



- NNEC Initiates Long-term Church-planting Project
- How to Share Safety Sabbath With Your Church



inside FEBRUARY 7



4 Share Your Gift; Change Our World

The Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Department works diligently with the youth ministries directors in each of our conferences to meet the spiritual needs of the youth and young adults in our territory.

9 Bermuda Conference Celebrates its Seniors
The Bermuda Conference recognized, celebrated, and
honored its seniors.



16 NNEC Initiates Long-term Church-planting Project

Members of the leadership team in the Northern New England Conference were pondering the sober realization that every one of the major population centers in their three-state territory showed up on the list of the top 10 most secular cities in the United States.

23 How to Share Safety Sabbath With Your Church

In addition to praying for the Lord's protection, educate and prepare your church congregation with an annual safety drill.

- 3 From the Executive Secretary
- 8 Atlantic Union College
- 9 Bermuda
- 10 Greater New York
- 12 New York
- 14 Northeastern
- 16 Northern New England
- 18 Southern New England





- 21 Bulletin Board
- 21 Obituaries
- 22 Classified Ads

Cover: On the cover is a photo of youth leaders from around the Atlantic Union Conference territory at the November 2016 leadership meetings in Stamford, Connecticut. The photo was taken by Luis Sanchez.

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God's Enduring Presence in the Church

he omnipresence of God throughout the history of humanity and in the life of the church is the overarching theological theme that has led the church over the years. All human leaders come and go, whether it was Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Peter, Paul, James, or John in the Bible, or any leader of our time, but God will always be present in the church.

Over the past few months, the Atlantic Union Conference and several local conferences have experienced multiple leadership transitions. New union executive officers, a new education director and associate director, a new youth director, and a new vice president were elected. The union membership, along with both departing and incoming leaders, must trust in God's leadership and in the Seventh-day Adventist church system. We are reminded by Ellen White that: "Enfeebled and defective as it may appear, the church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense His supreme regard"—The Acts of the Apostles, p. 12.

Successful leadership transition assures the continuity of the workings of God in the lives of the members individually, and the intervention of God in the life of the church collectively. In their book Next: Pastoral Succession that WORKS, p. 24, William Vanderbloemen and Warren Bird rightly understand that "God's church depends far more on the Great Shepherd than the human undershepherd (1 Pet. 5:1-4). Any church's future depends ultimately on God far more than the coming and going of human leadership." The abiding presence of God in the life of the church is the constant compass that has led the Advent movement through transitions.

The church exists for the glory of God and the edification of the saints. Human beings, no matter how talented, are temporal and mortal. God, however, will always be there with the church and for the church. Moses rightfully acknowledged "Lord, you have been our dwelling

place. . . . Before the mountains were born you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God"—Psalm 90:1, 2, NIV.

The assurance of God's enduring presence is central to successful leadership transitions. God is the only "I AM,"— Exodus 3:14, "our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble"—Psalm 46:1, NIV. Leaders may be in positions for a short or long tenure, but our continual focus must be on God. We must have faith that the omnipresent God will continue to lead the church or institution. Elaine Robinson, in her book THESE THREE: THE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUES OF FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE, explains that: "At its core, the excellence of faith can be defined as accepting that God's will and way are in our best interest, despite rational claims, empirical data, and societal standards that might suggest otherwise. . . . Christian faith acknowledges that God is both the source and the goal of our faith, the alpha and the omega of our spiritual journey."

Ellen White reminded us that leaders must never "fail of consulting the great Source of all wisdom"—PROPHETS AND KINGS, p. 31. We will be wise to remember Moses' transitional instruction to Joshua: "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged"—Deuteronomy 31:8, NIV. God was in the church before any member or pastor arrived, and before anyone was elected, and He will be there after we are all gone. Leadership transitions are inescapable reminders that, ultimately, the church is not about us. We are only vulnerable instruments in the hands of an omnipotent God—the "King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, [to whom] be honor and glory for ever and ever"—1 Timothy 1:17, NIV. 9

Pierre Omeler is the Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary and director of the Human Relations department.



"The abiding presence of God in the life of the church is the constant compass that has led the Advent movement through transitions."





he Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Department works diligently with the youth ministries directors in each of our conferences to meet the spiritual needs of the youth and young adults in our territory. We strive to be innovative and at the forefront of incorporating and utilizing the plethora of resources, talents, gifts, and abilities available to us to plan and implement top-notch training and programs to support, equip, and empower Atlantic Union youth to live up to our theme, "Share Your Gift; Change Our World." As Atlantic Union youth director for the past six months, I have seen God tremendously bless the various ministries under this department, but we certainly still have much work to do.

According to a March 2015 report by the Barna Research Group, "What Millennials Want When They Visit Church," nearly six in 10 of those who grew up in church have "dropped out" of church at some point, and more than half have been absent from church in the past six months. Of the millennials surveyed about the importance of attending church, 30 percent say it is "not important," 30 percent say it is "very important," and 40 percent fall "somewhere in the middle." Of those who see no importance about attending church, the top three reasons were: "I can find God elsewhere" (39 percent); it is not "personally relevant" to them (35 percent); and just find it "boring" (31 percent). Of the

third who do find church attendance relevant, almost half of them go "to be closer to God" (44 percent), or because they can "learn about God there" (27 percent).

We have a world that not only needs to be reached with the gospel message of Jesus Christ, but we also have youth and young adults who are seeking more from life, our churches, and our ministries. I have encountered dozens of people, young and old, who feel they have no purpose or meaning.

A young adult wrote on social media, "I feel that I do not have in me anything significant to share; I have nothing to share at all." A young woman once said to me, "Pastor, why did God create me? I feel as if He made me for no reason."

Although we long for the kingdom, while we remain in this world, we need to make it better and healthier. If we are going to truly "change our world," or make a difference, we must take into consideration the four values of the Atlantic Union Adventist Youth Ministries Department:



Consecration:

Set ourselves apart for God and God alone, consecrating every part of us entirely dedicated

to God's service. We should also live so people can see that we "walk the talk" and that peace dwells in us.



Compassion:

We need to have a compassionate life, which means to "suffer with," sympathize,

and empathize with others as we

move into action to help the needy and unfortunate.



Collaboration:

We strive to help each other, assist whenever needed, and work together to achieve a better

environment, school system, justice system, and society in general.



Community: Live

as a community, supporting and caring for each other so that our world can become a better place.

Hebrews 13:16 (NIV) says, "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Sharing your gifts goes beyond our natural talents and abilities, it's utilizing whatever bless-



The Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Department leadership team meet in Stamford, Connecticut, to discuss the details of their five-year plan for the youth and young adults.

2016 Year-end Review

Atlantic Union Youth Ministries highlights include:

- We welcomed two new conference youth leaders to the Atlantic Union Youth Ministries leadership team: Ariel Manzueta of Greater New York, and David McKenzie of Northeastern.
- November 4—The Atlantic Union Youth Ministries leadership team met in Stamford, Connecticut, to detail the five-year plan and create the vision for youth ministries in the Atlantic Union.
- November 5—More than 160 volunteer youth leaders went to Stamford, Connecticut, to take part in preparing plans and vision for youth ministry in the Atlantic Union.
- November 18-20—The Atlantic Union Association of Adventist Camp Professionals (AACP) retreat was held at Camp Berkshire in Wingdale, New York.
- November 23-30—Members of the Atlantic Union Youth Ministries leadership team and their families visited Israel for an educational tour.
- December 2-6—Atlantic Union Youth Ministries leaders attended the National AACP meeting in Calcutta, Georgia.



Cover Story

ings God has given you—whether resources, time, love, words, or anything—that will help make someone better and not bitter, and using it for the glory of God.

We all have something we should consider gifting, or sharing with the world. Ralph Waldo Emerson is attributed with saying, "The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well." Sharing is not about me, it's about others. The world is in need of consecrated and compassionate



Andrés Peralta, Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries director, left front, takes a photo with the group at the Bermuda Conference Youth Ministries leaders reunion.



Young adults from around the Atlantic Union attend the Northern New England Conference young adult retreat at Camp Lawroweld in Weld, Maine.



More than 160 youth leaders participate in the leadership meetings in Stamford, Connecticut.





Youth and young adults join hands for prayer at a New York Conference training session.



The Atlantic Union Youth Ministries leadership team pose for a photo while in Israel on an educational tour.

people who work collaboratively as a community to bring into the world healing, peace, justice, and love. It is my belief that the Atlantic Union youth are ready to share their gift, and change our world.

Andrés J. Peralta is director for the Youth Ministries, Young Adult Ministries, Pathfinder, and Adventurer departments in the Atlantic Union.

Save the Date — Upcoming Events

February 10-12, 2017 March 18, 2017 April 1, 2017 October 7, 2017 July 30-August 4, 2018 August 12-17, 2019 January 17-19, 2020 Spring 2021

GODencounters
Global Youth Day
Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE)
Collegiate Summit
Global Youth Congress (Stuggart, Germany)
International Pathfinder Camporee
Atlantic Union Youth Leadership Congress
Atlantic Union Camporee

Annual Compassion Rally Locations

2017—Rochester, New York2020—Hamilton, Bermuda2018—New York, New York2021—Worcester, Massachusetts2019—Portland, Maine2022—Syracuse, New York

For more information, visit www.auyouth.com

▼ The Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries leadership team, from left on page 6, **Atlantic Union:** Andrés Peralta, director; **Bermuda:** Cyril Millet, director; and Chanel Bean, associate director (teens); **Greater New York:** Ariel Manzueta, director; Teddy Williamson, assistant director; and Angel Reyes, assistant director; **New York:** Dan Whitlow, director; Jeremy Garlock, associate director (young adults); **Northeastern:** David McKenzie, director; Javier Alcon, associate director; **Northern New England:** Josue Feliciano, director; and Milton Marquez, associate director. Not pictured from **Bermuda:** Damon Hendrickson, associate director (young adults); and Dwayne Hill, associate director (Pathfinder/Adventurers); and **New York:** George Silver, Pathfinder director.



Fall Semester Ends With Celebration and Unity

Winter Banquet

Atlantic Union College (AUC) experienced two great events at the end of its 2016 fall semester. A winter banquet, organized by the Student Association, was held on the evening of December 11. The student body took the opportunity to express thanks to God by reading poetry and singing hymns. Student Association president Johnathan Dixon spoke about how God can work with anyone, no matter how small they may perceive themselves to be. After dinner, the last hour was spent with students giving thanks to and sharing gifts with AUC faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication.

Winter Graduation

The NETS Evangelism Center and Certificate Program 2016 winter graduation was held on Sunday morning, December 18. There were 16 graduates: 12 graduated from the NETS Evangelism Center, two from the Medical Billing and Coding Certificate Program, and two from the Cisco Networking Program.

Heath Townsend, an AUC alumni who re-enrolled and graduated with a Medical Billing and Coding certificate, provided special music. In the commencement address, John Baxter of Adventist Frontier Missions encouraged the graduates to continue to focus on their spiritual growth as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

-Emmanuel Ortiz, communication manager, Atlantic Union College



Pictured are Kevin Sears, NETS Evangelism Center director, seated center; and John Amoah, Southern New England Conference ministerial/ evangelism director, standing right, with the NETS Evangelism Center graduates following the winter graduation.



Issumael Nzamutuma, Atlantic Union College Academic Affairs vice president, left, poses with graduates Bernard Habimana, Magaly Fabian, Dwayne Blackman, Heath Townsend, and Barbara Fuller, Atlantic Union College Certificate Programs director, right, at the college's winter graduation.



Atlantic Union College students attend a winter banquet, organized by the Student Association.



Bermuda Conference Celebrates Its Seniors

The Bermuda Conference recognized, celebrated, and honored seniors on the weekend of November 5-6, 2016. Kenneth Manders, Bermuda Conference president, used the expression "we are walking on the foundation of many generations" to remind the attendees that they have come to this place in life by the grace of God and by the help of those who have paved the way before them.

The special guest speaker and soloist for the weekend was T. Marshall Kelly of Huntsville, Alabama. He blessed hearts during the worship service as he spoke on the topic "Looking Unto Iesus."

In his discourse, Kelly urged seniors to remember the importance of knowing Jesus and having Him as part of their lives, especially at this stage of their existence. The reality that they are here for service was the central focus of his sermon. Kelly added that our emphasis should be placed on Jesus and things eternal, and he encouraged the listeners to get ready for the coming of Jesus.

Many of those in attendance have been blessed over the years by Kelly's melodious voice, and his ministry as a seasoned pastor, recording artist, and radio host. Some of his sermons in song and favorites of the seniors were "It Takes Everything to Serve the Lord," known worldwide as Kelly's signature song, as well as "It's Nobody's Fault but Mine," "Peace in the Valley," and "Never Doubt His Love." Other musical groups on the program were the Senior Mass Choir, The Brothers of Southampton,



About 250 seniors participate in the Senior Appreciation Weekend event, sponsored by the Bermuda Conference.



T. Marshall Kelly of Huntsville, Alabama, speaks to the seniors during the Bermuda Conference's Senior Appreciation Weekend.

and Hamilton church's Men's Chorale.

Approximately 250 seniors attended the Sundayafternoon banquet. Some churches brought senior club members, friends, and relatives. Special guests included Bermuda Senior Islanders' Centre newsletter editor Fredrick R. Hassell, MBE, and the Minister for Seniors, the Hon. Jeanne J. Atherden, JP, MP.

The diamond table décor was exquisite, and the fourcourse meal was prepared by the Hamilton church's

gourmet team. A special feature included master and mistress of ceremony, Morton "Morty" Williams and Judy James, strolling

down memory lane and reminiscing about their youth, the peculiarities of their upbringing, and societal norms. The music was soothing and uplifting; the company was fantastic. It was truly a weekend that will be forever etched in the minds of all attendees.

"This celebration weekend was the Bermuda Conference's appreciation to our seasoned citizens. We say 'thank you' to the stalwarts of our lives, for all that you are to us, and for all that you have done for us in this life's journey and in preparation for the life to come," Manders said.

-Iva T.P. Wilson, member, St. David's church

"We say 'thank you' to the stalwarts of our lives, for all that you are to us, and for all that you have done for us in this life's journey and in preparation for the life to come."

Beulah Temple Organizes Thanksgiving Meal at Shelter Home

D eulah Temple church Dmembers started their Thanksgiving day 2016 feeding residents at the Starbright Family Residence, a shelter home in the heart of Canarsie, Brooklyn, New York.

For the past nine years, the church has been organizing helpers to serve meals to the residents of Starbright. About 120 residents were in attendance for the prayer and worship service and for the warm meals. The majority of the helpers are members of the church, but there are others who hear about the event and willingly volunteer their service. From the chefs in the kitchen, to the servers dishing out food, all were engaged in making the experience of the residents a delight.

This little act of community service at Starbright has opened a flood of opportunities to witness to the



These are a few of the volunteers who helped to feed the residents at the Starbright Family Residence.

residents. Corben Crew, the church's pastor, along with the elders, now conduct weekly Bible studies with some of the residents. Several of the residents also attend the church's worship services. One of the residents recently committed his life to the Lord in baptism.

The church hopes to continue hosting its Thanksgiving specials at the Starbright Family Residence. "Go ye into all the world" is the commission that Christ gave to His church and Beulah Temple church plans to fulfill this, beginning in Canarsie.

For information on volunteering or about other community events the church hosts, visit www. beulahtemplesda.org.

—Oluomachukwu Agwai, communication director, Beulah Temple church

People of Haiti Hold on to Their Faith in God

The Category 5 hurricane that f L devastated parts of Haiti in October 2016 resulted in at least 1,000 fatalities and caused an estimated 10 million dollars in damages. Haiti, one of the poorest and most underdeveloped countries of the western hemisphere, is still recovering from the tragic earthquake in 2010. Many Haitian citizens, as well as

their families, wondered if the country they love and call home would ever get back on track toward structure and stability.

Through a translator, a young woman who experienced the 2010 earthquake spoke about her faith in God, "I remember where I was when the earthquake hit. I was 12 at the time, fetching a pail of water for my mother when the ground started to break from underneath me. I quickly ran to my mother and watched in horror as our homes and neighborhoods went down like they never existed. I wasn't there in the hurricane affect-



Residents of Haiti are once again impacted by devastation, this time from Hurricane Matthew.

ed areas, but I imagine that they experienced the same fear. It was hard, but the thing that kept most of us going was our deep faith in God. Because of this storm and past storms we continue to hold on to God's unfailing hand."

Many local organizations have been sending aid and are continuing to send aid to those affected by Hurricane Matthew. Ferdinand

Yves Vixamar, representing non-profit organizations Generation Hope Builders and Scattering Resources, shared that they were able to prepare care packages and distribute hygiene and food kits to local families and churches. The kits were expected to last each person three or four days.

Despite the tragedy, the people of Haiti seem to be in high spirits and deeply rooted in their faith in God and believe that He will, and already has begun, to make provisions for them.

-Fabiola Jean, reporter, GNYC Adventist News

Greater New York Academy Students Impact Woodside

ne hundred Greater New York Academy students descended upon their Queens neighborhood for an October morning of community service, as planned by Bible teacher Nkarlo Alexander. Accompanied by teachers, each group went to a different location using the maps they created of their territory.

Several teams went to Woodside Avenue, along the subway line, where they gave away bags containing water, a healthy snack, and a faith-sharing book to passersby. The students who walked over to a day care center sang songs and told stories to the young ones, and then shared children's bags containing coloring books, crayons, and snacks. A friend of Alexander, Marjorie Fennel, made this event more special. Because she works for Penguin Books, she donated many books, which Alexander presented to the daycare center.

Perhaps the most dramatic results came from the team who boarded the Adventist Community Services van. After being trained to take blood pressures, these students not only performed the tests for the neighborhood, but counseled each guest on how to get their blood pressure to a healthy level. One of the bilingual students was especially helpful in translating for some of the guests from the community.

Teacher Molly McAlpine remarked that listening to the students' health suggestions was like hearing advice from doctors! The van personnel shared with her that they usually see only four or five people in that location, but with the students participating they treated 60 that morning.

The school needs your prayers as they seek to do the work of Jesus this school year.

—Helene Mattenson, director of development, Greater New York Academy



Greater New York Academy students share healthy snack bags.



Henry Jose practices doing a blood pressure reading.

GNYA Students Bring Joy to Nursing Home Residents

Members of the junior class at Greater New York Academy (GNYA) hosted the annual Christmas program at the Queens Boulevard Care Facility on December 21, 2016. The nursing home residents were greeted warmly by the students, and were presented with Christmas song selections, poems, a dance from the praise team, and a classic Christmas play.

The students brought their humble gifts in the form of their time and talents. One junior, Nehemias Artiles, prayed in both English and Spanish to better reach the diverse population. The highlight of the evening was when all 20 students min-

gled with the residents during the "meet and greet."

Rafael Sanchez, who led out in this activity, chal-

expressed delight when they heard their own names being recalled by the students who reported on those they met.



The junior class and their sponsors perform for the residents of the Queens Boulevard Care Facility.

lenged each student to find out the names of the residents, their background, and their favorite Christmas memory. At the end of the exercise, the residents On behalf of the junior class, each one of us is indescribably thankful for the opportunity to engage with those at the nursing home. Listening to them speak

of their past and everyone they care about was truly touching. Seeing them smile endlessly as the program continued is something that cannot simply be forgotten. Being there also instilled a sense of appreciation in each of us for what and who we have in our lives, and for our health and the ability to pursue absolutely anything.

It is our hope that we left our new friends with the true happiness of the holiday season. However, most importantly, we hope that we left them with a portrait of Christ and the love that He has for each of them.

—Dyenaba Laguda, class of 2018, Greater New York Academy



Veterans Honored at Union Springs Church



Arthur Slagle, assistant director for the North American Division Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, speaks to the veterans, community guests, and local church members.

rthur Slagle, a retired Navy-Marine Corps chaplain, was the special guest speaker during the Veterans Appreciation Sabbath service at the

Union Springs church last November. Slagle is an assistant director for the North American Division Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) and field representative for the chaplaincy work in the southern region of the United States.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to 20 veterans by Union Springs mayor Bud Shattock. Veterans were selected to be honored in conjunction with the local American Legion Post 1107, including some veterans from the local church. The American Legion Post also provided the color guard to bring in the national and state flags.

During the service, the Union Springs Academy choir sang a rendition of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic." The local Pathfinder club lined the entryway and saluted as the flags were paraded by the color guard.

Union Springs church pastor Gary Wagner announced that the local church and Union Springs Academy are working with the New York Conference to organize a chapter of the Medical

Cadet Corps (MCC) in Union Springs in the near future. The MCC chapter will train young adults, ages 18 to 35, in community service, disaster preparedness, and medical assistance in preparation for possible future military service.

MCC was deactivated in 1973 when the Vietnam War and the draft ended. It was reactivated in 2016 by the General Conference.

—Communication staff, Union Springs church



Union Springs mayor Bud Shattock, left, presents Leonard Jakaub with a certificate of appreciation for his service in the U.S. Army in Japan and Korea.

Oneida Church Gains New Bible Study Candidates on Harvest Dinner Sabbath

The Oneida Native American church has received ▲ a healthy shot in the arm. With a new renovation project near completion, the now wide-open basement includes a much larger dining area, a children's Sabbath School room, a kitchen, and new carpeting is being installed. Members are excited to invite people to come see and experience the changes.

The church's annual Harvest Dinner Sabbath was more successful than ever. The Lord directed people from the community through the doors of His church. The social atmosphere was noticeably different. The essence of the morning message from the pulpit overflowed into the dining area as talk around the tables was about heavenly themes.

Mary Winder, the much-loved and appreciated director of the Native churches, realized her opportunity and didn't sit down; instead, she visited from table to table, enjoying the fellowship and watching for opportunities to share the gospel among the visitors.

Denise Skinner, Skip Davis, and Terri tended to hungry people filing through the serving line. Eunice Perry and Gerry Winnie enjoyed the much-needed rest after



People from the community join Oneida church members for their annual Harvest

many years of church service. It was their turn to be served by the newly-appointed church leaders.

Planning, promoting, and implementing a harvest dinner takes time and some expense, but beginning three new Bible studies this day made the event a success.

—Bruce W. Wilkinson, pastor Oneida/Onondaga Native American churches

Highlights from Churches in the New York Conference

Pastors Receive Citizen Preparedness Training

nastors from the New York Conference participated in a Citizen Preparedness Training session on November 29, 2016. The presenter, Staff Sergeant Raymond Fiederer, the representative for the New York State Citizen Preparedness Training Corps (dmna.ny.gov/cpc) in Auburn, New York, shared information on the need to be prepared for emergencies, how to respond in the event of an emergency, and how to begin the restoration of lives after an emergency.



Staff Sergeant Raymond Fiederer shares information on how to be prepared for emergencies.

For generations many have felt that the church is protected from disasters and emergencies, but the enemy, the devil, continues to be the lion searching for whom he can destroy (see 1 Peter 5:8), and is working hard to destroy even the church of God. Training the pastors of the local church is a good first step toward preparing for attacks the enemy may bring. While the prayer is that emergencies do not occur, it is also important to be prepared in case they do.

—Jeremy Garlock, communication director, New York Conference

Kingsbury Adventurer Club Growing

The Kingsbury church's Adventurer L club is growing. To formalize this



The Kingsbury church's Adventurer club has grown since being revived three years ago.

growth, they held their annual Induction ceremony on October 22, 2016. The club was revived three years ago with three members and has grown every year, with a total of 10 members in 2016. Of those 10 children, six are new to the club: Samantha Monroe (Eager Beaver), Daniel Proctor (Busy Bee), Colvin Porter (Busy Bee), Izayah Jones (Busy Bee), Abigail Dean (Sunbeam), and Elijah Dean (Helping Hand). The four returning members are AJ Wells (Eager Beaver), Ginger Wells (Busy Bee), Braydon Kocsis (Busy Bee), and Carson Wells (Sunbeam).

—Adventurer club director, Kingsbury church

"Answers for America" Series a Success

pening night of the Gouverneur church's evangelistic meetings was a great success. Fifteen visitors and about as many members attended. The opening topic was "Are We on Our Own?" Now, after the series has ended, the church has several interested persons attending regularly.

The nightly drawings featured free DVDs entitled, "The Bride, the Beast, and Babylon," "Cosmic Conflict," and many study guides and books, including Steps to Christ.

In addition to Gouverneur church members participating in the evangelistic series, many volunteers from the Watertown church provided music, and two guests, Britany and Briana DuFault, who are regular visitors to the Gouverneur church, performed a special number on the last night of the meetings.

"Answers for America" was a great success and the participants were encouraged to see how God continues to work miracles when His children put forth the effort to do His work.

-Roy Morris, pastor, Gouverneur church

Conrad Skantz Celebrates 100 Years

The officers of the New York L Conference visited Conrad Skantz, on November 5, 2016, to wish him a very special and blessed 100th birthday. Skantz previously served the New York Conference in many ways, but, perhaps, most notably as conference president during the late 1970s and early 1980s.



New York Conference administrators William McNeil, executive secretary, left; Priscilla English, treasurer; Miguel Crespo, president, right; celebrate with 100-year-old Conrad Skantz,

In addition to performing the "typical functions" of a conference president, Skantz showed his commitment to Seventh-day Adventist education. Under his leadership Union Springs Academy was brought out of debt, gas wells for the academy were drilled, the academy church was built, the Fingerlakes Estates Retirement Home was built, and the conference was greatly blessed.

Skantz's commitment and service will never be forgotten.

—Jeremy Garlock, communication director New York Conference

Macedonia Church Celebrates International Day

nce a year, Macedonia church members celebrate their diversity by dressing up in the national costumes/colors of the many countries they represent. Elders Mario Brown, from Schenectady church, and Juan Ruilova, from Capital Hispanic church, ministered to the congregation during the worship service late last fall. The sermons were translated by Claudio Gomez, Macedonia church's pastor.

During the afternoon program, individuals representing 25 countries wore their national dress and carried their country's flag, while others serenaded the congregation to the sound of a typical selection of their country's praise music or national anthem. After telling a little about their nations and answering questions from the crowd, the participants posed for a group photo.

A special offering was taken that day and was donated to Toys for Tots to provide gifts for children in Schenectady.

Macedonia church members are thankful for all who attended, prepared meals, and contributed to the annual International Day.

—Marc B. LaCroix, youth director, Macedonia church



If You See Something, Say Something

66 T f you see something, \bot say somethingTM" is the alert message used by the Department of Homeland Security in this day and age, instructing what you should do if you happen to see or notice any potential danger. However, the South Ozone Park church chose to use this phrase in a much different way on Community Guest Day last fall. The church chose to recognize the officers of the New York City Police Department's 113th Precinct.

The church wanted to be able to encourage the police officers, pray for their needs and safety, and lift their spirits by visiting from time to time with huge fruit baskets. South Ozone Park church adopted the 113th Precinct in the year 2000 and, since that time, both have worked closely together on various community outreach projects.

Why adoption? Public servants not only work tirelessly, but their work can often create stresses in many areas of their lives. Though brave, police officers are ordinary people, they hurt, cry, and



Police officers from the 113th Precinct, center, are honored at the South Ozone park church Community Guest Day service; on the left are Trevor Baker, pastor, and his wife, Eunice, and Ann Hector, elder; on the right are Ruth Stapleton, elder; and Walton Rose, Springfield church pastor.

laugh just as we do. They pay bills, and go shopping. They have families and hobbies and take much-needed vacations. Who knows, they probably even change diapers and read bedtime stories. The police officers of the 113th precinct have always held a special place in the heart of South Ozone Park church.

Trevor H.C. Baker, the church's pastor, welcomed the four officers and, after a resounding applause of appreciation, they introduced themselves to the congregation. The officers' elated

expressions were inspiring. Each officer told of their years of service in the department and how much they appreciated the attention.

Then, much to the officers' surprise, the church gave fruit baskets and a large carefully-wrapped gift box. "This box is heavy," said one officer, while the other expressed, "I've never had anything like this done for me before!"

Eunice Baker, the pastor's wife; guest speaker Walton Rose, pastor of Shiloh church in Springfield, Massachusetts; and platform guests surrounded the officers while Baker prayed for them.

The church's mitzvah to the police officers was, "May the Lord always be at your side to watch over you, whether you are on patrol, while standing on a street corner, or in a car, or in a crowd of our city. Thank you for being New York's finest!"

On a subsequent Sabbath, the police officers, unannounced, returned to church, to express their personal thanks and that of their families for the appreciation and genuine love and warmth from, as they expressed. "their" church family. "If you need anything, don't hesitate to call. We'll be right there!" they promised.

Little did the congregation know how that promise would be fulfilled when, within the hour, the church had to call 911 because of a medical emergency. Guess who showed up? The two officers, who had stopped by earlier to say thank you!

—Lorraine Archie, communication secretary, South Ozone Park church

Franco-Haitian Pathfinder Drum Corps Perform at Barclays Center

he Northeastern ■ Conference Franco-Haitian Youth Federation has been busy with activities and ministry—from youth days and youth retreats, to collecting goods for Hurricane Matthew victims in Haiti. However, on November 27 the Franco-Haitian Pathfinder Drum Corps had a oncein-a-lifetime opportunity to minister and perform at an NBA (National Basketball Association) game for the



This Franco-Haitian Pathfinder Drum Corps had the opportunity to play for the Brooklyn Nets at an NBA game.

Brooklyn Nets pre-game show at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

It was an unforgettable opportunity for the young Franco-Haitian drummers and their staff. On that night the Brooklyn Nets hosted an "SDA Youth Night" which was orchestrated by Joze Frage, who reached out to the federation with the opportunity. Franco-Haitian Pathfinder coordinator Ruth Milius, along with drum corps leaders Kenny Laguerre and Carl Estera, helped prepare the young drummers for the challenge. They had the drum corps well prepared and left the Barclays Center crowd in awe.

More importantly, the Franco-Haitian Youth Federation saw this opportunity as a chance to show the world that young Seventhday Adventist Christians are active for Christ, and willing to stand out and minister to those in their community, whether it be inreach in their local churches or outreach with local-based organizations such as the Brooklyn Nets.

Franco-Haitian Youth Federation president Daniel Edmond, who was at the game to support the youth, said, "I was extremely

proud to see our young men and women doing the things they love to do. This shows us that our youth are very talented. It was a humbling experience. The federation is trying to take ministry to another level, with innovative ways to engage our youth and help them evangelize to those in our community."

The federation consists of more than 30 churches and is actively seeking to serve all their churches and continue to encourage the respective churches to minister to their communities. Playing for the Brooklyn Nets was a unique way to show the world that young people are on fire for Christ.

-Executive staff, Franco-Haitian Youth Federation



Standing are some of the breast cancer survivors at Lebanon church's Breast Cancer Awareness Tea Party.

Lebanon Church Honors Breast Cancer Survivors

T ebanon church hosted a Breast Cancer Awareness Tea Party on October 30, 2016, in recognition of breast cancer survivors and those currently undergoing treatment. Church members, friends, family, and members of the community attended the event and were elegantly attired in hats and gloves for the women, and suits for the men. Various icebreaker activities allowed all of the attendees to get acquainted and enjoy the event.

Survivors spoke of gratitude to God for life and healing after surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation. One of the most touching testimonies was that of Jeffrey Osae, from Ghana, who was a visitor. Osae is currently battling Stage 4 breast cancer. With his young son standing at his side, Osae cried tears of joy as he told of how God allowed him to find the lump and finally connect with a doctor who acknowledged his symptoms, which resulted in surgery and treatment. He said he feels healthy and strong, even though he knows that, sadly, the cancer has spread throughout his body. His remarks put a face on male breast cancer, which is often fatal, because it is usually ignored or is diagnosed at late stages.

Each table in Lebanon church's crystal ballroom was uniquely decorated with beautiful tea settings and was given a name such as "Serendipi-Tea," "Possibili-Tea," "Opportuni-Tea" and "Integri-Tea," embodying the determination of the survivors. Various departments, such as G.E.M.S., Communication, Health Ministries, and others were assigned a table to set. Tables were then judged on presentation.

It is the intent of Lebanon church to make this an annual October event. Members look forward to the day when Jesus will come and disease will no longer exist.

—Rosalie van Putten, communication department, Lebanon church

SAVE THE DATE

The Edward D. Herndon Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert March 11, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

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NNEC Initiates Long-term Church-planting Project

In mid-2015, members of Lthe leadership team in the Northern New England Conference (NNEC) were pondering the sober realization that every one of the major population centers in their three-state territory showed up on the list of the top 10 most secular cities in the United States. This realization further stoked their desire to proclaim the Word of God and build His

involvement, mass mailings, church planting, publicaccess television—a fairly basic hurdle emerged: they just didn't have much demographic data to work with. And without such data, determining the merits of various ideas and approaches was difficult. For instance, should they tailor outreach efforts to millennials or empty-nesters or retirees? Or should they tailor their efforts to minority

data, but also knew they could not afford to commission a custom GIS (geographic information system) study. They solved the problem by adopting existing corporate GIS data from one of the biggest and most sophisticated users of GIS data in the country-Walmart. Walmart spends millions on building a store that they then cannot move, so they take great care to place it at a distance, that would constitute a gap in coverage.

To the astonishment of the team, 17 gaps were found four in Maine and 13 in New Hampshire. Some of the gaps have such a significant population that multiple church plants are in order. A good example of a gap is Littleton, New Hampshire, a town that serves as a commerce and health-service hub for northern New Hampshire.



This former church in Maine was converted into a surf-board shop. Across the region, shrinking congregations have left a landscape littered with underused and unused churches, leading to creative recycling and repurposing efforts as places of worship are converted into places of commerce or entertainment.



This former church in Maine was converted into an art gallery. It is just one of many, many churches that are being converted to commercial purposes or torn down after their congregations dwindle and peter out.

church, but what was the best way to achieve that objective? What would work with a group of people who had rejected Christianity, religiosity, and a churchcentric life? Fundamentally, how does a church reach out to people who have rejected the very idea of church?

As the group grappled with various ideas and responses—which included a Revelation series, community

populations? An even bigger question was the viability of using existing churches as a platform to reach people. Many churches in the conference were very old; historic, in fact. Had populations shifted away from the existing churches? By using existing churches as evangelism platforms, would they be missing significant populations?

The team knew they needed advanced demographic

crossroads where maximum populations can reach it.

Using this information, the team created a map of existing churches across the conference, then overlaid a map of existing Walmart stores, and looked for gaps. If there were areas where Walmart had chosen to invest millions into a store (in the middle of a population center) and yet there was no Adventist church within a reasonable

Littleton has a regional hospital and thriving business, tourist, and outdoor-adventure sectors, but it has only four Adventists. The closest Adventist church is some 20 miles away.

With the gaps identified, the leaders decided on a two-prong strategy that would attempt to increase evangelism activities in existing churches while the gaps would be addressed

by a separate, long-term, church-planting initiative. The rationale underpinning both was summed up by conference president Bob Cundiff. "What we see across Northern New England is a population that has rejected a church-centric culture and has rejected religiosity. But they do not seem to have rejected a spiritual life and are therefore still open to the urgings of the Holy Spirit. And as long as people's minds are open, we will proclaim the Word of God and work to build His community of believers."

The choice of church planting as the primary emphasis was strongly influenced by Ted Huskins, executive secretary of the conference and an experienced church planter. "Church planting is one of the most difficult and complicated efforts a conference can undertake. It is also one of the most effective things we can do. It brings people to Christ, and that makes it worthwhile to undertake."

The NNEC church-planting effort is based on carefully putting church-planting teams together, one at a time. Each team will consist of volunteer missionaries who move into the area and become part of the community. Each team will have three to six members, each with specific skills. The team will slowly and patiently raise up a community of believers over a period of years.

The church-planting effort will have some unique aspects and features. Because the post-Christian society in Northern New England has rejected a church-centric life, emphasis will be on new believers meeting to learn and encourage one another and in doing so, to define

what their "church service" looks like. The new believers will be creating their own group and worship style, but not their own theology. In other words, the preconceived notions of "church" that post-Christians have rejected won't be a stumbling block in the process of building up communities of sincere and committed believers.

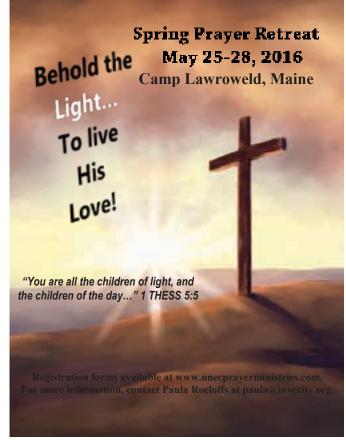
Recruiting, training, and supporting the teams of missionary planters will be a major, multi-year effort, according to Huskins. "We're looking for people who are on fire for Christ and who want to dedicate part of their lives to building a fellowship for Christ on a tent-making basis. We'll be able to give them training and logistical and spiritual support, and we'll give them mentoring and some minor financial support. Team members are the front-line workers in this

critically important effort, and it is they who most fully engage in the battle for souls. When we put these teams together we'll be trying to do so in a way that helps people to joyfully, productively, and effectively engage in this important work."

When asked to describe what a team would look like and how it would function. Huskins has a ready answer. "Three to six young men or women in their twenties or thirties who are passionate about Jesus and the Adventist message. We are looking for teams that, in sum, have a full complement of the gifts necessary to successfully plant a church." If you'd like to know more about NNEC's church-planting project, contact Ted Huskins at thuskins@nnec.org.

-Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference





Holiday Food Drive Feeds 270 Families

7 Jolunteers from the Greater Lancaster Holiday Food Drive, a ministry of several Lancasterarea Adventist churches and organizations, organized by the College Church, gathered and sorted enough food to feed 270 families for Thanksgiving.

This annual food drive began in late October 2016 when volunteers delivered brown-paper grocery bags to every home in Lancaster and parts of neighboring Clinton. Stapled to each bag was a note requesting residents to fill the bag with nonperishable food items. Volunteers returned the next week to pick up the bags of food left on doorsteps and took them to the College Church. There they sorted and packaged multiple boxes of food, customizing them for households of one up to 11.

"On the day we collect the bags from the doorsteps of Lancaster and Clinton, I am amazed at how we are so blessed by our community and how God works in everyone's hearts," said Sheryl Crowley, coordinator of the food drive.



Alejandro Urbina and Fred Day, members at the College Church in Lancaster, along with many other volunteers help sort food to distribute a week's worth of food to 270 households in time for Thanksgiving.

While the bulk of the food came from local residents. some donations from the church, community members, and area businesses were used to supplement and make sure, for instance, that every family received a box of noodles and a jar of spaghetti sauce. College Church members also grew hundreds of squash to include one in each box.

About 1,000 volunteers helped with the food drive, including members of the College Church, Village Church, ReMix Interactive Worship, South Lancaster Academy, Atlantic Union College students, many area Pathfinder clubs, and employees of the Southern New England Conference.

"The Greater Lancaster Holiday Food Drive is an incredible blessing to all! Not just to those who receive food, but also to those who make it all possible. I'd like to thank all our volunteers for their hard work, their countless hours, and for living out 1 Peter 4:10. Let's do it again next year!" said Luis Gracia, senior pastor of the College Church.

—Shauna Neidigh, member, College Church

Grace and Glory Church End-of-Year Highlights

Four Baptized

Four people joined the family of God

in December 2016 by starting the day with Holy Communion and ending



These newly-baptized candidates from the Grace and Glory church are all smiles.

it being baptized in the presence of the members of the Grace and Glory church in Providence, Rhode Island. Juan Damon, the church's pastor, baptized Patricia Burke, Ann Marie Costa, Andelys Liranzo, and Annelise Liranzo, assisted by church elders Thomas Stevens and Roy Gayle. The four women have decided to put God first their lives.

Celebrating Jesus' Birth

hen, Grace and Glory L church, together with the Cumberland church in Cumberland, Rhode Island, designated a day of praise to celebrate the birth of Iesus Christ. The children of the Grace and Glory church and Jerry Boucher presented the play "The Real Reason for the Season." A concert featuring Mary Ruff, Joy Damon, Josiah Ruff, Brandon deEvans, and the youth and young adult choir from the Lincoln church in Lincoln. Rhode Island. was held after the play. Throughout the day more





The children of Grace and Glory church and Jerry Boucher present the play "The Real Reason for the Season.'

than 100 visitors attended the program. Maritza D'Aloisio, Juan Damon, and the hospitality team worked together to make the day a great success.

Women's Ministries High Tea Event

t the annual Women's Ministries High Tea, 80 women and girls from the age of 12 to 86 attended.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Constituency Session

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the $37^{\rm th}$ Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists called to convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, May 21, 2017, in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. The purpose of this meeting is:

- 1. To receive reports.
- 2. To elect conference officers, departmental directors, an Executive Committee, a Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and an Association
- 3. To consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the
- 4. To consider amendments to Set Fund Guidelines.
- 5. To accept new churches or disband churches as may be necessary.
- 6. To transact such other business as may properly come before the

According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southern New England Conference, Article 3, Section 5, A1 "each Church shall be entitled to select one Delegate for the Church and one additional Delegate for each thirty-five (35) members or major fraction thereof, provided that each Church shall be entitled to select not less than two (2) Delegates."

Lunch will be provided.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Organizing Committee will convene at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 5, 2017, in Bailey Hall, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561, for the purpose of appointing members of the Nominating Committee to serve for that meeting. According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southern New England Conference, Article 3, Section 8A "each Church shall select, from its Delegates, one (1) representative for the Church, and one (1) additional representative for each five hundred (500) members of that Church or major fraction thereof." Lunch will be provided.

> David Dennis, President Jose Alarcon, Secretary

Seven Rhode Island area churches participated. The event started with prayer and each attendee was given the opportunity to put their prayer request in a sealed box that the prayer team at Grace and Glory church would pray over each week.

Following a special selection from Sign of Grace, Sunday Kazas from the Johnston church in Johnston, Rhode Island, gave a short health talk about beneficial teas and shared information about

supplements the Food and Drug Administration cautions against. Susie Hawkins from the Attleboro church in Attleboro, Massachusetts, sang and the evening ended with a number of gifts being giving away. The participants indicated that they are looking forward to the next event in 2017.

-Kennisha Blake, communication leader, Grace and Glory church



Women and girls, age 12 to 86, attend the Women's Ministries High Tea event sponsored by seven Rhode Island area churches.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

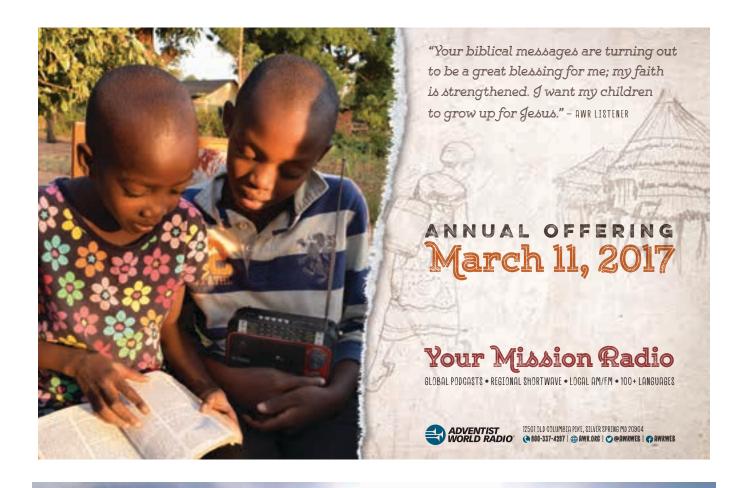
Southern New England Conference Association Regular Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference Association, a Massachusetts corporation, is called to meet in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561 on Sunday, May 21, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., concurrently with the regular session of the 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 Southern New England Conference Constituency Session will be the delegates for the Southern New England Conference Association.

Lunch will be provided.

David M. Dennis, President Tom Murray, Secretary



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Sunset Table			Daylight Savings Time begins March 12	
March 2017	3	10	17	24
Bangor, ME	5:27	5:36	6:45	6:54
Portland, ME	5:33	5:42	6:51	6:59
Boston, MA	5:38	5:46	6:54	7:02
South Lancaster, MA	5:40	5:48	6:56	7:04
Pittsfield, MA	5:46	5:55	7:03	7:11
Hartford, CT	5:44	5:53	7:00	7:08
Providence, RI	5:39	5:47	6:55	7:03
New York, NY	5:50	5:58	7:06	7:13
Albany, NY	5:47	5:55	7:03	7:11
Utica, NY	5:54	6:02	7:11	7:19
Syracuse, NY	5:57	6:06	7:14	7:23
Rochester, NY	6:03	6:12	7:20	7:28
Buffalo, NY	6:08	6:17	7:25	7:33
Hamilton, Bda	6:17	6:23	7:28	7:33

OUT OF UNION

Union College Homecoming April 6-9. Honor classes are 1947, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1977, 1987, 1992, 1997, and 2007. 125th year celebration. For more information, contact the alumni office at (401) 486-2503, 3800 S 48th St, Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@ucollege.edu.

OBITUARIES

PATTERSON-WOOLLEY, Delrose Bramwell—52; b. Feb. 3, 1964, in

Runaway Bay, St. Ann, Jamaica, West Indies; d. Nov. 18, 2016, in N.Y. She graduated from West Indies College (now Northern Caribbean University) in 1988 with a degree in nursing, and later obtained both a master's degree and a Ph.D. in the United States. She was an educator for many years in the Greater New York and Florida conferences, and last served in the Northeastern Conference as principal of the Westchester Area school in New Rochelle, N.Y. She was also a published author, and an avid writer of poetry. She is survived by her husband, Milton "Barry" Woolley; three children, Jadel, Damiel, and Rondel; three sisters, Sharron, Nadine, and Lynette; and three brothers, Robert, Calvin, and Richard.

WILLARD, Helen Rowena Holmes **Knutson**—101; b. Jan. 24, 1914, in Montpelier, Vt.; d. Sept. 10, 2015, in Unity, N.H. She graduated from Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Mass., and taught at the church schools in Amesbury, Mass.,

and in Middleboro, Mass., for a combined 14 years. She served for 11 years teaching in Japan at the church school where she taught the children of missionaries, and later taught English to Japanese students at the Japan Missionary College. She also served 10 years in the Adventist Community Services department of the West Lebanon church and school in West Lebanon, N.H. She is survived by her two children, daughter, Betty Cananzey; and son Bruce (Esther) Knutson; four grandchildren, Gary (ML) Cananzey, Lisa (Jack) Cananzey-Ostrowski, Shirley (Warren) Cananzey-Masure, and Debbie (Alex) Knutson-Bezerra; and eight great-grandchildren.

OBITUARY SUBMISSION

Obituaries are posted free of charge for members of the Atlantic Union. complete the obituary form online or e-mail the complete obituary to gleaner@atlanticunion.org.

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WHERE? Located at 40 Spring Street, Union Springs, NY

WHAT? A two-week renovation operation where volunteers will work together to renovate and improve the

campus of Union Springs Academy.

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the team of volunteers, joined by USA alumni, and anyone with a willing heart and hands!

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For more information about alumni weekend, visit unionspringsacademy.org or check out Union Springs Academy Alumni on Facebook.

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EMPLOYMENT

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE seeks vice president for enrollment management and student affairs. Requirements: terminal degree from an accredited institution of higher education, 10 years experience at a senior level in

enrollment management and/or student affairs with a commitment to shared governance, as well as a proven track record in leading diverse populations; be a Seventh-day Adventist in regular standing, committed to the values, principles, and expectations of the Adventist Church and Atlantic Union College. Submit letter, addressing minimum and preferred qualifications, résumé, transcript, and three professional reference letters to: roberto.reyna@auc.edu. For details, visit: www.auc.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks a director of academic support and advising. Master's degree in higher education, developmental learning, or related field required; doctoral degree preferred. Must have higher education experience. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal (arosenthal@swau.edu).

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S **NURSING DEPARTMENT** seeks a full-time nurse educator. Doctorate desired; M.S.N. considered. Experience in mental health, medical/surgical or pediatrics preferred. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal (arosenthal@swau.edu).

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to jobs.wallawalla.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT** is seeking applications for a full-time faculty member specializing in British literature of the 18th or 19th century. Preferred candidates will have a Ph.D.; a creative writing background is a plus. Send CV with cover letter to Dr. Judy Myers Laue (lauej@swau.edu).

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How to Share Safety Sabbath With Your Church

ntil Jesus returns, we live in a world where terrible things happen. Fires damage or consume church buildings because of arsonists, accidents, and even poor maintenance. Active shooters enter sanctuaries and church classrooms and unleash violence, leaving behind hurt and grieving congregations. In addition to praying for the



Lord's protection, educate and prepare your church congregation with an annual safety drill.

Safety Sabbath helps your church be ready for emergencies, but what if your local church leadership doesn't know about Safety Sabbath? Here's how to bring Safety Sabbath to your church.

Register at SafetySabbath.com

Register as a church member at SafetySabbath.com. Once you register, you will receive free Safety Sabbath 2017 resources.

Talk to Your Pastor and Church Safety Officer

Tell your church leadership team about Safety Sabbath and share why you want your church to participate. Encourage your church leadership to register your church at SafetySabbath.com to access free Safety Sabbath planning resources.

Put Safety Sabbath on Your Church Calendar

Work with your pastor and church safety officer to have Safety Sabbath approved by your church board and placed on your church calendar for March 25, 2017.

Take the Survey and Share on Social Media

After the drill, take the Safety Sabbath survey at SafetySabbath. com. Share your experience on your personal social media using #SafetySabbath2017. Tag your church and tag Adventist Risk Management, Inc., on Facebook and @SafetySabbath on Twitter.

Join churches in the North American Division and Adventist Risk Management, Inc., in making Adventist churches secure by holding a safety drill. Talk to your pastor and schedule Safety Sabbath for March 25, 2017.

Register your church to hold an Active Shooter or Fire Drill and access free videos, guides, children's activity sheets, and more emergency planning resources at SafetySabbath.com. Join us for one drill, one month, for a safer church.

Excerpt from article written by Anna Bartlett, writer and education specialist.



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