

Gleaner

Northwest Adventists in Action



DECEMBER 2009, Vol. 104, No. 12



**PRISON
MINISTRIES**
Christmas Dinner for Convicts



Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.
JUDE 1:2 (NIV)

“Apple Frost” by Dean Huggins of Newman Lake, Washington.



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HealthyChoices

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with *Dr. Don Hall*

*Say "No" to Late Night Dining
Enjoy Life for Health*



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LITHO U.S.A.

Christmas *Beyond* Bars

“There’s no way to miss it—on the very first Christmas He went to prison to be with us.”

A glowing fireplace with yuletide log, children caroling in the streets, brightly-wrapped packages — these are images of Christmas so many hold dear.

But when the Word became flesh, there was little celebration, no red carpet, not even a welcome mat. If not for the heavenly choir or star in the sky, even the shepherds and wise men would have skipped the occasion.

“For He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him,” (John 1:11). We don’t often sing about that at Christmas.

The Son of God, considering the plight of His creation, took a long look at the glories of heaven, stepped into His jeweled chariot and swept over the edge of time and space to become one with us, so we could become one with Him. That great leap of faith brought Him here the first time. His unqualified love will bring Him back.

And when He does return, His arrival will beckon an intriguing truth. Those who are called to join Him in His forever kingdom will have a defining characteristic. In His own words: “I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.”

In contrast to heaven, this dark desperate world must have seemed to Him like a prison. It still does.

So the message of Christmas must be more than a look back. It’s a promise of better things to come for those who choose to take His words to heart; those who receive His blessing with astonished gladness: “Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me,” (Matthew 25:40).

There’s no way to miss it — on the very first Christmas He went to prison to be with us.

May your Christmas season be filled with messages of hope and light from One who plans a second visit — the very first Christmas beyond bars. •



Merry Christmas from our home to your home. The GLEANER staff: Desiree Lockwood, advertising and copy coordinator; CJ Anderson, intern; Cindy Chamberlin, managing editor; and Steve Vistaunet, editor.

Did You Know?

Wrapping the Decade

As we prepare to ring in a new decade it seems fitting to revisit a special millennial Christmas message, originally shared in the December 1999 GLEANER. This poem was written for North Pacific Union members by Melvin Oss, a former pastor, missionary and youth director, who was 98 years old at the time.

*On behalf of the North Pacific Union Conference
we wish you a happy and love-filled Christmas
season and a blessed New Year.*

*The Christmas season year by year,
Renews bright hope and brings us cheer.
We celebrate the Savior's birth,
When angels sang of peace on earth.*

*God loved the world so much He gave,
His only son, lost man to save.
Christ came to earth from heav'n above;
His lowly birth reveals God's love.*

*Sin's penalty of death for all,
On Adam's race came with the fall.
The Lord was born that He might die;
A saving sacrifice supply.*

*The curse from sin on you and me,
Christ bore by death on Calvary.
His death has merit to suffice,
For sinners a full sacrifice.*

*Christ shed His blood for you and me.
I thank the Lord for Calvary.
All who repent, on Him believe,
Full pardon for their sins receive.*

*In heaven Christ now intercedes:
The merits of His blood He pleads.
He offers ransom from the fall.
Salvation's gift is free to all.*

*Christ promised He'd return again,
And take the saints to heaven then.
I pray that we may ready be,
To live with Him eternally.*

*With gladness our hearts overflow.
By giving, some folks their love show.
May both our gifts and giving praise,
Rebound to glory all our days.*

*As by the Spirit folks are led,
In confidence we'll march ahead.
Through portals of another year,
In hope that Christ will soon appear!*

*When close of '99 has come,
We'll greet the new millennium.
On God to guide us we depend,
To lead us to triumphant end.*

DECEMBER

Gleaner BLOGs

Blog Categories:

- Cindy's Garden Blog — Over the River and Through the Interstate. Check out this holiday poem.
- MAXimum Perspectives
- Current Events
- Current Gleaner Issue
- Finance
- Tip Sheet

Finance:

Gary Dodge, North Pacific Union Trust Services director, is online and ready to help you write your own definition of financial security. Read his thoughts and ask your money-related questions to a trusted expert in the GLEANER Finance blog.

MAXimum Perspectives:

Max Torkelsen II, NPUC president, draws inspirations from the events and activities his job brings him to. You can read his reflections in the MAXimum Perspectives blog.

By Cindy R. Chamberlin

PRISON MINISTRI

Making Christmas Dinner for Convicts

Editor's Preface: I embarked on this feature believing in two sides of the mercy coin: justice and grace — one more option than they gave their victims. But mostly I determined not to get sucked into sappy/happy empathy, or place a church band-aid on a social ill that did not fit.

Sandy is a cook at a state penitentiary. Every morning he walks past guards, monitors, and large gates. He picks up a set of keys, attaches a radio and identification to his body and walks in and out successive sally ports. One door clangs shut before the next opens. Sandy enters a large corridor, puts on an apron and there assigns knives, forks and large machinery to inmates. He carries no weapon, but is quick to say he has a body guard, — he points upward.

Sandy is not a psychologist charting relationships, or a clergyman, mapping good behaviors. Sandy measures quantities by the pound, develops candid conversations with criminals and cooks for 1200 inmates — five of which are under his direct supervision.

Does Love Actually Work?

Incarcerated at the McNeil Island Corrections Center and seven years into a 10-year sentence, the only consistent thing in my life was the routine of incarceration. Things had gotten so bad; I was housed in the Inmate Management Unit or special confinement. I didn't want anything to do with people offering hope. And I was really uncomfortable around Christians. Violence, anger, hatred, suspicion, lying, drug and alcohol abuse were destroying my life and my soul, but God was working behind the scenes.

One day, while using the prison's religious services to smuggle drugs and contraband, Adventists were giving a Bible study. My fellow drug partners, the other inmates, didn't show up, so I got stuck there for an hour waiting for movement to resume. (Movement throughout a

prison is monitored so inmates just have a few minutes to get to their next destination. One must stay put until the next movement.) Because I had drugs on my person, I tried to sit unnoticed in the back. A little lady, named Grandma Arty, came and asked if she could sit with me. I didn't want to refuse because that would have drawn suspicion. And so I sat and talked with her, and she told me about her life, and why she attended prisons. When it was time for movement again, she asked if I would like to come back. I said "Yes, I will be back," but only because I planned to transfer contraband. However, the next opportunities my friends weren't there but Grandma Arty was. Each time she talked to me and listened. Eventually, I asked her why she was so nice to me. Grandma Arty started to tell me



Fermin and Christina Uribe

about God and the victory he had given her over drug abuse. She told me about Jesus' sacrifice, and a ray of light shined through the darkness. For the first time in my life, I felt loved. It was her testimony that gave me hope.

Things have been amazing since I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior; God has given me a new life. My mother and father were

ES

(Okay I give him a fair point.) But these people have done some pretty heinous things. Is change possible?

Have you ever made a decision you regret? Can anyone of us change on our own? No. We need God, who is greater than us, who is willing to do the work in us and has done so. The problem is we don't believe He has done it. It's either we believe the gospel has teeth in it or we deny it.

Do you actually SEE change?

I really do meet people I believe are converted and changed by the power of God. I knew when I went to work; I was going to find Christ on BOTH sides. Jesus came to save the least — including me. Everyone is failing in the same thing — sin.

How does anyone end up there?

There is often a direct recipe. Poor or nonexistent home life plus drugs + alcohol = a way of life + crime. The research shows these factors are almost always present. The life choices made as a result of this lifestyle often widens the search for more excitement.

I've heard the formula usually involves gangs.

Not always. Sometimes a person turns to crime to support addictions. Drugs and

gangs are a byproduct. The gang is about finding a family. Rarely do you find an inmate with any type of "father figure." The gang is really is about finding a family — particularly a father.

(Sandy glows.)

And that's the good news, because God the father is the one we all seek. We can offer them a Father who already loves and accepts them!

But these people have proved they can actually "commit awful" acts.

We are all capable of "awful acts." You never know what you are capable of — the human mind is capable of extreme good and extreme bad. They've already reached their low...

Have you ever made a poor decision? What if you or I had to pay for all our decisions? What if our choices were socially inappropriate? What if we could be arrested for hate? What if envy were punishable by death? How many would be on death row for killing with the tongue? We are ALL sinners in need of transformation.

You're saying they can change by a program?

No. I don't think people change by

Are we wasting time and money preaching to inmates? Do inmates play church?

Maybe. But look around you.

I look up and down the beautiful church. Properly dressed members sit around me.

How many of these people play church?

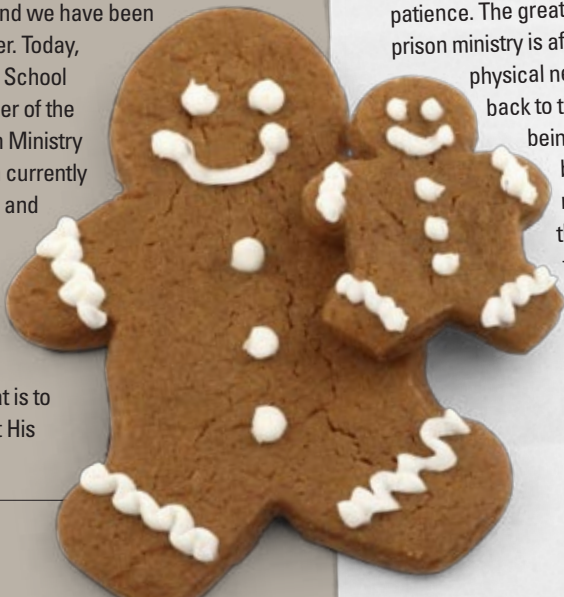
Yes, but these people behave.

These people could suddenly quit behaving.

Aren't there a lot of prisoners attending Bible programs just to get less time and social networks?

Yes, but aren't there people on the outside doing that?

married and baptized into the Adventist Church because they saw a change in me. I have a beautiful wife, and we have been baptized together. Today, I teach Sabbath School and am a member of the Adventist Prison Ministry Fellowship. I am currently going to college and working on a degree in Network Management. I have found a purpose and that is to tell others about His great love. •



Missionaries to a Strange Land Thank You Adventists

As the assistant administrator of Religious Services responsible for the Oregon Department of Corrections' volunteer program, I very much appreciate the involvement of the Seventh-day Adventists in providing spiritual care to the incarcerated. In Oregon, the Adventists minister in all 14 of our prisons, faithfully, week after week. The nature of corrections, with all our rules and policies, can be a challenge. I have been impressed over the years with the way our Adventist volunteers navigate the system with grace and patience. The greatest challenge today for those involved in prison ministry is after care, providing for the spiritual and physical needs of those transitioning from prison back to the community. Having the right friends and being included in the Adventist community of believers can be that tipping point that will make the difference between success in the community or returning to prison. That's the challenge, and I know that the Adventist churches in Oregon will strive to meet it. •

Rev. Dr. Les Sinclair



PROGRAMS. Programs make organizations look good. People are transformed by Christ. But they have to see Christ somewhere. Programs, pews, bars, death row. None of these mean anything to God. These lines exist because people have created them.

God's blood is cleansing. It doesn't have boundaries — a watch tower or a prison yard. It is life transforming as we choose to accept it. When a guard says he's a Christian and curses or treats inmates unfairly, the inmates have no use for his religion. Experience trumps words. I've seen inmates lose respect for someone's words when their actions don't match.

When people ram programs down their throats, or teach religion courses — most inmates run. The best example is a real inmate with a transformed heart — someone whose life has been transformed by Jesus Christ — that has power. I see people desperate for a real Christian to SHOW them the saving blood of Jesus. That is not just for people inside prison walls, it is for all "prisoners" of sin.

That's what transforms? You see it transforming them? (I really want to believe ...)

Yes. I have seen it. I think of one man on my staff — he is converted and he encourages me. Some men I work with will never get out, but they have a hope as I have never seen, because the blood of Christ has compelled them. It no longer matters they are on death row. They have a different power in a new life.

(I'm grateful for a protecting society and I'll likely never demand softer sentencing. However, I can't find a rebuttal to Sandy's argument that Christ's blood is bigger than my human holding tanks.)

(Sandy fairly glows again.)

(I ask one more question.) Are you making them Christmas dinner? (Suddenly Christmas and Sandy's work seem related.)

I'll get you the Christmas menu.

While it's not a happy/sappy solution or band-aid, I will read Sandy's Christmas menu. And I will take a second helping of — the Father God he daily dishes up with an overflowing ladle — it's a commodity he believes there is no scarcity of — even on his buffet. •

Cindy R. Chamberlin, GLEANER managing editor

You Want Me to go to Prison?

How often have we prayed for God to use us as He sees fit? Then He calls, and we say, "PRISON MINISTRY! You want ME to go in the prisons?"

After coming out of the prison that first time, the picture becomes crystal clear. God doesn't see them any differently than He sees me — we are both broken. It's a humbling experience, especially when some who are incarcerated know their Bibles better than I do and sing hymns by memory.

When someone comes to a service to socialize — along the way, God speaks to their heart, and they come forward to give their life to Christ, it becomes a moment of truth for us all.

The Bible says there are multitudes in the valley of decision, souls longing for a glimmer of hope, yearning for peace and to be set free from within. To think God allows us to participate in His work and witness the transformation — it brings tears to our eyes!

Is God calling you today? Remember Jesus' words in Matthew 25:35–40 and these two promises in Matthew 28:20 and



Hillside O'Malley presently has active groups that go to both wings of the prison in town, Hiland Women's Facility in Eagle River, as well as the following halfway houses in Anchorage: Akeela House, Cordova Center, Midtown Center, Parkview Center and Glennwood Center. They have more than 50 active Bible studies going on at this time.

Philippians 4:13. God wants you to be a blessing to others, and in the process He wants to bless you. •

Aaron Jordan, Hillside O'Malley Church member

Washington Family Reunites Behind Bars

Dan Houser ran away from home at age 15 to escape his father's drunken abuse and his parents' broken marriage. He found an abandoned home, stole food, and started using drugs and drinking.

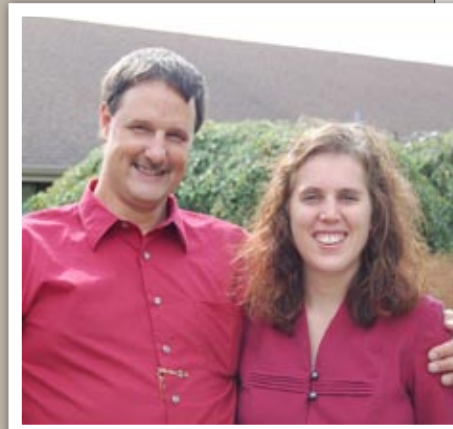
After Houser committed five burglaries, he was arrested. He went to juvenile detention for 46 days until going to live with his mother.

Later, he resumed his old lifestyle. When he was arrested for delivering a controlled substance, Houser was sentenced to one year and one day in the Washington Correction Center.

Before long, Houser transferred to McNeil Island Corrections Center, and inquired about religious services. An inmate said, "Go to the SDA services. You'll learn a lot from the Bible."

The first Friday night, Houser went to the service. He was startled to find the ministry volunteers included his mother, step-father, sister, and brother-in-law who had converted during his incarceration.

The emotional reunion was not long lasting, because the other inmates wished for his family to continue volunteering. Per



Dan Houser, once incarcerated, and his wife Melissa, are happy members of the Yelm, (Wash.) Adventist Church.

regulations, Houser had to be transferred to another facility so their involvement could continue. However, Houser surrendered his life to Jesus at the Monroe Correction Complex and was released in 2007. Today, Dan Houser is happily married and serves as a deacon at the Yelm (Wash.) Adventist Church. •

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference associate communication leader

Chapel in the “Wildwood”

With Willard and Kathy Loewen

Willard and Kathy Loewen got started on death row, and have been there for two hours every Tuesday, for 12 years. Prisoners on death row actually call it home. Some are considered so dangerous, they must be handcuffed. The Loewens must pass reading material to them through a hole in a “cage.” Literally, they may have no outside connection.

Every Sabbath, the Loewens visit lesser-sentenced prisoners in the Oregon State Penitentiary, in rooms which look similar to “fellowship halls.” The Loewens are quick to point out it’s not a church setting — it’s a circle setting. Imagine folding chairs, a few approved booklets, song books, Bibles and sometimes a piano.

“We begin by asking if there are concerns for the week,” says Willard. Inmates are usually concerned with: officer changes, census morale, sentencing and work assignments. “We sing and then ask if there are Bible questions,” say the Loewens. “If we are able to, we take in a laptop computer and play a Doug Batchelor DVD. (Batchelor is a favorite among inmates.)

“We rarely talk about judgment. We can only give them hope,” continues Willard.



Willard and Kathy Loewen have been going to death row every Tuesday, for 12 years.

“We can’t give them money or less time — only hope. However their attitudes usually inspire us. We see the Holy Spirit helping them with many issues.”

The Loewens gather prayer requests and each are prayed for urgently. There has been one baptism on death row and many life changes.

“We are like missionaries to a different country with a different mindset and different customs,” says Willard.

Occasionally an inmate serves their time and runs into Willard on the outside. They introduce themselves as a former member of the group. “The other day I ran into a man, now running his own company who was very changed by the group ...,” says Willard. “The man still keeps the Sabbath.

“When they look back on their prison experience I want them to think ‘those Adventists loved me,’” says Willard. •



“We are like missionaries to a different country with a different mindset and different customs,” says Willard.

Cindy R. Chamberlin, GLEANER managing editor

Web link

- Check out this former Northwest inmate’s story delivered in church, recorded on *Northwest Spotlight on Missions* DVD and now available by clicking this link: <http://www.motionbox.com/videos/7a96d0b11c1ce5c4f5>.



Andrew Michell

- A Union-wide Adventist Prison Ministry Retreat will be held April 9–11, 2010, at the Gladstone Conference Center near Portland, Ore., including inspirational preaching, instructive seminars, constructive discussion on the future development of PM in the union and spiritual fellowship among peers. Detailed information will be forthcoming in the GLEANER and on the NPUC Web site.

- “Not everyone can do this ministry, those who do sense their calling and are able to do it year in and year out consistently. The church needs to support them.” — Alphonso McCarthy, North Pacific Union Conference vice president of regional affairs. All contributions to this ministry will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to help, please call McCarthy at (360) 857-7033 or e-mail him at alphonso.mccarthy@nw.npuc.org.



Alphonso McCarthy

CJ Anderson

WORLD NEWS

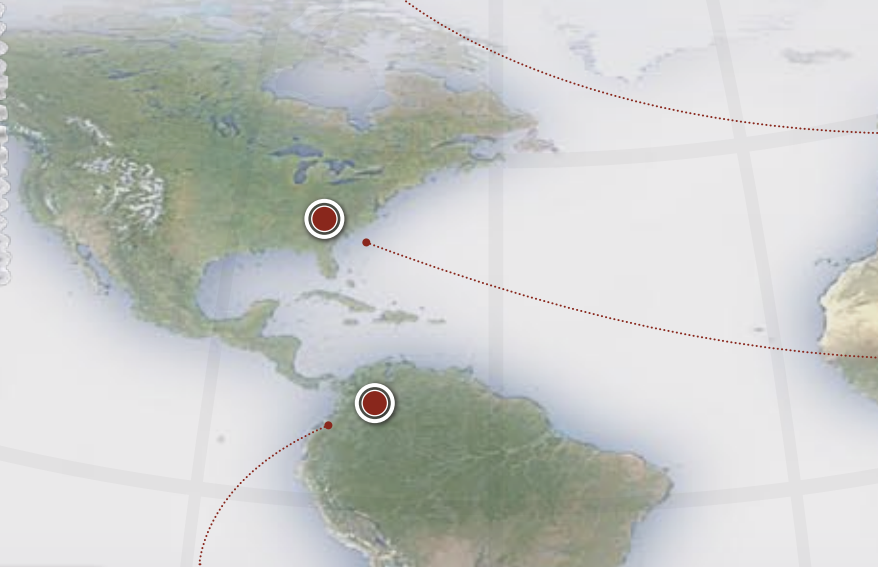


GERMANY

All Adventist Households Receive Free Magazine

In an effort to better connect with church members, publishers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's magazine in Germany are now providing their monthly publication free of charge to all members in the country. Starting in January 2010, *AdventEcho* will be available to 24,000 households in Germany. Current circulation is about 5,000. Increased delivery costs are being covered by the magazine's publishing house.

Source: Adventist News Network



COLOMBIA

Religious Liberty Meeting Promotes Equality

During late September, Seventh-day Adventist religious liberty advocates joined some 300 delegates from a broad range of faith communities in Colombia for discussions focused on equality among religions in the largely Catholic country. The event followed Colombia's first Festival of Religious Freedom, an event which drew 15,000 locals, making it the third largest such event worldwide.

Source: Adventist News Network

NEWS BRIEFS



UNITED STATES

Atlanta Church Recognized for Innovation

The Atlanta-Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church is the North American Division's 2009 Innovative Church of the Year. Church leaders recognized the Atlanta-Berean congregation, lead by Carlton Byrd, pastor, for innovative ministry through job fairs, weekly community food and clothing distributions, Habitat for Humanity projects and block-party style evangelism. Atlanta-Berean now draws more than 2,000 worshippers on a weekly basis.

Source: Adventist News Network

RUSSIA

Adventist Media Organization Recognized

The Voice of Hope Media Center in Russia has been recognized as a top organization in their field. During the Elite of the National Economy ceremony in Moscow, the media center was presented the Socially Aware Enterprise award, as well as the international award for Best Company of the Year. Voice of Hope Media Center was the first Christian group to begin official broadcasts in the territory of the former Soviet Union. The first program was broadcast on October 19, 1990.

Source: Adventist News Network

CONGO

ADRA Worker Killed

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency is reporting the kidnapping and death of a staff member in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Boss Kayamba was part of a convoy of civilian vehicles, which came under attack on September 30. Kayamba was severely beaten and died on the way to a hospital. Officials say this is the 22nd attack on humanitarian workers in the Democratic Republic of Congo this year.

Source: Adventist News Network



ACCION

TROMPETAS DE FE! PROCLAMANDO A JESUS!!!

El club de Conquistadores es una agrupación de niños y jóvenes que desarrollan en forma armoniosa las facultades físicas, mentales, espirituales y sociales dentro de un programa integral adaptados a sus respectivas edades. Esta organización local está patrocinada y dirigida por la Iglesia Adventista Hispana de Hillsboro.

Sin embargo, el club de Conquistadores es una organización mundial con ideales bien definidos, que contribuyen a desarrollar en sus miembros un carácter noble y una buena ciudadanía. Los niños aprenden importantes principios de vida, como lo son el amor a Dios sobre todas las cosas y en el amor al prójimo. También aprenden respeto, lealtad, cortesía, obediencia y patriotismo. Todas estas importantísimas cualidades llegan a ser parte de su personalidad. Hubo



un tiempo cuando el club de Conquistadores de la iglesia no atraía mucho. Pero todo cambió cuando los miembros del club eligieron su propio nombre de victoria. Este nombre representa el blanco y lema de los Conquistadores. Fue hermoso ver como los Conquistadores se unieron y decían: “Queremos ayudar en la proclamación del mensaje en esta generación” por eso eligieron su nombre TROMPETAS DE FE! y su

grito es PROCLAMANDO A JESUS!!

Con su nombre ahora se puede ver que tenemos un buen ejército de niños y jóvenes bien comprometidos. Ellos saben que cada miembro del club adquiere el compromiso de representar y participar de la disciplina y organización del club de Conquistadores. Además debe cumplir con el voto y la ley de los Conquistadores. Ideales que entre otra cosas requieren

que el Conquistador sea: puro, bondadoso y leal, siervo de Dios y amigo de la humanidad.

Este año ya iniciamos cada clase por edad y esto atrae mucho a los padres que están interesados en que sus hijos sean parte de un club misionero. Participar como club en una campaña evangelística les da sentido de pertenencia y utilidad. Eso lo pudimos ver en el programa de SANIDAD, que tuvimos hace poco. Los Conquistadores estuvieron trabajando todo el Sábado asegurándose de que cada persona que venía fuera conectada con un medico, consejero, masajista, quiropráctico, estilista y dentista. Cada Conquistador fue una TROMPETA de FE ayudando a su iglesia a predicar el amor de Jesús. •

Hever Reyes, Consejero de Conquistadores de la Iglesia de Hillsboro



Women's Retreat Brings Central Alaskans Together

The Alaska Conference is very spread out, which makes connecting and sharing with each other a challenge at times. But from July 31–Aug. 2, women from the communities of Glenallen, Tok and Copper Valley came together at Red Eagle Lodge, in Chistochina, for the first-ever Women's Ministry retreat in the area. There were more than 23 ladies attending from as far away as

Anchorage and Valdez.

Richard and Judy Dennis, Red Eagle Lodge owners, purchased the historic property and opened a bed and breakfast where they could connect with people and share the love of Jesus.

Thea Hanson, guest speaker, shared her journey after being diagnosed with a tumor in her head and losing her husband in a tree-trimming accident two



Women from central Alaska gather at the Red Eagle Lodge for the region's first Women's Ministry retreat.



days before surgery. Her topics covered Quest For Love, God's Love, Free Love, My Soul Thirsts For God, Those Who Seek Me Will Find Me, Seek The Lord ... Evermore, Be Still And Know That I am God.

On Sunday morning, the women shared blessings from the weekend. Four women indicated this was their first

Women's Ministry retreat and several attendees expressed a renewed commitment to God. Thanks to this first-ever opportunity, a network of committed sisters in Christ is growing throughout central Alaska. •

Jean Francis-Gobah, Alaska Women's Ministries director

Samoan Youth on a Mission to Juneau

Juneau Adventist Christian School hosted 27 youth from the Anchorage Samoan Church on July 29. Under the leadership of Masae Fanene, youth director, young people painted the school and completed work around the school, including a newly painted sign.

The team was met by a bus and over the next few days, the Juneau Church delivered food, constructed an outdoor shower and befriended and supported the team.

One of the biggest treats came Sabbath as the Samoan Youth Choir led the morning services. Their testimonies touched hearts and their singing left an indelible impression on everyone.

Many youth wanted to stay or at least come back someday. The lessons learned of caring, service and friendship will be ones the two churches will share for a long time. •

Masae Fanene, Samoan Church youth director



Meridian and Parma Churches *Welcome New Pastor*

The Meridian and Parma (Idaho) congregations welcomed Michael and Karen Pearson as their new pastoral couple in October. Pearson was born in Kenya, Africa. As a fourth-generation Adventist, he was raised by missionary parents in several African countries and in America. He has been a pastor, educator and missionary in Zimbabwe,

South Africa and Maryland. He recently completed his Ph.D. at Andrews University specializing in ministry of the Holy Spirit and the development of Christian character. His wife Karen is director of publicity at Pacific Press Publishing Association. The Pearsons have two adult children, who are both professional musicians.

His personal burden in ministry is to help facilitate the restoration of the character of Christ in the members of God's church and to equip them to reach out to others who need this same restoration. •

Don Klinger, Idaho Conference communication director



Michael and Karen Pearson are the new pastoral couple for the Meridian and Parma (Idaho) congregations.

Gem State Senior Survival *A Student's Story*

I looked forward to this year's senior survival with my class, but I had no idea what adventures we would undertake.

Together with sponsors and adult staff, we traveled to a wilderness area near McCall, Idaho. We started out doing team-building experiences such as orienteering. But the activity that really helped me bond with my classmates was white-water rafting on the Salmon River.

Ten people each grabbed a paddle, a life jacket and a helmet, then piled onto a raft. But I was scared to death, so I chose Mr. McPherson's boat because of his experience as a white-water raft guide at Camp Ida-Haven.



The first part of the trip was calm and smooth. Mr. McPherson taught us how to paddle forward and backward. As we were approaching the first rapid, a classmate looked over at me and said,

"Wow, Rachel, you're really white. Are you okay?" The truth was, I was not! My heart was pounding. My mind was racing, and I was hanging on to my paddle for dear life. The very thought of the

swirling, churning water made me almost feel sick. But we navigated the first rapid just fine.

The third rapid was the wildest. We were paddling like crazy when suddenly our boat folded in half shooting some of our team into the water. I fell into the middle of the boat onto the water canister, and Mr. McPherson landed on me.

After we pulled everyone back into the boat, we started sharing our stories. I'm sure we'll still be laughing about this Salmon River adventure when we come back to Gem State Academy for our 50th reunion. •

Rachel Wood, GSAA senior

Women's Retreat Builds Trust in God

Early on Friday, Oct. 9, more than 130 women trekked across snow covered roads and vast distances for the 2009 Montana Conference Women's retreat. Excitement built as friends made the trip together, laughing, talking, singing and praying to Fairmont Hot Springs (between Anaconda and Butte, Mont.) for the weekend.

Participants were able to enjoy old and new friendships and relax in the hot spring's pools. With temperatures in the low 20s during the day, dipping to near single digits at night, women let the snow fall and their hair get icy while enjoying the warm bubbling water. Walking near the pool, it was difficult to see anyone through the rising steam, but you could hear laughter and talking.

Esmie Branner, author of the book *Beyond the Veil of Darkness*, was the featured speaker. The book details her escape from an



abusive marriage to a Muslim husband. Branner, shared her story, her prayers, her beliefs and time with the Lord, listening quietly for the His answer before she would get up from her knees. She challenged each person to remember no matter what they are going through in our life — a work situation, job loss, a bad relationship,

abuse, problems with children, separations of all kinds, drugs, alcohol, financial problems — God loves each, right where they are today.

One lady commented she felt like 20 years were lifted from her shoulders during the weekend, because of Branner's message. While not an Adventist, she was in church the next Sabbath.

Members are surrounding her with prayer and she is being richly blessed.

Women from Montana are invited to return to Fairmont Hot Springs in 2010 during the second weekend of October. Make plans now to attend. •

Ruth Fish, Montana Conference Women's Ministries leader



Women relax in an outdoor pool at Fairmont Hot Springs during the 2009 Montana Conference Women's Ministries retreat.



Esmie Branner, dressed as a proper Muslim wife, tells Montana women her story about escaping from an abusive relationship in Saudia Arabia.

Deaf Reach Program Held at Beaverton

A special lay training program called Deaf Reach was held at the Beaverton (Ore.) Church Sept. 11–13. This workshop instructs deaf laity how to share Jesus and Bible truths with others and how to give Bible studies.

David Trexler, Adventist Deaf Ministries pastor, led the workshop using American Sign Language. He has served in deaf ministry as a lay person, pastor, and in supporting ministries.

Twenty-three individuals attended the Friday evening meeting. On Sabbath, the number of those attending swelled to thirty-five. Some came from great distances to attend this meeting, including California and Washington. Bruce Buzzell won the prize



Attendees gather for the Deaf Reach program held in Beaverton, Ore., Sept. 11–13.

for visiting from the farthest location, Missouri.

On Sunday morning, the men had their monthly prayer breakfast at Old Wives' Tales in Portland, Ore. The women also had a prayer breakfast at a second location. Both

breakfasts were wonderful spiritual gatherings, following the program.

There are approximately 2 million deaf people in North America with only 2 percent attending church anywhere. Within the Adventist church,

there are only a little more than 300 deaf members and only two full-time pastors. Most lay training programs are not accessible to those who rely on sign language for communication. Thus, the Deaf Reach program by Adventist Deaf Ministries, a supporting ministry, is unique and necessary.

“The whole weekend was the most amazing experience,” says Chuck McGehee, Beaverton Church member. “We are going to roll up our sleeves and share the Gospel using [our spiritual] gifts in the deaf community.” •

Esther M. Doss, Adventist Deaf Ministries public relations and development

Forest Fire Fighting 101 *Fire Camp Comes to Milo*

Smoke covered the Milo Adventist Academy campus on a daily basis during late September and early October as winds and high temperatures fanned the flames of the Boze and Rainbow fires, 37 miles to the northeast of campus. For the second time this fire season, the U.S. Forest Service used Milo's Camp Umpqua, near the main academy campus, as their base of operations for fighting the fires. At one point during the worst of the fire, there were nearly 700 personnel living at the camp.

The incident commander called the camp a “small city” with much work and planning needed to assure its operation



Joe Anderson shows Milo's junior class the size of the Rainbow and Boze fires.

and the safety of all involved. Maureen Pearson, Milo

volunteer, arranged for Milo students to take a field trip

to see firsthand how a fire camp operates. They visited the command center, medical area, supplies, equipment, shower facilities and dining areas. Students learned about the many different jobs and responsibilities needed to operate a fire camp, including logistics, accident prevention and medical treatment, food preparation, public relations and information, accounting and payroll, weather forecasting and map making.

Milo students gained greatly from this unique opportunity to learn directly from real life challenges. •

Dale Milam, MAA instructor

Whipple Creek Celebrates New Sanctuary with Open House

A long-standing dream spanning the tenure of three pastors, George White, David Bostrom and currently Donavon Kack, finally came to fruition. White, originator of the dream, was present at Whipple Creek Church's open house in Ridgefield, Wash., on Oct. 10, and commented: "It was my privilege to work for Jesus as the pastor of the Ridge Dell and Hazel Dell (Wash.) churches in the 90s. We saw a need for a new church building in the Ridge Dell area, so we started a building fund. As time went on, I was called to pastor in other places, but by God's grace and with His leading, the people of Hazel Dell and Ridge Dell merged into what is now the Whipple Creek



Church. They did not lose the dream or the drive to build a new building for the glory of Christ."

The open house reached out to the neighborhood, past

members, old friends, new friends and an ecstatic home congregation delighted to have a new sanctuary to worship an awesome and wonderful God.

Not only are the new sanctuary, new classrooms, new entry-foyer and fellowship room a delight, but also the newly landscaped grounds and lovely trees in the "backyard" offer potential for outdoor activities.

After the service, a tasty luncheon was served to the guests and congregation. One guest was heard saying, "I haven't been to church for a long time, so I wasn't sure what to expect. Your church is beautiful, the people friendly, and the musical program very enjoyable. Thank you for inviting me." •

Euna Givens, Whipple Creek Church communication leader

Light Rail Comes to PAA

Portland Adventist Academy recently welcomed an extension of MAX, the Portland, Ore., area light rail train, to its front entrance.

Mass transit is nothing new to PAA students. The school, 100 years old this year, has always had students who depend on mass transit. In the 30s, students rode electric street cars from as far away as Salem, Estacada and Forest Grove (Ore). "Not very many families owned cars," says Gloria Myers, PAA alumna. "We rode the street car to school and everywhere else."

In the twenty-first century, Portland's mass transit growth brings PAA's history full circle. "We see the new



Sophomores Annel Mendoza (left) and Mckenzie Lichens ride mass transit every day with several other PAA students.

Green Line as an asset for our school," says Ty Johnson, vice principal. "We have more than 30 students and staff using MAX and only see that number

increasing in the future."

With the growth, come some functional changes for PAA. "When we first heard about the new MAX line and its

proximity to our front doors, we had security concerns," says Johnson. "But we made a number of adjustments to our campus, like new gates, fencing, buzz in doors and security cameras. TriMet has also made a real effort to increase their security by adding additional lighting, security cameras and security staff."

"Overall, having MAX come to our school has been a blessing to our students who depend on mass transit for their transportation to PAA," says Gale Crosby, principal. •

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent

Maranatha Volunteers Build Local Church

Twenty-five to 30 volunteers from Maranatha International came to Yacolt, Wash., the last part of September to help erect the structure for a new church building.

Volunteers came from five different states including: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and California, representing an organization which volunteers worldwide helping construct churches, orphanages, schools and other community projects.

The Maranatha volunteers stayed in their own RVs on the church land and worked side by side with local volunteers for two weeks. “We made some great new friends,” says Carl



Twenty-five to 30 volunteers from Maranatha International came to Yacolt, Wash., the last part of September to build a church.

Schwartz, the leader of the Yacolt group.

Everett Collier, building supervisor and retired building

contractor, was happy: “Our goal was to enclose the building before the rains would come and with all the help we

were able to achieve that.”

On the last Sabbath morning, an impromptu thanksgiving and praise service was held in the new building. Lutz Binus, former Yacolt pastor, points out: “Yes, we are building a structure, yet the church is more than walls and a roof — it is the people. We are reaching out to support the lives of the folks in our community.”

Overall, a spirit of gratefulness could be seen. Now, it will be up to the local volunteers to continue to work on the building. •

Cindy Chamberlin, GLEANER managing editor

Portland Charity Pays Off Mortgage Early

An Adventist charity has eliminated a major expense during this economic downturn. Portland Adventist Community Services met a major campaign goal by paying off the mortgage on its facilities on Oct. 18.

A large number of people and organizations made donations to help PACS repay the loan six years ahead of schedule. The early payoff eliminated a \$7,115.60 minimum monthly payment and saved thousands of dollars in interest.

“It’s a miracle,” says Paul Cole, PACS executive director.

More than \$87,000 poured in during the final month before the Oct. 18 goal set by Cole. The final contributions needed to cover the balance were made on the deadline of the



Rhonda Whitney, board member and former director of PACS, prepares to drop the flaming mortgage document into a protected tray. John Korb, board chairman, and Paul Cole, executive director, look on.

18th during an awards dinner and auction, which celebrated PACS 75th anniversary. The payoff check was presented to the North Pacific Union

Conference at the event, and a copy of the mortgage document was ceremonially burned.

PACS purchased its current facilities in 1998 for \$1.3

million, with the help of a \$1 million loan from the NPUC. Thanks to the improved space and location, the PACS Food Pantry now helps four times more needy families each year than it could in the old facility.

Original efforts toward an early mortgage payoff began shortly after the facilities were purchased. From 2006 to 2009, generous individuals and organizations contributed more than \$200,000 toward the mortgage.

The elimination of this debt helps PACS maintain financial stability and make needed facility repairs while keeping up with the sharply increasing needs for services. •

Brian Vistaunet, PACS development associate

Rogue Valley Welcomes New Principal and Music Teacher



Kristii Rasmussen enjoys serving the Lord through music.

Rogue Valley Adventist School welcomes Larry Aldred as principal and Kristii Rasmussen as music teacher. Aldred spent the last 38 years serving the Lord in education. He and his wife, Sue, are very happy to be back in southern Oregon. Aldred's passion as an administrator is to lead youth to Christ and His redemptive power. He loves spending time with his grandchildren, pursuing photography, and taking trips down the Rogue River.

Rasmussen is a 2009 Andrews University graduate with a degree in music education. Rasmussen's goal at RVAS is to teach students to praise and glorify God with their music. She enjoys spending time in the outdoors in nature, hiking and camping.

RVAS is tremendously blessed with the addition of Aldred and Rasmussen. •

Michelle Wachter, RVAS GLEANER correspondent



Larry Aldred and his wife, Sue, love being back in the Rogue Valley.

This Little Light of Ours

The broadcast tower stands tall on the grounds of the Coos Bay (Ore.) Church. With its base sunk 10 feet below ground level, the 100 foot tall structure is a testament to the perseverance of church members determined to give vision and voice to the Adventist message in their community.

When fire damaged an existing antenna site more than a year ago, members erected their own tower and put the full-time broadcast from Three Angels Broadcasting Network back on the air. While Better Life Broadcasting Network provides 3ABN programming to cable customers, the church-sponsored broadcast serves

those who receive television programming only through antenna signals.

This past spring, the Eternal Ring Bell Ringers and Praise Spectrum Choir from Rogue Valley Adventist School in Medford, Ore., provided a collegiate quality vespers and church service in Coos Bay to help benefit the broadcast project.

That kind of support has encouraged Coos Bay members to broaden the broadcast outreach from their tower. A radio broadcast committee, including members Del Cline, Ron Conway, Glen Roesener, Dolores Salcedo and Kirk Sutliff, plan to add a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week radio broadcast, KBAV (Coos Bay Adventist Voice) 103.9 FM, to begin early in 2010.

When that happens, the little light that Coos Bay members have lighted atop their own

tower, will grow brighter and broader, supported by the donations and prayers of those within its circle of influence. •

Dolores Salcedo, Coos Bay Church member



Students from the Rogue Valley Adventist School share a moment in front of the Coos Bay (Ore.) Church broadcast tower during the weekend trip to present vespers and Sabbath programs benefiting the project.



Tualatin Students Explore Marine Habitats

Each school year Tualatin Valley Academy high school students participate in a three-day marine biology exploration in Newport, Ore. Students and staff look forward to this annual event as a great way to bond, and kick off the new school year. As an integral part of ongoing studies begun in the science classroom, the trip provides a wealth of hands-on experiences.

For their first activity, the students search for marine fossils eroded from cliffs at Beverly Beach State Park. At Hatfield Marine Science Center, they handle sea stars, barnacles, muscles and cockles during an animal adaptations lab taught by HMSC staff. After this, they are led out into the estuary mud where they learn to use shrimp guns to find hiding creatures. Here the students begin to appreciate

the unique animals that make the estuary their home, and the vital role it plays in their continued survival.

The next morning, they leave camp at South Beach State Park and head for the Marine Discovery Tours dock, where they board a boat for a three-hour adventure. Students collect plankton and use the onboard microscope to view the rich assortment of phytoplankton and zooplankton discovered in their samples. A bottom trawl brings up crabs, fish, shrimp, jellies and seaweed which students pull from the net and examine in touch tanks. Then they head out to sea to search for whales. This year, despite heavy seas, they saw gray whales, harbor porpoise, stellar sea lions and a variety of seabirds. For many of the students this is an unforgettable first experience out on the ocean.

Safely back on shore, students go to Seal Rock State Park to explore tide pools and collect seaweed samples. Ellen Bakira, ninth-grade student, says "I saw a cool orange and red snail and some pink seaweed that I liked. I don't think I'll look at the water the same way ever again. Before now the beach was just sand, rocks and water to me, but now I know a lot about the organisms that live here."

During their last day at the coast, Dennis Kingma, TVA principal, teaches the students how to surf. With high fives all around, the students agree surfing is a terrific way to conclude the trip and head for home. •

Phil Kahler, TVA science instructor



Ellen Bakira, ninth-grade student, holds up a Dungeness crab and a Red Rock crab aboard the Discovery.



Brittany Finch, Oscar Lopez and Karisa Ing, ninth-grade students handle a sea star at Hatfield Marine Science Center.



Oscar Lopez, ninth-grade student, learns to surf at Otter Rock.



Mauri Brockman and Katrina Van Horn, ninth-grade students, look for tide pool critters at Seal Rock.

Hermiston Children Enjoy Bethlehem Village

The Hermiston (Ore.) Vacation Bible School this year, Bethlehem Village, was a huge success. With average attendance of nearly 100, the adult and teen staff kept busy. Nightly skits with actors dressed in costume, lively

music, fun crafts, games, tribe time for the Bible lesson, a local barnyard, and pony rides were enjoyed by young and old. Healthy snacks were served by Roman guards who carefully checked their baskets to make sure young villagers didn't take more than one.

Bethlehem Village was a joint effort between local area Adventist churches. The set was created by members and painted by the Cano family as well as Neil Meitzler, artist, from Walla Walla, who, sadly, has since died. More than 50 members gave of their time and means, buying, planning, sewing, teaching, playing, praying and advertising this yearly summer evangelism.



The majority of the children came from the community.

Hermiston members look forward to using the same set during the Christmas season for their Journey to Bethlehem.

Last Christmas the walk-through nativity was enjoyed by more than 800 visitors. •

Charlotte Engelhart, Hermiston Church member



Milton-Stateline Students Learn Leadership Skills

To kick off the new school year, Milton-Stateline Adventist School seventh- and eighth-grade students participated in a three-day leadership camp on Oregon's Deschutes River.

Led by Doug Brown, pastor, the camp teaches students leadership skills and group dynamics through a series of problem-solving activities. Students also keep leadership journals and study positive leaders in the Bible.

"The camp is a platform that we use to help the older students develop a vision and goals for how to lead out at



school," says Twila Brown, MSAS vice principal. "Our

goal is to help children realize they have a circle of influence

— that even a small gesture like a smile can really make a difference in someone's day.

"Students also spent time rafting on the river, a natural vehicle for teaching team-building skills, says Brown. To navigate the rafts, students had to learn river rafting commands and ways to work together as a team. "We had to work together or most of us would fall out!" says Serena Goodhew, eighth-grade student.

The leadership camp is a popular event that students look forward to each year. •

Rachel Mitsourov, MSAS parent

The Students Had A Need And God Provided

On Monday, Sept. 21, more than 200 people gathered in the gymnasium at Cascade Christian Academy and celebrated the completion of the new junior high school addition and administrative office remodel projects. Students, parents, faculty, staff, Upper Columbia Conference leadership and community members were all part of the celebration, as were Dennis Johnson, Wenatchee's mayor; Cary Condotta, Washington state representative; and Linda Evans-Parlett, Washington state senator.

The ceremony featured Mark Witas, former principal, who shared how the need for a bigger school became a reality. CCAs high school band, directed by Eric Anderson, music teacher, played "God of Our Fathers" reminding us of God's hand



From left: Mark Witas, Linda Evans-Parlett, Jace Miller, Brian Harris, Dennis Johnson and Cary Condotta.

in this project. Students and teachers performed a readers' theater reminding all how the God who provided for the School of the Prophets in the Bible also provided all that was necessary for our school as

well. Glen Fisher was honored at the celebration for his vision as committee chairman. The ceremony ended with a ribbon cutting and tours of the new facility. Everyone touring the building was amazed at how the

new addition helped unify the school buildings into one space.

Construction began in February and was completed in record time for school to begin on Aug. 31. It adds much needed new space including four classrooms, a music room, library and bathrooms. The new space gives room for growth.

Dan Pershall, Wenatchee Church member, served as general contractor for the project. The new addition was funded through the generosity of many constituents especially Carl and Betty Campbell and Gerald and Carol Cawdery. "It is wonderful to have both individuals and community see the eternal value in our schools," relates Brian Harris, principal. •

Ayrin Harris, wife of CCA principal

President Recognizes Spokane Quilt Ministry

The President of the United States recently gave special recognition to two Spokane Valley (Wash.) Church members. Colleen Frogge and Donna Gardipee, received thanks for their efforts in making quilts for babies in need.

Their outreach project called "Jesus and Me; He is Love," has helped more than 275 young children during the past four years.

Foster children, patients at the Shriner's Hospital and

those who have stayed at the Ronald McDonald house have been the recipients of the quilts.

Fogge and Gardipee, are excited about continuing this ministry. They are anxious for partners, since they have donated all the materials up to this point. Anyone interested in helping provide materials may contact the Spokane Valley Church. •

Marilee Thomas, Spokane Valley Church communication leader



Colleen Frogge and Donna Gardipee display one of the quilts they created.

See What God Has Done

On Thursday, Sept. 25, nearly 150 people gathered at the front entrance of Palisades Christian Academy for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the opening of the new school located in Spokane, Wash. Formerly known as Spokane Jr. Academy, PCAs dream of a new building has been through at least ten years of development. This year, school opened Sept. 8, on time, in the new building.

“Walk through the building and see what God has done,” invited Art Lenz, chairman of the building committee, at the ceremony. Other speakers for the celebration included Bob Folkenberg Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president; Peter LaPlante, school board chairman; Stephanie Gates, principal; Keith Wilkens, finance committee chairman; Al French, Spokane city councilman; and Bonnie Mager, Spokane city commissioner. Those touring



Visitors enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the new lobby of the Palisades Christian Academy.

the building spoke of its beauty, functionality, size and practicality.

PCA served as its own general contractor under the consultation of Ron Knutson, an area businessman and friend of Christian education, and his construction managers, Brian Fritts and Brian Gardner. Many volunteer hours were donated by church members from each area church which significantly reduced the total cost of the project. Keith Wilkens, Art Lenz and Ted Lutts, project treasurer, organized Sunday work bees for framing, cleaning, painting and many other needed tasks. John Norman, who teaches at a local community college, donated his summer months to manage the landscaping. A couple of years ago, Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder Teen

Mission Adventure dedicated their spring break to develop the ball field and clear debris from the site, preparing it for construction.

Having sold its old facility more than five years ago, Spokane Jr. Academy eventually moved to a rental location a few country blocks from the building site. For the last two years teachers, parents and students eagerly watched the progress on the new school. Shortly before moving into the new facility, school board members began discussing a name change to go along with the new facility.

“We wanted a name,” says Brian Harris, former principal, “that would show we were distinctly Christian and uniquely Seventh-day Adventist.” The school’s official name, voted by the

constituents in May 2009, is Palisades Christian Academy: A Seventh-day Adventist School. The name Palisades was chosen because a wildlife refuge known as Palisades Park is directly west of the cliff behind the school.

Pre-school through 10th-grade students are currently housed in the facility along with a new daycare center, Palisades Christian Learning Center. Future plans include building a gym with music rooms attached, a cafeteria and a separate daycare facility. It is the prayer of the constituent church members, parents and teachers of PCA that this facility will shine Jesus’ love into the Spokane community until His return. •

Ruth Lenz, PCA teacher



Pete LaPlante, school board chairman; prepares to cut the ribbon as Stephanie Gates, principal; Art Lenz, building chair; and Keith Wilkens, finance chair, witness the event.

Hands of Help Volunteers Give Back in New Orleans

For her birthday, Laura Taylor wanted to give back to her mother's birthplace — so she and her husband, John, signed up for the Washington Conference's mission trip to New Orleans, La.

In early October, the Taylors joined a small group of volunteers from western Washington who returned for a second time since 2007 to help with long-term hurricane recovery projects.

"Coming to my mom's birthplace is a dream of my life and helping the people here is such a blessing as they are so thankful," says Laura, who attends the Graham (Wash.) Church. "Even after four years since Hurricane Katrina, there's still a lot to do."



Byron Dulan

Volunteers from the Washington Conference, including John and Laura Taylor from Graham, Debra Finley from Bremerton, Gary Neff from Morton, Larry Brown from Everson, and Astley Palmer from Philadelphia, Penn., reflect on a week renovating the inside of a 1,700 square foot home in New Orleans.

The Washington chapter of Adventist Community Services worked in collaboration with the North American Division

and the National Association of Katrina Evacuees to identify a 1,700-square-foot house to renovate. A grant from the

William and Gladys Jenson Memorial Fund covered part of the mission trip expense.

While the home looked "normal" on the outside, the inside was completely gutted after floodwaters nearly reached the ceiling. In a five-day period, volunteers installed wall and ceiling insulation and sheetrock, worked on landscaping, built a backyard fence, and replaced the bathroom.

"It's been an incredible experience to be here," Laura says. "If you have a chance to do something like this, I say go!" •

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference associate communication director

Youth Harness Energy for Skagit Valley

The energetic youth at the North Cascade Church in Burlington, Wash., were recently named volunteers of the day after the youth group participated in a local environmental project.

Youth and adult staff teamed up with Puget Sound Energy for a service event called "Rock the Bulb." The event was held at a local Lowes store in Mt. Vernon, Wash., and provided a way to harness the energy of youth and put it to good use to impact the local community.

This project provided an opportunity to demonstrate how Christians are called to take care of the earth and the people who live here.



The North Cascade youth group including Jimmy Jordan, Tim Williams, youth pastor, and Naomi Brigham were recently recognized as "volunteers of the day" for participating in an event called "Rock the Bulb."

The youth manned various stations in a fun, fair-like

environment geared toward educating people about

saving money, energy, and the environment. Several hundred people came through the event during a Sunday in September and had the opportunity to exchange old incandescent light bulbs for new energy efficient bulbs for free.

As the day came to a close, the youth were named the volunteers of the day by Puget Sound Energy and Project Porchlight. They made a lasting impact on the environment and got to know each other and local residents better by using their energy to make a positive contribution to the community. •

Tim Williams, North Cascade youth pastor

God Provides Bibles for Nicaragua

Oscar Alvarez had a predicament. He had just reconnected online with a missionary friend in Nicaragua — and she needed his help to find 50 Spanish Bibles for her students.

Alvarez researched the cost to purchase and ship Bibles to Nicaragua, then prayed for God’s guidance. “I knew God’s Word commanded us to spread His Word around the world,” he says, “and I couldn’t say no.”

Alvarez called Omar Grieve, Washington Conference Hispanic coordinator, and explained the situation.

“We’ll donate the Bibles,” Grieve said. “When can you pick them up?”



The next Sabbath, Alvarez shared his testimony of God’s leading at his home church in

Bellevue. He still didn’t have the shipping money, but he knew God would provide. After

church, a businessman in the church gave Alvarez a business card and said, “Give me a call. I want to pay for the whole shipping cost.”

Alvarez says he knows God will never let His children down: “If we are willing to step forward, to be His hands and feet, God will provide.”

Ten days after shipping the Bibles, the box arrived in Nicaragua, where students are now learning more about Jesus from the stories, prophecies, principles and wisdom for life contained in the Bible. •

Teresa Joy, Bellevue Church communication leader

Painting with a Prayer Young Adults Help Senior Citizen

Storm clouds were rolling in when a dozen young adults recently showed up to paint a gentleman’s house in Kent, Wash.

The volunteers knew this was their only time as a group to paint the house, and prayed for the storm to be averted. They popped open the buckets of donated paint and began painting. Wind started blowing, the clouds went to the south, and the young people kept on painting.

As they painted, the volunteers learned more about the gentleman they were helping. Walter Johnson, 92, had been studying the Bible with another denomination, and became so theologically



Young adult volunteers prepare to do a random act of kindness by painting Walter Johnson’s home. Johnson is 92 and appreciates the volunteer’s help.

confused his study partners told him he should study with the Seventh-day Adventists. Soon after Johnson met

Greg Schaller, Kent Church pastor, the two men began Bible studies. Johnson eventually joined the church

by profession of faith.

Schaller noticed one day Johnson’s house needed painting, and asked if he would allow them to paint his home. Johnson said, “You don’t know how much that would mean to me.”

With storm clouds all around, the volunteers steadily worked until they finished the job. They could see rain all around, but at Johnson’s house, it only sprinkled a little before the clouds moved on. Cleaning up the brushes, the young adults praised God for an answer to prayer. •

Sally Heristag, Kent Church communication leader

Artist Paints Creation Week for PSAA

About a year ago, Duane Childs and Sandie Beddoe, Puget Sound Adventist Academy volunteers, met in a downstairs hallway to hang a painting.

"The rest of the hallway looks bare," Childs said. "What we need are big-panel paintings

of the Creation Week."

"But who could we get to produce them?" Beddoe asked

Childs grinned. "Me," he said. Now retired, Child's lifetime of teaching included seven years teaching in the Auburn Adventist Academy art department. Childs produced

preliminary sketches, talked them over with Beddoe, and got to work painting in the light that flooded through his living room patio door.

As a young couple, Duane and Emily Childs were converts from another denomination, and fell even more deeply in love with a God who not only created the world but also provided a satisfying Sabbath rest for its inhabitants.

However, Day Seven panel turned out to be Child's toughest challenge — how does one paint "rest?" He finally decided on a broken-line cross, and a barely-suggested outline of the Ten Commandments with the brightest glow over the Fourth.

Childs gets a special pleasure from knowing students, hurrying from class to class,



Duane Childs and Sandie Beddoe hang the Creation Week canvases in a hallway at Puget Sound Adventist Academy just before the start of the school year.

will pause to look at his paintings. "I hope they'll help the students think about what God has done in making the world, and what He has done for them as well." •

*Maylan Schurch, Bellevue (Wash.)
Church pastor*



Duane Childs, who studied art in both the United States and Mexico, taught at Auburn Adventist Academy for seven years.

AAA Seniors Bond at Fort Flagler

Auburn Adventist Academy seniors bonded while exploring the barracks of Fort Flagler and enjoying the beauty of the Puget Sound during a retreat in early October. "We had fun mixing with our designated groups," says Michelle Morgan of Port Orchard, Wash. "I got to know people better who I didn't normally hang out with."

"The best part of the trip was exploring and being in nature," adds Karli Fredrickson of Sitka, Alaska.

From the scavenger hunt to the ice cream feed, hikes in the woods to quiet time alone, the senior retreat made an impact. "Fort Flagler helped me slow down from my busy life," says



Each year, seniors at Auburn Adventist Academy participate in a bonding weekend retreat. The seniors form the number 10 for the Class of 2010.

Rachel Coon of Sedro Woolley, Wash. "The retreat gave me a chance to relax and bond with

my fellow classmates."

Marvin Mitchell, principal, joined the seniors and

sponsors on their Fort Flagler adventure and comments, "The kids played, hiked and walked on the beach. Of course the highlights were the student-led worships, vespers and afterglow. There's just something special about sitting by a fire outside together."

As the Auburn seniors rode the ferry home, they reflected on their retreat. "Our trip gave everyone an opportunity to interact with people they didn't normally know," says Elizabeth Downs of Auburn, Wash. "We became a closer class because of it." •

*Jondelle D. McGhee, AAA
GLENER correspondent*

Faith in God

WWU Support Sets Stage for Service

This is part four of a four-part series highlighting WWU's vision statement:

Excellence in Thought
 Generosity in Service
 Beauty in Expression
Faith in God

Walking out of a coffee shop, Cas Anderson, 18, was drawn to music she heard coming from a nearby building. Discovering that it was an Improv worship service in progress, Anderson hesitated to go in at first, remembering a disappointing church service she had attended at age 15. She was not a church-goer, but this time was different. For the first time, the speaker was saying exactly what she needed to hear.

"I was stunned and surprised, and I almost bolted out of there. But I came back, many times," she says. "It was amazing. I also started attending the Walla



An Improv worship service opened the doors for Cas Anderson to come to Walla Walla University and eventually serve as a student missionary in the Philippines and Zimbabwe.

Walla University Church with a friend. From the moment I went, I knew it was right," says Anderson.

Karl Haffner, WWU's University Church pastor, who was presenting the service Anderson first attended, would be the first of several WWU people who had a hand in Anderson's spiritual journey.

Anderson's story is just one of the many untold stories about how a Walla Walla University pastor, student, faculty or staff member introduced a young person to God.

She eventually met Todd, a WWU freshman, through some WWU friends she knew from working Dairy Queen. He said he would go to church with her, and soon they also began studying the Bible together. For the first time, with Todd's encouragement, she read the Gospels. Todd, who she would later marry, also encouraged her to attend WWU. Not a possibility, she thought. In high school, she had gotten mostly Cs and Ds. How could she possibly get into college? Despite her poor grades, when she met with the admissions officer, he said, "I don't believe you're not smart. We will support you if you are willing to try."

Anderson says starting classes was terrifying, but by the end of the first term, she had earned Bs in all of her five classes. Her success came from "a combination of support that I had never had before," she says. "If you've never had faith in anything before, and you start believing this huge thing — every single aspect of your



Pictured here are: Cas and Todd Anderson with daughter Millie, born Sept. 8, 2009. In 2009, they both graduated from Walla Walla University, she with communications and he with aviation. They are now working on plans to be missionaries full-time.

life changes. Once you want to live to glorify God, everything from that point changes." She was baptized May 18, 2003, by Karl Haffner. She says, "I celebrate that day every year as my rebirth day."

A capstone to her Christian experience as a university student was mission service in the Philippines and Zimbabwe, a life-changing experience that led to her decision to become a career missionary. "I've had plenty of valleys to forge through and am always amazed when I come out to see that I didn't climb out; I was carried out," Anderson says. "God is so great — we don't even know He's working until we look back and see what He's done." •

Lisa Krueger, WWU GLEANER correspondent

more
WWU
news

Math Professor Delivers Distinguished Faculty Lecture

Annual Phonathon Supports WWU

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Active Adventist Health

Research shows the Pacific Northwest has the highest rates of breast cancer in the United States, and the staff at Tillamook County General Hospital realize how vital early detection is in fighting the disease. To encourage women to schedule mammograms, the hospital held a special mammography “spa day” to celebrate breast cancer awareness month in October. Patients who scheduled their mammograms for Oct. 20 received a free, rejuvenating, 10-minute neck and shoulder massage along with tea and chocolates, in a soothing spa-like atmosphere.

Top-tier hospital in Walla Walla

Walla Walla General Hospital was named among the top hospitals in the nation by Data Advantage, LLC, a national health care measurement organization. The hospital was recognized with a 2009–2010 Hospital Value Index™: Best in Value™ Award, and ranked among the top tier hospitals from

across the nation, achieving high marks in quality, affordability and efficiency, and patient satisfaction.

Portland hospital goes green with TriMet

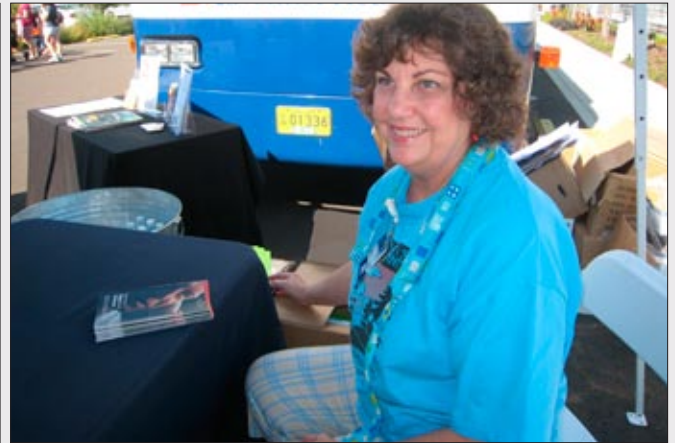
Portland Adventist Medical Center recently hosted a heart healthy stop for the area’s TriMet Green Line grand opening, featuring education to the community about heart healthy measures. Thousands of people from across Portland took the opportunity to try out the new light-rail line, taking 25,000 trips during the day. Nurses from the hospital’s Northwest Regional Heart Center volunteered their time to give blood pressure checks next to the Healthvan at the Main Street Station. In addition, the hospital gave out green grocery totes, apples and water to people who stopped by.

New report shows excellent quality in Walla Walla

Complete with a companion Web site, Walla Walla General Hospital recently unveiled its new quality report. The report highlights the hospital’s quality scores and initiatives, patient satisfaction and the expanding services offered on campus. The Web site takes the report to a new level with interactive features, patient testimonials and bonus information only found online. For more information, visit: <http://www.wwgh.com/quality>.

AMC dubbed a five-star facility for third year running

For the third consecutive year, Portland Adventist Medical Center received a national Five-Star Community Value Rating. The Community Value Index® (CVI) Five-Star Hospital Award is a national recognition



Sandra Dykes, a registered nurse in Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab, waits to visit with guests at the TriMet grand opening celebration.



Krista Lavoie, exercise physiologist in Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab, checks a visitor’s blood pressure.

that denotes a commitment to meeting the health care needs of the community in a financially responsible manner. The national evaluation, conducted by Cleverly Associates, utilizes a tool for objective assessment. The CVI contains three key areas of evaluation: financial viability and plant reinvestment, cost

structure and charge structure. The hospital was awarded the Five-Star Rating because it ranked in the top 20 percent of more than 3,000 hospitals included in the study. •

Shawna Malvini, *Adventist Health GLEANER* correspondent



Get a sneak peek in the Walla Walla General Hospital Quality Report. You can view the entire document by visiting: www.wwgh.com/quality.

ADVENTIST HEALTH

FYI



President of Adventist Risk Management Dies

Robert L. Sweezy, Adventist Risk Management died in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., on Oct. 16, 2009, at the age of 52. As risk manager for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Sweezy served as president of Gencon Insurance Company of Vermont, the church's captive insurer, and Gencon Insurance Company International, Ltd.

An ARM press release states that Sweezy will be remembered as someone who used his vision and direction to lead the company through challenging financial deficits when he took over in 1992. He worked to underwrite insurance policies that currently ensure 90 percent of the church's facilities and institutions worldwide. Sweezy was a 1980 graduate of Walla Walla University (then Walla Walla College).

Source: Adventist News Network

Former Adventist Communication Director Dies

James E. Chase, a Seventh-day Adventist radio evangelist and church administrator, who later served as the Adventist World Church communication director from 1979–1984, died in Loma Linda, Calif., on Sept. 11, 2009, at the age of 89. Chase served as Washington Conference president from 1972–1978, amid a career of distinguished service in communication and church administration. Chase visited 160 countries while representing the Adventist Church.

“James Chase will be remembered for his professional approach to diverse Adventist communication functions and response to the needs of his time,” says Rajmund Dabrowski, current Adventist World Church communication director. “Streamlining those functions serves the church well today.”

Source: Adventist News Network

Annual Growth Again Surpasses 1 Million

For the sixth year in a row the Seventh-day Adventist Church is reporting member gains of more than 1 million. During the year ending June 30, 2009, an average of 2,818 people joined the church every day, bringing the world membership total to 16,049,101 baptized believers. Church leaders initially projected a World Church membership of 17 million by 2009, but that number was reduced after corrected membership reports from several church regions.

Source: Adventist News Network

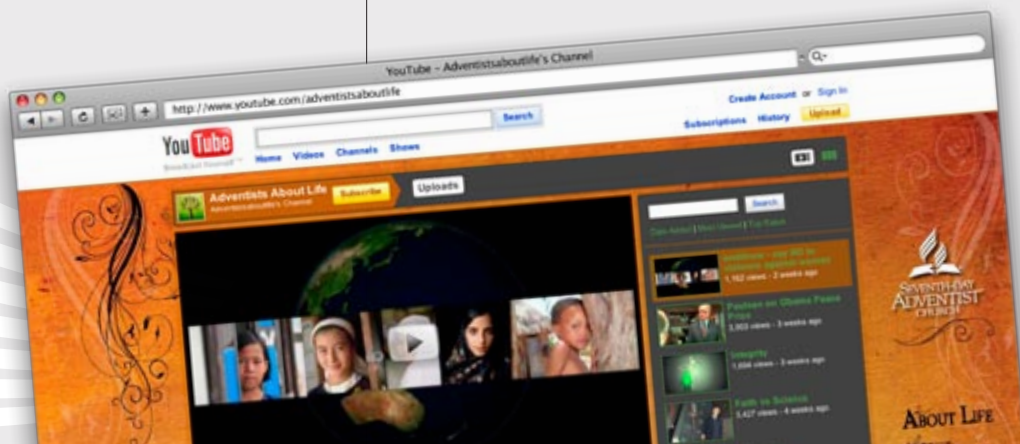
Adventists the Subject of New Documentary Film

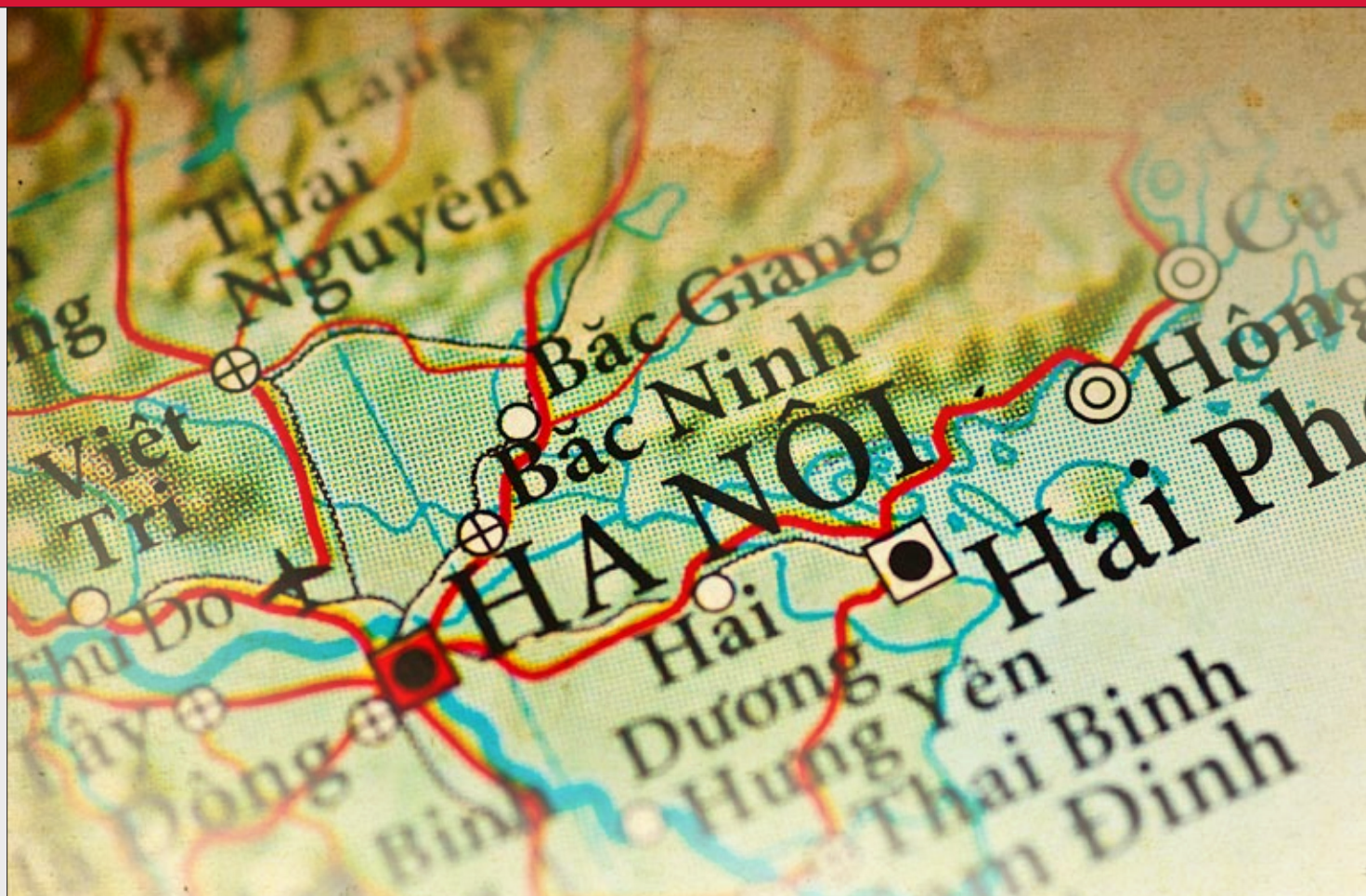
Award-winning documentary filmmaker Martin Doblmeier is releasing a new film that explores the body, mind and spirit connections inherent in the health message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The film will be available this month through Journey Films: www.journeyfilms.com. It is also scheduled to appear on PBS Television stations in April 2010.

New Adventist YouTube Series

A new video series launched by the Seventh-day Adventist Church on YouTube is offering viewers a distinctly Adventist take on a variety of social issues. *Adventists About Life* is a production of the World Church communication department, and features videos on topics such as freedom, the environment and faith versus science.

View the videos at: www.youtube.com/adventistsaboutlife.





Joyful *and* Triumphant

Senator John McCain of Arizona remembers hell on earth, for five and a half interminable years as prisoner of war of the North Vietnamese, as he and his fellow prisoners existed from one nightmarish day to another (those who didn't die, that is). But then came one unforgettable Christmas Eve . . .

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant . . .

We sang little above a whisper, our eyes darting anxiously up to the barred windows for any sign of the guards.

“Joyful and triumphant?” Clad in tattered prisoner-of-war clothes, I looked around at the two dozen men huddled in a North Vietnamese prison cell. Light bulbs hanging from the ceiling illuminated a gaunt and wretched group of men — grotesque caricatures of what had once been clean-shaven, superbly fit Air Force, Navy and Marine pilots and navigators.

We shivered from the damp night air and the fevers that plagued a number of us. Some men were permanently stooped from the effects of torture; others limped or leaned on makeshift crutches.

O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels . . .

What a pathetic sight we were. Yet here, this Christmas Eve 1971, we were together for the first time, some after seven years of harrowing isolation and mistreatment at the hands of a cruel enemy.

We were keeping Christmas — the most special Christmas any of us ever would observe.

There had been Christmas services in North Vietnam in previous years, but they had been spiritless, ludicrous stage shows, orchestrated by the Vietnamese for propaganda purposes. This was *our* Christmas service, the only one we had ever been allowed to hold — though we feared that, at any moment, our captors might change their minds.

I had been designated chaplain by our senior-ranking P.O.W. officer, Colonel George “Bud” Day, USAF. As we sang “O Come, All Ye Faithful,” I looked down at the few sheets of paper upon which I had penciled the Bible verses that tell the story of Christ’s birth.

I recalled how, a week earlier, Colonel Day had asked the camp commander for a Bible. No, he was told, there were no Bibles in North Vietnam. But four days later, the camp commander had come into our communal cell to announce, “We have found one Bible in Hanoi, and you can designate one person to copy from it for a few minutes.”

Colonel Day had requested that I perform the task. Hastily I leafed through the worn book the Vietnamese had placed on a table just outside our cell door in the prison yard. I furiously copied the Christmas passages until a guard approached and took the Bible away.

The service was simple. After saying the Lord’s Prayer, we sang Christmas carols, some of us mouthing the words until our pain-clouded memories caught up with our voices. Between each hymn I would read a portion of the story of Jesus’ birth.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

Captain Quincy Collins, a former choir director from the Air Force Academy, led the hymns. At first, we were

nervous and stilted in our singing. Still burning in our memories was the time, almost a year before, when North Vietnamese guards had burst in on our church service, beaten the three men leading the prayers, and dragged them away to confinement. The rest of us were locked away for 11 months in three-by-five-foot cells. Indeed, this Christmas service was in part a defiant celebration of the return to our regular prison in Hanoi.

And as the service progressed, our boldness increased, the singing swelled. “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing,” “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear.” Our voices filled the cell, bound together as we shared the story of the Babe “away in a manger, no crib for a bed.”

Finally it came time to sing perhaps the most beloved hymn:

Silent night, Holy night! All is calm, all is bright, . . .

A half-dozen of the men were too sick to stand. They sat on the raised concrete sleeping platform that ran down the middle of the cell. Our few blankets were placed around the shaking shoulders of the sickest men to protect them against the cold. Even these men looked up transfixed as we sang that hymn.

Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild, . . .

Tears rolled down our unshaven faces. Suddenly we were 2000 years and half a world away in a village called Bethlehem. And neither war,

nor torture, nor imprisonment, nor the centuries themselves had dimmed the hope born on that silent night so long before.

Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

We had forgotten our wounds, our hunger, our pain. We raised prayers of thanks for the Christ child, for our families and homes, for our country. There was an absolutely exquisite feeling that all our burdens had been lifted. In a place designed to turn men into vicious animals, we clung to one another, sharing what comfort we had.

Some of us had managed to make crude gifts. One fellow had a precious commodity — a cotton washcloth. Somewhere he had found needle and thread and fashioned the cloth into a hat, which he gave to Colonel Bud Day. Some men exchanged dog tags. Others had used prison spoons to scratch out an IOU on bits of paper — some imaginary thing we wished another to have. We exchanged those chits with smiles and tearful thanks.

The Vietnamese guards did not disturb us. But as I looked up at the barred windows, I wished they had been looking in. I *wanted* them to see us — faithful, joyful and, yes, triumphant.

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*John McCain,
United States senator*

Kegley 50th

Albert and Marjorie Kegley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends, the last weekend of March at their home in Shelton, Wash.

The Kegley's met on a blind date to the Puyallup Fair in 1958. They've spent all of their married life in Western Washington where Albert owned and operated a log trucking business. Marjorie, after raising their family, worked and retired from the Washington State Department of Health.

Throughout the years, the Kegley's were involved with the Olympia Church. Albert served as an elder for many years, and Marjorie served as a deaconess. In 2004, they retired, sold their home in Olympia, Wash., and moved to Shelton. They are now active members of the Shelton Church, and enjoy traveling in their motor home with the RV Club.

Their family includes Laura Kimbrough of Olympia, Wash.; Pam and JP Wegmuller of Cleveland, Tenn.; Karen Kegley of Olympia, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

Sarve 50th

Bob and Shirley Sarve celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 30 with a reception at the College Place (Wash.) Church.

Robert Martin Sarve met Shirley Louise Bollinger at the WWVA Lodge on an outing with Walla Walla College. They were married Aug. 30, 1959, in Billings, Mont. They have lived the last 42 years in the home they built together in College Place, except for a few years spent in Iran and Saudi Arabia.

Bob started in 1960 as a structural engineer with the Corp of Engineers. He worked

overseas in Iran (1965) and in Saudi Arabia (1981-1985) with the Corp. Most of his work involved designing bridges and fish ladders on the Snake and Columbia rivers. Shirley raised the family, and worked in local restaurants, using her talent as a cook and baker. She also ventured into driving the school bus for the Milton-Stateline Adventist School until her retirement.

Since retirement they have enjoyed traveling, volunteering for Gospel Outreach and Rosario Beach, and playing with their children and grandchildren.

The Sarve family includes Kevin and Sandra (Matthews) Sarve of College Place, Wash.; Celeste and Kyle Maddocks of Milton-Freewater, Ore.; and 2 grandchildren.



Dorothy Smith

Smith 100th

On Sept. 18, 2009, Dorothy Smith of College Place, Wash., reached her 100th birthday. Close neighbors helped her celebrate with dinner at the Thai Ploy restaurant in Walla Walla, Wash.

Dorothy was born on Sept. 18, 1909, in Michigan, where she grew up and was educated, attaining a 4-year graduate

nursing degree. She was known as quite a "tomboy" in those years.

She traveled to different states with her parents, as they moved occasionally. As a young woman, she exhibited her independent nature when Dorothy backpacked... ALONE.... around Mt. Hood, Ore.

Throughout her nursing career she worked in Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Arizona, Nevada and Washington. As an Army nurse during World War II, she was stationed in Bristol, England. She was an operating room supervisor for 25 years in Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital, where she ran a tight ship, so to speak, which earned her the jovial title of "the calcified battle-axe." However, it was through the influence of an Adventist doctor she worked with that she became an Adventist. After moving to College Place, she spent 20 years in volunteer work at the Walla Walla General Hospital.

For many years she played the piano and organ, and enjoyed gardening, but finally retired in the early 1990s. At age 93, she acquired her first computer, which she still enjoys for e-mailing and making greeting cards.

She still likes to walk about in the neighborhood as often as possible, often accompanied by her daughter, Suzanne Burris.

Van Tassel 65th

On Feb. 6, 2009, Dean and Vi Van Tassel celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in Redmond, Ore., where they live.

As a young man during the summer of 1941, Dean was visited by one of the staff of Columbia Academy and was invited to become a student that fall. He was to be a senior at the Redmond High School,

and had served as junior class president. He considered the invitation very seriously because the evolutionary theory had just been introduced into the public school system. His parents made it possible for him to attend and took him to Columbia Academy.

Vi Walters had attended Columbia Grade School and two years at the academy. She was working in the kitchen when she looked out the window to see Dean arriving on campus, and she giggled out, "There is my man!" They have been "going steady" ever since. In fact, some four years later they were married in the Meadow Glade Church located next to Columbia Academy.

Because of World War II, many plans for further education were changed. Dean was offered a Farm Deferment from the armed services. He purchased the ranch next to his parents so he would be able to help Uncle Sam fill the huge need for food. Now, with an empty house, Dean and Vi were married and lived there. When the war ended, they moved to the Walla Walla College area where Dean graduated with a theology major; and Vi graduated with her "P.H.T." (Putting Hubby Thru) degree. Two daughters joined the family: Carol Marie in 1952, and Sheri Verdean in 1956.

They have worked side by side for 65 years in pastoral, education and conference leadership in the Idaho, Upper Columbia, Washington, West Virginia and Oregon Conferences.

The Van Tassel family includes Carol Marie Libke of Redmond, Ore.; Sheri Verdean Odom of Redmond, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Family
B I R T H S

ANDRADE—Bianca Lauren Oliveira was born Sept. 23, 2009, to Emerson and Heliene Dias de Araujo Oliveira Andrade, Sammamish, Wash.

BARTHOLOMEW—Bradley James was born June 5, 2009, to Michael and Tara (Spiker) Bartholomew, Corona, Calif.

BARTHOLOMEW—Lindee Leigh was born Sept. 17, 2009, to Rodney and Jennifer (Rathjen) Bartholomew, Spokane, Wash.

BLACKHAM—Abigail Lyn was born Aug. 21, 2009, to Calvin and Jennifer (Day) Blackham, Walla Walla, Wash.

HERNANDEZ—Noah Daniel was born June 17, 2009, to Daniel and Betsy (SanJuan) Hernandez, Klamath Falls, Ore.

JEFFERY—Eleanor Sha're was born July 19, 2009, to Michael and Tonia (Frazier) Jeffery, Hayden Lake, Idaho.

JOHNSON—Kaylee Ann was born Sept. 30, 2009, to James and Rebekah (Phillips) Johnson, Springfield, Ore.

LAUSEVIC—Noah V. was born Oct. 30, 2008, to Robert and Sarah (Van Belle) Lausevic, Hillsboro, Ore.

LEMON—Isaac Adrian was born Sept. 29, 2009, to Thomas L. II and Michelle A. (McFeron) Lemon, Weiser, Idaho.

LUDT—Lincoln Patrick was born Sept. 22, 2009, to Geoff and Rachel (Cafferky) Ludt, Portland, Ore.

LUTTON—Landon James was born Aug. 20, 2009, to Lawrence (Selders) and Natalie Lutton, Meridian, Idaho.

MATHEY—Marie Elizabeth was born Sept. 25, 2009, to James and Denise (Dana) Mathey, Redland, Calif.

MCCORT—Walter Paul was born Aug. 28, 2009, to Josh and Tammy (Jacobson) McCort, Bellingham, Wash.

MICHAELS—Noah Levi was born Sept. 2, 2009, to Jordan C. and Tiffany N. (Wright) Michaels, Walla Walla, Wash.

NELSON—Sadie Ashley was born April 29, 2009, to Greg and Heidi (Boggs) Nelson, Campbell, Calif.

RUSSELL—Robert Thomas James was born Sept. 22, 2009, to Jonathan and Jaclyn (Dove) Russell, Vancouver, Wash.

Family
W E D D I N G S

ANDREWS-CROMWELL—Summer Andrews and Tim Cromwell were married Aug. 2, 2009, in Walla Walla, Wash. They are making their home in Chehalis, Wash. Summer is the daughter of Mark and Barbara Andrews. Tim is the son of Steve and Betty Cromwell.

BOGGS-HYTINEN—Rae Boggs and Ed Hytinen were married Aug. 15, 2009, in Chewelah, Wash., where they are making their home. Rae is the daughter of Reuben and Joyce Depner. Ed is the son of Leo and Grace Hytinen.

CLARK-KNIGHT—Karalee Clark and Derek Knight were married Aug. 16, 2009, in Yakima, Wash., where they are making their home. Karalee is the daughter of Larry and Marilyn Clark. Derek is the son of Fred and Nadine Knight.

COOK-KORCEK—Ashlene J. Cook and Lucas S. Korcek were married Aug. 23, 2009, in Oregon City, Ore. They are making their home in Loma Linda, Calif. Ashlene is the daugh-

ter of Charles and Denise S. (Pipers) Cook. Lucas is the son of Douglas and Mary (Forman) Korcek.

FIEDLER-FERREL—Katrina Fiedler and Jesse Ferrel were married Sept. 13, 2009, in Port Townsend, Wash. They are making their home in Port Angeles, Wash. Katrina is the daughter of Vaun and Karen (Gates) Fiedler. Jesse is the son of Kelly and Cindy (Peters) Ferrel.

FIRMAN-TRETHEWEY—Larissa Firman and Matthew Trethewey were married July 12, 2009, in Auburn, Wash. They are making their home in Lincoln, Neb. Larissa is the daughter of Larry and Dixie Firman. Matthew is the son of Mark and Kerry (White) Trethewey.

HERSCHER-LOCH—Trisha Kelsey Herscher and Randall Beckett Paden Loch were married July 19, 2009, in Roseburg, Ore. They are making their home in Loma Linda, Calif. Trisha is the daughter of Luke and Barb Herscher. Randall is the son of Kevin and Wendy Loch.

LANTO-LEHMAN—Jina Lanto and Jared Lehman were married Sept. 20, 2009, in Nampa, Idaho. They are making their home in Lacey, Wash. Jina is the daughter of Steve and Ginetto (Benwell) Lanto. Jared is the son of Stan and Rita (Sell) Lehman.

MITCHELL-SCHNABEL—Kathilyne Mitchell and Landon Schnabel were married Sept. 6, 2009, in Walla Walla, Wash. They are making their home in College Place, Wash. Kathilyne is the daughter of Ned Mitchell and Paula Martin. Landon is the son of Rodney and Wendy Schnabel.

MONTAGUE-SCHWISOW—Sarah Maria Montague and Edwin Darel Schwisow were married July 19, 2009, in Battle Ground, Wash. They are making their home in Vancouver, Wash. Sarah is the daughter of Robert and Kari Montague. Edwin is the son of Edwin and Cheryl Schwisow.

NEWBY-FARTHING—Nina Newby and Brian Farthing were married Sept. 2, 2009, in Oregon

City, Ore. They are making their home in Gresham, Ore. Nina is the daughter of David and Karen Newby. Brian is the son of Arlin and Sue (Hall) Farthing.

SMITH-MACE—Rachel Smith and Taylor Mace were married Aug. 9, 2009, in Milton-Freewater, Ore. They are making their home in Moscow, Idaho. Rachel is the daughter of Bob and Susan Smith. Taylor is the son of Terry and Tricia Mace.

SPURGEON-JOHNSON—Kristi Lynne Spurgeon and Paul Whitney Johnson III were married Sept. 7, 2009, in Port Townsend, Wash. They are making their home in College Place, Wash. Kristi is the daughter of Robert and Kerri Spurgeon. Whitney is the son of Whitney and Jeanette Johnson.

THALASINOS-CLARK—Jenatte Thalasin and Dave Clark were married May 3, 2009, in San Diego, Calif. They are making their home in Yakima, Wash. Jenatte is the daughter of John and Terry Thalasin. Dave is the son of Larry and Marilyn Clark.

Family
A T R E S T

BARNES—Pearl K. (Campbell), 75; born Feb. 11, 1934, Parshall, N.D.; died Aug. 29, 2009, Bellevue, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Kellie Caffey, Bellevue; and 2 grandchildren.

CLARK—Charles “Chuck” E., 95; born May 28, 1914, St. John, Wash.; died Aug. 13, 2009, Enterprise, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Barbara Wassom, Sisters, Ore.; Carolyn Lipscomb, Arabi, Ga.; 3 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

COX—John “Wayne,” 86; born Dec. 6, 1922, Joseph, Ore.; died May 16, 2009, Payette, Idaho. Surviving: daughter, Vicky Cox, Fruitland, Idaho; and 4 grandchildren.

DRAKE—Loretta P. (Bauer), 98; born Oct. 11, 1910, Wheat Belt, Alberta, Canada; died Aug. 21, 2009, Woodland, Calif.

DUNGAN—Jeanne Louise (Pulley), 85; born July 22, 1924, Council Bluffs, Iowa; died Aug. 20, 2009, Tacoma, Wash. Surviving: sons, Rod, Tacoma; Mike, Auburn, Wash.; brothers, Don Pulley, Federal Way, Wash.; Edward Pulley, Eatonville, Wash.; sister, Virginia Smith, Puyallup, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

ERBENICH—Karl, 87; born April 22, 1922, Bockenheim, Germany; died Aug. 15, 2009, Port Angeles, Wash. Surviving: wife, Inge (Leitzbach); sons, Gerhard, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada; Alfred, Walla Walla, Wash.; Norman, Maple Valley, Wash.; Gordon, Renton, Wash.; daughter, Lorika Erbenich, Sequim, Wash.; 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

GLASSFORD—Ernest, 80; born March 3, 1929, Redding, Calif.; died May 15, 2009, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: wife, Helen Lucille; sons, William, Roseburg; Eddie, Yucaipa, Calif.; daughter, Donna Voth, Roseburg; brother, Rollyn, Roseburg; sisters, Ardith Schneider, Escondido, Calif.; Carolyn Cambell, Congress, Ariz.; 9 grandchildren and 8 great-

grandchildren.

GURGEL—Ruth Adeline (Gladden), 99; born June 30, 1909, Kansas City, Kan.; died March 25, 2009, Grants Pass, Ore. Surviving: son, Leslie E., Mountlake Terrace, Wash.; daughters, Jeannette M. Eickert, El Dorado Hills, Calif.; Bonnie C. Maffett, Grants Pass; sister, Betty Thomann, Forest Hills, Calif.; 10 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

JAMES—Milton, 90; born Sept. 16, 1918, Shanghai, China; died May 3, 2009, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: wife, Nellie (Hodson); son, Arthur, Canyonville, Ore.; and a grandchild.

LEE—Winona Belle (Lowe), 85; born Dec. 13, 1923, Portland, Ore.; died Aug. 19, 2009, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: husband, William R.; son, William H., Bozeman, Mont.; daughters, Laura Avery, Vancouver, Wash.; Cheryl Nelson, Sandy, Ore.; Lisa Moore, Nampa; stepbrother, Larry Seery, Alvarado, Texas; stepsister, Connie Spaulding, San Diego, Calif.; 7 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

LOWRY—Oliver Irvin, 95; born Aug. 30, 1913, Stroud, Okla.; died June 14, 2009, Cleburne, Texas. Surviving: wife, Dixie (Robinson); sons, Edward, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; James, Salem, Ore.; stepsons, Daniel Wamack, Kennedale, Texas; Douglas Wamack, Eau Claire, Mich.; daughters, Dorothy Pavlic, Spokane, Wash.; Roberta O’Hara, Stevensville, Mont.; stepdaughters, Teresa Pinkston, Cleburne, Texas; Brenda Honeycutt, Burleson, Texas; sisters, Geneva Law and Jennafaye Reynolds, both of Exeter, Calif.; 14 grandchildren, 9 step-grandchildren and 11 step-great-grandchildren.

MAI—Diana Gail (Phillips), 70; born Oct. 18, 1938, Portland, Ore.; died Jan. 17, 2009, Clackamas, Ore. Surviving: son, Douglas, Clackamas; daughter, Kelly Parker, Gresham, Ore.; sister,

Judith Kraft, Portland; 5 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

MONROE—Irene E. (Reynolds), 87; born Jan. 16, 1922, Philomath, Ore.; died Aug. 8, 2009, Corvallis, Ore. Surviving: sons, Dennis, Philomath; Kenneth, Corvallis; daughters, Sandra Farmer, Portland, Ore.; Linda Monroe, Corvallis; brothers, Clarence Reynolds and Emil Reynolds, both of College Place, Wash.; 12 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

MOSES—Pearl M. (Trudgeon), 90; born Sept. 29, 1918, Granada, Colo.; died Aug. 13, 2009, Sublimity, Ore. Surviving: husband, Robert; son, Roy, Eagle Point, Ore.; daughter, Marcia Holub, Stayton, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

NEWLUN—Buster R., 83; born March 16, 1926, Medford, Ore.; died Aug. 13, 2009, Klamath Falls, Ore. Surviving: brothers, Vernon, Dairy, Ore.; Bill, Las Vegas, Nev.; and sister, Luella Dunham, Hermiston, Ore.

PHELPS—Geraldine R. (Ryan), 81; born March 19, 1928, Springfield, Ore.; died Aug. 13, 2009, Clackamas, Ore. Surviving: husband, Dell, Gladstone, Ore.

PLINE—Patricia (Willis), 67; born Oct. 19, 1941, Emmett, Idaho; died Aug. 25, 2009, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Larry; sons, Steve and Ken, both of Nampa, Idaho; daughter, Teresa Laude; sisters, Betty Heffel; Mary Walters; and 5 grandchildren.

POWELL—Mona E. (Lee), 87; born Aug. 22, 1921, Oak Grove, Tenn.; died July 24, 2009, Springfield, Ore. Surviving: son, Ray, Corvallis, Ore.; daughter, Wanda Smith, Springfield; 4 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

RUSSELL—Edward Elda, 91; born Sept. 10, 1917, Spokane, Wash.; died Aug. 17, 2009, Spokane. Surviving: son, Loney, Spokane; and 3 grandchildren.

SANDERS—A. Ruby (Waters), 90; born May 7, 1919, Chattanooga, Tenn.; died Aug. 21, 2009, Colville, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Lois Lally, Rice, Wash.; brothers, David Waters, Redmond, Ore.; Herbert Waters, College Place, Wash.; George Waters, Casa Grande, Ariz.; sisters, Myrtle Sumerlin, Canyonville, Ore.; Juanita Tupper, Rochester, Wash.; 2 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and a step-great-grandchild.

SMITH—Winona Gail (Smith) Osgood McCallum, 67; born Nov. 13, 1941, Palo Alto, Calif.; died July 15, 2009, Hermiston, Ore. Surviving: son, Ronald Osgood, Hermiston; stepson, Jon McCallum, Payette, Idaho; daughters, Sharon (Osgood) Martin, Kennewick, Wash.; Catherine (Osgood) Plata, Newman, Calif.; stepdaughter, Shannon McCallum, of Kansas; 7 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

SPADY—Louis C., 86; born June 29, 1923, Midvale, Idaho; died Aug. 7, 2009, Prosser, Wash. Surviving: wife, LaRene (Warren); son, Jay, Port Orchard, Wash.; daughter, Billy Jean Knight, Grandview, Wash.; sister, Gertrude Edmondson, Providence, R.I.; and 3 grandchildren.

WHITEHEAD—Joan A. (Maggs), 89; born March 30, 1920, Aldermaston, Berkshire, England; died June 22, 2009, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Stella Whitehead and Helen Teske, both of Yakima; sister, Barbara Hopper, Folkestone, England; and 2 grandchildren.

YATES—Joyce A. (Bishop), 69; born Sept. 18, 1939, in California; died Aug. 17, 2009, Sumner, Wash. Surviving: son, Duwayne, Grand Junction, Colo.; daughters, Diana Yates and Denise Haasi, both of Sumner; Debbie Beasle and Darla Kohls, both of Grand Junction; and 11 grandchildren.

HealthyChoices

with *Dr. Don Hall*

Say “No” to Late Night Dining

When trying to lose weight, people have often been told to not eat anything after 6 or 7 p.m. Northwestern University did an experiment to see if this was true. They fed two groups of mice an identical high-fat diet — but fed them at different times. (Mice are better volunteers than people.) The control group was fed during the active part of their day. The experimental group was fed shortly before they went to sleep for the day. At the end of the six-week period, the control rats gained 20 percent of their body weight, but the experimental group simulating late-night eaters showed a 48 percent increase.

While the study should be repeated with human volunteers, it does suggest late-night eating may contribute to excessive weight gain. Study researchers also pointed out that, in our society today, most people eat the majority of their calories after sunset — and more than 60 percent of all adults are overweight.

Other research shows if you go to bed with a full stomach, the body stores extra fat most of the night. When sleeping with an empty stomach, your body burns almost pure fat during the night (mobilizing energy from fat stores).



Enjoy Life for Health

Researchers have discovered people who don't have much fun may be nearly twice as likely to die from a heart attack as those who enjoy life the most. Their studies also showed stroke levels of the group were also significantly higher (75 percent). For heart health, take time to have some fun — it's part of a balanced lifestyle. Take time to enjoy good friends, good food, good music and good experiences.

Walk in the park. You will not only enjoy life more, but you will also be healthier and live longer.



Don Hall, DrPH, CHES, is founder and chairman of Wellsorce, Inc.



A N N O U N C E M E N T S

NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offerings

Dec. 5—Local Church Budget; **Dec. 12**—World Budget: Inner City; **Dec. 19**—Local Church Budget; **Dec. 26**—Local Conference Advance.

Special Days

Curriculum Focus for the Month—Christian Hospitality
Dec. 5—Bible Sabbath; **Dec. 5**—Youth Baptismal Sabbath.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

Dec. 11—Department of Music Christmas Concert, 6 and 8 p.m., University Church; **Dec. 5, 6, 10, 12 and 13**—WWU drama presents the play *A Shayna Maidel*, 8 p.m.; **Dec. 17–Jan. 2**—Christmas break.

OREGON

Mike Bishop Concert

Dec. 5—Mike Bishop will speak and sing songs from his new CD project, “Not On My Own,” during the 11 o’clock service and sing with his sister Marlynn Bishop at 4 p.m., at the Woodburn Community Adventist Church, 1100 6th St., Woodburn, OR. If you have enjoyed his previous CDs, “Rise Again,” and “My Hymnal: The Fourth Generation,” you won’t want to miss these concerts.

Follow the Star

Dec. 4–6 and 11–13—Follow the Star 8th annual outdoor Live Nativity and holiday musical event at the Gladstone Conference Center grounds, 19800 Oatfield Rd., Gladstone, OR, 97027. For

more information, visit www.followthestar.us. Admission is free, but come early as gates close when evening capacity is reached. Gates open at 6 p.m. on Fridays and 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Prayer Quest Prayer Conference

Jan. 8–9—at the Gladstone Park Church, 1475 Ohlson Rd., Gladstone, OR, 97027. Begin the new year with a renewed prayer and devotional life. Presenters: Dave and Ginny Allen, Paul and Corleen Johnson. For more information and to pre-register, visit www.gladstonepark.org.

Columbia Academy Class of 1950 Alumni Gathering

Feb. 13—Columbia Academy’s class of 1950, come to the Fountain of Youth Spa in Niland, CA. RV parking and rental units are available. Columbia Academy Alumni will be hosting the services on **Feb. 9**, with a potluck dinner to follow. For more information regarding the spa, call (760) 354-1340. For more information regarding this event, call Ben Ward at (509) 520-1383 or Lorena Lee at (541) 270-2447.

Hood View Junior Academy’s 50th Reunion

Sept. 18–19—Save the date for Hood View Junior Academy’s 50th Reunion. Since 1960, HVJA has been preparing people for a Christ-centered life. All alumni, students, parents, friends and supporters of Hood View are invited to attend this once in a lifetime event. Register at www.hvja.org to receive more information.

UPPER COLUMBIA

Missing Members

The Irrigon Church is seeking information regarding the following missing members: Charissa Baisley, Robert Brown, Theresa Long and Kennette Sue Tunison. If you

have any information, please contact Lavenia Casey at (541) 567-1171.

WASHINGTON

Sing-A-Long Messiah Sabbath

Dec. 5—Sing-A-Long Messiah Sabbath in the Chehalis Church sanctuary at 4 p.m. A choir and orchestra, directed by Carolyn Vian, will lead the congregation in singing Handel’s “Messiah.” Chehalis Church, 120 Chilvers Rd., Chehalis, WA, 98532. For more information, call (360) 748-4330.

WORLD CHURCH

Gospel Music Directory

Advent Source is compiling a Gospel Music Directory. The directory will be distributed to all of the pastors and conference officials within the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is their desire to inform our church leaders of the musicians (i.e. singers, praise and worship leaders, pianist, organist) within our church. If you are an Adventist musician and would like to be included in the directory, please e-mail the following information to Advent Source: Name, photo, current resident, home church or church you attend, short biography, contact info and Web site or MySpace page address. E-mail this information to Tina at tina@adventsource.org. Submission deadline is **Dec. 31, 2009**.

Sunset Schedule

December	4	11	18	25
ALASKA CONFERENCE				
Anchorage	3:47	3:41	3:40	3:44
Fairbanks	2:54	2:43	2:40	2:44
Juneau	3:10	3:06	3:06	3:10
Ketchikan	3:19	3:16	3:16	3:20
IDAHO CONFERENCE				
Boise	5:08	5:08	5:10	5:14
La Grande	4:10	4:10	4:11	4:15
Pocatello	4:56	4:56	4:57	5:01
MONTANA CONFERENCE				
Billings	4:30	4:30	4:31	4:35
Havre	4:24	4:23	4:25	4:28
Helena	4:41	4:41	4:42	4:46
Miles City	4:17	4:16	4:18	4:22
Missoula	4:48	4:47	4:49	4:53
OREGON CONFERENCE				
Coos Bay	4:41	4:41	4:43	4:47
Medford	4:39	4:39	4:41	4:44
Portland	4:28	4:27	4:29	4:32
UCC CONFERENCE				
Pendleton	4:12	4:11	4:13	4:16
Spokane	3:59	3:58	3:59	4:03
Walla Walla	4:08	4:08	4:09	4:13
Wenatchee	4:11	4:10	4:12	4:16
Yakima	4:15	4:14	4:16	4:20
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE				
Bellingham	4:15	4:13	4:15	4:19
Seattle	4:19	4:18	4:19	4:23

Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

Can't remember the date for that concert?

Search Online by event at:



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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks professor in the Mathematics Department beginning August 2010. Candidates will hold a doctoral degree in mathematics or mathematics education. Applicants with expertise in real analysis and/or geometry, and are qualified to direct secondary mathematics teacher education program. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae (including a statement of teaching philosophy), and at least three references to: Kevin Brown, Mathematics Department, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370.

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Local Conference Directory

ALASKA

Ken Crawford, president; Ed Dunn, secretary; Sharon Staddon, treasurer; 6100 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507-7200; (907) 346-1004; www.alaskaconference.org.

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Stephen McPherson, president; Donald A. Klinger, secretary; Harold Dixon III, treasurer; 7777 Fairview, Boise, ID 83704-8418; (208) 375-7524; www.idahoadventist.org.

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John Loor, Jr., president; Ray Jimenez III, v.p. for administration and finance; 175 Canyon View Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715; (406) 587-3101; www.montanaconference.org.

OREGON

Al Reimche, president; Dave Allen, v.p. for administration; Jon Corder, v.p. for finance; 19800 Oatfield Road, Gladstone, OR 97027-2546; (503) 850-3500; www.oregonconference.org.

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Robert Folkenberg Jr., president; Doug R. Johnson, v.p. for administration; Myron Iseninger, v.p. for finance; 15918 E. Euclid Ave., Spokane Valley, WA 99216-1815; P.O. Box 19039, Spokane, WA 99219-9039; (509) 838-2761; www.uccsda.org.

WASHINGTON

John Freedman, president; Doug Bing, v.p. for administration; Jerry S. Russell, v.p. for finance; 32229 Weyerhaeuser Way S., Federal Way, WA 98001; (253) 681-6008; www.washingtonconference.org.

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks an instructor in the School of Journalism & Communication to teach public relations, advertising or new media. Candidates must have at least a master's degree, and preferably a doctorate, in the field, as well as professional work experience. They must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in good and regular standing. Send CV to Dr. Greg Rumsey; PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; rumsey@southern.edu.

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When Angels Sing



We were a motley crew of summer camp counselors and staff — picked for our characters, not our musical talents. But we'd been asked to provide a special vesper service in the church bowl in Yosemite Valley.

There, in the outdoor granite cathedral, the vesper crowd was transient — family campers, curious rock climbers, bikers. I have very little recollection of the program we put on, except for the climactic musical ending. The song had gone quite well in practice back at camp. That evening in the valley it did not. In fact, as I recall, it was rather chaotic. Basses disappeared, sopranos sharpened, altos wilted and tenors flattened.

But as we slunk back toward the camp van and merciful escape, a hand reached out, gripped my arm, and stopped me in my tracks. In the dim firelight, I could barely make out a scruffy young man with a backpack over one shoulder. "Hey man," he said, "I liked that last song. It really made me think." And just that quickly he was gone.

That song? I thought about it on the way back to camp, and decided I had missed the angels there that night.

Every time we think our performance is amazingly good, or horribly bad, we have to remember the angel choir. We have to remember there are divine forces at work on behalf of humankind who bridge the gap between the seen and the unseen, the heard and the unheard.

Good King Jehoshaphat couldn't fight on the enemy's terms, but he listened carefully to the prophet's

exhortation: "Do not be afraid or dismayed ... the battle is not yours but God's," (2 Chron. 20:15). So he mustered a choir instead and marched to meet the foe, believing in the power of the heavenly host.

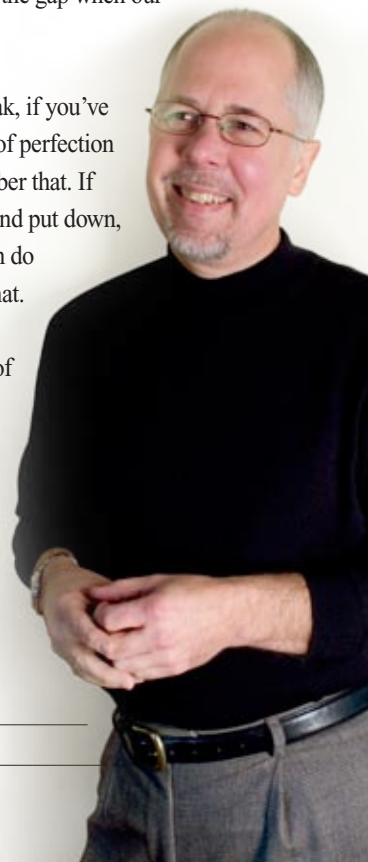
And there on the Judean hillside an angelic choir accomplished what religious leaders had failed to do — announce the coming Savior, to a star-struck group of shepherds.

Scriptures remind us even when we pray, even in our most intimate moments with God, our words are inadequate. Paul in Romans 8:26 describes how the Holy Spirit "makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." It's that sort of partnership which brings about the familiar promise two verses later: "All things work together for good."

The Holy Spirit and angelic host stand ready work together for good, to bridge the gap when our best efforts fall short.

If you're a performance freak, if you've been taught anything short of perfection is not good enough, remember that. If you've been pushed down and put down, insecure and unsure you can do anything right, remember that.

In even the most mundane of daily events, stop, look and listen. Maybe, just maybe, you will hear the angels sing.



"There on the Judean hillside an angelic choir accomplished what religious leaders had failed to do."

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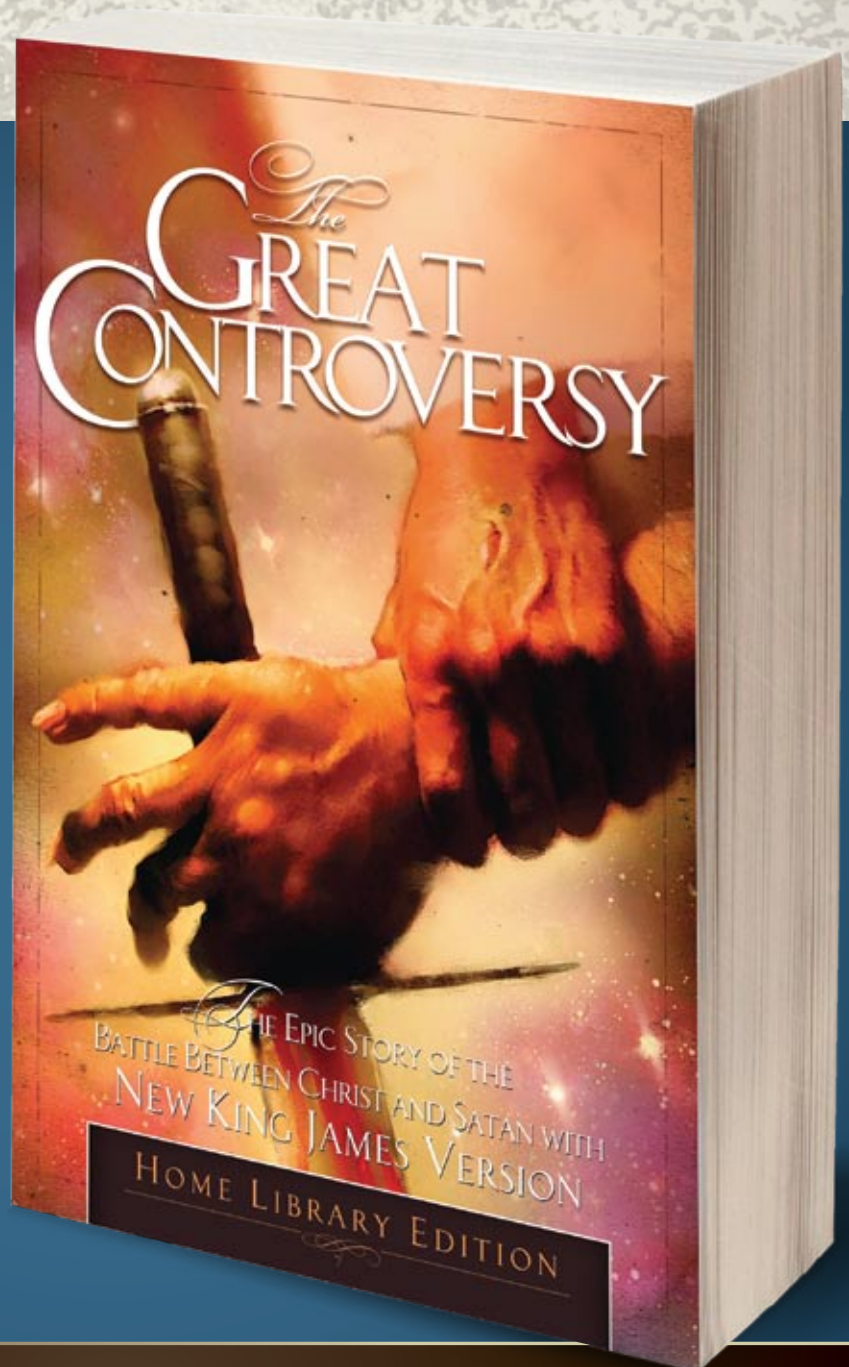
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