

THE ATLANTIC UNION

JULY/AUGUST 2021

# GLEANER



## Ministering to Others **Brings Rich Blessings**

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# Witnesses for God

Throughout history, the Seventh-day Adventist health message has been an entering wedge into the hearts and homes of many who would otherwise not have gone into any church facility. That has not stopped over the years. The Adventist health message has spread throughout the world. We operate advanced healthcare systems through AdventHealth, mainly in the East, and Adventist Health, mainly on the West Coast and in Hawaii. They are modern, state-of-the-art, cutting-edge healthcare services. Our hospitals, among them Loma Linda, are renowned for doing some groundbreaking operations.

At the same time, as a church, we continue to promote natural, healthy living through preventive medicine and natural remedies. Several of the six conferences in the Atlantic Union have ongoing medical missionary training. Adventist medical missionaries are trained and encouraged to apply natural remedies to prevent sicknesses and improve health in their communities. They educate church members and their communities on ways to improve health by practicing the eight natural laws of health.

Among the programs designed to promote the health message are Creation Life (formerly Creation Health) and NEWSTART. The acronym CREATION stands for Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust in God, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook, and Nutrition. The NEWSTART Lifestyle Program is an acronym for Nutrition, Exercise, Water, Sunlight, Temperance, Air, Rest, and Trust.

COVID-19 has not stopped these two aspects of Adventist witnessing. The pandemic has instead provided more opportunities for many to share God's love in their communities by caring for patients on the one hand and showing how to boost

the immune system naturally on the other hand. The immune system can be strengthened by implementing the natural health laws, thus enabling the body to fight COVID-19.

One of our church members in New York has made it her mission to reach out to anyone who tested positive for coronavirus in her community. She prepares natural remedies that may boost their immune system and shares ways to increase their Vitamin D level to help fight the deadly virus. In addition, God continues to use both our army of physicians and other medical professionals from the medical institutions, and our medical missionaries to create change in their communities.

Adventist health institutions have cared for countless COVID-19 patients. On December 18, 2020, the Adventist Church officially released a statement that encourages members to consider responsible immunization while recognizing that the decision is personal, and should be made in consultation with one's physician.

In John 10:10, 11, Jesus says, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (NIV). To have life "to the full" is to live an abundant life—a healthy life as God intends for His children, a life of peace, joy, and happiness. Seventh-day Adventists continue to promote this whole and abundant life, even in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of these days this pandemic will be over. But our need to be witnesses for God will remain, and health ministry will continue to be one of the proven witnessing tools at our disposal. Christ, our Good Shepherd, will continue to lead His people to share this message with those not in the fold. ☺

*Pierre Omeler is the Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary.*



*“Our need to be witnesses for God will remain, and health ministry will continue to be one of the proven witnessing tools at our disposal.”*



# Ministering to Others Brings Rich Blessings

**A**s we enter summer, the global coronavirus pandemic continues to affect our lives, churches, economy, and community connections. The pandemic opened a variety of ways for church members to get involved in the community, from visiting prisons and transitional housing facilities to educate residents or detained individuals about the COVID-19 vaccine, to delivering food to individuals with limited access, to teaching children, youth, and seniors how to prepare healthy meals. Meeting our community's health

needs allows us to become involved in people's lives in invaluable and much-appreciated ways.

## COVID-19 Education and Prevention

More than 169 million people worldwide have been infected by, and more than 3.5 million worldwide have died from COVID-19. In the U.S., a study of selected states and cities with data on COVID-19 deaths by race and ethnicity showed that 34 percent of deaths were among non-Hispanic Black people, though this

group accounts for only 12 percent of the total U.S. population. As a result of the disproportionate impact of the disease on Black, Hispanic, Native American, and other communities of color, efforts in Massachusetts and across the country have focused on ensuring the equitable distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution, a MassINC Polling Group survey, sponsored by the Museum of Science, the City of Boston, and conducted in partnership with the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, found that 38 percent of White residents said they would take the vaccine "as soon as possible" compared to 28 percent of Black residents and 22 percent of Hispanic residents.

Church members, such as Paulette Denise Chandler, M.D., M.P.H., a specialist in preventive medicine and internal medicine, who is affiliated with Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, explored why vaccine concerns exist in these populations and discussed strategies to address structural barriers and increase vaccine acceptance rates among diverse populations.

Through virtual town halls, webinars, and in-person events, Chandler served as a panelist for COVID-19 vaccine discussions with various organizations, including the Black Ministerial Alliance of Boston, Brigham and Women's Hospital Center for Community Wellness, Suffolk House of Corrections, and the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers. "People wanted the



Paulette Chandler, M.D., M.P.H., and students prepare Carrot Ginger Soup during the Fuel Up: Healthy Food for a Healthy Life nutrition and cooking class series at Brigham and Women's Hospital Center for Community Wellness at Sportsmen's Tennis and Enrichment Center in Dorchester, Massachusetts.



information to be able to make the right decision about the COVID-19 vaccine for themselves and their family members,” Chandler said. “Attendees were so grateful to have their questions answered and gain confidence in their decision to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.”

### Fuel Up: Healthy Food for a Healthy Life

Chandler founded Fuel Up: Healthy Food for a Healthy Life, an after-school nutrition and cooking class program at Brigham and Women’s Hospital Center for Community Wellness at Sportsmen’s Tennis and Enrichment Center (STEC), and serves as one of the instructors for the cooking class series. Mandy Bass and other STEC staff also help conduct sessions. The program continued online or in-person during the COVID-19 pandemic. STEC staff have embraced the program and enjoy preparing recipes with the children. They learn how to prepare healthy, plant-based recipes and about the nutritious benefits of various fruits, vegetables, beans, herbs, nuts, and seeds. They also taste new ingredients. Lime, cabbage, and pumpkin seeds are big favorites!

### Addressing Mental Health Needs and Social Isolation

Bernadette Henry and Phoebe Odhiambo, Women’s Ministries leaders at Framingham Centre church in Framingham, Massachusetts, decided to lead the women in a variety of outreach efforts. Members of Women’s Ministries supported the community engagement opportunities in different ways, from monetary donations to preparing gift bags for women at the family shelter next door to the church. They decided to reach out to college students and send care packages to let their student members know that they were remembered. They also visited seniors and gave them flowers or a plant and a gift bag. Odhiambo, who is also a nurse, conducted a special Sabbath session



Pictured is the Lifeboat Boston team (pre-pandemic) standing in one of the rooms at Boston Temple. Some of them have moved on.

on how to deal with depression and anxiety.

### Lifeboat Boston: Providing Both Physical and Spiritual Nourishment

Before the coronavirus pandemic, more than 35 million people experienced hunger, according to the USDA’s Household Food Insecurity in the United States report. Some households that experience food insecurity do not qualify for federal nutrition programs and must rely on their local food banks and other hunger relief organizations for access to food. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, unemployment and food insecurity soared, and more than 42 million people may face hunger because of the coronavirus.

Food pantries such as the Lifeboat Boston Food Pantry, operated by Boston Temple in Boston, Massachusetts, since 2017, helped address this vital need in their community during the pandemic. Lifeboat Boston was founded by Melissa Ghulam-Smith, M.D., and Kevin Smith, and Glacier Gray is the former director. According to Orlando Hall, Boston Temple church pastor, “Before the coronavirus pandemic, the food pantry assisted some 60-80 families each week; post-pandemic, that number rose to serving 110-

130 families on Thursdays and 30 families on Tuesdays.” Lifeboat Boston partnered with the City of Boston’s contact tracing program and the Boston Public Schools to provide food to families and students. On Tuesdays, Lifeboat Boston volunteers deliver food to families living in the Boston neighborhoods who cannot physically get to a pantry.

Not only is Lifeboat Boston blessing the community, but its volunteers are reaping rich spiritual blessings, as well. Lifeboat Boston’s goal is to develop the culture of community through a consistent demonstration of compassion flowing through its core group of ministry workers. Hall and Zienna Forbes, an elder, highlight the commitment of non-Adventist volunteers who dedicate time each week to ensure the program’s success. For example, Nansee Öng and her husband, Somsac, have led out in organizing the food each week since the start of the ministry. Students from Northeastern University and other area schools enjoy the camaraderie of the ministry team as they help package food bags and listen to the prayers before the team starts working. One volunteer from the community commented, “I like the family feel at Lifeboat!”

Ruth Frenchwood had been studying the Bible with Forbes for





Bernadette Henry, Framingham Centre church's Women's Ministries leader, visits with church member Betty Hawley and presents her with flowers and a gift bag.

several months before inquiring about a church ministry in which she could participate. Forbes suggested Lifeboat Boston. Frenchwood experienced anxiety and sadness while going through the lockdowns and restrictions resulting from the pandemic. Being active in Lifeboat Boston, enjoying the human contact while making the food deliveries, and interacting with people receiving the food bags has helped her deal with the depressive feelings and elevated her desire to live for God while caring for His people. "I don't help Lifeboat Boston. Lifeboat Boston helps me!" says Frenchwood, who was baptized in December 2020 and has requested special time off from her job on Thursdays to volunteer with the ministry. "Breaking the cycle of self-centeredness [with] Lifeboat Boston [has] helped me see how much God loves me. It is thrilling to my heart to live at the level of compassion that is missing so often in life."

Sharon Hamel is another Lifeboat Boston volunteer who sees ministering through Lifeboat Boston as a means of responding to God's Word by being the hands and feet of Jesus. "Coming to Lifeboat Boston has been an important action toward practicing my faith," Hamel says. "Every time I try to imagine what

I want in life, the more and more I come to [understand] the fact that life is about service to others. Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35)."

Jesus said, "For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me. . . . Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me"—Matthew 25:35-36, 40, NKJV. The members of Boston Temple are discovering that coming together with the common purpose of ministering to and serving others results in empowered living and is energizing them as a church.

"Being connected to my church community outside of church time, working as a team, and being connected to God's larger community has revitalized me spiritually," says Hamel. Frenchwood, who studies the Sabbath School lesson with Forbes and other women on weekday mornings, sees ministering to others as an extension of her newfound faith. "I'm not just praying and studying. Now I can practice what I'm learning," she says. "As I'm learning about God, I'm able to help others learn about

Him, and it helps me be less focused on myself."

In Luke 10:25-27 (*paraphrase*), Jesus reminds us that when we "love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength . . . with all our mind, and our neighbor as ourself" we "will live."

During these months of uncertainty, many churches sought to meet the needs in their community by partnering with organizations, collaborating with other individuals or ministries, or stepping out into uncharted waters to start new initiatives. As we attempt to navigate a post-pandemic society, the work remains—people still need health education and mental health services, they experience loneliness, and they need help combating food insecurity. Let us continue to be faithful to doing the Lord's work, for as we minister to others, we serve Him. ☺

*A collaboration by members of the Boston Temple and Framingham Centre churches in the Southern New England Conference.*



This is an example of how residents in the community around the Boston Temple have adopted the church. Rachel, a Lifeboat Boston volunteer, sweeps the front of the church building. She often does it secretly.

# Youth Ministry Supplement

[adventist youth ministries on the move]

## Determined to Endure

**T**he Word of God declares that the activity and/or quality of endurance is an integral part of the salvation equation. Thus, Matthew 24:13 (KJV) states, “He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” Here, the Bible uses the auxiliary verb “shall” to denote a formal obligatory interaction between one’s endurance and their salvation. A few Bible translations (NIV, NLT, NRSV) use the modal verb “will” in this context (“will be saved”), since both terms generally follow similar grammatical rules.

“Shall be saved” or “will be saved” does not refer to what Jesus did at the cross when He saved us from the penalty of sin by His death. Nor does it refer to what He is doing every day by saving people from the power of sin by His grace. It clearly refers to what He will do when He returns to save us from the presence of sin at His second advent.

“Shall” highlights the certainty, surety, and security of God’s promise in the aforementioned text. It engenders confidence, propels faith, transmits hope, and gives believers a reason to “endure to the end.” Thus, “shall” serves to supplement the word “endure” in the focus scripture.

In this context, “endure” conjures up the imagery of one who is going somewhere in particular—moving toward a goal. Exploring the verb “endure” is essential for our consideration.

Accordingly, the CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY states that endure is “to suffer something difficult, unpleasant, or painful;” “to last;” “to suffer something difficult or unpleasant in a patient way over a long period;” or “to continue or carry on, despite obstacles or hardships.” It also suggests key synonyms for the term, such as tolerate, ride out, suffer, persist, persevere, undergo, brave, weather, and withstand.

God’s people who “endure to the end” will face end-time trials, temptations, and trouble from various angles. He said, “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world”—John 16:33, NKJV. Yes, many may stumble, fall, topple, and roll over,



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but God reminds His people that they have His power, His almighty power available to empower them to stand up and continue on the “to the end” path.

Albeit, one quality of the person who endures is determination. Thus “he that endures to the end” is whomever is determined to go, determined to ride out all the fiery darts of the enemy and to go with Jesus to His heavenly home. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 says, “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified” (NKJV).

Every child of God, every youth, young adult, and young-at-heart person is called to be one who is determined to endure to the end—until Jesus returns. Maranatha! ①



*David McKenzie is the director for Youth, Young Adult, Pathfinder, and Adventurer ministries in the Atlantic Union Conference.*



# LIGHTS

## in the World

By Ellen G. White

It is impossible for man to measure the ingenuity shown by Satan in deceiving human minds. Christ saw the working out of Satan's plans to deceive man. He saw that the world was being captivated by the delusive power exercised through commercialism of various kinds, and he volunteered to take human nature, and come to this earth to live among men, to meet the wily foe in every stage of human life, and to counterwork the wiles of Satan.

Thus was laid the plan for Christ to act his part as a Saviour. He came to

our world to live, and suffer, and die, that he might win to God the souls deceived by Satan. He came to stay the overwhelming tide of deception that was carrying souls on to ruin. He is wise in an understanding of the tempter's plans, and he can teach men and women how to become wise to discern and escape the snares that Satan is constantly laying.

Christ declared, I have pledged myself, as the only begotten Son of the Lord God Almighty, to carry out God's plan to win souls from Satan. The Saviour alone can defeat the

enemy. He works in man's behalf to uncover his plans, that souls may be led to turn from the arch-deceiver.

The Prince of heaven, he who was one with the Father, gave himself to redeem the fallen race. Satan is actively and untiringly at work to defeat the Saviour's purpose. But Christ says, Where Satan has set his throne, there will I establish my cross. The prince of evil shall be cast out, and I will become the center of a world redeemed.

In his life on this earth, Christ lived the law of God, thus making it possible for men of every nation and every clime to live, under the sorest temptation, a life of true obedience. Those who accept God as their Creator and Christ as their Redeemer, receive the spirit of obedience that was revealed in the life of him who came to make known to men the Father. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and love of God!

Christ came to give to men the wealth of eternity, and this wealth, through connection with him, we are to receive and impart. Not to ministers only, but to every believer, Christ says, The world is enshrouded in darkness. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Every one who truly loves God will be a light in the world.

He who is a citizen of the heavenly kingdom will be constantly looking at things not seen. The power of



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earth over the mind and character is broken. He has the abiding presence of the heavenly Guest, in accordance with the promise, "I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." He walks with God as did Enoch, in constant communion.

The ministry of the word rests not merely upon those who preach the word, but upon all who hear and receive the word. God calls upon his people to break the bands of their precise, indoor service. He would have hundreds in our cities doing the work that Christ did while on this earth,—cheering the sorrowful, strengthening the weak, comforting the mourners, preaching the gospel to the poor. In many of the large cities scarcely anything has been done to proclaim the message of warning. Our brethren and sisters living in these crowded centers should let their light shine forth. You may think that your light is too small to do any good, but remember that it is what God has given you, and that you are held responsible to let it shine forth. Some one else may light his taper from it, and his light may be the means of leading others out of darkness.

The Saviour allowed nothing to interfere with the accomplishment of his work. He declared, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." He mingled constantly with men, not to encourage them in anything that was not in accordance with God's will, but to uplift and ennoble them. "I sanctify myself," he declared, "that they also might be sanctified." No other teacher ever placed such signal honor upon men as did Christ. He was known as the friend of publicans and sinners. He mingled with all classes of society, that all, high and low, rich and poor, might share in the blessings he came to impart.

Daily beset by temptation, constantly opposed by the leaders of the people, Christ knew that he

must strengthen his humanity by prayer. In order to be a blessing to men, he must commune with God, pleading for energy, perseverance, and steadfastness. Thus he showed his disciples where his strength lay. Without this daily communion with God, no human being can gain power for service. It is the privilege of every one to commit himself, with all his trials and temptations, his sorrows and disappointments, to the loving Heavenly Father. No one who does this, who makes God his confidant, will fall a prey to the enemy.

"We have not an high priest which can not be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

There is a great work to be done. God's servants are to go from house to house, watching for opportunities to sow the seeds of truth. But many of God's people act as if he desired them to hide their light under a bushel. The Lord says, Bring forth your light. Set it on a candlestick, that it may give light to all that are in the house. Wake up, my brethren and sisters, wake up, and work for the conversion of souls. Do not find fault and criticize. Thus you spend your energies in Satan's cause. Do not give way to anger because you think that you are misunderstood. Was not your Master misunderstood? Speak no word of doubt or unbelief. The more you talk of the difficulties in the way, the larger will they appear. Do not accuse your brethren. Rather accuse yourselves. An untold amount of mischief is done by words of faultfinding and slander. Never tear down the reputation of a fellow being.

The Lord is grieved when his people stand aloof from one another. Thus they show their weakness, and range themselves on the enemy's side. Let no one weaken the hands of another. Let

every man do what he can to build up, not to tear down.

Guard jealously your hours for prayer and self-examination. Set apart some portion of each day for a study of the Scriptures and communion with God. Thus you will obtain spiritual strength, and grow in grace and favor with God. He alone can direct our thoughts aright. He alone can give us noble aspirations, and fashion our characters after the divine similitude. If we draw near to him in earnest prayer, he will fill our hearts with high and holy purposes, and with deep, earnest longing for purity and cleanness of thought.

Moses prayed to God, saying, "I beseech thee, show me thy glory." And God said, "I will make all my goodness pass before thee. . . . And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation."

In this representation the Lord desired to teach the lesson that he requires in his people purity of character and holiness of life. He desires to see revealed in them mercy, loving-kindness and long-suffering, that they may demonstrate that "the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul." He imparts the richest blessings to those who serve him with a pure heart. He teaches each one who opens the heart to his instruction and obeys his voice. ☉

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*Excerpt by Ellen G. White, author and co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, THE REVIEW AND HERALD, November 10, 1910. Reprinted with permission.*



# Eight Students Receive the **2021 Caring Heart Award**

**C**ongratulations to the eight students who are the 2021 Caring Heart Award recipients. The Caring Heart Award for Christian Service was established to recognize students attending Adventist academies who have “demonstrated a personal commitment to active participatory service and witnessing activities and programs.” Each recipient receives a scholarship award of \$500 and a plaque.



**Angel Seaman** is a senior at Bermuda Institute (B.I.) and has been attending since kindergarten. She has always been a gentle

and kind spirit who endeared herself to her teachers and fellow students. Her active participation in class discussions and activities opens doors of understanding for others who may be more reserved. She was selected as Head Girl this year. In her high school career, she served as prefect; Student Association secretary, vice president, and social vice president; class vice president, class treasurer, house captain, class president, and more. She has received several awards from her school, church, and the community at large. The awards include the Worthy Student Award, Police Commissioner’s Vision Award in 2015 and 2016, second place in the Biz Start-up Challenge, and Courtesy Queen.

Angel is also involved in her church. In 2017, she was selected as

the Pathfinder of the Year. Angel finds time to give to her community. She is active with the Bermuda Institute Silent Praise, a group of young people who travel around the island sharing their love of Jesus through sign language. She is a member of the Steel Pan Band, the Rotary Club, Youth Parliament, and she recently earned the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Level. She also participates in sports, such as volleyball and tennis. She is a certified sailor and scuba diver. She has an innate ability to see a need and take the necessary steps to assist without any prompting. She is an active member of the B.I. Leaders’ Charity, a school association that encourages leaders to make a difference in the school community and beyond. She always takes a leadership role in getting her peers involved in the annual joint community project “Dollars for Hours Initiative,” a collaboration with a local company, PartnerRe Bermuda, that connects with local high schools and the community in service.



**Victor Sepulveda** is a senior at Greater New York Academy. He is a product of Seventh-day Adventist

Christian education. He is a member of the Broadway church, where he has served on the Adventist Youth Praise Team, in the Teen Leadership Program, as an AY staff member, and

in the Pathfinder club. He works with middle school at-risk children throughout Bronx, New York. Victor mentors them while he teaches them how to play, participate, and be a part of a drumline. Victor currently volunteers in the neurology department at the New York-Presbyterian Columbia University Irving Medical Center in Washington Heights. Victor is involved in his community and he is a leader at school. He has served as sergeant-of-arms for his class, as praise team leader for chapels, as leader of compassion ministries for the Religion department, and as video/newspaper editor for the SPOTLIGHT NEWS. He has participated in various outreach events, including “Impact Woodside,” holiday visit/caroling for cancer patient’s at a major hospital (an activity that he initiated), and student nursing home visitations for the elderly. He was a key member of the school choir—singing at various churches and conventions. He was also a member of the specialized “Bronx ministry team” at GNYA. He aspires to be a nurse practitioner and wants to work in the emergency department (trauma center).



**Leondrae’ Tyrese Brown (Ty)** is a senior at Northeastern Academy, where he has been since 2019. From an

early age, he has had a passion for

art—drawing and music. His creativity and genuine personality shine throughout his artwork. He is dedicated to creating art and displays a high level of patience when working to ensure that his pieces are done to perfection. Leondrae' is involved with the Northeastern Academy Choir, Mt. Sinai church praise team—Believers in Christ Church Choir, and the Mt. Sinai church basketball team. He also plays the keyboard in his leisure time and is an entrepreneur who sells customized shoes. He is passionate about ministering to others through singing and preaching. He is polite, courteous, empathetic toward others, and is quick to help those in need. He is intelligent, respectful, affectionate, loving, and kind. He has a mind of his own and knows what he wants to pursue in life. He is preparing to pursue his dream of studying animation at Southern Adventist University and he intends to continue to be an entrepreneur.



**Regence Sandy** is a senior at Pine Tree Academy (PTA). Regence is a great example of a student who demonstrates

Christian service and servant leadership. Faculty members and students recognize her positive leadership at school. She has multiple recognitions for the PTA positivity award and led out in a school positivity campaign. She is also a self-motivated, student-friendliness ambassador. Regence has been active over the years in her Freeport, Maine, church activities, such as keeping the church clean and leading out in music on a monthly basis. She has played a role in the “Greatest Gift,” one of the

largest conference evangelistic outreach programs during Christmastime. She is also active in NOW PTA worldwide, doing online evangelism. Regence plans to participate in a mission trip. PTA recognizes her for hard work, energy, dedication to service, positive leadership at school, and commitment to Adventist Christian education.



**Sanai Brittanica Barrett** is a senior at South Brooklyn Academy. Immigrating to the U.S. and attending an

Adventist institution has helped mold her character into becoming a humanitarian. Three things that she is certain about are her hunger for learning, her mission of making a significant impact in the lives of others, and having a good relationship with God. Capturing a special moment for the school with her camera, assisting an elderly church sister with her bags, or sharing lunch with a friend who is without food are some of the memories she treasures. She knows that helping in these small ways is a part of her mission as a Christian. With God as the center of her life, she hopes to leave a mark of kindness and share herself with others.



**Miguel Iria** is a senior at South Lancaster Academy and has been involved in the school's student ministry program all four years. He has dedicated

much of his time during the school year and summer vacations to helping

around campus. He has volunteered countless hours to campus improvement projects and to helping staff and teachers. He is a compassionate, loving, friendly, trustworthy, and thoughtful student. He has a strong work ethic, is always looking for the opportunity to help, and takes the initiative to be a leader for many projects on- and off-campus. He is someone you can always count on when you need to get the job done.



**Joseph Htoo** is a senior at Union Springs Academy. From the beginning, he has been heavily involved

in all aspects of campus life. Joseph's interest and leadership in the Campus Ministries department have grown exponentially. As a student leader, he has helped put on Christ in Focus weeks, taught the student Sabbath School, served on several mission trips, and served as a resident assistant in the boys' dorm. He has gone on ministry and recruiting trips and has been instrumental in bringing many new students to Union Springs Academy. Joseph has been someone whom both the staff and students can rely on and look to for help and inspiration. His presence has positively affected the atmosphere. His future plans include going into the ministry. ①



## Bermuda Women Spend a Weekend in the Word

Under the theme “In His Presence,” the Bermuda Conference Women’s Ministries Department enjoyed a spiritually-enriching weekend in the Word, April 23-25, with four gifted and anointed women of God: Adrienne Townsend-Benton, Lola Moore Johnston, Della Patton, and Marleena Debrough.

Townsend-Benton, chaplain, motivational speaker, and Amazon best-selling author, opened the virtual meetings on Friday evening, April 23, with “Cry Out.” Referring to Jonah 2, she said, “It’s hard to be in God’s presence when you’re running from Him.” Still, through Jonah’s experience, we learned that God delivers from seemingly impossible situations: when in the belly of a whale; when up against a wall; when in the middle of a problem, pray, praise, repent, ask, and then yield. She urged viewers not to wait until they see the reward, the situation improved, or the challenge removed. “Cry out with victory and thanksgiving. God will answer, and when you let go of what you know God does not want in your life, you’ll receive peace.”

Sabbath-morning services began with Early Morning Manna. Della Patton, a member of the North Bronx church in Bronx, New York, cautioned that we could be

with God but not experience His presence. So, before we can stand in His presence, we must examine ourselves, meditate, pray, and fast. Being in God’s presence is transformative, and once we develop an intimate relationship with Him, we can hear His voice and know that we are favored. “Stay in His presence, for in His presence, there is joy, power, and peace,” she said.

“If there is one thing this pandemic can teach us, it is that we need to be still,” said Johnston, senior pastor of the Woodbridge church in Virginia and the worship service speaker. Her sermon, “Have a Seat,” based on Luke 10:38-42, pointed out that we sometimes believe, as Martha did, that when we are in God’s presence, there’s something for us to do, explaining, “But I believe Martha overestimated her contribution, underestimated her need in Jesus’ presence, and forgot to estimate her gift.” She said we sometimes focus on our ability and forget that God is a provider. “In this season, God is asking us to have a seat. . . . Take a seat at His feet, soak in His presence, and trust that being in His presence is the most profound thing we can do.”

Johnston, also the Sabbath-evening speaker, encouraged learning from Esther that God delivers and positions His people in places where they can speak



to the powers that oppress His people. “We cannot be asleep in this season,” she said. “Wake up! Get up! God needs people to speak out and speak up so that He might bless them and do something amazing through them.”

To complete the weekend’s meetings, Marleena Debrough, pastor of Willowgrove church in Pennsylvania, spoke on “Walk in My Joy.” Using John 15:9-11 as her sermonic text, she explained that God wants to super-size our blessings and give us complete joy, which only comes through Him. “Jesus’ joy blesses our lives when we engage in selfless acts, obey God, and tell others of His goodness.

“There are joy stealers who cause us stress, hopelessness, and anger, but the benefits of Jesus’ joy are that they provide strength,

identity, healing, peace, stability, joy, and pleasures forever.” She challenged everyone to hold on to God and to let no one steal their joy.

Michelle Hill, Pembroke church pastor and Bermuda Conference Women’s Ministries director; Lynne Wade, Women’s Ministries leader from the Warwick church; and Jaylaka Matthie, Southampton church, hosted “In His Presence.”

Hill thanked the Women’s Ministries team, the participants, the technical operators, and the viewers for a phenomenal weekend and encouraged everyone to consistently live for God, to abide in God’s peace, and to stay in His presence.

—Joi Tyrrell, communication director, Bermuda Conference



## Hundreds Baptized After Spanish Family Evangelism Week

The Greater New York Conference (GNYC) brought hope in Christ to families with *Lo Hará Otra Vez: Semana de Evangelismo Familia*, May 9-14. Yonkers Spanish church hosted the event that streamed live on Facebook and Atlantic Union Adventist Media (AUAM), and over the radio airwaves on Radio Amanecer Internacional and Corintios Radio. Henry Beras, GNYC president, presented powerful messages each evening. More than 100 people committed their lives to Jesus Christ through baptism at the conclusion of the meeting. In addition, churches in the Dominican Republic reported some 266 baptisms resulting from the evangelistic outreach.

Samuel Peguero, GNYC Family Ministries director, and Henesis Vega, a member of the Yonkers Spanish church, served as nightly hosts. Efrain Duany, Jr., associate director for Family Ministries for the Florida Conference, also presented a brief family emphasis every evening, featuring topics of high relevance for today's families.

Before the start of the series, pastors and church members generated enthusiasm on social media by posting short videos and photos to promote the event. The energy quickly spread and resulted in hundreds tuning in from throughout the Atlantic Union and beyond, including conferences from the Dominican Union Conference, the Puerto Rican Union Conference, and the South Colombian Union Conference. Members from the South Central



Henry Beras, Greater New York Conference president, preaches during the *Lo Hará Otra Vez: Semana de Evangelismo Familia* series at the Yonkers Spanish church.

Conference in the southern United States, and even families living in Spain and other countries watched or listened to the broadcast. All programs were featured in Spanish and available in English via Zoom.

Every night was a night of miracles and included beautiful testimonies given in reports coming from different parts of the world. One of the most impressive stories was that of Ángel García, a church member and interstate truck driver, who invited 15 of his fellow truck drivers to watch the transmission. No matter where they were to be that day, they tuned in to each program. One night, García was late in sending the link to the other drivers. Not having received it on time as usual, they eagerly asked, "Where is today's link?" On Friday, Beras received news that one of those truck drivers decided to give his life to Christ and be baptized the next day for the honor and glory of God.

Hundreds were reached and are still being touched as they are watching the program on the social media channels. The Holy Spirit blessed with

an enormous Pentecost in the Greater New York Conference and around the world.

—Family Ministries department,  
Greater New York Conference

### Tell Us What's Happening in Your Community

We want to know more about what's happening in your community. How are members of your church making an impact in your online and local community? What are the youth and young adults doing to get involved?

Church communication leaders, e-mail stories from your church or school with photos to the Greater New York Conference communication director. Be sure to include a caption with each photo.

For information on what types of stories to submit, visit: [atlanticuniongleaner.org/about-us/writing-guidelines](http://atlanticuniongleaner.org/about-us/writing-guidelines).



**Donnieval Walker**  
Communication Director  
Greater New York Conference  
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## Join Union Springs Academy as They Celebrate 100 Years — September 17-19

Union Springs Academy, in Union Springs, New York, is celebrating 100 years of ministry, dedication, and service in 2021. From its humble beginnings back in 1921, where it was purchased for \$4,000 (from a Quaker school named Oakwood Seminary), it has grown, changed, and been led by divine guidance and inspiration to become the school that still stands “near the shores of Lake Cayuga.” The original property included 13 buildings and a 429-acre farm. The first students started school on September 14, 1921, in the original brick building, Cooledge Hall, with 13 faculty members and 96 students. Amazingly, these students did everything in this one building—from the time they started their day until the time they went to bed at night.

Over the years, the school has grown and changed, also expanding its physical presence to include two separate dormitories—the girl’s dorm, Sunset Hall (1949) and the boy’s dorm, Capman Hall (1957). Additionally, a gymnasium was built in the early 1960s, where students could participate in indoor recreation during the winter, which also provided a location for church services. Then in 1968, the administration portion was added to the gymnasium (subsequently named Newmyer Hall). An industrial arts building was constructed to provide shop classes for hands-on learning. In the early 1980s, a beautiful new church building was created, which allowed for enhanced religious activities and services for the students and community members.



In the 1930s, at the time this photo of the original school was taken, everything was housed in Cooledge Hall, including the boys' and girls' dorms, cafeteria, all classrooms, administration offices, and more.

Enrollment numbers have varied greatly over the years, impacted immensely by the economy, state of our country (many years during war-time conditions or the current pandemic), and level of support by conference leaders and churches.

Union Springs is the oldest full boarding academy still in operation in the Northeast. This is very much due to supportive church leaders, dedicated loyal alumni, generous donors, churches, and church members who have made the continuance of this school a priority. Most importantly, the prayers of our church members, parents, alumni, and so many others have had an eternal impact on our students by continually asking for the Holy Spirit to be present and guide the decisions made in the operation and future of this school.

At Union Springs Academy, there is a family feeling of closeness among the students. In addition to academic and physical needs, spiritual needs are a high priority. Their goal is to bring the students closer to our Savior and Creator, Jesus Christ, and guide them into a personal relationship with Him.

Throughout the history of the academy, students have had unique, life-changing experiences. The dedication to our youth and mission of our school continues to be carried forward 100 years later. As we celebrate 100 years, we would like to invite all alumni and former faculty and staff to celebrate God’s goodness and leading at our Centennial Celebration/Alumni Weekend, September 17-19.

We have an amazing weekend planned to include our Sabbath church service speaker, Ted Wilson, Seventh-

day Adventist World Church president. Honored guest speakers also include: Bill Knott, ADVENTIST REVIEW executive editor; Gary Blanchard, General Conference Youth Ministries director; John Thomas, General Conference retired associate secretary; and Robert Burnette (’72), Oklahoma Conference assistant to the president. A Saturday-night Centennial Tribute Banquet and Variety Show are planned in celebration of this significant milestone. Join us in taking this opportunity to recognize our rich history and thank God for His leading!

Visit our website for details and updates at [unionspringsacademy.org](https://unionspringsacademy.org).

—Patty Dunham, alumni communication director, Union Springs Academy

#### Sources:

- *Encyclopedia.Adventist.org* (<https://tinyurl.com/twksfu5yv>)
- *Union Springs Academy MEMORIA yearbooks*



## Joy of Troy Members Reach Out to the Community

The Joy of Troy church Men's Ministries department recognized the women of the church, including missing members and women in the neighborhood Quadrant, in honor of Mother's Day on May 8. The men delivered gift bags and inspirational messages. On a mug from Men's Ministries was imprinted the verse "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised"—Proverbs 31:30, NIV.

They delivered a gift to a previous member's home, but when they discovered that the woman no longer lived there, they presented the gift to the woman who answered the door, much to her surprise. Another woman received her gift and sent a message thanking the men for the "beautiful Mother's Day gift." Other recipients included a member of the Quadrant whose lawn was mowed last year during compassion weekend, a neighbor across the street, and relatives of members who live in the area.

This gesture touched the women, especially the missing members and those in the community who were surprised by the recognition. It was a tremendous blessing that the men not only went the extra mile, but many miles to deliver gifts to those who were not able to be at church in person.

### Peace Officers Memorial Day

On Peace Officers Memorial Day, recognized

each year on May 15, the Joy of Troy church delivered cakes and cupcakes to thank the Troy Police Department and Lansingburgh Fire Department for their service to the community and Quadrant.

While at the police department, members could see a screen on the wall showing all the calls in progress in the city. One of the members, whose son is a police officer, mentioned John 15:13, 14 to express support for all they do. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends" (KJV).

The Troy Police Department posted the church's visit on their Facebook page. People from the Quadrant posted their comments expressing appreciation and surprise. The timeliness of the delivery to the fire department was orchestrated by God.

### Tuesdays With the Doctors

Once or twice per month, the Joy of Troy church hosts a program via Zoom called "Tuesdays With the Doctors." The program features a doctor, or other professional, who provides advice and information on a specific topic for the community. The presentations included topics such as tax tips, grief, spinal health, and allergies. Other scheduled upcoming topics include women's health, diabetes, breast cancer and reconstruction,



Hugh Langley, Joy of Troy church pastor, right, presents a cake to the desk sergeant at the Troy Police Department.

diverticulitis, elder care, and additional sessions on spinal health and grief. These sessions are also streamed live on Facebook. Although this is a new program, there have been several visitors at each session.

### Other Ministries to the Community

Other ministries the church has been involved with in the Joy of Troy community this year include making sandwiches for the homeless, blood drives, and an online vegetarian cooking class. About once a month, a few church members work with the regional food bank and a neighboring church to distribute boxes of food to those in the Quadrant who are in need. The church also has active Facebook and Instagram pages that members of the community follow. The youth participated in these activities.

### Prayer for God's Guidance

None of this could be done without much prayer. The pastor has envisioned seven prayer groups comprising the members, with one specially designated for the youth. They meet at least once a week via Zoom. The map of the Quadrant is divided so that each group prays for a specific section.

Prayer is focused on the ministry in the Quadrant and for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit, there would be no power in their ministries. The church members praise God for what He is doing in their community and Quadrant and are honored to be co-laborers with Him.

—Annette Barnes, elder, Joy of Troy church



## NEC President Visits New England and Western New York Congregations

Every year, along with overseeing more than 300 conference employees, 232 churches and missions, 16 schools, and the business affairs of the corporation, Northeastern Conference president Daniel Honoré travels to the various churches to encourage the local pastors and members, as well as provide insight for projects. In the spring of 2021, Honoré traveled to many areas. Listed below is a brief pictorial summary of a few of those trips.

### Berea Church, Boston, Massachusetts

“[We had] wonderful fellowship with the Berea church in Boston [on May 29]. Following the service, the church dedicated a new cargo van [that will be] used by the Adventist Community Services department to transport food [to help combat] food insecurity in Boston. The van was funded through a non-profit grant.”

### Everett Hispanic Church, Everett, Massachusetts

“I traveled to the Boston area to inaugurate the new

church home of the Everett Hispanic church (formerly the Cambridge church) [on May 22]. After years of dreaming and praying, God has answered their pleas. The former Masonic lodge has been converted to a house of prayer for the salvation of souls.”

### Emmanuel Temple Church, Buffalo, New York

“While in Buffalo, I prayed with local church leaders at the site of the future Emmanuel Temple church on Genesee Avenue in Buffalo, New York. I praise God for the fellowship experience in Western New York. They are presently . . . meeting in rented quarters, for the time being. The church plans to break ground in the near future on a brand-new church facility.”

### Pioneer Memorial Church, Niagara Falls, New York

“I enjoyed fellowshiping with the Pioneer Memorial church in Niagara Falls, New York. This congregation has the



Berea church's Adventist Community Services newly-dedicated cargo van will transport food to help combat food insecurity.



This is the new home of Everett Hispanic church members (the former Cambridge church) after years of dreaming and praying.

distinction of being, geographically, the farthest church from the [Northeastern] Conference office. Its members are faithful in proclaiming the Adventist message in

this corner of the field. Pastor Rodney Grissom is passionate about ministry.”

—Communication department, Northeastern Conference



Emmanuel Temple members pray over the site where the church plans to break ground for their new church facility.



The Pioneer Memorial church in Niagara Falls is the church farthest geographically from the Northeastern Conference office.





## Church in Brooklyn Closes on Affordable Housing Development

The Calvary First Nigerian church in Brooklyn, New York, is the beneficiary of a ground lease which closed on May 11 between its parent body, the Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, and the 811 Lexington Limited Partnership to build a multi-family affordable housing project. The 64 units will provide housing for senior citizens on land owned by the congregation and situated across the street from their church building.

Construction is expected to begin this summer.

The terms of the agreement stipulate that the parties have entered into a 99-year ground lease in which the church will receive yearly payments from the developer aggregating to a total of \$39.2 million during the term of the lease. At the end of the lease, the entire property will revert to the church. In the meantime, the church retains use of 20 underground parking spaces in

the new building for the duration of the contract.

Mark Brathwaite, the church's pastor, and local elder David Awoyomi spearheaded the four-year negotiation effort on behalf of the Calvary church. They aimed for a project that would benefit the church while bringing affordable housing to the community.

This is the third ground lease entered into by the conference on behalf of local churches during a two-year period. The current confer-

ence administration implemented this process to provide revenue streams to local congregations from previously underutilized assets. The conference retains 10 percent of the proceeds in each project for investment in the NEC Capital Development Endowment, which in turn generates income to assist NEC congregations with acquisition and renovation projects.

—Administration, Northeastern Conference

## New York Landmarks Commission Approves Redevelopment Project

On May 12, the New York City Landmarks Commission approved a redevelopment plan for the Hebron Bilingual School in Brooklyn, New York, that calls for the construction of residential housing on land behind the school. The new construction is in conformity with current zoning laws but required Landmark Commission approval because it falls within a historic district. The proposed building is comparable in size to nearby residential housing and 30 percent of the units will be deemed affordable.

The Northeastern Conference Corporation, following a vote of the Hebron church members in business meeting, entered into a contract with Hope Street Capital to redevelop one-third of the 2.3 acre campus.

In exchange for ceding a portion of its land, the Hebron school will receive: \$23 million in cash, construction of a regulation-size gymnasium in the new building, a two-bedroom condominium unit, and 25 underground parking spaces.

The Hebron school was founded in 1975 by Adventist Haitian immigrants seeking to provide their children with academic excellence in the context of their culture and faith. Shortly thereafter, the Hebron church purchased the former Methodist Home for the Aged. The 80,000-square-foot structure has fallen into disrepair over the decades. Proceeds from the development will enable a refurbishment of the building.

—Administration, Northeastern Conference

at [www.atlanticuniongleaner.org](http://www.atlanticuniongleaner.org)

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Fifth Regular Quadrennial and Twenty-eighth Regular Constituency Meeting of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, September 26, 2021, at the Webster Bank Arena, 600 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604.

The purpose of this meeting is for the receiving of reports for the past quadrennium, the election of officers, departmental directors, and pertinent committees for the ensuing quadrennium, and the transaction of such business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each organized church within the conference is entitled to be represented by duly appointed delegates chosen on the basis of one for the organization and one additional delegate for each 70 members or major fraction thereof.

Daniel L. Honoré, President  
Oswald S. Euell, Secretary

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Fifth Regular Quadrennial Constituency Meeting of the Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in conjunction with the Twenty-eighth Regular Constituency Meeting (Fifth Regular Quadrennial) of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, on Sunday, September 26, 2021, at the Webster Bank Arena, 600 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604. The meeting of the corporation will convene at 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and trustees for the ensuing quadrennium, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Delegates of the Fifth Regular Quadrennial Constituency Meeting of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the same delegates to the Fifth Regular Quadrennial Constituency Meeting of the Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

Daniel L. Honoré, President  
Oswald S. Euell, Secretary



## Amazing Things Happening as School and Church Work Together in Portland, Maine

It wasn't too long ago—only in pre-COVID times, really—that the relatively large White Memorial church in Portland, Maine, was having a crisis with school attendance. It had gotten to the point where the church had only four students going to Pine Tree Academy (PTA), the conference's flagship academy and the closest Adventist school, located some 25 minutes away in Freeport, Maine.

The crisis wasn't just with school attendance, for the church knows that when kids go to an Adventist school, they are more likely to remain Adventists and resist the pull of the world; the crisis was as much about the future of the church as it was about education.

At Pine Tree Academy, there were signs of concern, as well. Why were there so few students from the

Portland area? A series of conversations between the church, the school, and the parents pointed clearly at one major hurdle: kids needed help with transportation from Portland to Freeport, if they were able to attend Pine Tree Academy.

The school took action and purchased a 12-passenger van to ferry students to and from the school. This action of faith bore fruit—the church's Adventist parents decided to put their children in school, and the children loved it. Then they started telling their friends. Soon there were more children going to PTA than would fit in the van. So, the church acquired an older eight-passenger van. Soon that too was full. But unfortunately, that van died. Next, the school and church bought another 12-passenger van, but that filled up, and here is the interesting

thing: the second van pretty much filled up with students from the community around the church.

With the onset of COVID and its impact on public schools, many parents started looking for different education options, and many of those parents discovered Pine Tree Academy and ended up asking Portland church members, "Why have you kept this school secret?" Parents in the community wanted to send their kids to a great school, but they also wanted to know more about the Adventist Church. So many of the families with kids going to Pine Tree Academy started going to church or bringing their children to Sabbath School. After a while, many of those families also asked for Bible studies.

Today, the church has more students wanting to ride the two vans to Pine

Tree Academy than there are seats. And now, there are 24 additional students (more than enough to fill two more vans) who want to start attending the academy in the fall. Part of this explosive growth was the timing of national events, and part of it was Portland's Adventist families telling their friends about the school, but all of it was influenced by God to bring people into contact with His message.

The members are excited that God is at work. White Memorial church now has 30 active Bible studies and 60 more people who have indicated they want Bible studies in the future. Some of those people taking Bible studies have kids. They will need more vans (or a bus) to get everyone to school, and they have no doubt God will fill that need!

—Donna Holland, pastor, White Memorial church



Driver Sandy Bragdon stands in front of one of the 12-passenger vans used by the White Memorial church in Portland, Maine, to transport children to Pine Tree Academy in Freeport, Maine.



## Williston Church Starts a Community Garden Ministry

One of the interesting side effects of the pandemic era in the U.S. was that an explosion of gardening occurred as house-bound people tried to turn their backyards into oases of productivity. Not all who tried succeeded, and some didn't try because they lacked a backyard. One result, in practical terms, was a larger-than-usual population of frustrated would-be gardeners who wished they had more knowledge or more space, or perhaps both. Into this environment stepped the Williston church in Vermont with a potentially powerful community outreach program called the "Sow and Share Community Garden."

The garden is located on the church grounds, and church members put considerable effort into it, creating seed-ready open beds and raised beds, and erecting a greenhouse. One goal of the outreach is to help people have more healthy, fresh vegetables for their households. The other goal of the project is to form relationships between church members and community members throughout the gardening season.

"The church is blessed with a large lot," said Frentzen Pakpahan, the church's pastor, "and it is blessed with members who are skilled at gardening and want to reach out to their community, so this project just seemed to make sense. We had a work bee in early May to set up the gardening area, and quite a few church

members came out to help. Since then, we've had several community members sign up to have garden plots at our church. One thing I really like about the project is that our members will be mentoring those gardeners who want help, so they'll form relationships. And those relationships don't need to end at harvest because our members can also show gardeners how to preserve their vegetables. Of course, our fellowship hall has a great kitchen for helping with that. Finally, for those gardeners who want, we're looking to teach people how to use their produce to eat healthier. This is a project that is based on a garden, but that keeps on going well after the gardening season has ended. The relationships it builds create an opportunity

to sow the gospel while our community is sowing seeds."

The Williston church is located just outside Vermont's largest city, Burlington, in the northwest corner of the state. It seeks

to "sow" the message of salvation through Christ to the vibrant population of the area.

—Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference



Members Ken Comeau, Cathy Charlestream, Rita Sloan, Rob Suekert, and Jackie Ladd of the Williston church work together to build a greenhouse.



Lisa Comeau, Jackie Ladd, Rita Sloan, Val Wheeler, Frentzen Pakpahan, Williston church pastor, and Jenna Comeau stand in front of their ready-to-plant garden beds.



## Statewide Community Baby Shower Has Far-reaching Impact

On May 16, four community baby showers took place across Massachusetts in Attleboro, Clinton, Springfield, and Worcester. Each location provided physically distant access to free baby supplies and maternal wellness resources. With the help of community partners, a total of 30 families received essential baby supplies, clothes,

Nest Café hosted the site in Worcester.

Nicole Broushet, Glō Mom founder and co-owner of The Vegan Nest Café, sees the Adventist health message as a vital component in this work. “We often limit our health message to diet and nutrition,” says Broushet. “That’s a huge aspect of it, but health permeates every sin-

pregnancy advocacy, and other issues that impact mothers. Currently partnering with the College Church in Lancaster, Massachusetts, Broushet hopes that other Adventist churches will consider getting involved. “As a maternal health advocacy organization, it’s really about empowering women and connecting them with resources that are going to give them the most support possible so that they can have a healthy pregnancy.”

Glō Mom serves as a facilitator for the events and provides a bridge for church ministries to connect with families in their communities. “The church members do the important work as they get involved and stay involved with the families that we’re supporting,” Broushet explains. She shared how several

church ministries (e.g., Women’s Ministries, Men’s Ministries, Family Ministries, and Health Ministries) can all work together in this endeavor as they learn about the various needs of the families they encounter. “This is really total church involvement! There is something for everyone!” Broushet adds, “I sincerely hope that churches prayerfully consider getting involved . . . and [that they will take] these incredible truths that we have and truly [use] them to benefit others and the community around us.”

If you are interested in getting involved with Glō Mom or want more information, email Nicole Broushet at [hello@glomom.org](mailto:hello@glomom.org).

—Debra Cuadro, assistant communication director, Atlantic Union Conference



Volunteers from the Redemption Community Group in Clinton set out baskets for the community baby shower held in their town.

diapers, toys, and more, as well as information on sleeping, lactation, and birthing techniques. The community baby shower also reached more than 330 families via Unity Radio (97.9 FM) as listeners heard presentations on all things related to infant care and pre- and post-delivery self-care for mothers.

This latest endeavor is the ninth community baby shower coordinated by Glō Mom, a maternal health advocacy organization. Three Adventist churches participated in this first simultaneous statewide endeavor: Attleboro church, Springfield First church, and Redemption Community Group in Clinton. The Vegan

group aspect of our lives.” She credits books such as THE ADVENTIST HOME and CHILD GUIDANCE as sources that provide rich insight into the importance of mothers taking care of both their physical and mental health. Broushet also cites a recent report from The Commonwealth Fund highlighting that the United States has the highest maternal mortality rate among developed countries, and many deaths are preventable. “It’s alarming! It truly is a health crisis when we have such a large number of women who are being affected,” Broushet says.

Glō Mom focuses on the “whole mom” and addresses diet and nutrition, exercise,

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE

| SENIORS |

# Agape Connect

July 27 - September 28, 2021

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.

*Session book may be purchased at the ABC*




You are invited to connect with us online or by phone each Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. In our time, we will thoughtfully discuss and share on the book *As Light Lingers*. Come to listen and come to share.

Register at [www.sneconline.org](http://www.sneconline.org) (Events)

Led by Pastor Brian, District Pastor and April González, Planned Giving

Author Nina Atcheson will join us for our final session.

Be a part of a weekly devotion and conversation with friends

# Lemon Lime Herb Agua Fresca

If summertime brings thoughts of ice-cold lemonade to your mind, then this recipe is sure to be a treat! *Agua fresca* means “fresh water” in Spanish, and nothing (except pure water) is as refreshing as this herb-infused cool drink on a hot summer day. You're welcome!



## INGREDIENTS:

2 cups freshly squeezed lemon juice  
(5-6 lemons)

¼ cup freshly squeezed lime juice  
(4 limes)

4 cups sparkling mineral water

½ cup agave syrup or cane sugar

2 fresh rosemary sprigs

2 fresh basil leaves

3 fresh mint leaves

## DIRECTIONS:

- In a 2-quart pitcher, add the liquid ingredients and sweetener. Mix well.
- Add herbs and fill container with ice. Garnish with lemon slices.

The Holmes Sisters—Kimberly, Taisha, and Janeth—are blood sisters who use their culinary and musical heritage to point their audiences to Jesus Christ. They are familiar faces on 3ABN Today, the Dare to Dream Network, and they minister at Northeastern Conference camp meetings. They partner with churches, ministries, and health evangelism programs in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. Learn more at [www.theholmessisters.com](http://www.theholmessisters.com).



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

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**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is seeking a qualified candidate for HVAC Lead Master Technician-Plant Services. The HVAC Technician will install, trouble-shoot, repair, and perform preventative maintenance on central heat and air systems, water source heat-pump systems, PTACs, chillers, boilers, freezers, ice machines, and other refrigeration. Other jobs as assigned related to the maintenance, renovation, and

construction of campus facilities. For a detailed description and qualifications, please visit [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs).

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is seeking qualified candidates for Waste-water Collection System Operator-Plant Services. The Waste-water Collection System Operator will be responsible for the Southern Adventist University waste-water collection system, its operations, reporting requirements, and repairs. For full description and qualifications, visit [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs).

**FULL-TIME FOOD SERVICE COORDINATOR** position available at Glacier View Ranch located in Ward, Colorado. Visit job description and application link for more information: [www.rmcsda.org/job-posting-food-service-coordinator](http://www.rmcsda.org/job-posting-food-service-coordinator).

**LOOKING FOR ADVENTIST CERTIFIED TEACHERS** to join us in Christian Online Education (grades 1-12). Work part-time from home tutoring "live" in a Skype-like environment. If interested, please call us at (817) 645-0895.

**TRAVEL**

**ADVENTIST TOURS 2022** Israel in Jesus' Steps, March 9-17 and June



12-21 (optional Jordan/Egypt); New Testament Alive/Seven Churches, June 2-12; African Safari and Service, May 24-31; Germany-Austria: Luther to WWII, June 22-July 1 (includes Oberammergau Passion Play); Thailand, July 27-August 7. Contact [tabghatours@gmail.com](mailto:tabghatours@gmail.com) or [Facebook.com/TabghaTours](https://www.facebook.com/TabghaTours), or call (423) 298-2169.

**REAL ESTATE/HOUSING**

**STATEWIDE REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATES, INC.** is owned and operated by

Adventist Chaplains Lucy and Carmelo Calderon of Taunton. Thinking of selling your house or condo in Massachusetts, or know someone who is? Receive \$200 instantly for every referral you make, including your own, as soon as the property is listed with us. For more information, please call/text Carmelo at (508) 345-5077, or e-mail: [swre32@gmail.com](mailto:swre32@gmail.com).

**ADVENTIST HOME** an active senior community in upstate New York operated by the Greater New York

**Sunset Calendar**

	Daylight Saving Time							
	Aug. 6	Aug. 13	Aug. 20	Aug. 27	Sept. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 17	Sept. 24
Bangor, ME	7:52	7:42	7:30	7:18	7:05	6:52	6:39	6:26
Portland, ME	7:55	7:45	7:34	7:22	7:10	6:58	6:45	6:32
Boston, MA	7:56	7:46	7:35	7:24	7:12	7:00	6:48	6:35
South Lancaster, MA	7:58	7:48	7:38	7:27	7:15	7:02	6:50	6:38
Pittsfield, MA	8:04	7:55	7:44	7:33	7:21	7:09	6:56	6:44
Hartford, CT	8:01	7:51	7:41	7:30	7:18	7:06	6:54	6:42
Providence, RI	7:56	7:46	7:36	7:25	7:13	7:01	6:49	6:37
New York, NY	8:04	7:54	7:44	7:34	7:22	7:11	6:59	6:47
Albany, NY	8:07	7:57	7:46	7:35	7:23	7:11	6:58	6:46
Utica, NY	8:14	8:04	7:53	7:42	7:30	7:17	7:04	6:52
Syracuse, NY	8:17	8:08	7:57	7:45	7:33	6:21	7:08	6:55
Rochester, NY	8:23	8:14	8:03	7:51	7:39	7:27	7:14	7:01
Buffalo, NY	8:28	8:18	8:07	7:56	7:44	7:31	7:19	7:06
Keene, NH	8:02	7:52	7:41	7:30	7:18	7:05	6:53	6:40
Manchester, NH	7:59	7:49	7:38	7:26	7:14	7:02	6:49	6:37
Portsmouth, NH	7:56	7:46	7:35	7:24	7:12	6:59	6:47	6:34
Brattleboro, VT	8:03	7:53	7:42	7:31	7:19	7:06	6:54	6:41
Burlington, VT	8:09	7:59	7:47	7:35	7:23	7:10	6:57	6:44
Rutland, VT	8:06	7:56	7:45	7:33	7:21	7:08	6:56	6:43
Hamilton, Bda	8:11	8:04	7:56	7:48	7:39	7:30	7:20	7:11

Conference is now accepting applications for independent living units, single homes, apartments and mobile homes. Located on 90 acres in Livingston, N.Y. (100 miles north of NYC). A peaceful, country setting offering a healthy lifestyle and opportunity for service at the local church on campus. Contact Cecelia Graham, office manager, (518) 567-8004. Email: office@AdventistHomeInc.org. Website: AdventistHomeInc.org.

## FOR SALE

**MUSEUM ITEMS FOR SALE** started by late Adventist member, Robert Broadhead of Albany, N.Y. Rocks, fossils, dinosaur items (even real dinosaur tracks), Indian collection, mammoth items, shark teeth, crabs, snakes, meteorites, minerals and trilobites, curio cabinets, etc. Call or text Sandy (518) 210-0722, or email sanhead43@yahoo.com for information and pictures.

## SERVICES

**CASKETS FOR ADVENTISTS** High quality, 20-gauge steel. Includes second coming picture, Ten Commandments, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, and Three Angels' Messages. Priced under \$800. Call or text us at (865) 382-1834 or (865) 809-1428. Email casketssda@gmail.com. Website: www.1844casketsforadventists.com.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ATLANTIC UNION

**Join the Atlantic Union Conference in prayer** each Wednesday at 6:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. Call (351) 999-4838. No access code needed. Sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference Prayer Ministries. "Prayer is the breath of the soul. It is the secret of spiritual power"—PRAYER, p. 12.

### NEW YORK

**Join Union Springs Academy in celebrating 100 years of ministry and service.** All alumni, former faculty, and staff are invited to celebrate God's goodness and leading at our centennial weekend September 17-19, 2021. Our Sabbath service speaker is Ted Wilson, president of the General Conference. Honored guests include Bill Knott, executive editor for the Adventist Review, and John Thomas, retired associate secretary for the General Conference. Visit our website for details and updates: unionspringsacademy.org.

### NORTHEASTERN

**The Northeastern Conference Global Prayer Hotline** is open 24 hours a day for prayer and study. The phone number for the prayer line is (605) 313-5169, access code: 888974#. For more information, visit the website at www.globalprayerministries.com.

### NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

**Join the Northern New England Conference Morning Prayer Line** from 6:00-7:00 a.m., call (605) 468-8026 (toll charges apply), access code 310654#. For more information, visit the website at www.nnecprayerministries.com.



## ADDRESS CHANGE

### Have you moved recently?

If you have moved recently, be sure to submit your new address information to your church clerk or conference.

Contact information for conferences is in the shaded box on the bottom right of page 23.

Help us keep your address information up to date!



The Official Publication for the Constituents of the Seventh-day Adventist® Church in the Northeast United States and Bermuda

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