

NEWS AND INSPIRATION FROM THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN MID-AMERICA

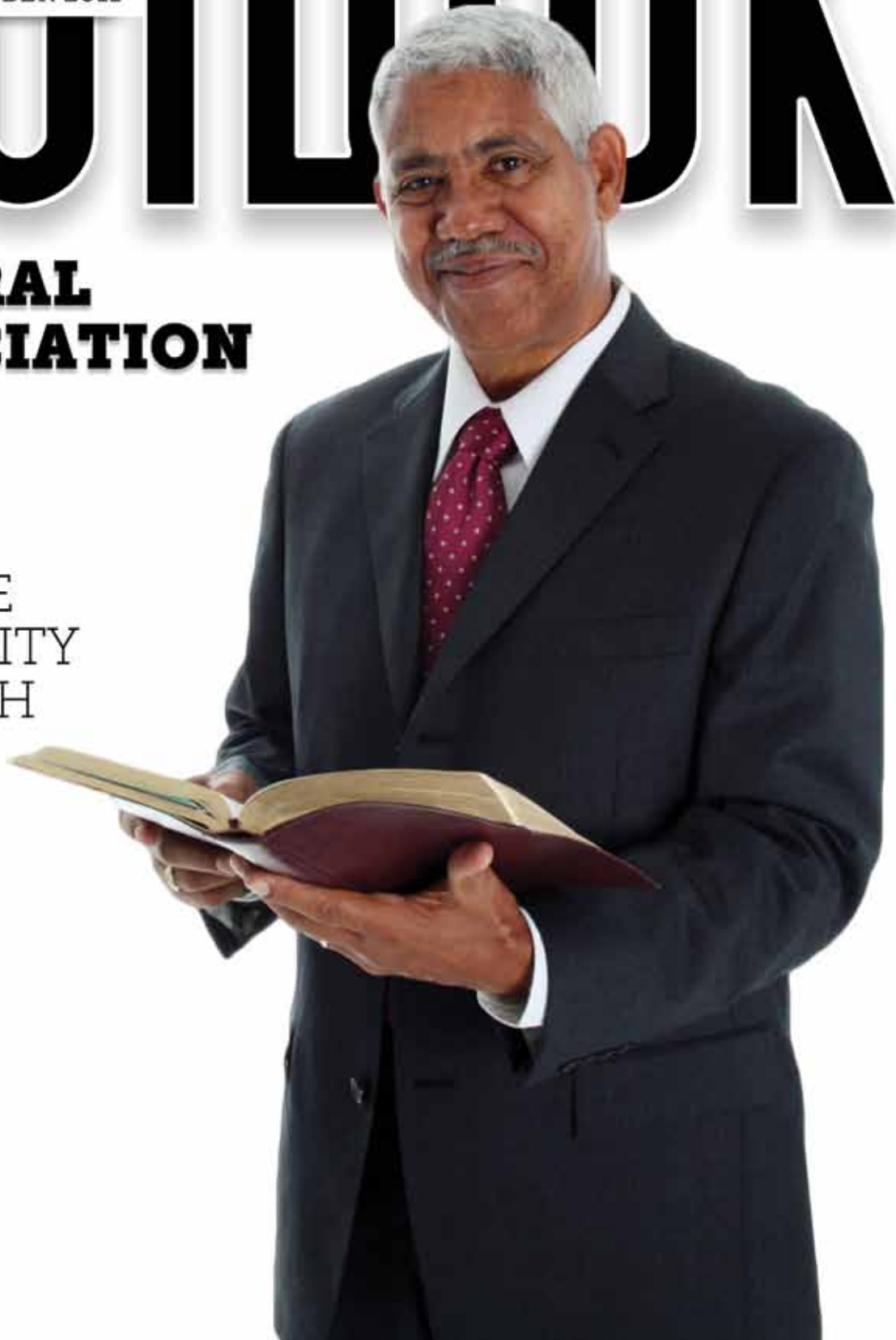
OUTLOOK

OCTOBER 2011

PASTORAL APPRECIATION ISSUE

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COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
IN MID-
AMERICA

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This annual pastoral appreciation issue features editorials by Tom Lemon and Maurice Valentine (Mid-America Union president, and vice-president for administration/ministerial director, respectively). They share advice from their own wealth of pastoral experience—not only for pastors themselves but also for members. Also featured is an interview with four veteran Mid-America pastors, several of whom serve on the Union Executive Committee, which is our church’s governing body for this nine-state region. They share their vision for evangelistic outreach with their churches. Among other noteworthy features is a testimony from Karen Lewis, who is seeking to turn her recent layoff into an opportunity for wider ministry. —MARTIN WEBER

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Please recycle this magazine!





The Pastor Gifted

by Thomas L. Lemon

More times than I can remember, I've met with local church members to talk about their next pastor. Sometimes that discussion has been with a small group of leaders. At least once it was with about 200 people, ranging from young children to sages, all eager to share their wisdom.

The process, however, was always similar. We started with a large marker board and listed the characteristics the church valued most in a leader. We did not evaluate the list; we "just wrote it down." Usually, by the time we were done the board was filled with columns of desirable traits.

Even the most casual observer could see that no one person could ever do or be all those things. Some of them were even mutually exclusive: "We want a young pastor—with several years of experience" or "We don't want a theologian—we want someone who will preach deep sermons."

At the conclusion of one of those

meetings, when the enormity of what they were seeking dawned on them, one lady spoke up. "Pastor Lemon, you pick our pastor and we will be fine with that." Her motion died for lack of a second.

How about the pastoral role in your local church? What are your expectations? Do you think of your pastor as God's gift to your church? According to Scripture, this is exactly the case. Look at Ephesians 4:11 (NLT): "Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles ... and the pastors and teachers."

How do we respond to a gift? When my toddler grandsons bring me things, I always try to show gratitude—even if it is a scrap of paper or speck of fuzz. Sadly, I am not convinced that I am as careful with a "gratitude attitude" for the things God gives me. Do I thank Him for my pastor? The pastor(s) He gifted to the church I attend?

And what do I expect of my pastor? Perfection of character? Perfection of grammar in the sermons? Perfect family? Upwards of 60 hours per week on the job? Sabbath morning is but a fraction of his or her duty time. Sabbath morning is critically important, but it is still relatively small in quantity.

Scriptural expectations are clear: "Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to

the full and complete standard of Christ. Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching" (verses 12-14).

What conclusions should emerge from all this? First, I suggest that you not despair if your pastor is not all the things listed on those marker boards. For you see, the pastor is not in this thing called leadership alone. We are all in it together. All those characteristics, while they may not indwell your local pastor, most certainly are in the church as a whole.

As we come together in maturity in the Lord under godly pastoral leadership, there isn't anything the church cannot do and become as we work together missionally with a view to the Lord's return.

Your pastor is God's gift to His church. Like it or not—he or she deserves our support and respect. And God deserves our gratitude. **■**

Thomas L. Lemon is president of the Mid-America Union.



Eye on the Prize

by Maurice R. Valentine II

It was the Sabbath morning rush—when you have left home with just enough time, barring the unexpected to make it to church on time. Well, the unexpected happened while driving up a mountain road to the Rocky Mountain Cowboy camp meeting. My quick dispatch of the curvy asphalt was suddenly stopped by a herd of sheep.

Sure that I would be late for Sabbath school, from time to time I tapped my horn, which most of the time the sheep ignored. However, on occasion they would slowly part so I could move a little further up the winding path. To my hurried surprise as I rounded each curve thereafter I was met by more sheep. I would guess that there were close to a thousand sheep ambling up this mountain road with shepherds and sheep dogs dispersed amongst them.

Though late for Sabbath school, I enjoyed an object lesson that stretched out for miles before me as I watched shepherds and sheep dogs work in unison to keep the sheep moving. If sheep wandered from the path, with whistles and gestures the shepherds would guide the sheep

dogs to where the sheep were straying and instruct them how to bring them back to the fold. The shepherds' jobs were two-fold—keeping their helpers focused on the immediate task at hand (straying sheep) while keeping their ultimate goal in mind: reaching the broad pasture area, which later I learned was at the top of the mountain.

As is implied in the name, the role of the pastor (closely related in meaning to pasture) is very similar to that of the shepherd. Tasked by the Chief Shepherd, they keep our focus on the sheep and guide the church's work to restore them to His fold. The embodiment of servant-leadership, as servants they are always looking out for others. As leaders they are visionaries who look up the road making sure everyone is focused on the goal.

It is because the under-shepherd is a forward thinker that we go to pastors in time of need. When tired and tempted by patches of grass in alcoves or distracted by side roads or shade trees that beckon us to stay, pastors keep us moving up the road that is walked by faith toward God. With every sermon they prepare, outreach strategy they prayerfully share, meeting they chair, counseling session and home or hospital visit they conduct, couple they wed or family they comfort in time of loss, their goal remains the same: to keep us who are on the ever increasing incline of the Christian journey focused on the hope that is in Jesus, and the green pastures that are to be ours if we keep our eyes focused

on Him.

If you serve as pastor or lay-leader and find that people have great regard for you as servant, but have little regard for what you provide as leader, always keep the goal in mind—the mountain top where we will enjoy unending vistas with Jesus! Be the quintessential servant-leader. As servant be available for God's use and as leader avoid ab-use. No better example of this balancing act can be found than that of the apostle Paul, underscored in the book of Acts as more than willing to give his life for the gospel—yet he over and over again avoided an untimely demise.

If you have a tendency to undervalue the blessing of having God's servant-leader walk life's uphill journey with you, would you pray that God's Holy Spirit would enhance your appreciation? As you pray, please bear in mind church leadership can be lonely and discouraging. Finally, please do all you can to help your herd stay focused on the goal, ever upward, ever onward to the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus. **U**

Maurice R. Valentine II is vice president for administration and ministerial director of the Mid-America Union.



REACH North America

by Dan Jackson

Our North American Division territory is at war—spiritual warfare. The great controversy!

Signs of the struggle surround us: Mean-spirited politics. Personal addictions. Inroads of secularism. Rampant materialism. The ominous threat of terrorism.

Against this bleak backdrop, Seventh-day Adventists are uniquely positioned for the battle. After all, we are a church with a distinctive message of hope and wholeness! If the world needed our message in the past, it really needs it now.

Our message of Hope

Adventism is a message illustrated by sanctuary truths, modeled in the life of Christ, communicated by the prophets throughout the ages and succinctly expressed in the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14:6-12. This special message points prophetically to Christ's Second Coming—a concept embroidered in our very name, Seventh-day Adventists!

Our message of Wholeness

Our distinctive message not only points toward the future—it adds abundant life to the present. Many scientific studies have confirmed the benefits of our Adventist message of health—a key doctrine embraced by our church early in its history. Coupled with the benefit of physical health is the assurance of God's saving grace and protecting care.

Wanted: a "War" Strategy to REACH North America

Success in any battle requires

discipline. Why? "Eternal interests are at stake" (Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, p. 115).

Last October, church leaders from across North America assembled in Silver Spring, Maryland—pastors, university leaders, health care professionals and church administrators of various ages, personalities and cultures. What brought together this array of diversity? The desire to REACH North America.

Everyone agreed that before attempting to REACH our communities, our church must prepare for the battle. As at Pentecost, we ourselves must come into one accord (Acts 2:1) and receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Then, like the early disciples, we will turn the world upside down for God (Acts 17:6). This preparation and also the battle itself are reflected in five themes, which have come to be known as REACH North America. (See sidebar)

What REACH is Not

REACH is not a program, project, or initiative. It is not a mandate handed down by church leadership. It is not a slogan that expires after this election term to make room for yet another cutesy catch phrase. Rather, the five REACH elements are enduring principles that we as a church value. They are organizing themes that help North American Adventists clarify, focus and unify around a common mission—to fight and win the battle entrusted to us in these last days.

"Ours is not a conflict with

mere flesh and blood, but with the despotisms, the empires, the forces that control and govern this dark world—the spiritual hosts of evil arrayed against us in the heavenly warfare" (Ephesians 6:12).

A glorious outcome is already decided—let us unite to claim it!

.....
Dan Jackson is president of the North American Division.



Revival & transformation:

Connecting with God through public and personal worship

Education for discipleship:

Every youth and adult learning, growing and becoming more like Christ

Alignment within the Church:

Connecting within our diverse church family

Community outreach & evangelism:

Connecting with our communities to share hope and wholeness

Healthy leadership & management:

God's mission-driven stewards insisting on personal and church-wide excellence



Effective Community Outreach in Mid-America

Four veteran pastors share wisdom from experiences in evangelism.

What's working for you in evangelistic outreach to your community?

RB: I find that getting the members involved in reaching out to the community is what's most effective. This is especially true if they live in the same community you are attempting to evangelize. Prayerfully they already have formed relationships. In this world—with trust at an all time low—it's great to have someone who can "put in a good word" for your church.

PC: Relational evangelism. Community—just plain and simple community. This past August we had a neighborhood party, with 500 people stepping on our campus just to have fun. Meanwhile, our members were just having fun with them. A week later we had our one-day evangelism, and people from the community came. The next day we had a softball game and they came back. The following Sabbath they showed up again since they enjoyed our church so much—the laughter, joy and passion of our members.

MH: Evangelism meetings still work when paired with annual community outreach events throughout the year. We plan events that allow us to rub shoulders with our neighbors. Once people are familiar with our church and our members, it becomes much easier for them to come to our evangelism meetings. We also let the young people lead—they have the skills and the energy for evangelism. We just have to turn them loose.

RL: Having an academy church is both an advantage and a disadvantage in our community. The advantage is we have a church filled with young people and tons of resources. The disadvantage is our community feels as if we are a closed community. What is working is we have fantastic members who are integrated within our community and are breaking down those walls of misunderstanding regarding who we are and what the academy church is here for.

What is not working so well right now?

RB: Member participation in evangelistic outreach could be

higher. If your members are not excited about attending the event, it makes it more difficult for the community to "buy in" to the program.

PC: At least in my area ... public evangelism. Our settings and culture prefer a more personal touch—relationship/community—and a place where they don't feel threatened. Combined with that, an in-depth exegetical biblical study of the Word at church—that part really fascinates/surprises me!

MH: Relying solely on handbills costs so much money with little return. Handbills are only part of the way to invite people to meetings. They work better when paired with other advertising and outreach.

RL: The church has to realize that we are more than a school church for Sunnyside staff students and families. I think it's hard to have meetings and expect normal growth in a church where people attend, move to the area, and always see us as just an academy church.

In practical terms, how can your members be more



participatory in outreach?

RB: Inviting people, talking positively about the meeting, cooperating with the pastor in welcoming the community, smiling at visitors and speaking kindly to them, not speaking negatively around visitors.

PC: To make it as small and as easy as possible for them to participate. I have a small group prepping for a barbecue party in October, just to have their non-Christian friends come and enjoy community. We then connect them to a more intimate setting where we can dig into biblical truth.

MH: The best way for someone to reach a decision for Jesus Christ is for a friend to reach out and share. Friendship evangelism has no replacement. Our members making connections with their neighbors, coworkers and friends is the best way to bring people to the gospel.

RL: Evangelism is a process, not an event. Training and instruction help, but I also have found that the more actual involvement members have the more ownership they obtain.

Is your church doing anything particular to help neighbors cope with economic difficulties in these turbulent times?

RB: We have several churches that have active and vibrant feeding programs, while also teaching people the necessary skills so that they can feel empowered to care for themselves.

PC: FPU-Financial Peace University it's awesome and fun ... very approachable.

MH: We started a "benevolent committee" this year to field requests for aid that come into the office. This committee provides some financial assistance and also tells them about other sources of help.

RL: We have a very effective community service center located in Centralia (not on church property).

BIOS:

Roger A. Bernard has pastored for over 20 years and serves Central States Conference as vice president for administration and communication director.

Peter Casillas is teaching/evangelism pastor at LifeSource Adventist Fellowship in Denver.

Michael Halfhill is senior pastor at Piedmont Park Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Roger Larsen serves at Sunnydale Church in the Iowa-Missouri Conference.



Roger A. Bernard



Peter Casillas



Michael Halfhill



Roger Larsen



Trusting Amid Transition

by Karen Lewis



In these times of economic uncertainty and belt tightening, many have lost their jobs due to downsizing. So when our conference voiced concern that due to budgetary considerations, several jobs would need to be cut, I believe that most pastors and office staff felt anxious. I know I did! And when I heard that I was one to be cut, I sat in disbelief.

Am I angry now? Am I bitter? Am I talking badly about my conference?

The answer to all of the above is NO! Folks finer than myself were cut.

Last Christmas I gave everyone in my office a little yellow booklet that had greatly impressed me: *Help in Daily Living*, which includes the last four chapters from *Ministry of Healing*. Although I didn't realize it at the

time, I see now that the Lord was preparing me for the change that would occur in my life. Inspired advice such as this quotation has sustained me: "Many who profess to be Christ's followers have an anxious, troubled heart because they are afraid to trust themselves with God. They do not make a complete surrender to Him, for they shrink from the consequences that such surrender may involve. Unless they do make this surrender they cannot find peace" (Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing*, p. 480-81).

Why was I anxious? Do I really believe and trust in God?

There are only two choices in this life—either I trust God and depend wholly on Him, or I trust in self and depend wholly on myself. There is no in between!

My life is not my own. I gave it to Christ years ago. And if I really belong to Christ, then I must trust Him. Anything else is just a sham! Faith is easy when things are going well. It's when things seem out of control that the real rubber meets the road. Difficult times reveal who is really in charge of our lives.

If Christ is in charge of my life, then He has a master plan that includes a blessing for myself and for others. Romans 8:28 reminds us again that "All things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose." God uses our life to work out His will for us. Sanctification is not my idea of what I want God to do in my life but it is God's idea of what He wants to do in my life. I am again

reminded that He is the boss and that Father does know best.

Of course, the enemy is always right there trying to stir up unhealthy feelings—but our faith must press through the dark shadow he puts in front of us. We must not give him a foothold!

I understand now that God is broadening my ministry of training people to enlarge the work and glorify His name. I believe that His plans were much larger than mine. At first glance it seemed that He had abandoned me, but now I realize that this was only part of His magnificent plan.

Another thought from that booklet gives me courage: "We cannot afford to let our spirits chafe over any real or supposed wrong done to ourselves. Self is the enemy we most need to fear... We should not allow our feelings to be easily wounded. **We are to live, not to guard our feelings or our reputation, but to save souls**" (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 485, emphasis supplied).

I have much more important things to do than worry and fret, like sharing the precious charms of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to a dying world. So it's off to another training event... another Bible study! What a privilege, and a pleasure.

.....

Karen Lewis, former director for the Bible worker training program at Rocky Mountain Conference, is now working independently conducting training for churches and conferences in lay outreach. She is the author of the *Lifting up Jesus* lessons by Color Press. Her website is www.liftingupjesus.net.



ASI Convention a Success In Sacramento

by Conna Bond



James Bolovey

Record numbers of attendees and exhibitors participated in the 2011 ASI International Convention August 3–6 at the Sacramento Convention Center. They also gave approximately \$2.1 million—well above the \$1.5 million goal—to support 47 carefully selected ministry projects around the world, including Sunnydale Industries Inc., a manufacturing business owned and operated by the Iowa-Missouri Conference to support conference schools and churches.

The annual convention was well attended despite a volatile economy and uncertain times. Significant support from California locals drove numbers higher this year. Extra chairs had to be set up for the more than 3,300 people who came to hear Ted N.C. Wilson, Adventist world church president, on Sabbath morning. The exhibit hall had a record-breaking 338 booths

representing 221 ministries and organizations from all over the world.

To Terry Anderson, ASI vice president for evangelism from Franktown, Colorado, Sabbath afternoon attendance at the “ASI Presents” program was most telling. “That’s the time when people usually go back to their hotel rooms and take a nap,” he said. “But this year, many more stayed by to hear the testimonies presented during the afternoon program. It seemed to indicate a seriousness about the times we live in.”

ASI conventions provide vast networking opportunities for the mission-minded. For many families, attending the ASI convention takes the place of a family vacation, with the attendant costs but more eternal blessings. The annual ASI convention has been likened to a worldwide church camp meeting. Those who

attend can expect to return home with changed perspectives. Some who have never experienced a sense of mission find themselves establishing medical outreach centers in Zimbabwe, ministering to the needs of orphans in Haiti, or simply sharing their faith with friends with a new sense of purpose and understanding.

ASI officers were elected or re-elected for two-year terms, with Frank Fournier of Eden Valley Institute in Loveland, Colorado taking the helm as president. “My heart’s burden is to bring the focus around to spiritual preparation of God’s people to ensure success in our ministries,” said Fournier, who presented the morning devotionals during the convention.

The 2012 ASI International Convention will be held August 8–11 in Dallas, Texas.

Chuck Hagele (left) of Vancouver, Washington, visits at the Project Patch booth with Becky Needles (right) from Winterset, Iowa, who represents the Tanzania Orphan Project.

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Conna Bond is ASI communication director.



A Vision to Support Adventist Education

by Malinda Trumble



In summer 2007, a group of parents whose kids were entering kindergarten at College View Academy decided the classroom needed to be updated. What started out as paint, new carpet and a few bookcases turned into all that plus new cabinets, a sink, desks, and a vision to renovate all the classrooms in the school.

The next summer, the first grade classroom was remodeled. Since then, seven classrooms have received new paint, carpet, cabinets and appliances. Beyond that, each classroom has a "feature"

(a reading loft, a tree house, a covered wagon) selected by the teachers.

Parents, volunteers and staff accomplished some of the work. Local businesses provided free

and/or discounted services. And unique fundraising began.

The first school garage sale brought in \$6,000. The next year, a semi was parked on the school grounds for the community to



donate items throughout the school year. That summer the sale netted \$12,000. The most recent sale earned \$11,300. According to Shelley Jaquez, garage sale coordinator, "The mega garage sale was an amazing success. Just as Jesus miraculously turned water into wine, so He used over 70 volunteers to turn a semi load of ordinary household donations into cash for our school during the three-day sale."

Another profitable fundraiser has been the Silent Art Auction. The first of these annual events was in October 2009, offering 200 donated items from local artists and business. The special featured artist was Jim McClelland, professor of art at Union College.

Items up for bid included photography, canvas paintings, painted furniture, pottery, art supplies, professionally decorated cakes, a fully furnished outdoor playhouse and gift certificates from area restaurants and businesses.

The event also featured a "wax museum" of costumed students who played the roles of noted artists, giving brief talks on the artists' lives and handiwork as customers browsed. Total raised: \$11,000.

The second year, more artists and donors contributed to the event, and a food boutique sold snacks and candies. A cash-and-carry table allowed customers to purchase items immediately. The featured artist was local photographer Terry Schwartz. Students in grades K-8 provided their unique touches to pictures of Mona Lisa, and these were displayed. The fifth-grade class, led by teacher Cheri Hauck and

artist Malinda Trumble, again performed their "wax museum" roles. That year the total raised was \$8,000.

This year the parents decided to take the event to the next level. A live auction will be added to the Silent Auction, along with hors d'oeuvres and musical performances by students. Live auction items include an American Girl Doll, a boy's bike, a timeshare and golf package, a night's stay at the Lied Lodge and a year pass to the Arbor Day Farm, art from Mr. McClelland and Terry Schwartz, plus other unique items.

The featured artist for 2011 will be Dick Duerksen. Mr. Duerksen

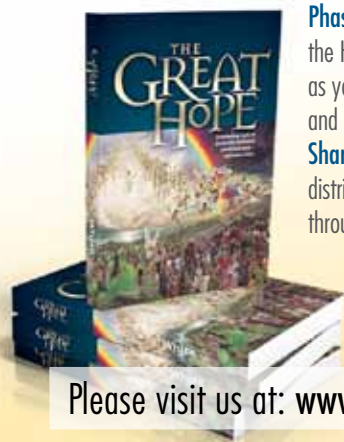
is known around the world for his involvement with Maranatha International and his photography.

Local business owners have been enlisted as corporate sponsors; 10 percent of their donations will fund marketing and promotional materials and the remainder will go toward classroom renovations. This year's event, staffed entirely by volunteers, will take place Sunday, October 9, from 4:00-7:00 pm in Heartland Hall at College View Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

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Malinda Trumble is a Lincoln artist and parent volunteer.



The Great Controversy Project (GCP) is a Spirit-filled witnessing opportunity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The purpose of GCP is to spread the life-changing message of *The Great Controversy (The Great Hope)*, by Ellen G. White, around the world. Members are personally invited to join with their Division, Union, Conference and church as each makes plans for mass distribution of this powerful volume.



Phase One: Personally Read It. Allow the Holy Spirit to revive and reform you as you read and study it during 2011 and beyond. **Phase Two: Personally Share It.** Purchase multiple copies and distribute to family, friends and strangers throughout 2012 and 2013.

Please visit us at: www.TheGreatHope.org



iGen 2011-Teens Worshiping God Through Service

by Alexandria Walton

Impact Generation (iGen) is a movement to give teens on fire for God opportunity to set their churches and communities ablaze, letting their lights “so shine before men.” Focusing on devotional habits, leadership skills, team building, creative evangelism, community service and more, iGen equips, empowers and commissions youth to launch their own ministry through a week of intense training. The iGen youth return to their congregations and engage in a “year of dedication,” putting their training to work through various church activities and community service efforts.

In its third year this past June, the iGen mission training trip involved youth aged 14-18 from churches across Central States Conference. The training was conducted by **Pastor Lester Collins Jr.**, (devotional life); **Pastor Darriel Hoy**, (community service); **Pastor Donald Rolle**, (creative ministries and evangelism); **Pastor Chanda Nunes**, (team building); and **Pastor Kymone Hinds**, (leadership). Assisting were mentors **A.J. Reid**, **Karyle Barnes**, **Alyssa Sterling**, **Alexandria Walton** and the talented cook, **Lille Fultz-Hopkins**.

A typical day for iGen mission participants included group devotion, community service projects, community service workshops, a

program for children at a local community center, planning for community efforts at home churches and group evening devotion. Days were filled with laughter, love and motivation as the youth took to the streets of Topeka, Kansas.

The first major community service project was cleaning up the yard of an elderly woman. The iGen youth trimmed hedges, edged the grass and swept; then they cleaned the woman’s garage. With tears in her eyes as she watched the team so diligently laboring, she exclaimed to one of the leaders, “I’ve never seen young people work so hard.”

The second major community service project was building a ramp for another elderly woman. Next was a trip to Topeka Rescue Mission, where iGen youth stuffed envelopes for mailing to donors and wrapped plastic ware for meals at the Mission. The youth also made sack lunches for clients who go to work each day but are still assisted by the Mission. Later the group went to the distribution center to pick up trash and beautify a garden.

The program for children at the community center was always the most anticipated part of the day. The youth presented songs, puppet skits, games and discussion topics based on a central

theme for that afternoon. Themes varied from kindness to personal cleanliness.

The community service workshops consisted of equipping iGen teens with training and resources to lead their own outreach projects at their home churches. For evening group devotions, individuals shared how they were able to see the Lord, hear Him and feel Him throughout the day. Glorifying God for His accomplishments was always a powerful experience.

The main goal of iGen is to encourage youth to change their tomorrows by allowing the Lord to lead. Their inspirational quote for the week came from Ellen White’s book *Ministry of Healing* (p. 143): “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as One who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, follow Me.”

Being a disciple and making disciples is integral to a Christian’s journey. Next summer is another opportunity for Central States teens to join Impact Generation and worship God through service.

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Alexandria Walton is a senior at Oakwood University.





Trinity Church Homecoming Celebration

by Anita Clay



Trinity Church in Franklin County, Missouri is one of the smallest yet busiest churches in Central States Conference. Its miraculous story has been featured in *Adventist Review* and *Outlook* magazines.

Trinity was founded by the late **Manuel Clay**, with support from missionary-minded St. Louis-area members. Beginning with only four people, Trinity purchased and paid off a 10-year church loan in seven years. The 250-seat edifice is located on a country road in a serene setting, immaculately maintained and reverently attended. Worship services tend to be traditional with beloved hymns, yet livened occasionally with other musical styles to reflect the multicultural membership.

Recently Trinity members held their first annual Homecoming and Reunion in memory of Manuel Clay and diligent co-laborer **Rozell Lawrence**. Led by **Sadie Lawrence-Clay**, the program honored local elders who faithfully traveled out to Trinity to preach with as much power and preparation as if hundreds of members were present. Especially honored was **Elder James Brown** of Tabernacle of

Praise who, despite poor health, spoke movingly of the founders' vision and commitment. Members and guests gave heartfelt testimonies of having received Spirit-filled blessings at Trinity. Heaven seemed especially near during the homecoming sermon by guest speaker **Lindell Anderson**, a former first elder.

On other days of the week besides Sabbath, not all is peace and quiet at Trinity. Members maintain a robust food pantry ministry serving 40 to 60 families biweekly. The community appreciates this ministry, since resources are not readily available in that rural region. Even the church sign at Trinity (created by Rozell Lawrence) witnesses to the neighborhood. People drive by just to read the saying of the week; one of Lawrence's favorites was: "Try Jesus. If you don't like him, the devil will always take you back."

The founders of Trinity have passed on but their vision remains. **Pastor Ivan Roberts** invites visitors to come aside some Sabbath and experience the little church by the side of the road. A warm welcome is waiting.

(top) iGen teens celebrate their week of training for service.
(bottom) iGen girls construct a ramp for a handicapped lady.



Dakota Native Camp Meeting

by Jacquie Biloff and Deb Claymore

South Dakota's Flag Mountain Camp hosted the fifth annual Native American camp meeting in July. **Deb Claymore**, Dakota Conference Native ministries coordinator, helped supervise preparations.

Guest presenters included **Gary Burns**, former Dakota pastor and now communication director for the Lake Union Conference. He and his daughter **Josie** fascinated young attendees with biblical lessons from nature. Keynote speaker was **Fred Rogers**, Southern Union Native ministries director and an enrolled member of the Oklahoma Cherokee Nation.

From his wealth of research, Rogers shared the religious history of the American Indians. He explained that today's traditional Native religion has been distorted from what ancestors once believed. Before the arrival of Europeans in America, many Natives exhibited Christian beliefs and characteristics, even believing in the Second Coming.

Yvette Willis, also a member of Cherokee Nation, led a Sabbath school discussion on addictions. From personal experiences, she shared how addiction ruins one's life and family relationships—but Jesus provides power to overcome.

Three non-Adventist pre-teen girls from Pine Ridge Reservation came to camp meeting for the first time. At first reluctant to attend youth activities, they quickly became eager to attend all the sessions. Sunday morning, the youth presented a biblical skit along with a slideshow of photos they had taken at camp meeting.

All speakers, department leaders and the head cook received honoring gifts, including star quilts and Pendleton blankets. Native Americans have a tradition of giving gifts to those who have given of themselves to others.

Deb Claymore summarized the spiritual extravaganza with an invitation: "We look forward to next year and what God has in store for Native camp meeting in the beautiful Paha Sapa (Black Hills)."

.....
Jacquie Biloff is communication director, and Deb Claymore is Native ministries coordinator for the Dakota Conference.



(above) Erecting the camp meeting tipi

(below) Jack Vanderhulst, American Red Cross Volunteer



Sharon Heinrich

DAA Hosts American Red Cross

by Sharon Heinrich

Some disasters require intervention on the national level, such as this year's flooding in Bismarck-Mandan and Minot. Dakota Adventists collaborated with organizations such as American Red Cross for relief operations. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bismarck served as headquarters. Dakota Adventist Academy (DAA) housed volunteers, managed by **Jack Vanderhulst** from Michigan.

Nearly 60 helpers stayed in the dorms, grateful for a bed and shower after working 12-hour shifts in Bismarck and Minot. After unloading supplies trucked in from around the country, they repackaged them into cleaning kits for residents returning to their homes. Items included trash bags, work gloves, flashlights, hand sanitizer, sunscreen and bug repellent. Emergency response vehicles also distributed water, food and shovels to flood-damaged neighborhoods.

"We are thankful for the facility and hospitality of the staff at DAA," said Vanderhulst. "I hope to come back to North Dakota under different circumstances and explore the state."

.....
Sharon Heinrich is development director for Dakota Adventist Academy



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Academy Industry Receives Donation at ASI Convention

by Michelle Miracle



ASI vice president for evangelism Terry Anderson (far left) interviews SI worker Rachel Greenwood and Iowa-Missouri president Dean Coridan during the offering call at the ASI Convention in Sacramento.

Two years ago Sunnysdale Adventist Academy in Centralia, Missouri took a chance on an innovative campus industry—tunnel greenhouses. The project has been so successful that the operation is expanding to the production and sale of greenhouses.

It all started with a vision to provide additional employment opportunities for students by utilizing unused land on campus. Conference president **Dean Coridan** went to work finding donations, and the Lord blessed his efforts by impressing each of the three individuals he phoned to pledge \$10,000. This secured the \$30,000 necessary

to purchase the first three greenhouses.

The greenhouses, and now Sunnysdale Farms Market (the on-campus outlet for selling produce and flowers grown in the greenhouses) belong to Sunnysdale Industries (SI), a nonprofit manufacturing business owned and operated by the Iowa-Missouri Conference. Due to the success of this additional industry, SI will now produce and sell

greenhouses—the idea being that churches and/or schools could have their own fund-generating greenhouses to support local ministries, or that individuals could grow their own fresh produce.

Larry Overton, SI manager, submitted a proposal to Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI) earlier this year requesting funding for the greenhouse project. A few months later **Garwin McNeilus**, ASI member and founder of the One Day Church and School projects, met with conference leadership to discuss inviting SI to come to this year's ASI convention in Sacramento, California to present their vision for a

greenhouse industry. Of the 42 ministries selected to receive funds from the convention's Sabbath offering, SI was one of only four invited to speak as a part of the offering call. The generous ASI members and visitors gave an offering of \$1.6 million, of which SI received a pre-determined \$20,000.

"McNeilus will supply SI with the materials needed to make the greenhouses," said Elder Coridan. "The greenhouses will be different from the One Day structures in that they will come in a variety of sizes, ranging from backyard use to the large versions, similar to the three original greenhouses installed on Sunnysdale's campus."

"We are very excited and thankful for the funds we are receiving from ASI," said Overton. "They are a tremendous organization doing great things to further God's work around the world. We will be using these funds to start up a new Greenhouse/High Tunnel manufacturing site here at Sunnysdale Academy. Plans call for building and supplying complete kits this fall. We also want to build some more on our campus to increase fruit, vegetable and berry production. Many thanks to all the members of ASI for their support."

Michelle Miracle is communication and Sabbath school director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference.



Adventist Education Acclaimed at Convention

by Michelle Miracle

Teachers in Mid-America were treated to an in-service training convention packed with valuable and fascinating information. The Kansas City event was a collaborative effort by three local conferences: Iowa-Missouri, Kansas-Nebraska and Central States. Teachers heard presentations on the CognitiveGenesis study, educational technology, ESL and math teaching strategies, plus more.

Featured speaker was **Elissa Kido**, EdD, professor of curriculum and instruction at La Sierra University and director of the CognitiveGenesis project. Kido shared the results of a comprehensive, four-year, independently funded study that analyzed test scores of 51,706 students who attend Adventist schools. “In each subject category, students attending Adventist schools scored higher than the national

average,” reported Kido. “They also scored higher than their expected achievement based on assessment of individual ability—a factor few other schools measure. One of our most dramatic findings is that students who transferred to Adventist schools saw a marked improvement in academic achievement. The more years a student attended an Adventist school, the more his or her performance improved.”

Kido explained that the impetus for the study was a conversation one parent had with her in which she had no answer to the question: Can you prove that our kids are getting as good an education as they would at other Christian schools? “I had to admit that we had no empirical data on the subject,” said Kido. “The study was started because I figured Adventist education has a unique mission, so we



Michelle Miracle

Elissa Kido, EdD, director of the CognitiveGenesis project

should be able to detect unique outcomes.”

“Results of surveys completed by students, parents, teachers and school administrators showed that some of the biggest predictors for student achievement include whether students have a positive spiritual outlook, have a healthy relationship with their parents and take care of their own health. These are all attitudes that can be cultivated, and they point to the importance of a holistic approach to education,” said

Kido in an article published in *The Christian Science Monitor* on November 15, 2010.

“Our purpose is not to defend the educational system as it is, but to find out how well we are doing and what we can do to improve the educational experience of our children,” concluded Kido. To learn more about CognitiveGenesis, visit www.cognitivegenesis.org.

Lay Evangelism Leads to Branch Sabbath School

by Molly Baslee

The Church and Rescue Ministry model (C&R) originated with **Bob and Angie Joseph**, co-directors of lay evangelism for the Iowa-Missouri Conference. A trained team of church members reaches every home in their community, offering to help neighbors with their needs and inviting them to study the Bible. The Josephs, a pastoral couple, have trained members throughout the conference.

A branch Sabbath school has been launched in Sedalia, Missouri. Members there caught the C&R vision in 2009. They distributed literature at the state fair, delivered Bible study cards door-to-door and prayer walked through nine neighboring towns. When the C&R team went door-to-door in Tipton last summer, they

discovered that many residents of that small town already had enrolled in Amazing Facts Bible studies. The team decided to hold a Revelation Series. In consultation with Sedalia pastor **Al Oetman**, C&R member **Dan Balsee** volunteered to lead the series.

After mailing handbills to the community, the meetings began. By the time they ended, some of the 15 regular attendees expressed interest in continuing studies. The C&R team secured the lease of a mobile home at no charge for a branch Sabbath school. Sabbath afternoon meetings have continued since January.

Molly Baslee is a church member in Sedalia, MO.



Scholarship Fund Sparks Enrollment Gain

by Gary Kruger



John Treddio

A grateful parent and a transformed teen recently sent cards to **Roma Sanders**, assistant to the education superintendent for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference. “Thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping Clara* receive her scholarship,” the parent said. “Sunnydale Academy has been such a GREAT influence on her that sometimes I don’t think I even have the same kid! She is doing so wonderfully there and really loves it—and best of all I can finally see her growing closer to Jesus.” Clara herself wrote: “Thank you so much for the scholarship. You have truly changed my life.”

Clara is among 59 boarding academy students from Kansas and Nebraska benefiting from generosity that enables

them to attend an Adventist boarding academy. This is an increase of eight students over last year. Counting all the schools in the conference, enrollment is up more than nine percent this year. When asked why, principals of the two conference day academies reported that it was due, in part, to scholarship funds available to their students.

The conference scholarship committee has awarded approximately \$450,000 in scholarships so far this year. This includes \$87,000 to elementary school students, \$92,000 to day academy students and \$270,000 to boarding school students. Scholarship funding comes from four major sources:

- Conference appropriations

- Endowments and trusts
- Profits from the farms at Enterprise and Platte Valley
- Offerings

As Kansas-Nebraska members have opportunity to give this year, conference leaders want them to know that many families appreciate their generosity. As one parent wrote: “Tuition has been a struggle for our family, and this year is the hardest yet. The generosity of the conference members and the work you do has blessed our family, and we are grateful. **MANY THANKS.**”

*pseudonym

Gary Kruger is education superintendent for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

Breanna Bramblett (center) came to Campion Academy from Bazine (KS): “Without the scholarship fund from the Kansas-Nebraska Conference, I would not be able to attend Campion. So I want to thank you all.”



30-1	Panhandle Camp Meeting, Scottsbluff, NE
7-9	College View Academy Alumni Weekend, Lincoln, NE
14-16	Christian Women’s Retreat, Grand Island, NE
21-23	Marriage Encounter Weekend, Kansas City Area



An Unexpected Heart Transplant

by John Treolo

For five years **Fred Nehls** awaited a liver transplant. Meanwhile, he received a heart transplant—a new heart in Christ.

Years of liver failure can devastate one's budget along with one's body. Downsizing, Fred and his wife, **Maria**, moved from their house in Lincoln, Nebraska to a modest apartment. Cable TV had to be discontinued—which led to their becoming baptized into Jesus and joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Fred tells the story. During one of his sleepless nights, he surfed local television stations. He came across channel 27 with Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN). The signal was weak, yet Fred managed to view the programming.

Marveling at what he saw and heard, Fred couldn't wait for morning to come so he could share his discoveries with Maria. "I felt better after watching 3ABN. They were preaching the Bible, emphasizing Jesus' soon coming. I became curious about where the messages were coming from."

Meanwhile, with cash in short supply, Maria phoned local churches and community centers asking if they would host a fundraiser for Fred's liver transplant. **Renee Schaecher**, administrative assistant at Piedmont Park Adventist Church, organized a

soup supper/silent auction to benefit the Nehls.

"I called many churches," Maria reports. "Most said no; others wanted to charge for the use of their facilities. I was shocked that Piedmont Park was so willing to assist."

Along with learning that Adventists are compassionate, the Nehls also discovered that they sponsored the 3ABN telecasts. Both Fred and Maria were baptized by **Pastor Michael Halfhill** on June 18.

"They have a faith from the Lord that has sustained them through all the ups and downs of Fred's illness," Halfhill stated. "Even in Fred's weakened condition, he wanted to be baptized by immersion. I saw the emotion in his eyes before going under the water and heard the joy in his voice when he came back up to his new life with Jesus."

Fred's first liver transplant was unsuccessful. Now he awaits another donor who can show love in a way words never can. Time is not on his side. Fred says if a second transplant doesn't occur within five years he will be dead. Yet he is at peace.

"I'm leaving it in the Lord's hands," Fred said. "It won't do any good to sit around and worry." Maria added, "The thing I find comforting is that Fred has found God. He says if he dies tomorrow he's OK with that."

Dodge City Hispanic Company Organized

by John Treolo

With 125 attending, Dodge City (Kansas) Hispanic Company became the newest congregation in the conference. Thirty-seven members signed the charter for this new company of believers.

Roberto Correa, Kansas-Nebraska Hispanic coordinator, proclaimed the importance of worshipping together and being a shining light to the community.

Joining Dodge City believers at the special Sabbath service were members from Hispanic churches in Garden City, Great Bend and Topeka. Officiating was **Don Stricker**, conference vice president for administration/finance. Stricker encouraged the new congregation to continue reaching out to their neighbors in view of Christ's soon return.

Ezequiel Gonzalez, district pastor for Garden City and Great Bend Hispanic churches, will also pastor the Dodge City Company.



(top) Roberto Correa, Hispanic coordinator, and Don Stricker, vice president for administration/finance, organize the Dodge City Hispanic Company.

(bottom) Fred Nehls was baptized by Pastor Michael Halfhill on June 18.



Creation Theme for Workers' Retreat

by Connie McCormick

Jacelyn Knight



Minnesota pastors and teachers came together at North Star Camp for a late summer retreat themed "Let There Be Light." Guest speaker **Dr. David Steen**, chair of the biology department at Andrews University, presented evidence of an awesome Creator God. Topics ranged from the micro-universe of machinery operating within all living cells to reasons for

keeping the body healthy, along with the holiness of human sexuality. Steen's lectures integrated faith and science, resolving mysteries at the core of current challenges regarding Creation.

The retreat's theme reflected the response of the Minnesota Conference to the position statement reaffirming the Seventh-day Adventist fundamental belief in a literal,

recent, six-day creation as voted by the General Conference in 2004 and reaffirmed in 2010. Teachers and pastors received resources for increasing their ability and credibility in teaching Creation.

The retreat schedule offered time to enjoy outdoor recreation with spouses and children. North Star Camp staff prepared delicious meals

at the lodge and also provided spiritual food each evening for worship.

At the end of the meetings, everyone gathered around the camp flagpole for a prayer of recommitment to the Great Creator.

.....
Connie McCormick is Minnesota Conference education superintendent.



Ministering Freedom to Prisoners

by April Dietel

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are rights endowed by the Creator and enshrined in America's Declaration of Independence. But for those who abuse these rights, the consequence may be incarceration. Even so, Jesus wants to reach them behind prison bars. Such ministry is a privilege and duty of the church taken seriously by a group of dedicated members in Rochester.

For years they have held Sabbath services at Federal Medical Prison, typically with five to seven inmates attending. In 2002 one faithful inmate, **Dennis Page**, was baptized. He now lives in Michigan with his family, serving as a lay preacher and prison ministry leader. With his encouragement, four years ago the Rochester church began Christmas Behind Bars, later expanding that outreach to a Fourth of July service at Olmsted county jail.

Caring church members donate candy, cookies and crackers to be packed in 250 hand-decorated paper sacks. Included also is gospel literature, such as *Steps to Christ*, doctrinal tracts and a letter from the pastor. Church members personally hand the sacks to prisoners and staff at the county jail. Though contact with the inmates is brief, their smiling faces show how touched they are by such kindness.

This year the church

received a letter from county jail inhabitants and staff stating: "We are eternally grateful for the loving charity of your church."

The goal of prison ministry is to see hope restored and lives changed so that even those behind bars can experience spiritual life, liberty, and happiness in Jesus.

.....
 April Dietel is communication secretary for the Rochester Church.



April Dietel

Preparing gift bags for prison ministry

New Life After Death

by Pastor Conrad Vine



Following the loss of his wife to cancer, "Red" Simon (left) found comfort and guidance in Bible studies that resulted in his baptism. Pastor Conrad Vine (right) and the Detroit Lakes Church welcomed him into the fellowship of God's family on Sabbath, July 23.



VP for Education Lonnie Hetterle Ordained

by Eric Nelson



After 23 years teaching and leading, **Lonnie Hetterle** was ordained during a special ceremony at the August pastor/teacher meetings. The Rocky Mountain Conference vice president for education received his BA in religion from La Sierra University in 1978 and launched his teaching ministry in Linwood, California with grades 7-8. In 1980 the Hetterle family moved to Lindsay, California where he served two years on the reserve police force and another year as a full-time

police officer, during which he gained experiences that continue to enrich his career as an educator.

For the next 17 years, Hetterle was teacher and principal in California, Texas and Oklahoma. He moved to Colorado in 1996 and developed the middle school program at Mile High Academy. After becoming principal there, he joined the conference as associate superintendent of education in 2001. Two years later he became superintendent,

the position from which he continues to serve students, teachers, churches and community members throughout Rocky Mountain Conference. The purpose of his passion for Adventist education is to prepare kids for this life and eternity.

Lonnie met his wife, **Laura**, in 1975, and they were married in the chapel at Newbury Park Academy. They have three children, **Annie, Lyndi**, and **Lonnie Jr. (Bud)**. Annie recently completed her MA in couple and family counseling

and moved from teaching to counseling in Denver. Lyndi also lives in Denver, completing her master's degree in criminology. Bud works in revenue management at Florida Hospital, where he completed both an MBA and earned his CPA.

Lonnie is known for his skill in bargain hunting at garage sales. He also enjoys Jeeping and mountain hiking, watching ball games, traveling throughout the conference and meeting new friends.



Ordination of Thomas Toews

by Eric Nelson

On Sabbath, May 21, the Laramie and Cheyenne churches, along with friends and family, gathered to support the ordination of **Pastor Thomas Toews**.

Tom was born to **Herb** and **Mary Toews** in a farming community of California's Central Valley. The second of four children, he grew up on his grandparents' orange farm with the rest of the family. Working full-time during summers from age 10, Toews learned both a strong work ethic and the value of a college education.

Originally a double major in biology and chemistry with plans to become a brain surgeon, Tom felt called in his freshman year to set aside his life ambition and prepare

to become a pastor. He began his ministry in Southern California. Next he seized the opportunity to work in Moscow, Russia. Following that, Toews pursued a PhD

in historical theology. Three years ago he became pastor of the Cheyenne and Laramie churches in Wyoming. He now teaches in the religion department of Union College

in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Tom and **Lena** have been married 14 years. They have two children, **Matthew** and **Andrew**.



Elder and Mrs. Tom Toews and their sons, pictured with Rocky Mountain Conference leaders and Robert Fetrick, Union College religion department chairman (behind Lena Toews).

Korean Camp Meeting Held at Glacier View



Pastor Seon Ho Kim (left to right), Gary Thurber (Rocky Mountain Conference president), Don Kim (NAD Korean Coordinator), and Pastor Muncheol Park



Graduate Spends a Lifetime Transporting Union

by Tiffany Doss

Over the past half century, **Jerome Lang** drove his bus to the moon and back. Now retired from transporting Union College groups around the country, Lang has sold his maroon and white 1996 MCI 102D3 47-passenger motor coach.

Forty-six years ago, at the request of **Glenn Davenport**, then Union College’s public relations director, Lang began driving Union College students and staff to music performances, sports events and mission trips as well as school picnics and hayrack rides in his grain trucks. Thus began his journey of rocketing over 500,000 miles of pavement.

“I’ve enjoyed driving since I was just a little fella,” said Lang at Union’s thank you celebration for him and his wife, **Ramona**. “As a farm boy, I started driving when I was eight years old. I would be working in the field with my dad and we’d end up on the opposite side of the field as the truck. I would always offer to go get it—I took advantage of any opportunity to drive.”

Several years after Lang began driving for Union, the school sold their bus and chartered one for a year. Deciding to buy a blue, 47-passenger bus of his own—specifically keeping Union’s needs in mind—Lang offered to drive students and staff at half the standard charter rate. In 1995, he decreased his low

rate further and began driving for free, also contributing the cost of fuel.

“I enjoyed driving and had quite a bit of experience before I started driving for Union,” said Lang. “I like students and understand the importance of transportation. I figured this could be good savings for Union College.”

Purchasing a new maroon and white motor coach in 1995 that featured built-in video monitors, window blinds and a restroom, Lang provided his passengers luxurious travel. Beyond lending his expert driving skills, Lang never hesitated to go the extra mile. At times he also paid for travelers’ hotel rooms, meals or more commonly, ice cream—which passengers, of course, had to finish eating before they stepped back onto the bus.

“Jerome believed in preventive maintenance and took care of each of his buses like they were his family,” said **Dan Lynn**, professor of music and director of the Unionaires. “They always had new tires, regular tune-ups and maintenance appointments for this or that. He was constantly checking and monitoring his gauges, inspecting his bus at pit stops to ensure everything was in order. That was his legacy—his purpose; he took care of his investment because it took care of him and his passengers. He had been driving for so long that he can go almost anywhere and negotiate nearly



Jerome Lang transported Union College groups across the country for nearly half a century—most recently in this MCI 47-passenger bus which he purchased new in 1995.

every situation.”

Lang’s services extended far past Union’s campus to include College View Academy (CVA), College View Church and other volunteer groups.

Brian Carlson, principal of CVA and **Terry Bock**, pastor at CVC, recall a moment that encapsulates Lang’s generosity. “Every other year, the academy’s juniors and seniors go to Washington D.C. for a history tour,” said Bock. “A while ago they decided students were missing too many classes, so they flew the students there. Jerome got in his empty bus, drove to Washington D.C. and drove the kids around there. The students then got back on the plane and flew back to Nebraska while Jerome drove his bus to Nebraska. That’s dedication.”

Lang enjoyed every second of driving for Union and its surrounding community. “I only have one regret,” he said. “I wish I would have kept

better track of people I met while driving. I talked to a lot of great, friendly people with interesting stories. That’s part of the reason I love to drive so much.”

Lang seemed to know someone no matter where they went. “Over the years he’s built amazing connections everywhere, and we all benefited from that,” Lynn said. He is truly a legend and is one of the reasons Union College is the special place that it is. It’s been a privilege to know Jerome Lang for the past 25 years. He’s done so much for hundreds and hundreds of people. His passion, goodwill and generosity will not be forgotten.”

Tiffany Doss graduated from Union College in 2011 with a degree in communications.



Union Graduates Share Passion for Music

by Nicole Meharry



Connie and David Tan shared a passion for music while at Union College. Now they are passing their love of music on to their children: Marcus, Emily, Aaron and Ryan.

We've always heard that music is food for the soul—could it be for soul mates as well? With **David** and **Connie Tan**, it was just that.

"David and I met in Unionaires," remembered Connie fondly.

"I had the honor and privilege of studying choral conducting under **Dr. Dan Lynn** and Connie was the accompanist," David chimed in. "We really got to know each other better when I conducted a piece for the spring concert, and we had to practice together."

Even with heavy course loads, the two fit in time for music year after year. "Dr. Ryan Wells [then professor of music specializing in piano] and Dr. Lynn both took a sincere interest in our music, but

understood that our studies had to come first," Connie explained. "Their support helped us with our schooling and even in our dating relationship. We all became such good friends—Dr. Wells played the piano and Dr. Lynn played his trumpet and sang at our wedding."

David credits Dr. Lynn with teaching him how to share his passion for music with others and in so doing, bring out their best abilities as well. Although his position as assistant professor and chief of the Emergency Medical Services Section within the Division of Emergency Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis keeps David from using this talent in a professional sense, he enjoys teaching his four children to sing and cultivate a love for music. Connie, who has worked as a pediatric nurse, now leads out in the pursuit of music in the Tan household, after becoming a full-time

stay-at-home mom and piano teacher upon having their third child. "Each of our four kids is heavily involved in music," said Connie. "I tell them it's because of music that they are alive! I met David in Unionaires, and without it, I'm not sure we would have had the same connection," she laughed.

The Tans are certain the discipline they learned through their involvement with music at Union has helped them be successful in their life beyond college. "My musical studies at Union emphasized attention to fine detail, taking pride in a job well done and always giving your best performance no matter how long the tour or how tired the choir," David

shared.

The Tans remember more about their musical experiences and Unionaires than anything else that happened during college. "Most of our great memories come from recitals, tours, concerts, early Sabbath morning warm-ups and being together through it all," they said. After nearly 25 years of making music together, David and Connie Tan are still relishing their shared musical feast that began at Union College.

Nicole Meharry graduated from Union College in 2004. She is now a freelance writer and lives with her husband and young son in Chicago.

Unionaire Reunion

If you were a Unionaire from 1987 to 2011, come celebrate 25 years under the direction of Dr. Dan Lynn. The weekend will feature special events and a reunion choral performance.

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Caring for the Caregivers

by CMBell Company



We all know a compassionate, knowledgeable, tireless physician. Someone who always seems to sense just what to say and do. Someone who goes beyond diagnosis and treatment to offer emotional support, a kind word. Even a prayer sometimes.

For doctors who truly minister to their patients and deliver that level of whole person care every day, it can take a significant personal toll. And when it does, who cares for the caregivers?

Dianne McCallister, MD, had been there herself. “As physicians, most of us chose to practice medicine in order to help people,” she says. “But with all the daily pressures and complexities of delivering health care, it’s easy for our own lives to get out of balance.”

When she accepted the position of chief medical officer at Porter Adventist

Hospital, she saw an opportunity to provide spiritual and emotional support to other physicians. The result was the Porter Colleagues program—an effort to help doctors find an enhanced sense of meaning and purpose in their practices.

“The motivations that lead many physicians into the profession can be drowned out by a cacophony of noise, from politics and insurance companies to long hours and high expectations,” says **Randy Haffner**, Porter’s chief executive officer. “In our quest to provide holistic care for our patients, it is imperative that we nurture our caregivers and help them reconnect to their original calling.”

Porter Colleagues began in 2009, and 12 physicians were invited to the first event, a retreat with the goal of simply getting them talking to each other. Topics ranged from

managing change and stress to maintaining work-life balance. Conversations were guided by Lumunos, an outside organization with expertise in facilitating meaningful discussion. The response was extremely positive and encouraging, recalls McCallister. “We learned that physicians are a lot like church pastors, trained to give help but not necessarily to receive it,” she says. “We started teaching them to how to apply to themselves the support they were giving to patients.”

Balancing the need to care for oneself while caring for others reinforces a concept rooted in the foundations of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and healthcare system—that wellness can only be achieved amid spiritual, emotional and physical harmony.

The Porter Colleagues program has yielded

Through guided conversation and other activities, the Porter Colleagues program helps physicians find an enhanced sense of meaning and purpose in their practices.

remarkable results, says McCallister. She observes that physicians are happier and more supportive of each other and have started taking better care of themselves. “I’ve never worked in a hospital that invested in us like this, and it makes me love this place,” a physician new to the medical staff recently told her.

“It does my heart good to see my colleagues be given something back,” she says, “and in turn it allows them to give more to their patients.” For McCallister, that’s perhaps the most important outcome of all.

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



Life Dynamics for Wellness

by Jessica Wahaus

We've been talking about it for decades, but it seems that society's newest focus in healthcare is on wellness. Amid rising concerns about chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease, the general public, physicians and healthcare providers are incorporating more preventive initiatives into our medical regimen. Shawnee Mission Medical Center (SMMC) helps its patients and customers lead healthy, balanced lives in ways that are accessible and doable.

Health and wellness classes offered at SMMC's Life Dynamics Health and Wellness Center give community members the knowledge and tools to take control of their wellbeing. Informational classes address issues from weight control to aging to medication questions, while the wide range of active and aerobic classes get the community moving and fit. Rehabilitation programs enable patients to strengthen their minds and bodies to achieve whole-body wellness that helps prevent recurrence of disease or illness. These classes and services are aimed at teaching the community how to stay well and empowering them to take



Leslie Mackey, director of Life Dynamics Health and Wellness Center

control of their health.

Leslie Mackey, director of Life Dynamics Health and Wellness Center, believes that addressing wellness now is the key to lifelong health. Many chronic disease can be prevented through healthy lifestyle choices. She says incorporating ongoing wellness initiatives after medical care boosts a patient's chances of maintaining good physical and mental health.

"We also focus on the continuum of a patient's life through programs such as cardiac rehab, pulmonary

wellness and nutrition counseling," said Mackey.

Medical care within the hospital is simply not enough for a healthy life. Health is a state of balanced physical, mental and social wellbeing—not merely the absence of disease. Wellness involves teaching people how to have balance in their lives beyond healing the disease. When people take responsibility for their own health, they become empowered and engaged in their lives. Then they can contribute in healthful, positive

ways to their families and community.

Anticipating the future of healthcare, it is important to consider the immediacy of wellness. SMMC prides itself on providing "much more than medicine" to its patients and customers. The hospital ensures this initiative with balanced and progressive approaches to true healing through a variety of focused, integrated wellness experiences.

"First and foremost as a community hospital, we care about the quality of life of our community," said

Mackey. "SMMC is dedicated to providing additional comprehensive wellness experiences addressing the chronic diseases plaguing our society today that reduce the quality of life drastically, such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure and cardiac disease."

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Allen, Charles (Charlie), b. Aug. 10, 1937 in Clebourne County, AL, d. July 30, 2011 in Bismarck, MO. Member of the Farmington (MO) Church. Survivors include wife Brenda; sons David and Mark Allen and Danny Swyer; daughter Dana Buck; and brother Harold Allen.

Andersen, Lois J., b. July 19, 1933 in Fremont, NE, d. April 1, 2011 in Lincoln, NE. Member of the Piedmont Park Church in Lincoln. Predeceased by a brother. Survivors include daughter Stephanie Cochran; son Lorn Engquist; and 4 grandchildren.

Baker, Bette, b. May 2, 1924, d. July 20, 2011 in Loveland, CO. Long-time member of the Loveland Church. Survivors include husband Rod; sons Jeff, Mike, Todd; sister Leona Watson; 5 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Beard, Roy Eugene, b. March 14, 1930 in Independence, KS, d. Aug. 14, 2011 in Lincoln, NE. Member of the College View Church in Lincoln. Predeceased by wife Wanda; brothers Earl and Raymond. Survivors include daughter Alice Hillhouse; brothers Walter Beard and Ken Monk; niece Betty Lou Wilson; and 2 grandchildren.

Coy, Hugh, b. Aug. 7, 1923 in Ames, IA, d. June 25, 2011 in Walla Walla, WA. From 1948-49 he served as dean of boys at Platte Valley Academy and later worked in the business office at Union College. Survivors include daughters Linda Wernick and Jollee Lee; 4 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Dickerson, Carl "Melvin", b. June 4, 1927 in Fort Scott, KS, d. July 31, 2011 in Sublimity, OR. Member of the Silverton Community Adventist Church. Served as food service director for Adventist academies. Predeceased by son Donald; 4 brothers; 3 sisters. Survivors include wife Lois; sons Dennis, Michael, Jon; daughters Deborah Nakamura and Terri Capps; 2 sisters; 1 brother; 14 grandchildren; and 9 great-grandchildren.

Elliott, Irma (Schmidt), b. Jan. 8, 1927 in Sonora, Mexico, d. July 21, 2011 in Denver, CO. Member

of the Denver South Church. Survived by husband Hector; sons Charles and Perry; sisters Dell, Emily and Ada; brother Paul Schmidt; and 3 grandchildren.

Hendricks, Vera Dean (Huff), b. Oct. 30, 1921 in Springfield, MO, d. June 20, 2011 in Rockford, IL. Member of the Kimberling City (MO) Church. Predeceased by husband Franklin. Survivors include children Wanda Blackwell, Louise Smith, Gary Hendricks, Mary Bendler, Kenneth Hendricks; 8 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Kannenberg, Esther G. (White), b. June 26, 1941 in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, d. May 3, 2011 in Boise, ID. Survivors include husband, Richard; daughter Wendi Kannenberg; son John Kannenberg; brother Don White; and 4 grandchildren.

Kaval, Dorothea Fern, b. Dec. 23, 1915 in Weller, CO, d. July 14, 2011 in Grand Junction, CO. Member of the Grand Junction Church. Worked for the Pacific Press Publishing Association. Predeceased by husband Walter C. Kaval. Survivors include sisters Lois Ochs and Janice Grubb.

Lehman, Valerie Miller, b. Sept. 11, 1954 in Streeter, ND, d. July 10, 2011 in Cody, WY. Member of the Cody Church. Survivors include husband Kevin; sons Bryan and Jonathan; sisters Linda and Rita; brother Lyle; and father Walter Miller.

Lobb, Kenneth Broyer, b. June 20, 1954 in Denver, CO, d. July 19, 2011 in Castle Rock, CO. Member, deacon and elder of the Denver South Church. Survivors include wife, Laurie Lyn Lobb; daughters Jodi and Jaysa; sons Bryon and Bradley; sister Robin McCarty; and 3 grandchildren.

May, Fred Arthur, b. June 26, 1938 in Grand Junction, CO, d. July 15, 2011 in Grand Junction, CO. Member of the Grand Junction Church. Predeceased by wife Oleta McGown May. Survivors include sons Randy and Dan; brother Dale Reese; mother Irene Rees; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sutton, Raymond B., b. Mar. 2, 1922 in Hyannis, NE, d. Aug. 13,

2011 in Alliance, NE. Survivors include wife Marge; daughters Genelle Holder, Charlotte Hubbard and Pamela Bell; sons Larry and Dan; brother Bill; 11 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-granddaughter.

Stoudt, Dorothy M., b. Nov. 13, 1914 in Lockwood, MO, d. July 29, 2011 in Davenport, IA. Member of the Davenport Church. Predeceased by husbands Chester Loose and Walter Stoudt; granddaughter Kimberly Loose; grandson Larry Loose II. Survivors include sons Larry Loose and Chester Loose; daughter Linda Fausset; 11 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Wall, Joshua J., b. Sept. 8, 1917 in Lincoln Valley, ND, d. July 26, 2011 in Troutdale, OR. Member of the Sunnyside Adventist Church in Portland. Served many years as an industrial arts teacher at Campion Academy. Survivors include

wife Barbara; sons Jerry Wall, Stephen McNally; Kevin McNally; daughters Brenda McGee, Janenne Rosen, Joan Minten, Karen Sass; brother Ernest Wall; sister Marian Sharp; 14 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Watson, John A., b. April 24, 1920 in Montrose, CO, d. July 12, 2011 in Montrose, CO. Member of the Montrose Church. Predeceased by wife Annie Laurie Perkins. Survivors include sons Dan and Tom; 5 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Zehm, Bob, b. Dec. 17, 1921 in Newark, SD, d. Dec. 24, 2010 in Nevada, IA. Member of the Nevada Church. Served as an ambulance driver and medic in Africa and Europe in WWII. Predeceased by wife Mary; son Danny. Survivors include daughters Jackie Harmon, Valli Holland and Joni Steffens; son Ed; 8 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

SUNSET CALENDAR

Colorado	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct. 21	Oct. 28
Denver	6:33	6:22	6:12	6:03
Grand Junction	6:48	6:37	6:27	6:18
Pueblo	6:33	6:22	6:13	6:04
Iowa				
Davenport	6:34	6:23	6:13	6:03
Des Moines	6:47	6:35	6:25	6:15
Sioux City	6:57	6:45	6:34	6:24
Kansas				
Dodge City	7:14	7:04	6:55	6:46
Goodland	6:20	6:10	6:00	5:51
Topeka	6:56	6:46	6:36	6:27
Wichita	7:04	6:54	6:44	6:36
Minnesota				
Duluth	6:37	6:24	6:11	5:59
International Falls	6:41	6:27	6:13	6:01
Minneapolis	6:43	6:30	6:18	6:07
Missouri				
Columbia	6:43	6:32	6:22	6:13
Kansas City	6:52	6:41	6:31	6:22
Springfield	6:48	6:38	6:29	6:20
St. Louis	6:35	6:25	6:15	6:06
Nebraska				
Grand Island	7:06	6:55	6:44	6:35
Lincoln	6:59	6:48	6:38	6:28
North Platte	7:15	7:04	6:54	6:44
Scottsbluff	6:27	6:15	6:04	5:54
North Dakota				
Bismarck	7:12	6:58	6:46	6:34
Fargo	6:54	6:42	6:30	6:18
Williston	7:22	7:08	6:55	6:43
South Dakota				
Pierre	7:12	6:59	6:48	6:37
Rapid City	6:23	6:11	6:00	5:49
Sioux Falls	6:58	6:46	6:34	6:24
Wyoming				
Casper	6:36	6:25	6:14	6:03
Cheyenne	6:32	6:20	6:10	6:00
Sheridan	6:38	6:25	6:13	6:02



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Incoming ASI president Frank Fournier of Loveland, Colorado (center) receives the symbolic Bible and gavel from outgoing president Norm Reitz (left) at the convention in Sacramento. To view the entire ASI story, go to page 9.



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