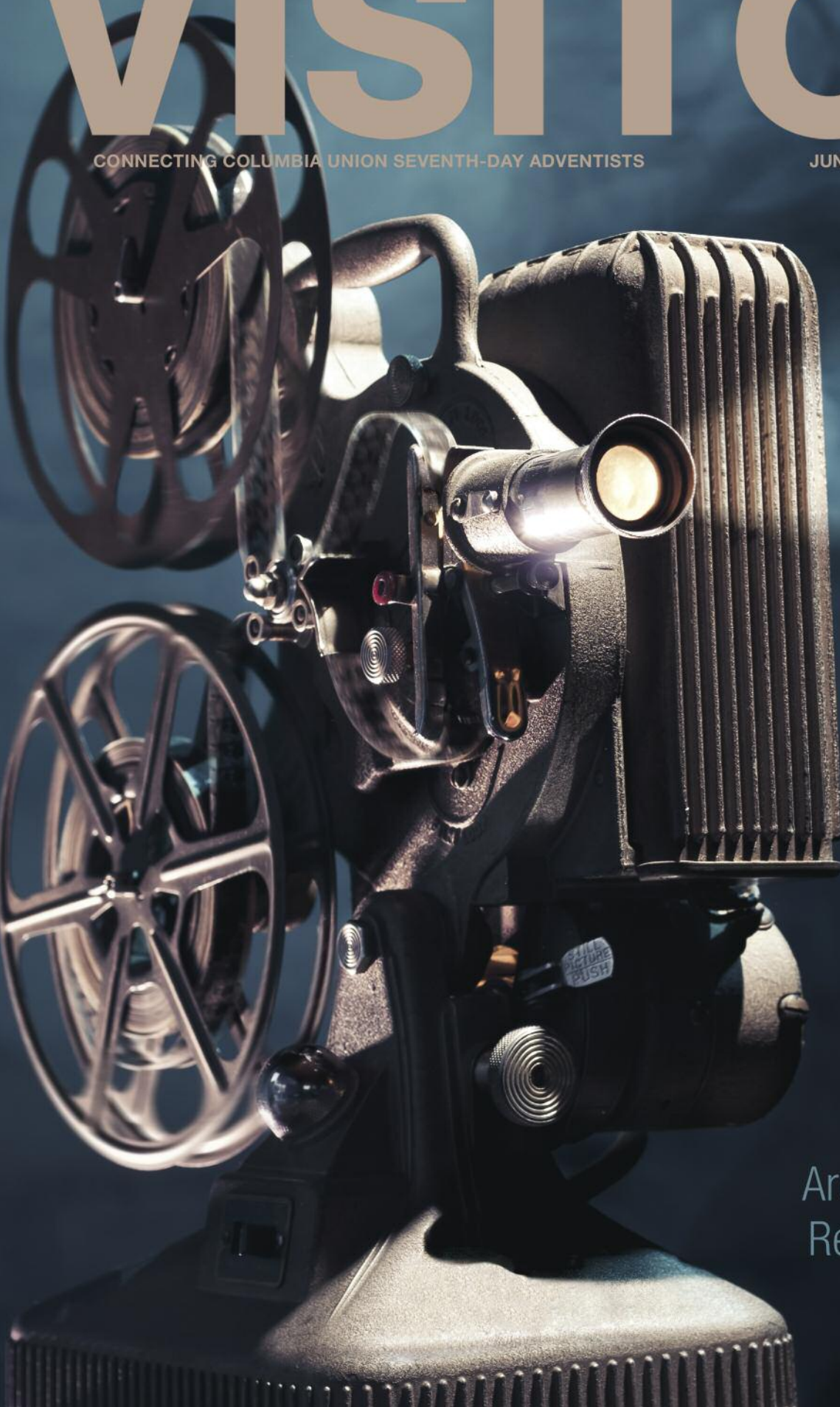


VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

JUNE 2014 • VOLUME 119 • ISSUE 6



The Reel Deal

Are Adventists
Ready to Take
on Film?

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The Reel Deal

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ON THE WEB

A CAN-DO ATTITUDE

Since a young girl, Francisca Trexler (right) has been a disciple for Christ, sharing His love through sign language to people around the country. Go to columbiaunionvisitor.com/trexler to read her inspiring story and her tips on how to focus on what members can do for Christ.



MOVIES WE WANT TO SEE

Check out the amazing work of some of our church's filmmakers on columbiaunionvisitor.com/movies.



Watch several trailers, including one for *The Hideout*, the winning SONSscreen short film written and directed by Daniel Wahlen

(pictured, left), who attends the Triadelphia church in Clarksville, Md.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE RECORD KEEPER?

The General Conference recently announced their decision to suspend *The Record Keeper*, their first attempt at filmmaking. Go to columbiaunionvisitor.com/recordkeeper to read what prompted the decision. Then, tell us what you think about Adventist filmmaking at facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor.

MAN WITH A REVERSIBLE FOOT

Many Columbia Union members may remember Dick Stenbakken for his character portrayals of biblical characters. Now learn his story.

Read our interview with Susan Phelps Harvey, author of *The Man With the Reversible Foot*, the Dick Stenbakken



Story and a member at the Willow Brook church in Hagerstown, Md., at columbiaunionvisitor.com/stenbakken.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE?

Be one of the first 10 to share your favorite Bible verse on facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor and get a set of Hope Channel *Let's Pray* bookmarks.

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Acts of Encouragement

I knocked on the apartment door and listened. Soon a soft and feeble voice called out for me to come in. MaryLynn Spencer had seen many birthdays come and go, and likely had very few celebrations left to anticipate.



She wasn't able to get out often but was faithful in attending church—until she fell. Her injuries would have been rather minor in her youth, but now they required months of recovery, months of being at home with limited contact from her church family. So I, her pastor, opened the door.

We had a wonderful visit. MaryLynn shared photos and stories of her grown children who now lived out of the area. She declared that her faith and hope in Jesus was strong; she looked forward to seeing Him soon. She was homebound in body, but certainly not in spirit. Like many of our members, MaryLynn wanted so much to attend church, but could not.

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH FAMILY

I have found that, other than doctor's appointments, church attendance is the last out-of-home excursion our members give up. For those unable to leave their homes, there are encouraging examples to consider in the Scriptures.

The apostle Paul was restricted while he was under house arrest in Rome and later imprisoned. In reflecting on his experience, we find in Ellen White's book *Acts of the Apostles*: "Often when the servant of God



is withdrawn from active duty, the mysterious providence which our shortsighted vision would lament is designed by God to accomplish a work that otherwise would never have been done. Let not the follower of Christ think, when he is no longer able to labor openly and actively for God and His truth, that he has no service to render, no reward to secure. *Christ's true*

witnesses are never laid aside. In health and sickness, in life and death, God uses them still" (p. 465, emphasis supplied).

God continues to place great worth on each member of the family. Although the frequency of contact may be reduced, there is still value in maintaining strong relationships. Those who are unable to get out can, like Paul, continue to stay in touch and minister to others by their prayers and messages. The example and testimony of their faith and service is an encouragement to each one whose life they touch.

When members of the church reach out in love and care to minister to the needs of those who worship from home, they can have a rewarding experience in service. They have the fulfillment of following in the footsteps of Jesus. The relationships of the church family can be strengthened through these times of difficulty. With intentional care, these times that would usually bring strain can be used by God to be a blessing and encouragement to everyone.

Rick Remmers (rremmers@ccosda.org) is the president of the Chesapeake Conference.

ILLUSTRATION BY LARS JUSTINEN/GOODS&L

Newsline

TAASHI ROWE

PENNSYLVANIA PASTOR TO LEAD EVANGELISM SCHOOL

Last month during the Columbia Union Conference Executive Committee meeting, leaders extended a call to Tara VinCross, DMin, to launch their new school of evangelism. VinCross is senior pastor of Pennsylvania Conference's Chestnut Hill church in Philadelphia; director of the Pennsylvania Youth Challenge, a youth summer literature evangelism program;



and senior pastor for the REACH Philadelphia church plant. VinCross will graduate with a Doctor of Ministry in Biblical

Spirituality and Discipleship from Andrews University (Mich.) in August.

In this new role, VinCross will become associate director of the union's office of Ministries Development. The school, which will be based in Philadelphia, is geared toward teaching young adults how

to become active disciples of Christ. Union leaders plan to open the school in September 2015.

IN RESTRUCTURE PROPOSAL, REVIEW AND HERALD WOULD CLOSE

The boards of the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Md., and Pacific Press Publishing Association (Idaho) recently released a statement sharing the results of their May 12 meetings, where they approved and recommended a proposal to reorganize their operations. If approved by the constituent bodies of each publishing association, the statement reports, "The Review and Herald Publishing Association will cease operations at its current location in Hagerstown, Md., but will continue as a General Conference (GC) institution. Its corporate office location will be transferred to the church's world headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., where the reconstituted organization, without printing and production facilities, will oversee the publishing of various products that are currently produced by the [GC] headquarters."

The two constituencies will meet independently of each other June 17.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, OHIO ELECT OFFICERS

Delegates met last month at the Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va., for Mountain View Conference's fifth quadrennial session. They voted to re-elect, for a third term, Larry Boggess (pictured left, on right) as president and Victor Zill as executive secretary/treasurer (on left). Read more on p. 23.

Ohio Conference's delegates also met last month in Worthington for their 41st regular constituency meeting, where they re-elected Ron Halvorson, Jr. (pictured left, on right), as president. They also elected Oswaldo Magaña (on left) as executive secretary. Read more on p. 29.



YOUNG ADULT ADVISORY MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS

At last month's meeting of the union's executive committee, members voted to approve two recommendations from the young adult advisory subcommittee: each conference executive committee must have at least one young adult member and each conference should appoint a young adult coordinator.

Sanjay Thomas, who chairs the subcommittee, explains, "When it comes to reclaiming and re-engaging young adults, the Columbia Union wants to take the lead." Pictured above are subcommittee members (first row) Natalie Chandler, Marcia Moore, Claudia Hernandez Barrientos, (back row) Tim Ko, Sanjay Thomas and Jason Ridley.

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST HOSPITAL PRESIDENT LEAVES

Last month Joyce Newmyer, president of Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) in Takoma Park, Md., accepted a position as regional president and CEO with Adventist Health in Oregon.

The role, for which she was recruited, includes overseeing multiple hospitals in



Oregon and Washington. Her last day was May 30. Newmyer joined WAH in 2009 as senior executive officer and campus administrator

70

The number of students baptized at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., after a spring campus revival

Read more on pp. 37-38. See the video at columbiaunionvisitor.com/70.



UNION LEADERS PRAY FOR NEW AHC CEO

Rob Vandeman, Columbia Union executive secretary; Fred Manchur, president of Kettering Adventist Healthcare in Kettering, Ohio; Seth Bardu, Columbia Union treasurer; and Dave Weigley, Columbia Union president; lay hands on Terry Forde, new president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare (AHC). See more on p. 40.

and was promoted to president in March 2011.—*Diana Troese*

POTOMAC NAMES NEW VP FOR FINANCE

The Potomac Conference administration and executive committees recently selected David VandeVere,

former treasurer of the Minnesota Conference and current pastor of the Damascus Grace Fellowship church in



Damascus, Md., as the conference's vice president for finance. Read more on p. 33.—*Tiffany Doss*

COLUMBIA UNION ASI MEMBERS "ANSWER THE CALL"

Some 150 people recently attended the Columbia Union Adventist-laymen's Services and

Industries (CUASI) Convention, held in Bethesda, Md. Themed "Answering the Call," this year's convention was designed to encourage and equip everyone called to serve the Lord in new ways this year.

The meeting was held, for the first time, outside of a local church. The results? "I think we did really quite well," shared Emanuel Pelote, CUASI president. "Quite a lot of people applied to join ASI and some even registered early for next year's convention." Read more at columbiaunionvisitor.com/2014asi.



Steve Dickman, national vice president for ASI, and Shalini David, a CUASI member, share their testimonies.

This is really a praise report that illustrates how God is working in and through His people in the Columbia Union.

—*Celeste Ryan Blyden, vice president for strategic communication and public relations, says of the union's recently released 2013 annual report. The report is available online at columbiaunion.org/annualreport.*



Noticias

TAASHI ROWE

52 SE GRADÚAN DE PROGRAMA DE CAPELLANÍA

Después de tres meses de instrucción por International Alliance of Chaplains and Law Enforcement, en New York, un grupo de 52 pastores hispanos y laicos recibieron la certificación de capellanes el pasado mes. La ceremonia de graduación se efectuó en la iglesia Baltimore First en Ellicott City, Md., de Chesapeake Conference. Los capellanes servirán en hospitales y cárceles de Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia.

Orlando Rosales, el coordinador de ministerios hispanos de Chesapeake Conference, estuvo especialmente orgulloso de la gran cantidad de capellanes de Chesapeake (40) que participaron en el programa. “Es una señal clara que nuestros hermanos en Chesapeake desean ser más útiles, teniendo mayor preparación para participar en algo que les permita servir mejor a la iglesia y la comunidad”.—*Cristina McConnell*



PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE LE DA LA BIENVENIDA A LA IGLESIA MÁS NUEVA

Hace dos años, 15 miembros de la iglesia Grace Hispanic en Chester, Pa., comenzó la plantación de la iglesia Frazer Hispanic. Esta primavera, se convirtieron en la iglesia más nueva de Pennsylvania Conference. Cincuenta y tres miembros firmaron la carta cuando se organizó oficialmente la iglesia Frazer Hispanic en Exton, Pa. Además de celebrar el convertirse en iglesia, festejaron el bautismo de

cuatro personas y de otros cuatro que se unieron por profesión de fe, otros más indicaron su deseo de unirse a la creciente familia de iglesia. Los oficiales de Pennsylvania Conference, Ray Hartwell, Ron Christman y Will Peterson ayudaron en la organización y celebraron con los miembros. La iglesia está repleta de niños—32 niños.

“Nuestros siguientes pasos incluyen comprar un local para poder crecer más y plantar una nueva congregación en 2016,” comparte el Pastor Gabriel Montalvo. “Dios está haciendo que su obra prospere en Pennsylvania. Alabemos su nombre.”



INICIATIVA COMPARTIDA DE EVANGELISMO 2015

En la reunión del comité ejecutivo de Columbia Union el mes pasado, Rubén Ramos, vice presidente de ministerios multilingües, informó acerca de un programa evangelístico durante todo el año previsto para las iglesias hispanas en el 2015 bajo el lema “Vivangelismo.” El tema refleja la creencia de que todo lo que hace la iglesia, de una manera u otra, es para traer personas a Cristo. El año comenzará con un festival de laicos en Ocean City, Md., en Febrero, y terminará con una caravana de cosecha por una semana en Noviembre. Durante el transcurso del año, Ramos espera que se formen por lo menos 1,000 grupos pequeños, que se planten 15 nuevas iglesias y que se bauticen 2,500 nuevos discípulos en toda la Unión.



CAPELLANES POR NÚMERO

1 de Allegeny East Conference

52 Graduandos de capellanes

40 de Chesapeake Conference

11 de Potomac Conference

LOS CONQUISTADORES DE UNION CITY HACEN UNA DIFERENCIA EN SU COMUNIDAD

El Club de Conquistadores The Stars of the Master de la iglesia Union City Spanish, hace poco pasó un sábado sirviendo a otros. Junto a sus padres y líderes Janet García, Esli Latorre y Claudia García del Puerto, se comprometieron a servir a los indigentes de Hoboken con amor y gozo.

Comenzaron el día con un culto al aire libre en Frank Sinatra Park en Hoboken. Luego, caminaron al refugio para indigentes de

Hoboken. Allí realizaron varios proyectos de servicio comunitario incluyendo la limpieza de las aceras (en la foto) y el refugio, y la preparación de almuerzo, el cual distribuyeron más tarde a los desamparados en las calles.

Una vez que los Conquistadores concluyeron sus tareas, cada uno tuvo algo más que hacer: decorar huevos para que los desamparados gozaran al día siguiente, “el domingo de Pascua”. Los participantes expresaron que después de un largo día de servicio, regresaron a casa con gozo en sus corazones.—*Claudia García del Puerto*



UN MIEMBRO DE OHIO REGRESA A CASA

Linda Sánchez recientemente se bautizó en la iglesia East Cleveland Spanish de Ohio Conference. He aquí una breve reseña de su testimonio:

“Crecí en la iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día y asistí a la escuela primaria adventista. Sin embargo, cuando tenía unos 15 años, no



Linda Sánchez retratada a la izquierda alistándose para su bautismo.

quise ir más a la iglesia. Quería salir con mis amigos. Pensé que el mundo era más emocionante. Crecí y tuve tres hijos—todos fuera del matrimonio. Era madre soltera y los crié como mejor pude. Aún en mis años de obstinación, sabía que Dios siempre me amaba y nunca me había abandonado.

Lea más en línea en columbiainionvisitor.com/linda.

ARTÍCULO ESPECIAL DE VISITOR

¿Están listos los Adventistas para aceptar el reto del Cinema?

Los fundadores y pioneros de la iglesia adventista desaprobaron la asistencia al cine, y por lo tanto amaron el paso de los miembros hacia la aceptación del entretenimiento con películas. Sin embargo, la introducción de los reproductores de video y películas a la carta comenzaron a alterar esa posición dramáticamente, y los miembros más creativos comenzaron a darse cuenta de la influencia de las películas para transmitir mensajes de fe, esperanza y un Señor resucitado. En las última décadas los adventistas que se aventuraban en Cinema, se han enfocado en crear documentales, series de videos y cortometrajes.

Donde muchos creen que la iglesia más grande aún lucha por encontrar su lugar en el cine, el festival de cine SONscreen, fundado por la iglesia, le ha dado a muchos destacados una salida creativa por este medio. “Vimos una brecha. Un grupo de jóvenes, los creativos de la iglesia, estaban siendo pasados por alto”, explica Stacia Wright, miembro de Community Praise Center de Potomac en Alexandria, Va., en el motivo del festival. Por muchos años, dice ella, “el cuadro que se pintaba era que la única manera de ser útil en la iglesia era ser un pastor o una forma más tradicional de empleo—pastor, doctor, etc.—pero no [para aquellos] quienes querían hacer algo diferente a la comunicación tradicional; no había una plataforma para los más creativos demostrar sus talentos”. Lea más en inglés acerca de cómo los adventistas están progresando en el cine en la pág. 10.—*Beth Michaels and Tim Lale*



PHOTO BY GERRY CHUDLEIGH

More “Boomers” Need to Worship From Home. How do We Continue to Engage Them in Church Life?

By 2030, because of the aging baby boomers and increased life expectancy, about 72.1 million or more than one in five Americans will be aged 65 or above. As the population ages, many will become homebound and need home-based care,” reports the Administration on Aging.¹

Those numbers undoubtedly translate to an increasing number of members in the Seventh-day Adventist Church who can’t actively attend their local church, or who will need great assistance and support to do so. Are our congregations equipped to assist them and include them in church life? According to Charlotte LV Thoms, EdD, coordinator of the North American Division’s (NAD) Commission for People With Disabilities, some are, but many aren’t. She and others are working to change that.

INVOLVE EVERY MINISTRY

Long-term illness or more severe physical limitations are what keep some members from attending church, but it can also include those permanently living in institutional settings or in family members’ homes. It can even include the caretakers of those who have difficulty getting about.

Materials coming from the NAD, like the *Disabilities Ministries Handbook*, and from Thoms’ office help congregations become better equipped to include and minister to those who can’t make it to church. Among other services, she also makes recommendations to church boards regarding steps they can take to make church facilities more accessible for people who use mobile assistance devices (wheelchairs,

crutches, etc.), and to find transportation solutions for those who need help getting to church.

Thoms says one way churches can be more inclusive is to “stop thinking of Disabilities Ministries as a singular ministry,” she says. Instead, it should be part of every ministry in the church. Congregations who strive to include everyone have efforts like telephone volunteers who call those who miss the church services. “They utilize the Internet to connect and reach those unable to attend Sabbath service,” she adds. “Instead of bringing them to the materials, [they] take materials to those at home. ... People want to do what they can. Everyone can be involved.”

Pastor Ron Anderson of Ohio Conference’s Chillicothe church says that is the attitude his congregants adopted. “Our congregation is very understanding with members that have medical challenges, realizing that there may be times that they may not be able to fulfill the desire they have to share their gifts,” he says. “It does not take a great deal of effort to be flexible; it is a matter of the heart. When you remember that Jesus died for everyone and they have been given the ‘Great Commission’ as well, who are we to hinder them?”

GETTING IT RIGHT

Nita Williams is a member at Pastor Anderson’s church who can speak personally on the issue. She notes what a difference fellow members make when she goes through times of illness that keep her home. Williams has had pancreatitis for 14 years, has

had multiple seizures and endures a vocal cord dysfunction that sometimes leaves her incapacitated for 40 minutes. She has also survived two heart attacks.

A result of her pancreatitis is that she’s become tolerant to medicine. “I can’t feel anything. I have no veins in me,” she giggles. “I have ports. I love my ports.”

But, Williams’ church, she says, “Does it all. We could give lessons on how to make it work with disabled [and] homebound members. I’ve needed assistance bathing, etc., and my sisters in Christ have been with me, cleaning me, my house, cooking, shopping—all of it. My church is like a large family.”

When Williams does attend, she serves as the church organist, a gift members say they miss when she’s not there.

Angela Lundy also feels blessed to be part of a congregation that helps her feel connected. At Pennsylvania Conference’s Chestnut Hill church in Philadelphia, where she’s an elder, she says, “They have become sensitive to the needs of the disabled and have allowed me to [host] sensitivity training seminars to bring understanding to others.” And, for people with mobility issues, “There is a stair glider, and when someone cannot move from a wheelchair, men carry them in their chair up and down the stairs. That’s real sensitivity and reminds me of the men who worked together to lower the man down to Jesus from the roof.”

However, Lundy, who is a former Baptist minister, believes there is still a lot of work to be done in churches and communities to increase awareness and sensitivity. She organizes special symposiums

throughout Philadelphia to advocate for people with physical limitations. “Sometimes ... there are needs that are never heard,” she says. “There are so many who need help. Our meetings provide that voice.”

Inside our churches, Lundy also believes inclusion depends on the openness of the pastor and members. “People are hindered by being ignored; requests not [being] granted, like access to areas [and] parking spaces or rides to church when they are remote; being sat in the back of the church because of an obvious disability; no friendship shown to them,” she states. “They feel they are unwanted and remove themselves from the imagined or real rejection.”

DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY

More than ministering to those who can't attend services or who make it to church with a lot of effort and support, churches also need to remember that these

same members have talents to contribute to church life.

Former pastor Victoria Harrison, who now attends Potomac Conference's Washington Spanish church in Silver Spring, Md., is a perfect example. She is a mother of two, was widowed after 32 years of marriage and has over 30 years of ministry behind her, but she suffers physically every day. “I'm unable to walk independently,” she says. “Without an official diagnosis, I am in serious pain. I miss many church services.”

Nonetheless, Harrison opens her home for neighborhood and private Bible studies and Sabbath evening prayer meetings. “From those, it has resulted in seven, no, eight baptisms,” Harrison shares. “Recently, my biggest ministry is caring for my grandchild ... [and] introducing a Jesus that she'll have forever.”

Gary Dunn, another member of the Chillicothe church, uses his numerous ins and outs at the hospital as an opportunity to witness.

His legs are regularly numb, and he has to wear braces. He also has Castleman's disease and a plethora of other ailments.

“They told me in the hospital I'd never walk again,” Dunn chuckles. “Now I'm walking—slowly, but they're all shocked. They said I'd die. Been here for four years.” He adds, “I have a rare disease. Of three people who had it, I'm the only survivor. They can't explain why it's getting better. I know why: God.”

Since his healing, Dunn and his wife, Beverly (once his caretaker), regularly attend nursing homes to hug and pray with the residents.

Thoms says of these examples, “Disabilities Ministries is about taking people just as they are and whatever their personal ministry is. Whatever a person without a disability can do, a person *with* a disability can do. They just do it differently.”

¹The Administration on Aging. *A Profile of Older Americans: 2009 Administration on Aging (online)* [Accessed April 6, 2010].

4 Practices of an Inclusive Church



Angela Lundy (holding the leash for her hearing dog) teaches members of the Chestnut Hill church in Philadelphia to sign musical numbers.

Encourage. Designate volunteers to regularly visit with, send uplifting notes to, or call to encourage and pray with those worshipping from home. This ministry is also reciprocal; those who worship from home can also call others who need encouragement.

Invite. Make sure *all* members know about and are invited to attend upcoming events and activities.

Accommodate. Ensure that your church facilities are accessible for mobility devices and that volunteers are available to assist those who need this type of support.

Include. Discover what gifts *all* members can contribute to church life and encourage participation or leadership in those areas. Your church can also live stream or post weekly church services on the Internet.—Charlotte LV Thoms



The
Reel
Deal

**Are Adventists
Ready to Take
on Film?**

Beth Michaels and Tim Lale



he same day a huge earthquake struck Haiti in 2010, Pacific Union College (Calif.) film student Tim Wolfer wrote a message on Facebook: “Anyone want to help a poor, documentary filmmaker buy a ticket to Haiti?” Twelve hours later, Wolfer had a ticket, and he and a friend flew into the Dominican Republic with backpacks and a video camera.

The two students took a bus to the border and made their way into Haiti. Wolfer spent several days at the Maison Des Enfants de Dieu orphanage, filming a story about how a CNN crew had set up camp there and was reporting on children being flown to the United States and getting adopted out, even though their parents weren’t dead. Wolfer’s striking documentary, *Adopting Haiti*, is available on hulu.com. Wolfer now owns and runs a filmmaking business in Michigan.

Rejeev Sigamoney (below) grew up in Potomac Conference’s Southern Asian church in Silver Spring, Md., which is where he was asked to write his first play. Then he took his newfound skills to Potomac’s Sligo church in Takoma Park where he started a young adult group. They began putting on comedic sketches, which he says caused him to fall in love with storytelling.

Sigamoney has now been the program coordinator and assistant professor of film at Pacific Union College (Calif.) for the past two years and has one film under his belt, *Jesus People*, a “mockumentary” that eventually saw a 10-theater release, with more in the works. “I give a lot of my church experience credit for my career choice,” he says.

Wolfer and Sigamoney are a small but growing number of young, creative filmmakers being nurtured by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Does that mean the church is finally becoming a purveyor of messages through film?

A ROAD LESS TRAVELED

Adventist Church founders and early pioneers frowned on theater attendance and, therefore, set a slow pace toward members’ acceptance of movie entertainment. However, the introduction of VCRs and movies on demand drastically began to alter that stance, and more creative members started to realize film’s influence in conveying messages of faith, hope and a risen Lord. For the past few decades, Adventists who ventured into filmmaking have focused on creating documentaries, video series and shorts.

One of the early Adventist filmmaking endeavors was the documentary series *The Seventh Day*. In the 1980s, artist Jim Arrabito developed a passion for the history of the Sabbath and conducted research all over the world. After completing a 600-storyboard outline for a video series, Arrabito died in a plane crash in Alaska in 1990. His widow, Pat, went on to finish the research and write a script. She started LLT Productions (Calif.) to create the video series, later produced and directed by Adventist media producer Jeff Wood. They released the first of the five-part series in 2000. By the end of 2013,

the series had sold more than 400,000 copies worldwide and been translated into more than 15 languages.

Some more adventurous Adventists made a pilgrimage to Hollywood first before returning to use those talents for the church. Terry Benedict of California directed chase scenes in several Hollywood movies, made dozens of major-market commercials, and wrote and directed the film *Painted Hero* before turning to the film project most Adventists know him for, *The Conscientious Objector*, a 2004 documentary on World War II hero Desmond T. Doss, an Adventist born and raised in Virginia.

Melody George, a graduate of the film production program at Southern Adventist University (Tenn.), moved to Los Angeles in 2006 and made several family friendly films, including *Marbles With Thoreau* (2008) and *End It Now* (2013). George now works in California as producer/director for Loma Linda University Health’s PBS documentary series *Life on the Line*.

A fraction is still using Hollywood’s far reach to create more family-friendly and religious films. DeVon Franklin, an Adventist film producer, business executive,



PHOTO BY GERRY CHUDLEIGH



Stacia Wright, a co-founder of the SONscreen Film Festival, accepts an award of appreciation at last year's festival. Dan Weber (far right), NAD communication director, presents this year's top SONscreen award to Daniel Wahlen (in green) and the production team and lead actress of *The Hideout*, a film Wahlen wrote and directed.

motivational speaker and author, is now the senior vice president of production at Columbia Pictures, and worked on the recent success *Heaven is for Real*, among others.

PAVING THE WAY

Adventists seeking alternative modes of producing and distributing films free of Hollywood's control have gotten a boost from the start of the SONscreen film festival, co-founded by Stacia D. Wright and Jere Wallack under the auspices of the North American Division (NAD). As it states on SONscreen's website, "Since its debut in October 2002, the festival has become the destination for established and up-and-coming Christian filmmakers to share their creative work, gain exposure and network with other media and film professionals."

Wright, a member of Potomac's Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va., explains their motivation for the organization: "We saw a gap. A group of young people, the creatives of the church, were being overlooked." For many years, she says, "the picture that was being painted was that the only way to be relevant to the church was to be a pastor or more traditional form of employment ... but [for those] who wanted to do something different than traditional communication, there wasn't a platform to showcase their talents."

Today SONscreen includes the participation of 14 colleges/universities and more than 100 high schools across the NAD. "I'm thankful the NAD saw the vision to embrace it—not that it was a revival or that they were to see baptisms at the end—but they were investing in the future of the church," says Wright, who retired her lead at SONscreen in 2010. She adds, "Now there are young people who have a renewed respect for the church."

THE FORK IN THE ROAD

But, can creative members hired by the church serve the preferences of more conservative audiences, especially when those preferences may be at odds with the

needs of the secular audience they intend to reach?

"It's a tough road," says Dan Weber, NAD communication director and the new lead at SONscreen. "At the NAD, we want to use film and visual communication to reach people. Film is very, very powerful. We need to utilize that, reaching our own people and reaching outside as well." He adds, "The challenge for the church is that some people are still threatened by that."

That was made evident during the recent saga of *The Record Keeper*, a film series written by Garrett Caldwell, associate director of communication for the General Conference, and produced and directed by Adventist filmmaker Jason Satterlund. It was the church's first officially known foray into feature films and involved the talents of a number of young Adventists. After church leaders abruptly shelved the series, it raised the question of how far the Adventist Church is willing to go to embrace contemporary filmmaking styles that filmmakers believe are necessary to draw in larger audiences. Shot in a visual and thematic style known as steampunk, *The Record Keeper* was intended to introduce Great Controversy themes to a young, secular generation.

For the select few who got to test it on this crowd, it was very well received. Pastor Anthony Medley piloted the series at his church, Allegheny East Conference's Emmanuel-Brinklow congregation in Ashton, Md., which resulted in 30 baptisms. Pastor Bryant Taylor of Allegheny West Conference's Beacon of Hope church in Columbus, Ohio, presented it to a mixed group of about 85 members and visitors. "It drove them to read more of Ellen White's writings, and some were pleasantly surprised that the church took such a forward step in presenting the gospel," he says.

During the final stages of putting together the film, however, church leaders couldn't come to a consensus on what to do with it. In an official statement, they reported that a biblical analysis brought to light some theological inaccuracies in the series.

Sigamoney, one of the creators and writers of *The Record Keeper*, proposes, “The church at large doesn’t understand fiction and what it has the power to accomplish. For [these projects], we can’t be there to help the client differentiate between fiction and nonfiction, and we judge these things by different scales.”

Daniel Wahlen, a recent graduate from Southern Adventist University’s film school who also did some work on *The Record Keeper*, is disheartened by the decision. “We saw it with books and fiction and the radio. Back then it was resisted, and today it’s film,” he says. “There’s still a lot of growing to do.”

However, Wahlen, who attends Chesapeake Conference’s Triadelphia church in Clarksville, Md., is encouraged by the growing acceptance of film by various departments within the church. At Southern, he appreciated the support the film school received from NAD Education, Women’s Ministries, Family Ministries and others. It’s that support that gave him the outlet he needed to write and direct his first 15-minute short, *The Hideout*, which dominated at this year’s SONscreen festival.

MOVING FORWARD

An Adventist feature-film genre may yet emerge. In 2006 Southern’s film school produced *Secret of the Cave*, a feature-length adaptation of Arthur Maxwell’s children’s book from 1920. In 2012 Arrabito released *Hell and Mr. Fudge*, a full-length film based on the true story of a small-town preacher commissioned to investigate the true nature of hell. The film won a Platinum Award at the 2012 Houston International Film Festival. In 2013 it was screened in more than 80 theaters across the country.

Kevin Ekvall of Washington state attended this year’s SONscreen for the world premiere of his film *I’m Not Leaving*, which he produced. The film examines the Rwandan genocide of 1994 through the eyes of Carl Wilkens, an Adventist missionary.

Future possibilities include a feature film by Terry Benedict based on Desmond Doss’ heroic war service, already underway. Lloyd Liles of Massachusetts, a 1991 communications/broadcast media alumnus of Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., just finished packaging *Through Fire*, about a World War II psychological thriller. Sigamoney is writing the script for a film about the life of Jack Blanco, a former Southern professor best known for writing *The Clear Word Bible*.

For all those seeking to address an audience outside the church, they will need to find widespread recognition the way other independent films do, through film festival screenings, awards and published reviews. But, while these up-and-comers learn the industry and put their own spin on a medium that is dominating Americans’ free time, the best advice might be from Sigamoney: “We need to see that failure is an allowable part of the process of success. ... Once someone shows a model that works, the church is [going to be] a lot more willing to embrace it.”

Columbia Union filmmakers to Watch



Anthony Hackett—
actor, writer, director/producer

Home Church:
New Hope in Fulton, Md.

What He’s Produced:
The Package, a short film for 2013 Allegheny East Conference Camp Meeting; *10 Minutes*, a 2014 submission to SONscreen; *SONset Friday* Web series with more than 160,000 views on Youtube

Coming Up: The feature film *Just a Prayer Away* and a new *SONset Friday* Web series this summer

His Motivation: “God placed in me this desire and gift for film.”

Learn More: anthonyhackett.com, youtube.com/anthonyjmhackett

Pierre Walters—
actor, director/producer

Home Church:
Takoma Park (Md.)

What He’s Produced: Short and feature films that speak to a larger audience, including *Greener by the Day*

Coming Up: A feature film about civil rights starts production this summer

His Motivation: “I enjoy making films and videos as well as building brands that seek to leave the world a little better than we found it.”

Learn More: blue-artists.com



Daniel Wahlen—
writer, director

Home Church:
Triadelphia in Clarksville, Md.

What He’s Directed:
The 15-minute short *The Hideout*, which won in four categories, including Best in Fest, at this year’s SONscreen film festival

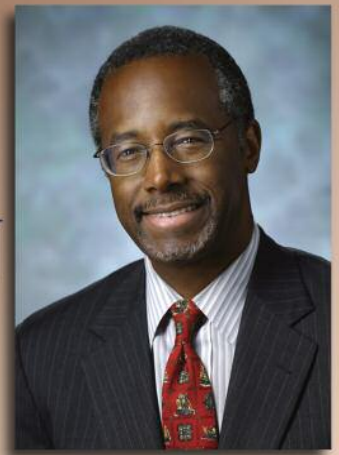
Coming Up: His first feature film

His Motivation: “We all have an inner desire to connect with each other, and I’m motivated by that. Film is expression; film is communication.”

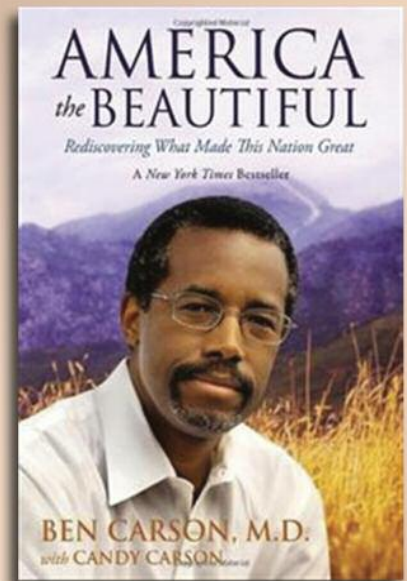
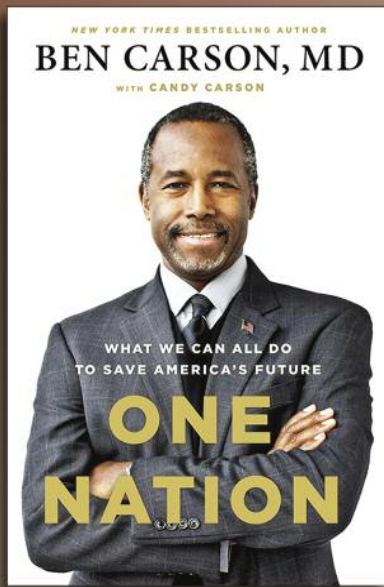
Learn More: thedanielwahlen.com, thehideoutfilm.com

Meet
BEN CARSON
with CANDY CARSON

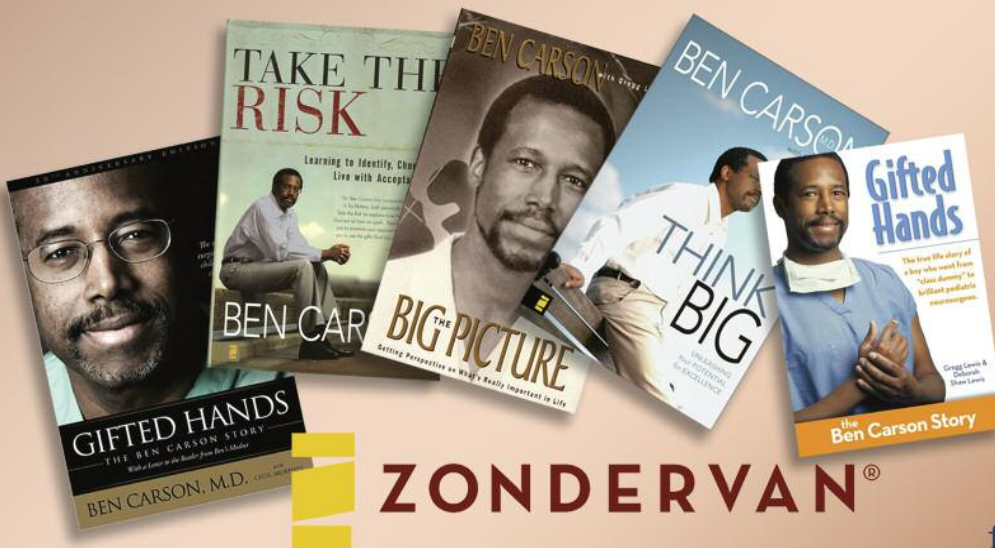
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Pine Forge Young Men Get a Taste of Future Careers

Some 39 “young men of distinction” who reside in Pine Forge Academy’s Handy Hall in Pine Forge, Pa., recently participated in the inaugural “Breakfast With My Profession.” The recreational room of Handy Hall was transformed into a formal banquet hall. The

young men—members of the classes of 2014 and 2015—sat with rapt, disciplined attention as Naeem Newman, MD, keynote speaker, shared vital information about the 10 myths and four steps in choosing a career. Newman is a surgical oncologist specializing in gastrointestinal cancer. (He is also the proud father of Rhiane Jones, member of the Class of 2014.)

After the meal, experts from a wide range of occupations and careers talked about how the young men can aspire to heights yet unattained. Each young man engaged in meaningful, one-on-one discussions relative to his intended career path with pastors, dentists, lawyers, nurses, doctors, media specialists, social workers and pharmacists. The majority of the presenters were parents of either past and/or present students and all willingly gave of their time, service and expertise.

Jaymie Pottinger, head dean and his team, organized the event to launch young men down the path toward successful careers. Students and presenters alike sanctioned the event and the experience with glowing accolades and hailed it as one that must be repeated.—*Delmas Campbell*

PHOTO BY MATTHEW JOSEPH



Howard H. Brown, an attorney, advises Langston Sheppard ('15).

U.S. Congresswoman Addresses Glenridge Church

Donna F. Edwards, the congressional representative of Maryland’s 4th District, was the guest speaker for a special religious liberty forum that was recently held at the Glenridge church in District Heights, Md. The Glenridge Voyagers Pathfinders gave her an enthusiastic welcome.

“We firmly believe that if we as a church are to fulfill our prophetic mandate to proclaim the everlasting gospel to all the world, we need to be alert and well-informed. We organized the religious liberty forum to advance this belief,” explained Leroy Rowe, the church’s Religious Liberty leader. They chose to focus on the Workplace Religious Freedom Act, a bill that would require employers to make reasonable accommodation for workers.

The congresswoman recounted the origin of religious liberty and its current state in the United States and other parts of the world. She also emphasized the need to protect this liberty and lauded the work that the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been doing to promote religious liberty. Her address was followed by a question-and-answer session moderated by Evol Ewan, the church’s Religious Liberty elder. During that session,

the congresswoman answered questions on religious liberty, creationism and evolution, nontraditional marriage, church-state relations and the Affordable Care Act.

“Many were informed, blessed and uplifted by the event,” shares Vernon T. Waters, the church’s pastor.—*Valentine Parillon*



PHOTO BY JOANNA SAMUEL

Pathfinders surround Rep. Donna F. Edwards.

Montclair Team Clinches North Jersey Basketball Title

Basketball players from Allegheny East Conference's (AEC) First church of Montclair recently claimed the North Jersey Youth Federation Basketball League (NJYFBL) Championship. With a score of 65 points, Montclair's team topped Jersey City's Beth-El church team, which scored 56 points.

The NJYFBL is a Christian fellowship league comprised of 16 North Jersey-based teams and governed by four league commissioners and four league administrators operating in partnership with AEC's North Jersey Youth Federation.

"We promote an environment of healthy sportsmanship by establishing and enforcing high standards of ethical behavior and ensuring adherence to our Christian beliefs," explains LaFayette Trawick, league commissioner.

Teams welcome players who do not belong to the Adventist Church; however, all team members are required to attend at least one worship service a month and participate in community service. Trawick notes that the community service component is a wonderful witness opportunity for visitors.

Mark Paul, who was named the game's Most

Valuable Player (MVP), said that playing basketball was a great opportunity for fellowship and making friends. "I believe that everyone who demonstrated good sportsmanship, respect and, most importantly, Christian values in such a competitive environment, are all MVPs in my book," he said.



PHOTO BY THELUSCA PHOTOGRAPHY

MVP: Paula Olivier, First church pastor; Jeffery Baptiste, league commissioner; Mark Paul, game MVP; and LaFayette Trawick and Rony Desarme, commissioners

100 Learn to Understand Community at ACS Seminar

Nearly 100 volunteers, leaders and pastors recently attended the free "Understanding Your Community" seminar at the New Joy Fellowship church in Hagerstown, Md., sponsored by the conference's Adventist Community Services (ACS) department. Attendees came from as far away as New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Delaware.

"Adventist Community Services is not your grandmother's Dorcas Society anymore," said Sung Kwon, ACS executive director for the North American Division, as he illustrated how the ministry continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of today's society.

John Gavin, director of the Social Work Department for Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., also provided practical ways to ascertain the demographics and needs in the areas surrounding Adventist churches.

Several attendees said they appreciated the information shared and were eager to take it back to their congregations. "I'm excited and motivated," said Belinda Best, ACS federation president for southern New Jersey.

Marcel Alexandre, a member of the Glenridge church in District Heights, Md., said his takeaway was, "Helping people in the community doesn't always have to equal baptisms."

Gary Wimbush, pastor of the Columbia Community Center in Columbia, Md., added, "If we aren't reaching people and providing for their needs, we just become proprietors of the gospel. Doing that is antithetical to the gospel commission."—Debra McKinney Banks



PHOTO BY SEAN ROBINSON

Conference Members Minister in Albania

The stamp of communism is still visible in Albania. Yes, they have modern vehicles and cell phones, but in many ways the country is stuck. However, there are no locked doors where God's Spirit is involved.

Although Albania is still a largely secular, Muslim country, the Holy Spirit is working through the Albanian Mission and ADRA Albania. Beatrice Kastrati, director of ADRA Albania, says of the country: "There's a great disparity between the rich and the poor. ... The police are corrupt. ... There is so much work to do here."

About two years ago, Sergio Romero, director of Multicultural Ministries for the Allegheny West Conference (AWC), heard of the need in Albania. "I started to pray for the people in Albania, specifically for the Roma (Gypsy) people," he says. "This people, out of prejudice, don't have access to medical services or education. I have in my heart to serve those that nobody else wants to serve."



Bible School (VBS). Each day about 75 children poured into the ADRA compound for VBS, and the volunteers treated more than 500 medical cases. Amongst the five revivals, approximately 30 people made decisions for baptism.

"While in Albania, God showed me how awesome it is to serve others," says Amneris Martinez, a member of the Manantial de Vida Spanish group in Columbus, Ohio.

Shirley Benton, the conference's Women's Ministries leader, agreed saying, "We went to minister to those who have so little, and saw the joy and gratitude on their faces as we gave them medical assistance, food, toys and clothing. We saw hope come alive as love and the Word of Jesus Christ was shared with them. It is a country waiting for the good news of the gospel."

Jason Ridley (pictured, above with a local girl), pastor of the Hilltop church in Columbus, says this was his sixth international mission trip. "It was refreshing because the Seventh-day Adventist Church in that country is fairly new. I was the first Adventist to preach in the city of Fieri, where 90 percent of the people in the church are very young," he recalls.

Romero says he hopes this trip is only the beginning of a long partnership with the Albanian mission. Kastrati dreams of building a community center for girls, a home for senior citizens and much more. And, AWC has already been invited to come back next year.—*Christopher Thompson and Visitor Staff*



Allegheny West members that joined 50 volunteers during a mission trip to Albania, take time to visit an historic landmark.

Romero then got in touch with ADRA Albania to find out how he could help. They invited him to bring members of his New Experience mission group along with 11 AWC members. A total of 50 pastors, Children's Ministries leaders, general contractors and medical professionals from 10 states and four countries visited the country for mission work.

The group spent a week in the Albanian capital of Tirana and surrounding cities preaching, providing free health clinics and fairs, and hosting Vacation

Ethan Temple Sweeps Cotillion/Beautillion Awards

The Allegheny West Conference held their 15th annual Cotillion/Beautillion, where young people are formally introduced into society and given the opportunity to win college scholarships. In the presence of supporters, family, friends and church members, more than 20 young people from churches around the conference participated in the gala.

This year two phenomenons took place: there was a three-way tie for queen, and all the winners hailed from the same church. AWC leaders donned queen crowns to the Davidson triplets—Brina, Brittny and Bresean—all of whom plan to attend Oakwood University (Ala.). The king's crown went to Isaiah Musa, who plans to attend Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio. The runner-up for king was Roemello Reeves, who says he will attend Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio. All five call Ethan Temple in Dayton their church family.

"The foundation of a young person's life is precious, and the role that the church family has in building that foundation is crucial," says Carl Neesmith, Ethan Temple's communication director, about the purpose of



the event. "Their development, both spiritually and emotionally, are keys to their stability and self-worth. In addition, education, leadership skills and socialization are necessary to their future success. Resources both in time and money must be allocated to afford them the opportunities to be all they can be in this life."

Conference Leader Baptizes Inmate at Supermax Prison

Troy Root, an inmate at the Ohio State Penitentiary in Youngstown, Ohio, had been studying the Amazing Facts Bible studies for about two years when he began to notice distinct differences between what he was taught to believe and what the Bible shared. He concluded that his denomination was not following Bible truths and decided to be baptized into the Adventist Church.

The fact that Root ever received a Bible lesson is a testament to the love of God to save and the power of the gospel to reform and revive. He is housed at a "super-max" facility, or a super-maximum prison designed to house violent criminals or prisoners who might threaten the security of the guards or other

prisoners. Supermax prisoners are locked into small cells for approximately 23 hours a day and have almost no contact with other human beings. Visitors are required to sit behind a glass window. Phone calls and visitation privileges are strictly limited. Books and magazines may be denied and pens restricted.

Because of security threats, supermax prison officials also do not allow baptisms. Despite strict rules, the prison was going to allow the baptism, but when Melvin Mitchell (pictured left), the conference's Prison Ministries director, arrived for Root's special day, he faced more red tape. Security told him that an inmate classified as a "B-4" could not be touched.

Mitchell explained to the warden that because the Bible teaches baptism by immersion, he needed to touch Root to baptize him. After additional negotiations, God once again manifested His greatness and power, and they gave permission to baptize Root with one stipulation—his hands had to be cuffed behind his back. "The joy we witnessed was worth any inconvenience we went through," shares Mitchell.

Root continues to correspond with a fellow church member in the Youngstown, Ohio, area and is learning and growing.



THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

JUNE 2014

Worship the Lord!

Why do you attend church on Sabbath morning? Perhaps you've asked yourself that question after a long, tiring week, and you're trying to decide if it is worth getting out of bed to attend. Or, maybe it has been such a habit—a good one I would add—that it has been awhile since you've considered why.

I hope the answer will be centered on worship. The primary reason why we worship is to recognize that there is a God, and He is worthy of our praise and adoration. Over and over, the Scripture reminds us to, "Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever" (Ps. 106:1, NKJV). As created beings, our highest purpose is to give glory and praise to our Creator God. When we stop to contemplate the character of God, we recognize that we can never exhaust the reasons for praising Him. Then, when we look at what He has done for us, we are filled with thanksgiving.

This leads us to some of the secondary but more readily identifiable reasons for our corporate worship. We learn. When we read the Bible, submit to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and take biblical instruction from others, we are able to grow in our knowledge of God.

Often, when the difficulties of life press in on us and we stop to worship such an awesome God, we find that He is much bigger than any of our problems. We find encouragement in knowing how it will all end—in the Earth made new. Looking to God inspires us to persevere and live differently, in a more positive way, and to resist the temptations that would entice us.

This coming Sabbath, I encourage you to worship with purpose—for God and for yourself!



Rick Remmers
President

New Ministerial, Family Ministries Director Welcomed

Eli Rojas, DMin, joins the conference office staff this month as Ministerial and Family Ministries director, filling the vacancy created when John Appel retired last year. "Elder Rojas has a rich and broad experience in pastoral ministry, and he will be a great blessing to us in Chesapeake Conference," says Rick Remmers, conference president. Rojas comes from the Carolina Conference where he has been the conference Family



Ministries director and senior pastor at the Arden (N.C.) church. A native of Costa Rica, Rojas' ministry in the United States began more than 25 years ago. He is an experienced church planter, pastor trainer and mentor, and he enjoys organizing mission trips.

"The secret to winning in a tug-of-war game is teamwork. As workers for Christ, we find that teamwork—in the church and as fellow pastors—is the key to victory," says Rojas. "I'm [eagerly] looking forward to joining the team at the Chesapeake Conference and pulling together for Christ's victory in the local church, the pastoral team and the conference!"

He and his wife, Loida, an accountant, have two adult children—Eileen, majoring in education at Walla Walla University (Wash.), and Eli, a seminary student at Andrews University (Mich.).

Williamsport Members Lend a Hand in Philadelphia

A group of 15 from the Williamsport (Md.) church (pictured right) recently went on a mission trip without leaving the country. Kandace Zollman, associate pastor at Williamsport, noticed a post on Facebook that caught her attention—a call posted by Tara VinCross, pastor of Pennsylvania Conference’s Chestnut Hill church in Philadelphia, for laborers to assist in work the church is doing in the inner city.

“Hundreds of young people have been blessed by having the opportunity to travel to another country and minister to others on mission trips. But, airfare is expensive, fundraising is difficult and parents are often uncomfortable with their children leaving the country without them,” says Zollman. So, she looked for a way to do mission work without these complications.

REACH Philadelphia is a young congregation that the Chestnut Hill church planted less than three years ago. The group purchased an old nightclub and has a vision to renovate it into a ministry center where community needs are identified and met. Urban agriculture, student tutoring, a fitness center and a vegetarian café will all play a role in meeting the spiritual needs of those in the community.

So several adults and a few students—four from the nearby Highland View Academy (HVA)—traveled from Maryland to Philadelphia where they spent three days shoveling, spreading mulch, tearing up plywood, picking up trash, hauling books, meeting neighbors, cleaning up messes and doing whatever was needed.



“The Williamsport group was incredible. They did a great job and were really supportive,” says VinCross.

Emily Mills, a junior at HVA, observed that most of the REACH church members are young adults, and she was struck by their strong commitment and faith. “They are some of the most spiritual, on-fire-for-God people I have ever met,” she says.

The group returned to western Maryland with a vision for impacting their own community, Zollman says. The Williamsport church has plans to send another group to Philadelphia this month.

To learn more or volunteer to help, visit reach-philadelphia.org.



Above: JoDee Ketter and Donna Godlove assemble boards for the raised garden beds.

Volunteers gather at the worksite, a former inner city nightclub slated to be a new ministry center.

I Learned the True Meaning of Giving Thanks

On a recent mission trip to the Dominican Republic with my classmates at Highland View Academy (HVA), I realized that there was only one word that I needed to know how to say in Spanish and that was “gracias” or “thank you.” We went there to give back and help build a school; however, our group kept saying gracias all week long. We said gracias to the school principal for slaving away for hours to make us traditional Dominican soup. We said gracias to the pastor for taking the time to drive us to and from work each day. We said it to his wife for cleaning up our (their) rooms. We said it to the woman who invited us to her house for a “light snack” that turned out to be a full meal, and we said it to the church members who welcomed us with open arms.

As we worked six or seven hours a day in intense heat, mixing endless batches of concrete and laying endless quantities of block, we learned to be thankful for the simplest things—a breakfast of bread and cheese, a bottle of water, a clean shirt, a cold shower. More than that, though, we were thankful for the rare word of approval from the stern Dominican foreman, or the friend who stepped in to take a turn at the shovel so that we could get out of the sun.



Students (back row) Derrick Dye ('14), Cassondra Harris ('14), Kabrina Perkins ('14), and Valerie Wyatt ('15) work with parent Paul Shingleton (in the hat) and a local church member on a wall of the new school auditorium in La Isabella, Dominican Republic.

In the Dominican Republic, people do things for each other. If they find an act of kindness inconvenient, they don't show it. If we judged wealth not by what you have but by how much you give, these people are the richest in the world.

We Americans like to think of ourselves as independent. For me, this mission trip destroyed that attitude completely and taught me to embrace interdependence. At the worksite, no one told us what to do. We had to step out and work on our own, but all around us, our friends were doing the same thing, and without each other's work, nothing would have been accomplished. I was one small spoke in a very big wheel, and I felt very insignificant and very important at the same time.

It is a good thing to say gracias—to admit that you have a need—but that you also have something to give in return. It may be as big as a school auditorium, and it may be as small as a piggyback ride for an admiring child. It is still a part of the great and beautiful work, and as the wheels go on turning, you begin to enjoy the ride.—Jenny Coleman ('14)



Kayla Miller ('16) demonstrates her flute to the daughter of the La Isabella Adventist church pastor.

Music Festival Joins Middle School Musicians

Can you imagine living in a world without any music? At Highland View Academy, faculty, staff and students regularly praise God through music in a variety of ways. When Joseph Choi became HVA's music director last August, he looked forward to the day when fifth-through eighth-graders from around the Chesapeake Conference could converge at the academy to learn music and to praise God. Nearly 70 choir and handbell students attended the school's music festival this year.

Bill Bromme, a former long-time music director at HVA, was the handbell clinician/conductor. Choi, choir clinician and music festival director, said, "There is nothing more fulfilling as a music teacher [than] to see so many students around the conference elementary schools coming together to praise our God." He also said the event was a good opportunity to see many younger people come together to make lasting friendships, using their talents to praise God.

Students spent all day Friday learning the music. Jim Zeisler, HVA's chaplain, presented Friday vespers. The worship service on Sabbath morning featured performances from the music festival groups as well as the HVA Highlanders. The highlight of the music festival weekend was the Sabbath afternoon concert, which showcased students from various elementary schools performing together.



The festival handbell choir performs.



Miranda Benton, an eighth-grader at nearby Mt. Aetna Adventist School, concentrates during the handbell choir performance.



Joseph Choi, HVA music director, shares hymn lyrics with the audience.

"The music festival gave us the privilege of seeing how God has blessed us with many musically talented students around the conference," says Choi.

HVA will host a band and string orchestra festival in 2015. To participate, contact the school at (301) 739-8480, ext. 258, or by emailing Choi at jchoi@highlandviewacademy.com.

MOUNTAIN VIEW POINT

JUNE 2014

Mountain View Delegates Re-Elect Officers

Delegates met last month at the Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va., for Mountain View Conference's Fifth Quadrennial Session and voted to re-elect, for a third term, Larry Boggess as president and Victor Zill as executive secretary/treasurer.



Delegates re-elected Victor Zill, pictured with his wife, Monica, as secretary/treasurer, and Larry Boggess, pictured with his wife, Jo'an, as president.

"I envision a dynamic, Holy Spirit-filled church family, hastening the coming of Jesus ... [as they] engage their friends, neighbors and communities with the love of Jesus," said Boggess as he shared his vision for the upcoming term.

Zill shared that the financial position of the conference is stronger now than the prior four years. During that time, members returned \$9.6 million, which meant a tithe increase of 9.21 percent. "Giving per member for tithe ranks second highest within the Columbia Union and is the eighth highest within the North American Division, highlighting the faithfulness of God's people," Zill said.

While membership declined due to deaths and relocation, Zill reported that, at the end of 2013, membership stood at 2,283. He also noted that during the quadrennium, 301 people joined the church in the Mountain View territory.

Kathryn Styer, a delegate from the Romney (W.Va.) church, said, "This was my first constituency meeting. I really learned a lot and appreciated the necessary organization [happening] behind the scenes in God's church."

10 Students Serve in Costa Rica

Ten Mountain View Conference students spent their spring break participating in a mission trip to San Jose, Costa Rica. The trip, planned by the Mountain View Office of Education along with Quiet Hour Ministries, provided the students opportunities to assist with medical and optical clinics, a church building project, Vacation Bible Schools (VBS) and evangelistic meetings.

Students report that the 11-day trip was filled with enjoyment, adventure and growth. They enjoyed the warmth and love of the Costa Rican people, especially the children. Students who had never led out before grew into leadership roles as they led VBS and preached each evening.

Cheryl Jacko, the conference's acting superintendent of education, said, "Our students helped spread the gospel in Costa Rica and had a life-changing experience. Two were baptized in Costa Rica and they all have grown as leaders and as Christians. The trip was a huge success." Read more at columbiaunionvisitor.com/mvcmission.



Alexandra Engelkemier (right), a senior at Highland Adventist School in Elkins, W.Va., takes the blood pressure of a health clinic patient.

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

Young Adults Get Acquainted With “The Man”

Approximately 30 young adults and youth from the Mountain View Conference recently discussed why prayer is such an important part of having a relationship with God. The discussion took place during the third annual Mountain View Young Adult Prayer Conference themed “He’s the Man,” held in Huttonsville, W.Va.

Joel “Joey” Nino, a 23-year-old theology major at Southern Adventist University (Tenn.), spoke to attendees during the general sessions about God and why He is “the Man.” Through personal testimony and several stories from Scripture, Nino demonstrated how God is a God of love who reaches out to us and never leaves our side. He shared how God took his life, once filled with violence, drugs, gangs and more, and made him a new creation.

He shared the story of the man with leprosy (see Mark 1:40-42) who risked it all to reach out to Jesus to be healed, not knowing for sure if He would be healed or rejected like he had so many times before. “He reached out in faith,” Nino said. “That is one reason why God is the Man, because He reaches out to us in our affliction and heals us where we are.”

Throughout the weekend, attendees were invited to write prayer requests on the prayer wall and participate in workshops discussing prayer, having expectancy and praying in times of desperation and urgency.



Attendees participated in break out sessions with Pastor Geoff Starr (pictured left).

“How many times do we pray to God and when He answers us, we don’t believe it?” asked discussion leader Kathy Pepper as the group discussed Acts 12, the story of Peter’s deliverance from jail.

“It is OK to wrestle with God in prayer,” she continued. “Sometimes, we need to draw a circle in the sand and tell God we are not moving until He blesses us, and sometimes we need to be the answers to our own prayers.”—Angelina Dickson

Eighth-Grader’s Art Piece Wins Best of Show



At Mountain View Conference’s annual education fair, Mathew Iannacone’s wood-carved and framed art project, which featured this year’s International Pathfinder Camporee “Forever Faithful” logo, won best of show in the art category. He is an eighth-grader at the Summersville Seventh-day Adventist School in Summersville, W.Va. The fair, which was held in Summersville, featured 170 entries for art, Bible, science and social studies from students in grades 1-12.

Valley Vista Family Camp Out

July 20-23, 2014

Come and enjoy:

Horseback riding • go-karts • volleyball • basketball • swimming • a zip line • remote control cars • slip ‘n slide • crafts • archery • campfires and more!

\$25/person

Families may bring their own food or purchase meals in the cafe at \$6 per person/meal.

This camp out is designed for tent camping.

To register, call (304) 422-4581 or visit vscamp.com.

SPIRIT

MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

JUNE 2014

Gaps

Gaps are the spots between the pauses in music scores, the breaks in schedules, the summers between school years—they are invitations for reflection. I find that gaps are places of refreshment, reflection and renewal. And, as I sit on campus in the gap between alumni and graduation weekends, I sense the strength of legacy and the vibrancy of new beginnings. Our legacy serves as a deep foundation on which to build a future dedicated to developing outliers for the kingdom of God. In this space, my heart understands the phrase, “We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history (*Life Sketches*, p. 196.2)



Daniel Kittle
Principal

NEWS

Top Junior Scholar Recognized

Emily Charvat recently received the J.R. Shull Scholarship, which is named for the man who served as Mount Vernon Academy (MVA) principal from 1947 to 1963. Each year during alumni weekend, the Shull family presents the award to a junior with the highest academic and citizenship record. Around that same time, Charvat also received notification that she met the requirements to enter the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. “It is an honor to serve students who dedicate themselves to the development of their intellect and character,” said Dan Kittle, principal, who is pictured right as Charvat receives the award.



Echoliars Record Performances at 3ABN

The Echoliars, MVA’s academy choir, recently visited the 3ABN studios in Illinois, where they performed and



testified about their Christian education experience. Gabby Hernandez, a junior, said, “I shared how the choir program has [helped] me view ministry in a more diverse outlet and some of the various spiritual lessons I learned performing both in the [United States] and internationally.”

Tristan Gammon, a freshman, talked about his experience as a student literature evangelist. “I recalled a particular home in which the occupant had no interest in purchasing any of our materials,” he said. “But, when I asked her if there was anything I could pray for, she shared some painful experiences and seemed more grateful for our presence. Before we left, she handed me a \$10 donation. She hadn’t changed her mind about accepting a book from me, but was very appreciative for our visit anyway.”

Over the next two years, both interviews and additional student commentaries will air regularly on 3ABN.

SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY^{.ORG} CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

JUNE 2014

Auction Takes Us Over the Rainbow!



It's been several weeks, and I'm still pinching myself over the magnificent evening we enjoyed at the "Emerald Gala" auction. Imagine my excitement when I learned that, thanks to this event, the school received more than \$200,000. Of that total, \$56,000 was raised for student aid with the remainder earmarked for our new chapel/auditorium fund.

Even so, this event was about so much more than dollars raised. It was about a community of people making a statement of their belief in the mission of this school. It was about investing in young people and making Christian education accessible to all. It was about a community unifying around a bold vision. Finally, it was just a very memorable evening and a ton of fun!

I am so grateful to everyone who played a part in a big evening for Spring Valley Academy (SVA) and our students. We are very blessed!



Darren Wilkins
Principal

At Lego Competition, Students See God's Hand at Work

The SVA Lego Robotics team (pictured), under the direction of Sam Joseph, fourth-grade teacher, recently traveled to Southern Adventist University (Tenn.) to participate in the regional Adventist Robotics League competition. Looking back on the experience, Naomi Davis, a fifth-grader, said, "It was fun, challenging and it really got you moving. I learned how to program well, and that teamwork is very important if you want to succeed."

SVA's Lego Robotics program offers students in grades 5-8 the opportunity to plan, design and program autonomous Lego robots to accomplish a variety of tasks. The students must research, brainstorm and collaborate to develop innovative solutions to current societal issues; this year the project focused on "Nature's Fury."

On this particular trip, the team experienced God's hand at work. It was at 9:30 on the first evening when they realized that they left their robot behind. While

every member of the team knelt down in a circle and prayed for a solution, the coaches and mentors called around to local stores to purchase a new kit. Soon after prayers were offered, they found and purchased a starter kit (the only robotic kit within 20 miles)! Consequently, the team was able to rebuild and re-program their new robot in time for the competition the following day!



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When a Movie Inspires

As a preacher, my passion is to talk about Jesus, my Creator, Who made everything “in the beginning” (Gen. 1:1). So, of course, I was excited when the movie *Son of God* was released in theaters back in February. The famous Portuguese actor Diogo Morgado, delivered a very powerful and inspirational portrayal of Jesus, from His humble birth through His teachings, crucifixion, death and resurrection.

The production impacted millions of people and received endorsement from some religious leaders, however, some critics didn't believe the movie deserved the support of Christian audiences because it was not completely faithful to the Scriptures. I admit the movie failed to make it clear just why Jesus came and died. I believe there is not a movie nor book that can contain all the events and acts of Jesus. Still, I deeply appreciate anyone's effort to talk about Jesus. There are areas the movie touched on that reached people in a way that most of our churches cannot. The movie allows us to start a conversation about Jesus and gives us the opportunity to share more about Him. The main thing I regret about the movie is that we, in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, did not have the opportunity to produce it.

So much money and time is expended talking about and making movies about things that have no value. My challenge for you today is to use any means possible to share Jesus' message with everyone you come in contact with—those close to us and also far away—in our family, with our friends, in our neighborhood, via a movie or on Facebook. People are dying around the world, and they need Jesus!



José H. Cortés
President

Churches Unite for Weeklong Efforts, 108 Baptized

Inspired by the conference's “Impact 2014” theme, church members from across the New Jersey Conference have committed to ramp up their efforts to take the Word of God to all nations. Church members have been praying, testifying and preaching the Word. During Easter an army of more than 180 lay preachers and local pastors, under the direction of the Personal Ministries Department, lifted up their voices to preach about Jesus for one week. Many of them preached in small groups, while others preached in the churches. During that week, New Jersey had more than 204 small group meetings, 97 campaigns and 108 baptisms. Most



Some 21 people take a stand for Jesus during an evangelistic campaign where José H. Cortés preached.



of the churches in the conference participated in some evangelism during that week, and many will continue working on that throughout the year.

While lay members and local pastors were preaching all across the state, José H. Cortés, conference president, united with them and preached at the El Faro Spanish church in Cliffside Heights. As a result, 21 people were baptized.—*Jorge Agüero*

NEWS

Young Adults Learn How to “Stand Firm” During Retreat

Collegiate and senior high school students recently joined young adults for a spiritual retreat at the Tranquil Valley Retreat Center in Tranquility. Laffit Cortes, former conference Youth Ministries director and now chaplain at Pacific Union College (Calif.), was the guest speaker. More than 150 youth came together and learned how to “Stand Firm” when facing the challenges of their daily lives on campus, in school or at work.

After the retreat, John Magbanua saw a positive impact in his own life. “For so much of my life, my faith was on cruise control,” he confessed. At the retreat, “I was challenged to be real with my relationship with God and to create a 10-day plan, personal and churchwide, to focus on only God. Those 10 days after the retreat were packed with tough trials, like my student teacher observation, a teaching interview and my exam. Without honest prayer, devotional time and a deep trust in God that I discovered at the retreat, I wouldn’t have made it.”



Antonia Richards reads the Word of God during the retreat.

Union City Pathfinders Make a Difference in Their Community

The Stars of the Master Pathfinder Club, from the Union City Spanish church in Union City, recently spent the Sabbath serving others. Along with their parents and Pathfinder leaders Janet Garcia, Esli Latorre and Claudia Garcia del Puerto, they committed to serve the homeless of Hoboken with love and joy.

They started the day with an outdoor worship service at the Frank Sinatra Park in Hoboken. Next, they walked to a nearby homeless shelter. There they tackled several



projects, including cleaning the sidewalk (pictured above) and the shelter and making lunch, which they later distributed to homeless persons on the streets.

Once the Pathfinders finished with their chores, each one had something else to do—decorate eggs for the homeless to enjoy the next day, Easter Sunday. Participants expressed that after a long day of serving, they went back home with joy in their hearts.—*Claudia Garcia del Puerto*

New Spanish-Speaking Pastor Welcomed

Members of the West New York Spanish and La Esperanza Spanish churches and the Bayonne Spanish and Bloomfield Spanish Mission Caleb groups recently welcomed their new pastor, José A. Lache. He worked for more than 22 years as a local pastor and later as the Youth Ministries director for the West Conference in Cuba. In 2010 Lache was called to work as the executive secretary for the Cuban Union. He is happily married to Enedys and they have two sons: Joslen, 16, and Josnel, 14.



Delegates Elect Officers to Continue Vision for Ohio

During Ohio Conference's 41st regular constituency meeting held last month, more than 400 delegates and delegates-at-large filled the Worthington church and elected new administrators to lead the conference during the 2014-2018 term. President Ron Halvorsen Jr., who joined the conference family in February, was elected to office by an overwhelming majority of the vote. Oswaldo Magaña, director of Clergy Care and Leadership Development, was elected executive secretary and will continue to hold both positions. Earlier this year, the nominating committee opted to separate the treasurer and secretary positions, and a new treasurer was elected but, at press time, has not officially accepted.

During the last quadrennium, membership has gradually increased from 11,446 in 2010 to 11,655 at the close of 2013. Tithes for the same period increased by 2 percent from \$9,223,240 to \$9,427,240. Administrators shared departmental reports at well-attended town hall meetings this spring, where they highlighted the explosion of activity in the youth department, community outreach at Camp Mohaven in Danville and exponential expansion of Hispanic Ministries during the past four years.

Stressing he is more pastor than chief executive officer, Halvorsen shared, "I am concerned with strengthening local churches, strengthening our local schools."

Addressing the conference's pending budgetary deficits, Halvorsen shared, "The Lord has called me to be president of your conference ... You need to know how much I care about the well-being of this conference. It seems to me we are at a juncture—not just [in] Ohio, but as a church—where we are going to have to



Oswaldo Magaña, new executive secretary, and Ron Halvorsen Jr., new president, flank their wives Herlinda and Buffy.



ask ourselves just how serious are we about the mission we've been called to [in this conference]." Halvorsen elaborated on what could be done to "right this ship," and closed his remarks by saying he believes, "You and I will be people that will put it on the line for Him."

Other business conducted included the election of the conference executive committee and reports from the articles and regulations committee and Mount Vernon Academy (MVA) Board of Trustees. The meeting concluded with a DVD from MVA featuring academy highlights and comments from principal Dan Kittle, who emphasized their commitment to "powerful relationships" with members across the conference, alumni and other organizations. "I extend to you the offer to partner with Mount Vernon Academy to build futures for the kingdom of God," Kittle said while sharing details about their strategic plan, "Destination 2016," a vision for growth for the academy.

PHOTOS BY MARIYA MARTON



Delegates pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Greater Youngstown Mission District: One Pastor's Experiment

Hope and excitement can be found throughout the 200-mile perimeter, from Warren to Ravenna to Boardman to East Liverpool," says Pastor Andrew Clark of his multichurch district located in northeast Ohio. He says this is because the area is a "mission field where one people share one vision with one mission, creating limitless reflections of God."

Clark, who joined the Ohio Conference 18 months ago, recently completed his first year creating what he calls a "mission district." He describes it as a larger district containing several smaller congregations that corporately identify their mission as reaching those in need. The distinction is that the mission district is part of a growing and increasingly complex metropolitan area.



Andrew Clark, his wife, Mayda, and their children minister in northeast Ohio.

The Greater Youngstown Mission District (GYMD) is comprised of three of the four churches in Clark's district, which consist of Warren, Evergreen, Ravenna and East Liverpool. Clark explains, "Our mission is to seek to be transformed by God, [then] instigate transformed families—transformed bodies of Christ, or tribes—that can be instigators in transforming not only the district, but the communities" in which churches reside. Their goal is to plant seeds of mission in unentered areas. The GYMD consider themselves one people in multiple locations. Their mission "is to accept the transformation Jesus has in store for them, to be a better reflection [of God's love]" within the communities they serve.

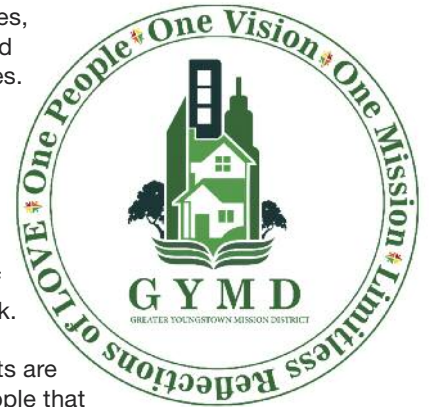
How is this achieved, when there are such diverse needs within these churches and communities? The

GYMD shares resources, leadership, training and equipping opportunities. "Rather than writing a single prescription among such diversity, we support one another's tribes in their individual efforts to create reflections of God's love," says Clark.

He adds, "If we as Seventh-day Adventists are truly going to be a people that brings the message to the entire world, shouldn't we be seeking to support one another and create more opportunities and assets to reach a diversity of people?"

The support is also financial. GYMD members have contributed funds to update electric and technology systems, or purchased iPads that head elders use for online meetings or for live, local, interactive worship services. They also support each other by participating in each other's community outreach endeavors. One example of that was at the recent Singspiration music event, which provided a comfortable venue for GYMD members to bring and make new friends.

Although this mission district concept is still experimental, Clark and GYMD members have plans to see the idea mature and, through it, make a concrete difference for the Lord.



Members from the Greater Youngstown Mission District of churches lead at their recent Singspiration event.

Pennsylvania *Pen*

JUNE 2014

Three to Be Ordained at Camp Meeting

Three pastors will be ordained Sabbath, June 21, during a special service as part of the Pennsylvania Conference Camp Meeting. Below are the candidates:

Jason Foster was born into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Georgia and felt the call of God as he grew, but he never truly adopted Adventist Christianity until he was in college. During Foster's original enrollment in college at Southern Adventist University (Tenn.), he felt called to be a youth pastor but soon realized he simply wanted to make God's theology a way of life and work wherever God placed him.



Foster loves writing and listening to and performing music. He also loves working with his hands and uses that passion as part of his ministry whenever possible. He is the associate pastor of the Grace Outlet church in Reading and has served as a summer camp director and a dean at several Adventist boarding schools. His wife, Julie, serves as a Bible teacher at Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg.

Pedro Alberteris was born in Cuba and became a Seventh-day Adventist as a child when someone invited him to Vacation Bible School. As a young person, he began preaching, doing inspirational programs and teaching the Bible to other people. So, it was only natural for him to attend the Adventist seminary in Cuba where he received a bachelor's in theology. While he was there, he fell in love with Mirniudys, and they were married in December 2008.

Alberteris served as a pastor in communist Cuba for

four years and has preached under oppression and persecution. For the last year, he has served as pastor of the Wilkes-Barre Spanish church and the Freeland Spanish mission group. He very much desires to bring more people to Jesus, preach about the Second Coming and to serve God.

Leandro Robinson was born in the Dominican Republic, but was raised in New Jersey. He graduated from Atlantic Union College (Mass.) with bachelors' degrees in personal ministries, religion and theology, and is completing a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry at Andrews University (Mich.). As a pastor, he is committed to sharing the gospel with others and has preached evangelistic series locally and abroad.

Since 2011 he has served as conference Youth and Young Adult Ministries director. Robinson envisions a Christ-centered, Spirit-intoxicated, Bible-saturated army of youth who have been so transformed through the ministry of the Word that they fervently live out the great commandment and the Great Commission.

He is married to his best friend, Eunice, and they have two daughters, Emely and Nathalie.—*Jeanne Hartwell*



Three Conference Employees Say Goodbye

Three Pennsylvania Conference employees said goodbye this year as they begin the new adventure of retirement. In February **Joyce Weslotsky**, administrative assistant for the Trust Services Department, retired and is enjoying time with her husband, Mike, who retired from his job a few months earlier. She has served the Pennsylvania



Conference since 1998—always ready with a smile, word of encouragement and positive attitude.

Paul Shobe has traveled the country moving pastors, teachers, departmental leaders and administrative staff for the Pennsylvania Conference since 1978. Truly a

beloved part of the conference team, Shobe was always ready to tackle maintenance problems at the conference office building and at camp meeting whenever he was in town. He and his red truck retired from the road in April.

“**Vicki Bernard** has served the Irvin Comstock school [in Wellsboro] for more than 20 years, leading students to the foot of the cross each and every day,” shares Jeff Bovee, vice president of Education. “She has helped mold and shape the hearts and minds of many young people in her classroom.” Bernard retires at the end of June and looks forward to the new adventures God has in store for her.



PHOTO BY V. MICHELLE BERNARD

Fraser Hispanic Becomes Newest Church

Two years ago, 15 members from the Grace Hispanic church in Chester began the Fraser Hispanic church plant. This spring they became the newest Pennsylvania Conference church. Fifty-three members signed the charter as the Fraser Hispanic church in Exton was officially organized. They celebrated more than just becoming a church—four people were baptized and four more joined through profession of faith, with others indicating their desire to join the growing church family. Pennsylvania Conference



Members line up to sign the church charter.



officers Ray Hartwell, Ron Christman and Will Peterson were on hand to celebrate with members. The church also formed Pathfinders and Adventurers clubs to serve the 32 children who attend the church.

“Our next steps are to buy a facility that will allow us to grow even more and to plant a new congregation in 2016,” shares Pastor Gabriel Montalvo. “God is making His work prosper in Pennsylvania. Let us praise His name.”

Potomac People

JUNE 2014

Conference Names New Vice President for Finance

The Potomac Conference administration and executive committee recently selected David VandeVere as the conference's new vice president for finance. VandeVere has an extensive background in pastoral administration and a heart for ministry. He has pastored the Damascus Grace Fellowship church in Damascus, Md., since 2004. Prior to joining Potomac, he held the positions of assistant treasurer and treasurer for the Minnesota Conference.

"I am excited to once again serve as a conference treasurer with President Bill Miller," says VandeVere. "Under God's blessing, he has assembled a team of administrators, pastors and teachers [who] are completely committed to growing and leading the mission of God's kingdom in the Potomac Conference. I consider it a privilege to work with this group."

VandeVere graduated in 1987 from Southern Adventist University (Tenn.) with a bachelor's in accounting and was licensed as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in 1989. He started his career at a major accounting firm in the Carolinas and served as a public accountant from 1987 to 1992.

"Dave is well qualified as an auditor, CPA, accountant and manager," says Tom Evans, treasurer for the North American Division. "I told Bill Miller that his search was over. In my opinion, [Dave] was the man Potomac needed."

Miller adds, "Dave's commitment to Jesus, understanding of mission, financial background and understanding of conference functions are great assets to [our] team."

Joining VandeVere will be his wife, Cindy, and two sons, Steven and Ryan. Steven is a freshman at Southern and Ryan is completing his junior year at Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, Va.



40 Churches Close Doors for Worship, Training, Outreach

More than 40 Seventh-day Adventist churches across Potomac and beyond closed their doors to participate in The One Event. The day included a worship service, community project and training sessions that covered topics like how to reach the Millennial generation, become a more involved member and give Bible studies.

"Each month Potomac's pastors in northern Virginia get together for leadership development, encouragement, fellowship, accountability and dreaming," explains Rick Jordan, pastor of the Woodbridge (Va.) church. "One of our dreams was to come together for a joint worship service and fellowship. We don't want language, culture or our buildings dividing us, so we planned the worship service to celebrate our diversity."

Participants conducted the program in various languages and attendees sang worship songs in English and Spanish. Kofi Antwi-Adarkwah, pastor of the First Northern Virginia Ghanaian church in Alexandria, Va., gave the scripture reading in his native tongue. Jimmy Munoz, discipleship pastor at the Seabrook church in Lanham, Md., translated into Spanish the sermon by Barry Black, chaplain for the United States Senate.

During the development stage, Pastor Jordan noted that the pastors wanted to give the members a chance

to practice outreach. They decided to use a free concert as their platform.

"We were able to bring in Josh Wilson, a popular Christian artist, and partner with WGTS [91.9 FM] in Takoma Park [Md.]," explains Pastor Jordan. "People were also encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to give to a local food bank. We were able to collect more than 8,000 pounds of food."

More than 2,000 people attended the event, and more than 1,500 people from the community attended the Josh Wilson concert.—*Tiffany Doss*



Potomac People

Virginia Men “Step Up” Their Bible Knowledge

After being inspired at a men’s group event, Brian Ducharme, a member of the Manassas (Va.) church, reached out to leaders at the Vienna and Leesburg churches to coordinate a one-day event focused on digging deeper into the Word. More than 30 attended “Men Stepping Up” and committed to follow up with a 10-session study of what it means to be a man in the sight God.

“It’s challenging to get people involved in groups like this,” says Kevin Singleton, men’s group coordinator for the Leesburg church. “In sending out surveys to the men in our church, 90 percent of them said they had a desire to do more, yet no one was willing to step out to get involved. That’s when Brian called. The timing was clearly a ‘God thing.’”

Many attendees say the event helped them realize they are not alone in facing daily struggles. “I was amazed at the way the Spirit was able to put a spark in my mind and make it into a fire,” says Ducharme. “I was able to see how God was able to use us to



make a difference in the lives of these men. I realized the power of being part of a team, but more importantly, the power of being on God’s team.”

Arlington, Fairfax Pastor Ordained

Vincent Maclsaac credits his earliest knowledge of God to his Catholic grandmother, Dorothy. Her simple, yet strong faith in God imprinted faithfulness to Christ in his young mind.

After reading the New Testament for the first time in college, Maclsaac began attending the Hamilton Mountain Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. Although a misfit with his long hair, leather jacket and rock T-shirts, they embraced him.

On the day of his baptism, he felt God tell him,

“Give my people my Word.” Lacking money, confidence or access to education, he assumed he had misunderstood the call. A retired pastor told him, “It’s a hard life. My advice is to run. If you can run away, you were not called; if you can’t, you will answer the call with all of your life.”

Though he faced several challenges, Maclsaac eventually attended Southern Adventist University (Tenn.) to complete his education and now pastors the Arlington and Fairfax churches in Virginia.

“We are *all* called to the gospel work, not just pastors and not just those ordained of man,” says Pastor Maclsaac. “My grandfather helped me realize that. He was a collector, and one day he asked me the value of a certain stamp in our collection. After consulting my pricing index, I told him the face value of the stamp, but he said I was wrong. Finally he said, ‘The value is always what someone is willing to pay.’ Because of him, I realize the value of any human is the value God is willing to place. And, He paid the highest price.”—*Tiffany Doss*



Conference and area leaders lay hands on Vincent Maclsaac, with his wife, Tina, by his side, during his ordination service.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

HAPPENINGS



JUNE 2014

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

Past, Present, Future is the Focus at Alumni Weekend

The Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) Alumni Association, students, faculty and staff recently welcomed past and current SVA family members and friends to the campus for alumni weekend. There were many highlights that connected SVA's past to its future:

In the Present: The Class of 2014 kicked off the weekend by planting a tree to commemorate pending transformations from students to firmly rooted SVA alumni. Many seniors used the moment to ponder the excitement they will experience when they return to SVA as graduates. SVA faculty and staff also encouraged seniors to attend alumni events and to get to know their honor class brothers and sisters.

Past and Current Traditions: Many weekend attendees enthusiastically participated or attended the benefit golf tournament, business meeting and reception, vespers, Sabbath worship, class reunions and annual basketball games. Buz Menhardt, associate pastor of



Seniors plant a tree on campus to commemorate their transition into alumni.

the New Market (Va.) church, spoke for the divine service. Other Sabbath highlights were SVA's outstanding student singers and musicians, as well as a traditional version of the "Hallelujah Chorus" by the SVA choir and alumni.

To highlight years of extraordinary service to the students and educational ministry of SVA, three staff received honorary diplomas: J.J. Henline, SVA's athletic director of 40 years; Dorenda Dodge, former librarian and current teacher/vice principal; and Pastor Menhardt, former chaplain and current Bible teacher. They will be honorary members of the Class of 2014.

A Door to the Future: The alumni association's "Open a Door" student-aid fundraising campaign marked its first anniversary during alumni weekend. Association leaders reported that enthusiasm and participation in the campaign continues to grow among SVA alumni, who are committed to financially supporting students to experience the same Christian education they were blessed to receive.

This year the alumni Sabbath offering, slated to benefit "Open a Door" and other critical needs at SVA, increased by more than 400 percent, and marked the highest amount ever collected! "Praise the Lord for committed alumni who want to help future students afford a life-transforming SVA education," said Tony Williams, alumni association vice president.—*Janel Ware*



Kelly Wiedemann ('03), SVA's Music Department chair, directs past and current students during special music.



Three SVA staff members get bestowed honorary diplomas.

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Phone: (540) 740-3161 ■ shenandoahvalleyacademy.org ■ Principal, Travis Johnson ■ Editor, Chris Simons

Success Weekend is a Triumph for Students

The tragedy of 9/11 caused Steve Silver ('71) and his wife, Nancy, to dedicate their lives to helping improve the lives of others. Their impact reaches from an orphanage in Tanzania, Africa, to the campus of Takoma Academy (TA), for which they recently hosted Success Weekend. The life-changing event, as junior Anthony Tate called it, included the participation of 46 selected students (pictured below) at a venue in Rehoboth Beach, Del.

"I wanted to convene a group of meaningful leaders that I felt could motivate the students to achieve self-actualization—to be all that they could be," states Steve, founder of the successful Onix Group, Inc., through which he owns nursing homes, drug addiction centers and hotels in the eastern and southern United States. Nancy also states that not only did she "want the students to have a great time," but she also wanted the sessions to help them become "focused

and work toward their dream."

The lineup of speakers for Success Weekend included Jerry Rhodes (right), from the Class of 1975 and CEO of CRC Health (Calif.), the nation's largest provider of addiction and related behavioral health services; David Banks (below), chief strategic officer for Florida Hospital; Col.



Richard G. Moore, Jr., 436th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base (Del.); Marissa Erdman (below), vice president of marketing for Onix; and Terry Johnsson, chaplain at the nearby WGTS 91.9 FM.



Erdman advised the students to be persistent, determined

and never give up. Banks and his wife are dedicated to helping young people, especially those attending Adventist schools. Rhodes says his goal for Success Weekend was to help guide the students on "how to deal with the world and workplace."



A pleasant surprise of the event was Steve's announcement that he would award \$1,000 tuition scholarships to the five students who wrote the best essays about who they are and what they want to be. Because of the high quality of essays, however, he ended presenting scholarships to six TA students.

"[Success Weekend] was essential to my perennial growth towards success," says senior Noelle Francis. "... I was able to speak to people that I may never have otherwise had the opportunity to meet... I was able to communicate with those who encouraged me and my goal to pursue a career."

Steve believes there can be no better memorial to the strong work ethic of his late sister, Valerie Silver Ellis, who was killed when the World Trade Center crumbled, than this event. "Success Weekend gave life to the dreams and ambitions of TA's students," he says.



Steve Silver celebrates with the six TA students he awarded \$1,000 scholarships during Success Weekend.

Fulfilling Ellen White's Vision

June 15, 1904, Ellen G. White wrote in *Signs of the Times* magazine about Washington Adventist University (WAU). She wrote, "My hopes for this place are high. The country for miles and miles around Washington is to be worked from here. I am so thankful that our work is to be established in this place. Were Christ here upon the ground, He would say, 'Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.' ... The truth of God will be applied, by the Spirit's power, to the heart and conscience. We must present the truth in love and faith and hope and courage."

With these powerful words from White as an inspiration, our focus and vision at WAU continues to be producing graduates who bring competence and moral leadership to their communities. During this academic year, we not only prepared students for graduation, but through the power of the Holy Spirit, 70 students accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and were baptized this spring (see story below). This is solid evidence of Christian education in action!

In the book *Education*, page 19, White also wrote, "He who co-operates with the divine purpose in imparting to the youth a knowledge of God, and molding the character into harmony with His, does a high and noble work."

Our dedicated faculty and staff have accepted this high and noble work of making our institutional vision a reality for each student. It is amazing what happens when divinity and humanity are in alignment! Your continued prayers and support are appreciated. Thank you.

This is Washington Adventist University!



Weymouth Spence
President

70 Baptized Due to Second Annual Campus Revival

The second annual campus revival featured a week of worship and culminated with the baptism of 53 young adults. Each evening during the revival, hundreds of students, faculty and staff, and visitors from nearby churches filled the outdoor tent on campus to worship and hear guest speaker MyRon Edmonds, senior pastor from Allegheny West Conference's Glenville church in Cleveland. He spoke to the revival theme "I'm Weak," based on 2 Corinthians 12:9, which says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." The revival concluded with a Sabbath worship service that featured speaker Ronnie Vanderhorst, a member of Allegheny East Conference's Emmanuel-Brinklow church in Ashton, Md.

"We had about 14 people who planned to participate in the baptism, and then the Holy Spirit fell upon the campus and touched hearts in ways only God can do," said Regina Johnson, WAU chaplain. "Saying God is good would be an understatement! He never fails to exceed my expectations. ... I'm beyond excited that the students are making their decisions together as a campus family!"

Shaniel Francis, a graduating senior, said, "The revival confirmed everything about my spiritual life that I was afraid to acknowledge. I realized the importance of starting over spiritually."

A later baptism saw 17 more students claim Christ as their Savior. See the video at columbiaunionvisitor.com/70.



Faculty and staff stand with the newly baptized students at nearby Sligo church.

NEWS

Enactus Team Wins First Round National Competition

WAU's Enactus team competed this spring in the national competition that was part of the Enactus United States National Exposition 2014 at Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. The team won the opening round, but lost the quarterfinal round of the competition to Belmont University from Tennessee.

Enactus is an international nonprofit organization that brings students, academics and business leaders together to develop projects that improve the quality of life for people in need by applying business concepts. Nationwide, there are 518 active Enactus teams, with more than 17,000 students working on more than 2,000 community service projects.

"I am so proud of our WAU Enactus team. With over 3,700 hours of volunteer time this year, they have dedicated themselves to helping our community," says Kimberly Pichot, the team's advisor and a business professor.

Family Fun Festival Caps Alumni Weekend Activities

This year's alumni weekend featured a wide variety of events and activities. A kickoff social started the activities, followed by a 40th anniversary celebration for the Respiratory Care Program, a cherry blossom brunch, the president's reception, worship services, class luncheons, departmental open houses and an alumni awards banquet. The weekend culminated on Sunday with a 5K run/walk in the morning and the Family Fun Festival in the afternoon that was open to the public. The festival featured music, food and family entertainment.

The Family Fun Festival, previously known as the

PHOTO BY RANDOLPH ROBIN



A member of WAU's Acro-Airs gymnastics group performs a gravity-defying backflip.

Taste of Takoma, has been an annual tradition on campus for more than a decade during alumni weekend. This year the free event was staged with support from the city of Takoma Park and local sponsors, such as Washington Adventist Hospital and the university's WGTS 91.9 FM radio station.

WAU Hosts 100 Presidents for Lunch

WAU recently hosted a luncheon for some 100 presidents of Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities from around the world. The luncheon was held on the campus' Sligo church and was part of the weeklong International Conference for College and University Presidents that began at the Adventist world headquarters.



Weymouth Spence, WAU president, greeted the 120 luncheon attendees, and Zack Plantak, WAU professor of Religious Studies, offered the prayer. Music professors, Daniel Lau on piano and Preston Hawes on violin, provided background music.

A bus tour of Washington, D.C., followed, and three WAU professors went along as tour guides to discuss the theme of religious freedom with the participants.

Revived!



Regina Johnson, WAU chaplain, and Pastor MyRon Edmonds, who spoke at the revival, flank Brittany Bower, a recent graduate with a degree in biology, as she arises from the baptistry. She was one of 70 students baptized due to the spring revival.

Profiles in Caring



Washington Adventist Hospital
 Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
 Hackettstown Regional Medical Center
 Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center
 Shady Grove Adventist Aquilino
 Cancer Center
 Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital
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Dr. Patrick's Tragedy: Lessons We Can Learn

by Marissa Cummings Leslie, M.D.

On Dec. 6, 2013, Dr. Teleka Patrick, a 30-year-old Adventist psychiatric medical resident in Western Michigan, was reported missing and did not report to work. In the wake of her disappearance, news outlets and the primary investigator for the case suggested that Dr. Patrick's disappearance was linked to irrational and disturbing behavior she exhibited before she disappeared. Her social media posts revealed she was experiencing delusions and hearing voices. In April, Dr. Patrick's body was found in an Indiana lake. It was a tragic end to a life with so much talent and potential.

Dr. Patrick reportedly began displaying unusual behavior a few years before her death. While I do not know the specifics of her medical case, the symptoms Dr. Patrick reportedly experienced are similar to the early signs of schizophrenia or bipolar disorder. These include impulsive or high-risk behavior, isolation from friends or family members and hearing voices.

Studies have shown that early identification and treatment of mental illness can help increase an individual's ability to live a healthier and happier life. However, one of the barriers affecting the identification and treatment of mental illness is the stigma associated with mental illness. This stigma is heightened among minority communities, particularly African-Americans. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, many African-American women do not seek treatment for mental illness because it is viewed as a personal weakness, not a health problem. This perception must be eliminated to help persons who live with mental illness seek the support they need to be well.

It is my hope that Dr. Patrick's tragic situation will help shine a light on mental illness and allow society to openly discuss the symptoms of mental illness and the importance of getting treatment. While Americans have been well-informed about the need to seek urgent treatment in the event of acute chest pain or if experiencing signs of a stroke, many are not informed about the need to seek care when the signs of mental illness appear.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's 2012 behavioral health report, 35 percent of adults with serious mental impairment in the United States received no mental health services. It is my hope that we, as a society, can embrace mental illness with the same degree of urgency and compassion that we give to other diseases such as cancer and heart disease. Reducing the stigma of mental illness can help save lives.

Dr. Marissa Cummings Leslie is a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Medical Director of Outpatient Services for Adventist Behavioral Health in Rockville, Maryland.



Adventist HealthCare Names New President and CEO

Terry Forde has been named the new president and chief executive officer of Adventist HealthCare, Montgomery County's first and largest provider of health-care services.

Forde, who has served as the organization's executive vice president and chief operating officer since 2011, has overseen the growth of Adventist HealthCare's services and programs in Maryland during his tenure. He has also worked with executives, employees and physicians to successfully adapt to the many changes that have occurred in health care at both the state and national levels.

"Terry is the clear choice to continue to build on Adventist HealthCare's successful vision and, most importantly, to ensure that we fulfill our mission to demonstrate God's care by improving the health of people and communities through a ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing," said Dave Weigley, chairman of the Adventist HealthCare Board of Trustees.

Forde takes over for former president and CEO, William G. "Bill" Robertson, who earlier this year accepted a new role as the president of MultiCare Health in Tacoma, Washington.

Since joining Adventist HealthCare in July 2011, Forde has recruited several of the organization's top executives and worked with his team on numerous new services, including:

- Opening the Shady Grove Adventist Aquilino Cancer Center in Rockville in the fall of 2013;
- Launching one of the area's largest Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) in January 2014;



Terry Forde, center, at an April news conference for Healthy Montgomery.

- Expanding community outpatient services and clinics;
- Planning the opening of urgent care centers later this year.

In addition, several of Adventist HealthCare's hospitals and entities have been recognized nationally for their quality care, including Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Washington Adventist Hospital and Hackettstown Regional Medical Center in New Jersey, which last year were all named Top Performers on Key Quality Measures® by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health-care organizations.

"It is truly an honor and a privilege to be chosen to lead an organization with a remarkable tradition of service to the region," said Forde, 43, of Silver Spring. "I am blessed to work with a dedicated group of employees, physicians and volunteers committed to delivering quality care and improving the health of the communities we serve."

Adventist HealthCare has more than 6,200 employees, cares for more than 600,000 people annually and is the largest provider of charity and uncompensated care in Montgomery County. It began serving the

Washington, D.C. region in 1907, with the opening of Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park. Over the years it has expanded its services with the opening of Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, the Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center in Germantown, Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital of Maryland,

Adventist Behavioral Health, Adventist Home Care Services, the

Reginald S. Lourie Center for Infants and Young Children, Adventist Medical Group and the Mid-Atlantic Primary Care ACO.

"Terry brings a keen understanding of the challenges facing health-care providers, especially in Maryland, and the importance of delivering exceptional health care while being a good steward of an organization's financial resources," said Jeff Pargament, a member of the Adventist HealthCare Board of Trustees and a Montgomery County community leader. "He has demonstrated success not only during his time here in Maryland, but throughout his career in health-care administration."

Forde previously served as an executive for eight years with Centura Health, the largest health system in Colorado. In that role, Forde helped lead a rapidly growing community health system while also delivering extraordinary clinical, patient experience and financial performance.

Terry and his family are members of Spencerville Seventh-day Adventist Church in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Adventist HealthCare in the News

Adventist HealthCare Hosts Seventh-day Adventist Health Ministry Leaders

Seventh-day Adventist health system ministry leaders (*pictured below*) from across the nation gathered at Adventist HealthCare's corporate offices April 21 to April 23 to discuss the importance of faith in delivering health care. This group of mission integration vice presidents, representing 18 health systems from 17 states, has been meeting annually for the past nine years.

"The job of this group is to ensure that faith-based principles are included in how our systems deliver care," said Ismael Gama, associate vice president of Mission Integration and Spiritual Care for Adventist HealthCare. Topics discussed over the three days included issues in health ministry, chaplaincy and health equity.

Congressman John Delaney (D), serving Maryland's 6th District, was a guest speaker on the first day. Delaney discussed the intersection of public policy, health care and faith, describing the leaders in the room as being on the forefront of how we think about health care. He also addressed the Affordable Care Act and the nation's changing health-care landscape.

"I find that institutions that answer to a larger calling, beyond just the substantive medical services, really do deliver a better experience," Delaney said.

This is the third year Adventist HealthCare has hosted this meeting.

Adventist Hospitals Recognized for High-Quality Stroke Care

Washington Adventist Hospital and Shady Grove Adventist Hospital — both part of Adventist HealthCare — have received two awards from the American Heart Association (AHA) for their life-saving, high-quality stroke care.

The first award, Gold Plus Quality Achievement, recognizes each hospital for reaching an aggressive goal of treating stroke patients with 85 percent or higher compliance to core standard levels

of care outlined by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association for consecutive months. In addition, both hospitals have demonstrated 75 percent compliance to seven out of 10 stroke quality measures during the 12-month period. Fast evaluation and treatment of stroke patients helps to prevent serious brain damage and allows for optimal outcomes.

Both Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville and Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park 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 among the various stroke program team members.

The second award, AHA's Target: Stroke Honor Roll, honors both hospitals for their door-to-needle times, which is the time between when a patient arrives at the hospital and when they receive anti-clotting medication. Providing this medication quickly can reduce long-term damage and increase the chances of a full recovery. The Target: Stroke Honor Roll recognizes the stroke teams for having door-to-needle times of 60 minutes or less in at least 50 percent of patients.

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.



Congressman Delaney (center) joined as a guest speaker when health system ministry leaders from across the nation gathered at Adventist HealthCare's corporate offices to discuss the importance of faith in delivering health care.

Adventist HealthCare nombra nuevo presidente y director ejecutivo

Terry Forde ha sido nombrado como nuevo presidente y director ejecutivo de Adventist HealthCare, el primer y más grande proveedor de servicios de cuidado de la salud del Condado de Montgomery.

Forde, que se ha desempeñado como vicepresidente ejecutivo y director de operaciones de la organización desde 2011, ha supervisado el crecimiento de los servicios y programas de Adventist HealthCare en Maryland durante su permanencia en el cargo. También ha trabajado con ejecutivos, empleados y médicos a fin de adaptarse exitosamente a los numerosos cambios que se han producido en el cuidado de la salud tanto a nivel estatal como nacional.

“Terry es la opción clara para continuar ampliando la visión exitosa de Adventist HealthCare y, lo más importante, asegurarse de que cumplimos nuestra misión de demostrar el cuidado de Dios al mejorar la salud de las personas y las comunidades a través de la curación física, mental y espiritual”, señaló Dave Weigley, presidente del Consejo Directivo de Adventist HealthCare.

Forde sustituye al expresidente y director ejecutivo William G. “Bill” Robertson, que a principios de este año aceptó un nuevo rol como presidente de MultiCare Health en Tacoma, Washington.



Desde su incorporación a Adventist HealthCare en julio de 2011, Forde ha contratado a varios de los principales ejecutivos de la organización y ha trabajado con su equipo en numerosos servicios nuevos, entre ellos:

- Apertura del Shady Grove Adventist Aquilino Cancer Center en Rockville;
- Lanzamiento de una de las Organizaciones Responsables del Cuidado de la Salud (ACO) más grande de la región;
- Expansión de los servicios ambulatorios para la comunidad;
- Planificación de la apertura de centros de atención urgente más adelante en el transcurso de este año.

Además, varios hospitales y entidades de Adventist HealthCare han sido reconocidos a nivel nacional por su atención de calidad, incluidos Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Washington Adventist Hospital y Hackettstown Regional Medical Center en New Jersey, que el año pasado fueron nombrados todos como de Mejor Desempeño en Medidas Clave de Seguridad (Top Performers on Key Quality Measures®) por parte de la Comisión Conjunta (The Joint Commission), organismo líder que acredita a las organizaciones de cuidado de la salud.

“Es un verdadero honor y un privilegio ser elegido para liderar una organización con tradición extraordinaria de servicio en la región”, manifestó Forde de 43 años. “Soy afortunado de trabajar con un grupo de empleados, médicos y voluntarios dedicados a su trabajo y comprometidos a brindar atención de calidad y mejorar la salud de las comunidades a las que atendemos”.

Forde anteriormente se desempeñó como ejecutivo durante ocho años en Centura Health, el sistema de salud más grande en Colorado.

Mientras ejercía dicho cargo, Forde ayudó en el liderazgo de un sistema de salud comunitario con rápido crecimiento a la vez que brindó una experiencia clínica con el paciente y un desempeño financiero extraordinarios.

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WANTED: The White Estate is looking for original photographs, personal items or other artifacts relating to Ellen White for display in its new visitor center scheduled to open in 2015. To discuss your item(s), please contact James Nix at (301) 680-6557 or JimNix@WhiteEstate.org. All messages about your items will be answered.

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OBITUARIES

HARRIS, Mary Lee, born August 10, 1939, in Snow Hill, Md.; died February 21, 2014, in Salisbury, Md. She was a member of the Park church in Salisbury for over 50 years. While a member, she served as a secretary, clerk, Sabbath School superintendent, teacher and card ministries leader. She is survived by her daughter,

Debbie (Dale) Pheasant, of Pittsville, Md.; her grandsons, Jonathan and Benjamin Pheasant, of Pittsville; two sisters; and several nieces and nephews.

JACOBS, Lloyd R., born August 10, 1940, near Ashville, N.C., to the late Carl and Ruth Jacobs; died November 22, 2013, in Cicero, Ind. He married Rita Beth Washburn in 1962 and began teaching at Mount Pisgah Academy, becoming the fourth generation in the Jacobs family to teach in Adventist schools. In 1967 he began 37 consecutive years as an Adventist Book Center manager at the Northern New England, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Indiana conferences. In 1978, while in Pennsylvania, Rita died when struck by a vehicle while jogging near Blue Mountain Academy (BMA). The next year, he married Ingrid Rogers, a teacher at BMA. Together they coordinated more than 10 short-term mission trips to Central and South America for the Cicero church. He also served on the Review and Herald Publishing Assn. Board in the 1980s. He is survived by his wife, Ingrid, of Cicero; his children, Bruce (Merrilee) Jacobs of Ringgold, Ga., Julie (Greg) Fuller of Menifee, Calif., and Amy Jacobs of Tampa, Fla.; his brother, Frank Jacobs of Williamsport, Md.; and five grandchildren: Skylar, Nathan and Juliette Jacobs and Bryce and Brooke Fuller.

Sunset Calendar

	June 6	June 13	June 20	June 27	July 4
Baltimore	8:30	8:34	8:36	8:37	8:37
Cincinnati	9:01	9:05	9:07	9:08	9:08
Cleveland	8:57	9:01	9:04	9:05	9:04
Columbus	8:57	9:01	9:04	9:05	9:04
Jersey City	8:24	8:28	8:31	8:32	8:31
Norfolk	8:21	8:25	8:27	8:28	8:28
Parkersburg	8:49	8:53	8:56	8:57	8:56
Philadelphia	8:26	8:30	8:32	8:33	8:33
Pittsburgh	8:47	8:51	8:53	8:54	8:54
Reading	8:30	8:34	8:37	8:38	8:37
Richmond	8:28	8:32	8:34	8:35	8:35
Roanoke	8:37	8:41	8:43	8:44	8:44
Toledo	9:05	9:09	9:12	9:13	9:12
Trenton	8:25	8:29	8:32	8:33	8:32
Wash., D.C.	8:30	8:34	8:36	8:38	8:37

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August 2	Larry Evans
August 9	Mark Sigue
August 16	Terry Johnsson
August 23	Chuck Scriven
August 30	Heather Quintana
September 6	Al Reece
September 13	Bonita Shields
September 20	Nathan Krause
September 27	Steve Chavez

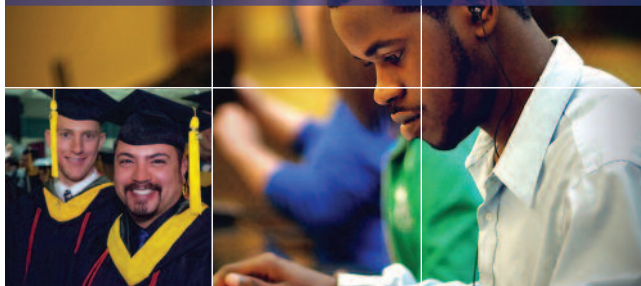
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