EXAMPLE 2019 - VOLUME 124 - ISSUE 8

New Address, Same Mission

Adventist HealthCare White Oak Medical Center Opens its Doors to the Community

Plus: 75 Baptized at Camporee in Oshkosh

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About the Cover: The newly-opened Adventist HealthCare White Oak Medical Center in Silver Spring, Md. Photo by Eli Turner.

ON THE WEB

COLUMBIA UNION PINS TELL STORY OF DAVID

This summer Columbia Union Conference Pathfinders collected and traded a special union pin set (pictured, left) at the 2019 International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis. Jennifer Pomales, Ohio Conference associate director of Pathfinder/Adventurer Ministries, and her daughter, Cecilia Grizzell, worked together to design and create the set that features different scenes from David's life. Find out more about the set and this summer's pin mania at columbiaunionvisitor.com/ columbiaunionpins.

PATHFINDERS TAKE OVER VISITOR INSTAGRAM

During the 2019 International Pathfinder Camporee, more than in years past, family members and friends at home were able to feel like they were part of the camporee through social media posts and the Hope Channel's livestream. To help give a more in-depth look into the everyday activities, five Pathfinders and staff members took over the *Visitor's*

Instagram stories. Alex Inamasu (pictured) a member of the Hackettstown church and New Jersey Conference staff volunteer, was among those sharing videos



and stories throughout the week. See their archived stories, at instagram.com/ columbiaunionvisitor.

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF WHITE OAK

Want to take a virtual tour of the new Adventist HealthCare White Oak Medical Center? Download VidPic AR, and scan the back page of this magazine!

SHE SAID YES! ON STAGE

Maricris España, a staff member of Potomac Conference's Langley Park (Md.) Conquistadores Pathfinder Club, and the entire evening audience at the 2019 International Pathfinder Camporee were surprised when her boyfriend, Irvin Josue Jacinto Miranda, "popped the question." Read more about the couple and how it all came together at columbiaunionvisitor.com/shesaidyes.



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Issue 8

A Dream Come True

am a witness that dreams do come true, visions do become reality and God does answer prayers! This past August, all three happened when we celebrated the grand opening of Adventist HealthCare (AHC) White Oak Medical Center on Healing Way in Silver Spring, Md. This is something that hadn't happened in more than a hundred years, and during this journey, some might have wondered if it would happen in a million years. *But God is good!*



Around the turn of the 19th to 20th century, Ellen G. White, a pioneer leader of the Seventh-day Adventist movement, envisioned health care happening somewhere "on a grassy slope" in Takoma Park, Md., close to Washington, D.C. It would be a place where the healing and restoration



ministry of Jesus Christ, as expressed by His church, could be offered and modeled in the local community. Washington Adventist Hospital became that place, fulfilling the dreams of our forefathers and leaders, extending the "right arm of the gospel" to the masses, and carrying forward the legacy of

health and healing. And while it was a difficult decision to relocate, finding a new home became necessary so as to maintain a robust future for this valued ministry.

As many community leaders and church members gathered to participate in the opening festivities, I recounted a few of the "victories of faith" we experienced on this journey:

Permits: It took years and more than one application to obtain the necessary permits and certificates from the state and other government organizations.

Finances: Securing the resources to finance our new plant while maintaining a robust performance at the old one proved to be a formidable challenge.

• Leadership: We are indebted to a lot of excellent people who teamed up and worked diligently for about a decade so we could realize the fulfillment of this dream.

We are deeply grateful to Terry Forde, our AHC president and CEO, leadership team, boards, physicians, nurses and all who collaborate to extend God's care day after day. We are also so grateful that our world church leader, President Ted N. C. Wilson, joined our special dedication service.

As we aspire to carry forward the legacy of this world-class ministry, let us remember the counsel of White, who wrote in *Christ's Object Lessons*, "It is not the capabilities you now possess, or ever will have, that will give you success. It is that which the Lord can do for you. We need to have far less confidence in what man can do, and far more confidence in what God can do" (p. 146).

Dave Weigley serves as president of the Columbia Union Conference and chair of the Adventist HealthCare Board of Trustees.

Newsline



Members of the Presidents Council and guests visit the U.S. Capitol where they met with U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black, who shared the importance of prayer and encouraged leaders and members to regularly meet with their representatives to discuss issues they are passionate about.

WGTS OPENS NEW BROADCAST CENTER

After 62 years in Takoma Park, Md., WGTS is celebrating the grand opening of its new broadcast ministry center in Rockville, Md.

"This has been a dream decades in the making," says WGTS President and General Manager Kevin Krueger. "The way God has worked through listeners and givers to make this center a reality is truly a miracle. We're praying that the new ministry center is simply a launching pad to share the hope



WGTS Board Chairman Rob Vandeman offers a prayer of dedication in the new WGTS broadcast ministry center.

and encouragement that comes from Jesus with even more people in Washington, D.C., and beyond."

At a recent open house event, Montgomery County councilmembers Sidney Katz and Will Jawando, as well as Rockville Mayor Bridget Newton, welcomed the station to the area. They also presented a proclamation commemorating August 23, 2019, as "WGTS 91.9 Day" in Montgomery County, Maryland.

The new 13,000-square-foot facility contains two identical on-air studios, three production rooms and a television studio. It replaces the 3,000-square-foot World War II-era building that has served as the headquarters of the ministry since 1957. WGTS will maintain the majority of the Takoma Park facility as an emergency backup and special projects site.—WGTS Staff

UNION LAUNCHES CITY EVANGELISM FOCUS

During the September Columbia Union Conference Executive Committee meeting, Dave Weigley, president, announced the launch of the 2019–2021 "Share the Light—Share the Hope" evangelism initiative.

"We had a tremendous spike in our baptisms because our conferences had made evangelism a priority [at the beginning of the quinquennium]," said Frank Bondurant, vice president for Ministries Development. "We'll end it with a strong emphasis on evangelism."

During this time, each conference will place a special focus on evangelizing and meeting the needs of the following designated cities:

Allegheny East Conference:

Washington, D.C. Allegheny West: Dayton/Columbus Pennsylvania: Philadelphia Ohio: Cleveland New Jersey: Newark/Trenton Chesapeake: Baltimore Potomac: Greater Washington D.C./ Tidewater, Va., area Mountain View: Clarksburg, W.Va.



Visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/ sharethelight for more information.—V. Michelle Bernard

WAU TO PURCHASE HOSPITAL SITE

In a historic moment, Washington Adventist University (WAU) has entered into a sales agreement with Adventist HealthCare for the purchase of the former Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) site in Takoma Park, Md., located next door to the school.

This milestone allows WAU to move forward in conversations with the community and investors about how the land can be utilized to benefit future relationships and shared interests. "We pray that

Newsline



God will bless these conversations and allow for a bright future as we endeavor to continue our mission of excellence and service for our students, faculty and staff as we seize on the opportunities around us," says Weymouth Spence, WAU president.—WAU Staff

WATCH THE 2019 ENDITNOW NAD SUMMIT ON ABUSE

The North American Division recently hosted the 2019 enditnow Summit on Abuse at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary Chapel on the campus of Andrews University (Mich.). This is the division's third summit, and was broadcast in English and Spanish.

Organizers planned the event to give pastors, seminary students, teachers, volunteers, church staff and members the tools and knowledge to help end abuse within their scope of influence. It featured experts ranging from church leaders, administrators, professional advocates, educators and women who shared their stories of abuse.

Gerry Lopez, associate director of NAD Children's Ministries, said "It is time for our church to talk and inform about these topics, to put them out there in the open. We need to educate our leaders and members and make them aware that this is a real problem that exists in our church. We really have to educate everyone so that we all can know how to identify the problem and help the victims."



Watch the summit in English and Spanish at facebook.com/ enditnowNAD.—*Kimberly Luste Maran/NAD*

AHC APPOINTS, WELCOMES NEW LEADERS

Adventist HealthCare (AHC) leadership recently announced that Eunmee Shim (above) will lead the latest expansion efforts as the new president of the AHC Fort Washington Medical Center (Md.). Shim will add this role to her duties as AHC's senior vice president of Ambulatory Networks and



chief strategy officer. Dwayne Leslie (below) has also been named vice president and chief compliance officer for the organization. Leslie most recently worked at the Seventh-day Adventist World Church Headquarters, where he directed the denomination's government relations activities in Washington, D.C. Read more about AHC leadership changes on page 41.—Adventist HealthCare Staff



MEMBER NAMED MRS. MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL

Seven years after battling breast cancer, Jennifer Wakefield, who attends Chesapeake Conference's New Hope church in Fulton, Md., is trying to spread the message that there is life after a difficult diagnosis. And she's doing it while wearing a crown.

Wakefield was named Mrs. Maryland International 2019 in March. As part of her duties, she makes public appearances hoping to inspire others on their journeys and seeks to encourage those with breast cancer through care packages.

Wakefield started entering pageants in 1994 and says that "[then] it was all about the glamour, dressing up and having a good time." She says it is still fun, but now she focuses on the platform of giving back to the community "to help those going through the trials that I have gone through."—*VMB*



Noticias

CONQUISTADORES SE REÚNEN PARA EL CAMPOREE INTERNACIONAL

Del 12 al 17 de agosto, unos 55,000 Conquistadores, incluidos más de 7,200 de la Unión de Columbia, reunidos en Oshkosh, Wisconsin, tuvieron la oportunidad de conocer de cerca a otros Conquistadores de todo el mundo.

Muchos clubes de la Unión de Columbia acogieron a Conquistadores de otros países como Kenia, Italia, San Cristóbal, Panamá, Malawi, Ghana y el Reino Unido.

Para aquellos clubes de la Unión de Columbia que no hospedaron Conquistadores en sus sitios, el intercambio de pins les ayudó a entablar conversaciones con otros Conquistadores de lugares tan lejanos como Mongolia y Dubai.

Los Conquistadores también tuvieron la oportunidad de ingresar a la comunidad y ser voluntarios en organizaciones locales sin fines de lucro como el Ejército de Salvación, bancos de alimentos, una biblioteca local y más.

Cada noche, los actores compartían una producción dramática de 30 a 40 minutos que destacaba la vida de David hasta que finalmente se convirtió en rey de Israel, algo por lo que esperó 15 años. A través de la producción y



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Miembros del Club de Conquistadores de la iglesia Passaic Spanish I de la Conferencia de Nueva Jersey pasan un buen tiempo con dos Conquistadores de la República Dominicana que se quedaron con su club durante el camporee. los mensajes nocturnos del orador Damian Chandler, se le recordó a los Conquistadores que Dios los ve; que confíen en Dios; que paren de luchar y dejen que Dios los salve; que esperen en Dios; que todos son elegidos; y finalmente se le animó a elegir y obedecer a Dios.—V. Michelle Bernard

ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE LE DA LA BIENVENIDA A UN NUEVO LIDERAZGO



El liderazgo de Adventist HealthCare (AHC) anunció recientemente que Eunmee Shim liderará los últimos esfuerzos de expansión como la nueva presidenta del AHC Fort Washington Medical Center (Maryland). Shim agregará este papel a sus deberes como vicepresidenta de Ambulatory Networks y directora de estrategias. Dwayne Leslie (en la foto) también fue nombrado vicepresidente y director de cumplimiento de la organización. Leslie trabajó recientemente en la Sede Mundial de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día, donde dirigió las actividades de relaciones gubernamentales de la denominación en Washington, D.C. Lea más sobre los cambios en el liderazgo de AHC en la página 41.—Personal de Adventist HealthCare

COMIENZA NUEVO ENFOQUE DE EVANGELISMO EN TODA LA UNIÓN

Durante la reunión del Comité Ejecutivo de la Unión de Columbia en septiembre, Dave Weigley, presidente de la Conferencia de la Unión de Columbia, anunció los detalles de la iniciativa de evangelismo Comparte la Luz—Comparte la Esperanza 2019–2021. Durante este tiempo, cada conferencia se enfocará en evangelizar y satisfacer las necesidades en áreas urbanas.—VMB

WGTS ABRE NUEVO CENTRO DE TRANSMISIÓN

Después de 62 años en la misma ubicación de Takoma Park, Maryland, WGTS está celebrando la gran inauguración de su nuevo centro de ministerio de transmisión en Rockville, Maryland.

"Esto ha sido un sueño durante décadas", dice el presidente y gerente general de WGTS, Kevin Krueger. "Oramos para que el nuevo centro ministerial sea simplemente una plataforma de lanzamiento para compartir la esperanza y el aliento que viene de Jesús con aún más personas en Washington, D.C. y más allá".

La nueva instalación de 13,000 pies cuadrados contiene dos estudios al aire idénticos, tres salas de producción y un estudio de televisión. WGTS mantendrá la mayoría de las instalaciones de Takoma Park como sitio de respaldo de emergencia y proyectos especiales.—*Personal de WGTS*



El artista Matthew West felicita al presentador y director de promociones de WGTS Morning Show, Jerry Woods, en el mini concierto de inauguración.

Nouvelles

L'UNION LANCE UN NOUVEAU CENTRE D'EVANGÉLISATION

Lors de la réunion du Comité Exécutif de l'Union de Columbia de septembre dernier, Dave Weigley, président de l'Union, a annoncé les détails du programme d'évangélisation 2019-2021 intitulé : « Partagez la Lumière - Partagez l'Espoir ». Pendant ce temps, chaque fédération se concentrera sur l'évangélisation et la satisfaction des besoins dans les zones urbaines. Pour plus d'informations, visitez columbiaunionvisitor.com/sharethelight. —V. Michelle Bernard

ADVENTIST HEALTH-CARE ACCUEILLE UN NOUVEAU LEADERSHIP



La direction de Adventist HealthCare (AHC) a récemment annoncé que Eunmee Shim (sur la photo) va diriger les derniers efforts d'expansion comme le nouveau président de l'AHC Fort Washington Medical Center (Md.). Shim ajoutera ce rôle à ses fonctions de vice-présidente principale des Réseaux Ambulatoires et de Responsable de stratégie. Dwayne Leslie a également été nommé vice-président et responsable de la conformité pour l'organisation. Leslie a récemment travaillé à la Conférence Générale. Siège mondial de l'Église Adventiste du Septième Jour, où il a dirigé les activités de la dénomination à Washington, DC. Pour en savoir plus sur les changements à la direction de l'AHC, page 41.-Personnel de Adventist HealthCare

WGTS OUVRE UN NOUVEAU CENTRE DE DIFFUSION



Après 62 ans à Takoma Park, dans le Maryland, WGTS célèbre la grande ouverture à Rockville, dans le Maryland de son nouveau local dans le cadre de son ministère de radiodiffusion.

« C'est la réalisation d'un rêve de plusieurs décennies », déclare Kevin Krueger (sur la photo), président et directeur général de WGTS. « La façon dont Dieu a travaillé avec les auditeurs et les donateurs pour faire de ce centre une réalité, est vraiment un miracle. Nous prions pour que ce nouveau centre soit simplement un tremplin pour partager l'espoir et les encouragements de Jésus avec encore plus de gens à Washington, DC et au-delà ».—Personnel de WGTS

RENCONTRE DES ECLAIREURS POUR LE CAMPOREE INTERNATIONAL

Du 12 au 17 août, quelque 55 000 éclaireurs, dont plus de 7 200 de l'Union de Columbia, réunis à Oshkosh, dans le Wisconsin, ont eu l'occasion de rencontrer d'autres Eclaireurs venus du monde entier.

De nombreux clubs de l'Union de Columbia ont accueilli des éclaireurs d'autres pays tels que le Kenya, l'Italie, Saint-Kitts, le Panama, le Malawi, le Ghana et le Royaume-Uni.

Les Eclaireurs ont également eu l'occasion de se rendre dans la communauté et de faire du bénévolat auprès d'organisations locales à but non lucratif telles que l'Armée du Salut, des banques alimentaires, une bibliothèque locale, etc.

Chaque soir, les acteurs ont partagé une production dramatique de 30 à 40 minutes mettant en lumière la vie de David jusqu'à ce qu'il devienne enfin roi d'Israël, ce qu'il attendait 15 ans. A travers la production et les messages nocturnes du pasteur Damian Chandler, il a été rappelé aux Eclaireurs que Dieu les voit. Ils doivent faire confiance à Dieu ; laisser Dieu les sauver ; attendre Dieu ; ils sont tous des choisis ; ils peuvent à leur tour choisir Dieu, et lui obéir.—*VMB*



Le président de l'Union de Columbia, Dave Weigley, se joint aux Eclaireurs du Centre Evangélique de Richmond de la Fédération de Potomac.

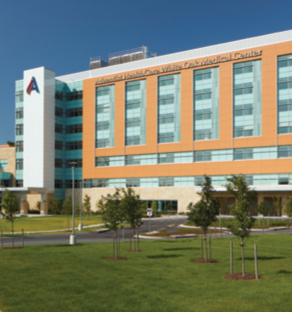






Story by Adventist HealthCare Staff

Adventist HealthCare White Oak Medical Center Celebrates OPENING



ON AUGUST 25, the new state-of-the-art Adventist HealthCare (AHC) White Oak Medical Center in Silver Spring, Md., opened its doors to the community. Just inside the hospital's entrance, visitors' eyes meet a sculpture of the raising of Jarius' daughter, a beautiful reminder of Christ's healing ministry. Created by Pavel Kudelich (pictured above with Ted Wilson), a member of Potomac Conference's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., is an artist who has worked on projects across the world including the Zaokskiy Seminary in Russia. Located about a mile from the world headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Silver Spring, Md., White Oak Medical Center, is an acute care hospital that will continue to be known as a leader in cardiac care.

At White Oak, private rooms equipped with the latest technology are filled with natural light to promote healing. Patients, visitors and staff can take in the natural surroundings and fresh air from outdoor courtyards, including a green roof and an outdoor dining terrace. An outdoor walking trail will soon provide a fitness and wellness area for the surrounding community.

Located off Route 29 at the intersection of Cherry Hill Road and Plum Orchard Drive, White Oak, appropriately located on Healing Way, replaces Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) in Takoma Park, Md., where it served the community for 112 years. Adventist HealthCare Urgent Care will continue to serve Takoma Park in the former hospital Emergency Department. In addition, the Washington Adventist University board recently voted to purchase the property.

A Century of Care and Compassion

Seventh-day Adventists purchased the Washington Adventist Hospital property in Takoma Park, Md., in 1907 for \$6,000. James and Ellen White, two of the church's founders, used proceeds from her book The Ministry of *Healing* to help with the purchase. Circa 1910InLauretta Kress,J.the first femalearphysician inVoMontgomeryinCounty,grMaryland,prpracticed atsrWAH andjudelivered morethan 5,000babies.

In 1954, Doctors J. W. McFarland and H. W. Vollmer at WAH introduced a groundbreaking program to help smokers quit in just five days. Staff performed the first heart surgery in the Washington, D.C., area in 1962.

Hospital leadership was instrumental in a monumental change in public policy, and helped with legislation to ban smoking in airplanes in 1987. Leaders opened the first chest pain center in the region and performed the area's first carotid artery stent procedure in 1995.

With the new proximity to the Food and Drug Administration, White Oak leaders look forward to the new opportunity to lead in health care, as they relocate to the intersection of FDA regulation, health care and faith in Washington, D.C.

907 1910 1954 1962 1987 1995 20



"Our entire team feels a sense of joy, humility and gratitude as we continue our mission of providing physical, mental and spiritual healing," says Terry Forde, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare. "Let's praise God and be proud of our achievements and accomplishments that this hospital is one of the best to receive care in the region."

A few weeks before opening, the hospital held a special blessing and dedication. Ted Wilson, president of the General Conference of the Adventist Church and a former student chaplain at WAH, shared his appreciation for the center's mission. "Moving from one place to another does not mean that the relevancy of the institution changes. The legacy that we have is rooted in God's love," Wilson said. The ceremony offered blessings for hospital leadership, caregivers, patients and the community, as well as the facility.

"We are here today because God has willed it to be so. In His infinite wisdom, the ministry of Washington Adventist Hospital, that existed over 100 years, continues at a new location," said Dave Weigley, president of the Columbia Union Conference and chair of the AHC Governing Board.

A week later, more than 300 people attended the ribbon cutting ceremony. At the event, U.S. representative John Sarbanes commended AHC and the Church for its long-running commitment to health and wellness for the community.

CHANGING ADDRESSES, NOT MISSION

In late August, staff carried out a meticulously-planned move from WAH to the new White Oak Medical Center.

For patients, it meant a safe and comfortable ambulance ride and among the first to be cared for at White Oak. To the transition team, it meant everything from coordinating the moving logistics for every department and training the hospital's 1,300 staff to finalizing plans with the ambulance company to transfer patients on the morning of the move to their new address.





ZOUMBIA UNION Pathfinders ATTEND COLUMBIA UNION Pathfinders

Story by V. Michelle Bernard

hen asked what their favorite thing was about the 2019 International Pathfinder Camporee, themed "Chosen," most Pathfinders will answer: pin trading and getting to know new people. This August 12–17, some 55,000 Pathfinders, including more than 7,200 from the Columbia Union Conference, gathered in Oshkosh, Wis., many of them getting the opportunity to meet Pathfinders up close from around the world.

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For the last four international camporees, Pennsylvania Conference's Valley View Club from the Mt. Jewitt and Derrick City churches has hosted an international club. This year they provided tents, equipment and food at their campsite for two Pathfinders and a parent from Kenya. Allison Rettger, a counselor, says it's great for her club of nine kids because it allows the children to

learn about a new culture. "We're in a very rural area of Pennsylvania. So, this broadens their horizons so they get to learn about another part of our world."

Potomac Conference's Rockville (Md.) Club hosted the Flying Marine club with 165 members from Nairobi, Kenya, and a few Pathfinders from Jamaica and Alabama. The clubs also shared a campsite and meals, both of the American and Kenyan flavors.

Steve Owens, the Rockville club cook for the last three camporees, says the event was a cultural exchange between clubs' members. "We've learned a lot about their foods and ... [the] native dances they've done," noting that Kenyan club staff also cooked several of their traditional dishes like ugali, a cornmeal porridge, as well as amaranth and lentils, while the Rockville staff shared a North American favorite haystacks. "Just talking with everyone and learning about their experience and how God has brought them this far, has been a learning experience for all of us," says Owens.

Other clubs hosted Pathfinders from Italy, Panama, Malawi, Ghana and the United Kingdom.

For those Columbia Union clubs not hosting Pathfinders on their sites, pin trading helped ease them into conversations with others from places as far away

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as Mongolia and Dubai. Before attending the camporee, Diana Morales, a member of Potomac Conference's Langley Park Spanish area—a mile-and-a-half to the drill competition area into an hour-and-a-half walk. "But that is what we're here for. ... With pin trading, no one is a stranger anymore. Everyone is a friend with a common goal."

CHOSEN TO SERVE

Pathfinders also had the opportunity to go into the community and volunteer at local nonprofits like the Salvation Army, food banks, a local library and more. New Jersey Conference's West New York club painted, cleaned and reorganized items at Habitat for Humanity's ReStore in Fond du Lac. Crystal Mark, the assistant store manager, said the volunteers helped expediate their reorganization project that had a sixmonth timeline. She thinks they can now get it done in a month or two at the latest.

"I like helping because it gives me a nice feeling that I did something good," says





1. Pathfinders from the Northeastern Conference

march in the Atlantic and Columbia Union parade. 2. Four generations of the Johnson family are Pathfinders. 3. Dennis Moore judges participants in a drum corps competition. 4. Frederick church Pathfinder Eden Smallwood celebrates her baptism. 5. Sligo church Pathfinder Joshua Dulcich displays his Class A uniform. 6. Damian Chandler reminds campers they are chosen by God and must also choose God. 7. Each evening actors portray David's journey to becoming king. 8. The Experimental Aircraft Association grounds have been home to the international camporee since 1999. 9. Derek Feitosa displays the Atholton church club pin. 10. The Rockville church's club hosts more than 100 people from Kenya, who, in turn, shared their native dishes.



club in Maryland, says, "I thought [pin trading] was the most boring

thing in the world. I did not think I was going to get into it." Instead, she left the camporee with 30–40 new pins. A new self-described trading addict, she doesn't know what changed, but now, "I just see a pin. I think it's pretty, and I just have to have it. It doesn't matter. ... That's the only thing I need at that moment."

Pin trading lengthened the trek from the Columbia Union's designated camping area, the site farthest away from the main stage that held nightly meetings.

Malcolm Thomas, director of the Ohio Conference's Columbus club, says the pin-trading hobby turned the long trip from their campsite to the main activity Annabelle Perez, who also enjoys pin trading and all the fun honor options at the camporee that are harder to do back at home, like the lumber honor.

She adds that at the evening meetings, they learned more about David's story. "About what God and Jesus did for us, and today we learned how to help others, which is what Jesus also did."

Each night actors shared a 30- to 40-minute dramatic production, highlighting David's life up until he finally become king of Israel, something for which he waited 15 years. Through the production and speaker Damian Chandler's nightly messages, Pathfinders were reminded that God sees them; to trust in God; to stop struggling; to let God save them; to wait on God; that all are chosen; and to choose and obey God.

"Well, I think that like especially nowadays people feel like they don't mean anything to

anyone. They're a nobody ... with 3

to our high schools where we have to walk down the halls and probably be the only believer [in] the hall," says Chandler, who received a thunderous response of "I am chosen," when he appealed to the crowd if they wanted to choose God during the last meeting.

A SPECIAL CAMPOREE MOMENT

Chandler's message hit a chord with 1,311 baptisms throughout the week, including 75 from the Columbia Union. (Some had already made decisions to be baptized at the camporee, while others made the decision while attending.)

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The evening meetings also featured the talents of Pathfinders and worship through music.



an arbitrary existence. [The speaker's message] really

gave meaning to life. You're like, God placed me here for a reason. I'm not here for no reason. He's chosen me. I have a job to do. I'm not just wandering around," shared Derek Feitosa, a member of Chesapeake Conference's Atholton club from Columbia, Md.

Chandler, senior pastor of the Capitol City church in Sacramento, Calif., also charged the crowd to choose God at home. "You have a choice to be Saul or David, [both chosen by God]. And you have a choice to follow God, to give Him your whole heart, your whole life, or to follow the enemy. ... We don't live in Oshkosh, don't live in arenas filled with 50,000 worshippers. We go back to our churches where there are 20, 30 or 40. We go back

Christian ventriloquist and comedian Ryan Bomgardner and his puppet, Lily the Lamb,

also shared Bible stories and a quiz with attendees.

On Wednesday night, he called Maricris España, a member of the Langley Park (Md.) Spanish Conquistadores Club, to the stage to ask her Bible trivia questions. She was asked a question she (and the crowd) didn't expect.

6

After one easy question, Bomgardner told her the second question had never been asked on a Pathfinder Camporee stage. He asked her to turn around, and she saw her boyfriend, Irvin Josue Jacinto Miranda, of more than two years, on bended knee.

España said, "Yes!"

Miranda said he started planning the proposal five months ago when he messaged Pastor Ron Whitehead, director of the camporee and the Center for Youth Evangelism, on Facebook, asking if he could propose on the main stage. Miranda says that up until the day of the proposal, only Whitehead and a few other staff members knew about the plan. But he eventually enlisted the help of his uncle to convince España to get on stage.

A LASTING IMPACT

Katia Coley, a member of Chesapeake Conference's New Hope church in Fulton, Md., and a Seventh-day Adventist since last year, enjoyed worshipping with 50,000-plus people each evening and celebrating their club's 11 baptisms during the Wednesday evening

meeting. Her son,

1. Boardwalk Community Fellowship Pathfinder Ja'el Pressley and First Church of Glassboro's Jaszmyn Walton participate in a parade. 2. Ryan Bomgardner shares Bible stories and guizzes attendees. 3. Southern Asian church club members play Settlers of Catan. 4. Clifton church Pathfinder Jeanelle Frimpong-Mansoh participates in a flag raising ceremony. 5. Earl Baumgartner from the Landsdale church club has been a Pathfinder since 1949. 6. Irvin Josue Jacinto Miranda proposes to his girlfriend, Maricris España, during an evening meeting. 7. West New York Pathfinders Annabelle Perez and Sophia Campoverde, volunteer at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. 8. Pathfinders from the Milton church club help break a world record by forming the largest human cross. 9. Oriana Jackson, an Adventurer from the Calvary church, enjoys the dinosaur and reptile exhibit in one of the hangars.



Jonathan, though not baptized at the camporee, chose to be baptized recently, due to the things he's learning in their Pathfinder club, she says.

"At [Pathfinder] age, I wasn't even thinking about [spiritual things]. But, when you have been taught and are surrounded with people encouraging you, and it's fun, it makes it so much easier to make that decision.

I personally wish I had that growing up,"

coordinator at the camporee, hopes that the efforts made at the event and back at the respective clubs will continue to influence the Pathfinders.

"The message that each one of us is chosen by God [will] have an impact on our world, our church, our clubs, and on our kids. ... As long as our local club leaders and church pastors follow up with the decisions that were made, and follow up with continuing conversations, we'll see a long-term connection point with our local churches."

Columbia Union Revolving Fund

MAKING MINISTRY POSSIBLE



Remnant Seventh-day Adventist Congregation Moves to Permanent Home

The Remnant Seventh-day Adventist congregation moved to its newly purchased church complex in November 2018, fulfilling a long-standing need and dream. The new facility, located at 15121 McKnew Road in Burtonsville, Maryland, houses a sanctuary with a capacity of 400, a number of class/meeting rooms, offices, kitchen and a fellowship hall/gymnasium that can hold more than 500 people. Senior Pastor Sujjan John, Youth Pastor Regie Samuel and the church members are immensely thankful to God for His leading and mercies. They request your prayers and goodwill as they have entered a new phase in their ministry and service.

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 \$185 million resource that makes ministry possible.

By providing loans for more than 2,000 projects to date, CURF has helped further the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church all across the Columbia Union.

Learn more: (866) 721-CURF | columbiaunion.org/CURF



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Creative Evangelism Reaches 1,000

Several churches in the Philadelphia area recently joined together for the Worship Share Urban Project (WaS UP), a creative evangelism initiative. Held in Upper Darby, Pa., the worship experience reached well over 1,000 people throughout the course of the day.

"This model is meant to introduce worship to the community, which can serve as a precursor to a more in-depth crusade, or just simply open the doors to Bible studies," says Shawn Fordham, one of the event coordinators.

The initiative took a joint effort from Fordham, lay pastor of the East Lansdowne (Pa.) church; William Taliaferro, emcee and pastor of the West Philadelphia church; Marquis Johns, pastor of the North Philadelphia church; Bruce Patterson, worship leader and lay pastor; and Harold Jean Wright, a forensic psychologist featured on 3ABN who gave a TED Talksstyle health presentation. The East Lansdowne and West Philadelphia churches sponsored the event.

WaS UP began with vespers on Friday night and a praise and music fest on Saturday. The event featured several speakers and musical groups, including artists



Shawn Fordham, lay pastor of the East Lansdowne church, talks to the crowd during the WaS UP event.

Clifton Davis and Brian McKnight Jr. Also, throughout the weekend, medical professionals provided more than 500 free health screenings.

Pastor Retires After 50 Years in Ministry

Orlando Moncrieffe (pictured with his wife, Maureen) recently celebrated his retirement from active ministry at the University Heights church in Somerset, N.J. He pastored there for three years, totaling 14 years of ministry at the Allegheny East Conference.

For more than 50 years, Moncrieffe has pastored 53



congregations, five of them in New Jersey: First church in Teaneck; Muungano church in Jersey City; New Maranatha Karibu church in Jersey City; Community Company in Brunswick; and University Heights.

Moncrieffe not only served in pastoral ministry, but devoted 25 years of service to Adventist higher education. He served at West Indies College (Jamaica), Caribbean Union College (Trinidad and Tobago) and Atlantic Union College (Mass.), where he held positions of professor of religion; chair of the Religion Department; assistant college church pastor; director of Religious Affairs; vice president for Student Services and Enrollment Management; vice president for Student Development and Services; and vice president for Academic Administration. He also served on the Board of Governors for all three colleges.

"I find great satisfaction in thinking of the many students I have taught and guided," says Moncrieffe, "and the thousands of members whom I have nurtured spiritually over these 51 years. I know that I will continue to use the gifts and competences with which God has endowed me to serve Him."



Church Hosts Service on the Lawn

The Breath of Life church (BOL) in Fort Washington, Md., recently hosted its first "Church on the Lawn" experience right outside their church building. Close to 500 people attended the service, including several community members.

Chivon Jakes, Relationship Ministries leader for BOL, always dreamed of having a low-key, traditional worship service in a nontraditional setting. She shared her idea with Pastor Pierre Quinn, who loved her concept and spoke with the other church ministry leaders. They quickly jumped on board.

Coordinators set up a tent on the side lawn of the church. Inside, water stations graced each corner to keep attendees well-hydrated. Quinn delivered the message, and when he made a call for baptism, four individuals took their stand to follow Christ.

They were led to a free-standing pool right outside the tent, where friends and family gathered to sing and offer support.
 Pastor Pierre Quinn from the Breath of Life church, along with elders Doug Robin and Justin Demps, baptize Jackie Johnson during "Church on the Lawn."

looking to not just do this annually, but maybe two or three times a year," says Jakes.

"[Church on the Lawn] was such a success! We are

1,900 Pathfinders Attend International Camporee

A llegheny East Conference (AEC) Pathfinders and staff made up more than 1,900 of some 55,000 who recently attended the International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis.

At the six-day event, Patrick Graham, AEC youth director, baptized 22 AEC Pathfinders. "I recognize that Pathfinders is one of the greatest ministries to aid in kingdom building," he says.



Patrick Graham, Allegheny East Conference youth director, baptizes Ozioma Erdondu, a Pathfinder from the Maranatha Adventist Fellowship church.



On the closing Sabbath, several AEC clubs were among the 13,309 who wore blue hazmat suits, and stood in position to form the largest human cross, successfully breaking a Guinness World Record.

"It was a powerful reminder that just like the largest human cross experience brought us together at Oshkosh, it's the cross of Jesus that draws all people to Him, and it will be that same cross that keeps us all connected," reflects Moses Njugana, pastor of the New Maranatha Karibu church in Jersey City, N.J.

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98-Year-Old Woman Pioneers Feeding Ministry

On an early morning in Cleveland, Alice Mae Jones (pictured) begins her drive to the nearby Salvation Army in search of bread. After collecting several loaves, she returns home to wrap the slices and sets some aside to help church members in need. She saves the rest for the hungry in her community. In her neighborhood, she offers prayer, encouragement and Bible studies.

Jones, a second generation Seventh-day Adventist, has been active in ministry in Northern Ohio since moving to Cleveland in 1946. Armed with loaves of bread and her Bible, this one-woman feeding ministry has impacted the lives of many in her community.

"We need to show people love, that's it. They just want to know that somebody cares about them; that somebody loves them," says Jones.

A pioneer in Prison Ministries and Health Ministries, a deaconess, choir member and Sabbath School teacher at the Glenville Present Truth church in Cleveland, Jones has been active and thoroughly engaged in practically every ministry. At age 98, she still drives unassisted, leads Bible studies, feeds the



hungry and regularly visits the local prison.

She attributes her longevity and vitality to a steadfast faith in God and a disciplined lifestyle. "We don't teach our young people to have love for one another," Jones says. "I'm always ... trying to learn new ways to teach, reach and love people."

Beacon of Hope Young Adults Give of Themselves

The Beacon of Hope church in Columbus, Ohio, recently opened its doors to the public during its first-ever Community Giveaway. The event was the first young adult initiative organized by John Coaxum and Max Gomez, associate pastors at Beacon of Hope.

Young adults (including member Geoff Green, pictured) distributed new and gently used goods such as clothing, appliances, toys and food items to more than 120 families.



"This was a great initiative for those who gave as well as those who received. ... Hopefully it has opened the door for us to have a greater interaction with our community," said Joel Johnson, senior pastor. "Our church serves as the primary Adventist presence in the Southeastern quadrant of Columbus, so I'm grateful that God has blessed us with this opportunity to serve our community."

Volunteers from several Columbus-area churches spent the days leading up to the event sorting and organizing the many items to be distributed.

"We want to create ... a 'Servolution,' where we are recklessly and unapologetically giving to people, serving people and being the hands and feet of Jesus at all times. ... We can stay in touch with these families and reach out to them with invitations to future giveaways," says Gomez.

He adds, "Pastor Coaxum ... ended [the day] with an appeal to follow Jesus. ... Food will go bad, toys and appliances will break, but the word of God is forever. That's the message that we ultimately wanted them to walk away with today."



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Spirit is published in the Visitor by the Allegheny West Conference = 1080 Kingsmill Parkway, Columbus, OH 43229 Phone: (614) 252-5271 = awconf.org = President, William T. Cox Sr. = Communication Director, Benia Jennings



Generous Hearts

e who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully" (2 Cor. 9:6, NKJV). While we often reference this passage in the context of financial giving, it speaks to a larger principle in our lives—we reap what we sow.

We all can choose to live generous lives in how we relate to both ourselves and others. Generosity is a gift that not only affects those around us, but impacts how we think about ourselves. "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23:7, NKJV). By cultivating a generous attitude, we ourselves can experience greater joy and contentment. It causes us to acknowledge that we can give to others out of the abundance of blessings we ourselves enjoy.

Of course, we first think of money when we talk about generosity. But there are many ways we can exercise this gift. Our thoughts are the source of everything we do. Before we jump to critical or judgmental conclusions about someone, what would it mean for us to think of others in a generous way? Can we allow others the same courtesies we ourselves would want?

The words we speak can be generously filled with encouragement and affirmation, while avoiding flattery or sarcasm. "The spirit of liberality is the spirit of heaven" (Ellen White, *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 14). We can enjoy and share a bit of heaven on earth by the spirit and words we convey to others.

Taking time to act with kindness and being willing to serve others demonstrates generosity. We all have been the recipient of undeserved grace and blessings from God. As a result, let our generous hearts overflow with thoughts, words and acts of grace toward others.



Rick Remmers President

Capital Brazilian Celebrates 20 Years of Ministry

Recently the Capital Brazilian Temple in Highland, Md., celebrated their 20-year anniversary, themed "And the Story Goes On." Over the weekend, the congregation gave praises and thanksgiving to the Lord in recognition of all His blessings and guidance. Seven Pathfinders decided to be baptized during this momentous celebration as a result of recent Pathfinder club Bible studies.

Capital Brazilian began in 1998 with the vision of serving the Portuguese-speaking community in the



Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Initially, a small group met in a member's home, and in June 1999, they were formally recognized as a Seventh-day Adventist congregation.

During the commemorative worship service this year, Rick Remmers, president of the Chesapeake Conference, remarked on Capital Brazilian's significant ministry and relevance in the community: "We are told to remember the acts of God on our behalf, and so today you come together to remember how God has worked over these past 20 years."

Jimmy Cardoso, former pastor of Capital Brazilian, shared a message, reminding attendees that the work God did through Elijah can still take place today through willing vessels.

"It was a wonderful time and opportunity for all of us to recall and remember the history of our church since its beginning," says Sandro Braun, pastor of Capital Brazilian, "and to see the hand of God working with us and through us during all these years."

Grow'n Praise children's choir commemorates the 20-year anniversary of the Capital Brazilian Temple in song.



Youth Outreach Program Makes Community Impact

F ifty-five teenagers spanning seven states came together in July for a week of My City My Passion, a local mission trip experience for young people, hosted by the Ellicott City (Md.) church. This program provided an opportunity for youth to train in leadership and discipleship, as well as serve the community through acts of compassion and community service.

Throughout the week, the group visited many Ellicott City neighborhoods, going door to door distributing tracts and Bible studies and also extending invitations to Vacation Bible School. "My City My Passion has four objectives: leadership, the kids having fun, character development and service," says Paulo Macena, lead pastor of the Ellicott City church. The program also partnered with The 6th Branch, a veteran-led nonprofit that helps transform vacant lots in Baltimore City into new and vital community green spaces.

"We are grateful for My City My Passion and all the volunteers," says Scott Goldman, executive director of The 6th Branch. "Duncan Street Miracle Garden ... was a vacant lot until neighbors ... came together to build this." The collaborative efforts resulted in this Southeast Baltimore community



Youth pick up debris from the streets of Baltimore.

garden being cleaned, expanded and renewed. Claudia Walcott, a Baltimore City resident,

witnessed the youth picking up debris in her neighborhood and remarked on their positive impact and shared appreciation for their efforts. "This is wonderful. It's uplifting ... like a healing balm," she said.

Students Enriched by Education Tour to Europe

arlier this year, 14 students and eight chaperones took an education tour to Europe.

"The educational study tour is designed to give students opportunities to be exposed to other cultures, to make education come alive" says Janesta Walker, Superintendent of Schools for Chesapeake.

This tour, coordinated by the Chesapeake



Conference Education Department, made it possible for Chesapeake students to explore landmarks in the British Isles, Dublin, Belfast, Edinburgh, London and Paris. The group explored cities, museums and historic sites, including the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral and Buckingham Palace.

"My favorite part of the trip was visiting Paris and taking the trains and metros," says Sammy Davis, a junior at Spencerville Adventist Academy (Md.).

As one of many real-life experiences during their travels, each student had the opportunity to sign the Peace Wall in Belfast, Ireland (pictured), and read messages written over the years.

"This trip is the most awesome experience for kids to see the things they read about in school. ... You learn more when you are doing things and experiencing them," says Walker.

On the upcoming "The Splendors of the Mediterranean," education tour in summer 2020, students will visit sites throughout Italy and Greece. Students in grades 8–12 are welcome, whether or not they attend an Adventist school.

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Castro Sisters Tell the World

W ith a smile on their faces and the joy of a new day, the Castro sisters regularly go to their friends and acquaintances' homes to give Bible studies. At an early age, Kimberly (13), Mitzy (12) and Destiny Castro (10) developed a love for Christ and His mission. They learned about the great love Jesus has for them, and their deep desire to share Jesus and their conviction of His soon return led them to offer Bible studies to their close friends.

When Destiny was asked about her motivation for giving Bible studies, she said, "Well, Jesus is coming soon, and I want to prepare others so they have a chance to go to heaven too." Destiny wants to be a missionary when she grows up; however, it is clear, that she is already a missionary by the work that she is doing in Moorefield, W.Va.

As members of the Moorefield (W.Va.) Hispanic company, the Castro family is passionate about sharing their love for Jesus. In fact, prior to the three Castro children getting baptized, their parents played an active role in the church by helping people and inviting community members to church. The girls witnessed this, and it became ingrained in their DNA.

As young people, they have had to deal with great adversity. They could have used this as an excuse to leave the church or to not serve God. Yet, the medical, financial and other challenges they have gone through have allowed them to put their trust in the Lord and rely totally on Him for everything.

They have experienced God's love firsthand, and they want others to experience Him as well. Thus, they are not afraid of sharing their faith with their friends. Kimberly gave Bible studies to her friend who is 14, only a year older than she, and Destiny gave Bible studies to a friend her age. As a result, the friends decided to get baptized during a church retreat in July.

Their friends' decisions to follow Jesus have sparked a greater desire to teach others. Each sister



Young people Kelvin Martinez, Mitzy Castro, Kimberly Castro, Pedro Mucu and Destiny Castro study "Le Fe de Jesús" (The Faith of Jesus) Bible lessons together.

studies the Bible with three of their friends each week. Two of the friends who are currently studying with them have decided to follow Jesus and want to be baptized soon. God has been blessing the sisters' desire to make Him known to their friends.

Kimberly recognizes that God has a plan for everyone when she stated: "I think God has a purpose for everyone, and He has a purpose for me, and He is using me as His instrument."—*Walter Cardenas, associate ministerial director/youth director/Hispanic Ministries coordinator*

VIEWPOINT

God's Closet Bulges at the Seams

ooking for ways to meet the needs in their community, especially the needs of young parents, Becca Jacko, a member of the Elkins (W.Va.) church, started volunteering at God's Closet, a nonprofit, Adventist organization that invites the community to "shop" for donated children's clothing.

Upon arrival, shoppers fill out a registration form where they can also request Bible studies, among other things—and an interest survey, which provides valuable information that helps the church to see other ministry opportunities in the community.

God's Closet opens their doors every three months so families can return to restock on children's clothing. Volunteer days are also offered in which community and church members help sort and size clothing. When this ministry first launched in August 2018, more than 180 people came to shop. Their latest event brought more than 360 individuals. In fact, the project has taken off so drastically that it has outgrown its space, and the church is looking forward to the completion of Highland Adventist Academy's gymnasium in Elkins so they can hold their outreach ministry there.

"God's Closet is a practical way to reach out to our community and meet real needs. The response has



Dozens of shoppers line up outside the God's Closet registration area nearly an hour before the doors open.



Families are very excited to receive the clean and ready-to-wear clothing for their children.

been overwhelming, and the people are truly grateful for this service," says Jacko, now the director of this program. "It is wonderful to see the faces of the children light up when they find something they want or need. This ministry can really be a springboard for other ministries. We've had dozens of Bible study requests, which is very exciting!"

The sentiment from the community has been very positive. One shopper stated, "Such a blessing God's Closet is! Such kind people who really show the love of God and are there to help one another! Thank you for everything we have received!" Another commented, "My son loves his clothes, and they were all clean and in great condition. Thank you for having such a wonderful thing for this community!" Furthermore, a woman agreed, "God's Closet is such a blessing for people who are in need."

Jacko says, "There is so much potential with this ministry. It's been such a huge blessing to be a part of this! It is loads of work, but very worth it when folks come in and are so grateful for the service."

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N EW JERSEY

Planning for Your Future

Cor breathtaking pictures of landscapes or animals. A new calendar just begs me to add meetings, birthdays, church activities, vacations and other important events to its empty pages. It sits waiting for me to plan my life and record those plans in all the right places.

More than just vacations and meetings must be planned. Giving must also be planned. Paul counseled the Corinthians to plan their gifts so that they would be ready when he came (1 Cor. 16:2). As we follow that counsel, tithe and offerings become a regular habit, occurring almost without planning. But larger gifts need more thought and planning. Funding for building projects for churches and schools requires planning on the part

of members and constituents. Good stewardship involves individual planning of gifts that support both the operations and the capital projects of the different levels of our world church.

The Planned Giving Department offers help to members as we plan for the orderly transfer of what is owned at the end of our earthly lives. Department personnel provide information to help individuals make appropriate choices about the documents that facilitate this transfer. Writing a will is one way to help ensure that a lifetime pattern of giving to God's church continues after we pass away.

The next time we're filling up a new calendar with birthdays, anniversaries and vacations, let's make sure we plan the most important piece of our lives—our gifts to the Lord.



Karen Senecal Treasurer

Planificando para el Futuro

os calendarios me facinan. Vienen en todas las formas y tamaños, llenas de citas inspiradoras, bromas humorísticas o imágenes impresionantes de paisajes o animales. Un nuevo calendario simplemente me motiva a que agregue compromisos, reuniones, cumpleaños, actividades de la iglesia, vacaciones y otros eventos importantes a sus páginas vacías. Con el calendario en mano logro planificar mi vida y así voy escribiendo esos planes en todos los lugares correctos.

Además de planear vacaciones y reuniones. El Dar también debe ser planeado. Pablo aconsejó a los corintios que planificaran sus dones para que estuvieran listos cuando él viniera (1 Cor. 16: 2). A medida que seguimos ese consejo, el diezmo y las ofrendas se convierten en un hábito regular, que ocurre casi sin planificación. Pero los regalos más grandes necesitan más reflexión y planificación. La financiación para proyectos de construcción de iglesias y escuelas requiere una planificación por parte de los miembros y constituyentes. La bue-



na administración implica la planificación individual de donaciones que apoyan tanto las operaciones como los proyectos misioneros de los diferentes niveles de nuestra iglesia mundial.

El Departamento de Mayordomía y de Fideicomiso, constantemente Planifican y ofrecen ayuda a los miembros mientras planifican la transferencia ordenada de lo que se posee al final de nuestras vidas terrenales. El personal del departamento proporciona información para ayudar a las personas a tomar las decisiones apropiadas sobre los documentos que facilitan esta transferencia. Escribir un testamento es una manera de ayudar a asegurar que un patrón de donaciones a la iglesia de Dios continúe después de que fallezcamos.—*Karen Senecal*



Conference Leaders Visit Trenton City Officials

The New Jersey Conference (NJC) headquarters have been stationed in Trenton for more than 100 years. Since its inception, the city has drastically changed, and so have the challenges.

Earlier this year, administrators from the NJC and leaders from Adventist Community Services (ACS) met Reed Gusciora, the mayor of Trenton, to discuss how the Seventh-day Adventist Church can be of service to the city. ACS members shared how they have recently served 400 families while NJC administrators explained the message and purpose of the Adventist Church, and offered to help the mayor's administration in any way possible.

Gusciora explained the pressing social challenges in which he is currently in need of assistance: community mentoring educational programs to prevent teenagers' involvement in gangs; Board of Education after-school programs and sports and special skills training; and shelters for women and homeless people.

Prior to praying with Gisciora and his team, Jorge Aguero, NJC president, offered the service of 16,000 members to help with the programs because "Jesus came with compassion for all cities."



New Jersey Conference (NJC) leaders meet City of Trenton, N.J., officials: (left to right) Ismael Nunez, Newark Spanish church pastor; Adam Cruz, Trenton business administrator; Karen Senecal, NJC treasurer; Jorge Aguero, NJC president; Reed Gusciora, Trenton mayor; Mario Thorp, NJC executive secretary; Abdiel Hernandez, Trenton Spanish church pastor; Mike Gill, Adventist Community Services (ACS) director; and Eileen Gill, ACS assistant.

I've Been Chosen by God

ave you ever waited in excitement and anticipation for a special occasion to arrive? I waited 30 years to return to a Pathfinder camporee. In 1989, "The Friendship Camporee," proudly sponsored by the Columbia Union Conference, embraced 14,000 attendees. To my surprise, 30 years later, I joined more than 57,000 Pathfinders, leaders and volunteers at the 2019



"Chosen" International Pathfinder Camporee.

The week, packed with many activities, honors and presentations, also included kids and kid-like adults who traded pins with such passion. On Sabbath, with every bit of emotion running through our veins, we watched when David, in the play, was crowned king.

My highlight, however, was to see 18 baptisms from the New Jersey Conference (NJC) from a total of 1,300.

On top of the baptisms, Rowena Bishop from the First Filipino church in Plainfield, N.J., and Cinthia Portanova, NJC Youth Department administrative assistant, were inducted as Pathfinder Master Guides.

The camporee reminded me that we have been "chosen" by God, and all we need to do is to choose Him as our Savior. I can still hear the crowd singing the theme song, "Chosen," which calls us to bring God's light to the world.

The countdown has begun for the next 2024 "Believe in the Promise" camporee. But I mostly find myself counting down the days of Jesus' soon return, because I believe, most of all, in *that* promise.—*Sarah Capeles Frodelly*

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Hispanic Youth Camp Attracts More Than 300

More than 300 young people from Hispanic churches across Ohio came together for the 2019 Hispanic Youth Camp earlier this year. Themed "El Viene Por Mi" (He is Coming for Me), they met at the Indian Trail Campground in New London.

Pastor Benjamín Carballo, former youth director for the Inter-American Division, was the main speaker and musician for the meetings. "Energy and excitement from the beginning until the end characterized this unique youth camp," says Peter Simpson, Hispanic Ministries coordinator for the Ohio Conference.

According to Simpson, after a powerful and challenging sermon Friday evening, the sky was awash with fireworks. Attendees formed a huge circle around a large campfire, "where everyone deposited their prayer requests while songs and prayers rose to heaven.

... Many of our young people felt this was the most emotional opening night they ever experienced during a youth camp," he says.

On Sabbath "two precious souls gave their lives to Jesus through baptism," shares Simpson. Throughout the rest of that day, young adults representing various churches and districts shared their talents in music, drama and had Bible challenges. Many parents and local church leaders attended the afternoon session to encourage and support their young people while enjoying the extraordinary program.

Edward Marton, Ohio Conference youth director, came to congratulate Hispanic youth and to assist in a special ceremony recognizing program participants



Pastor Benjamín Carballo, former youth director for the Inter-American Division, speaks about God's love to hundreds of Hispanic young people.

and winners. Pastors Enmanuel Freites and Albert Perez, both Hispanic youth coordinators and youth camp organizers, presented Marton with a medal of recognition.

"Our church is definitely growing young," says Simpson. "Every year we not only have more young people coming to these types of events, but more of them are involved in church activities and mission. We praise the name of the Lord for this unique and outstanding youth camp."



More than 300 young people, representing every Ohio Conference Hispanic church, attend the 2019 Hispanic Youth Camp.

Conference Sells Mount Vernon Property

arlier this summer, the Ohio Conference closed on the sale of their former office and two adjoining houses.

"We are praising the Lord," says Ron Halvorsen Jr., Ohio Conference president. "This has been an answer to prayer," he says.

Constituents voted an action at the 42nd Regular Constituency Meeting on May 6, 2018, which authorized conference officers, working in concert with both the finance and executive committees, to discontinue use of the Mount Vernon office and to list and sell the property. In June 2019, both the conference finance and executive committees discussed, prayed



over and voted in favor of the purchase agreement.

"The conference typically spent over \$60,000 annually to operate the conference office in Mount Vernon, which increased each year due to the age of the building," explains Halvorsen. "Money which could potentially be used toward helping Ohio Conference churches and schools expand their mission and ministry in local communities. Funds which could be used for making and training disciples through 'Disciple Ohio,' a growing conference ministry initiative."

Roy Simpson, interim treasurer, coordinated the exit strategy for the remaining items at the former office, moving them on August 8, 2019, to the current Ohio Conference office in the Dayton area.

"This has been a long journey. We see God's hand in this," shares Halvorsen.

With current headquarters in Dayton—after receiving a \$3.2 million office building as a gift—the Ohio Conference continues to operate 100 diverse congregations, 11 schools, multiple community service centers and has more than 12,000 members.

The former Ohio Conference office and adjoining properties located in Mount Vernon were sold for \$450,000 to an area businessman.

Centerville Members Dash for 10,000 Miles

Joel Greve, the youth pastor at the Centerville church, recently challenged members (some pictured) to take part in a "40-Day Dash." The goal? To walk or run at least one mile a day for 40 days.

The idea behind "the dash was to get people out and moving, ideally with family or friends," explains Greve. The rules were simple: It had to be an intentional mile. They could not use accumulated steps from throughout the day.

Greve says, "We had 110 people sign up and participate. Mostly from the Centerville church, but there were some that signed up from other places when they saw my post on Facebook or heard about the dash from their family or friends." Greve created a Facebook group where people could encourage each other, post pictures and share their accomplishments along the way.

By the end of the dash, the first-place winner finished with 304 miles; second place with 197 miles; and third place with 189 miles. "The group did just over 10,000 miles, which is an average of 91 miles per person for the 40 days," said Greve. The most important thing is that "many of those who participated are continuing to be active."



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Spiritual Power

As the evangelist preached to the crowd gathered at a stadium in Africa, a spiritual battle was raging behind the Stage platform. A woman was writhing, kicking and foaming at the mouth. Her deep, gruff voice sent shivers up my spine as I and others prayed for her to be freed from tormenting demons. Through prayer in the name of Jesus, a peaceful calm ultimately swept over her, and she left that night free and happy.

While it is often less obvious, the unseen spiritual battle surrounding us is no less real. Invisible evil forces are constantly at work, leaving a wake of misery and destruction. How are we then, as weak humans, to contend with these powerful supernatural beings?

The only invincible weapon in this cosmic conflict is prayer. "There is a mighty power in prayer. Our great adversary is constantly seeking to keep the troubled soul away from God. An appeal to heaven by the humblest saint is more to be dreaded by Satan than the decrees of cabinets or the mandates of kings" (Ellen White, *Prayer*, p. 267).

Because a praying church is a powerful church, one of our mission strategies this quinquennium is to enlist all our members in intercessory prayer. I invite you to pray daily with me for the growth of God's kingdom in Pennsylvania. As Faith for Family evangelistic meetings and Bible studies are happening, intense spiritual battles are being waged. And just like behind a stage in Africa, your prayers in the name of Jesus are needed to free the suffering captives. United together in prayer, we will fulfill the mission!



Gary Gibbs President

A Son's Prayers Answered

Barbara Spessard has been intermittently around Seventh-day Adventists for most of her life. Her in-laws, Roy and Mabel Hade, shared biblical truths from an Adventist's perspective nearly 50 years ago. Velora Gunder, a member of the Waynesboro (Pa.) church, shared Bible studies with Spessard a number of years ago. More recently, Chris Trent, a Bible instructor for the Waynesboro church, studied with her. She attended Sabbath vespers and Sabbath School.

When Tony Hade, Roy and Mabel's grandson, got baptized, Spessard attended her son's baptism at the Albemarle (N.C.) church and found Adventists to be friendly people. Tony joined the Adventist Church at age 38. Although he prayed that his mother would become an Adventist throughout his Christian life, it was not until last year that his prayers intensified, as he added her name to an "Operation Andrew" card that a Bible instructor provided.

Tony prayed faithfully for 15 years, along with his grandparents. This year Tony saw God answer those prayers, as Spessard became a member of the Waynesboro church through baptism. "I feel like Jesus was by my side, and He was there for me!" Spessard told her pastor Preston Monterrey. "I have learned about the Bible with Adventists more than what I have learned all my Christian life combined."



Barbara Spessard is now a member of the Waynesboro church, in large part due to her son Tony Hade's relent-less prayers for 15 years.



Prayer Walking the City

For weeks we prayer-walked around the 10-story Carnegie Towers, praying for God to open windows of opportunity to reach those living within its towering walls. The towers symbolized so much of what we had observed here—addiction, poverty and crime. But how could we reach their hearts when we couldn't even get into the building?

And then, one evening it happened—a literal window opened. As we prayed our way around the building, a voice from above said, "Hello!"

Gazing upward, a young woman's head protruded out of a window on the 10th floor! "Hello to you," I responded. And then began a several minute, 10-story conversation that ended with me offering, "Could I pray for you?"

She replied, "Please pray for my family. All our men are in jail." And so, I did. Standing in the parking lot, gazing up into her face, I offered a heartfelt prayer for her family—after which, I never saw her again.

But that doesn't mean God was not working. Just a few weeks ago, as I prepared to lead our Sabbath teaching, I looked around the room and realized there were five men, women and youth from the 10th floor eagerly waiting to hear what God had to say to them!



Two are baptized members, others are learning. A woman from a floor or two down was present. Children from other floors went to Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter this summer. Several attend our weekly discipleship camp. God has answered our prayers!

Prayer walking is one of many ways to partner with Jesus to reach your community. I encourage you to begin this powerful practice in your neighborhood— and then watch what God does for you!—John Kent

Ways to Pray for Your Community

S pend a Sabbath afternoon covering your community in prayer:

Create doorhangers that you can leave on every door, letting your neighbors know you prayed for them while they were gone. Include your contact



info and a reply slip they can return with specific requests or to request info/studies.

- Pray together as a group before going out for those you'll meet and for yourselves.
- Pray together in teams as you walk through the neighborhoods, praying for the salvation of those living in the homes you pass, for healing, for the Holy Spirit to attract people and give them a desire to know more and be open to an invitation to attend church, etc.
- Knock on doors and let them know, "We're from the church down the street. We're out praying for our neighbors. Can we pray for and with you? What can we pray about?" Pray with them. Send a postcard or visit again later to remind them that you are continuing to pray.
- Those who cannot walk through the community can remain in the church and pray for those prayer walking and the connections made as they talk to people and pray with them.

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Potomac People growing healthy,

disciple-making churches

Jose Vazquez Named VP for Administration

ose Vazquez, formerly the pastor of the Fredericksburg (Va.) church, recently accepted the position of Potomac's vice president for administration.

Vazquez (pictured with his wife, Sonia) joined the conference as a pastor in 2014. He previously served in both the Central California and Indiana conferences. While in Indiana, he also served as the conference's director for community services.

Before becoming involved in full-time ministry, Vazguez worked in the business sector for the vice president of a manufacturing company. Fluent in Spanish and English, he also served as the director of an ESL program for the Wawasee School Corporation (Ind.).

"The Potomac Conference is blessed to have Jose Vazquez accept this call," says Bill Miller, president. "As he was vetted and interviewed, we felt God was leading us to consider him for this position. There are many key elements that make him well-suited for this role-his prayer journey; business background; the knowledge he brings from his various church and employment experiences; and the health and growth of his present



congregation. He is a great addition to the Potomac administrative team."

Vazquez says he and his wife are humbled by the invitation to serve in this new capacity. "We are confident that God has been leading us to this point and that He will continue to do so," he states.

Vacation Bible School Revives Church

Control Con Rellowship (Md.) church felt a burden to start a Children's Ministries program after a long hiatus. They took a leap of faith and spearheaded a Kids' Cooking Class/Vacation Bible School event. What seemed like a



Nearly 30 kids not affiliated with the Damascus Grace Fellowship church attend its Kids' Cooking Class/VBS.

"meager effort" to members turned into a faith adventure with a huge reward.

Nearly 30 kids from 16 families not affiliated with Damascus Grace Fellowship attended the event. "We decided it was high time to take this venture on-we had let too many years go by," explains Bonnie Wilbur, a member. "We did not have all the pieces together, but God brought us two young, enthusiastic Bible workers who held those final pieces that we needed."

Wilbur says having the Bible workers present was as big of a blessing as it was a surprise. "A member from another church reached out to us," explains Wilbur. "He had sponsored a young woman in a program and knew she was free to do Bible work. He knew we were a small church, and he thought we could use the help."

Wilbur says the church now feels a sense of revival. "We got people in the doors who have never been to our church," she says. "For those of us who helped coordinate, we felt blessed to be a part of something that was clearly impacting others. We felt like the Lord blessed our meager efforts and completed what we couldn't. We plan to do more soon!"

PotomacPeople

Sligo's Ministry Lifts Broken Hearts

A plethora of thoughts swarmed around in her head as she entered the church for the first time after her husband's funeral. Charlotte Conway and her husband, Bob, had been members of the Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., for 37 years—but now things were different.

The familiar sense of belonging she embraced every time she walked into the massive edifice to worship was replaced with uncomfortable feelings of loneliness and uncertainty. Conway remembers sitting on "their pew" in "their spot" with tears flowing. Should she stay, or should she go home? The grief was overwhelming.

That was seven years ago. Conway says she's coping better now, thanks to HeartLifters, a growing ministry at Sligo that embraces surviving spouses and those who have spouses with dementia. HeartLifters began two years ago with a simple conversation.

"Three of us in the church office realized that we had one thing in common—we all had lost our husbands. Two from cancer and one from Alzheimer's," explains Conway. "We had mutually experienced the loneliness of attending church without your spouse and the absence of socializing with your couple friends. So we decided to do something. We didn't want to start a bereavement ministry—we wanted to bring hope, joy and love through a sympathetic ministry of compassion."

Now about 120 members participate in HeartLifters. "We visit homebound members, send cards, host a weekly prayer line, attend year-round social events and participate in life-enhancing workshops," shares





Members and supporters of Sligo's HeartLifters, including Charlotte Conway (center), gather at the church's 10th Annual Homecoming celebration to share their ministry of hope and healing with visitors.

Conway." Sligo's Youth and Young Adult Ministries team also participates in HeartLifters on Helping Day—a day young people step in to assist a HeartLifter with tasks in their homes.

The HeartLifters Ministry has had a palpable impact. "My back would be so painful that I couldn't go to church," says member Elaine LaBastide, who lost her husband, "but when I attended HeartLifters, my pain subsided." Another member, Ruth Larsen, thanked the group for remembering her on Valentine's Day. "It was the first Valentine's card I had received since my husband's death," she says.

Conway says she sees HeartLifters filling a real need to help those who are lonely in the church. "Loneliness is one of the major problems of the world that has not been addressed. That's particularly true in the United States. Aging alone is fearful, as well."

February 29, 2020, has been designated as HeartLifters Day at Sligo. Mike Tucker, speaker/director from Faith for Today, will share his heartbreaking story of losing his spouse. He will be preaching for both worship services and presenting to the HeartLifters in the afternoon.

The group hopes the ministry will be a blessing to many across North America. For more information, visit HeartLifters.org.

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Professional Preparation Key for Faculty and Staff

Not every principal is willing to use unusual object lessons to help teachers prepare for the school year. But Harry Janetzko, the new Highland View Academy (HVA) principal, did just that during the recent Chesapeake Conference pre-session meetings.

As teachers, principals and pastors looked on, Janetzko had a large cooler of cold water poured on him, demonstrating how God wants to pour out the Holy Spirit on those who serve Him.

The conference-sponsored school pre-meetings featured a training session on the Kids in Discipleship curriculum. Don MacLafferty, the founder/executive director of Kids in Discipleship, taught the two-day class.

Janetzko believes the Adventist education system is a means to bring students closer to Jesus Christ each day. He is working with both faculty/staff and students to create a school atmosphere that focuses on peacemaking and positive conflict management.

Faculty are using materials authored by Ken Sande and Kevin Johnson on peaceful conflict management, which emphasize the 4 G's: Glorify God; Get the log out of your eye; Gently restore; and Go and be reconciled.

These four key principles, along with seven responses to conflict management, allow faculty and students to work together on peaceful solutions to common problems in a spiritual school setting. "As we learn to minister to one another, we are able to help others come closer to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit," says Janetzko.

This preparation before and during the first few weeks of school prepared each member of the youth evangelism team to work peacefully and effectively with the students. These principles allow HVA to minister to the surrounding community, too, in campus ministry outreach programs like FaithStep—a Sabbath morning breakfast program for the homeless; the Walk for Freedom; the 30-Hour Famine; the Community Children's Church; and by worshipping and witnessing in area churches with HVA's music



Harry Janetzo, HVA principal, surrenders himself to water to represent how God wants to pour out the Holy Spirit on those who serve Him.

groups, sports teams or Aerials gymnastic members. Join HVA for Academy Days, October 11–12, or for 2019 STEM FEST, October 13. For more information, please call (301) 739-8480, or visit highlandviewacademy.com.—Andrew Lay, Director of Development/ Alumni Coordinator

Calendar of Events

Highlander is published in the *Visitor* by the Highland View Academy = 10100 Academy Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740 Phone: (301) 739-8480 = Fax: (301) 733-4770 = highlandviewacademy.com = Principal, Harry Janetzko



EGACY

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF LAKE NELSON ADVENTIST ACADEMY

New Faculty Off to a Great Start!

ake Nelson Adventist Academy (LNAA) has been serving families for 60 years. As their student body continues to grow and develop, God has asked LNAA to step out in faith, strength and courage to fulfill His mission. This year LNAA welcomes some new faces and transitions within their faculty.



Kimberley Francis has been a teacher for seven years, six of them with LNAA. This year Francis transitioned to teach third grade and is leading the Harmony Choir. As a young child, she used to play "teacher" with her toys and would "teach them everything I learned that week, and

I just knew I wanted to be a teacher when I grew up!"

Lorell Morales joined the LNAA team as the P. E. teacher for grades K–12. Morales is excited to see her students learn and grow. She notes that "God works in mysterious ways" in bringing her to LNAA, and is fully committed to showing students the value of physical fitness.



Henoc Morrobel has been teaching in various Seventh-day Adventist schools in New York and New Jersey for the last 25 years. He is the full-time symphony orchestra conductor and the music theory and music history teacher. His first flute teacher, Pedro Sanchez,

inspired him to learn to love and respect music. He seeks to inspire his students in a similar way.



Christopher Elston-Hurdle joins the staff from the Pennsylvania Conference as the grades 7–8 Bible teacher and grades 9–12 social sciences teacher. Elston-Hurdle has drawn from his fond memories of watching Ken Burns' *The Civil War* in eighth grade at Loma Linda

Academy (Calif). Elston-Hurdle loves to learn about obscure Bible and historical figures and looks forward to telling stories of "people who make a positive impact on our world but who aren't lauded for their work" to students in grades 7–12.

Luis Lebron comes to us from the New Jersey Conference Treasury Department and is our new business manager. Lebron explains that he has seen the work of the Lord in his father, and, as a husband and father himself, prays to be able to help other families come to



Jesus through his ministry and financial work at the school.

Said Kas-Danouche is teaching several high school math and Spanish classes, along with a psychology elective. Although Kas-Danouche wanted to be an astronaut growing up, he has fulfilled his mission in the classroom for 31 years. He explains that Adventist education is key to our communications because it is "how kids and young people can have an encounter with the Lord Jesus while they get the academic skills."

LNAA praises God for bringing such a diverse staff and continues to depend on Him as the academy grows.

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Choir Records New Album Beams of Heaven

Early last spring, Pine Forge Academy (PFA) students, faculty and families celebrated a historic event years in the making. The choir, accompanied by Diallo Banks on piano; Russel Paul, using one of the oldest and largest organs in the Philadelphia area; and a full orchestra, recorded their most recent audio CD. The album features a myriad of musical selections, ranging from the classical period to gospel music.

It has been 12 years since the PFA choir produced *Rock in a Weary Land,* under the direction of Jason Ferdinand, the current director of the Oakwood University (Ala.) Aeolians and chair of Oakwood's Music Department. Ferdinand served as the PFA choir director from 2001–2008.

Jarrett Roseborough, the current PFA choir director, is "quite excited to present the work that was done on the recording to the world of music and those awaiting." He adds, "The students have worked hard to produce this, and I am sure that they will be proud of the mark that they have left on the reputation of musical excellence at Pine Forge Academy."

The spiritual growth and influence was felt throughout the PFA campus and community as they put hard work into the production. Lael Beckles ('22) remarks, "Being a part of this recording was such an honor. God really used this choir to minister to those in the audience. This recording really brought us together as a choir and helped us learn more about each other and God."

Morgan Harrell ('21) says, "Being a part of this project and the PFA choir is not only a privilege for me, but



Soloists Grace Williamson ('20), Zipporah Leonce ('22) and Raquelle Christian ('19) sing during a recording session for the choir's newest album release, as Jarrett Roseborough directs.

continues my family legacy, as my parents were also choir members." Mezzo 1 singer Noelle Martell ('20) adds, "It was exciting! We had a lot of practices, and it was hard work, but through this album we will minister to many people and touch many lives."

Choir students voted to name the album *Beams of Heaven,* as the title refers to one of the more moving and influential songs of the 2018–19 school year. The album was released in early September and is available on all major music streams and can also be ordered directly from Pine Forge Academy.—*Tracey Jackson*



The full choir sings at Girard College Chapel as they record Beams of Heaven.

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Students and Staff Reconnect With God, Each Other

The Spencerville Adventist Academy high school students started the school year off on a high spiritual note, spending a weekend contemplating how "man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Sam. 16:7, ESV). Students and staff spent the annual spiritual weekend, themed "In His Eyes," in nature at the Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md. Special guest David Franklin, pastor of the Miracle City church in Baltimore, used the story of Joseph to illustrate what it means to see ourselves as God does, not as the world does.

Senior Lindsey Gispert said the message was "very relatable. I appreciated his enthusiasm for God, and his words really struck a chord within me." Katelynn Atterberry, another senior, appreciated Franklin's personal testimony: "He said that even though he grew



Students participate in a team-building activity as they get to know one another and work together to accomplish the goal.



Seniors Lindsey Gispert, Zoe Jenkins, Thea Wangsness and Olivia Brown enjoy the nighttime hike together at their last spiritual retreat.

up in the church, the church wasn't in him." She felt challenged to make sure that she was following Jesus more fully.

Andrea Jakobsons, the youth pastor at the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., also challenged the attendees to consider Gideon's experience as a lesson on God's view of us.

Throughout the weekend, the schedule allowed for students to interact not only with God but with each other. Senior Kelly Bejarano said she was glad to be encouraged to be more social. "I was with so many wonderful people, and it was a real blessing to get to know so many new peers."

Rebecca Oliyide, a senior, enjoyed the various activities. "The spiritual retreat is a refreshing way to begin the school year because it reconnects everyone and starts the year off on a spiritual note," she explains. Referring to scheduled time alone with God and the Word, freshman Jonathan Moats states, "I know I need to spend time alone with God, but it's very difficult. This was one of the first times I've been able to actually sit down and be focused completely on Him. I really enjoyed it!"

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SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY... CONNECTONS INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

Right Place, Right Time

Ust when I thought we had completed the 2018–19 hiring process, an opportunity knocked that was too good to pass up. Our new full-time guidance counselor, Katrina Bennie (pictured with her girls Nora, left, and Violet), has worked 10 years at Redlands Adventist Academy (Calif.) as a teacher, guidance counselor and vice principal. She has a master's degree in school counselling, a doctorate in school administration and leadership and is a certified school psychologist, making her very qualified for this position. Bennie has a warm demeanor and exudes a passion for young people.

In our developing strategic plan, the cornerstone initiative is the implementation of a world-class guidance



, the cornerstone initiative is the implementation of a world-class guidance and advisement program that will help Spring Valley Academy (SVA) students achieve a deep understanding of themselves and a clear vision for their paths after graduation. With career options proliferating and college tuition skyrock-

eting, even top students often feel bewildered and angstridden over their futures. Therefore, we want to implement a process to help students step confidently into their futures as young adults. We were planning for someone to lead this initiative a year from now. It feels very providential that the person and the funding came to us a year ahead of schedule. Bennie arrived late September and has already begun working. Stay tuned for more information on what you can expect for your students from this new service at SVA.



Darren Wilkins Principal

Academy Welcomes New Staff



New staff members stand behind the "Come Unto Me" sculpture in the center of campus: (left to right) High school science teacher Dillon Zimmerman; grades 7–8 English language arts teacher Cornelia Scribner; grades 5–6 teacher Emily Cowell; kindergarten teacher Joy Leffers; grades 7–12 math and science teacher Aaron Knowlton; grades 5–6 teacher Karin Lebo; art teacher Beth Jeffers; and grades 3–4 teacher Althea Elliott

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Dorm Leaders Set Tone on Campus

n the Old Testament, God tells the leaders and priests that they set the tone for the morality of the nation. On Shenandoah Valley Academy's (SVA) campus, the resident assistants (RAs) are important student leaders who help set the tone and attitude for the whole student body through their ministry in the dormitories.

Hadley Hall and Phanstiel Hall are sisterhoods and brotherhoods where older student leaders learn to mentor and care for their peers. The deans not only rely on RAs for their work in running the dorms, but they challenge each of them to exemplify the Christian character SVA seeks to teach and role model for every student in all aspects of campus life.

As an important part of the SVA work program, RAs are tutors, provide emotional support and help students learn independence and self-motivation. By following dorm procedures and encouraging their fellow students to do the same, they support the deans and demonstrate that dorm life is fun, organized and works best when respect is shown to one another. RAs learn life skills like teamwork; being a leader among peers; holding peers accountable; critical thinking and problem solving; managing a facility; leading worship; planning events; and providing quality customer service.

As "Mrs. Knight"—dorm mom and Head Dean Ryan Knight's wife—the RAs always impress me. They are respectful, often help me personally and show concern for our family privacy. They love our two boys, Jackson and Jordan, play with them and take it upon themselves to watch out for them on campus. It is amazing to witness what happens when teenagers are given responsibility, rise to the challenge and develop into leaders who are capable of doing more than you or they realized.—Jaclyn Knight, Phanstiel Hall Dorm Mom



Meet the "Men of 'Stiel" Phanstiel Hall Resident Assistants and Deans: (front row, left to right) Nathanael Perez ('21), Asher Ardron ('21), Jeremy Bocala ('21); (second row) Gabriel Silva ('20), Kevin Ruiz ('21), Diego Vargas ('20), Luis Castellanos ('21); (third row) Benjamin Ngetich ('21), Kent Suddarth ('21), David Ortega ('21), Emmanuel Cruz ('20), Tyler Armstrong ('20); (fourth row) Assistant Dean Jordan McCullough, Head Dean Ryan Knight, Taskforce Dean Vernal Roseval



Meet the Hadley Hall "Grandest Club in all the World" Resident Assistants and Deans: (front row, left to right) Melanie Moraes ('20), Leah Shaw ('20); (second row) Abbie Tolbert ('20), Julianna Cuellar ('21), Olivia Sarmiento ('20); (third row) Ceiry Flores ('21), Katie Harter ('20), Giselle Villatoro ('20), Josselyn Villatoro ('20); (fourth row) Taskforce Dean Rachel Santana, Head Dean Stephanie Powell, Assistant Dean Rita Miller

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Campus Ambassadors Lead by Example

The Takoma Academy (TA) Ambassador program began in spring 2015. Carla Thrower, principal, envisioned a student leadership program that would create student ambassadors to represent the school. Thrower serves as the lead sponsor of the ambassadors, with the support of Kelli Collins, registrar, and Salena Featherstone, communication director.

The ambassadors are a diverse group of student leaders who are active on campus and/or in the community and are passionate about their TA experience. New ambassador Gabriel Morency ('22) says, "I look forward to being able to give back something to the school that has given so much to me. ... If I can give someone a positive first impression of TA, then I can bless them in a special way."

The ideal candidate represents the academy on campus as well as off campus in various churches, schools and venues across the region. These student leaders serve as mentors, campus tour guides and volunteers at TA events.

"Being an ambassador requires you to ... be able to adapt, grow and share. Leadership and perseverance



Ambassador and senior Kai Johnson (pictured, right) answers questions from prospective freshmen during Academy Day.

are two huge components," Kai Johnson ('20) shares. "You also learn social skills ... that can benefit me in my future when I go off to college or begin my career."

New HOSA Chapter Begins on Campus



For three years, Takoma Academy (TA) students have participated in the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) organization under the Washington Adventist University HOSA chapter, located in Takoma Park, Md. This year, under the leadership and sponsor of Yvette Weir (pictured), TA began its own chapter.

Weir is an alumna of Howard University College of Dentistry (Washington, D.C.) and led TA PIP (Parents in Prayer) while her daughter attended TA in 2015. Formerly a private practice owner and dental instructor, she is currently dental coaching, writing a book and mentoring young people.

HOSA's mission is to empower future health professionals to become leaders in the global health community through education, collaboration and experience. Students who petition to be placed on the medical track for a STEM-focused transcript and diploma are

encouraged to be members of HOSA. Coursework for these students includes biology, chemistry, anatomy and physiology and advanced placement biology. HOSA students will also be involved in leadership opportunities, clinical/research competitions, scholarships, attendance to conferences and service projects.

Weir shares, "I am excited about exposing a new cohort of STEM and science majors to the exciting world of health care with real-world exposure and application. I hope to have a robust HOSA club this year."

Correction: In the September *TA Today* newsletter, graduating senior Tylanni's last name was misspelled. The correct spelling is Tylanni Bartley. We regret this error.

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KETTERING COLLEGE



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Experience Kettering on November 15 & 16!

By Jessica Beans

On November 15-16, 2019, Kettering College is hosting a new event designed for prospective Seventh-day Adventist students to experience the many facets of life at Kettering College. During Experience Kettering, students will get a chance to explore Kettering College's campus, speak with admission counselors about their program of interest, connect with Kettering Adventist HealthCare managers about potential job opportunities, explore the Dayton area, and worship with us at the Kettering Adventist Church.

At this event, students will be able to talk to our admissions counselors about scholarship opportunities. Kettering College has increased the amount of scholarships awarded to Seventh-day Adventist students so eligible applicants can now potentially receive anywhere between 25-100% off of their tuition.

"We know that choosing which college to attend is a huge life decision and a major investment in your future," says Dean of Student Success Adam Brown. "We wanted to create an opportunity for students to experience our campus and to see what it might be like to pursue a career in a thriving, faith-based health care college and network that shares their passion for service."

As the educational institution of Kettering Adventist HealthCare, Kettering College specializes in health sciences and offers eight innovative health care programs. We've been placing our graduates in the most in-demand areas of health care for over 50 years and are passionate about educating our students to make service a life calling.

Any students interested in pursuing a health care degree on a Seventh-day Adventist campus should attend Experience Kettering to learn more about the degree opportunities and scholarships available.

Visit *kc.edu/experience* for more information and to register.





STEPS IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

I want to share some exciting academic news that I received on July 3rd of this year. The Maryland State Department of Education has approved our new M.Ed. School Counseling degree program! I am proud that WAU can offer a joint Psychology-Education Departmental degree that allows us to offer the best of both disciplines. This new M.Ed. program builds upon our M.A. Clinical Mental Health Counseling program that has been successfully launching graduates into the counseling profession since 2011. I have been told that our graduates have, on average, a 90% first time passing rate on the National Counseling Exam (NCE), and we have a 100% placement into the counseling profession.

What impresses me the most about the M.Ed. in School Counseling is the wide appeal it will have for school administrators, teachers, social workers, mental health counselors, special education teachers, or others interested in the social science profession who are seeking to make a career transition. This choice provides personal satisfaction for those who desire to work with young people in a school setting. Specifically, school counselors may offer psychological counseling, identify learning disabilities, assist in choosing potential career paths, serve as a liaison between the student and parent, improve student learning and teaching efficacy. School counselors play an important role in both private and public schools, but sadly there are not enough school counselors to adequately deal with the problems encountered by students.

The good news is WAU offers the flexibility of earning an accelerated degree by finishing in less than 2 years through our School of Graduate and Professional Studies (SGPS) while working full-time. This is a very attractive option for many people, and a great opportunity for those individuals who want a faith-based counseling program. We are told in Matthew 9:35-38 that teaching and healing are important avenues to reach people who are weary and have no life direction because they are in need of a compassionate counselor. The harvest is large and we need laborers who desire to reach those who are lonely, depressed, and filled with anxiety. Will you be the one to answer this call? I invite you to contact us and take up the challenge and meet our outstanding faculty who have the academic training, field experience, and are committed to our biblical message.

Finally, we are proud to report that we have seen another year of healthy enrollment for the university as a whole. In a look at our last three years, 2017's new student count was 198; 2018 was 301 and our preliminary numbers tell us that we are currently at 326 students for our 2019-2020 school year. We praise God that he has brought these new students to WAU's campus and we look forward to our journey towards ultimate student success.

This is Washington Adventist University!

Klynst

Weymouth Spence President

7600 Flower Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912 wau.edu



LEGACIES: IN GOD'S PERFECT TIMING Written by: Estephanie Sequeira

egacies are not meant to fade away, but to leave an everlasting impression in the world. As humans, we're left with two choices: To let the legacy slip away from our hands or to grasp it and take hold of it. If you choose to let it slip, perhaps your story can never be told. However, if you wish to grasp it, it will continue to live in the lives of many. In other words, your legacy is like a chain reaction; It naturally attracts someone to reciprocate the same kindness and love that you once shared.

Dr. Tony Daniels and Mrs. Joan Daniels, two alumni from Columbia Union College (before it was called Washington Adventist University), recently saw off their son, Avery Daniels, who enrolled to WAU this fall. The story traces back to Edessa Lois McGaddye, Mrs. Daniel's mother, who attended and graduated from CUC. For Mrs. McGaddye, Seventh-day Adventist education was a treasure, and she honored the Christian values. Embedded in her at a young age, she desired the same for future generations. Mrs. Daniels was inspired by her mother. From a young age, she would say to her mother that she always wanted to become a nurse. The ability to help others was a part of her dream. Mrs. Daniels relates that her mother was her true inspiration.

Mrs. Daniels enrolled to CUC in the fall of 1985, where she met her future husband, Dr. Daniels. In fact, the two met in Dr. Wasmer's Anatomy and Physiology class. Already, God was working in their lives. CUC not only enabled them to find their passion, in terms of careers, but they found each other. God knew that the fall of 1985 was the year they'd meet and hence, start a beautiful love story that continues to flourish today. All glory to God, they have been married for 29 years!

Dr. Daniels defined legacy as "leaving behind something worthwhile for those behind you." Additionally, Mrs. Daniels defined it as "the positive and spiritual impact that will take hold and live in the heart of others." They both mentioned that they felt that their legacy might not have been completed after leaving CUC, following graduation. After they both graduated, they remained in contact with a few friends, but did not keep a close connection with the institution. It seemed as if something



From left to right: Avery Daniels, Mrs. Daniels, Dr. Daniels, Tony II Daniels, and Austin Daniels.

was missing. Perhaps the puzzle pieces needed that one piece that would complete the final picture. However, when their son Avery Daniels enrolled this fall, they believed that he rekindled that legacy.

As one can imagine, it's every parents' joy to see their son or daughter embark to college. In this case, the parents were able to see their son enrolled in the institution they graduated from. Avery's parents described the registration process as a beautiful moment. They were able to reconnect with a few friends they had not seen for years! Their son Avery relates that he chose to attend WAU because he wanted to chase his dreams in basketball and study Health & Wellness Management.

Additionally, he wanted to attend a Seventh-day Adventist University. His high school was not a Seventh-day Adventist institution, and at times, there were conflicts with Friday night games. Although his coaches were able to work it out with him, it was difficult at times. Coming to Washington Adventist University is allowing him to chase his dreams in basketball, and to also honor the Sabbath--a day set aside by God--where one can come to worship Him either through worship, prayer, or study of His word.

Avery believes that his parents started the legacy and years later, he's coming back to a whole new generation to continue it; from his grandmother and up to his parents, the story continues. Leaving a mark for the Lord is the ultimate goal. Avery also relates that one thing that he truly learned and values from his parents is prayer–that the power of prayer is real. Mrs. Daniels also stated that she remains in touch with her prayer partner that she met in CUC. "God led me to my dear sister in Christ. That is something that I will never forget from CUC."

It's our human tendency to want to create our timeline. Although years have passed, and Dr. Daniels and Mrs. Daniels moved to a different state, God ultimately led their son to WAU in His timing. "It's like God led us back and the legacy continues," recalled the parents of Avery. Galatians 6:9 says, "Let us not become weary in doing good; for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." When God believes it's time for your flowers to bloom, it will happen. Not only will a few flowers bloom, but He has an entire garden for you. Your garden may require an ample amount of time for nourishment, yet that does not indicate that God has forgotten about you. When the time is right, He will open the gates to your garden and say the following: "Welcome, your time is here."

7600 Flower Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912 | wau.edu



Moments & Milestones

Have you noticed that our greetings in the morning are generally declarative -"Hello!" or "Good Morning!" – but our greetings at the end of the day are often questions - "How was your day?" or "What did you learn in school?" To this last set, I've noticed a new question: "Did you get your steps?"

These five words are prompted by a number of people who are using an app or device to count their steps to track goals reached, calories burned, weight lost, etc.

It's a new way of noticing moments that become the milestones of our lives.

I vividly remember when I received my MBA – a professional milestone that only happened because of thousands of moments or steps.

Last year I suddenly arrived at another milestone: 25 years in my healthcare career. Where did the years go? Moment by moment, step by step, eventually they led to a day I will always remember.

That's how things work, isn't it? Casual moments become intentional actions and result in purposeful decisions. You agree to participate in a new initiative, and the next thing you know you are helping plan the next steps, and eventually you find yourself taking leadership in an area where you have proven interests or strengths.

If you sit down with your daily agenda from years past, it is pretty easy to rediscover the moments that became milestones.

In just one phrase poet Emily Dickinson gets to the heart of it: "Forever is composed of nows." I think she is saying that every moment

matters. Every step is important in reaching the next milestone.

Did you get your steps?

Terry Forde President & CEO Adventist HealthCare



Growing our Mission through New Roles for Adventist HealthCare Leadership

To help us meet the challenges of an ever-changing healthcare landscape, Adventist HealthCare recently initiated key changes in several leadership roles as we expand our Mission to new areas. All three of the leaders below worship at Spencerville Church.



John Sackett is focusing on his systemwide leadership roles of Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Adventist HealthCare and recently transitioned out of his role as President of Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center. John leaves a six-year legacy of achievement at Shady Grove, where his performance improvement system now serves

as a model for Adventist HealthCare. He created a culture that has elevated Shady Grove's patient experience scores, quality measures and its reputation as a leader in our community's healthcare. John will now dedicate himself to our system strategies and operations, ensuring Adventist HealthCare is well positioned for the future.



Dan Cochran

proved to be a talented executive in his dual roles as Shady Grove's Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer. Since 2011, he managed the complexities of hospital finance and has been a stalwart supporter of Shady Grove's growth and patient experience initiatives. As Dan enters his

Dan Cochran is serving as the new President

of Shady Grove Medical Center. Previously, Dan

fourth decade in healthcare, we are blessed to have his blend of kindness and pragmatism to see us forward as we develop new business lines and improve operational and financial results.



Eunmee Shim will lead our latest expansion efforts as the new President of Adventist HealthCare Fort Washington Medical Center in addition to her current role as Senior Vice President of Ambulatory Networks and Chief Strategy Officer for Adventist HealthCare. Eunmee's experience, including overseeing the growth of our urgent care sites and integrating Shady Grove Radiology, will ensure a

Eunmee Shim

smooth transition. Under her previous leadership as Chief Operating Officer for Shady Grove Medical Center, the hospital achieved numerous awards for quality care and performance. Additionally, Eunmee improved our systemwide strategic planning processes and successfully led the rollout of our Baldrige initiative. With more than 30 years in healthcare, Eunmee will help Fort Washington meet the growing needs of the surrounding community.





Created by community grassroots efforts starting in the late 1970s, Fort Washington is a 37-bed acute care hospital in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Fort Washington Medical Center Joins Adventist HealthCare

Adventist HealthCare is excited to announce that Fort Washington Medical Center in Prince George's County will join our family of services later this year. Our two organizations signed a definitive agreement in July.

Fort Washington Medical Center is a 37-bed hospital located just south of National Harbor in a growing section of the region. It cares for close to 40,000 patients a year in its emergency department and, like Adventist HealthCare, has a strong commitment to serving the needs of the community.

Given the changes in healthcare both nationally and in Maryland, joining Adventist HealthCare will allow Fort Washington Medical Center to expand its high-quality healthcare services in Prince George's County and overcome the challenges of operating as a standalone community hospital. Adventist HealthCare will invest \$35 million over five years to help Fort Washington continue to meet the needs of the community.

"Bringing Fort Washington Medical Center into the Adventist HealthCare family provides opportunities to combine our shared Missions of improving the health of Maryland residents," said Terry Forde, President & CEO of Adventist HealthCare. "Our organization has a long tradition of serving Prince George's County, and we look forward to strengthening the medical center's presence in that part of the region through outpatient services, as well as expanded physician practices."

Eunmee Shim, previously Senior Vice President of Ambulatory Networks and Chief Strategy Officer, has been leading the transition since September after being selected as President of the hospital, which was renamed Adventist HealthCare Fort Washington Medical Center.

"Adventist HealthCare's reputation of providing high-quality and compassionate care to the community will help Fort Washington Medical Center play an even greater role in helping residents in our region," said Henry W. Mosley, a longtime member of the board that oversees Fort Washington Medical Center. "We look forward to ensuring a smooth transition and a bright future for our community."

Adventist HealthCare and Fort Washington Medical Center will continue to spend the next several months getting to know one another even better to see how best to align and grow our future services and operations.

> Learn more about how Adventist HealthCare is expanding our services to the community and fulfilling our Mission at **AdventistHealthCare.com**

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WORTHINGTON (OHIO)

CHURCH is seeking an assistant director for its established childcare facility. An associate's or bachelor's degree in early childhood and teaching experience is required. Please send résumé and cover letter to Shirleen Brown, *c/o* Worthington Seventh-day Adventist Church, 385 East Dublin Granville Rd., Worthington, OH 43085.

CHILD IMPACT

INTERNATIONAL is seeking a general manager. Applicants must have management skills including experience in marketing, fundraising, planning, effective communication and church events; a passion for education and orphans/underprivileged children; the ability to lead a small but growing ministry based in Collegedale, Tenn. Applicant to work closely with CEO in strategic planning and operations. Domestic and international travel required. Application deadline is January 31, 2020. For more details: support@childimpact.org.

LPN POSITION: Elternhaus. an Adventist family-owned and -operated assisted living near Columbia, Md., seeks qualified LPN to work full-time in our home. Qualities seeking: Mature, patient, nurturing individual with experience in nursing homes or assisted living. Responsibilities include health assessment. medication management, staff training and administrative licensure compliance. Work closely with the Health Services Director to oversee the general health and well-being of our residents. Interested? Call Tim Mayer, (240) 286-3635.

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seeks faculty for the Physical Therapy (PT) Department. The Clinical Sciences coordinator/ professor holds a faculty appointment in the PT department and has academic service, scholarship and administrative responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the Physical Therapy Department. This individual demonstrates competence in clinical sciences teaching and curriculum development. In addition, the Clinical Sciences coordinator's primary responsibilities are to plan, coordinate, facilitate, administer and monitor activities on behalf of the academic program. For more information, visit andrews.edu/admres/jobs/ show/faculty#job_12.

MISCELLANEOUS

FARMERS AND GARDNERS:

6th Annual Adventist Agriculture Association (AdAgrA) Conference, January 14–18, 2020, in High Springs, Fla. Since 2013 AdAgrA encourages, supports and mentors those who wish to follow God's agriculture plan. Great information and inspiration for how and why Adventists need to be in the garden. Registration and info: adventistag.org.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MANASSAS ADVENTIST PREPARATORY SCHOOL in

Manassas, Va., will be celebrating 50 years of service to their community and church, October 12. Festivities will begin at 9:30 a.m. Please invite all former staff and alumni by sharing the event page on Facebook: facebook. com/events/319882628794471.

HARRISBURG FIRST ADVENTIST CHURCH AND

SCHOOL in Harrisburg, Pa., is celebrating 125 years of service October 11–12. Speakers include Chuck Holtry and Kenneth Stout. For details and photos, visit: harrisburgadventist.org/125.

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Baltimore	6:46	6:35	6:25	6:15
Cincinnati	7:18	7:07	6:57	6:47
Cleveland	7:05	6:54	6:43	6:32
Columbus	7:11	7:00	6:50	6:40
Jersey City	6:35	6:24	6:13	6:03
Norfolk	6:46	6:35	6:26	6:17
Parkersburg	7:06	6:55	6:45	6:35
Philadelphia	6:40	6:29	6:18	6:09
Pittsburgh	6:59	6:48	6:37	6:27
Reading	6:43	6:32	6:21	6:11
Richmond	6:50	6:40	6:30	6:21
Roanoke	7:00	6:50	6:40	6:31
Toledo	7:13	7:01	6:50	6:40
Trenton	6:38	6:27	6:17	6:07
Wash., D.C.	6:48	6:37	6:27	6:18

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What if for one week you saved all the money you would have spent on things you didn't really need? And you gave it to the *Annual Sacrifice Offering for Global Mission* to reach people groups who don't know Jesus. Your gift could help start Urban Centers of Influence in some of the largest cities of the world and support Global Mission pioneers in starting new groups of believers among the unreached.

So, what are you willing to give up for mission?

If you want to help share Jesus with unreached people on November 9, please mark your tithe envelope Annual Sacrifice Offering for Global Mission or visit bit.ly/2kkvvJw. Every donation makes a difference. It's money well spent!

> From the Office of Adventist Mission General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904, USA.

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Saturday, November 9 • 10 a.m.

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KETTERING Adventist HealthCare.





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stone him for his belief in God, but today he is an Adventist pastor in the Middle East.

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When I first heard a song on WGTS 91.9, it was comforting, especially since my wife had passed away suddenly only a few months before. The announcer mentioned they would be serving ice cream in my town. I decided to go, maybe take a few pictures with my new camera. What I found was friendly people, and I volunteered to take photos at events. I thought, this feels like home and it brings me closer to God. As I came to more events and took pictures, I found that

WGTS became my family. They are always there.

wgts919



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