 7, 2013. Carlyle Simmons, executive secretary of the Atlantic Union Conference, charged the candidates to “preach the Word of God” and remain committed to it.

Michael Mirra tells the story of his journey from the Catholic faith, his venture into new age astrology, to how a co-worker witnessed to him, which lead to his baptism. One of his mentors, Roy Bowen, former pastor of the Crossroads church, played a significant role in his becoming a pastor. Mirra is married to Loreleen Ruth. They have two daughters, Grace and Sophie. Together, they currently

serve at the Pearl River and Peekskill churches.

Brian Ladiny, a native of Haiti, has a passion for pastoral care. It is this passion that propelled him to become involved in health care chaplaincy. He is also the co-founder and vice-president of an ASI-member ministry called Orphans International Helpline that caters to orphans and abandoned children around the world. Ladiny and his wife, Esther, have a baby boy, Bradley Elie Ladiny. Together they serve at the Canaan French church in Long Island and Mahanaim French church in Brooklyn.

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



Candidates for ordination, from left, Brian Ladiny and his wife, Esther; and Michael Mirra and his wife, Loreleen Ruth.



Moab Honoré, Greater New York Conference Haitian Ministries director, left, holding the microphone, is joined by pastors and administrators as he prays for the candidates for ordination.

Photos: Dawn Rodriguez

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Greater New York Conference



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 Dr. Stan Patterson <i>Men & Leadership Challenge Assistant Professor of Church Leadership, Andrews University</i>	 Fourth Presenter: Pr. Ricardo Bala <i>Pastor, Greater Earth Temple Greater New York Conference</i>
 Dr. Robert Ortiz, MD <i>Men & Their Health Co-founder of Men's Health Endocrinology, Highland New York</i>	 Dr. D. Robert Kennedy <i>Men & Their Family Pastor, Director of the Strategic Ministry, Oakville Ontario</i>
 Dr. Rogiland Bartholmey <i>Men & Their Spirituality Ministry Director Greater New York Conference</i>	 Fr. Rohann Wellington <i>Men & Sexual Frigidity Counseling Director Greater New York Conference</i>
 Dr. Bertram McBotome <i>Men & Theological Issues Professor of Biblical Exegesis and Literature, Howard University School of Theology</i>	 Fr. Florencio Zabala <i>Men & Their Finances Executive Secretary / Treasurer Greater New York Conference</i>

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Volunteers at Union Springs Academy Share Their Passion for Educating Young People

How do you stretch the energy, time, and expertise of a small faculty to meet the scholastic needs of dozens of unique children in a boarding school environment? How do you create an academic environment where every student is fully challenged to fulfill his or her God-given intellectual potential, and at the same time, supported in reaching that goal?

Like many Adventist schools facing similar challenges, Union Springs Academy maintains inclusive classrooms, where students of all learning styles and levels study together. Differentiated instruction is one method by which our teachers present subject matter in the classrooms, but for many students there remains a need for additional assistance outside of the classroom, and, often, outside of the school day. This school year, that assistance is coming from willing and enthusiastic volunteers who share a passion for educating young people. Students and faculty alike are blessed by individuals

who have stepped forward to offer their valuable time and expertise in order to enrich the academy's program.

Rebecca Fraker has been tutoring individual students on a daily basis at the academy since the fall of 2012, assisting them with assignments and providing resources on a shoestring budget, such as leveled reading material, reference books, and educational software. Fraker has provided much of the resource material at her own expense. Most school days, a scattering of students can be found studying in the learning lab she has created in the school's former computer lab and Spanish classroom. On a volunteer basis, Fraker also assists with four English classes for the English language learner (ELL) students, working closely with Loralee Mullenbeck, vice principal and English teacher, to coordinate lessons between the mainstream and ELL classes.

Mackenzie Tupper Russell, '10, and her husband, Chris, members of the Union Springs church,



Janet Pierce helps Mediatrice prepare for her biology Regents Exam.

spend their Monday and Thursday evenings tutoring in the dorms during the study hall period. Chris Russell relates his motivation to volunteer at Union Springs Academy. "I was blown away the first time I visited the academy. The students and my wife, who was my girlfriend at the time, made me feel so much at home even though I was not religious [or] had ever attended the academy. After many more visits, I wanted to give something back in return for everything they gave me," he says.

Tutors play a vital role for students who have specific academic goals. Thanks in part to Fraker's commitment as a volunteer last school year, Zawadi, a senior from the Democratic Republic of Congo, passed the required New York State Regents exams in 2013. This year, Ntegerejimana and Mediatrice, both seniors, are diligently preparing for the 2014 New York Regents exams. These girls benefit from the assistance of three retired teachers who spend two afternoons each week in the academy library reviewing U.S. government

and history, English, and biology with them.

Jeanne Herst, Elaine Meyers, and Janet Pierce learned of the girls' strong desire to pass the exams after Ntegerejimana and Zawadi, who are sisters, performed special music in Swahili and shared their story at the First Presbyterian Church of Scipioville last October. The women were individually inspired to use their teaching abilities to benefit their fellow community members, in this case, students at Union Springs Academy.

We encourage our students to serve in the wider world, on both community and global levels. USA students see this exemplified by caring men and women who donate their personal time to serve on our campus, offering guidance and support as our young people seek to follow God's will in their lives.

—Andrea Starr-Tagalog, development and alumni relations coordinator, Union Springs Academy



Elaine Meyers tutors Ntegerejimana in U.S. history and government.

Roosevelt Church Starts a Pathfinder Club

This year the Roosevelt church has been blessed with a new Pathfinder club after many years of not having one. They call themselves The Roosevelt Pioneers, a name that is steeped in church history. The staff has made it their mission to involve the Pathfinders in community service, church activities, and fun, with Christ being at the center of it all.

The Pathfinder group is made up of eight enthusiastic children, seven of whom come from non-Adventist homes. Each child was given, as a gift from the church, an Andrews Study Bible. One of the staff heard one of the youngest members excitedly running and yelling to his mom, "Mommy, Mommy, look they gave us a Holy Bible." At each meeting the children are encouraged to look

up Bible verses and read them out loud during worship. For most of the club

up a coat giveaway for the Fulton community. Because of this effort, 90 individuals

working on is helping the Roosevelt church to package personal care kits and clothing essentials for families burned out of their homes in the Pennellville community.

The church has benefited, since four of the non-Adventist Pathfinders have either volunteered to help or have participated in the Sabbath School class. Two of the children who were too young to join Pathfinders but wanted to be involved in one of the church programs, are attending Sabbath School. The children's Sabbath School has grown—where there was once none. God has truly blessed the Roosevelt church with young people.

—Linda and Steve Wheeler,
Pathfinder leaders, Roosevelt church



The first members of The Roosevelt Pioneers Pathfinder Club at the Roosevelt church: front row, from left, Robert Whitcomb, Albert Ranger, Thorne Wing, and Brooke Ranger; back row, from left, Destiny Whitcomb, Elayna Whitcomb, Alexis Smith, and Evan Holdren.

members, worship is a new experience. The first meeting found the Pathfinders actively involved in community service, setting

were helped and the children enjoyed working together toward a common goal. Another community project the Pathfinders will be

OFFICIAL NOTICE

New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Constituency Session

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the fifth regular quadrennial Constituency Session of the New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, called to convene at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, April 13, 2014, in the Union Springs Academy gymnasium, on the Union Springs Academy grounds, 40 Spring Street, Union Springs, NY 13160. The purpose of this meeting is:

1. To receive reports and establish future plans for the New York Conference.
2. To elect conference officers, departmental directors, an Executive Committee, a Constitution Bylaws Committee, and a Board of Education Committee.
3. To consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the New York Conference.
4. To accept new churches or disband churches as may be necessary.
5. To transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the New York Conference, Article 3, Section 2a, "Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each fifteen (15) members or major fraction thereof, each of whom must be a member of the church from which they are delegates."

Lunch will be provided.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Organizing Committee will convene at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 23, 2014, at the New York Conference office, 4930 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215, for the purpose of appointing members of the Nominating Committee to serve for that meeting. According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the New York Conference, Article 5, Section 1a, "The Organizing Committee shall be constituted as follows: Each church represented at the Constituency Meeting shall choose from among its delegates, or empower its delegation to choose, one (1) member plus one (1) additional member for each five hundred (500) members or a major fraction thereof."

Angel Rodriguez, Acting President
Florencio Zabala, Secretary



New York

www.nyconf.org

4930 West Seneca Turnpike
Syracuse, NY 13215
Phone: (315) 469-6921
Fax: (315) 469-6924

Submit articles/photos to:
Kim Kaiser
Communication Director
E-mail: kim@nyconf.org



OFFICIAL NOTICE

New York Conference Association
Regular Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular Constituency Session of the New York Conference Association, a New York corporation, is called to meet in the Union Springs Academy gymnasium, on the Union Springs Academy grounds, 40 Spring Street, Union Springs, NY 13160 on Sunday, April 13, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., concurrently with the regular session of the New York Conference.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers and a board of trustees, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates of the New York Conference Constituency Session will be the delegates for the New York Conference Association.

Lunch will be provided.

Angel Rodriguez, Acting President
Florencio Zabala, Secretary

NECACS Center Hosts First Holiday Distribution Party

After being closed for about 10 years, the Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services (NECACS) Center held its first annual holiday distribution party on December 22, 2013. The event brought Christmas cheer to the members of the local community and was indeed a joyous occasion for all who participated.

The event served to bring awareness and assess the needs of the community of Corona, New York. Keicha Gosling, NECACS Center

executive director, said “We served 319 children, 227 adults, and 26 seniors with a total number of 19 volunteers. Distributions consisted of approximately 300 new coats and hot meals. In addition, 50 bags of groceries were also distributed. It was very rewarding.” Donations were made by the Northeastern Conference (NEC) headquarters; Adventist Book Center; Costco, W. Fitzgerald Kerr, Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services director; Oliver



Residents from the community gather outside the Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services Center in Corona to participate in the holiday distribution party.

Keicha Gosling

Keith, member of the Rogers Avenue church; along with non-perishable items from the community service leaders Janet Gibbs and Toracia Williams from the Linden and Mt. Sinai churches.

“Volunteering again taught me that it truly is better to give than to receive, whether it’s your time, talent, or any other act of giving, so I encourage everyone to give the act of love in remembrance of the One who gave the most precious and priceless gift of all,” Williams said.

In June 2013, the NEC administrators saw the need to reopen the center as the humanitarian arm of the conference. The NECACS

Center services are currently comprised of a food pantry, clothing distribution, emergency assistance, free health screenings, immigration services, notary public services, and tax preparation services. Other services include a soup kitchen, job referrals, computer literacy, ESL (English as a Second Language), and GED (General Education Development) classes, as well as family and individual counseling. For more information on the NECACS Center, visit www.northeastern.org or call (347) 527-2444.

—Sophia Boswell, contributing writer, Northeastern Conference Communication Department



Assisting at the NECACS Center holiday distribution party are, from left, Keicha Gosling, NECACS Center executive director, W. Fitzgerald Kerr, Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services director, and Debra Johnson, Springfield Gardens church Adventist Community Services leader.

Garfield Szygient

25 Baptized as a Result of “The Revelation of Hope for the Family Revival Campaign”

In connection with the NY13 evangelism initiative, Evangelist Anthony L. Usher and the members of Sharon church launched “The Revelation of Hope for the Family Revival Campaign” in the heart of the Bronx community in New York City.

An amazing story emerged from the July 20, 2013 to August 17, 2013 campaign. Mark and Alexia got married a week before the campaign was launched. On the last Sabbath, the evangelist invited two groups to come forward—those who would be baptized that Sabbath, and the other group who would be in a future

baptism. Mark responded to the appeal for a future baptism.

After praying with both groups, those who would be baptized in a future baptism were asked to accompany the Bible instructors for further orientation, while the baptismal candidates would remain for the baptismal vow. To everyone’s surprise, Mark remained with those who would be baptized that Sabbath. The evangelist, thinking that Mark had misunderstood the proceedings, said, “Mark, this is the group that will be baptized today. Are you going to be baptized

today?” He looked at the evangelist and said, “I will have to do it someday; why not today?”

Mark, along with his wife, was numbered among the 25 individuals who surrendered their lives to Jesus in baptism. As a result of this family ministries initiative, families were reconciled to one another. Church attendance for prayer meetings and Sabbath services are up. Tithe and local offering are up. The prayer is that the Sharon church will never be the same.

—Communication staff, Sharon church

Pathfinders at Solid Rock Serve Scoops of Love

Pathfinders from the Solid Rock church defied the frigid weather and served up scoops of love, introducing a new tradition of providing a community dinner on Thanksgiving Day 2013.

According to Pathfinder director Samantha Malcolm, Superstorm Sandy prevented this event from taking place in 2012 and the Pathfinders were disappointed, but determined that Thanksgiving 2013 would be the precursor of future dinners.

“When the idea came to me in 2012, I immediately shared it with my staff, who unanimously agreed,” Malcolm says. “So, organizing the dinner was a joy because we formulated a plan for publicizing the event by distributing flyers to neighboring pantries, libraries, stores, and other public places. We wanted lots of people to come and share God’s goodness.”

A number of people were blessed, including a guest who entered the hall with tears in her eyes, overwhelmed

by her struggles and loneliness. “I need prayers—sincere prayers,” she eventually said. Pathfinders of all ages surrounded her and prayed that she would allow God to ease her burdens. This woman shared stories of losing her job and other struggles. “My family has forsaken me, but I feel so

comforted because my staff and the Pathfinders satisfied her need for a meal and human kindness,” Malcolm says. “Thanksgiving 2013 will remain indelible in my mind, even as my staff and I strategize and anticipate having a larger crowd in 2014.”

Solid Rock church is undeniably a

“The Pathfinders gained hands-on experience being servants of God and empathizing with and encouraging a stranger.”

grateful being at this church at this moment, comforted by loving people.”

The Pathfinders gained hands-on experience being servants of God and empathizing with and encouraging a stranger. They also presumably learned to be thankful for their families and God’s unconditional love. “I thank God for those who came and for the opportunity of ministering to this woman who was broken, but left

resilient church. It serves its community by operating weekly soup kitchens and through other public events. The church is stronger than ever after being closed for almost nine months as a result of severe damage from Superstorm Sandy and finally reopening in August 2013.

—Yvette Mingo, communication correspondent, Solid Rock church

Adventist Youth Newest Justice on the Bench in Rockland County

Haitian-American Djinsad Desir is the new comeback kid after his election to the Spring Valley Village Court as the newest justice on the bench in Rockland County, New York, on November 10, 2013.

Desir, the youngest candidate in the race, initially lost the Democratic primary election by one vote, then unseated incumbent Susan Smith as an Independent in the general election by more than 1,000 votes.

Desir, who is a litigation associate at Vernon & Ginsburg LLP in New York City, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance, Management, and Organizational Behavior in 2005 from New York University’s Leonard N. Stern School of Business.

Desir later attended the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University where he completed his Juris Doctor degree in 2009.

As a member of the Sinai French-speaking Seventh-day Adventist Church, also in Spring Valley, Desir fostered his passion for serving his community and supporting the youth.

“Your faith really is the foundation for compassion and the sense of fairness that you need on the bench. I want to see human beings first, rather than defendants,” said Desir, who noted the overwhelming support he received for his candidacy from fellow members that helped canvass and vouched for his work as a youth leader in church.

Desir is one of a few Haitian-American Seventh-

day Adventists to hold an elected office, which includes former U.S. Representative Ronald Brise of the 108th district in Florida. He was sworn in on December 2, 2013, for a term that will expire in 2017.

—Kristia Beaubrun, member, Hebron church



Djinsad Desir is the newest justice on the bench in Rockland County, New York.

What’s Happening in Your Church?

We are looking for news and other inspiring stories from your church that we can share with our readers. E-mail your stories with the photos attached as separate files to the Northeastern Conference communication director. Be sure and include a caption with each photo and the name of the photographer.

For information on submitting articles, visit atlantic-union.org/writing-guidelines.



JeNeen Johnson
Communication Director
Northeastern Conference
E-mail: jjohnson@northeastern.org

An Interview With the Northern New England Conference President

On November 21, 2013, Rita Smith, Northern New England Conference (NNEC) Communication Department administrative assistant, had the opportunity to sit down with Bob Cundiff, the new conference president, to inquire about who he is and what his plans are for the conference.

RS: You've been on board for eight months now. Tell me about your early impressions of the Northern New England Conference.

BC: Tanique and I feel that we have been welcomed into this conference as though we were family. And that feels really good, because that's the way it's supposed to be in the family of God. Specifically, I like the work ethic of people in this region. I like their independence and that there is a certain hardiness about Northern New Englanders that I think the rest of the country could learn from.

RS: Tell me a little bit about your personal professional goals. Where do you see yourself in five years?

BC: I know beyond the shadow of a doubt that God brought Tanique and me here to Northern New England. So I intend to stay here as long as the good people of NNEC will have me and, while here, work as hard as I can to build the kingdom. As long as I get to work for the Seventh-day Adventist Church and tell people about Jesus, then I am happy and I don't need to go anywhere else.

RS: Where do you see us in five years as a conference? Are we going to be a leader in this union?

BC: In terms of creativity, energy, and per capita growth, I think we have something to offer. For exam-

ple, earlier this week I was at the Atlantic Union Office and spoke to the union executive committee about our ministry we call the "ARK" in Lewiston, Maine. I was encouraged by the response. They were very excited about what we are doing here and several people made passionate speeches in support of the ARK vision as a new model of evangelism and outreach.

There's a lot of enthusiasm across the North American Division (NAD) right now for what is being referred to as a "Center of Influence." Some think it's a new term, but it's actually a term that is more than 150 years old. Ellen White used this term to describe the type of work that we should be doing in the large cities.

Lewiston, and its sister city of Auburn, are the second largest populations in the state of Maine. Under the capable leadership of pastors Rick Kuntz and Don Ball, we are following the blueprint given in the Spirit of Prophecy and we anticipate that God is going to bless. This is just one example of how we can be a leader in the Atlantic Union.

RS: Speaking of the North American Division (NAD), how do we deal with the tension over the topic of women's ordination that is currently taking place?

BC: That is a sensitive topic for many of us, isn't it? Well, there was some interesting dialogue at the year-end meetings at the NAD office earlier this month. That's where the NAD Theology of Ordination Committee reported its findings and recommendations to the NAD executive committee.

I loved what they said on the opening page of the report. The committee had consensus on a statement, which basically said that they believe

a person can build a strong biblical case either for or against women's ordination while remaining committed to the Bible. In other words, they said you can be convinced that your position is biblical and correct, while the person across the aisle can do the same. I thought that was a stroke of genius on their part. I also think, however, it explains why this issue has been so confusing and painful for many of us.



Peter Ujhanski

Northern New England president Bob Cundiff serves the church members in the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

Later in their report they went on to say that since this is not a doctrinal issue, maybe we should be more open to allowing people to disagree with whatever position we take. It's our doctrine that defines us as a people; therefore, it's challenges to our doctrine that should bring the most emotional and energetic responses. But since this is not a doctrine, it should not be given the

power to bring divisiveness or disunity to the church. I think the committee has given us good counsel here.

Having said that, however, if you're asking for my personal position, it's this: if we choose to ordain women in this church I am not leaving the church and conversely, if we choose not to ordain women in this church I am not leaving the church. Personally, I think there are more important issues that we should spend our energies on and focusing on those is where I intend to spend mine.

RS: What are those issues?

BC: [Issues such as] how to retain our young people; how to engage young families in faithful stewardship that reflects a strong buy-in to the message and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and how we can be more effective in evangelism and combat the Laodicean condition that is so common among our people. Those are discussions that really get my motor running and speak more clearly to the challenges we are facing in the church today.

RS: What is the most practical concern you have about our conference right now?

BC: What concerns me the most across the conference is our finances. Tithe has been trending

downward for several years, and we have been in a rhythm of cutting pastors and office staff to balance the budget. . . . If this trend does not turn around, then there will be some difficult

.....

"My prayer is that Northern New England leads the way in probing the depths of what it means to experience unity in the body of Christ."

.....

discussions for us in the near future. The solution here is for each one of us to commit ourselves to faithfulness to the Lord in every aspect of our lives, including our giving.

RS: As a closing thought would you be willing to just share your heart with the constituents of the NNEC?

BC: My heart is for us to experience unity as a church. I think that many Adventists would be blessed to rediscover a fundamental belief that has often been overlooked. It's doctrine number 14 of this great movement and is entitled, "Unity in the Body of Christ." What that means is that if someone is being divisive and tearing down the church, its leadership, or other members, then they really are not a Seventh-day Adventist.

To call our doctrines "fundamental beliefs" means that they are funda-

mental to our very identity. So to behave in a way that is the opposite to a fundamental belief calls into question whether or not the person is truly a Seventh-day Adventist.

They may still have their name "on the books," but the essence of the Adventist message has eluded them. My heart hurts for folks who are tangled up in this mind-set.

My prayer is that Northern New England leads the way in probing the depths of what it means to experience unity in the body of Christ. That does not mean that we will always agree, but it means that when we disagree, we do so in a way that reflects the character of Christ.

I feel as if God is about to do a new and exciting thing among us. Yes, we have our challenges and we will meet them by moving forward on our knees. My hope is that we move forward together in a spirit of kindness, cooperation, and Christlikeness.

—Communication staff, Northern New England Conference

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CHIP Brings Hope and Healing to the Community

Connecticut Valley church in South Windsor, Connecticut, held its first Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP). CHIP facilitator Jean Ford and her team members Lisa Walke, M.D., Evelyn Marrero, Judy Coe, Ximena Rheau, and Barbara Flick are excited about the results. So are the 17 participants who attended the program!

In 12 sessions, participants learned why and how to shop for healthy food, read food labels, cook new recipes, eat and drink more healthfully, and get exercise and fresh air. Each session started with 30 minutes of outdoor exercise, led by Ford, right in the church parking lot.

The participants ranged from healthy to those who had heart disease and had already undergone bypass surgery. But all lost weight,



Participants at the Connecticut Valley church's first CHIP meeting have fun with the facilitator Jean Ford, front.

reduced their cholesterol and blood pressure, and generally experienced improved health and energy. Those whose health was the poorest showed the greatest net improvement.

When participant Jean Gula started CHIP, she could only

walk a block or two. Now she is walking the neighborhood with her husband, Dean.

"Now when I go food shopping they ask, 'Why are you taking so long?' I tell them I have to read all the labels!" said participant David Thaxton.

Ford and her CHIP team decided to hold the entire CHIP program at the church, even the information sessions, which are typically held in more public venues. At the close of the program, they also had a CHIP Recognition Day during Sabbath services for the participants and volunteers.

The CHIP team is following up with monthly ClubCHIP meetings to encourage and motivate the CHIP graduates and to build on the camaraderie they established during the sessions.

Connecticut Valley church is pleased to be able to serve the community and church members and looks forward to hosting its next CHIP session this coming spring.

—Sandra Dombrowski, publications liaison and CHIP Alumnus, Connecticut Valley church

First Springfield and Florence Churches Unite for Baptism of Six Youth

For the First Springfield and Florence Seventh-day Adventist churches, Sabbath, November 16, 2013, was a special day. First, because every Sabbath is special, since it is the Lord's day for His believers to worship and have spiritual fellowship in the house of God. In addition, however, that Sabbath was a great opportunity for these two churches to unite together in the same sanctuary—Springfield—to witness a great moment in the lives of six people who dedicated themselves to Jesus.

The Sabbath School started with

lessons about the important role of the sacrifice of Jesus in our salva-

tion. The atmosphere in the church was festive.



Six young people before their baptism at a joint service of the First Springfield and Florence churches. On the back row are Mihail Baciu, pastor of both churches, and his wife, Viorica.

tion. Then, the service continued in the same spirit of worship and

praise to God. The atmosphere in the church was festive. Answering to the voice of the Holy Spirit, six young people made the most important decision of their lives to accept Jesus into their hearts and to dedicate their lives to Him through baptism. Can there be anything more important than this? One by one they were introduced to the church, and stories were shared about their spiritual experience. Then, they were baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

—Mihail Baciu, pastor, First Springfield and Florence churches

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Sunset Table

March 2014	7	14	21	28	Eastern Daylight Savings Time
Bangor, ME	5:32	6:41	6:50	6:58	
Portland, ME	5:38	6:47	6:55	7:04	
Boston, MA	5:42	6:50	6:58	7:06	
South Lancaster, MA	5:44	6:53	7:01	7:09	
Pittsfield, MA	5:51	6:59	7:07	7:15	
Hartford, CT	5:49	6:57	7:05	7:12	
New York, NY	5:55	7:02	7:10	7:17	
Albany, NY	5:51	6:59	7:07	7:16	
Utica, NY	5:58	7:07	7:15	7:23	
Syracuse, NY	6:02	7:10	7:19	7:27	
Rochester, NY	6:08	7:16	7:25	7:33	
Buffalo, NY	6:13	7:21	7:29	7:38	
Hamilton, Bda	6:20	7:25	7:30	7:35	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREATER NEW YORK

Bronx-Manhattan school invites all alumni, teachers, and staff to Homecoming Sabbath on May 17. Join us for a reunion. Reconnect with friends and teachers. Bible study at 10:00 a.m., worship service at 11:30 a.m. Location: 1440 Plimpton Ave., Bronx, NY 10452. RSVP: (718) 588-7598. Stay connected on Facebook. Search for Bronx-Manhattan S.D.A. School Alumni Association.

NEW YORK

Celebrating A Legacy that Spans Over 100 Years! The Bay Knoll Seventh-day Adventist School is celebrating its legacy. This school has been providing quality Christian education for more than 100 years. Come and celebrate with us on Mar. 22. All former students and teachers are invited to attend. Students who attended during the first 50 years will be honored. The Bay Knoll school was formerly called Browning and later Culver school, located in Rochester, N.Y. Please contact us if you're a former student or have information about anyone who attended or taught at the Bay Knoll school or their relatives. Contact Ms. Rowe, principal at (585) 467-2722, e-mail: surprisedi@aol.com.

Union Springs Academy Campus Renovation Week, Mar. 16-21. Enthusiastic volunteers are needed during our first annual campus-wide renovation event! Bring your skills, tools, and a servant's heart while joining alumni, church members, and friends of the academy as we repair bathrooms, flooring, wall surfaces, and other areas to create a more functional and beautiful campus for our students. Lodging and meals will be

provided, and the week will include daily worship services. We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers with construction, cleaning, or food preparation skills! For more information about the event and to register as a volunteer, visit the academy Web site at www.unionspringsacademy.org.

OUT-OF-UNION

Union College Homecoming April 3-6. Honor classes are '44, '54, '59, '64, '74, '84, '89, '94, and '04. Special tribute to veterans and MCC. For more information, contact the alumni office at (402) 486-2503, 3800 S 48th St, Lincoln, NE 68516, or alumni@ucollege.edu.

Urbandale Adventist church in Battle Creek, Mich., is celebrating its 40th anniversary May 2-3 at its present location. We invite former members and friends to help us commemorate. Salad, sandwich fellowship luncheon is planned. For details, see www.urbandalesda.org.

OBITUARIES

JACOBS, Lloyd Ray—73; b. Aug. 10, 1940, near Asheville, N.C.; d. Nov. 22, 2013, in Cicero, Ind. He graduated from South Lancaster Academy and Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Mass. He married Rita Beth Washburn, an AUC junior student from Elmira, N.Y. in 1962. He began 42 years of denominational service as business and secretarial science teacher at Mount Pisgah Academy, becoming the fourth generation in the Jacobs family to teach in Adventist schools. In 1967 he became the Adventist Book Center manager in Northern New England, then New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Indiana.

His retirement in 2004 ended a record 37 years of ABC management. While in Pennsylvania, Rita was killed when she was struck by a vehicle while jogging near Blue Mountain Academy in 1978. The next year he married Ingrid Rogers, a teacher at BMA. Together they coordinated more than 10 short-term mission trips to Central and South America for the Cicero church. He is survived by his wife Ingrid (Rogers) Jacobs of Cicero, Ind.; his brother, Frank L. Jacobs of Williamsport, Md.; his children, Bruce Jacobs (Merrilee) of Ringgold, Ga., Julie (Greg) Fuller of Menifee, Calif., and Amy Jacobs, of Tampa, Fla., and five grandchildren, Skylar, Nathan, and Juliette Jacobs and Bryce and Brooke Fuller.

MULKERN, Winifred Rosemond Nickerson—91; b. Feb. 8, 1922, in Nova Scotia; d. Oct. 5, 2013, in Oxford, Maine. She was a member of the Adventist church for 67 years. Survivors include her brother, Norman Nickerson; sister, Genevieve Soloninka; sons Robert (Shirley) Mulkern, Harold/Bud (Sheila) Mulkern, Michael (Deirdre) Mulkern; daughter, Charlene (Ray) Gasperini; 11 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

SILCOTT, Susanna Elizabeth (Dee)—82; b. Mar. 2, 1931, in Montserrat, West Indies; d. Dec. 23, 2013, in Boston, Mass. She was a member of The Waymark church in Dorchester, Mass., and a previous longtime member of Berea church in Boston, Mass. She served the church as Sabbath School superintendent, deaconess, and usher, to name a few. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Jersey Dee, Mary Dee Sweeney, and Sarah Bramble. She leaves to cherish her memory: her daughter, Roselys Silcott White; son-in-law, David White; two grandchildren, Geoffrey White and René White; brothers, George (Beth) Dee of Boston, Mass.; John Bramble and Charles Bramble of Birmingham, England; sister, Margaret Neale of Boston, Mass., nephews, Daniel Bramble, Michael Dee, Joseph Neale, Franklin Neale; nieces, Margaret Bramble Weeks, Deborah Dee Wright, Tracey Dee DeCastro, Rohalia Brade, Janet Bramble, and Lynette Bramble; grandnephews and grandnieces.

SIMMONS Edna Lillian—78; b. Apr. 29, 1925, in St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada; d. Nov. 21, 2013, in

Tewksbury, Mass. She started her career and worked for many years as a registered nurse at the New England Memorial Hospital in Stoneham, Mass. She was a member of the Billerica Seventh-day Adventist Church in Billerica, Mass. She actively participated in the Dorcas Society and with the Boston Van Ministry for many years. She is survived by her sisters, Florence Ivimey (97) and Isobel Furlong (86) both of St. John's, Newfoundland, and several nieces and nephews.

SPYKE, Cornelius C.—88, b. Jul. 16, 1925, in St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica, West Indies; d. Dec. 1, 2013, in Hartford, Ct. He was a longtime, devoted member of Faith Seventh-day Adventist Church in Hartford, Ct., and a founding father of the West Indian Social Club in Hartford, Ct. He is survived by his children, Carolyn Spyke, Leslie Spyke, Andrea (Michael) Spyke-Peart of Hartford, Ct.; Sylvia Spyke of Manchester, Ct., Darryl (Paulette) Spyke of Virginia Beach, Va.; Denise Spyke of East Hartford, Ct., and Stanley Spyke of Ellington, Ct.; a sister, Carron Spyke of Fla.; a sister-in-law, Mavis Spyke of Fla.; a brother-in-law, James Carter of Hartford, Ct.; 18 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

WEEDEN, David Allen—71; b. Feb. 12, 1942, in Florida, N.Y.; d. Aug. 20, 2013, in Vienna, N.Y. He was a member of the Camden company in Camden, N.Y. He was a community volunteer and lay pastor. For 11 years, starting in 1969, he served as the leader of the Vienna Pioneers Pathfinder Club. Starting in 1997, he served his church as a lay pastor. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Doreen Weeden; three children, David (Laura) LeRoy Weeden "Roy" of Sullivan, Mo., Joan (Robert) Lacelle II of Camden, N.Y., and Judy (John) Tremper of Mont Alto, Pa.; nine grandchildren, Carolyn Weeden Estey, Matthew and Mark Weeden; Robert III, Randy, Joshua and Josiah Lacelle; Aleesha Tremper Lauger, Kirsten Nicole Tremper; two great-grandchildren, Nora Weeden and Jaiden Weeden; brothers, Daniel and Amelia Weeden of Camden, N.Y., Robert (Pat) Weeden of Baldwinsville, N.Y., Terry Weeden of Redfield, N.Y., Paul (Ann) Weeden of Middlegrove, N.Y., Donald (Verna) Weeden of Camden, N.Y.; a sister, Sally (Bill) Lindquist.

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 40 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.

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EMPLOYMENT

CAMP WINNEKEAG is now accepting résumés for the following positions: Assistant Camp Ranger and Assistant Food Service/Housekeeping Director. We are looking for individual's who have a passion to serve others. The Assistant Ranger is a salaried employee and is required to live on site. The Assistant Food Service/Housekeeping Director is an hourly position based on certification status and needs to live within two hours of the camp. These positions can be filled by either a couple or as single individuals. Please send your résumé to Camp Winnekeag, 257 Ashby Rd., Ashburnham, MA 01430, by Feb. 28, 2014, to be considered. If you have any questions, please call Roger at (978) 815-3377.

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Wolfe, Chair, Division of Science and Mathematics, cawolfe@ucollege.edu.

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ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM is seeking a law student for a 6- to 8-week summer clerkship in 2014. This position is limited to students who have finished only one year of law school. Ideal candidates would be in the top 25 percent of their class. Duties include legal research and other projects. Please send résumé and transcript to david.gordon@ahss.org!

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**2014 BAND &
 SCIENCE CLINIC**

February 26 to March 1, 2014

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 Seventh-day Adventist Church
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 Brockton, MA 02302

Concert: Saturday, March 1, 2014
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Free Admission

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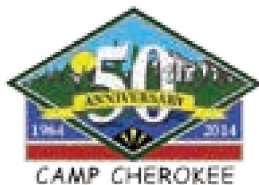
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