

JUNE 2013 Vol. 108, No.6
NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

Gleaner

IT'S
BEYOND

Quiet

Why Members Leave and
What Could Bring Them Back **p.6**

IMAGES OF CREATION



Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.
PSALM 42:7 (NIV)

'There Is a Quiet Place ...' in Portland, Ore., by Palmer Halvorson of Spokane, Wash.

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June 2013 | Vol. 108, No. 6

GLEANER, (ISSN 0746-5874) is published once per month for a total of 12 issues per year by the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642. It is printed and mailed at Pacific Press Publishing Association®, 1350 N. Kings Rd., Nampa, ID 83687-3193. Subscription rate: \$13 per year. Periodical postage paid at Ridgefield, WA 98642 and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: send all address changes to:

North Pacific Union Conference
GLEANER, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642
Phone: 360-857-7000
gleaner@nw.npuc.org
www.gleaneronline.org

SUBMISSIONS: Timely announcements, features, news stories and family notices for publication in the GLEANER may be submitted directly to the project manager at the address listed above. Material sent directly to local conference correspondents may be forwarded to the GLEANER.

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Letters

An Appeal for Fairness

In the April 2013 edition, you respond to charges of one-sided reporting (Letters, “A Bully Pulpit?”) by referencing the four-page Q & A on ordination. However, that Q & A says: “Will we be able to read both ‘sides’ of this issue ... ?” (p. 13) and then answers “... we are stepping back” Only one side has been given by the *GLEANER*, and then when a call for a fair and balanced accounting is asked for, you “step back.” That is not fair and seems to me to be a self-indictment — that the *GLEANER* is actually being “A Bully Pulpit.” I think the *GLEANER* can do better. Also, the three-month focus on *The Green Cord Dream* book was a disappointment. Unfortunately, I assume we are also going to only see one side of this subject? Are you willing to print the full review of the book by the BRI [Biblical Research Institute]?

Don Riley, College Place, Wash.

The *GLEANER* responds:

We have intentionally avoided advocating a position regarding women’s ordination, choosing instead to report the actions of the executive committee so Northwest members will be informed. Our full response in the Q & A gives our reason for currently avoiding “advocacy” articles in the GLEANER: to provide our world church the respectful time it needs for completion of its own study process. The Q & A also plainly states that all sides of the issue will be fully presented if a unique NPUC constituency session is scheduled once the world church action is clear. Regarding The Green Cord Dream, see the following letter.

Another Side to Consider

After noticing the *GLEANER*’s three-part series [February, March, April 2013] excerpting Alex Bryan’s book, *The Green Cord Dream*, I believe Northwest members would

benefit from a thoughtful review of the book by Gerhard Pfandl. On page 9 of the Biblical Research Institute (BRI) April 2013 newsletter Pfandl observes that while there is much good to be found in the book, there is also real concern on how it approaches the teachings of our church. The full review is available online in the BRI newsletter at tinyurl.com/cn9n5ta.

John Witcombe, North Valley/Rogue River/Williams, Ore.

Reading With Heart and Mind

I’m a “baby” SDA, having been baptized on Dec. 29, 2012, and am now receiving the *GLEANER*. I was very glad to recently read Alex Bryan’s three-part series on *The Green Cord Dream* (particularly Part 2). When Pastor Bryan wrote that “Adventism, at its best, loves the Word of God,” he really hit the nail on the head! When I read the Holy Bible, it is not so much an exercise of the “mind” that is important to me as it is of my “heart.” I think we all intuitively know that there is a significant difference. Reading or hearing God’s Word, for me, initially enters my mind, but if all it does in to remain there, what value is it to the Lord? When it makes the transition from my mind to my heart via the Holy Spirit (the sooner the better ... sometimes instantaneously), action begins and that is when I find that God really uses me.

Theodore Stullich, Medford, Ore.

Ellen White’s Vision

I have to compliment Pastor Alex Bryan for allowing me to experience Ellen White’s vision of Jesus and His Church, “The Green Cord Dream” article in the April 2013 *GLEANER*. He excited everything that I am as an Adventist by walking the narrow path as a believer by revealing in my daily life mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, forbearance and the love of Christ. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Robert Rouillard, Lakewood, Wash.

Flash Mob Questioned

I’m disappointed that you ran an article under Oregon news from [Portland Adventist Academy] that they had formed a flash mob. A mob by definition speaks of anarchy, and I don’t think that you want to promote such, even if it was intended to be a good gesture.

Bill Oakes, Anchorage, Alaska

The *GLEANER* responds:

Your point is well-taken, but contemporary use of “flash mob” is often associated with any spontaneous gathering, usually through social media connections. Such groups have suddenly appeared in shopping malls to sing Handel’s Messiah — hardly an anarchist endeavor.

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to talk@gleaneronline.org

Innovation

Follows Passion

You hear it everywhere. “What’s new?” has become a greeting more than a question. And it doesn’t come close to accurately defining that elusive word “innovation.” The call for innovation and innovators has become a major theme for any organization that wants to be effective. I have learned the hard way that success and “what’s new” are not the same.

Innovation Is in Our Adventist DNA

There is something about the Seventh-day Adventist movement that has been successful at producing an impressive who’s-who of entrepreneurs and innovators. We didn’t get to be a leading name in health reform, religious liberty, university education and religious broadcasting without innovators.

We have a growing global footprint in almost every nation in the world. We are a church or movement that survives and prospers today as one of the fastest-growing denominations in Christendom. We have great innovation genes as part of our DNA.

Innovation Is Fueled by Passion

I recall the first time a team tried a new concept for reaching public university students. I knew that if we just had a chance to share what we know about God, secular campus students would see we have a relevant and contemporary message. Out of frustration with advertisement options that didn’t get an audience and a passion to share the truth about God, we placed simple ads in the university newspaper that read “Earn Extra Cash! Adventist Christian Fellowship is having a series of religious lectures on the character of God and are looking for paid evaluators to see if this information does meet the needs of the university student. Especially looking for those who do not attend any church.”

I remember the excitement when students began to call attempting to convince us that we should “pick them” to be paid evaluators of this 15-night series. What followed were wonderful stories of university students starting as mercenaries and soon becoming missionaries to their friends about what they were hearing. When innovative

and honest methods are used, if our biblical message about Christ is lifted up, it will draw people to Him. Innovation follows passion.

Ellen White and Innovation

The inspired leader of our movement gave us a bold example on accepting new methods from passionate leaders. Ellen White’s book *Evangelism* has compiled a list of bold and punchy commands to try innovative methods:

- “New methods must be introduced ...” (p. 70).
- “In the cities of today, where there is so much to attract and please, the people can be interested by no ordinary efforts ...” (p. 40).
- “We must do something out of the common course of things. We must arrest the attention. We must be deadly in earnest ...” (p. 122).
- “Christ did not follow merely one method; in various ways He sought to gain the attention of the multitude; and then He proclaimed to them the truths of the gospel ...” (p. 123).

Biblical Passion Will Bring Innovation

Innovation will be ineffective and sterile unless it is fueled by passion. As it is with everything good, innovation will come because of God’s promises. God has promised to give our young men and women visions. We certainly have lots of older members to whom God is providing dreams for sharing His will. Our bottom line or “reason for existence” is still to share our unique message about the character of God. It is not difficult to show that the Adventist message is more needed and relevant now than ever before. Revealing God as our Creator, Savior, Judge and King in the light of a Great Controversy has become even more urgent. We have nothing to fear!

As long as this message fuels our passion, innovators young and old will take leadership of this amazing movement.

Innovation will be ineffective and sterile unless it is fueled by passion.



GORDON PIFHER

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE STEWARDSHIP,
INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

BY ANDY NASH

IT'S BEYOND

of Silent

Why Members
Leave and What
Could Bring
Them Back

Picture a Seventh-day Adventist church somewhere with 200 members attending. Over time, 100 of these members will leave the church and in a sense be replaced by 100 new members — and then some. (The Adventist Church is one of the fastest-growing denominations in the world, and the fastest in the United States.¹)

But the 100 church members who leave — the ones who used to worship and fellowship, eat haystacks, and sing “Side by Side” with us: Why do they leave?



Past studies indicated that if someone left the Adventist Church, it was almost always because of bad experiences or relationships, not because they changed their beliefs.

In a 1998 report, “Why Do Adventists Quit Coming to Church?” prepared by the Center for Creative Ministry, Adventist researcher Monte Sahlin wrote: “Three out of four leave for reasons having to do with their relationships with people and groups, while less than one in five leave because they no longer believe in some teaching of the church.”

Sahlin cited the work of other Adventist researchers, including Roger Dudley, director of the Andrews University Institute of Church Ministry. “Generally speaking,” said Dudley, “poor interpersonal relationships in the church” were the primary reason members left.

“Very few people,” added Gottfried Oosterwal, then-director of the Institute of World Mission at Andrews University, “indicated that they had left because of a disagreement over doctrine. Many had questions and doubts, but no basic disagreements with the main tenets of the Adventist faith.”

Even more emphatic was Harold K. West, Florida Conference ministerial director, based on his 1975 study of departing church members. “There was absolutely no proof,” said West, “that anybody left the church because they no longer believed in the doctrines.”

Interviews with former Adventists supplemented the center’s 1998 report.

“After my baptism,” said one former member, “I would wait each week in the foyer. No one would talk to me, no one spoke.”

“The church I attended,” said another, “was so cold I could ice-skate down the aisles.”

WHAT WE PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT



fewer than **1 in 5**

left because they no longer believe in some teaching of the church.



3 of 4

left for reasons having to do with their relationships with people and groups.

Compared to previous studies, the shift toward beliefs as the leading reason for leaving was striking.

WHY THEY QUIT ATTENDING

49%

disagreement with Adventist doctrine.

38%

bad personal experience or "other" reason for leaving.

10%

out of harmony with church teachings.

OPEN-ENDED FEEDBACK

68%

concerned about Adventist doctrine.

47%

concerned about judgmental attitudes.

31%

concerned about Ellen G. White.

15%

concerned about legalism.

It's Theology, Not the People

While relationships will always factor into any church member's experience, a new study suggests a shifting landscape in which more and more people are leaving the Adventist Church primarily because they've changed their beliefs.

The study, "Former Seventh-day Adventist Perceptions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church," was conducted in 2011 by Southern Adventist University's School of Business under the direction of marketing professor Lisa Goolsby. Goolsby was approached by Pastor Jerry Arnold and member Ken DeFoor of the Collegedale, Tennessee, Community Church about exploring the reasons members are leaving the church. More than 600 former Adventists from throughout the U.S. were invited to answer questions online; 190 participated.

When asked why they quit attending the Adventist Church, 49 percent of respondents cited disagreement or disenchantment with Adventist doctrine, while another 10 percent cited their own lifestyle choices being out of harmony with church teachings. Only 38 percent of responses cited a bad personal experience or "other" reason for leaving. (The respondents were able to cite more than one reason.)

When respondents were invited to give open-ended feedback about their departure from the Adventist Church, 68 percent of the comments concerned Adventist doctrine, 47 percent concerned judgmental attitudes or other problems within the church, 31 percent concerned cofounder Ellen G. White, and 15 percent concerned legalism. (The respondents were able to submit multiple comments, which were then categorized.)

"I could no longer stay within a system," wrote one respondent, "that I knew to be unbiblical and with which I disagreed. ... The 'tipping point' came when I realized we couldn't expect our sons to tell us the truth if we were modeling a lack of integrity by being active members of a church they knew we no longer believed. ... We did not

leave because we were in any way hurt, angry, bitter, or disgruntled. We left with great grief and great loss, and we left because the Lord Jesus revealed Himself to us so compellingly that we knew we could not dishonor Him by remaining in a system that does not know who He really is or what He really did."

"There are many SDA churches," wrote another former member, "that are open, loving, and focused only on Christ, but this is not the problem. The problem is with the doctrine of the SDA Church. The doctrinal beliefs of the SDA Church are completely unbiblical; this is the reason I will never attend an SDA church again."

"If Adventism," said another, "would catch hold of the truth of grace and 'It is finished,' it would be a great package. I ... cherish my memories of growing up in a warm, family-based, healthy, safe environment. Independent Bible study led me down a different path."

Another respondent encouraged "much more investigation into the fact that many have left because of doctrinal [reasons] and often, no other reasons. There is too much focus on people being hurt. ... Doctrinal issues are ignored."

Doctrinal differences weren't the only reason cited; the experiential element was still very much present. A divorced single mom with special-needs children described feeling ostracized by church members who were "snobbish." She said that members with money seemed more accepted.

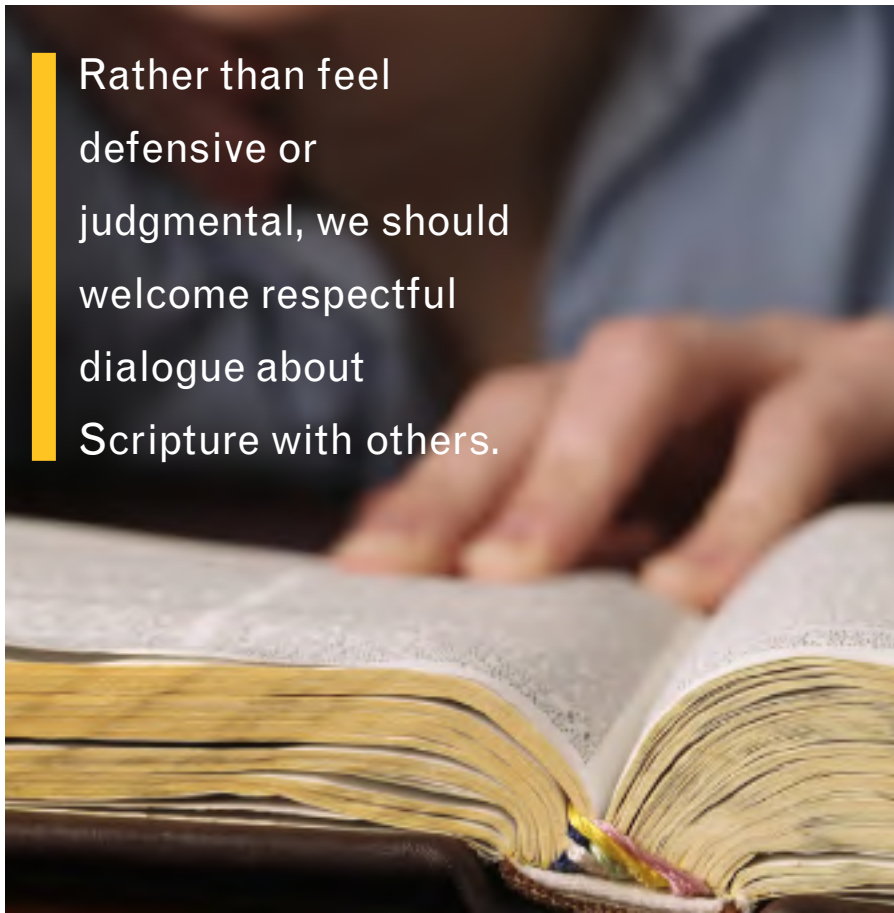
Another former member described the church as failing to reach out to his family "in their time of greatest need."

An inactive church member wrote, "Although I consider myself an Adventist, I do not currently attend the local church due to the judgmental, resistant attitudes that prevail in my area."

Still, compared to previous studies, the shift toward beliefs as the leading reason for leaving was striking. One former member wrote: "It's the theology, not the people."



Rather than feel defensive or judgmental, we should welcome respectful dialogue about Scripture with others.



Asking Questions

Pastor Arnold, who helped initiate the study, said the data aligns with what he's seeing up close and personally. "I have had conversations with many young adults who do not embrace every teaching of the Adventist Church," Arnold said. "Some have perspectives that are not reflective of the official teaching of the Adventist Church. Some understand the official teaching and disagree with it on some points."

Arnold said the two subjects that he gets asked about most are the doctrine of Christ's ministry in the heavenly sanctuary and the proper use of Ellen White's writings.

"People still leave the church over their feelings being hurt," Arnold said. "But one of the main underlying factors is the mistreatment they got because they were

questioning. If we can keep a positive relationship with them while they are processing things, it communicates that they are welcome and wanted in our fellowship."

DeFoor, who left the Adventist Church and later returned, said he represents a boomer generation that had difficulty separating salvation in Christ from personal behavior such as Sabbath-keeping. "I know we say that the church doesn't teach this," DeFoor said, "but certain people give the strong impression that it does teach this."

Based on his outreach to other former Adventists, DeFoor said that the Adventist Church needs more emphasis on the teaching and preaching of the Gospels. "We need to understand that it must be Jesus first," DeFoor said. "That will lead us to a better understanding of our heavenly Father."

Goolsby said the Adventist Church isn't the only faith community seeing a transient membership. She cites a 2008 *Boston Globe* article, stating that "44 percent of Americans have left the religion traditions in which they grew up."²

"Social media has connected our lives," Goolsby said. "We are now more aware of what our friends, family, and contemporaries are doing, thinking, and feeling. If those friends have issues or questions about their church or their belief system, they are generally speaking out through social media. This causes people who might not otherwise have questions or issues to suddenly start asking some of the hard questions."

Goolsby said a fundamental question to consider is whether the Adventist Church is a "one-size-fits-all" religion. "Does the member," she asked, "have to take it all or take nothing? And how does that fit with the plan of salvation?"

Sahlin, who wrote the 1998 report, said that his current research also reflects changing perspectives among former Adventists. "The relational issues are not as acute as they were in the 70s, 80s, and 90s," Sahlin said. "They are still there, but there is this newer issue of how people experience Christian faith."

Sahlin said that newer faith issues among Adventists are "largely driven by the evangelical critique of Adventism — that it's based on salvation by works because of its insistence on the Jewish Sabbath and because of an extrabiblical prophet from which they get their doctrines."

Many Adventists today, Sahlin said, aren't prepared to handle this critique. "The fallout of our own theological debates of the 1980s and 1990s," he said, "was a new generation that is uncertain about its faith and not well-equipped to respond to the evangelical critique."

Sahlin said that Adventists have quit making their own biblical critique of the evangelical faith, such as that found in *The Great Controversy*, Ellen White's 1911 work. "We have tried not to be different," said Sahlin, noting that in the more recent church-published *Great Hope*, critiques of other denominations are largely absent.

The reality of members leaving because of doctrine poses a new — yet old — challenge for the Adventist Church. How should we respond? Here are five suggestions:

1. We should re-embrace conversations about doctrine.

The Adventist Church was founded on doctrine, even at the expense of relationships. In the mid-1800s, members of other Christian churches (including Ellen White, a Methodist) spent entire nights comparing the teachings of Scripture with the teachings of their own churches — including eternal torment in hell, Sunday sacredness, and a new teaching, the secret rapture. When these members left their home churches to become Seventh-day Adventists, their existing relationships were often strained.

Ironically, some of their spiritual descendants are now leaving the Adventist Church to return to these same teachings — and experiencing the same relational strain. Rather than feel defensive or judgmental, we should welcome respectful dialogue about Scripture with others. It will benefit everyone.

2. We must provide the best possible scriptural answers to honest inquiries.

Former Adventists tend to be a sharp-minded group that demands solid exegesis, not pat answers. It isn't enough to say "the pope changed Sabbath." We must first show from Scripture alone how Sabbath rest and salvation rest continue to coexist in the New Testament, just as they did in the Old Testament.³

We must also be willing to explain the uncomfortable but historical truth that the early Christian church began to distance itself from the Sabbath largely for the purpose of distancing itself from the Jews.⁴ At a time when both Christians and Jews are asking questions, sincere questions, about each other's faith⁵, the Adventist Church is perfectly positioned to teach and model the Judeo-Christian faith of Jesus Christ: one that celebrates "new treasures as well as old" (Matt. 13:52).

3. We should clear up false understandings.

For a myriad of reasons, many former Adventists seem to have serious misunderstandings of Adventist beliefs. One survey respondent wrote: "Keeping the Sabbath does not save anyone." Another respondent wrote that she believed Ellen White was inspired by God — but that she is not our way to salvation. "I don't think you have to believe in her to be saved," she wrote.

4. We must recognize that sometimes the enemy is us.

We can all think of toxic Adventist congregations or ministries that we frankly wouldn't recommend to anyone. Rather than urge members (or former members) to endlessly "stick it out" in bad-apple Adventist churches, we should encourage them to find a healthier Adventist church — or plant a new one full of grace and truth in fresh airspace. New organisms grow faster anyway.

We must also recognize — and so must former Adventists — that every faith community has toxic elements that poorly represent the wider group. The Baptist Church deals with deluded members who scream "God hates you" at soldiers and gays. Even when functioning normally, every faith community has its strengths and weaknesses. One former Adventist described her children's experience in their new denomination: "I found the strict rules, severe guilt, and the concept of burning forever in hell a terrifying concept to foist upon children." Truly every church, like every church member, at some point cries out: "Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Rom. 7:24, 25).

5. We should at least honor the integrity of those who have left.

Right or wrong, it takes courage to leave what you've always known. Even as we grieve the departure of those who used to worship with us, we should honor their integrity — especially when compared to Adventist thought leaders and members who reject the authority of Scripture, stay in the church, and try to force it into their own image. This type of member does



Former Adventists tend to be a sharp-minded group that demands solid exegesis, not pat answers.

much greater damage to the kingdom of heaven than former Adventists who retain a high view of Scripture and are seekers for truth.

In the Adventist Church's earliest days, there was no creed but Scripture; the only litmus test was the final authority of the Word of God. It should be no different today — as long as someone continues to prayerfully plumb the depths of Scripture, there should be room for them in this church. As one returned Adventist put it: "I had to study my way out of the Adventist Church before I could study my way back into it." We should not feel threatened by such journeys.

Perhaps the former members who pose the most confusion are those who now seem to find their identity in being "former Adventists" — not unlike divorced persons forever identifying themselves as someone's former spouse. Ironically, publications and websites centered on being "former Adventists" have grown wearisome even to other former Adventists. "It's like they've just moved their chairs to the other side of the table," said a former member.

The message that seems to emanate from these groups is that Adventists can't possibly know the assurance in Christ that they do. This is a bold assertion to make about anyone. Even as Adventists have been guilty of misjudging others, former Adventists should be careful about doing the same toward the people they used to worship with. Members who have left would do much better to keep their focus on Christ and their new Christian communities and avoid the inherently negative spirit of former Adventist groups.



Willing to Try Again

At the close of the survey, respondents were asked: "Would you try the Adventist Church again?" Forty-six percent said they would.

These 46 percent are more than a figure. They're moms and dads who squeezed into tiny cradle roll chairs next to us. They're old roommates who still show up at alumni weekend. They're boomer men and women who battle lingering frustration about the way they were raised and still aren't sure who the "real" Adventists are. They're good, sensitive people who hated worrying about the time of trouble but who aren't too wild about eternal hellfire, either.

They're Christians who, deep in their hearts, are fine with most Adventist doctrine, with most Adventist culture, with most Adventist people — but who simply wish for an Adventist Church in which Scripture is authoritative and Jesus Christ reigns above all.

They're also the people who can help get us there. We would be blessed to have them back.

Andy Nash, Southern Adventist University journalism and religion professor and author of The Haystacks Church. This article was originally published in the March 21, 2013, Adventist Review.

1. G. Jeffrey MacDonald, "Adventists' Back-to-Basics Faith Is Fastest-Growing U.S. Church," *USA Today*, Mar. 17, 2011.
2. Ellen Goodman, "Shopping for Religion," *Boston Globe*, Feb. 29, 2008, p. A15.
3. For a more in-depth discussion of New Testament Sabbath references, see Andy Nash, "Unrest Over a Rest Day," *Adventist Review*, Feb. 9, 2012.
4. "Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honouring the Lord's Day; and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema from Christ" (*Canon XXIX, Council of Laodicea, A.D. 364*).
5. In *Why the Jews Rejected Jesus* (New York: Random House, 2005) Jewish author David Klinghoffer writes: "No authentic Messiah would inspire a religion that ended up calling upon the Jews to reject the manifest meaning of Sinai" (p. 215).

2008 BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE

 44%

of Americans have left the religion traditions in which they grew up.

END OF SURVEY

 46%

would try the Adventist Church again.

As long as someone continues to prayerfully plumb the depths of Scripture, there should be room for them in this church.

ACCION

‘Aprendí a Amarme’ en Idaho Falls

El frío calaba hasta los tuétanos. La temperatura ambiente hacía historia con uno de los inviernos más fríos en los últimos años. En el corazón de la iglesia no, su temperatura misionera era otra: Había calor espiritual para acoger a los amigos invitados a las reuniones evangelísticas.

Idaho Falls se ubica al sur este del Estado de Idaho. Su población total es de unos 57,646 habitantes, y de ellos, unas 7,492 personas son de origen hispano. Pero en este desafío misionero la iglesia encontró la razón para la búsqueda del calor del Espíritu Santo para ir a su comunidad a impartirle el evangelio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Y la hermandad fue a ella ...



Ever y Cebera se unieron a la familia de Dios por medio del bautismo.

Varias semanas antes empezó la preparación. La junta directiva de la iglesia, a cargo de su primer anciano, Misael Aguilar, organizó las comisiones de trabajo y se

dispuso junto a los demás miembros, a visitar e invitar a sus amistades.

“Aprendí a Amarme” se tituló la serie de temas sobre salud emocional impartidos en el mes de marzo, los mensajes tuvieron respuestas muy favorables. Una dama que no se perdió ninguna de las reuniones, expresó, “Durante estas noches he encontrado respuestas a mis problemas emocionales, aprendí a amarme, porque descubrí que lo que mi corazón había buscado tanto, ha sido el amor de Jesucristo.”

El domingo, 10 de marzo, al cierre de la campaña, la iglesia se gozó ver a cuatro

personas que entregaban sus vidas a los pies de Jesús a través del bautismo, atraídas por los encantos de Su amor.

Ahora la hermandad se prepara para la siguiente campaña que será en este mes. Se han propuesto regalar bolsas de comida elaborada, reconocidas por ellos como “lonches misioneros,” para mostrarle a su comunidad el amor de Dios en la forma de un almuerzo para entregarse en cada noche de reuniones.

*Juan Francisco Altamirano,
Idaho Conference pastor y
coordinador*



Leticia Mendoza y su hija Ashley Barron también rindieron sus vidas a los pies del Salvador.

'This Little Light of Mine'

Burns in Dillingham

Dillingham, Alaska, has become my second home. As the year finishes, one thought runs through my mind: Have I made a difference? Sometimes I feel I go about my business without considering what I'm doing. I plan activities to keep kids active and engaged nine hours a day, help with school business, and participate in other activities. But am I really taking time to realize why I'm here?

I'm more than 3,000 miles from loved ones because I accepted God's call to be a light, like a song I sing with my preschoolers, "This Little Light of Mine."

The song says that I will let it shine "til Jesus comes." What a message! I have God's light inside me. It's His love — there so I can reach others and share that each of us are special to Him. That's good news.

Even if my students don't understand that meaning now, I hope someday they'll remember singing this song and realize what that light is and that they can share it. I may never know the impact of my time here, but through Christ I can help those flames burn brighter.

This is also why I pray for our Dillingham Adventist



School as it seeks a volunteer to run its summer child care program as well as a volunteer pre-K/kindergarten teacher and teacher's aide for the coming school year. The Dillingham Adventist School

is available at 907-842-2496 for more information.

Elisa Wright, Dillingham Adventist School volunteer preschool teacher



Elizabeth Talbot



Ken Denslow



Gordon Pifher



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TREASURE from God's Heart



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Bring About John Day Baptisms



(From left) June Palmer with Tony Brandon, pastor, and Acynthia Sanford.

When I was asked some years ago to hold the church service at Valley View Assisted Living Facility (John Day, Ore.) once each month, I agreed to try. As I became acquainted with the residents, I began visiting them during the month.

I frequently visited Bill and June Palmer. Bill, who had a serious brain injury from a work accident, brought his guitar to church service. Even though he didn't remember the chords, he knew rhythm and loved playing as I played the piano.

One week, he looked so sad. He explained, "I was told I couldn't play anymore because I wasn't playing the right chords." I told him I enjoyed playing with him and asked him to get his guitar so we could begin.

For several months I had been talking with God about not having any "fruit" and wondering if I was a total failure. I asked for His help to represent Him and His Son.

One day I came to visit and found June sleeping lightly. She opened one eye, then the other. A smile filled her whole face as she saw me, and she asked, "How can I join your church?" I was speechless. Did I hear her right?

We began visiting. June told me she believed the truths I shared. She had also seen several programs on Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), but my visits had given her the desire to join my church.

I called Pastor Tony Brandon, who visited June. Soon he and other John Day members of-

officially welcomed her into their church fellowship through a bedside ceremony.

The story doesn't end there. When I visited earlier this year, Bill didn't remember me, so I reminded him about playing his guitar with me. A big smile of recognition appeared as he said, "Valley View! Seventh-day Adventist, right?"

Bill began telling me about his desire to be baptized. "I love the Lord, I believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that He is coming soon, and I want to go to heaven when Jesus comes. ... When I joined the other church the pastor just sprinkled a few drops on my head, and that is not baptism. I want to be baptized."

On the day of his baptism, Bill was so excited that he sat

across from the room where he would be baptized. When anyone came by, Bill asked what time it was and explained that at three o'clock he would "go through that door and be baptized."

I saw joy on Bill's face I have rarely witnessed. Not only was there joy at this care facility but, as told in Luke 15:7 and 10, there was "joy in heaven ... joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

How many people are longing for you to visit them? No witness is so strong as that of genuine friendship and love.

Acynthia Sanford, John Day Church communication leader

Pastor Tony Brandon meets with Bill Palmer.



MEA Alumni Weekend Focuses on Giving Back

Alumni weekend this year had great turnout, but it wasn't just the number of people who came that made the event special. Even more importantly, the influx of school spirit brought a fresh reminder of what makes people's time at Mount Ellis Academy (MEA) in Bozeman so unforgettable.

Two bittersweet moments highlighted the weekend. After 11 years of service to his alma mater, current principal Darren Wilkins, along with his wife, Yvette, and three children are



Merlin Knowles, Montana Conference president, prays with Mount Ellis Academy principal Darren Wilkins, his wife, Yvette, and three sons.

back to Mount Ellis Academy. His tenure has been characterized by discovering new directions for the school through initiatives like outdoor school and developing a master plan for the campus. He has also been

instrumental in developing resources to keep the academy functioning such as the Kohl's Cares campaign, and he daily provides faculty and students with a living example of what it means to live a life of service.

He will be sorely missed.

In addition to this testimony of service, the Walikonis family's generous gift toward the development of an exercise trail at Mount Ellis reminded constituents of the small blessings that can come out of tragedy. In memory of a loving husband and devoted father, the family of Warren Walikonis left a \$40,000 legacy for the development of an exercise trail that will loop around the academy campus. The trail will be the newest resource of a new early-morning exercise program Mount Ellis has begun and is looking to develop further in the future.

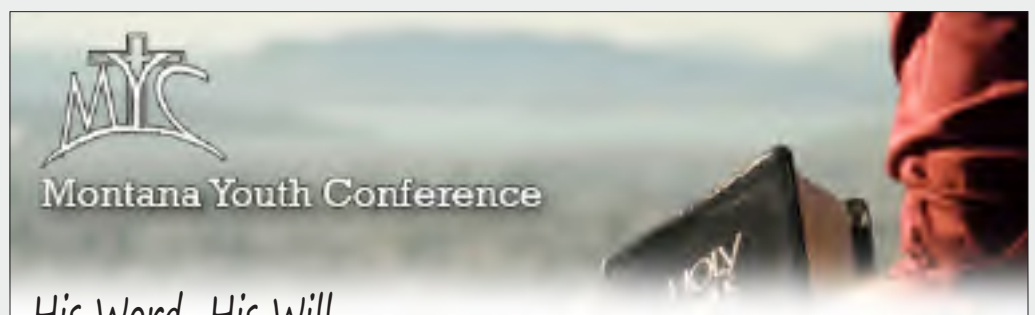
Kevin Emmerson, MEA development director



Denise Emmerson, Mount Ellis Academy class of 1973, shares a laugh with her former dean, Barbara McCumber.

leaving for Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, Ohio, as the 2012-13 school year ends. The MEA Alumni Association recognized Wilkins' contribution by naming him the 2013 Alum of the Year.

A video tribute produced by Mount Ellis Academy's development director, Kevin Emmerson, reminded everyone at the morning worship service just how much Wilkins has given



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Butte Hosts Indoor Easter Outreach

During Easter in Butte parents are looking for indoor activities (because of the cold) that their children will enjoy, so the Butte Church and Highland View Christian School (HVCS) decided to accommodate them. Twenty-two church members prepared by decorating, setting up, cooking and getting children's activities ready. On Easter morning, March 31, they opened the school doors and held an Easter



The Butte Church opened its doors on Easter to provide brunch and Christ-centered activities for families from the surrounding community.

brunch for the community.

There were 59 guests, most of them from the surrounding neighborhood. They were served a delicious meal. Many of the attendees commented on the quality and how wonderful the food was. The children enjoyed Christ-centered activities such as word puzzles and crafts. A book table was



set up, and at least 10 *Desire of Ages* were taken plus all the *We Believe* magazines that were available. Many of the guests were curious about HVCS and had a lot of questions. They toured the school building and commented on having such a beautiful facility.

The 14 church members in attendance helped cook, serve, clean and visit with the guests. This was a wonderful bonding time for the members as well as those in the community. The Butte Church family

plans to hold another brunch next Easter.

Lori Flower, Butte Church communication leader



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Xenoglossia Replaces Glossophobia at CAA

An increase in glossophobia, or the fear of public speaking, has often been noted prior to each year's student week of prayer at Columbia Adventist Academy (CAA) in Battle Ground, Wash. In an attempt to reverse that trend, chaplain Keith Kerbs, the religion department and the administration joined efforts to train 12 "disciples" in the countermovement of xenoglossia, or speaking in tongues. As on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit moved to allow CAA students to hear how God is moving in the lives of their fellow students, who shared Scripture and personal experiences on the theme "Be Real. Take Two."

Four key elements helped open doors for the student speakers. The school leadership made a conscious effort to see God working in and through the students. A weekend retreat allowed the speakers to focus on renewing their commitment to Christ. The speakers made preparations both spiritual and academic, and constituent pas-



Columbia Adventist Academy week of prayer speakers spend time together on a weekend retreat.

sors became sounding boards for the students' presentations as they prepared.

The speakers included students from each grade level. They spoke on a range of topics, from comfort zones and fake Christians to courage and today's temptations.

The week ended with students, parents and community members gathering at Sabbath School and church as Urijah Saenz, a senior, spoke on grace. From start to finish, the week was eye-opening for many. "I thought the speakers from week of prayer were very moving," explains a student. "I did not realize how many people at this school are going through such deep issues, and it makes

you realize you are not the only person with problems."

Students had the opportunity to write responses to the week's presentations. They noted how listening to student speakers helped them in their own daily walks. "The talk on bullying helped me see that I am not alone in this world and have people that actually care for me," one student wrote.

Another added, "Lately I've been really struggling with what I believe and my faith, but [this] opened my eyes."

The speakers also had an opportunity to comment on the week. "I was terrified at the idea of talking up front," one speaker admitted, "but through doing this I have grown so much

closer to God. Now the thought of speaking up front isn't as terrifying. It's still a lot of work, but I trust God to guide my words to be what He wants me to say."

With glossophobia pushed aside, God was able to work through these student speakers to reach the entire student body. "The talks were straight to the heart, and they didn't seem like words from the speaker but from God," one student explains.

And that, dear friends, is xenoglossia.

Larry Hiday, CAA GLEANER correspondent



The Columbia Adventist Academy week of prayer theme encouraged students to "Be Real."

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Sharon Church Hosts Music Workshop and Concert



A 100-voice choir performs during the 13th annual Lift Every Voice Music Workshop and Concert at Sharon Church in Portland.

Hark!” the Lift Every Voice (LEV) Choir sings, “glory to the King of Kings!”

And that they did. The music ministry of Portland’s Sharon Church, led by Linda Loiseau-Foxworth, hosted the 13th annual Lift Every Voice Music Workshop and Concert on March 2. The theme this year was “Awesome God!”

Each year, gospel singers from several churches in the community come together in one accord to share the gospel through song by participating in a week-long workshop that concludes with an amazing 100-person choir in concert.

The workshop began on Sunday, Feb. 24, and met each evening except Wednesday. Choir directors from 36 various churches/organizations of multiple denominations across Oregon, Washing-

ton, Arizona and California participated in the workshop, teaching participants various techniques such as breathing and harmonization, as well as learning at least 12 different songs.

In addition to performing a myriad of songs on concert night, LEV identified a worthy cause to support through an offering that was taken up during intermission. This year, Self Enhancement Inc. (SEI) was selected to receive 50 percent of the proceeds, and the SEI Youth Choir performed. Learn more about SEI at selfenhancement.org.

The concert was an amazing testament to the universal love of gospel music and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the more than 50 people who attended.

Denise Williams, Sharon Church clerk

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PAA Missions Span Globe

Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) believes mission trips challenge the paradigm of daily life and help to reveal a world in need. This spring, missions took PAA students across the country and around the world.

NEW YORK

Students saw the devastation and heartache left behind by Hurricane Sandy. They helped a tired team of volunteers who provide food, clothing and supplies to displaced residents. They also helped on construction projects in a neighborhood most impacted by the storm.



PAA students helped remove debris from hurricane-ravaged neighborhoods of New York.



PAA students bonded well with young Fijian children during their mission trip to the small island of Rabi.

FIJI

Students swarmed the tiny island of Rabi to help the Jabez Humanitarian Foundation bring an end to waterborne illness. Students helped with construction projects and in medical clinics. They made mortar using sand hauled from beaches and assisted in physical exams, pharmaceutical tasks and even minor surgeries.

COSTA RICA

Two students joined the North Pacific Union Conference to preach evangelistic sermons to thousands of people attending a series hosted by the South Central American Union Conference. They witnessed lives changed.

NEPAL

The Mountain Leadership Institute works on a health care project where high elevation villagers have no access to medical help or the knowledge of basic health principles. PAA students were privileged to help lay the foundation for a project that will one day change the lives of thousands of people.

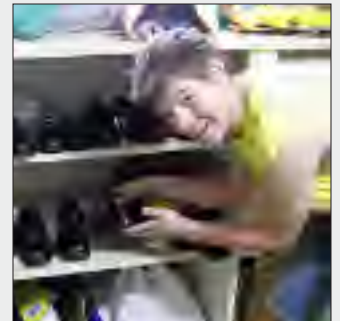
ETHIOPIA

A team of two learned that water is so precious it can't even be wasted to clean a countertop. The team established libraries, schools and medical clinics and brought supplies to crowded orphanages in a country that is working to silence Christians.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Rita Barrett, PAA Spanish teacher, organized "Service Learning" before taking her Spanish students to visit the 70 children at the International Children's Care orphanage. They researched the country's culture and history and, of course, learned the language, which had a powerful impact on their relationships while visiting.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent



PAA senior Dwight DeLeon helped raise money to bring new shoes to all 70 children at the Dominican Republic orphanage, run by International Children's Care.

Falls City Rejoices in Baptism

Between the ages of 4 and 12, Vickie Beckley spent each summer with her grandmother in Wisconsin and attended church each Sabbath with her.

In the following years, Beckley attended many Sunday-keeping churches; however, she could never forget that God's

Sabbath was the seventh day of the week.

A year ago, when Beckley's sister was attending an evangelistic series of meetings in Dallas, Ore., her sister asked Beckley if she would like to study the Bible. Beckley agreed, and Pat Biro, the Bible worker for the Dallas and Falls City

churches, began studying with her. Beckley was thrilled to rediscover the truths she had learned as a child and was baptized by Doug Clayville, pastor, on Sabbath, March 23, at the Falls City Church.

Larry Scofield, Falls City Church communication leader



Grants Pass Pathfinders Enjoy Snow Weekend

Twenty-two Grants Pass Pathfinders and staff, along with their leader, Steve King, boarded the blue Pathfinder “rocket bus” early on Feb. 15, bound for a weekend snow adventure at Big Lake Youth Camp in the Oregon Cascades with other Oregon and Washington Pathfinders.

After stowing bag-covered luggage, along with sleds, shovels, skis and snowshoes, the group made the long trip to meet the Big Lake snow cat. Upon arriving at the Sno-Park near the camp, the Pathfinders transferred their gear and jumped onto big inner tubes strung behind the snow cat for the three-mile ride to the camp.

After receiving cabin assignments, the Pathfinders had to time settle in before supper. Steps cut into the deep snow

Pathfinders Kayla and Grace enjoy the snowy world of Big Lake Youth Camp in winter.



An igloo in the girls’ camp area provided a cozy night for a few brave Pathfinders.

gave access into each half-buried A-frame cabin.

This year the weekend’s theme was “My Heart for Jesus.” The kids learned how the heart functions, exercises that promote cardio strength and spiritual parallels to caring for their hearts. The meetings featured lots of singing, stories and Bible study, including a review of the Book of Mark for their upcoming Bible Achievement competition.

Hot meals were served in the cozy lodge. The sun shined on inner tubing, sliding off the lodge roof, sledding, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. On Monday a small group also went downhill skiing at nearby Hoodoo Ski Area.

The snowshoers examined animal tracks, explored the woods, admired the mountains and lake, and noted, from burned tree trunks, how close a previous forest fire had come to the camp. God surely

had His hand over the camp; the evidence showed how the fire came right up to the camp and just stopped.

Pathfinders A.J. Smith and Allen Foster dug a trench cave and then cut blocks to cover the top and make it into an igloo where they spent the night. They spread two sleeping bags each over plastic sheeting and foam pads. “We were warm,” says Smith. “I even took off my socks inside my sleeping bag.”

Not to be outdone, a couple

of the girls spent a warm night in an igloo in the girls’ camp area.

“My favorite part of the snow weekend,” says Kayla Herndon, “was getting to see my friends from other groups and spending time with God and friends in nature.”

All in all, everyone had a great time and looks forward to going again next year.

Melissa Derfler, Grants Pass Church member



Riding inner tubes behind a snow cat into and out of the camp is one of the highlights of any winter weekend at Big Lake.



Grants Pass Pathfinders and their leader warm up in the Big Lake lodge.

Yakima Symphony Accommodates Adventist Artist

The Yakima Symphony Orchestra so valued the piano artistry of Seventh-day Adventist pianist Martha Jhona De Luna that they switched rehearsals for their March 9 post-sunset concert from Friday night and Sabbath morning to Thursday night and Friday afternoon.

“That’s great!” conductor Lawrence Golan exclaimed nearly a year ago when the Dominican Republic native, who is currently studying for her master’s degree in piano performance in Texas, auditioned for him. De Luna’s heart sang when the contract for her first concert of this scale arrived but then filled with angst as she realized

she would have to tell them she couldn’t meet their rehearsal schedule. “We may have to get another soloist, but we’ll let you know,” stated the symphony representative.

In the end, they did change their schedule with every single member of the orchestra, including those who drive from 45 minutes away, to accommodate De Luna’s desire to keep the Sabbath. Eight hours prior to her symphony concert, she shared her testimony and serenaded those at the Yakima Church with three of her own hymn arrangements.

“I dedicated my hands to God,” De Luna says. For her 20-something age, she has many



Martha Jhona De Luna, an Adventist pianist, had her Sabbath belief honored by the Yakima Symphony Orchestra, which rescheduled rehearsals to accommodate her.

musical accomplishments, including having performed at a U.S. embassy, but, as she had printed in the symphony concert program, “She recognizes

that all [those] opportunities are a real gift from God.”

Lance P. Van Arsdell, Yakima Church communication leader

Living Hope Clears Way *for Building*

During his rounds of visitation, Todd Parker, Bible worker coordinator, discovered Virginia, an aging widow recovering from hip surgery and in need of assistance. Parker engaged the Plummer (Idaho) Adventist Company members in ministering to Virginia.

During the next three years, the group sacrificially ministered to Virginia, building a porch and steps to her front door, transporting her to medical appointments, taking out her garbage weekly, shopping for groceries, and generally attending to her needs.

Virginia did not want her affairs conducted on the Sabbath and considered appointing one

of the church members as administrator of her estate. In the end she passed away without a will, leaving her nieces with no direction as to how to dispose of her property.

Debris is cleared from the site where the new Plummer Living Hope Church will be constructed.



In a dream Ron Bayless, Plummer head deacon, felt impressed to offer Virginia’s heirs “all the money in the building fund” for the purchase of her property. Amazingly, the

offer was accepted even though it was \$10,000 less than another offer on the table. So Seventh Street in Plummer is destined to become home to this group, now Living Hope Adventist Church, specifically established for the purpose of reaching those on the Coeur d’Alene Reservation.

With the building permit in hand, a Maranatha project is scheduled at Living Hope for Aug. 4–18. Those who wish to help may contact Maranatha coordinator Jerry Anderson at 509-844-4125 for more details.

Diana Canty Pierce, Living Hope Church pastoral team

Three Rogers Adventist School Teachers Retire



Terry Koch

As the children at Rogers Adventist School in College Place, Wash., leave the classroom for the summer months, three teachers are starting their retirement. These teachers, Terry Koch, Lewis Krueger and Liz Krueger, have each dedicated more than 25 years to teaching scores of students at Rogers, and, altogether they have each been teachers for more than 40 years.

“Not only will we miss their expertise, but they will also be leaving a big hole in our hearts,” says Clare Thompson, Rogers School principal. “Over the years, they have left their mark here beyond just their teaching positions. Mr. Koch is such a gracious Christian, and we will miss his gentleness. Who will hum joyfully about her work as Mrs. Krueger does, and who will have the ready supply of jokes like Mr. Krueger? We’ll miss these friends of ours.”

The Kruegers have been teaching at



Lewis Krueger

Rogers for 32 years. Lewis has taught the junior high students and Liz the first- and second-graders. They say it has been a privilege to work with the kids and to see them excited about learning. “I will miss the part of the job where I get to see children discover they can read or do math facts,” says Liz Krueger. They both say they will also miss working with the great group of parents and supportive team of teaching colleagues.

The Kruegers remember planning for and moving into the new Rogers School in 2004. “It was so wonderful to have the cafeteria, gym and a teacher workroom,” says Liz. In retirement, they plan to travel, volunteer and work on projects around their home.

Koch has been teaching classroom music, choir, band and handbells for all grade levels for the past 27 years. His constant quest for excellence has trans-



Liz Krueger

lated to many musical opportunities for students. The middle school choir performed world premieres of songs by American composer Gwyneth Walker on two separate occasions. Students sang with the Walla Walla Symphony Orchestra in a world premiere of *The Legend of Chief Joseph* and in a production of *The Sound of Music*. The handbells group performed in Washington, D.C., to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Washington Monument.

“I will miss the interaction with my students, their supportive parents, and the generous and kind teachers I have worked with,” says Koch. He will continue directing two church choirs and a handbells group and looks forward to having more time with his grandchildren.

Lisa Krueger, Rogers Adventist School parent

IMPACT at Spokane Valley Makes Outreach a Priority

A new concept in evangelism was presented April 20 at the Spokane (Wash.) Valley Church during an event called “IMPACT,” presented by Upper Columbia Conference ministerial, personal ministries and Adventist Community Services (ACS) departments. The “new” concept was that the Great Commission requires the church to go *into* all the world.

“Far too many churches are waiting for people to come to them — their ministries are attractational, not missional or incarnational — but the Great Commission commands that we go to the people,” said Sung Kwon, North American Division Adventist Community Services (ACS) executive director and IMPACT keynote speaker. “If we are not involved in the community, then when we say ‘follow me,’ the people will say ‘who are you?’”

“I’ve never met a person who is more enthusiastic about community services as a means to reaching people for Christ,” said



The new disaster response trailer will soon be equipped with an electrical generator and emergency supplies, ready to be quickly transported to scenes of disaster when necessary.

Patty Marsh, Upper Columbia Conference ACS coordinator. “Sung Kwon is very big on building bridges with the community.”

The all-day event included the Sabbath morning worship service, ministry “fair booths” at lunch time, and short reports by video and in person about

successful ministries around the conference and about outreach ideas and concepts churches are testing to reach their communities for Jesus.

Some presentations featured ministry stories from churches. Others covered how-to topics like how to follow God into ministry (rather than asking

Him to join you in yours), using the power of prayer to influence a spouse, and discovering keys to a friendlier church.

There is also a deeper message organizers don’t want members to miss. According to Kwon, it is not the things we do to share the gospel but rather the way we live the gospel wherever God has placed us and in whatever capacity He has placed us.

“Our charge is to both proclaim and embody the gospel so that others can see, hear and feel God’s love in tangible ways,” said Kwon. “We must become involved in people’s lives, work to build relationships, walk with them through their sorrows and their joys, live with generosity toward them, love and care for them unconditionally, and stand up for their defenselessness.”

Jon Dalrymple, Upper Columbia Conference communication department assistant



During the meeting breaks at IMPACT 2013, ministry “fair booths” allowed attendees to meet people from the various ministries, ask questions, view some ministries’ handiwork and see photos of many ministry volunteers in action.



Sung Kwon, North American Division Adventist Community Services executive director, speaks at IMPACT 2013.

Tumbleweeds and Crusaders Take Over Church Service

Adventurer/Pathfinder Sabbath began March 2 as trumpets blared “The Adventurer Song” as the Moses Lake (Wash.) Tumbleweeds filed into the church, followed by the Moses Lake Crusaders marching to “The Pathfinder Song.” Many church members sang along, showing just how many of their lives have been touched by these clubs.

The youth took over the entire church service from start to finish. The Helping Hands performed a skit for children’s story, complete with Jericho’s walls tumbling down and narrowly avoiding the podium. The Baby Birds sang about the wise man and the foolish man for special music, and the Sunbeams recited their memory verses about salvation. Adventurers Josh Penhallurick and Jared Beaubien played piano for the general offering and children’s offering, respectively, and



Musicians (from left) Jim Morgan, Jared Wallen, Matthew Wallen, Jordan Morgan, Jeff Wallen and Michael Roberts help with Adventurer/Pathfinder Sabbath at the Moses Lake (Wash.) Church.

Pathfinder Sydney Beaubien played the postlude.

Three Pathfinders spoke for the sermon. Kelsey Sanders talked about how Pathfinders made her feel accepted for who she was and gave her a safe place to be part of the church family. Sydney Beaubien presented different ways that Pathfinders helps her grow closer to God. She shared that through

counselors, worships, memory verses and special activities, Pathfinders makes her want to live each day with God in her heart. Cassiah McCune talked about the way Pathfinders challenges her to do and be her best and gives her a secure place to develop new skills.

“I was very pleased with the respect and reverent attitude displayed by both the Pathfind-

ers and Adventurers during the church service,” said Jeff Wallen, Pathfinder director. “I was greatly impressed by the three Pathfinders who gave the sermon. They presented insightful talks and showed great courage.”

“What I heard the children doing showed me they are being disciplined,” said Gerald Haeger, Upper Columbia Conference ministerial secretary. “They are learning lessons of how to grow spiritually like Jesus. They shared verses, insights from Bible stories and their testimonies. I commend the Moses Lake Church and their pastor for allowing the youth time to share how they are growing like Jesus. It was really encouraging to me.”

Marta Beaubien, Moses Lake Adventurer Club director

Troy Church Members Break Ground

Shovels in hand, happy Troy (Idaho) Church members and friends gathered Sunday, April 14, at 3 p.m. on Big Meadow Road to break ground for a \$500,000 addition to the existing facility. The addition will include a new foyer, an expanded fellowship hall and children’s classrooms. An answer to prayer for new growth, there are now more than 20 preschoolers attending weekly.

Representatives from the Upper Columbia Conference in Spokane, Wash., were present. The conference will provide 10 percent of the funds. The Littler family gave the original land in 1946 and now has given additional land for this project.

Otis Parks, Troy Church member



JENNIFER ORCUTT

Impact Your World Focuses on Spiritual Revival

Step into the seminar rooms at Impact Your World retreat, and you will immediately sense energy in the room as people learn how to be vibrant witnesses for Jesus.

Impact Your World retreat, now in its sixth year, provides training for local church Bible workers and prayer warriors. This year, 130 people attended the retreat held the first week-end of April at Sunset Lake Camp.

their friends from examples in the Bible.

“Our church grows when we grow spiritually,” says Karen Bert, from New Life Adventist Ministry. This congregation in Fife experienced God’s blessings through two sessions of 40 Days of Prayer and decided to commit to daily praying together throughout the year.

In a new track this year, Paul Richardson from the Center for Creative Ministry shared practi-



Marc Lien, Monroe Church pastor, teaches people enrolled in the Bible worker training at the Impact Your World retreat how to use different Bible study techniques.



Impact Your World, now in its sixth year, trains and empowers more than 100 people each year to be involved in ministry and faith-sharing. Some churches even use this event as their annual church retreat.

“We train, empower and pray for the Holy Spirit to anoint people to accomplish what God is calling them to do in ministry,” says Gayle Lasher, retreat founder and organizer. “Our desire is to prepare our world for Jesus’ return one friend at a time.”

Attendees in the retreat’s prayer track learned about prayers of blessing from Don and Ruthie Jacobson, North American Division prayer leaders; Dick Hanson, an Adventist businessman from Portland, Ore.; and Corleen Johnson, North Pacific Union Conference prayer coordinator. In children’s sessions, young people learned how to pray for

cal insights about creating a safe church environment to reconnect with members. Marc Lien, Monroe Church pastor, taught lay Bible workers techniques for studying the Bible with their friends.

The Impact Your World retreat environment is “prayerful,” as described by one participant. Small groups frequently form to pray for the blessing of the Holy Spirit.



“We retrained our thinking on how to study the Bible,” says Robert Cline, a new member and one of 25 members from Enumclaw Church who attended the retreat. “We learned to look at context, facts and specifics of the text. It’s real and refreshing.”

Kevin Wilfley, Washington Conference prayer and spiritual growth coordinator, was the keynote speaker and spoke about the “power of returning” and the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

“I want to ask you to return to your excitement in Jesus Christ,” says Wilfley. “Return to Bible study, prayer, worship

and sharing your faith, and God will bring revival in your life. I encourage you to be ‘seven-day’ Adventists and not just ‘seventh-day’ Adventists.”

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

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PICTURE
of ministry

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Mission Creek Fosters Attitude of Service

Before departing on a 16-day mission trip in April, students and staff of Mission Creek Christian Education Center spent time spiritually preparing themselves to serve others in Iquitos, Peru.

The outreach school in Willapa Harbor, Wash., sponsors mission activities to promote a culture of service whether abroad or at home. This marks the seventh trip in eight years to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the people in Peru.

“It’s obvious in the title [Mission Creek] that we are always out on a mission serving the Lord daily in everything we do,” says Destiny

Boyes, 13, who attended her first mission trip.

In Peru, students delivered more than \$2,000 worth of beans and rice to families in need, preached for evangelistic meetings, visited with teen mothers and their children, and ministered to incarcerated inmates.

These annual acts of compassion are in partnership with the People of Peru Project (peopleofperu.org), a mission outpost based in Iquitos, whose work reaches out to everyone from hungry, inner-city children in Iquitos to those in need of medical care in remote villages along the Amazon River.

“I am encouraged by the



Mission Creek students and staff team up with children from POPPY's (People of Peru Project Youth Services) Place shelter for abused teen moms to distribute food to those in need in a little town outside of Iquitos, Peru.

response that I get from those I serve and the fact that I did something for someone other than myself,” says Tyler Boyes, 18, who has participated in three Peru mission trips.

See mission trip photos and updates at mcoutreach.org.

Charity Stone, Mission Creek teacher

WISE Makes Connections

to Grow International Student Recruiting Program

Representatives from Washington International Student Experience (WISE) recently returned from a student recruiting trip to Korea.

WISE began in 2011 to help connect international students with Seventh-day Adventist partner schools in the U.S. and to place Adventist teachers in schools in Korea.

During this trip from March 28 to April 10, WISE representatives attended the International Education Expo in Seoul to represent Northwest Christian School (Puyallup), Cypress Adventist School (Lynnwood), Lewis County Adventist School (Chehalis), Skagit Adventist Academy (Burlington), Auburn



To help grow the international student recruitment program, WISE plans trips abroad to visit with government officials, educators, recruiting agents and parents. WISE joined representatives from Auburn’s Sister City Program during this most recent trip.

Adventist Academy, Blue Mountain Academy (Hamburg, Penn.), Highland Academy (Portland, Tenn.) and Shenandoah Valley Academy (New Market, Vir.).

“During the two days, we had

more than 40 individuals come shopping for schools in which to study in America,” says Lon Gruesbeck, WISE director. “Our agents in Korea are following up with each contact.” WISE leaders met up with

Peter Lewis, Auburn mayor, and his traveling companions with the Sister City Program. They visited Pyeongchang, the site of the 2018 Winter Olympics, formally met with mayors from Pyeongchang and Gyeongsan City, shared WISE information with a superintendent of education, and checked on three WISE teachers.

“We see a lot of potential in each visit for growing the WISE program,” says Gruesbeck. “This whole process is about building relationships and contacts over time.”

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

Auburn Student Takes Stand for Jesus

During Mission Trip

Auburn Adventist Academy (AAA) students recently returned from a mission trip in Costa Rica sponsored by the North Pacific Union Conference.

The purpose of this mission trip was evangelistic preaching focused on reaching young people. Students from Puget Sound Adventist Academy in Kirkland and an Adventist school in Montana also participated.

Maureen Siahaan, an Auburn senior, was one of seven students from AAA preaching in Costa Rica. "I stepped out of my comfort zone completely, but in the end it was totally rewarding," says Siahaan, who is soft-spoken and thoughtful,



Auburn senior Maureen Siahaan waves with other baptismal candidates in Costa Rica. She decided to be baptized after seeing a woman step out in faith to be baptized.

much more comfortable behind a piano than a pulpit, but who asked God to use her in any way He deemed best.

After Siahaan preached one night and made an appeal for baptism, a woman came

forward. This woman's husband did not approve of her decision, but she stepped out in faith anyway.

This was an inspiration to Siahaan, who herself took a stand for God that night and

asked to be baptized. "After preaching, I felt ready ... ready to stand for God."

"I thought I was going to Costa Rica to speak to people," says Siahaan, "but God spoke to me."

Siahaan was blessed by her mission trip experience, as are other AAA students who have the opportunity to serve here at home or abroad. A mission experience gives students the opportunity to grow spiritually while participating in the Great Commission.

Jessi Turner, AAA GLEANER correspondent

Students Join Their Voices for 'All Nations Sing'

Middle and high school students from western Washington joined their musical talents for the Washington Conference Choral Clinic this spring.

In all, the choral clinic involved 200 singers. Students

ranged from fifth through 12th grades and represented 10 Adventist schools, one public school and home school students.

The joint-school choirs rehearsed for two days on the campus of Auburn Adventist

Academy to prepare for a Sabbath afternoon "All Nations Sing" concert. The repertoire for this year included pieces from Africa, Russia, Egypt, Ecuador, Jamaica and the Cherokee Nation. Students enjoyed the lively rhythms, several solo parts and the challenge of learning words in several languages, including Hebrew, Latin, Swahili and Cherokee.

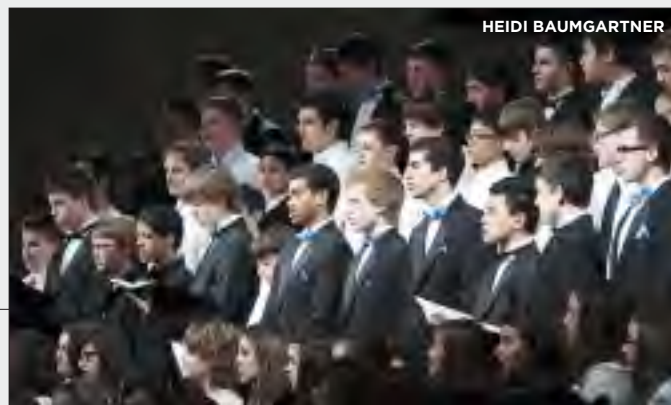
Melia Williams, Auburn Adventist Academy's new choir director, served as this year's clinician. "Music festivals allow students to have an experience in a larger group with others who hold the same beliefs," says Williams, who explains that

students can also stretch their musical abilities, make lifetime friends and become further anchored to the church through involvement in music ministry.

Williams hopes to merge the currently rotating choral and band clinics into an expanded music festival for spring 2014. The joint music clinic will feature festival band, orchestra, choir and bells. Western Washington students in grades five to 12 who attend Adventist, public or home schools are invited to attend.

Chris Williams, Washington Conference Choral Clinic volunteer

Choral clinic students enjoy lively rhythms, solo parts and the challenge of learning words in several languages including Hebrew, Latin, Swahili and Cherokee.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

School of Business Professor Shares Gospel in Bulgaria

For nearly a decade, Mi-hail Motzev, Walla Walla University (WWU) School of Business professor, has shared his expertise from the front of a WWU classroom and has presented professional research at many international conventions. Teaching business, however, is not Motzev's only passion. He is also dedicated to sharing the gospel around the world.

Motzev helped Gospel Outreach break the language and culture barrier with a church in Eastern Europe. "The regional director for

the Middle East and Eastern Europe was also a colleague, and he enlisted my help," says Motzev.

"In this area, Islam is what you might call a 'hot potato,'" says Motzev. "Constant wars between Muslims and Christians in Europe have made the relationships between cultures and nations very poor. They still consider each other enemies."

Mission work in predominantly Muslim areas is challenging and dangerous. The straight approach to sharing the gospel can result in incar-

ceration or even death.

"Muslims are very strong in their beliefs, and it is very difficult for them [Muslims] to accept anything outside of their culture, traditions and knowledge of the Koran," explains Motzev. "Our traditional way of approaching evangelism works in places such as Africa and the Pacific Islands, but in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, it does not."

To reach Muslims, Gospel Outreach trains and equips local people. The goal is to make friends first, find com-

mon ground, work beside them and, only when they start asking questions, slowly share.

During his mission work in this area, Muslims asked Motzev about his beliefs. "We have learned that the best way is to say we are Seventh-day Adventists," explains Motzev. "We tell them we don't drink, smoke or eat pork. Most of the time they will respond, 'Wow! You are a better Muslim than I am!'"

Motzev and other Gospel Outreach workers have made significant effort to learn all they can, including reading the Koran. Though Muslims do not realize it, much of what is written there is also written in the Bible.

"If you mention the Bible, they will reject it," says Motzev. "But show them where the same thing is written in the Koran, and they will accept it. We don't try to 'convert' them; we simply teach them about the Bible, God and eventually Jesus Christ. When they accept the truth, it is forever. They fearlessly share the good news, bringing more Muslims to Christ, ready to die for the gospel truth."

Becky St. Clair, WWU graduate



A group of Bulgarian and Gypsy Adventists in front of the Adventist church in Sofia, Bulgaria, following a clothing drive for needy Gypsies, who are also known as Roma.

Adventist Health Stories: Pieces of Our Hearts and Lives

Much like the creation of a colorful patchwork quilt, the mission of Adventist Health is accomplished in countless ways that involve more than technical capabilities and know-how to relieve physical pain and disease. Historically, Adventist health care has always recognized the principle that sympathy and tact often prove a greater benefit to the sick than the most skillful treatment given in a cold, indifferent way.¹

Each experience shared by Adventist Health employees in the third collection of *Our Stories* draws upon the spirit of compassion that lies within the hearts of those who uphold the mission and values of Adventist Health.

“My prayer is that these experiences will inspire others to share their hearts and lives with those we are privileged to serve,” states Gloria Bancarz, vice president and chief nursing officer.

1. Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing*, p. 244.

ONE OF MY BEST DAYS

As usual, I prayed for guidance in caring for each of our patients. I knew the last case of the day would be challenging because of the patient’s health history. When all was ready, I introduced myself and offered to pray with her.

“I would love that,” she said.

After I prayed for her and the surgical crew, we recited the Lord’s Prayer together before heading to the surgical suite.

“You are an answer to my prayer,” she said quietly. “I prayed that someone would pray with me, and you did.”

Knowing God used me to answer her prayer was a humbling experience, but honestly, she “made my day.” While getting ready to go home, I noticed the words on a magnet in my locker: “You will always have an angel to watch over you.”

This was totally one of my best days!

Bambi Poblador, Tillamook County General Hospital surgery department

THE ‘UNBIRTHDAY’ PARTY

Sam* had been a patient in our hospital for six weeks because of an unsafe home environment. Even though she was afraid at first and did not trust any of the nurses, our nursing assistant soon won her over with his kind heart. Eventually she permitted all of us to care for her. Sam’s home was uninhabitable, and she had no family or friends nearby to help, so plans were made to place her in an assisted-living facility.

Before Sam was discharged, we wanted to do something special for this lady who had become very dear to our department staff. Someone suggested that we throw her an “un-birthday” party. About 20 of us gathered in the hospital auditorium to give her gifts of clothes, shoes and other things she would need in her new home.

Sam was overwhelmed and brought a childlike joy to us. She helped us remember that the Lord loves us regardless of what we have done or where we have been. As nurses we care for our patients with our hands, but it’s equally important to show that we care with our hearts.

Beckie Versteeg, Walla Walla General Hospital medical/surgical services director

*Name has been changed to protect patient privacy.



READ THE REST

These stories are excerpts from *Our Stories 3: Pieces of Our Hearts and Lives*. To read the book in its entirety, download the free PDF at adventisthealth.org/about-us/our-stories.



NPUC HOLDS SEMINAR

on Gay Issues Within the Church



A solid crowd stayed attentive during the Gays in the Family seminar, which convened Friday evening and included presentations all day Sabbath.

Comments from the recent North Pacific Union Conference-sponsored Gays in the Family seminar reveal a common theme.

“You really gave my husband and me some things to think about. We have been so judgmental toward the gays. For one thing, we thought they just chose to be that way. Now we know better.”

“I was afraid that things would get out of hand or people would go off track, but that didn’t happen. The atmosphere was definitely very alive, yet it was very sweet and peaceful!”

“I haven’t known what to believe and didn’t really know what the Adventist stand on homosexuality was. Just having the opportunity to read the statement was a help to me.”

“I was very surprised and

happy to see some of our older people there ... I’m really glad they are open to addressing this issue!”

“I am just coming back to the Adventist Church. I have never heard the gospel at an Adventist event as much as I heard it here. It was just beautiful!”

“PLEASE, keep having these kinds of events. Take these messages to our churches!”

These are the most common responses to the event held at the Holden Convention Center in Gladstone, Ore., April 5–6, an attempt to contribute to a topic on which, so far, the church has been largely silent.

The weekend began with Scott LeMert, senior pastor of the Sunnyside Church in Portland, Ore., giving an overview of homosexuality in history and of some of the research on the

subject, calling for people to be more informed and more sensitive to the tremendous struggles some of our brothers and sisters are facing.

Other invited presenters included Lucille Ball, professional therapist; Miraslav Kis, Andrews University professor; and George Gainer, pastor of the Pleasant Valley Church near Portland. Each sought to help attendees positively apply the church’s biblical understanding on homosexuality to real-life situations in their families and local churches.

perspectives on coming back to the Lord and the sometimes difficult journey back into the Adventist Church added a very personal dynamic to the weekend.

The Q & A session, held nearly at the end of the conference and viewed by many as the event’s highlight, gave an opportunity for the speakers to interact with some of the difficult questions surrounding the topic.

The event concluded with a video of a sermon by Dwight Nelson, presented at the Pio-



Scott LeMert, senior pastor of the Sunnyside Church in Portland, Ore., addresses the Friday evening crowd at the April 5–6 Gays in the Family seminar, held in Gladstone, Ore.

Included in the weekend’s program were five “Life Journeys,” given by Wayne Blakely, Mike Carducci, Virna Santos and Lisa Santos (sisters), and Ron Woolsey. These testimonies represented men and women raised as Seventh-day Adventists but who left the church in order to openly live out their homosexuality. Their vulnerability as they shared their

near Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, Mich., calling all, homosexual and heterosexual alike, to biblical honesty and sexual purity.

All of the presentations made at the conference and numerous resources on the topic are available at gaysinthefamily.com.

Cheri Corder, Oregon Conference family life director

Wayne Blakely presented his own life journey as a same-sex-attracted individual and called each person present to be true to Scripture and to find his or her true identity in Christ.



Northwest Members Focus on Health Ministry Training



Fred Hardinge, General Conference associate health ministries director, presented several messages throughout the health ministries training weekend.

By all accounts, the 2013 North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) Health Ministry Training Symposium, held April 12–14 in Gladstone, Ore., was a success, exceeding expectations of even its organizers. Hoping for 100 individuals to come from around the Northwest, John Loor Jr., NPUC health ministries director, was happily astounded to watch nearly twice that number stream into the event and engage in the presentations offered throughout the weekend.

The 175 who attended heard a carefully balanced approach to the Adventist health message from main speakers Katia Reinert, North American Division health ministries director; Fred Hardinge, General Conference associate health ministries director; Don Hall, Wellsource and Lifelong Health founder; and Lilly Tryon, certi-



Katia Reinert, North American Division health ministries director, speaks to an attentive audience during the recent health ministries symposium held in Gladstone, Ore.

fied wellness coach. Among other materials received during registration, each person who attended also was given a flash drive containing every presentation.

The overall event was coordinated by local conference health directors and coordinators

throughout the NPUC, including Loor, Butch Palmero, Jay Sloop, Cindy Williams, Nessy Pittau and Cheri Corder. Members, who came from nearly every corner of the Northwest, covered their own cost for registration, transportation, lodging and food.

“I was amazed and gratified to see the commitment of our members for the health

ministry of our local churches in reaching out to our Northwest communities,” says Loor. “I believe a fire has now been kindled for this enthusiasm to grow brighter each year.”

Loor also referenced a quote from Ellen White, who pointed to the importance of thoughtful balance in presenting principles of health — and their relationship to the entire Adventist mission and message. In *Counsels on Health*, White says, “If they [members of the public] see that we are intelligent in regard to health they will be more ready to believe that we are sound in doctrine” (p. 452).

Loor hopes to continue the growth of the health ministry emphasis within the NPUC with more advanced training events on Christ-centered help for addictions through Adventist Recovery Ministries. Videos of the presentations are available at npuc.org.

Participants at the Health Ministries Training Symposium hold up their certificates after successfully completing the sessions held April 12–14 in Gladstone, Ore.



MILESTONES

Cheney 95th

Elma Cheney celebrated her 95th birthday on Dec. 24, 2012, with a family dinner in Boring, Ore.

Elma Iola Clarambeau was born on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 1917, in Huron, S.D. She was the second eldest of the five Clarambeau children, all of whom have preceded her in death.

After leaving South Dakota in 1934, she met Glen Cheney in Sandy, Ore., and they married in 1941. They lived in Caldwell, Idaho, and the Portland, Ore., area. Glen passed away in 1996.

Elma retired from Adventist Medical Center (AMC) in 1984 and volunteered in the AMC chaplain's office for many years. She enjoys her family, flowers, church, friends and telling stories of her childhood. One of her favorite stories is how as a girl she stepped barefoot on a rattlesnake.

Her family includes Rosella and Darrel Pearce of Boring, Ore.; Leon and Carla (Walla) Cheney of Ridgefield, Wash.; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Hixson 70th

Ray and Emily (Dorn) Hixson celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Dec. 29, 2012, in Paradise, Calif.

Julius L. Tucker performed their wedding ceremony in the old Tabernacle Church in Portland, Ore., on Dec. 29, 1942. Ray was involved in the youth ministry for the eight churches in Portland at that time. Following one of the meetings, they met and their first date was agreed upon. In due time they requested Tucker to seal their commitment in marriage.

The Oregon Conference gave them their first opportunity

for denominational service in the Sandy Church. During their ministry they started the second club in North America of what is known now as Pathfinders, under the tutelage of C.L. Skinner. After a period of service at the Book and Bible House with J.R. Gay, the Pacific Press called them to serve in its home office, where Ray spent 27 years as associate manager of the periodical department. They spent their last seven years in ministry pastoring in the Northern California Conference.

Ray, 94, and Emily, 89, are a testimony to God's providence. They look forward to the grand heavenly family reunion.

The Hixson family includes Ronald R. Hixson of Eagle Pass, Texas; Rulh Luann Rollo of Paradise, Calif.; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Rogers 60th

Donley "Don" and Maxine (Wright) Rogers of College Place, Wash., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 17, 2012. They were honored with time at a beachfront condo in Carlsbad, Calif., earlier in the year, and a small gathering of family and friends celebrated at the Blue Palm in Walla Walla, Wash., on their anniversary.

Maxine and Don Rogers



They were married Aug. 17, 1952, at the Walla Walla City Church. One month after they wed, Don was inducted into the U.S. Army and served 16 months in Korea as an ambulance driver. After his discharge, Don was a cabinet-maker then worked 32 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Walla Walla. Afterward he retired from the corps, he managed the corps branch office of the Walla Walla Valley Federal Credit Union for 15 years.

Maxine managed the Walla Walla College snack bar for six years then was branch manager for the College Place Adventist Book Center for 29 years. They are members of the Village Church in College Place.

The Rogers family includes Gary Rogers of College Place; Lynette and Randy Bates of Loma Linda, Calif.; a grandchild and 3 great-grandchildren.

Ziegele 90th

Nov. 3, 2012, was a special day for Fay Riley Ziegele. It was her 90th birthday. Her son, Dale Ziegele, and daughter-in-law, Judy, contacted the Hood River Church where Fay is a member, to invite everyone for a special birthday gathering. They also invited those in outlying areas who had worked with Fay for more than 50 years with Pathfinders. Her home was packed.

Fay was born Nov. 2, 1922, in Jordan, Mont. Life for Fay was a very busy one as she helped with the many duties required on an active dairy farm. The home not only bustled with a lot of work, but the Rileys also did a lot of entertaining and occasionally served as a hospital for out-of-town extended family.



Fay Ziegele

Reading was a natural heritage from her earliest years. Athletic sports and music added to the highlights of elementary and secondary education.

She married Walter Ziegele Sept. 8, 1940 in Olympia, Wash. They moved to Portland, Ore., where their daughter, Ruth Elaine, was born. Then they moved to Hood River, Ore. Soon a son, Dale, completed the family.

Oct. 1, 1956, Fay was widowed when Walter died in an accident. Fay returned to school and became an accountant working for Diamond Fruit Growers of Hood River. Besides earning a living and caring for her children, Fay became involved with Pathfinder ministry. She dedicated a total of 58 years, which included weekly meetings and some 290 weekend camping experiences.

For Fay's birthday, Dale collected the many notes, emails and snapshots sent to Fay to make a prized memory book of her life and special 90th birthday party.

Fay's family includes Dale and Judy Ziegele, 4 grandsons and 4 great-grandchildren.

ALEN — Roy Andrew, 74; born Nov. 20, 1938, Walla Walla, Wash.; died Jan. 28, 2013, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Yvonne (Wallace); sons, Bruce and David, both of La Center, Wash.; daughters, Cindy Christensen, Rockaway Beach, Ore.; Kathy Nightengale, Vancouver; brothers, Paul, Vancouver; Lloyd, Newberg, Ore.; 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BLAKELY — Ruth deHaan, 62; born May 27, 1950; died Feb. 23, 2013, Medford, Ore. Surviving: sons, Rick, San Diego, Calif.; Devon, Medford; and 3 grandchildren.

BROOKS — Adeline Louise (Schiffbauer), 88; born June 4, 1924, Brooklyn, N.Y.; died Feb. 23, 2013, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: husband, Judson, Portland, Ore.; daughter, Valerie Lull, Portland; and sister, Dorothy Schlereth, Detroit, Mich.

COFFIN — H. Beth (Armstrong), 90; born Dec. 9, 1922, Tokyo, Japan; died Jan. 28, 2013, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: son, David, Moreno Valley, Calif.; daughter, Kathy Marshall, Salem, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

CONFORTH — Andrew "Andy" Lee, 67; born April 11, 1945, Ontario, Ore.; died March 6, 2013, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: wife, E. Pauline (Hughes) Johnson; daughters, Brandi Conforth, Seattle, Wash.; Karla Conn, West Richland, Wash.; Kristi Hanson, Spokane; stepson, Klint Johnson, Pasco, Wash.; brother, John Conforth, Umatilla, Ore.; sister, Joyce Langley, Umatilla; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

COUCH — Priscilla Lynn (Goss) Mowery, 61; born June 11, 1951, Caldwell, Idaho; died Feb. 18, 2013, Caldwell. Surviving: husband, Charles; son, Quinn Mowery, Caldwell; daughter, Kim Mowery,

Caldwell; stepsons, Tom Jr. and Daniel, both of Caldwell; stepdaughters, Charlotte Crow, Colorado City, Texas; Nina Dooms, Caldwell; 7 grandchildren, 18 step-grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and a step-great-grandchild.

DAY — Hazel G. (Day), 98; born Jan. 1, 1915, Centerville, Iowa; died Feb. 11, 2013, Medford, Ore. Surviving: son, Mel Hackworth, Vancouver, Wash.; sister, Ruby Anderson, Vancouver; and 2 grandchildren.

DOVICH — Lorraine Doris (Polishuk), 87; born Aug. 21, 1925, Viceroy, Saskatchewan, Canada; died Feb. 12, 2013, Bothell, Wash. Surviving: son, Duayne D., Castle Rock, Wash.; daughter, Delray D. Luce, Bothell; brother, Ernest Polishuk, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; 4 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and 4 great-grandchildren.

EBY — Wilder S., 98; born Aug. 4, 1914, Oregon City, Ore.; died Nov. 30, 2012, Pasco, Wash. Surviving: wife, Dorothy (Patchett); sons, William, Loma Linda, Calif.; Benjamin, Phelan, Calif.; daughter, Carol Hiort Lorenzen, Fairfield, Calif.; sister, June Benda, Corvallis, Calif.; 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

FLEMING — Fern Ester (Stone) Eby, 96; born Feb. 9, 1917, Lodi, Calif.; died Feb. 19, 2013, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: sons, Mark, Springfield, Ore.; Doug, Salem, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

HOUSLEY — Marieta (Matheisen), 87; born July 18, 1925, Helena, Mont.; died Sept. 5, 2012, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: daughter, Pat Jesseph, Spokane; 3 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

LAWSON — Aletha Darlene (Downs), 86; born Oct. 7, 1926, Cambridge, Idaho; died Feb.

11, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Clifford J.; son, Kenneth, Riverside, Calif.; daughters, Sheila Lawson, Walla Walla; Barbara Sailor, Boring, Ore.; LaJean Lawson, Sherwood, Ore.; brother, Harold Downs Jr., Walla Walla; sister, Jacque Goodhew, Walla Walla; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

LONG — Albert Mel, 82; born Sept. 2, 1930, in Panama; died Feb. 19, 2013, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Myrna (Shultz); son, Kevin, Redmond, Ore.; daughter, Valerie Radu, Chattanooga, Tenn.; and 4 grandchildren.

MEIDINGER — Mary E. (Weatherby), 91; born April 25, 1921, Long Beach, Calif.; died Feb. 13, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, Dennis, Enumclaw, Wash.; Don, Battle Ground, Wash.; Dan, Sunnyvale, Calif.; Duane, College Place, Wash.; 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

NOAH — Mary (Acton), 93; born July 27, 1917, Lewiston, Idaho; died June 4, 2011, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Narlita Klein, Spokane; Waunita Marney, of California; 4 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

RICHARDS — Glyndon L. (Lorenz) Nixon, 88; born April 29, 1924, Shafter, Calif.; died Jan. 31, 2013, Bakersfield, Calif. Surviving: husband Lee Richards; son, Harold Nixon, Chehalis, Wash.; daughters, Ella (Nixon) Hammond, Chehalis; Marjorie (Nixon) Sorrels, Elk Horn, Iowa; sister, Jean Tadej, Palm Springs, Calif.; 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

SLAYTER — Ruth Elmira (Ainsworth), 85; born Oct. 12, 1927, O'Neal, Ark.; died Jan. 24, 2013, Sheridan, Ore. Surviving: husband, Melvin; son, Allen, Spanaway, Wash.; daughters,

Darlene Snow, Hillsboro, Ore.; Diana Adams, McMinnville, Ore.; Iris Frogge, Aurora, Neb.; brother, Basil Ainsworth, Sheridan, Ill.; 12 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, 2 step-great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

SMITH — Reger C., 86; born Oct. 19, 1926, Conneaut, Ohio; died March 6, 2013, Niles, Mich. Surviving: wife, Katherine (Baker), Berrien Springs, Mich.; daughters, Marjorie Bates, Berrien Springs; Susan Smith, Queen Creek, Ariz.; brother, Rothacker C., Huntsville, Ala.; 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

VANTASSEL — Ethel May (Goodrich), 100; born March 5, 1912, Palmyra, Maine; died Aug. 7, 2012, Redmond, Ore. Surviving: sons, Lamar, Scappoose, Ore.; Leland, Goldendale, Wash.; Norman, Chandler, Ariz.; Lorraine, Turner, Ore.; Nick, Redmond; daughters, LaVonne Owen, Redmond; Delmarie Null, Goldendale; 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

WALDE — Marvin L., 78; born Dec. 17, 1934, Glendale, Calif.; died Feb. 5, 2013, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Shirley L. (Neuman); son, Keith Walde, Milton-Freewater, Ore.; daughter, Teresa Reich, Walla Walla; brother, Jerry, Phelan, Calif.; sister, Gloria Leggitt, Yucaipa, Calif.; and 6 grandchildren.

WOMASTEK — Helen Louise (Tomanka), 97; born Aug. 8, 1915, Bartlesville, Okla.; died Jan. 24, 2013, Milwaukie, Ore.

YURKE — Helga (Erben), 80; born July 4, 1932, Hohenelbe, Germany; died Dec. 17, 2012, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Helmut; sons, Bernard, Martin and Otto, all of Boise; and sister, Annamarie, of Germany.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

North Pacific Union Conference

Offering

June 1 — Local Church Budget;

June 8 — Multilingual and Chaplaincy Ministries;

June 15 — Local Church Budget;

June 22 — Local Conference Advance;

June 29 — NAD Evangelism.

More upcoming events listed at
gleaneronline.org/events

Walla Walla University

June 9 — Missoula, Mont., Hooding Ceremony/
Graduation;

June 14-16 — Commencement. For more information
and to see the full weekend schedule, go to wallawalla.edu/graduation;

June 24 — Summer session starts;

Aug. 23-25 — Rosario Alumni Weekend.

Montana

Montana Youth Conference

July 24-28 — Please join us for the Montana Youth
Conference, in Butte, Mont.: "His Word, His Will," *Our
Questions; God's Answers*. Speakers include Tim
Riesenberger and Conna Bond. For more information, go
to mtycweb.org.

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Oregon

Sunnyside Church's 32nd Annual Strawberry Vespers

June 22 — Sunnyside Church will celebrate its 32nd
Annual Strawberry Vespers on Sabbath at 6 p.m. It will
be a program with great music from some of Portland's
finest musicians. Plenty of good fellowship, and lots of
strawberry shortcake to follow. Come, bring your friends,
and join us for a wonderful evening.

Washington

Liberty Magazine Editor Speaking at Lacey Church

July 12-13 — Come hear *Liberty* magazine editor Lincoln
Steed's amazing insights and information on the world's
up-to-date happenings, as they relate to God's last-day
church and our unique message. You won't want to miss
this. Starting Friday evening at 7 p.m., and continuing
with three meetings on Sabbath, beginning at 9:30 a.m.
Lacey Church, 5831 Mullen Rd. SE, Lacey, WA 98503. For
more information, call 360-459-5163 or 360-943-3893.

World Church

Madison College Alumni Association Homecoming

June 21-23 — The Madison College Alumni Association
Homecoming, honoring classes 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958
and 1963. Also invited are those who attended Madison
College or Madison College Academy and the anesthesia
school. We will have activities and meals beginning
Friday evening through Sunday morning at the Madison
Academy campus. For more information, contact Henry
Scoggins, president, 865-919-7767; or Jim Culpepper,
secretary/treasurer, 615-415-1925.

ADULT CARE

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CLASSES

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671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; don.williams@adu.edu.

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Sunset Schedule

June (DST)	7	14	21	28
Alaska Conference				
Anchorage	11:29	11:38	11:42	11:42
Fairbanks	12:23	12:40	12:47	12:43
Juneau	9:57	10:04	10:07	10:07
Ketchikan	9:23	9:29	9:32	9:32
Idaho Conference				
Boise	9:23	9:27	9:30	9:30
La Grande	8:37	8:41	8:44	8:45
Pocatello	9:06	9:10	9:12	9:13
Montana Conference				
Billings	9:01	9:05	9:08	9:08
Havre	9:17	9:22	9:24	9:25
Helena	9:18	9:22	9:25	9:26
Miles City	8:53	8:57	8:59	9:00
Missoula	9:27	9:31	9:34	9:35
Oregon Conference				
Coos Bay	8:55	8:58	9:01	9:02
Medford	8:45	8:49	8:52	8:52
Portland	8:56	9:01	9:03	9:04
Upper Columbia Conference				
Pendleton	8:42	8:46	8:48	8:49
Spokane	8:44	8:49	8:51	8:52
Walla Walla	8:41	8:45	8:48	8:49
Wenatchee	8:55	8:59	9:02	9:02
Yakima	8:52	8:56	8:59	9:00
Washington Conference				
Bellingham	9:09	9:14	9:16	9:17
Seattle	9:04	9:08	9:11	9:11

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

ADVERTISEMENTS

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY School of Education and Psychology seeks faculty for counseling programs. Qualified candidates must have an earned doctorate in counseling or counselor education, preferably from a CACREP-accredited program, with a concentration in school or clinical mental health counseling. The candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ and be a Seventh-day Adventist church member in good and regular standing. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to John McCoy, School of Ed/Psych, Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370.

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Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; benita.david@adu.edu.

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August September	June 20 July 18

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BIG ISLAND, HAWAII Studio vacation rental, in beautiful, peaceful Waimea. Private entrance, kitchenette, Dish Network, Glorystar. Very AFFORDABLE, vacationrentals.com/vacation-rentals/67406.html. Single rooms available. Mention this ad. Contact Dale and Patsy, 808-885-6467.

ALASKAN ADVENTURE CRUISE Treat yourself to something you've always wanted to do with Christian friends. Join Richard and Penny Clarke on the *Golden Princess* round trip out of Seattle July 28-Aug. 4, 2013. Contact Penny, an Adventist travel agent, 253-632-3528 or penny@AcquireAdventures.com.

LIVING LANDS OF THE BIBLE presents three all-inclusive, Bible-based November tours with Dick Fenn, former Jerusalem pastor. Follow Jesus from Egypt to Galilee to Golgotha. Experience Paul's Italy from Puteoli to Rome. Depart from/return to Lufthansa gateway cities coast-to-coast. Visit MTSTravel.com for complete itineraries. Email RLF@DrWordsmythe.com, call 503-659-1020.

SUNRIVER 5-bedroom/5-bathroom, sleeps 12. House is loaded w/extras: hot tub, Wi-Fi, two large gas fireplaces, plus

more. Starting \$325/night and \$125 cleaning fee. 10% discount with 3-night reservation. Call 503-550-0130.

SUNRIVER, CENTRAL OREGON 4-bedroom vacation home on the North Woodlands golf course. Two master king suites, two queens, one bunk set, hot tub, loft, Jacuzzi bath, gas log fireplace, BBQ, W/D, bikes, all "lodge amenities," sleeps 10, no smoking, no pets, includes housekeeping. For rates, photos and reservations: 541-279-9553, 541-475-6463 or schultz@crestviewcable.com.

NPUC ADVENTIST HERITAGE TOUR with Jim Nix, Ellen G. White Estate director. Follow in the footsteps of the pioneers: New England, New York, Michigan; Oct. 13-23, 2013. For more information, visit npuc.org/2013AHTour, email sue.patzner@nw.npuc.org or call 360-857-7031.

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White Memorial Medical Center
Centennial Celebration Weekend
OCTOBER 25-27, 2013

IF YOU'VE BEEN a friend, patient, employee or graduate of White Memorial's residency programs, plan now to join us for a faith-building weekend of events celebrating God's work at WMMC, touring the new campus and reconnecting with old friends.

READ THE FULL STORY in "A Journey of Faith and Healing," WMMC's centennial history book.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 | Continuing Medical Education Event
Well-known physician, writer and speaker Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 | Hospital Sabbath Program
Elders Charles White, great grandson of Ellen White, and Gordon Bietz, president of Southern Adventist University
Concert by Sandi Patty, acclaimed Christian vocalist

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 | Centennial Gala
A fund-raising celebration for WMMC

To learn more about the weekend or to order the book, visit whitememorial.com/centennial.

White Memorial Medical Center
— Adventist Health



Routine

“A man grows old when he deserts his ideal. The years may wrinkle his skin, but deserting his ideal wrinkles his soul.”

— General Douglas MacArthur



I don't remember if the morning was bright and balmy, or cloudy and cool. But I do recall a sudden sinking awareness that my routine had dramatically changed.

After a quick shower, I had pulled on sweats, opened the garage door and walked down our long driveway for the old-fashioned version of the news ... my morning paper. Snaring it from its receptacle, I waved a cheery goodbye to my wife, who drove past me and down the hill toward another day of work.

Head down, engrossed in the front page, I trudged back down the driveway. As I approached the garage, I glanced up — and noticed something unexpectedly amiss. The door through which I had exited moments before was now shut tight. The house was locked. My wife was long gone. Both caught up in our own routines, we had, like ships passing in the night, automatically done the usual. But this time, with perfectly ironic timing, I was persona non grata, outside the walls with no way in.

No problem, I thought. There's Plan B — the backup key hidden outside. But then I remembered: With recent landscaping, that key had temporarily been put back IN THE HOUSE.

So I lowered my expectations to Plan C and reached for my cell phone to call my wife. A quick survey of all available pockets brought me to a stark reality. I'd left the phone IN THE HOUSE.

Plan D — a 12-hour sojourn outdoors in my skivvies — was unappealing. So I immediately moved to Plan E, a quick hike up the hill to our neighbors. They were blessedly gracious to an unshaven, marginally dressed,

wild-eyed refugee who simply wanted to go home. I picked up their phone and dialed my dearly departed wife.

When she finally stopped giggling, she agreed to turn around and come back home. Awaiting her return, I was left to ponder a markedly enhanced respect for the liabilities of mindless routine.

My momentary bout of inconvenience rates not even a speck in light of recent horrific events that have forever altered lives in Boston and terror-ridden areas around the world. Routines there have been shattered. But rote routine is a subtle, silent killer all on its own. It can relentlessly drain the spirit of life placed in each one of us by our Creator. It can make us old before our time.

I think of General Douglas MacArthur's wise words from decades ago. "Youth is not a period of time," he said. "It is a state of mind, a result of the will, a quality of the imagination, a victory of courage over timidity, of the taste for adventure over the love of comfort. ... A man grows old when he deserts his ideal. The years may wrinkle his skin, but deserting his ideal wrinkles his soul."

What ideal have you given up for the ruthless sake of routine? What superlatives have you sold in return for a sense of safety and security?

We serve One committed to an ideal, as Ellen White observes, "higher than the highest human thought;" One who, according to the apostle Paul, is "able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think."

The last time I checked, those words were still exceedingly abundantly true.

You may respond to any GLEANER topic by sending an email to: talk@gleaneronline.org.

Steve Vistaunet
GLEANER EDITOR

Andy's MARKET

WORTHINGTON FROZEN	Price
Worth Corned Beef Rolls Case	67.95
Worth Corned Beef Roll Single	17.99
Worth Chicken Rolls Case	62.95
Worth Chicken Roll Single	16.99
Worth Wham Rolls Case	67.95
Worth Wham Roll Single	17.99
Worth Smoked Turkey Rolls Case	62.95
Worth Smoked Turkey Roll Single	16.99
Worth Dinner Roast Case	54.95
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Worth Leanies	47.95
Worth Fri-Pats	33.95
Worth FS Fri-Pats 2 02042 00000	\$29.95
LL AND WORTHINGTON CANS	Price
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LL Swiss Stake w/Gravy	\$32.95
LL Fried Chik'n w/Gravy	\$32.95
Worth Fri-Chik	\$32.95
Worth Prime Stakes	\$32.95
Worth LF Fri-Chik	\$32.95
Worth Diced Chik	\$34.95
LL Vege-Burger	\$39.95
LL Redi-Burger	\$39.95
LL Linketts	\$39.95
LL Big Franks	\$39.95
LL Little Links	\$39.95
LL Low Fat Big Frnaks	\$39.95
Worth Vegetarian Burger	\$39.95
Worth Vegetable Skallops	\$39.95
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LL Tender Bits	\$42.95
Worth Saucettes	\$42.95
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Worth Low Fat Veja-Links	\$42.95
Worth Choplets	\$44.95

For a full list of sale items, go to www.andysmarket.com.

SUMMER SALE

SALE ENDS JUNE 30

There are so many reasons to be in Walla Walla this June. Whether you're passing through or staying awhile, stop and say hello. You will love our store and really love our prices. See you soon!! Contact us at: 888-929-1003 or andys@andysmarket.com.

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