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Serving Others at the Edge of the Cliff

"When they heard this, the people in the synagogue were furious. Jumping up, they mobbed him and forced him to the edge of the hill on which the town was built. They intended to push him over the cliff, but he passed right through the crowd and went on his way."—Luke 4:28-30, NLT

esus, upon returning to his boyhood hometown of Nazareth, unrolled the scroll of Isaiah and announced that the Spirit of the Lord had sent Him to minister and serve all people (including Gentiles) as their long-awaited Messiah.

This did not sit well with the Jewish people, who wanted nothing to do with foreigners and Gentiles. So they mobbed Him and coerced Him to the edge of a nearby cliff with the full intent to cast Him over the edge.

The announcement Jesus shared was welcomed, so long as it did not mean associating with outsiders. This was the world in which the disciples of Jesus Christ lived as they endeavored to spread the message of Jesus to all, both Jew and Gentile.

Are we living in the same tension today? Do the disciples of Christ want to know the Messiah, but not to associate with those who need Him most?

Have there been times when attempts have been made to throw you off a cliff, figuratively speaking? Was it perhaps because you were getting "too cozy" with reaching out to unbelievers or people of other races or ethnicities in your community? Maybe you were intending to extend your ministry beyond the four walls of your church by providing youth activities for the unchurched in your community. Suddenly you're hit with questions such as: Who are these kids? Why are they here? Are any of them even our kids?

The fact is, when your church begins to relate to hurting, non-believing, marginalized people (young and elderly), things can get pretty tense. There may even be attempts to throw you over a

cliff! But if you see people the way Jesus saw them, your response will mirror His to embrace all peoples, of all backgrounds, colors, races, cultures, and ethnicities, as individuals to be touched with compassion and love.

Our job is not to manage God's battles for Him. We are simply called to share the Good News of Jesus with everyone, starting with the person closest to you.

It was Mother Teresa who said: "I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world, so never worry about numbers." She writes, "Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you."

Edward Everett Hale, an American author, historian, and Unitarian clergyman born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, was quoted as saying: "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

When we focus on doing something for Jesus, He will guide us to the place where He wants us to serve. The same Spirit of the Lord who anointed Jesus to bring Good News to the poor will appoint you and anoint you to do a great work in His name.

So I encourage you to be courageous. Hang in there, even when you find yourself serving others at the edge of the cliff. Jehovah is your pilot. He will see you through.

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



"Never worry about numbers," Mother Teresa writes. "Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you."



Leaders Empowered

to Work With Youth and Young Adults

uch excitement was stirring around the Atlantic Union as youth leaders and youth registered for the Atlantic Union's Adventist Youth Ministries Leadership Congress held January 22-25. Typically, each local conference provides an annual leadership training convention for their youth leaders. This year the Atlantic Union Youth Congress, held once every five years, focused on bringing leaders from all youth ministries together for training.

The theme for the event, "The Future is Now," focused on the fact that youth are the leaders of the church today. The premise is that if youth are engaged in leadership, their ideas being embraced, and they are given an opportunity to



Leaders from across the Atlantic Union attend the general session at the Atlantic Union Adventist Youth Ministries Leadership Congress.

The youth directors thank José Cortés, Jr., center, for his service to the Atlantic Union as Youth Ministries director. Surrounding him are Northern New England Conference Pathfinder director, Paul Watson; Greater New York Conference director, Andres Peralta and assistant director, Teddy Williamson; Southern New England Conference director, Josue Feliciano, back row; Bermuda Conference director, Cyril Millet; New York Conference director, Dan Whitlow; and Northeastern Conference associate directors, Raymond Alcock and Ken Jones and director, Roger Wade.

lead, then the future of the church will be bright and promising.

The quote, "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world"—EDUCATION, p. 271, has been heard in the church for decades. However, the follow-through to give youth the opportunity of not only participating, but sitting at the table to make decisions, was highlighted as a key to the success of engaging the youth now.

More Than 1,100 Trained

Many plans were put into place to make the youth congress, held at the Providence Convention Center and Omni Providence Hotel, in Providence, Rhode Island, successful. Attendance



Youth congress participants attend one of the many training seminars offered at the event.

exceeded 1,100 participants. Twentyseven training tracks were available, including Pathfinders, Adventurers, public campus ministry, young adults, teens, preaching, music ministry, theater ministry, teen leadership training, medical cadets, and Adventist Youth Emergency Services (AYES), among others. Some of the tracks offered were presented in Spanish.

Those attending the congress had 10 opportunities to attend training workshops. Trainers for the workshops were from across the Atlantic Union and the North American Division

(NAD). Arthur Blinci, Adventist Risk Management's assistant to the president for Strategic Risk Management, presented information on ways to protect children.

The local conference youth ministries directors took responsibility for planning the leadership congress that initially was spearheaded by José Cortés, Jr., former Atlantic Union youth ministries director. Dionisio Olivo, Hispanic and Portuguese ministries vice president, served as the Atlantic Union liaison for the

event. The leadership congress was held in partnership with the North American Division Youth Ministries Department. Representatives from the Atlantic Union were also on hand to support the leadership congress— Donald King, president; Carlyle Simmons, executive secretary; Trevor Forbes, associate treasurer; Lois

King, Women's Ministries director; along with Kevin Sears, Northeast Evangelism Training School director.

Inspiring Worships

The worships were inspiring, encouraging the audience to take responsibility for sharing the gospel with others and finishing the work God called them to do. The keynote speakers for the weekend were James Black, NAD Youth Ministries director; José Cortés, Jr., NAD Ministerial associate director; Raewyn Hankins, senior pastor in the Southern California Conference; and Anthony Stanyer, member of the One Year in Mission program.

200 Dedicated for School of Evangelism

uring the Atlantic Union Youth Ministries Leadership Congress, the Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries Department conducted its annual dedication service for the leaders who will undertake a course of study this year in the Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries School of Evangelism.

Approximately 200 candidates participated in the dedication service at which Andres Peralta, GNYC Youth Ministries director, encouraged the leaders to give of their best and not quit.

Greater New York Conference (GNYC) had one of the largest delegations of youth and young adult leaders at the leadership congress. By the time the congress concluded on Sunday morning, the youth and leaders from GNYC say they were blessed,

Leaders who plan to participate in the Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries School of Evangelism attend a dedication service.

inspired and ready to "Do Something" (the official theme for GNYC youth in 2015) for the Lord—to transform their lives, church, and community.

Teddy Williamson is the public relations officer and assistant to the youth director for Greater New York Conference Youth and Young Adult Ministries.









James Black **NAD Youth Ministries**



Raewyn Hankins Southern California Conference



José Cortés, Jr. **NAD Ministerial**



Anthony Stanyer One Year in Mission

Each speaker posed a different challenge for youth and youth leaders. The speakers asked the group to change the world by sharing the love of God and rising to the occasion when the opportunity knocks.

"The night service was wonderful. Sometimes, as leaders, we feel as though we are all alone and we want to quit, but God always sends help for us. In turn, we need to help others," said Gabrielle Brutus, a youth leader from Temple Salem church in Mattapan, Massachusetts.

Ellen White said, "We have an army of youth today who can do much if they are properly directed and encouraged . . . We want them to be blessed of God. We want them to act a part in well organized plans for helping other vouth"—General Conference Daily BULLETIN, January 29, 1893.

Compassion Projects

Several compassion projects held just prior to the congress on Thursday, January 22, offered youth and youth leaders the opportunity to serve. Included among those projects were SVDP Ministry of St. Charles Church, a ministry focused on feeding the homeless; two food pantries: West Bay Cap Market Place and Maranatha Food Pantry, where volunteers helped with food distribution; and helping with visitation and prayer at the West Warwick Senior Center.

Compassion was an important element of the congress and continues to be a benefit to the local church youth who are putting their faith to work. "Youthful talent, well organized and well trained, is needed in our

churches. The youth will do something with their overflowing energies. Unless these energies are directed into right channels, they will be used by the youth in a way that will hurt their own spirituality, and prove an injury to those with whom they associate"— Gospel Workers, p. 211.

Empowered to Lead

On Sunday, the last day of the congress, many people stopped to give thanks for the well-organized weekend. The youth congress offered training over a broad scope of youth ministries, providing inspiration to allow

the participants to go back to their churches empowered to do their work.

"Youth ministry is an important part of the work in the Atlantic Union and I am proud of what is being accomplished for the kingdom," said Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president. Until the next congress, we are to labor for the harvest of young people for God's kingdom!

Josue Feliciano, Southern New England Conference Youth Ministries director. writes in collaboration with the Atlantic Union Youth Ministries directors.







By Trevor Schlisner

The Seven Things Necessary to Make an Adventist School Work *Now*

t is *now* bothersome to me when I hear that our youth are "our future," although I've said it before, not understanding the message it implies. I have used this term with the intention of conveying the fact that our young people are the future leaders of this church and the expenditure of our resources should prove just that. The message it implies though, is that youth don't play a pivotal role in our church now.

The Bible and history itself teaches us that youth can do a mighty work now. The Bible gives us the examples

It was on the backs of youth that the end-time remnant church was formed. History will repeat itself. Ellen White states, "When heavenly intelligences see that men are no longer permitted to present the truth, the Spirit of God will come upon the children, and they will do a work in the proclamation of the truth which the older workers cannot do because their way will be hedged up. In the closing scenes of this earth's history many of these children and youth will astonish people by their witness to the truth, which will be

"When heavenly intelligences see that men are no longer permitted to present the truth, the Spirit of God will come upon the children"-ADVENTIST HOME, p. 489

of Joseph, David, Daniel, and countless others-youth who had the courage to stand for their convictions. History has proven this to be true for great good and for evil.

The Reformation saw Germany become 70 percent Protestant in just one generation, largely due to the schools that were set up by Martin Luther and Philipp Melanchthon. Fast forward 350 years and this same country, Germany, took a course for great evil under Adolf Hitler. Hitler's mantra was, "He alone, who owns the youth, gains the future." We are all aware of the atrocities that took place in one generation.

Have we forgotten the ages of those who started the Advent movement?

borne in simplicity, yet with spirit and power"—Adventist Home, p. 489.

Seventh-day Adventist education plays a critical role in these closing scenes. The following is not a comprehensive list, but will highlight seven essentials that will enable our schools to work more efficiently and effectively now.

- **1. Prayer:** We must always be asking for the will of God to be done. He will open doors and close doors. (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- 2. Distinctiveness: The mission and standards of our schools are the same as those of our church. If we are just like every other school,

there is no need for Adventist schools to be open.

- **3.** Village Approach: An old proverb states, "It takes a village to raise a child." Schools will only work if there is a cohesive effort from church, school, and home. You can offer your time, talent, or money.
- **4.** Excellence: Be excellent in the training of the whole child. Excellence in academics (mental). manual labor (physical), sharing/ living the everlasting gospel (spiritual), extra-curricular (social).
- **5.** Community Service: Incorporate service learning immediately. It is "marketing 101" and it spreads the gospel. If your school or church disappeared, would your community know you were gone?
- 6. Heavenly Schools: Our homes are to be a piece of heaven on earth. What about our schools?
- **7.** Converted Teachers: This is the work of the Holy Spirit. Pray for us. Teachers need to believe and implement the previous six essentials.

I want this to be the final generation. Our youth can do a mighty work now. Ask yourself what you can be doing now for a school near you.



Trevor Schlisner is the Northern New England Conference superintendent of schools.



Academy Students Participate in Music/Writing Clinic



Students from seven academies and one junior academy in the Atlantic Union, along with sponsors and clinicians pose for a group photo following the Saturday evening concert at Faith church.

aith church in Hartford, Connecticut, was buzzing with activity March 4-7. The members, under the leadership of James Yansen, agreed to host the 2015 Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education Music/

Writing Clinic. One hundred twenty-four students, plus sponsors, representing academies across the union and students from one junior academy, converged ately began practicing the

at the church and immedi-

Astrid Thomassian, Atlantic Union Conference education director, speaks during the worship service at Faith church; standing with her are representatives from the sponsoring entities: James Yansen, the church's pastor; and Grafton Jones, Hartford Area school principal.



Pre-kindergarten and first- and second-grade students from the Hartford Area, Springfield, and Brockton schools sing during the intermission of the concert at Faith church in Hartford, Connecticut.

music in preparation for the Saturday-night concert.

The cultural diversity of the constituency in the Atlantic Union Conference was embodied in the genre of music selected for performance. The two music clinicians, Antonie Brady and Kristjon Imperio, expertly led the students to express praise to God through musical fields that were familiar to some and new to others. The students readily responded to each director and their melodic tones prompted loud applause from the appreciative audience.

Lois Tucker, Bermuda Institute principal, led the writing clinic. Some of the skills students were guided to sharpen were their understanding of the importance and relevance of the use of good language and how the use of imagery enables an expanded understanding and interpretation of the written text. They also studied each of the songs the choir sang and crafted an interpretative essay, which they read at the concert to introduce four musical performances.

Students led Wednesdayevening prayer meeting and jointly participated in

the Sabbath worship services at the Faith and Hope churches, providing the morning's message as well as the music, scripture reading, and children's story. It was heart-warming to witness emerging leaders share their experiences of their walk with the Lord. The student speakers encouraged both young and mature in the congregation to never give up their faith in God.

I looked with joy at our students as they sang, preached, and mingled with one another. Adventist educators across the Atlantic Union are indeed preparing an army of youth to finish God's work. I hope that you will join us and the church members, who came to the microphone after Wednesday evening prayer meeting, in affirming our students and admonishing them to adhere to the values and teachings they are exposed to in Adventist schools. Please pray for Adventist Christian education.

—Astrid Thomassian, education director, Atlantic Union Conference



Bermuda Institute Students Inducted into National Honor Society

This school year, 14 stu- \perp dents from grades 10-12 were inducted into the Bermuda Institute National Honor Society (NHS), and 17 students from grades 7-9 into the Belvina Barnes National Junior Honor Society (NJHS). It was an exciting event, not just for the inductees, but for the chapters, as well. The candlelight ceremony was held in the school auditorium during a special chapel exercise with the entire student body present. The parents of the inductees and the local newspaper were also invited to share in the students' achievements.

Students inducted into the NHS were Tariq Basden, Zaren Bennett, Angellé Byron, Dasha Caines, Joshua Cox, Sierra Correia, Sanchez Darrell-Smith, Misheal Hughes, Channa James, Michaela Lewin, James Reid,

Ashton Rubaine, Daijah Stowe, and Zakayle Stowe. Those inducted into NJHS were Jasmine Adams, Justin Bascome-Dickinson, Zharia Bean, Dori Caines, Armel Cann. Tarita Chance. Aleah Clarke, J'Mae Ferguson, Camille Fubler, Sahly Govia, Ivy Ingham, Sherkeelah Ming, Zahkileh Sampson, Larissa Simmons, Stefan Simons, Veronica Swan-DeGraff, and Nazari Woods.

NHS is one of the most prestigious national organizations that promotes and recognizes excellence for high school students. In order to be eligible, students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0. In addition, they must meet high standards of leadership, service, and character. The same selection process is used for the NJHS with Citizenship as a fifth criterion.

The honor society chapters have been active for 17 years. Hence, it was especially exciting to welcome as the guest speaker Kianna Simmons, D.M.D., an alumna of Bermuda Institute. Simmons was among the first inductees in 1997, when Bermuda Institute was granted the charter for a local NHS chapter. At that time, Bermuda Institute became the first school in Bermuda to establish a local chapter, as they ioined thousands of other schools across the world in this outstanding organization. Simmons operates KErin Oral Care, her own dental practice in Bermuda.

Before becoming members of the NHS, students must be quite involved in the community. This high level of participation is still encouraged and maintained after induction. Over the years, students have completed many projects as a group and made a

difference in various areas in the community. They painted a home for the disabled, help set up the film library for the Bermuda Cancer and Health Centre, painted a mural for a youth organization, cleaned the ocean, and designed and built a mandala garden for a local elementary school, one of their favorite activities by far, just to name a few. Clearly they are not afraid of hard work and find pleasure in doing for others.

These young people take their membership seriously as they continue to uphold the high standards that earned them this muchcoveted recognition. The Bermuda Institute administrators, faculty, and staff are indeed proud of the students' academic accomplishments as well as their selfless contributions to their island home.

—Frigga M. Simmons, National Honor Society Chapter adviser and development director, Bermuda Institute

camp**meeting** 2015

"Higher Ground"

Bermuda Conference Camp Meeting • Bermuda Institute/Southampton Church Complex • June 25-27

Adult **Debleaire Snell** Senior Pastor First Adventist Church

South Central Conference

Youth and Young Adult Lola Moore Pastor

South Central Conference

Health Presentations

E. Albert Reece School of Medicine University of Maryland

Kenneth Manders President Bermuda Conference

W. DeJaun Tull Executive Secretary Bermuda Conference

W. Aaron Spencer Treasurer Bermuda Conference



Debleaire Snell



Lola Moore



E. Albert Reece



Kenneth Manders



W. DeJaun Tull



W. Aaron Spencer

For more information, visit: www.adventistbermuda.org or call (441) 292-4110.

Brooklyn School Students Participate in Annual City-wide Spelling Bee



These three students, from left, Daniel Bellevue, Stephen Boucicault, and Samuel Corion, represented the Brooklyn school in the 51st annual New York Daily News Spelling Bee. Corion took home the fourth place prize.

hree students from **⊥** the Brooklyn Seventhday Adventist School participated in the 51st annual New York Daily News Spelling Bee on March

19. Held at the New York Public Library on 42nd Street, around 70 students, ranging from fifth to eighth grade, participated in the first day of spelling fun.

Sixth-grader Daniel Bellevue; and eighth-graders Stephen Boucicault, and Samuel Corion represented the Brooklyn school. Corion, who has a passion for spell-

ing, had competed before. His third attempt since 2013, Corion dropped out in the first round that year. In 2014, he progressed to round four. This year, he made it to the seventh round and took home the fourth place prize.

The New York Daily News will sponsor the two winners of the two-day competition to represent New York City at the annual Scripps National Spelling Bee held in the Washington, D.C. area at the end of May.

"We are very proud of Samuel Corion and his achievement in this year's spelling bee, and are pleased that each of the boys represented the school very well," said Laura Mayne, principal of the Brooklyn school.

—Staff, Brooklyn school

Huntington Church Honors Members of its Community

arlier this year, the Huntington church held its annual Community Guest Day, under the direction and leadership of the church's pastor, Eddly Benoit, and the Community Services director, Imogene Hamilton.

During Sabbath School, reports from local and worldwide mission work were highlighted, including Benoit's recent mission trip to Cuba. The presenters emphasized the charge to "do what God has implanted in you and go where God is calling, but do not neglect your local community." Notably, the church makes a positive impact locally and tends to the needs of the community by providing food

through their food pantry and hosting frequent coat drives.

Dignitaries who attended the service were Betsy Miller, president of the local NAACP; Irene Moore, vice president of the local NAACP; Jo-Ann Raia, Huntington Town Clerk; Jillian Guthman-Abadon, director of Human Services for the Town of Huntington; and Delores Thompson, representative for the Enrichment Center.

This year's honorees were Vinette Walker and Kevin Thorbourne. Walker is a centenarian and active member of the Huntington church. Thorbourne is the director of Minority Affairs for the Town of Huntington and was recommended

by the local police, community residents, and appointed officials. During his acceptance speech Thorbourne said, "Huntington Seventh-day Adventist Church is the most hidden treasure in the community."

The church celebrated the baptism of three new members and guest speaker Josie Frampton, a pastor in the Northeastern Conference, delivered the spoken Word. Frampton encouraged and reminded the congregation to, "face your giants with God, and allow Him to be your hope, strength, and courage."

—Lorraine Anthony, member, Huntington church



campmeeting 2015

"Educating for Eternity"

Greater New York Conference Camp Meetings • Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, New York All camp meetings are at Camp Berkshire, except where noted.

Luso-Brazilian Camp Meeting May 22-25, 2015

Elmar Borges

Pastor/Youth Ministries Director South Brazil Union

Franco-Haitian Camp Meeting Theme: "Eduquer pour l'éternité" Tuly 19-26, 2015

Adult

Maxime Pape

Pastor Sinai French Church Southeastern Conference

Youth

Duddley Francois

Pastor North Bronx Church Greater New York Conference

Youth

Eddly Benoit

Pastor Antioch Church Greater New York Conference

English Camp Meeting August 1, 2015

Adult

Bill Santos

Pastor

Harmony Adventist Church Toronto Italian Adventist Company

Youth and Young Adult Keith Albury

Pastor

Southeastern Conference

Hispanic Camp Meeting Theme: "Educando Para La Eternidad" August 8-15, 2015

Adult

Stephen Bohr

Pastor

Fresno, California

Youth and Young Adult Arnoldo Cruz

Pastor

Southeastern Conference

Daniel Duffis

Pastor

Greater New York Conference

Hermes Tavera Bueno

Pastor

Greater New York Conference

Oscar Santana

Evangelist/Nutritionist Vida En Acción on 3ABN Latino

United Camp Meeting September 12

Gina Brown

Academic Administration

Ghanaian Camp Meeting July 14-19, 2015

Indiana University, Indiana, Pennsylvania

Kwabena Donkor

Associate Director Biblical Research Institute

Korean Camp Meeting August 2-8, 2015

Pittsburgh University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Keith Albury



Eddly Benoit



Stephen Bohr



Elmar Borges



Gina Brown



Arnoldo Cruz



Duddley Francois



Bill Santos



Oscar Santana



Hermes Tavera Bueno



Daniel Duffis

For more information, visit www.gnyc.org or call (516) 627-9350.

11 Students Make Decisions for Baptism at NYC Music Fest

rade 5-8 students from **J**the New York Conference elementary schools participated in the annual New York Conference Music Fest on February 26-28 at Union Springs Academy. Music selections were sent out to all schools in December. and students practiced faithfully throughout the winter months. Nearly 80 students attended the music clinic, with home schoolers and students from Union Springs Academy's Les Chanteur group joining in to help.

The Music Fest was hosted by Todd Coulter, Union Springs Academy principal, and his staff. Lee Ann Fairbanks, principal's secretary, and Bradley Booth, New York Conference, superintendent of schools, organized the festival with nearly 40 volunteers, elementary teachers, Union Springs Academy staff, and New York Conference administrators, who joined in to make this a memorable event. The dorm deans provided hospitality for the

student guests, and the cafeteria staff made sure they were fed well.

The director, Michael Gayle, provided leadership that motivated the students to sing. He groomed them for the performance and

Garlock, Frontenac school teacher, played the guitar; and Sue Hayford, fifthand sixth-grade teacher. with the Parkview Junior Academy student handbell choir, assisted in making beautiful music.



Grades 5-8 students from New York Conference elementary schools participate in annual New York Conference Music Fest.

inspired them to use their talents and the music to praise God. Esther Baker, USA music director, was the accompanying pianist, and Kathy Strickland, music teacher in the community, was on the organ; Jeremy

The theme for this year's clinic was "Mighty to Save." Ten music rehearsals were held on Thursday and Friday to prepare students for the presentations on Sabbath. Nine breakout activity sessions were also provided for

students to give them muchneeded alternative recreation time in their packed schedule. The activities included ceramics, soap carving, wood burning, twig picture frames, hair clip crossbows, crocheting, gymnastics, volleyball, and drama.

On Sabbath afternoon the students performed nine selections. Such songs as "Every Time I Feel the Spirit," "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel," and "Mighty to Save" set the tone for the day. Elias Zabala, New York Conference president, gave the closing remarks and prayer. He also made an altar call, and the Holy Spirit brought 11 students forward for baptism.

The 2015 Music Fest was a great production, but it took hours to make it happen. However, the memories made and the futures set for the children are worth all the effort. Already plans are underway for Music Fest 2016.

-Communication staff, New York Conference

New Baptized Member Added to Batavia Church

 ${
m F}$ or the Batavia church in New York, Sabbath, February 28, was a special day as Scott Maskell was baptized and accepted into church membership. Maskell met one of the church members, Mitch Strong, seven years ago while selling him a tractor. A friendship ensued and three years ago Maskell started worshiping at the church on a regular basis.

Maskell grew up in another denomination, but was not satisfied with what he found there. The church's previous Bible worker, Kelly Linder, met with Maskell for Bible studies for a time, then



Batavia church's first elder, Roger Almeter, baptizes Scott Maskell.

studies were continued by Francis Kelly, one of the church's younger church members.

Last spring Batavia church presented the eight-week Creation Health program series, which Maskell attended. His baptism was a high day at the Batavia church and the elders also dedicated him with prayer and a laying-on-ofhands ceremony. Several special gifts were given to Maskell, including a study Bible, and the day ended with a celebration dinner.

—Evelyn Hitchcock, communication secretary, Batavia church

More Than 400 Attend Passion Play Experience at USA

uring two Easter weekend performances at Union Springs Academy, more than 400 people experienced the Passion Play, an emotional journey through the story of Christ's redemption of our fallen world. While the traditional Passion Play takes the audience from the fall of man to Christ's resurrection, the annual Passion Play at Union Springs Academy depicts the Great Controversy in its entirety, from the war in heaven to Christ's second return.

The dramatic presentation of God's plan of redemption is a powerful experience as students act out the scenes of Creation, Abraham and Isaac, and the Crucifixion to the accompaniment of a



Union Springs Academy students perform the Passion Play before an audience of more than 400 people.

soundtrack featuring contemporary Christian songs.

While the Passion Play is an opportunity for ministry to the community, it is also a time of soul-searching and spiritual growth for the students and faculty. The Passion Play, performed

at the academy for over a decade, has become a pivotal spiritual point in the school year as students are cast in roles, practice, direct, and worship throughout the production process. Senior students are given the responsibility and privilege

of directing modern and end-time scenes, and these scenes change from year to year as students adapt them to depict stories of God's presence through contemporary spiritual struggles.

This year, one scene depicted the Karen people receiving the gospel message from missionaries and subsequently experiencing persecution by armed soldiers because of their newfound faith. While audience members often find themselves in tears during the performance, the Passion Play is always an uplifting experience that reminds us of God's unmeasurable love for mankind.

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

camp**meeting** 2015

"Go . . . A Culture of Discipleship"

New York Conference Camp Meetings • Union Springs Academy, 40 Spring Street, Union Springs. New York • All camp meetings are at Union Springs Academy, except where noted.

Camp Meeting June 19-27, 2015

Tune 19-20 Abraham Jules Pastor Community Worship Center Northeastern Conference

June 22-26, Morning Meetings Patric Rutherford

President/CEO Andrews Memorial Hospital Jamaica, West Indies

June 22-25, Evening Meetings **Kevin Sears**

Director

Northeast Evangelism Training School (NETS) South Lancaster, Massachusetts

June 26-27 David Schwinghammer Stewardship/Worship Director Ontario Conference

North Adirondack Camp Meeting August 14-15, 2015 West Bangor Church Grounds 2267 State Route 11B, North Bangor, NY

William Miller Chapel Meeting July 25, 2015

William Miller Home and Chapel 1614 Route 11, Whitehall, NY





Kevin Sears



Patric Rutherford



David Schwinghammer

For more information, visit www.nyconf.org or call (315) 469-6921.

Beulah Church's Education Department Sponsors Black History Program

 $((\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}))$ Then We Were Kings and Queens" was the theme of the Black History program at the Beulah church in Mount Vernon, New York. The program, held on Sabbath, February 28, highlighted the history of African Americans prior to slavery. Presentations were done by singers, poets, instrumentalists, and speakers.

Members and friends of Beulah church portrayed various historical figures. From the last ruler of the 25th dynasty, Taharqa, the Nubian pharaoh of Egypt, to Queen Esther of the Bible, the characters were portrayed in royal fashion. This program was created and sponsored by J. Angela Sobers and the Beulah education department to celebrate Black History Month.

—Education department, Beulah church



Young people from Beulah church were among those who participated in the Black History program. From left are, Jackie Thompson, Steffan Thompson, Saadig Sobers, Jasmine Jackson, Arika Halliman, Omeilia Elliot, and Cvdnee Tawdeen.

Tuskegee Airman Shares His Experiences During Black History **Month Celebration**



elder, interview Tuskegee Airman and World War II Veteran Charles Dorkin.

s part of the Black History Month celebration in February, the Newburgh Tabernacle church in Newburgh, New York, had

a "Fireside Chat" on February 28, in the format of an interview with special guest speaker Charles Dorkins, Tuskegee Airman, 2nd

Lieutenant, and B-25 Pilot in World War II. Dorkins is the uncle of Christina Wells, a member of the Newburgh Tabernacle church.

He shared his experience as a Tuskegee Airman and about the life of a black soldier during those times. On display was the original crisp uniform he wore as a Tuskegee Airman. There were also photos and memorabilia depicting his experiences during his service.

After his experience as a Tuskegee Airman, he developed a career as a photographer/cinematographer and author. He filmed and directed many documentary

productions, such as a look into the real life and character of the black neighborhoods of Detroit in the late 1960s and a documentary on the Tuskegee Airmen.

He authored the book SLAVE MAN. Dorkins is 92 years old. He is still very active and travels extensively. The program was coordinated by Careta Phillips, the church's AYS leader; Shubalii Kohloa, an elder, and Tiffany Sewell, grand-niece of Charles Dorkins.

—Ilene Osbourne, communication director, Newburgh Tabernacle church



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NNEC Welcomes New Youth Ministries Director

¶ark Tamaleaa is the new Youth Ministries director for the Northern New England Conference (NNEC). Tamaleaa has been serving young people for almost 18 years in many facets of youth ministry. He was the principal of Parkview Junior Academy in Syracuse, New York, before accepting the call to join NNEC.

Tamaleaa and his wife, Mindy, have four children—three boys and a girl. Their daughter, Jayda, is in fourth grade, while sons Jared, Jalen, and Jorden are in the

eighth, eleventh, and twelfth grades, respectively. Mindy Tamaleaa is a busy mother and a nursing student.

Tamaleaa says his greatest joy in ministry is watching a young person give his or her life to Jesus. He enjoys reading, playing sports, caving, wakeboarding, playing board games, and camping. Tamaleaa graduated from Thunderbird Adventist Academy and received his degree in elementary education from Southwestern Adventist University. He has a master's degree in admin-



Mark Tamaleaa, Northern New England Conference's new Youth Ministries director, his wife, Mindy, and their children enjoy an outing.

istration from Grand Canyon University.

—Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference

How Saco Church Made A Model of Its School

he Florence M. Lombard church in Maine is a case study in vision and inspired problem solving. It is also a case study in faith, persistence, and grit.

Saco is not a wealthy church, nor is it a large church (typical Sabbath attendance is about 20-30). Thus, it was that a number of years ago, when the church was faced with declining attendance at its little school. some felt the writing was on the wall and the school would just have to close. It was believed that the church could not support the school financially, nor were there enough young kids in the church to reasonably expect a sufficient number of future students. Sadly, the little school closed.

However, there were some in the church who felt that the primary purpose for a school was for outreach, and



The Florence M. Lombard Memorial School and a daycare operation are located in the same building as the church.

that the church should do all it could to have and support a school. This latter group did not give up their vision. In fact, through the five or so years that the little school was closed, their vision only got stronger. The group crafted a description of early childhood education—daycare—creating both a stream of students and financial stability for Saco's school. They promoted this vision to the church.

In the end, the church rallied and members sacrificed to reopen and support the school. The church built a

new extension to house not only the school, but also a daycare operation. The plan was that the daycare operation would be run profitably and would subsidize the school while also acting as a "feeder" by providing a stream of students whose parents were impressed with the care their children received at daycare.

The vision and plans of the church were implemented, but not without great difficulty. Staffing, logistics, finances, and other issues all proved to be challenges. There was also skepticism and unfamiliarity

to overcome, both from without and within. Community members who had never heard of the little school had to be slowly won over. The education and budget committees at the conference needed reassurance when the student count at the reopened school dropped below the six-student minimum, and church members scrambled to help assure that more than six students were enrolled for the next year. It was a close thing, but the Lord was in it.

Today, the "Saco Model" of having a profitable daycare center that acts as both a financial support and a feeder for a school is proving itself. Actually, it is more than proving itself—the whole operation is booming. The little church that acted with both faith and grit has a model school.

-Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference



NNEC Camp Meeting: A Year Like No Other

There are so many things about the 2015 Northern New England Conference (NNEC) camp meeting that are special and unique that it is hard to know where to begin. To start with, there is the date: August 7-15. Yes, August. Because of the General Conference Session, NNEC's camp meeting is being held very late in the season. Next, there is the focus on the sanctuary, which includes bringing a full-scale model of the wilderness sanctuary to the camp meeting, where it will be open for free guided tours.

Attendees will hear the sanctuary explained and tour the courtyard, the holy place, and the most holy place. Then there is the fact that the big tent is coming back! For ages



Ty Gibson

NNEC's camp meeting was held in the traditional venue—a big, opensided tent. For a number of reasons, including an increase in severe weather, the tent was retired a few vears ago. Now, with the later camp meeting date and the traditionally calmer weather that August brings, the big tent is making a comeback. If you attend NNEC's camp meeting, expect a joyous "old-time" experience.

As if all this were not enough, NNEC has worked hard to present an astonishing array of seminars and an excellent line-up of featured speakers. Richard and Jo Ann Davidson, both of whom are instructors at Andrews University Theological Seminary, are the featured speakers from August 7 through August 11. Richard Davidson is professor of Old Testament interpretation and has been on the Andrews faculty since 1979. He has authored six books and numerous academic papers. Jo Ann Davidson is a broadly published writer and the author of three books. She is the first woman to teach in the theology department at Andrews University.

From August 12 through August 15 Ty Gibson will be the featured speaker. Ty is the co-director of Light Bearers, an international publishing, media, and teaching ministry, and he is the pastor of the Storyline church in Eugene, Oregon. Gibson, who has written eight books, is a best-selling



Richard and Jo Ann Davidson

author whose most recent release is A GOD NAMED DESIRE. He is fundamentally a creative person and a storytelling communicator who connects with audiences while emphasizing God's unfailing love as the central theme of the biblical narrative.

Frankly, with the combination of the August date and the unique attractions, NNEC does not have any idea what kind of crowds to expect and therefore suggests that attendees register for their campsite as early as possible. All are welcome. For more information, call (207) 797-3760 and talk to Diane Kane at extension 211.

—Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference

camp**meeting** 2015

"Thy Way, O God Is in the Sanctuary"

Northern New England Conference • Pine Tree Academy, 67 Pownal Road, Freeport, Maine

English Camp Meeting, August 7-15

Hispanic Camp Meeting, August 8-15

Indonesian Camp Meeting, August 8-15



For more information, visit www.nnec.org or call (207) 797-3760.

More Than 500 Attend Child Protection Training



More than 500 lay people are at Camp Winnekeag in Ashburnham, Massachusetts, for the Southern New England Conference sponsored Child Protection training.

ore than 500 lay **V**people and Southern New England Conference employees respectively spent the day at Camp Winnekeag in Ashburnham, Massachusetts, on March

22 and 23, for training in the new Child Protection polices. The keynote speakers were Cory Jensen of the Center for Behavioral Intervention, and Arthur Blinci, Adventist Risk

Management assistant to the president for Strategic Risk Management.

Jensen laid out both the problems and the behaviors of chronic child offenders. Many eyes were opened to

the extent of the problem and how schools, churches, and camps are targets for child offenders.

Blinci spoke about the current situation in the North American Division and dispelled any lingering myths that these problems do not affect our church. He also laid out the Shield the Vulnerable policy that will make church families and all our institutions proactive in combating this problem.

Blinci's presentation will soon be available on the Vimeo video page. A link will be sent to the employees to share with the churches.

—David Dennis, communication director, Southern New England Conference



Cory Jensen of the Center for Behavioral Intervention, presents the problems and the behaviors of chronic child offenders.



Arthur Blinci, Adventist Risk Management assistant to the president for Strategic Risk Management, shares information about the Shield the Vulnerable policy.

Boston Ghanaian Company Organized

The Southern New L England Conference administrators, David Dennis, president; Jose Alarcon, executive secretary; and Joel Thompson, treasurer, were present on the afternoon of February 7 to officially establish and welcome the Boston Ghanaian Company. The service was held at the Berea church in Dorchester, Massachusetts.

Representatives from all the Ghanaian churches in the Southern New England Conference were present. Charles Boampong is the pastor, who will be leading members of the Boston Ghanaian Company.

—Communication staff, Southern New England Conference



The members of the Boston Ghanaian Company take a group photo following the service to officially welcome them as a company in the Southern New England Conference.



camp**meeting** 2015

"To Every Nation, and Tribe, and Tongue, and People"

Southern New England Conference Camp Meetings . Southern New England Conference Campground 34 Sawyer St., South Lancaster, Massachusetts All camp meetings are at the campground, except where noted.

English Camp Meeting June 12-20, 2015

David Dennis

President Southern New England Conference Friday Evening – June 12 Sabbath Morning – June 13 Saturday Evening — June 13

Scott Christiansen

Trust Services Director, Author Northern New England Conference Sunday Evening - June 14

Marquis Johns

Pastor Allegheny East Conference Monday Evening – June 15 Tuesday Evening - June 16 Wednesday Evening - June 17

José Cortés, Jr.

Ministerial Associate Director for Evangelism North American Division Thursday Evening – June 18 Friday Evening – June 19 Sabbath Morning – June 20 Saturday Evening - June 20

Women's Ministries

Mable Dunbar Founder/President/CEO W.H.E. Network Spokane, Washington

Haitian Camp Meeting Machlan Auditorium, **AUC Campus** June 20, 2015

Daniel Honoré

President Northeastern Conference

Portuguese & Cape Verdean Camp Meeting Tuly 18, 2015

Amin Rodor

Professor Centro Universitário Adventista de São Paulo

Hispanic Camp Meeting July 18-25, 2015

July 18-23 - Locations to be announced July 24-25 - Southern New England Camparound

Julio Chazaretta

Multilingual Marketing and Sales Director Pacific Press Publishing Association

Ricardo Bentacur

International Publications Director Pacific Press Publishing Association



Ricardo Bentacur



Julio Chazaretta



Scott Christiansen



José Cortés, Jr.



David Dennis



Mable Dunbar



Daniel Honoré



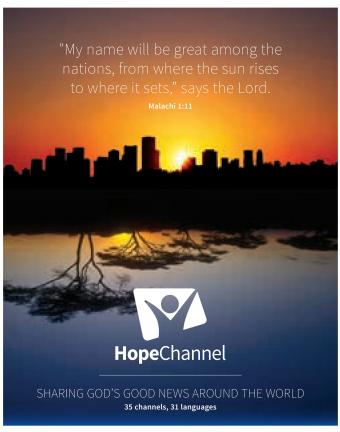
Marquis Johns



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Children's Program for ages 4-12

NNEC Annual Spring

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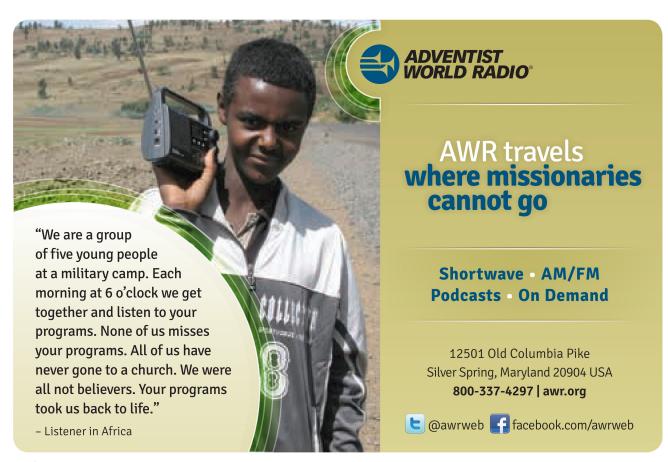
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"The gospel is the power of God unto salvation when it is interwoven with the practical life, when it is lived and practiced. The union of Christ-like work for the body and Christ-like work for the soul is the true

interpretation of the gospel" The Review and Histold, March 4, 1902

Be prepared to learn how to minister to your neighbors!

Presenters include: Pastor Rick Kuntz, Pastor Jason Disch, NNEC Assistant Trust Director, Jennifer Hernandez and Nurse Practitioner, Mary Penner Download Registration Form at: www.nnecprayerministries.com Contact: Kelly Veilleux at kellyv@inverity.org or 207-314-7546







Sunset Table				Eastern Daylight Saving Time	
June 2015	5	12	19	26	
Bangor, ME	8:17	8:21	8:24	8:25	
Portland, ME	8:19	8:23	8:25	8:26	
Boston, MA	8:17	8:21	8:24	8:25	
South Lancaster, MA	8:20	8:24	8:27	8:27	
Pittsfield, MA	8:26	8:30	8:33	8:34	
Hartford, CT	8:22	8:26	8:28	8:29	
Providence, RI	8:17	8:21	8:23	8:24	
New York, NY	8:24	8:27	8:30	8:31	
Albany, NY	8:28	8:32	8:34	8:35	
Utica, NY	8:37	8:41	8:43	8:44	
Syracuse, NY	8:40	8:44	8:47	8:48	
Rochester, NY	8:46	8:50	8:53	8:54	
Buffalo, NY	8:50	8:54	8:57	8:57	
Hamilton, Bda	8:21	8:25	8:27	8:28	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREATER NEW YORK

Save the date! Greater New York Academy 95th Anniversary, Oct. 9-11. Honoring classes ending in 0 and 5. Friday night: vespers and welcome

table. Sabbath: church service, lunch, "Music and Memories." Sunday: breakfast and basketball. Send your name and contact information to alumni@gnyacademy.org, or "friend us" at Greater Nya, or write to Greater New York Academy, 41-32 58th St., Woodside, NY 11377.

Campus Renovation Week At Union Springs Academy! Are you passionate about Adventist education? Serve our students by donating your time.

Are you passionate about Adventist education? Serve our students by donating your time, skills, and energy as we work together to renovate our campus facilities! During this sixday event in June, we will complete thousands of dollars in renovations. Visit our website to

view our 2015 projects, sign up as a volunteer, or to make an online donation for building materials and other event expenses.

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June 7-12, 2015

www.unionspringsacademy.org





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EMPLOYMENT

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SEEKS A VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: ${\operatorname{The}}$

applicant must possess a doctoral degree from an accredited institution of higher education and successful record of academic administration. Values consistent with the Seventh-day Adventist mission and tradition of the college. Classroom experience, preferably at the college level. Submit cover letter, including a statement addressing the specific minimum and preferred qualifications, résumé, copy of transcript, and three professional letters or reference to: roberto.reyna@auc. edu. For details, visit: www.auc.edu.

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SEEKS VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.** The applicant should have at least a bachelor's degree in business or a related area. Professional designation and master's degree preferred. Computer business applications skills essential. Candidates should have a proven record of management of non-profit organizations and/or businesses. Values consistent with the Adventist mission and tradition of the college. Submit cover letter, a statement addressing the specific minimum and preferred qualifications, résumé, copy of transcripts and three professional letters of references to: roberto.reyna@auc. edu. For details, visit: www.auc.edu.

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Master's degree or equivalent with four to 10 years related experience and/or training. Candidate must be a member in good and regular standing in the Adventist Church, and committed to the values, principles, and expectations of the Adventist Church and Atlantic Union College. Submit cover letter, including a statement addressing the specific minimum and preferred qualifications, CV, a copy of transcript, and three professional letters of references to: roberto.reyna@auc.edu. For details, visit www.auc.edu.

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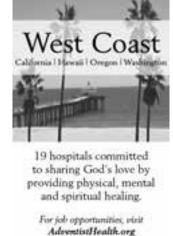
seeks full-time Director of Alumni Relations. Focus areas include alumni events, engagement strategy, volunteer coordination and fundraising; includes some travel. Bachelor's degree and two years relevant experience required. Submit cover letter and current CV/résumé to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu.

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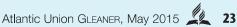
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