

MID-AMERICA SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST NEWS & INSPIRATION

OUTLOOK

CROSS-
GENERATIONAL
COMMUNITY



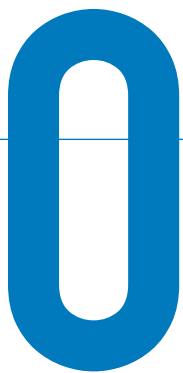
GARY THURBER

New President for
Mid-America Union

PLUS

How to Build
Cross-Generational
Community

OCT2015
outlookmag.org



BEYOND MILLENNIAL ANXIETY

In recent years as the exodus of young adults has risen, the Christian church in North America has been struggling within a paradigm created by "millennial anxiety." While concern for youth is of the utmost importance, according to Andrew Root in his *Christianity Today** article, the problem is that "we are tempted to move away from loving concrete persons who happen to be (so-called) millennials and instead chase after an abstract collection called 'the millennial generation.'"

Root goes on to point out that churches truly seeking to invite and welcome the young are driven not by youth at all—but by the desire to discover the revelation of Jesus Christ in the concrete experiences of young people. We invite them to struggle, along with the rest of the church, to discern the presence of Christ in our midst.

Thus, the best way for the church to engage the next generation is to stop wringing our hands and instead seek the Holy Spirit—all generations together telling our own stories of God's work in our lives. "That's when the Holy Spirit binds and unites us, calling us beyond our generational divides."

*Jan/Feb 2015, p. 36

—BRENDA DICKERSON, editor

PLEASE DON'T BAIL!

To all my young adult friends to whom I have given my life: I want to share my heart about the recent General Conference decision on the freedom not granted to choose the best path for honoring women in ministry as seems culturally appropriate. I personally wish the vote would have gone a different way, but I continue to be blessed as I watch you all struggle at first with what seemed to be rejection and then realizing that there can still be ministry for all of us, no matter the decision.

I believe in this church. I believe God is leading. That does NOT mean that every decision will be right or that I will agree with every decision. To have tension in any organization, including the church, is normal and, I believe, healthy. We praise the early church in Acts as some kind of model, but go back and look at all the disagreements in there!

I will not abandon my church even if I don't agree with them. We are family and we're going to make it through, no matter what decisions are made.

Please, my dear young adult, choose to be proactive, make a difference, rise above what you might disagree with and focus on what Jesus has called you to be—examples to the world of what speech, life, love, faith and purity look like.

Please don't bail. Please join me. Together we can impact His church and His people.

—RICH CARLSON has spent 33 years as a campus chaplain at Union College in Lincoln, NE.



Read his full message online:
bit.ly/encouragemillennials



ON THE COVER

The Mid-America Union welcomes Gary Thurber as its seventh president since the union was formed in 1980. Learn more about him and his family. p. 4



OUTLOOK (ISSN 0887-977X) October 2015, Volume 36, Number 10. OUTLOOK is published monthly (10 months per year) by the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 8307 Pine Lake Road, Lincoln, NE 68516. Printed at Pacific Press Publishing Association, Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE and additional offices. USPS number 006-245. Free for Mid-America church members and \$10 per year for subscribers. ©2015 Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Unless otherwise credited, all images are iStock. Adventist* and Seventh-day Adventist* are registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Contact us by email: info@maucsd.org or phone: 402.484.3000.

ONLINE

BUILDING CROSS-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY: Plans and Programs Already in Place

bit.ly/crossgencommunity

SISTERS CELEBRATE SABBATH—AND BUSINESS SUCCESS

bit.ly/sisterscelebrate

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“Do you care more about your children, or your traditions?” This is a question every generation must address, and every church must consider. p. 6



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GARY THURBER RETURNS TO MID-AMERICA



Gary Thurber, pictured with his wife, Diane, shares his passion for Jesus Christ and his hopes for the Adventist Church with OUTLOOK editor Brenda Dickerson.

Who is Gary Thurber? What do you want people to know about you?

I am a third generation Seventh-day Adventist, who grew up in a very loving, God-honoring home. I was blessed to receive my education through the Adventist system and have had the privilege of serving as a teacher and pastor for a church I love dearly.

Having said all that, I also know I am a sinner whose only

hope is in Christ Jesus. I want to spend my life sharing the Good News of what the Lord has done for me and what He wants to do for anyone who will come to Him.

What does it mean to you to be chosen as president of the Mid-America Union?

I'm honored, to say the least! This will be the third time the Lord has asked our family to serve in Mid-America Union territory. We loved our time

here in the past and look forward to returning. I had the privilege of getting to know the union and local conference leadership while serving in the Rocky Mountain Conference, and they are a wonderful group of dedicated Seventh-day Adventist Christians. What a privilege to be able to serve alongside this group.

As a 21st century Christian, what attracts you to the Adventist message?

First, I believe our message paints a beautiful, accurate picture of the character of God. The devil's big plan, from the beginning, has been to destroy God's good name. As I canvass the various world religions, and even many Christian faiths, I see God's character being distorted.

Second, the Adventist message is a message of hope. I believe the Lord has given us the privilege of sharing not only what Christ has done for us in the past but, also, what He is doing for us now, and His plans for us in the days to come.

What do you see as strengths of the Adventist Church?

Without a doubt, our church's greatest strength is our people. They are the most generous, dedicated, creative and faithful group of believers on the planet! I am constantly amazed by their steadfastness and willingness to serve the Lord whole-heartedly. I would add, too, all the men and women who serve as pastors, teachers and other leaders. They are highly trained and put in

Elected as New Union President

Gary Thurber, executive secretary of the Lake Union Conference, has been elected to serve as president of the Mid-America Union, filling a vacancy created in July when Thomas L. Lemon became a general vice president of the General Conference.

North American Division president Dan Jackson, who chaired the specially convened session of the Mid-America Union's Executive Committee for the vote on Aug. 11, said he believed Thurber would bring exceptional qualities to the new post.

Thurber, who has served as executive secretary of the Lake Union Conference since 2013, was previously president of the Rocky Mountain Conference, headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

Ordained in 1987, Thurber has served as a pastor in the Kansas-Nebraska, Florida and Michigan Conferences and as president of the Indiana and Northern New England conferences.

Born in Stoneham, Massachusetts, Thurber completed his bachelor's degree at Southern Adventist University and earned his master's degree in religion at Andrews University. He is currently enrolled in the PhD leadership program at Andrews University.

Mic Thurber



The Thurbers: Justin, Baylie and Ryan, Diane and Gary

countless hours to strengthen and encourage our church and those whom God places in their paths.

Other strengths? Our schools, camps, evangelistic endeavors, health institutions and ministries, the Spirit of Prophecy, and our commitment to the Word of God.

What challenges are we currently facing?

We do have a number of challenges to be sure—none of which, however, are bigger than our God! Some challenges are not unique to MAUC but to Adventism in general:

- We must develop new strategies to make Adventist education affordable and accessible to all our membership.
- We have a need to develop new, creative ways to share the Three Angels’ Messages to reach the secular society surrounding us.
- Gossiping and evil surmising seem to be running rampant among our ranks, and it must stop. Again, this is not just a MAUC problem; this is something that plagues Christianity at large.
- As our world church continues to grow, respecting the

different cultures and working together to fulfill our mission is becoming more complex and sometimes confusing. The counsel Ellen White gives is to “Press together, press together.”

• Despite having made strides in efforts toward ending discrimination, we (as a church) need to be more thoughtful about how we embrace and practice our Fundamental Belief No. 14: “In Christ we are a new creation; distinctions of race, culture, learning, and nationality, and differences between high and low, rich and poor, male and female, must not be divisive among us. We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation.”

You are not only a man of God but also a family man. Tell us about your wife and children.

Diane and I began dating while we were in high school at Mt. Pisgah Academy in North Carolina. I have a story to tell about the gift she has been to me in my life, but that is for another day. For now, I will just say I’m thankful to have a partner in ministry who loves the Lord and our church.

We are blessed by our two adult sons. The oldest, Ryan, is an attorney and practices law at Polsinelli in Denver, Colorado. His wife, Baylie (Thompson), is an ICU nurse at Littleton Adventist Hospital in Colorado.

Justin is a senior at Andrews University. In December he will complete a major in biology

and minors in chemistry and religion and plans to enroll in a pharmacology school next fall.

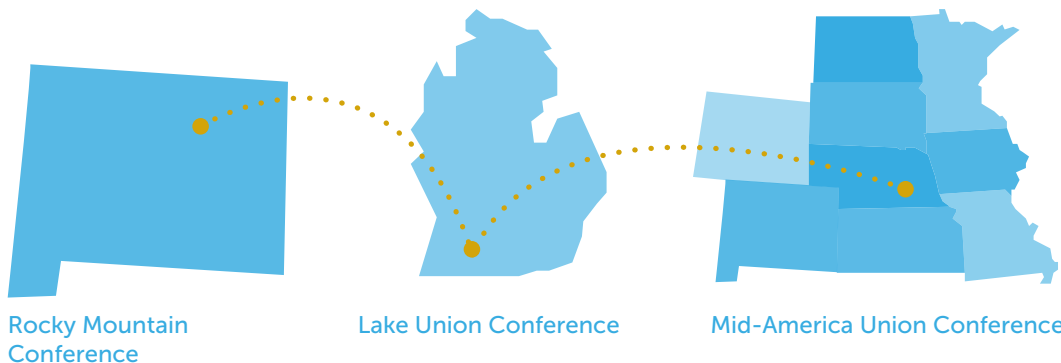
What is your favorite Scripture text?

Hard question! There are so many wonderful and precious promises in Scripture.

I will give you I Kings 14:8 (last part): “Yet you have not been like My servant David, who kept My commandments and who followed Me with all his heart, to do only that which was right in My sight” (NASB).

Why is this my favorite text? It is proof positive the gospel works! God spoke these words some 40 years after David had passed away. Despite all David’s failures and frailties, when God remembered David, these words describe what God thought of him.

This gives me great hope. If I, too, will strive to have a humble, repentive heart like David, I can rest assured God also will remember me as a man after His own heart.



Read this interview in its entirety: outlookmag.org/thurber-interview

BUILDING CROSS-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY

WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT

Research compiled in 2008 shows that the future of the Seventh-day Adventist church in North America is being shaped by the graying of the Elder generation (born 1900-1940) and Baby Boomers (1940-1960), as well as the losses of the GenXers (1960-1980) and Millennials (1980-2000).¹

Within a decade or two the older generations will begin to die while, various studies predict, the younger generations will continue to leave. Unless these trends can be reversed, the result will be a church in North America that is greatly reduced in numbers.

Challenges necessitate changes

In the Youth and Young Adult Retention Study, commissioned by the North American Division in conjunction with the Barna Group, researcher David Kinnaman stated that if we as a church wish to keep future generations engaged we have to change the way the conversation is being conducted.

Kinnaman concluded the presentation with a simple question: “Do you care more about your children, or your traditions?” This is a question every generation must address, and every church must consider.²

At best, generations could come to terms with their differences and live in harmony, or at least avoidance of divisive issues. At worst, older generations may feel superior

because their traditions and customs have worked so well. An attitude of “If it isn’t broken, don’t fix it” can lead toward a hard stance on issues, thus creating more conflict.

Younger generations, on the other hand, might see new and better ways of being more efficient or productive. However, this generation may lean toward a new form of arrogance based on being “more relevant” than previous generations. There is the possibility of all of the generations becoming more fixated on “being right” than developing community.

When this matter is understood clearly, there is a greater chance that community can be built. However, true unity will only become possible through employing four solutions: education, tolerance, respect and, most importantly, love.

Education

Each generation has been shaped by the life events they experience, their values, general approaches to religion, beliefs about God, and views of the Bible and Ellen White. The educating of all generations as to the natures of both themselves and the other generations is essential in understanding these differences. Maya Angelou is often quoted as saying, “Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.” As a church, we have an obligation to do better. Not just

for our current church climate, but also for future generations of the church.

Tolerance

One of my professors in college said that “true tolerance is being so aware of what you believe that nothing can shake your core. You become able to discuss openly ideas that may be contrary to your own views or values and yet, no insecurities or oppression will exist.” This type of tolerance is hard to come by these days, but is essential in building an authentic cross-generational community.

Respect

The third solution to the current and future condition of the church is to recognize that all humanity was made in God’s image, and that is a pretty big image. Ellen White noted that “every human being, created in the image of God, is endowed with a power akin to that of the creator—individuality, power to think and do.”³

Because humanity was made in God’s image, everyone is deserving of respect and individuality. A mutual respect and cooperation is essential to authentic generational cooperation in the church. It is only with this cooperation that the church will be able to truly move forward as one body of believers.

“Do you care more about your children, or your traditions?” This is a question every generation must address, and every church must consider.

Love

This leads to the final and most important of all solutions: love. John 13:35 could not be clearer: “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

When the church has love for one another, it will act like it. Respect will flourish, tolerance will bloom, and people will see the Seventh-day Adventist Church and know that we are Christ’s disciples.

Tim Floyd is a pastor in Kansas City, Missouri.

1. Monte Sahlin and Paul Richardson, *Seventh-day Adventists in North America: A Demographic Profile*

2. The Barna Group. *Seventh-day Adventist Millennials: Up or Out?* Youth & Young Adult Retention Study. North American Division. November, 2013

3. Ellen White, *Education*, 17

This article is summarized from research that first appeared in *Spectrum* 2014, V42, Autumn, p 22-32. Download the entire paper, *Generational Approaches to Hermeneutics* (bit.ly/genapproach) and the summary chart (bit.ly/gencomparechart).

PROACTIVE MENTORING IN LOCAL CHURCHES



Kids in the church often feel pressure to attend functions and to be or feel a certain way. Jesus, who created both love and relationships, knew that a relationship should be completely pressure free.

Meeting the kids first

When my husband and I first arrived in Casper, Wyoming he went immediately to meet the kids at church.

Then we sat down and decided what we could do to involve the youth, and we invited them to everything we could. (We didn't sit down *with* the youth to get their input, a mistake often made by church leadership. As much as adults are dissimilar, youth are more so.)

Adolescents and young adults are still changing, so in order to be present for them, to understand their needs, we have to spend time with them.

Starting young

Youth retention needs to start while kids' parents are still

“making” them attend church. If strong relationships aren't formed before church is a choice, it won't matter. Give the kids a reason to come back, in the form of relationships with peers, staff and older members. If there are kids attending academy, make them excited to come back during their breaks. If some attend public school, make them excited to come to church even when they could be in sports. As soon as children develop interests we should try to build relationships connecting through those interests.

Sometimes they just want to be kids

This is an important truth we've learned as a youth ministry couple. Sometimes kids just want to be kids, and not sit quietly in a study or committee meeting. They want to run down a hillside instead of hike on a trail, or babysit (and get paid for it) instead of volunteering to help with Adventurers, or play Capture the Flag in the backyard, and leave

the dinner on the table to get cold.

Oftentimes, in the midst of families involved in church leadership, school and church activities, the “youth” don't get much of a chance to be youth. At the same time, their peers are changing and growing just as fast as they are.

Sometimes they aren't kids

Sometimes church youth are young couples starting families, single moms or broken families. They may be too old for Pathfinders, may not come to Sabbath school, and may have left home at this age.

Jesse Evert is one young woman from Casper with whom we became acquainted over several home leaves and summer breaks from academy and then college. She's seen the youth leave the church, yet she's stayed. Why?

“What separates me from my close friends is not a difference in reverence or strong spirituality. It's a difference of experiences,” says Jesse. “I have fought the urge to sleep in and miss Sabbath school. I've sometimes wanted to watch TV instead of attending communion. I've resisted the urge to check my phone in the middle of song service.”

This is a topic Jesse feels very strongly about because so many people she loves are affected. “We need people in the church to show they care about us inside the doors, and outside, especially during the pre-teen years. When we're too young to have a choice, we need to be shown why we should stay,” she states.

“My friends each have different

experiences, different stories: one stopped coming as an early teen, distracted by friends, her family's non-attendance, and then boys. Now she has a beautiful baby, a job and her own apartment. When I asked her why she left, she said it was because she was afraid of being judged.”

Another of Jesse's friends went to academy, then left school, moved out of her parent's home, and let her boyfriend move in with her. “We all have busy lives outside of church, and church can become routine, then just as easily fade to the backburner,” Jesse observes. “What we need are people to show us during our developmental teen years that our church family cares and loves us.

“We need more than a hug and a ‘Happy Sabbath.’ We need someone to come to when life gets tough. We need to know we are still loved, even through the scars. We need to feel wanted.”

How to stop saying goodbye

The only way to stop them from leaving—to stop us from constantly saying “Goodbye” to our church youth—is to say “Hello” to them, in their language, on their turf.

If they rodeo, watch their competition. If they invite you for pizza and game night, be there! Ask them how they are instead of where they've been. Make them feel at home in their home church.

Show them a relationship like Jesus.

.....
Rachel Ashworth collaborated with Katie and Ethan Pendley of Casper, WY on this article.

HOW TO BUILD LEADERS AMONG AN ABSENT GENERATION

Brenda Dickerson



Kelti Barcelow says her main reason for staying in the church is responsibilities in Pathfinders. She has been a staff member for over three years.

There has been a lot of talk lately about my generation, the millennials, leaving the church in droves. There have been numerous books and studies concerning this problem and what the church can do to dam the flow. If the pattern continues, by the time our current church leaders are retiring there won't be anyone prepared to relieve them. This is certainly a concern for the future of our church.

Societal shifts

Expectations about church involvement and attendance have shifted over the years.

As Adventists we claim to be biblically grounded, not changing on the whims of society. However, for all our bragging we *are* influenced by society. I spent more than a year extensively studying the Medical Cadet Corps and found that Adventists closely followed society in relation to opinions about the government and military service. *Adventists are influenced by society and we are changed by society.*

The same has happened with church attendance. It used to be a cultural expectation for Americans to attend church. The older generations could count on their peers noticing and sometime commenting on any lapses. Adventists and most other Americans attended church regularly, just as mainstream society expected.

Changes in expectations

Now, society has changed. The expectation for regular church attendance has disappeared from mainstream society. My peers and I do not feel as much pressure to regularly attend church. We are reflecting a cultural change in American society. I do not expect my friends to attend church every week and they feel the same way. It is not necessarily a decrease in spirituality that keeps my generation away, but more of a change in expectations.

From spectators to participants

Yet the question remains: What can we do to keep young people in the church? I believe the key to retaining my generation is moving young people from spectators to participants. I became a participant when I served on my first committee at 14.

My father and I were elected to the committee that planned the annual church campout. My specific responsibility was to write and direct short skits to reflect the worship talks given throughout the weekend. The skits turned out well, but the success was not all my own. Nervous and shy about my new responsibilities, I was encouraged by the presence of my father sitting next to me in the committee meetings.

Preventing a void

I believe my personal experience could be replicated on a much larger scale to prevent a leadership void in our church. Young people do not always have the experience needed to be leaders, but there are many in the church who could mentor them. Through involvement and development of leadership skills young people gain a tangible reason to remain involved in the church.

Model for church mentorship program

- 1) Start young. Academy and college aged students are at the perfect stage to begin training for future leadership. They are already looking for reasons to retain their faith and involvement.
- 2) Assign mentors. Any young person being considered by the church nominating committee should either select or be assigned a mentor (relative, close friend or someone experienced in the area of interest).
- 3) Ballots and elections. The young person and mentor should be elected as one person on the ballot. The young person is the official committee selection while the mentor's priority is the development of the young person's abilities and leadership, not the agenda of the committee.

This model is simple and broad but I see in it a method to train and involve young people in the leadership of their local churches. If implemented quickly, perhaps the leadership gap can be avoided as we become participants instead of spectators.

Kelti Barcelow graduated from Union College in December 2014. She and her husband, Travis, are preparing to pursue graduate degrees in architecture and nursing, respectively.

More from this author: Why We Need to Talk About Sex in Church. bit.ly/breakingsextaboo

SUCCESS DEPENDS ON ALL OF US



Photos: Courtesy Maplewood Academy

After 25 years of looking at the mountains of data on faith development in a generation of Adventist young people (Valuegenesis study), V. Bailey Gillespie, chair of the task force, summarized what's been learned:

"Church climate is a huge issue," Gillespie says. "Both the intellectual/thinking and the emotional/warmth climates have to be strong if you want to maintain our youth."

There are two words of advice he gives to parents and grandparents, teachers and pastors. "Love them," he says. "Love the kids. That's the only responsibility we have. The people who model faith guarantee it."

How do we "love them"?

Six ways older Adventists can help younger ones

SHOW THEM how to connect with their world by creating appropriate opportunities instead of being overprotective.

MENTOR THEM in deepening their Christian experiences through in-depth Bible study and real experiences with God.

DISCUSS ways to stay faithful both to their beliefs and their professional callings, especially in science-related industries.

BE RELEVANT while talking and teaching about sexuality.

MODEL acceptance, open-mindedness and respect.

LISTEN to and encourage those who struggle with doubts or commitments.

In his two part article, *Crossing the Generational Divide*,* Seth Pierce states that "the fifth commandment was given to all generations to learn how to share leadership in one community—not kids leaving the old folks in a retirement community or the elderly leaving the young in their online community. "This commandment calls for mentoring, discipleship and trust between generations..."

Pierce goes on to ask questions of each generation: "What happens when the leaders no longer have the strength to lead? Who is being disciplined? Where is the energy, creativity and fresh perspective coming from?"

Six ways young Adventists can build community with older generations

LISTEN to their stories and their assertions. It's all they know. You can honor them (the fifth commandment) by actively listening.

CONNECT. Step out of your virtual world enough to pursue face-to-face relationships with church members and leaders. Take opportunities to pleasantly share your own ideas and experiences.

BE PATIENT with their reluctance to change. They are used to the stability of their traditions and change is not easy for them.

ASSIST

The Academy Student Service Initiative Stipend for Tuition program connects students with elderly community members to "assist" them with light housework, companionship and mentorship. Students participate in this program as their work study assignment to help offset the costs of tuition and to develop a work ethic and relationships with people.

A grant offered from Southern Adventist University covers 80 percent of the costs and schools are required to raise 20 percent. For more information: bit.ly/livingministry

INVEST. Make a steady effort to show up and participate. Volunteer to help with projects. Give financial support on a level commensurate with your income.

FOCUS. Pay attention to what's happening around you. Stick around to finish what you start.

BE REALISTIC. Every generation struggles to understand those before and behind it. Old people are still people. Like you, they were once young, energetic and enthusiastic. And someday, if time lasts, you will be old. So smile and graciously play your role in the cycle of life

Brenda Dickerson is editor of OUTLOOK.

*Seth Pierce. *Crossing the Generational Divide, Part 1.* [gleanernow.com/news/2013/11/crossing-generational-divide-part-1.](http://gleanernow.com/news/2013/11/crossing-generational-divide-part-1)

Central States Conference Celebrates Year of Evangelism

God has called His church to work *with* Him, not just *for* Him. We have a mandate from the Holy Spirit to go and get God's harvest. This is our mission and should be the mission for the entire body of Christ.

2015 Summer Revival with Pastor Bryan Mann of Northside Church in St. Louis and Pastor Carlton Byrd of Breath of Life Ministries began on July 19.

1,000+ in attendance on opening night

Each night averaged 400 attendees; the majority were not Adventist.

Photos: Courtesy Central States Conference



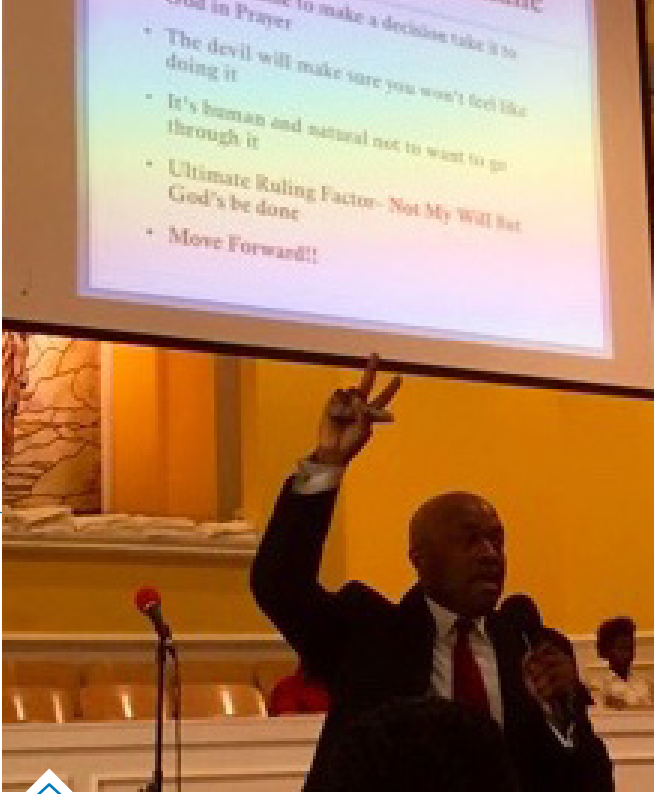
88 baptisms

Five area churches received new members, several resulting from a targeted response lay-mission team visiting 3,000 homes in Ferguson, Missouri.

"We see our connection to our community and how important it is to bring people out of these horrific situations."

—Elder Bryan Mann





Bible Workers who assisted during the evangelistic meeting:

Desiree Bryant, Angela Bryant-Brown, Mary Humphrey, Fred and Samoy Mainda and "The Oakwood 4," David Blay, Jordan Houston, Lens Farreau, Kyle Smith, Pastor Roosevelt Williams

Living in God's Abundance revival event was hosted July 25-Aug. 15 by Linwood and Beacon Light churches in Missouri with Pastor Cryston Josiah and Pastor James White Jr. along with guest speaker G. Alexander Bryant, executive secretary of the North American Division and associate secretary of the General Conference.



Total of 73 new members through baptisms and profession of faith



"Soul winning is the key. God gets the credit!"

—Elder Cryston Josiah

Poster Becomes Billboard in Jamestown

Artist is student at Hillcrest Adventist Elementary

Carla Saylor



Christopher Saylor, pictured with his teacher, RaeLea Frishman, won first place for seventh-graders in the Keep North Dakota Clean annual poster contest.

When **Christopher Saylor**, a seventh-grader at Hillcrest Adventist Elementary in Jamestown, North Dakota, started working on his Keep North Dakota Clean poster in January 2015, it was hard for him to imagine seeing it on a billboard in the middle of town. The theme for seventh-graders was *North Dakota Waters: Keep Them Clean*.

Chris took this theme and ran with it. In his artwork, he shows a team laboring together to clean up litter from the water. It includes a scuba diver, boat

drivers and even fish collecting trash. With its vibrant colors and the theme title in large yellow letters, travelers are sure to notice the message as they drive down First Avenue.

Posters of first place winners at each grade level are displayed on a billboard near their hometown.

Last April Chris attended a special luncheon along with his parents, **Curt and Carla Saylor**; siblings, **Ciarra, Ceyonna, Cephuriah**; and teacher **Mrs. RaeLea Frishman**. It was held at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Washburn, North Dakota, north of Bismarck.

After eating a delicious meal, the first, second and third place winners of each grade were presented with a medallion and monetary prize as well as a special printed copy of their poster. They also had the privilege of meeting **Betsy Dalrymple**, the first lady of North Dakota. She shared words of inspiration with the students and thanked them for their contribution to this worthy cause. Mrs. Dalrymple also took time for a picture with each of the winners and their teachers. As a part of the special day, they received free admission to the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and

Fort Mandan.

Keep North Dakota Clean is an organization whose purpose is to educate and inform North Dakotans about preserving the natural beauty of the state. This organization incorporates several different aspects including preventing wildfires, recycling, protecting wildlife habitats, preventing runoff pollution, and removing litter to increase water quality.

One of the forms of advertising for KNDC is through the annual poster contest. The poster created by the first place winner of each grade is displayed on a billboard near their hometown. This now allows for Chris and his family and friends to celebrate his creative artwork every time they pass by.

RaeLea Frishman teaches grades 5-8 at Hillcrest Adventist Elementary in Jamestown, North Dakota.

Jacquie Biloff



Mandan Church Builds Memorial Garden

Family-oriented church cares about members

Harold Chin



The Mandan Church broke ground last July to create a memorial garden in memory of Martha “Marty” Kautzman, a beloved member of the Mandan Church who wanted to see a prayer garden for parents accompanied by a playground for children. Kautzman died two years ago as the result of an automobile accident.

“Marty was a friendly, loving lady,” said **Ruth Chase**, a charter member of the North Dakota church. “She helped with Vacation Bible School and would send bulletins to missing members. She was good-hearted and cared about kids.”

A large area behind the church provided the perfect location for the prayer garden. Around 30 people contributed to making Marty’s dream a reality, starting with a colored-pencil blueprint drawn by member **Lisa Jahner**, donations of material, and the use of a tractor. Curious neighbors stopped by to ask about the activity and offer encouragement. Kautzman’s family, although not members

of the church, provided memorial funds for the project. The garden will exhibit a plaque in her memory.

While volunteers were working on the project, a steel rod was being driven into the ground by the tractor to break up the soil for the 30-inch holes needed for concrete anchors for the play equipment. At one point, with teams of people working in every corner and some close to the tractor, the rod struck a large rock and broke into three pieces, flying in different directions. We thank God that the debris struck no one!

Eventually interlocking brick will surround the garden with brick walkways, benches, shrubs and flowers throughout. The playground will be mulch-covered and outlined with red brick. Play equipment will include two teeter-totters, half-buried tires, swings, a tower and a slide.

Harold Chin pastors the Mandan Church in North Dakota.

Just Jesus. Conference Focuses on God's Glory

“Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”

The first Just Jesus. Conference, held Aug. 7-9 at Dakota Adventist Academy, was characterized by God’s message of forsaking our comfort in order to come into deeper relationship with Him.

When God commanded Moses to remove his shoes, He was instructing Moses to remove the filthy, dusty form of protection that stood between the two of them; He was instructing Moses to forsake his own means of protection for the sake of embracing the presence of God. In his vulnerability, Moses found his identity and found his calling, and was then able to bring that to the masses.

As participants at the Just Jesus. Conference experienced that Moses-like “holy ground” vulnerability together in the presence of God’s glory, not only was God’s identity revealed, but His calling for His people began to be revealed as well.

Just Jesus. is a ministry on the campuses of North Dakota State University and the University of Jamestown, and is expanding to Bismarck State College and Minot State University. Through Christ’s method alone, Just Jesus. is building relationships in small group settings in order to support and journey with Adventist and non-Adventist students alike.

The ministry’s mission of, “Grounded. Growing. Going.” came to life as each of those points were illuminated, ultimately sending students out filled and empowered to go to the world as image-bearers of Christ.

The conference, geared toward university students and young adults, played a key role in further establishing a structure for public campus ministry in the Dakota Conference. The vision shared between pastors in and outside of the Dakotas was to bring students together to focus on Jesus in all facets of life. The desire is to unite as a family so that, as everyone disperses, all can depart knowing that they have co-laborers who are praying for and supporting them while they are serving as disciples in their own communities and environments.

If you or a friend attend school in the Dakotas, we would love to connect with you. Send us an email at justjesusacm@gmail.com.

Brooke Lietzke graduated from the University of Jamestown with majors in religion-philosophy, and cross-cultural communications. She partners with Just Jesus. ACM, seeking to help students on university campuses in the Dakotas encounter Christ.

Peace Point Chapel Raises Awareness of Special Needs

Service animal dedicated



Peace Point Chapel head elder, James Moore, prepares to pray for Amanda and her service dog Scarlet Jane.

picked up on Amanda's health fluctuations, "grounding" her when her heart begins to race, or calming her during and following a seizure.

These subtle skills were not taught to Scarlet, and it has become clear that God is helping Amanda and Scarlet with this process.

When Amanda asked church elders to dedicate Scarlet it was unknown territory, but head elder **James Moore** researched service animals and their functions before performing the thoughtful prayer service.

Scarlet and Amanda make a great team, and with God's help, Scarlet will be taking care of Amanda for years to come.

Slowly, the Peace Point congregation is taking initiatives to raise awareness of special needs within our churches—one success story at a time.

Rachel Ashworth attends Peace Point Chapel and is a volunteer blogger for OUTLOOK.

Courtesy Rachel Ashworth

This past summer church elders at the Peace Point Chapel in Sikeston, Missouri surrounded and prayed over a young woman and her service animal. **Amanda Shaver**, featured in the May issue of OUTLOOK, recently adopted a dog to serve as her companion after losing her former beloved

pet to an illness.

Amanda was happy to find that a dog trainer nearby works with service animals for free. After six sessions of public access training, the trainer cleared Amanda's service animal, Scarlet Jane, for public access. Scarlet continues to excel in training, but has also

2015 Town Hall Meetings

Meetings will be held at the following churches from 6:30–8:30 p.m. Visit imsda.org/calendar to see the meeting agenda.

Wednesday, Oct 14
Council Bluffs

Thursday, Oct 15
Kansas City Central

Sunday, Oct 18
Springfield

Monday, Oct 19
Rolla

Tuesday, Oct 20
Poplar Bluff

Wednesday, Oct 21
St. Louis Central

Thursday, Oct 22
Sunnydale

Sunday, Oct 25
Des Moines

Monday, Oct 26
Muscatine

Tuesday, Oct 27
Cedar Rapids

VOAD Volunteers Educate Legislators



Photos: Michelle Hansen

Jody Dickhaut, Missouri state director for Adventist Community Services (right) and one of his fellow VOAD committee members (center) meet with a state legislator at the capital.

Representatives from disaster response organizations around Missouri gathered at the state capitol last spring to raise awareness about the ways in which they assist the state government in times of disaster. The name for this collective group of organizations is VOAD, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster. The Missouri VOAD includes Adventist Community Services Disaster Response and many other faith-based and community assistance organizations, as well as state and federal affiliated organizations like FEMA.

Jody Dickhaut, Iowa-Missouri Conference pastor and Missouri state director for Adventist Community Services, also serves as the chair of the Missouri VOAD committee. Dickhaut set up a booth in the capitol rotunda with colorful brochures that explained the ways in which ACS Disaster Response assists communities during a disaster. Then he and reps from other agencies went out in pairs to deliver information packets to state legislators.

The emergency human services planner for the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency, **Aren S. Koenig**, sums up the work that ACS does in disaster relief:

“As an active partner of The Governor’s Faith-Based Community Service Partnership for Disaster Recovery, ACS brings a variety of skills, services and resources to emergency management. Chief among these is the ability to operate a multi-agency donations warehouse. Complementing this capability, ACS will operate distribution centers, which distribute goods to disaster survivors. ACS also is very adept at managing and utilizing spontaneous volunteers. ACS is a valued disaster services partner; the dedication and expertise of their staff and volunteers continue to help Missouri become more prepared for emergencies and disasters.”

.....
Michelle Hansen is communication/Sabbath school director for Iowa-Missouri Conference.

New Accountant Joins Conference Team



The Iowa-Missouri Conference welcomes accountant **Donna Wallace** to its West Des Moines, Iowa office. Donna comes to us from St. Joseph, Missouri to replace **Aron Henninger**, who is now the accountant at Sunnysdale Adventist Academy.

Preparing Food for Earthquake Survivors

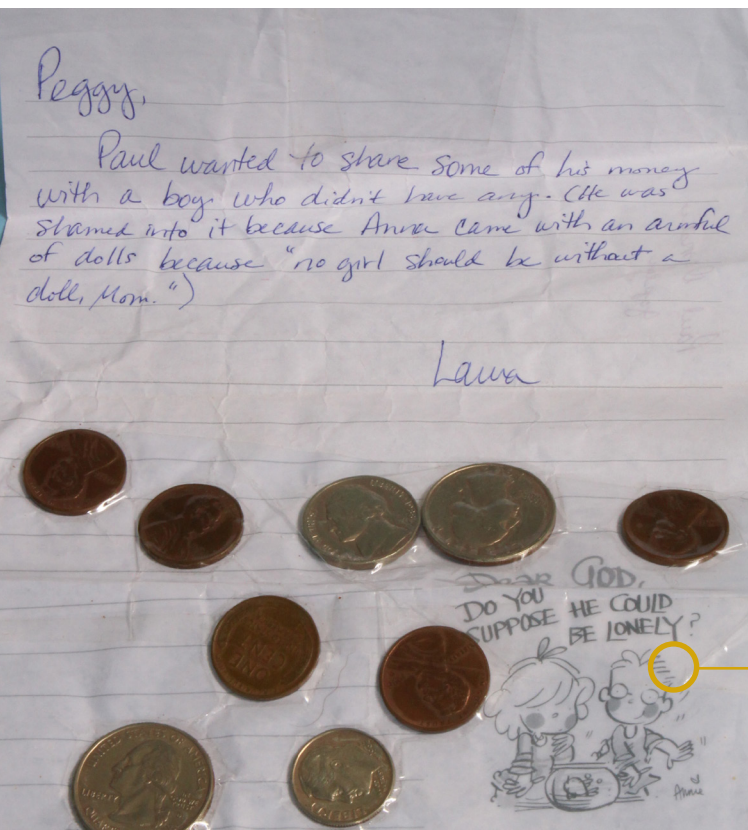
Piedmont Park Church members in Lincoln, Nebraska recently volunteered at a packing event for Kids Against Hunger. In just two hours 18 volunteers, including four children, packed enough food for 6,000 meals that will provide nourishment to earthquake victims in Nepal.

The meals, consisting of rice, dried vegetables, soy crumbles, vitamins/minerals and seasonings, were packed into plastic bags then heat-sealed for shipping. These meals provide complete nutrition, taste good, are soft enough for all ages to eat, and have a shelf life of three years.

Vanessa Schaecher



John Treolo



Everyone Can Assist During Disasters

A young girl named **Anna** wanted to help other little girls during a tornado relief effort near Pittsburg, Kansas. Her brother, **Paul**, wasn't as keen on the idea. Later, however, Paul scotch taped 70 cents from his savings to a paper. The money was given to assist other boys.

Their mother, **Laura**, shared this note with a volunteer named **Peggy**. Former conference disaster response coordinator, **Janice Weeks**, gave the note to current director **John Treolo**.

Pie with Jesus Motivates West Lenexa Members



John Treble

West Lenexa's former Pastor Luke Self breaks ground for the new addition.

On July 31, with 77 members and friends present, the West Lenexa Church broke ground for a facility expansion. Located in a suburb of Kansas City, West Lenexa has a history of coming together to accomplish our mission: Each One Reach One. Our 2020 vision statement, "We are God's family sharing God's everlasting gospel with God's lost children," gives a clear glimpse of who we authentically strive to be.

Then-pastor **Luke Self** said, "We stand here excited about what lies ahead; we think about the many possibilities; the people, the lives that we can touch with this new addition."

Our facility expansion provides new classrooms, a

kitchen, larger fellowship hall, storage, and a food pantry.

The needed building funds were best shown in a pie chart, so we kicked off our PIE with JESUS campaign on March 14 (math nerds, it was 3.14 Pi Day). Members prayerfully considered what piece of this "pie" they could provide.

Naturally, our celebration included pie. Pastor Self took some whipped-cream ones in the face in lighthearted willingness to endure a little discomfort toward our giving goal, while asking us to get out of our comfort zones to facilitate this expansion.

Lisa Ingelse has been a West Lenexa member since 2000.

KS-NE Conference Calendar

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT www.KS-NE.org

- Oct 9-11** : **NAD & MAUC Children's Leadership Conference**
Lincoln, NE
scarlson@ks-ne.org
- Oct 9-11** : **College View Academy Alumni**
Lincoln, NE
rlindbeck@cvak12.org
- Oct 23-25** : **Christian Women's Retreat**
Speaker: Carla Gober-Park
Grand Island, NE
scarlson@ks-ne.org

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Minnesota Hosts Largest African Camp Meeting in Mid-America

Photos: Courtesy Minnesota Conference



On July 19-25 the African Twin Cities camp meeting convened for the largest annual spiritual gathering of Africans in the Mid-American Union that has been held continuously for the past nine years.

Conference president **Justin Lyons** reported to over 1,000 in attendance that the Minnesota Conference Board of Trustees had voted to affirm the activities of the African Twin Cities camp meeting. “I am so glad that you have this ministry here. We, the conference, give support,” Lyons said.

The president then went on to describe the vision of Minnesota Conference and challenged the gathering to participate in a greater mission. He said: “Keep your EYES on eternity—EYES stands for *Evangelism*, (minister to people from all walks of life; help them come to faith in Jesus), encourage the *Youth* to participate in the church and grow in faith, support *Adventist Education* and grow

in *Spirituality*, do *Service* to the community and be faithful *Stewards*.”

While sharing his personal testimony, Lyons described meeting some Seventh-day Adventist young people in a public university. They were happy and walked the faith. They were not perfect, but they

were honest with him. In that relationship they brought him to faith and he fell in love with Christ and accepted salvation by grace. Lyons said that he began to experience healing in his broken life, found power to overcome his past, and today he can honestly say he is at peace and intends to have a life-long relationships with Jesus Christ and His church.

Pastor Brian Mungandi, conference vice president, introduced the main speaker.

Pastor Clifford Nhlapo, president of KwaZulu Natal Free State Conference in South Africa, preached about the amazing grace of God during

a dynamic series designed to apply the Old Testament prophetic words to today’s everyday life. Pastor Nhlapo appealed for everyone to accept Christ’s grace and have an authentic Christian experience.

Many listeners experienced in their hearts how godly sorrow over sin brings repentance that leads to salvation. On Sabbath afternoon we praised the Lord as 18 souls were baptized!

.....
Brian Mungandi is vice president and communication director for the Minnesota Conference.

Pastor Brian Mungandi (right) assists Pastor Clifford Nhlapo in baptizing 18 people during the African camp meeting held at Jefferson High School in Bloomington, Minnesota.



New Teachers Serve Minnesota Conference

Free Blood Pressure Screening for the Community Offered During Camp Meeting

The African Twin Cities camp meeting offered free blood pressure screenings, health counsel and referrals in July as a service geared toward the African immigrant community, who are at high risk of developing hypertension. This is the second consecutive year that blood pressure screening has been provided by church members who are in the medical field.

The planning committee also brings doctors on site to discuss various health issues in easy-to-understand language and in a non-threatening environment. The goal of this education is to raise awareness that leads to improved health in our community.

The Minnesota Conference thanks the African camp meeting planning committee, all churches who have contributed financial support, and every church member who helped for their dedication and Christian spirit of service.



New elementary teachers for 2015-16

Back Row:
Andy Carlson, Chad Dungan,
Christal Matsomuto
Front Row (seated):
Jesmarie Iverson,
Rachelle Nelson,
Devonett Wilson

We are happy to introduce the following new teachers to our school and church communities:

Andy Carlson (Georgia) and **Jesmarie Iverson** (West Virginia) will be teaching grades 1-8 at Minnetonka Christian Academy with **Devonett Wilson** (Minneapolis) serving as a part-time teaching assistant (Bible and Language Arts) in the upper grade classroom.

Christal Matsomuto (Hawaii) will be teaching K-8 at Oak Street Christian School in Brainerd.

Rachelle Nelson (Nebraska) will be opening the new school in Blackberry with six students in Grades K-6. She is a 2015 graduate of Union College.

Chad Dungan (Texas; Tennessee) will be the 5-8 teacher at Capital City Adventist Christian School.

We welcome each of these teachers new to our conference with joy and thanksgiving, praying that the 2015-16 school year will be the best ever!

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

Minnesota Adventist Education Department welcomed several teachers to the conference family at the In-service Training held Aug. 2-5. These teachers were able to meet their colleagues in the natural summer beauty of North Star Camp at Brainerd, Minnesota. Several of these teachers have moved a great distance to come to Minnesota, leaving family and friends behind, but the warm and sunny weather proved irresistible! As one noted on Facebook: “Minnesota is making it really hard for us to hate it!”

Dr. Stuart Tyner immersed both teachers and pastors in

the wonder of God’s grace at both morning and evening worship experiences. While pastors continued their studies with Dr. Tyner, teachers studied enhanced techniques for presenting Reading and Language Arts under the tutelage of **Dr. Krystal Bishop**, head of the Department of Teacher Education at Southern University. Teachers were pleased by Dr. Bishop’s focus on teaching children to embrace the beauty and grandeur of scriptural thoughts. They were also shown the importance and how-to of maintaining rigor in these central classroom disciplines.

Mile High Academy Opens With a Celebration of God's Goodness

Photos: Kelly Waller



Toakase Vunileva (red blouse), principal of Mile High Academy, cuts the ribbon during their Grand Opening ceremony in August.

God, if you want this facility for your kids, you'll have to work out the details," prayed **Toakase Vunileva**, principal of Mile High Academy in Denver, Colorado, as she stood in the parking lot of Colorado Christian School, a facility for sale off the C-470 and University Avenue. That was November 2014.

Nine months later, on August 16, after maneuvering through the buying, renovating and moving processes, the new Mile High Academy held its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony and praise to God.

The ceremony involved representatives from the building committee, Centura Health leadership, Rocky Mountain Conference leadership, the school board, and the graduating class of 2017.

Relatives of Vunileva flew in from Tonga and sang a worship song to the God who has done

great things. Additionally, the MHA choir, under the direction of **Leandro Bizama**, lifted up their voices while representatives gathered to cut the ribbon and a string ensemble comprised of children from Mile High Academy played.

Eric Nelson, vp for administration for RMC, dedicated the building and staff to communicate Jesus to the students and called it a day of "immense gratitude."

Parents, students and other visitors toured the school with its cutting-edge design: study rooms with walls that can be used for writing, stools that move according to the need of the kinesthetic learner, desks that fit together for group projects or move apart to work individually, Smart Boards that remember what is written on them or display information from the internet, and so much more.

Seeing the bank of gray-painted lockers, I pictured myself back in school. How much better would I have done, how much more would I have learned with all these advantages?

Eager students wandered the school, looking excited to see their friends and to start the school year in this new and wonderful place. Never before had they had a bright orange lounging chair that could be used on three sides. Nor had they enjoyed world-class photography on their walls.

As guests walked through the campus, the mood changed from one area to another—serious and worshipful during the opening ceremony, a back-to-school-night feel as parents checked out rooms and talked to teachers, and joyful celebrating with small children riding the train in the parking lot, jumping in the bounce house and eating shaved ice on what turned out to be a hot day.

When MHA entered the scene as an interested party

in purchasing the property, another private school was already in the buying process. Douglas County had announced that they were acquiring it and Highlands Ranch had declared a moratorium on any more private schools. Vunileva's prayer was answered in miraculous ways.

Even though the details involving a move to a new location were on Vunileva's mind since last January, it was August 10 when the MHA staff began moving in to the elementary section of the building. Transferring more than 60 years' worth of items from the "old" school and into the "new" school was a huge undertaking. Luckily, the staff didn't have to do it alone.

Don Reeder, principal of Champion Academy in Loveland, Colorado, brought his staff down to help on Tuesday. Reeder said that Champion's staff "were in a push to get ready for school to start, but they figured that Mile High's push was greater."

The rivalry between the two academies has, at times, been

Numerous miracles made it possible.



Campion Academy Works to Keep Young People in Church

fierce, but MHA and CA put that aside and had fun working together as a team.

Throughout the day the teachers shared more than just labor. During lunch there was discussion of having the two schools work together on community service projects and social activities. It was made clear, however, that the goodwill between the schools would be put aside during the famed CA/MHA basketball games!

Vunileva was emotional as she thanked Reeder and the entire Campion delegation. “It means so much to us that you would take a day out of your prep time and come help us. I look forward to a time that we can repay the favor and help you,” she said.

“It was really great to have both schools working together,” said **Amy Rasco**, MHA alumnus and parent of a current MHA seventh-grader. “Having Campion here today has made a big difference.”

While MHA and its leaders can list numerous miracles that made it possible to arrive at its Grand Opening, the students and their parents and guardians can complete the story with their own, personal experiences leading to Adventist education at MHA.

Mile High Academy is one of four academies in the Rocky Mountain Conference and is among 109 in the North American Division. As of this writing, MHA’s enrollment is 197.

.....
Carol Bolden is communication assistant for the Rocky Mountain Conference.



Remington Hill (above) and Chezney Barry are helping students focus on building relationships with Jesus.

Campion Academy began the school year with a new spiritual program intended to make students an integral part of local churches now. This program is the result of ongoing visioning by Campion’s chaplain **Nick Clark**, other teachers, Campion church pastors, and students who were tasked with analyzing and improving the current program.

Remington Hill, a sophomore at Campion who sat on the committee, explained, “Our goal was to make sure kids were building a relationship with Jesus while they were at Campion.”

Campion has not been immune to the nationwide trend of dipping enrollment (though the 2015 numbers are slightly above last academic year with 135 registered students), but neither are they passively waiting for change. **Principal Don Reeder** stated, “We’ve been given the opportunity to question why we exist. We’ve reminded ourselves that we’re here to support the

If we don’t train them, who will?



mission of the church.”

In turn, Campion Church, located on the school campus, is ready to support the academy. Lead pastor **Micheal Goetz** believes that a campus church is a training church. When students graduate and spread out across the churches, they will be prepared for service and leadership. “If we don’t train them, who will? And if we don’t do it now, then when will be the better time?”

To get students to watch less and participate more, Campion’s Bible teachers are intentionally including real-world experience in their curriculums. Freshman Bible class focuses on introducing students to Jesus and His character, and the following years add responsibility as students are trained to give their testimonies, serve as junior deacons and deaconesses, give Bible studies and preach.

Senior **Chezney Barry**, student chaplain, said, “It’s good to have

speakers talk, but when you have small groups it helps students engage more. We’re going to choose student leaders who will lead Bible studies for Sabbath school. We want to get kids more involved spiritually.”

Other leadership opportunities include SWAT teams (Students With A Testimony), who for the past two years have led worship services at other churches. In addition, midweek programming includes Sparks, a joint worship service for the guys’ and girls’ dorms, and Fusion, small groups designed to put faith into action.

Since the spiritual program is a priority, Campion has taken a bold step in blocking out Wednesday evenings for spiritual growth, a decision that doesn’t sit well with some students involved in sports. With no games or practices scheduled, student athletes are worried their team performance will suffer. Barry, a dedicated athlete, thinks God is pushing students out of their spiritual comfort zones. “It’s a huge sacrifice because sports mean so much to people,” she said. “I prayed about it a lot, and I began to realize how I need to be able to set aside time for spirituality.”

Campion believes their plan will not only encourage authentic Christianity in their students, but also lead to lifelong commitment as community and church members.

.....
Jenny Sigler is a member of the Campion Church.

The Chief of Change

Union College creates a position to develop new programs

Photos: Courtesy Union College



After 13 years in the classroom, Michelle Velazquez Mesnard has taken on the role of associate vice president for academic initiatives at Union College, a newly-created position responsible for developing new academic degree programs for the campus.

To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.”
—Winston Churchill

For **Michelle Velazquez Mesnard**, change is her job. This summer Mesnard was appointed to a newly-created position: associate vice president for academic initiatives. While her new job will involve supporting academic and faculty development at Union College, her primary role will be change.

“Union College’s strategic plan calls for the school to add at least two new programs in the next five years,” explained **Vinita Sauder**, president of Union College. “We believe this should be a priority because it will not only draw more students to Union, but will strengthen the already excellent academic experience we provide for our current students.”

The college found the right candidate for this position just a

couple of floors up in the Everett Dick Administration Building. Michelle Mesnard, who has been an associate professor of communication at Union for 13 years, and most recently chair of the Division of Humanities, saw this new position as a great opportunity to use her skill and follow her passion.

“Last year, when **Dr. George Gibson** retired, I realized I enjoy developing programs for our campus,” said Mesnard of the search to replace the longtime history and economics professor. “We were in that process of searching for that right person to fill Dr. Gibson’s role. We ended up with **Christopher Banks**. He brought an expertise and a major to our campus that we’d never had before—International Relations. The experience of hiring him, working with him, and developing a new program was so much fun for me.”

What’s next for Union?

To create new majors, Mesnard will look at a variety of factors. “I will be doing a lot of research to see if it’s the right choice,” she explained. “Is this the perfect fit for Union College? Does it fit our culture? Does it fit the marketplace right now? Is it what the marketplace will demand when students graduate?”

And at the moment, the demands of the marketplace seem to be centered in health sciences, where Union already has two successful programs—nursing and physician assistant studies. “I would not be surprised if that’s the direction we go. Health Sciences is one of the biggest markets demanding employees right now, so it’s big for us.”

The basics of this process, said Mesnard, will include making a case for the program, market analysis, budget analysis, curriculum development, and identifying accreditation requirements. Union is also exploring partnerships with other colleges to create new programs on campus.

Following a calling

A longtime champion of helping students discover their own God-given calling, Mesnard has seen Him lead her career in preparation for this moment, just as she has coached and encouraged so many students to do the same.

A graduate of Pacific Union College, Mesnard got her start working in the public relations department after graduation. “I worked for a wonderful man named **Malcolm Maxwell**,”

Mesnard said of then PUC president. “He was great to work with because he understood the importance of public relations. And I remember him saying on several occasions, ‘Michelle, you need to be teaching.’”

Mesnard then decided to earn a master’s degree in public relations from Golden Gate University in San Francisco and was ready when Union ultimately came to her looking for a communications professor.

“Really, public relations is about problem and opportunity solving,” she explained. “So in some ways, I see designing new programs and developing PR campaigns as similar. There are differences, but there’s research involved with both—you put together strategies on how to develop the program and you evaluate your program, just like you do in a campaign. Communication and relationships are important to the process.”

“We are thankful for Michelle Mesnard’s passion for creating new programs, and we know her experience makes her well suited to help Union continue to add to our wide array of degree programs,” said Sauder. “We want every Adventist student to have access to an Adventist education, and more degree offerings means we will be able to meet the needs of even more students.”

To learn more about Union College’s academic offerings, visit www.ucollege.edu/academics.

Kaylin Thurber is a Union College student writer.

IRR Majors Find a Calling in War-torn Ukraine



Union College graduates Andrew and Kelila Saunders are putting their International Rescue and Relief majors to work by helping to provide relief and development assistance for 1.2 million refugees.

Frightened families huddle together trying to keep warm despite tattered and journey-worn clothing. Any loud noise—even a honking car horn—makes them jump as if bombs are falling. These Ukrainians are just looking for a safe place to stay, and **Andrew and Kelila Saunders**, both Union College International Rescue and Relief graduates, are putting their degrees to work by helping to provide for the 1.2 million refugees displaced from their homes because of the ongoing conflict.

“The job of helping these people is very stressful but the benefits of seeing the smiles on their faces and catching a glimpse of the difference we helped make is extremely rewarding,” said Andrew. “We are privileged to experience a new culture and attempt to learn a new language.”

The couple work for the Canadian Branch of Adventist

Development and Relief Agency, the global humanitarian organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They deliver relief and development assistance to individuals in more than 130 countries regardless of their religious association or political affiliation, and work to improve the quality of life through nine impact areas.

Andrew is currently working with victims suffering from PTSD. “The project focuses on those in need of financial support and counseling for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder,” said Andrew, “Because of the war, there are many people under high stress from leaving their homes, not having work, and not knowing how to take care of their families. Not to mention many have seen terrible things in the artillery shelling and destruction of their homes.”

Kelila works to fund the projects. “I am managing a \$1.6 million project provided

by the Canadian Government’s International Humanitarian Affairs department,” she explained. “Our project works to find [the displaced people] and provide them with emergency cash that can be used to purchase any immediate need the family has, such as food and water, clothing, bedding, apartment rent and so on.”

It all leads up to this

For the couple, a lifetime of experiences and training has prepared them for this daunting task. “I feel that my previous exposure to mission work and development prepared me well for the experience,” said Andrew. But he discovered mission work is not all navigating destroyed streets and thick jungles like he trained for while earning an IRR degree. Now he often spends quite a bit of time in an office doing administrative work.

Kelila studied IRR at Union because she felt called to mission work. “Working with ADRA is everything I imagined,” she said. “I have been working toward this job for years, through theory in the classroom, in internships, in volunteer positions, and now finally in a paid, full-time management position.”

Most IRR majors choose this unique degree program because they want to serve people—in the medical field, as public safety officers, as emergency medical personnel or as disaster responders—no matter the conditions. Students are subjected to rigorous academic coursework as well as field

training in disaster response and search and rescue. Each graduate also spends a semester doing medical work and jungle survival training in Central America.

Andrew arrived at Union planning to become a mission doctor, so IRR seemed to be the perfect fit. After graduating from Union, he decided to begin a master’s degree in International Development Administration from Andrews University. Kelila is also working on a master’s in International Development Administration from Andrews. “One thing I have learned since college is the importance of networking,” she said. “It wasn’t until I decided I wasn’t afraid of putting myself out there and taking a few unpaid internships that I managed to land the job I’ve been dreaming of for years.”

The two also developed a passion for each other at Union, and together have built a life where they can be together, serve God and do something they love. “At Union, I learned to adapt and go where God wants me to be,” Andrew said. “He has led in crazy ways over the last five years and I am excited to see where He leads in the future.”

Kelila pointed out that when it comes to disaster and emergency response, there is never any certainty. “I may not know what country I’ll be in or what organization I’ll be working for, but I do know that in five years I’ll be exactly where God has called me to be.”

Megan Wehling is a Union College student writer.

Shawnee Mission Health Launches Living In Vitality Program

Deepens commitment to women's health



By hosting the annual Speaking of Women's Health conference each October for the past 17 years, Shawnee Mission Health has shown its dedication to improving the health and well being of women in Kansas City.

After a highly successful, sold-out event in 2014, SMH is expanding its focus on women's health by introducing a new name for the program: Living in Vitality or LIV. While all the things women love about Speaking of Women's Health will remain, the new program will encourage women of all ages to enhance their well being through many monthly activities relating to nutrition, exercise, stress management, emotional and mental wellness and financial fitness.

"LIV represents a new approach to women's health that focuses on more than the absence of disease, but rather a process of becoming aware and making choices toward a healthy and fulfilling life," said **Robin Patykiewicz**, LIV

program director. "Through our uplifting and educational annual conference and wellness activities, LIV will empower Kansas City women to live healthier lives physically, mentally and spiritually."

Although the name has changed to LIV, the program will continue to feature top local and national speakers and offer health screenings such as bone density, blood pressure, cholesterol, posture and balance, and vision, as well as provide bra fittings, hands-on CPR and seasonal flu shots.

Seven years ago while attending the conference, Patykiewicz discovered she had elevated blood pressure and high cholesterol. She has since personally experienced how the event can spark positive life changes.

"I decided to take action by seeing my doctor for a full physical, joining Jazzercise and taking nutrition classes to start on a healthier eating path," said Patykiewicz. "As a result, I lost nearly 30 pounds, controlled

my blood pressure and began managing my cholesterol."

Although the annual conference is a good starting point for many women to get their health on track, it's equally important to form healthy habits that will last the entire year. To help women meet their year-round health goals, LIV offers monthly programs and classes on topics such as financial planning, cooking, gardening and networking as well as a women's 5K training team.

Designed to reduce cardiovascular disease, Take Time to LIV is another new component of the program that

commitment to women's health but also supports its mission of Improving Health Through Christian Service.

For example, the LIV dental fund was established to assist women in the Kansas City community who need front tooth repair and have minimal resources to cover the procedure cost. LIV also supports the Virginia Stowers Breast Cancer Fund, which provides free mammograms to uninsured women; Camp Bluebird, a retreat for adult cancer patients; and Tess's Touch, an organization that provides resources for new moms.



Living in Vitality

Empowering women for life.

features 10-months of wellness training. Take Time to LIV provides selected women who are at risk for heart disease with the tools needed to improve their health such as screenings, one-on-one consultations with health professionals, a gym membership with personal training sessions, nutritional classes and a Garmin vivosmart fitness tracker.

With its many offerings, LIV not only strengthens SMH's

"Our mission is to improve the health of the community," said **Ken Bacon**, SMH's president and CEO. "This program is just one way we do that. LIV will allow us to further impact the health of Kansas City women."

To learn more about LIV, visit ShawneeMission.org/LIV.

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Jackie Woods writes for Shawnee Mission Health.

New CEO for Parker Adventist Hospital



Sam Huenergardt comes to Parker Adventist Hospital with his wife, Melissa (Hartman), who grew up in Lincoln, Nebraska, and their two children, Christian (9) and Chloe (7).

Sam D. Huenergardt, who has deep roots in Denver and the Mid-America Union, was recently named Chief Executive Officer of Centura's Parker Adventist Hospital on the southeast side of Denver. Although Sam is new to the Denver cluster of hospitals, he is no stranger to Adventist Health System and its mission, "Extending the healing ministry of Christ."

Sam enjoyed growing up in a traditional Adventist home in the small town of Kimble, Nebraska (pop. 2,573). His father, an attorney, served as religious liberty counsel for the Mid-America Union, and Sam enjoyed the family's frequent visits from Adventist dignitaries. He fondly recalls **Gordon Retzer**, now retired president of the Southern Union, playing the piano in their living room.

Huenergardt attended an Adventist elementary school in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and grew up working on farms where he gained a strong work ethic that has served him well. He attended Platte Valley Academy like his grandmother and great-grandfather, who graduated in 1923 with PVA's first graduating class. He is a fourth-generation (on both sides of his family) graduate from Union College, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration. Later he completed an MBA from Baker University in Overland Park, Kansas.

During his sophomore year at Union, a presentation by **Jim Gravell**, then Chief Financial Officer of Hinsdale Adventist Hospital in Illinois, deeply influenced Huenergardt. Gravell shared the need for strong

leaders in Adventist hospitals, a concept that immediately took root in Sam's heart. He spoke with Gravell afterward, started dreaming of working in Adventist healthcare, and eventually landed an internship at Hinsdale the following summer. Since then he has enjoyed more than 15 years of progressive leadership at seven different hospitals within the Adventist Health System, including Florida Hospital in Orlando, Parkridge Hospital in North Carolina, and Shawnee Mission Hospital in Kansas.

Huenergardt's most recent post was as CEO of Central Texas Medical Center in San Marcos, Texas. Prior to that, he served for five years as the CEO and CFO of Gordon Hospital in Calhoun, Georgia.

"Coming to the Denver area seems a bit like coming home," he says. "My grandmother, **Dorothy Huenergardt**, worked at Porter Adventist Hospital with [Porter Adventist Hospital president] **Morre Dean's** mother."

Dean had the privilege of presenting Huenergardt as Parker's incoming CEO, saying, "Sam's ability to build relationships and influence people in a positive way were key attributes that distinguished him as he met with physicians, associates and board members of Parker Adventist Hospital. His focus on team dynamics while valuing each individual was evident during his visits to Parker. In addition, he has a passion for community relationships that will translate well into our existing partnerships, as well as our great community."

Huenergardt is grateful for the opportunity to serve at the

beautiful facility in Parker. "We have 1,100 employees working in our halls," he says. "A small percentage of them are Seventh-day Adventist, but 100 percent of them carry the mission."

The hospital opened its doors in 2004, and has since been in a constant building phase. "There have only been three months when it hasn't been under construction," Huenergardt shares. "They've been in high-growth mode since the very beginning, adding new services and modalities to improve the care we provide our community. We need to keep our feet on the gas."

Sam is quick to explain, however, that it's the mission, not the building, that sets Parker apart. "Centura has taken a big leap forward with population health. We have to keep moving forward. We have to find ways to keep people healthy rather than just treat them when they are sick. Our mission statement is profound. It guides what we do. We live the mission statement. It's not just something printed on a boardroom wall; it comes up in our daily conversations."

This article was submitted by Stephen King, senior vice president for the Rocky Mountain Adventist Health/Centura Health, where he serves the five Adventist hospital campuses in Colorado. It was written by Mark Bond.

Photos: Courtesy AHS



FAREWELL

Arnold, James, b. Aug. 29, 1946 in Topeka, KS. d. Jan. 1, 2015 in Hudson, CO. Member of Fort Lupton Church.

Belt, Philip, b. Dec. 12, 1931 in Cortez, CO. d. June 26, 2015 in Cortez, CO. Member of Cortez Church. Preceded in death by wife Doris; daughter Penny Piersall; 1 sister. Survivors include daughters Phyllis Ferdinando and Francine Parker; son Kevin; 3 sisters; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Birdnow, Juanita S., b. Aug. 17, 1946. d. May 29, 2015. Preceded in death by parents; 1 brother. Survivors include husband Tom; 3 sisters.

Bronsert, Neal, b. May 28, 1949. d. Feb. 2, 2015. Member of Campion Church.

Buckler, Sarah R., b. Feb. 24, 1927. d. Sept. 2, 2014. Member of Sterling Church. Preceded in death by husband Clair; 2 siblings; 3 grandchildren. Survivors include daughters Janell Ruf, Marjorie Prickett and Sharon Karg; sons Wilbur, Darrell and Roger; 1 sister; 14 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren.

Byers, Bonnie A., b. Nov. 20, 1916 in Battles, AR. d. Dec. 15, 2014 in Murray, UT. Member of Rock Springs Church. Preceded in death by husband Glen; daughter Penny Jokel; 3 siblings; 1 grandson. Survivors include son Gary; 2 grandsons; 1 great-grandson.

Capler, Mardell M., b. Sept. 2, 1923. d. May 30, 2015. Member of Gordon (NE) Church.

Catledge, Lowell, b. Apr. 9, 1922. d. Mar. 18, 2015. Member of Gordon (NE) Church.

Chapman, Gerald A., b. Aug. 13, 1947. d. Jan. 31, 2015. Member of Denver South English Church. Survivors include wife Patricia; daughter Jenifer Bishop; son Patrick; mother; 1 brother; 3 grandchildren.

Chelf, Verla, b. Nov. 30, 1919 in Muscatine, IA. d. Apr. 3, 2015 in Muscatine, IA. Member of Muscatine Church. Preceded in death by husband Chester "Gene"; 1 brother. Survivors include daughter Jule Satterfield; son Tim; 2 grandchildren.

Christensen, Steven, b. Jan. 9, 1956 in Luverne, MN. d. July 27, 2015 in Holland, MN. Member of Sioux Falls (SD) Church. Preceded in death by father; 1 sister. Survivors include wife Lydia; daughter Melanie; son Seth; mother; 3 siblings.

Davis, Ruth B., b. June 20, 1927 in Montoursville, PA. d. Mar. 8, 2015 in Harrisburg, PA. Member of Colorado Springs Central Church. Survivors include daughters Donna Marzolf and Patricia Beardsley; son Thomas; 1 sister; 5 grandchildren; 3 step-grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; 5 step-great-grandchildren.

Deen, Wanda, b. May 30, 1927 in Campbell, MO. d. Dec. 27, 2014 in Malden, MO. Member of Poplar Bluff (MO) Church. Preceded in death by 1 sister; 1 great-granddaughter. Survivors include daughters Sharron Hellums, Pat Skeen, Debbie Mays and Cindy Earnheart; 1 brother; 9 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.

Eldenburg, Charlotte, b. Aug. 15, 1934 in Payette, ID. d. Apr. 20, 2015 in Sedalia, MO. Member of Sedalia Church. Preceded in death by 2 sisters. Survivors include husband Donald; sons Steven, Larry and Curtis; 2 sisters; 10 grandchildren.

Geiger, Georgia, b. Sept. 8, 1941 in Amana, IA. d. Apr. 17, 2015 in West Amana, IA. Member of Muscatine Church. Preceded in death by husband Charles. Survivors include daughter Liese Vanderbroek; son Kurt; 1 half-sister.

Gonzalez, Antonia, b. July 5, 1949. d. June 24, 2015 in Pueblo, CO. Member of Pueblo First Church. Survivors include husband Osvaldo; children Ricky, Susan, Maria and Denise; 3 sisters; 13 grandchildren.

Gower, Frances, b. Nov. 25, 1932 in Chaonia, MO. d. Jan. 4, 2015 in Poplar Bluff, MO. Member of Poplar Bluff Church. Preceded in death by 4 siblings. Survivors include daughters Carol Gaines, Cheryl Williams and Teresa Simpson; son Rickey; 2 siblings; 9 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.

Graham, Roger, b. July 25, 1935 in Welcome, MN. d. June 14, 2015

in Guttenberg, IA. Member of Dubuque Church. Preceded in death by 1 sister. Survivors include wife Lily; daughter Debbie; son Steve; 3 siblings; 4 grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren. Served in the Navy before pastoring in the IA-MO Conference for 14 years.

Green, Thomas A. Jr., b. June 1, 1927. d. Mar. 14, 2015. Member of Denver South Church.

Gresham, Zella, b. May 29, 1930 in Sweet Springs, MO. d. June 22, 2015 in Fort Worth, TX. Member of Sedalia (MO) Church. Preceded in death by daughter Sandra; son Ronnie; 4 siblings. Survivors include daughters Linda Lockhart, Tonya Willis, Cheryl Lehmeier and Julie Strieth; sons Joe and Danny; 27 grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; numerous great-great-grandchildren.

Hallock, Warren W., b. Dec. 25, 1928 in Traer, KS. d. July 30, 2015 in Shawnee, KS. Member of Chapel Oaks Church. Preceded in death by wife Clara Mae. Survivors include sons Duane and Gary; 5 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren. Adventist educator for 40 years in Texas, Iowa, Colorado and Missouri.

Hamilton, Jean, b. Jan. 1, 1948. d. June 2, 2014. Member of Omaha Memorial Church.

Hansen, Kenneth, b. Oct. 12, 1945. d. Apr. 9, 2015. Preceded in death by 2 brothers. Survivors include 3 siblings.

Hansen Sarah "Sally", b. Dec. 4, 1928 in Nevada, IA. d. May 28, 2015 in Nevada, IA. Member of Nevada Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include husband Ivan; daughter Yvonne Losey; sons Eugene and Delvin; 7 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

Harris, Charlotte R., b. Apr. 26, 1926 in Casper, WY. d. Apr. 19, 2013 in Cañon City, CO. Member of Cañon City Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include sons Joe, Steve and Mark; 2 sisters; 5 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.

Heitzmann, Clarence, b. Feb. 18, 1927 in McClusky, ND. d. June 9, 2015 in McClusky, ND. Member of McClusky Church. Preceded in death

by wife Alvina; 6 siblings. Survivors include daughters Ivana Meacham and Lila Anderson; son Neal; 2 sisters; 4 grandchildren.

Herbert, Holly "Olive," b. Mar. 26, 1925; d. Apr. 17, 2015 in Waukee, IA. Member of Des Moines Church.

Hewitt, Joan, b. Nov. 24, 1948. d. May 29, 2015. Member of Rapid City (SD) Church. Survivors include husband Douglas; daughter Kristal DeJong; son Dale.

Higgins, Gary D., b. Mar. 25, 1943 in ID. d. Jan. 24, 2015 in Penrose, CO. Member of Pueblo First Church. Survivors include wife Elaine; daughters Pam and April; sons Tad and Shane; 2 siblings; 9 grandchildren.

Hill, Katrina R., d. Jan. 3, 2015. Member of Cicero (IN) Church, currently attending Wichita South Church. Survivors include husband John; sons Zach and Braden.

Homer, Rolland J., b. Aug. 20, 1924. d. Jan. 17, 2015. Member of Omaha Memorial Church. Preceded in death by wife Donna. Survivors include children Greg Homer, Lisa Homer and Jill Luke; 2 sisters; 2 grandchildren.

Horner, Suzanne, b. Aug. 25, 1961 in St. Louis, MO. d. July 6, 2014 in Bourbon, MO. Member of Sullivan Church. Preceded in death by first husband Dale Robinson; father; 3 siblings. Survivors include husband Charles Horner Jr.; daughters Karrie Klien, Dana Agler, Darla Lombard and Diane Weigley; mother; 3 grandsons.

Howard, Virginia J., b. July 13, 1926 in Judith Gap, MT. d. Apr. 1, 2015 in Johnstown, CO. Member of Campion Church. Preceded in death by husband Edgar; 5 siblings; 1 grandson. Survivors include daughters Carolyn Colvin, Debby Worley and Catherine Hoosier; son Paul; 1 sister; 6 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Hubert, Jess Jr., b. Jan. 10, 1952 in Steelville, MO. d. Apr. 29, 2015 in Rolla, MO. Member of Rolla Church. Preceded in death by wife Donna; daughter Angela; son Robert; 1 brother. Survivors include daughters Dorothy, Sara and Melissa; son Jess III; 2 sisters; 2 grandchildren.

Jones, Stanley, b. Dec. 26, 1940 in MN. d. Apr. 14, 2015 in Sioux City, IA. Member of Sioux City Church. Preceded in death by wife Deanna. Survivors include daughters Barbara, Kathy and Lisa; 1 brother.

Lackey, Floyd M. Sr., b. May 24, 1936 in Wells, MN. d. June 24, 2015 in Wells, MN. Member of Albert Lea Church. Preceded in death by wife Mildred; 3 siblings; 1 granddaughter. Survivors include children Floyd Jr., Lori Swehla, Richard, Aletha Ortiz and Michelle Lacher; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Served in the U.S. Army.

Lambert, David, b. Apr. 18, 1961. d. June 21, 2015. Member of Fruita Church. Survivors include wife Cindy; sons Chad Roberts, Jeff Lambert and David Lambert; parents; 6 siblings; 7 grandchildren.

LeBard, Phyllis P., b. June 20, 1926. d. June 27, 2015. Charter member of Minnetonka Church. Preceded in death by husband Ned. Survivors include daughter Denice; son Scott; 3 grandchildren.

***Lorenz, Lillie**, b. Oct. 9, 1928 in Rulison, CO. d. Apr. 15, 2015 in Greeley, CO. Member of Brighton Church. Preceded in death by husband Virgil; son DeNeal; 9 siblings. Survivors include daughters DeeAnn Buller and Dawn Tohm; son Douglas; 9 grandchildren.

Luthringer, Bill, b. May 13, 1926 in Akron, OH. d. June 16, 2015 in Simi Valley, CA. Member of Waynesville (MO) Church. Preceded in death by son David; 2 siblings. Survivors include wife Millie; daughters Dianna Estep and Vickie Lemasters; 8 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; 8 great-great grandchildren.

Marshall, Russel L., b. June 13, 1931 in NE. d. Jan. 20, 2015 in Aurora, CO. Member of Burlington Church.

McCrary, Jeffrey T., b. June 22, 1993. d. June 26, 2015 in Watertown, SD. Member of Watertown Church. Preceded in death by 2 grandfathers; Survivors include parents Frankie and Darla; 1 sister; 2 grandmothers.

McLean, Wilma, b. Oct. 30, 1933 in Iowa City, IA. d. Apr. 16, 2015 in

Fenton, MO. Member of Springfield Church. Preceded in death by husband Richard; 5 sisters. Survivors include children Terry and Henry Surls; Edward Dean and Pamela Fender; Darrell Fender; Douglas and Theresa Fender; and Craig and Gina Fender; 25 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren.

Milano, Esther, b. July 6, 1933. d. May 19, 2015 in Athens, GA. Member of Fruita Church.

Miller, Dale W., b. Aug. 9, 1928 in Alhambra, CA. d. May 17, 2015 in Olathe, KS. Member of Chapel Oaks Church. Survivors include wife Wanda; daughters Tina Kinsey and Gayle Culpepper; 3 brothers; 4 grandchildren. Served in US Army for 4 years.

Miller, Tim, b. Nov. 10, 1968 in Colorado Springs, CO. d. June 19, 2015 in Colorado Springs, CO. Member of Colorado Springs Central Church. Survivors include wife Connie; children Amanda Sullivan, Tyler Miller and Cayci Miller; parents; grandfather; 4 siblings; 2 grandchildren.

Montez, Viola, b. Nov. 7, 1944 in Walsenburg, CO. d. Apr. 22, 2015 in Pueblo, CO. Member of Pueblo First Church. Preceded in death by husband Fred; 2 sisters. Survivors include daughter Rachael Plazola; sons William, Louis, Steve and David; 6 siblings; 16 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

Morse, Charlie, b. Oct. 11, 1929 in Kansas City, MO. d. May 30, 2015 in West Burlington, IA. Member of Fort Madison Church. Survivors include wife Ester; daughters Charlotte Fraise, Rebecca Leffler, Linda King, Rose Bohenkamp and Shelia Morse; son Steven; 11 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren. Served in the Army during the Korean War.

Obrigewitch, Esther, b. Dec. 4, 1928 in Dunn Center, ND. d. Mar. 6, 2015 in Beulah, ND. Member of Beulah Church. Preceded in death by husband Pius; 4 siblings.

Peoples, Glen A., b. Apr. 18, 1961. d. June 17, 2015. Member of Colorado Springs Central Church.

Quarterman, Al, b. Sept. 4, 1930 in McIntosh, GA. d. June 28, 2015 in

Cedar Rapids, IA. Member of Cedar Rapids Church. Preceded in death by wife Irene; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughters Joyce Quarterman and Theresa Collier; son Oneimus; 13 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Renner, Lucy, b. Feb. 2, 1932 in Burton, KS. d. Mar. 28, 2015 in Waterloo, IA. Member of Waterloo Church. Preceded in death by husband Russell; sons Terry and Russell; 1 sister. Survivors include daughters LouAnn Culver and Ruth Renner; sons Jeffrey and Edward; 9 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren.

Robidoux, Albert V., b. Sept. 4, 1927. d. Apr. 1, 2015 in Slater, WY. Member of Rawlins Church. Survivors include wife Evelyn.

Rodewald, LaVern A., b. Mar. 25, 1939 in Ellsworth, WI. d. June 26, 2015 in Northwood, ND. Member of Grand Forks Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include wife Pamela; daughters Danita and Alicia; 4 sisters.

Schluenz, Dennis, b. Sept. 18, 1947 in Davenport, IA. d. Mar. 16, 2015 in Davenport, IA. Member of Davenport Church. Preceded in death by son Denny Jr. Survivors include wife Charlotte; daughters Susan Harmon and Celena Veal; 3 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Seal, Verna H., b. Dec. 30, 1932 in Oak Creek/McCoy, CO. d. May 15, 2015 in Glade Park, CO. Member of Fruita Church. Preceded in death by husband; 2 sisters. Survivors include daughter Royce Mosher; sons Steven, Larry and Gary; 1 sister; 10 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Sponholtz, David, b. July 14 1951 in DC. d. Mar. 15, 2015 in Springfield, MO. Member of Springfield Church. Survivors include wife Patsy; stepdaughter Rachel Vaughn; sons Eric and Caleb; mother; 6 siblings.

Sudds, Phyllis, b. Oct. 31, 1923. d. Aug. 11, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Preceded in death by husband Delbert.

Sulzer, Angie K., b. Aug. 11, 1975 in St Paul, MN. d. June 3, 2015 in Sioux Falls, SD. Member of Aberdeen Church. Survivors include husband

Matthew; daughter Eva Town; parents; 2 siblings.

Szczygiel, Nancy, b. June 29, 1965. d. Feb. 22, 2015. Member of Colorado Springs Central Church. Survivors include husband Allen; son Josh; mother.

Tachenko, Alma, b. Dec. 5, 1928. d. June 9, 2015. Member of Grassy Butte (ND) Church. Preceded in death by husband Joe; 10 siblings. Survivors include sons Rodney and Terry; 3 siblings.

Wehling, Duane C., b. Mar. 13, 1979. d. Aug. 2, 2015. Member of Wichita South Church. Survivors include wife Kelli; children Colton, Tyler and Ella; parents; grandmother; 2 siblings.

Wendell, Bernice, b. Jan. 28, 1924 in Boston, MA. d. Feb. 6, 2015 in Denver, CO. Member of LifeSource Fellowship. Survivors include husband Burton; daughters Janice and Karen; son Don; 5 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Werner, Jerry E., b. June 26, 1938 in Bowdon, ND. d. Apr. 7, 2015 in Loveland, CO. Member of Loveland Church. Preceded in death by parents; 1 brother. Survivors include wife Ellen; sons Mike and Dan; 1 brother; 3 grandsons.

Whitcomb, Frances, b. Jan. 21, 1917 in Sioux City, IA. d. Mar. 2, 2015 in Sioux City, IA. Member of Sioux City Church. Preceded in death by husband McClellan. Survivors include daughter Janice McClendon; sons David and Allen; 7 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren.

Woods, Raymond, b. Feb. 9, 1922 in Carroll, IA. d. Apr. 30, 2015 in Albia, IA. Member of Centerville (IA) Church. Preceded in death by 9 siblings. Survivors include 2 sisters.

Woodward, Eugene J., b. May 2, 1926. d. Mar. 31, 2015. Member of Denver South Church.

To submit an obituary visit outlookmag.org/contact or email Raschelle Hines at raschelle@outlookmag.org. Questions? 402.484.3012.

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Demand is high for Automotive Service Management with an expected job growth rate of 17 percent. Southern Adventist University offers both associate and bachelor degrees in automotive service management. Both programs feature hands-on experience with ASE master mechanics and a focus on incorporating Christ-centered values. Southern students have an 85 percent pass rate on ASE certification exams. Part-time work opportunities are available in the on-campus auto-shop. Visit southern.edu/tech for more information.

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

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, independent living, nursing home and transportation as needed. Call Bill Norman 405.208.1289.

The Construction Management job outlook is strong with an expected growth rate of 16 percent. Southern Adventist University offers both associate and bachelor degrees in construction management. Students learn to unravel the complex components of commercial and residential construction projects and gain management techniques and leadership skills needed to supervise a job site. Southern's program features hands-on experience while incorporating Christ-centered value. Visit

southern.edu/tech for more information.

The Wildwood Lifestyle Center can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, substance abuse, stress, anxiety, depression and many more. Invest in your health and call 1.800.634.9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle.

Victorious Living Lifestyle 28-Day Program for individuals challenged with addiction issues stemming from drugs, stress, alcohol, appetite, smoking and depression. Program dates are flexible. Cost: \$4800. Butler Creek Health Education Center, Iron City, Tennessee. Register online at www.butlercreekhealth.org or call 931.213.1329.

EMPLOYMENT

Adventist physician seeks partner for anesthesia practice. Due to expanding service lines at rapidly growing physician-led hospital in Kearney, Nebraska, Sonno Anesthesia is looking for an Adventist anesthesiologist to join our team of four CRNAs and one MD. Must have experience in cardiac, neuro, orthopedic and spine, along with other routine anesthesia cases. Small, friendly and growing Adventist church in vibrant Christian community. For more information email wehlingm15@gmail.com.

Andrews University seeks Admin Asst Public Health/Wlns. Responsibilities: Manage a variety of general office activities, perform various duties described in the full position description available at link below. Qualifications: BA degree or equivalent with office and/or classroom equivalent experience, ability to exercise responsible financial management, proficiency in Microsoft software applications. Must be Seventh-day Adventist in good and regular standing. For more information and to apply visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/876.

Andrews University seeks faculty member for Department of Music. Responsibilities: teach full-time undergraduate and graduate courses in music history, musicology and research in music. Qualifications: PhD in Musicology/Music History; evidence of excellence in teaching and potential

for scholarly activity; commitment to teamwork and collegiality; excellent interpersonal skills; ability to work with students/colleagues with a wide range of national, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. For more information and to apply visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/838.

Mathematics professor sought by Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska. Doctorate or ABD required for tenure track position. Strong commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching, and scholarship essential. Submit cover letter and CV to Dr. Carrie Wolfe, chair, Division of Science and Mathematics, cawolfe@ucollege.edu.

Pacific Union College seeks faculty member in Nursing Department. Qualified person should have earned master's degree in nursing; doctorate in nursing or related field preferred. For more information and to apply, visit www.puc.edu/hr.

Pacific Union College seeks faculty member in Psychology Department. Qualified person should have earned doctorate in psychology (ABD will be considered) and undergraduate teaching experience. For more information and to apply, visit www.puc.edu/hr.

Southwestern Adventist University Advancement office seeks full-time vice president. Responsibilities center primarily in development, in addition to PR/Marketing & Alumni. Minimum bachelor's degree and two years advancement experience required, master's degree preferred. Submit cover letter and CV/resume to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu.

Southwestern Adventist University has an immediate opening for a full-time nurse educator to serve as Chair for Nursing Department. Doctoral degree required with three years of university/college teaching experience. Must have an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send cover letter and current CV to Dr. Amy Rosenthal at arosenal@swau.edu.

Southwestern Adventist University's Business Department seeks finance faculty to begin Spring or Fall term, 2016. Successful candidate will possess proficiency in previous teaching experience. Candidate should

hold earned doctorate in finance or related field. Master's candidate with minimum of 18 graduate hours in finance considered. Instruction in multiple areas, preferred. Send cover letter and CV to Dr. Aaron Moses at mosesa@swau.edu.

The School of Education and Psychology at Walla Walla University is accepting applications for a tenure-track faculty position in psychology, to begin September 2016. We are seeking an enthusiastic person to lead and direct WWU's master's program in counseling psychology. An earned doctorate in Clinical or Counseling Psychology or Counselor Education is required. Applicants should be license-eligible in the state of Washington. For more information and to apply visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>.

Union College seeks Seventh-day Adventist experienced in K-12 education and eligible for Nebraska teaching certification to teach curriculum and instruction courses and supervise elementary student teachers. Ten years elementary teaching experience and multi-grade teaching experience are essential. Doctorate strongly preferred.

Email letter of interest and CV to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development: dewhite@ucollege.edu. Effective summer 2016.

Union College seeks Adventist nursing instructor with teaching experience, excellent interpersonal and teamwork skills, and an MSN. Experience in Mental Health, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology preferred. Please submit cover letter, curriculum vitae or resume, and three references to Nicole Orian at norian@ucollege.edu.

TRAVEL/RENTALS

2016 Great Controversy Tour, July 15-28 with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt of Andrews University. See prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive! Visit Rome, Italy, and Reformation sites in the Waldensian Valleys, Switzerland, Germany and France. A most exciting experience! For more information, call 269.815.8624 or email gctours@mac.com.

Adventist Israel Tour. Join Jim Gilley, Danny Shelton, and the 3ABN team for an affordable and unforgettable Bible Enrichment Tour. Fantastic buffets, fellowship, and guides. Two departure dates—

November 15-23 or November 18-29, 2015. Contact Jennifer at Maranatha Tours: 602.788.8864, or Jill at 3ABN: 618.627.4651.

Steamboat Springs, CO: Exciting year-round vacation spot. World-class skiing, summer fishing, hiking, mountain biking, backpacking, rafting. Kids under 12 ski free. Large condo, sleeps 9-11. Two bedroom loft/two bath. Fully furnished, fireplace, hot tubs, pool. Call 612.760.7161. Email: rdleach@aol.com.

FOR SALE

Large 193-acre campus for sale in Salem, West Virginia. Offices, classrooms, cafeteria, chapel, gym. Dormitories heated with free gas. Four-bay shop, homes, garden grounds, greenhouse, well-water system, sewage plant. Private, 20 acres flat land, surrounded by beautiful, wooded hills near great shopping. \$885,000. Call 304.782.3628 or 304.782.3630 for more information.

EVENTS

Andrews University's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is celebrating their 75th anniversary

and the 50th anniversary of their seminar program. Alumni and friends are invited to participate in or guest lecture at events throughout the year. Info coming to andrews.edu/cas/chemistry soon. You may also contact Desmond Murray: 269.757.1641; murrayd@andrews.edu.

CHIP (Complete Health Improvement Program) provides a simple, effective turnkey solution for the top chronic diseases facing our communities today. Interested in bringing CHIP to your community by becoming a CHIP facilitator? Attend our two-day certification program in Loveland, Colorado, Oct. 17-18. For more info call 970.308.2716 or email chip@skybeam.com.

NOTICES

Mission opportunity for Sabbath school groups, families or individuals! ACI (Adventist Child India) coordinates sponsors for Adventist children in India to attend school. \$420 (\$35/mo) will provide tuition, lodging, food, books, clothing and medical for a child for one year. Visit www.acichild.com for more info or contact Charlene Binder at rbinder42@gmail.com.

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Mid-America Union OUTLOOK Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

This statement of ownership, management and circulation was filed on September 9, 2015, with the U.S. Postal Service for the Mid-America OUTLOOK, publication number 0887-977X, a magazine owned and published by the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 8307 Pine Lake Road, Lincoln, NE, 68516. It is published 10 times per year at a subscription price of \$10. For further information, contact the Mid-America Union Conference, publisher, or Randy Harmdierks, subscription manager, at the above address. The following figures for the extent and nature of the circulation apply to the year ending with the September 2015 issue of OUTLOOK and are printed in the October issue of this publication.

Description	Yr. Avg.	Sept.
Total number of copies	28,000	28,000
Total paid/requested outside-county mail subs	27,396	27,681
Total paid/requested inside-county mail subs	0	0
Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors	53	55
Other classes mailed through USPS	0	0
Total paid/requested circulation	27,449	27,736
Total complimentary distribution	65	65
Total distribution	27,514	27,801
Copies not distributed	486	199
Total	28,000	28,000
Percent paid and/or requested	99.76	99.77

COMING IN OCTOBER

Updated
OUTLOOK
website

Fresh design
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Easy to navigate

SUNSET	CALENDAR	Colorado	Oct 2	Oct 9	Oct 16	Oct 23	Oct 30
		Denver	6:41	6:30	6:19	6:10	6:01
Grand Junction	6:56	6:45	6:34	6:25	6:16		
Pueblo	6:40	6:30	6:19	6:10	6:01		
Iowa							
Davenport	6:43	6:31	6:20	6:10	6:00		
Des Moines	6:55	6:43	6:32	6:22	6:12		
Sioux City	7:06	6:54	6:42	6:31	6:22		
Kansas							
Dodge City	7:22	7:11	7:02	6:52	6:44		
Goodland	6:28	6:17	6:07	5:57	5:48		
Topeka	7:04	6:53	6:43	6:33	6:25		
Minnesota							
Duluth	6:47	6:33	6:20	6:08	5:56		
International Falls	6:51	6:37	6:23	6:10	5:57		
Minneapolis	6:52	6:39	6:27	6:15	6:04		
Missouri							
Columbia	6:50	6:39	6:29	6:20	6:11		
Kansas City	7:00	6:49	6:38	6:29	6:20		
St. Louis	6:43	6:32	6:22	6:12	6:03		
Nebraska							
Lincoln	7:07	6:56	6:45	6:35	6:26		
North Platte	7:24	7:12	7:01	6:51	6:41		
Scottsbluff	6:35	6:23	6:12	6:01	5:52		
North Dakota							
Bismarck	7:21	7:08	6:55	6:42	6:31		
Fargo	7:05	6:52	6:39	6:26	6:15		
Williston	7:32	7:18	7:04	6:51	6:39		
South Dakota							
Pierre	7:21	7:08	6:56	6:44	6:34		
Rapid City	6:32	6:20	6:08	5:56	5:46		
Sioux Falls	7:06	6:54	6:42	6:31	6:21		
Wyoming							
Casper	6:45	6:33	6:21	6:11	6:01		
Cheyenne	6:40	6:28	6:17	6:07	5:57		
Sheridan	6:47	6:34	6:22	6:10	5:59		

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OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

12 WAYS TO ENCOURAGE PASTORS

1. Invite them and their family to dinner at your home

2. Remember their birthdays

3. Write them a thank you note

4. Encourage them to take a day off each week



5. Try to resolve internal conflicts without burdening them

6. Offer to help with projects

7. Make sure they have the necessary equipment

8. Send them on a nice trip

9. Always be friendly to their families

10. Surprise them with a cash gift

11. Show respect for their work

12. Pray for them and their families daily

Thank you

