

OUTLOOK

DECEMBER 2011



SPECIAL HOLIDAY FOCUS:
HOPE AND HEALING



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The holidays are a special time for "real giving." That's the title of Elder Tom Lemon's editorial. Our Mid-America president challenges us to look beyond the trappings of the season to God's gift of love. This will transform our churches into centers of love within their communities.

Many Mid-American Adventists venture beyond their local neighborhoods into the far reaches of the global community. Please read the inspiring updates on two families serving in Africa: The Mosier family from Minnesota evangelizing the Congo, and the Meharrys from North Dakota connecting to Kenya. You need not cross an ocean to be a radically devoted missionary this holiday season. Just across your street may be someone who needs the touch of God's love.

—MARTIN WEBER

Cover Photo: Chaplain Darrell Rott brings holiday cheer from heaven to patients at Avista Adventist Hospital.

Photo Courtesy Adventist Health Systems

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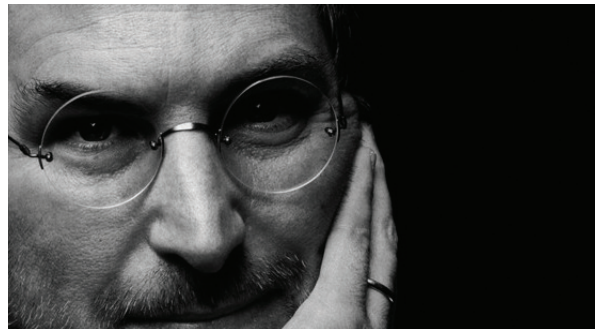
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Real Giving

by Thomas L. Lemon



Bethlehem is a small, insignificant town by modern measures. If it were not the birthplace of Jesus, it wouldn't be on any map nor on anybody's lips today. But it is His birthplace, and that is what makes the difference this holiday season.

Jesus is the one figure of history whose presence always makes the difference. For those who know the story of Bethlehem and all that followed over the next three decades, it is truly the greatest story ever told. For those hearing it for the first time, it begins to kindle at least the first desires for faith—if not actual faith itself. And those who eventually give up on the story—well, they lose much more than a story (and many of them know it). The shipwreck of faith is often ugly and always unspeakably tragic.

Why is the birth of Jesus so powerful an event that the measurement of human time hinges on it? Why is its influence so incredible that even warring nations stop killing for a few moments of peaceful reflection? And why after 2,000 years does the western world continue to pay at least lip service to the event? Simply because Christ's birth is the story of the most

amazing demonstration of love that the world—indeed the conscious universe—has ever heard, yet could not imagine were it not real.

It is the story of heaven imparting to planet Earth a gift that defines all real giving: "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). And indeed the generosity of God's people today is only possible because He is even more abundant in His generosity with us.

The impulse to share at this season continues, year in and year out, reflecting only partly the economic realities of the moment. While amounts given and spent in generous expressions of gratitude and love will vary as budgets wax and wane, the desire to give—patterned after that Bethlehem gift—isn't going away. Bethlehem's manger defines, proclaims, and in turn expects unrestrained altruism. And my response to that is "PRAISE THE LORD."

In light of heaven's unfathomable gift, how generous are we? This is the true measuring tape. Opportunities for giving are so abundant that one is often constrained to choose among many good options both within the church and the larger community. But let me offer a few suggestions. As the Christmas season is upon us, please make sure that you and

the Lord are up to date with His tithe. Remember, the tithe is already His; we merely return it to Him. Second, please don't forget your local church and school needs. The only church that doesn't need more financial resources is already dead. The local conference budget is likewise always able to use more.

Let me conclude this appeal with a reference to Union College. Plans for the new math/science complex are moving forward with certainty. You will see a new building completed by about this time in 2013. We need your help with this project. It is truly an investment in both the future of our youth and the church. Contact the college's advancement office for ways to participate—and please do it today while it is fresh in your mind.

But whatever you choose to support, offer those gifts in light of Bethlehem, in light of Calvary and the empty tomb, in light of the promised return of the One whose most generous of all gifts continues to define real giving.

And Merry Christmas! **U**

Thomas L. Lemon is president of the Mid-America Union. He is pictured with his wife, Jan, a career educator.



From Minnesota to the Jungle

God's working in Congo Frontline Missions

by Randy Harmdierks





“I remember crawling on my hands and knees through that jungle wondering how in the world we would build a school.”

“The task was daunting,” recalled Barry Mosier, speaking of the work he and his family began three years ago as full-time missionaries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Mosiers, originally from Minnesota, had spent eight years as volunteer missionaries in Tanzania. They were accustomed to the missionary way of life and the dangers that go along with it. However, in the wake of the largest war in modern African history, Mosier knew the challenges they would face in the Kisangani area of the Congo were unlike anything they’d experienced before. “Five million people had died in the war. We were the first white family to return.... There were no others within 300 miles of us.”

Their ministry: Congo Frontline Missions (CFM). Their mission field: some 14 million people, mostly in remote areas ravaged by war and disease—with limited access to medical care and clean water.

One of CFM’s first tasks was to start training laymen to become church planters and soul winners. The first class had 74 people—all

of whom ate, slept and attended class in one building. They desperately needed more space. But how would they get it?

When some undeveloped land in the jungle became available, CFM took a leap of faith and purchased it. “I remember crawling on my hands and knees through that jungle wondering how in the world we would build a school,” Mosier said. “I was just hoping to find our way back to the car!”

However, the Lord provided funds for them to rent a bulldozer and blessings soon multiplied. “We found the property contained sand and gravel for building. Then we discovered that termite mounds make great bricks,” recalled Mosier. A container of one-day structures was also donated, and a campus began to materialize.

Since that time, CFM’s campus has grown to a fully functional evangelism training school with more than 14 buildings. To date, 247 laymen have been trained, with 52 of those now working as full-time church planters in formerly unentered areas. Bible study materials and Spirit of Prophecy books are being distributed in three

local languages. The result: more than 1,300 baptized into Christ!

Although the Lord has blessed immensely, there is still much work to be done. CFM is currently partnering with Adventist World Radio to broadcast the three angels’ messages from Kisangani. Plans are also underway to provide the villages with clean drinking water. “The Bible says, ‘Before they call, I will answer’” (Isaiah 65:24), Mosier continued. “If we get funding, we hope to drill wells in the villages of our church planters. It breaks down prejudice and saves so many lives.”

Mosier, along with wife Mary Beth and two of their children, has moved back to the U.S. and will be working full time for CFM from Minnesota. Mosier’s son Keith, president of CFM, and family, will continue working in the Congo.

Congo Frontline Missions would like to thank their Mid-America family for their continued prayers and support. To learn more about CFM or to volunteer or donate, please visit www.congofrontlinemissions.org.

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Randy Harmdierks is the designer of *Outlook*.





The Pygmies— A Tribe Yearning for Hope

By Cassi Fitzpatrick

"There is darkness upon us—darkness is all around; there is no light. But it is the darkness of the forest—so if it really must be, even the darkness is good."*

Such is the heartbreaking cry of the Pygmy tribe toward their god, as they grieve over the deceased. They chant their lament to a deity lacking both ears and compassion—a god that is not God, but rather a forest. This is all the Pygmies have known their whole lives.

The tribe's survival relies upon the material benefits of their surroundings—fruit from trees, animals hunted for food. No wonder they see their forest as an object of worship.

Yet the most significant need of all—salvation through Christ—is absent. The Pygmies need to know a Creator God who loves

them. They need hope in His salvation.

Congo Frontline Missions has sought to bring them this missing piece in life's puzzle—not to take them from their simple ways of living or to attack their culture. Instead, they have seized the opportunity to proclaim God's good news to a tribe yearning for hope. The songs found in His Word are becoming the songs of the Pygmies today, thanks to Congo Frontline Missions' commitment to God's call upon their lives.

**Paul Salopek, Who Rules the Forest? Retrieved June 25, 2007. http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Pygmy#Religion_2*

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Cassi Fitzpatrick is a communication intern from Union College at the Mid-America Union. She has served in Africa as a student missionary.



All photos courtesy Congo Frontline Missions

"If we get funding, we hope to drill wells in the villages of our church planters. It breaks down prejudice and saves so many lives."

(page 5) A Pigmy boy peeling bark from a tree in the jungle. The garment he's wearing is actually not fabric but finely pounded bark.

(upper left) CFM church planters on the way to visit a local village

(lower left) One of 1,300 souls baptized into Christ through CFM

(upper right) Radio offers a huge inroad for evangelism in the Kisangani area. The three angels' messages will soon be reaching countless numbers thanks to your continued support.

(lower right) Locals obtaining fresh, clean water from a well provided by CFM

More photos on page 8





Newly baptized members receiving Bibles— all of them likely for the first time.



Some of the CFM team (left to right):

(back row)

Barry Mosier
Nathan Rittenour
Jane Mtenzi

(middle row)

Mary Beth Mosier
Nuru Mtenzi
Pastor Msafiri
Mtenzi

(front row)

April Mosier
Joshua Mtenzi
Emmanuel Mtenzi
Andrew Mosier
Keith Mosier





MAU Communication Team Update

By Martin Weber

Ron Long



After the July departure of Chris McConnell to join Rocky Mountain Conference as IT

director, Mid-America Union administrators promoted Brenda Dickerson to become assistant director of the communication department. Her responsibilities include being managing editor of *Outlook* magazine and webmaster of Outlookmag.org. She now handles all advertising (display and classified) and will continue doing initial editing for our print magazine, managing our subscription list and overseeing our archives.

Along with being an accomplished author, Brenda's strengths include an amazing

ability to bring order out of chaos at deadline time. She exudes quiet competence in the Spirit with cheerfulness, humility and loyalty. At the recent Society of Adventist Communicators, Brenda interacted with communication colleagues across the North American Division, winning both friendship and respect.

Brenda's husband Gary teaches computing and business at Union College, where their daughter Kelti is a student. Their son James attends College View Academy.

Meet Randy Harmdierks

By Martin Weber

Taurni Baker



Outlook magazine welcomes our new designer and departmental assistant, Randy Harmdierks, a gift from God via AdventSource here in Lincoln, Nebraska. A native of Albert Lea, Minnesota, Randy graduated from Union College with a BS in graphic design and a BA in studio art. Before serving at AdventSource, Randy was art director at Star Digital Print, a Lincoln-based printing company.

In addition to his passion for design, Randy also enjoys playing guitar, spending time with family and friends, and going on walks in nature to contemplate the wonders of God.

Randy and his wife of seven years, Angie, are members of College View Church and live in Lincoln with their little dog, Mr. Noodle.



Hospitalized ~~Home~~ for the Holidays

Adventist hospitals facilitate holiday healing

“The most important thing a chaplain can do for a patient is to simply listen. Instead of giving a message, we want to listen to theirs.”

Snow and lights, cold and warmth, new traditions and old. For most, the Christmas season is a time of expectation—a time to look forward to treasured moments with friends and family.

But when Christmas is interrupted by illness, holiday plans can be shattered. Joy is replaced with fear, worry and anxiety, and those who end up requiring hospitalization will need more than just medical care—they’ll need an added dose of understanding, wisdom and support.

That’s where chaplains and caregivers come in.

Being there for patients

Mike Hansen, director of ministry at Parker Adventist Hospital, knows that being a patient is difficult. “When you’re a patient, you lose some of your independence. You feel out of control, both physically and mentally. People are overwhelmed and stressed.”

The primary way of dealing with those patients, he says, is making sure they have someone nearby at all times.

Many patients feel like a burden—as if their situation has disrupted the order of things. It’s important to dispel this myth, Hansen says. “Family wants to be there, and needs to be there, and it’s good for everyone.”

Occasionally, although not often, the family shies away for fear of saying or doing the “wrong thing.” It’s the chaplain’s job to

notice when this happens. “I’ll talk to the family. I’ll tell them not to worry about what to say—just be there. Months or years down the road, what they’ll remember is not who said what, but rather who was there.”

There are rare cases, however, when no amount of coaxing will convince relatives or friends to visit, and during those times the help must come from the hospital staff.

“It’s really a team effort. Nurses check in, doctors are extra attentive, and others who are able to help make themselves available. We try to make sure someone is around.”

Volunteers also play a role, says Hansen. For example, one couple near Parker bring the family dog in once a week to visit patients.

Whether a patient has family visitors or doesn’t, the goal of Hansen’s ministry is the same. “We try to meet people where they are. Our inspiration is Christ, who came and met us where we are. He is who we aim to imitate.”

Listening and understanding

Most people are fortunate enough not to lose a father at a young age. For those who have, even fewer had it occur during the Christmas season. But Darrell Rott, Avista Adventist Hospital’s chaplain, experienced that hardship, and instead of allowing it to make him bitter or angry, he’s turned the experience into wisdom and understanding—using it to

empathize with patients in ways most others can’t.

As a teenager, he struggled to reconcile his loss during the holiday season. “For years, I would naturally hit a down time after Thanksgiving and wouldn’t resurface until New Year’s.”

Years later, working as a chaplain, it’s clear he’s developed a good sense of how to deal with



Courtesy Adventist Health Systems



patients who have experienced loss during the holidays.

“The most important thing a chaplain can do for a patient is to simply listen. Instead of *giving* a message, we want to *listen* to theirs. I believe God has made us verbal creatures designed to express our pain. If left unexpressed, pain will only continue to grow.”

Thus Rott encourages patients to open up. “People are often fearful and uncomfortable when talking to strangers. Bridging that gap is important.”



Sometimes all they need is some music. Other times it's prayer. And sometimes, Rott says, it means sharing his own experience.

“We cannot solve or fix a patient's feelings or problems, but we can give them an opportunity to begin. It may take more than one conversation. But the therapy has to start somewhere, otherwise patients won't begin to feel the deeper healing.”

Moving on

Glenn Sackett, chaplain at Porter Adventist Hospital, expands on that spiritual and mental journey to recovery.

“A patient in a hospital needs all the energy available. Any emotional burden saps that energy and slows the healing.”

Sackett focuses on helping them face the truth. “When patients have an uncomfortable fact or thought tucked away, that puts a unique emotional strain on them.”

Sackett says his approach comes from the Bible. “When Jesus claims you'll know the truth and the truth will set you free, that really is a statement about life. That's literal. And the more truth we can live with and handle appropriately, the more freedom we'll have—even if the truth is difficult or inconvenient.”

The process of facing truth can be hard, he admits. People may not want to fully accept the reality of their predicament. This can mean they are too pessimistic about it, or in some cases, they choose to ignore it.

When getting patients to come to grips with their situation, Sackett is careful not to put words in their mouth.

“The best method for helping a patient is to open with a broad question. For instance, “What good can you see that's come of this? Or ‘where do you find hope in this?’ When a person can answer that for themselves, it's a turning point.

“If they're able to provide answers to these questions, they'll have those mental pathways established so they can do it again.”

In the end, it's ideal when patients are able to face their situation head-on while remaining optimistic. Those patients will have the quickest healing. “Personally,” Sackett says, “I believe there is always hope. Some just need a nudge to find it.”

Experienced caregivers can help patients heal during the holidays

The process of healing during the holidays is particularly difficult, and calls for special care and attention—companionship, good listening, and people who can offer hope and help others tap into their faith—in addition to good clinical care.

For a patient, it may be his or her first time in a hospital during the holidays. But for chaplains and caregivers in Colorado's four Adventist hospitals, it won't be. And because of this, they'll draw on a lifetime of experience and wisdom to help patients make not only the necessary medical progress, but bring healing as Christ did—even in the midst of broken holiday dreams.

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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 CMBell Company.

“A patient in a hospital needs all the energy available. Any emotional burden saps that energy and slows the healing.”



Shawnee Mission Medical Center Gives Back

By Kelsey Perry

Courtesy SMMC



Healthcare is more than helping sick people get healthy. It should also be about keeping healthy people well. As a part of the Adventist Health System, Shawnee Mission Medical Center (SMMC) embraces the concept of CREATION Health in its foundation of care.

Biblically based CREATION Health is comprised of eight principles for helping people experience full health in every aspect of life. The word CREATION is an acronym for Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust, Interpersonal relationships, Outlook and Nutrition.

With CREATION Health at its core, SMMC's mission of "improving health through Christian service" involves benefiting the community physically, socially, mentally and spiritually. As a result, SMMC is involved in numerous faith-based and community programs.

Twice a year SMMC sponsors Camp Bluebird, a three-day retreat for adults in the community diagnosed

with cancer. The event is a chance for campers to share experiences and receive support from other cancer patients.

Health professionals who volunteer at Camp Bluebird aim to live out the mission of SMMC to heal the human spirit as well as the body. The camp is held near Parkville, Missouri at Heartland Presbyterian Retreat Center, which offers hiking and horse riding trails, campfire and picnic facilities, indoor recreation areas and a chapel. "It is a chance for cancer patients to get away and to just feel normal for a few days," said Mark Stoddart, administrative director of Spiritual Wellness at SMMC.

SMMC also hosts a variety of free support groups, including one in grief recovery for those who have suffered loss of a loved one. Sessions are available three times a year for a five-week period. Participants begin their healing journey by exploring issues such as the stages of grief, and learning to grow throughout

the grief process.

Additionally, Stoddart said the hospital facilitates an active physician/clergy dialogue. Physicians from SMMC meet with local clergy once a month to discuss how to incorporate a spiritual dimension into patient treatment. The hospital also provides spiritual support, from premarital counseling and staff meeting devotionals to crisis intervention for all of its associates.

"My mom used to tell me, 'Dance at home before you dance abroad,'" Stoddart said. "Meaning you have to focus on improving yourself before you can go out and reach others."

Stoddart explained that by offering spiritual support for the hospital's associates, SMMC can positively impact a greater number of people. Staff members properly supported in their faith can take that spiritual encouragement into every interaction they have with patients as well as the community.

Many hospital associates volunteer with neighborhood organizations such as Habitat

for Humanity, various Chamber of Commerce chapters, and by going on mission trips with other hospital associates.

The most recent SMCC mission trip was to Belize in December 2010. The group included 19 doctors, nurses and administrators. During the 10-day venture, volunteers ran a clinic for basic medical treatment, helped construct a school roof and produced a radio broadcast offering both health and spiritual guidance. Hospital staff members have previously gone on missions to Peru and the Philippines.

Although SMMC has its own array of ministries aimed at spiritual and community outreach, the hospital supports dozens of other local organizations. "We try to sponsor organizations that share our values of promoting whole-person wellness in connection to CREATION Health," said Shannon Cates, SMMC's marketing and communications manager. These organizations include American Heart Association, Sunflower House for Abused Children, Safehome for Women, Overland Park Farmers Market and local school districts.

For more information on SMMC's community involvement, visit ShawneeMission.org/community.



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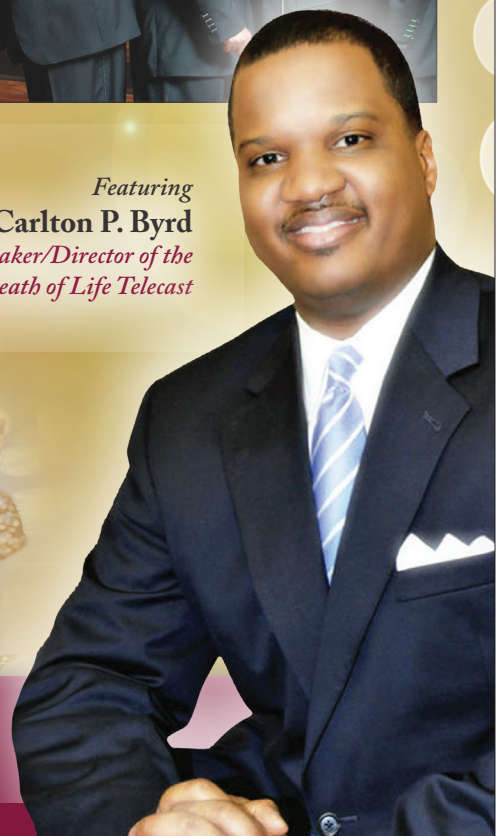
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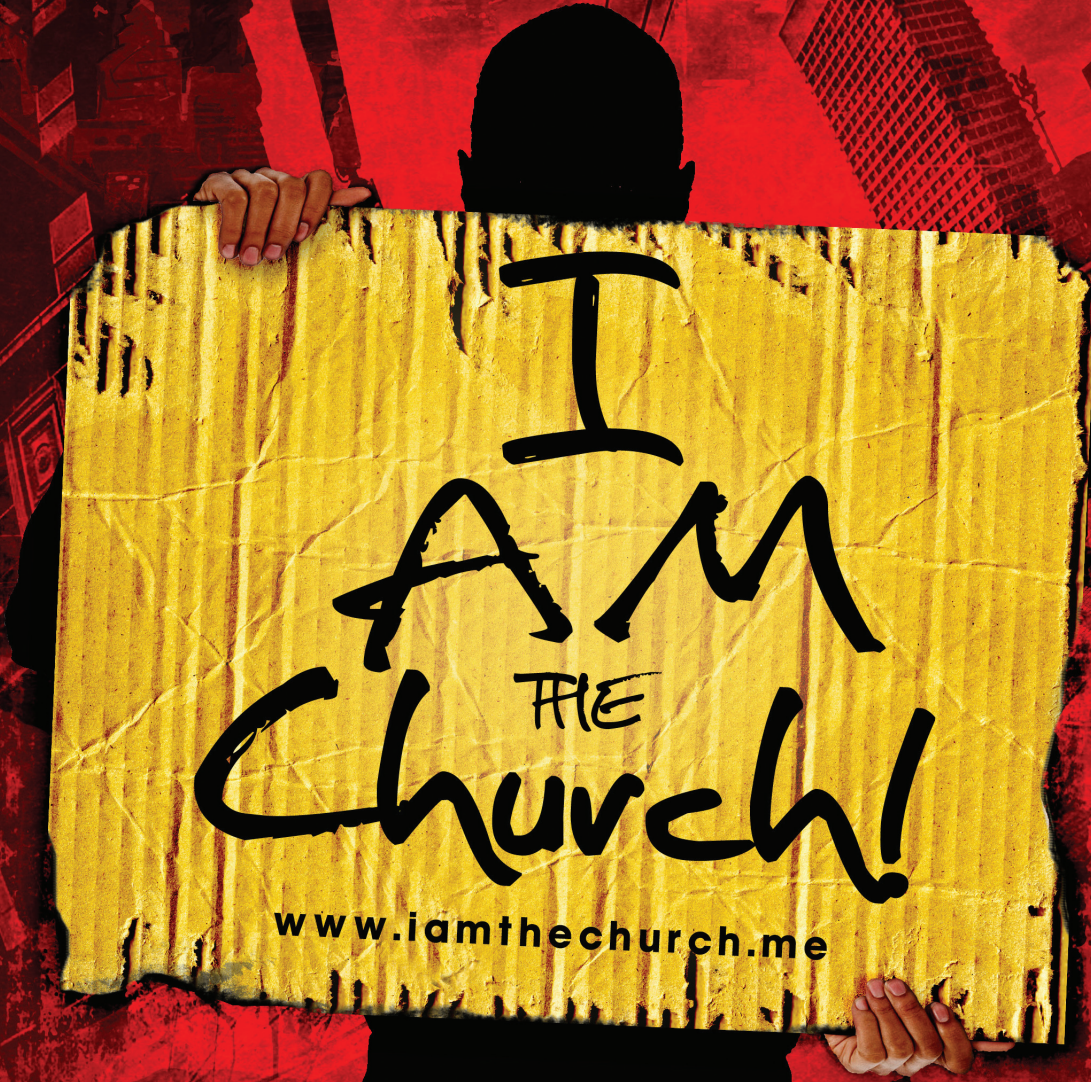


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Philadelphia Church Sponsors Community Day

By Sharon Tate



Courtesy: Central States

Community Day, an outreach of Philadelphia Church in Des Moines, attracted many neighbors to Martin Luther King Senior Center and Park. Seven tables at the September event displayed free clothing from the Community Services department. Among other donated items were healthy sack lunches and juice. Guests also received apples, bread, bagels, rolls and pastries.

Church members distributed pamphlets with information about utilities, rent, food and clothing, along with gospel tracts explaining Bible truth. **Roberta Mays**, Pathfinder director, talked to

parents and kids about club activities. **Dr. Kevin Moore**, a physician, and **Dr. Elizabeth Fitzgerald**, a chiropractor, answered medical and health questions. **Belle Taylor**, Community Services leader, handed out needs assessment forms for attendees to give to Philadelphia members, who then could help them. Project Iowa provided a table with information about job training and available employment.

Many participants entered a drawing for prizes, such as bicycles, games and two \$25 gift certificates for a local Hy-Vee supermarket. Leftover clothing went to Des Moines Adventist Academy for a

fundraiser on behalf of families needing tuition relief, netting \$510.

.....
Sharon Tate is communication secretary for Philadelphia Church in Des Moines.

(above) Neighbors who came to the Community Day outreach appreciated the clothing giveaway.

(below) Attendees young and old showed interest in Pathfinder activities.



Courtesy: Central States



Dr. Marlin Meharry Receives Outstanding Achievement Award

By Nicole Meharry

Marlin Meharry is not just a dreamer, although he dreamed all his life of serving others across the world and pursued a dental degree to help achieve his dream. He is not just a doer, although he uses his resources and influence to do more as a dentist than most full time missionaries. Dr. Meharry is not an ordinary man; he is one of those rare individuals who combines dreaming and doing to bring positive change in the world around him.

After graduating from Loma Linda University Dental School in 1980, Marlin jumped into dental service with both feet; literally, landing smack dab in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. He began as a traveling dentist through

the Micronesian Marshall Islands, bringing dental care to the previously underserved local population. From there, Marlin decided to stretch his legs closer to the mainland, stopping to serve in Taiwan for a short time.

After transferring to Okinawa, Japan in 1982, Marlin reconnected with an old high school friend, **Jan**, who soon became his wife and partner in service. Marlin and Jan share a passion for overseas ministry that not only brought them together but has kept them by each other's side for 29 years. Although Marlin enjoyed his work as director for clinics associated with the Adventist Medical Center in Naha, Japan, the couple felt called to show their

three young children more of the world. After carefully considering their options and working in California for a couple of years, Marlin and Jan accepted a call to Nairobi, Kenya. Marlin served as director for the Adventist clinic there from 1989 through 1995, improving dental care for church workers and the people of Nairobi as well as creating a mobile dental unit to serve remote villages that previously had no access to basic dental necessities.

While living in Kenya, the Meharrys completed their family with the adoption of their youngest son, a native Kenyan. Jan particularly fell in love with the Maasai tribe and felt a burden to help them navigate the modern world that was fast claiming their country. Maasai Development Project (MDP), a non-profit organization committed to the survival and education of the Maasai people, was born from this burden. Although the Meharry family returned to the United States in 1996, Jan and Marlin continue to partially finance and provide total leadership to this organization of lay pastors, literacy teachers and educational rescue centers.

Marlin is not only MDP's most faithful philanthropic supporter, he also uses his own vacation time to conduct medical and dental mission trips to underserved areas of Kenya three times each year.

Marlin also lends his wisdom and service to a variety of organizations back home in North Dakota. Besides running his beloved dental practice in Harvey since 1996, Marlin also serves as Wells County Health Board chairman, chairman for the Black Hills Health and Education Center Board of Directors and sits on the Loma Linda University Alumni Association Board of Directors.

In his limited spare time, Marlin enjoys seeing the world through the eyes of his three grandchildren and doing everything he can to spend time with his family. His four children are now scattered across the country pursuing their own dreams, inspired by their hard-working, dream-chasing father and mother.

Indeed, Marlin Meharry is no ordinary man—his extraordinary life and accomplishments prove that he dreams big, does much and lives to serve others humbly, compassionately, fully.

.....
Nicole Meharry is the daughter-in-law of Dr. Marlin Meharry.

Nicole Meharry



Dr. Dennis Sommers (right) presenting Dr. Marlin Meharry of Harvey, ND the 2011 North Dakota Dental Association Outstanding Achievement Award



Dakota Adventist Schools are Interconnected

By Jacquie Biloff with Loren and Sue Nelson

Dakota Conference camp director **Loren Nelson III** and his wife, **Sue**, visit each elementary school in the conference several times a year. They provide worship for students and assist the teacher for the day. They also take pictures, encourage students to attend Music Fest and Academy Days at Dakota Adventist Academy (DAA), and invite them to summer camps and camp meeting.

At the end of the 2010-11 school year, the Nelsons presented each student with a conglomerate Elementary School Yearbook, compliments of DAA and Dakota education superintendent **Leonard Quaille**. Several children exclaimed, "We thought we were the only Adventist school!" Nelson's endeavor helped them see a bigger picture.

This September, vans filled with students from the five Dakota Conference elementary schools pulled into Northern Lights Camp, on the Canadian border, for the first annual Outdoor School weekend. The event, organized by Quaille and Sue Nelson, was a joint venture between the education department and Dakota Adventist camps.

Local rangers taught grades 5-8 how to survive in the forest by making a shelter, learning what is edible and how to attract rescuers. Teachers and volunteer staff presented lessons about art, propulsion, gravity and bird migration. They also directed



Loren Nelson III

Teacher Jodi Dossenko directing a ceramics lesson

an adventuresome overnight canoe trip to a camp across the lake in Hahn's Bay.

Pastors from different school districts led worships, songs and spiritual formation. Attendees also enjoyed Bible stories and puppet plays on safety.

A non-Adventist parent who accompanied her young child on the Outdoor School field trip expressed surprise at the Adventist education system. She announced that she would begin preparing her daughter to attend academy.

Next year's Outdoor School will be at Flag Mountain Camp in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

.....
 Jacquie Biloff is communication director for Dakota Conference; Loren Nelson III is senior youth, young adult and camp director; Sue Nelson, a teacher, is currently choosing to stay at home with her small children.

DAKOTA CONFERENCE 12TH ANNUAL
MEN'S RETREAT
 MARCH 9 - 11, 2012



BAD LANDS BIBLE CAMP
 MEDORA, NORTH DAKOTA

~WHEN GOD CALLS~

MICHAEL HALPHILL is the featured retreat speaker. He is the senior pastor of the Piedmont Park Adventist Church in Lincoln, NE.

Photo: ND Tourism/David Nix



Mason City Baptisms

By Joyce Pinke

Courtesy, Joyce Pinke



Pictured (left-right) are John Torres, Mona Quam, Pastor Jose LaPorte and Cole Barnhart.

Eight new members joined Mason City (Iowa) Church this year. **Mona Quam**, one of the new members, said, "I found that Seventh-day Adventists teach the whole Bible, including the seventh day Sabbath, which

is one of the commandments God wants us to keep."

Norma Andrews, Alex Cook, Jim Mattox, Judy Grantham and **Jane Shultz** also joined the church. Grantham testified that she had been a

Charismatic Christian for 30 years. When her Adventist twin sister approached her with biblical teaching about speaking in tongues, at first she felt hurt. "But then I prayed that the Lord would show me

the truth," said Judy. "I began to watch 3ABN and heard **John Carter** talk about tongues. I knew it was the truth."

.....
Joyce Pinke is communication leader for Mason City Church.

Elizabeth Rodriguez



Last September the Iowa-Missouri Conference Education Department held its annual Outdoor School at Camp Heritage. Forty 5th and 6th graders from 10 schools, along with their sponsors, participated in classes on Basic First Aid (pictured left), Natural Remedies and Mini-CHIP. Students earned First Aid certification and two Pathfinder honors: Nutrients and Basic First Aid. Each day the young people enjoyed morning and evening worship, educational scavenger hunts and group games.



Equipping University Visits St. Louis

By David M. Klinedinst

In August, 130 attendees from 10 St. Louis-area churches convened at Mid Rivers Church in St. Peters (Missouri) for lay evangelism training. Instructors from Equipping University (EU), an initiative of the North American Division Evangelism Institute, joined Andrews University professors in teaching lay training for ministry within one's church and community.

Local Adventist pastors have arranged for EU to visit metro

St. Louis for two weekends in each of the next three years (2011-13). Each weekend will consist of 10-13 hours of instruction.

This summer EU covered the topics of Church Growth and the Lay Ministry Model. Attendees brainstormed in small groups about what God has called them to do in their churches and communities.

"There are moments in your spiritual walk when you experience clarity and vision. Equipping University provided

one of those moments," said **Connie Tan**, West County church member. "I could feel the presence of God. I felt the urgency for lost souls, a call to service, and the necessity of coming close to other believers in all sister churches to finish the work through the Spirit's power. I can't wait until the next series of meetings in January. Already I've secured three more people to come with me."

What God once said about the city of Corinth remains

true for the city of St. Louis: "I have much people in this city." Seventh-day Adventists have been commissioned for ministry to them. The next Equipping University weekend will be January 27-29, 2012: "Witnessing in Your World of Influence." For more information about attending, email **Pastor David Klinedinst** at davidmklinedinst@gmail.com.

Pastor David M. Klinedinst is the Iowa-Missouri Conference evangelist for metro St. Louis.

Adventist Artist Featured at Local Show

By Becki Knobloch



Becki Knobloch

Rolla Church members came out to support Raymond (second from left) on opening night.

Haydee Raymond, artist and Rolla Church member, displayed her artwork during the month of August at The Centre, a local recreation

complex. Raymond's mixed media works are done with acrylic paint on tissue collage. Many of her subjects are women of the Bible, but her

collection also includes wildlife paintings.

Becki Knobloch is the wife of Rolla (Missouri) Church pastor John Knobloch.



Ordination/Commission Service at New Haven

By John Treolo

David Bryan



Surrounded by ordained ministers, Conference President Ron Carlson leads the prayer for Pastors Kochenower (wearing yellow tie) and Nunes (in lavender blouse).

In a service that touched the hearts of attendees, two pastors were recognized for their calling to ministry: **Morgan Kochenower**, district pastor of the West Lenexa/Leavenworth churches, was ordained to the gospel ministry; and **Chanda Nunes**, associate pastor of New Haven Church, was commissioned to the gospel ministry.

John Sweigart, ministerial secretary, coordinated the event.

Participants included **Thomas Lemon**, Mid-America Union president, who preached the sermon; **Ron Carlson**, Kansas-Nebraska Conference president; **Kymone Hinds**, youth director for Central States Conference; and **Roger Larsen**, senior pastor of Sunnydale Church (Missouri).

Others participating were **Don Stricker**, **Douglas Elsey**, **Ashley Sisson**, **Ron Paul** and Sweigart, who delivered the charge.

Piedmont Park Supports Young Adult Battling Cancer

By Vanessa Schaecher

In July 2007 **Tyson Jackson**, son of Piedmont Park member **Shelly Jackson**, was diagnosed with leukemia. Preparing to enter his senior year of high school, Tyson anticipated all the fun and learning the year would bring. Instead he experienced a roller coaster ride of successful treatments followed by relapses, bringing hope and then despair in his battle against cancer.

Through it all, Tyson has remained strong and has kept looking forward. In 2011 Shelly fought successfully to get him into an experimental research study for a chemotherapy treatment not yet FDA-approved. It has not yet brought remission for Tyson, but he and his family remain hopeful. The only known cure for Tyson's particular leukemia is a bone marrow transplant.

So far, however, no bone marrow match has been found for him.

Four years to the day after Tyson's diagnosis, Piedmont Park Church in Lincoln, Nebraska hosted a benefit concert to raise money to assist with the Jacksons' mounting medical expenses.

Piedmont Park member **Linda Johnson** and a team of volunteers organized the event around two goals: 1) raising \$5,000 and 2) showing the Jackson family how much they are loved and prayed for. Both goals were abundantly met in an evening that brought together nearly 200 supporters to enjoy music from **Closer Walk Quartet**, **Second Mile**, **Jessica Scharffenberg**, **Lisette Deemer**, **Jenae Teale**, **Tom Bucher**, and Johnson. The offering totaled \$6,436.



Vanessa Schaecher

Many concert attendees had never met the Jackson family, yet they stayed afterward to enjoy cookies and share smiles, tears and hugs.

For further information and updates on Tyson's health, contact the church office at 402.489.1344.

Pictured with Tyson (second from left) is long-time family friend **Doug Bauch**, along with **Shelly** and **Marissa Jackson**.

Vanessa Schaecher is a member at Piedmont Park Church, in Lincoln, NE.



God in Shoes—Women helping Women

By Sue Carlson

Ron Russell



Pastor Ken Maldonado looks on as Dina Horst (right) and Josie Escamilla provide facials, foot massages and prayers of blessing to a pampered guest at the God in Shoes Free Spa Day.

Ladies from across Kansas-Nebraska gathered in Scottsbluff (Nebraska) over 10 days to host the first “God in Shoes” Women’s Ministry program. Outreach activities for the September event included food drives, Family Fun Day, Supper & Seminars, Ladies Only Free Spa Day, “Welcome Baby” baskets, food boxes, and painting at the local women’s shelter.

Hearts were touched in the community. A little guy at Family Fun Day asked one of the helpers, “Is this God in Shoes?” She said, “Yes!” and he replied, “I didn’t know God in Shoes could be so fun!” Another couple expressed interest in knowing what kind of church would offer these free services.

Weekday evenings the women hosted the community for a supper and two seminars. Topics included: Healthy Living; Helping Kids Succeed in School; Healthy, Affordable

Meals; and Interviewing for a Job. The second seminar, designed to extend hope amid an unstable world, was titled “Power for Living.” Resources and contact information from local Seventh-day Adventist churches were also distributed.

On Friday, a steady stream of ladies came to the Carpenter Center for the Ladies Only Free Spa Day. Our staff provided facials, foot massages, manicures, chair and table massages, a finger food buffet, a new pair of shoes, and a free bag filled with spa items, plus the book *Surprised by Love* by **Elizabeth Talbot**. One lady expressed appreciation for the shoes, saying she had no money and didn’t know if her shoes would last the winter. Two other visitors exclaimed, “We’ve never owned a new pair of shoes!”

As ladies received manicures and facials, they relaxed and talked with our staff about some of the

personal challenges they were experiencing. What a blessing it was to listen and then pray with them about the things they shared! Ladies who staffed the God in Shoes program felt affirmed in ministry, realizing they had something to offer their communities.

Scottsbluff area churches are planning their own annual Family Fun Day as well as Free Spa Day. Bible studies have begun and several ladies have attended church with their children.

Recently my husband (conference president **Ron Carlson**) and I were checking into a Scottsbluff hotel. The clerk, upon hearing that we are Seventh-day Adventists, exclaimed, “Oh, you’re the people who do the God in Shoes ministry. That is so awesome!”

When was the last time you heard the word “awesome” and “Seventh-day Adventist” used in the same sentence by a non-

Adventist? Perhaps this is what Ellen White meant when she said, “Christ’s method alone will bring true success reaching the people. The Saviour 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.’” (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 143).

Next September God in Shoes Ministry will come to Wichita, Kansas. To learn more contact **Sue Carlson** at 785.478.4726 or email scarlson@ks-ne.org.

Sue Carlson is Women’s Ministries director for Kansas-Nebraska Conference.



Sheri Arevalo oversees the excitement as one little girl tries her skill at breaking the piñata at the God in Shoes Family Fun Day.

John Trelio



Fourteen Faithful Years

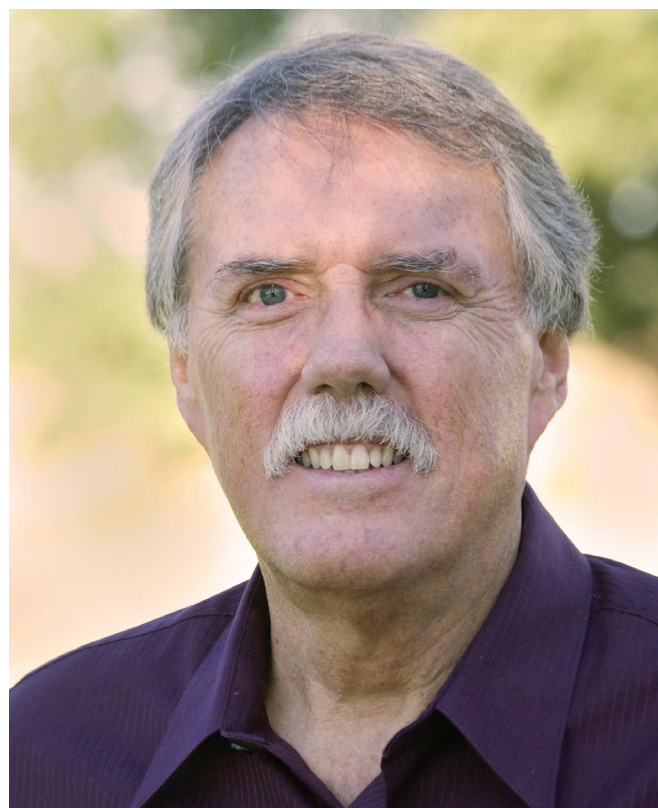
By Ed Barnett

Marshall Bowers, principal of Maplewood Academy, has expressed to Minnesota Conference administration his desire to slow down from the hectic pace of academy administration, which demands 24/7 energy. Therefore, the Minnesota Conference Executive Committee voted to offer Bowers a pastoral position.

A search committee is looking for the right person to guide Maplewood Academy into the future. Bowers has agreed to continue leading the school until a new principal is found.

Minnesota Adventists thank Marshall Bowers for his long term of tireless service to young people throughout the conference. He has served as Maplewood Academy principal for more than 14 years. Countless lives have been touched and changed as a result of his ministry.

Ed Barnett is president of Minnesota Conference.



Jeff Mines

Marshall Bowers has served as principal at Maplewood Academy for more than 14 years.

Courtesy Andrew Christiansen



Lifting Up Jesus in Aitkin

By Sherman McCormick

Approximately 25 people, including three Bible workers in northern Minnesota, took advantage of a “Lifting Up Jesus” training workshop at the Aitkin Church on Sabbath, October 15. The all-day workshop began with **Karen Lewis** sharing the importance of lifting up Jesus supremely in all spiritual contacts. Traditional approaches often produce church members who are not yet disciples. Though intellectually convinced about the Adventist message, they lack life-changing love for Jesus.

“Lifting Up Jesus” Bible studies begin with nine lessons that help students grasp God’s love. The next 21 lessons cover the doctrinal teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They are presented from the perspective of experiencing God’s love personally.

“Lifting Up Jesus” lessons are available at the Adventist Book Center.

(left) Karen Lewis presenting the “Lifting Up Jesus” training workshop at the Aitkin Church.

Serving Their Neighbors at Maplewood

by Laura Cummings

October 16 was Maplewood Academy's annual Community Service Day. The entire student body and faculty dedicated themselves to showing God's love through the gift of service. Thirteen groups dispersed throughout the city of Hutchinson raking leaves, pulling weeds, cleaning parks and even picking apples.

The air was cool, and the gusty wind played with nicely raked piles of leaves, but the sun was shining and the students' spirits were high. "It was really cold, but I felt good about helping people," said freshman **Anesia Nahimana**.

For four hours the students worked hard, with the occasional break to jump into the enticing piles of leaves. Sophomore **MaryAnne Birai** raked leaves for a family in Hutchinson and then helped pick up fallen sticks in a park. She said, "It made me feel great when people congratulated us for doing a good job. It made my heart smile!"

"Today was good because I felt like I was helping the community and doing my part," said freshman **Yande Musonda**, who raked leaves for the SDA Twice Is Nice center.

Sometimes little things show God's love in the biggest way.

.....
Laura Cummings is development director for Maplewood Academy.





Erik Stenbakken



McConnell Receives SAC Awards

Chris McConnell, the new director of information technology for Rocky Mountain Conference, received the 2011 Young Professional Award at the recent Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) convention in Chicago.

McConnell received this distinction for his impressive accomplishments and pioneering abilities in marketing, design, writing, web development and social media management. For his eight months of service in the Mid-America Union communication department, McConnell earned an unprecedented total of eight awards and honorable mentions from SAC.

Among them were Best in Class in the category of

Print (Feature) for his article “Winternet Evangelism” that appeared in the August 2011 issue of *Outlook* magazine. McConnell also received Honorable Mention awards for the design of the new *Outlook* Online website (New Media category); the cover design for *Outlook’s* August 2011 issue; the design of *Outlook’s* updated Media Kit; the recent overall design of *Outlook* magazine; and the video documenting the redesign process (Marketing/Public Relations category).

Chris McConnell, recipient of 2011 Young Professional Award from the Society of Adventist Communicators

Save the Date!

Vista Ridge Academy, formerly known as Boulder Junior Academy, invites all graduates, classmates, families and friends to attend the 115-year VRA/BJA Reunion,

September 7-9, 2012 in Boulder, Colorado.

This reunion remembers/relives the history of Christian education in Boulder with Boulder Junior Academy and

the reunion of Vista Ridge Academy’s first 12th grade graduates, the Class of 2008, from Erie, Colorado.

If you plan to attend, please send your name, class year,

address, phone number, and email information to **Cindy Morgan**, Alumni Coordinator, at cindym@vrak12.org.

SAVE THE DATE

VRA/BJA 115-YR REUNION

SEPT 7-9 2012

BOULDER, COLORADO



ACS Community Lift Expands Services

By Donna Webb



Courtesy Donna Webb

Clients waiting to be served by ACS Community Lift in Denver

ACS Community LIFT is preparing for a surge of new clients in addition to the 70,000-plus already served each year at the Denver facility. The expanded client base is anticipated for two reasons. First, the prolonged recession has forced more people than ever to seek aid from human service agencies. Additionally, Catholic Charities—one of the largest support networks in the nation—closed its last two satellite emergency assistance centers in metro Denver on September 1, ending food bank and clothing services.

Now individuals in need must go elsewhere for the crucial support that helps them survive with little or no income. ACS Community

LIFT can meet that challenge because it functions on a much lower budget than other organizations. This is due to the wealth of volunteers who help staff the facility and to donations received throughout the year from businesses, hospitals, medical staff, schools, churches and individuals.

ACS Community LIFT clients are served either directly at the Denver facility (1st Avenue and Sheridan) or from the medical CareVan that operates across the metro basin from Westminster to Castle Rock. Thanks to donated services from medical professionals and collaboration with Rocky Mountain Adventist hospitals and Kaiser

Permanente, ACS Community LIFT has delivered more than \$2.5 million worth of free medical services for less than \$187,000.

In addition to medical services, ACS Community LIFT provides a comprehensive family care program that addresses basic human needs, such as helping break generational cycles of poverty. By offering food, emergency clothing, utility assistance, emergency shelter, job placement and domestic violence assistance, LIFT builds a platform of stability for families in crisis.

Adventist Community Services nationwide is known for disaster relief. ACS Community LIFT

participates with national ACS Disaster Response teams, but most specifically meets needs in Colorado. When natural disasters strike, the team is often on the front line supporting American Red Cross and other first responders. By organizing volunteers, LIFT teams with federal, state and city organizations to provide emergency human service for victims and surrounding communities.

For more information on ACS Community LIFT, call 303.935.7389 or visit www.acslift.org.



Tech Company Founder Values Critical Thinking Skills Learned in College

By Ryan Teller

Courtesy, Nick Bock



Nick Bock, a 1998 history education graduate and founder/CEO of Five Nines Technology Group, believes that a college education helped prepare him—and his employees—for success.

For **Nick Bock**, co-founder and CEO of Five Nines Technology Group, launching a successful information technology company meant a lot more than just knowing how to manage a network or write computer code.

A history education major at Union College, Bock learned most of his computer skills on the job, both as a high school technology teacher and later working in IT support for healthcare companies. He only took a few computer classes in

college, but believes his Union College education taught him key skills he uses daily in running his company—often the skills learned in classes he never imagined would lead to success. “I am not a good writer, but I learned a lot,” he said of his college writing classes from English professor **Chris Blake**. “At the time, I really didn’t see how they were relevant to my career, but learning all the aspects of critical thinking and sorting through my thoughts in those

English classes—that was the most valuable thing I learned in college.”

Specializing in healthcare, but serving a wide variety of businesses, Five Nines has grown through building strong relationships with clients. “We are very focused on being client-centric,” Bock said. “Everything we do revolves around what is best for the client, not trying to maximize the amount of dollars we can pull out of an organization. Our mission is to help our clients succeed.”

With that philosophy, their company (which Bock started five years ago in Lincoln, Nebraska with **James Bowen**) made a speedy ascent up Inc. magazine’s list of America’s 500 fastest growing private companies. In 2009, Five Nines came in at number 394 on the Inc. 500 list, which measures percentage of growth over three years. The company landed at number 527 in 2010 with 577 percent growth since 2007.

Five Nines started in 2006 with just one additional employee, and now the firm employs 54 people—and is still hiring. This success has earned local recognition as well. After being named Small Business of the Year in its first year of operation by the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, the company earned the 2010

Nebraska Small Business of the Year award from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Bock, who graduated from Union College in 1998, discovered that when building a client-focused mentality, computer skills aren’t always the most important attribute to look for in a perspective employee. “Many people think you don’t need a degree to work in the IT field,” he said. “But we have seen significant value in people with a four-year degree. It doesn’t have to be an IT degree; the computer skills can be learned by experience. We see that people who graduate with a four-year degree have the communication and critical thinking skills that are extremely important for us to be an effective company.”

He now takes time to mentor young teachers, helping them prepare students for jobs in the technology industry. “It’s one of the most fun things I get to do,” Bock explained. “High school students think they can learn some technical skills and that’s all they need. I tell them that anyone can fix a computer, but the people who can communicate effectively and learn to do what is best for their clients will succeed.”

.....
Ryan Teller is director of public relations for Union College.



The Value of Learning to Communicate

By Ryan Teller



Steve Nazario/Union College

Jonathan Babb recently completed an internship at Three Angels Broadcasting Network, which has led to a job waiting upon graduation.

For **Jonathan Babb**, a senior computing major at Union College, a career choice was easy. “My dad is into computerZ and electronics, so I grew up interested in technology,” he said. “I really couldn’t think of anything else I’d rather do.”

Last summer Babb took the skills he learned at Union to a summer internship in the IT department at Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), an international Christian television network headquartered near his home in southern Illinois.

During his three months providing technical support for employees, writing software

to increase internal efficiency and maintaining servers and networks, Babb discovered that while computer skills were helpful, other skills learned in his baccalaureate degree program proved essential.

“Communication is the most useful skill I’ve learned in college,” Babb explained. “On the job I had to communicate effectively with fellow employees as I fixed their computer problems, with supervisors, and with outside vendors as I researched new products.”

He quickly realized that a technical understanding of an occupation may not always be enough to sustain a successful career. “Learning English, life

skills and problem solving built a foundation for being able to learn new skills,” he said. “Even if I didn’t have the computer knowledge, I’ve learned how to apply myself and learn the skills needed.”

His internship experience also helped Babb better understand his career goals. “I love to help people solve their computer problems,” he said. “I don’t want to just sit at a computer. I like to interact with people.”

All computer majors, as with most degree programs at Union College, must complete a 200-hour (or more) internship to graduate. “It was great being able to apply what

I learned,” Babb said of his experience. “Now I understand that my professors aren’t just assigning busy work. I see how each skill will be helpful and useful in my career.”

For Babb, experience has already led to a job offer. In May he plans to return to 3ABN to work full time in the IT department. And in a tight job market, he understands the value of a solid job offer. “It’s comforting to know I have a job waiting for me where they know me and want me,” he said. “I can go right to work.”

.....
Ryan Teller is director of public relations for Union College.



Bartel, Vi (Butherus), b. Jan. 16, 1916 in Nekoma, KS. d. July 19, 2011 in Denver CO. Member of the Denver South Church. Preceded in death by parents; husband Warren Bartel; brothers Ben and Dan; sister Elvena Frick. Survivors include sister Evelyn Avey; several nieces and nephews.

Berry, Earl, b. Apr. 5, 1930 in Guion, AR. d. Apr. 24, 2011 in Newton County, MO. Member of the Neosho Church. Survivors include daughters Gail Oxendine and Linda Ingram; sisters Marge Garoutte and Ruby Rush; brothers Zandalow Hilton and Billy Berry; 4 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Bruton, Beatrice, b. Mar. 11, 1963 in Ripley, TN. d. Sept. 29, 2011 in Springfield, MO. Member of the Oak Grove Heights Church. Preceded in death by parents Fred and Effie Murphy; stepson Nathan Bruton.

Earl, Mary L., b. Mar. 6, 1929 in San Diego, CA. d. Oct. 11, 2011 in Hill City, KS. Survivors include husband William Earl; daughters Nina Monrreal and Paula Butler; son Joseph Earl; 3 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Fillman, Betty, b. Jan. 5, 1922. d. Oct. 2, 2011 in Cameron, MO. Member of the Gallatin Church. Survivors include daughter Bettjean Johnson.

Gaul, Bernard, b. Aug. 2, 1936 in Luxenburg, IA. d. Sept. 22, 2011 in Dubuque, IA. Member of the Dubuque Church. Preceded in death by wife Beverly Gaul; sons John and Jeffrey Gaul; brother Leon Gaul. Survivors include son Jim Gaul; 4 brothers and 6 sisters.

Hyatt, Serenia Anna (Purcell), b. Mar. 29, 1928 in Mohall, ND. d. May 5, 2011 in Watertown, SD. Member of Watertown Church. Survivors include daughters Linda Gross, Valerie Lightbourne, Charlene West; son Brian Hyatt; sister Edith; brothers Merle, Lloyd and Wilbur Purcell; 9 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

Hix, Ruth, b. Sept. 29, 1919. d. Apr. 22, 2011 in Martinsville, IN. Member of the St. Louis Mid-Rivers Church. Survivors include

daughters Ruth Webb and Carol Plank; sister Adeline Germann; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Hobbs, Russell, b. Apr. 29, 1922. d. Oct. 15, 2008 in Kingsville, MO. Member of the Kingsville Church. Survivors include son Carl Hobbs; brother Virgil Hobbs; 1 grandchild.

Huff, Stella, b. Aug. 24, 1930 in Laurel County, KY. d. Oct. 12, 2009 in Nevada, IA. Member of the Nevada Church. Preceded in death by daughter Brenda Combs; son Scott Huff; grandson James Hunt; sister Joyce Hazelwood; brother Wayne Watkins. Survivors include husband Carlis Huff; daughters Sharon Hunt and Linda Carleton; son John Huff; brother Frank Watkins; 16 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Jones, Claudette "Jean", b. Mar. 19, 1935 in Davenport, IA. d. Jan. 21, 2011 in Rock Island County, IL. Member of the Clinton Church. Preceded in death by sons Scott and Rick Jones. Survivors include daughters Cyndy McIntyre and JoDe Walker; sons Doug and Marc Jones; 11 grandchildren.

Littrell, David, b. Oct. 21, 1952 in Mountain Grove, MO. d. Aug. 20, 2011 in Ozark County, MO. Member of the Mountain Grove Church. Preceded in death by sons Brent and Jerico Littrell; brother, Louis Littrell. Survivors include wife Nancy Littrell; daughters Beck Saylor and Jennifer Davis; sisters Jeanie Maddox and Vera Hart; 5 grandchildren.

McMahon, Sandra, b. July 13, 1938 in Dubuque, IA. d. July 27, 2011 in Dubuque, IA. Member of the Dubuque Church. Survivors include brother George McMahon.

Olson, Roger, A., b. Apr. 26, 1925 in Williston, ND. d. Oct 19, 2011 in Lusk, WY. Member of Dakota Conference Church. Preceded in death by parents Reuben and Clara Olson. Survivors include wife Helen Olson; daughters Sandra Vance and Lisa Fox; sons Robert and Ronald Olson; 13 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Reynolds, Betty Jean "Biz", b. Feb. 12, 1959 in Erie, PA. d. Oct. 2, 2011 in Kansas City, MO. Member Kingsville Church. Survivors

include husband Harvey Reynolds; sons Robert and Kevin Reynolds; parents Dale and Chris Fairchild; brother David Fairchild.

Salzman, Robert, b. Oct. 19, 1943. d. Sept. 12, 2011 in Sikeston, MO. Member of the Sikeston Church.

Smith, Ada Belle, b. Dec. 16, 1923 in Gibbon, NE. d. Sept. 15, 2011 in Kearney NE. Member of the Kearney Church. Survivors include daughter Joy Kutsch; 3 grandchildren.

Valladares, Elvia, b. June 19, 1941. d. Aug. 21, 2011 in St. Louis, MO. Member of the St. Louis Spanish Company. Survivors include husband Modesto Valladares; 1 daughter; 4 sons; 13 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild

Van Handel, Phillis, b. June 18, 1943. d. May 30, 2011 in St.

Charles, MO. Member of the St. Louis Mid-Rivers Church. Survivors include husband Charles Van Handel.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

- Revelation 14:13 -

SUNSET CALENDAR

Colorado	Dec. 2	Dec. 9	Dec. 16	Dec. 23	Dec. 30
Denver	4:36	4:35	4:37	4:40	4:44
Grand Junction	4:52	4:52	4:53	4:56	5:01
Pueblo	4:38	4:38	4:40	4:43	4:47
Iowa					
Davenport	4:33	4:32	4:33	4:36	4:41
Des Moines	4:45	4:44	4:45	4:48	4:53
Sioux City	4:53	4:52	4:54	4:57	5:01
Kansas					
Dodge City	5:21	5:21	5:23	5:26	5:30
Goodland	4:24	4:23	4:25	4:28	4:32
Topeka	5:01	5:00	5:02	5:05	5:09
Wichita	5:11	5:11	5:12	5:15	5:20
Minnesota					
Duluth	4:22	4:20	4:21	4:24	4:29
International Falls	4:20	4:18	4:18	4:21	4:26
Minneapolis	4:33	4:32	4:32	4:35	4:40
Missouri					
Columbia	4:47	4:46	4:48	4:51	4:56
Kansas City	4:56	4:56	4:57	5:00	5:05
Springfield	4:56	4:56	4:57	5:00	5:05
St. Louis	4:40	4:40	4:41	4:44	4:49
Nebraska					
Grand Island	5:06	5:05	5:06	5:09	5:14
Lincoln	4:59	4:59	5:00	5:03	5:08
North Platte	5:15	5:14	5:15	5:18	5:23
Scottsbluff	4:24	4:24	4:25	4:28	4:32
North Dakota					
Bismarck	4:56	4:55	4:55	4:58	5:03
Fargo	4:40	4:39	4:39	4:42	4:47
Williston	5:03	5:01	5:01	5:04	5:09
South Dakota					
Pierre	5:03	5:02	5:03	5:06	5:11
Rapid City	4:16	4:15	4:15	4:18	4:23
Sioux Falls	4:51	4:50	4:51	4:54	4:59
Wyoming					
Casper	4:32	4:31	4:32	4:35	4:40
Cheyenne	4:31	4:30	4:32	4:35	4:39
Sheridan	4:28	4:27	4:28	4:31	4:36



SERVICES

Adventist Coin Dealer: Silver .900 fine American coins by the roll. Pre-1933 American gold coins. Choice coins, medals and tokens. Free appraisal of individual coin or entire collection. Phone, write or email. Dr. Lawrence J. Lee, World Coins & Medals. 402.488.2646, P.O. Box 6194, Lincoln, NE 68506. lee@athena.csdco.com.

AdventistSingles.org Free 14-day Trial! Join thousands of Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, profiles, match notifications! Adventist owners since 1993. Visit www.elliottdylan.com for the Undercover Angels series of novels for Christian teens that build on Biblical principles and reinforce integrity. Great for Sabbath reading, church and home schools, and gifts!

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"A Love Doodle" by Jordi Solari is a fun and whimsical story that depicts God as the approachable and creative "Great Doodler!" Watch that child after your own heart light up with delight each time you read the Christian Dr. Seuss-like rhymes as they encounter God as their friend with finger paints! Makes a great gift for your own little "Love Doodles!" www.BooksByJordi.com.

Lay Institute for Global Health Training (L.I.G.H.T.) is holding a one week training program at Wellness Secrets Lifestyle Center in Decatur, AR, Dec. 11–18. The training program is designed to teach the fundamentals of health evangelism. Accompanied with daily spiritual classes,

students receive instruction in the principles of healthful living, common diseases, natural remedies, and community health evangelism. For more info go to www.lightingtheworld.org, wellnesssecrets4u.com or call 479.752.8555.

MBA – Online from Andrews University. Quality and convenient program offered at reduced tuition. Accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education. Contact: mba-info@andrews.edu.

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Single and Over 40? The only interracial group for Adventist singles over 40. Stay home and meet new friends in USA with a Pen Pal monthly newsletter of members and album. For information, send large self-addressed stamped envelope to ASO 40; 2747 Nonpareil; Sutherlin, OR 97479.

Southern Adventist University offers master's degrees in business, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through online and on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423.236.2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees.

Summit Ridge Retirement Village is an Adventist community in a rural Oklahoma setting but close to Oklahoma City medical facilities and shopping. Made up of mostly individual homes, the village has a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, assisted living, nursing home and transportation as needed. Call Bill Norman 405.208.1289.

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RADIO EVANGELISM: KTWJ 90.9 FM (Keeping In Tune With Jesus) Looking for a way to spread the gospel and support Christian education at the same time? The Bismarck Adventist Education Station is a 501 (C) 3 corporation dedicated to doing just that. For more information and a brochure, contact DeLane Meier at 701.223.8579 or by email to drmeier@bis.midco.net.

WILDWOOD WEIGHT REDUCTION & LIFESTYLE RENEWAL Bring a friend and save 20%. January 15-29, February 5-19, 2012. 14-day programs focusing on lifestyle change, health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. Cost: \$740. January 1-8, 2012 7-day intensive program. Cost: \$370. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Contact:

Darlene Keith 931.724.6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org Email: darlenekeith@gmail.com.

EMPLOYMENT

Andrews University is accepting applications for two Assistant or Associate Professors in Biology. Opportunity includes teaching graduate and undergraduate courses as well as advising students and research. PhD is required. Please visit this website for more information and to apply: http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi.

Andrews University Student Life Division is seeking an outstanding individual to be the Assistant/Associate Dean. Opportunity includes directing major student events, providing support for student body organizations and shaping the culture of the campus. Minimum of five years experience in higher education and a Masters degree is required. For more information and to apply please visit: http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_salaried.cgi.

Walla Walla University seeks applicants for full-time faculty positions in Business, English, and History; and contract faculty in many areas. For more information and application process, please visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>. All positions will remain open until filled.

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EVENTS

Enterprise/GPA Alumni Weekend April 13-15, 2012, Enterprise, Kansas. Honor Classes: 1932, 1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007. Visit www.alumni2013.org for more information and start making plans to attend!



“Transforming Lives Through Libraries.” Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians 2012 Conference, June 19-24, 2012 Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies; Silang, Cavite, Philippines. Librarians and Information Professionals are invited to visit <http://asdal.org> for conference information or contact Christy.ScottChristy.Scott@wallawalla.edu 509.527.2153

Outlook Themes for 2012

January: Big City Outreach

February: Union College student-produced issue

March: Health Oriented Outreach

April: Resourcing for Outreach

May: Summer Camp Outreach

June: K-12 Adventist Education

July/August: Outreach during Recession

September: Pathfinder Outreach

October: Pastoral Appreciation

November: Union College

December: Holiday Outreach

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