

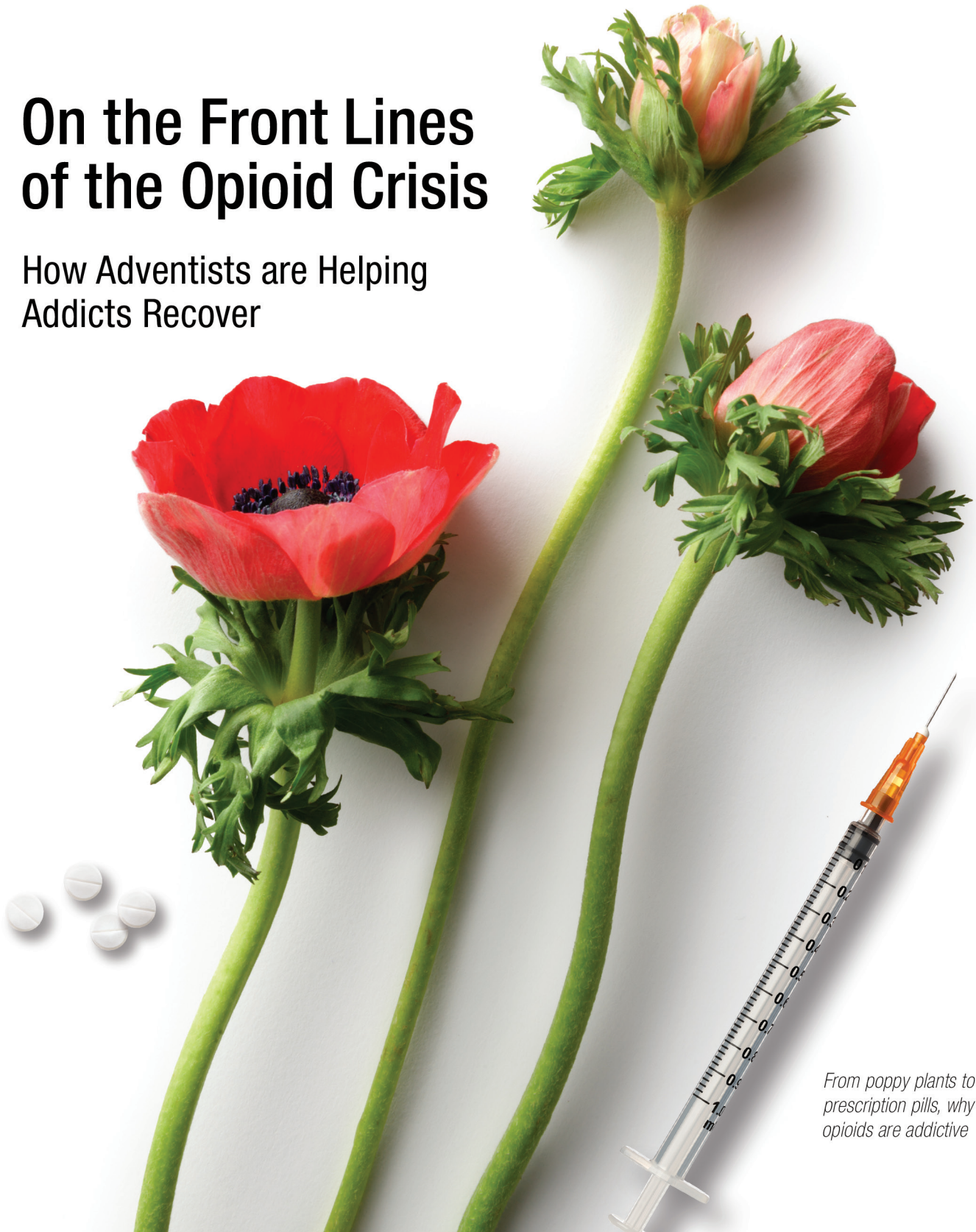
# VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

NOVEMBER 2017 • VOLUME 122 • ISSUE 9

## On the Front Lines of the Opioid Crisis

How Adventists are Helping  
Addicts Recover



*From poppy plants to  
prescription pills, why  
opioids are addictive*



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### On the Front Lines of the Opioid Crisis

*Tamaria L. Kulemeka*

The opioid epidemic is crippling communities across the nation. How are Seventh-day Adventists, including some former addicts, helping people recover?

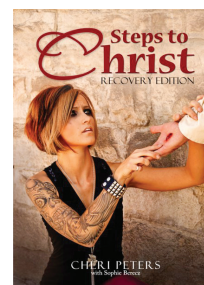
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## ON THE WEB

### 12 STEPS TO CHRIST

Cheri Peters, founder of True Step Ministries, recently edited *Steps to Christ, Recovery Edition*. This modern version highlights Christian principles that help those on the path to recovery. Read our interview with Peters at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/12stepstoChrist](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/12stepstoChrist).



### MEETING THEM WHERE THEY ARE

There is a strong drug epidemic and high risk of drug overdose in the Elyria and Lorain, Ohio, communities, says Marius Marton, Elyria church pastor. In response to this, members of his Ohio Conference church, some who are recovering from addiction, run a long-standing women's ministry and a brand-new men's ministry to build community with those in need. See how this church is providing a dfwarm, accepting space for healing at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/acceptingthem](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/acceptingthem).

### A FRAMEWORK FOR LIVING

"Corporate worship does not satisfy our hunger for God—it whets our appetite," says Rob Vandeman. "Our need for God is not taken care of by engaging in worship; it deepens. It overflows the hour and permeates the week. It gives us a framework for living." Read more of Vandeman's thoughts on Psalm 100 in his latest Journey Through the Psalms blog at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/journeythroughpsalms](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/journeythroughpsalms).



**OPIOID-FREE HEALTH CARE?** Kettering Adventist HealthCare has created an innovative tool that has the potential to help clinicians provide opioid-free health care. Read more at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/opioidfree](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/opioidfree).

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## I've Been There

**A**ddict. It's a word we don't like to use to describe ourselves. But at age 17, I was addicted to alcohol and cigarettes, and a user of marijuana, PCP (Phencyclidine) and other drugs. I cannot place blame for my poor decisions on my parents or upbringing, as I was raised in a loving Seventh-day Adventist home. I became addicted through peer pressure and my inability to say no. I wanted friends to like me, and never wanted to look like I was too afraid to try something.



It all started with cigarettes when I was 13; well, not really cigarettes. We rolled up dried grass in notebook paper, and lit it on fire. Once I finally tried my first cigarette, I hated it. In fact, for the next two years I would not inhale the smoke but hold it in my mouth so my friends thought I was cool. That all ended when they caught and confronted me. It wasn't long before I began stealing to pay for cigarettes. One day a friend brought some marijuana, and we all tried it. The next year it was beer. Again, I hated the taste, and would pretend to drink it, pouring it out when no one was looking. When my friends discovered this, I drank a few cans to prove I was actually consuming it. It didn't take long for dependence to kick in, and at the low point in my life, I was drinking grain alcohol in a water bottle at school. Looking back I realize that what I really wanted was peace. The few moments lost in drugs or alcohol seemed to provide it, but then the hangovers destroyed it.

Seeing that my life was out of control, my parents and church members prayed for me, going so far as to have special meetings at church just to pray for me. After I spent time in reform school, engaged in colporteur ministry and learned to make better choices, God fulfilled David's prayer in my life: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me" (Ps. 51:10, ESV). Ultimately all praise goes to God, as He removed my addictions.



## WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT ADDICTION?

I believe we should talk more openly about issues such as addiction in our churches. Our perfection facade makes it hard for those who are struggling to seek help. A National Institute on Drug Abuse study showed that 9.4 percent of our nation's population has used an illicit drug in the past month. It's very likely that people in our churches and schools—people we know—are struggling privately.

Secondly, I would like to see more churches become active in facilitating recovery. Adventist Recovery Ministries (Adventistrecovery.org) has many useful resources. They provide awareness programs and training to help people see the severity of the problem and how to make a difference in someone's life. They also host retreats for addicts.

Finally, join me in praying about this issue. As I've witnessed in my own journey to recovery, prayer is a power like nothing else.

*Josh Voigt pastors Chesapeake Conference's Catoclin View and Middletown Valley (Md.) churches.*

## Newsline



Delegates of the Allegheny East Conference's first quinquennial constituency session recently re-elected Henry J. Fordham III as president, elected Pete Palmer as vice president for administration and re-elected Lawrence E. Martin as treasurer.

### LOCAL CONFERENCES PLANT 50 CHURCHES, EMBRACE EVANGELISM

In 2016 conferences within the Columbia Union territory started 50 new church plants, the most in the North American Division (NAD) that year. To make this possible, the union provided \$67,500, and solicited \$250,000 from the NAD and General Conference, reports Frank Bondurant, vice president for Ministries Development.



At a local parade, members of Potomac Conference's Living Hope church in Haymarket, Va., provide massages, distribute literature and register 100 people for health seminars and Bible studies.

At the May 2016 union constituency meeting, President Dave Weigley and the conference presidents launched an evangelism initiative named "Share the Light—Share the Hope." Each conference pledged to make evangelism a special priority for the first 18 months of the new quinquennium. Bondurant shared these 2016-17 conference highlights:

- Allegheny East churches spent \$1.4 million in evangelism, and celebrated 1,000 baptisms.
- From January to June 2017, Allegheny West churches celebrated 500 baptisms, with a goal of 1,000 by the end of 2017.
- In Fall 2016, Chesapeake sponsored a conference-wide evangelism initiative, and hosted 50 meetings. Earlier this fall, pastors held 11 meetings in Bulgaria.
- Mountain View members served 975 people with free medical services during Your best Pathway to Health, and are hosting 36 follow-up evangelism meetings.
- New Jersey members celebrated more than 530 baptisms during the Caravan of Compassion and Project Caleb initiatives.

- Ohio members started six church plants and celebrated more than 300 baptisms, including 103 in Hispanic churches.

- In 2016 Pennsylvania members hosted 14 "Faith for Family" meetings in western Pennsylvania and look forward to seeing the benefits from the Fall 2017 meetings in central Pennsylvania.

- Potomac churches experienced more than 300 baptisms after seminars with evangelist Alejandro Bullón. Leaders equipped young adults during the INSPIRE event. In 2017 the conference challenged every church to do evangelistic outreach.—V. Michelle Bernard

### MEMBERS PROVIDE SUPPORT FOLLOWING HURRICANES

Fourteen Columbia Union members, including 11 sponsored by the union's Adventist Community Services/Disaster Response (ACS/DR) Department, spent up to two weeks sorting supplies, distributing water and praying with residents impacted by Hurricane Harvey. This initiative took place at NAD's ACS-sponsored distribution center at the World Harvest Outreach church in Houston.

Thirty-two members from several conferences also recently participated in crisis care training at Chesapeake's Frederick (Md.) church. "This will allow us to train a larger pool of individuals in the future, as well as [provide] more skills to offer to our communities during disasters," says John Belliveau, Chesapeake's ACS/DR coordinator.

Churches across the union also filled more than 1,000 buckets for those impacted by hurricanes in the Caribbean. Read more at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/acshelps](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/acshelps).—VMB



## WGTS 91.9 Celebrates 60 Years of Service

On May 8, 1957, in the basement of the men’s dormitory on the campus of then Washington Missionary College, WGTS 91.9 started broadcasting on a 10-watt transmitter, covering a scant square mile in Takoma Park, Md.

The call letters—WGTS—echoed the college’s motto “Gateway to Service.”

“Washington Adventist University students still work at WGTS 91.9, just as they did in 1957 when it first went on the air,” says Kevin Krueger, current general manager. “The mentoring, training and education of college students remains a strong part of our mission.”

At first the station broadcasted for several hours a day, and grew, thanks to generous donors and the time and talent of managers Joe Spicer, Don Martin and Ed Henkel. Along the way, the station moved from that small basement room to the studios it has today, and has increased power and extended its reach.

Don Wheeler, who became general manager in 1980, said, “We pride ourselves on our format, which we call programming for the total person. Our programs deal with the mental, physical and spiritual aspects of life. And we are here to reach souls for Christ.”

John Konrad, who started as a student overnight board operator

and became general manager in August 1996, changed the station to an inspirational Christian music format. Following Konrad’s death in 2013, Doug Walker served as interim manager.

Kevin Krueger came from KGTS 91.3 to manage WGTS 91.9 in the fall of 2013 and is currently leading the team.

The station now broadcasts to 550,000 listeners each week and reaches out to listeners through special events, such as concerts and Hands and Heart initiatives, including collecting school supplies and holiday toys for children, sponsoring water filters and ministering to the residents of Central Union Mission.

Through the decades, the common thread of serving Washington, D.C., and sharing Christ still remain strong today, says Krueger.—WGTS Staff



From 1980 until 2013, WGTS 91.9 grew under the leadership of Don Wheeler and John Konrad.



WGTS 91.9 listeners enjoy meeting with other listeners and station staff at the Ice Cream Tour event in Gaithersburg, Md.



The WGTS 91.9 staff and volunteers from the community celebrate a successful 2017 fall fundraiser that yielded more than \$1.2 million.

### 60 YEARS OF HISTORY

**1957** WGTS is the first non-commercial radio station to start operating in the Washington, D.C., area.

**1960** The station’s power increases from 10 watts to 10,000 watts, and another power increase is completed in the mid-1960s.

**1966** WGTS is the first non-commercial radio station to broadcast in stereo in Washington, D.C.

**1972** Don Martin, WAU alumnus and current board member, becomes the first full-time manager of the station.

**1982** The station starts broadcasting 18 hours a day.

**1996** John Konrad becomes the manager, and the station soon changes to an inspirational Christian format.

**2004** The broadcast tower is moved to Arlington, Va., growing its coverage area significantly.

**2009** The station adds a chaplain’s position.

**2013** Manager John Konrad passes away suddenly. Kevin Krueger becomes manager.

## Noticias



**Nuevos líderes:** los delegados de la primera sesión quinquenal de la junta de nombramiento de Allegheny East votaron recientemente por Henry Fordham III (centro) como presidente, Pete Palmer como vicepresidente administrativo y Lawrence E. Martin como tesorero.

### CRECE LA IGLESIA EN CINCINNATI

Hace tres años, Cincinnati sólo tenía una iglesia adventista del séptimo día y un grupo pequeño. Hoy la Conferencia de Allegheny West (AWC) tiene cinco prósperas iglesias hispanas y dos a punto de abrirse. La Conferencia de Ohio también está plantando una iglesia allí.

“Aquellos que han aceptado el llamado de Jesús a predicar y evangelizar la ciudad lo toman en serio y encuentran cada oportunidad que tienen de testimoniar sobre Jesús ... de manera personal



Lidia Pérez, miembro de la Iglesia Central de Cincinnati, es uno de los 50 nuevos miembros en Cincinnati.

y atractiva, a través de grupos pequeños o evangelismo público”, dice Sergio Romero, director de Ministerios Multilingües de AWC.

El pastor Horacio Quiroga y su esposa, Ivana, trabajan en las iglesias: Central de Cincinnati, El Buen Pastor, La Esperanza, Pan de Vida y Cristo Viene. El pastor Joel González y su esposa, Isis, se unieron recientemente al equipo pastoral de la zona. Joel ya ha predicado en una semana de evangelismo para los jóvenes. Al final del evento, 10 personas eligieron ser bautizadas, y son 50 los nuevos miembros a desde de septiembre.

Cuando se le pregunta cómo puede trabajar con cinco iglesias, Horacio dice: “No pienso en la cantidad de iglesias, sino en la cantidad de gente que no conoce a Jesús como su Salvador personal; tenemos una excelente oportunidad para llegar a más gente de muchas maneras”.—*pastor de la Conferencia de Allegheny West*

### PREDICADORES DE VIVANGELISMO

Los pastores Alejandro Bullón (en la foto), Roger Hernández,



José Cortes Jr., Walter Castro y Jorge y Nibia Mayer serán los predicadores de Vivangelismo, una celebración de las iglesias hispanas de la Unión de Columbia del ministerio 2017, del 8 al 10 de diciembre en Ocean City, Maryland. Regístrese con su pastor antes del 24 de noviembre para evitar un costo adicional. Para más información visite [vivangelismo.com](http://vivangelismo.com). —V. Michelle Bernard

### LA IGLESIA DE PASSAIC BRINDA CLASES A LA COMUNIDAD

Durante los últimos cuatro años, los miembros de la iglesia hispana de Passaic I de la Conferencia de Nueva Jersey han brindado clases gratis de inglés, integración ciudadana, cocina y tejido a más de 200 miembros de la comunidad hispana.



“Nuestra iglesia no es sólo un lugar para enseñar; también es un lugar que está involucrado en la comunidad”, dice el pastor Jorge Coxaj. “Nuestra misión se pierde en la religiosidad a veces, así que estamos aquí para recuperar la verdadera misión: servir a los demás”.—*Oksana Wetmore*

## WGTS 91.9 Celebra 60 Años de Servicio

**E**l 8 de mayo de 1957, en el sótano del hogar de varones en el campus del entonces Colegio Misionero de Washington, WGTS 91.9 comenzó a emitir en un transmisor de 10 vatios, cubriendo apenas una milla cuadrada en Takoma Park, Md.

Las letras—WGTS—se hicieron eco del lema de la universidad “Gateway to Service”.

“Los estudiantes de la Universidad Adventista de Washington aún trabajan en WGTS 91.9, tal como lo hicieron en 1957 cuando salió por primera vez al aire”, dice Kevin Krueger, actual gerente general. “La tutoría, la capacitación y la educación de los estudiantes universitarios sigue siendo una parte importante de nuestra misión”.

Al principio la estación funcionaba algunas horas al día y crecía, gracias a generosos donantes y al tiempo y el talento de los gerentes Joe Spicer, Don Martin y Ed Henkel. A lo largo del tiempo, la estación se trasladó de ese pequeño sótano a los estudios que tiene hoy, y ha aumentado el poder y extendido su alcance. Don Wheeler, que se convirtió en gerente general en 1980, dijo: “Nos enorgullecemos de nuestro formato, que llamamos programación para la persona completa. Nuestros programas se ocupan de los aspectos mentales,

físicos y espirituales de la vida. Y estamos aquí para alcanzar las almas para Cristo”.

John Konrad, que comenzó como un estudiante trabajando de operador en la noche y se convirtió en gerente general en agosto de 1996, cambió la estación a un formato de música cristiana de inspiración. Tras la muerte de Konrad en 2013, Doug Walker se desempeñó como gerente interino.

Kevin Krueger vino de KGTS 91.3 para manejar WGTS 91.9 en el otoño de 2013 y actualmente dirige el equipo.

La estación ahora transmite a 550.000 oyentes cada semana y alcanza a oyentes a través de eventos especiales, tales como conciertos e iniciativas “Hands



*Don Martin fue el primer gerente de tiempo completo de WGTS.*

and Hearts”, incluyendo colecta de útiles escolares y juguetes para las fiestas, patrocinando filtros de agua y ministrando a los residentes de Central Union Mission.

A través de las décadas, el hilo común de servir a Washington, D.C., y compartir a Cristo siguen siendo fuertes hoy, dice Krueger. —*Personal de WGTS*

### 60 AÑOS DE HISTORIA

**1957** WGTS es la primera estación de radio no comercial que comienza a operar en el área de Washington, D.C.

**1960** La potencia de la estación aumenta de 10 a 10.000 vatios, y otro aumento de potencia se completa a mediados de los años sesenta.

**1966** WGTS es la primera emisora de radio no comercial que emite en estéreo en Washington, D.C.

**1972** Don Martin, ex alumno de la WAU y actual miembro del consejo, se convierte en el primer gerente de tiempo completo de la estación.

**1982** La emisora comienza a emitir 18 horas al día.

**1996** John Konrad se convierte en el director, y la estación pronto cambia a un formato cristiano de inspiración.


**2004** La torre de difusión se traslada a Arlington, Virginia, creciendo significativamente su área de cobertura.

**2009** La estación añade la posición de un capellán.

**2013** El gerente John Konrad fallece repentinamente. Kevin Krueger ocupa su posición.



*Dave Kirby de ShareMedia, Kevin Krueger y Jerry Woods, presentador de la mañana, piden apoyo financiero a los oyentes durante la recaudación de fondos de otoño 2017.*



**ON THE  
FRONT LINES**

**OF THE  
OPIOID CRISIS**

**How Adventists are  
Helping Addicts Recover**

*By Tamaría L. Kulemeká*



**T**he opioid and heroin epidemic is crippling communities across the nation, leaving health officials and providers, coroners, law enforcement and churches scrambling to respond to and combat this widespread crisis.

Bonnie Franckowiak, professor and coordinator of the Master of Science Nursing Program at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., says, “The use of opioids in this country is staggering. It’s huge, and it’s growing all the time; we don’t seem to have a handle on it at all,” she says. “In 2012, 259 million prescriptions were written for opioids, which is enough to give every American adult their own pill box.”

Franckowiak notes, “Four out of five new heroin users first started out on prescription painkillers.” She adds that 85 percent of opioid users get their pills from a friend.

Since prescription drugs are too costly to purchase on the streets after prescriptions run out, those who develop addictions often turn to heroin to relieve their symptoms and discomfort, she says.

Unfortunately, addiction leads to accidental overdoses, which Kettering Adventist HealthCare’s Kettering Medical Center staff in Ohio has seen at alarming rates in communities “from urban to suburban and rural,” says Nancy Pook, M.D., medical director of the hospital’s Emergency Department.

The hospital serves five counties in the greater Dayton and Cincinnati areas, including Montgomery County, which recently clinched the title as the county with the highest number of drug overdose deaths per capita in the U.S. Pook says this record was set June 19 when the number of deaths eclipsed the total of all of 2016.

“In general, EMS personnel are responding to an increased number of overdose calls, and many of the patients are [repeatedly] being treated with Narcan [an opioid antagonist reversing the effects of opioids]. The

impact of fentanyl products (painkillers) in our community has triggered this excessive death rate, in large part,” Pook explains.

“This tragedy is a serious and complicated problem for our culture, and our caretakers must be both diligent and attentive, as well as resourceful, avoiding rescuer fatigue themselves due to the negative social consequences surrounding the poly-drug epidemic,” she adds.

## ALL WALKS OF LIFE

Opioid addiction is not discriminatory; it affects people from all walks of life.

“While the typical overdose patient is a young, white adult, often from a middle-income community, all ages and races and socio-economic groups are affected,” Pook says. “We see pregnant women with active addiction, babies born addicted, toddlers in foster care due to addiction’s consequences, teenage users and adults through the end of life using a variety of illicit drugs or buying drugs off the street. We see homeless people, working adults and professionals. Often we see a family in crisis due to the ravages of addiction and its consequences. Addiction is blind to race, socio-economic class, church affiliation and good intentions.”

Pook adds that people with drug dependencies often start as good people with good families who attend good schools.

One of the major factors escalating the crisis in Kettering Medical Center’s coverage area is location. Pook says Dayton is at the crossroads of two major U.S. interstates: Interstate 75 travels north and south, while Interstate 70 travels east and west.

“We know our community is targeted by drug cartels for trafficking, based on input from the Drug Enforcement Administration,” she says.

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## WHY ARE OPIOIDS ADDICTIVE?

**O**piates, naturally occurring alkaloids, are found in opium poppy plants, and relieve pain symptoms. Drugs in this family include heroin, opium, morphine and codeine, reports opium.com.

The American Society of Addiction Medicine classifies opioids, which are at least partially synthetically produced, in two categories: illicit, which is where heroin falls; and licit, which are prescription pain relievers that include oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine and fentanyl.

These drugs are chemically related and interact with opioid receptors on nerve cells in the brain and nervous system to produce pleasurable effects and relieve pain.





*Bonnie Franckowiak, professor and coordinator of the Master of Science Nursing Program at Washington Adventist University, says four out of five new heroin users started out on prescription painkillers. ■ Nancy Pook, M.D., medical director of Kettering Medical Center's Emergency Department, says "The impact of fentanyl products (painkillers) in our community has triggered this excessive death rate, in large part."*

This epidemic is absolutely changing nursing instruction and care across the board, says Franckowiak. "It doesn't matter where you work—in schools, the ER or obstetrics unit—wherever nurses work, they're bound to encounter people who have a problem, or use or are at risk of using or becoming addicted," she says.

WAU's nursing program is teaching students how to screen for addiction and abuse and educating them on how to refer those who may be addicted.

Minnie McNeil, recently retired Adventist Community Services/Disaster Response director for Allegheny East Conference (AEC) and the Columbia Union Conference, says that the crisis also affects family members of addicts, especially when both parties don't feel comfortable sharing their struggles. "Our prayer is that our churches will be safe-havens where we can ban together in prayer, yes, but also that we can extend our referral sources and support families so they feel able to talk about it so that those addicted can get the help they need," she says.

## THE FORGOTTEN MINISTRY?

"[The church] is supposed to be a hospital, but we're not all ready to address the sick," says James Jackson, AEC's coordinator for Adventist Recovery Ministry (ARMin), and a member of the Mount Olivet church in Camden, N.J., who spent 20 years under the influence of alcohol and other drugs. After being "restored to sanity" and getting clean, he worked as a counselor and retired as a clinical supervisor for an agency that provided mental health and substance abuse services in the city.

"We're good at feeding them, but we still don't have a place where someone going through something can get help or referrals," Jackson says. "The amount of drugs and prostitution in the streets is a result of hurt people. Hurt people hurt people; and we have no answer for that in our churches." But he adds, "ARMin could be the answer."

Formerly known as Regeneration, the purpose of ARMin is to address addiction in a wholistic manner, not just focusing on drugs, alcohol and addictions, but on all compulsive behaviors and underlying problems, Jackson says.

Their meetings, patterned similarly to the Alcoholics Anonymous model, use a modified 12 steps, 12 traditions and 12 concepts and provide a safe, confidential atmosphere of support where people can learn how to find freedom from their unhealthy habits.

Jackson says ARMin is not as visible as it should be in churches, and in many churches, it's nonexistent. "I would like to see that it becomes a household



# OPIOID ADDICTION IS NOT DISCRIMINATORY; IT AFFECTS PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

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word in churches and not a forgotten ministry,” he adds. “Once people become a deacon or elder in the church, they don’t like to be exposed as an addict, so we have a lot of members, but a lot don’t participate in the program.”

## IN THE TRENCHES

Darcel Harris is thankful for the success her 12-step group, patterned after the Regeneration model, has experienced for nearly three decades. Harris, a middle school Language Arts teacher, psychology professor and author in Westminster, Md., says the group grew out of Chesapeake Conference’s Westminster (Md.) church, where she is a member. Today they meet every Friday night and during a branch Sabbath School service called True Vine. They also operate a non-profit called Grow, which enables them to provide resources and minister to the needs of homeless people, drug addicts and the less fortunate in the community.



*“When a drug is advertised with this potency, you would think the heroin addict would run from it,” James Jackson says. “Instead, they do the opposite—they run to it because it’s the ultimate high.”*



Harris, a recovering alcoholic and cocaine addict, echoes that the group does not just deal with drug and alcohol addictions, but addresses 13 primary issues, including overeating, rage and depression. “The same neglect an alcoholic gives his or her children [is the same as] a workaholic, so we look at addictions, behaviors and choices, not just alcohol and drugs,” she says.

Harris also says the reason it is so hard to treat people for drugs or heroin is because no one ever gets to the root of the problem. “Once you get rid of what the real thing is, the obsession is gone,” she adds. “For example, if you’ve been sexually molested, I don’t care how many counselors you go to, you will keep going back to your addictions; the craving or the need for it came from the pain. ... If God can heal you from that pain, then that’s how you get free from addictions.”

The work Harris is doing in the community is making a “huge impact,” says Robert Martinez, Westminster church pastor. While there is a visible drug problem in the city, Martinez says he doesn’t deal with the issue much, but when he’s with Harris, it’s right in his face, and he prays with people who are high.

“[Harris] is so practical,” he says. “A lot of our Adventist churches aren’t practical. [It seems] we aren’t living in the same world as most people. We don’t relate

*Darcel Harris says the reason it is so hard to treat people for drugs or heroin is because often times people don’t get to the root of the problem.*

to their needs. ... We’re good to the people who are like us. ... She is right there with them, helping them.”

## ON THE FRONT LINES

Norman Carter, a member of Allegheny West Conference’s Temple Emmanuel in Youngstown, Ohio, is also on the frontlines of the drug crisis.

“[The opioid crisis] is a beast that’s been unleashed. ... In order to stop it, you have to stop drugs, and we know that is not going to happen. I think that all we can do is be prepared to provide services to those in need,” says Carter, who kicked his crack cocaine habit nearly eight years ago, and three years ago founded the Carter House, a transitional residential program in Youngstown.

The not-for-profit organization operates four houses with 26 beds for alcoholics and substance abusers in recovery and who need to transition back into the community. Residents live in the Carter House anywhere from 90 days to a year.

“I had no idea the opioid epidemic was going to be what it is today; I was just providing the piece to the puzzle that was so important to helping me in my process,” he says.

Carter, who started selling drugs right out of high school and soon began using those drugs, graduating to crack cocaine at age 30, said his second lease on life came after being arrested for stealing from Wal-Mart to buy drugs. Instead of being charged with a crime, Carter was given the option to enter a drug



PHOTOS BY JAMES BARTOSIK, DARRELL BULLOCK, KEVIN CAMERON AND TIJUANA GRIFFIN



program and have the charges dismissed, as long as he completed the program.

Carter completed his 60-day treatment program and moved into a transitional facility like the one he now runs. He eventually returned to his Seventh-day Adventist roots and sought the church for support. Pastor Bryant Smith and the church got on board with the Carter House, supplying them with food and clothes, conducting Bible studies for residents and praying for the ministry.

*Norman Carter is on the front lines of the drug crisis and operates a not-for-profit in Youngstown, Ohio, with 26 beds for alcoholics and substance abusers in recovery.*

Today Carter strives to love those trying to rebuild their lives until “they can love themselves.” He says there are days when those in recovery relapse, but this just makes him work harder for those who have yet to come through the doors.

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## RECOGNIZING SUBSTANCE ABUSE

**B**onnie Franckowiak, professor and coordinator of the Master of Science Nursing Program at Washington Adventist University, says recognizing substance abuse varies from age group to age group. For example, adolescents showing changes in mood or failing grades could be signs of drug use. In more advanced age groups, needle marks could be a clue that someone is using. She says the biggest determinant is recognizing a person ceasing to function as he or she once did, not to mention their finances vanishing for no visible reason.





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# ALLEGHENY EAST *Exposé*

## United in Christ Tent Revival Yields 49 Baptisms

Members of the United in Christ church in Baltimore, recently hosted “Prayer Explosion 2017,” an old-fashioned tent revival, at Lake Clifton Park. Speaker Conklin Gentry, an Allegheny East Conference evangelist, emphasized the power of prayer during the four-week series. “We chose the theme of prayer because we believe that in the climate of this world, prayer is definitely needed,” says Gentry.

Months prior to the revival, members of the Sharon church, also located in Baltimore, collaborated with Bible workers to lead personal Bible studies in the community.

During the series, attendees participated in a Bible study period in which they asked questions about the previous night’s sermon or any biblical topic. The series concluded with 49 baptisms—including several complete families—and two professions of faith.



*Charles and Wanda Johnson celebrate their baptism during the “Prayer Explosion 2017” revival.*

## Macedonia Sponsors 12th Annual Community Fair

More than 2,000 residents turned out for the 12th annual Chester Community Fair, sponsored by the Macedonia church in Chester, Pa., and its affiliate, The Better Living Center. The center is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing information and resources to help improve quality of life for



*Macedonia church members, such as Celia Stoddart, distribute backpacks to more than 1,300 school-aged children.*

the residents of Chester and Delaware County.

The event was presented by Keystone First, a healthcare insurance provider serving the needs of Philadelphia and southeastern Pennsylvania. Other sponsors included Adventist Community Services, Genesis Health Care, Shop Rite, UPS, Andrew L. Hicks Jr. Foundation, Child Guidance Resource Center, Tools for Schools and Cradles to Crayons.

The event facilitated partnership between health agencies, social service providers, youth organizations and city government officials, connecting them with the local community. “Our community fair was a means of bringing peace and creating a safe space where families could come together to relax, eat and have a great time,” says Ronald William, pastor. “Ultimately, we wanted our neighbors to know that God and His people care about their well-being.”

More than 1,300 school-aged children received backpacks filled with school supplies, valued at \$46,800. Keystone First provided adult health screenings, including blood pressure and glucose testing.

Macedonia members and The Better Living Center are working with sponsors to organize a larger event next year.

## Emmanuel Temple Relocates, Changes Name

**E**mmanuel Temple has been a fixture in Alexandria, Va., for the past 50 years. Recently, the congregation relocated, taking with them a new vision and name: Emmanuel Worship Center: A Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Since its inception in 1906, Emmanuel membership has remained below 100. After an analysis of congregation needs, the board decided to sell the church building and replant nearby.

Members celebrated with one final Sabbath service in the old building, closing the program with a baptism. After the worship service, they gathered to consecrate the new property, a house that offers possibilities for ministry expansion in conjunction with the worship center being built. They also conducted a health and community fair and distributed food, school supplies and literature, and conducted free blood pressure screenings.

“We thank God for all who came to work alongside our members, friends from other churches who were willing to help us plant our church and one local community organizer,” says Robert Kennedy, pastor.



*Patrice Douglas, visitor; Joseph Hutchinson, retired AEC pastor; Henry J. Fordham III, conference president; Marcus Harris, Washington/Metro area coordinator; Robert Kennedy, pastor of Emmanuel Worship Center; and Rene Cadogan, administrative elder, gather during the consecration service at the church's new location.*

## Ivy Hill Christian Academy Opens in Philadelphia

**I**vy Hill Christian Academy in Philadelphia opened its doors to students this fall, making it Allegheny East Conference's (AEC) newest school. The only other



*Darrin Burwell, an Ivy Hill Christian Academy student, cuts the grand opening ribbon, with help from (left to right) Judy Dent, then AEC superintendent of schools; Carol Cantu, principal; Pete Palmer, then pastor of the Germantown church; and Marcellus Robinson, then AEC vice president for administration.*

school in that area, the Sojourner Truth Seventh-day Adventist School, closed in 2005.

For years, Pete Palmer, then pastor of the Germantown church in Philadelphia, longed to revive the school. When he heard about a relatively new 48,000-square-foot school property, with an additional 60,000 square feet of undeveloped space, he began working with school board committee members and conference officials to acquire the property.

Shortly after purchasing the property in 2013, the Germantown church leased it to a local school district for three years, providing start-up funds for the academy. At the end of the lease, the church prepared to open Ivy Hill Christian Academy.

“Our goal is to become known in the city of Philadelphia as the largest provider of affordable Christian private education,” says Palmer. Currently the school accepts students K-4, and they intend to add a grade each year.

“I am proud of what the Germantown church, under the leadership of Pete Palmer, has done to ensure that the community and church are taught of the Lord,” says Judy Dent, then AEC superintendent of schools.



## Shiloh Member Hailed as Hometown Hero



**S**im Fryson, a Shiloh church member in Huntington, W.Va., recently experienced a miracle driving on a busy highway in Charleston, W.Va. He saw a woman standing on the side of the road with a baby in her arms, frantically trying to flag someone down. Fryson stopped, saw that the

child was not breathing and administered CPR. Thanks to his quick action, the child survived.

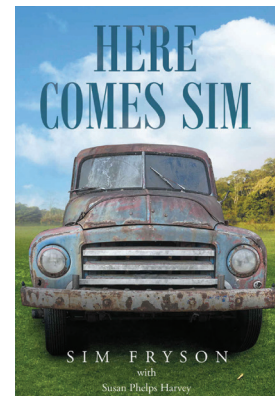
The police department in Fryson's hometown of Charleston honored him, and the local TV station ran the story, naming him a "Hometown Hero." When presented with an award, Fryson responded, "The Lord blessed me to be at the right place at the right time, so I give Him all the credit for that."

PHOTO BY MIKE HALL

Fryson's life has been filled with remarkable opportunities to help others and share the truths of the Bible and his deep faith in God. From humble beginnings, he rose to prominence in the business world, becoming the first black American to own a combined Mercedes-Honda-Nissan-Mazda dealership.

When God convinced him of the truth of the seventh-day Sabbath, he took the bold step of closing the dealership on Saturday—the busiest sales day of the week. Fryson's subsequent success led to many occasions to witness about the Sabbath and God's power in his life.

Fryson's book details his colorful life and the reasons for his faith. *Here Comes Sim* is available through Amazon and other online bookstores.



## Fruit of the Spirit Church Members Host Poetry Night

**L**eaders of the Fruit of the Spirit church in Columbus, Ohio, recently conducted a Personal Ministries Day, coordinated by Pastor Harold Palmer Jr. and Personal Ministries director James Benton.

Retired Allegheny West Conference official Carl Rogers taught an interactive Sabbath School lesson; Benton preached for the divine service; and members

fellowshipped during a prepared meal after church.

In the evening, coordinators held a special program, "Poetry in the Spirit," in which seven local individuals participated and shared original Christian poetry. The poems reflected the personal experiences of the speakers. "Guests felt the Holy Spirit's influence in each poem and story shared," says Patricia Benton, James' wife and Health Ministries director.

Several attendees and participants suggested that this become an annual event and look forward to sharing next year.—*Angelique Benton*



*Back row: Local poets Mathias Jackson and Leo Jones; Brenda Palmer, wife of Pastor Harold Palmer Jr.; Jerry Russell, a member of the Hilltop Community Worship Center in Columbus; (front row) Tommye Nious, a member of the Ephesus church in Columbus; T. Graves, another local poet; and Patricia Benton, Health Ministries director for Fruit of the Spirit, gather after sharing original Christian poetry during the "Poetry in the Spirit" event.*



## Emmanuel and Hope Mission Reach out to Community

**J**ohn Coaxum, pastor of the Emmanuel church in South Boston, Va., and the Hope Mission church in Clarksville, Va., and Emmanuel members Ralph and Delores Rhyne recently conducted a weekly “Give Away Day.”

For 12 weeks, members met at the church each Tuesday to distribute food and clothing to those in need.

Earlier, Adventist Community Services donated new school supplies to the project, including hand sanitizer, notebooks

*John Coaxum, pastor of the Emmanuel and Hope Mission churches, and other church members conducted a 12-week “Give Away Day” outreach project that benefited nearly 100 community members each week.*



and other accessories. Nearly 100 people benefited each week from “Give Away Day.”

This project was evangelistic in nature; it was designed to build an ongoing relationship with people in the immediate community, blessing them by meeting their needs. Many community members now know and respect the church. “They express appreciation for our services as they work with us and/or meet us in the community,” shares Coaxum.

The 12-week “Give Away Day” project ended with a special worship service. Community guests visited, worshiped and enjoyed fellowship with members over a potluck meal. Many shared testimonies of their experience.

Following the project, church members contacted registered guests, offering to pray with them. Many people accepted personal invitations to attend worship services at Emmanuel.

“Members from Emmanuel and Hope Mission churches worked untiringly and unitedly with dedicated leaders in this project,” says Henry Weston, Personal Ministries director for Emmanuel.

## First Brazilian Church Celebrates Second Anniversary

**A** little over two years ago, Pastor David Rilo accepted a challenge from Allegheny West Conference’s (AWC) Multicultural Ministries leadership to plant a Brazilian church in the Columbus, Ohio, area. With faith and enthusiasm, he gathered the few Brazilian church members in the area and started to work toward that goal. “The congregation has since grown from a handful of faithful members to a great congregation, full of energy and passion for the lost,” says Rilo.

Members recently celebrated the second anniversary of the First Brazilian church. Special guests from AWC were on hand to participate in the celebration, including William T. Cox Sr., president; H. Candace Nurse, treasurer; Amneris Martinez, representing Marvin Brown, executive secretary; and Sergio Romero, Multicultural Ministries director.

Cox presented a powerful message from the book of Genesis, propelling the whole congregation to action:

“On this race, when you fall down, your Father will pick you up and run with you until you cross the finish line.”



*During the second anniversary celebration of the First Brazilian church, members respond to Pastor David Rilo’s challenge to “reach the lost.”*

# THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

## Give Thanks?

**N**orth Korea is increasingly unpredictable and dangerous as it fires off longer range missiles with devastating potential. “In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thess. 5:18, NKJV).

Record rainfalls and once in a millennium flooding cause the costliest disaster in U.S. history. “Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!” (1 Chron. 16:8, NKJV).

Violence between protesters and white supremacists results in injuries and death. “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!” (Phil. 4:4, NKJV).

The opioid crisis continues to escalate, causing 62,000 deaths from overdoses in the past year. “But I have trusted in Your mercy; My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation” (Ps. 13:5, NKJV).

You receive a diagnosis from the doctor indicating you are one of the more than 14 million people in the U.S. to have cancer this year. “Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever” (Ps. 107:1, NKJV).

The month lasts longer than your pay, and there isn’t enough for necessities, much less the extras. “Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Eph. 5:20, NKJV).

How do we process life in a sinful world while following God’s instructions to give thanks? It is sometimes hard, but the act of giving thanks can, at times, help us refocus and possibly start to become part of the solution.



**Rick Remmers**  
*President*

## Hagerstown Church Helps Families Displaced by Fire

**R**ecently a two-alarm fire broke out in a Woodbridge apartment building near the Hagerstown (Md.) church, displacing 74 persons from 37 apartments. The church responded that evening by opening its doors to shelter the residents. Following the fire, volunteers collected money, gift cards, food and houseware, and partnered with the American Red Cross to provide meals for the families impacted by the fire.

“The response was overwhelming,” says Jolene Thomas, a Hagerstown church member, who helped coordinate the response effort. She says people shared the church’s Facebook posts more than 500 times, sparking the local community to provide an abundance of clothing, toiletries and financial help.

When the displaced families took all they needed, volunteers filled seven trucks with the leftover donated items and sent them to ACTS 9 (Adventists Caring Through Sharing), an Adventist Community Services Center operated by five nearby churches: Berkley Springs, Hagerstown, Highland View, Williamsport and Willow Brook to provide assistance to other

Washington County residents in need. Some items were also sent to Texas to help those impacted by Hurricane Harvey.



*The Hagerstown church’s Primary Sabbath School class donates items for people impacted by a nearby fire that displaced 74 people.*

PHOTO BY JOLENE THOMAS

## Youth Programs Engage Middletown Valley Families

Middletown Valley church's recent "Outdoor Exploration Day" drew families to preview the church's Adventurer and Pathfinder programs. Participants gathered at Mt. Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md., where the church, based in Jefferson, Md., united for worship, awards and honors. The Fireflies Adventurer Club bird-watched and earned the Feathered Friends award. In the afternoon, they worked on shell-identification and won the Sand Art award.

"I especially loved working on the Feathered Friends award with the kids. In addition to bird identification and bird songs, the kids had the opportunity to sketch while looking at the real birds on display," says Celeste Voigt, club director. "I thought some of the kids might shirk the task with the typical 'I can't draw,' but what I saw instead was true Adventurer spirit—each child gave their enthusiastic best!"

The Mustangs Pathfinder Club completed their Crystals honor and conducted two crystal growing experiments. Later they traveled to the Washington Monument State Park to complete their Hiking and Outdoor Leadership honors on the Appalachian Trail.

"The youth really enjoyed exploring the monument and hiking to Dahlgren Chapel. Memories were made that were all wrapped up in Jesus. The seeds were planted, and that is what matters to me most," says



Adventurers Oliver Flores and Isabella Rozman, from the Middletown Valley church, work on shell-identification and finding fossilized shark teeth.

Todd Rozman, Pathfinder director.

"As a Pathfinder and Adventurer parent, I praise God for our faithful and dedicated staff," says Jeena Injety. "Our kids left this experience wishing that every Sabbath was Outdoor Exploration Day!"  
—Yvonne Rozman

## Marriage Enrichment Event Draws 50 Couples

A recent one-day marriage enrichment workshop, sponsored by Chesapeake Conference, drew 50 couples to Wilmington, Del.

Claudio and Pamela Consuegra, North American Division Family Ministries leaders, themed their presentation "Love for a Lifetime." The couple shared from their personal experiences and from their professional years in the field of family therapy, offering practical advice interspersed with humor.

"The reality is that we all have busy lives. Most couples have a hard time taking an entire weekend for a marriage retreat. However, to take one Sabbath to invest in your marriage is ideal and convenient," says Eli Rojas, Chesapeake Conference Family Ministries director and event coordinator.

Elvis Mogoi, lead pastor at the West Wilmington church, adds, "This turned out so well, we have to do it again!"



Fifty couples participate in a one-day workshop to enhance their marriages.

PHOTOS BY JEENA INJETI AND ELVIS MOGOI

# MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

## Grandma Drives Beckley Member Away, Brings Her Back

**M**y Seventh-day Adventist grandmother made me go to church for Bible study every Wednesday night in Beckley, W.Va. On Sabbath mornings, I had to walk eight long blocks to the church. I had to go. I couldn't do anything but go to church and come back home," shares Elizabeth Davis. "My grandmother raised me, the youngest of seven siblings, and she was strict. I couldn't wear short dresses. I had to read the Bible every Friday evening. Nobody could do any work from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday."

At the age of 14, Davis moved to New York, where she became exposed to the world and left the Adventist Church. She eventually moved to the State of Washington.

One night Davis had a dream: "I was plowing a plot of land. My grandmother used to have a tractor come in and plow her land for a garden, so when I woke up, I thought 'Maybe this is a sign that I should go home [to West Virginia]. My husband and I had been wanting to build a house, so I decided to build it on land that I inherited from my grandmother, who had died years earlier.'"

Davis and her husband retired to Beckley, but she missed her friends, and questioned their decision. Davis reminisces, "Around that time, I received a flyer with an invitation to a Bible prophecy seminar. I asked my new friends to join me, but they refused to go. Finally, I made up my mind to go alone."

One night the speaker spoke about the beasts of Daniel and Revelation and Davis realized that she was at an Adventist evangelistic series. As she listened, she remembered her stern upbringing and felt a familiar sense of loneliness. "Here I was sitting alone; not one friend had wanted to accompany me. I thought, 'If I keep coming to these meetings, I could lose all my friends.'"

Davis got up and walked toward the door, but Naomi Tricomi, a Bible worker, caught up to her. Davis told Tricomi her history. She had grown up hearing this stuff from her grandmother, and she didn't want to feel this way again.

Tricomi invited her to stay for the rest of the message; her kindness was just what Davis needed. Davis returned each night during the month-long



series, and Tricomi connected with her each time. One evening, when the pastor called for baptism, Davis came forward.

"Looking back at my 65 years, I realize that the church and the Bible have always been embedded in me because of my grandmother. God has always protected me, even though I didn't know it," says Davis. "But now I'm beginning to understand why God called me back to West Virginia. I'm able to move forward and focus on what God wants me to do."

Davis was among 16 people who joined the Adventist Church through the meetings in Beckley—one of many evangelistic series organized across West Virginia, and funded, in part, by the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. She is currently the new Women's Ministries coordinator for the Beckley church.

*\* This story has been edited by permission. The entire story, written by Andrew McChesney, first appeared on Adventist Mission's website, which uses Sabbath School mission offerings to spread the gospel in West Virginia and around the world. Go to [adventistmission.org/strict-grandmother-drove-me-from-church-and-brought-me-back](http://adventistmission.org/strict-grandmother-drove-me-from-church-and-brought-me-back) for the full story.*

## Adventist Community Services Donates to Bridge Project

**Y**ou cannot watch today's news for more than a few minutes before coming to the conclusion that we, as human beings, do not show much love for each other. Not only here in the U.S., but around the world we see turmoil and strife on a very grand scale," says Larry Murphy, pastor of the Weirton and Wheeling (W.Va.) churches, and Adventist Community Services (ACS) director for the Mountain View Conference.

"The Bible says that God always has people who are willing to come to the rescue, to help those who have lost everything ... or can potentially lose everything, including their lives," he continues.

He speaks from experience. During a flash flood in 2015, a bridge that connects Delbarton, W.Va. with a small community across the Pigeon Creek sustained significant damage. The bridge continued to deteriorate over the months that followed.

For two years, thirty-five people crossed the creek on ATV's, 4x4 trucks or on foot, to get groceries, go to school, work or receive medical attention. Murphy says, "Anything necessary had to be done the hard way because their bridge was unfit for use," shares Murphy. "Several people moved because the hardship was too difficult for them."

ACS is a member of West Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (WV VOAD), a large group comprised of charitable and faith-based



*A flash flood in 2015 destroyed this bridge, making it nearly impossible for 13 Pigeon Creek families to get access to food and medical care.*

organizations. Consequently, ACS became part of the effort to help the Pigeon Creek families.

After two years of hard work, dedication and financial support, ACS, in partnership with Mennonite Disaster Services and Neighbors Loving Neighbors, constructed and dedicated the Elmer Brown Bridge. This 90-foot span gives the Pigeon Creek community full access to the food and medical care they need.

"God has people who are reaching out to help the folks of West Virginia rebuild their lives and communities. ACS in the Mountain View Conference is proud to be a part of WV VOAD, answering God's call to help the people in need, including the building of the Elmer Brown Bridge for the Pigeon Creek community," concludes Murphy.



*In 2017 with the help of Adventist Community Services, volunteers constructed a 90-foot bridge, giving full access to and from the Pigeon Creek neighborhood.*

### Calendar of Events

- Dec. 8-10** "Vivangelismo" at Ocean City, Md.
- Dec. 28-Jan. 7** Young Adult Mission Trip to Honduras
- Jan. 10-20** 10 Days of Prayer
- Jan. 12-14** Pathfinder Winter Camp at Valley Vista
- March 1-11** Conference Academies Mission Trip to Honduras

# NEWS

## NEW JERSEY

### Conference Elects New Leadership Team

Delegates to the New Jersey Conference's 40th Constituency Meeting recently elected a new leadership team and Executive Committee for the next five years, and celebrated the work the church has accomplished over the past five years. This work includes a membership growth from 14,000 to 17,000, \$1,096,000 invested into evangelism, the opening of 29 missions and the addition of 1,069 new members during the Caravan of Hope and Compassion initiatives.

Delegates elected Jorge Aguero, previously the conference's director of Personal, Family and Men's ministries, as president; Mario Thorp, a pastor, as executive secretary; and re-elected Joel D. Tompkins as treasurer.

Aguero noted the cultural, language and generational diversity of the conference. "We need to learn how to live together," he said. "Now more than ever, we need a united church. It must be strong in order to accomplish our mission."

His goal for the next five years is to see "a great movement" in the churches, schools and with elders, pastors, lay pastors, adults and youth. "[We need to] share the hope of the Second Coming of Jesus ... to our family, friends, neighbors and people around us."

Attendees thanked Mike Gill, the previous executive secretary, for his two years of service in that



*Olgath and Mario Thorp, executive secretary; Amalia and Jorge Aguero, president; and Kellie and Joel D. Tompkins, treasurer, will serve as the executive leadership team for the New Jersey Conference for the next five years.*

role. Gill chose to return to full-time pastoral ministry and will continue directing the conference's Adventist Community Services and Disaster Response department.—V. Michelle Bernard

PHOTO BY JORGE PILLCO

### Thousands Attend Conference Camporee

More than 2,000 Adventurers, Pathfinders, club staff and families recently converged on Tranquil Valley



*The Polaris Pathfinder Club from the Filipino English church display their first-place trophy at the conference's annual camporee.*

Retreat Center in Tranquility to spend the weekend at the annual Conference Camporee/Adventuree.

"It was the first year that Adventurers and Pathfinders had their camp together, and it was a huge success," says Paulo Macena, Youth Ministries director for the New Jersey Conference. "Fifty-two Adventurer clubs and 45 Pathfinder clubs participated. New Jersey Conference made history with these numbers!"

During the day, Adventurers and Pathfinders had different activities for their age groups, then gathered together for a general session at night, with special guests Ryan and Friends and Rich Aguilera. Many kids expressed that, "it was the best camporee ever!"

Clubs competed before and during the camporee, including community service activities and physical and spiritual events. The Tesoros de Jesus Adventurer Club from West New York Spanish won first-place among the Adventurer clubs, and the Polaris Pathfinder Club from the Filipino English church in Jersey City took first place among the Pathfinder clubs.

## News

### Rockaway Hosts Children's Prayer Convention

The Rockaway church recently held its third annual Children's Prayer Convention in Denville. Retreat leaders aimed to teach the children how to pray, learn the importance of prayer and to inspire them that they are not too young to call upon Jesus anywhere, anytime, or in any position or situation. "We had prayer walks, prayer stations, prayer crafts and prayer games, says Joan Smith, Children's Ministries director of Rockaway church. Our two great speakers, Alfredina Coxaj and Steven Hernandez, did a fantastic job teaching our little ones the benefits of prayer."



*Children participate in activities at the Children's Prayer Convention, sponsored by the Rockaway church.*

### Indian Mission Caleb Sees First Baptism

The Indian English Mission Caleb in Edison recently celebrated the baptism of Sushma Potluri, the first member to join the group since its inception earlier this year. Potluri was a devout Hindu when she came to America 11 years ago. A chance meeting with a committed Christian led to her accepting Jesus.

Potluri later visited the Indian English Mission Caleb with a friend, and felt compelled to search for further truth. The church she currently attended was not going beyond certain beliefs, and she desired to explore more about Jesus. After agonizing in prayer for two months, she received a call from Jason Jevaprakash, one of the elders of the Indian English Mission Caleb, who had received her information from her visitor's card.

Jevaprakash invited Potluri to begin Bible studies, and after a series of lessons, she accepted the call to get baptized. Today she is an active witness for Christ in her circle of influence.



*Simon Pandley, pastor of the Indian English Mission Caleb, in Edison, N.J., prepares to baptize Sushma Potluri, a former Hindu.*

### Bridgeton Spanish Celebrates Small Groups

Members of the Bridgeton Spanish church believe in the power of small group ministry. "There are two Adventist churches in Bridgeton, and we are totally organized into small groups," says Daniel Cabezas, pastor.

Recently 400 people gathered at the church to celebrate a Small Groups Festival. Individual small groups paraded through the sanctuary, one after another, displaying banners and testifying what God has done for and through them.

Cabezas adds, "In 2017 alone, we had 53 people baptized! This shows the results of this amazing plan!"



*Misioneros Para Jesus, a children's small group, proudly display their banner during Bridgeton Spanish church's Small Group Festival.*



## Hispanic Ministries Baptize 103 in Single Day

**Y**e are the light of the world!" These words given by Jesus inspired the Hispanic Ministries leadership of the Ohio Conference. So much so, that late last summer they decided to launch the initiative "Turn on a Light: One Hundred Souls for Christ."

The plan was to baptize 100 people from seven different churches in one day, while simultaneously broadcasting the baptisms live to all the Hispanic churches across the Ohio Conference.

"We encouraged every church, small group and member to not only 'turn on a light,' but to share it with someone else, so that at least 100 people could meet Jesus," explains Oswaldo Magaña, executive secretary.



*A happy mother, Ilianis Perez (right) is baptized with her daughter, Leilanis Soto Perez, at the Cleveland First Spanish church, as part of a statewide baptism celebration.*



*Hispanic Ministries coordinator Peter Simpson baptizes a husband and wife during the "Turn on a Light: One Hundred Souls for Christ" initiative.*



*Conference president Ron Halvorsen Jr. (center) joins members of the Hispanic ministry team and newly baptized members of the Cleveland First Spanish church during the baptism celebration across the conference.*

Amazingly, they surpassed their goal, with a total of 103, making it the conference's biggest harvest in a single day. The most significant miracle, however, were those who shared personal stories that testify to the power of the Holy Spirit.

A family of seven surrendered their lives to Jesus and collectively celebrated a new spiritual birth in Columbus; four couples were baptized together in Cleveland; four teenage brothers happily gave their lives to Jesus in Hamilton; a great-grandfather and great-grandchild, sharing the same name, also joined the kingdom of heaven.

"This was a historical manifestation of the Holy Spirit in Ohio," says Ruben Ramos, Columbia Union Conference vice president for Multilingual Ministries, who attended the celebration in Columbus.

Members shared that they are committed, now more than ever, to continue preaching the gospel. Noticeably moved, Ron Halvorsen Jr., conference president, expressed his gratitude to God "to see so many people giving their lives to Jesus on the same day, and at the same time."

Peter Simpson, Hispanic Ministries coordinator, adds, "I give thanks to God, my leaders, my church and to my fellow pastors who bravely accepted this challenge and turned it into a reality. I can't wait until we can see even greater things happen in this conference."

## Conference Gifted Building Worth \$3.2 Million

The Ohio Conference Executive Committee voted on September 5, to accept the gift of a \$3.2-million, fully-furnished office building, located in the greater Dayton area.

A Christian couple who own a growing home healthcare company approached Kettering Adventist HealthCare executives with an offer to donate their 29,350 square-foot building on a 2.6-acre lot—valued at \$3,193,000—to a non-profit organization. Kettering, recognizing that such an offer could benefit the mission and ministry of Ohio Conference, notified Ron Halvorsen Jr., conference president.

Members of the Ohio Conference Executive Committee, Finance Committee and Properties and Trusts Committee reviewed specifics of the offer and toured the facility. The Properties and Trusts Committee voted unanimously to recommend acceptance of the offer to the Executive Committee.

Conference officials see merit in transitioning the Ohio headquarters to this new location. Nearly \$80,000 is spent annually to operate the existing conference office. This amount increases each year, due to the age of the building. The newly acquired complex consists of two adjoining buildings with two floors each. The Ohio Conference will use one building, and Kettering has agreed to lease the second for a minimum of 10 years. Funds generated through such a lease could save the conference nearly \$1 million in overhead.

“This would allow us the opportunity to outright own a building that is much newer, in far better shape and would cost our conference next to nothing to operate,” says Halvorsen. “A percentage of the monies saved could be set aside yearly to help in harder times, while most of the monthly savings could be used to help our Ohio churches and schools fulfill their vision and mission.”

In light of the potential financial and missional benefits, the Ohio Conference Executive Committee voted to authorize use of the new facility. Full transition to the new building will need to be ratified at the upcoming



*A view inside the \$3.2-million building recently gifted to the Ohio Conference shows an office space in its two-story building.*



*One of several fully-equipped conference rooms in the new building will serve the conference well for meetings, presentations and events.*

constituency session on May 6, 2018.

The conference will schedule several opportunities for constituents to walk through the facility next spring. In the meantime, visit [ohioadventist.org](http://ohioadventist.org) for more photos.



*The Ohio Conference will be headquartered at a Dayton area office building, recently donated by a Christian couple.*

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Phone: (740) 397-4665 ■ [ohioadventist.org](http://ohioadventist.org) ■ President, Ron Halvorsen Jr. ■ Communication Director, Heidi Shoemaker

# Pennsylvania Pen

## God Provides

Long before the new school year began, administrators prayed for Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) students, faculty and the year ahead. Executive Committee members joined me in 40 days of prayer, specifically for BMA.

God has answered in several ways:

Principal Dave Morgan shares that BMA has a 10 percent increase in enrollment from the 2016-17 school year. We budgeted for 108 students. God has sent more than 122. While this is a tremendous blessing, it is also a challenge. We need to find extra funding to help these students.

I believe God anticipated this need and prepared for it by providing a generous \$400,000 matching gift. For a limited time, gifts to our “Growing Leaders” campaign will be matched. Every dollar will go to assist students with qualified financial needs, enabling them to attend BMA, learn about Christ and gain a life-ready education. Donations received by December 31, will help students seeking an Adventist education. Generous participation, along with the matching pledge, will make possible an education that equips young people to be leaders for God. To support this initiative, visit [paconference.org](http://paconference.org) and click on the Growing Leaders banner.

In its 63rd year, BMA faculty and staff continue to educate students mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. They offer innovative programs, including advanced and dual-enrollment courses, agriculture, ministry leadership, vocational education, international learning, music, science and aviation—all with a distinctly Adventist Christian foundation.



**Gary Gibbs**  
President

## REACH Philadelphia Life Hope Center Opens

Family, friends and members of the REACH Philadelphia Life Hope Center recently celebrated the grand opening of their new facility in Philadelphia, with a ribbon cutting ceremony, live music, free food for the community, a petting zoo and a worship service. REACH Philadelphia, an acronym for Restoration, Empowerment, Action, Community and Hope, is a multi-cultural Seventh-day Adventist church focused on discipleship, transformation and community.

A former night club, leaders purchased and converted the facility into a sanctuary, tutoring facility, vegetarian cafe, food distribution center and housing for college-aged young people, who will be serving the community and learning practical leadership skills.

“The church is now poised to reach their target population in Philadelphia,” states Will Peterson, vice president for mission and administration.

REACH Philadelphia offers K-8 tutoring services (REACH Success) throughout the school year, community gardens, fitness classes and collaborates with DITO, Inc., to provide an empowerment session and free grocery giveaway every Sabbath morning.—*Leon King*

*Molli Creason (right), a REACH Columbia Union Urban Evangelism School graduate, and now an intern with REACH Philadelphia, alongside visitor Greta Brown, welcome supporters at the grand opening of the new center.*



## Gettysburg Students Decide to Follow Jesus

When can I get baptized?" asked Nathaniel. "I have loved Jesus since I was seven years old." The other students chimed in, "We love Jesus, too!"

Rose Gamblin, principal of the Gettysburg Seventh-day Adventist School, praises God for the opportunity to work in a school where one can freely share Jesus. "Well, we need to get some Bible studies going. That way you will know what it really means to commit your life to the Lord," she responded to the six faces looking at her expectantly.

Bryan Laue, pastor of the Gettysburg and Hanover churches at the time, soon began a baptismal class on Tuesdays after school. At the end of the lesson series, four students committed to follow Jesus. Two others will be baptized at a later time.

"The purpose of Adventist Education in the Pennsylvania Conference is to bring students to the foot of the cross each day," shares Jeff Bovee, vice president for education. "Each school has a soul-winning plan to reach students and their families. This story is an example that shows Adventist Education as evangelism."

Learn more about Adventist Education at



Four Gettysburg Seventh-day Adventist School students, Nathaniel Craigle, Levi Laue, Levi Harman and Caleigh Craigle, wear their baptismal T-shirts.

paconference.org, and support this evangelistic outreach through prayers and financial gifts by marking "Education" on your tithe envelope.—Rose Gamblin

## Conference Bids Farewell to Long-time Employee

Daisy Lopez worked at the Pennsylvania Conference office for 23 years—longer than any other current staff member. She has seen a lot of changes throughout the years; changes that included lots of goodbyes, as people retired or moved on to new ministry opportunities. But this time she's the one who's leaving.



"Daisy will be greatly missed by all of us in the education ministry in the Pennsylvania Conference," shares Jeff Bovee, vice president for education. "Her caring and helpful attitude and willingness to do whatever needed to be done to advance the mission of Adventist education was appreciated. She will be a hard person to replace."

When Lopez first joined the team, she assisted several departments, translated documents into Spanish and created the conference directory. She served as the administrative assistant for education, Youth Ministries and Hispanic Ministries, while continuing to work alongside her husband, Juan, former conference Hispanic Ministries director.

Although her husband has retired and they are looking forward to enjoying the Florida sunshine and living closer to their son, Enoch, Lopez doesn't plan on sitting still. Once they settle, she plans on looking for a new position.

After 23 years of working for Pennsylvania Conference, Daisy Lopez, administrative assistant for education, Youth Ministries and Hispanic Ministries, to name a few, says goodbye.

# Potomac People

## Member Helps 20 Attend Adventist Schools

**G**enet Berhane believes Seventh-day Adventist education changes lives—it changed hers. Growing up, her uncle was the only Adventist in the family and sent her to Akaki Adventist School in Ethiopia. After Berhane chose to get baptized, her father became angry, disowned her and stopped paying her tuition. “It was very hard, but I believed strongly in God and my faith,” she says. The principal worked to get Berhane a scholarship, and, when he saw the dramatic shift occurring in her, paid for her schooling himself.

Berhane, now a member of the Capital Memorial church in Washington, D.C., works to place immigrant students from the community into Adventist schools, acting as a mediator between faculty and families. Her ministry has helped more than 20 students attend schools in Maryland and Virginia, including her nephew, Robell Yigebaha, who recently graduated from Takoma Academy (TA) in Takoma Park, Md.

“My church family, Sligo Adventist School [now Takoma Academy Preparatory School] in Takoma Park, Md., and TA have continuously supported this ministry and have tirelessly worked with me to make this a reality for families,” says Berhane. “People need to know



*Robell Yigebaha is one of the more than 20 students from immigrant, community families that Genet Berhane, a Capital Memorial church member, has helped attend Adventist schools.*

God. I want those outside of our believer family to have the opportunity to get an education that can change their lives.”

## Conference Celebrates Three Ordinations

**T**his year Potomac Conference recognized and ordained three pastors into the gospel ministry—Sifa Potuanie, Fredy Reinosa and Gamaliel Feliciano.



Sifa Potuanie changed career paths and became a pastor after getting involved in local ministries at his church. Potuanie, who grew up in Tonga, continues to be involved with Tongan churches and groups in the U.S. through his role as a member of the Tongan Advisory Council and his

involvement with the Asian-Pacific Ministry in the North American Division. Potuanie is an associate pastor at the Beltsville (Md.) church.

After three years of teaching, Fredy Reinosa immigrated to the U.S. “While in the State of Washington, I was very active in my church, and received a call from the Central California Conference to be a Bible worker,” he says. “I felt God’s calling to continue my education



and become a pastor.” In 2013 he and his family moved to Virginia, where he pastors Spanish churches in Roanoke, Martinsville and Lynchburg. “I began preaching as a teen, and I don’t plan on stopping until the Second Coming of Jesus,” says Gamaliel Feliciano, pastor of the Washington Spanish church and Arise company, both in Silver Spring, Md. Beyond holding degrees in theology, Feliciano is a licensed psychologist, and has developed an independent ministry called Rescue Ministry, dedicated to helping local churches reach and nurture youth. Feliciano moved to Potomac in 2009 and has helped plant two churches.

and become a pastor.” In 2013 he and his family moved to Virginia, where he pastors Spanish churches in Roanoke, Martinsville and Lynchburg.

“I began preaching as a teen, and I don’t plan on stopping until the Second Coming of Jesus,” says Gamaliel Feliciano, pastor of the



# Potomac People

## Charlottesville Kids “Travel” to Jerusalem for Passover

Communion can be a lengthy service for children to sit through, and it can be a challenge for parents to keep them engaged,” shares Sandra Will, mother of three small boys and the Beginner’s Sabbath School leader at the Charlottesville (Va.) church. To add meaning to the service at a level kids could understand, she and fellow Sabbath School leader, Karen Flowers, transformed the church’s fellowship hall into a journey to Jerusalem for Passover, culminating in an experience with Jesus in the Upper Room.

Costumed parents served as guides, as the children studied ancient maps marking two possible routes, a shorter, more difficult one with the risk of robbers, and a longer road, with the possibility of encountering a Roman soldier who could make them carry his load. Along their chosen route, the children encountered a Gentile trader full of questions about a man called Jesus. “It was heartwarming to hear the kids affirm their belief in Jesus—who could heal the sick, feed thousands with a boy’s lunch, even raise the dead,” says Flowers. A Samaritan woman at a well also offered the travelers rest and a cool drink while she shared her testimony.



*Roman, played by Joseph Amalfitano, collects taxes as travelers from the kindergarten to primary class enter Jerusalem.*



*Travelers buy flour and salt to make bread from the local grain merchant, played by Karen Flowers, a Sabbath School leader.*

On the outskirts of the city, the children paid Roman taxes and entered the Jerusalem marketplace. Here they shopped at various stalls to purchase items for the Passover meal. After making unleavened pocket bread in the Star of David Bakery, they gathered around tables set for Passover in the Upper Room. There, Jesus washed their feet and shared the meaning of the events that were going to occur the next several days, including His death on the cross.

“We did two programs on two consecutive Sabbaths, one developmentally designed for children ages 5-9, and the other for ages 0-4, with community families invited to join,” Flowers says. Will adds, “It was a lot of planning and set up, but we were driven by a desire to engage kids in the story and give them a place to start attaching meaning to communion and to understand why we remember Jesus’ sacrifice in this way.”

Both leaders agree it was an enriching and bonding experience for the families who participated. One adult shared that they will never sit through another communion service quite the same way, the experience having deepened its meaning. Will, Flowers and others look forward to further exploring the meaning of this story and others with similar events in the future.

PHOTO BY JOCELYN LEIVA



# Blue Mountain Academy COMMUNIQUE

## Matching Gift Impacts Worthy Students

**B**lue Mountain Academy (BMA) recently received a generous gift, significantly impacting its students. Through a matching grant, provided by an anonymous donor, BMA has the opportunity to double every dollar contributors give to support its young people.

Gary Gibbs, president of Pennsylvania Conference, shares, "I am impressed with BMA's ability to develop our youth into leaders for the church. The ministry that happens at BMA is absolutely life-changing! Yes, there are challenges, and it doesn't always work out the way we hope, but our renewed focus is to continue to enable BMA to be everything God has called it to be—a positive influence in the lives of young people that sends them out *connected* with God, *equipped* to go on His errands and *empowered* to make a difference in our churches and the world."

Today BMA's teachers guide young people through difficult times and help them find their voice to witness for God. They are committed to train young people to live for God in this life and the next. Just like one visionary leader of young people said, "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world!" (*Education*, p. 271).



*BMA's faculty and staff are committed to provide, equip and train young students, such as Nahyun Lee, Siwon Choi, Debbie Michelle, Nilda Diaz, Mariellis Herrera and Andrea Cubero, to live for God.*

Contributions earmarked "For Growing Leaders" will go to BMA worthy student scholarships that help students whose parents are struggling to afford Adventist education.

## Donor Supports Agricultural Program



*An anonymous donor donated a dump truck to supplement BMA's recent expansion of its agricultural program.*

**B**lue Mountain Academy's (BMA) agricultural program stems from the mid-1950s, when students spent time working the farm and dairy to defray their educational expenses. Five years ago, vocational leaders resurrected the agricultural program. With recent growth, specific equipment is needed to supplement expansion.

An anonymous donor recently learned of BMA's need to haul organic crops, fire wood and hay and donated a 1995 Ford dump truck with a 400 HP Cummins diesel engine, an Allison Automatic and a 14-foot dump.

"With the support of friends and alumni, BMA's administration continues to answer the call to educate students for the future," says David Morgan, principal.

## Students Take Field Trip to Nation's Capital

Highland View Academy (HVA) students recently benefited from the school's proximity to Washington, D.C., during a school-wide field trip. Faculty divided students into their newly formed campus families, each one sponsored by a faculty or staff member. The groups visited various museums near the National Mall, including the National Air and Space Museum, the National Museum of African Art, the National Museum of the American Indian, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the National Museum of Natural History, the Newseum and the National Portrait Gallery.

Sophomore Alyssa Stickley met and spoke to a Holocaust survivor at the Holocaust Memorial Museum. "It was incredible to hear her story about the life she had and what she had to do in order to live," she says.

Three groups visited the National Portrait Gallery where students had to complete a list of scavenger-hunt tasks, such as finding a painting of a person who looks like a family member and looking for a portrait that looks most like a rapper.

Freshman Reagan McCain found a portrait of Alexander Hamilton by John Trumbull that inspired the song "No John Trumbull" on the popular *Hamilton Mixtape* album. "The song makes several allusions to



English teacher Lori Zerne stands in front of the U.S. Capitol with students in her campus family.

the artist's work for the Founding Fathers," she says. Junior Michael Coleman appreciated this activity because "it really made me use my imagination," he says.

For many students, another highlight was the food in D.C. Juniors Abigail Teobal and Katie Seeders participated in their first-ever food truck experience. "That food was absolutely delicious. I could eat [it] every day of my life," says Teobal.

In spending the day in a small group, students enjoyed a bonding experience. Omar Gomez, Bible teacher, says students benefited from getting to spend time with people they didn't know.

Ultimately, the goal of any educational field trip is to broaden students' experiences and knowledge, and this trip accomplished that. Shannon Brown, vice principal, whose campus family visited the museums of African Art and the American Indian, says, "My group benefited from learning about cultures they had never been exposed to in the past. This experience opened their eyes to a wider world and the beautiful and unique aspects of other societies."



Sophomore Christopher Eddings enjoys interactive learning at the Newseum's "Berlin Wall: The Virtual Reality Experience."

PHOTOS BY LORI ZERNE AND JOHN ZERNE



# PFA POST



Visit us online at [PINEFORGEACADEMY.ORG](http://PINEFORGEACADEMY.ORG). *Excellence is no accident.*

## Schools Join Forces to Help Hurricane Victims

**P**ine Forge Academy (PFA) students recently joined forces with students from three other Seventh-day Adventist schools on the PFA campus in Pine Forge, Pa., to assemble more than 9,650 care packages for people impacted by Hurricane Harvey in Houston.

PFA leadership worked with the Columbia Union Conference, Allegheny East Conference (AEC) and Pennsylvania Conference's Adventist Community Services and Disaster Relief departments to organize the event. Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) provided funds for the supplies in the care packages. The students of Pennsylvania Conference's Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg and Reading Junior Academy in Reading, and AEC's Jesse R. Wagner Academy, also in Pine Forge, worked side by side with PFA students to fill boxes and bags with blankets, toiletries, hygienic items, cleaning supplies, nonperishable food and more.

PFA senior Taye Taylor says, "I loved interacting with other students and working together to serve those in need. Jesus served us, and now it's our time to serve others!"

After assembling the care packages, the students, faculty and staff held an impromptu field day. Students from all four schools played soccer, kickball, capture the flag and other outdoor games. PFA Chaplain Damali Caine, co-coordinator of the care package initiative,



*Pine Forge Academy senior Ione Burks assembles a box of care packages to be sent to those impacted by Hurricane Harvey.*



*Students assemble personal care packages in Pine Forge Academy's gymnasium.*

says, "The kids did a remarkable job! They worked together, singing songs and enjoying each other's company. ... It was truly ministry."

Principal Nicole Hughes adds, "We packed the boxes, and later that weekend, the truck with all the items—collected, donated and purchased—as a gesture of community action and partnership. We are living the mission of Jesus by meeting the needs of those in our national community."

To watch PFA's Hurricane Harvey relief efforts, go to <http://tinyurl.com/yaqfy2s>.

# Spotlight

## on Spencerville

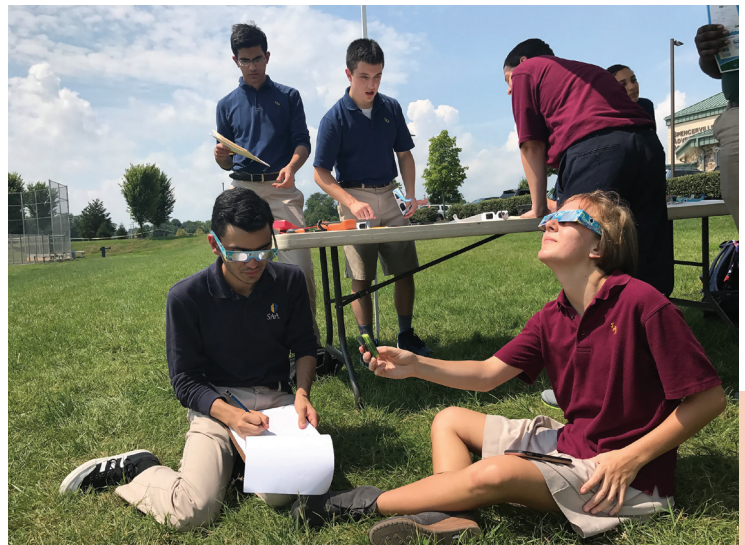
*Highlights from Spencerville Adventist Academy*

### Science Students Collect Data During Eclipse

The near-total solar eclipse that recently swept across the nation provided a unique opportunity for Spencerville Adventist Academy students. Physics and Chemistry students participated in GLOBE Observer, a joint program with NASA scientists in which citizen scientists from around the country collected and uploaded their eclipse-related data and findings into the GLOBE Observer app. The program will allow NASA scientists to get a more complete picture of how the eclipse affected the environment across the country.

Students collected data such as wind speed, air temperature, ground surface temperature, visible light intensity, UV light intensity, the voltage produced by solar panels and cloud cover/sky conditions. Groups of students and volunteers collected the data before, during and after the eclipse to see how the conditions changed throughout the day. They also collected data at two different sites to allow for more comparison.

The students found significant changes in nearly all the variables they measured. The largest changes came in the amount of visible and ultraviolet light when the eclipse blocked 82 percent of the sun. There was a definite drop in temperature—both in the air and on the surface—during the peak of the eclipse. The drop in the amount of voltage produced by the solar panels also paralleled the increasing coverage of the sun. “Collecting data from the eclipse was interesting because I got to witness a natural phenomenon with a



Juniors Joshua Hernandez and Rachel Ingram-Clay (front) measure ultraviolet radiation near the peak of the eclipse, as Lucas Leitao, Jason Belliveau and Clayton Potts (back) measure solar panel voltage.



Junior Donnell Foote and senior Favour Ogbue use an anemometer to take a wind-speed reading prior to the near-total solar eclipse.

lot of my good friends. While it was time consuming, the results were fascinating,” says senior Favour Ogbue.

“This was a great way to start the year with the students doing real-world science,” says science teacher Nathan Hess, who advised the students in creating the protocols for collecting the data. “We were able to fully experience the beauty of the eclipse, while observing its real-world effects on the world around us. We look forward to seeing how our data matches up with what other scientists around the country observed.”

PHOTOS BY NATHAN HESS AND LILIANA WRIGHT

# SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY<sup>.ORG</sup> CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

## Students Celebrate Annual Convocation

Spring Valley Academy (SVA) celebrated the arrival of another school year during its annual convocation weekend that began with a concert, featuring Christian singer and songwriter Buddy Houghtaling. “Buddy’s music and lyrics are not only creative and uplifting, but such an inspiration and testimony to his audience!” says Darren Wilkins, principal.

Sabbath school featured the musical talents of SVA students, parents and faculty, followed by a message from Delthony Gordon, pastor of Ohio Conference’s Beavercreek church. Between services, guests mingled with old and new friends and enjoyed refreshments, provided by the Home and School Association.

Following a special dedication service for SVA teachers and staff, Wilkins introduced guest speaker Peter Bath, vice president for mission and ministry at Kettering Adventist HealthCare in Ohio. Bath is no stranger to SVA, having served as the Kettering church senior pastor from 1986-1990. His message focused on the school theme, “By the Spirit,” and he encouraged a recommitment to mission, each other and Jesus!

After church attendees gathered for a picnic lunch



Members from the Dayton Eagles Pathfinder Club, including Matthew Miller, Caitlyn Joseph and Eric Grant, march into the gym at the start of the Sabbath church service.

at the “longest table” set up on the front lawn of the campus. “It was a wonderful way to conclude the convocation and welcome a new school year,” says Wilkins.

## Week of Prayer Highlights “Tough Love”

One of the spiritual highlights at Spring Valley Academy (SVA) is Week of Prayer. This year Ryan Becker, pastor of the Rockhill and York churches

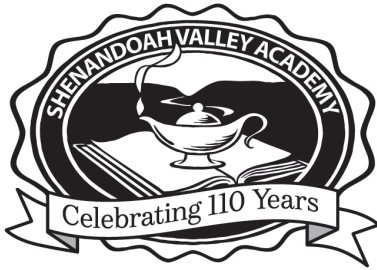


SVA Praise Team leads song service during the school’s recent Week of Prayer.

in South Carolina, joined the high school Campus Ministries team in presenting Week of Prayer messages for the elementary, middle school and high school divisions.

Becker spoke on “Tough Love,” a theme that impressed senior Taylor Williams. “Week of Prayer was honest, insightful and raw. Pastor Ryan taught us what tough love is by sharing things from his own life, and that sometimes tough love is necessary!” he says.

Each division began the daily chapel with a song service led by the Campus Ministries praise band and various student vocal/instrumental talent. Justin Janetzko, SVA’s chaplain, summed it up: “This Week of Prayer was a powerful demonstration of how hearts and lives are rejuvenated when the Holy Spirit is poured out upon young and old alike.”



# Impact Shenandoah

*Serve God – Value Knowledge – Accept a Life of Service*

## Freshmen Goal: To Know God Better

The first day of class is always exhilarating. New students; new staff; reconnecting with friends. And there I was: the new freshman Bible teacher. First and second period, starting time 7:30 a.m. Forty-eight students in total. Two class sections, evenly divided. I have been in and out of Bible classrooms many times, but I was nervous—and excited—about the beginning of the school year.

After a few words of introduction, I asked the class to kneel with me for prayer. We invited God’s presence and sought His blessings for our first morning together. I distributed a one-page course outline, which included Encounter Adventist curriculum objectives, class material, guidelines for classroom protocol. Also included: a commitment statement—that we would respect God, respect each other and do our very best—which both the students and I could sign.

On the back of the course outline, I asked the class to write a spiritual goal for the fall semester. The room was quiet. Everyone put pen to paper and wrote, and thought, and wrote some more. I didn’t know what to expect.

As they wrote their goals, I was mentally writing my spiritual teaching goal—give students personal class time in God’s Word so they come to know Him better.

The student responses deeply encouraged me. Consistently, this class of 48 academy freshmen, in one



way or another, each stated as their semester spiritual goal: to know God better.

With their permission, I’ll share some of their goals:

- I want to learn to love God more and speak to Him more.—*Braxton*
- To find God and get baptized; to be able to tell about what He did for me.—*Ciomay*
- To stop using the temptation of social media and become closer to Christ.—*Hannah*
- To read more in the Bible and go to as many Bible studies as I can.—*Kent*
- I want to be baptized and have the opportunity to reach other people.—*Javin*
- To get closer to God in my personal devotions, and become the Adventist God made me to be.—*Kevin*
- The goal is for me to come closer to God.—*Diamond*

As a pastor and teacher, I believe the Bible and the Holy Spirit are still effective. I believe the same Holy Spirit that inspired Bible writers of old, will inspire students when they read His Word. We invited the Holy Spirit to work during our time together, and I look forward to seeing how God will lead us into a closer connection with Him.—*Buz Menhardt*



# www.ta.edu TATODAY

News you can use from Takoma Academy

## New Talent Joins TA Faculty

This is what I was made for. This is why I exist," states Shari Loveday, the new chaplain at Takoma Academy (TA). Loveday aspires for students to encounter Christ in such a way that they will be drawn to Him. Most importantly, she wants students to know that His love is the guiding force behind everything He does in their lives. Referencing Jeremiah 29:11, Loveday knows that God has great plans for them.

Keith Beckett is TA's new vice president. Beckett previously served as TA's Student Services and Athletic director. "I don't want to achieve anything for myself. I just want the best for the students. I want to open their eyes to the love of Jesus," he says. He advocates that parents should send their children to TA because it is the best of both worlds—prospective students can have a wonderful Christian experience coupled with a solid education and positive social interactions. "It's an honor to work at TA," Beckett states. "It's a blessing to work with these great students every day."

Cymando Henley ('93), has accepted the position of career counselor. "Adventist education is a phenomenal way to witness for Christ. I want to raise the profile of our graduating seniors so families seek out TA for the ultimate educational experience. Additionally, I want to help create positive peer pressure on campus so that it is without question that [the students] are college bound."

Henley advises that students should start thinking seriously about college during their freshmen year in high school. Colleges want to see well-rounded students. The earlier students develop a plan, the better their chances will be their senior year for a competitive application to prospective colleges and universities.

He highly recommends that students take practice exams for the ACT® and SAT® college-readiness tests to mentally prepare, especially if they do not



*New faculty members Keith Beckett, vice president; Shari Loveday, chaplain; and Cymando Henley, career counselor, joins Takoma Academy.*

normally do well on standardized tests or suffer from test anxiety. Furthermore, he states that college visits are important. "Students get a first-hand glimpse of the next phase of their educational journey, as well as seeing what they like or do not like about a particular university," Henley says.

He concludes, "I'm excited to be back [at TA] and to help these students get to the next level. As an alum, I have a real affinity for my school. TA's success is my success. I'm thrilled that my knowledge can make a difference in someone's life."



*Kettering College celebrates 50 years and looks to the future with a university status along with the addition of several graduate degrees over the next few years.*



## Kettering College Announces Move to University Status

By Lauren Brooks

Kettering College has placed graduates in the most in-demand areas of healthcare for 50 years, keeping innovation, excellence and service at the heart of its mission. As they look to the future, the Kettering College Board of Directors voted to start the process of changing Kettering College's name to that of a university effective spring of 2018.

Kettering College is taking the opportunity to align a university title with the excellence, quality and degrees currently offered at the college. The college is working with an outside vendor to do market research to help make the best decision for the future name of Kettering College.

"In American higher education, the word university denotes a higher level of degree, and as we continue to add doctoral programs, our trajectory and growth matches this higher level of degree," says Nate Brandstater, president of Kettering College.

At Kettering College's 2018 commencement ceremony, the first class of doctoral students will be graduating from the occupational therapy program. The college also plans on adding several more graduate degrees over the next few years. The president stated that the board agrees this is the optimum time to take the next step forward by accepting the title of university.

"For 50 years, Kettering College has embraced changes and innovations in preparing students to answer the call to heal," says Jarrod McNaughton, president of Kettering Medical Center and Kettering College board chair. "Our university identity will continue this legacy and appropriately reflect our academic offerings. This, in turn, will help us attract students from across the nation and around the world."

For more information about the name change, visit [www.kc.edu/university](http://www.kc.edu/university).





**WASHINGTON**  
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

— ANNA H. WANG —  
*Presidential Concert Series*

At Washington Adventist University's Fifth Annual Visionaries Gala held on September 17 at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland, Anna H. Wang was one



**Weymouth Spence**

of the five 2017 honorees. She was recognized posthumously for her Excellence in Benevolent Service to Humanity. In 1948 she immigrated to the U.S. with her husband. They both established the Good Samaritan

Nursing Home and Retreat Center where she served as owner-administrator for the next 46 years until retirement. Two great passions in her life were education and music – education as a means to feed the body, and music an avenue to feed the soul. Through the dark valleys of life, it was the great hymns of faith that sustained her, and it was the classical music that moved her. Thus to commemorate her life, her family has chosen to form the Anna H. Wang Presidential Concert Series on the campus of Washington Adventist University. Two outstanding performances are scheduled for this academic year. The first concert will be on November 11 at 8 p.m. featuring Awadagin Pratt on piano and the second will be on February 3 at 8 p.m. featuring Charles Castleman on violin. Both performances will be on campus in the Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center. Funds raised from these concerts will contribute to the building of the new concert hall, thus completing Phase II of the music center.

This is Washington Adventist University.

—Weymouth Spence, President

**WAU ALUMNUS RICARDO FLORES LEADS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The new Executive Director of Washington Adventist University's Office of Information Technology Services is Ricardo Flores, a double alumnus who received his Master of Business Administration degree from WAU in 2016, and his Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems in 1999.



**Ricardo Flores, Executive Director, Office of Information Technology Services.**

Flores, who started his new position on September 6, is the proud father of three children. Two are currently students at WAU – Emilie, a sophomore, and Richy, a freshman. His nine-year-old daughter, Jessica, attends nearby Takoma Academy where his wife Rosemarie teaches.

With 18 years of experience as a systems engineer and program manager for a variety of federal agencies – including the departments of Defense and Education, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Veterans Administration – Flores is looking forward to enhancing the university's information technology systems.

"It is immensely gratifying to design, develop and implement information technology solutions to honor God and in the service of others," said Flores.

Born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico and raised in the Dominican Republic, Flores is fluent in both English and Spanish. In his leisure time, he enjoys camping, hiking, youth leadership and teaching wilderness survival skills. He also supports the Master Guide clubs in the Chesapeake Conference and helps develop Pathfinder Honors. He especially values quality time with family and friends, when he can disconnect from technology and re-energize. Gatherings often include music. Flores himself plays saxophone and guitar, and others in his family play piano and stringed instruments.

Ricardo Flores and his family live in Burtonsville and are members of the Spencerville Seventh-day Adventist Church.

## DEDICATION WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTED BY HEALTH PROFESSIONS & WELLNESS CENTER RIBBON CUTTING

Dedication Weekend this semester included some notable events. The weekend was launched with an inspiring concert by Cuban-born concert violinist Jaime Jorge on September 15, followed by a faculty and staff dedication the next morning at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church on campus.

The much-anticipated ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new state-of-the-art Gail S. and Bruce E. Boyer Health Professions and Wellness Center took place on the evening of September 16 and included a tour of the new facility. Calming and coordinated tones of blue and silver are on display on walls, floors, and furnishings throughout the center, which will house the university's four health professions departments. The addition of six classrooms, a fitness center, two multipurpose rooms, three laboratories, and 10 group and individual study areas vastly enhance the WAU learning environment for its students. Also, a conference room, five offices, and two reception and lounge areas in the new Health Professions and Wellness Center will provide much-needed space for students, faculty, staff and the WAU community.

The final event of the weekend was the Fifth Annual Visionaries Gala, held on Sunday, September 17. Approximately 250 guests enjoyed an evening of camaraderie and the chance to support student scholarships and the new Health Professions and Wellness Center. The evening also honored five individuals for their contributions to excellence: County Executive Isiah Leggett, local philanthropists Mark and Brenda Moore, Anna H. Wang (posthumously) and Hyveth Williams, D.Min.



Cutting the ribbon for the new Gail S. and Bruce E. Boyer Health Professions and Wellness Center are (from left) nursing students, Patrick Farley (WAU Vice President of Finance), Tina Bjarekull (President, Maryland Independent College and University Association), Dr. Weymouth Spence (WAU President), Bruce Boyer, Gail Boyer, Dave Weigley (President, Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists), Dr. Cheryl Kisunzu (WAU Provost), Leanne Phillips (Hord, Coplan, Macht Inc.), a representative of Keller Brothers, and Erik Wangness (President, Adventist HealthCare).

## OPENING CONVOCATION THIS SEMESTER INCLUDED GRADUATION REENACTMENT FOR STUDENT WHO MISSED COMMENCEMENT

This semester's Opening Convocation on August 30 offered inspiration and beauty, from the musical prelude through the trumpet and organ recessional. In addition to the hymns and scripture readings and prayers, the convocation included a graduation reenactment for Delores Taylor, who fell ill and was unable to complete her participation in the spring commencement ceremony when she was scheduled to receive her Master of Arts in Religion (Clinical Pastoral Education) diploma from the WAU School of Graduate and Professional Studies (SGPS). With the help of SGPS Interim Dean Nicole Currier, Registrar Reginald Garcon, Provost Cheryl Kisunzu, Ph.D., and President Weymouth Spence, Ed.D., Taylor was able to experience the graduation that she missed. She was invited to walk across the stage in her cap and gown, where she received her diploma and hood and had her photograph taken with President Spence. Delores Taylor's graduation experience included a standing ovation from the faculty, staff, and students in attendance.



Delores Taylor accepts her diploma from President Spence at a reenactment ceremony during this semester's Opening Convocation.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Anna H. Wang Presidential Concert Series**  
**Saturday, November 11, 8 p.m.**

Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center

**Christmas Concert**

**Friday, December 1, 7:30 p.m.**

Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church



# YOUR HEALING MINISTRY

KETTERING ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE NEWSLETTER

## Teaching How to Know, Follow and Share Jesus

By Christina Keresoma

Spring Valley Academy, a local school operated by four Seventh-day Adventist churches, believes that academics engage the mind, while Christ's teachings engage the soul. Members of the Dayton, Ohio, community agree and have partnered with the school to give more children the opportunity to have a Christian education. As a result, the school has grown by approximately 110 students in the past two years.

Last year, Darren Wilkins, principal of Spring Valley Academy, and Fred Manchur, CEO of Kettering Adventist HealthCare, collaborated to assist a group of children from local Hispanic churches. The children were not previously able to attend Spring Valley Academy due to tuition and transportation expenses. Together, the school and healthcare system provided resources that allowed those children to attend the school. The school worked on obtaining government assistance while Kettering Adventist HealthCare purchased five vans for transportation.

This year 30 new students from Rwandan refugee families have enrolled from a new Seventh-day Adventist congregation meeting in downtown Dayton.



"A strong Christian education attracts families to our community, growing our churches and network, and fulfilling our mission to minister as Jesus did," says Fred Manchur, CEO of Kettering Adventist HealthCare

Learn more about Spring Valley Academy's growth in the video at [ketteringhealth.org/sva](http://ketteringhealth.org/sva)



Principal Darren Wilkins welcomes new students



*Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it. –Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)*



**KETTERING**  
Adventist HealthCare.



# THE NEWS

KETTERING ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE NEWSLETTER

## Worshiping with the Community at GospelFest



Tenth Avenue North lead singer joins the audience during the performance



Kettering Adventist Church's praise band plays for the crowd

Kettering Adventist HealthCare held the fourth annual GospelFest in Kettering, Ohio. The annual event gives attendees the opportunity to not only hear local Christian music bands, but also learn about nearby resources such as Kettering College. There was also a special offering for Good Neighbor House, with nearly \$4,000 going to the local nonprofit that provides food pantry services, clothing, and household items to underserved individuals and families. This year's celebration concluded with a headlining performance by Tenth Avenue North. **To watch a video recap of GospelFest, visit [ketteringhealth.org/gf](http://ketteringhealth.org/gf)**

## Helping Hurricane Victims

Disaster struck many areas of our country, and Kettering Adventist HealthCare stepped forward, supporting relief efforts through donated items and financial support. A truck full of medical supplies was sent to Texas to help those affected by Hurricane Harvey, while another semi-truck was filled with donated goods to help Hurricane Irma victims in Florida. Employees and the community also had the opportunity to give financially through the Grandview Foundation and Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).



Kettering Adventist HealthCare rallies support for hurricane victims



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*Music for the Christmas Season*

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## EMPLOYMENT

### PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DEPT.

seeks a candidate for Facilities Associate Director. Preference is experience in planning, budgeting, maintenance of college facilities, in addition to strong leadership/interpersonal skills/team leader. Responsibilities in roads, building safety, HVAC, water distribution/treatment, general building maintenance, compliance for hazardous materials, etc. For more information or to apply, please call (707) 965-6231, or visit [puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings](http://puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings).

### PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DEPT.

seeks full-time positions for a tradesman supervisor-painter, and a tradesman 1 carpenter. Preference is for training and applied experience in trade areas of general painting and carpentry. For painter, experience in color/finish/application/etc. For carpenter, experience in cabinet making/floor coverings/installation/etc. For both, must be a team player and can handle multiple projects. For more information or to apply, please call (707) 965-6231, or visit [puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings](http://puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings).

**DENTIST WANTED:** Loma Linda University School of Dentistry graduate, Class of 2001, is looking for a partner to join an established, lucrative, two-doctor, general dentistry practice in southwestern Ohio. Small town with a peaceful country living feel, yet within an hour and a half of Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton. Looking to move out of the cities? Looking for unlimited ministry options? Check us out at [hillsborofamilydentistry.net](http://hillsborofamilydentistry.net)

and on Facebook at Hillsboro Family Dentistry. If you have questions or would like to set up a time to come meet with Dr. Bryan Nickell, call (937) 241-8903.

### WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to [jobs.wallawalla.edu](http://jobs.wallawalla.edu).

### DOES A WARM, SUNNY CLIMATE ON COASTAL CENTRAL FLORIDA SOUND INTERESTING?

Our well-established practice of seven pathologists and two pathologist assistants are looking for a full-time AP/CP pathologist to join our group. Fellowship training is a must; surgical pathology is preferred. Interest in/or experience with Molecular Pathology and Blood Bank is a plus. Benefits include health and dental insurance, CME, malpractice insurance, 401K and relocation expenses. Desired start date of January 2018 through July 2018. Please send CV to [ECP@595nova.com](mailto:ECP@595nova.com).

### PSYCHIATRIST OR CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, Ph.D.,

**NEEDED** for rural health clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute, Weimar, Calif. Competitive pay and benefits. Call Dr. Randall Steffens, (615) 604-0142.

### SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks an online adjunct professor(s) to teach part-time courses in newly organized Senior Living Management Certificate program through the Department of Business. Submit cover letter and current CV/ résumé to [denise.rivera@swau.edu](mailto:denise.rivera@swau.edu). Candidates must have industry-specific (Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care) knowledge and/or experience and a minimum of a

master's degree in a related field. Preference given with prior teaching experience.

### SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

is looking for a full-time English professor with a Ph.D. Candidates with a degree in any literature or writing specialty considered. Send a CV to Dr. Judy Myers Laue, Chair, Department of English, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest Street, Keene, Texas 76059, or email [lauej@swau.edu](mailto:lauej@swau.edu).

## MISCELLANEOUS

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### FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

is a brand new revival, reformation and evangelistic series by Pastor Doug Batchelor, being broadcast November 3-11, live from Silver Spring, Md., on AFTV, 3ABN, Hope Channel and Facebook. The reformation continues! Join us for this nine-part series. More information for viewing or host-sites at [foundationsoffaith.info](http://foundationsoffaith.info).

### COME TO BLACK HILLS SCHOOL OF MASSAGE,

and in six months graduate from the only Adventist massage program eligible for state licensure. Watch our student video at [bit.ly/2xtUnTt](http://bit.ly/2xtUnTt), and visit us at [bhhec.org/school-of-massage](http://bhhec.org/school-of-massage). Join us January 8, and be part of this life-changing experience! Call Al Trace at (423) 710-4873.

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**AUTHORS:** Looking for new Adventist titles to encourage and grow your daily walk? Visit us at [TEACHServices.com](http://TEACHServices.com). For used Adventist books, visit

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**MARYLAND ADVENTIST DENTIST, DAVID LEE, DDS, FAGD, AFAAID, FICOI, FAACP,** has practices located in Silver Spring and Columbia, Md. He is extensively trained in implant, cosmetic, TMD/TMJ, sleep apnea treatment, sedation and laser dentistry. Dr. Lee is an Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, as well as having many other certifications. For appointments, call (301) 649-5001 or (410) 461-6655. Mention this ad and receive a 10 percent discount on all services, excluding third-party payers. We welcome new patients!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHRISTMAS SEASON CONCERT,** December 16, 4 p.m., at the Frederick church, 6437 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD 21703. Performance by Brass Mosaic, a brass and percussion ensemble, formed from members of our nation's service bands, combined with a chamber choir conducted by Mark Willey. Program includes John Rutter's festive "Gloria," a three-movement suite for organ and brass by composer Jeremy Filzell, and favorite carols sung by all, with accompaniments by Richard Webster. For more information, call (301) 662-5254, email churchoffice@ariseforgod.org, or visit [ariseforgod.org](http://ariseforgod.org).

**AUBURN ACADEMY'S CLASS OF 1969** is planning a 50th-year reunion with a seven-day Alaska cruise. The invitation is for all family members and friends from 1967, 1968 and 1970. We are missing many classmates from 1969. Please send contact information/questions to [jan69reinking@comcast.net](mailto:jan69reinking@comcast.net).

## OBITUARIES

**JACKSON, William R.,** born December 25, 1935, in Brooklyn, N.Y.; died August 19, 2016, in Dundee, Ohio. He was a member of the New Philadelphia (Ohio) church. He grew up in New York City in the Nazarene Church, and then joined the Salvation Army in his teens and took their training for ministry. Later he was converted to the Seventh-day Adventist message and decided to go to the seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich. He pastored 12 churches in six states during 35 years of service. After retirement, he served for several years part time in three churches. He was an avid birder and enjoyed hiking. Survivors: his

sons, William R. (Jill) Jackson of Chatsworth, Calif., and Robert (Rita) Jackson of Apopka, Fla.; his daughter, Carianna (Roberto) Farfan of East Freetown, Mass.; and grandchildren, Anthony of East Freetown, and Alex and Leilani of Apopka.

**LONGARD, Edel P.,** born November 21, 1928, in Staten Island, N.Y.; died September 8, 2016, in Takoma Park, Md.. She was a member of the Spencerville (Md.) church. Edel grew up in East Nassau, N.Y. She attended the Albany Adventist Church School (Mass.), and Pittsfield Adventist School (Mass.), before attending Greater Boston Academy (Mass.) and Atlantic Union College in Lancaster, Mass., where she met her husband, Bill. After their marriage in 1949, they moved to Takoma Park, Md. Bill worked at the Review and Herald Publishing Assn. in Hagerstown, Md., in the pressroom, and Edel worked in the list room. Later she worked in the Takoma Clinic at the Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, and then for the State Farm Insurance office of Allen Hooker. After that she worked for GenCon Risk Management at the Seventh-day Adventist World Headquarters in Silver Spring, Md. She retired in 1997. Edel loved lifetime friends and family, traveling and participating in senior activities with Spencerville church groups. Survivors: her husband, William Longard of Takoma Park; her daughters, Carol (Meredith) Jobe of Roseville, Calif., Linda (Darrell, deceased 6/16) Reich of Takoma Park, and Susan (Leo, Jr.) Ranzolin of Loma Linda, Calif.; her son, David (Heather) Longard of Middletown, Del.; 13 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**RICKARD, Clinton Leroy,** was born with his twin brother, Leon, September 12, 1938, in Luray, Va., as the last in a family of 11 children; died February 1, 2015, in Spokane Valley, Wash. He was a member of the Forest Lake church in Apopka, Fla., for five years. In 2014 he and his wife, Gloria, moved to Spokane Valley to be near one of their daughters. His 38 years of denominational service began in 1959, when Leroy began work at the bookbindery at Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, Va. In 1962 he was asked to help start a bookbindery at Forest Lake Academy in Apopka, Fla., and worked there until 1964. In 1972 he began work as an assistant claims manager for Adventist Risk Management in Riverside, Calif. He then served at the Adventist World Headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., as assistant claims manager and assistant director of the Captive Underwriting Department until his retirement in 2005. Leroy was

	Nov 3	Nov 10	Nov 17	Nov 24
<b>Baltimore</b>	6:04	4:57	4:51	4:46
<b>Cincinnati</b>	6:36	5:28	5:23	5:18
<b>Cleveland</b>	6:20	5:12	5:06	5:01
<b>Columbus</b>	6:28	5:21	5:15	5:10
<b>Jersey City</b>	5:51	4:43	4:37	4:33
<b>Norfolk</b>	6:06	5:00	4:55	4:51
<b>Parkersburg</b>	6:24	5:16	5:11	5:06
<b>Philadelphia</b>	5:57	4:49	4:43	4:39
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	6:15	5:08	5:01	4:57
<b>Reading</b>	5:59	4:52	4:46	4:41
<b>Richmond</b>	6:10	5:04	4:58	4:54
<b>Roanoke</b>	6:21	5:14	5:09	5:05
<b>Toledo</b>	6:27	5:19	5:13	5:08
<b>Trenton</b>	5:55	4:47	4:41	4:37
<b>Wash., D.C.</b>	6:06	4:59	4:53	4:49

an avid reader, and loved to read God's Word. He wrote notes in any space available to write in his Bibles. He had many Bibles, and searching the Scriptures was his passion. When he retired, he read, highlighted and underlined the eight-book series of the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, as well as the *Handbook of SDA Theology* so as not to forget many precious passages. He is survived by Gloria, his wife of more than 55 years; two daughters, Kara (Tim) Chickering of Damascus, Md., and Kristen (Allyn) Ankerbrand of Spokane Valley, Wash.; and one brother, Robert Rickard of Luray, Va.

**SNIDER, William E.,** born August 31, 1927, in Parkersburg, W.Va., died October 24, 2016, in Chico, Calif. He was a member of the Vallejo Drive church in Glendale, Calif. He graduated from Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, Md., in 1950. He pastored in the West Virginia Conference from 1950-1958, serving the Clarksburg, Webster Springs, Richwood, Buckhannon, Elkins, Tiffin, Princeton and Bluefield churches. Elder Snider was then called to the Ohio Conference, serving the Barberton, Stow, Jackson Center, Bellefontaine, Piqua, Amelia, Hamlet, Bowling Green and

Findlay churches from 1958-1964. Survivors: his daughter, Janet (David) Morikone of Kingman, Ariz.; his son, Douglas (Shellie) Snider of Chico; his sister, Eleanor Kelly of Davidson, Md.; five grandchildren; two nieces and one nephew.

**ZORNES, Walter E., Jr.,** born May 8, 1927, in Dayton, Ohio, to the late Walter E. Zornes Sr. and Sylvia Garrett Zornes; died January 11, 2016, at his home in Camden, Del. Walter served in the U.S. Navy for two years during WWII. He loved baseball and had wanted to be a first baseman, as he was left-handed. Instead he started to sell newspapers on the streets of Cleveland and then later went into the literature ministry and served as a literature evangelist for 15 years. Continuing in sales, he later worked at Marty's Mobile Homes in Dover, Del. In 1995 he bought and renovated a 120-year-old barn in Magnolia, Del., which now houses the Magnolia Furniture store. Walter is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Frances V. Herschberger Zornes of Camden; nieces and nephews, Karen Crane, Donald and Darryl Dietrich and Denise Morris; brother-in-law, Gilbert Herschberger and family; sisters-in-law, Emma Longo and family, Mary Anna Puskar and family, and Katherine Hammond and family; also a special nephew, Jack Perkins and family.

## Bulletin Board



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WASHINGTON  
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY



*Annual Christmas Concert*


*Presented by the Department of Music*

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017 at 7:30 PM**  
at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church  
located on the university's campus

The evening will feature performances by  
the university's orchestra and chorale.

THE CONCERT IS FREE.

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# COLUMBIA UNION REVOLVING FUND

## MAKING MINISTRY POSSIBLE

With a CURF loan, Ohio Conference's Good Neighbor House purchased and renovated an 11,105-sq.-ft. facility in Dayton that houses a food pantry, a department of clothing and household items and a community healthcare center with dental, medical and eye care for underserved and underinsured people. In 2014 this Adventist Community Services center provided health and human services to more than 20,000 neighbors in need.

By providing loans for more than 2,000 projects to date, CURF is helping the Seventh-day Adventist Church to be the hands and feet of Jesus in South-west Ohio and all across the Columbia Union.

Learn more:

(866) 721-CURF | [columbiaunion.org/CURF](http://columbiaunion.org/CURF)



Since 1968 the Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF) has been providing low-interest loans and financing for Seventh-day Adventist church and school building and renovating projects so as to facilitate growth. What started as a \$200,000 fund with investments from members has grown to a \$168 million resource that makes ministry possible.

# CURF

Helping Finance the Gospel Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church



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**Please join us!**



**ANNA H. WANG  
PRESIDENTIAL  
CONCERT SERIES**  
Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center



**Saturday  
November 11 at 8p.m.  
featuring  
Awadagin Pratt  
on piano**



**Saturday  
February 3 at 8p.m.  
featuring  
Charles Castleman  
on violin**