

ATLANTIC UNION

GLEANER

APRIL 2022



ADVENTIST EDUCATION

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

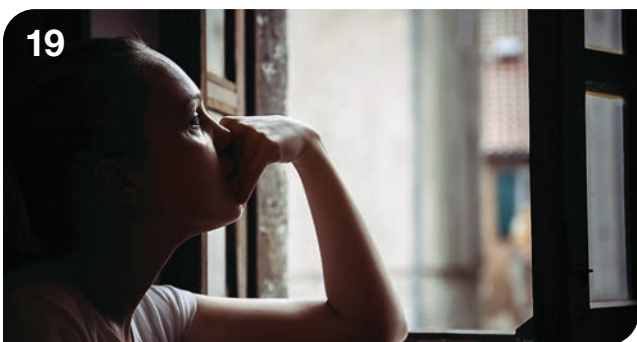
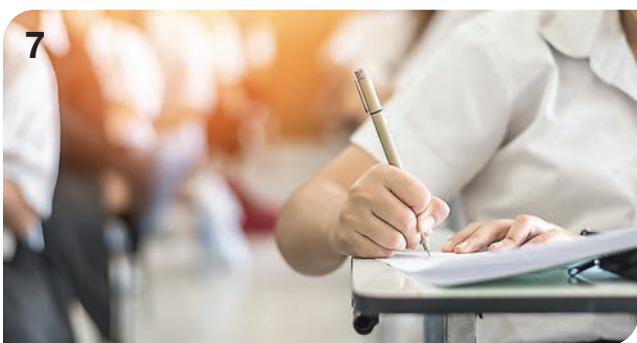
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IN FOCUS: ADVENTIST
EDUCATION

NEW EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY ELECTED

THE FINAL "D" HAS IT!

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The Rock of Our **Salvation**

Just as life seemed to be returning to normal, the COVID-19 pandemic cases were dropping, states were rescinding mask mandates, people were returning to work, and families started to go on vacation again, then we woke up to the news that Russia invaded Ukraine, its smaller neighbor. And, the world was thrown into another crisis. This Russian invasion could potentially affect the whole world, and only God knows how it will end and how many people will be affected and lose their lives. We are living in a time when we indeed need to be very sure that our “anchor holds and grips the solid Rock, who is Jesus.”

The world will go from one crisis to another, but we know that God in His mercy will continue to guide His people. Whether we are in a pandemic or war, we can rest assured that God is in control of our lives. He is in control of our church; He is in control of our country; and, yes, He is in control of this world.

I once heard the story about a sailor who was in a shipwreck and was thrown to a rock where he clung and held on until the storm passed, the water receded, and he was rescued. When he finally made it home, one of his friends asked him: “Were you not afraid when the wind was blowing; didn’t you shake with fear?” He answered: “Yes, I was, but the rock did not move.”

Someone recently asked me, “How can you be calm and composed in times of high stress and trouble?” The answer is simply because God is our Rock, and He is in control of our lives. He is the Captain of our vessel, and He will keep us safe and secure until we arrive at our destination.

In times of trouble and uncertainty, “though the earth is transformed and the mountains are toppled into the depths of the seas, though their waters roar and foam and the mountains quake in the surge” (Psalm 46:2, 3, NIV), we need to remember the Lord’s admonition: “ ‘Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted over the earth.’ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.” Psalm 46:10, 11 (NIV).

Troubles, uncertainties, and strife in the world and around us often bring distress, anguish, and difficulties to us individually and to our family members. Ellen White wrote that “Afflictions are oft mercies in disguise. We know not what we might have been without them. When God in His mysterious providence overthrows all our cherished plans, and we may receive sorrow in the place of joy, we will bow in submission and say, ‘Thy will, O God, be done.’ We must and we will ever cherish a calm, religious trust in One who loves us, who gave His life for us”—*DAUGHTERS OF GOD*, p. 223.

Troubles will come and go. Pandemics will come and go. As we draw nearer and nearer to the end of time, there will be more wars and rumors of wars. There will be more trouble, distress, anguish, and deaths, but knowing that God is in control of our lives, we can always accept David’s invitation in Psalm 95:1 “Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.” ①

Pierre Omeler is the president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Corporation.



“ ‘Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted over the earth.’ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.”

Psalm 46:10, 11 (NIV)



Adventist Education: Journey *to* Excellence 2.0

A BRIEF HISTORY

God's original plan for the education of His children was established in Eden and centered around the family unit. God was the teacher, and it was from Him that instruction was received (Genesis 1-3). In the Old Testament, we read about the School of Prophets which was initiated by the prophet Samuel (1 Samuel 19:18-24). It is clear in these writings that Samuel was instructing and teaching. Also, in 2 Kings 2 and 4:38-44, we read about groups of men who were leaders of schools and communities and who were devoted to God and served Him. These community leaders followed the teachings of Samuel, Elijah, and Elisha, and were known as their "students."

The New Testament shines a bright light on Jesus, the Master Teacher. From the life of Jesus, we discover that no one can be a great teacher if they don't love, know, teach, and live by the sacred truth of God. Jesus was the Master Teacher because truth originated with him; thus he could speak with authority (Matthew 28:18-20). Moreover, He was the Master Teacher because of the subject matter of which He taught—God, God's will, the results of obedience and disobedience in our earthly life. In addition, He had perfect knowledge

of the people whom He taught (John 2:25). Also, He was the Master Teacher using a methodology of clarity and concreteness. He taught to the needs of the person using illustrations such as the pursuit of farming, fishing, building, cooking, buying land, and many others, along with the overall

**'Something better'
is the watchword of
education, the law
of all true living. . . .
To honor Christ, to
become like Him, to
work for Him, is the
life's highest ambition
and its greatest joy'**

—EDUCATION, p. 296.

purpose of His mission on earth, which was "to seek and save the lost" (Luke 19:10; Matthew 1:21; 1 Timothy 1:15). He had a desire for His children to know God and His truth (John 17:3 and John 8:32). Finally, Jesus was the Master Teacher because of the scope of

His vision, with the clarion call to go and preach [teach] the gospel to every person in the entire world (Matthew 28:18; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:45-49; Acts 1:6-8), no matter their race, nationality, or gender.

It is from the lessons and examples of Jesus, the Master Teacher, that Adventist education had its beginning. There is no educator in the history of the world who ever had a broader vision of his audience. No person ever had as clear an insight into the most crucial needs of humankind as did Jesus. The basic needs of His children are to know God, to be strong enough to reject the deceitfulness of sin, to develop a relationship with Him, to become a child of His, to live a life of hope and wholeness, to love all (including one's enemies), to gain peace of mind, and to live daily in the hope of something better—the promise of eternal life (Titus 1:2; 2:13; 3:7).

In numerous books, including *THE ADVENTIST HOME*, there is an interesting statement that reads, "Our church schools are ordained [authorized] by God to prepare the children for this great work. Here children are to be instructed in the special truths for this time and in practical missionary work. They are to enlist in the army of workers to help the sick and the suffering.



Children can take part in the medical missionary work and by their jots and tittles can help to carry it forward. . . . By them God’s message will be made known and His saving health to all nations. Then let the church carry a burden for the lambs of the flock. Let the children be educated and trained to do service for God” (p. 489).

Ellen White recognized that, as times were changing, public education did not share many core values or beliefs of Adventist families and many families did not have the ability to educate their children at home. Our churches, families, and schools were to partner in Adventist education in a shared responsibility. She also noted that the Lord had instructed her to speak on this

topic. From the book *COUNSELS TO PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND STUDENTS*, she penned, “Our schools have been established by the Lord; and if they are conducted in harmony with His purpose, the youth sent to them will quickly be prepared to engage in various branches of missionary work. Some will be trained to enter the field as missionary nurses, some as canvassers, some as evangelists, some as teachers, and some as gospel ministers. . . . This is a very important work, demanding high ability and careful study” (p. 493).

WHY IS ADVENTIST EDUCATION RELEVANT TODAY?

We recognize that Adventist education has come a long way since

1853 when Martha Byington opened the first known church school for Sabbatarian Adventists in Buck’s Bridge, New York, and in 1872 when the first sponsored church school opened in Battle Creek, Michigan. Today, in the North American Division (NAD), there are 918 schools, from early childhood centers and programs to elementary and secondary schools, and 13 colleges and universities, all providing an Adventist education to just over 74,000 students (adventisteducation.org/stat.html). Furthermore, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has associations with a total of 8,515 educational institutions operating in more than 100 countries around the world, with over 1.95 million students

worldwide. Adventist education remains the largest Protestant education system globally.

In an interview with Dennis Plubell, North Pacific Union Conference vice president for education, he stated that “in the mid-1990s, a focus on improving Adventist secondary education in the 21st century was articulated in the publication called FACT-21. Five

“In the North American Division (NAD), there are 918 schools, from early childhood centers and programs to elementary and secondary schools, and 13 colleges and universities, all providing an Adventist education to just over 74,000 students.”

years later, this led to the publication of *JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE* in 2002, which covered kindergarten through grade 12 in scope. The underlying construct from the beginning has been to affirm and secure that which is core to Adventist education. With this knowledge of our central purpose clearly understood—the Why— then we, as Adventist

educators, are urged to engage in innovation and improvement in all other areas, to be on a journey to excellence. The excellence we ascribe to our Creator and Redeemer should elicit nothing less than the best.”

A lot has happened in education in the past 20 years. The world has changed and is rapidly changing, but Adventist core values and their purpose have not changed. Our goal is to update and adapt our methodology to better reach a new generation of learners and to prepare them for service in 2022 and beyond. In February 2021, during a virtual conference, the Association of Seventh-day Adventist School Administrators (ASDASA) provided its education leaders with the framework of Journey to Excellence 2.0 (J2E 2.0), challenging all educators to a commitment to growth and excellence (journeytoexcellence.com). The three main areas outlined in J2E 2.0 as adapted from Betty Bayer, director of education for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada:

Why: Clear Purpose

The clear purpose of Adventist education is to lead students to encounter Jesus, accept His gift of salvation, and follow Him. Optimal student learning can only be achieved with excellence when there is an unwavering focus on the sacred purpose and the divine partnership in Adventist education. The clear purpose must be visible in all curricula, instruction, assessment, and support practices.

How: Core Elements of Learning, Collaborative Culture, Capacity Building

The Core Elements (coherence, authenticity, competencies, metacognition, Adventist worldview, structured lessons, purposeful

assessment, equity) capture the importance of assessing, planning, implementing, and reflecting in a cycle of continual improvement.

In a Collaborative Culture, educators work together at all levels to assess, plan, implement, and reflect. The involvement of everyone leads to smarter decision-making while reinforcing the value of each individual.

Capacity Building is an investment in people—educating, equipping, encouraging, and empowering educators so that they can engage and prepare their students for lifelong learning and service.

What: Commitment To Growth

Commitment to growth compels educators to a recurring cycle of improvement, a journey to excellence. Adventist educators must commit to reflective learning from God’s Word, school data, instructional research, and professional practice to improve learning for themselves, their colleagues, and their students.

CONCLUSION:

Adventist education has been serving the World Church for almost 170 years. In 1903, Ellen G. White wrote the book *EDUCATION*, which sets forth the unique and challenging idea that “the work of education and the work of redemption are one” (p. 246). The ultimate goal of all learning should be to understand more about our Creator-Redeemer and reflect that understanding in our personal lives and our students. ①



Arne Nielsen is the North American Division vice president for education.



Learn More About **Your Church**

To assist our members with becoming more familiar with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, each month, we will focus on a different ministry/department and share available resources specific to that area. If you have a ministry/department you wish to learn more about, email us at gleaner@atlanticunion.org.

Adventist Education

The history of Adventist education began in 1853 when Martha Byington opened the first known church school for Sabbatarian Adventists in Buck's Bridge, New York. Today, Adventist schools are in nearly 150 countries. The Adventist school system is one of the largest Protestant educational systems in the world with more than 1.9 million students, 108,500 teachers, and 8,500 schools, colleges, and universities.

General Conference

The Education department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is responsible for the coordination, promotion, training, and quality of the denomination's educational program. The Education department works closely with Education department directors in the 13 divisions of the world church. Through AMiCUS (Adventist Ministry to College and University Students), the Education department also cooperates with Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries and Youth Ministries in nurturing the faith of Adventist students attending non-Adventist colleges and universities.

Publications

JOURNAL OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION® (jae.adventist.org) is a quarterly digital publication for teachers and educational personnel.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY DIALOGUE (dialogue.adventist.org) is an international journal for college and university students, teachers, chaplains, and professionals. Published three times per year in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.

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North American Division

The North American Division (NAD) operates a system of 918 schools and early childhood programs and 13 colleges and universities educating more than 74,000 students. The

role of the NAD Office of Education is to “create a vision for Adventist education and to develop resources that assist educators in developing that vision.”

Vice President for Education: Arne Nielsen
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Director, Secondary Education and Accreditation: Stephen Bralley
Director, Early Childhood Education: Evelyn Sullivan
Director, Marketing for Higher Education: Marc Grundy
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Atlantic Union Conference

The Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education seeks to “provide leadership and coordination for the elementary schools and academies in our territory by training to lead, empowering to serve, and inspiring to be ready so all children can ‘be taught of the Lord.’”

Publication

TEACHER BULLETIN (teacherbulletin.org) is created by teachers for teachers providing creative and resourceful ideas integrating Christian principles with cutting-edge technology, contemporary theories, and trends.

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New Executive Secretary Elected for the Atlantic Union Conference

At its regularly scheduled quarterly meeting on February 15, 2022, the Atlantic Union Conference Executive Committee elected Ted Huskins to serve as executive secretary of the union, effective March 1. He is the 17th executive secretary to serve the Atlantic Union Conference in its 120-year history. In his new role, Huskins is responsible for the union's administrative operations, policy implementation, human relations, and other administrative functions.

Since June 2020, Huskins has served the Northern New England Conference as president, and before that, he served as the conference executive secretary (2014-2020).

Huskins graduated from Southern College (now Southern Adventist University) with degrees in theology and physical education. He received a Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University and served 20 years in pastoral ministry. For five years before joining NNEC, Huskins was the president of Coleman Stewardship Services, an organization that helps churches improve their stewardship practices.

As NNEC president, Huskins focused on stewardship and continued the renewed interest in evange-



During the first scheduled quarterly meeting for 2022, the Atlantic Union Conference Executive Committee elected Ted Huskins to serve as executive secretary of the union, effective March 1.

lism (including youth evangelism) and church planting. He played a key part in reviving both areas in the Northern New England territory while he was executive secretary.

Huskins and his wife, Cindy, are parents of five adult children. "It is with a humble heart that I respond to the call of the Lord to serve as the executive secretary of the Atlantic Union. I covet your prayers and continued friendship as we continue to focus on

the mission the Lord has entrusted to us. Thank you for your support and trust. By God's grace, I will seek to honor the Lord and each member of the Atlantic Union," Huskins said.

Huskins succeeds Pierre Omeler, who is now the president of the Atlantic Union Conference after serving for more than five years as executive secretary.

"Elder Ted Huskins is a proven, humble, Christian leader and a strategic think-

er with more than 25 years of experience serving the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He has demonstrated a passion for mission, inclusion, and effective leadership over the years. I am looking forward to working with him for the glory of God and the good of all the constituents of the Atlantic Union," Omeler said.

The Atlantic Union Conference, headquarters for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the northeast United States, covers the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont, and the islands of Bermuda. As executive secretary, Huskins joins the administrative team, directors, and staff to oversee the work of six conferences: Bermuda, Greater New York, New York, Northeastern, Northern New England, and Southern New England. The membership of the Atlantic Union currently stands at 129,073, and the territory includes 604 churches, 97 groups, 51 elementary and secondary schools, and numerous community-based ministries (*Atlantic Union Conference Fourth Quarter 2021 Secretary's Statistical Report*).

—Ednor A.P. Davison, communication director, Atlantic Union Conference

"As executive secretary, Huskins joins the administrative team, directors, and staff to oversee the work of six conferences: Bermuda, Greater New York, New York, Northeastern, Northern New England, and Southern New England."

Bermuda Conference Women Encouraged to Build and Maintain Trust and Healthy Relationships

Women's Ministries department directors, Donnett Blake and Michelle Hill of the Northeastern and Bermuda conferences, invited women to dress in their finest and wear a touch of red with a favorite fascinator (a woman's light, decorative headpiece) for Tea Talk—a virtual opportunity to slow down and relax with tasty cups of tea and other goodies. More than 500 ladies, some from as far away as Trinidad, England, and South Africa, logged on in February to enjoy inspi-

professional counselor, author of *THE TRUTH ABOUT US*, and founder and president of Women's Healing and Empowerment Network, asserted that trust—the belief that someone or something is reliable, good, and honest—is a learned skill that can sometimes be difficult to achieve. Still, people can learn to trust by trusting God, trusting themselves, and extending trust to others. She added that individuals must model respect, work hard to solve problems peacefully and with compassion, not judge oth-

er's feelings or opinions, and maintain healthy boundaries. Dean suggested, "Tribes are a critical part of our ability to live happy, healthy lives." She added, "Research shows if you are subjected to low-quality relationships, it increases the likelihood of

vices aimed to help women gain confidence and clarity to lead, thrive, and level up in their personal and professional lives." She is also the founder of the Tribe Advantage, a 6-month leadership experience to help women leaders. (For more about Dean, see the *GLEANER*, September 2021, p. 8.)

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the 1800s. Bermuda-born Mary Prince's book *THE HISTORY OF MARY PRINCE* detailed the first account of a black woman's life as an enslaved person in Bermuda and Britain. She helped abolish slavery in England. Adele Tucker, also born in Bermuda, is known for forming, with three other teachers, the Bermuda Union of Teachers, Bermuda's oldest union, to address black teachers' grievances. American Anna Knight was the first black teacher at Southern



Leah J M Dean, founder and CEO of Conduit International; Michelle Hill and Donnett Blake, Women's Ministries directors for the Bermuda and Northeastern conferences, respectively; and Amanda Hawley, pastor of the Breath of Life Fellowship Mission, are among those who led out in Tea Talk where women were encouraged to build and maintain trust and healthy relationships.

rational music, and receive encouragement in building and maintaining trust and healthy relationships.

Blake, Hill, Yvonne Knight, Atlantic Union Women's Ministries director, and Jada Graham welcomed everyone to the occasion. Barbara Jolly and Amanda Hawley hosted Tea Talk. Hawley introduced guest speakers Mable Dunbar of Spokane, Washington, and Leah J M Dean from Bermuda as phenomenal women of God. They inspired the viewers to rely on God, believe in self, and develop healthy relationships.

Speaking on the theme "Building and Maintaining Trust," Dunbar, a licensed

ers' feelings or opinions, and maintain healthy boundaries.

Dean agreed that relationships require trust in self and others. Her formula, Believe + Belonging = Be Different, emphasizes that people must first believe in themselves and that they have value, "find places to belong, experience belonging, and be different by being open to new relationships and thriving in the relationships." She is the author of *ASSEMBLE THE TRIBE* (leahjmdean.com) and founder and CEO of Conduit International, a "leadership and professional development firm that offers coaching and consulting ser-

being subjected to different kinds of cancers and other diseases. And if you are isolated and lonely, it increases your mortality."

Based on her study of Christ's life, Dean explained that Jesus had different levels of relationships and tribes of varied personalities, and that He poured into His tribes, who then went out to change the world. She believes, "we need different tribes at different times to accomplish different things. . . . and multiple tribes to complete our sense of wholeness."

February is also Black History month, so Hawley highlighted the legacy of four black women born in

Adventist University (formerly Southern Industrial School) and the first president of the National Colored Teachers Association of Seventh-day Adventists. Ruth Temple, an American physician, was the first African American woman to graduate with an M.D. from Loma Linda University (formerly the College of Medical Evangelists).

Jolly says Tea Talk was a "spa for the soul" as it "encouraged an atmosphere of intimacy and thoughtful conversations." Her advice to tea drinkers: Enjoy tea, sip by sip rather than gulp by gulp.

—Joi Tyrrell, communication director, Bermuda Conference

Dawin Rodriguez: Ministry Behind the Lens

Early in his photography career, Dawin Rodriguez had a negative experience with another professional photographer that eventually shaped his ministry. “When I asked him any questions, he was very protective and didn’t want to share his knowledge [fearing] that I was going to be competition if he showed me what he does,” explains Rodriguez. From that point, Rodriguez determined to be open and available to anyone wanting to learn photography. “Whatever I learned, I was going to show them how to do it.” For more than nine years, Rodriguez has shared his expertise and knowledge in multiple training sessions for the Greater New York Conference (GNYC), and he proudly serves as a member of the GNYC Communication Advisory.

A native of the Dominican Republic, Rodriguez received his first camera as a gift from his father when he was 15 years old. A full-time professional photographer since 2012, Rodriguez

specializes in fashion, commercial, and artistic photography.

He worked as the official photographer at the 2014 Miss World Dominican Republic beauty pageant, has shot covers for local and international magazines, and worked with top models and world-renowned, award-winning artists, such as Lin Manuel Miranda, Marc Anthony, Jennifer Lopez, Rubén Blades, and more. In all of this, Rodriguez stays grounded in his strong faith in God and puts serving and obeying Him first—even if it means turning down potentially lucrative opportunities.

After hearing about how Rodriguez turned down a major job that would conflict with the Sabbath, one designer commented, “Wow, that says so much about you! Now I will pay you more.” Rodriguez adds, “[The Sabbath] has always been an opportunity for me to share the gospel. . . . It always comes up as a topic because they want to know why I don’t work on



Dawin Rodriguez shares his knowledge and expertise during one of many training sessions on photography that he has facilitated for the Greater New York Conference Communication Department.



Communication leaders from churches in the Great New York Conference learn as much as they can from Dawin Rodriguez during a training session.

Saturday. It gives me an opportunity to tell them about the Sabbath.”

As a rule, Rodriguez brings Christian principles into his work and seeks to



Dawin Rodriguez, a full-time, professional photographer who specializes in fashion, commercial, and artistic photography, puts God first regardless of the opportunities with which he is presented.



reflect God in all that he does by treating his clients with respect and maintaining a certain decorum in his studio. “It helps a lot when they know that you are a different person, that you believe in God, and do the right things,” Rodriguez explains.

Rodriguez admits that in his line of work he encounters people who use alcohol, drugs, or participate in other illicit behaviors. They are often puzzled when they notice that he lives a

vastly different lifestyle, and he recognizes that his life is a testimony. “God will open doors for you if you stay faithful to your beliefs. It is hard, and that is why my communication with God must be constant, not just periodic.” He takes a few moments before each photo shoot to meditate and pray to God. “I include Him; He is my partner.” If the opportunity presents itself, he will also pray with the client.

He also counsels

upcoming photographers who are interested in his field. If they are married, Rodriguez emphasizes the importance of transparency and “keeping communication open with your spouse, so they feel secure.” He also encourages those new to photography to watch tutorials, learn as much as they can, and practice often.

Above all, he says, “Always put God first, and trust in Him. [Business] will go up and down. In those

moments when you are feeling very low, go deeper with God. When you are on top, always remember to praise God for that.” He claims Philippians 4:13 as his anchor text. “Every time I struggle, [this text] comes to mind. It doesn’t matter how hard life is going to be, I can do everything through Jesus Christ.”

—Debra Banks Cuadro, assistant communication director, Atlantic Union Conference

Huntington Church Holds Ordination Service and Recognizes Members for Their Acts of Service

Huntington church held an ordination service to set apart a group of dedicated and hardworking church members to the Lord. Neil Turner, pastor of the Huntington and Antioch churches in Long Island, New York, wanted to officially recognize what the Lord has already been doing in the lives of these members. He was joined by his wife, Valore, in commending the ordinands for their faithfulness.

During his sermon, titled “Called to Serve,” Turner emphasized the importance of servant leadership and underlined that three of the most important qualities of a servant leader are serving unselfishly, engaging in actual service, and leading a godly life.

Turner also highlighted some of the inspiring



Pictured are the newly-ordained members, families, and leaders from the Huntington and Antioch churches.

acts of service that have recently been done by church members, including a church member who planted a garden outside of the church and tended it faithfully each week over the summer. Another member stepped into a major role in the communication department to meet a need during the pandemic, while another member began a

ministry creating biblical and thought-provoking signs to display while walking through the streets of Manhattan. “God is not calling us to be benchwarmers in the church of God,” Turner said. “If you see something that needs to be done, do it!”

All of the ordinands were affirmed and supported by their families and the

church body. Also joining the congregation to show his support was Horace Russell, a retired Greater New York Conference pastor, who offered the prayer of consecration.

The newly-ordained members were: elders—Andrew Oliver Gordon, and Duane Jerome Mitchell; deacons—Kenroy Bucknor, Paul Schnurr, Nion Bailey, and Wilcon Major; deaconesses—Fernelee Graham, Nellie Brown, Sonia Patricia Townsend, Ened Bucknor, Sharlene Mitchell, and Marcia Blake.

Pastor Turner prays that the church can work together to do more community outreach in 2022 and continue to grow spiritually as they look for the coming of Christ.

—Oveta Thomas, education secretary, Huntington church

Union Springs Students Serve in the Dominican Republic

Students and staff from Union Springs Academy traveled to the Dominican Republic to participate in a mission trip, February 3-13.

On their first day of work, volunteers hoped to tackle one of many painting projects at the Dominican Adventist University (Universidad Adventista Dominicana). Unfortunately, rain forced them to reschedule that work to another day. Not willing to be idle, students learned how to milk cows and assisted at the school's dairy farm. They also met the country's vice minister of sports, who came to speak at the school. During the evening vesper program to bring in the Sabbath, students assisted in translating a



Union Springs Academy students and staff complete an outdoor painting project at the Dominican Adventist University.

vesper service where many university students stood to signify their commitment to participate in a literature evangelism ministry.

The mission team spent two Sabbaths in the Dominican Republic and participated in the worship

services at the university's church. On both Sabbaths, students visited a local orphanage, where they donated items, sang songs, and bonded with the children.

The rain continued off and on during their stay in the Dominican Republic. Still,

the volunteers managed to complete many projects at the university, including power washing areas to prep them for painting, painting the girls' dorm and baseball field, and planting 100 trees across the campus. They also returned to the orphanage to plant 50 trees.

The mission trip included a bit of downtime that provided the students an opportunity to visit Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic, and tour various historical locations in Santiago. Students also enjoyed an afternoon boat ride to a nearby island for fun in the sand, swimming, and snorkeling.

—Development Office, Union Springs Academy

Schenectady Church Recognizes Senior Members

Schenectady church members took time during their worship service on Super Senior Appreciation Day to express appreciation to and thank some of their older members for their many years of service to the church in Schenectady, New York.

During the service last fall, each person was honored with a short reading recounting the numerous ways they blessed the church family and community. Those honored included Mary Barnes; Richard Elliot; Ronald Lopez, a pastor; Bill and Reina Martinez; Marta Perazzo; Shelley Thompkins; Helen Turnbull; and Kay and Bob Voehringer. Each of those in attendance received a flower

and the service was followed by a potluck dinner.

Those recognized have spent their lives serving in God's church, regardless of how much time it took out of their day or how many people said "thank you."

To those who are the backbone of their churches, "thank you" for giving so much of your time and talents. These are the ones who have gotten up early on Sunday to mow the grass and perform maintenance or to clean the church and decorate the fellowship hall. They are the ones who organize and clean up after social functions, who make the Communion preparations, and lead the Sabbath School and worship services.

These are the members who get out of bed early every Sabbath to be the first ones to arrive at church, waiting with a warm smile to greet all who come after. They send cards to the sick or suffering, make phone calls or visits to the lonely, and offer comfort and support to those who are struggling. They have taught Sabbath School classes from toddlers to adults, organized Bible studies, and preached sermons. They have filled roles that include preachers, elders, deacons and deaconesses, teachers, greeters, and more.

"As we seek to walk in the footsteps of Christ, let it be said of us as it was said of Hezekiah: 'And in every work that he began in the service



Schenectady church honors its seniors.

of the house of God, and in the law and in the commandment, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart. So he prospered (2 Chronicles 31:21, NKJV). And as we look around us at our brothers and sisters who are currently serving, let us remember to be as the leper that Jesus healed, the one who returned to say 'thank you,' " says Ashley Meyer, member.

—Communication, Schenectady church

Ithaca Celebrates With Concert “He Has Come!”

Perhaps the two most effective things that take place during Christmastime, when it comes down to approaching people in the community, are music and food. This means that many churches use the season to share the Word of God with grace and melodies. Ithaca church in Ithaca, New York, was no exception. In December 2021, the church celebrated and hosted the Christmas concert “He Has Come!” which exalted the Savior of all humanity.

The church choir co-directors, Gofhaone Tau and Carlynn Smith-Thomas, coordinated the concert with the collaboration of church members, guests from the community, and friends. The song titled “Sing Out Our Savior’s Birth” led the way to a great variety of interpretations that included vocal and instrumental renditions. “O Come, O Come Emmanuel,” “Silent Night,” and “Mary, Did You Know?” were among the songs interpreted by some of those who participated. “I am



Young people share their musical talents at the concert hosted by Ithaca church.

glad I was able to be here today, because these young people are very passionate and talented,” said Tau, who also serves as an elder at the church. They also sang congregational songs and hymns.

“The Lord is good, and we are grateful for the blessings we received because He has come,” said Reynolds Rodriguez, New York Conference Communication director, who offered the closing remarks. Following the closing prayer by Lenox Brown, the church’s former senior pastor, attendees enjoyed a variety of refreshments at the end of the concert.

—Communication staff, New York Conference

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Northeastern Conference Establishes a Virtual Church

On Tuesday, February 1, the Northeastern Conference (NEC) Executive Committee made conference history by establishing its first virtual church. Members voted the Living Manna First Online Seventh-day Adventist Church and announced that Ivor Myers will serve as pastor. Myers previously pastored the Campbell church in Campbell, California.

Abraham Jules, NEC president, is excited about the new endeavor. “The pandemic has taught all of us some lessons, one of them being that we can have church while we are at home. There are many people who we will be reaching through this virtual congregation that we would not reach otherwise.”

As a virtual church, Living Manna is intended to operate in the same manner as a church with members occupying a physical building, including having church elections and submitting tithes and offerings. “The only difference is [the members] will come from around the world,” says Jules. “They will be indoctrinated in the teachings of the Adventist Church, and we will have elections like any other church—all of the typical auxiliaries will be represented in the virtual church.” Living Manna members will utilize Adventist Giving online to return tithe and give offerings. As a virtual church, Living Manna will also operate seven days a week through varied online programming addressing daily living, finances, mental health, and more.

During the pandemic, as many churches moved

services online, Myers changed the way he did things with the online audience tuning into the Campbell church’s weekly services. As he interacted with viewers during his live online presentations, he noticed a significant increase in the reach and size of his online audience. “We were communicating directly with them. We saw their comments come up and responded in real time. That ended up being a real blessing.”



Ivor Myers, and his wife, Atonte, will minister to the members of the Living Manna First Online Seventh-day Adventist Church established by the Northeastern Conference.

Myers approached Northeastern Conference with the idea of forming a virtual church. “The difference between streaming services online and forming a virtual church is that the people online are not on the outside looking in; they are not just joining a service; they are the service,” explains Myers. “This is a novel concept,” said Jules. “I have learned in my life and my ministry that you must

try some new things so you may meet and reach [other] people for Christ.”

Pastoring an online church also allows Myers and his wife, Atonte, to serve from a completely different area of the country. The Myers currently live in Huntsville, Alabama, where their ministry includes serving at Oakwood University. Atonte is a licensed family therapist and will serve as the school’s licensed mental health therapist, and Pastor Myers will

other congregation, any other preacher, or any other establishment in town, you should lose them. If you are doing what is right and people still leave, it is a free country. You do your best to minister.”

Nicardo Delahaye, NEC associate secretary agreed. “The online church is catering to a different audience. We are going after two different demographics.” He added, “I don’t think [the Living Manna church] will be poaching members from our brick-and-mortar churches. If anything, [Myers] may supplement their religious content and religious diet, but I don’t think he will be necessarily detracting from them. I think some of our members in the brick-and-mortar churches appreciate the history of their church, the fellowship, the social structures that connect them to one another. The challenge with the virtual church will be trying to foster the congregation into seeing themselves as a system.”

“Online church isn’t for everybody, but it is for some, and that number of people is pretty big,” said Myers. “There are some people who won’t walk into a church building, but they will watch online. We don’t want to come off as competition or a threat to any church. That’s why our emphasis is not on moving Adventist members into the Living Manna church but on getting new members who are not already in our churches. Hopefully, we will also help fill other churches.”

—Debra Banks Cuadro, assistant communication director, Atlantic Union Conference

Conference President Reviews First 100 Days in Office

On January 4, Abraham Jules, president of the Northeastern Conference (NEC), addressed the state of the conference during a special message streamed live highlighting his first 100 days in office. “Based upon the metrics, I am pleased to report that the state of the conference is strong,” said Jules.



Abraham Jules, left, Northeastern Conference (NEC) president, answers questions from Duddley Francois, NEC communication director, during the debut of NEC News.

Among many updates and praise reports during his message, Jules also discussed a “paradigm shift” in the conference’s services and resources, introduced new departments and individuals, and explained their roles. The occasion also marked the debut of NEC News, a quarterly report and production of the NEC Communication department. Duddley Francois, NEC communication director, interviewed Jules about his first 100 days in office and addressed issues surrounding in-person church services during COVID-19, how the public views the church, and more.

To watch the video of the “2022 State of the Conference Address,” visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPCzWNsEBIc&t=659s.

—Debra Banks Cuadro, assistant communication director, Atlantic Union Conference

Medical Cadet Corps Train with Adventist Community Services

Fifteen Medical Cadet Corps (MCC) members from Northeastern and Greater New York conferences joined Adventist Community Services volunteers in Hamden, Connecticut, for a Warehouse Management training course on January 23. Derrick Lea, North American Division ACS Disaster Relief (ACS-DR) director, and Mario Augustave, Northeastern ACS-DR director, presented information on what churches can do to assist victims affected by man-made or natural disasters.



Medical Cadets and Adventist Community Services volunteers pose for a photo at the ACS Warehouse Management Training in Hamden, Connecticut.

Gordon Jones, Facebook Page

The cadets gained valuable instruction equipping them to serve their logistical responsibilities better. Adventist Community Services is the official community outreach ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. ACS-DR is involved in four phases of disaster response—preparation, mitigation, response, and recovery, to ensure that volunteers are efficiently matched with community needs.

—Information contributed by Gordon Jones, MCC Brigadier General, and Adventist Community Services, Northeastern Conference

Jefferson Avenue Youth Reflect on Church Fire

When a sudden loss occurs, it is best to talk it out. On Sabbath, January 22, youth and young adults from the Jefferson Avenue church in Rochester, New York, met with representatives from the Northeastern (NEC) and Atlantic Union conferences to do just that.



They expressed their feelings and emotions during a “Red Table Talk” organized to help them work through feelings associated with the church’s devastating fire that occurred on Christmas day in 2021.

Organizers sought to allow the youth to talk about how the loss has affected them, help them identify and navigate through the various stages of grief, and assist them with moving forward. Rochester’s Breath of Life church hosted the meeting.

David McKenzie, Atlantic Union Adventist Youth Ministries director, joined youth leaders from the Northeastern Conference: Paula Olivier, director; Duddley Francois, associate director; Jonathan Coicou, executive coordinator; and Chris McDonald, Western New York area coordinator, to co-facilitate the discussion.

To view a video of the January 22 “Red Table Talk” broadcast, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqX2iRM7T5c>.

—Angela Tucker-Hill, communication director, Jefferson Avenue church

Virtual Art Clinic 2022 a Success

The Northern New England Conference (NNEC) hosted its second successful Virtual Art Clinic on February 10 and 11. More than 100 students were given the opportunity to spend two days having an enriching addition to their academic program by tapping into their creative side. They spent time engaging in artistic expression through several different types of media. The theme for the program was “Always with Us,” a reminder that God is eager to be always by our sides, guiding, comforting, and protecting us.

Several volunteers from NNEC, as well as some from the Southern New England and New York conferences shared their talents by ministering to the students. The classes taught included culinary arts, photography, pen and ink, drawing, watercolors, scrapbooking, aluminum foil art, and acrylics. Because the classes were offered online through

Zoom, they were able to include arts and crafts for grades 1-4 as well.

Each instructor received a list of registered students and a list of supplies that were needed for each student. Teachers and many parent volunteers shopped for the needed items to equip students for their class. NNEC donated money to help with some of the costs for supplies.

Thursday and Friday mornings began with all participants in the main Zoom meeting room for music created by Pine Tree Academy’s (PTA) worship team. Each day, a student from PTA shared an inspiring message related to the theme, followed by announcements and instructions. Breakout rooms were assigned for each student and instructor to join their specific class. Some NNEC teachers chose to project the instructors on Zoom onto a large screen, while others had students join Zoom in

classrooms on individual laptops. Assistants supervised the breakout rooms to help keep students on task, which left the teachers free to supervise their students in their own classrooms.

On Sabbath, the final session was a church service which included a welcome from the conference president, special music, a children’s story, and another inspiring message. A video was shared displaying the students as they were engaging in their classes, as well as some of their creations.

NNEC is grateful for every student and instructor who participated. The instructors included Beverly Bucknor, Aislinn Ridley, Ginny Hakes, Donna Niwinski, Kate Clauson, Page Tyson, Brenda Johnson, Linda Dayen, and Karina Pimentel. Many thanks to the PTA praise and worship team, the classroom teachers, Dustin Johnson, who created the video, the helpers in the breakout rooms, Joseph Li, who managed Zoom, NNEC who lent their support, and Barbara Chase, who worked many hours behind the scenes.

Even though COVID has presented many challenges this school year, PTA is thankful for the creative ways that technology was utilized to keep the kids safe, enhance their program, and connect them to each other, as well as to connect them to their Savior.

—Sonia Edwards, superintendent of schools, Northern New England Conference

◀ Several students who participated in the Northern New England Conference Virtual Art Clinic display their completed projects. ▶



The Singing Farmer Remembered

A celebration of life was held at the Auburn church in Auburn, Maine, on January 30 for Wayne Bridgham, 74. The Bridgham family was one of the early founders of the town of Minot, Maine, in the late 1700s. Bridgham's entire life was spent on the Bridgham Family Farm on Center Minot Hill. Following his father's sudden and untimely death, Bridgham became the rock on which his mother leaned.

Bridgham's passions in life were farming and singing. He purchased the family farm in the early 1970s, becoming the fourth Bridgham to own and operate it. Early in life, his singing ability was compared to the great Pavarotti, and a *SUN-JOURNAL* reporter dubbed him "The Singing Farmer." He was regularly asked to sing at the Northern New England Conference Camp Meeting and in many local churches.

No family wedding was considered complete until Bridgham had sung at



Dubbed "The Singing Farmer," Wayne Bridgham, had a passion for farming and singing.

least one solo and he was always happy to oblige. His life-long friend said, "He always did for people, never spoke of it, just did it because that is what the

good Lord placed on his heart, and he freely shared his voice in all manner of community venues."

Family traditions were important to Bridgham. He enjoyed hosting the Corn Boil, an annual tradition started in the 1950s by his father and uncle to honor their mother's birthday. It later became a time of fellowship with many in the town. Bridgham's tractor drawn hayride was a particular high point of that event.

Generosity was a guiding principle in his life. The farm was known to be a shelter from the storm. He welcomed all with a smile and a pithy statement.

Bridgham will be greatly missed by his family and a host of friends. They look forward to hearing him sing again when Jesus comes.

—Claire Warner, Wayne Bridgham's sister, and Linda Dayen, story editor, Northern New England Conference

Directors Host Virtual Adventurer Club Olympic Games Event

With the Olympic Opening Ceremonies in mind, the Northern New England Conference (NNEC) Adventurer directors decided to host an online Olympic Games Adventurer Club event. With a mere two weeks' notice, directors from around the conference stepped up and planned amazing activities to introduce Adventurers to the history and excitement of the Olympic Games.

The event, held Sabbath, February 5, was a great success. All classes met together to learn about the history of the Olympic Games. With a little help from the puppet Katie, and her friend Jack, the Adventurers learned why it is more important to compete in God's race than

to win a medal that will tarnish and fade.

Little Lambs completed the Healthy Me award, learning about different foods that would help their bodies grow strong like athletes. Eager Beavers completed the My Body award, where they explored how their bodies were wonderfully made to use for Jesus. Busy Bees completed the Health Specialist award, which explored more ways in which they can care for their bodies, such as eating healthy foods and practicing good hygiene.

Several guest speakers, including a doctor and a dentist, helped them to understand why it is important to care for Jesus' temple (their bodies).

Sunbeams were able to get a bit of energy out while completing their Fitness Fun award. They learned about the acronym NEWSTART and how all the components together contributed to their body's fitness. They filled out an Olympic time capsule chronicling how many exercises they could complete in a minute.

Last, but certainly not least, Builders and Helping Hands joined together to work on their Olympics and Country Fun awards, diving even deeper into learning about the Olympics. They were asked to choose a country and learn about its culture, food, and what makes it unique.

What a blessing it was to witness the joy on all



Claridad Rose Ballweber Perez is one of the Adventurer Olympic games participants.

the children's faces as the Adventurer directors energetically taught the children that even the Olympics can show them how special they are and how much Jesus loves them.

—Adrienne Scott, Adventurer club assistant director, Upper Valley Christian Fellowship church

Varsity Teams Are a “Difference Maker” in Texas

When you take 10 hungry teenage boys to a fast-food restaurant, you’re probably just praying to get out of there without an embarrassing incident or completely depleting your bank account. Yet when the South Lancaster Academy’s (SLA) boys’ basketball varsity team sat down to their meal at Chick-fil-A in Burleson, Texas, they unknowingly shared their Christian values with hundreds of people.

Both the boys’ and girls’ varsity teams were in Texas competing in the 26th annual Hoops Classic Tournament at Southwestern Adventist University, January 26-29. The coaches had gifted each of the student athletes a hoodie with their values proudly printed on the back in priority order: God, Family, Basketball.

Jonathan Cook, a local realtor, snapped a photo of the team and posted it on his Facebook page. He wrote, “This blessed me seeing leadership at this level! These young men may or may not know what they have in this coaching staff pouring

into them. I was in the right place at the right time; this blessed my whole morning (and I hope it blesses yours too). We need more of this. This is unity! You, coach, are a difference maker! Go, Crusaders, you have a new fan in Burleson, Texas.”

Thanks to the power of social media, the coaches saw the post and invited Cook to attend the playoff games. He came to cheer on the teams and enjoyed meeting the players and coaches. He posted on Facebook again, saying, “‘God lead me to my people’ is my morning prayer daily, and I don’t know why I act surprised when He does this!” He encouraged the students to “Stay humble. Stay hungry. Stay true to your faith and yourself, and stay awesome.”

The girls’ team placed second among 22 teams. The boys’ team placed fourth among 30 teams.

The SLA teams also won the Spirit Award at the tournament for exhibiting excellent sportsmanship on and off the court.

Two of SLA’s students also won individual awards: Karleigh Collins, freshman,

for most outstanding female player; and Nathan Jerome, senior, for most outstanding male player.

It’s notable that all of the coaches for these teams are SLA alumni and they volunteer their time to support our students. The coaches for the boys’ varsity are: Francisco Ramos, ’02, head coach; Helio Ferreira, ’13, assistant coach; Kyle Linthwaite, ’08, assistant coach; and Shawn Santana, ’08, assistant coach. The coaches for the girls’ varsity are: Adrian Olivera, ’12, head coach and SLA athletic director; Jason Shuris, ’93, assistant coach (unable to attend tournament); and Haniel Olivera, father of Adrian and husband to eighth-grade teacher,



Damarie Olivera, stepped in to be girls’ assistant coach at the tournament.

—Adapted from South Lancaster Academy’s *FIAT LUX*, February 2022 newsletter

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, September 11, 2022, 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

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Constituency Session

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the 38th Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists called to convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, September 11, 2022, 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 Board.
3. To consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the conference.
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 delegates.
7. 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 forty-five (45) 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, June 26, 2022, in the Village Church of Seventh-day Adventists, 75 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 M. Dennis, President
Cesar Perozo, Secretary

Youth Ministry Supplement

[adventist youth ministries on the move]

The Final “D” Has It!

After informal interviews with multiple youth, young adults, and young families, one common theme that has emerged is a sense of being displaced, disoriented, disconnected, and distanced. Many went even further, noting that the pandemic environment, which requires physical distancing, has left them feeling like life is rolling by. It feels as if they are looking on from a distant spectator booth. They feel distanced from prior life goals and aspirations.

The Displaced. There are many who feel as if they have been removed to a different place—emotionally, physically, spiritually, financially; as though it’s a challenge to function and thrive on the peripherals of prior comfort zones. Jesus speaks in clear tones to the displaced by the gentle reminder that we are all pilgrims in a strange land. Hebrews 13:14 (NKJV) states, “for here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.” Since sin initially displaced us, the sense of being displaced, which generates a deep longing for our heavenly home, is a positive space for the follower of Christ.

The Disoriented. Young adults have expressed concerns about losing their bearings and especially feeling the impact

of social disorientation. For many, it is taking an extended minute for them to recalibrate and adjust to building interpersonal skills via creative, innovative, and electronic means. Amidst the confusion of the moment, Jesus provides the antidote for all layers of disorientation—His peace. Thus, Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV) declares, “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.”

The Disconnected. Many individuals feel severed from prior friendships, as well as a sense of detachment from meaningful activities and people who were precious to them. Others describe their experiences using the power cord metaphor, noting that they feel unplugged from their power source that proverbially drove their lives, aspirations, and successes. Here, Jesus invites all to plug in and stay connected, to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17), to call upon Him and He will answer (Jeremiah 33:3), to expect answers even before we call (Isaiah 65:24), to ask and it shall be given unto us (Matthew 7:7).

The Distanced. There is a time when too much personal space begins to wear on you—especially for many young adults who recently secured their first apartments/homes. It is a time when the lines that separate living alone and loneliness become blurred. To those who feel distanced, who are concerned about the mounting individualism and impersonality of the times, James 4:8 states, “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you;” and Jesus says, “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5, NKJV).

Whether displaced, disoriented, disconnected, or distanced, Jesus calls all today to be **determined** to love, serve, and know Him. It’s a rock-firm resolve that the quadruple Ds will not impede my walk with Jesus.



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

Be of Good Courage

We are now in the closing work of this earth's history. There is not a moment's time to be given to doubting. My brethren and sisters, let your faith increase. However discouraging appearances may be, believe that the Lord will work in behalf of his cause and his people. The Spirit of God is everywhere knocking for admittance to the hearts of men. God is caring for his work in every place. His children are the special objects of his care. If by faith we will accept the

on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" [Matthew 5:13-16].

These are wonderful lessons for us. Study them carefully, and profit by their instruction. A higher spiritual tone is required of us. The Lord would have us spiritually minded, that we may be able to see the working out of his plan in our lives. We are to be laborers together with God in accomplishing the work that he would have done. Wherever we are, we are to reflect light.

It is our privilege to gain precious victories day by day. Let us go forward in faith and hope and courage. Let us regard patience and kindness as sacred things which we must bring into every line of our work. Let us vindicate the greatness of the work by building up amiable, hopeful characters. This we can do through the grace of Christ.

We have no need to be sad and discouraged. The words and example of our Redeemer should bring us comfort and joy and strength to work his works. Let us reveal in our lives the fact that we are relying upon him who gave his life that we might not perish, but have everlasting life. Let us draw by living faith on the power of God. In no other way can we obtain the victory over the hosts of Satan. If by faith we will lay hold of the heavenly provision, the greatest powers in the universe will enable us to make complete our triumph over Satan and sin.

Thank the Lord that to human agencies is committed the grand work of extending the triumphs of the cross. Let us keep our eyes fixed on the mark of the prize. Let us not fail nor be discouraged. The words in favor of truth, spoken with the assurance that comes from the possession of a right purpose, and in cheerful hope, from a pure heart, will make angels rejoice. ①

*Excerpt from THE REVIEW AND HERALD, July 29, 1909.
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light God gives in messages of encouragement or reproof, and advance step by step in the right way, keeping our eyes steadfastly fixed on our Leader, light will shine along the pathway, the approval of God will stimulate us with hope, and ministering angels will co-operate with all our efforts.

Consider the estimate that Christ places upon those who follow his example: "Ye are the salt of the earth," he says, "but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but

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EMPLOYMENT

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks faculty in Accounting/Economics/Finance. Teach finance and related courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. For more details and to

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OBITUARIES

ASHTON, Ellen M.—72, b. Feb. 7, 1949, in Webster, Mass.; d. Oct. 17, 2021, in Windsor Locks, Conn. She was a member of Quinebaug church in Thompson, Conn. She is survived by

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abc EASTER SPECIAL

This ABC Television Special, in collaboration with the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission (IBC), will feature a special Easter message from Pastor Debleaire Snell, Speaker/ Director of the Breath of Life Television Ministry and Senior Pastor of the Oakwood University Church in Huntsville, Alabama. This special will also feature Grammy Award-winning musical artist, CeCe Winans, along with Selah, and violinist, Patrick Bogui.

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PATRICK BOGUI

SELAH

PASTOR DEBLEAIRE SNELL

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Watch on ABC on APRIL 17, 2022

For a list of stations and times, call **256.929.6460** or visit **breathoflife.tv**

ATLANTIC UNION
GLEANER

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two daughters, Christine Ashton and Deborah (David) Wiik, all of Putnam, Conn.; two brothers, James Maynard of Sturbridge, Mass., and William Sterczala of Worcester, Mass.

GRISWOLD, Larry E.—80, b. Apr. 12, 1941, in Clarksburg, W.Va.; d. Oct. 30, 2021, in Concord, Mass. He was a member of the Hudson church in Hudson, Mass. He is survived by his wife, Merrilyn Cook Griswold of Hudson, Mass.; two sons Phillip Griswold of San Juan Capastrono, Calif., and Jeremiah Griswold of Seattle, Wash., and nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

HALL, Melonie—58; b. Sept. 29, 1963, in Takoma Park, Md.; d. Oct. 22, 2021, in Alfred, Maine. Baptized on her birthday in 2018, she was a member of the Auburn church in Auburn, Maine. She is survived by her father Charles Hall of Lisbon Falls, Maine; a brother Thor Hall of New Gloucester, Maine; and several nieces and nephews.

MARTINEAU, Debra—66; b. July 7, 1955, in Lewiston, Maine; d. Sept. 21, 2021, in Auburn, Maine. She was a member of the Auburn church in Auburn, Maine.

ROSE, Robert—72; b. Apr. 20, 1949, in Acushnet, Mass.; d. Sept. 3, 2021, in Johnson City, Tenn. He was a member of the Johnson City church in Johnson City, Tenn. He graduated from Atlantic Union College in 1981. He ministered in the Gulf States and Northern New England conferences. He is survived by his wife Rosalee Boykin Rose of Johnson City, Tenn.

WIELT, Richard "Butch" Allan—77; b. Jul. 16, 1943, in Ballston Lake, New York; d. Mar. 14, 2021, in Lebanon, N.H. He was a member of the Saratoga Springs church in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. He served as head elder and Sabbath School teacher for many years in both the Schenectady, N.Y. and Bennington, Vt. churches. He was devoted to Adventist education and supported his daughter and granddaughters in attending Adventist schools. He is survived by his daughter, Monica (William) Wielt Towsley of North Pomfret, Vt; granddaughters Charlotte and Margaret Towsley of North Pomfret, Vt; sisters, Arlene Quay of Union Springs, N.Y., Katherine Voehringer of Galway, N.Y., Caroline Larned of Buskirk, N.Y., and Helen Turnbull of Charlton N.Y.; two sisters-in-law; and dozens of nieces and nephews.

CORRECTION:

MONTELLO, Harry—93; b. July 19, 1927, in Brooklyn, N.Y.; d. May 23, 2021, in Babylon, N.Y. He was the oldest member of the Babylon church in Babylon, N.Y., and served as a deacon, elder, and stewardship director. He was previously a member of Brooklyn church in Brooklyn, N.Y. He served as a reservist in the Army and served in the Korea Conflict. He worked for Faith for Today in Calif. from 1954-1970. He also served the Greater New York Conference for 25 years. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Edwina Montello of Babylon, N.Y.

Sunset Calendar

Daylight Saving Time

	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
Bangor, ME	7:47	7:55	8:03	8:10
Portland, ME	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:12
Boston, MA	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:12
South Lancaster, MA	7:53	8:00	8:07	8:14
Pittsfield, MA	7:59	8:07	8:14	8:20
Hartford, CT	7:55	8:02	8:09	8:15
Providence, RI	7:50	7:57	8:04	8:11
New York, NY	7:58	8:05	8:11	8:17
Albany, NY	8:02	8:09	8:16	8:23
Utica, NY	8:09	8:16	8:23	8:30
Syracuse, NY	8:12	8:20	8:27	8:33
Rochester, NY	8:18	8:26	8:33	8:40
Buffalo, NY	8:22	8:30	8:37	8:44
Keene, NH	7:56	8:04	8:11	8:18
Manchester, NH	8:01	8:08	8:15	8:20
Portsmouth, NH	7:51	7:58	8:05	8:12
Brattleboro, VT	7:57	8:05	8:12	8:18
Burlington, VT	8:04	8:12	8:20	8:27
Rutland, VT	8:01	8:09	8:16	8:23
Hamilton, Bda	8:04	8:09	8:14	8:18

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