

# VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

AUGUST 2013 • VOLUME 118 • ISSUE 8

## Who are the “Nones”

—and how can  
we reach them?

Does your church  
have curb appeal?  
Take our quiz on p.14

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*Loren Seibold*

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*Celeste Ryan Blyden*

How brightly does your church shine in the community? Take our quiz and get valuable resources.

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# EDITOR’S CORNER

## MY HAIRDRESSER’S REQUEST

My hairdresser, a loctician, just asked me for Bible studies. Yep, somewhere between the wash, twist and dryer prep, it happened. “With my schedule, I need to do it online,” she added as a caveat. My search led me to the Voice of Prophecy, which offers the Discover Bible School lessons and much more



at vop.com. H.M.S. Richards, Sr., founded the ministry, and in 1942 shared his first national broadcast. I’m thankful for the online option to share more about our faith with people I meet, even—and especially—at the beauty salon.

## THEIR MISSION SPEAKS TO ME

The mission of Potomac Conference’s Capital Memorial church, located in Washington, D.C., is



“We exist to join hands with you to become mature followers of Christ.” Pastor Kirk “CJ” Yoon says they chose the words “become mature”



to signify their ongoing journey and growth in Christ. Their logo, he adds, “represents the four corners of the world joining hands, much like our international

membership.” What’s the story behind your church logo and mission? Post them this month and share the back story at [facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor](https://facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor).

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

Are you getting our *Visitor News Bulletin* email? It’s a free, weekly supplement to the monthly print edition, and it’s our way of keeping you in the loop. Sign up at [columbiaunion.org/emailnews](https://columbiaunion.org/emailnews).

## DO YOU KNOW A “NONE”?

Why do you think a growing number of people aren’t interested in religion? After you read our cover story, share your thoughts at [facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor](https://facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor).

—Celeste Ryan Blyden

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**MISSION STATEMENT** ■ 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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## Let it Shine!

**A** number of years ago, I was talking with the county executive for Montgomery County, the largest county in Maryland.

At the time, I owned a retail store in Takoma Park, Md., where I live, and through the course of business affairs, he had become a friend. He knew I was a Seventh-day Adventist, but several remarks he'd made caused me to wonder what he actually knew about us. I asked him how many four-year colleges there were in our county, and after careful thought, his answer came: "None." At that time, Washington Adventist University had been in existence in the county for about 90 years, but he didn't seem to remember. *How can we do a better job of "letting our light shine?"* I wondered.

During the years I ran my store, I closed each Friday one hour before sundown and was constantly asked, "Why?" Again I wondered: *Why didn't they know?*

A customer wearing a clerical collar once asked why Adventists would not join in a local parade on Saturday? *Why didn't he know?*



### IT ONLY TAKES A SPARK

To make our church beliefs clear in my hometown, I suggested to several Adventist administrative leaders that we invite community leaders to meet with local Adventists so as to "let our light shine." They agreed and some 10 years ago, I formed the Adventist Community Action Council (ACAC), which hosts a breakfast meeting each month during the school year. Our group, now about 20 strong, involves pastors, school principals, our hospital and university presidents, and leaders of our local entities who are happy to break bread with community leaders, share how we serve the community and collaborate to address local needs.

During the last decade, we've met with the mayor, police chief, city manager, city council, state senators, the state comptroller, the county executive and many other influencers. As a result, we have developed collegial relationships and helped raise awareness of our church and its value in the community. We've also answered the questions of inquiring minds, including that of a Maryland state delegate who said, "You people don't vote, right?" I wondered why this delegate didn't know where we stand, and members quickly corrected the false assumption.

While I'm thankful for the connections we have made, I now wonder how we can get more of our members and leaders across the Columbia Union and beyond to start similar groups that let our light shine! It only takes a spark.

*Erwin H. Mack, chair of the ACAC, is a former Adventist schoolteacher and principal, General Conference departmental director, business owner and civic activist. He is retired but not disinterested.*

# Newsline

TAASHI ROWE

PHOTO BY KEITH GOODMAN



## UNION TREASURER ORDAINED

Henry Fordham (standing), president of the Allegheny East Conference (AEC), anoints Seth Bardu, Columbia Union Conference treasurer, during the conference's ordination service. Bardu was one of four ordained last month at AEC's camp meeting. "We ordained Seth because he has demonstrated that he is gifted in ministry, not just in finances," said Dave Weigley, Columbia Union president. "Ordination to the gospel ministry is about winning lost people, and that is what Seth is all about."

## WGTS NAMES NEW MANAGER

Last month Washington Adventist University's WGTS 91.9 FM named Kevin Krueger, a Christian radio veteran, as their new vice president and general manager. Krueger joins the Takoma Park, Md., team after serving at Walla Walla University's KGTS/Positive Life Radio Network in Washington state, where he was the general manager



since 1988. Krueger grew KGTS from 5,000 listeners into a regional Christian radio network with more than 120,000.

WGTS staff and listeners may be familiar with Krueger, who has been the station's fundraising consultant since 2006. "It is my desire to share Christ with those who do not know Him, and to help those who do to grow in their walk with Him," he says. Krueger's appointment comes after John Konrad, longtime WGTS general manager, died unexpectedly in January.

## PUBLISHING HOUSES CONSIDER A MERGER

Administrators at the General Conference and North American Division (NAD) recently requested that the boards of Pacific Press Publishing Association (Idaho) and Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Md.,

consider a merger in the near future.

The boards of both institutions met separately in June, and each, by overwhelming majority votes, expressed agreement to consider a yet-to-be-developed merger proposal. Read more at [columbiaunion.org/publishingmerger](http://columbiaunion.org/publishingmerger).

## STATE OFFICIAL AWARDS POTOMAC MEMBER

Peter Franchot (pictured below, right), comptroller for the state of Maryland, recently presented Erwin Mack, head elder at Potomac Conference's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., with a community service award in front of two dozen local officials, church members, family members and community leaders. The comptroller presents the William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award, named after the state's former governor and comptroller, to individuals and organizations in each county and Baltimore City who best exemplify the namesake's lifelong commitment to helping people.

The award presentation took place in Langley Park, where Mack's activism has centered for the past three decades. Read more at [columbiaunion.org/mack](http://columbiaunion.org/mack).



# LET'S MOVE! DAY

Sunday, September 22, 2013



HELP US REACH OUR 2 MILLION MILE GOAL IN ONE DAY!

Register at [www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org](http://www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org) ▶▶

Whether you host a 5K run/walk, join a community event, or organize other activities, consider how your team can involve as many people as possible in physical activity. Invite your community to join your church, school, or hospital as we move together and promote a healthier lifestyle.

Find resources and information at [www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org](http://www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org)



Let's Move Day is an event of Adventists InStep for Life. It is sponsored by the North American Division Health Ministries Department in partnership with Adventist Community Services, Children's, Disabilities, Education, Family, Women's, Youth, and Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, and the Ministerial Department.

## Special Announcement

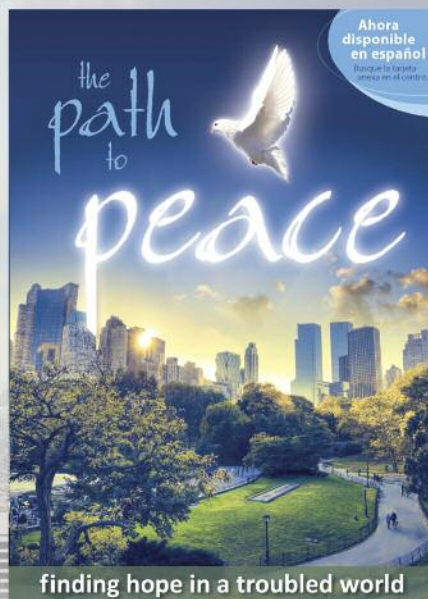
*PROJECT: Steps to Christ is offering 25 FREE copies of The Path to Peace (New York City edition of Steps to Christ) to each of the first 50 callers from qualifying counties\* in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut. Offer good for the month of August only. Shipping included!!!*

*The Path to Peace is a great way to share the heart of the Adventist Message—Jesus and His love for sinners—with the people of Greater Metro New York during NY13. Now available for mass mailing and personal distribution. Please call for pricing.*

**Call today! 1-800-728-6872**

*Please mention offer code SCNY13 when calling.*

\*Counties that make up the New York metro area: in Connecticut: Fairfield & New Haven; in New Jersey: Bergen, Burlington, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, & Warren; in New York: Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, & Westchester; in Pennsylvania: Bucks, Monroe, Northampton, & Pike.



*The Path to Peace is a 64-page full edition of Steps to Christ and includes free offers for The Great Controversy (abridged), Bible studies, health and felt need literature, plus more.*

# Noticias

TAASHI ROWE

## Mirando retrospectivamente al campestre por medio de fotos

Varias Asociaciones celebraron campestres en los meses de mayo, junio, y julio. A continuación miramos hacia atrás con fotos de estas reuniones:

**CHESAPEAKE** – Uno de los aspectos más notables del campestre hispano de Chesapeake Conference fue que ochenta y cinco se graduaron de la escuela de discipulado. Los graduados completaron dos especialidades: asistente de pastor e instrucción bíblica.



El evangelista Alejandro Bullón habla a los participantes sobre el tema: "Gozosos al compartir a Jesús".

Raúl Rivero, pastor de las iglesias Washington Spencerville y Laurel Spanish, le entrega un certificado a la graduada.



**NEW JERSEY** – El tema de la reunión del campamento fue "Nuestra misión ... Misión de Jesús"



Múltiples bautismos fueron los momentos culminantes del fin de semana del campestre en Tranquility, N.J.



FOTOS POR JIM GREENE

Yarleth Paola Gómez, una estudiante de Andrews University (Mich.) y miembro de Trenton Spanish church, dibuja un cuadro de Jesús durante el programa musical de la tarde.



El coro de New Jersey Conference canta alabanzas al Señor.

**PENNSYLVANIA** – Los participantes del campestre hispano de Pennsylvania Conference, celebrado en Blue Mountain Academy en Hamburg, se enfocaron en sembrar semillas del mensaje de Dios. Lo más destacado fue el desfile de las naciones.



*Los miembros de iglesia colombianos visten su traje típico. Este grupo representa felizmente su país de origen—Nicaragua.*

**POTOMAC** – Después de tener por muchos años su campestre en Shenandoah Valley Academy en New Market, Va., el campestre hispano de Potomac se trasladó este año a Richmond, la capital del estado. Celebrado durante el fin de semana del 4 de julio, los participantes se enfocaron en el evangelismo.

*Este grupo representa un segmento de los ciento treinta y cuatro que se graduaron de la escuela de discipulado con especialidades en las siguientes áreas: asistente del pastor, evangelista, instructor bíblico, y líder de grupo pequeño.*



*Juanes, Laura, y Josh Santos asistieron a la iglesia comunitaria brasileira en Richmond, y estuvieron entre los treinta o más asistentes de habla portuguesa en el servicio de la mañana.*



*Los que asistieron al campestre se dispersaron por Richmond el sábado de tarde para distribuir copias de El camino a Cristo.*

## Do Our Neighbors Know Us? And, How Can We Increase Our Impact?

**M**ost Americans know little to nothing about the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and what name recognition the denomination does have, has declined significantly over the past four decades. That's the conclusion Monte Sahlin, Ohio Conference's director of research and special projects, drew after some 40 years of assessing the general public's familiarity with the church.

"Five to 10 percent of Americans can tell you one true fact about Adventists. Ninety percent will tell you they don't know anything or will tell you something that isn't true," says Sahlin, quoting data from his study titled *Adventist Media Ministry, a Summary of Research*. The North American Division (NAD) commissioned the study, which they published in 2011 through the Center for Creative Ministry ([creativeministry.org](http://creativeministry.org)).

Sahlin's summary examined four national surveys that dealt with the perception of the Adventist Church: the 2003 and 1994 surveys conducted for the NAD, and the 1986 and 1970 surveys completed by the Gallup Organization, a national polling group. Sahlin says the data revealed that from the 1970s to the 1980s, there was an increase in people who said they had heard of the Adventist Church. From the 1980s to 1994, however, there was a significant drop. After that, the rate of awareness about the church remained flat.

Sahlin believes the decrease in church recognition in recent years is due to church leaders investing too much of their resources on internal activities. "We just don't give the average American reason to care



*Putting Heads Together: Pastor McKenzie Kambizi with former Ohio Rep. Dennis Kucinich*

[or to ask], 'Who are these people and what do they do?'" he says.

Sahlin thinks the church needs to update its messages and its methods to make an impact on Americans.

Ray Tetz, a member of Chesapeake Conference's Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., and president of Mind Over Media, Inc., believes a larger responsibility lies with those in the pews. He suggests that people often get information from friends and those they respect through social media sites. "It's an amazing opportunity for us to be responsive to that," he says. "I don't think there has ever been a better time to be the people of God in the neighborhoods where God has placed us."

Tetz believes that people still identify with the worldwide church because of things done locally. Even a small church can make a mighty impact when members engage their communities, he proposes. "There are 6,100 churches in North America. There should be 6,100 media centers for the gospel," Tetz says.

### WHO'S SHINING IN THE COMMUNITY?

Pastor McKenzie Kambizi, of Allegheny West Conference's Parkwood Avenue Temple in Toledo, Ohio, believes the key to becoming known in any community is expanding the scope of ministry. "I see myself as pastoring the city, not one of the local congregations," Kambizi says. But, he doesn't believe members usually think this way. "Our members are used to event evangelism, not lifestyle evangelism," he says. "I don't think we're hiding our light intentionally, but we need to find a way to empower our members to do their part of the work," he adds.

Kambizi's first real opportunity to make a local impact came the Sabbath he conveyed his vision for community ministry to his members. He asked his congregants: "Can you imagine what will happen when the church becomes a mentoring center for the community?" Unbeknownst to him, an assistant to the Toledo mayor sat in the audience. The next week the mayor's office invited Kambizi to give a dedication prayer



for one of their meetings.

The experience made Kambizi realize the impact he could have in the community, and he started building more relationships. Soon the mayor appointed him to his youth commission and board of community relations. More recently Kambizi was one of eight pastors to provide insight to several congressmen on the best ways to reintroduce ex-offenders into the community.

“We can’t create divine appointments. All we can do is keep them,” Kambizi says.

Now Kambizi’s congregants are following suit. Last year they worked alongside the Toledo police probation team to host a job fair for released felons. “If the city wants to have a program, we open the fellowship hall for free,” Kambizi says.

He thinks that passionate leaders and active members are what mobilize people. If they address whole cities as mission fields, success will breed exposure. “Let’s make our churches available to the community. We lose nothing; we gain everything,” he says.

This is the same, effective approach Erwin Mack has had in his Takoma Park, Md., community through his 10-year initiative, the Adventist Community Action Council (ACAC). The ACAC connects local Adventist churches—like Sligo, where Mack attends—schools, hospitals and other Adventist activists with local government and civic groups. Mack says that important collaborations have resulted. “We sit across the table from each other looking to see what can be done in a cordial manner,” he shares. (Read more about the ACAC on p. 3.)

Larry Boggess, president of the Mountain View Conference, took a different approach to outreach last year, when he committed to a year-long television marketing campaign. Boggess says the project came about after a local cable company offered an advertising special: 300 commercials per month that would distribute 30-second spots throughout most of the major stations.

However, a dilemma came with the opportunity. “We do not have the resources to create spots,” Boggess

admits. He decided to solicit help from the General Conference, the North American Division and Celeste Ryan Blyden, communication director for the Columbia Union Conference, to develop a positive messaging campaign.

“The aim was to make people aware of Adventists, and let them know that we are a caring community,” Boggess says. He decided to highlight the Parkersburg (W.Va.) church that runs various community health programs, as well as Parkersburg Academy.

Although statistical results of the campaign’s effectiveness are still being tabulated, they have gotten some feedback. “I talked with some people in the local business community,” Boggess says. “Those who did see it and who [know me] were very upbeat about it.”

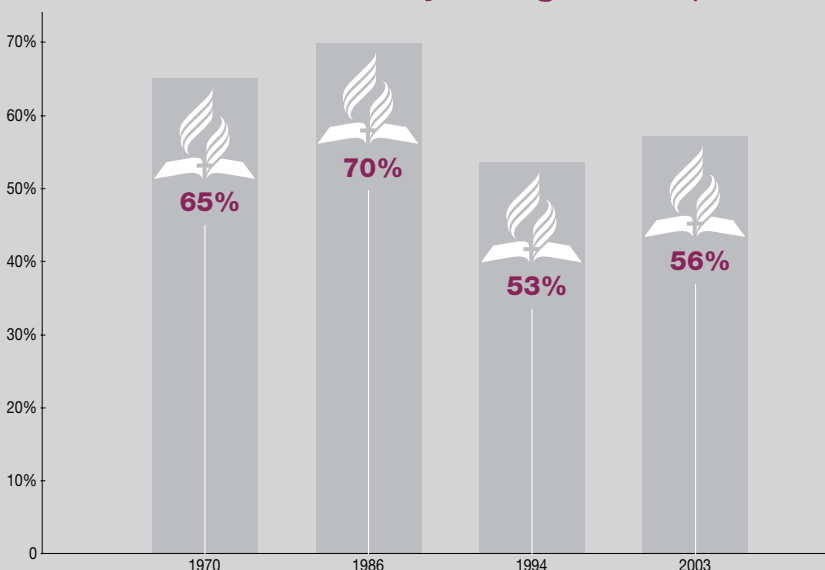
Mountain View is considering a second advertising campaign and suggests, “I [think] we need to develop, as a church, more 30-second spots so that, if more opportunities like this come, we have more resources to draw from.”

## WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

Blyden says that, while the Columbia Union is available for support and training, she encourages Adventist institutions to be vocal on important public topics and to think strategically about the messages they want to convey. “While we need to carefully and prayerfully consider our position on sensitive issues, our silence is almost deafening to our members and renders us invisible to many in the very communities we want to reach,” Blyden says.

She adds that members should never neglect an opportunity to communicate successes to hometown media. “We have plenty of news to share about our hospitals, churches, schools and ministries. We just need to share beyond our networks, beyond our circles, beyond our internal media,” she says. “When disaster strikes and we help, which we do, yes, call the *Visitor*, but please also call your local public media.”

## History of name recognition of the Adventist Church by the general public



Sources: Gallup Poll and Center for Creative Ministry

**A**ndrea is 28 years old. She's lively, fashionable and unafraid to speak her mind. She grew up in a Seventh-day Adventist family and still has generally positive feelings toward the church, though she attends only rarely. "Here's how I see it," she says. "I'm a spiritual person. I try to educate myself about spiritual things. But I just don't think you need to go to church to have a relationship with God." She reads Christian books, but admits she also enjoys studying Native American spirituality.

Her fiancé, Vince, a few years older, agrees. "I'm content where my heart is," he says.

"But don't you feel the need to be part of a structured church family like the one you grew up in?" I ask.

"It's not high on my list of priorities," he says. "As long as you're a good person, you shouldn't have to declare yourself in one denomination or another."

Pastors often hear some version of this scenario, but never more frequently than now. The number of people, especially young adults, who have little interest in organized religion and claim no church affiliation is rising. Andrea and Vince are good citizens, loyal friends, loving family members and responsible employees. They aspire to a happy, loving life together. But, church doesn't seem to them to be a necessary part of that picture.

## WHO ARE THE "NONES"?

In a 2012 study by the Pew Research Center's Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, they found an increase in the number of Americans unaffiliated with any faith community. Their research revealed that 20 percent of Americans listed their church affiliation as "none"—up from 15 percent in just five years. Even more startling: among the Millennial generation (born 1981-1994), 32 percent have no religious affiliation.

Extrapolating that trend line, Adventist sociologist Monte Sahlin, Ohio Conference's director of research and special projects, sees that "by 2020 the 'nones' may be the majority of American young adults, and by 2050 a majority of all Americans."

Many pastors say they have seen it coming. "Young adults tell me they love God and are serving Him in the real world, and they don't need to be associated with anyone or any group to do that," says Jennifer Deans, pastor of Potomac Conference's Community Praise Center-Dulles church plant that targets this demographic in Dulles, Va.

Raj Attiken, Ohio Conference president, adds that the change in attitude toward religion is reflected in the faces you'll see in most Adventist sanctuaries.

BRINGING BACK THE

Loren Seibold

# Nones

An increasing number of young Americans appear uninterested in being part of a church. How can we reach them?

“One can surmise, from the clearly evident aging of most of our congregations, that many of the young adults who are missing are likely to be ‘nones,’” he says. “The values, world views and thinking of emerging generations are being shaped by a societal and cultural context that is increasingly foreign and distant from our church culture.”

That doesn’t mean the unaffiliated are uninterested in spiritual things. Pastor Deans insists the young adults she meets “want an honest relationship with God.”

Sahlin points to a key finding of the Pew study: “Only 2 percent of the ‘nones’ are atheists, and only 3 percent are agnostics,” he notes. “Three quarters of the 20 percent are ‘spiritual but not religious.’ They believe in God and they pray, some daily, yet they do not see religion as helpful in meeting their spiritual needs.”

Rajkumar Dixit, who for the past 11 years helped pastor Chesapeake Conference’s New Hope church in Fulton, Md., explains that even though they have spiritual interests, the “nones” process religious language differently. “When you use a term like ‘true believer,’ I understand that you mean a concrete, absolute, unchangeable theology. A ‘none’ doesn’t understand

## ARE WE THE PROBLEM?

Our pluralistic culture has played a large part in shaping these attitudes, but all of the leaders I talked to felt the church (Adventists and the others who’ve presided over Christianity during the rise of the “nones”) has to shoulder some of the blame.

Christopher Thompson, a young, associate pastor at Allegheny West Conference’s Ephesus church in Columbus, is blunt: “I believe that, at the bottom of all of this, is one main issue: the church is irrelevant to people’s everyday lives. Too many are convinced that the church is determined to ignore where they really live and what’s really going on in the world.” This disconnect hit him hard when he worked in urban Pittsburgh, a place with many Christian churches but little spiritual vitality. “The church is preaching a gospel of health, wealth and happiness, but poor urban dwellers are seeing none of it,” he says.

Rubén Ramos, Multilingual Ministries director for the Columbia Union Conference, sees a parallel dynamic in Hispanic congregations. “In immigrant churches, the first generation of young adults is very close to the church,” he says. But, as the church produces second and third generations, he believes these



that. Their definition of truth is how it relates to their life. Whatever part of spirituality works for them is their truth.” He believes that denominational connection, seen by us as an asset, is to them a roadblock. “The effect of postmodernism, secularism and globalism means corporate identity isn’t very important,” Dixit adds. “They may still want the feeling of belonging, though not to a corporate brand, but to a group of people who have similar experiences.”

young people are influenced by American culture. “The immigrant churches don’t always meet the needs of their own new generations,” Ramos says. “So, disinterest in church affiliation is much the same as in American churches.”

Citing the Barna Group’s David Kinnaman, Attiken says, “New generations of Christians find the church to be overprotective, shallow, anti-science, repressive, exclusive and doubtless (no tolerance for

questions or doubt).” He adds, “Younger generations of Americans have been shaped by a culture that esteems open-mindedness, tolerance and acceptance. They have also been conditioned to be more eclectic in terms of religion and sources of authority. The Adventist Church, on the other hand, has offered a protective, predictable, staid experience to its members, with a high moralist content.”

Predictable and protective aren’t what the “nones” are looking for. What they value, says Pastor Deans, is authenticity. “The picture of the church they sometimes paint is of hypocrites who act one way when they are at church, and another the rest of the week—which isn’t necessarily true, but perception is 90 percent of reality,” she notes.

Perhaps that’s why the “nones” are more attracted to what Pastor Dixit calls “the bare product,” which is “following Jesus, not the denominational experience, culture or brand.”

## TURNING IT AROUND

How can we bring them back? It may not be easy, warns Sahlin. According to the Pew study, “Only 10 percent of ‘nones’ are looking for a religion that meets their needs; 88 percent aren’t. The nine out of 10 who are not looking have lost all interest in the possibility that religion might be helpful.”

What these new generations want isn’t church as usual, or they’d already be worshipping with us. Deans thinks “young adults have little tolerance for tradition for tradition’s sake,” she says.

“They are in search of the journey, not dogma,” observes Dixit.

How comfortable can we make them, then, in a faith community that guards our orthodoxy so carefully? Attiken suggests that, for this group, churches will need to create “spaces where young adults can safely explore their questions, doubts and concerns,” where no conversation is off limits; where believers listen as well as teach. Because churches are by nature inertial organizations that struggle with change, that will be difficult for some congregations. Adventists are accustomed to asserting certainty and defending the truth, not to discussing doubts and uncertainties—much less hearing truths they hold precious be regarded as irrelevant.

Ramos believes securing their interest in the church starts before children reach young adulthood. “Immigrant parents have such a financial struggle when they come here that they may neglect some of those early spiritual lessons, like prayer, Bible study and church participation,” he says. “The children are influenced more by school than by their family and the church.” Ramos feels it’s about setting priorities in the new cultural setting. “Hebrews says that ‘Noah built an ark to save his family.’ But, we sometimes work ourselves to death to buy things for our family rather than building religious values in them,” he proposes.

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

It should come as no surprise to those of us who have studied Jesus’ example that relationships are key to reaching the “nones.” Deans says, “The young adults who stay connected with a church are the ones who have been given a true voice and role to play. They’ve been able to form peer relationships as well as intergenerational relationships and feel that church is an extension of their family,” she adds.

Attiken agrees that churches would do well to make “opportunities for youth and young adults to build and maintain meaningful relationships with adult spiritual mentors who are able to influence their spiritual formation in positive, wholesome ways.”

Participation is the key factor in immigrant churches too. “If the young people don’t participate, if they don’t feel ownership, then they don’t care,” says Ramos.

Therezinha Barbalho, pastor of Potomac’s Richmond Brazilian Community church in Richmond, Va., attempts to “provide activities that can compete



with the activities of the world. That's practically impossible," she admits, but with tremendous effort she's organized a vigorous program of social activities—sports, ice-skating, paintball—to secure strong bonds of friendship in the congregation. "When they're connected in social activities, they're more open for the spiritual ones," she says.

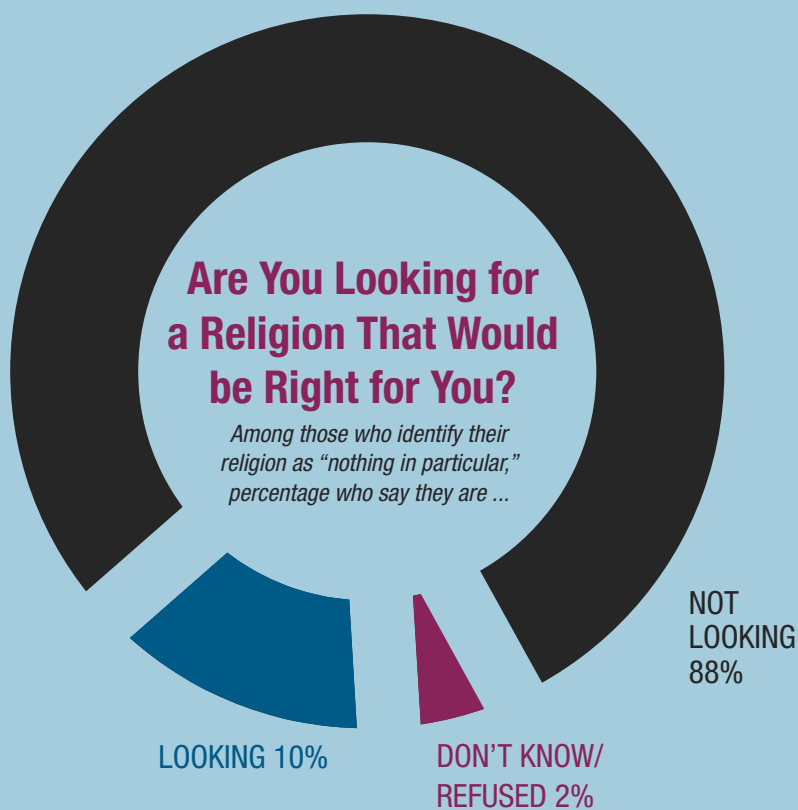
Some in the church have assumed that involvement means congregational leadership, such as sitting on a church board or being an elder. Others have suggested seating our young adults on denominational committees, such as a conference or union committee. These are important functions, but not necessarily where one experiences the church at its most rewarding and functional. While it may be necessary, church leadership is also the realm of power struggles, money problems, occasional harsh discussions and hours spent on mundane organizational maintenance—hardly encouraging to the skittish young person. Because they're not as interested in the church as a "brand," young adults value meaningful service more than keeping the machinery of the church running.

I once sat by a "none" on a flight who told me (upon learning that I am a pastor) that she had no interest in church. But, she did believe in God, and as we talked, she admitted that if she found a church that was doing serious work to lift up her community, she'd want to take her children to participate in that. She wanted the experience of happy, meaningful involvement without a lot of religion.

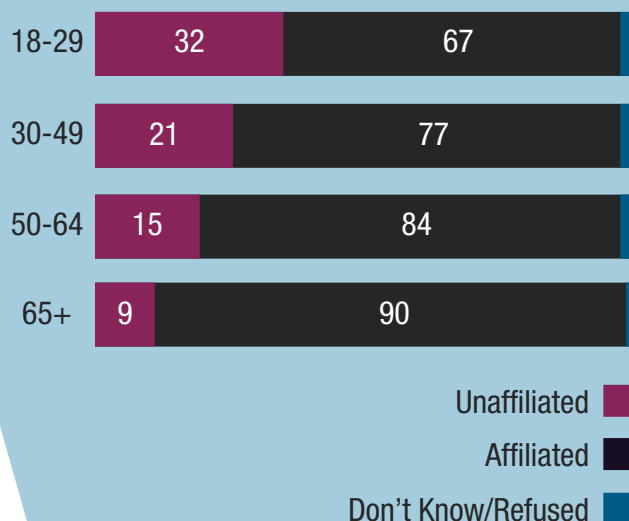
"The world is becoming increasingly secular," says Sahlin. "We can't continue to operate on the assumption that, if we give them Bible studies from a King James Version, people will get it. Yet, we can't give up trying to reach them either, if we're to be faithful to the gospel commission."

That leaves a challenge for us that we'll only be able to meet with prayer, creativity and dependence upon God's promises.

*Loren Seibold is a pastor in the Ohio Conference.*



### Religious Affiliation by Age



Source: Data from Pew Research Center, "Nones' on the Rise," © 2012, [pewforum.org/unaffiliated/nones-on-the-rise.aspx](http://pewforum.org/unaffiliated/nones-on-the-rise.aspx)

## Quiz

# DOES YOUR CHURCH HAVE CURB APPEAL?

Celeste Ryan Blyden

*How brightly does your church shine in the community? Can your neighbors “put a face” with our church name? Check each statement that applies to your congregation, and identify what areas still need work:*

We answer the phone using our full name—“Seventh-day Adventist Church,” not “SDA”—so callers know which denomination they’ve contacted.

We use the official church logo on all print and electronic letterhead.

Our signage—featuring the newest church logo—is placed in a well-lit, easy-to-see location.

We provide brochures and other publications about the Adventist church in the lobby.

Our website is seeker-friendly: it’s easy to navigate and shares our mission, program information, directions and contact details.

We use social media sites (e.g., Facebook and Twitter) to engage friends and visitors.

We know our community officials and public servants and they know us. They’ve been invited to our church or school functions, holiday programs and potlucks.

We invite neighbors to community events and support other events with sponsorships or our attendance.

We maintain contact with public media and often send them event notifications and story ideas.



## GET MORE

*So how did you do? Need more ideas and details? Try these resources:*

**Going Public: 10 Ways to Raise Awareness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Your Community** - Download it free in English or Spanish at [columbiaunion.org/communicationresources](http://columbiaunion.org/communicationresources) or watch the corresponding webinar, “Is Your Church Hiding?” at [webinars.adventsource.org](http://webinars.adventsource.org). Published by Columbia Union Conference Communication Services.

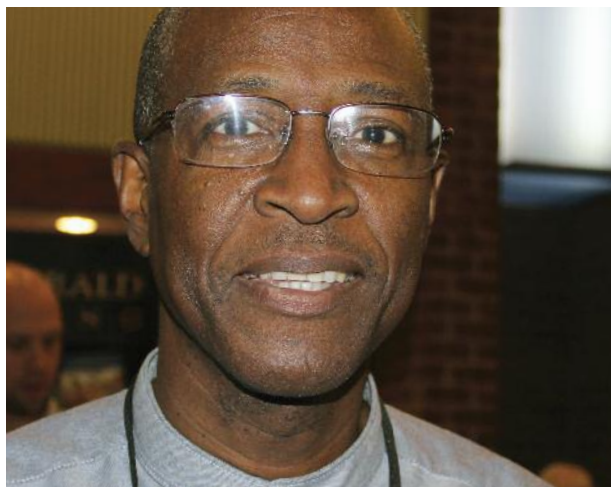
**Curb Appeal** - This 24-page booklet, with an accompanying PowerPoint presentation on CD, helps churches send warm verbal and nonverbal messages to visitors. Order the booklet at [adventsource.org](http://adventsource.org) and refer to #250070. The CD (#250076) also comes with PDF booklets in English and Spanish. Published by AdventSource.

## Community Church Pastor Releases Book

**R**ichard P. Campbell, pastor of the Community Church in Englewood, N.J., recently wrote the book *The Strength of Male Tears*. Campbell, whose ministry spans three decades and who holds a master's in community counseling and a post-graduate advanced counseling certificate, talks about the book:

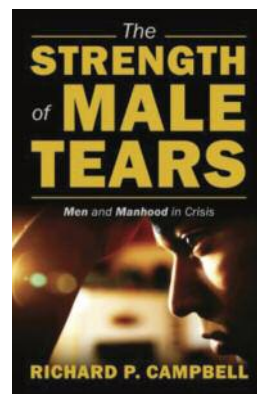
**Q: What motivated you to write the book?**

**A:** I had met too many men—including upright, Christian men—who had extreme difficulty sharing their deep pains and needs, and would rather die than be thought of as weak. During the course of preparing the manuscript, many situations occurred that made me think this book was needed as of yesterday. For example, a man lost his dear wife of many years, and when I visited him, uppermost in his mind was his fear that he would fall apart at the funeral, and that people would think he was *not a man*—for crying. Somebody had to write this book.



**Q: What can women in general gain from this book?**

**A:** Ladies could become more aware of what they may be doing or saying to reinforce faulty stereotypes of what a real man should be or do; for both men and women tell their boys that “big boys don’t cry.” The irony here is that to shape him into a *man*, you proceed to make him emotionally dysfunctional. If indeed both males and females need to review their beliefs and perceptions on the matter of manhood, this book could hopefully be a worthwhile stop.



**Q: Is there a biblical model of manhood?**

**A:** Manhood is linked with family priesthood, responsibility, sacrifice and respect for women. But biblical manhood is equally about owning up to one’s hurts, needs, failures and fears. True manhood recognizes the need for the support of man and help of God. Real men in the Bible had frailties. Daniel had grave fears and anxieties and experienced his share of uncertainty; hence, he prayed and fasted his way through his season of confusion. Elijah experienced fear, doubt and depression, and David, as we see in the Psalms, often opened up about his distresses, fears and despondency. We could talk about Jesus’ expressed need for human support and divine rescue at Gethsemane. True biblical manhood is therefore synonymous with asking and receiving, not pretending that you could “take care of business” on your own.

The book is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

## Jerusalem French Members Called to Unity

**M**embers of the Jerusalem French church in Philadelphia recently celebrated Haitian Flag Day with a special program to celebrate Haitian culture and to challenge Haitians to live up to their country’s motto: Strength in Unity! (“L’Union Fait la Force!”). The day also memorialized May 18, 1803, the day the country’s first flag was adopted as the memorial of liberty.

Leslie Moise, PhD, former pastor of the Jerusalem church, preached a sermon around the theme “Our Heritage, Our Calling: Strength in Unity.” Moise summoned the church to unity as a people and unity in the body of Christ so they can carry the gospel of grace to the whole world. The day also included a roundtable discussion, Haitian foods and Haitian movies.—*Sam Belony*

## First Church's Pastor Completes PhD

**M**ark A. McCleary, pastor of the First church in Washington, D.C., recently crossed the stage at the Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Fla., to collect his doctorate in conflict analysis and resolution. The title of his dissertation is "A Conflict Resolution Manual to Resolve Intra-Church Social Conflict: A Pastor's Auto-Ethnographic Journey."

McCleary said he became interested in the topic of conflict resolution when he pursued and earned his first doctoral degree—a Doctor of Ministry in congregational renewal from the Palmer Theological Seminary in Winwood, Pa. While there he did a project that climaxed in applying interventions to some real-life conflicts in the church.

"Church members provided a laboratory of social interaction that validated the theory that Christian congregants profess the Bible, but do not practice its conflict resolution-like model of Matthew 18:15-20 because they prioritize spiritual doctrines over social interaction guidelines," he said. "I wanted to become academically grounded so I might become a better practitioner and train congregants how to resolve their social conflicts."

McCleary said while he has an idea for another degree, he is going to take a break. He is however grateful to his congregants. "They supported me, encouraged me and confirmed my topic," he said. "During my studies, my congregation completed a major capital project, grew numerically and continued to provide ministry impact to our community."—*Rhonda M. Covington*



## Capernaum Church Fulfills Community Needs

**D**ue to its active community outreach programs, the Capernaum church in Suffolk, Va., is very visible and well known in the community. Keith Charles leads the community services team of nine members, including Pastor Rudyard Lord.

Twice weekly, Wednesdays and Fridays, team members distribute food to persons of all ages, races, religions and economic backgrounds. Also on Wednesdays, an hour prior to distribution of the food supplies, Capernaum members lead an informal health class for interested individuals. Approximately 98 percent of the persons taking advantage of the food distribution also participate in the health class. An attendee to a recent class happened to be a member of the local board of education, and was so impressed by the health teachings and positive health demonstrated, that she asked Charles to join the Diabetic Association of Suffolk to help fight the diabetic disparity and reverse the effects of the disease in the Suffolk area.

As he worked with the association, Charles saw an opportunity to expand the church's outreach and immediately started a six-week class on diabetes. With a mix of medical and spiritual concepts, the class grew to 30 students. Most saw dramatic improvements in their diabetes management. Some were taken off medication and placed on diet control. Others had their medications reduced. Students were reminded that they can do all things through Christ and that their bodies are to

be God's temple. Two of the graduates are studying to be baptized.

Community services members are now leading a new class of 15 adults at a local hospital.

## Women's Ministries Retreat

**"Our Gifts for the Master"**

**October 18-20**

*Princess Royale Hotel  
9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842*

**Speakers:** Vivian Martin, Gina Brown, Joan Cummings, Wilhelmina Edwards, Judy Dent, Beverly Vaughn and Mark McCleary

Registration fee: \$225, includes three vegan/vegetarian meals on Sabbath and a Sunday brunch

**Registration deadline: September 16**

*Register by calling AdventSource at (800) 732-7587.  
Call (410) 524-7777 to reserve a hotel room.*



## 2,000 Celebrate Faith, Fellowship at Camp Meeting

More than 2,000 members and guests gathered at Allegheny West Conference's campgrounds in Thornville, Ohio, for a camp meeting weekend full of faith, fellowship and fun. The meeting theme this year echoed the conference's theme "We are FAMILY," an acronym for faith, acceptance, mission, integrity, love and you.

The children went on an adventure with the apostle Paul as he preached throughout the biblical cities. The youth were led and challenged to have radical faith. At the adult pavilion, guest speaker Leslie Pollard, PhD, president of Oakwood University (Ala.), preached from Mark 10:45-52 about "Reservations for a Miracle."

After rest and relaxation, everyone gathered Sabbath afternoon to hear William T. Cox, conference president, give his vision for the conference. What followed was an ordination service for pastors Nathaniel Lyles and Christopher Thompson, with a challenge from Dana Edmond, president of the South Central Conference. After Sabbath sunset, everyone gathered for a fireworks show and ice cream. Here are some photo highlights from the three days:



1. The Korean youth ensemble offers special music for the ordination ceremony. 2. Steven Valles, pastor of the Park Street church in Oberlin, Ohio, and the Twinsburg (Ohio) company, challenges youth to take their stand for Christ. 3. Rodney Sims, from the Southeast church in Cleveland, "stands guard" as conference and visiting children enjoy learning the gospel. 4. Conference and pastoral leaders lay their hands on pastors Nathaniel Lyles and Christopher Thompson for their ordination prayer. 5. Leslie Pollard makes his message personable to attendees. 6. The choir from Ethan Temple in Clayton, Ohio, offers exuberant praise for the divine service.



## Celebrity Chef Demo Informs Dale Wright Members

Members of the Dale Wright Memorial (DWM) church in Germantown, Ohio, say they were blessed to have celebrity chef Mark Anthony for a recent visit. His cooking demonstration showed them how to improve their health and increase their ability to cook delicious, vegan meals, a goal they have worked on for the past year.

Anthony is a culinary specialist who has done cooking shows in every continental state in the country, and in 2010 headlined more than 240 events. He has received spotlight coverage in dozens of newspapers and magazines, published four books and does cooking programs on 3ABN.

“The Mark Anthony vegan cooking demonstration was a tasty, culinary delight with a superb health and spiritual message!” said member Ed White.



Member Brooke Simons added, “I thought it would be more expensive to eat healthier. I’m excited to know that it doesn’t have to ‘break the bank’ or take all of my energy to prepare a healthy meal for my family.”

DWM members have already booked Chef Anthony for next summer. They also hope that other local congregations will join them in making available his demonstration to the community. DWM members hope that addressing the community’s health will be an entering wedge for sharing Christ with them.—*Krista Mainess*



## Southeast Music Groups Add Worship to Service Efforts

It wasn’t unusual for residents of Ward 1 and surrounding communities in Cleveland to begin assembling at the Southeast church on a recent Sunday. As a matter of fact, locals gather at the church the third Sunday of every month to receive food baskets. However, this time instead of viewing a recorded sermon, watching a workshop (like the one the church showed about lead paint poisoning) or praying with a church member, Southeast’s music ministry teams gifted residents with an uplifting song service.

Under the leadership of Melissa Strickland, Southeast’s music coordinator, the church’s choir, Divine Worship (pictured), and dance ministry, called Selah, presented a praise and worship concert to more than 100 families that day. Each group chose songs fittingly selected to encourage and uplift the attendees, who responded positively, expressing how the songs touched their hearts and blessed their souls. Following the program, music team members stayed to help serve the families.

“Our music ministry’s mission is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through outreach, in harmony with our church’s motto “FLOW,” which stands for Fellowship, Learning, Outreach and Worship,” states Strickland. “We’ve implemented a robust outreach plan for 2013, which includes ministering to the sick and shut-in and visiting community hospitals, nursing homes, and juvenile and detention centers. Our community praise and worship concert turned out to be an innovative and creative way to minister to the community, right inside the church.”



# THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

AUGUST 2013

## Back to School!

If there are young people in your home, then it's time to shop for the paper, pencils, glue and clothes needed for the upcoming school year. But, before you head to the store, let me share a few ideas about education with you.

Investing in an education pays great dividends throughout your life. Recent news stories have debated the issue, but according to U.S. Census Bureau data, the average yearly income for someone with no high school diploma is \$20,873. With a diploma it jumps to \$28,684. With a bachelor's degree it nearly doubles to \$51,554, then soars to \$82,320 with an advanced degree. Clearly, it is a good financial investment. But, money isn't everything.

While a quality education with strong academics can prepare a person for a rewarding career in this life, a personal relationship with Jesus Christ has eternal value. Thankfully, our Seventh-day Adventist schools are designed to introduce young people to Jesus.

Some people believe they have to make a choice between strong academics in the public schools or a spiritual, Bible-based emphasis in an Adventist school. However, studies of test scores have shown that students in Adventist schools score above average in comparison to norms. Our students can have a demonstrated high-quality education with a strong spiritual emphasis.

Finally, while some of you reading this are past school age, let me encourage you to be a lifelong learner. Mental activity can help to delay the deterioration of our minds. You can start with a deepening study of God's Word. Then expand to enjoy learning about advances in science and technology. Going back to school is a good idea for all of us!



**Rick Remmers**  
President

## Baltimore Area Congregations Celebrate Heritage

On a recent Sabbath, the Pikesville and Reisterstown Spanish groups joined the Pikesville (English) congregation for their annual international day. The worship service began with a parade of nations, with representatives of some 25 islands and nations. Participants, garbed in the costume of their native countries, carried the flags of their homeland.

One visitor commented, "The parade of nations made me realize that the advent message is reaching

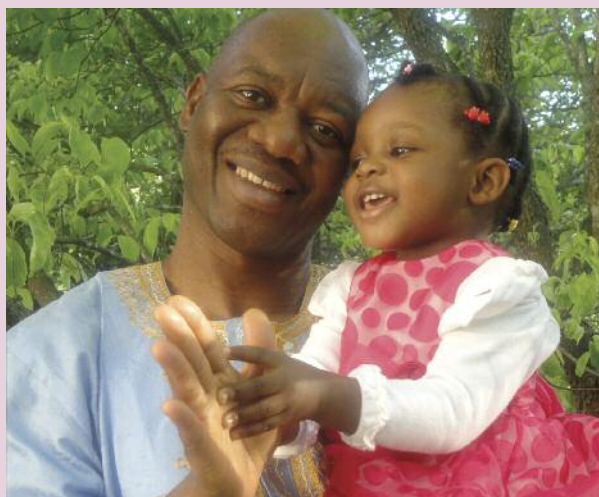


PHOTO BY JOHNETTA FLOWO

John Flomo of the Pikesville International church and his daughter Johanna represent Liberia during the celebration.

PHOTO BY MARLON MING



Speaking to the group, Panayotis Coutsoumpos, pastor of the Reisterstown and Pikesville Spanish groups, says "revival and reformation" begins in the heart of each individual.

far and wide—even [in] countries that I had no idea existed. Praise God!"

Highlights of the festive occasion included a fellowship luncheon showcasing a variety of ethnic foods, an afternoon Bible study, a vespers program and an evening social featuring games originating in other countries.—Shonoi Ming

## Chestertown Dedicates Newly Renovated Church

More than a year after an early morning fire gutted the Chestertown (Md.) church building, members and supporters recently gathered to dedicate the renovated facility to the Lord.

Following a special worship service and potluck luncheon, an afternoon program featured a concert and special recognition of the many local fire companies that responded to the fire. The event culminated with an outdoor ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Fire investigators believe the fire that destroyed the sanctuary on February 21, 2012, originated in the electric organ.



PHOTO BY SAMANTHA YOUNG

Kevin McDaniel, Chestertown pastor, introduces Helena Cress to the congregation. Cress is the first to be baptized in the new sanctuary.

In his opening remarks, conference president Rick Remmers said, “One of the blessings of the insurance coverage is that, not only is there restoration of what was burned, but there were also code upgrades to the building.” The new building codes brought the facility into Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, making it possible for the church to obtain city approval to operate a school. “Before we knew there was a need, the Lord understood,” Remmers added.

## EDUCATION NEWS

### Meet the New Superintendent of Schools

The Chesapeake Conference Executive Committee recently elected Jacqueline Messenger, MA, superintendent of education. She succeeds Carole Smith, who retired at the end of June.

“I will continue to walk hand in hand with God, asking for His guidance,” says Messenger. “As a leader, mentor and supporter, I look forward to working with our educators and school boards—all of our stakeholders—to build and strengthen Adventist Christian education here in Chesapeake Conference.”



Messenger has been the conference associate superintendent since 2005. She is an active strategic planner for conference education initiatives, chairs the conference curriculum committee, manages school evaluations and recently served on the building committee for the new Spencerville Adventist Academy campus that opened in Spencerville, Md., in 2011.

“Jacqueline’s experience and enthusiasm will be an asset to our schools as they build Christ-centered programs of excellence,” says Rick Remmers, conference president.

### New Schools Open on Eastern Shore

Chester River Adventist School is a new K-8 school opening this month in the newly renovated church in Chestertown, Md. For admissions information, call Barbara Goyne at (410) 778-1247.

Gateway Christian Academy, operated by the Park church in Salisbury, Md., reopens for the 2013-14 school year. One of the conference’s oldest schools, it closed seven years ago due to low enrollment. With a number of students already enrolled, school staff look forward to a successful year. For details, contact Dennis Handel at (410) 603-0274.

The Dover First church (Del.) is in the permitting process for building a four-classroom school adjacent to the church. The church hopes to break ground next month and open a pre-K to 8 school in August 2014.

## Welcome Back, Students

A new school year is about to begin, and with it comes varying emotions. For those returning, maybe you feel joyful at being one more rung up the freshman to senior ladder, or perhaps you feel happy about being able to renew old friendships. Possibly, you are anticipating being in a particular class that you've long looked forward to taking.

For those just beginning at Highland View Academy (HVA), maybe you are wondering things like: "What will it be like in a 'new' school?"; "Will I make friends easily?"; "Will people like me?"; or "I hear that the classes are tough; will I be able to pass them?" Many unknowns may have you feeling anxious, but let me reassure you of three things:

1. At HVA, although the teachers won't "give grades away," they will work hard along with you to help you succeed.
2. Students, by far, are friendlier and more accepting toward others than you might expect.
3. Most importantly, at HVA, a relationship with Jesus—the Rock of our salvation—is the number-one priority!

So, whether you're new or returning, welcome to your school, where only Jesus matters more than you do. We call it the JOY effect: Jesus, others, you!



**LeRoy Snider**  
Principal

## NEWS



### Senior Learns Compassion Thru Summer LE Program

Senior Victor Maldonado (pictured) is working in HVA's literature evangelism program this summer. Here he shares some of his "canvassing" experiences—positive and challenging:

It's been an excellent experience, and I have so many new friends. My worst experience was being rejected, not only as a Christian, but also as a person, especially because of my culture. Some people curse at you, without even knowing you. But, the worst part is that they're not rejecting you; it's God's message they're rejecting. It took me quite awhile to realize this, even though during canvass training they explain to you about how we need to love these people and to not take it personal. It is an experience of spiritual, mental and physical enrichment. I needed to realize it is not only about selling books, but [also about] allowing God to do His will in us and through us.

One day I went to this lady's house. She wanted to buy the books I was selling, but she did not have any money to do so. I perceived by her facial expression

that she was worried. Then, it came to my mind that she probably needed that Somebody everyone needs, and the Lord impressed me to ask her, "Do you want me to pray with you?" She was astonished. I didn't know why, but I'm sure that nobody had offered to pray for her situation. When I was done praying, I could see that her face had relaxed and she looked calm. It reminded me of when Jesus calmed the storm. I know my Redeemer lives, and we can count on Him.

### Alumna Accepted Into Harvard Summer Internship

HVA alumna Kylynda Bauer (pictured), from the Class of 2009, was accepted as a summer research intern at the FAS Center for Systems Biology at the Harvard Medical School in Boston. During the 10-week program, Bauer will work in the Peter Turnbaugh project characterizing microbial flora within the human digestive track using flow cytometry, which measures levels of fluorescence.

"I am very excited for the opportunity to become more involved in microbial research," Bauer says.

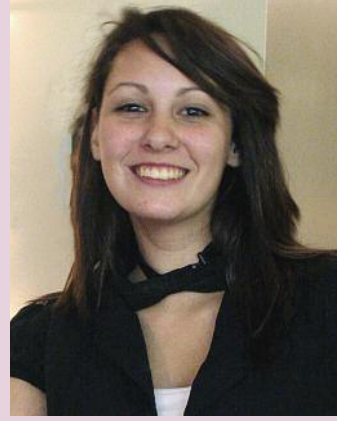


## Newest Alumni Share Summer Experiences



My summer is pretty busy right now! After graduation at HVA, I went to New York City with my family to tour for four days, and it was great! I came back to Korea in June, and three days after arriving, I started working at my mom's office as her assistant—she is an English teacher. I'm teaching 7 year olds

and first- to third-graders, mainly speaking and reading comprehension. It seems weird that I'm teaching English since I'm not American, but it's an awesome part-time job! I'm also really busy getting ready for Andrews University [Mich.], and I'm very excited to go back to America and study in college!  
—Anna Kim



Since graduating from HVA, I have been very busy. I took a week to rest and settle in at home before returning to campus to work at the Adventist Book Center for Chesapeake Conference Camp Meeting. At the end of the week, I said my final goodbye to HVA, to a job I loved and friends in the area.

Currently I am an office assistant in the communication department at Washington Adventist University [in Takoma Park, Md.]. I am really enjoying the new responsibilities. I will be attending WAU in the fall and am [considering] majors in social work, religion or business. I am excited to be starting my college education. Thanks, HVA, for the great start!—Molly Gavin

## First Person: "I Made the Recruiting Team!"

One by one, students walked into the principal's office, where interviews for the potential recruiting team were being held. We said a quick prayer, held our breath and tried to hide the goose bumps. After what seemed to be an eternity of questioning, we were released with the [school staff members] telling us that those who made the cut would be listed later in the

week. Then the day came. I slowly walked up to the bulletin board and read down the list: Ethan Fishell, Courtney Tooley, Elyssa Harrison, Drew Baker and Alyssa Royster. I immediately texted my mom: "I made it!" with a million smiley faces following.

From that moment on, everything seemed to happen in a blur. The schedule was sent out telling us that our first order of business would be the Chesapeake Conference Camp Meeting. Our job as the recruiting team would be to lead out as the praise team in the afternoon youth worship service. After picking out some songs and practicing, we found that we formed a perfect little band.

As HVA's recruiting team travels to and fro, we ask that you keep us in your prayers. Not only are we recruiting potential students to our school, but, more importantly, we are also recruiting people to God's kingdom. Pray that we will be a light shining for Him.  
—Alyssa Royster



HVA's 2013 recruiting team, led by Renee Williams (far left), enjoys some down time between outings.

# MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

AUGUST 2013

## Campers Focus on “Knowing Him”

Attendees at Mountain View Conference’s camp meeting at the Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va., focused on fulfilling the theme “Knowing Him and Making Him Known.” Here are a few photos from the nine-day gathering:



PHOTOS BY DANIEL MORIKONE

1. The Pathfinder color guard opens the 2013 camp meeting by posting the colors at the main auditorium.

2. Ana Howard, a member of the East Pea Ridge (W.Va.) church, participates in the annual Sunday blood draw.

3. Ken Cox, who spoke opening weekend and each evening during the week, shared simply but passionately about our need of a Savior.

4. Katherine McCormick, a member of the Charleston (W.Va.) church, stocks up at the Sunday book sale.

5. Rebekah Jones, from the Glenville (W.Va.) church, coasts down the 400-foot water slide.

6. Rodney Luttrell (right), Spencer (W.Va.) church head elder, shares with Larry Boggess, Mountain View Conference president, how church members are supporting the REACH Appalachia initiative.

7. Jamie and Elfie Edwards, members of the Elkins (W.Va.) church, show their love of camp meeting through their happy smiles.

## ACS Volunteers Provide Flood Relief

Over a three-day period, members of the conference's Adventist Community Services (ACS) Disaster Response (DR) team helped 458 people in the Spencer, W.Va., area in June.

"Inside some homes was anywhere from 2 to 4 feet of water. Basements were totally flooded; there were also ambulances, vehicles and bridges under water. Over 200 homes were affected by this flood," reported Cesar Quispe, a Mountain View Conference pastor and the conference's ACS director.

The flooding happened Thursday, June 13, and Quispe was there by Friday evening pitching in and helping with cleanup, food distribution, providing shelter and reinstalling ruined drywall and floors.

Initially, 10 people from the ACS team came and helped for several days. Members of several other local church ministries pitched in to help. Among them was Glen Pate, a member of the Spencer church and manager of its Roane County Better Living Center thrift store. "He has been committed from day one," Quispe says. "Another group of workers consisted of eight students and staff from the Miracle Meadows School [a self-supporting Adventist school in Salem, W.Va.], who came for two days and put in long hours doing a wonderful job with cleanup."

The ACS volunteers also worked with businesses, such as the Dollar General, Lowes and Wal-Mart, to obtain cleaning supplies. As members of Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), ACS team members also worked hand in hand with volunteers from other denominations in the area to support flood victims. Jenny Gannaway, the state chair representative and a member of the National VOAD, explains, "Our organization helps bring together nonprofit organizations to help people with shelter, cleaning supplies, anything needed in helping with the effects of the disaster,



Students from Miracle Meadows School in Salem, W.Va., were among the first to help with flood cleanup.

putting families into homes and mucking out homes. On behalf of the state of West Virginia and VOAD, I would like to say that the Adventist Community Services has done a phenomenal job, and we couldn't have done it without their help. We appreciate so much the services they offered."

Quispe says, "Even though short-term efforts were completed in one week, there remains an ongoing long-term recovery team to help rebuild homes."

—Sue Patterson



MOUNTAIN VIEW  
CONFERENCE

**SINGLES' RETREAT**

**Oct. 4-6, 2013**

VALLEY VISTA ADVENTIST CENTER, HUTTONSVILLE, WV

**Guest speaker – Michelle Chin**

*(Former college professor who currently works as a policy advisor for a U.S. Senator. Michelle graduated from Andrews University and Texas A&M University. She is a member of the Capital Memorial Adventist Church in Washington D.C.)*

PLEASE CALL MOUNTAIN VIEW CONFERENCE FOR MORE DETAILS 304.422.4581.



# SPIRIT

MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

AUGUST 2013

## Confidence!

Confidence is not found in the attitude of arrogance. It is not self-made boastfulness, prideful banter or bigoted self exultation. Confidence is found in the harmony of the soul in community with self and others, and the heart of the Divine. It is the quiet recognition that “I” is not the axis of the world—not all things revolve around me!

Confidence is a gift. It comes from the heart of God to every person. His will is that you know and understand that you are the work of His hands. He has gifted you before you knew Him for the tasks of life and living. Confidence is found in living near to the heart of God.



Daniel Kittle  
Principal

## NEWS

### Literature Ministry Program Begins This Fall

This fall Mount Vernon Academy’s (MVA) students will have the opportunity to participate in a new work/ministry that allows them to earn tuition money, make a positive impact on their community and develop a closer relationship with Jesus. MVA will also provide a 25 percent matching scholarship of earnings.

Jason Williams, who for the past five years served as an associate literature ministries director for the Chesapeake Conference, will lead the Magabook Ministry. He also has experience leading literature evangelism programs in Canada. Some of Williams’ hobbies include basketball, playing guitar, singing and letting his wife, Wendy, win an occasional foot race.



throughout the school year. “Benny exemplifies a genuine attitude of service,” shared Daniel Kittle, principal. “He is the type of kid I often saw around campus helping his peers.”

### Class of 2013 Earns \$1 Million in Scholarships

The 27 members of MVA’s Class of 2013 left their alma mater behind this year with scholarships valuing \$1 million. The students received scholarships to the following Seventh-day Adventist institutions of higher learning: Kettering College (Ohio), Oakwood University (Ala.), Union College (Neb.), Andrews University (Mich.), Southern Adventist University (Tenn.) and Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md.



### Recent Graduate Receives Caring Heart Award

Benny O’Neal Alexander, who recently graduated from MVA, received the Columbia Union Conference’s Caring Heart Award. The award is given to a junior or senior with an exemplary character and is active in witnessing and service activities

# SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY<sub>.ORG</sub>

# CONNECTIONS

## INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

AUGUST 2013

### New Principal Takes the Helm

The Spring Valley Academy (SVA) family recently welcomed Darren Wilkins as the new principal. Wilkins holds a bachelor's in French and minors in history and math. He also holds a master's in curriculum and instruction and a state high school principal certification. He began his teaching career as a junior high school math and history teacher at Loma Linda Academy (Calif.). Over eight years there, he served as junior high school vice principal and then as high school vice principal.

When he left California, he returned to his alma mater, Mount Ellis Academy in Montana, where he spent 11 years as principal. Wilkins is married to Yvette and they have three sons: Monte, Torvy and Kobe. Wilkins enjoys outdoor adventure learning, languages, hiking/backpacking, kayaking, skiing, reading history, world religions and service travel.



### International Student Shares Testimony



At a high school chapel assembly, Rwei "Tony" Kao, a Taiwan native who is entering his junior year at SVA, recently shared how he became a Christian.

His story begins with being bullied back in Taiwan, so much so that his mother told him that he and his brothers (twin, David; and Yi) were going overseas to attend high school. However, because of the constant travel and adjustments involved in being international students, the boys became tired and depressed. Kao's brothers asked him for help, and, because he was clueless, he prayed. It was not long before he met Mike and Alyssa Bekowies, members of the Kettering church in Kettering, Ohio, and their children, Carly and Justin. The family took them in and the boys immediately felt at home and part of the family.

Kao shared, "I believe it is the same with our spiritual life. We all have different flight plans, but we know that our final destination will be in heaven. I believe that Jesus will be the customs officer there waiting for us. He will greet us with a smile and extend His arms to give us a hug. Then he will say softly to us, 'Welcome home!'"

### School Hosts Safety Town Hall Meeting

Scott Rackley (pictured), a criminal intelligence manager in Washington, D.C., and a U.S. Army Reserve liaison at Fort Meade, Md., recently led a school safety town hall meeting at SVA. "I am not here to protect you from violence but to prepare you for the violence that is to come," he said. During the meeting, he discussed the "what if principle," which helps individuals become more self- and security-aware. Rackley says his top priority is securing and training education staff in Seventh-day Adventist schools. He is married to Darlene, an SVA alumna from the Class of 1988 and a teacher at Spencerville Adventist Academy in Spencerville, Md.



Connections is published in the *Visitor* by the Spring Valley Academy ■ 1461 Spring Valley Pike, Centerville OH 45458  
Phone: (937) 433-0790 ■ [springvalleyacademy.org](http://springvalleyacademy.org) ■ Principal, Darren Wilkins ■ Editor, Vicki Swetnam

# NEWS NEW JERSEY

AUGUST 2013

## How We're Ministering to the 21st Century Learner

We are thrilled with the way the Lord is leading through our principals, teachers, boards, pastors, churches, parents and students in our New Jersey Conference schools. We are proud of our schools, where faith is integrated in a vigorous curriculum with an emphasis on Differentiated Instruction for the 21st century learner. Additionally, every student in our schools learns a musical instrument and is given multiple opportunities to share his or her faith and talents. Here are some of our accomplishments over the past year:

**Lake Nelson Seventh-day Adventist School (LNS)**, located in Piscataway, is adding a ninth grade this fall. Additionally, the school board is moving forward with a building expansion project, which will allow LNS to become a full-day academy in the very near future. Due to its geographical location, LNS has many church constituents, thus serving many children and young people in central New Jersey.

**Meadow View Junior Academy**, located in Chesterfield, is blessed with a development and marketing team that has contributed greatly to the current and projected growth of their school. Parents who desire an Adventist education for their children receive the needed financial assistance to make it a reality. Also, the Collingwood Park church acquired a bus, making it possible for students residing near Collingwood Park, Lakewood and West Long Branch churches to attend.



Meadow View Junior Academy students perform at the Mt. Holly church.



Two years ago, the **Tranquility Adventist School (TAS)** only had four students. They ended the last school year with 16 students. The school is well known for its practical arts program, which includes gardening. They are now revamping the program to possibly include carpentry, motor mechanics and other classes.

**Vine Haven Adventist School**, located in Vineland, is our newest school. The school is successfully serving and developing relationships with the community. Its orchestra participates regularly in community events, such as performing at the Cumberland Mall, and playing patriotic tunes aboard the school's 42-foot float in the Bridgeton Memorial Day Parade (above).

**Waldwick Adventist School**, located in Waldwick, offers Adventist education from pre-K to 10th grade, and 11th and 12th grades through Andrews University's (Mich.) Griggs program. The school equips students with skills to develop videos and articles for local cable channels. A recent marketing and development program helps the school foster relationships with the local communities and churches to ensure that every Adventist child will have the opportunity to attend Waldwick. In the last two years, 14 students have been baptized.

We invite our New Jersey Conference church families to prayerfully enroll their precious children in one of our schools.



**Sadrail Saint-Ulysse**  
Superintendent of Schools

## 1,000 Attend Family Adventure

More than 1,000 recently attended “Tell Me a Story,” the conference’s 2013 Family Adventure at Tranquil Valley Retreat Center in Tranquility. Through a variety of hands-on activities, the children were able to learn about and understand Jesus’ parables.

On Saturday evening, the children learned that they are the light of the world. Each child received a small lamp and they brightened up the packed gym by saying, “In this dark world, I will shine brightly!” Over the weekend, clubs earned points for each activity, and Sunday morning more than 30 clubs received a participation trophy. The Goldfinch Adventurer Club, from the Lake Nelson church in Piscataway, took home the first-place trophy.



## Women’s Retreat Draws Community Guests

The ladies of the New Jersey Conference recently gathered for two separate retreats at the Hamilton Park Hotel in Florham Park. The Spanish retreat, themed “Vida de Alabanza y Gratitude” (A Life of Praise and Gratitude), drew 302 attendees. Sonete Costa, keynote speaker, encouraged the women to be always grateful to the Lord despite any situation they may go through.

The English retreat, themed “United to the True Vine,” drew 161 attendees. Keynote speaker Paula Olivier, DMin, pastor of the Allegheny East Conference’s First church of Montclair in Montclair, N.J., encouraged the women to abide in God’s

compassion, protection and love.

“We had excellent speakers, inspiring music, exercise sessions, good food and fellowship,” said Amalia Aguero, the conference’s Women’s Ministries director. “The ladies who attended the retreat were thrilled and inspired!”

More than 24 visiting ladies also attended the retreats. They each received a devotional book, a Bible scripture mug and a Bible.



Gracy Martinez, a member of the First Bilingual church in Somerset, and Rocio Ramos, a member of the Paterson Temple Spanish church, pray together during the Spanish women’s retreat.



Approximately 161 women sing in unison at the English women’s retreat.



**Pastor Hiskia Missh**  
World Youth Vice-  
President



**Pastor James Black**  
NJAD Youth  
Director



**Pastor Jose Cortes**  
NJ Conference  
President

**Oct 6, 2013**  
**From 9am to 5pm**  
**@ Robbinsville**  
**SDA**  
**(2314 Highway 33**  
**Robbinsville NJ 08618 )**



**Pastor Paulo Macena**  
NJ Conference Youth  
Director



**Pastor Vandeeon Griffin**  
South Central  
Conference Youth  
Director



**Pastor Joey Pollon**  
Robbinsville SDA  
Senior Pastor



**Pastor Paula Olivier**  
First SDA of Montclair  
Senior Pastor

## Adventist Leadership Summit

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2013

Email: [njyouth@njcsda.org](mailto:njyouth@njcsda.org) Phone#: 609-802-0873

## Family's Estates Boost the Eastwood Church, School

Lossing a loved one is never easy, especially when the loss is compounded with stressors like greed, grief and misunderstandings between the family members left behind. Death can easily tear a family apart. Thanks to estate planning by the Ohio Conference, this did not happen to Diana White's family, and now the Columbus Eastwood church, where she attends, is more financially secure.

White is no stranger to estate planning. When her parents, Joe and Grace Ballard (pictured), were no longer able to care for their home, they sold it. Wanting security, they invested this money in an annuity. Between their pension and annuity payments, their retirement was secure, even after Joe passed and Grace was placed in a nursing home.



"If not for estate planning, little would have been left to cover the nursing home expenses. It also allowed them to specify how they wanted to help further God's work in Ohio," explains Harry Straub, the conference's planned giving director.

Prior to Joe's death, he often spoke to his brother, Charles, about returning to the church. The men and their other brother, Francis, were raised at the Eastwood church, but Charles started attending a Sunday church in the '60s. Francis also invited Charles back to church and to study. Soon after



Joe Ballard (second from the left), Charles Ballard (third from left) and Francis Ballard (far right) with their parents and other siblings, left estates that have greatly benefited the Eastwood church and school.



Melvin Hatch, the Eastwood Junior Academy board chair and an Ohio Conference finance committee member, and Larry Grahn, retired Eastwood pastor, burn the church's mortgage during the divine service.

Joe's death, Charles did finally recommit his life to Christ and was rebaptized into the Adventist Church.

After his conversion, Charles felt led to reconsider his estate. He originally intended to leave all of it to his Sunday church, but after his reconversion, he decided to leave half to his church in Winston-Salem, N.C., and half to the Eastwood congregation.

Although Charles passed away earlier this year, the legacies of the Ballard brothers continue. A portion of the annuity from White's parents was set up as an endowment for the Eastwood church school. And, Charles' share of his estate that went to Eastwood allowed them to pay off their church mortgage this summer. Because she values Christian education, White recently requested that a portion of Charles' gift be added to her father's educational endowment fund.

Unfortunately, not everyone in White's family understands the Ballard's desire to give to the church. But despite having to explain to non-Christian family members that her family's donations were not an effort to "buy their way into heaven," White says she remains steadfast. "I live by the book ... by God's Word, that I not lay my treasures in the world, but in heaven," she says.

To learn more about annuities or to secure your legacy, contact Straub at [pgiving@ohioadventist.org](mailto:pgiving@ohioadventist.org), or call (740) 397-4665.

## Conference Dedicates Cincinnati Ghanaian Church

After nearly eight years of saving and searching, the Cincinnati Ghanaian Mission church finally purchased a building, giving the congregation a place of their own in Hamilton to worship and witness. Pastors Isaac Boateng and Emmanuel Kusi Yeboah worked with



*Pastors Isaac Boateng and Emmanuel Kusi Yeboah join Raj Attiken, conference president, during the dedication of their new house of worship in Hamilton.*

the Ohio Conference to obtain lease agreements and a loan acquisition from the Columbia Union Revolving Fund to make the purchase possible.

This summer, the church hosted a grand reopening and dedication of their house of worship. Administrators from the conference and Kettering Adventist HealthCare joined the celebration, offering their words of encouragement. Raj Attiken, conference president, gave the Sabbath sermon focused on the Bible's four temples: the Edenic home, a sanctuary in the desert, Solomon's temple and the human temple. Attiken reminded attendees that God can only use human instruments, and challenged all to see themselves as temples and to let their lives be reflective of the Lord.

Cincinnati Ghanaian Mission members have witnessed in the community since worship at the new building started last August. Since then they have baptized 10 people and seen 12 transfers into the church. Pastor Yeboah says that the congregation plans to evangelize in the community through health evangelism, starting with a health expo next month. "This is what we find to be an entering wedge for the church to reach the community better," Yeboah says.



*Conference and church leaders ask the Lord to bless the new building.*



*Cincinnati Ghanaian Mission church members and visitors enjoy the celebration.*

## Camp Meeting Attendees Observe Church's 150th Birthday



At this year's pastor-led camp meeting held at Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon, attendees took time to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The camp meeting schedule also included several seminars about the history and heritage of the church. Shari Bellchambers, a member of the Mount Vernon Hill church, gathered attendees after Sabbath lunch for the commemorative photo.

# Pennsylvania *Pen*

AUGUST 2013

## His Grace Can't be Taken Away

**H**ave you ever felt that your sin was so great that you were beyond help and forgiveness? Jesus tells us, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9, NIV). His amazing grace is sufficient. Don't let those around you judge you or make you feel unworthy. Paul tells us, "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus" (Rom. 3:23-24, NIV).

If all have sinned and fallen short, then who can judge you? The Bible tells us, "Judge not, that you be not judged" (Matt. 7:1, NKJV), and "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8, NKJV). If we all have fallen short, and the only way to be saved is through faith, then "let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16, NKJV). Grace is not earned. It is a gift. We do not receive grace because we deserve it. We receive grace because He died for our sins, and He loves us.



**Jeff Bovee**  
*Vice President of  
Education*

## State College Church Supports Campus Ministries

**F**or more than a decade, Seventh-day Adventist young people have had official representation on the University Park campus of Penn State University. This recognition gives the group a number of privileges, including free use of rooms and facilities on the campus upon reservation.

During the school year, Penn State's Adventist Campus Ministries (ACM) group meets on Friday evenings in the campus center, known as the

HUB-Robeson Center. There they have Bible studies and discussions, and plan community service projects, training and equipping outings and regular contributions to the services and programs at the State College church. The group's activities reflect their goal of spreading the Good News about Jesus on the campus.

Many of those who attend the weekly meetings also attend Sabbath services with the State College congregation. (Church members also organize transportation.) The local church officers also have a tradition of giving at least one Sabbath each quarter to the student group. Sometimes the ACM group spends that day on campus and invites other faith groups, such as choirs, to participate in the Adventist Sabbath services.

Students say they find stimulation and encouragement in the Friday evening discussions. Within this diverse group of various ethnicities and study disciplines, friendships are formed, faith is edified, visions are cast and Jesus is uplifted. One friendship from this group even grew into a marriage. In the struggle to stay true to God on a secular campus, students say they receive strength.

To get involved in this ministry, contact Marc-Elie Louis, ACM president for the 2013-14 school year, at [mv5282@psu.edu](mailto:mv5282@psu.edu) or at (814) 441-8194.—*Marc-Elie Louis*



## Church Hosts Community Marriage Seminar

From its inception, members of the Pocono Grace church in East Stroudsburg have desired to serve and be a blessing to their community. With this mission in mind, Diane Crespo, the church's ministries director, invited Ray and Jeanne Hartwell to conduct "Marriage by Design," an all-day seminar to encourage married couples to cherish their marriages and keep romance alive.

Ten couples (pictured) from the community and the church met at the American Legion in East Stroudsburg for this special event. The Hartwells aimed to make their presentation both informative and a lot of fun. The seminar included a comprehensive discussion about courtship, romance, the various stages of marriage, conflict resolution, as well as the more intimate side of marriage.

Guests expressed how much they enjoyed the presentation, the fellowship and the gourmet meals. Chef Jorge Pineda, a member of Pocono Grace, and his team prepared an Asian-inspired vegetarian luncheon and an Italian dinner.



Before she left, one visitor stated, "You people are so nice. We definitely want to visit your church soon." Another asked, "Is this the first time you have had this program? We would love to come back. We hope you do it again!"—*Rosie Baker*

## Pennsylvania Conference Fall Camp Meeting

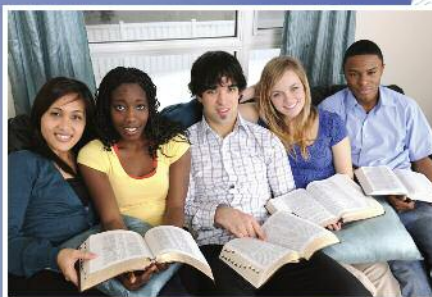


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# Potomac People

AUGUST 2013

## Two Virginia Teachers Receive National Awards

This year two Potomac teachers received the national Excellence in Teaching Award from the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF): Jim Minty, a teacher at Shenandoah Valley Adventist Elementary School in New Market, Va., and Rachel Simons, a teacher at Richmond Academy (RA) in Richmond, Va.

“Without a doubt, these teachers are true professional educators, dedicated to their students’ learning,” says Keith Hallam, vice president of education.

According to his peers, Minty teaches valuable skills to his students in fifth- and eighth-grade. He takes extra time with students to guarantee success by adapting assignments for those struggling to keep up, and helps sick students stay up to date on assignments. He also arrives to school early and stays late to help whoever needs it. As a result, his classes from both grades had a combined average in the 95th percentile on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills this past school year.

Minty also addresses social issues, such as bullying, and establishes his classroom as a safe environment. His goal is for all students to be accepted, but more so that every student feels celebrated.

“I believe as strongly today as when I started, that our young people need good teachers, good role models and good friends as they are growing,” Minty says. “That is what I strive to be each day with God’s help.”

When Simons first started teaching at Richmond Academy, she taught third- and fourth-grade with great



Keith White, an AAF representative, presents Rachel Simons, a teacher at Richmond Academy in Richmond, Va., with an Excellence in Teaching award.

success. But, as the needs of the school changed, she was offered the challenge of teaching secondary English, art and history. Now as a teacher in both elementary and secondary education, Simons skillfully adjusts her methods to meet the different learning styles of each student, while keeping them on track to meet all common core standards.

“Her upbeat and warm spirit is predictable and infectious in the halls and classrooms of the school,” says Malcolm Hutchinson, RA principal.

Simons has taken on the duties of testing and guidance, making it possible for students to have a local option for national testing at a Sunday center versus driving great distances and compromising their faith to sit for a national test on Sabbath. “I get to be a part of Christ’s work in teaching His children—and influencing them for His good through my lesson plans—and modeling Christian behavior,” Simons explains.

Each year AAF partners with Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities to honor 10 excellent teachers. AAF is a nonprofit that has awarded grants to Adventist schools and teachers totaling more than \$2 million. Since its establishment in 1995, the organization has recognized 115 exceptional teachers with an Excellence in Teaching Award.—Kayce Foote



Jim Minty, a teacher at Shenandoah Valley Adventist Elementary School in New Market, Va., receives his medalion, certificate of excellence and \$2,000 gift from Joyce White, an Alumni Awards Foundation representative.

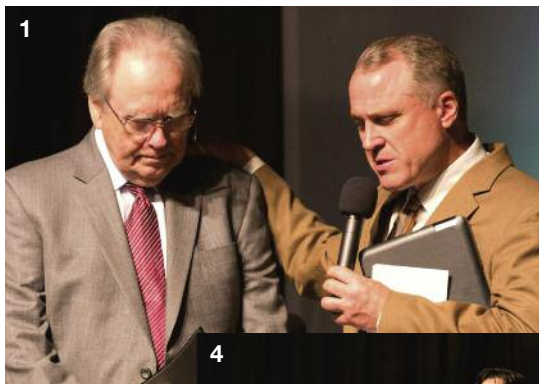
# Potomac People

## Camp Meeting Attendees Reflect on “Journey Home”

The theme this year for Potomac Conference Camp Meeting was “Still on Our Journey Home.” Meeting planners chose the theme not only to reflect on where Seventh-day Adventist members have been, but, most importantly, where we are going. Like the prophet Jeremiah said, “Set up road signs; put up guideposts and mark well the path by which [they] came” (see Jer. 31:21).

Jan Paulsen, former General Conference president, was the keynote speaker. Another special highlight of the week was a Sabbath afternoon performance by the Booth Brothers, a southern gospel trio. Conference leaders invited community members to attend the free concert, with 500 of the front seats reserved for them. According to the leaders, the outcome and feedback was incredible.

Here are some photo highlights from the five-day event:



1. On the opening night, Bill Miller (right), conference president, prays over Jan Paulsen, the keynote speaker and former General Conference president. 2. Young people lead in praise and worship, hosted nightly for the youth meetings. 3. A primary student enjoys an afternoon full of outdoor water activities. 4. The Booth Brothers, a southern gospel trio, give a Sabbath afternoon performance for campers and community members. 5. Dan Darrikhuma, pastor of the Staunton (Va.) church, performs a rendition of “The Lord’s Prayer.” Other nightly features included a classically trained singer, a violinist, flutist and pianist. 6. The kindergarten class learns that they are an important of God’s kingdom. 7. The Primary 2 class opens the final evening meeting with songs they worked on all week.

**CORRECTION:** It was incorrectly stated in the June 2013 *Potomac People*, in the article “CPC Launches Conference’s First Multi-site Campus,” that there are no other Adventist churches within 35 miles of the new CPC-Dulles church plant. We regret the error.

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Phone: (540) 886-0771 ■ pcsda.org ■ President, Bill Miller ■ Communication Director, Dan Jensen

## New Staff Members Drive School Mission

Takoma Academy's (TA) leaders believe that a parent's choice of a Seventh-day Adventist school does not mean a compromise in education. To enforce this unwavering belief, they recently added the following professionals to their staff:

**Jewel Walwyn** joins TA as the college and career counselor. She started her career as an assistant director of admissions at a small college in Virginia. From 2002 to present, Walwyn served as college counselor at schools in Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. She holds a bachelor's in English and a master's in education from the University of Virginia. When she is not working on college readiness,

Walwyn enjoys road trips with her husband, Kenric, and two daughters, Addison (6) and Laila (3).

**Donna Robinson** is an award-winning professional who will serve TA as an adjunct professor of psychology. She received her bachelor's in social work and

psychology and master's in human relations from the University of Oklahoma. She also earned a PhD in education from Capella University. When not developing innovative programs, she enjoys hiking, walking by lakes and oceans, or gazing at mountains. She states she is "committed to helping others" and does so by serving the homeless "and lending a hand whenever needed."

**Keith Beckett**, a respected and admired figure in the Washington, D.C., metro sports scene, joins TA as the athletic director and student services coordinator. Beckett recently served as assistant dean of students at the prestigious Gonzaga College High School in



Washington, D.C., as well as assistant varsity coach and head junior varsity coach. While at Gonzaga, he helped his teams earn numerous championships. Beckett is a graduate of Bowie State University and Trinity College (Conn.).

**Fred Mason III** endeavors to make math exciting and to hold the

attention of his students and will use his proven methods as a member of the TA math faculty. He has been teaching math to students in general education as well as special education. Mason has also distinguished himself as a fine pianist and organist, and also enjoys reading, exercising and traveling.

**Shaun Robinson** is the product of quality Adventist education, having attended Dupont Park Adventist School in Washington, D.C., Takoma



Academy and Oakwood University (Ala.). It was in these institutions that he cultivated his love of science and will now be a member of TA's science department. He honed his teaching skills by providing differentiated instruction to accommodate special education students at one of the premier charter schools in Washington, D.C. He loves teaching students about the Earth and all the wonderful creatures God has placed here.



## New Website Highlights Positive Changes

Takoma Academy staff members finished developing and publishing what they hope is their most attractive, innovative and user-friendly website to date. The new site provides information about the school through the use of student video testimonials and faculty profiles. It also acts as an avenue for the school to provide their syllabi and other useful materials for current and incoming students.

Also on the website is a new section where alumni can get up-to-date information on activities around the nation that other alums are doing on TA's behalf, profiles of distinguished graduates and details about the exciting things they are doing in their careers. The site will also provide information on the biggest gathering of the year—TA's annual alumni weekend. Last year's alumni gathering was the largest attended event in decades, and the 2014 weekend is expected to be equally successful.

"The new site allows alums, parents, students and prospective families to get a genuine sense of all the



dynamic and positive changes and events that God is allowing to happen at Takoma Academy," says Ron Mills, director of institutional advancement and who commissioned the new website.

For more details, visit [ta.edu](http://ta.edu).

## Microsoft Tablets Improve Student Experience



Junior Danielle Ziegler checks out the new Microsoft Surface tablet, which Takoma Academy students will have access to this school year.

According to TA administrators, one of the most exciting components to the school's new technology plan is that every student this school year will have access to a Microsoft Surface RT for educational use. The tablet comes with Microsoft products, Web browsing capability and Adobe Flash Player, which will be helpful on websites commonly used for education. The units also have a touch screen, which the school hopes will prove user friendly for students and

educators, and will provide access to some 50,000 apps.

"Another benefit of the tablets is that they will eliminate the need for several student textbooks. This will not only save them money, but will lighten the load in their backpacks," says Carla Thrower, principal. "The tablets will also serve the students as a primary tool for taking notes."

Jewel Walwyn, career counselor, adds, "We are excited about providing this new tool as a way to keep TA's educational environment on the cutting edge. We want to make sure we're giving our students the best that technology has to offer."

## New Office Oversees School Advancement

One of TA's newest innovations is the creation of the Office of Institutional Advancement. This office oversees and combines the efforts of the income development and alumni affairs departments. Together, these offices will provide alumni, parents, grandparents, and business and community leaders an effective structure, with the dedicated purpose of helping give great students the opportunity to obtain a Christian education despite their financial situation.

## Growing From Good to Great

Recently I had a special opportunity to meet with a very successful former student who attended Washington Adventist University (WAU) when it was known as Washington Missionary College. At the start of our meeting, he shared with me this powerful quotation from Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister, "Strive for big accomplishments. The mere act of aiming at something big, makes you big." It was a delight to hear him credit his success, not only to Christian education, but also to his entrepreneurial concept of having big visions. I left that meeting encouraged and with a stronger determination to partner with the board, faculty, staff and community to grow all aspects of the university with excellence. "Vision 2020—Growing With Excellence" is the motto we have adopted to reflect our transformative journey from a good university to a great one. Vision 2020 is an initiative to grow WAU into a thriving and distinctive institution of higher education, defined by excellence in all that we do.

Growing with excellence will require a visionary community that is synchronized and aligned behind a commitment to the university's mission. Moving forward together will help our institution emerge as a premier, private, Christian university that engages minds and transforms lives. Together, we will continue to implement best practices under the six institutional pillars of excellence: quality, people, finance, growth, service and community. This is Washington Adventist University!



**Weymouth Spence**  
*President*

## New Provost Appointed

C Cheryl Harris Kisunzu, PhD, RN, former executive dean and director of nursing at Mountain View College (Texas), starts work this month as WAU's new provost.

Kisunzu holds a PhD in educational leadership from Andrews University (Mich.), a master's in nursing from Rush University (Ill.) and a bachelor's in nursing from Andrews University.

She has held senior-level positions in academic and administrative leadership, including grant administrator at Eastfield College (Texas) and, at different times, had responsibility for nursing, the life sciences and human resources at William Rainey Harper College (Ill.). She has also taught at the community college and university levels for 14 years.

"I am excited about incorporating Dr. Kisunzu into the WAU leadership team," said Weymouth Spence, EdD, president. "I believe that her appointment will provide the stability, vision and energy that will help WAU meet the current and future needs of our students."

The search for a new provost began last fall when the university engaged the services of an executive search firm to identify well-qualified Seventh-day Adventist candidates. An internal panel interviewed five candidates.

"After carefully considering each candidate's qualifications and strengths, as well as the campus community feedback, and after much prayer, I recommended Dr. Kisunzu to the board of trustees as the candidate who best fits the role of provost. At a special meeting,

the board concurred with my recommendation," Spence said.

Patrick Williams, PhD, who served as interim provost, "has worked tirelessly to advance the academic agenda, and I believe that he has orchestrated and laid significant groundwork for the institution for the future," Spence says.

Williams will continue to serve WAU as associate provost and dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. "I look forward to his continued leadership and perspective as WAU continues to strengthen the academy," Spence says.



## Students Minister in Mauritius

**B**araka Muganda, WAU's vice president for ministry, and Alvin Fuentes, assistant professor for health, wellness and physical education, recently led a group of nine students to Mauritius, an island in the Indian Ocean off the southeast coast of Africa. The students became preachers and, during a series of evangelism meetings, spoke for 16 days to more than 2,500 attendees. The team also conducted devotions every morning and played games with the students at the only Seventh-day Adventist academy on the island.

"The trip has brought me closer to God," said Danielle Barnard, a junior theology major. "It has shown me the purpose for my life; I feel like God



*Some of the 65 baptismal candidates await their turn in the baptistery.*



*Nine WAU students (some pictured) recently served as evangelists in Mauritius.*

made me for Mauritius and the church members affirmed me as a theology teacher."

Myrna Wylyan accompanied her daughter, Janelle Wylyan, a junior social work major, on the trip. "I went because the Lord has blessed me marvellously, and I wanted to serve Him through this opportunity," she said. "I will always consider joining my daughter on these mission trips."

At the end of the two weeks, 65 people were baptized in several churches, while another baptism is planned for this month.

## Inaugural Gala to Support Vision 2020

**W**ashington Adventist University will host its inaugural Visionaries Gala at the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md., Sunday, September 22. University officials envision the gala as an annual event to support Vision 2020, a blueprint for campus development over the next seven years.

Dikembe Mutombo, a retired NBA legend, will headline a list of distinguished guests, including Evelyn Bata, educator and philanthropist; Rory Pullens, head of the Duke Ellington School for the Arts in Washington, D.C.; and James Bingham, DMA, chair of the WAU music department.

Guided by the motto "Vision 2020—Growing With Excellence," WAU leaders aim to improve all facets of its operations to become a thriving university in the competitive higher education market. In academics, the university aims to exceed accreditation standards; develop a strong curriculum in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; expand service learning; conduct ongoing program review; make strategic reinvestment in the quality of programs; and promote and strengthen support services that reflect 21st century best practices.

At the centerpiece of these plans is the Health Professions and Wellness Center, conceived as a collaboration with like-minded organizations. The center will provide vibrant opportunities for wholistic development through education, health and wellness for the WAU community and beyond.

Also, on the drawing board is phase 2 of the Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center. A planned performance hall would connect to the music center to facilitate the practice, teaching and study of the performing arts, integrating performance and curriculum for students. "When the plans and actions are implemented, every person, program and building associated with the school will be transformed," says Weymouth Spence, president.

# Profiles in Caring



Washington Adventist Hospital  
 Shady Grove Adventist Hospital  
 Hackettstown Regional Medical Center  
 Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital  
 of Maryland  
 Adventist Behavioral Health  
 Adventist Home Care Services  
 The Reginald S. Lourie Center for  
 Infants and Young Children  
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 LifeWork Strategies  
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## The Quilt Puzzle

During a conversation with my favorite quilter the other day, in which she shared with me some of the challenges she is facing with her latest project, I asked her how many stitches are in one of her quilts. She just laughed at me — and her laugh was the kind of laugh that suggested, “What a ludicrous question!” Then I asked her how many little pieces of fabric went into one quilt and she responded out loud this time: “Why would you ask THAT?” Why indeed? I had managed to identify two of the least interesting aspects of her craft.

While she had been describing to me the challenge of finding compatible fabrics that could be stitched together without puckering or tearing, I had been doing the math on the number of stitches. While she was earnestly explaining creative ways in which she had faced the challenges of getting the pieces and the stitching to align, I was mentally stacking the pieces up and counting them. While she was reveling in the quiet joy of mastering the myriad skills required to turn fabric and thread into something beautiful that will keep you warm and will be cherished for many years, I was wondering why they call the stuffing “batting” when it has nothing to do with baseball.

My wife gets quilting. And I was missing the point.

*“Begin with the end in mind,” is the insight from Stephen R. Covey in his classic management book, “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.” Was Covey a quilter? It certainly requires a compelling and persistent vision of the completed quilt to keep moving through the various stages of turning bits of fabric into a treasure.*

But that’s not really where my wife and her quilting soul mates find their joy and satisfaction. The process itself matters. Design, colors, fabric, execution: all are part of a cherished journey from the moment when “I wonder if . . .?” first pops up in the mind of the quilter, through every single stitch and turn, and all the way through the many years in which the resulting quilt lies waiting in the closet to warm a chilly night, or is displayed with quiet pride on a bed or the back of a sofa.

“Life is not a problem to be solved, but a mystery to be embraced,” is the way a friend of mine describes this. It’s a riddle that engages us fully, and our choice about how we view the journey—as a series of problems or as a series of adventures—not only impacts how we move through it, but makes all the difference at each stop along the way.

William G. “Bill” Robertson  
 President & CEO of Adventist HealthCare



## Shady Grove Adventist and Washington Adventist Hospitals Recognized for High-Quality Stroke Care

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital and Washington Adventist Hospital — both part of the Adventist HealthCare system — have received the Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association (AHA) for their expert, high-quality stroke care.

This award recognizes each hospital for following the AHA's Stroke Performance Achievement Indicators for consecutive 12-month intervals and complying with the AHA's Quality Measures. These are the latest scientific guidelines from the AHA and the American Stroke Association.

"We are pleased to receive this recognition, which reflects the dedication and commitment of Washington Adventist Hospital's stroke team in providing high-quality care to patients suffering from a stroke," said Randall Wagner, M.D., chief medical officer for Washington Adventist Hospital.

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital was also rec-

ognized for its door-to-needle times, which is the time between when a patient arrives at the hospital and when they receive anti-clotting medication. The hospital received AHA's Target: Stroke Honor Roll award for achieving door-to-needle times of less than 60 minutes in at least 50 percent of patients.

"Shady Grove Adventist Hospital's comprehensive stroke team works to identify stroke patients the moment they arrive at our hospital, so that treatment can begin immediately — giving these patients the best chance for recovery," said Kevin Smothers, M.D., chief medical officer for Shady Grove Adventist Hospital.

To qualify for the AHA's stroke achievement awards, hospitals must meet certain criteria in their care of patients. These include ensuring that a high percentage of acute stroke patients who arrive at the hospital within two hours of the onset of stroke symptoms receive clot dissolving medication within three hours. In addition, the hospitals must

ensure that patients who smoke receive smoking cessation advice or medication at discharge. Quality measures include stroke education and rehabilitation programs.

Both Shady Grove Adventist Hospital and Washington Adventist Hospital have acute stroke units, integrated emergency response systems and multidisciplinary stroke teams including neurologists, surgeons, emergency department physicians, nurses and a stroke program coordinator who ensures constant coordination of care among the various stroke program team members.

Both hospitals are designated Primary Stroke Centers by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems. As Primary Stroke Centers, the hospitals have measures in place that allow for a streamlined, coordinated approach to caring for stroke patients.

 **Shady Grove  
Adventist Hospital**

A Member of Adventist HealthCare

 **Washington  
Adventist Hospital**

A Member of Adventist HealthCare



*Shady Grove Adventist Hospital neurologist Perry Smith, M.D., left, and Thomas Din review an MRI scan of Din's stroke. Din returned to the slopes as a skier and a ski instructor less than six months after his stroke.*

Read Thomas Din's story at <http://blog.adventisthealthcare.com/2013/05/21/from-stroke-to-the-slopes/>



## Adventist HealthCare In The News

### Adventist HealthCare Receives 2013 Workplace Excellence Awards

Adventist HealthCare and its affiliate, LifeWork Strategies, have received the 2013 Workplace Excellence Award from the Alliance for Workplace Excellence (AWE). LifeWork Strategies was also honored with AWE's 2013 Health & Wellness Trailblazer Award. Both awards honor organizations across the country that display an outstanding commitment to promoting professional fulfillment and personal wellness for their employees in the workplace, at home and within the community.

"We are honored to be recognized by the Alliance for Workplace Excellence as an organization that is dedicated to both the personal and professional growth of our employees," said William G. "Bill" Robertson, President & CEO of Adventist HealthCare. "It is our dedicated employees who help fulfill Adventist HealthCare's mission to provide high-quality, compassionate care to those we serve."

Adventist HealthCare and LifeWork Strategies are among 66 organizations across the U.S. to be honored. This is the 10th year LifeWork Strategies has been an award recipient. Candidates underwent a rigorous assessment process involving a comprehensive application and employee interviews led by an independent review panel of leaders in business, industrial and organizational



Lacey McCourt, left, and Anna Roche show off the 2013 Alliance for Workplace Excellence awards that were given to Adventist HealthCare and LifeWork Strategies.

psychology and human resources.

This year's award winners demonstrated exemplary commitment to Workforce Demographics; Management Practices; Employee Engagement; Corporate Social Responsibility; Diversity and Inclusion; Total Rewards Programs and Benefits; Health & Wellness Programs and Initiatives; and Employee Voice Survey.

### Improving the Health of the Community Through Electronic Health Records

An innovative partnership between Adventist HealthCare's ACES Program and the Primary Care Coalition (PCC) will electronically connect more than 200 health-care providers through a Health Information Exchange (HIE) to further strengthen the health safety-net for the 120,000 low-income, uninsured residents in Montgomery County, Md.

The partnership will expand the number of community physicians connected through ACES, Adventist HealthCare's Ambulatory Care EHR Solution. The ACES HIE will allow safety-net clinics to grow and expand care for their patients by providing features such as interfaces for downloading lab results, e-prescriptions, checking drug and allergy interactions and clinical decision support. Adventist HealthCare will provide financial assistance and expertise with technical support and guidance for PCC to migrate to a new integrated electronic health record (EHR). This type of connectivity is a key component of Adventist HealthCare's strategy of Delivering Population-Based Care.

"The ACES Health Information Exchange will electronically connect primary care and other specialty providers in order to provide even better care and outcomes for our community, especially for those most in need," said Arumani Manisundaram, Adventist HealthCare's Director for the Center for Connected Health. "For patients, this means access to care throughout the continuum from caregivers who can now more easily share health information to treat chronic

conditions. This will also make it easier to track the health history of patients from clinic to clinic and, eventually, to hospitals if needed."

### Adventist Hospitals Implement High-Tech Systems to Disinfect Patient Rooms

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville and Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park are the first hospitals in Maryland to implement the Xenex ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system, which uses UV light delivered through a robotic system to remove bacteria from patient rooms. The system is considered the fastest, safest and most cost-effective way to kill "superbugs" and increase patient safety in health-care facilities.

"This state-of-the-art cleaning system gives our hospitals additional ammunition against the difficult to kill organisms that hospitals all across the country are working hard to combat," said Randall Wagner, M.D., chief medical officer at Washington Adventist Hospital. "When paired with traditional cleaning techniques, the Xenex System offers the fastest and most effective approach to help us continue to enhance our high standard of quality care and patient safety."

The Xenex System uses a robot to generate pulses of xenon gas at high energy levels. This UV disinfection technology is the only one in the world demonstrated to decrease the C. difficile bacteria facility-wide. It also effectively kills so-called "superbugs" such as the methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) that are difficult to treat because they resist antibiotics.

"This UV technology is an environmentally friendly way to powerfully combat infectious microorganisms. It provides an added layer of cleaning on top of the very thorough process we already use, reinforcing our commitment to the safety of our patients and visitors," said Kevin Smothers, M.D., vice president and chief medical officer at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital.

## Los hospitales Shady Grove Adventist Hospital y Washington Adventist Hospital fueron reconocidos por la alta calidad en la atención de accidentes cerebrovasculares

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital y Washington Adventist Hospital – ambos forman parte del sistema Adventist HealthCare – han recibido el galardón Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award por parte de la Asociación Estadounidense del Corazón (American Heart Association, AHA) en reconocimiento por la atención experta y de alta calidad que brindan a pacientes con accidentes cerebrovasculares.

Este premio reconoce a cada hospital por seguir los Indicadores de Logros en el Desempeño ante Accidentes Cerebrovasculares de AHA por intervalos de 12 meses consecutivos y por cumplir con las Medidas de Calidad de AHA. Estos son los últimos lineamientos científicos de la AHA y de la Asociación Estadounidense de Accidentes Cerebrovasculares (American Stroke Association).

“Nos complace recibir este reconocimiento, el cual refleja la dedicación y el compromiso del equipo de accidentes cerebrovasculares de Washington Adventist Hospital por brindar atención de alta calidad a los pacientes que sufren accidentes cerebrovasculares”, señaló el Dr. Randall Wagner, director médico de Washington Adventist Hospital.

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital también recibió un reconocimiento por sus tiempos puerta-aguja, que es el tiempo que transcurre entre la llegada del paciente al hospital y el momento en que recibe los medicamentos anticoagulantes. El hospital recibió el premio por lograr el Objetivo de AHA: el galardón Stroke Honor Roll por lograr tiempos puerta-aguja inferiores a 60 minutos en al menos el 50% de los pacientes.

“El equipo integral de atención de accidentes cerebrovasculares de Shady Grove Adventist Hospital trabaja para identificar a los pacientes que sufren un accidente cerebrovascular en el momento en que llegan a nuestro hospital, así el tratamiento puede iniciarse de inmediato, de esta manera les brinda la mayor posibilidad de recuperación”, manifestó el Dr. Kevin Smothers, director médico de Shady Grove Adventist Hospital.

A fin de cumplir con los requisitos para recibir los premios de AHA que reconocen los logros en la atención de accidentes cerebrovasculares, los hospitales deben satisfacer determinados criterios relacionados con la atención que brindan a los pacientes. Estos incluyen asegurarse de que un alto porcentaje de pacientes con accidente cerebrovascular agudo que llegan al hospital dentro de las dos horas en que se iniciaron los síntomas de accidente cerebrovascular reciba medicamentos anticoagulantes dentro de las tres horas. Asimismo, los hospitales deben asegurarse de que los pacientes que fuman reciban asesoramiento para dejar de fumar o medicamentos cuando son dados de alta. Entre las medidas de calidad se incluyen programas de educación sobre los accidentes cerebrovasculares y de rehabilitación.

Tanto Shady Grove Adventist Hospital como Washington Adventist Hospital cuentan con unidades para accidentes cerebrovasculares agudos, sistemas integrados de respuesta de emergencia y equipos multidisciplinarios de accidentes cerebrovasculares que incluyen neurólogos, cirujanos, médicos del departamento de emergencia, enfermeras y un



*Thomas Din regresó a las pistas de esquí como esquiador e instructor de esquí en menos de seis meses tras sufrir un accidente cerebrovascular. Para ver su historia, visite el sitio de web abajo.*

coordinador del programa de accidentes cerebrovasculares que garantiza la constante coordinación de la atención entre los numerosos miembros del equipo del programa de accidentes cerebrovasculares.

El Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) nombró a los hospitales como Centros de Atención Primaria de Accidentes Cerebrovasculares. En su carácter de Centros de Atención Primaria de Accidentes Cerebrovasculares, los hospitales cuentan con medidas vigentes que permiten un enfoque coordinado y simplificado de atención para los pacientes que sufren accidentes cerebrovasculares.

Para más información, visite <http://www.adventisthealthcare.com/stroke>

Para ver la historia de Thomas Din, visite <http://blog.adventisthealthcare.com/2013/05/21/from-stroke-to-the-slopes/>

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHESTNUT HILL REUNION,

September 21, in Philadelphia. Join current and former members, and friends to celebrate 65 years of God's faithfulness. Worship hour speaker is former pastor Franke Zollman. Lunch will be provided, followed by an afternoon rededication service and reunion concert. Please RSVP at [chestnuthillsda.org](http://chestnuthillsda.org) or call (215) 247-7022, for more information.

### SUNNYDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND,

October 3-6. Honor classes are 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003 and 2008. Activities begin Thursday evening with the Silver Showcase Banquet and on Friday, career day. The Sabbath

## Sunset Calendar

	Aug 2	Aug 9	Aug 16	Aug 23	Aug 31
Baltimore	8:18	8:10	8:02	7:52	7:41
Cincinnati	8:49	8:42	8:33	8:23	8:13
Cleveland	8:44	8:35	8:26	8:15	8:04
Columbus	8:45	8:37	8:28	8:18	8:08
Jersey City	8:12	8:03	7:54	7:44	7:33
Norfolk	8:12	8:04	7:56	7:47	7:37
Parkersburg	8:38	8:30	8:21	8:11	8:01
Philadelphia	8:14	8:06	7:57	7:47	7:36
Pittsburgh	8:34	8:26	8:17	8:07	7:56
Reading	8:18	8:10	8:01	7:51	7:40
Richmond	8:18	8:10	8:02	7:53	7:43
Roanoke	8:27	8:20	8:11	8:02	7:53
Toledo	8:52	8:43	8:34	8:23	8:12
Trenton	8:13	8:05	7:56	7:46	7:35
Wash., D.C.	8:19	8:11	8:03	7:53	7:43

### MARYLAND MEN OF FAITH 2013 Conference

"I Will Make a Covenant"

#### Featured Speakers:

Shane Anderson  
Lowell Cooper  
Carlos Gomez  
Volodymyr Grinchenko  
Fred Hardinge  
Scott Ritsema  
Dwight Seek  
Shawn Watson  
Steve Willsey  
Warren Woo

#### Sabbath, October 5

Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center  
Hagerstown, Md.

Early Registration by September 24:  
\$39/\$25 for adults/youth (ages 14-19)  
(includes lunch and dinner)

Register online at: [mmof.org](http://mmof.org)

#### QUESTIONS?

Email: [info@mmof.org](mailto:info@mmof.org)  
Phone: (410)-465-6864  
Baltimore First Church

speaker is Ron Scott, Class of 1959, and former youth director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference. Sunday is the alumni golf tournament and 5K walk/run. For additional information, call (573) 682-2164 or visit [sunnydale.org](http://sunnydale.org).

### "LOVE FOR A LIFETIME," MARRIAGE WEEKEND,

August 23-24, at the Beltsville Adventist Church, 4200 Ammendale Rd., Beltsville, MD 20705-1103. Presented by Drs. Claudio and Pamela Consuegra, Family Ministries directors for the North American Division. Registration cost: \$30 per couple. Childcare available. To register, call Renea at (301) 937-8118, or email [office@beltsvillechurch.org](mailto:office@beltsvillechurch.org).

### 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HOMECOMING** for Hamilton church: former pastors, members and friends, come join us Sabbath, Dec. 7, all day, starting at 10 a.m., 3570 Hamilton-Middletown Rd., Hamilton, OH 45011. Guests include Raj Attiken, Lonnie Melashenko (speakers) and much more. RSVP or questions, email Dianne at [prayerrequest09@hotmail.com](mailto:prayerrequest09@hotmail.com).

## OBITUARIES

**CROWLEY, Audrey L.**, born March 5, 1923, in Cape Charles, Va.; died March 6, 2013, in

# Bulletin Board

Salisbury, Md. She was a charter member of the Beacon Light church in Salisbury. Audrey was in the food service industry for over 20 years. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was preceded in death by her husband, James S. Crowley. She is survived by her sons, James (Linda) Crowley of Tulsa, Okla., and Gary N. (Toni) Crowley of Salisbury; grandsons, Marcus (Jess) Crowley of Salisbury, Duane (Stephanie) Crowley of Hagerstown, Md., and Geoffrey (Amy) Crowley of Berrien Springs, Mich.; her granddaughter, Angela (Andrew) Baskerville of Berlin, Md.; her great-grandchildren, Alexandra and Skylar Crowley of Salisbury, Emily and Katie Crowley of Hagerstown, and Nathan and Emily Baskerville of Berlin; and her brother, Clayton (Margaret) Brittingham of Salisbury.

**HAMEL, Helen M.**, born September 12, 1922, in Green Bay, Wis., died May 31, 2013, in Waverly, W.Va. She was a member of the Parkersburg (W.Va.) church. Helen was employed as a school nurse at Sheyenne River (N.D.) and Pioneer Valley (Mass.) academies. She also worked at Ventura Estates in Newbury Park, Calif. and St. Helena Hospital (Calif.). She is survived by her husband, Lyle Hamel of Waverly; her daughters, Valerie Morikone of Waverly, and Lynette Hamel of

Ware, Mass.; her grandchildren, Greg Morikone of Thompsonville, Ill., Janelle Morikone of Vienna, W.Va., Tamara Hamel and Bryan L. Hamel, both of San Bernardino, Calif.; and great-grandchild, Mahlon Hamel of San Bernardino.

**SAPP, Eugene J.**, born December 2, 1929, in Grafton, W.Va., son of the late Eddie and Virgie Williams Sapp; died December 19, 2011, in Buckhannon, W.Va. He married Marcelene A. Saucer, November 25, 1954. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. Eugene was a public accountant and also owned Valley View Farms in Buckhannon. He was a member of the Buckhannon church and served for years as a trustee of the Mountain View Conference. Under his leadership, the land for Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va., was discovered and purchased. It now serves as the summer campsite, camp meeting site and a beautiful place for many training events. He is survived by his son, Timothy E. Sapp, and his daughter, Sheri-Lyn Sapp, both of Buckhannon; and one sister, Lillian Reese of Grafton. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Willadene Wilcox.

**SAPP, Marcelene A.**, born July 21, 1926, in Grafton, W.Va., to the late Charles Hubert and Lula Orell

Demoss Saucer; died December 21, 2012, in Buckhannon, W.Va. On November 25, 1954, she married Eugene J. Sapp, who preceded her in death December 19, 2011. She was a faithful member of the Buckhannon church, serving on the church board, school board, etc. She received her teaching degree at Salem College and taught in Taylor County, as well as at the Adventist school in Buckhannon. She was a homemaker, caring mother, Sabbath School teacher and worked for many years in her husband's accounting business as secretary. She is survived by her son, Timothy E. Sapp, and daughter, Sheri-Lyn Sapp, both of Buckhannon, and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Dorsey, Willis and Thomas Saucer; three sisters, Hazel Nye, Martha Louise Saucer, and a twin sister, Cathleen Cooper.

## CORRECTION

In the June *Newsline*, we incorrectly reported that AEC's Liberty Lightbearers Team 1 won first place in the NAD Pathfinder Bible Experience. We regret the error.

## Interested in Placing an Announcement or Obituary?

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**Questions?**  
Contact Sandra Jones, Bulletin Board editor, at [sjones@columbiaunion.net](mailto:sjones@columbiaunion.net), (888) 4-Visitor or (888) 484-7486

### SLIGO BY THE SEA 2013

Sabbath School: 10 a.m.  
Worship Service: 11 a.m.

#### Speaker Schedule:

June 29	<b>Robb Long</b>
July 6	<b>Stephen Chavez</b>
July 13	<b>Larry Evans</b>
July 20	<b>Terry Johnsson</b>
July 27	<b>Kermit Netteburg</b>
August 3	<b>Derek Morris</b>
August 10	<b>William Johnsson</b>
August 17	<b>Fred Kinsey</b>
August 24	<b>Charles Tapp</b>
August 31	<b>Robert Quintana</b>
September 7	<b>Vladimir Corea</b>
September 14	<b>Mark Sigue</b>
September 21	<b>Nikolaus Satelmajer</b>
September 28	<b>Gary Gibbs</b>

Services held at **St. Peter's Lutheran Church**  
10301 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City, Md.  
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