

# VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION MEMBERS

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## Meet 23 Adventists With Cool Jobs

And Find Out How They  
Witness at Work

Dennis Isaac  
Senior Patternmaker  
Under Armour



News & Features

8 | Cool Jobs

Elizabeth Anderson

Seventh-day Adventist co-founder Ellen G. White wrote: “God is the great Master Worker, and by His providence He prepares the way for His work to be accomplished. He provides opportunities, opens up lines of influence, and channels of working” (*Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, p. 220). God is doing this today through Columbia Union members who work in law firms, corporations, hospitals, schools and government offices, etc. Meet 23 of them, find out what they do and discover how they provide a living witness for Him.



20 | What Would Daniel Do?

Robert Jepson

How can we rightly represent our faith while climbing the corporate ladder? One member seeks direction at the intersection of work and faith.

ON THE COVER

Dennis Isaac

SENIOR PATTERNMAKER, UNDER ARMOUR

Isaac joined Under Armour as a consultant in 2002 after a career in the apparel industry. A member of Chesapeake’s Baltimore White Marsh church, he enjoys creating patterns that will turn the company’s innovative moisture-wicking fabric into quality performance wear. Since 2007, with support from the company’s Freedom Initiative, he has also used his talents to make more than 40 custom-fitted undergarments for soldiers with high-level amputations at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Silver Spring, Md., and nearby Bethesda Naval Hospital. In this way, he has parlayed his job into a ministry. “Helping them to help themselves makes me feel like I’m doing what Jesus would do, and, in my way, helping to heal them,” he says. “As a result, they’re going back to school, rebuilding their marriages and families, and moving forward with their lives.”

In Every Issue

3 | Editorial

4 | Newline

6 | Potluck

23 | Healthcare News

Newsletters

27 Allegheny East

29 Allegheny West

31 Chesapeake

33 Highland View Academy

35 Mountain View

37 New Jersey

39 Ohio

41 Pennsylvania

43 Potomac

45 Takoma Academy

47 Washington Adventist University

52 | Bulletin Board

55 | WholeHealth

Lilly Tryon

About the Cover: Dennis Isaac was photographed by James Ferry in Columbia, Md.

Bringing Our Mission to Life

God created a path for me that started with the love and dedication of my mother. Without her insistence on enrolling me in the Seventh-day Adventist school system, I would most certainly have taken a different direction. Her dedication to God, combined with the values she embraced and taught me, is evidence that when you put faith and trust in the Lord, doors will open.



It has been my honor and privilege to spend the last 41 years in healthcare administration. For the past 17 years, I have been at Ohio-based Kettering Adventist HealthCare (KAHC), first as president and CEO of Kettering Medical Center, then, for the last 10, as CEO of the network as a whole. KAHC has grown to include eight hospitals, a college, nursing home, retirement center and multiple affiliated organizations. It has been an amazing journey filled with challenges and opportunities, but, guided by God’s hand, we have truly been blessed.

HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON

Coupled with following God’s leading is our commitment to uphold His mission. That mission is our foundation, and every employee fully understands its importance. Everyone—from our environmental, nutrition and clinical services staff to our caregivers, volunteers, professionals, physicians and administrators—plays an important role in bringing our mission to life and improving the lives of the people in the communities we serve.

Adventist co-founder Ellen White made it clear that healthy bodies enable us to better receive spiritual truths. That’s why my personal mission has been to create a superb healthcare environment that facilitates physical healing for the whole person, which includes spiritual enrichment.

White also directed us to increase the level of inquiry about God by helping others. As healthcare providers, we are given the opportunity to touch thousands of lives each day, including many who may never step foot in a church. Our employees, though not all Adventist, believe in our mission, embrace it and exemplify it. Along with the services they provide, these caregivers feel free to pray with patients and offer spiritual reassurance.

The benefits of upholding our mission spill over to our local community and extend to the far corners of the Earth. Locally, we provide health screenings at community events, wellness education seminars, high school events, community marathons and bike races. Globally, we are involved with mission trips where we provide surgeries, medical training and much-needed equipment.

We’ve also built strong relationships with business associates, friends and contributors who represent many faiths—Hindu, Jewish, Protestant and Catholic. We reach out to them, respect them and mingle with them. As a result, they have become accustomed to our traditions and accept our way of doing business. They know we start each meeting with a brief devotional thought and prayer. Though not an Adventist, the late Virginia Kettering, a noted humanitarian and daughter-in-law of our namesake, always paused for prayer before any meal we would share together. And Benjamin Schuster, MD, one of our physicians and major benefactors who is of the Jewish faith, loves music and fellowship and occasionally invites a group from Kettering to have Friday night vespers at his home.

STRONG AND COURAGEOUS

As I reflect on my incredible journey at Kettering and the mission we endeavor to fulfill, I am reminded of Joshua 1:9: “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; Do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go” (NIV).

Indeed, God has been with us, and my prayer is that His hand will continue to guide Kettering in the years to come. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

Frank Perez, CEO of Kettering, Ohio-based Kettering Adventist HealthCare, will retire next May.

## 2,000 Gather for ASI Convention in Orlando

Personal spiritual growth and youth-led evangelism were prominent themes at this year's Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) International Convention in Orlando, Fla., where nearly 2,000 Seventh-day Adventist business owners, ministry-makers and church leaders spent four days worshipping, fellowshiping, promoting their ministries and attending thought-provoking workshops.

Each general session included testimonies and interviews by ASI members who are working on the front lines of lay evangelism. Ed Williams, founder and director of Former Adventist Recovery Ministry, and a member of Chesapeake Conference's Williamsport (Md.) church, had the audience in tears as he talked about his sojourn outside the church for 46 years. Almost every hand went up when he asked attendees if they have loved ones

who are not part of the church.

Organizers offered five seminar tracks on evangelism, health, spiritual growth, business leadership and ministry fundraising. Jennifer Jill Schwirzer (above), a practicing mental health counselor in Philadelphia and member of Pennsylvania Conference's Chestnut Hill church, presented "Inner Healing According to the Wonderful Counselor." Drawing from her clinical and life experience, she told a room full of ASI members how the Bible outstrips secular psychology with its accurate, comprehensive and effective method of healing inner wounds.

Viriato Ferreira, a physician from Portugal, came the farthest distance to speak about reaching people in well-developed nations



with secular mindsets. "People may be irreligious," he said, "but I've yet to meet someone who is not spiritual. Every person has a built-in receptor to the Holy Spirit."

On Friday evening, Jeffrey Rosario of the California-based ARISE ministry, strongly challenged the church to expect significant contributions from youth, as well as to recognize their capabilities and responsibilities at earlier ages than is typical in today's society. His message was given wings by prior testimonies from teenagers who participated in this summer's ASI Youth for Jesus program, the monthlong evangelistic effort by young people, aged 15 and up, that sets the stage for each ASI convention. Youth from Potomac Conference's Seabrook church in Greenbelt, Md., took part in this year's program.

At every convention, there are programs for children



and youth. Shelley and Tom Kanomata (above) of Lewisburg, Ohio, led the junior division this year and presented their projects to the general session Friday night. Solomon and Clarissa Kim (opposite page, top), from Downingtown, Pa., who attended the primary class, sang and displayed their works as well.

Prior to the convention, ASI leadership set a special projects offering goal of \$1.2 million to



support 39 mission projects around the world. The offering collected at the ASI convention far exceeded the goal, with approximately \$1.8 million given or pledged over the coming year. Two of the offering beneficiaries belong to the Columbia Union chapter of ASI: Charles and Gigi LeMorzellac, members of Potomac's Manassas (Va.) church, will use their allocation to expand their Eden Garden Orphanage in Haiti. The Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Md., will use the funds to distribute *Guide* magazine to 100,000 youth, aged 9-15, who are not Adventist.

Before the event ended, attendees enjoyed special addresses by Dan Jackson, newly elected North American Division president, and Nancy Wilson (below), a member of Chesapeake Conference's Tridelpia church in Clarksville, Md. She is the wife of new world church president Ted Wilson, whose family ties with ASI go back to its formation in 1947.

General sessions and seminars from the convention can be downloaded at [asiministries.org](http://asiministries.org). Next year's convention is scheduled for August 3-6 in Sacramento, Calif. —Conna Bond and Denise Hayden



## DEAF Camp Meeting Planned

The Deaf Evangelistic Adventist Fellowship will host their 10th annual Deaf Eastern Autumn Revival at Camp Blue Ridge in Montebello, Va., October 21-24. Pastor Jeff Jordon (right), a deaf pastor from Southern Deaf Fellowship, will speak on the theme "Christ is the Answer." For more information or to register, visit [deafellowship.org/dear](http://deafellowship.org/dear).

—Taashi Rowe



## Union ASI President Promotes Evangelism

Denise Hayden (below), president of the Columbia Union chapter of ASI, is enthusiastically spearheading a new evangelism initiative. "We want to see every member conduct a home evangelism series using the *New Beginnings* evangelism DVD, developed by ASI national," she says. The DVD contains 28 lessons that systematically present the fundamental beliefs of the Adventist Church while incorporating prophecy. They come with graphically enhanced PowerPoints and sermon notes that are available in English, Spanish, French and other languages.

Hayden has recently traveled to churches, camp meetings and events in Ohio, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia to promote the initiative and train members to present the messages. "No matter if you're young



or old, you can do this," she encourages members. "In Cuba a 9-year-old boy did it, and we had an 87-year-old man do it, resulting in several baptisms."

Hayden has also conducted a series using the DVD in Kenya, where she saw 47 baptisms. Her motivation to try came when, as personal ministries director for her local church, she attended a seminar by the North American Division Evangelism Institute, which is based at Andrews University (Mich.). Soon after that, ASI national began to offer the DVDs free and encouraged members like Hayden to conduct evangelism efforts overseas. "Now we're making it available in the United States, and I want to see all 130,000-plus members of the Columbia Union host a meeting in their home for friends, neighbors and family," she says, adding, "Then the joy of pastors can be to hold a reaping series."

To invite Hayden to conduct training and bring free DVDs, visit [columbiaunion.org/asi](http://columbiaunion.org/asi) or email [cuasi@columbiaunion.net](mailto:cuasi@columbiaunion.net).

## From the Pulpit

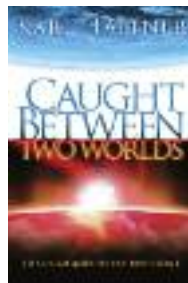
We've talked about outreach. We've talked about soul winning. We've talked about evangelism. We've talked about the finishing of your work in the world. But Lord there's a work to be done in the church, a work to be done in our hearts, a work to be done deep within us.—Mark Finley, special assistant to the General Conference president for evangelism, during his Sabbath morning sermon on personal readiness for Christ's second coming at ASI



What's New?

**Books >**  
**Caught Between Two Worlds**  
**Karl Haffner**

Using letters from the apostle Peter to the early church as a guide, Karl Haffner, senior pastor of Ohio Conference's Kettering church, teaches us how to be hopeful in a dark world. In this "survival guide" for Christians everywhere, Haffner hopes readers will "see clearly that as we live in a world buffeted with wars, natural catastrophes and economic challenges, we can relax in the reality that God is in control, and some day He will set things right," he states. Pick up a copy at your local ABC.



**Why Some Pastors Cheat**  
**John A. Trusty**

"Unlike other professionals, ministers are recipients of a sacred trust," explains John A. Trusty, DMin, director of Relationship Ministries for the Allegheny East Conference. "Infidelity among clergy can be



confronted if we encourage our ministerial leaders to put into practice the skills that will help them to be faithful." Trusty hopes this instruction manual will challenge leaders to address



this "swelling" problem in the church and to educate members about the issue. Purchase copies at the Potomac ABC in Silver Spring, Md., or Amazon.com.

**CDs >** **Segundo o Coração de Deus**  
**Grow in Praise**

The Grow in Praise choir from Chesapeake's Capital Brazilian temple in Highland, Md., are more than just child performers and recording artists. Director Roger Prates also hopes that participating in the group will "cultivate inside each child the desire to praise God in everything we say and do,



while showing His love through music." For a copy of the tykes' first CD, which means "According to the Heart of God," write to growinpraise@yahoo.com.

**Simply Singin' Praise**  
**Jessica Snyder**

Although she's been singing publicly since she was 12, recording her first CD "has been more exciting than I ever imagined!" comments Jessica Snyder, a 16-year-old member of Chesapeake's Frederick (Md.) church. Tackling a variety of genres, from the southern gospel rendition of "In the Garden" to the toe-tapping ditty "Just a Little Talk With Jesus," Snyder reaches a diverse



audience. Overall, she says, "I'm hoping these songs speak to listeners' hearts, strengthen their relationship with the Lord and encourage them to share God's love with everyone they meet." Contact Snyder for copies at blessings2u@surfbest.net.

**In the Spotlight >**  
**World Bank Bible Study Group**

Every Wednesday afternoon in the nation's capital, a group of accountants, budget workers, information technology and administrative support personnel, along with one lawyer, congregate in a conference room at the World Bank headquarters. They don't gather to discuss bank business, but to study God's Word.

Christopher Jonathan, a member of Allegheny East's Reaching Hearts International church in Spencerville, Md., started the Bible study group in the 1980s. Now retired, Jonathan reports that their group was the first of its kind at the World Bank. "It was a unique opportunity to witness in the workplace, and with God's help, we were approved," he recalls.

The meetings continue to provide fellowship and a spiritual lift for bank employees, such as Tipawan "Jeb" Bhutaprateep, another Reaching Hearts member who now coordinates the group and invites area pastors to lead. Bhutaprateep, a former Buddhist, wants to share Jesus with her colleagues and points out that the group is "more interactive than church ... because as we study the Bible, the pastor can point you to the answer," she says.

Kavita Phasge, a member at Potomac's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., has been attending since 1990. She enjoys seeing people from other faiths get excited about joining the group, and notes, "To watch their interest [in prophecy] is just amazing."

Over the years, more than 20 people have been baptized as a result of the Bible study, and they have spawned similar groups at the American Red Cross, The George Washington University, Pepco, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., and the U.S. Department of Labor.—Gina Wahlen



On the Web

**Facebooked >**

**Larie Stewart Gray**



I'm just tired ... emotionally, physically, mentally.

So glad the Sabbath is here. I can leave all my cares behind me for now and rest from it all. I'll resume tomorrow after sunset.—Member, Millennium Ministries Church, Silver Spring, Md.

**Retweets >**

**WashAdventistU**



WAU alumna Renee Battle-Brooks was nominated as part of *The Daily Record*

Maryland's Top 100 Women. Congrats!—Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park, Md.

**PrKitney**



You may not like me, but Jesus thinks I'm to die for. God bless you all.—Eugene Kitney, Pastor, Roanoke (Va.) Church

**Newhopefulon**



JesusTweets4u: God said you r my children, so live and act like ur dad.

Lavish my love on others 4 me, because I want 2 b their dad 2.—Kumar Dixit, Pastor for Community Development, New Hope Church, Fulton, Md.

Only an Adventist ... may have wondered if the Earth would last long enough to experience marriage and/or a family.

# Cool

Daniel was prime minister. Joseph was second in command. Esther was queen. The Bible tells us that God placed each of them in their positions to fulfill His purpose and plan. He's still doing that today. Meet 23 Seventh-day Adventists whom God has blessed to work in high places. Find out what they do and how they share their faith at work.

# Jobs

**Profiles >> Elizabeth Anderson**

**Photos >> Rick Buchanan • James Ferry • Dave Male • Duane Rieder**

**Get More:** To view video interviews with several of the members featured in this issue, visit our website, [columbiaunion.org](http://columbiaunion.org). Also, in this month's edition of our *AudioVisitor* podcast, we'll talk more about witnessing in the workplace.



## John Conway

AUDIO PRODUCER,  
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Conway is the go-to man for all things audio at the gallery. He handles sound system setup for special events, and produces and mixes sound for gallery exhibition films. The member of Potomac's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., also records podcasts for the gallery press office. But his favorite task is recording the free Sunday concerts the gallery hosts each year from

October to June, because he gets to meet famous musicians. "There's never a dull moment down here," he notes. "We have a melting pot of really great people. >> And they know he's Adventist. "We talk about the fact that I'm off on Saturdays and how I run the sound system at my church," he says.

"I use that as a lead-in to share my faith." As a result, a few colleagues have even visited his church.

## Anil Pillai

AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCER, U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

"My hobby is my job, so I love what I do. I'm telling a story, I'm making a positive influence," expresses Pillai, a member of Allegheny East's Remnant church in Silver Spring, Md. He produces whatever his boss—Transportation secretary Ray LaHood—needs of him, which includes shooting, editing, directing and broadcasting video for internal messaging and for town hall meetings for employees and the public.

"We serve as the department's window to the world," he says. Pillai also serves as a window to Christ with his calm and pleasant demeanor. "We are constantly under pressure since most of what we do is live and time-sensitive," he explains, "but I try to be friendly, treat others with respect and make a connection. For example, I always find a way to link my work and my church. I tell them about my local church and how I use the same technologies there as we do at work (i.e., social media)."

## W. Derrick Lea

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Until his retirement in August—after 20 years of service—this member of Allegheny East's First church in Washington, D.C., oversaw the Operations Command for the state's second largest county. He managed a \$4.5 million budget and 2,000 personnel and volunteers who respond to about 150,000 calls each year, and ensured that roughly 1 million people were able to receive emergency fire and medical services. >> In terms of faith, Lea says he has experienced Romans 8:28 firsthand. Over the years he has prayed with people and given Bible studies to colleagues, but greater opportunities came when he submitted a written request to take a major promotional exam outside Sabbath hours. When the chief personally inquired about Lea's unusual request, his answers prompted the department to move the exam to another day of the week for everyone. "This fueled a lot of conversations about my beliefs," he recalls.



## Jason G. Parker

BRAIN RESEARCHER/BRAIN IMAGING SCIENTIST, KETTERING INNOVATION CENTER

The member of Ohio's Kettering church is a senior scientist at this Kettering Adventist HealthCare institution. As head of the center's Imaging Science group, he looks for ways to use technology (i.e., MRI machines) to help doctors treat patients with increased precision. His studies enable physicians to map out aggressive tumors, which spare healthy tissue during medical procedures, and provide precise targeting during radiation treatment or surgical removal. "My entire group is challenged with new, sick patients that need advanced imaging to make sure their physicians give them the best treatment," he explains. >> Parker finds that prayer before surgery, a meeting or a healthy meal provides the greatest opportunity to share his faith. "Prayer is used at Kettering to engage our patients and business partners and demonstrate our commitment to the

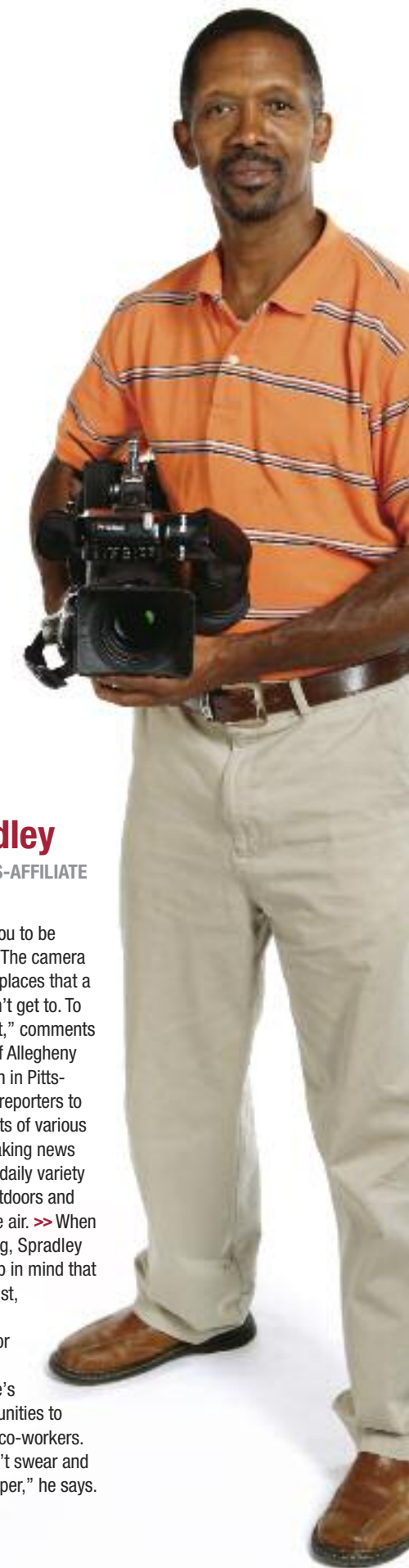
Lord," he explains. "Our leadership has worked diligently to make prayer an essential part of the work culture; it transcends differences in faith and focuses on the love of God and the wonderful opportunity He has given us to improve this world."



## Paul Spradley

VIDEOGRAPHER, CBS-AFFILIATE KDKA, PITTSBURGH

"The camera allows you to be eyes for other people. The camera allows you to get into places that a regular person wouldn't get to. To me, that's kind of neat," comments Spradley, a member of Allegheny West's Hillcrest church in Pittsburgh. He works with reporters to capture visual elements of various general, spot and breaking news stories. He enjoys the daily variety of his job, shooting outdoors and seeing his work on the air. >> When it comes to witnessing, Spradley says, "I just try to keep in mind that I am representing Christ, even when I'm taking pictures, doing audio or editing." Since joining the station in 1984, he's also had many opportunities to share his beliefs with co-workers. "They know that I don't swear and that I'm a Sabbathkeeper," he says.



## Bonnie Heath

MAYOR, POTTSTOWN, PA.

Heath ran for office "for the love of Pottstown," but she's not a traditional city mayor. She plays "a more fluid kind of a role," she explains. "It's a lot of PR and promotion." This attendee of Allegheny East's Walnut Street church in Pottstown also oversees the borough's 46-member police department, which she says was already running so well when she was installed in January that she focuses mostly on the area's economic growth. With a monthly salary of \$166, Heath enjoys being mayor but makes her bread and butter as an independent specialist in long-term care insurance. >> Whether she's advocating for the city, participating in local parades or performing weddings, she factors in her faith: "I always think of the words, 'Do justice, love mercy and walk humbly before the Lord,'" she says. "I live every day as someone who is going to give an account for what I do."



## Judith Pino

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Pino followed an early inclination for Human Relations because “I like working for people,” she states. “I like meeting people ... and discovering what their backgrounds are and what motivates them, and to figure out how to bring out the best in each person.” This member of Potomac’s Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., is in charge of things like recruitment, pay and benefits for various government employees. She says she best represents her faith by treating people well. “You never know what kind of influence you have on people,” she explains. She sees this best emphasized in Psalm 139: “I think it really addresses how individually we are each created.”

## Paul Bauer

MANPOWER ADVISOR TO THE  
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

“My job is to ... try to negotiate between the combatant commanders and the military services regarding the number of funded military and civilian personnel needed in different locations around the globe,” clarifies Bauer, a member of Chesapeake’s Middletown Valley church in Jefferson, Md. Bauer appreciates his co-workers’ professionalism and enjoys making a difference. “Making sure the right people are at the right place at the right time is vital to our national security,” he states. Bauer also gets opportunities to share his faith because people are more open to talk about religion in wartime, he says. And at awards, retirement or promotion ceremonies, he orders vegetarian cuisine, which sometimes gets others asking questions.

## Kevin J. Sullivan

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS JUDGE,  
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

“I work exclusively on Social Security disability cases,” explains Sullivan (center), a member of Potomac’s Waynesboro (Va.) church. His Baltimore-based office, the last stop within the administration for those who have been denied social security benefits, decides whether or not previous decisions aligned with established regulations and policy. Sullivan can remand cases for another hearing, but he doesn’t do that in a vacuum. “Sometimes you have to pick up a case, go down the hall and discuss the matter with another judge,” he says. >> In his line of work, Sullivan has to be careful about proselytizing. “I do look for ways to mention that I have religious affiliations,” he says. One day he mentioned to a fellow judge that he is a Seventh-day Adventist. “I know some Adventists,” she said. “What’s this about the Sabbath?” When he explained, she replied, “I wish somebody would give me a day off.” Sullivan gladly pointed her to Exodus 20:8.

## Conrad W. Bridges

AGENCY FISCAL OFFICER, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

“My role is chief financial officer for the deputy mayor for planning and economic development,” shares Bridges, a member of Potomac’s Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va. That office is responsible for all economic development within the District. Between it and the three others he manages, Bridges is responsible for \$500 million of city funds. He enjoys his work but says it is demanding and stressful at times, especially now, during an election year, when incumbents are anxious to tout their accomplishments. >> In terms of sharing his faith, Bridges says, “It’s a little difficult being in a government environment, however, they know I’m Adventist and they understand why I don’t participate on Sabbath, even during budget crises.”

## Dick McClure

SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER, JOHNS  
HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY

McClure currently helps develop and test systems and software for managing satellite communication systems and develops new concepts for monitoring and measuring their performance. However, his 50 years in the field have included almost every aspect of satellite communications. “I was able to take part in doing experiments on the second communications satellite ever to be launched,” he notes. “I helped develop equipment for satellite ground stations, developed software to analyze communications performance, helped start a company that built satellite communications test equipment and worked with a firm that wanted to install a satellite system in Russia.” >> The member of Chesapeake’s Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., has gotten a few opportunities to pray for his co-workers, but otherwise, “I try to let my faith show in my attitude toward and in dealing with others,” he concludes.



## Greg Burks

SENIOR STAFF  
ENGINEER, JOHNS  
HOPKINS UNIVERSITY,  
APPLIED PHYSICS  
LABORATORY

Burks, a member of Chesapeake's Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., designs and develops intelligent sensor systems for remote data collection that have been used in harsh environments, from the desert to the ocean. He can't say much more than that, because mum's the word, but he can tell you that "working with evolving technology" motivates him. When it comes to witnessing in the workplace, he does his best "to follow the commandment, 'Love thy neighbor as thyself.'"



## Miriam Christian

CORPORATE SECRETARIAT, WORLD BANK GROUP

Christian works with the Policy and Operations Unit of the Corporate Secretariat, which processes hundreds of documents each year and manages board operations and various committees (i.e., audit, budget, personnel and development effectiveness, etc.). Her work requires detailed precision because she helps plan and prepare board-meeting agendas and drafts the chairman's briefings. "It can be rather stressful working in an environment where most every day is a deadline, and there are periods when days stretch into nights," she admits. But she enjoys working with a highly experienced, dedicated, professional team in a multicultural setting. The World Bank has staff from over 160 countries and field offices in over 100 countries. Christian, a member of Potomac's Southern Asian church in Silver Spring, Md., feels blessed to be part of a global organization with the goal of reducing poverty, where she frequently has opportunities to talk about her church and share her beliefs.



## Myrtle S. Nora

TEXTILE SPECIALIST, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Nora learned to sew at a cousin's dress shop in Trinidad and Tobago, and then got formal training at New York's Fashion Institute of Technology. These days, Nora's textile work is hanging in windows at the Rayburn, Ford, Cannon and Longworth buildings in Washington, D.C. She also got to sew the decorations visible all around the capitol for the inauguration of President Barack Obama. "I love taking a plain piece of fabric and making it into something fabulous," she shares. At work, Nora, a member of Allegheny East's Metropolitan church in Hyattsville, Md., is a lifestyle witness. She estimates that 75-80 percent of her co-workers have made dietary changes—without her preaching the health message. "Just by seeing what I eat, these guys have changed their eating habits," she marvels.







## James Gulley

CLINICAL TRIALS  
DIRECTOR/CANCER  
RESEARCHER,  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES  
OF HEALTH

Gulley, a member of Potomac's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., directs the clinical trials group in the Laboratory of Tumor Immunology and Biology. He also designs cancer vaccines to help patients' immune systems recognize and attack the tumor. Prostate cancer is his primary interest area, and, this past April, the Food and Drug Administration approved the first prostate cancer vaccine. "This has validated what we have been saying for several years about the potential utility of this vaccine," Gulley says, which "can treat [patients] with something that causes very little, if any, side effects and leads to ... clinically meaningful improvements in survival." Gulley is thrilled to be making a difference in patients' lives, and says he prays for them upon request during rounds.

## John M. McNeil

FOUNDING PRESIDENT AND CEO, CANCER TREATMENT  
CENTERS OF AMERICA AT EASTERN REGIONAL MEDICAL  
CENTER, PHILADELPHIA

"I'm not the real CEO here; I view every patient as the CEO," says McNeil, a nurse-turned-administrator who spent 25 years in Adventist healthcare before merging his faith with his belief in holistic medicine and opening the Philadelphia branch of this national hospital network. He says his world-class team—from housekeepers to surgeons—wraps their arms around cancer patients and offers them the best of science, innovation, medicine and technology. They do it while proudly wearing starfish pins, which symbolize their commitment to make a difference in the life of every person who comes through their doors. "It's the whole-person care that makes the difference, enhancing body, mind and spirit," explains the member of Pennsylvania's Chestnut Hill church in Philadelphia. >> In terms of witnessing, McNeil touts the seven chaplains on staff and says, "What we're doing here is a ministry; we're seeking to carry on the healing ministry of Christ." And he can tell story after story to prove it.



## Elaine Lindsey Arthur

VICE PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE  
TALENT PLANNING & ACQUISITION,  
SODEXO, NORTH AMERICA

One of Arthur's roles at Sodexo—a food and facilities management giant—has been to lead the search, selection and planning for the entire North American senior leadership team. She also gets to interact with "amazing and interesting executives from diverse backgrounds around the world," which she finds very rewarding. Though she can't overtly share her faith, she prays daily for the Holy Spirit to show Christ through her. She shared prayer during a headquarters employee assembly following 9/11, and was asked to form a company choir. One of those choir members got baptized and is now an active member of Arthur's church, Potomac's Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va.

## Alvin Deron Jackson

DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, STATE OF OHIO

Meet Ohio's doctor. Appointed by Governor Ted Strickland in 2007, Dr. Jackson oversees an agency that regulates public health venues, provides oversight to 129 local health departments, advises state leaders on health matters and makes sure Ohio is ready to handle pandemics, bio-terrorism attacks, food-borne outbreaks, etc. He accomplishes this with 1,300 employees, a \$650 million budget, and nearly 150 programs like Healthy Ohio, which promotes wellness, prevention and other principles that he says align with the Adventist health message. >> Before this call, the member of Allegheny West's Central church in Columbus, Ohio, who shares his faith by mentoring youth, served as a medical director for a community health center that provided services regardless of ability to pay. While there, he was lauded for creating a mobile medical unit that served migrant farmworkers in the field. He later deployed with the unit to help survivors of Hurricane Katrina.



## Regina Holman

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER,  
DAYTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

"The primary component of my job is to encourage nonairline revenue for the airport," explains Holman, a member of Allegheny West's Dale Wright Memorial church in Germantown, Ohio. She serves as chief liaison between private industry entrepreneurs and the government, and handles projects requiring federal funds or other big-ticket construction projects worth at least \$1 million. She competes with other cities to attract private business to the airport, but her work helps generate jobs and revenue for the community. >> Holman's job also has perks, such as hosting the Blue Angels for the airport's annual air show. And, the job's built-in community service opportunities give her a chance to be "a living example" of her faith. She recently arranged for co-workers to donate goods for people in need in Jackson, Ky.



## Ted L. Ramirez

ATTORNEY, VENABLE, LLP

This member of Ohio's Kettering church advises clients of his national firm how to best handle business opportunities that might include starting, growing or protecting an enterprise. He takes a set of issues and facts that a client, person or company brings—including the good and bad, strengths and risks—and mixes those ingredients with colleague collaboration, and viable solutions come into focus. "Putting things together is the coolest thing about the job," says the 33-year veteran attorney. >> Ramirez, who splits his time between Ohio and Washington, D.C., where the firm is based, believes that even deadline-laced work environments like his can provide opportunities for faith to shine. When, for example, a team member needs support or improvement, "we have the chance to demonstrate a teaching spirit, one that operates with an eternal context. There are all kinds of opportunities out there if we notice them," he says, citing Ephesians 2:10.



## Mark K. Velasco

ATTORNEY, BAILEY CAVALIERI, LLC

Also a Kettering church member, Velasco handles business and technology transactions for his Ohio-based firm. Recent work includes helping healthcare providers navigate healthcare information technology issues. Velasco loves the challenge of problem solving with his clients and is motivated by "knowing that, together, we are finding practical solutions to complex legal and business problems. Often there is no 'right' answer," he says. "The process of coming to the 'best' answer under the circumstances is engaging and fun." >> Velasco prays that co-workers, clients and business contacts "catch a glimpse of Jesus" through him. "I have a friend who is also a client that has not attended church since childhood. I pray that he sees the gifts of the Spirit in our interaction—that Christians are filled with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self control, and that, when the time is right, the Holy Spirit will knock on the door of his heart," he shares. "I pray that some small aspect of our relationship contributes to his willingness to receive the Holy Spirit's prompting."



## Rory Pullens

HEAD OF SCHOOL AND CEO,  
DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Pullens, who attends Potomac's Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va., daily merges two passions: arts and education. He also strives to instill in his students that integrity and community involvement are intertwined with artistic excellence. "Morality and having standards is a critical issue if you're an artist, because of the power of influence you have," he says. >> Pullens, whose career includes time as a Hollywood scriptwriter, also has a future goal: to establish a Christian school of the arts. He wants young people to recognize that being a Christian doesn't mean standing on life's sidelines. "Actually, it gives one the green light to participate in life, because you have guidelines and a roadmap," he says. >> In terms of faith, he says, "I try to be a role model for my students, and when they notice there's something different about me and ask questions, that allows me to engage with them on a deeper level."



# What Would Daniel Do?

*Seeking Direction at the Intersection of Work and Faith*

Robert E. Jepson

**M**y first professional job out of college was supporting the advocacy efforts of the Armenian Assembly of America, a nonprofit organization on Capitol Hill devoted to advancing the interests politically, educationally and otherwise of Armenian-Americans.

A few months into my tenure, the world, and our organization, was rocked by news of a devastating earthquake in Armenia. Lives and a homeland's infrastructure were ruined, and our organization scrambled to raise money, coordinate relief and tell the story. The work was challenging, and my once steady, predictable work routine suddenly turned chaotic.

## GOOD COUNSEL

That experience, and the challenges I faced as a young, Adventist professional in 1988, provided an opportunity for personal and spiritual growth. Dealing with colleagues or handling stressful situations forced me to rely on my faith and seek wisdom and guidance from high-profile pillars of spiritual strength, who set forth a clear path of effectively melding faith and service to the larger community.

Among the helpful examples I found, Daniel stood out. The wise Old Testament prophet was a minority believer forced into a foreign culture, surrounded by temptation and life-altering experiences. Through prayer, faith and strict fidelity to God's Word, Daniel unlocked secret codes, helped ease an historical transition of power, and rose to help govern a mighty kingdom. He seemingly manhandled challenges, crushing uncertainty and the looming threat of death as insufficient competition. His accomplishments were large, yet his message was simple—reflect God in service to others.

While I found Daniel's example instructive, I wondered how today's Adventists provide a living witness of their faith and what suggestions they could share with members seeking direction at the intersection of work and faith. Here's what several had to say:

## DO YOUR WORK WELL

"I believe that one important way of witnessing for Jesus in the workplace is simply to do your work well," says Kevin Sullivan, an Administrative Appeals judge with the U.S. Social Security Administration in Baltimore. "The Bible tells us to do our work with all our might. Doing a good job also helps to establish your credibility among your colleagues so that when you have an opportunity to share your faith, people actually consider what you say."

Sullivan, a member of Potomac Conference's Waynesboro (Va.) church, emphasizes that holding firm to our beliefs in the workplace does not require our rigidity, awkwardness or distance. "I believe that it's also important to show respect for people, both those in authority over you and those you supervise," he adds. "Most professional endeavors require some measure of teamwork, and demonstrating Christian qualities of honesty,

dependability and diligence helps you to be an asset rather than a liability to your team."

## BE A FRIEND

Likewise, Gladstone James, a member of Potomac's Burnt Mills church in Silver Spring, Md., believes connectivity with co-workers goes a long way. "The values that I carry to work are very simple: always be cheerful and willing to help," says James, who is senior director of billing for a national company headquartered in the Washington, D.C., area. "I meet so many people from so many walks of life, it is hard to relate to anything more complicated than that. Most people are not looking for God; they are just looking for a friend. It's easiest to start with that."

## PRAY FOR COLLEAGUES

Prayer is an effective tool in the workplace; a distinct way to help others, says Margaret Lalitha Isaac,

an employee at the World Bank in Washington, D.C., and member of Potomac's Remnant church in Silver Spring, Md. By praying for others and being accessible to the cares and concerns of her colleagues, she finds a privileged level of connectivity.

"I take everything to the Lord in prayer and also make every effort to reach out to help others," she says. "Many friends and colleagues who have various problems come to me to request prayer either for themselves or their family members. They certainly believe in the Lord to whom I pray."

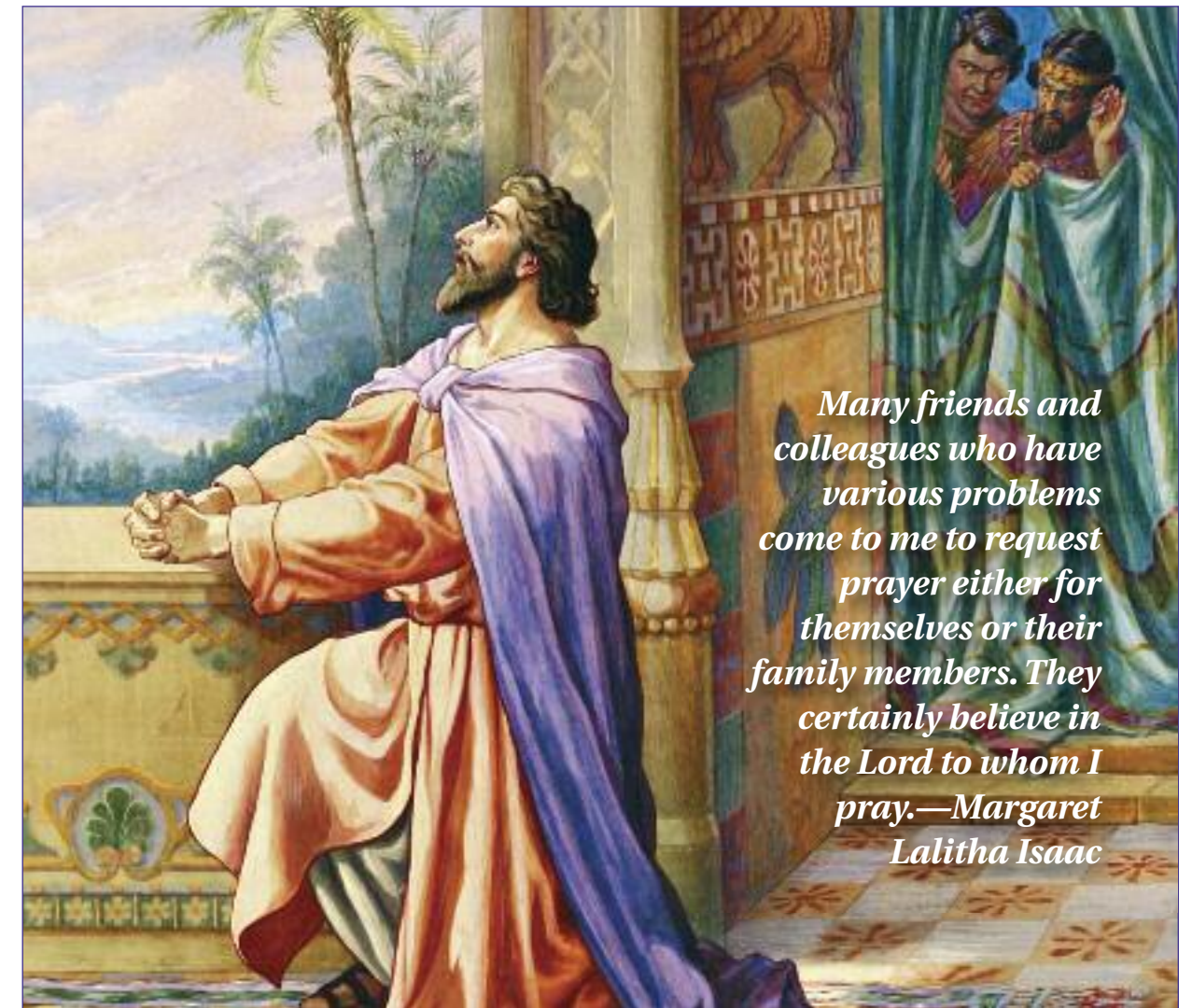
## TRUST GOD'S PLAN

"When I first started working, I did not factor in my faith as part of work life. I did not expect that my religion would be such a part of my dealing with people on a daily basis," admits Jean Arthur, an attorney and legislative analyst for the Montgomery

County (Maryland) Council, a high-profile governmental body in a politically active suburb of Washington, D.C. Arthur, a member of Potomac's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., works in a fast-paced and often stressful environment that requires persistent patience.

"As I've grown older, having God as part of my daily life has become extremely important," she adds. Quiet prayer in challenging situations, remembering that God is always near and respecting others are work tools provided by her faith. She also finds it helpful during challenging times to quietly repeat this axiom: "God has a plan."

*Robert E. Jepson is vice president for Government Relations and Public Policy for Adventist HealthCare, based in Rockville, Md. He's a member of Chesapeake Conference's Frederick (Md.) church.*



*Many friends and colleagues who have various problems come to me to request prayer either for themselves or their family members. They certainly believe in the Lord to whom I pray.—Margaret Lalitha Isaac*

# CAN PROGRESS BE CALCULATED?

CHESAPEAKE CONFERENCE SAYS IT CAN

THEY DEMONSTRATE IT IN THE COST-SAVING UPGRADES THEY MADE AT EASTERN SHORE JUNIOR ACADEMY.

When a 40-year-old gas boiler heating system became ineffective at Eastern Shore Junior Academy (ESJA) in Sudlersville, Md., school leaders knew it was time to act. They set in motion a plan they had discussed for several years, calling upon the one organization they knew could help them: the Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF).

With a CURF loan, the school was able to install a new geothermal system that not only met their heating needs, but also gave them central air conditioning for the first time. In addition to making their learning space more comfortable, the academy has also reduced their budget by \$37,000. And the school can now rent its 21,000 square-foot space to other groups, helping them earn funding.

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## Profiles in Caring



(Left to right) Jere Stocks, President, Washington Adventist Hospital; Dr. P.N. Landless, Associate Director, Health Ministries Department, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; David Kessler, former commissioner of the FDA; Louis Sullivan, former Secretary, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services; Dr. Allan Handysides, Director, Health Ministries Department, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and William G. "Bill" Robertson, President & CEO, Adventist HealthCare.



Jere Stocks, President, Washington Adventist Hospital, talked about the planned relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital to nearby White Oak, Md., and transforming the current campus to provide health-care services, education and wellness opportunities for residents.

## You Just Never Know

The road was wet because of a sudden downpour. We were just coming into a long stretch between exits where it narrows from three lanes to two and descends down a gradual hill. As we crested the hill, suddenly we were surrounded by a sea of brake lights. As traffic slowed almost to a halt, we could see the cause of the problem.

A car had flipped over onto its top. It looked to me as if the car had lost traction on the slick pavement, hydroplaned, hit the jersey wall that separates the lanes from oncoming traffic, and flipped over. I'm guessing we were on the scene less than two minutes after it happened.

My wife was reaching for her mobile phone to dial 911 when we saw that two or three people in cars near us were already doing the same thing. Two or three cars had stopped, and the occupants had run up to the car and pulled the driver (a woman) safely from the vehicle. The driver's side of the car was particularly smashed up, and the roof seemed just flattened into the car. I wondered if anyone else was in the vehicle.

And then—out of the corner of my eye—I thought I saw someone I knew. He was reaching into his trunk for an EMT vest—the identifying uniform of an Emergency Medical Technician. I recognized him to be someone who works in Financial Services for Adventist HealthCare, and remembered that previously he had trained and worked as an EMT.

Without any warning, he was thrust back into that role—reaching out to assist someone in unexpected trouble. I was proud of what he was doing, and we continued our journey with the knowledge that the driver of the car was in good care.

*Later in the day I tracked down his number and called him. He was surprised to hear that we had seen him at the accident scene. "I didn't recognize anyone," he said. "I just did what I knew had to be done."*

It turns out he stayed with the car's driver until the ambulance arrived, and then he put his vest back in his trunk and continued on his own journey.

We spoke again at the end of the day. "It never occurred to me that someone might be watching," he said. "You never know who is going to see you."

Our colleague may be embarrassed that I've retold this story to you. But sometimes the unexpected, spontaneous—and almost unseen—things manage to get our attention. As focused as we are on the primary task at hand, sometimes we are able to glimpse in passing a few of those wonderful and interesting things happening at the edges. Sometimes we are unexpectedly seen, and sometimes we are surprised by what we see. You just never know.

William G. "Bill" Robertson  
President & CEO  
Adventist HealthCare



## Adventist HealthCare, Washington Adventist Hospital Leaders Speak at General Conference Session about Plans to Improve Health, Expand Access to Care

During the 59th General Conference Session in Atlanta, Ga., leaders from Adventist HealthCare gave a special presentation about plans to further improve the health of people in their communities and expand access to care. The plans include the relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital from Takoma Park to nearby White Oak, Md., and transforming the hospital's current campus to provide health-care services, education and wellness opportunities for residents.

Approximately 450 people attended the presentation, which was hosted by Dr. Allan Handysides, Director of the Health Ministries

Department, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. At the conference, William G. "Bill" Robertson, Adventist HealthCare President and CEO, and Jere Stocks, Washington Adventist Hospital President, were joined by Louis Sullivan, former Secretary, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, and David Kessler, former commissioner of the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA). The speakers led an informative session that highlighted the need for a renewed focus on wellness and whole-person care and the unique approach to programs and partnerships Washington Adventist and Adventist HealthCare have embarked on.

"Transforming health care and expanding access to care starts by implementing new, creative ways to keep people well; ways that attend to the whole person, across the spectrum of health-care services," Stocks said.

One of the initiatives, the Adventist HealthCare Center on Health Disparities, is already changing the way people – specifically those of diverse ethnicities and cultures – view health and access health-care services. In three years, the Center has trained more than 5,500 Adventist HealthCare employees and 580 community health partners, health leaders and community health organizations in Maryland. The training instructs health-care

providers how to deliver and communicate care in a way that is sensitive to a patient's cultural beliefs and preferred language in order to treat disease, improve health outcomes and achieve and maintain wellness.

"The Center on Health Disparities helps Adventist HealthCare and our community partners understand the wealth of diversity that exists in our communities, the different health beliefs and health-seeking behaviors practiced, and how trust is built between patients and medical providers," Robertson said.

Washington Adventist's plans for a relocated hospital in White Oak coupled with the continued use of the Takoma Park campus seek to further expand health-care access. The new location near the FDA will allow for a modern health-care facility offering 21st century whole-person care. The hospital's partnership with the FDA has created an important opportunity for the hospital to be

front and center in the quest for advances in research and technology and to set new standards for promoting and advancing the health of citizens.

The Takoma Park campus will include a primary care center, urgent care, other health-care and community services and expanded education programs by way of a continuing partnership with Washington Adventist University.

Forming those strong partnerships with the community, local church congregations, other health organizations, and health-care leaders are at the core of their plans to create this access to 21st century health care.

Health-care leaders Louis Sullivan and David Kessler not only participated in the presentation in Atlanta, both have joined an advisory board aimed at helping Washington Adventist Hospital focus on initiatives tied

to whole-person health. In their presentations both praised Seventh-day Adventists for encouraging society to adopt healthier lifestyles, including quitting smoking.

"Our overall approach builds on our Adventist roots as advocates for the best of healthful living and the best of science. And, it commits us to a better understanding of the role of the mind, body and spirit in the healing process," Stocks said.

"We have a unique opportunity to make a leap forward," Robertson said. "Our vision for the future will allow us to further advance our mission for better health and better living."

*For more information, please visit [www.WashingtonAdventistHospital.com](http://www.WashingtonAdventistHospital.com)*



*(pictured above) Dr. Allan Handysides (right), Director, Health Ministries Department, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, hosted the session and introduced Bill Robertson, President & CEO, Adventist HealthCare.*

*(pictured left) David Kessler, former commissioner of the FDA, stressed that the key to keeping people healthy in the future will be found in a comprehensive view of the whole person, including personal responsibility for our health.*



*(Clockwise from above) Jere Stocks (left), President, Washington Adventist Hospital, with Dr. Weymouth Spence, President, Washington Adventist University.*

*Louis Sullivan, former Secretary, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, addressed health care reform and its impact.*

*Approximately 450 people attended the presentation.*



## Líderes de Adventist HealthCare y Washington Adventist Hospital Hablan en la Sesión de la Conferencia General sobre Planes para Mejorar la Salud y Ampliar el Acceso a la Atención

Durante la 59a. Sesión de la Conferencia General celebrada en Atlanta, G.a., líderes de Adventist HealthCare hicieron una presentación especial sobre sus planes para mejorar más la salud del pueblo en sus comunidades y ampliar el acceso a la atención. Estos planes incluyen el traslado del Washington Adventist Hospital de Takoma Park a la cercana ciudad de White Oak, en Maryland, y transformar el actual campus de ese hospital para ofrecer servicios de atención de salud y oportunidades educacionales y de bienestar para los residentes.

Aproximadamente 450 personas asistieron a la presentación, que fue dirigida por el Dr. Allan Handysides, Director del Departamento de Ministerios de Salud, Conferencia General de los Adventistas del Séptimo Día. En la conferencia, William G. "Bill" Robertson, Presidente y Ejecutivo Principal de Adventist HealthCare, y Jere Stocks, Presidente del Washington Adventist Hospital, estuvieron acompañados por Louis Sullivan, ex Secretario de Salud y Servicios Humanos de los Estados Unidos, y David Kessler, ex Comisionado de la Administración de Alimentos y Drogas de los EE.UU. (FDA). Los oradores dirigieron una informativa sesión en la cual se destacó la necesidad de renovar la atención en el bienestar y el cuidado de toda la persona, y enfocarse exclusivamente en los programas y asociaciones acometidas por Washington Adventist y Adventist HealthCare.

"La transformación de la atención de salud y la ampliación del acceso al cuidado comienza con la adopción de nuevas maneras creadoras de mantener sana a la gente; maneras de atender a toda la persona, con toda la gama de servicios de atención de salud", dijo Stocks.

Una de las iniciativas, el Centro de Disparidades de Salud de Adventist HealthCare, ya está cambiando la manera en que la gente — específicamente las personas de diversos grupos étnicos y culturas — consideran la salud y tienen acceso a los servicios de atención médica. En tres años el Centro ha entrenado a más de 5,500 empleados de Adventist HealthCare y a 580 socios de salud

de la comunidad, líderes de salud y organizaciones de salud de comunidades en Maryland. En estos cursillos se les enseña a los proveedores de atención de salud a suministrar y comunicar atención de una manera sensible a las creencias culturales y el lenguaje preferido del paciente, con objeto de tratar las enfermedades, mejorar los resultados de la salud y alcanzar y mantener el bienestar.

"El Centro de Disparidades de Salud ayuda a Adventist HealthCare y a nuestros socios en la comunidad a entender la riqueza de la diversidad existente en nuestras comunidades, las diferentes creencias de salud y comportamientos practicados en busca de salud, y cómo se crea confianza entre los pacientes y proveedores médicos", añadió Robertson.

Los planes de Washington Adventist de trasladar el hospital a White Oak, unido al continuo uso del campus de Takoma Park, tienen por objeto ampliar más el acceso a los servicios de atención de salud. El nuevo lugar, cerca de la FDA, permitirá alojar una moderna institución de atención de salud que ofrecerá atención del Siglo XXI a toda la persona. La asociación del hospital con la FDA ha creado una oportunidad muy importante al hospital para situarse al frente y el centro en la búsqueda de adelantos en investigación y tecnología y fijar nuevas normas para promover y avanzar la salud de los ciudadanos.

El campus de Takoma Park incluirá un centro de atención primaria, atención urgente, otros servicios de atención de salud y de la comunidad, así como programas educacionales ampliados por medio de su continua asociación con la Universidad Washington Adventist.

La formación de esas sólidas asociaciones con la comunidad, congregaciones de iglesias locales, otras organizaciones de salud y líderes de atención de salud, representa el núcleo de sus planes para crear este acceso a una atención de salud del Siglo XXI.

Los líderes de atención de salud Louis Sullivan y David Kessler no solo participaron en la presentación de Atlanta, sino que ambos se unieron a una junta consultiva destinada a ayudar al Adventist Hospital a concentrarse en iniciativas conectadas con la salud de toda la persona. En sus presentaciones, ambos alabaron a los Adventistas del Séptimo Día por alentar a la sociedad a adoptar estilos de vida más saludables, incluyendo el dejar de fumar.

"Nuestro enfoque global se apoya en nuestras raíces Adventistas como defensores de lo mejor de una vida saludable y lo mejor de la ciencia. Y eso nos compromete a entender mejor la función de la mente, el cuerpo y el espíritu en el proceso curativo", señaló Stocks.

"Tenemos ante nosotros una oportunidad única de dar un salto hacia adelante", indicó Robertson. "Nuestra visión del futuro nos permitirá hacer avanzar más aún nuestra misión de alcanzar una salud y una vida mejores."

Para obtener más información,  
por favor visite  
[www.WashingtonAdventistHospital.com](http://www.WashingtonAdventistHospital.com)



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## ALLEGHENY EAST

# Exposé

OCTOBER 2010

### Germantown Offers Families Shelter

Several years ago Lydia Jenkins, head deaconess at the Germantown church in Philadelphia, became affiliated with the Northeast Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (NPIHN), an organization that brings the faith community together to help displaced families find housing. She was excited to get her church family involved. However, at the time, Germantown's four bedroom, one full and two half-bath house, which sits adjacent to the church, was in the process of renovation. Therefore, involvement was postponed until the project was completed.



Lydia Jenkins, head deaconess at the Germantown church in Philadelphia, cooks for homeless families in a house adjacent to the church.

Last year NPIHN reached out again to Germantown, and Pastor Pete Palmer (right) informed them that the house was done, and the church was eager to participate in the program.

As a host congregation with NPIHN, Germantown members are asked to provide housing from two weeks to two months, stock the house with breakfast food and prepare dinner. Members also provide companionship by staying overnight and also dining with the families in the house.

"I thought it was a great idea on many levels: it would give us the opportunity to give back to the community; we could make a small dent in the homelessness issue in our area; and it puts us in contact with other faiths and denominations," said Pastor Palmer.

"Many believe that all homeless are just vagrants who lost their way, which is not true. Some come from good homes with good jobs in nice areas, but are simply victims of circumstances, whether from a natural catastrophe or job loss," explained Jenkins. "It could happen to anyone." Some of the families in the program have included a mother who works part time while attending school full time, parents who both lost their jobs and another mother who lost her job.

Many shelters are not conducive for housing families, but NPIHN is designed specifically for displaced families, which often include single mothers with small children. "The city shelter systems are deplorable. In our program, participants are given respect and the positive regard they need to become self-sufficient," says Neva Pryor, NPIHN on-site coordinator.

Germantown is the first Seventh-day Adventist church in the Philadelphia area to participate in NPIHN and has been able to house families three times so far.

In a letter to NPIHN one mother shared her gratitude: "The peace I have because my girls are safe and secure and in a peaceful environment is immeasurable! It is reaffirming that people do care about other people!"

Germantown's involvement with NPIHN allows them to fulfill one of their goals, which is to "love people like God loves us by making the community a better place."—LaTasha Betts Hewitt



PHOTOS BY LATASHA BETTS HEWITT

## New TV Aids Mizpah Ministry

The Mizpah church in Philadelphia recently purchased a television to aid in its ministry efforts. Elderly and disabled persons who had difficulty climbing the winding stairs to the second-floor sanctuary served as an impetus for this new purchase. Members placed the TV on the first floor so that those who weren't able to climb the stairs would still be able to view the worship service.

To raise money for the project, Helen Freeman, a Walmart employee, worked with Nigel Verdell, Men's Ministries leader; and deacons John Daniels and Ivor Assaye. Freeman was impressed by the Holy Spirit to go to her manager, Kyle Mahoney, and request a donation for the TV. To her surprise and delight, the Walmart manager issued her a check for \$1,000. Many church members also contributed to this project. "May the Lord God be glorified, as His people learn more about Him through modern technology," Freeman says.

PHOTO BY CHERYL BROWN



Ivor Assaye, Helen Freeman, Pastor Patrick O'Mara, Nigel Verdell and John Daniels stand proudly before the Mizpah church's new television.

## 150 Visit Montclair First Church's Health Fair



More than 150 visitors registered for First church's annual health fair in Montclair, N.J. The event offered free massages and free blood pressure, cancer, diabetes and dental screenings. "What was unique about this health fair was the increase of guests at some of the more sensitive screenings," said Pastor Paula Olivier. "For example, last year no one was willing to visit

*A visitor to the First church annual health fair in Montclair, N.J., practices CPR on a mannequin.*

the HIV/AIDS van. This year they ran out of kits. The amount of men who came for prostate screenings also doubled. I believe the difference is that 'consistency builds confidence.'

This is the fourth year that the church has held the health fair in a popular, public park. "The community has taken notice of our genuine concern and dedication," said Pastor Olivier. "We look forward to doing even more for God as He continues to use our congregation to reach and save lives."

PHOTO BY PAMELA HOLMES

## First Church Urges D.C. Youth to "Stand Up"

Some 300 youth were urged to "Stand Up, Stand Out" at the First church's youth fest in Washington, D.C. The event drew visitors from around the metropolitan area and the neighborhood. It

included two evening seminars and a daylong service on Sabbath. "This event was to uplift our young people and help them understand who they are in Christ," explained Sharie Barnes-Grosjean, the church's Youth Ministries director. "We also wanted to remind them to hold on to their principles as they head back to school."

The featured speaker was Eric Thomas, founder of Break the Cycle, a program that serves at-risk youth. He spoke of being in the world but not of it.

After the divine service on Sabbath, the youth enjoyed a rap

session with Thomas, distributed evangelistic literature in the area, and concluded with a praise concert and a back-to-school bash.

"Youth fest is another rendition of what we do regularly—support the youth in assuming and fulfilling the vision, mission and objectives of First church," said Mark McCleary, the church's pastor.

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## Teachers Called to Follow "In His Steps"

Allegheny West Conference teachers and staff recently attended a conference and retreat at the campgrounds in Thornville, Ohio. The conference's theme, "In His Steps," which will carry over into the school year, focused on helping teachers to grow professionally and spiritually. "This theme reminds us that the road to wisdom and understanding can only be reached when the Guide is leading us step by step," explained Yvette Cooper, conference superintendent.

The meetings included morning devotions with praise leaders and cognitive stimulation by intuitive and challenging presenters. Fredrick Russell, AWC president, shared "10 Powerful Leadership Lessons" while Eugene Brewer, EdD, Southern Union associate Education director, explained the importance of identifying different types of learners and teaching to their learning styles. Sandra Doran, EdD, assistant superintendent for the Florida Conference, discussed the North American Division's Pathways literacy program.

In addition to attending training sessions, the teachers enjoyed stargazing, bonfires and canoeing. As one teacher said, "It was a breath of fresh air from the hustle and bustle of city life and its responsibilities."



Yvette Cooper, conference superintendent, leads a recent teacher training conference.

## EDUCATION NEWS

### New School Staff Welcomed



**Alyssa Minisee** joins the Columbus Adventist Academy staff in Ohio as the grades 1 and 2 teacher. A California native, Minisee recently graduated from Oakwood University (Ala.) with a bachelor's in elementary education. Her life motto is, "A true successful person is one who walks with God."

**Juanita Burris** joins the Ramah Junior Academy team in Cleveland as principal of the school. She previously taught at The Center for Children and Preschool (Tenn.). Originally from Los Angeles, Burris is a product of Christian education from her time at Los Angeles Adventist Academy through Oakwood University. She brings energy, passion and a genuine love for children to her new position as principal.



**Kevin Cameron**, also an Oakwood graduate, will be teaching English and reading for grades five through eight. Cameron taught eighth grade and high school English and served as the head of the English Department at Crawford Adventist Academy in

Toronto, Canada. He and his wife, Simone, have two daughters, aged 3 and 6. His favorite text is Joshua 1:9, and his motto is "Life is a story, write it."

### Educators Recognized for Service

The Allegheny West Conference recently recognized two veteran educators. Mary Conwell (right, with Fredrick Russell, conference president), who recently retired from her position as principal at Ramah Junior Academy in Cleveland, was recognized for 25 years of service to that school. Collin Parkinson, former conference superintendent, was also recognized for his many years of service. He currently serves as conference prayer coordinator.



## Annual Men's Retreat Emphasizes Integrity

Approximately 50 men from the Allegheny West, Ohio and Great Lakes conferences recently gathered for the 16th annual retreat of the Frank Loris Peterson Society of Adventist Men. The retreat provided men of all ages an opportunity to reconnect with the Lord and recharge their spiritual batteries. Held on the campus of Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, the retreat was themed "The Integrity of Man." The keynote speaker was Myron Edmonds (pictured), pastor of the Glenville church in Cleveland. Seminar topics included, "The Power of Purpose," "Living To Your Greatness for His Greatness," "Christian Manhood" and "Improving Interpersonal Relationships."

"Men who seek to gain a closer walk with the Lord realize that often the Christian life is beset by disappointments and challenges, yet the voice of God speaks clearly, 'Go forward,'" explained Donald Cantrell Sr., president of the chapter at the Ephesus church in Columbus. However, "being Godly men of integrity means brothers growing together toward Christ-likeness and reaching their full potential as men of God."

The organization was named in honor of the first African-American vice president of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church and a former president of Oakwood University. In addition to the annual retreats, the group hosts prayer breakfasts and weekly prayer meetings to challenge all men to be spiri-



tual leaders in their homes. For more information, contact Cantrell at (614) 476-2646 or David Harmon at (614) 323-6643.

## The Plight of the Privileged

Following hard on Jesus' warning against hindering children from approaching Him, Matthew, Mark and Luke go on to record His encounter with the rich young ruler. The two stories are interconnected and here is my thinking: the young man exhibited characteristics we focused on in last month's editorial—an uncomplicated, simple directness; an open and teachable spirit; a trustful nature; a natural curiosity and sense of adventure and wonder. Jesus saw all of these qualities, and those who witnessed the encounter said, "Jesus looked at him and loved him" (Mark 10:21, NIV). But then Jesus said he still lacked one thing: the ability and/or the willingness to respond immediately and wholeheartedly to Jesus' offer of abundant life.

Jesus knew that the young man's privileged life was actually keeping him from responding. Jesus warned His disciples of the plight of the privileged—that it was difficult for the affluent to be saved (vs. 23-27). Why? Because the danger in affluence is that it can create a concern for secondary values, destroy teachability and enslave those who are attached to it. And as the case with this affluent young man, it can weaken the responsive spirit that is ready and willing to follow God's will.

Thankfully, Jesus ended his comments on a note of grace (v. 27). No barriers that we erect between ourselves and God are insurmountable. However, we must constantly remind ourselves that the greatest privilege we possess is responding wholeheartedly to the call to follow Jesus.

*"I don't typically think of myself as affluent, but, while at the General Conference Session in Atlanta this summer, I realized that one day's per diem to care for my needs would have sent a child to church school in some parts of the world for a whole year."*



**Rob Vandeman**  
President

## Members From 30 Churches Prep for Disaster Response

Allegheny West Conference recently hosted one of the largest Disaster Response training weekends at the conference campgrounds in Thornville, Ohio. The event was organized under the direction of Pastor Robert Moore, Jr., AWC executive secretary and conference Adventist Community Services (ACS) director, with the aid of his executive assistant Cheryl Alli. Some 55 attendees came from the Northern Ohio, Pennsylvania-West Virginia and Central-Southern Ohio federations.

Bob and Diane Mitchell, Columbia Union Conference's Disaster Response coordinators, provided much of the training. They used this weekend to train members from more than 30 churches to be "watchmen." As Bob stated, "A disaster is always a local experience, but the need may demand people trained for a national response." He then proceeded to show AWC community service leaders how to be ready to assist on a national level and manage donation coordination centers and warehouse operations.

This includes transporting truckloads of food, clothing, water, beds, or any item that needs to get from a donation point to a warehouse to the people who need the service.

Many came away from the weekend feeling they were meeting God's spiritual purpose for them on this Earth. Marvin C. Brown III, former conference ACS director, spoke for the divine worship hour and tuned the hearts of those in attendance to greater ministry in their local areas.—*Andrew Mobley*

*Bob Mitchell, a Disaster Response coordinator for the Columbia Union Conference, trains members from Allegheny West Conference churches.*



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awconf.org ■ President, Fredrick Russell ■ Editor, Bryant Taylor

## Chesapeake Youth Finish Honduras Project

Pastors Stephen Finney of the Martinsburg (W.Va.) church and César González of the Cambridge (Md.) church, recently took 15 youth to Santa Barbara, Hon-

duras, to finish a series of projects begun there four years ago. The primary work site was at El Hogar de Niños, an orphanage in Santa Barbara, operated by REACH International, that houses 50 children.

The team worked on a security wall around the orphanage, which will provide much-needed safety to the children and staff. They also helped complete a church in the tiny mountain town of San Gaspar.

Both work sites were challenging, says González. "At El Hogar the wall follows a downhill property line through thick brush next to a sewer ditch," he explained. "Workers formed a human supply chain to relay the construction materials down the hill and across the ditch, then built wooden scaffolds to reach the high wall."

Getting to the church site was also difficult. Following a jarring 30-minute ride up the mountain, the group carried all the materials, including cement block and buckets of water, up a steep, 100-yard incline to the worksite.

The youth returned, happy to be home but sad to have left new friends behind. Another mission trip is scheduled for January 2011. Contact the Chesapeake Conference's Youth Ministries department at (410) 995-1910 for details.

PHOTO BY CÉSAR GONZÁLEZ



*Lauren Nasrawy, a member of the Linthicum (Md.) church, bonds with a little girl at a Honduran orphanage.*



## Waldorf Yard Sale Ministry Becomes a Community Staple

About three years ago, members of the Waldorf (Md.) church prayerfully sought the Lord's guidance for ways to reach out to their community. The church's expansive property is located on a busy highway near a major shopping area, and members felt God leading them to host a monthly yard sale. So they used advertisements to invite the local community to participate.

People who call to inquire about the cost of setting up a table to sell their items are often surprised to learn that there is no set-up fee—the church offers use of their lawn out of friendship, not as a fundraiser.

"When we started three years ago, we had about 10 people set up tables. On a recent Sunday, we had 170 vendors," says Randy Dresser, organizer of the sales. "The state police and the sheriff's office usually come by to assist with traffic when it gets really heavy."

Now on yard sale Sundays, the



PHOTO BY KLEYTON FEITOSA

church's five-acre lot is packed and cars line the highway. Sometimes the local hospital sends a team to do health screenings, Pathfinders wash cars and members offer free samples of vegetarian food, creating the feeling of a community fair.

Kleyton Feitosa, former pastor of the church, says that many participants ask about the Sabbath. They want to know why Seventh-day Adventists are having a big yard sale on Sunday mornings when other churches are having services. Some have asked for Bible studies.

*Cars pack the parking lot and surround the Waldorf (Md.) church at a monthly yard sale.*

While shopping and running errands, members often encounter people who recognize them from the sale and identify them with the church. The feedback is positive.

"That's the real blessing behind our outreach efforts," says member Jessie Battiste. "We can provide a place where individuals can learn and grow spiritually."

## Atholton Members Join in Helping D.C. Residents

Thirty-one teens and young adults, representing three churches in three conferences, gathered in southeast Washington, D.C., recently to complete home improvement projects for residents, and to provide evening programs for children. Members came from Chesapeake Conference's Atholton church in Columbia, Md.; the Carolina Conference's Raleigh (N.C.) church and Allegheny East Conference's Dupont Park church in D.C.



PHOTO BY MEREDITH HERZEL

*Victor Enomanna, an eighth-grade member of the earlteen Sabbath School class at the Atholton church in Columbia, Md., takes a break from painting the bedroom of an elderly Catholic widow in southeast Washington, D.C.*

Each day youth and adult supervisors painted and did yard work and other light maintenance for residents in the neighborhood of the Dupont Park church and school. They also conducted children's programs that drew more than 60 kids and taught them lessons about the one true God through the story of Joseph. The churches pooled their props from recent Vacation Bible Schools to transform the school to look like ancient Egypt, which brought the stories to life.

"It was a lot of fun helping people and meeting other kids," said Kylie Kajiura, one of the participants from the Atholton church.

During the week, the young people forged strong bonds of Christian friendship, and, through shared worship and ministry, had the opportunity to experience the joy of mission.—Dan Herzel

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Phone: (410) 995-1910 ■ ccosda.org ■ President, Rob Vandeman  
Editor, Samantha Young

## Students Help Recruit Eight Peers to HVA

Five students and one staff sponsor from Highland View Academy (HVA) recently embarked on a mission. The mission? To spend four weeks traveling around the community doing service projects, and meeting prospective students and letting them know what Highland View Academy has to offer. They started at Baltimore First church in Ellicott City, Md., where they volunteered as helpers for the Chesapeake Conference's Fun Learning About God (FLAG) Camp. "It was great to help out [at FLAG Camp] and to also make lots of new friends. These are great memories I will carry for the rest of my life," shared Chelsea McMullen ('13).

They also traveled to churches in New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland and presented at vespers programs, Sabbath Schools and church services. Each week the team was at a different church, leading out by preaching, sharing special music, conducting praise service or telling the children's story.

The team also visited students in their homes and fielded questions the students and their parents had about the school then prayed with them. One of the favorite activities of the team was praying before and after meeting each family. "I liked how we would be driving down the road and spontaneously get the feeling to pray for someone, so we did," said Stephanie Calhoun ('12). Jason Shockey ('11), added, "It was amazing to grow closer to some of my fellow students as well as make some great new friends." Roman Samalio ('12) said, "I will never forget the journey I went on, and I thank Christ for leading me to it."



*Renee Williams (back, left), recruiting team leader and alumni coordinator, worked with current students to recruit for the academy.*



*Students from the recruiting team help the Hackettstown (N.J.) church prepare for Vacation Bible School.*



By the time school registration rolled around, eight students (some pictured above with their recruiters) enrolled at HVA as a direct result of the recruiting team! "The Lord blessed all of our outreach efforts," said Renee Williams, recruiting team leader and alumni coordinator. "The spiritual leadership of our students shone through in every activity. We have built wonderful relationships with church families all over the East Coast and will continue to serve wherever the Lord will lead."

## Students Featured in Environmental Textbook

The new Pearson Education textbook, *Environmental Science – Your World, Your Turn*, (2011 Edition) by Jay Withgott, features several Highland View Academy students. A full color, two-page spread on pages 612 and 613 of the new textbook highlights the Environmental Science class' Toyota Tapestry award-winning mycology project led by Ophelia Barizo, science teacher. The book, which was released for publication this summer, will be used by thousands of environmental science students all over North America, and possibly internationally.

The feature includes a description of the project and several pictures of student activities outdoors and in the laboratory. An introduction to some of the featured projects in the book states that through the projects, "you will be able to explore what students like you have done for their communities' environment." It goes on to read that "their efforts can serve as inspiration for you and your classmates."

The Environmental Science class at HVA is using this textbook this year. The books were provided free of charge through a grant.



Students whose pictures are in the text will also be getting complementary copies from the publisher.

The class has also produced a 60-page booklet, *Wild Mushrooms of Washington County, Maryland*, which was published last month. Barizo recently attended the North American Mycological Association conference in Colorado, and is pleased to report that the mycologists at the conference are excited

Ophelia Barizo, HVA science teacher, along with sophomores Molly Gavin and Chelsea McMullen were all featured in an environmental science textbook.

that mycology is being taught in a high school class. They are hoping that more schools will start including mycology in the high school science curriculum, since mushrooms are fast becoming a sustainable way to break down toxins that harm humans and the environment, and are vitally important in forest ecosystems.

### CALENDAR

#### October

- 8 Healthy Living Assembly
- 10 SAT Test
- 12 PSAT Test
- 16 Barn Party
- 18-22 Week of Prayer

Highlander is published in the Visitor by the Highland View Academy 10100 Academy Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740 ■ Phone: (301) 739-8480 Fax: (301) 733-4770 highlandviewacademy.com Principal, Deborah Trevino Editor, Renee Williams

# MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

OCTOBER 2010

## Go Forward

As he accepted the call to be the next president of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church this summer, Ted Wilson remarked that it is time for members to hear the words of the Lord once again as found in Exodus 14:15: "And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." The Lord not only spoke to Moses in the Old Testament but also in modern times. Ellen White writes, "The work of God in this Earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those ministers and church officers" (*Gospel Workers*, p. 351). I can hear God saying once again, "Church go forward."

Mountain View Conference leaders are committed to creating an atmosphere of moving forward in an all out blitz for soul winning and evangelism. We are increasing the intensity of the training and equipping process at the local church level, as well as at the conference level. When God spoke to Moses He knew the outcome already, the children of Israel only needed to go forward. Once again God has spoken in modern times. "When we give ourselves wholly to God and in our work follow His directions, He makes Himself responsible for its accomplishment. ... We are to co-operate with One who knows no failure" (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 363). The call is going out to members of Mountain View. Go forward. Will you answer the call?



Larry Boggess  
President

Pastors and teachers recently gathered at Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va. Keeping soul winning central to the mission of the church was at the core of the meetings.

PHOTO BY MONICA ZILL

## NEWS

### Valley View, Beckley Welcome New Pastor

Ron Patterson will be pastoring the West Virginia churches of Valley View, in Bluefield, and Beckley. Patterson has more than 22 years of experience in the ministry. However, he first joined the church only to placate his wife and mother. However, after leading his own Revelation Seminar, that yielded four baptisms, Patterson caught the ministry bug. "Powerfully and strangely, God, through His Spirit, was working mightily in my life and changed my hardened heart into a heart of love," Patterson recalls.

Patterson accepted his first call to the Mountain View Conference as a colporteur/pastor. He spent the last eight years pastoring in the North Carolina Conference. He and his wife, Sue, are parents to two girls.

### Pepper Called to Lead Charleston Church

Stewart Pepper, outgoing pastor of the West Virginia churches of Lewisburg and Rainelle, as well as the Marlinton company, will now pastor the Charleston (W.Va.) church. "I'm looking forward to



Stewart Pepper is pictured with his wife, Kathy, and their children, Jeremy, Jessica and Katrina.

doing a lot of evangelism in a bigger marketplace," Pepper said. "And most of all, I'm looking forward to watching the Spirit work."



### Morikone Adds Spencer Church

Daniel Morikone, who pastors the West Virginia churches of Tollgate, Parkersburg and Ripley, will no longer pastor the Point Pleasant church. He will, however, add the Spencer (W.Va.) church to his rotation.

## Did You Know?

- 2010 graduating class had a GPA of 3.5 when they graduated.
- Class of 2010 members were offered over \$3 million in scholarships from public and private universities.
- Class of 2010 members will be attending the following institutions of higher learning: American University, Andrews University, Delaware Technical College, Kettering College of Medical Arts, The Pennsylvania State University, Southern Adventist University, Walla Walla University, Washington Adventist University, Mount Saint Mary's University and Hood College.
- HVA alumni are developing Bible study groups on public university campuses.
- Some 90 percent of HVA graduates from the past five years entered four-year universities. Of those, 75 percent continue with advanced degrees.
- Last year the HVA Highlanders music group performed for the White House Christmas Tree Lighting.

## Conference Hosts First Hispanic Camp Meeting

The Mountain View Conference played host to the first member-led Hispanic camp meeting held within its territory at Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttsontown, W.Va. The weekend brought together some 35 joyous souls for praising, praying, lay training and a baptism. Members of the fledgling group are excited about what they learned and are planning to grow their numbers in the coming year. The following are photos from the event:



PHOTOS BY JEREMY JACKO AND WALTER CARDENAS

1. Heroes Alvarado-Sical from the Beltsville (Md.) Maranatha Spanish church leads a seminar on how to live ready in these last days.

2. Walter Cardenas, Hispanic Ministries coordinator, translates for Larry Boggess, conference president.

3. Rubén Ramos, assistant to the Columbia Union Conference president for Multilingual Ministries, was the featured speaker for Mountain View Conference's first Hispanic camp meeting.

4. Walter Cardenas (right) baptizes Eleazar Mendez-Cruz from Beckley, W.Va.

5. Alfredo Hernandez ministers through music. He also shared how losing his son was the impetus for his walk with the Lord.

## Williamson, Logan Youth Lead Vacation Bible Schools



The Williamson and Logan churches in West Virginia have taken Jesus' mandate "and a little child shall lead them" to heart. Although adults assisted, seven young people presented the sermons each night at a recent Vacation Bible School. Nine-year-old Anja St. Clair (left) was the first to do so and presented the creation story in her sermon "Something From Nothing." She used the Truth 4 Youth software to aid her presentation on a laptop. A craft and snacks followed the sermon.

Williamson church did the VBS one night a week for four weeks, then the Logan church took over for one full week.

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OCTOBER 2010

## Garden State 12:40 Window Initiative

One morning I was praying over a map of the beautiful state of New Jersey, well known as The Garden State. And God impressed me powerfully with the sense of His love for the people living here. This is the territory that God gave me, together with my fellow administrators, departmental leaders, pastors, elders and local leaders and members like you, to evangelize and to prepare for the second coming of Jesus.

This is our place to work, our place to serve. In this area, we have over 8 million inhabitants, and they are waiting for somebody to share with them the good news of salvation.

By the grace of the Lord, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is growing very much here in the Garden State. And we love to grow! We want to grow spiritually, numerically and financially. That's the reason we are looking carefully to enter in the areas where we have no Adventist presence. There are a lot of beautiful cities and towns, full of families who need Jesus, and we have not a single church there to worship God.

Using an imaginary clock, set at the center of the state map, and moving its arms to the hour 12:40, you will see the area that I am very concerned about—it is the northwest section of New Jersey. I invite you to join me in praying for the people living in this New Jersey 12:40 window. I am also asking you to prepare a good evangelism offering for 2011, because we will focus in a special way on this section of the state. I am also looking for missionaries ready to come and begin a small group for Bible studies and fellowship in one of these towns in New Jersey's 12:40 window. They need us. They need Jesus!



José H. Cortés  
President

## West Long Branch Spanish Church Organized



The West Long Branch Spanish church was officially organized with 61 charter members. José H. Cortés, conference president, was the guest speaker at the organization service. Modesto Vazquez, conference vice president for finance, also assisted. Walter Umana, pastor of the West Long Branch Spanish church, proudly announced that six newly baptized members would be added to the 61 existing members.

Pastor Walter Umana signs the certificate of organization for the West Long Branch Spanish church.

## Teachers In-Service Opens New School Year



Under the leadership of Sadrail Saint-Ulysse, superintendent of schools, the teachers of the New Jersey Conference recently gathered at the conference office in Trenton for their in-service training to kick off the new school year. Celeste Ryan Blyden, *Visitor* editor, provided instruction in writing articles for the *Visitor* and school publications; attorney Matthew Bach presented information on how to handle student abuse cases; and Judy Sloan, professor at Southern Adventist University (Tenn.), led a workshop on teaching physical education.



## Robbinsville Pastor Adds Princeton

Art Randall, pastor of the Robbinsville church, will now also pastor the Princeton church. He holds a bachelor's in accounting from Atlantic Union College (Mass.).

For the past 28 years, Randall has worked in hospital financial administrative positions throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey. During that time, he became deeply involved in his local churches as an elder and local church treasurer. In 1996, while living in Seneca, Pa.,

the conference asked him to serve as a bi-vocational pastor of the Seneca church. He served there for three years from 1996-99 before being transferred to a hospital in New Jersey.

He never lost his love for pastoring and accepted the call to serve as the bi-vocational pastor for the Robbinsville church in 2005. After five years pastoring Robbinsville, the conference invited Randall to assume full-time leadership and



add Princeton. He is married to Beth, and they have two sons, Matthew and Darren, and one grandchild.

## Trenton Korean Welcomes New Pastor



Michael Kang was appointed pastor of the Trenton Korean district. A native of South Korea, Kang holds a bachelor's in theology from Sahmyook University in South Korea and a Master of Divinity from Andrews University (Mich.). When he moved to the United States, he worked with his parents for some years in operating their business. He then returned to ministry, most recently serving as pastor of the Korean church in Richmond, Va. He is married to Rachel, and they have two adult children, Angela and Andrew.

Michael Kang, pastor of the Trenton Korean district, is pictured with his daughter, Angela; his wife, Rachel; and his son, Andrew.

## Woodbury Ordains Third Generation Elder

Kevin Waddington (pictured with his father, David), a member of the Woodbury church, was recently ordained as an elder. Serving in his local church is a family tradition. His father, David, is an elder at the



Cherry Hill church and his grandfather, Harvey (now deceased), served as an elder for many years at the Collingwood church. His maternal grandfather, Warren Durham, also served as an elder and treasurer for many years.

"I find it to be a privilege to serve the Lord in this capacity, following the footsteps of my dad and grandfather," says Waddington who is also the church treasurer. "I pray every day for the guidance of the Lord to serve Him according to His will."

PHOTO BY SHANNON WADDINGTON

## dates

- October**
- 6-9 Stewardship Emphasis Weekend, *Local Churches*
  - 8-10 Singles Retreat, *Tranquil Valley Retreat Center*
  - 17 Children's Day Festival
- November**
- 6 English Festival of the Laity
  - 10-13 Stewardship Emphasis Weekend, *Local Churches*
  - 13 Spanish Festival of the Laity
  - 14 Children's Ministries Leadership Training
- December**
- 5 Grand Opening for New Conference Office, *Lawrenceville*

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## A Letter of Appreciation From Camp Mohaven

Our work at Camp Mohaven in Danville allows us to provide a very special place for people to find and reconnect with God and nature. However, at times we are faced with deciding what is a want and what is a need. Horse feed is a need, while new flooring in staff houses is a want. How do we balance making the camp more appealing while taking care of the necessities?

One week as we struggled with these questions, we received a phone call from the Dennis family in Delaware. "Do you need hay?" Of course the response was, "Yes, we need lots of hay!" What a blessing; the Lord answered a need before we even asked. Because of this family's generosity, we could use the money we would have spent on hay on making improvements. T. Walton Carr, an architect from Columbus, has been donating his expertise in helping us make updates to the camp.

Kent Water Sports, based in New London, donated 20 life jackets for our canoe program. Roland Bruntz from Wisconsin donated a bail fork to help in moving the hay. James Navrotsky from Indiana gave us a paint sprayer. Kevin Sciulli from Columbus donated an air conditioner for our new camp store. A group of men led by Kevin Keuhmichel from the Cleveland area spent a day cutting firewood to keep our supply full. Lowel Gibson from New London spends countless hours throughout the year cutting firewood and mowing grass in our outlying areas. These gifts are just some of the ones we know about!

What an awesome God we serve! Before we ask, He answers, and what wonderful people He has working for Him that they would give so generously for His work. Thank you all so much for your support, and please keep Camp Mohaven in your thoughts and prayers.



Dave and Karen Robinson  
Camp Mohaven Managers

## Toledo First Raises Money for Haiti

You have to see it with your own eyes to believe it. You have to hear it, feel it and smell it to really understand Haiti," says Mike Fortune (below), pastor of the Toledo First church. Months after a devastating earthquake nearly decimated Haiti, the congregation still has the Caribbean country on their minds and prayer lists. To help the church and local community



better understand the continuing crisis overseas, Fortune invited Dave and Caryn Wooster and Marty Chappell from the New Hope church in Fulton, Md., to share their firsthand accounts of Haiti post earthquake. The trio had visited Haiti as a part of the church's Sharing Our Strength (SOS) mission group.

"We were uncomfortable for a week, they are uncomfortable every day," Caryn said during the presentation. "Life for us here will quickly return to normal, and our week in Haiti will soon be a distant memory that we will relive through pictures and videos." She added, "When you enter into their world and their pain and connect with them on an emotional level, you become bonded, even though you don't speak the same language."

Within weeks of the presentation, Toledo First members raised more than \$1,700 for Haiti relief. Fortune said, "I challenged the church, because what breaks the heart of God should break ours—and even our bank [accounts] if necessary."

The SoS team has been supporting Eden Garden Orphanage, which is led by Seventh-day Adventist members and, in turn, supports those in the community.

## Hill Church Ministers to People With Special Needs

What happens when you have a special needs child and can no longer attend church because of the distractions he or she causes during the service? This was the case for Irene Richert, a Catholic woman living in Mount Vernon. During the fall of 1983, Mount Vernon Hill church member Dale Glass was distributing promotional materials for an upcoming evangelistic program. Richert invited Glass inside. "I never go to church anymore," Richert explained. "Can you help me?" Her daughter Janie suffers from Phenylketonuria (PKU), a metabolic genetic disorder, which can cause brain damage when left undiagnosed and untreated.

Glass immediately began working with Hill church members to create what is known today as Special Church. Together they worked with Richert, who knew of other special needs youth in the community, to

produce a two-hour program featuring music, Bible stories, crafts and dinner. Transportation is provided for the "kids" (whose ages now range from 16 to 50) to the church one Sabbath each month.

"It's one of the few places I feel secure in leaving Janie for a few hours," said Richert. Other parents and relatives agree. Being full-time caregivers and working fulltime leaves little room for any downtime for these families. "It's been a life-saver," said Janie's father, Jerry.

Parents are not the only ones to benefit from the program. It has become a place for those with special needs to learn about Jesus, build friendships and experience new activities. "Sometimes Special Church is the only outing these kids get during the month," said Kandy Light, one of the group's founders.

Relationships with this often neglected demographic continue



Mount Vernon Hill member Dale Glass (right) spends time with the Richerts. Their daughter, Janie, enjoys a special monthly program at the church.

outside the monthly program. Light takes Janie swimming several times a month; Glass has bought one of the young men a Bible and taken him to church in the past. Members within the Hill congregation take their children as well. Helen Fisher takes her son, Fred—a socially aware Down's Syndrome adult—to the program. "Fred loves it," she said.

Special Church has impacted the lives of countless people within the church and community. Light's children and grandchildren often help with the program. Students from Mount Vernon Academy have volunteered on occasion. All follow Jesus' example to "invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous" (Luke 14:13-14, NIV).



Special needs children and adults enjoy a birthday party at the Mount Vernon Hill church.

## Portsmouth/Manchester Hometown Camp Meeting Rescheduled

**New Date:** November 5-6

**Location:** Portsmouth Church

**Theme:** "Keep On Keeping On!"

**Speaker:** Jim Gilley, 3ABN President

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## Our Actions Speak God's Love

Earlier this year, I joined thousands of Seventh-day Adventists from around the world at the 59th General Conference Session in Atlanta. There were so many things that impressed me there—the beautiful music, inspiring sermons, colorful costumes from around the world and simply being with thousands who shared the Advent hope. It was very different from being in any other large crowd.

One of the things I will always remember about this gathering is something I saw in the business sessions. No matter how heated the discussions, the moderators handled things in such a Christ-like manner—no raised voices, no angry words and no retaliation. I saw Jesus in the way they responded to people and was so blessed by it. That's how I want to be, too, and how I yearn for our churches to be. When others see Jesus in us, it will be so much easier for them to believe that Jesus loves and cares for them, and they'll want a relationship with Him too. Let us strive to reveal our relationship with Jesus in how we treat others every day.

### A Pennsylvania Conference Core Value

**Loving Relationships:** Because people matter to God, they matter to us and we will treat them with respect and kindness just as Jesus demonstrated His love for us. We believe that loving relationships should permeate every aspect of church life because life changes happen best in relationships (see John 13:33-35; John 15:11-13; Rom. 12:10; Eph. 4:1-3).



Jeanne Hartwell  
Family Ministries Director

## Mission Trip Changes Hanover Youth's Lives

Each summer a team from the Hanover church's youth group participates in a mission trip. This summer they (pictured) joined more than 400 youth and adults from across North America in Cornwall, Canada, where groups worked at 52 worksites installing roofs, building decks and wheelchair ramps and painting. Two young people share their experiences:



**Josh Irvin** (fifth from left): This was my first work camp with our youth group. I was fortunate that my crew instantly got along and that we had a great leader. There were also programs every morning and evening, where we sang, prayed and heard a short message. At the end of the week, I collected phone numbers from my new friends and regretfully said goodbye. Though the week was over, I doubt that I will ever forget the experiences of that week, or the effect they had on me.

**Nina Kensicki** (fourth from left): When I first decided to go on a mission trip to Canada, I heard that it would be life changing and a lot of work. But I wasn't too concerned about any of that. All I knew is that I wanted to do something good, and helping other people seemed to fit into that category perfectly. Our crew spent the entire week helping an elderly couple. But I wasn't expecting the life changing part. It [was] amazing to see so many Christians my age wanting to help and make a difference in people's lives. Going on the mission trip helped me see the big picture—how just one person can be a part of a huge experience that affects an even larger group of people.—George Mann

## Hamburg's Community Service Center Becomes Reality

For 30 years Hamburg Community church members Bob and Bea Hayes envisioned a building that would be totally devoted to community services. Their dream was realized recently with the dedication and ribbon cutting of the church's community services center.

Bea is the church's Adventist Community Services director. Before the new building, every week she and her husband had to set up and take down for the weekly clothing distribution, previously held in the church's fellowship hall. Their food pantry closet also doubled as a church storage closet. Last year they provided more than 67,800 pounds of food for local families, with volunteers



logging more than 4,000 hours sorting donations. Hayes believes the new building will allow them to help even more families.

More than 250 people gathered for the ceremony, which took place amidst wind gusts and tornado warnings. Ray Hartwell, conference president, gave a prayer of dedication. Jeannette Dare, Adventist Community Services director for the conference, presented lifetime service awards to the Hayes for their unflinching loyalty to community services. Doors to the new center were officially open after a ribbon cutting by Dare, the Hayes, Pastor Alex DuBee, and Roy Del Rosario, mayor of Hamburg. Tilden Township supervisors Gene Schappell and Judy Romig, and Dennis Schwoyer, Tilden Township's chief of police, were also on hand for the celebration.

Construction for the new center, located in a 40-by-70 building (left) on the far end of the church parking lot, began last fall and was completed by June.

Thirty volunteers spend two mornings a week sorting the clothing and household items dropped off 24 hours a day, seven days a week at a shed next to the building. Community members donate most of the items. The center is open

*Hamburg church members Bea and Bob Hayes were recently recognized for their commitment to community services.*

Mondays and Tuesdays, 1-7 p.m., and typically serves 60-75 families a week in need of clothing, toys and household items. A food pantry ministers to 100-125 families the third Sunday of each month.



*Alex DuBee, pastor of the Hamburg church, shares remarks with the crowd.*

**Pennsylvania Pen** is published in the *Visitor* by the Pennsylvania Conference 720 Museum Road, Reading, PA 19611 Phone: (610) 374-8331, ext. 210 [pconference.org](http://pconference.org) ■ President, Ray Hartwell Editor, Tamyra Horst



*Volunteer Phyllis Bechtel shows off the community center's toy section.*



# Potomac People

OCTOBER 2010

## True Commitment

Commitment is a big word that is related to having loyalty, duty or making a pledge to someone or something. People commit to each other in matrimony, parenting, friendship, work and so on. Our society these days, however, has diminished the real meaning of this word by the modern interpretation of commitment. There seems to be little to no loyalty anymore in this fast, technology-changing world.

Jesus understood the human heart and its lack of commitment and self-denial when he spoke these words: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:24-26, NIV).

We claim to be followers of Jesus, yet we continue to miss the very core message that Jesus wanted us to understand—It's not about me. "Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to finding yourself, your true self" (Matt. 16:25, *The Message*).

The young ruler cleverly stated that he had obeyed all that he was taught since he was a child, yet he still lacked one thing: commitment. It's not how much you have that matters, but how much you care—how much you care to save the lost, and how much you're willing to give to accomplish that. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matt. 6:21, *The Message*). Jesus gave all to save the lost and to save you and me; He expects nothing less than that. Are you willing to take the call?



**Hugo F. Chinchay, Sr.**  
*Director of Trust Services*

## Sligo Family Reunites in Homecoming

From all points near and far, people came to the 2010 homecoming event at the Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md. Cries of recognition were heard throughout the church as friends reunited at Friday evening's activities, and they continued through Sabbath.

On Sabbath Sligo senior pastor Charles Tapp and his family greeted a capacity crowd. Tapp explained that the idea for homecoming came about because "throughout my travels, I've had so many people come up to me saying, 'I live in Orlando or Los Angeles, but I'm still a member at Sligo.'"

Former senior pastor James Londis (left), now a professor of religion at Kettering College of Medical Arts in Kettering, Ohio, presented "Where is Jesus?" a powerful sermon directed at 21st century Adventists. He cautioned people to look for Jesus in those suffering on Earth and attend to them instead of standing still and looking up to the clouds.

Throughout each service, the sanctuary and children's choirs provided joyous sounds and inspirational words. All were invited to partake in an international potluck lunch at nearby Takoma Academy.

Later in the afternoon, Sligo family members distributed safety information to pedestrians in nearby Langley Park at one of the area's most dangerous traffic crossroads. To end the day's celebration, attendees were treated to a musical concert with an international flavor.

For pictures, a podcast of the sermon and more information about Sligo, visit [sligochurch.org](http://sligochurch.org).  
—Dana West



## Norfolk Community Responds to Malawian Ministry

One Sabbath about eight years ago, Jimmy and Gale Strickland (below) went to church like



they did every Sabbath. A seemingly uneventful day, they never dreamed that the sermon would change their lives. Austin Goodwin, former pastor of the Norfolk (Va.) church, which they were attending, grew up in the southeastern African country of Malawi. That day Goodwin shared with the congregation the

challenges the people of Malawi faced on a daily basis and invited those interested to join him on an upcoming mission trip.

“Malawi was the last place on my mind,” said Jimmy, a CPA in downtown Norfolk. “I never dreamed that I would ever visit the country of Malawi, let alone learn to have such a passion for these wonderful people.” This marked the beginning of the Stricklands’ missionary work in that country. In 2004 they established Creative Global Relief, a non-profit organization that assists people in need all over the world.

Recently the Stricklands, along with other church members and a member from the non-profit organization Physicians for Peace, spent three weeks in Malawi. They delivered two, 40-foot containers filled with items donated by members of the Norfolk church and the surrounding community. Business owners were especially moved by the cause and donated generators, water pumps, eyeglasses, school



Norfolk (Va.) church members pack supplies to fill two 40-foot shipping containers headed for Malawi.

supplies and clothing.

“We need to be about God’s business, and this is one way that we can give back to Him,” Jimmy said. “We praise God for all He has done, not only for the people in Malawi, but for each one of us.”

Visit pcsda.org to view a video detailing the Norfolk story.—Anne Oullette and Dan Jensen



## Maryland Churches Partner in Green VBS

Three Potomac Conference churches in the Greenbelt, Md., area joined together to promote a bilingual Vacation Bible School



for their community. Greenbelt Hispanic, Seabrook and Restoration Praise Center presented this environmentally friendly program called “The Green VBS” to more than 200 children.

In this program, the children cleaned portions of their community, planted seeds, watched videos on recycling and pollution, learned songs about taking care of the animals and the Earth and brought their pets on “Meet My Pet Day.”

The program ended with the children receiving certificates on Friday

Local police speak to those attending a green themed Vacation Bible School at the Seabrook church in Lanham, Md.

and hosting a special program on the following Sabbath, allowing church members to see what the children had learned.

Melanie Plummer, one of the youth who played the steel pan on the closing day, said, “I was glad I was asked to play because the steel pan fits right into the theme of something that is recycled.” —Jeremiah Green

Potomac People is published in the Visitor by the Potomac Conference 606 Greenville Ave., Staunton, VA 24401 Phone: (540) 886-0771 ■ pcsda.org President, Bill Miller ■ Communication Director, Dan Jensen

## Following the Master’s Plan

A major goal of education is to inspire in students a lifelong love of learning. Often this takes strategies that are unique and innovative; other times it is as simple as a teacher extending a word of support. The success of students in the classroom is a direct reflection of teachers’ desiring and willing to continue be learners themselves.

As Seventh-day Adventist educators, we are called to develop students who will be a representation of Christ in both wisdom and stature. Takoma Academy’s (TA) pursuit of excellence in all aspects of the educational experience is motivated by the understanding that we reveal Christ to our students in all we do. As you read this issue of the newsletter, you will see that TA’s staff members are committed to providing this type of instruction by constantly enhancing our ability to serve our students and meet their needs.



David Daniels  
Principal

## New Strategies Strengthen Academics

Takoma Academy is taking steps this year to create a challenging learning environment for the school’s diverse student population. The school board hired Amy Soper as vice principal of academics. Soper will monitor the academic program, provide curriculum guidance for teachers and coordinate professional development activities.

An evaluation of data from the ACT and Iowa tests is helping teachers structure their courses to meet the needs of each student. One of those ways is by implementing smaller classrooms with a 20:1 student/



Faculty sit in on the school’s first of a series of training seminars designed to enhance a variety of classroom skills.

## TA by the Numbers

Freshmen: 55 Juniors: 56  
Sophomores: 55 Seniors: 54



Students meet for assembly each day.

teacher ratio. This allows teachers to provide individualized assistance.

With the help of a grant provided by the Commonwealth Foundation, TA established the Skillful Teacher seminars, which will provide professional development opportunities throughout the school year.

“The seminars will focus on helping teachers discover new strategies to enhance their current teaching repertoire in areas like curriculum planning, motivation, instructional strategies and management techniques,” Soper explains.

Linda Natale, an educational consultant with Teach for Learning, will lead the seminars. She is a former director of curriculum training and development for Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland, one of the nation’s largest and most diverse school districts.

Administrators and middle school teachers at nearby Adventist elementary schools are invited to participate in the workshop series.



## New Faculty, Staff Welcomed

**Tammie Conway**, the new work coordinator, comes to TA from next door—the Sligo Adventist School—where she served as the food service director. In her new role, she will provide students with jobs and the necessary work skills to be successful employees.



New Spanish instructor **Nora Ramos** is no stranger to the Takoma Park area. She is the parent of two Takoma Academy graduates and joins the team while continuing to serve as music instructor at nearby John Nevins Andrews School.



**Jamila Silvera** will serve as the Spanish and graphic design instructor. She is an alumna of Takoma



Academy. She previously taught Spanish and art at Friendship Elementary Adventist School and Orange-

**Tim Soper** comes to Takoma Academy from Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon, Ohio, where he was chap-



lain and Bible teacher for the past seven years. He is a regional recipient of the 2008-09 Walmart Teacher of the Year award. He joins TA as the community service coordinator and Bible instructor. He has a burden to lead students to the foot of the cross so they can begin to grasp the depth of Jesus' love for them.

**Amy Soper** joins TA as the vice principal of academics. She has been an English instructor for nine



years, most recently serving at Mount Vernon Academy. She has a passion for developing and implementing teaching strategies that will impact the individual learner.

**Kathy Hecht** will serve as the Alumni Affairs coordinator. A graduate of Takoma Academy, she has been an active part of the Alumni Association.



Her son, Luke, recently graduated with the Class of 2010. She also serves as a librarian at nearby Washington Adventist University.

## Calendar

### October

- 11-12 School Closed—  
*Pastor/Teacher Conference*
- 13-14 Noon Dismissal—  
*Standardized Testing  
Grades 9-11*
- 13 Senior Portraits
- 14 Yearbook Make-up  
*Portraits, Grades 9-11*
- 15 School Closed—  
*Teacher/Student Shady Day*
- 21-22 Midterm Exams
- 22 First Quarter Ends
- 25 Board of Trustees  
*Meeting, 7 p.m.*

### November

- 1 No Regular Classes—  
*Parent Teacher Conferences*
- 1-19 Canned Food Drive
- 11-14 Potomac Conference  
*Teen Bible Retreat*
- 19 Community Service Day
- 23 Noon Dismissal
- 24-26 School Closed—  
*Thanksgiving Break*
- 25- Office Closed—  
*Dec. 16 Thanksgiving Holiday*
- 29 School Closed—  
*Teacher Test Review*

**TA Today** is published in the *Visitor* by Takoma Academy ■ 8120 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 ■ Phone: (301) 434-4700 ■ ta.edu ■ Principal and Editor, David Daniels

## Supporting Their Dreams

More than a year ago, we changed our name to Washington Adventist University (WAU), and since then have been about the business of living up to that new moniker. With seven graduate programs, a student population of over 1,200 and the construction of the Virginia Gene Rittenhouse Music Center in full swing, we all join with our president in saying “this is Washington Adventist University.”

With a spirit of accomplishment, fulfillment and success growing each day, WAU has become an institution that young people want to attend. With our emphasis on the mental, physical and, especially, the spiritual growth of each student, we are preparing all of our students for a lifetime of professional excellence and a mission that they could only have realized by attending this Seventh-day Adventist university.

However, we need your help. October 30 is designated WAU Sabbath at our churches across the union. On this important Sabbath, please designate your offerings to support our students. With your contributions, success will not be just a dream but a consistent reality for young people that choose to pursue a Christian education.

Thank you for your continued support of the university and its mission to produce graduates who bring competence and moral leadership to their communities. To find out how you can help us produce top-of-the-line, Christ-centered professionals at WAU, please contact us at (301) 891-4133 or alumni@wau.edu.



**Bruce Peifer**  
Vice President for  
Advancement, Alumni  
Relations and Athletics

## Graduate School Offers New Programs in Healthcare, Child Care

With the approval of the Maryland Higher Education Commission, WAU's School of Graduate and Professional Studies (SGPS) is now offering a new Master of Arts in Healthcare Administration. This program is the seventh in the list of graduate degrees offered at WAU, including master of arts programs in

counseling psychology, professional counseling psychology and religion; an MBA; a Master of Public Administration and a Master of Science in Nursing/Business Leadership. SGPS also offers a number of undergraduate degrees for working professionals.

The school also started full online programs this academic year, with a number of individual classes going online this month. The full online programs will include the MBA, the Master of Public Administration, the Master of Arts in Healthcare Administration and the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education. The latter will be offered at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center in California, Md.

“We are working very hard to meet the needs of professionals in the region and across the Columbia

Union,” shares Davenia Lea (right), SGPS dean. “By starting new programs and adjusting our delivery methods, we offer better opportunities for retooling and career change.”

For more information on career programs designed for working professionals, email sgps@wau.edu or call (301) 891-4092.



Washington Adventist University is now offering a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center, helping childcare providers in the region meet new state and federal requirements for advanced professional development.



## New Faculty, Staff Bring Expertise to University

**Dean Aalae, PhD**, joins WAU as an associate professor of chemistry. Aalae holds a master's in Chemistry from Western Illinois University



and earned his doctoral degree in Organic Chemistry from the University of Massachusetts where he also taught for nine years. Aalae has dedicated 19 years of his career to scientific research and now comes to WAU to contribute his research and academic experience in the classroom setting.

**Tijuana Griffin, MSN**, is an assistant professor in the Edyth T. James Department of Nursing. Griffin earned her bachelor's in nursing from Washington Adventist University in 1977. She then spent 32 years working at nearby Washington Adventist Hospital. Griffin holds a Master of



Science in Healthcare Administration from the University of Maryland University College. In 2008 she earned a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Phoenix. Griffin has taught many operating room consortiums throughout the area.

**Sean Rosendall**, a 2010 graduate of WAU, has joined the faculty as an instructor of mathematics for the Department of Computer Science, Math and Physics. He holds a bachelor's in Mathematics. Rosendall originally came to WAU to play soccer and in 2006 began teaching math for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies. In 2007 he received the Army Soldier of the Year award for the northeast region of the United States. Rosendall and his wife reside in Silver Spring, Md., where they attend the Spencerville church. This year Rosendall hopes to increase the excitement and enjoyment of math among the student body.



**Veronique Anderson, MS**, an assistant professor in the Department of Education, brings 16 years of experience as an elementary and speech/language pathology/special needs teacher. She earned a master's in Speech Language Pathology in 2000 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a bachelor's in Elementary Education/Language



Arts from Andrews University (Mich.) in 1988. As she works on her doctoral degree in Educational Leadership, Anderson hopes to share the experiences she's had and help educate the teachers of tomorrow.

**Vladmir Corea, MDiv**, joined the Enrollment Management team earlier this year. Formerly the pastor of the Highland View Academy church in Hagerstown, Md., Corea sought the opportunity to do something different in the Adventist system. He earned a Master of Divinity from Andrews University in 1987. He also holds a bachelor's in bilingual ministry from La Sierra University (Calif.). Corea and his wife, Lynne, have two daughters, Mandy and Marci, and they attend the Hagerstown FaithStep Church.



## Calendar

- October**  
 3-4 Washington Adventist University (WAU) Preview  
 16-19 Midterm Break  
 30 WAU Sabbath
- November**  
 14 Open House

The Gateway is published in the Visitor by the Washington Adventist University 7600 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 Phone: (800) 835-4212 ■ wau.edu President, Weymouth Spence Editor, Angela Abraham

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|              | Oct 8 | Oct 15 | Oct 22 | Oct 29 | Nov 5 |
|--------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Baltimore    | 6:38  | 6:28   | 6:18   | 6:09   | 6:01  |
| Cincinnati   | 7:10  | 6:59   | 6:50   | 6:41   | 6:33  |
| Cleveland    | 6:57  | 6:46   | 6:35   | 6:25   | 6:17  |
| Columbus     | 7:03  | 6:52   | 6:42   | 6:33   | 6:25  |
| Jersey City  | 6:27  | 6:16   | 6:06   | 5:56   | 5:48  |
| Norfolk      | 6:38  | 6:29   | 6:19   | 6:11   | 6:04  |
| Parkersburg  | 6:58  | 6:47   | 6:38   | 6:29   | 6:21  |
| Philadelphia | 6:32  | 6:21   | 6:11   | 6:02   | 5:54  |
| Pittsburgh   | 6:51  | 6:40   | 6:30   | 6:20   | 6:12  |
| Reading      | 6:35  | 6:24   | 6:14   | 6:04   | 5:56  |
| Richmond     | 6:43  | 6:33   | 6:23   | 6:15   | 6:07  |
| Roanoke      | 6:53  | 6:43   | 6:34   | 6:25   | 6:18  |
| Toledo       | 7:04  | 6:53   | 6:42   | 6:33   | 6:24  |
| Trenton      | 6:30  | 6:19   | 6:09   | 6:00   | 5:52  |
| Wash., D.C.  | 6:40  | 6:30   | 6:20   | 6:11   | 6:03  |

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS NEW MARKET CHURCH HOMECOMING,** will be held October 9. Former members, Shenandoah Valley Academy students and visitors are welcome. Come remember good times with old friends and hear current pastors, Shane Anderson and Buz Menhardt. Jerry Taylor returns to play for worship and an organ concert at 3 p.m. Hear of God's providence in New Market at 9:30. Join the fellowship dinner with your food or ours. People will be asking about you; come on down! Call (540) 335-8220.

**YOU CAN SURVIVE:** Jere Franklin, author of the book titled above, will present a weekend seminar October 29-31, at the Winchester (Va.) church, 1508 Valley Avenue. "Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to

take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one" (*Country Living*, pp. 9-10). Attend this seminar and learn how to prepare for the end time. For more information, call (540) 665-0527 or email frostynt@gmail.com.

**MIRACLE TEMPLE WORSHIP CENTER,** at 100 S. Rock Glen Rd., Baltimore, MD 21229, will host an Adventist Regeneration Ministries Congregational Awareness Day on Sabbath, October 9. It will begin with the usual 12-Step Recovery Sabbath School class. Speakers for the day include E.T. Stoddart, senior pastor; guest speakers, Pastor Russell Patterson and Darcel Harris. A Praise and Testimony Concert will start at 6 p.m. For additional information, visit adventistregenerationministries.org or miracletemple.net; call (240) 481-9117.

**OBITUARIES EROH, Mark,** born May 5, 1917; died May 4, 2010, in Weatherly, Pa. He was a member of the Berwick (Pa.) church. He is survived by his sisters: Agnes R. Eroh of Weatherly, Alice Stewart of Napa, Idaho, and Cleo Vaughn of South Carolina.

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 The *Visitor* provides news and information, resources for effective ministry, and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help people celebrate God's transforming grace in preparation for His return.

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**Planning for Health Failure?**

The Center for Advancing Health recently reviewed 31 national surveys conducted from 2001-2009 and found that Americans do not actively and consistently perform many of the actions directly linked to improving our health. Their report, *A Snapshot of People's Engagement in Their Health Care*, states that when it comes to managing health, people tend to be more reactive than proactive. In other words, we don't take action until illness or injury strikes or appears imminent. In one 2009 survey, 90 percent said "they would become active in improving their health if they were diagnosed with a chronic illness."



If you are thinking that this doesn't apply to you, step back and honestly answer these questions:

**1. Are you taking responsibility for your lifestyle and health?** There is a huge difference between saying you'll "try" to do something and actually doing it. There's no commitment and responsibility in the word "try." People can be "trying" to lose weight or exercise for years. In fact, the word "try" offers an easy excuse for not taking action. After "trying" one could say, "Well, at least I tried." Instead, ask yourself, "What *will I do* today that will take me one step closer to better health?"

**2. Do you follow the recommended guidelines for good health?** Be honest. Between 50 and 75 percent of those surveyed have not done *any* of the following: kept their weight down, eaten enough fruits and vegetables, and been physically active. Yet, these behaviors must be practiced most days to get health benefits.

**3. Do you treat your personal health as a priority?** Does it get the same importance that you give your business, your kid's sports games or your favorite TV program? If your health is really important, you will schedule the same consideration for yourself as you would schedule time for everything else.



Benjamin Franklin once said that failing to plan is planning to fail. If you are not consistently answering "yes" to these three questions, then you are planning for health failure. Don't put off taking action until you receive a diagnosis. Take responsibility, follow the guidelines and make your health a priority. Then, "commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed" (Prov. 16:3, NIV).

Lilly Tryon, MSN, RN, serves as wellness coaching coordinator at Adventist WholeHealth Network ([awhn.org](http://awhn.org)) in Wyomissing, Pa.



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