

# VISITOR

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a brown jacket and light-colored pants, is smiling broadly while sitting on a carousel horse. He is holding onto a golden pole. The background is filled with the ornate, colorful decorations and lights of a carousel.

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

NOVEMBER 2014 • VOLUME 19 • ISSUE 11

## Carousels, Concerts and Clubs

Hospitals Take  
Healing to  
New Places

Plus: Will we make  
a decision on women's  
ordination in 2015?



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PHOTO BY CLARK DAY

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**About the Cover:** Joshua Song, a first-grader at Atholton Adventist Academy in Columbia, Md., is photographed at the RIO Washingtonian carousel by Paul Morigi/AP Images.

## ON THE WEB

### FIRST-PERSON HEALTH

Who better than patients to tell the story of Adventist HealthCare and Kettering Adventist HealthCare, the Columbia Union's two health systems? Visit [columbiaunion.org/wholehealth](http://columbiaunion.org/wholehealth) to see how their whole-health approach is changing lives.

### ONE-MINUTE INSPIRATION

Kettering Adventist HealthCare now offers weekly devotional videos that tackle Bible teachings and promote healthy and happy living in a mere 60 seconds. Subscribe by texting Kettering60 to 75309. Get more details at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/kettering60](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/kettering60).

### ORDINATION Q&A

In the new book *Questions and Answers About Women's Ordination*, the editors use Scripture and Ellen White writings to answer common questions about the theology of ordination and the history of women leaders in our church. Read our interview with



Cindy Tutsch, one of the editors, at [columbiaunion.org/questionsanswers](http://columbiaunion.org/questionsanswers).

### THE LONG ROAD

Adventists have discussed and studied women's ordination for more than 130 years. See highlights in our timeline at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/timeline](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/timeline).



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Tweet @visitornews about a time you shared your faith for a chance to win David Asscherick's

DVD series *God?* from Hope Channel.

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# VISITOR

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The *Visitor* provides news and information, inspiration for effective ministry, and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help engage members in experiencing the mission.

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## Healing—It's in Our DNA

As my wife, Becky, transported me home from the hospital, I called the administrators I knew were responsible for providing leadership to the institution where I had just been a patient for the day. I had thanked the clinicians, nurses, doctors and others while in their care, but now I wanted to let management know how blessed I was to have been a patient at their facility. Becky credited my actions to the sometimes-euphoric affects of pain medication, but I protested. I knew it was more than that. I was truly grateful for the faith-based care I received from the hands of talented and well-trained medical professionals, and I needed to tell them.



### THE GIFT OF WHOLENESS

I believe our church pioneers, more than 100 years ago, under inspiration from God, envisioned operating hospitals like the one that treated me—those with the hope of offering faith-based care to each patient. I realize that such care is actually part of the DNA of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, for at the heart of our mission is disinterested benevolence to bring God's healing and restoration to all.

The Columbia Union's two health-care systems—Adventist HealthCare in Gaithersburg, Md., and Kettering Adventist HealthCare in Kettering, Ohio—have two very different mission statements that explain how they go about fulfilling that mission. But, as unique as they are, they share a common denominator, one that sets them apart from other healthcare systems. They don't just aspire to heal the body by performing a successful operation or procedure and then send people home; they attempt to make men and women whole—mind, body and spirit. Every one of their entities and every caregiver and top manager attempts to express that goal every day, and that's what I experienced firsthand during my own hospital stay.

When our healthcare professionals—no matter their religious or cultural background—enact the church's mission, it creates a two-fold benefit. First, the patient is supported through various stages of restoration, or given hope of the final restoration. Second, the caregiver is immensely blessed as they experience passing along God's gift of wholeness and healing. It is similar to the idea in Proverbs 11:25: "A generous person will prosper, and anyone who gives water will receive a flood in return" (ISV).

Many leaders in our country have had healthcare and its delivery as major agenda items, and they should. According to a recent poll, people rank their own personal health or the health of loved ones as their top concern. If ever there was a time for the Adventist Church to share its faith-based understanding of Jesus and how following Him can be the way to health and wholeness, it is surely now! Whether that expression is at one of our acute care facilities or at a local church through health seminars and retreats, people need to know that God cares for them—and by enacting His mission, so do we.

*Dave Weigley (dweigley@columbiaunion.net) is the president of the Columbia Union Conference.*



## D.C. WOMEN RECOGNIZE EXCEPTIONAL MEN

Dave Weigley (above), Columbia Union Conference president, is one of only two men to accept the Chosen Vessels award during the Washington Metro Area Women's Ministries' fifth annual Men of Honor celebration. He was honored for his efforts to affirm women in ministry. Read more on page 15.

PHOTO BY CASSANDRA DANLEY-ARNOLD

## WAU RECEIVES NAD ENDORSEMENT

The North American Division Office of Education recently endorsed the Washington Adventist University (WAU) Department of Education. The university met or exceeded all of the standards for endorsement and earned the maximum possible period of six years, continuing through December 2020.

"Our faculty, staff and students demonstrate hard work and commitment throughout the year,

and this endorsement is a wonderful reflection of their contributions and accomplishments," says Cheryl Harris Kisunzu, WAU provost.

Read more at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/wauendorsement](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/wauendorsement).

—WAU Staff

## KETTERING COLLEGE OFFERS FIRST DOCTORATE

The Higher Learning Commission gave final approval for Kettering College (KC) in Kettering, Ohio, to offer a doctorate in occupational therapy, the school's first doctoral program. The addition will make KC one of only 14 colleges in the country to offer an entry-level doctoral program for occupational therapy.

"Occupational therapy is a growing field and is demanding more professionals who have post-graduate degrees," explains Nate Brandstater, KC president. "We are thrilled to be offering an innovative doctoral program that will propel Kettering College graduates into the future of healthcare."

School administrators are still finalizing details, such as the start date and application deadlines. Read

# 1/10

The segment of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan population who listens to WGTS 91.9 FM, Washington Adventist University's radio station based in Takoma Park, Md.

more at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/kcdoctorate](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/kcdoctorate).—Jessica Beans

## ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE UNVEILS NEW BRANDING

Last month Adventist HealthCare (AHC), based in Gaithersburg, Md., officially unveiled a new logo and naming structure. The changes are part of an overall branding initiative that connects the comprehensive health and wellness services offered by the health system under the Adventist name.

"Adventist HealthCare's health and wellness services are broad



## TRAINING CENTER WILL SPREAD HOPE

Mark Finley, evangelist, and Bob Banks, current pastor of Potomac Conference's Warrenton (Va.) church, stand by the rendering of a new church and training center they will open next year in Haymarket, Va. Among other things, the Living Hope Community church will train pastors from all over the world how to create other centers of hope. Read more on page 32.



and comprehensive. Yet, people may not realize the connection between our services and how a system of care benefits the patient,” says Terry Forde, AHC president and CEO. “We are excited to launch this new logo



and the overall structure of our brand, which is intended to help our community understand the benefits from receiving services through our facilities.”

Learn more at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/ahcbranding](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/ahcbranding).—AHC Staff

### WAH SELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

Washington Adventist HealthCare recently elected Erik Wangsness as the new president of Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) in Takoma Park, Md. He joins WAH after serving for more than three years as the president/ chief executive officer of Jellico Community Hospital in Tennessee.

“Erik embodies the characteristics and values that we look for in an executive,” says Terry Forde, Adventist HealthCare president and CEO. “Over the course of his career, he has successfully demonstrated a commitment to employee engagement, physician relationships, community partnerships and fundraising to help his organizations fulfill their missions.”

Read more at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/wangsness](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/wangsness).—AHC Staff

### CHURCH UPDATES FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS

Seventh-day Adventist leaders at last month’s Annual Council meeting, tentatively approved proposed

### BY THE NUMBERS

## Health Systems Spiritual Care

<p style="font-size: 48pt; margin: 0;">28</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Number of chaplains</p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE IN GAITHERSBURG, MD.</b></p>
<p style="font-size: 48pt; margin: 0;">1,024</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Number of Bibles distributed in 2013</p>	
<p style="font-size: 72pt; margin: 0;">16,000</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Pieces of spiritual literature distributed in 2013</p>	
<p style="margin: 0;"><b>KETTERING ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE IN KETTERING, OHIO</b></p>	<p style="font-size: 48pt; margin: 0;">188</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Number of Bible studies in progress</p>
<p style="font-size: 48pt; margin: 0;">10</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Number of chaplains</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Approximate number of Bible study enquiries received via <i>Experiencing God’s Healing in the Everyday</i>, a booklet distributed in the emergency room</p> <p style="font-size: 48pt; margin: 0;">350</p>

revisions of the church’s core statements of its fundamental beliefs after two days of discussions that Artur A. Stele, chair of the revision committee, said had helped create a better product.

The delegates easily endorsed the last of the proposed revisions to the 28 Fundamental Beliefs in a 202-2 vote, with three abstentions, late Monday afternoon. They agreed to forward the document to the General Conference session for a final discussion and vote by the world church next July.

None of the revisions change any of the fundamental beliefs, and many simply update and tighten the text, Ted N.C. Wilson, president of the Adventist world church, assured delegates when the talks started on Sunday afternoon.

“I don’t want anyone here in the room to think we are changing our beliefs,” he said. “We are simply

adjusting wording to make it clearer and more helpful.” Read more at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/beliefs](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/beliefs).

—Andrew McChesney, *Adventist Review*



**In the world, they teach leaders to innovate, invent and problem-solve, but Christian leaders need**

**to watch and wait, rest and receive—rest in His word and receive His instruction.**

—Nicole Falconer, new principal at Pine Forge Academy in Pine Forge, Pa., speaking at the Columbia Union School Administrators Council meetings in Columbia, Md.

### DOCENTES REALIZAN UNA PRUEBA PILOTO DEL PROGRAMA DE ALFABETIZACIÓN

Hay 41 docentes de las escuelas de Columbia Union que realizan una prueba piloto del programa PALS (Evaluación del conocimiento fonológico, siglas en inglés) durante este año escolar. PALS está compuesto por tres instrumentos: PALS-Pre-K

(para alumnos preescolares), PALS-K (para alumnos del jardín de infantes) y PALS 1-3 (para alumnos de 1-3 grado). Este programa ayuda a los docentes a determinar qué alumnos podrían necesitar

apoyo adicional en lectura. PALS también brinda a los docentes información detallada sobre el conocimiento de los alumnos acerca de los fundamentos básicos de la alfabetización para ayudar a guiar la enseñanza y diferenciar la instrucción.

“Estoy entusiasmada al ver que muchos de nuestros docentes están interesados en PALS”, dice Evelyn M. Sullivan (en la foto), directora asociada del Departamento de Educación y Cuidado para la Primera Infancia de la asociación. “Los docentes han comenzado un curso en línea de perfeccionamiento profesional y pronto comenzarán a evaluar a sus alumnos. Los datos recolectados durante este año escolar nos ayudarán a mejorar la calidad general de la enseñanza en el aula al utilizar los informes de PALS para supervisar el crecimiento de cada alumno en el tiempo”.

### LAWNDALE COMPRA UN NUEVO EDIFICIO

Con un préstamo del fondo rotatorio de Columbia Union y con la ayuda de los administradores y voluntarios de Pennsylvania Conference, los miembros de la iglesia hispana de Lawndale compraron nuevas instalaciones al noreste de Philadelphia.

“El Señor nos guió paso a paso



para comprar esta nueva iglesia, incluso durante estos tiempos de dificultades financieras”, dice el pastor Saud Elías (en la fotografía cortando la cinta junto a su esposa Yolanda). El pastor invita a todos los que deseen a visitar el nuevo edificio ubicado en 7114 Oxford Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

### LAS ESCUELAS DE NEW JERSEY COMIENZAN EL PROGRAMA STEM

En el año escolar 2014-2015, las escuelas de New Jersey Conference comenzaron con un nuevo énfasis en ciencia, tecnología, ingeniería y matemáticas

(STEM, por sus siglas en inglés).

Ferdinand Lagos, especialista en matemáticas, computación y robótica, se unió a la asociación y sirve como docente principal del programa STEM. Lagos está desarrollando e implementando el programa STEM en sus cinco escuelas. Durante el programa de capacitación docente, instruyó a directores y docentes y los ayudó a experimentar con Lego Robotics (en la foto).

“Nuestros docentes y directores está entusiasmados por comenzar el año escolar con un nuevo énfasis en STEM”, dice Sadrail Saint-Ulysse, superintendente de escuelas.

Lee más en la página 26.



## Artículo principal de *Visitor*: carruseles, conciertos y clubes

Nuestro sistema de salud encuentra maneras creativas de integrar a su comunidad, pero su misión sigue siendo la misma: tratar al paciente como un todo—mente, cuerpo y espíritu.

Para Dave Weigley, presidente de Columbia Union Conference y presidente de la junta directiva de los dos sistemas de salud de la asociación—Kettering Adventist HealthCare en Kettering, Ohio, y Adventist HealthCare con sede en Gaithersburg, Md—la conexión entre la salud física y la espiritual es muy clara. “De manera intencional mostramos a las personas la misión adventista de esperanza y plenitud. No solo curamos el cuerpo...sino a la persona de manera integral”, dice Weigley. “Como adventistas, esta misión nos diferencia de otros sistemas de salud”.—*Taashi Rowe*



PHOTO BY PAUL MORIGI/AP IMAGES





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# Women's Ordination

## Questions and Answers About Women's Ordination

*Martin Hanna, PhD, and Cindy Tutsch, DMin*

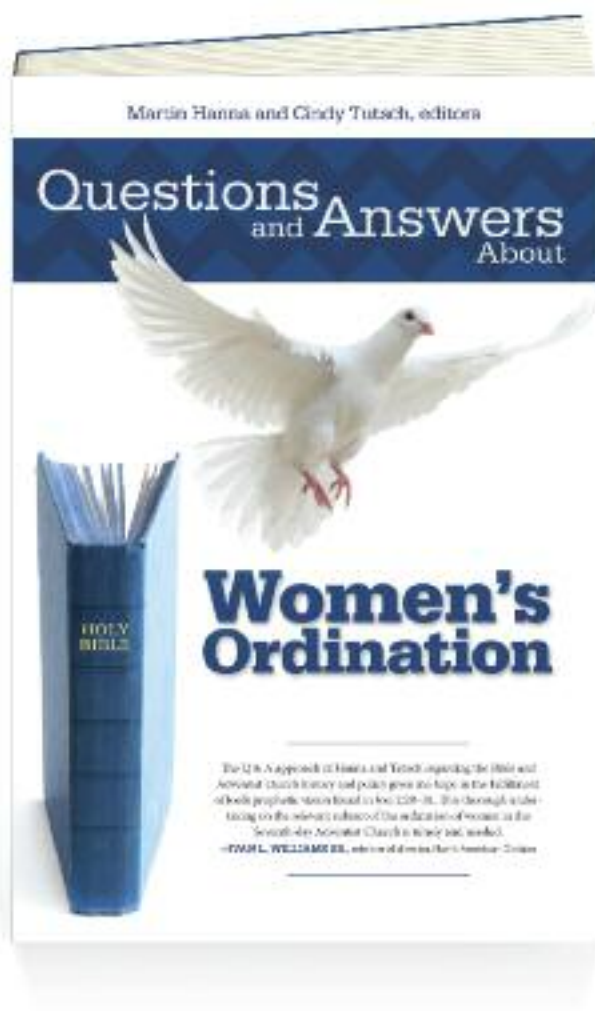
**Questions and Answers About Women's Ordination**, edited by Martin Hanna and Cindy Tutsch, is a clear and concise presentation on the subject of women's ordination that provides solid, biblically based answers to 151 key questions. These questions and answers will be an invaluable aid to all who seek God's will for our church and will help readers understand the challenge as they answer the call to study and pray over this matter. A thoughtful reading of **Questions and Answers About Women's Ordination** will contribute to the light that many are searching for on this issue.

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## Underscore

BETH MICHAELS

# The Church has Moved Toward a Decision on Women's Ordination. Will it Culminate at the 2015 GC Session?

The General Conference (GC) Executive Committee at the church's world headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., during the 2014 Annual Council last month, took one day to discuss, pray and vote on the issue of women's ordination. Three possible positions on the subject voted at a June meeting of the Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC) were thought to be the launch point for the day's discussion. Lacking consensus, the committee instead proposed a multi-faceted question, which by day's end, earned a vote of 243 in favor and 44 against that they will push through to the 2015 GC Session in July, which sets policy for the entire world church:

*"Whereas, The unity for which Jesus prayed is vitally important to the witness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and;*

*"Whereas, The Seventh-day Adventist Church seeks to engage every member in its worldwide mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ among people from every nation, culture and ethnicity, and;*

*"Whereas, Various groups appointed by the General Conference and its divisions have carefully studied the Bible and Ellen G. White writings with respect to the ordination of women and have not arrived at consensus as to whether ministerial ordination for women is unilaterally affirmed or denied, and;*

*"Whereas, The Seventh-day Adventist Church affirms that 'God has ordained that the representatives of His Church from all parts of the earth, when assembled in a General Conference Session, shall have authority'*

*"Therefore, The General Conference Executive Committee*

*requests delegates in their sacred responsibility to God at the 2015 General Conference Session to respond to the following question:*

*"After your prayerful study on ordination from the Bible, the writings of Ellen G. White, and the reports of the study commissions, and;*

*"After your careful consideration of what is best for the Church and the fulfillment of its mission,*

*"Is it acceptable for division executive committees, as they may deem it appropriate in their territories, to make provision for the ordination of women to the gospel ministry? Yes or No"[:.]*

### HOW DID WE GET HERE?

That July vote could put an end to, or further prolong, a debate on the issue, which has plagued the church for many years. Minutes and official documents from GC sessions and administrative committees, as posted on the Office of Archives, Statistics and Research website, reveal that the matter of women's ordination has been studied and discussed in the Adventist Church for more than 130 years.

Some of the greatest impact on the issue has occurred in the past five years, including actions by the North German Union, Columbia Union and Pacific Union to affirm women in ministry in their territories. Although some in the church fear their decisions superceded the unified action of the world church, it did spark a more formal discussion that many members feel is considerably overdue. "Our committee consists of loyal Adventists who respect and are wholly committed to advancing the mission and message of our church," wrote Columbia Union officers in the

## What do you think about the question being sent to GC Session?



While I'm pleased women's ordination will again be discussed, I fear adding the issue of authority (union or division) may complicate the question. Though misunderstandings may ensue, I do believe in God's people and remain hopeful and pray that the revival suggested in Joel 2:28-29 and re-envisioned in Acts 2:17-18 will take place in San Antonio.—Karen Cress is assistant to the Potomac Conference president for strategic initiatives



In my opinion, the decision by Annual Council to have the GC session vote on the question to either allow or not allow unions to ordain female pastors is the correct decision. Since the General Conference has previously voted not to allow ordination of female pastors, it would seem that a smaller group at Annual Council should not make such a decision that affects the world church.

—Victor Zill is secretary/treasurer for the Mountain View Conference



special July 2012 *Visitor* article titled “Why We’re Advocating for Women’s Ordination.” Because the church believes “authority rests in the membership,” they see the issue as a teaching moment for the church.

In most recent months, many agree that the divisive issue has boiled down to the definition of headship. In August faculty of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University (Mich.) published a seven-page study on this definition. Titled “On the Unique Headship of Christ in the Church,” the document opens by unequivocally declaring that the church’s head, or leader, is no one other than Christ.

It revived strong feelings across the world church. While a group of 25 North American Adventist theologians and pastors appealed to seminary leaders to reconsider, emphasizing that God established the headship of man over woman in the Garden of Eden and says He desires to maintain that hierarchy, the faculty remained steadfast.

## WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

As members around the world await the vote of the 2,600 delegates at the upcoming GC Session in San Antonio, Texas, Columbia Union leaders suggest we follow the charge given by Ted Wilson, world church president, prior to the Annual Council meetings: to earnestly seek what the Bible says about ordaining women in ministry and to pray that church leaders will humbly follow the Holy Spirit’s guidance on the matter. The most recent release on the subject is the book *Questions and Answers About Women’s Ordination*, which tackles 151 common questions around the issue.

“In light of the fact that the discussion on women’s ordination has been given to the world church since 1990—and was not left with the unions as a number of experienced GC and union leaders believed it should have been—then it is a good thing that we are deliberating on it again,” states Dave Weigley, Columbia Union president. “It is encouraging and a

significant point that the TOSC—which represents all divisions and individuals with variant viewpoints—did support allowing divisions to decide on women’s ordination by a two-thirds majority straw vote.”

He adds, “I am hopeful our

members will study and pray, and that the world delegates in 2015 will be sensitive to the fact that we work in a very diverse world, where the mission of the church needs to be expressed effectively in each culture. There is unity in diversity.”



PHOTO BY VIVENE MARTINELLI/ANN

## Road to Ordination 2010-2014

**July 2010** – At the 59th GC Session, Ray Hartwell, Pennsylvania Conference president, suggests that the church study and establish a theology of ordination. Leaders promise to address it during the quinquennium ending in 2015.

**September 2011** – The church votes to establish the TOSC that will “involve all world divisions” to meet January 2013-June 2014.

**January 2012** – North American Division leaders ask unions to find ways to affirm women in ministry.

**March 2012** – The Columbia Union Executive Committee establishes an ad hoc committee to study ways to affirm women in ministry.

**April 2012** – The North German Union approves ordination of women to the gospel ministry.

**May 17, 2012** – The Columbia Union Executive Committee votes to call a special constituency meeting.

**July 29, 2012** – At the Columbia Union’s historic constituency session, delegates approve ordination without regard to gender by a vote of 209 in favor, 51 opposed and 9 abstained, a ratio of 4 to 1.

**August 2012** – The Pacific Union Conference votes ordination without regard to gender by a margin of 79 percent to 21 percent.

**2013** – Each of the 13 divisions of the worldwide church conduct a study of the theology of ordination and its practice in regard to women pastors and issue a recommendation.

**October 14, 2014** – Delegates to the GC Annual Council vote to propose a question for delegates at the 2015 GC Session.

*For the entire 1880-2014 timeline, visit [columbiaunionvisitor.com/timeline](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/timeline).—Celeste Ryan Blyden*

# Carousels, & Concerts & Clubs

Our health systems find creative ways to engage their communities, but their mission remains the same: to treat the whole patient—mind, body and spirit

Taashi Rowe

We don't treat leukemia in our hospitals," says Chaplain Larry Kositsin. It's an odd statement for someone who works at Kettering Adventist HealthCare (KAHC), one of the largest hospital systems in southwest Ohio. Add to that, for the past three years, Thomson Reuters named KAHC one of the nation's top 10 healthcare systems. • Kositsin, who is based at the system's flagship facility, Kettering Medical Center (KMC) in Kettering, explains, "We treat the person. There are several things we consider when a patient comes to us. One of those things is how is the procedure going to give them back their future? We want to give them hope—immediate hope and ultimate hope."

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Michelle Dawes found hope *and* comfort during a successful gallbladder surgery at KMC in August. Her grandmother passed away just before Dawes was admitted. "I couldn't be at the funeral because I was obviously in the hospital," she recalls. "My boyfriend, Mike, was with me. He knew I was upset that I couldn't go to the funeral. It was a Friday evening and we were getting settled in a private room when he said, 'Listen.' At first there was soft singing that got louder and louder. It was 'Amazing Grace.' I said to Mike, 'This is real, right?' They played that same song at my grandmother's funeral that day. And then, Mike looked out the window and saw a rainbow. We were both so deeply touched."

What Dawes and her boyfriend heard was a group from various local Seventh-day Adventist churches that sing for patients on Friday evenings. "Outside of what I was physically going through, those singers coming through the hallways was such a special thing to me," Dawes shares.

## MAKING POSITIVE IMPRESSIONS

Staff members across Kettering's eight hospitals and 90 outpatient facilities hear stories like Dawes' every day because the healthcare system is intentional about treating the whole patient. "Positive impressions are made by creating patient experiences that give hope and healing

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when people need it most," states Fred Manchur, CEO of KAHC. "Our mission to improve the lives of those we serve is sacred work. We can make a difference in our community by making a positive impression."

It also puts staff at all levels of these Adventist-run facilities in a position where they can work to fulfill the gospel mission in a medical setting. Kettering has an extensive menu of services to heal the whole patient. In addition to making spiritual literature easily available to patients, there are 10 chaplains, an annual Week of Prayer, a prayer phone line and they distribute a prayer booklet to patients at all their facilities. Since the booklets have been so popular, KAHC has taken it one step further and partnered with local Adventist churches to fulfill the hundreds of Bible study requests they've received.

For Dave Weigley, president of the Columbia Union Conference and board chair of both healthcare systems inside the union—KAHC and Adventist HealthCare (AHC) based in Gaithersburg, Md.—the connection between physical and spiritual healing is clear. "We're very intentional about expressing the Adventist mission of hope and wholeness to people. We are not about just healing the body but ... the entire person," he says. "This mission, as Adventists, makes us uniquely different than other healthcare systems."



## SPREADING THE WORD

Getting the word out about KAHC's approach to healthcare is a top-down effort that involves the system's leadership, trickles down to the staff and radiates out into the various communities.

While they have effective marketing and advertising efforts to help with this process, they also utilize community partnerships that generate goodwill. One involves the Mission Warehouse in nearby Moraine, Ohio, where local church members can repurpose medical supplies and equipment for their mission trips. "These items would otherwise be thrown out, but this way we are able to support several ministries. This is definitely a win-win," explains Jarrod McNaughton, the system's vice president for missions and development.

KAHC also partners with local churches, both Adventist and other denominations. For instance, just this past summer they hosted Gospel Fest that featured local Christian bands at an outdoor amphitheater in Kettering. For about six hours, some 4,000 people enjoyed the music and the message while staff from the hospitals offered various free health screenings and distributed free health goodies, like sunscreen and hand sanitizer.



*Kettering Adventist HealthCare has a number of pamphlets and handouts they distribute to educate their patients about God's healing love.*



Our mission to improve the lives of those we serve is sacred work. We can make a difference in our community by making a positive impression.—Fred Manchur



*Danny, Jennifer and Joshua Song, members of Chesapeake Conference's Atholton church in Columbia, Md., stand at the entrance of the RIO Washingtonian's Lakeside Path to Wellness, sponsored by Shady Grove Medical Center.*

How exactly do these efforts bring people to their facilities? “In some cases, during community outreach events or during the screening process, we literally find people who have an immediate need and we have to admit them into our facilities,” McNaughton explains. “In some cases, we are planting seeds with folks.”

### ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE DEMONSTRATES GOD'S CARE

Nearly 500 miles East of the KAHC facilities, staff at Adventist HealthCare is working equally as hard to express the Adventist mission at their five hospitals. Although people generally go to one of their facilities because of a specific need or an emergency, “What makes the difference is that we treat them with compassion, respect their needs and we treat their physical, mental and spiritual needs,” says Ismael Gama, AHC’s vice president of mission integration and spiritual care.

Terry Forde, the system’s president and CEO, agrees. “God’s care and love is known through good health. That is precisely the work we are called to do! Our mission is to ‘demonstrate God’s care by improving the health of people and communities through a ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing,’” he says. “When we seek restored and vibrant health for our patients and for all who are touched by our ministry, we are truly demonstrating God’s way.”

One of the ways that AHC does this is by reminding everyone that they are a Seventh-day Adventist facility. And again, this starts at the top. “Once a year we do a mission integration retreat involving all of our senior leaders from all our entities. We go back to our roots,”

Gama says. “Many of the guidelines that we use in our organizations are inspired by the guidelines of the Adventist Church. It is very important to keep the link with our church.”

Tom Grant, vice president of public relations and marketing, says AHC is really committed to caring for all of their communities and understands that it takes everyone—including businesses, churches, hospitals and schools—to accomplish that goal. One of their chief strategies is going into the communities that surround their facilities and sharing the gospel of Jesus and good health.

### THE HEALTH AND RETAIL CONNECTION

The mall is not necessarily the first place many think of bringing up the topic of good health (food courts are certainly not known for having healthy options). However, AHC staff is dedicated to changing that perception. They’ve sponsored a walking club at Montgomery Mall in nearby Bethesda. AHC also dispatches a weekly guest speaker there to address specific health topics.

“Healthcare should not only be connected to a hospital. We also offer screenings throughout the community where we have tables with more information about

## Spread the Health

*Kositsin and Gama suggest ways you can help share the good work their hospitals are doing:*

- ☒ Join the social media pages of the Adventist hospitals nearest you and retweet or share their stories.
- ☒ Forward stories you see in the *Visitor* about our health systems.
- ☒ Help promote health and wellness events in your community, especially fairs hosted by our churches, schools or other entities.
- ☒ During your Sabbath worship services, invite administrators, physicians or employees from Adventist hospitals to offer health nuggets or share news and updates from our facilities.
- ☒ Show video clips or slideshows about the work our hospitals are doing during announcement time at church or on screens in the lobby.
- ☒ At your church or school, distribute promotional materials about local Adventist health facilities to guests.



achieving good health,” Grant explains. “We make sure to be part of people’s everyday activities and invite them to stop and take a breathing test, a blood test, a BMI test or even sit down with a counselor.”

Continuing with the retail theme, AHC recently sponsored the Lakeside Path to Wellness, a walking path at the RIO Washingtonian, a popular, lakefront development in Gaithersburg with shops and restaurants. At designated areas around the path, there are health tips. However, the cherry on top of AHC’s partnership with RIO is a carousel they sponsored and opened this spring. John Sackett, president of Shady Grove Medical Center in Rockville, Md., spoke about the importance of preventative care at the grand opening. “Our goal is to put ourselves out of business,” he told the crowd.

### OFFERING VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS AND CARE

Arthur Turner, former president of the Coalition of Central Prince George’s County Community Organizations, says AHC has helped address some particular concerns about the health disparities in the African-American community. “When we started working together with Washington Adventist Hospital [in Takoma Park, Md.], they would come to our monthly community meetings and make health presentations,” he recalls. “Early on we saw the value of the partnership. In fact, they did a very important presentation on hypertension followed by a blood pressure screening. There were several people there

whose blood pressures were so high they had to go to the hospital because they were threatening a stroke.”

Tina VanDevander can also testify to the value of receiving lifesaving care through AHC. On May 25, 1998, she felt a pea-sized nodule during her routine breast self-exam. She went to see Joseph Haggerty, the medical director of oncology at Shady Grove, who diagnosed her with breast cancer. She was 30 years old.

“It was pretty much a roller coaster,” recalls Tina’s husband, Mike. “All I could think about was how would I raise my son if my wife was not there.”

Under Dr. Haggerty’s care, Tina had surgery, then chemotherapy and recovered. Four years later, she was diagnosed with cancer on her left side. Over 14 months, Tina had several surgeries. “The nurses took very good care of me and even offered a support group,” she says. “They were great.”

Haggerty says that Tina is now cancer free. “I’m in a good place now,” Tina says. “I just did everything I could to be there for my son.”

These stories are what inspire leaders at these healthcare systems to continue the century-long Adventist tradition of advocating for whole-person health. “May God continue to grant us the opportunity to demonstrate His care in powerful ways, framed by mercy and blessing,” Forde says.

*Taashi Rowe writes from Takoma Park, Md.*

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When we seek restored and vibrant health for our patients and for all who are touched by our ministry, we are truly demonstrating God’s way.—Terry Forde





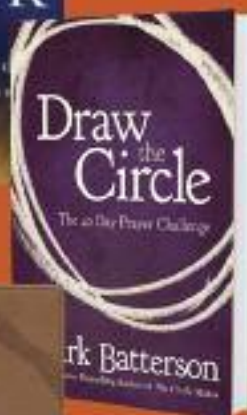
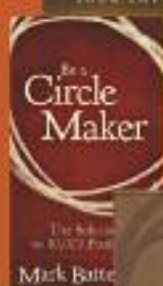
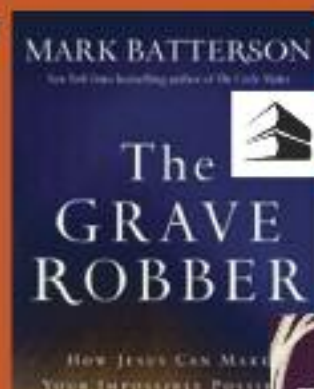
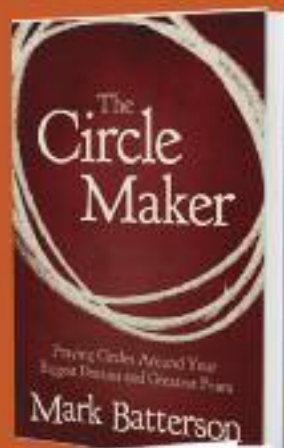
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## Women's Group Hosts Fifth Men of Honor Event

At the Washington Metro Area Women's Ministries' (WMAWM) fifth annual Men of Honor celebration, held at the Dupont Park church in Washington, D.C., group leaders recognized more than 140 men for exceptional contributions to their churches and communities.

Honorees represented several age groups and professions—from young professionals to a 91-year-old deacon, from pastors to military servicemen. The WMAWM, also known as Chosen Vessels, divides the honors into three categories: Helping Hand, which recognizes selfless acts of kindness; Spirit of Community, which recognizes consistent commitment to community or public service; and Unsung Hero, which recognizes significant service that has gone unnoticed.

WMAWM's highest honor, also called Chosen Vessels, highlights outstanding support to the global mission of Women's Ministries. This year, for the first time, the group presented this top award to two recipients for their efforts to affirm women in ministry: Dan Jackson, North American Division president, and Dave Weigley, Columbia Union Conference president.

To be considered for the



PHOTOS BY CASSANDRA DANLEY-ARNOLD

awards, all nominees had to meet three general requirements: they are 18 years or older, nominated by a female and an active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church or local community. All nominations first passed through the Women's Ministries leader and pastor of their home church.

Denise Crarey, WMAWM leader, says she was inspired to start the Men of Honor event after observing three men who were doing extraordinary things outside of their assigned tasks. "I thought, if these men are doing such great things, there must be others," she says.

Cynthia Poole, Allegheny East Conference's (AEC) Women's Ministries leader, hopes this event will inspire other areas. "We consider men the leaders, but we don't often appreciate and affirm them," she shares. "This event was paramount for letting the men know that the women of Allegheny East Conference love and support them."

To watch coverage of the event, view the *AEC Today* video newsletter at [visitaec.org](http://visitaec.org).



*Donna Jackson accepts the award on behalf of her husband, Dan, who was unable to attend.*

## Haitians Meet for Fourth Camp Meeting

The conference's Haitian Ministerium recently hosted its fourth annual camp meeting at Pine Forge Academy in Pine Forge, Pa. The meeting provided a spiritual feast that met the needs of Haitian church members, say conference leaders.—*Yveniel St. Luc*

*Youth from the conference participate in a craft seminar.*



PHOTO BY ROBERT L. BOOKER

**NEWS**

**Longtime Conference Employee Retires**

In September, after nearly 53 years of service, Robert L. Booker retired from his post as communication director of the Allegheny East Conference. His employment with the AEC began in 1962 when he became a teacher at Pine Forge Academy (PFA) in Pine Forge, Pa. He served as a teacher for 12 years, and as a registrar for three of those years.

Booker moved to the conference office in 1975, first serving as the director of two departments: education and communication. During his employment at AEC, he also served as the director of the Sabbath School, Education, church ministries, community service and Children's Ministries departments, among other roles. He also served on numerous boards across the North American Division.

PHOTO BY KEITH GOODMAN



One of Booker's proudest achievements occurred in 1976 while he worked as the director of education. The teacher's paychecks were based on contributions from the local churches and they sometimes had to wait months to receive their wages. He proposed that teachers become contractual conference workers, assuring that they would be paid on time each month.

Henry Fordham, AEC president, says Booker will continue to be a valuable resource: "Robert Booker is like the stately support or cable to a tall bridge spanning a wide river. You may see the tall bridge and not notice the supports, but without the supports you will end up in the swirling waters below."

Although Booker is eager to start some new projects, retirement is bittersweet. "It was fun working here, and I'll miss everyone," he says.

He is married to the former Audrey E. Fordham, the PFA nurse.

**Pine Forge Academy Welcomes New Music Chair**

Pine Forge Academy in Pine Forge, Pa., recently welcomed Andrew Marshall as the new choir director and music department chairperson. Prior to his appointment at PFA, Marshall served as associate professor of music and



PHOTO BY ROBERT L. BOOKER

director of choirs at Northern Caribbean University (NCU) in Mandeville, Jamaica, where he conducted the NCU Chorale and Chamber Ensemble.

Marshall founded and conducted groups throughout Jamaica, the United States and Great Britain. As director for the Jamaica Choral Scholars' Festival, he also created choral arrangements of Caribbean-centric music and commissioned arrangements of similar works.

Marshall holds a Bachelor of Arts from NCU; a master's in music from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, N.J.; and a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla.

**Beth-El Member Turns 100**

Elizabeth Britt-Addison, a longtime member of the Beth-El church, celebrated her 100th birthday this year. Britt-Addison was born March 7, 1914, in Weldon, N.C. She moved to Jersey City in 1965.

Shortly thereafter, she became a Seventh-day Adventist and began to attend the Beth-El church. She served as deaconess and a member of the Community Services Department for many years.—*Lisa Todd*



PHOTO BY ISHMAEL ANDREW



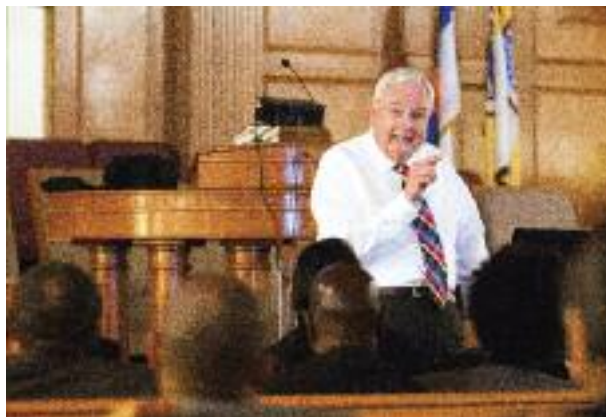
## NEWS

### At Retreat, French-Speaking Women Focus on Time Alone With God

French-speaking women from around the conference spent a recent weekend at the Heartland Retreat Center in Marengo, Ohio, for their second annual retreat. All weekend they meditated on the theme “Seule avec Dieu (Alone With God).”

On Friday night, William T. Cox, conference president, encouraged the attendees to spend quality time with God. On Sabbath Yuliyán Filipov, a pastor from the Ohio Conference, spoke about the depth of “The Lord’s Prayer” and the elements of an effective prayer.

“It was such a success that some attendees requested another retreat before the end of 2014,” say leaders.



William T. Cox (back row, center) relaxes with some of the attendees.

Ninon Joseph, an attendee from the Philadelphia Haitian church in Columbus, Ohio, adds, “This retreat brought me closer to God. Now I know I need a secret place to spend time in intimacy with my Heavenly Father.”—*Mikafui Daboni*

### Central Church Hosts Lay Evangelism Training

John Boston, pastor of the Central church in Columbus, believes the gospel commission when it admonishes us to go into all the world and preach God’s Word. He wanted to prepare the members of Central church for just that and invited Robert Folkenberg (pictured, top), founder/director of ShareHim Ministries (N.C.), to teach a lay evangelism training boot camp at the church. Pastor Boston also invited churches throughout southern Ohio. All attendees learned how

to lead others to Christ through public presentation of the Seventh-day Adventist message.

Organizers sent each attendee all the material needed to present the gospel, including PowerPoint presentations and sermon manuscripts. The training prepared and equipped members to spread God’s Word effectively here and abroad, says Boston. He adds, “It’s time to take the gospel beyond the walls of the church, and Pastor Folkenberg prepared and equipped us to do just that.”

### Alumni Celebrate Ramah’s 90th Anniversary

Ramah Junior Academy alumni recently gathered to celebrate the Cleveland school’s 90 years of ministry. The star-studded celebration included performances by Isaac Caree, Stellar Award-winning vocalist; David Arnold, a Ramah alumnus and comedian who has written for *The Rickey Smiley Show* and *Tyler Perry’s House of Payne*; and Thomas Fielder, a successful entrepreneur and businessman.

A special treat of the weekend was the attendance of Halcyone Glenn (pictured), an alumna from the Class of ’43. Glenn says she cherished her Christian education so much that she made sure her four children—Sheila (’73), Sharoyln (’75), Richmond (’79) and Paul Jr. (’86)—also attended Ramah.



## Columbus Churches Get City Moving on “Let’s Move!” Day

This year Allegheny West Conference churches from across Columbus, Ohio, teamed up to launch Let’s Move Columbus. The event is part of a national health initiative by Adventists Instep for Life in response to Michelle Obama’s “Let’s Move!” campaign.

The Columbus All Nations church led the effort and obtained sponsorships from the City of Columbus Public Health Department and several companies and local organizations. Volunteers ran four events simultaneously at locations in the North, South, East and West parts of the city. Most locations provided obstacle courses that showed parents and children how much fun they can have by doing physical activities together.

Volunteers distributed more than 4,000 Adventist books, tracts and magazines to participants. Organizers have started planning for Let’s Move Columbus 2015 and already have community organizations committing to sponsor and take part next September.

Find more information and pictures from the event at [letsmovecolumbus.org](http://letsmovecolumbus.org).

*A young lady rides a blender-powered bike and makes herself a fruit smoothie. Far right: Kwesi Gyimah, pastor of the All Nations church, and Yvette Cooper, AWC Health Ministries director, proudly show the Let’s Move Columbus T-shirts.*



*Above: Michele Kearns and Bornwell Mulenga, members of the All Nations church, pack goodie bags for distribution at the Let’s Move Columbus event. Left: In an effort to keep moving, one of the participants of the day jumps hurdles.*



**NEWS**

**Humanitarian Club Sponsors Blood Drive**

Mitzvah, a new humanitarian club at Blue Mountain Academy (BMA), recently organized a blood drive on campus. “The point is to reach out to others in need of

help, to become less selfish by becoming selfless,” explains Sharyl Cubero, a junior and Mitzvah co-leader.

During the drive, 15 students trained as support volunteers and assisted the phlebotomists and manned the canteen with juice for the donors. Twenty-nine students and staff donated 18 units of blood.

Lois Gassert, from the Miller-Keystone Blood Center in Bethlehem, Pa., offers high praise to the students and staff: “Your efforts play a significant part in the

health and welfare of hospital patients in our area. The need for blood is never ending, and the units collected at your blood drive play a critical role.”

**Aviation Program Continues to Soar**

Students at Blue Mountain Academy have long had the special option of learning how to fly. But, since 2005, BMA has partnered with Adventist World Aviation (AWA), an independent supporting ministry for training mission pilots. Students pay AWA for flight instruction,



Aviators: Seth Brown, Bobby Locke, Nolan Seidel, Celine Cornwall and Iliana Dialectakis

plane rental and fuel. The academy in turn owns and maintains the on-campus airport. Eric Engen, a BMA staff member and pilot, teaches the ground school.

During the 2014-15 school year, five students participated in the program, with four in ground school. Currently, there are three students in ground training and one in ground school. Walla Walla University (Wash.) gives up to 10 college credits based on the training the student receives—five for completing ground school and five for earning a pilot’s license. The program costs approximately \$7,000.

**Seniors Raise Funds, Build Character**

For one of their annual fundraising projects, Blue Mountain Academy seniors use a unique approach—volunteering. Students must chose a community-based nonprofit or charity for the project. “We don’t help ourselves but the community,” explains Diana Engen, class sponsor and registrar.

Each senior solicits sponsors for their two to three hours of service and then gets to work! Many students chose to volunteer at the Hamburg Community Service Center, run by the nearby Hamburg (Pa.) church. The center distributes food each week to 135-150 families from their on-site food bank. The center also gives away clothes, household goods, furniture, appliances and toys.

“They are wonderful and get a lot of work done,” says Bernice Hayes, director of the community program, about the seniors. “We are delighted to have them.”

Daniel Bondarchok, a senior, sees the project as more than community service and a fundraiser. He says, “It is a way to serve God.”

**Correction**

In the September *Communique*, we incorrectly spelled the names of the Perez family children. They are Christian, an eighth-grader, and Kaylie, a junior.



Bobby Locke (front) and Daniel Bondarchuk stock shelves for the food pantry.

## New Staff Members Make an Impact

Making an impact on students is why **Ervin Haley**, industry manager, says he is at BMA. Before accepting a full-time position, he volunteered for four years. "I want to learn how young people click. It is totally different than it was when I was young," he says.



intern dean sometime in the future. Three years later, while a junior at Southern Adventist University (Tenn.), he agreed to serve.

**Matt Wlasniewski** joined the BMA staff as business office manager. He previously worked at the Berks Earned Income Tax office in Wyomissing, Pa. Wlasniewski and his wife, Toni, previously taught at Pioneer Valley Academy (Mass.)

"I was looking for a position with a good team to work with and where I could make a difference in the lives of young people," he says.



For as long as she can remember, **Barbara Mathias** has known she wanted to be a teacher. "Teaching is my spiritual gift, and I am fulfilling God's call," Mathias shares.

In 1995 she joined the staff as a full-time English teacher and librarian. When she

started having children, she took time off for family. After they grew older, she began teaching part-time. She is currently teaching freshman and sophomore English.

When **Brendon Boyd** was a student at Blue Mountain Academy, he thought the intern deans were cool. "They looked like they were having a good time with the boys," he says. During his senior year at the school, he thought about spending a year as



**Deidra Rowe** graduated from Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., with concentrations in biology, chemistry and math. She wasn't sure of her career path and explored teaching at the elementary level, but knew that didn't feel right.

A four-year BMA graduate, she thought teaching at an academy could be a good fit. "I feel this is a chance to become more of a leader," she says.

### Special Edition Coming

In January BMA will publish a special edition of the *Communique* including the annual year-end giving report.



# THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

NOVEMBER 2014

## Give Thanks All Year!

Another Thanksgiving holiday has arrived. Researchers working on behalf of the National Turkey Federation (Yes, apparently there is an organization for turkeys!) surveyed Americans to discover that 88 percent can be expected to eat turkey for their holiday celebration. With the average turkey weighing 15 pounds, this means that Americans will consume 690 million pounds of turkey. No wonder it kicks off the season of weight gain.

But, most don't stop at the turkey. With annual United States pumpkin production at over 1.5 billion pounds, the Guinness World Records reports the largest pumpkin pie ever baked weighed 2,020 pounds and measured more than 12 feet wide. They did not provide the calorie count.

Let's look beyond the evident need for sound judgment in the content and quantity of the food we consume. The larger question is, "What should we be doing to express our gratitude? What can we say and do to benefit others and ourselves?"

King David made a two-fold appeal when the ark was placed in the tabernacle. "Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples" (1 Chron. 16:8, NKJV).

First, we're called to give our thanks to God as the source of every good gift. It is not luck, good fortune or happenstance that brings us blessings. We have a Creator who made us with a plan and finds joy in showering us with grace, mercy and tangible evidence of His care.

Second, we are encouraged to tell other people about the wonderful God we know. Our thankfulness overflows in sharing the stories of God's greatness with others. This kind of thanks-giving is a healthy practice every day of the year.



**Rick Remmers**  
President

## Highland View's Eutychus Today Engages Young Adults

Eutychus Today (see Acts 20), a monthly program geared toward young adults but open to everyone, kicked off their third season with an outdoor concert. The Sabbath afternoon event at the Highland View church on the campus of Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Md., drew 130.

Guests brought blankets and chairs and sat on the church's lawn to enjoy the program. "It had an uplifting atmosphere and is something I always look forward to," says Hope Wootton, a regular attendee and member of the nearby Willow Brook church in Boonsboro.



Amy Bergman (right), who served as Eutychus Today coordinator, enjoys time with her mom, Wendy Cunningham, at her last attendance before relocating to Washington State.

The evening included an open mic invitation to sing or play worship songs, and a complimentary meal prepared by volunteers. After sunset they showed a film titled *God's Not Dead* on the side of the church. For information on upcoming events, visit [facebook.com/highlandviewchurch](http://facebook.com/highlandviewchurch) or call (301) 800-5979.—Caitlyn Worden



PHOTOS BY AMY BERGMAN

The Eutychus Today praise team starts the evening with a singalong.

## Leaders Converge for Church Growth Training

Some 285 lay members interested in learning effective ministry techniques recently attended the Growing Dynamic Churches and SEEDs Church Planting Conference, held at the Atholton church in Columbia, Md.

“I was excited to see how many people are interested in seeing their churches grow and make a difference for God’s kingdom. It’s thrilling,” says Gary Gibbs, conference ministries development director and coordinator of the event.

Experts in church planting and growth from across North America shared methods on using technology and area demographics to reach residents. Training also included strategies for ramping up prayer and greeting ministries to keep guests returning to church.

“The training gave our church the tools we need to start small groups in our churches,” says Josh Voigt, pastor for the Catoctin View/Middletown Valley district in western Maryland.

Some local professionals also shared their expertise. Pastor Steve Leddy, an experienced church planter working in Laurel, Md., offered innovative tips for building a church leadership team. Celeste Ryan Blyden, Columbia Union vice president for strategic communication and public relations, presented effective advertising methods. Technology guru Chip Dizard, a member of the New Hope church in Fulton, Md., demonstrated proven tools for getting the message to the people.



PHOTO BY CHARLES KOERTING

*Tim Madding, an experienced church planter working in the Potomac Conference, shares how churches can demonstrate hospitality.*

“It was wonderful to see the enthusiastic response of those in attendance. We recognize the great harvest, and are praying for effective outreach in our communities,” says Rick Remmers, conference president.

The training was well timed, laying the foundation for the Reach Baltimore evangelistic initiative set to launch early next year.

View SEEDs seminars online at [ccosda.org](http://ccosda.org).

## Creative Ministry Workshops Inspire Attendees



The Youth Leaders Convention, held each autumn at the Mt. Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md., provides training to Pathfinder, Adventurer and Children’s Ministries leaders throughout the conference. This year seminars covered topics on outreach, creative ministry, Sabbath School and leadership. The annual event also features a keynote speaker at worship services designed to encourage and inspire busy church volunteers.

“New leaders and directors find the workshops especially helpful,” says Ann Reynolds, conference Children’s Ministries director. “This year we offered an interesting class for Sabbath School teachers called ‘Memorization Without Tears.’”

*Kathy Byrkit (second from left), from the Williamsport (Md.) church, and Jennifer Miller (far right), a teacher at the Dover First Christian School in Dover, Del., enjoy learning about planning fun social events.*



# MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

NOVEMBER 2014

## Charleston Church Celebrates 50th Anniversary

In the early 1900s, Seventh-day Adventist believers took the Adventist message to West Virginia's capital, and through the years found various places to meet. Membership increased and they outgrew each one. Finally, in October 1963, they broke ground for a new building at 622 Kanawha Boulevard, along the Kanawha River. July 4, 1964, Pastor Norman Meager opened the doors for the first worship service in that building. Several of the people in attendance that day were also sitting in the pews recently to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of that first service.



Lonnie Melashenko greets Hazel Langley, one of many visitors that joined the day's festivities.



Toni Miller, Dawn Fields and Joyce Brown sing with the seven-member Celebration Singers accompanied by a 20-member orchestra.

Tom Bailey, a longtime member, planned the event complete with an orchestra and choir, which he directed. Lonnie Melashenko, guest speaker, provided food for thought. The day also featured an engaging Sabbath School discussion that Pastor Stewart Pepper led, and delicious food that Becky Bennett, Delores Smith and others prepared. The Jay Humphries Trio capped the festivities with an uplifting concert.

"The best part of the two-day celebration was reminiscing with those who came from far and near to share in the joy of the day," says Pastor Pepper.—Kathy Pepper

## Wellness Camp Inspires Weight Loss, Increased Health

Campers at the conference's annual wellness camp worked hard for nearly two weeks to improve their health. That hard work paid off for many of them.

According to camp leaders, the group was very cohesive—praying, caring and encouraging each other. At the end of the program, campers received diplomas and celebrated their improved health statistics. One camper shaved off three minutes from her half-mile walk. Another dropped his cholesterol more than 50 points. One cut out her nighttime insulin and had better morning blood sugars than when she was taking insulin. Many lost weight, some over 10 pounds.

Daniel Morikone (right), conference Health Ministries director, presents a diploma to camper Rich Wolf.



# MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

## Pastors Change Posts Across the Conference

Several pastors and department leaders have changed positions in the Mountain View Conference:

**Walter Cardenas** is now the pastor in the Elkins and Parsons (W.Va.) district. He also holds the position



of youth and young adult leader in the conference as well as director for the summer camp program and the Hispanic Ministries coordinator. Formerly, Cardenas and his wife, Yasmi, worked in the Franklin, Moorefield and Romney district in eastern West Virginia.

**William "Bill" Hunt** transferred from Yucaipa, Calif., with his wife,



Audrey, where Hunt was the young adult pastor. He is now the associate pastor of the Charleston and Ripley (W.Va.) congregations.

**Arturo Jeronimo** moved from Utah where he was involved in planting a church. He is now pastoring the Lewisburg, Marlinton and Rainelle (W.Va.) district, where he is also reaching out to the Hispanic



community. Jeronimo and his wife, Esther, have one son named Anders.

**Barry Kimbrough** is serving in the Kingswood and Morgantown (W.Va.) churches. Pastor Kimbrough moved



from the Southern New England Conference where he shepherded the Johnston, Wickford and Burrillville churches in Rhode Island. Kimbrough and his wife, Olena, have two daughters and one son.

**Larry Murphy** recently moved to the Weirton and Wheeling (W.Va.) district where he is the pastor. Previously, Murphy and his wife,



Annabel, were Bible workers at the Charleston (W.Va.) church, helping with the REACH Appalachia project. Murphy is also the conference's Adventist Community Services director.

**Rubi Pimentel** and his wife, Janice, transferred from Texas for Pimentel to become the new pastor of the Franklin, Moorefield and Romney churches in West Virginia. He previously worked with the Magabook



program for the Southwestern Union Conference. The Pimentels have two daughters and are also involved with the Hispanic group that meets in Moorefield.

**Jaime Rodriguez** moved from Texas with his wife, Jenny, where he was involved in chaplain work. The couple is now working in the



Braxton, Summersville and Webster Springs (W.Va.) district and also reaching out to Hispanic folks in Summersville. Pastor Jim Buchanan moved from this district to pastor the Logan and Williamson (W.Va.) churches.



## Pause to Give Thanks

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. It is a day when we are not focused on getting things, like many do on Christmas. Instead, it's a day when we can pause and give thanks for all the blessings we received throughout the year.

This Thanksgiving will be a special one for me as I reflect on all the wonderful leadings and blessings the Lord has given me over the more than 48 years that I worked for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As I retire at the end of the year, my heart is overflowing with gratitude for God's love and the saving grace He has given to me personally and in my ministry.

It is my prayer that you, too, will pause this Thanksgiving to give thanks to God and tell others how wonderful He is and what He has done for you personally.



**Jim Greene**  
Secretary

## Bridgeton First Members Put "Kids in the Kitchen"

Twenty-four attendees at the Bridgeton First church's Vacation Bible School (VBS) program recently donned chef's hats and got busy making banana bread, smoothies, haystacks, fruit salad and rainbow pizza. To fulfill the theme "Kids in the Kitchen," the youngsters also had fun learning about the eight principles of health and experienced some of God's abundant blessings of sunshine, fresh air and water as they participated in outside games. They even created crafts, including a keepsake cookbook to store their recipes of the goodies they prepared each night.

Danica Eystenstein, a college-aged church member who led the VBS program, along with help from volunteers, also made sure the kids sang praises to Jesus and learned about some Bible characters through exciting stories.

"It was a great and rewarding experience for the children and adults alike," says Betty Chain. "I brought my

granddaughter's friend, Noelle, who enjoyed VBS so much that now she is attending Sabbath School and church each week. [And], Noelle prepared the recipes that she made at VBS for her mother, who thoroughly enjoyed them."—*Sharon Davis*



*Children gather in front of the Bridgeton First church for VBS.*

## Special Weekend Draws Youth and Families Together



The Youth Ministries Department, in partnership with five church districts, recently held their first youth and family multicultural camping event at the Tranquil Valley Retreat Center in Tranquility. Organizers planned activities to help the attendees renew their spiritual lives while drawing them closer together. On Sabbath morning, all of the families participated in a communion service where they washed each other's feet at their own campsites, then later participated in a joint communion that included people from more than 20 countries.

*Alfredina Coxaj, a member of the Hackettstown church, enjoys spending time with young attendees.*

## Conference Schools Launch STEM Program

After attending an EXSEED Conference at Loma Linda University in California, Sadrail Saint-Ulysse, superintendent of schools, started looking for ways to implement science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs into New Jersey Conference schools. He and other administrators got to work and were able to start the 2014-15 school year with a new STEM emphasis.

This summer the conference hired Ferdinand Lagos, a math, computers and robotics specialist, to teach at the Waldwick school and to serve as the conference's lead STEM teacher. He is developing and implementing the STEM program in the conference's five schools:



*Erica Clayburn (top), a teacher at the Waldwick Adventist School, and Pastor Yoel Paredes, a teacher at Meadow View Junior Academy, try their hands at LEGO Robotics.*



*Staff members from the Lake Nelson school work with LEGO Robotics.*

Lake Nelson in Piscataway, Meadow View Junior Academy in Chesterfield, Tranquility in Andover, Vine Haven in Vineland and Waldwick. He also visits schools to assist teachers and principals with the implementation of the STEM program.

The conference also invested \$15,000 in LEGO Robotics for the schools. At the teacher in-service, Lagos tutored principals and teachers and helped them experiment with robotics.

The conference also provides technology training and support to the schools through Alberto Vazquez, conference information systems support specialist. As a result, principals, teachers and students now use Google Apps for Education.

"We praise God for the support of our conference administrators for their tangible support in equipping us to give the best education possible to our students in a Christ-centered environment," says Saint-Ulysse. "Our teachers and principals are thrilled to begin the school year with the new emphasis in STEM."

Conference educators will continue to collaborate with other K-12 educators, organizations and higher education institutions to give the best to students in New Jersey Conference schools.



## President Elicits Prayers, Giving Thru “Vision: Ohio”

It has been nine months since Ron Halvorsen Jr. became the Ohio Conference president. During that time, he has led several statewide town hall meetings, a constituency meeting and guided searches for a new conference treasurer and education superintendent.

He did all of this while praying about the difficult financial picture facing the conference. Halvorsen and his wife, Buffy, are extreme prayer warriors who both feel God led them to Ohio. Constituents like Joanne Erskine, a member of the presidential search committee, agree. “I know God has brought Ron and Buffy here for just such a time,” she says.

Halvorsen began developing and sharing his vision for Ohio this spring. Part of this vision is to encourage conference members to pray more. To help meet that goal, he and Buffy started “Ohio Prays.” On Mondays at noon, conference officers and staff pray for the conference’s needs and praise God. The Halvorsens have also taken this program “on the road” with prayer times at local churches and recently at the annual women’s retreat. They also pray with constituents on the “Ohio Prays” Facebook page.



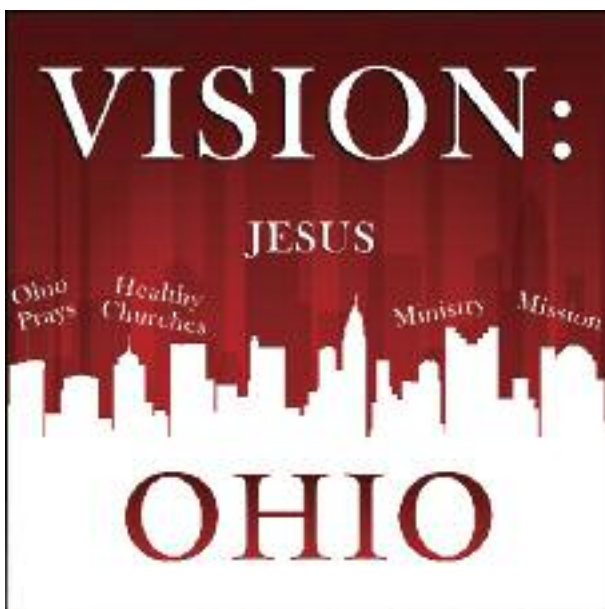
Another key part of his plan is “Vision: Ohio,” which he created to help the strained financial situation facing the conference. Halvorsen did not want to continue “the trend of scaling back and eliminating ministry leaders and programs,” he says. Instead, he wants to encourage investment in “the future of Ohio by working toward the creation of stronger, healthier and growing local congregations.”

In a letter this spring, Halvorsen appealed to constituents: “Join me in giving if you can. ... This offering is one beyond our usual tithes and local offerings. It will not help if we simply take from one offering just to give it to another. There is no gift too great or too small. This is about us coming together in prayer and giving to see the work in Ohio back on solid, God-honoring ground.”

People from across the conference and beyond have responded with overwhelming encouragement and prayer for the Halvorsens, as well as contributing more than \$225,000 to “Vision: Ohio.”

In his most recent “Vision: Ohio” update, Halvorsen reminds members, “We are in hard times ... We are being called to faith and faithfulness in the midst of it. The beauty of it is that, if we are faithful and in this together, God will not only bring us back but will bring us back stronger than ever!”

He hopes to announce in January that they reached the offering goal.



## Women Learn to Love and Forgive Like Jesus

The Holy Spirit urged me to attend this retreat. I now see why. The Lord knew what I needed. This was life-changing for me. It was liberating for me," wrote one attendee of the 2014 Ohio Conference Women's Retreat. This response was repeated dozens of times in person and via evaluation forms turned in after the September event. Nearly 150 women from across the state and as far away as Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Michigan attended the retreat, which featured speaker Buffy Halvorsen, Family Ministries director for the conference.

The two-day retreat explored the complex themes of "Love and Forgiveness." Halvorsen wove personal stories into her presentation. Attendees said her practical and biblical counsel were valuable to their daily lives and related well to her approachable style.

Halvorsen also provided attendees with practical tools, including a diagram of "The False Self in Action," which examines the connection between emotional problems and needs from early childhood, and the "Prayer of Forgiveness, Freedom and Healing," which encourages the release of judgment, anger, resentment, hatred and bitterness from one's life.



Attendees from the Canton, Medina, Wooster and Akron churches enjoy warm fellowship.

and the Mansfield church praise team took turns leading the sessions with praise songs and traditional hymns. Each session concluded with a reverent hymn played on a viola.

Ron Halvorsen Jr., president of the conference, surprised the ladies Friday night with a guest appearance to introduce his wife, as well as to lead out in "Ohio Prays: Retreat Edition." Nearly half of the attendees remained for an hour after the session to pray for conference schools, churches, ministries, and "revival and reformation" within Ohio.

Plans are already underway for the 2015 retreat, which will be held at the Mohaven Retreat and Conference Center in Danville. The next Ohio Conference Women's Ministries event is "Inspired Intimacy," a seminar featuring Celeste Holbrook. It will take place January 25, 2015, at the Worthington church. For more information, visit [ohioadventist.org](http://ohioadventist.org).

"God develops the fruit of the Spirit in your life by allowing you to experience circumstances in which you are tempted to express the exact opposite qualities," Halvorsen said. "If we could see what God sees, we would pray very different prayers ... Maybe prayer is less about changing our circumstances than it is changing our perspective."

Halvorsen shared that forgiveness is almost a selfish act because it does so much for us. "When we hold a grudge and don't forgive, we essentially handcuff ourselves to those who have hurt or wronged us." She went on to explain how important it is to release ourselves and those feelings, allowing us the freedom to move forward into healing.

Music and prayer were integral parts of the program. Trina Schone, Cesilia Dean, Heidi Shoemaker



Buffy Halvorsen says prayer gives us the freedom to begin healing.

PHOTO BY CINDY FERGUSON



# Pennsylvania *Pen*

NOVEMBER 2014

## Long Silent Blossburg Church Bell Stirs Community

The sound of a church bell ringing filled the community of Blossburg this fall, a sound the community hadn't heard in more than three decades.

"Historically, church bells were used in this country and in Europe as a means to symbolize God calling His children to His house to worship Him," says Marvin Humbert, pastor of the Blossburg church. "In the area of the country I come from, church bells are no longer commonplace. Upon seeing that the Blossburg church had a bell, my lifelong passion for the ringing of church bells was rekindled."

Church leaders told Pastor Humbert that the church bell had rung each Sabbath for years as a call to worship until approximately 1980.

Humbert's inquiries and passion inspired the congregation to repair the bell's mechanical components. About the same time, the church received a report from the conference's Mystery Visitor program, which revealed that the community didn't seem to know where the church was, despite its location on a main road in the center of town. Restoring the church bell to functionality sparked the idea to use the inaugural ringing of the bell to kick-start a community outreach and awareness campaign.

Brent Eva, first elder, and Jim Roupp, his father-in-law, repaired the bell. "For years the task to make ringing the bell safe and functional was intimidating, in part due to the somewhat treacherous access to the mechanical workings of the bell in the bell tower," explains Eva. "When Pastor Humbert arrived, he inspired and encouraged us to take a fresh look at repairing the bell. With courage and fortitude, we found the repairs to be manageable."



PHOTO BY JIM ROUPEP

*Brent Eva is busy making repairs.*

On the Sabbath of the inaugural bell-ringing, the church swelled to nearly double its usual size. "Pastor Humbert's message skillfully wove our human desire for communication with our loved ones to God's desire to be in communication with His created children," says Eva. "He linked the use of the church bell as a call to worship analogously to the use of trumpets in scripture announcing significant events. The closing of his sermon featured a prayer of dedication for the church's bell, during which the bell tolled."

Pastor Humbert reports that, in all, the day was a resounding success. "This community outreach event is but one part of our church's mission to be a vital part of the community in which we live and worship," he says. "Our members are also actively involved in a local community group called Volunteers in Business and Entertainment, or VIBE. We'll also be involved in other community events throughout the fall and winter."

The church has grown by 12 members since March, and the congregation is expecting the momentum to continue as it seizes opportunities for community outreach in its own local mission field.—Dianne L. Feeser



PHOTO BY DIANNE FEESER

*John Feeser rings the church bell.*

## Youth Called to Stand Apart

Imagine more than 150 young adults gathered for a weekend with worship music, gospel preaching and the great outdoors. Those were the ingredients for this year's Hispanic Youth Festival held at Camp Lohican in Lake Como.

Many attendees took a stand to recommit their lives to Christ during the annual event. The Holy Spirit's most notable work was inspiring many attendees to commit to giving or receiving Bible studies, and helping transform three young people who chose baptism.

Genesis DeJesus, a member of the Lancaster Hispanic 1 church in Lancaster, was one of three people baptized. She shares her experience: "I recall the moment the pastor called for baptism. I was very indecisive. I wasn't even supposed to be there! I wanted only to stay in bed, in the cabin, but I felt like something was putting pressure on my heart. I couldn't relax. Then I thought maybe God wanted me to be at the lake to witness the blessing He was going to give others, so I went. After seeing the first person get baptized, I was filled with so many memories and emotions. I was baptized in April 2013. I remember what it was like to walk with Jesus and how happy I was until my father passed away last September. It was then that I turned away from God.

"When the pastor called again for the baptism, I told my friend, 'Sonia, I am tired of carrying around the weight of those old sins. I just want to leave all my sins at the bottom of that lake,' and I did. When I came up from the water, I felt so relaxed and so relieved. I am a new person!"—*Emely Cruz*



*Pastor Leandro Robinson prepares Genesis DeJesus for baptism.*

## Famous Duos

*go together like*

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# Potomac People

NOVEMBER 2014

## Sligo Mourns the Loss of Beloved Teacher

This fall mourners, including 150 motorcyclists, filled the Sligo church to remember Suzanne Patricia Miller, a teacher who died in a motorcycle crash on I-97. “God brought together a wonderful group of people to care for our children,” says Don McFarlane, a pastor at the church in Takoma Park, Md. “He has allowed one to be taken from us, but the candle of her life will never go out in the lives of those she served.”

Miller recently started teaching at the nearby Sligo Adventist School. “I’m most excited to teach my students about the God I love with all my heart,” said Miller about her new fifth-grade teaching job. Miller had taught in Prince Georges County schools for 14 years, but desired to teach in a school where she could share her faith. She began her work at Sligo with great enthusiasm, transforming her classroom into a learning center. She quickly developed friendships with her students by playing with them during recess and showing them her

motorcycle and riding gear. Her students thought she was “cool.”

Miller also loved combining her passion for God and motorcycles. She often spearheaded outreach biking events for the Restoration Praise Center in Lanham, Md., and brought her biking friends to worship at the church. “She was known for going the extra mile,” says L. Roo McKenzie, Sligo principal. “Her life was a pulpit from which God spoke love to children and anyone who came within her sphere of influence.”



PHOTO BY DORIAN McDONALD



Staff from the Sligo Adventist School remember Suzanne Miller as a fun teacher with a passion for excellence.

## Schools Participate in Tax Credit Program

This spring each of Potomac’s Virginia schools elected to participate in the Virginia Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credit Program, which provides significant tax incentives for supporting private education.

“This program offers families the opportunity to send their children to a Seventh-day Adventist school of their choice using privately funded scholarships,” explains Seth Savoy, business manager for Richmond Academy.

Through the program, donors can also invest in Virginia Adventist schools and receive extra Virginia state tax credit in addition to their normal state and federal tax deductions.

“The program has already far exceeded expectations,” says Savoy. “To date 88 students have been approved for scholarships, over \$320,000 has been committed and K-12 enrollment in the Potomac Conference is up this year.” To learn more, contact the Potomac Conference Education Department at (540) 886-0771 or [taxcredit@pcsda.org](mailto:taxcredit@pcsda.org).



To watch a video and learn more about the tax credit program, go to [pcsda.org/tax-credit-program](http://pcsda.org/tax-credit-program).

# Potomac People

## New Training Center and Church to Open in Haymarket

**W**e are people of hope,” Mark Finley, long-time evangelist, boldly stated at the groundbreaking ceremony of the Living Hope Community Church, in Haymarket, Va. “The whole concept of Living Hope is not to isolate ourselves, but to make an impact.”

For years Finley and his wife, Teenie, have felt that every church should be a training school for Christian workers, and that these places would teach how to give Bible studies, care for the sick and poor, and live a balanced life. One day a gentleman approached Teenie, saying God impressed him to donate \$50,000 to this cause. They quickly began a faith fund and soon received enough donations to buy a property.

The Finleys, along with Robert Banks, currently the pastor of the Warrenton (Va.) church, will operate Living Hope as a church and training center. “This will be a place where the Bible is exalted,” says Finley. “The doors will be open every day to provide an oasis for people to come and pray.” The vision is to expand the church outside of itself and focus on the needs of the community, by providing services like parenting classes for single mothers, healthy cooking classes, seminars from top healthcare professionals, computer classes for children and designated volunteer days.

The sanctuary will be set up with the latest technology



*Mark Finley prays over the construction and mission of the new facility, which will function as a training, evangelism and community center.*



in order to broadcast services. Joe Sloan, director for distribution and promotions for the Hope Channel, is working to create the best technology plan and find equipment for this church. “Television allows you to take the church outside of its walls and be a light unto your own community and a light of lights in other places,” he says.

They will also hold classes and programs to equip pastors from all over the world with skills on how to be and create a center for hope. And, they will hold seminars and programs to train lay people how to impact their churches.

“By integrating all of these components we can help make a global impact,” says Finley. “We are all a part of something much larger than ourselves, something that will make a difference for God.”

Pastor Banks says they want to be a benefit to the community. “We want to make a positive contribution to the town of Haymarket,” he says. “The Bible states that when the temple of Solomon was being built, there was no noise at the site. Stones were chiseled and later brought over. While this building is being constructed, my prayer is that we will allow the Spirit of God to chisel and hammer within our own hearts and fashion us to serve to the best of our abilities.”

The new center is expected to open sometime next year.



# Spotlight on Spencerville

NOVEMBER 2014

## High School Students Seek Spiritual Renewal at Retreat

One hundred and fifty-eight high school students recently traveled to the Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md., for Spencerville Adventist Academy's annual high school spiritual retreat. The "Survivor" themed retreat allowed students to commune with the Creator and His nature.

Shari Loveday, a member of the Restoration Praise Center in Lanham, Md., and a dynamic and passionate speaker, presented mighty messages during the retreat. She challenged the students to see the world around them differently and gave them real-world tools for surviving in a world focused on anything but Christ. Loveday's final presentation culminated in a call for formal commitments to Christ.



High school students and staff gather at the end of a meaningful and successful spiritual retreat.



Students spread out across the campgrounds for personal devotions. Ben Slack, a freshman, says, "It was nice just to be alone with God and read."

The students also met for small group meetings, peer-led discussions and played group games that all involved spiritual applications. The favorite game for many was a simulation of the Great Controversy, followed by a group discussion. The game taught students the implications of who you listen to, how to truly hear Jesus when He speaks and how to understand the power of peer pressure—both positive and negative—when making decisions in life.

Sarah Wu, a senior, says, "I liked how when you backed away from the game and looked at it, it was true to life. You don't realize all the influences that are out there."

In addition to games, discussions, singing and sermons, the students also enjoyed mini episodes of an original film produced by the Broadcast Journalism class called *Student vs. School: A Survival Guide*. The film follows three students on their journey through the wilderness led by a spiritual mentor. They seek to find what is truly important in their lives and end up discovering how Christ fits into real-world high school life. Steven Jones, a senior, enjoyed being a part of this production because "it is relatable" to all high school students, he says.



Shari Loveday presents a message that is compelling and relevant to challenges students face in their everyday lives.

## School Plans for Future

Spencerville Adventist Academy recently began a new round of strategic planning. “With an enrollment of 375 this year, we are excited about planning for the future success of our institution and the educational success of all of our students,” says Brian Kittleson, principal.

The school’s Strategic Planning Committee includes members representing the elementary, middle and high schools; administration; school board; parents and pastoral staff. “The strategic planning process will culminate in a document that will guide the institution into the future. The strength of the document comes from the representation of the key stakeholders,” comments Kittleson.



Strategic Planners: *Darlene Rackley, Carrie Hess, Richard Rajarathinam, Brian Kittleson, Mark Noble, Rachel Fuentes, Heidi Wetmore, Kim Timon, Lerone Carson and Sharon Williams (Not pictured: Sandra Brown and Stephen Finney)*

## Hands-On Learning Enhances Science Classes

The elementary (K-8) and high school Science Departments at Spencerville Adventist Academy are teaming up to provide a hands-on and “minds-on” science curriculum. As SAA transitions to the complete implementation of the ByDesign science textbooks, the teachers are implementing more activities to bring science to life.

“The study of science at any academic level is a great tool to enhance our belief in God as the Master designer and Creator,” says Paty Serrano, high school science teacher. “By observing, experimenting and using our

senses in the study of science, the curriculum becomes more relevant and it triggers curiosity.”

Throughout the school year, high school students volunteer as laboratory assistants for elementary school classes. Both high school and elementary science classes take trips outdoors for special activities. Elementary classrooms also utilize the high school science lab to do hands-on activities with the high school students. By using a variety of methods to teach science material to students in the elementary grades, more students are becoming engaged and excited to learn about God’s awesome creation, say administrators.



*Grace Soper, a second-grader, says, “I really liked growing the plants and seeing the roots and learning how they get food for the plants. I liked that I could take it home with me.”*

## Calendar

### November

- 9 National Honor Society Induction
- 17 Prospective Student Open House, 9:30 a.m.
- 18 School Board Meeting
- 24-28 Thanksgiving Break

### December

- 6 *The Messiah* Singalong, Spencerville Church
- 8 Prospective Student Open House, 9:30 a.m.  
Band Department Christmas Concert
- 11 Grades 4-12 Choral, Bells, Orchestra Concert
- 14 Student Association Christmas Banquet
- 19 Christmas Break Begins, Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.



# SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

# HAPPENINGS



NOVEMBER 2014

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

## Campus Rides the Technology Wave (Part I)

The excitement on Shenandoah Valley Academy's (SVA) campus is contagious. Students' smiles can be seen campus-wide. Why? Because the academy is riding the technology wave—and the students appear to love every bit of it!

This wave—the result of more than 18 months' worth of careful research and budgeting—includes the purchase of 180 Google Chromebooks, one for each student at the academy. A presentation by an alumnus showed that these were the best answer to filling the school's technology gap. The Chromebooks are useful to students, avoid personal content issues and provide the level of control the school needs. Students quickly put their new technology to good use, proving it to be a worthwhile venture.

Teachers like Bob VanOrnam, the Religion I and II instructor, are also finding them to be a welcome addition. "Students are able to quickly search for information and return with questions regarding the information they found," he says. "This improves dialog and helps the students understand good Bible study." He adds, "With some good mind-mapping applications, [it] helps students work through critical thinking skills to understand what the text is and is not talking about."

Deborah White, who teaches English I, III and IV, also appreciates the added technology. "(Students) are able to draft compositions and papers in class using Chromebooks and Google documents, then add to and polish their articles through several drafts. While the students are going through the same steps, I am able to



*Students show that they are happy with their new Chromebooks!*

read the initial drafts' type more easily than handwritten drafts, and students aren't losing their documents."

Gabrielle Griffin, who teaches World and U.S. History and American Government, and Mitzi Bame, the biology, chemistry, and Anatomy and Physiology teacher, have students begin research for upcoming projects in class. This gives Griffin and Bame the much-needed ability to provide guidance and feedback on the students' research in real time, which helps students stay on topic and keeps them from wasting time by going down rabbit holes, they say.

Ron White, the IT teacher, fundamentally believes that an integral part in bringing updated technology to SVA is the expectation of very specific benefits to the students. "Chromebooks expand the ability of the students to find answers to their questions from anywhere. In my classes, and especially in the CompTIA A+ Certification prep class, I expect the students to be able to use the Internet to find how-to and technical information in their classes both now and throughout their careers," he says.

Be sure to read next month's issue of *Happenings* to learn about the other pieces of SVA's technology wave!



*Seniors Annabelle Suleiman and Ryan Ramirez use their Chromebooks during a free period in the library.*

## Boys Soccer Team Wins Bill Jarvis Tournament

Takoma Academy's (TA) boys soccer team recently defeated Shenandoah Valley Academy's (SVA) team 3-2 to be crowned the 2014-15 winners of the Bill Jarvis Soccer Tournament held at Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon, Ohio. Coaches credit the victory to a good team effort. TA defended well, which includes strong goalkeeping. They also distributed well for the strikers to be able to score goals, says G. Onyema Uzuegbu, affectionately known as "Coach U."

The championship game was hard fought. One observer says, "It was a nail biter." The game was tied at 1-1 through regulation and included two, 10-minute, no sudden death, overtime periods. Many of the players were hurt, but the team did not give up and prevailed 3-2 against the well-seasoned, well-coached and battle-trying SVA squad, from

New Market, Va., adds Uzuegbu.

This is Coach U's second time helping a TA team win the Jarvis Championship title. How did he build one of the most formidable high school teams in the private or public athletic sporting arena? He shares, "The first lesson I learned, strangely enough, was from the girls volleyball team from Licking County Christian Academy in Ohio. This team never gave up on any play or point. They fought for every single point and defeated, I think, teams that may have better raw talent." He continues, "Second, the youth pastor reminded us of the importance of CAI—character, attitude and integrity—in our daily lives. Third, I allowed myself to learn that I must never let excitement of the moment cause me, personally, to get carried away, regardless of the reason."



## School Gets Refurbished Sports Field

After not being able to play home games for several years, Takoma Academy's soccer teams can now play on their own field. Many may attribute Takoma Academy's boys soccer team's stellar performances in the 2014-15 season to this welcome improvement.

The driving force behind the refurbished field is Keith Beckett, TA's athletic director. He states that when he took the position last year and saw the condition of the field, that "TA had to make a way for our kids to have a place to play home games." God answered that prayer through Armando Portillo.

Portillo runs a nonprofit soccer organization for youth. He voluntarily leveled TA's field, seeded water-soaked areas, and replaced the sprinkler heads and drain lines. He deserves the largest thank-you for the field being now in proper condition to host soccer games. Because of his work, Carla Thrower, principal, says, "We are experiencing a large turnout to our home games."



## University Imparts Skills Needed to Thrive

The value of a Washington Adventist University education is measured by how well we impart critical abilities that students need to thrive. These abilities will effectively prepare graduates to fulfill their potential and provide moral leadership to their communities. It is well documented that some of the abilities needed for 21st century graduates are: effective oral and written communication skills; analytical thinking skills; competence and innovation in work; respect and honor for diversity, and the continuous pursuit of truth and knowledge.

We strive to continue to make this vision a reality for our students. Visit [wau.edu](http://wau.edu) to see how you can also help our students in this pursuit.

*This is Washington Adventist University!*



**Weymouth Spence**  
President

## NEWS

### Thoughtful Discussion Dominates Ferguson Dialogue

The School of Graduate and Professional Studies' graduate public administration program and the Saint Louis University Department of Political Science recently hosted a dialogue on Ferguson, Mo. The hour-long call-in conversation focused on the issues of race, law enforcement and socioeconomic status in the aftermath of the shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed teenager in Ferguson, a community of 21,000 residents.



The conversation began with a 45-minute discussion moderated by Colin Wellenkamp, adjunct professor of public policy at WAU, and involved Richard Wolfe (pictured), adjunct professor of public policy,

along with several other public policy experts from across the country.

"The issues of Ferguson are complex, so the dialogue included emphasis on the need for community and economic development," says Wolfe. "In order to resolve these issues, we need more dialogue among thoughtful people to help find new ways to provide communities like Ferguson with opportunity and hope."

The discussion touched on the need for leaders to fulfill their responsibilities as representatives of all of the citizens, and the need for employment and economic development activities in the region, among other points.

At the end of the dialogue, other call-in participants, many from WAU, had the opportunity to pose their questions and comments.

### "King Peggy" Takes Students on Extraordinary Journey

King Amuah Afenyi VI, also known as King Peggy, recently visited campus to speak with students about her extraordinary journey from being an American secretary to King of Otuam, Ghana, a small fishing village of 7,000 people.

Over the summer, first-year students are required to read her book *King Peggy: An American Secretary, Her Royal Destiny, and the Inspiring Story of How She Changed an African Village*. The First Year Experience, a program designed to help first-year students adjust to college life, also requires students to visit the Ghanaian Embassy and includes a trip to Ghana during spring break.



*"King Peggy" visits campus to address first-year students.*

## New Capital Bikeshare Station Opens on Campus



A new Capital Bikeshare station is now open on campus, directly across from Wilkinson Hall. The short-term bicycle rentals provide convenient and inexpensive transportation options for students, faculty, staff and the nearby community. Available at automated, self-service, solar-powered docking stations, the bicycles may be picked up at one location and dropped off at another, such as the Bikeshare station near the Takoma Metro, which is 1.5 miles away. This allows for both one-way and round-trip rentals.

Membership options for Capital Bikeshare are \$75 a year, \$25 a month, \$15 for three days or \$7 for one day. Yearly and monthly memberships can be purchased online or by phone, while the one- and three-day memberships can be purchased with a credit card at any Capital Bikeshare station. Trips under 30 minutes are included in the membership fee.

*Bruce Peifer, chair and associate professor of health, wellness and physical education, tries out the new Capital Bikeshare station.*

PHOTO BY RANDOLPH ROBIN

## New Ball Field Opens

Washington Adventist University officially celebrated its new, \$1.8 million artificial turf ball field with much fanfare, including a men's soccer game and picnic. The field includes updated lighting, a new score board and new bleachers.

"The opening of this beautiful ball field marks another step forward in WAU's transformation from being a good university to a great one," says Weymouth Spence, WAU president. "The goal of our 'Vision 2020—Growing With Excellence' plan is to turn this institution into one of the premier small universities in the mid-Atlantic region. Improvements like this one to the physical campus are as important as building excellence in our educational programs."



*Elected officials join Weymouth Spence (center) and university faculty, staff and students in cutting the ribbon that officially opens the ball field for use.*

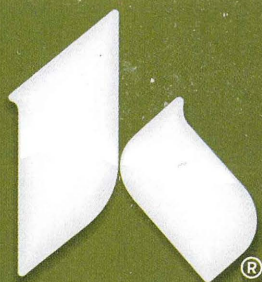


*Patrick Crarey welcomes the crowd to the opening ceremonies.*

Patrick E. Crarey, II, athletic director, kicked off the event with a welcome followed by remarks from Spence, Bruce Williams, City of Takoma Park mayor, and several others. Carl Bienvenu, Student Association religious vice president, offered a prayer of dedication before a ribbon-cutting ceremony. In addition, Spence scored an inaugural soccer goal simultaneously with Dannielle Panuccio ('13), the school's all-time leading women's soccer scorer; and alumnus Gary Saint-Fleur ('11), men's soccer three-time MVP.

The field will accommodate soccer games, intramural sports and community activities throughout the year. It is part of an ongoing effort by WAU to improve its physical campus. During the past five years, the university has completed a new music building, dining hall and student activity center renovations, and a host of smaller projects that include new paint, furniture and flooring in the dormitories, classrooms and library.





# your healing MINISTRY

## Listening to God's Calling

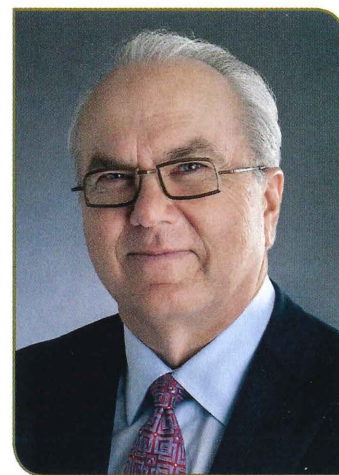
It was the summer of 2000 and I was attending the General Conference Session in Toronto, Canada. During the session, the Adventist HealthCare executives had an evening gathering where I had an opportunity to meet Frank Perez, Kettering Adventist HealthCare President and CEO. Frank suggested we have breakfast to get better acquainted. During breakfast, he told me the inspiring Kettering story. He also shared that they were in the process of succession planning and he felt I would be a good fit to replace him when he retired. I was honored and humbled to be considered.

I had no plans to move from southern California. After all I had just moved a little over a year ago from central California and was focused on all the new responsibilities of the hospitals I oversaw. But as a result of Frank's persistence, I finally agreed to fly out and visit. While touring the facilities and getting acquainted with the area, I sensed something special. But I was still focused on the changes and progress I was making back at home.

Returning to California, I couldn't help but think of Ohio and all the great people I had met. It seemed as if God was calling me to take this new opportunity, even though I had just moved my family. As the weeks passed, I realized it was time to listen to God and go on one more journey.

Mary Kaye and I feel that God led us to the Dayton, Ohio area. As Kettering Medical Center celebrates 50 years of Healing and Sacred Work, we are so happy that we listened to His call and are a part of this incredible team. Serving Him and being a part of this community has been our greatest privilege.

*Fred & Mary Kaye attend the Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church.*



**Fred Manchur**

Kettering Medical Center  
President 2001 – 2009

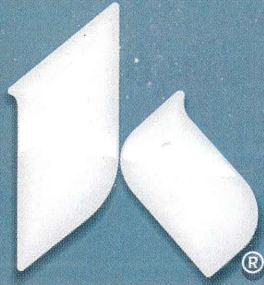
Kettering Adventist HealthCare  
CEO 2011 – Present

---

*"While touring the facilities and getting acquainted with the area, I sensed something special."*

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# your healing MINISTRY

## The Pursuit of Excellence

By Christina Keresoma

### 2001-2009

After almost four decades since Kettering Medical Center's doors first opened, the hospital had become a long-established and highly regarded part of the community.

Quality had always been a hallmark of Kettering Medical Center, but the changing healthcare industry demanded more – dynamic, forward-thinking leadership. Fred Manchur fit that description and became Kettering Medical Center's fifth president because of his pursuit of excellence and desire to impact those around him. "My life's goal is to have a positive impact wherever I can, whether it is my church, my family, my job, or my community," said Fred. "I am motivated by my faith to help create a place that gives hope and healing to people in need."

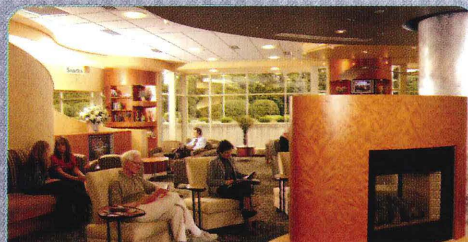
His perspective on maintaining quality and achieving excellence positioned Kettering Medical Center as a leader in innovative care. "Every patient deserves our best, every time, everywhere," said Fred, who could not imagine aiming for anything less. "Excellence is evident when we have a passion for the work by making a personal connection advocating for the patients and anticipating their needs."

Fred recognized that physicians were indispensable partners of the hospital. For his first project as president, he remodeled and expanded the physician lounge. The space was transformed into a beautiful and functional lounge with a connecting door to the hospital's administrative suite. Fred encouraged

2001 2002 2003 2004 20



The Kettering Physicians Lounge expands and is remodeled. This is the first major update of the area since the hospital opened.



Grand opening and dedication ceremonies are held for the new Emergency Department, adding 14 beds and an attractive and comfortable waiting area.



Fred Manchur and Miriam Cartmell, director of Women & Children's Services, opens new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit





physicians to participate in planning and decision-making processes. He also placed more emphasis on physician recruitment, and as a result, many outstanding physicians continue to practice at Kettering Medical Center and join its community.

Keeping in mind how patients experienced the hospital, Fred focused on creating a "healing environment" that embodied current patient care needs and trends. Fred made plans to update patient care areas and brought in world-renowned architect Jain Malkin to design the new Emergency Department, surgery suites, sleep labs, and hospital lobby. During the lobby remodel, a unique work of art was installed that tells the Creation story, reflecting the institute's faith-based culture.

Fred and his wife Mary Kaye developed a strong bond with cardiologist Benjamin Schuster, MD, and his wife Marian. Because of the Schusters' generosity, the Benjamin and Marian Schuster Heart Hospital was built on Kettering Medical Center's campus. Oscar Boonshoft also provided significant philanthropic support, which resulted in the construction and dedication of the Boonshoft Center for Medical Sciences.

In 2009, Fred moved to Ridgeleigh Terrace, Kettering Health Network's corporate headquarters, to more actively develop the expanding network of hospitals. When Frank Perez retired in 2011, Fred took his place and became the second chief executive officer of Kettering Health Network – the position he now holds.

05 2006 2007 2008 2009



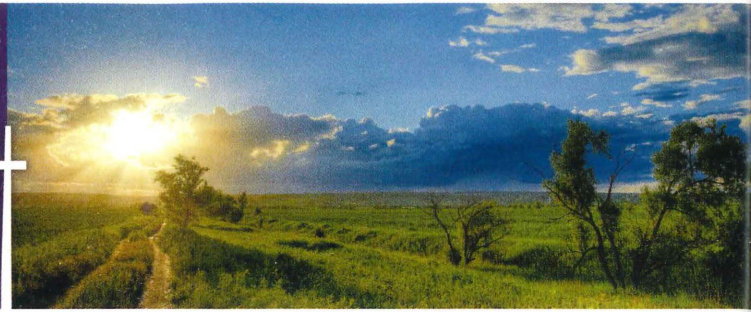
The Boonshoft Center for Medical Sciences is dedicated in August of 2006.



Fred and Mary Kaye Manchur with Marian and Dr. Benjamin Schuster



# NEWS



NOVEMBER 2014

## Kettering:60 is Up and Running

Kettering Adventist HealthCare has launched weekly devotional videos that give a simple breakdown of Jesus's messages. They are designed to be a source of inspiration, reflection, and to give a little boost in employees' lives. These devotionals are 60 seconds each, providing a quick breakdown of the Bible for people who are always on the go and have little time to spare. The videos can be viewed on a smart phone, tablet, or computer, making them easy and portable.

In these videos, youth Pastor Steve Carlson from the Ohio Conference takes listeners through the teachings of the Bible and covers topics such as love, revenge, priorities, and jealousy, just to name a few. To watch these videos visit [ketteringhealth.org/spiritualservices](http://ketteringhealth.org/spiritualservices). You can also subscribe by texting Kettering60 to 75309.

**Kettering**  
**:60**

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Your weekly breakdown of inspiration and reflection | Post a comment in the video for your chance to win a prize each week! | Like, Subscribe and Share us everywhere!

**KETTERING**  
Health Network

## Innovative Technology Award

Fort Hamilton Hospital received the Innovative Solutions in Technology Award from the Greater Cincinnati Health Council for the hospital's Decision to Floor (D2F) Project. This project successfully decreased the time it takes to move admitted patients from the Emergency Department to the inpatient floor.

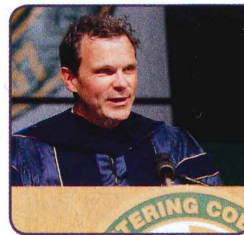


Emergency Department physicians used an electronic form for each patient containing instructions on which admitting physician to contact and what type of bed to put them in, enabling more efficient wait times. Nurses are able to look up information using this advanced notification system and see where the patient needs to go. The previous average wait time was 40 minutes and is now less than 15 minutes.

## OTD Program is Coming to Kettering College

Kettering College now offers an Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) program. This will be the first doctoral degree offered by the college.

The college submitted a candidacy application to the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education. The program was approved by the Higher Learning Commission, the Ohio Board of Regents, and the Adventist Accrediting Association, the earliest proposed time for students to begin in the program is early to mid-year 2015.



"Occupational Therapy is a growing field and is demanding more professionals who have post-graduate degrees," explains Nate Brandstater, president of Kettering College. "We are proud to be offering an innovative doctoral program that will propel Kettering College graduates into the future of health care."



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## EMPLOYMENT

**ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA) INTERNATIONAL** in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time staff auditor, CPA required. Responsibilities include preparation of reports; evaluate internal control systems, procedures, and best practices, applications of GAAP, GAAS, and donor compliance rules and regulations. For more information, go to [adra.org](http://adra.org).

**ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA) INTERNATIONAL** in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time Senior Accountant II. Responsibilities include review reconciliations, wire transfer requests, grant loans/advances, and prepare reports to government agencies. Record questioned cost, review GIK documentation, and compile budgets for cost centers. For more information, go to [adra.org](http://adra.org).

**ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA) INTERNATIONAL** in Silver Spring, Md., is seeking a full-time senior program finance manager. Responsibilities include providing day-to-day support to implementing field offices on financial management processes, compliance, policies and adherence to donor regulations. Field experience preferred. For more information, go to [adra.org](http://adra.org).

**ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA) SUDAN** in Sudan, is seeking a full-time finance director. Responsibilities include preparation of all financial reports, process disbursement of funds, review of financial statements, bank and journal vouchers, project budgets, and maintenance of accounting records. For more information, go to [adra.org](http://adra.org).

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**HOPESIDE CHURCH PLANT** seeking a dynamic health evangelist, a relationship expert/evangelist and a contemporary music band for leading praise service. All positions are for a once-a-month engagement at an outreach-driven church plant in the Silver Spring, Md., area. Stipend provided. For more details, email [astoron99@yahoo.com](mailto:astoron99@yahoo.com).

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY**, Biology Dept., is seeking a qualified applicant (PhD preferred). Primary emphasis in paleontology and zoology; ability to teach introductory geology, microbiology and/or bioinformatics desirable. The successful candidate will be supportive of literal creationism. Send cover letter and CV to [schwarz.arthur@swau.edu](mailto:schwarz.arthur@swau.edu). Position open until filled.

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks committed Adventist candidate for tenure-track position in voice/choral music, beginning June 2015. Responsibilities include overseeing the voice program, directing vocal groups, advising,

and teaching undergraduate courses and voice lessons. Doctorate or near-doctorate required for tenure-track appointment. Send CV and references to Bruce Forbes, [b2forbes@ucollege.edu](mailto:b2forbes@ucollege.edu).

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks a professor specializing in an area of non-European history, to teach general and upper division courses, effective fall 2015. Doctorate or near-doctorate required for tenure-track appointment. Send CV and references to Michelle Velazquez Mesnard, Humanities Division Chair, [mimesnard@ucollege.edu](mailto:mimesnard@ucollege.edu).

## MISCELLANEOUS

Books by Paula Montgomery

**Paula Montgomery, Author**

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**2015 GREAT CONTROVERSY TOUR**, July 17-30, with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt of Andrews University. See prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive! Visit Rome, Italy and Reformation sites in the Waldensian Valleys, Switzerland, Germany, France. A most exciting experience! Call (269) 815-8624, or email [gctours@mac.com](mailto:gctours@mac.com).

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**VIP Tickets: \$30 (includes CD/DVD set/post concert reception)**

**General Admission: \$15**

**Ticket purchase: [Freshtix.com/events/AeoliansatSligo](http://Freshtix.com/events/AeoliansatSligo)**

	Nov 7	Nov 14	Nov 21	Nov 28	Dec 5
<b>Baltimore</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>4:53</b>	<b>4:48</b>	<b>4:45</b>	<b>4:43</b>
<b>Cincinnati</b>	<b>5:32</b>	<b>5:25</b>	<b>5:20</b>	<b>5:17</b>	<b>5:15</b>
<b>Cleveland</b>	<b>5:16</b>	<b>5:09</b>	<b>5:03</b>	<b>4:59</b>	<b>4:57</b>
<b>Columbus</b>	<b>5:24</b>	<b>5:17</b>	<b>5:12</b>	<b>5:09</b>	<b>5:07</b>
<b>Jersey City</b>	<b>4:47</b>	<b>4:40</b>	<b>4:35</b>	<b>4:31</b>	<b>4:29</b>
<b>Norfolk</b>	<b>5:03</b>	<b>4:57</b>	<b>4:52</b>	<b>4:49</b>	<b>4:48</b>
<b>Parkersburg</b>	<b>5:20</b>	<b>5:13</b>	<b>5:08</b>	<b>5:05</b>	<b>5:03</b>
<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>4:53</b>	<b>4:46</b>	<b>4:41</b>	<b>4:37</b>	<b>4:36</b>
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	<b>5:11</b>	<b>5:04</b>	<b>4:59</b>	<b>4:55</b>	<b>4:53</b>
<b>Reading</b>	<b>4:55</b>	<b>4:48</b>	<b>4:43</b>	<b>4:39</b>	<b>4:37</b>
<b>Richmond</b>	<b>5:07</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>4:56</b>	<b>4:53</b>	<b>4:52</b>
<b>Roanoke</b>	<b>5:17</b>	<b>5:11</b>	<b>5:06</b>	<b>5:03</b>	<b>5:02</b>
<b>Toledo</b>	<b>5:23</b>	<b>5:16</b>	<b>5:10</b>	<b>5:06</b>	<b>5:04</b>
<b>Trenton</b>	<b>4:51</b>	<b>4:44</b>	<b>4:39</b>	<b>4:35</b>	<b>4:33</b>
<b>Wash., D.C.</b>	<b>5:02</b>	<b>4:56</b>	<b>4:51</b>	<b>4:48</b>	<b>4:46</b>

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**FIRST TRIENNIAL CONSTITUENCY SESSION OF RAMAH JUNIOR ACADEMY**

Notice is hereby given that the Ramah Junior Academy Constituency will convene at 10 a.m., Sunday, November 9, 2014, at the Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1443 Addison Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44103. The purpose of this meeting is to transact business that may properly

come before the session at that time. The six constituent churches are representatives to this session.

William T. Cox, *President*  
Marvin C. Brown, III, *Exec. Secretary*

**SPECIAL CONSTITUENCY MEETING OF THE OHIO CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

A special constituency meeting of the Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 10 a.m., Sunday, January 11, 2015, at the Worthington Seventh-day Adventist Church, 385 East Dublin-Granville Road, Worthington, Ohio.

This meeting is called to present reports, findings, and consider plans pertaining to the serious financial condition of Mount Vernon Academy; and based upon the consideration of such information, take all necessary and proper action regarding the future of this Academy. Delegates to this session are those who served as delegates to the 41st regular constituency session of the Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists held on May 18, 2014. Should severe weather prohibit this meeting, an alternate date of January 25, 2015, has been chosen at the same time and location. Delegates will be notified of any postponement.

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*Ms. Quintero is currently a full-time educator who is pursuing dual certification in Elementary Education and Special Education. She has two children and will graduate in May, achieving one of her most important goals: to graduate before her son finishes high school.*

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