

OUTLOOK

AUGUST 2011



INTERNET EVANGELISM



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Facebook, Twitter, blogging . . . are you doing any of that? If not, you may be missing out on connecting with some people who have meant the most to you in your life. Moreover, you may be ignoring an unparalleled and unprecedented opportunity to reach people for God. Have you heard about the "Digital Continent"? It's the Internet with its social media, a place as real as any of the other continents. People on the Digital Continent tend to be responsive to new things—like new truth, perhaps? Your church can connect with them through a creative, well-maintained website. Most people these days won't accept even a personal invitation to visit your church unless they first check it out online. What a challenge! What an opportunity. Read all about it here and on www.outlookmag.org.

—MARTIN WEBER

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What's Online?

O OutlookMag.org has exclusive daily content, breaking news, photos, videos, events and blogs!



Blog:
The School of Life
The hardest things that happen may teach us the most.
<http://bit.ly/q0nhPK>



Blog:
Fix Your Eyes On...
We are stuck here until Jesus comes.
<http://bit.ly/qhvNmX>



Interview:
Life After the Newsboys
An exclusive interview with Peter Furler
<http://bit.ly/mfO7hB>



Blog:
Circus of Grace
"I almost got myself arrested in front of my kids."
<http://bit.ly/psaaM3>



Winternet Evangelism

by Chris McConnell



May I be candid? Many of our churches are missing the boat when it comes to Internet evangelism. These days, not having an adequate online presence is almost like turning a cold, wintry shoulder to the world.

Perhaps you find yourself thinking, “Our church has a website. We’re good to go!”

Actually, a website is only one of what I call “Six Paths of Internet Evangelism” (see infographic on opposite page). And even that assumes your church website is well designed, houses useful and interesting content and receives frequent updates. The truth is that many churches need to defrost their outmoded methods and blossom into the springtime of new growth opportunities.

Let’s view Internet evangelism through the lens of Jesus calling His disciples to be fishers of men. Could a fisherman have success without casting a net? I don’t think so either. On the Internet, content (articles, photos, videos, etc.) is like a digital fishing lure—what catches people’s attention and draws them in. Of course, in both fishing and evangelism, different ponds contain different fish, so we must have a presence in any body of water where we hope to make a catch (think the Open Web, social

networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, mobile phones and tablets, etc.). You have to put something out there (content) in order to get something back (people).

How many people under 30 do you think won’t digitally research a church before attending? If there’s nothing (good) to be found, then your church simply doesn’t exist, or should not be taken seriously, according to a certain segment of the population.

Churches can and must successfully connect with people in a meaningful way online. How? By creating and uploading compelling content.

It does take actual work to upgrade your online content. The good news is that creating interesting content doesn’t have to be hard (although it could prove challenging for aging congregations to attempt to create relevant content for young people). Every week sermons are preached, people interact and photo opportunities are prevalent—it’s all there waiting to be harvested and made available in a digital format.

In paving the digital pathways that can turn seekers into members, churches must avoid four pitfalls:

1. Don’t succumb to the notion that merely putting good content online means that people will magically find it. You need to develop a goal-oriented audience building strategy. Ask questions such as, “How and where are people currently accessing the Internet?” Effective growth strategies may include creative outreach

ideas, like offering free wifi hotspots to communities, with an airport-style sign-in screen that introduces the church.

2. Online activity is not evangelistic if it remains confined within the borders of the church. For example, asking church members to “like” the church’s Facebook page is great for nurturing an existing community—but it’s not outreach. Try sharing church links with non-member Facebook friends.

3. Having a social media presence does not mean that youth will automatically relate to what you have to say. I can’t emphasize this enough. If they don’t relate to your local church in the physical world, why would that change online?

4. A final pitfall to avoid is giving up when success is not easily attained. So commit yourself for the long run.

Pastors—how many empty seats could be filled each week by going beyond simply a static, brochure-ware website paired with a barebones, run-of-the-mill Facebook page as your online representation?

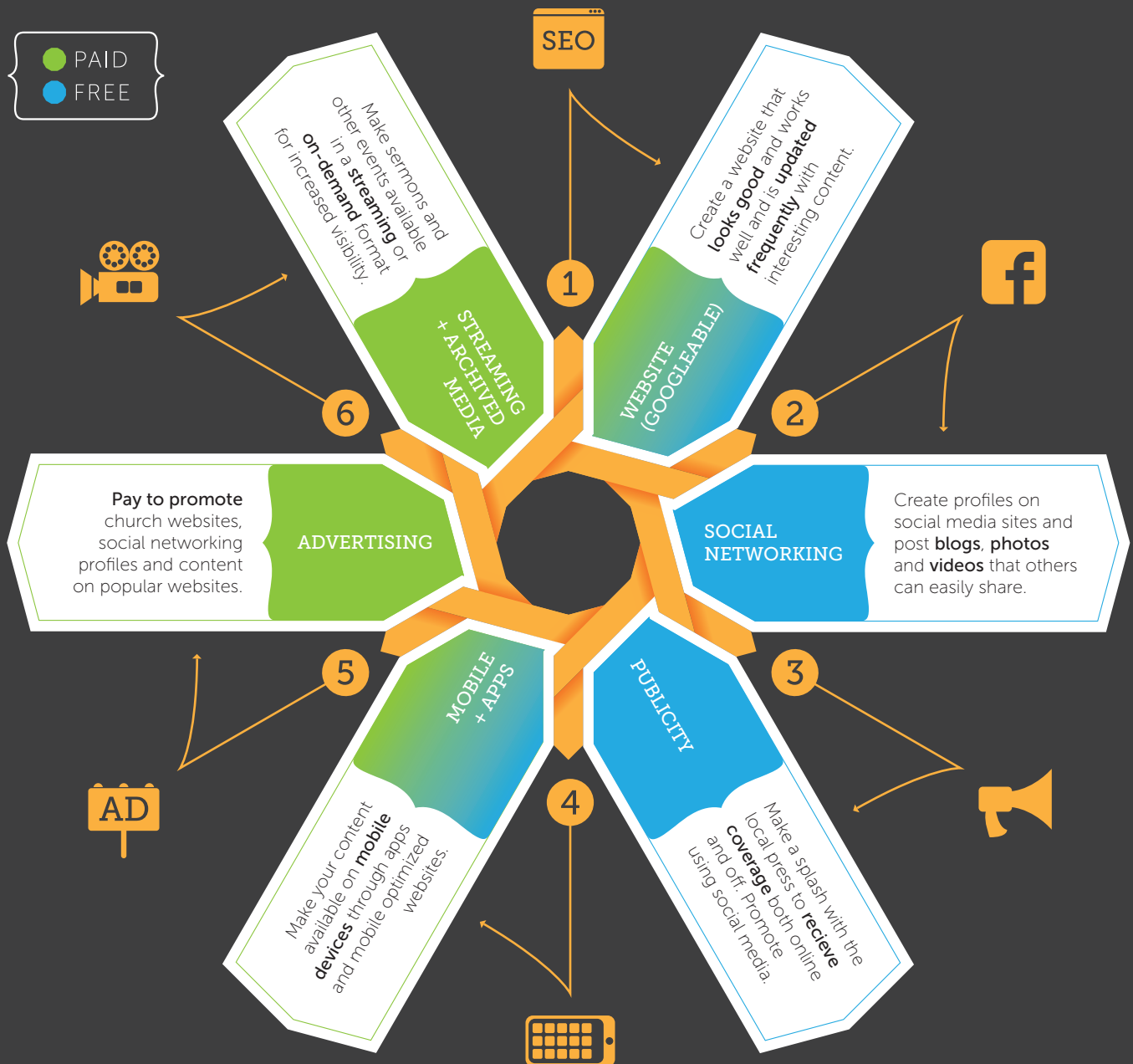
Church members of all ages—help your church leadership form a plan for Internet evangelism (extra points for helping your pastors sign-up for Twitter and then asking them via tweeting). **■**

Chris McConnell is the managing editor of *Outlook*.



PATHS OF INTERNET EVANGELISM

Is your church only represented online by a website? See what you're missing:





Social Media and Your Church

by Marty Thurber

Blogging, Facebook, Twitter, iOS, the Web—these were all strange guests in my home at one time. Now they are my friends. Where did they come from, and what could they mean in your life and ministry?

Blogging

Blogging was the first alien invader. Back in the 90s I started searching for information about evangelism and outreach on the Internet. I discovered blogs, as they would come to be known—web journals updated daily or weekly. (The word blog is a blending of the term “web log.”) Some blogs told stories of sharing one’s faith in a manner I knew could work for me. So I read more. It dawned on me that I could also write blogs by sharing my own stories. I started this back in the late 90s and now maintain several blogs that receive thousands of visits each month.

What do these blogs actually accomplish? They create what some call “ambient findability,” the ability to locate anything or anyone online. An Internet site is like a pamphlet or short paper that goes online and is multiplied many times over. As word spreads that your paper is free and readily available, more and more people show up to read it. It helps to have something good to say. It also helps to listen. The bloggers who have the most to say have also learned to listen well to their readers, thereby earning the right to speak and share.

Listed in the sidebar are some of my favorite blogs. When you are ready to be found, there is a resource list of sites to help you start your own blog. As a pastor, I carry a message on my heart each day, centered in Jesus and His cross. I love to share His love in any way I can. Blogging allows me to communicate that message with a much wider audience. Blogging is no longer foreign to me; in fact it’s quite a friend.

I average 15-20 minutes a day blogging. If you’ve got something to say and are creative enough to say it often, blogging could be for you too.

Facebook

Facebook appeared on the scene in 2004. Its user base has expanded faster and farther than anyone could imagine—750 million to date have signed up. If you want to make new friendships, restore old ones, share information or stories, gather an audience, or just see what others are doing, Facebook is probably the best place to be. Sign up and see what’s going on. If you want to remain private and out of the spotlight, you can maintain a low profile on Facebook.

I spend just five minutes or less a day on Facebook since I don’t care to tell all the personal details of my life, like some do. But my Facebook page gets lots of traffic because my blog posts show up there. It’s all automated. I don’t ever have to open Facebook, but my blog posts are fed to my page and then they are seen from there. I have this done with other feeds

like Twitter as well (see below).

You could say my use of Facebook is automated. If someone wants to converse with me about my posts, I do get an automatic email from them, to which I can respond.

As a pastor, I want to keep connected with the lives of my church members—their troubles, birthdays, travels, hopes and dreams. Facebook lets me comment on what’s happening in their lives while also offering opportunities for spiritual conversation. This ministry aspect of Facebook is wonderful. While nothing can replace home visitation, Facebook can help pastors know who needs a visit and how to make it count.

Facebook can become a tool of intensive ministry, which might take up time in one’s busy schedule. But if the focus is kept on ministry, that time can be well spent.

Twitter

After I got acquainted with blogging and then Facebook, a new face showed up in the social media community—Twitter, which now has 150 million subscribers. It took me awhile to figure out what “tweeting” is all about. Basically you can type a “tweet” (a short message of 140 characters or less) and post it on the Web—something like a quick telegraph message. The beauty is that you can use Twitter to send links to friends, followers, Facebook and elsewhere. It not only goes to one person or group, it goes in multiple directions at once, broadcasting your thoughts and Internet sites

Twitter is a fantastic source of ideas and other resources.

rapidly and widely.

What do you say on Twitter? Anything, if you don't mind being concise. For example, when you find a website you like or a blog post that inspires you, just hit the tweet button and that automatically creates a post on your Twitter page. All your Twitter followers can see it when they log on to Twitter, and all your Facebook friends can see it as well if you link your Twitter account to Facebook. This sounds like a lot of work, and it does take some time to set up, but once accomplished it works well, with minimal effort.

I spend 15-20 minutes a day on sending and reading tweets. Twitter is a fantastic source of ideas and other resources. Sign up and just watch the tweets go by for a while. Once again, when the time is right, you will find things to tweet to others.

Websites

It's been said that if you are not on the Web these days, you don't actually exist. That's an exaggeration, obviously, but it makes a point. People are choosing which church to attend by the look and feel of its website. Young folks are choosing where to go to school based upon the appeal of its website—which is actually an extension of the institution.

Websites are your greeters. When they send a welcoming message to large audiences, your church or school gains positive notice. When your website is lame or stale, that sends its own message.

One of the greatest initiatives of the North American Division is Adventist Church Connect (ACC), now augmented by Adventist

School Connect (ASC). Every Adventist congregation and school in the United States and Canada has its own free and supported website, version 1.0. If you want to take that beyond its most basic level, advance to version 2.0 (still free!). Appoint a local webmaster or team to learn the Content Management System—which makes possible a church email newsletter and photo gallery, an automated content feed of top-notch news and inspiration, and all sorts of additional information modules. This might sound like a lot to keep up with, but amazing advice is available through a toll-free support line (operated right here in Mid-America at *AdventSource* in Lincoln, Nebraska).

So if you get excited about your local church or school website and want to see it become the best it can be, the ACS/ASC staff stands ready to help you make that happen. It might take an hour or two to set up your 2.0 site and then some time each week to keep it maintained, but the effort is well worth it.

Why not make your local church or school site all it can be? To see what some other churches and schools are doing with their websites, I'm listing to the right some excellent sites. Visit them for ideas and inspiration.

Besides pastoring New Creation and Capitol View churches in Lincoln, Nebraska, Marty Thurber ministers through the social media.

Social Media Resources

Social Media Sites

- facebook.com
- twitter.com
- flickr.com
- youtube.com
- vimeo.com

Twitter Clients

- tweetdeck.com
- twitterrific.com
- hootsuite.com

Blogging / Content Management Systems

- wordpress.com
- blogger.com
- tumblr.com
- squarespace.com
- expressionengine.com
- drupal.com
- joomla.com
- posterous.com
- moveabletype.com
- livejournal.com
- textpattern.com
- chyrp.net
- publr.com

Interesting Blogs

- mike4tune.blogspot.com
- martythurber.com/
- michaeloutlook.wordpress.com

Great Church Web Design

- <http://bit.ly/ox7ntM>

Sample Church Websites

- allonchapel.com
- capitolviewchurch.org
- collegeviewchurch.org
- denverfirstsda.org
- atlantabereansda.org
- cpcsd.org
- paradiseadventist.org
- houstonsda.org
- joshuasda.org
- pompanobeachsda.org
- downeychurch.org
- calimesasda.com
- pucchurch.org
- visaliasda.org/folders.asp?uid=1
- kelsoadventist.org
- www.outlookmag.org

As a pastor, I want to keep connected with my church members. Facebook lets me.



Gunshot in Paradise

by Cassi Fitzpatrick

“This beach is beautiful! I feel like we’re in a movie,” I shout excitedly. It’s Sabbath in Panama and our study group has grabbed a boat ride to enjoy a gorgeous day at the beach.

Riding the waves, a little ways out, our enthusiasm is interrupted. Bang! Is that a gunshot coming from the beach? Looking into the trees, further inland, I see people in uniform. It looks like someone is being stomped and beaten to the ground. Can this really be

shot? Not enough blood. I don’t know what to think.

Panic or be calm...are we okay? We notice the police have Angela and Micah’s bags. Turns out the kid had stolen them and we had no clue until now.

The police want us to come to the station. In the boat on the way there, the young thief and two policemen are sitting right behind me. My mind is going a million miles an hour, and I don’t understand my feelings—the tears won’t stop. Suddenly I realize why. I want to give the boy my Bible

already been given. I may be that messenger God sent today. The reason I accidentally brought my Bible with me to the beach—ready to be given away.

I reach for a drink of water, then drop it the floor. I can’t drink this! He has nothing. It wouldn’t be fair. I’ve gotta save it for him. Not sure how or where, but I have to!

Arriving at the dock, I see the words *Policia Nacional*. We’ve made it—now what?

Following the policemen down the dock, we arrive at a tall metal fence, doorway open. We walk through a small courtyard and enter a big yellow building. A prisoner stares at us from behind cold, gray bars.

Everyone is sitting on the steps, a calm in the storm—my moment from God. Apprehensively, I go up to the guard who speaks English. “Can I give my water to the boy who stole our stuff?”

“Go ahead,” he says in a stern, yet kind voice. He seems curious.

Standing at arms length, not sure how he’ll react, I present my water bottle to the young man. “Would you like some water?” He nods, taking the bottle. He drinks until content, leaving some for me.

Seeing his smile I feel at ease. “Thank you,” he says. Next, I hand him my Bible. With his right hand cuffed to the bench, he uses the other to unstrap the cord and open the Bible. He flips through the pages meticulously. His eyes show deep thought and tenderness—something I didn’t see in him before. His anger dissipates by the moment.

I take a seat next to him. “It’s a

The tears won’t stop and I realize that I want to give the young man my Bible.



happening?

We start to wonder what’s going on. Angela’s alone on the beach and our stuff is right next to the people. Our hesitant voices echo, “Should we go be with Angela...is our stuff okay?”

Wading back to the shore, I see two police and a young man in handcuffs leave the jungle’s edge. The kid’s head is bloody. It’s hard to tell how badly, since he’s keeping his back to us. Was he

and water, yet I hesitate. I feel fear.

But why should I fear rejection or man’s interpretation of what’s right or wrong? What’s more important—the chance for this boy to see who Christ is, or me saving face? My dad passed away without warning. I know the value of life and how soon that flame could be quenched. This may be this boy’s only chance to feel the love that God intended for him to know—the forgiveness that’s

Bible,” I tell him, “I want you to have it. My life used to be a mess and I’d always get into trouble. God changed my life and I know He can change yours too.”

“I can’t read English, but I can try to learn,” he answers. His eyes don’t wander from its pages, as if mesmerized. “What’s your name?” I ask.

“Anthony,” he looks up at me smiling.

We talk about God and the Bible, for how long I’m not sure. “Would you like to pray?” Nodding, he lowers his head slowly and softly. It feels like we’re the only two people in the world, and my attention is totally focused on him and my prayer. After I say “Amen” we lift our heads. I feel at peace and a strange calmness surrounds us.

“Have you heard of Jesus before and what He’s done for you?” Anthony answers, “I’ve seen Him on TV. He died on the cross for our sins, with blood and scars on His back.” Hearing this, I’m amazed. We talk more about the Bible and what Jesus has promised us.

I ask about his family. He tells me he’s the oldest at age 16. His favorite *futbol* team is Brazil. He asks me which one I like and I have no idea! I don’t watch *futbol* but I try to talk sports with him for a bit. It seems to be his passion.

I’m curious, so I ask, “What’s your dream? If you could do anything in the world, what would it be?”

“I’d play *futbol* for Brazil! I want that more than anything!”

“I tell you what, you wanna play *futbol* for Brazil, God can make your dreams come true.” I try to encourage him by saying he’s been

created for great things in life. God’s given me so much hope and love, I can’t help but share it with this young man.

“What church do you go to?” he asks, smiling.

“The Seventh-day Adventist Church,” I tell him.

Without hesitation he responds, “I’m a Seventh Day also. I didn’t go today though.”

Seriously! Did I just hear that? I feel like this is God affirming me even more. He wanted me to meet Anthony today. To take a step of faith and reach out. I’m honored for God to use me—a servant. The sinner that I am. I don’t know if I’ll look at life the same and I hope Anthony doesn’t either.

Anthony, I’ll see you at the World Cup! Most importantly, I hope we meet again in God’s heavenly paradise.

Cassi Keeps Connected Via Social Media

Alaska, Costa Rica, and corny Nebraska—a small glimpse into my summer of travel. Being always on the go, Facebook helps me hold onto the people I’ve met who love to do mission work. We update each other on where God’s taken us as well as our future goals. FB also helps me add friends from my random adventures—only a click away.

I’ve encountered many blessings by my friends’ posts about their devotions, Bible verses, and FB Bible study pages. God’s used FB in a powerful way to build me up as a Christian, allowing me to stay in contact with faraway friends who point me back toward Christ when I need a little redirecting or encouragement.

With his right hand cuffed to the bench, he uses the other to unstrap the cord and open the Bible.

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Adventist TV: What I Want to Watch

by Chris McConnell

This is a shortened version of the original article that first appeared online here: <http://bit.ly/jBYGeH>. Please add your comments online!

As an Adventist in my twenties, I long for an Adventist-style Hulu. What in the world is that?

Hulu is a non-traditional TV outlet that offers shows over the Internet in two forms: free or via a paid subscription. There are actually a number of interesting hardware and service combinations that make it possible to get TV over the Internet including Apple TV, Roku, Boxee, Google TV, Netflix and gaming consoles like the XBOX, Playstation and Wii. Cool technology alone isn't enough though—more than anything I long for content that

is appealing to my age group. I'd love to see an Internet-only Adventist TV station run by people under 30 (by the people for the people, so to speak)—something along the lines of Revision 3, which I could hook up to my TV with a simple cable and tune into some cool Adventist programming.

Like what? How about some Adventist reality TV, since people are interested in people. Stuff like:

- Random acts of kindness toward complete strangers caught on tape
- Extreme sports evangelism (snowboarding, surfing, etc...)
- Following a pastor through seminary
- A week in the life of a physician / conference president / teacher
- A vegetarian cooking competition
- An Adventist weight loss show
- Documented life at a one-teacher school

- Teens talking to "real" people out on the streets about God
- This list could go on and on...

Let me add that I'm more than willing to watch web-quality video that isn't made to the highest possible TV standards. Short clips are great. Anything is better than nothing.

The Internet is revolutionizing the way the secular world watches TV—why shouldn't it change the way Adventists approach TV as well? In the recent past, starting a TV station would have been ridiculously expensive. Now, thanks to the Internet, lower costs mean many barriers to entry have disappeared, more people can get in on content creation and delivery, and more niches can be filled. What niche do you wish would be filled? Now is your chance to get something started.

Join the Society of Adventist Communicators



Communication professionals and students throughout North America are invited to join the Society of Adventist Communicators. SAC is comprised of Adventists involved in media, both within the church and in the secular arena. For information about joining SAC or attending the Oct. 20-22 convention in Chicago, visit www.adventistcommunicator.org.

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Equipping University in St. Louis Aug. 12-14

by David Klinedinst

Equipping University is coming to St. Louis—an outreach training event from the North American Division Evangelism Institute. It offers innovative and practical instruction for lay people working with local pastors, reports **Pastor David M. Klinedinst**, resident evangelist for St. Louis metro.

The first weekend will be August 12-14 at Mid Rivers SDA Church. For info, visit www.nadei.org or email Pastor Klinedinst at davidmklinedinst@gmail.com.



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Experiencing the Hope at Camp Meeting 2011

by Anita L. Clay

It wasn't Camp Shady Hill or Parallel Parkway. It was the beautiful campus of Unity Village in Lee's Summit, Missouri. But even more impressive than the facility was the spirit of God's people. Many attendees declared this to be one of the most spiritual camp meetings ever experienced, and also one of the most organized.

Following are some of their impressions of camp meeting 2011, randomly gathered as people were packing to leave.

"What will you remember most about this camp meeting?"

- **Elder Drake's** big smile—everywhere, all the time
- 102 years-young **Geneva Ryles** from Topeka, in a wheelchair but still spirited, doing her own cooking
- **The Canyons**, married over 60 years, who met at camp meeting and haven't missed one since
- The friendliest pastors ever—smiling, introducing themselves, offering rides on the shuttle
- Morning Manna in the rain, nature pictures and inspiring scriptures on the screen, small group prayers for the Holy Spirit
- Young people everywhere: **Bria Bernard** moving to the music of the praise team; Young **William Pergerson**, age 12, preaching his first sermon, "It Pays to Share"; kids boarding buses to do community service
- Interesting workshops

dealing with such real issues in today's church as the abuse of women and training women for leadership

- Spotlight on Christian education, the video of Adventist schools, the choir, and the **Josiah girls** joining former classmates to sing
- Wonderful music—all kinds, all tempos, **Berean's praise team** singing Kurt Carr's "Set the Atmosphere" so powerfully that even the seniors jumped out of their seats to "reach out for their breakthrough"
- Dynamic speaker **Leslie Pollard's** sermon "Blood and Victory," about the spilled blood of Christ alone that ends the Great Controversy; Pollard's sermon electrified the audience with phrases like "the blood-splattered warrior," "the crimson soldier," "a tsunami of white glory," summarized with the triumphant declaration: "HE WON! WE WON!"
- Renowned singer and preacher **Wintley Phipps** singing the song Jesus wrote, "The Lord's Prayer," at divine worship; later in a stirring concert Phipps told of a providential meeting with Oprah Winfrey that in later years resulted in a multimillion gift to the Dream Center—his organization for tutoring at-risk young men.
- **Pastor Gary Collins** from Aurora, leading an Afterglow on a chilly, rainy evening;

asking members to place their problems on a lonely park bench lit by a single lantern: purses, unpaid bills, car keys, photos of unsaved loved ones, wallets, bottles of pills, other items representing the cares of this world—plus spoken concerns for jobs, healing, children, house sales and foreclosure fears. The park bench became a symbolic altar while Pastor Collins and his wife testified of the miracles that had resulted from this simple act in their church. The camp meeting group joined in heartfelt prayer; the atmosphere was beyond description.

- Prayers answered, miracles witnessed: a member who long ago encouraged a little boy playing the piano for Vacation Bible School to develop his gift, then on Sabbath seeing that grown boy playing on the stage after having left the church for many years.

Summary of comments: best preaching, best worship service, best facilities, and most spiritual camp meeting ever!

As camp meeting neared its ending, President Drake issued a challenge for all Central States Conference members to join him in a commitment, through God's grace, to secure a facility comparable to or better than Unity Village.

.....
Anita Clay is a member of Berean Church in St. Louis.





Children of Beacon Light Church assemble disaster relief kits for survivors of the Joplin tornado.

God's Little Wings Bring Love

by Nicole Turner

Children aged 3-11, excitement on their faces, formed an assembly line to produce disaster relief kits for distribution among survivors of the Joplin tornado. This scene took place in the basement of **Beacon Light Church** in Kansas City, Missouri. The children belong to the church's worship dance groups, Perfected Praise and God's Little Wings.

"It's important that we help the people in Joplin," remarked **Bria Bernard** as she slipped a bottle of conditioner into a bag. "Yeah," agreed **Reaia Turner-Leatherman**, adding shampoo. "They lost everything and these kits will help a lot."

"I get to put in slips of paper that tell them we're praying for them," said **Lydia Josiah** with a grin, inserting bright orange church invitations, along with a Bible promise.

"I check the packets to make sure they all have one of each item," said **Faith Josiah**. "We don't want anyone to miss out." The 11-year-old inspector took her job very seriously.

"We're just kids, but Jesus can use us too," said **Jordan Anderson**.

Nicole Turner attends Beacon Light Church and is the director of God's Little Wings and Perfected Praise, under the leadership of Carolyn Brown.

One Woman's Long Journey to Camp Meeting

by Anita L. Clay

Despite having plenty of good reasons not to attend camp meeting 2011, **Winifred Pippins** from St. Louis could not shake the feeling that she needed to be there. The feeling was so strong that she packed a small suitcase and her book bag and set off for Unity Village.

Winifred had reason to second guess her decision when she found herself stranded at the train station in Lee's Summit, her ride nowhere in sight. Unsure of how to find Unity Village or how to get there, Winifred prayed. If God wanted her at camp meeting, He would have to show her the way. After ending her prayer, Winifred looked up and saw a large sign: "If you need a taxi, call this number." Soon she was en route to Unity Village.

But it took much more time than a taxi ride for Winifred to get to camp meeting. A longtime Adventist, she had left the church—although she still privately kept the Sabbath, embraced vegetarianism and studied the Bible.

No specific incident caused her to leave; indeed she departed on good terms with everyone. She just felt that the church fell short of living up to its own doctrine and was not meeting her needs. Even while attending many churches of other denominations, she still kept the Sabbath. Meanwhile, none of the Sunday churches she visited satisfied the needs of her soul.

About a year and a half ago, Winifred returned to the Adventist Church and immersed herself in literature work—still with some nagging questions about the church. Then at camp meeting she heard President Charles Drake's opening remarks and Dr. Leslie Pollard's initial sermon. Everything she experienced at camp meeting—sermons, prayers, fellowship and community outreach—gave her a new outlook on the church and confirmed her beliefs. The messages were enlightening, and the fellowship was refreshing.

A special part of camp meeting was her participation in the community impact project. Winifred worked with a group who visited a historic Civil War home originally built for widows and children, now a home for boys. Church members assembled decorative fleece blankets designed for older boys who might disdain a stuffed animal but would gladly accept a comfort blanket. Winifred said that the spirit of cooperative service reinforced her belief in the mission of the church.

Summarizing her story, Winifred says, "I know the reason I came to camp meeting in 2011—to confirm that we are still the remnant church. To everyone I say that it is time to stay focused, to believe in what we believe. We must stay true to our doctrine, get back to basics and live out the truth. This is the remnant church."



Don't Wish, Pray!

by Renee' McKey

Renee' McKey



Eight-year-old **Jaicee** gazed silently in wide-eyed wonder at my collection of rocks and fossils.

"Grandma, did you find all these? I wish I could find a rock like these," she said, wistfully.

"Don't wish. Pray about it. Ask Jesus—He loves to give us surprises."

The next day the grandchildren and I were out in the yard when I noticed a neighbor walking her new puppy. Wanting to get better acquainted, we walked across the street to chat a few minutes.

When we were ready to return home, Jaicee queried, "Grandma, what's that?"

I reach down and picked up a reddish-brown agate from the easement's landscape gravel.

I knew immediately what it was: South Dakota's state mineral. "Jaicee, Jesus answered your prayers because this is a very special rock! It's a Fairburn agate. Let's thank God for helping you find it, and then ask the property owner if you can keep it."

Two years later . . .

Clouds hung heavy over the hills. A steady drizzling rain dashed my hopes for the day. I had been busy all week readying rocks and fossils to take to the Fairburn Agate Show and Swap Meet. I wanted to thin my collection and make a little money in the process to donate to Christian education. I went through my morning routine hoping the show would not get rained out and the sun would eventually shine through. It wasn't going to happen.

"Well, I can at least drive out to the area and see what's there," I consoled myself. My son James offered to drive. As I headed out the door, I grabbed Jaicee's Fairburn agate. Maybe someone there could tell me what it was worth.

We were surprised to see several people set up in the rain. I mustered up courage to ask the first vendor if he would take a look at the agate my granddaughter found and tell me what he thought it was worth.

"This is a nice agate," he said. "You should be able to get \$350 to \$500 for it."

"What?" I exclaimed. "Jaicee will be so excited to know her agate is worth that much."

We continued browsing around the "wagon circle" of individuals selling off their unwanted excess. I again ventured to ask an opinion on Jaicee's agate. This time several men gathered around when I brought out the agate.

"Wow!" one exclaimed. "May I take a picture of it?" This is getting interesting, I thought.

Everyone wanted to know who found it and where. They got excited when I told them how my 8-year-old granddaughter prayed to find a rock, and then casually found it in a neighbor's landscaping gravel. One man in particular stepped forward. He encouraged me to take it to Roger Clark, the man who wrote the book on Fairburn agates.

"Can you tell me what this agate is worth?" I asked.

"Are you wanting to sell it?" Roger responded reaching out to take the stone from me.

"This is an exceptional Fairburn. If you want to sell it, I'd start the bid at \$600. You might get more. . ."

Time to call Jaicee. I wanted to know her desire. My daughter answered the phone.

"Mom, it's a rock. Sell it!" Not so fast, I thought. What did Jaicee have to say?

"Sell it, Grandma."

"Jaicee, this is a very special rock. The money goes for something really important!"

"Grandma, I want to go to Mt. Ellis Academy really bad. I started a savings account with my birthday money. I have \$50! We could use it for that."

Thus began the daylong process of taking the agate to first one and then another serious collector. We sold it to a Rapid City man, who happily paid \$1,525. "This is the Hope Diamond of Fairburn agates! You can look your whole life and not find another agate like this."

There may come a day when Jaicee wishes she still had her agate, but I think she will be happy to remind herself that she chose the better option of investing it in a higher purpose.

.....
Renee' McKey is wife of Pastor Clarence McKey of Rapid City Adventist Church and Hermosa Adventist Company in South Dakota.



Ordination of Dragos Profir

by Sharon Heinrich



Dragos Profir spent the first decade of his life in Bucharest. Due to political unrest, he and his family left Romania in 1990 for Germany and eventually

emigrated to Canada in 1995. As a fourth generation Seventh-day Adventist, church has always been important to Profir. Pathfinders and

Elder Dragos Profir, his wife, Aileen, and their children

church youth trips helped shape his life. On August 26, 1995, he publicly declared his commitment to Jesus with baptism. While Dragos was a teen in Ottawa, Ontario, Pastor Luc Sabot made a huge impact in his life. He planted the seed of serving God in the capacity of a pastor. At age 17, Dragos preached his first sermon. Preaching quickly became a passion, which continues to this day.

Profir met his future wife,

Aileen, while attending school. A fire in the chemistry lab sent the students outside on a freezing day. Profir offered Aileen and a friend a warm place to wait in his car. Aileen began attending young adult Friday evening Bible studies. “Her presence in my life and keen interest in Bible teaching led us both to a greater hunger for God’s word and a deeper desire to know Him,” says Profir.

Sharon Heinrich is development director for Dakota Adventist Academy and wife of Dakota Conference vice president for finance, Arlo Heinrich.



Twenty-third Annual Dakota Conference Women’s Retreat

September 16—18, 2011
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Crisis Intervention Training

by Michelle Miracle

Michelle Miracle



Martin Feldbush leads 91 participants in an Individual Crisis Intervention Training course.

“If we are going to tend to the spiritual needs of our brothers and sisters, why should we not also be prepared to meet their emotional needs?” asked **Martin Feldbush**, Crisis Care Coordinator/Western US for Adventist Community Services. More than 90 Iowa-Missouri Adventists—including lay people, pastors and conference office employees—came to Sunnysdale Adventist Academy in June to attend a two-day course for Individual Crisis Intervention (ICI) Training.

Crisis intervention is a focused, short-term process in the aftermath of a disaster. Its purpose is to foster stabilization, reduction of stress symptoms, return to adaptive functioning or referral to ongoing specialized

care. Although this does not involve psychotherapy or professional counseling, crisis intervention does require specialized training in knowing how to help survivors cope with the aftermath of an emergency event.

“In light of the recent devastating tornado that hit Joplin, Missouri, we felt it would be good to equip interested members with crisis care training,” said **Elder Robert Peck**, Iowa-Missouri vice president for administration. The ICI course taught how to actively listen to individuals in crisis, privately ask questions to draw out their story, then assess their immediate needs and refer them on to the appropriate mental health professional, first responder, or assistance agency.

Each participant was given a certificate of completion.

ICI training can lead to designation as a Crisis Care Responder or a Community Chaplain (Disaster Response).

At the close of the session, Feldbush reminded everyone of Paul’s counsel in 2 Cor. 1:3-4: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”

.....
Michelle Miracle is communication/Sabbath school director for the IA-MO Conference.



Women's Prayer Conference in Columbia

by Michelle Miracle



The First Iowa-Missouri Women's Prayer Conference convened May 13-14 at the Columbia (Missouri) Adventist Church. Special guest Marian Parson, Arkansas-Louisiana Conference prayer ministry director, shared her convictions about the power of prayer. "The Holy Spirit will take over when we are willing to let Him," she declared. "He is ready and waiting to work in our lives and in our church."

Two Pastors Ordained

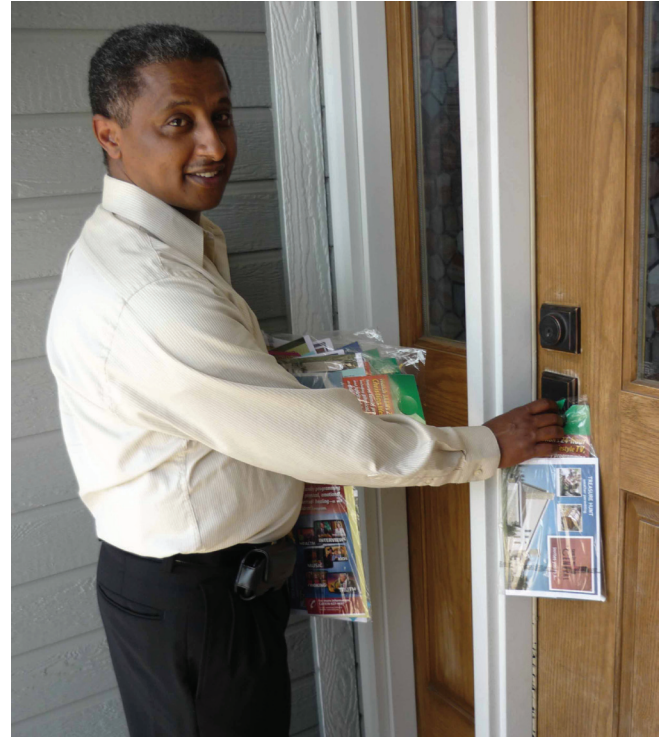
by Michelle Miracle



Two pastors were ordained at this year's camp meeting: Hubert Bardin of the Ft. Dodge (Iowa) district, and Jeff Werda of the Nixa (Missouri) district. Pictured (left to right) are Robert Peck, vice president for administration; Kim and Hubert Bardin; Robert Wagley, ministerial director; Jeff and Rhonda Werda; Ty Gibson, co-director/speaker of Light Bearers and camp meeting speaker; and Dean Coridan, president of the Iowa-Missouri Conference.

Month of Evangelism in Kansas City

by Trish Williams



Kansas City Central member Gashaw Bainesagne places evangelistic material on a neighbor's door.

Kansas City Central Adventist Church focused on evangelism and fasting during the month of April. All elders, joined by church members physically willing and able, fasted from Friday noon to Sabbath noon throughout the month. Evangelistic activities included distributing 900 door hanger bags with an invitation to a community Agape Feast, the book *Steps to Christ* and various witnessing tracts. Members visited surrounding neighborhoods, knocking on doors and introducing themselves and their church to the community. Youth as well as adults testified to having had a positive experience.

One Sabbath, kids and youth of the congregation

dressed in biblical robes and treated older members with a Resurrection Miracle program. There was joyful singing and a presentation on Christ's resurrection. **Dagim Negash** and **Lisa Weatherspoon-Morgan** directed the event.

On the closing Sabbath of the month, members donated \$2,600 to the Conference Evangelism Offering. The generous amount included an anonymous member's commitment to match whatever the rest of the church contributed.

Trish Williams is the communication leader for Kansas City Central Church (Missouri).



Constituents Re-elect Leaders

by John Treolo

Officers re-elected to serve the next five years are Don Stricker (left), vice president for administration/finance (with wife Connie); and Ron Carlson, president (with wife Sue).

Ron Carlson was re-elected to serve as president of the Kansas-Nebraska Conference by the 332 delegates attending the ninth quadrennial session held June 5 at College View Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

“I am honored to be able to continue to work together with the good folk of Kansas and Nebraska,” Carlson stated. “God has blessed us with a fine team of workers and so many dedicated lay members that the future is exciting with the blessing of God’s Spirit.”

All other conference personnel were also re-elected:

- **Don Stricker**, Vice President for Administration/Finance
- **Jim Glass**, Associate Treasurer/Association Treasurer
- **John Sweigart**, Ministerial/Adult Church Ministries
- **Peggy Glass**, Adventist Book Center Manager
- **John Treolo**, Communication/Community Services
- **Gary Kruger**, Education Superintendent
- **Norman Zimmerman**, Trust Services
- **Sue Carlson**, Women’s Ministries
- **Travis Sager**, Youth/Health Ministries

In other actions, it was voted to extend the length of service from quadrennial (four years) to quintennial (five years). With regret, delegates voted to disband four churches: Downs, Marysville and Oberlin (Kansas), and Shelton (Nebraska). On the pleasant side, two companies were voted to full church status: Scottsbluff New Hope (Nebraska), which became organized on June 18, and New Haven Spanish (Kansas).

Delegates also voted changes to the Constitution, heard departmental reports and approved financial statements.

Below is a list of the Conference Executive Committee members for the next five years:

- **Ron Carlson**, President*
- **Don Stricker**, Vice President for Administration/Finance*
- **Alice Anderson**, Lay member, Neligh Church (NE)
- **Merle Blood**, Lay member, Garden City Church (KS)
- **Terry Bock**, Pastor, College View Church (Lincoln, NE)
- **Michael Campbell**, Pastor, Wichita South Church (KS)
- **Tony Cash**, Pastor, Wanamaker Church (Topeka, KS)
- **Jerry Connell**, Pastor, Omaha Memorial Church (NE)
- **Roberto Correa**, Pastor, Kansas City Spanish District (KS)
- **Douglas Eley**, Pastor, New Haven Church (Overland Park, KS)
- **Michael Halfhill**, Pastor, Piedmont Park Church (Lincoln, NE)
- **Jackie DeHerrera**, Lay member, Salina Church (KS)
- **Carol Huenergardt**, Lay member, New Hope Church (Scottsbluff, NE)
- **Jay Humbard**, Lay member, Pittsburg Church (KS)
- **Clark Jacobs**, Lay member, Hutchinson Church (KS)
- **Jerome Lang**, Lay member, College View Church (Lincoln, NE)
- **Terry Morris**, Lay member, Fredonia Church (KS)
- **Pauline Morse**, Lay member, Holdrege Church (NE)
- **Clifford Nies**, Lay member, Wichita South Church (KS)
- **Renee Schaecher**, Lay member, Piedmont Park Church (Lincoln, NE)
- **Union College President** (Lincoln, NE)
- **Departmental Director** (rotating)

**Ex-officio member*



John Treolo



New Hope Becomes a Church

by John Treolo

After four years, the wait is over: on June 18, **Scottsbluff New Hope Company** was officially welcomed into the sisterhood of churches of the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

Led by district pastor **Ken Maldonado**, New Hope members have shown commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in general, and to the Scottsbluff/Gering community in particular.

“The church was built on the truth that God is committed to leading His people,” declared Conference **President Ron Carlson**, who officiated at the organization service. “God looks for people who give their all, and then will remain committed all the way.”

Charter member **Carol Huenergardt** recounted the group’s history since its 2007 inception. A key success factor

was unique cooperation from the pastor of First Church of God in Scottsbluff. Beyond being willing to rent the church, he insisted that a permanent sign be erected and Sabbath service hours be posted on the front door.

“The pastor said it wasn’t acceptable for the church to have a removable sign and only meet four hours on Sabbath, if they were to grow,” Huenergardt recalled. “We have had a wonderful relationship with First Church of God.”

New Hope established its congregational mission at the beginning: to carry the gospel. Their vision is “READY—Recognize, Embrace and Develop Yourself.”

“God has blessed New Hope and will continue to help us in this community as long as we keep our focus on Him,” Huenergardt said.

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Calling all photographers in Kansas-Nebraska. We need photos you have taken in Kansas or Nebraska for the 2012 Conference calendar.



Picture submission deadline is October 1.



Send to John Treolo at jtremo@ks-ne.org.





Men's Retreat Highlights

by Ivan Nieto

Men throughout Minnesota took a break from their busy lives and gathered at **Lake Beauty Bible Camp** for the conference's 17th annual men's retreat. This year's group was among the largest ever at the May event, with 111 attending—many for the first time.

Guest speaker **Dennis Smith**, former engineer turned pastor, spoke about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. To overcome their powerful foe, Smith said, men need that baptism in day-to-day living. He explained how God wants to show mercy and not judgment to His people, so that His peace can become our peace and His joy our joy.

Smith also spoke about prayer as the way God can change things, pointing out that prayer gives God the "right of passage" to act. He addressed emotional baggage and described the prayer of forgiveness that provides release from anger, pain and bitterness.

A new dimension to the men's retreat this year was a baptism at Lake Beauty. Attendees also enjoyed fellowship, personal testimonies, great meals and recreation. To view photos and hear audio messages from the event, visit www.mnsda.com/article.php?id=70

Next year's speaker will be **Bill Liversidge**.

Ivan Nieto is a member of the Rochester Church.



- 1 More than 100 men attended the retreat at Lake Beauty Bible Camp.
- 2 Friendship building was a highlight of the weekend.
- 3 Sabbath worship and fellowship included a baptism.
- 4 Men enjoyed recreation opportunities.

Photos by Ivan Nieto



Sabbath at camp meeting featured Minnesota's largest baptism in more than a century.

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Many Baptisms at Camp Meeting

by Pastor Yulian Tinoco

Minnesota's 2011 camp meeting proclaimed the theme "Assurance in Jesus." The June event featured 77 baptisms—the conference's largest single celebration of new members in more than 100 years.

Seventy-three candidates came from 11 simultaneous Hispanic evangelistic series, all finishing the day before camp meeting. Hispanic Adventists in Minnesota had 121 baptisms during the first half of 2011, with more expected during October's evangelism celebration.

Hispanic coordinator **Yulian Tinoco** said, "We appreciate

the Minnesota Conference administration for its continued support of evangelism statewide. And we praise God, because this experience is a divine declaration that the churches in Minnesota will grow abundantly."

Minnesota Conference has a goal of reaching a membership of 9,000 by the 2012 camp meeting, to be themed "Knowing Jesus." Each church, company and group is encouraged to develop and implement a plan for growth.

Pastor Yulian Tinoco is Hispanic coordinator for the Minnesota Conference.



Gas on Sale - Courtesy of Newday Adventist Church

by Lisa Engelkemier



Pam and Laura McTavish

Lisa Engelkemier

One Sunday morning in May, drivers in Parker, Colorado lined up for blocks to take advantage of cheaper gas made possible by **Newday Adventist Church**. The church paid 50 cents for each gallon of gas sold, lowering the price to a level not seen in nearly a year, according to www.GasBuddy.com

Lori Obert of 9News wrote, *Lead pastor **Dave Kennedy** says his church members wanted to show kindness to their community. "Our church*

believes that the purpose of the church is to love God and serve people." Volunteers from the church were also cleaning vehicles' windows and handing out doughnuts and orange juice today.

"We're always looking for creative ways to serve people, and certainly we're serving more critical needs in our community and around the world, but we thought this would be a fun thing to do right now," Kennedy said.

Newday Church agreed to

pay down the price of 3,000 gallons, and the fuel was gone a few hours after they started pumping.

In all, Newday members paid down 3,200 gallons of gas (saving people \$1,600), gave away 300 Krispie Kreme donuts, 128 cups of orange juice, 200 water bottles and washed 215 windshields.

"The coolest part was to see the transformation in people from the time they pulled up to the station to the time they left—just from

this small kindness," said **Lisa Engelkemier**, pastoral assistant at the church.

For more information on Newday Seventh-day Adventist Church, visit www.newdaysda.com. To view one of the stories shown on all of Denver's local news networks, see www.9news.com/rss/story.aspx?storyid=199664.

.....
Lisa Engelkemier is a pastoral assistant at Newday Church.



Grand Valley ShareFest

by Sandra Adcox

Last May, **Colorado Adventist churches** in the Grand Junction area united to impact the community for God. The purpose was to “share the love of Jesus by doing good—no strings attached.” Church members worked side-by-side painting a house, pruning trees, remodeling a bathroom, cleaning yards, servicing swamp coolers and removing debris. One homeowner remarked that the participants were “angelic help”; another said it felt like a “big hug.”

The following Sabbath, several neighbors showed up at the community’s ShareFest Reunion. One testified that the Adventists were “an answer to his prayers.” Compared with 2010’s total of 232 neighborhood homes served, Grand Valley Adventists reached out to 431 this year.

ShareFest Community Development is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to fortifying local communities through caring deeds and loving relationships. To view a video of what Grand Valley Adventists accomplished this year, visit the Rocky Mountain Conference website at www.rmcsda.org. The story and video are linked at the bottom of the home page.

Sandra Adcox is a member of the Grand Junction Church.



(above) Young Adventists joined their elders in serving the community.
(below) Mother/daughter team Patty Eschliman (left) and Becky Montag





Smith Takes Pastor Position, Union Names Interim President

by Ryan Teller

At the end of June, **David Smith**, president of Union College, left Lincoln to take up new duties as senior pastor of Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Tennessee. The Union College Board of Trustees has named John Wagner interim president to serve during the 2011-12 school year until a permanent replacement is found.

David and his wife, **Cherie**, a pastor at the College View Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lincoln, have served Union College for 13 years. “We had hoped and prayed to remain at Union College until retirement,” David said. “But Cherie and I have always done what God convicted us to do.”

During Smith’s tenure, Union College has seen enrollment peak at more than 1,000 students for the first time in 24 years and the launch of two highly successful programs: Master of Physician Assistant Studies and international rescue and relief. “It’s been such a blessing to see how God has blessed this campus,” he said. “I know He has many great things in store as Union continues to offer a high quality, Christ-focused educational experience.”

“We wish Dave and Cherie the continued blessings of heaven upon their ongoing ministry as they wrap up this school year here in Lincoln and then transition over the summer to a new challenge,” said **Tom Lemon**, chair of

the Union College Board of Trustees and president of the Mid-America Union. “David’s leadership has been very valuable and will be greatly missed. However, the board and administrative team have a strong commitment to move forward with the vision and future plans that have been established under his guidance.”

Back to Union again ... for a third time

John Wagner, the administrative pastor of Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church in Takoma Park, Maryland will return to Union for a third time to serve as interim president during the 2011-12 school year. He first served as academic dean from 1980 to 1983, and then as president from 1986 to 1991.

“The opportunity to return to Union College after two decades fills me with eager anticipation,” said Wagner. “Union College has had two outstanding and committed presidents—both valued friends—since I left. My hope and prayer is that the good things accomplished and planned for by Dr. Kerbs and Dr. Smith will continue to mature so Union’s mission-fulfillment will not miss a beat before a permanent president is installed.”

When Wagner was appointed president in 1986, he faced a significant challenge

in the form of \$8.9 million in college debt. But through his leadership and the generosity of alumni, friends and employees, Union cut the debt in half during Wagner’s tenure.

During his time as president, Wagner experienced the same spirit exhibited by students and employees 20 years later. “I especially appreciated the ‘spirit’ on campus where unity of faculty, staff and students contributed toward spiritual and academic excellence, in spite of extremely tight financial circumstances, during the five years I was privileged to serve as president,” he said.

Since he left, Wagner has served as an executive for Life Care Centers of America in Cleveland, Tennessee and held leadership positions with regional affiliates of Prevent Blindness America. Previous to his time at Union, Wagner served as a high school teacher and principal, a school system superintendent, and president of Southern College (now Southern Adventist University) in Tennessee.

“Dr. Wagner’s extensive leadership experience and his time at Union will give him the background to effectively lead Union College forward while the board of trustees continues to look for a president,” said Lemon. “We are thankful for his willingness to serve Union College one more time.”

Lilya, John’s wife, will continue as director of Philanthropic Service for



(top) David and Cherie Smith left Union College in June to join the pastoral staff of Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Tennessee. (bottom) John Wagner, administrative pastor for Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church in Takoma Park, Maryland, has been named interim president of Union College.

Institutions (PSI) at the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. She also served Union in the past as vice president for advancement.

Under Lemon’s guidance, the Union College Board of Trustees and the appointed search committee will continue to seek a permanent presidential candidate.

Ryan Teller is director of public relations for Union College.



Union College Library Embraces Online Resources

by Michael Rohm, student writer

For freshman English major **Rachel Blake**, finding information for her research paper proved more difficult than she imagined. Then her teacher introduced the online resource Academic Search Premier.

Dr. Tanya Cochran, associate professor of English, incorporates Academic Search Premier in the curriculum of her Research and Composition class, among others. Cochran teaches her students how to get the most from the database by assigning them to find and annotate specific articles.

Using what she learned in class, Blake searched keywords specific to her topic and discovered 65 academic articles. “In college, teachers don’t accept nonacademic sources, which is what makes Academic Search Premier so appealing,” she said. And the online resource is available 24 hours a day—even from the computer in her room.

Since joining Union College in 2003, library director **Sabrina Riley** has significantly expanded Union College’s online resources, sometimes at the cost of physical text. “More and more students prefer online resources,” she explained.

In addition to student preference, Riley believes making the move to electronic education saves money. For a one-time fee of \$5,000 the

library now offers access to the literary reference database EBSCOhost, and with it, every literary reference source available online. In the past, just one series of such reference materials could cost \$10,000.

The subscription to Academic Search Premier, the most popular resource among teachers and students, has also saved the college significant dollars. Riley says an article from Academic Search Premier costs roughly \$0.65. The same article individually ordered often costs as much as \$30.

With the growing demand for online resources, Riley and her staff constantly explore new avenues to serve all fields of study without breaking the budget. “We have to be very careful about spending money,” said Riley. “But we are doing very well with what we have.” In spite of limited funds, Union now provides access to more than 100 online journals, references, article databases and countless other resources. “Our success is a testament to our staff and our curriculum,” she said.

With the new access to a virtual database of nearly every topic imaginable, studying at Union just got a little easier.

Michael Rohm is a sophomore international rescue and relief major from Oregon.

Try to Google This!

The Union College library offers a wide variety of online resources including books, periodicals and specialized academic search engines—information you won’t find on popular search engines. Here are a few examples:

Academic Search Premier—searches and sorts academic articles and journals by relevance to keywords

Adventist Professionals’ Network—connects individuals with the professional Adventist community

American Chemical Society Journal Search—searches and sorts articles and journals dedicated to chemistry

Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations—a compilation of 52,000 famous quotes, organized by author or topic

BBC History—a database of world history, organized by region and era

CAMIO—an online collection documenting works of art from around the world, representing the collections of prominent museums

County and City Data Book: 2007—a comprehensive source of information about individual counties and cities in the United States

Directory of Development Organizations—a list of 65,000 development organizations worldwide, compiled to facilitate international cooperation and involvement

Encyclopedia Britannica—a comprehensive database of journals and articles

EUROPA—a gateway to everything concerning the European Union

Films on Demand—a compilation of digital educational videos for all subjects

Find Law—an online resource for legal forums, learning about law and finding a lawyer

Garland Encyclopedia of World Music—the first comprehensive online resource devoted to music research of all the world’s peoples

Global Issues—perspectives on international news and events

Handbook of Mathematical Functions—formulas, graphs and mathematical tables

In the First Person—index to letters, diaries, oral histories and other personal narratives

LexisNexis Academic—a comprehensive guide to every published article

MEDLINE—an academic guide to journals in all areas of medicine, including dentistry and nursing

NationMaster—a central data source for graphically comparing nations

Oxford Biblical Studies—a comprehensive resource for the study of the Bible and biblical history, integrating scholarly texts with reference tools

PubMed—More than 20 million citations for biomedical literature

Tell Me More—an online guide to learning English, Dutch, French, German, Italian and Spanish

Thomas—legislative information from the Library of Congress

WorldCat—a catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide, available through interlibrary loans



A Prayer for a Prayer

by CM Bell Company



Avista Adventist Hospital security supervisor Brian Halford feels God gave him the right words to comfort a worried family.

The terrified **Avista Adventist Hospital** patient was 20 weeks pregnant with twins, and things were not going well. Serious medical complications threatened the lives of her babies, and she was being readied for urgent transport to a higher level of care.

In the hallway outside her hospital room, security supervisor **Brian Halford** just happened to be passing by. He noticed several family members huddled near the door, visibly anxious and in need of comfort. “The look in their eyes said, ‘Please pray for us,’” he recalls, but no chaplain was available when he called the Pastoral Care department. With the transfer only minutes away, if anyone was going to offer support, he realized it would have to be him.

Halford had feared a moment just like this. He’d been in similar situations before, and never seemed to know quite what to say—even breaking down in tears sometimes. So although Avista chief executive officer **John Sackett** often encouraged every staff member to feel empowered to offer spiritual support, he still felt inadequate and apprehensive.

So much so, in fact, that he’d turned recently to **Darrell Rott**, Avista’s director of pastoral care, for pointers on how to pray effectively with people. Rott suggested he simply ask God for help, and to always picture Jesus speaking through him. Halford felt encouraged and the advice stayed in his mind, but he hadn’t expected to be tested quite so quickly.

Now as he looked at the

worried faces in the hall, he knew the opportunity was sent by God, and felt compelled to respond. So he said a quiet prayer for guidance, walked up to the group and asked if he could pray with them. They accepted gratefully, and Halford took a deep breath, bowed his head and began to speak.

“I don’t know what I said,” he now recalls,” but God put the words in my mouth to help relieve their stress and get them through this difficult time.” When it was over, he felt a chill course through him, then overwhelming shock and happiness. “That was a big moment,” he says.

Since then, with renewed confidence and a personal mission to reach out as Jesus did to those who are hurting, he’s set a goal of finding

someone to pray with every day—something he also encourages his staff to do. Patients and family are often a bit surprised to find a security officer standing in the hospital room offering to say a prayer. But they’re almost always thankful—in fact he can’t recall a single negative response.

Halford never heard what happened to the young mother and her twins that day, but he still has her name on a daily prayer list he keeps tucked in his Bible. “I wonder about her sometimes, but it’s enough to know that I prayed and shared God’s love. The rest is in His hands.”

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This article was submitted by Stephen King, senior vice president for Mission and Ministry for Colorado’s Adventist hospitals, and written by CM Bell Company.



"ASK-A-NURSE" Careline Celebrates 25 Years of Ministry

by Jessica Wahaus



Connie Footlick, RN, is one of the team of nurses who serve the community through Shawnee Mission Medical Center's ASK-A-NURSE Resource Center. The program, accessible 24/7 at 913.676.7777, celebrates its 25th anniversary this year.

their calls are completely confidential," added Smith.

AAN nurses have an average of 22 years nursing experience. Although they do not diagnose a caller's symptoms, they can provide home care advice to ease symptoms or suggest emergency medical attention if necessary.

While most calls come from the Kansas City area, Smith said they have received calls from around the world. One caller was on a trip in Africa when she needed medical attention and remembered the AAN number.

"We were able to reassure her that the medical advice she was getting in Africa was in line with sound medical practices," she said.

In addition to the phone service, an online form is available at www.ShawneeMission.org for less urgent questions. Nurses will respond to requests within one business day.

AAN is just one more way that SMMC provides much more than medicine to the community it serves.

Imagine you have an upset stomach that just won't go away. What do you do? You don't have time to wait for a doctor's appointment and you're not sure it's serious enough for the Emergency Department. For the past 25 years, the ASK-A-NURSE Resource Center (AAN) at **Shawnee Mission Medical Center** (SMMC) has been the Kansas City area's source for immediate medical information.

AAN is a free, 24-hour service offered to the Kansas City community by calling 913.676.7777. Registered nurses can assist callers with questions about their health, physician referrals, wellness classes and even how to find the right nursing home for a family member. While many

call centers are staffed with nurses who answer calls in locations throughout the country, AAN nurses are located on the SMMC campus.

AAN has received more than 2.4 million calls since it was started in August 1986. This month, the program celebrates 25 years of serving the community. SMMC's program is one of the original three AAN centers in the country, and the program has been duplicated hundreds of times in locations throughout the world. According to AAN manager **Jennifer Smith**, SMMC originally implemented the program to reduce the number of phone calls to the Emergency Department and to enhance the physician referral process.

"Before ASK-A-NURSE,

hospital emergency rooms were inundated with phone calls and unnecessary visits that took the nursing and medical staff away from urgent and critical patients," Smith said. "Simultaneously, consumers were facing increasing health care costs and having to navigate 'gatekeeper' HMOs to access care. ASK-A-NURSE provided new access for people with health concerns."

AAN provides accurate, reliable health information, physician referrals and access to the appropriate level of care 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Emergency Department and other hospital staff now have more time to focus on their patients.

"Callers feel confident with the advice they're given, and



Arp, Barbara June, b. Sept. 22, 1936 in Chariton County, MO, d. May 28, 2009 in Columbia, MO. Member of the Marceline Church (MO). Survivors include son William; sister Norma Utterback; brothers Charles and Billie Lybarger; 3 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Branch, Dorothy, b. Aug. 2, 1920 in Tuscumbia, MO, d. June 12, 2011 in Jefferson City, MO. Member of the Jefferson City Church. Survivors include husband Evert; sons Donald and Paul Vaughan; daughter Helen Dilcom; 6 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren.

Bren, Dorothy Jane, b. Nov. 17, 1936 in Denver, CO, d. March 2, 2011 in Medford, OR. Predeceased by parents Howard and Frances Fish; 3 sisters; and 4 brothers. Survivors include husband Walter A. Bren; daughters Marilyn White, Roxanne Storm, Annette Wilson and Verneta Rumboltz; 2 sisters; 8 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren.

Cadwallader, Stan, b. May 18, 1924 in Ottumwa, IA; d. May 16, 2011 in Haiwatha, IA. Member of the Cedar Rapids Church. Army veteran of WWII. Survivors include wife Ruthie; daughters Deb Christenson, Jaclin Ayers-Berry, and Leesa Morrison; son Scott; sisters Merlyn Jo Lockert and Marlene Hopf; 10 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Donald, Dennis, b. Feb. 7, 1944, d. March 24, 2011 in Muscatine, IA. Member of the Muscatine Church. Survivors include wife Diana; daughters Vanessa Marsh and Keily Donald; son Kirk; sisters Jeffie Fowler and Katie Dalton; 11 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren.

Gallagher, John "Byron", b. May 18, 1917 at Jamestown, ND, d. June 15, 2011 at Jamestown, ND. Member of the Cleveland Church. Predeceased by wife Ethel; brother Edward; sister Geneva. Survivors include 4 grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild.

Goodwin, Gilbert Lennell Sr., b. Jan. 5, 1925 in Riverton, WY, d. Feb. 24, 2011 in Columbia, MO. Member of the Marceline Church (MO). Served as an Adventist pastor from 1951-1984 in VA,

Africa, TX, and OH. Survivors include wife Mary Louise; 5 children; 12 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren.

Hanson, Lois, b. April 3, 1920 in Austin, NV, d. March 13, 2011 in Loveland, CO. Long-time member and co-establisher with her husband of the Estes Park Church. Predeceased by husband Dr. Russell Hanson. Survivors include daughter Jo Ellen Bustos; sons Dr. Russell Hanson, Dr. Stanley Hanson, Dr. Keith Hanson and Dr. James Ballard; 6 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Jeffers, Jeff E., b. June 30, 1947 in Sheridan, WY, d. April 3, 2011 in Denver, CO. Member of the Ten Sleep Church. Survivors include wife Jeannie (Greet) Jeffers; son Troy A Jeffers; sisters Kare, Linda, and Jackie; mother Helen Jeffers; and 2 grandchildren.

Johnson, Merlin, b. Nov. 25, 1931 in Milford, IA, d. June 5, 2011 in Spirit Lake, IA. He was a member of the Spencer Church. Survivors include wife Kathy; and sons Jeff and Gary.

Kelly, Itasca (Tessie) Delores, b. May 22, 1922 in Muskogee, OK, d. April 29, 2011. Member of the Denver South English Church. Predeceased by husband, Raymond H. Kelly. Survivors include daughters Lorraine Kelly, Raynita Johnson, Crystal Kelly, Donna Anderson and Joyce Kuntz; son Jonathan Kelly; 10 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Kruse, Harm, b. Aug. 1, 1916 in Victor, SD, d. April 9, 2011 in Hartley, IA. Member of the Spencer Church. Survivors include sisters Daisy Hahn and Edna Gunderson.

Mathis, James Earl Jr., b. Sept. 22, 1929 in Pryor, OK, d. Dec. 21, 2010 in Oronogo, MO. Member of the Joplin Church. Survivors include wife Shirley Richardson; sons Gregg Mathis, James Mathis III, James Mathis IV and Jeremy Mathis; 6 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

McBride, Ron, b. Dec. 18, 1962 in Oklahoma City, OK, d. June 16, 2011 in Cape Girardeau, MO. Member of the Cape Girardeau Church. Survivors include mother Pat; daughters Melissa Stewart

and Heather McBride; son Bobby Langston; brother Steve McBride; and sister Lisa McBride.

Morrison, William C. "Bill", b. Jan. 1, 1928 in Aldrich, MN, d. Sept. 23, 2010 in Lino Lakes, MN. Former member of the St. Paul First Church. Survivors include brothers Leo and John; sons Bruce, Keith and Stephen; daughter Cheryl; 9 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren.

Moss, Roberta Ann, b. Nov. 16, 1939 in Oswego, KS, d. March 7, 2011 in Colorado Springs, CO. Member of the Colorado Springs Church. Predeceased by husband. Survivors include sisters Nancy Mann and Kris Jimenez; brother Tom Cooper; and 1 grandchild.

Nelson, Edwin "Bill" Jr., b. Nov. 16, 1921 in Ruthven, IA, d. Dec. 12, 2010 in Littleton, CO. Member of the Spencer Church (IA). Survivors include wife Joan Manie; daughter Linda Heenen; sister Luella Doneskey; 8 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Osterloh, Alfred J., d. May 9, 2011. He was a member of the Joplin Church in Missouri.

Rodacker, Hilda, b. Aug. 19, 1913 in Goodrich, ND, d. June 23, 2011 in Harvey, ND. Member of the Dakota Conference Church. Predeceased by husband Roy. Survivors include sons Marvin and Kenneth; 3 half-sisters; 4 half-brothers; 2 granddaughters; and 1 great-granddaughter.

Rosen, Jr., Melvin, b. Feb. 20, 1923 in WI, d. April 16, 2011 in Denver, CO. Member of the Denver South Church. Served as an ordained minister and long time educator, including Superintendent for the Wisconsin and Illinois conferences.

Rusk, Don E., b. April 4, 1937 in Carthage, MO, d. May 18, 2011 in Webb City, MO. Member of the Joplin Church. Survivors include wife Jean Randall; son Robbin Rusk; daughters Cheryl Livingston, Brenda Beerly and Pamela Crone; brother Gary Rusk; sister Kay Sanders; 11 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Sarria, Dassie, b. Nov. 27, 1963, d. May 16, 2011 in MO. Member

of Sunnydale Church (MO). Survivors include son Noah Perez-Sarria; daughters Chris Perez-Sarria and Eden Burch; parents David and Christine Tillman; sisters Fredia Wheeler and Georgia Tillman; brothers Daniel, David, Dwight and Terry Tillman.

Schmierer, Frieda (Horn), b. May 15, 1912 at Robinson, ND, d. May 28, 2011 at Jamestown, ND. Member of the Jamestown Church. Predeceased by husband Gust; 3 sisters; and 2 brothers. Survivors include daughter Delphine Ortner; sons Dennis and Quentin; 7 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Scholes, Wilma A., b. Feb. 5, 1921 in Iola, KS, d. March 13, 2011 in Pueblo, CO. Member of the Rocky Mountain Conference Church. Predeceased by husband. Survivors include daughter Judy G. Alexander.

Siekas, Dennis Norman, b. March 16, 1943 in Detroit, MI, d. May 19, 2011 in Fargo, ND. Member of the Detroit Lakes Church. Predeceased by father Norman Siekas. Survivors include mother Marian Siekas; 3 siblings; sons Wade Paulson and Troy Siekas; daughters Holly Lester, April Bakke; and 10 grandchildren.

Watkins, Bernett E. (Nutt), 86, d. June 19, 2011. Charter member of Edmondson Heights Church in Baltimore, MD, where she served as deaconess and health ministries leader for many years. Predeceased by husband Roland. Survivors include children Bernard, Ralph, Roxanne Hall, Rene Pritchett and Sheila Roberts; 10 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; 2 siblings; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Werner, Dana, b. Sept. 4, 1956 in Radolph, MO, d. April 3, 2011 in Higbee, MO. Member of the Denver South Church. Survivors include daughter Breeanna; son Donald; sister Donna Chandler; brother Scott Brown.



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Yellowstone National Park Church Services – Worship services will be held in the Recreation Hall next to Old Faithful Lodge from 10am to 12pm on Sabbaths from May 28 through September 3, 2011. For more information, call the Rocky Mountain Conference at 800.254.9687.

You are invited to the Association of Adventist Women's annual convention, La Sierra University, October 13-16, 2011. "Total You - Body, Mind and Spirit". Chris Oberg - Keynote Speaker. Registration Fee \$125. Register on-line at www.aaw.cc.



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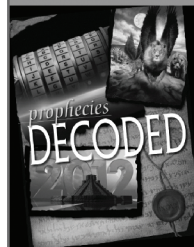
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Sunday, September 25, 2011



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Let's Move Day is an event of Adventists InStep for Life. It is sponsored by the North American Division Health Ministries Department in partnership with Adventist Community Services, Children's Ministries, Education, and Youth Ministries.

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