

MID-AMERICA SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST NEWS & INSPIRATION

# OUTLOOK

Special Issue  
UNION COLLEGE  
SPOTLIGHT



## CRAFTING A COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

PLUS: Developing  
a Seven-day  
Spiritual Life

NOV2015  
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### Union College: Experiencing Campus Life

This month we focus on Union College, one of the greatest united ministries of the Mid-America Union.

Recently, I participated in a Union College Board of Trustees retreat in Omaha, Nebraska. It was a joy to hear the excellent, forward-thinking planning going on by our president, Dr. Vinita Sauder, and her leadership team. We heard about new programs the college is looking to bring to the campus, the teaching excellence to which our students are exposed, and the upward tick in enrollment numbers despite a softening trend among our sister schools.

Perhaps the report that warmed my heart the most was one in which a survey of our alumni reported that being at Union College was a great benefit to our young adults on their spiritual journey. The worship, church attendance, classes, service opportunities and spiritual life leadership on the campus were all important factors in their positive experience.

Another aspect of great importance is student life in the dormitories. Godly deans help create an environment where lifelong friendships can be developed, meaningful corporate worship are offered, and support and encouragement take place on a daily basis.

As I think back on my own experience in the dorm, I can honestly say that—outside the nurture of my own parents—my dean had as great an impact on my life and spiritual journey as anyone.

So, please take time to sit back and enjoy this issue, which focuses on Union College—our school, God’s school!

—GARY THURBER, MAUC president



The Union College student government kicks off every school year with the Get Acquainted Handshake, an event that encourages everyone to meet everyone else—including Union’s president, Dr. Vinita Sauder, who meets new student Austin Hill for the first time.



### ON THE COVER

At Union College, living on a residential campus means students like freshmen Ronni Sue Parks, Hannah Kern and Nyambeki Matoke can choose from a wide variety of weekly student-led social and spiritual events that help create new friendships and build community. Photo by Scott Cushman.



OUTLOOK (ISSN 0887-977X) November 2015, Volume 36, Number 11. 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@maucsa.org](mailto:info@maucsa.org) or phone: 402.484.3000.

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"She helped me become this strong, commandment-keeping Christian that I am today and I cannot thank her and God enough for changing my life." p. 16



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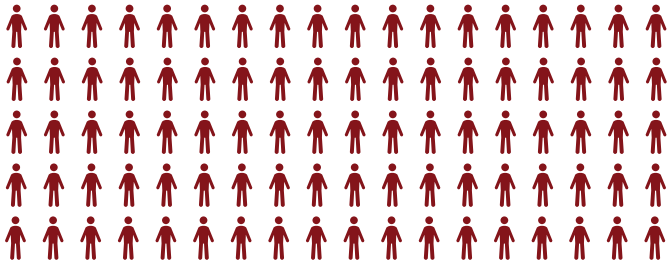
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# UNION

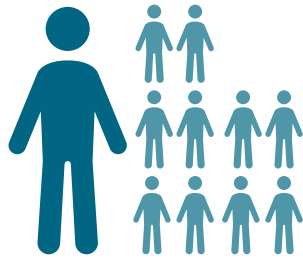
## COLLEGE

*Experience the Spirit*



ENROLLMENT 903

More than 30 student-led service and worship opportunities available on campus



### SMALL CLASS SIZES

10:1 student to teacher ratio means plenty of personalized instruction and help.

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Union College offers more than 50 majors in 27 fields of study, including a Master of Physician Assistant Studies and a bachelor's degree in International Rescue and Relief—a unique degree that combines classwork with extensive field training to prepare students for careers in healthcare, public safety and emergency management.

# CRAFTING A COLLEGE EXPERIENCE



Union College kicks off every school year with a handshake event that encourages everyone to meet everyone else—including freshman Hannah Gregg, who met seniors Amanda Ashbury, Rachel Jorgensen, Kyle Berg and Rebecca O’Hare.

**W**hen 2015 graduate Kerri Vogler arrived on Union’s campus, she only knew two people—one being her older sister. But Union’s friendly students and full lineup of activities soon changed that. “Most of my close friends I met at the first social event of the year, the Get Acquainted Handshake,” Vogler said.

Bubble soccer, barn party and banquets—these are three drops in a full bucket of weekly events Union organizes for students. Mostly planned by the student government or Associated Student Body, these activities provide opportunities for students to have fun and strengthen relations outside of the typical academic setting.

The point person for all this fun is the ASB social vice president—the one responsible for planning and executing events with the help of the rest of the student government

officers. Vogler appreciated the importance of ASB events, and as a senior, her friends convinced her to take on the planning role.

Despite her crazy schedule, she decided to go for it. “If there is one thing I love, it is Union College,” she explained. “The people are amazing, friendly and supportive. I knew it would be challenging, but I wanted to give back to a school that had helped me grow as a person in every way possible.”

Deanna Morgan, a 2014 graduate of the nursing program, was the ASB social vice president during the 2012-13 academic year. “I wanted to be social vice to help create memories for students,” said Morgan. “After college you look back and remember the fun times and the friends you made. The idea of being able to facilitate that for students was a challenge I was excited to take on.”

## On-campus fun

Many college campuses do not offer social events every weekend. But at Union, the close-knit student body relishes their time together. In a residential setting, where students live in close proximity, these events enhance the supportive family feel of Union College.

“The events are what bring students together,” explained Vogler. “When you’re a freshman, typically you will not know many people prior to arriving on campus. Events and activities are where you meet the most people.”

Asha Moturi, a freshman communication major who has attended every event so far this year, said, “ASB events make it so that I look forward to the weekend and staying on campus. I enjoy being able to actually do something fun involving everyone.”

For James Dickerson, a sophomore exercise science major, events are a bit different. He lives off campus with his family. Instead of every weekend, Dickerson goes to ASB events about once a month.

“Since I do live off campus that means I am not in the dorm or even on campus nearly as much as most students,” he explained. “This makes ASB events a prime time for me to hang out with my on-campus friends. ASB has made an impact in my life by providing fun experiences that help unite Union together as a family. I have visited a number of other schools and Union is one of a kind, thanks to such a proactive ASB team.”

This sentiment is echoed across the campus, and though not every student loves every event the consensus is that living on campus and being engaged with the school and each other at events is pretty great.

Not only do students go to events, they get a chance to be a part of them as well. “I personally loved the barn party event because we put together a live band,” remembered Vogler. “Several Union students played music the whole night and a number of other students who attended stood around and watched, listened and enjoyed. I was amazed at how good they were and I loved seeing other students recognize their talent as well.”

Current ASB social vice president, Madison Wagner, explained her goals for this year: “I want to add something unique to every event, and even our tried-and-true annual ASB events deserve to be spiced up a bit.” As a senior business major, Wagner has waited until now to work as ASB social vice president because of the experience needed to do the job. She would, after all, be helping to craft each student’s college experience. “When I went to events, I had some of the best times with my friends, won some of the coolest prizes, and have incredible memories of Union bonding.”

Originally from Hawaii, Elena Cornwell graduated from Union College in May 2015 with a degree in international studies. She now lives in Lincoln and works as a freelance writer and newborn photographer, and loves to read, scuba dive, camp and tell stories.

# LIFE WITH A STRANGER

Photos: Devi Halim



Lizzy McDonald and Katie Struckman—strangers from two different worlds—met for the first time when they moved into the same residence hall room their first year at Union. A year later, they have become great friends and choose to still live together.

**I**t was August 2014. The drive to campus was finally over. Housing decisions were finalized, and freshman year at Union College was about to start. Katie Struckman walked into her dorm room for the first time to meet her roommate for the next nine months: Lizzy McDonald. Though she didn't know it at the time, the two would soon become supportive friends, confidants, and each other's anchor for a thriving college experience.

## Hitting it off

Struckman and McDonald never met before moving in

together as freshmen at Union. They graduated from different high schools. Struckman was from South Dakota. McDonald was from Oregon. They only heard of each other the same day McDonald came to Union. And, at least on the outside, they didn't have anything in common.

Shortly before classes started, both students received their roommate's name and contact information. After gleaning some information from Facebook, both feared they wouldn't mesh well together. McDonald's photogenic face and photographic skills

intimidated Struckman. On the other hand, Struckman loved sports and ran track and field—something McDonald knew nothing about. They each assumed they were doomed from the start.

The roommates' first fears were soon laid to rest, however, when they realized they had a similar sense of humor. Almost immediately, Struckman noticed one of her new roommate's wall signs, which said, "Be the kind of woman that when your feet hit the floor in the morning, the Devil says, 'Oh shoot. She's up.'" The sign made her laugh and realize that they weren't so

different after all.

McDonald felt the same way. "As soon as Katie started laughing about that, I felt relieved," she remembered. "I thought, 'I have a great roommate, and this is going to turn out well. Things will be okay.'" And they were. The two new roommates had a good laugh and they clicked.

## Growing friendship

From the beginning, Struckman and McDonald clarified their personal routines. Soon, the two roommates discovered they had more in common than they originally thought. Both liked to keep the room fairly clean. Both valued each other's relaxed personalities and considerate behavior.

Over the coming weeks and months, Struckman and McDonald's friendship grew. Because they had two completely different majors—nursing and theology—they took different classes and spent much of the day apart. This enabled them to better support each other in other aspects of college life.

Beyond keeping a clean room, Struckman and McDonald often went to church together on Sabbath. They also motivated each other to do homework and kept each other accountable. At night, they talked about assignments due the next day. "Being able to count on someone who will do that has really helped me," McDonald admitted. "I'm lucky."

## The matching process

According to Emily McFadyen, assistant dean of women, the process of matching roommates like McDonald and Struckman is very intentional. Assigning roommates is one of her main responsibilities and she knows that for students, it can be one of the scariest parts of coming to college. “Roommates can make or break the semester,” McFadyen said, which is why she handles each assignment personally.

Now entering her second year as a resident hall dean, McFadyen, a 2011 Union graduate, looks back on her time as a student and head resident assistant to inform her decisions in managing roommate assignments. Because of her experience as an RA, McFadyen says she is able to pick up on the different cues that make roommates compatible. Lifestyle choices like the TV shows each student watches and how they observe the Sabbath can have an extraordinary impact on roommate compatibility and, by extension, their entire college experience.

Each new student must complete a housing request form as part of their registration process. The form allows students to indicate their sleeping habits, music preferences, homework routine, and level of cleanliness. It also allows students to indicate what level of spiritual commitment they would prefer in a roommate.

Once the forms are submitted electronically, McFadyen prints them, prays for guidance, and starts sorting. Each student’s form is read individually to put it in context. Then the forms are sorted by age, bedtimes, and other preferences. In McFadyen’s experience, cleanliness and spirituality are the most important characteristics in compatible roommates.

Donene Braithwaite, dean of women, is another good resource for handling room assignments. Braithwaite managed roommate assignments for eight years as the previous assistant dean of women, and McFadyen still consults with her occasionally for feedback and support.

## Creating a safe haven

McFadyen hopes with each roommate assignment that

every student will come to consider her dorm room as a safe haven during her time in college. For Struckman and McDonald, this really worked. They understood each other’s personal struggles and supported each other. For example, both have a close family member with special needs, so they were able to relate to each other on a unique level which is difficult for many other people on campus.

For Struckman, having a good roommate is one of the things that made her excited to return to Union this fall. McDonald’s positive attitude and kind spirit motivate and center her. And when McDonald took a job as a Rees Hall resident assistant this year—even though this new job entitled her to a room to herself, she immediately asked to keep her roommate.

Now in their second year of living together, Struckman and McDonald still have the same camaraderie that grew out of rooming together last year. “I can’t think of anyone else I’d rather have as a roommate,” Struckman admitted. Both plan to stay friends for life since, they believe, they were matched for a higher purpose. “God put Katie in my life for a reason,” McDonald said, “and I’m extremely grateful that He did.”

Brittany Wren graduated from Walla Walla University in 2010 with a degree in English. She writes from Lincoln, Nebraska, where she works as a records associate at Union College. She likes to write, cook, travel, read, renovate her 100-year-old house and spend time with her husband, Dylan.



# DEVELOPING A SEVEN-DAY

On-campus worship opportunities help students develop their own spiritual lives

Photos: Ryan Teller



Sabbath morning starts with breakfast and then delves into a fast-paced mix of music, prayer, service, Bible study, communion and conversation.

The flexible program always revolves around the same features, but those features take different forms depending on the week. “Our program style is focused on helping everyone experience worship in the way they best connect to Jesus,” Campos said. “Some are more into service and outreach, others like music, Bible study, prayer or deep conversations. You don’t have to be a theology major and read the Bible in the original text to benefit from it. Just Jesus makes the Bible practical.”

Tamara Seiler, office manager for the Division of Humanities, met regularly with senior Natalie Bruzon last year to help the student create a structured and personalized plan for cultivating a close relationship with God. HeartScan pairs employee spiritual mentors with interested students, who then have reduced worship attendance requirements.

## Scanning hearts rather than scanning cards

Like other Adventist colleges, Union asks students to attend a certain number of religious services each year. Students who have met all worship credit requirements their freshman year can opt into HeartScan, a one-on-one mentorship program. Students apply for the program and then meet with a chosen faculty member every other week to discuss God, spirituality and life in general.

Senior communication major Natalie Bruzon said HeartScan has been a “fabulous experience” for her. “As an introvert, I find it more effective to personally connect with my mentor in a one-on-one setting,” she said. “I enjoy corporate worship and song services, but they don’t give me the same

**F**or many students, the pressures of studies and work and all the other pressures of college life can easily push God into a little box they open for a little while on Sabbath morning. But at Union College, a wide variety of worship and service options help students grow spiritually all week long.

“Union offers standard worship opportunities such as chapels, vespers, Sabbath school and church,” said college chaplain Rich Carlson. “in addition, our goal is to offer at least one other type of worship each day to meet individual students’ needs. The school is getting closer to meeting that goal through dorm worship, hall workshops, personal Bible studies,

praise services and other student-initiated opportunities.”

## A reason to rise and shine

Getting up early on Saturday mornings isn’t something most college students want to do. But a vibrant, student-led college Sabbath school can make the difference between hitting the snooze button and welcoming the day. Union currently has between seven and nine Sabbath school options each week, one of which, Just Jesus, caters to students who want a creative, high-energy program.

“Just Jesus is for students who are trying to revamp their spiritual life,” said Abner Campos, the junior theology major who heads up the

program as part of his duties as Campus Ministries Family Worship coordinator. “It can be challenging for lifelong Adventists to recharge their relationship with Jesus, so we give students an opportunity to do that every week.”

The gathering seeks to make Jesus available to every student. “We don’t want students to have just a seventh-day relationship with Jesus,” Campos says. “We want them to have a seven-day relationship with Him. But it can be challenging to start that process on your own.”

Just Jesus draws students who are looking for a larger, corporate gathering where they can have conversations and share their journey with a like-minded group. Every



# SPIRITUAL LIFE

deep connection as the mentor relationship of HeartScan.”

Bruzon meets once every two weeks with Tamara Seiler, officer manager for the Division of Humanities. “I chose Tamara as my mentor because I wanted a different perspective,” she said. “I enjoy the freedom I have with her; I can explore outside ideas and gain wisdom. Tamara is my sounding board, and I learn spiritual and life lessons by talking through things with her.”

Senior elementary education major Elliott Moseley is in his second year as a HeartScan participant. As an off-campus resident, Moseley found it more convenient to meet with his mentor while he was already on campus, rather than having to drive back to school to attend additional worship services during the week. During their sessions, Moseley said he and his mentor “discuss anything and everything—life, relationships, spiritual issues, educational issues,” and more. “However,” he said, “the largest benefit for me has been my own personal growth. [HeartScan] really gives me an opportunity to talk about important issues in life and spirituality that I don’t often get to hear at vespers or chapel.”

Bruzon adds that she is grateful for Union’s dedication in helping students develop their personal relationship with God. “Programs like HeartScan add a whole new dimension that reading a book or sitting in a worship service can’t,” she said. “We students have different needs when it comes

to scheduling and personality. I know Union really cares about my spiritual growth because of all the different opportunities and formats we can choose for worship and involvement.”

## Peer-to-peer ministry in the residence halls

Students living in the residence halls have multiple dorm worship programs available to them each week. Joint worships on some Wednesday evenings open up the girls’ dorm chapel to men and women. Special speakers, praise teams, important presentations and other features draw a mixed crowd.

Hall worships are provided by dorm resident assistants on their own halls, but all dorm residents are welcome. These worships have a more relaxed feel and are often shorter to meet busy week-night schedules. Most include an uplifting thought or mid-week encouragement to keep students on track and focused on God despite the pull of outside responsibilities.

Colin King, who heads the Men’s Ministry programming through Campus Ministries, says he likes the personal approach of hall worships and the glimpse they offer into the spiritual life of his peers. “Dorm worships tend to cater more to the students’ personal needs, and hall worships and dorm worships let us talk about things that the other gender can’t relate to,” he said. “It’s nice to have other male voices that speak up and address issues we are all facing in our own lives. When



Prescott Hall resident assistant Colin King (standing center) conducts hall worship on a Thursday evening at curfew time. A few nights a week, RAs hold a hall worship in the evening to give residents another opportunity to connect with God and build relationships with their neighbors.

someone gets up front and lets us peer into their spiritual life, it helps me know I’m not alone in my Christian walk.”

He adds that smaller gatherings help students feel more comfortable asking questions or bringing up their own spiritual struggles. “The atmosphere of vespers and church is great for praise and worship, but a small group lets us delve deeper into the journey that all of us are on,” he said.

For college chaplain Rich Carlson, being a part of a campus with a thriving spiritual life is rewarding. “I am beyond blessed to see how students at Union own their spiritual journeys and take responsibility for their spiritual walks. Being a Christian is the popular thing on this campus. It’s not about flash and pizzazz, it’s about being

down-to-earth and responding as a Christian responds. It’s not unusual to see kids praying together on campus, having devotions on the administration building steps and showing up for service projects. They want to get involved and to share their testimonies. Union students aren’t embarrassed to show that they are Christians, and our goal is to have campus worship opportunities to reflect that practical Christianity.”

Lauren Schwarz graduated from Union College in 2004 with English and public relations degrees. She writes (freelance) from Bismarck, North Dakota and enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband, Jonathan, and dogs, crafting and baking. She and Jonathan recently moved from California, and he began teaching at Dakota Adventist Academy this school year.

# SHADOW MAN: LIFE AS A RESIDENT ASSISTANT

Scott Cushman



Ricky Amimo started working as a resident assistant because, as a freshman, he valued the friendship of his RA. Now as a head RA, he works alongside the deans to make sure the residence halls are a safe, comforting and welcome environment for all the men who live there.

**T**he dark, silhouetted male figure stood motionless in the doorway of my dorm room. I lay stiffly under my bed covers—too scared to move or speak. What did he want? Why didn't he move? Why didn't he speak?

Then my half-asleep brain shifted into panic gear. As I prepared to let out a pathetic soprano squeal to alert the other Culver Hall residents to this crisis, he left as quietly as he had appeared.

It was the first night of my freshman year of college and already I had faced a near death experience with “the shadow man.” I dabbed the sweat on my forehead as I went to lock the door before he came back. Then it dawned on me.

## From fear to friendship

“We are glad to have you here, Ricky,” Doug Tallman, dean of men at Union College, had told me earlier that day as he handed me my room keys. “You will get to meet your hall RA later tonight when he does room check.”

I stood in the darkness of my room laughing in spite of myself. The shadow man was my RA, my resident assistant. Over the next few weeks I became great friends with him. He befriended me and all the other men on his hall with such genuineness that by the end of the school year I decided to waste no time in turning in my application to become one of the shadow men as well.

When I was accepted, I remember asking the dean what my job description would be.

“It's all in the job title,” Dean

Tallman joked. “So anything that falls under ‘assisting a resident’ is your job.” I laughed with him. I was so overjoyed at the time about receiving the position that I did not understand the truth behind his statement. My job would encompass assisting in the residential, academic, social and spiritual lives of each of the men placed on my assigned hall. However, it didn't take long to figure out what that meant.

It was a windy Friday night in my second month as an RA. I was doing the usual nightly room check to make sure all the men were safe and all their needs met. Most Friday nights were quiet—everyone in, either already in bed or quietly hanging out with friends.

This night was different. As I moved from room to room I heard great commotion coming from the last room on the hall—624. There was laughter and table smacking punctuated by quiet moments in between. My curiosity aroused, I decided to finish checking the other rooms first.

As I checked each room, I discovered more residents missing than usual. Even the quietest guy on the hall was not tucked under his covers. It was odd, and I was worried. But before I could start searching for the missing men, I had to deal with the raucous noise in room 624. When I opened the door, all fell silent as 12 pairs of eyes locked on mine. They were all there, and wasted no time pulling me into their heated conversation.

“Ricky, what would you do if you were dating a girl and the relationship started affecting your

grades?”

“Ricky, how about if she was not the same religion as you?”

“Ricky, what do you think about the new ‘Good Samaritan’ policy?”

The questions flooded in and before I knew it we were knee deep in discussing how the college's drug and alcohol policy would affect our grades and success levels in the future.

## Connecting conversations

And the conversation did not end there. I have since found myself in deep and personal conversations with many men on my hall. I have heard about new job opportunities, lost jobs, parents divorcing, plans to propose to girlfriends, academic stress and relief, and many other personal experiences.

Working as a resident assistant has connected me with many men from all walks of life, each with a different past and a different future. I have slowly become a part of each of these guys' stories, celebrated their triumphs and trudging alongside them through the hard times.

I'm thankful to Union for giving me the opportunity to influence and be influenced by these men who have become a part of my family.

Ricky Amimo spends his evenings as a head residence hall assistant and his days studying in the first year of the physician assistant program at Union College. Originally from Kenya, Africa, Ricky enjoys basketball, soccer, writing and biking for fun.

# iEngage Gatherings Reach Youth Leaders and Young Adults

Courtesy Hubert Cisneros



Nearly 30 people gathered at the St. Louis (MO) Central Church in September and October to receive training on ministering to junior high and high school students. These youth leaders know that involving youth when they are teenagers means they are more likely to remain in the church when they are young adults.

Throughout the Mid-America Union efforts are being made through iEngage gatherings to curb the exodus of teens and young adults.

Last January, nearly 50 young adults learned and worshiped together under the leadership of **Mike Fenton**, pastor of the Lawrence (KS) Church. Many of their young adults are students at the University of Kansas and want to bring Christ to the campus. Conference youth director, **Travis Sager**, taught a class on preaching and **Tim Floyd**, from New Haven Church, taught a class on leading worship.

In February, over 150 young adults gathered at the Minnetonka (MN) Church for a question and answer session that helped equip them to share Christ to a world that doesn't

believe in God. Afterward they shared a meal and enjoyed recreation.

**Denison Sager**, Iowa-Missouri Conference youth director, combined efforts with **Hubert Cisneros**, youth director for the Mid-America Union, in presenting training materials from the manual *A Place To Belong* to attendees at the iEngage gathering in Lee's Summit, Missouri in April. "This one-on-one personal training will reap rich results," commented Sager. "Our prayer is that more and more people are reached who can take on leadership responsibilities."

Future gatherings are scheduled for other locations, including the Boulder Church in Colorado in October and Des Moines, Iowa in 2016.

Please pray for God's leading during these special events. In the same way that young adults began the Adventist Church over 150 years ago, their enthusiasm and leadership is necessary today.

Hubert Cisneros is Youth Ministries director for the Mid-America Union.

## New Associate Treasurer Joins Mid-America Union



**Gwen Speak** has accepted the invitation of the Mid-America Union Executive Committee to serve as the union's associate treasurer, filling a position that has been vacant since **Troy Peoples** was elected vice president for finance.

"We were looking for someone who had a working knowledge of the general ledger software and/or had General Conference auditing experience to assist our conferences," said Peoples. "Gwen has both, and I believe she will be a great asset to both the MAUC office and our conferences with her knowledge in these areas."

The Mid-America Union Treasury Department provides IT support for the general ledger software, and beginning

in 2016 will also be supporting payroll software. Speak will begin her work for the Mid-America Union on Nov. 1.

Speak graduated from Union College in 1999 and worked five years as a lead auditor for General Conference Auditing Services, four of them in Mid-America territory. Since 2005 she has worked as the associate treasurer for the Dakota Conference, overseeing payroll and trust accounting, and preparing general ledgers and financial statements. She passed the Certified Public Accountant exam in 2002.

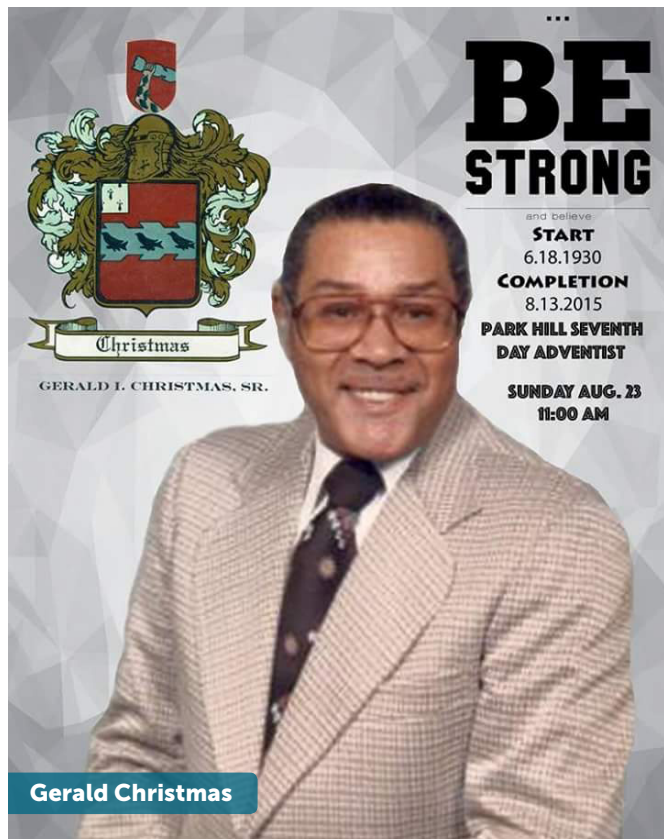
"I am looking forward to working with various conferences and other organizations in the Mid-America Union and getting to know the treasury personnel better," said Speak.

After she transitions to Lincoln this fall, she plans to resume her hobbies of reading, knitting, cooking, photography and walking her dog.

.....  
Brenda Dickerson is communication director for the Mid-America Union.

# Central States Honors the Memory of Two Great Men of God

Courtesy ASI



Rachel Banks



Members of the Parkhill Pathfinder Club celebrated the life and ministry of Elder Christmas at a special service last August.

The Central States Conference was recently affected by the loss of two great men, Elder Gerald Christmas, Sr. and William Carlson Pergerson II. Elder Christmas was gifted with the ability to touch people from all age groups. Many remember Elder Christmas working diligently to keep young and old alike active in the life of the church.

“I appreciate the special care that he demonstrated for the senior members of the city of Denver,” reflects **Pastor Charles Osborne III** of Park Hill Church. Elder Christmas served as one of the first lay leaders in Central States and was likely the most decorated Master Guide west of the Mississippi. He lived a

life of service largely through his leadership in the Pathfinder clubs.

**Rachel Banks**, Central States Conference Pathfinder director, described Elder Christmas as her mentor and friend. “Elder Christmas’ expertise and Pathfinder experience will be missed,” she said. “May God help us to fill in his large shoes.”

Another life we celebrate is that of longtime pilot and Seventh-day Adventist evangelist William Carlson Pergerson II, 48, of Berrien Springs, Michigan, who died in a plane crash on Aug. 27. He is remembered not only for his airplanes but also for his passion for the poor.

Pergerson began his evangelistic career in

Central States Conference in Minneapolis. One of his first major evangelistic series resulted in 100 baptisms and the planting of a new church in 2004.

Pergerson, who owned a Cessna aircraft at that time, flew between the St. Louis and Minneapolis churches, preaching, teaching and encouraging members.

“For a relatively young preacher, he was deeply spiritual and a man of conviction,” said **Cryston Josiah**, pastor of the

Beacon Light Church. “He had a biblical and experiential knowledge of the love of Christ and lived it.”

Pastor Osborne said, “I appreciate Elder Pergerson’s passion for lifting up Jesus Christ and His righteousness. May God help us to lift Jesus Christ through our preaching and lifestyle.”

Brittany Winkfield is communication director for the Central States Conference.

# Next Level Living Tour Yields 14 New Believers



Pastor Cryston Josiah and Elder Gerald Bryant baptize new members Cleo Patterson (photo at left) and William Hall.

The Next Level Living Tour made a stop in Kansas City, Missouri with **Pastor Cryston Josiah** at the Beacon Light Church in September. As a follow up to **Elder G. Alexander Bryant's** evangelism meeting, Beacon Light hosted "The Grace Tour Family Fest" featuring **Jeremy Anderson, Jillian Monet, Brian Thomas** and **Javan Cornelius**. Together they conducted an evening revival over the course of three days. Using social media as a tool to reach people, **Mike Moss**, a member at Beacon Light, posted an invite to the event that made a big difference in attendance. "This was really a walk of faith and God opened up all the doors!" exclaimed Pastor Josiah.

During the day, the Next Level Living team, along with

Pastor Josiah went into schools, centers and group homes in the community. **Debbie Mann**, a member at Beacon Light, who has a community center and day care, connected the team to the community. She even housed them.

"The Next Level team really witnessed to us," she said. "They emphasized the church being the body of Christ."

## Baptisms in the park

**William Hall** was baptized during the church service in the park event. The interesting thing about William is that he walked up off the street, saw the baptism, and asked to be baptized. "I just want to turn my life around," he said.

"People are hungry for more. Jesus told us to go, and this is what happens when we go. This

is what The Grace Tour event is all about," said Josiah.

After the last baptism, before closing prayer, the question was asked if anyone else wanted to choose Jesus. Instantly **Cleo Patterson** stepped forward. He is another guy who lives near the park and is tired of his lifestyle. Earlier Cleo had helped put the pool together, having no clue it would be for him. This is the definition of evangelism.

The last person to be baptized that day was **Gregory Thierry**, who only came for the food in the afternoon. Pastor Josiah noticed that Gregory had a cigarette, but could not light it with his lighter. He left the park, then came back and ended up responding to the appeal of wanting to start over. He called Pastor Josiah the following

week and asked for a ride to church and has not missed a Sabbath since. Gregory never smoked that cigarette that day. This is nothing but the Holy Spirit!

Church in the park on Sabbath was so powerful that a total of 14 new believers and 4 members rededicated their lives to Christ.

"We are practicing being practical Christians," said Josiah. "It is important to see the Spirit moving in someone's life even if they don't know all the doctrine yet."

Brittany Winkfield is communication director for the Central States Conference.

# Brooke Lietzke Joins Dakota Conference Ministerial Team

Communication director Jacquie Biloff interviews Pastor Brooke

## Tell us about your younger years and where you grew up.

I was born in Kansas, but grew up on the western side of North Dakota in Dickinson. I am the youngest of a mixed family of seven kids, with four older brothers. With all the different personalities around me, I learned everything from cooking and cleaning to fixing engines and pouring concrete. Most of my younger years were filled with camping, fishing and playing or watching sports.

## Brooke, you recently graduated from the University of Jamestown with a double major in religion and cross cultural communication and a minor in Christian ministry. How involved were you in religious activities on campus before graduation?

The best experience I had throughout my time in college was not wrapped up in an event or specific activities but rather the process of journeying with Jesus and figuring out who He is and who I am in light of that.

It is easy to look back and say I was very involved in religious activities and different ministries on campus, serving in various leadership roles and even as a student chaplain. What I've come to realize, though, is that the most significant and meaningful ministry God allowed me to partner with Him in was wrapped up in daily walking with those around me, which was only

possible because of the wrestling I did in my own relationship with Him along the way.

## I understand that you have been preaching for several years in various churches.

I preached for the first time during my sophomore year of high school. For many years, I was absolutely terrified of public speaking and refused to get up in front of people. I avoided it at all costs and reluctantly accepted only a few different invitations during high school.

Once I got into college, I was extended an opportunity to be on a summer pulpit supply list for a tiny, rural, split-parish Presbyterian church. I began preaching to those congregations and was soon invited to preach in other Presbyterian churches, Lutheran churches, United Congregational churches, and ultimately Adventist churches. I see God's grace so vividly in accepting these invitations because I have never felt as though preaching is a gift that I have. It is where I feel the weakest, the most exposed, and the most inadequate. It is also where I hear the voice of the Lord saying, "My grace is sufficient..." because He does not let His word return empty.

## What drew you to the Adventist church?

The truest and simplest explanation can be summed up in one word: Jesus. I met the first Adventist of my life

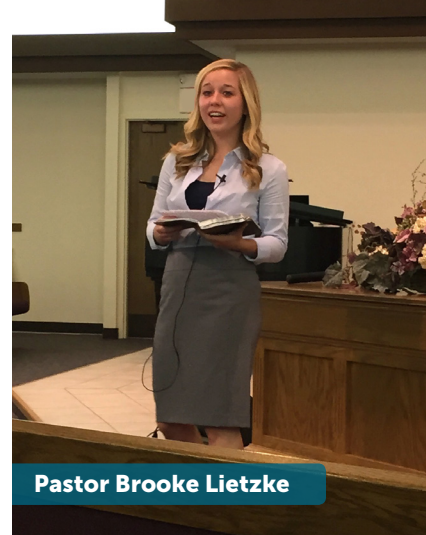
last September when **Pastor Rick Melendez** stepped on the University of Jamestown campus as the Dakota Conference's first public campus pastor. When he introduced himself to me, I was hesitant and skeptical, to say the least. Halfway through a meeting with him about the existing ministries on the UJ campus, I asked him about Adventist beliefs. He openly answered all of my questions with grace, humility and deep sincerity and love for his church.

When he followed up his answers with the same questions for me, I didn't have many solid answers about my traditional Lutheran beliefs. We became friends and, shortly after, ministry partners, as we started the first branch of Just Jesus. with a Bible study group in my apartment on campus. As our friendship grew, I researched, read, prayed and asked questions.

In November of last year, I began attending the Jamestown church with another divinely appointed friend, **RaeLea Frishman**. That month I left the church I had spent my life in. After a conversation with one more divinely appointed friend, **Pastor Anna Romuald**, I finally gave up my reluctance and was baptized into the church by Pastor Melendez in February.

We continued to minister together in Jamestown and Fargo, along with developing a website for the ministry and planning the first Just Jesus. Conference that took place in August. A month

RaeLea Frishman



Pastor Brooke Lietzke

after that, the Dakota Conference hired me as a full-time pastor to continue building Just Jesus. ACM with Pastor Melendez.

What initially drew me to the Adventist Church and continues to draw me daily is the Spirit that dwells within it. I've experienced a dozen or more denominations, but there is something innately different about the Adventist Church. I believe it shares a message that is deeply beautiful and deeply hopeful—the message of the gospel. I was drawn into the Adventist Church by Christ's method alone in order to proclaim His death, resurrection and soon return.

**We are excited to welcome you as the newest member of the Dakota Conference ministerial team and will pray for your ministry on Dakota's public university campuses.**

# Dakota Opens New Schools

Photos: Loren Nelson III

The Dakota Conference has opened three new elementary schools this year. Red River Adventist Elementary School in Fargo, North Dakota is starting with **Kimberly Clarke** teaching grades 1-8 and also serving as principal.

Dickinson Adventist Christian School, also in North Dakota, is starting with a husband and wife team—**Ulena Robinson**, teaching grades 1-4 and **David Robinson**, principal, teaching grades 5-8.

The third new school is Payabya Adventist Mission School, which opened in Pine Ridge, South Dakota with **Jamie Howell** as principal and teacher for grades 1-8.

Another new teacher is **Kelli Vigil**, a recent graduate of Union College, who replaced retiring **Dale Eddy** at the Rapid City Adventist Elementary School in South Dakota. She is no stranger to Dakota Conference, having worked at our summer camps for several years.

Additionally, the Brentwood Adventist Christian Elementary School in Bismarck, North Dakota, which has typically been a 1-8 grade school, has added a Kindergarten class this year.

## North Dakota schools:

- Brentwood Adventist Christian School in Bismarck
- Dickinson Adventist Christian School in Dickinson
- Hillcrest Adventist School in Jamestown
- Prairie Voyager Adventist School in Grand Forks
- Red River Adventist School in Fargo

## South Dakota schools:

- Papaya Adventist Mission School in Pine Ridge
- Rapid City Adventist School
- Sioux Falls Adventist School

Gerard Ban is education superintendent for the Dakota Conference.



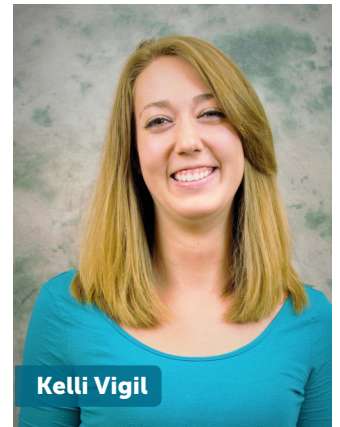
**Kimberly Clarke**



**Ulena & David Robinson**



**Jamie Howell**



**Kelli Vigil**

Gerard Ban



## Students Attend Outdoor School

At the beginning of each school year Dakota Conference hosts an annual Elementary Outdoor School at Northern Lights Camp in Bottineau, North Dakota. This year 83 students were in attendance from both North and South Dakota.

The students learned about edible plants, orienteering and knot tying, as well as first aid. Students also experienced creating an outdoor shelter, building a good fire and making a solar oven. Afternoons were spent on the waterfront.

Pastors James Venegas and Loren Nelson III conducted inspiring worship talks, giving students opportunities to participate and learn together.

# New Members Join Kansas City Multicultural Church

Photos: Michelle Hansen



(l-r) Delmi and Gerlin Sanabria, Sarah Rhettig and pastor Manuel Moral celebrate as each new member receives a baptismal certificate.

The Kansas City (MO) Multicultural Church welcomed three new members this past July during a special baptismal service. **Sarah Rhettig** began attending an evangelistic series the previous fall at the invitation of a co-worker. Traveling evangelist **Cami Oetman**, daughter of Sedalia district pastor **Al Oetman**, preached the series “The Revelation of Jesus Christ,” which intertwined the life of Jesus throughout the prophecy series. During that series Cami and Sarah became good friends and kept in touch via email after the conclusion of the meetings.

Cami first came to the KC Multicultural Church at the request of church pastor **Manuel Moral**. The goal for the predominantly Spanish speaking church was to attract more English speaking young people.

Sarah had heard of Seventh-

day Adventists prior to the meetings, but she wasn’t sure what they believed. “One time Cami explained the meaning behind the name, breaking down each word,” said Sarah. “Seventh-day means the seventh day of the week, Saturday, Sabbath. Next we have the word ‘Adventist.’ Advent means the second coming, so we believe in the second coming of Christ. ‘For the Lord himself shall descent from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God’ (1 Thess. 4:16). Every eye will see Him and every knee will bow. Now that doesn’t sound like the secret rapture, does it? Cami’s words spoke to me and a light bulb went on in my head. I now use that ‘What’s in a name?’ example all the time.”

Many of the Adventist doctrines were new to Sarah and she really appreciated the

clear way that Cami explained them. “First of all, I did not realize how important the Ten Commandments are. God wrote them in stone with His finger for a reason, so that we know they will never change. People are going to try to change them, but Jesus says in Matt. 5:18, ‘Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law...’ Within the Ten Commandments the one that sparked my interest most was the fourth. To me, the Sabbath had always meant Sunday, but boy was I mistaken! In the Bible Sunday is not even mentioned. It is, however, referred to as ‘the first day of the week.’ Even Jesus kept the Sabbath when He died. He died on a Friday, was asleep in Christ on the Sabbath, and rose on Sunday. How cool is that!”

Sarah said she learned much more about the Bible during Cami’s time in KC than she had learned in her entire life. “Cami answered my questions and didn’t make me feel dumb or ashamed when I told her that I felt on the fence. She showed compassion and I could tell the Holy Spirit was working through her. About a week after the seminars, I decided I wanted to thank her for coming and for sharing God’s Word and let her know how much she impacted me. I wrote her a note on her website (nofearrevelation.com) and was so excited when she responded. We emailed back and forth for nine months until reuniting the weekend of my baptism. I could go on and on about how

much of an inspiration she is to me. She has helped me become this strong, commandment-keeping Christian that I am today and I cannot thank her and God enough for changing my life. We now text and send verses or links to each other, so I am continually growing in my faith.”

The same Sabbath that Sarah was baptized, newly married couple **Gerlin and Delmi Sanabria** publicly proclaimed their faith through baptism as well. The Sanabrias came to learn of the Adventist Church by attending a weekly Bible study led by KC Multicultural member **Sara Melchor**. Pastor Moral married the couple on July 12 and they were baptized together the following Sabbath.

“Evangelistic efforts become increasingly more effective when church members make personal contacts with individuals who are searching for hope in end-time biblical truth,” said evangelist Cami Oetman. “Can you imagine if every member acted upon the Holy Spirit’s prompting to invite? The work would finish rapidly. In the book *Last Day Events*, p. 212, it says: ‘Thousands in the eleventh hour will see and acknowledge the truth. These conversions to truth will be made with a rapidity that will surprise the church and God’s name alone will be glorified.’”

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



# Women Focus on Experiencing Jesus



Tamyra Horst, featured retreat speaker, explored different ways of building a relationship with Jesus.

The 27th annual Iowa-Missouri Women's Retreat took place in September in Des Moines, Iowa. Featured speaker **Tamyra Horst**, author, speaker and Women's Ministries director for the Pennsylvania Conference, shared her thoughts on having a more meaningful relationship with Jesus. "We need to experience Jesus for ourselves and then go out and tell others what He's done for us. Jesus will meet you where you are. You don't have to do one certain thing or go to a special place to be with Him. There are many ways to experience God; do what works for you. Don't worry if reading the Bible cover to cover each year doesn't appeal to you. It's okay to start reading the Bible at the chapter of your choosing. If you aren't a morning person, don't despair—evening devotionals are just as meaningful."

Horst went on to explain that



Donna Jackson from the NAD Ministerial Department led participants through a process of applying biblical principles to their family lives.

"people gravitated toward Jesus when He was on earth because they had heard about others' personal experiences with Him. Get to know Jesus, plant the seed in others, and leave it to God to nourish the seed."

On Sabbath morning **Donna Jackson**, North American Division ministerial spouses leader, spoke about the family being one of God's masterpieces. She shared video excerpts from a film that portrayed the book of Matthew and asked the ladies to share in small groups how the experiences recorded in the gospel related to their families.

Retreat attendees also had

many seminar options to choose from throughout the weekend, including water aerobics, healthy living, prayer and tips for moms of preschoolers.

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

**Special thanks to Dale Smith of the Springfield (MO) Adventist Church for setting up live streaming for the retreat's main meetings. Watch the vidos at [youtube.com/imsdaconference](https://youtube.com/imsdaconference).**



# A Heifer for Hope

"For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills." Ps. 50:10



Several months ago a cattle rancher and his wife told us they had made a pledge to God to donate the money from the sale of one of their heifers to support our ministry, The Hope of Survivors. The couple wanted to make sure that victims of clergy abuse would continue to receive the support they need.

They asked us to pray that God would bless the sale of the cow, and we did. A couple of weeks later two checks arrived—one for the amount of the sale of the cow, and one from the auction house owners who also donated to support The Hope of Survivors. It was a blessing and a miracle, as no

one expected the amount to be as much as it was.

As it happened, the ministry had recently incurred some unexpected expenses, and we had several abuse victims waiting to be sponsored for the in-house program at our Renewal Center. Now, that support has been provided—praise God!

Samantha Nelson is vice president and CEO for The Hope of Survivors, a ministry for victims of clergy abuse.

**To learn more about The Hope of Survivors, visit [thehopeofsurvivors.com](https://thehopeofsurvivors.com).**



## Garden City School Re-opens

Courtesy Kansas-Nebraska Conference



Jessi Whitson is teaching students in grades 1-6 at High Plains Christian School.

In 2014, the school board of the Garden City Adventist Church in Kansas was on a mission. The board wanted to re-open their school, which had closed six years ago. They had funds, students and dedication. What they did not have was a teacher.

They looked at several options, but the teacher they wanted had already committed to another institution for that coming school year. So, patiently, they waited.

One year later they accomplished their mission. I accepted the invitation to teach at the High Plains Christian School. A native Kansan, I attended Enterprise Academy and Union College before beginning my teaching career in Fort Wayne, Indiana, teaching grades 1-4 for five years.

In the fall of 2015, High Plains Christian School re-opened with 11 students in grades 1-6. Students, teacher and church members are working hard to make the re-opening a success.

This year is all about the students learning how a multi-grade school can work. There are students from Latino, Caucasian and Karen backgrounds, all who previously attended public school. They are adapting well and say that having worship and Bible class are two of their favorite things about their new school.

Jessi Whitson has returned to Kansas to teach at the newly re-opened High Plains Christian School.

## United States Citizens

Photos: Virgil Covel



Elsely family



Correa family

Pastors **Roberto Correa** and **Douglas Elsely** became United States Citizens at the Fort Scott National Historic Site in Kansas, on Sept. 25, 2015.

Correa, whose wife **Paula** also became a citizen, both hail from Argentina. He serves as the Conference Hispanic Coordinator and pastors the Hispanic churches in Emporia and Topeka. They came to the U.S. in 2000.

Correa ministered in the Oregon and Montana conferences prior to joining our pastoral team in 2008. They have two children: **Gabriel** and **Lucas**.

"It's important to be a U.S. citizen because now I feel a part of this country. I have the freedom to travel inside and outside of this country. Paula and I are very proud to be citizens," he said.

Elsely, a native of England, took a different route to become

a citizen. He met his wife-to-be, **Sherri**, at Newbold College in the United Kingdom. Sherri was from Atlanta, Georgia. They married and settled in the U.S. in 1991.

A decade later, a catastrophe changed Elsely's perspective. "The horrible events of 9/11 impacted my life greatly. Since my wife and three children, **Marcus, Lyndsey** and **Kayleigh**, were already citizens, I wanted to share the same nationality and spend the rest of my life here."

Prior to accepting the invitation in 2008 to be lead pastor of the New Haven Church in Overland Park, Kansas, Elsely served in the Southeastern California and Montana conferences.

John Treolo is communication director for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

### Kansas City Area Youth Rally

Midland Adventist Academy, Shawnee, KS

Nov. 13-14

tsager@ks-ne.org

# Piedmont Park's Expansion Completed

Vanessa Schaecher



Cutting the ribbon during Piedmont Park's Grand Opening celebration are Steve Dudan, building committee treasurer; Michael Halfhill, lead pastor; Ron Carlson, conference president; Valeree Krueger, building committee chairperson; Don Prowant, longtime member; and Andy Moseley, associate pastor.

Nearly 16 months after breaking ground, Lincoln's Piedmont Park Church members celebrated the Grand Opening of their new expansion.

During a special worship service the congregation enjoyed musical numbers, inspirational messages and special guests including **Allen Myers**, who pastored at Piedmont for 15 years; **Michael Paradise**, former youth pastor at Piedmont; and conference president **Ron Carlson**. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in the new lobby, followed by a delicious dinner in the fellowship hall.

Current pastor, **Michael Halfhill**, encouraged those present to never be content with the past, but to always continue striving to share Jesus with one more person—and this is exactly what Piedmont Park plans to do.

After four years of planning, church members are thankful for this new space to utilize for extended community outreach and growing congregational needs. In a cooperative effort with the conference and area churches, Piedmont Park hosted God in Shoes in September, the first large outreach event held in the new expansion.

Vanessa Schaecher is a communication correspondent for Piedmont Park Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

View photos of the construction process at [www.facebook.com/piedmontparksda/](http://www.facebook.com/piedmontparksda/). Video of the worship service can be found at [www.piedmontparksda.org](http://www.piedmontparksda.org). Choose the link for Aug. 22.



# Teen Pathfinders Visit Yellowstone

Travis Sager



Sixty teens from seven states spent 10 days in Yellowstone National Park working on a volunteer project and compiling questions for a new Geo-thermal Pathfinder honor.

Last August 60 relieved teenagers filed out of a coach bus and three vans, ending 17 hours on the road and beginning their 10-day adventure in Yellowstone National Park. These young people are part of the Teen Leadership Training team that will staff the 2017 Mid-America Union Camporee in Custer, South Dakota.

Hailing from Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Montana, this intrepid group quickly made friends and divided into groups called "families." The week in Yellowstone was packed with activities, sight-seeing and even homework.

The group visited the Mud

Volcano, Sulpher Springs, Yellowstone's Grand Canyon and Old Faithful. They hiked, swam, took pictures, went on park ranger-guided tours and participated in a volunteer project in the park.

After taking notes in various locations, the group got together and came up with questions that will be submitted to the North American Division Pathfinder leaders for a Geo-thermal honor. The team concluded one of the most memorable weeks of their lives by leading worship at Old Faithful Lodge.

Travis Sager is youth director for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

# Students Learn in Nature's Lab

Annual Outdoor School held at North Star Camp



In September, 75 students in grades 5-8 from Adventist elementary schools and 31 adults participated in the annual Minnesota Conference Education Department's Outdoor School held at North Star Camp. For four days they studied Minnesota habitats and other scientific concepts in nature's lab.

Another important aspect was students from small schools getting to know each other as they participated in various events. The most important reason for Outdoor School has

to do with experiencing God in His creation. This year's spiritual theme centered on living the Christian life and following in God's footsteps.

The students were sometimes grouped by grade level but also had the opportunity to get to know their cabin mates better at meals and afternoon recreational activities such as capture-the-flag, basketball and 9-square. Other activities included canoeing, rock climbing and archery. Some students found opportunities for artistic expression through photography and painting animals on smooth rocks.

North Star Camp is a prime location for this endeavor—tranquil lake, flowers, wildlife, sunshine and cool breezes rustling tree leaves.

The dawn-to-dark studying, playing, moving and worshipping wore a lot of people out, but many smiles and dreams of next year's Outdoor School accompanied the students traveling home.

Tralese Syvertson is principal of Anoka Adventist Christian School in Anoka, Minnesota.



# MWA Revives Farmland

Opportunities abound for sharing harvest and mission



It has been a unique experience for the students, many of whom have never been on a farm (or even in a garden), to work outdoors seeing what is involved and how things grow.

Maplewood Academy has revived its farm program under the leadership of **Terry Nennich**, vice principal for finance. Nennich, who was raised in an agricultural family, led out in planting a variety of fruits and vegetables on about five acres last spring to sell to the community and supplement our own cafeteria supply. Over the summer students assisted in planting as well as weeding and caring for the crops, and now are actively involved in the fall harvest.

Crops include an acre of sweet

corn, quarter acre of potatoes, and hundreds of tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, squash and pumpkin plants and much more. In addition, much of the work this summer has gone into tending almost two acres of strawberries, which will be harvested next June with student labor as well as U-Pick.

It has been a unique experience for the students, many of whom have never been on a farm (or even in a garden), to work outdoors seeing what is involved and how things grow.

# Southview School's Enrollment Climbs

Photos: Courtesy Minnesota Conference



## Grades K-2

On the first day of school 48 students were present.

## Grades 3-10

Every step of the way, the teachers have seen God working in this school.



The Lord has blessed our endeavors and the fall harvest has gone very well. So far over \$2,000 of produce has been used in the cafeteria and part of our harvest has been sold at a local farmer's market on Wednesdays, as well as from a vegetable stand set up on the Maplewood Academy campus. Many community members have enjoyed purchasing our vegetables and we have developed quite a reputation for our awesome sweet corn!

Not only have we been able to share our harvest with the community but many of our customers have asked about Maplewood Academy and who we are. This gives us a platform for conversations about Adventist education and our existence in our community.

Stacy Stocks is principal of Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson, Minnesota.

In 1996, Southview Adventist Church in Minneapolis started their "dream project,"—creating an elementary school that would hold 60 students. Led by **Chris Kelly**, then school board chair, their first location was rented office space for one teacher and a handful of students. When the official school building was finished in 2001, there were six students the first year. Today, Southview has three full time teachers, one full time teachers' assistant, and three volunteer staff who work with students in grades K-10.

Every step of the way, the teachers have seen God working in this school. Last summer they had been praying God would send the students who needed to be at Southview Christian School this year. On the first day of

school 48 students were present, with two more arriving by the following Monday. This fulfilled the goal of having 50 students for the year.

As the teachers were passing out textbooks, they discovered that every single book publisher had sent more textbooks than had been ordered. It wasn't worth sending the extra books back, so the teachers decided they would save them for next year. They soon found out that God ordered the textbooks for them!

On the first day of school, **Pastor G. Averalo** (who has brought many students in the past) visited the school with a new family. After talking with the teachers and seeing the school and students, that family went home and talked with three other families. All of them came

that week to visit and made the decision to enroll their children by the following Monday. Together these four families bought a van able to hold 10 students and are taking turns driving each day. The original goal of the builders of Southview Christian School to have 60 students has now been met!

The Southview teachers praise God and thank all the church members of Southview Church and their sister churches (Shakopee, Richfield, Eagan, Minneapolis First Hispanic and Ebenezer Fellowship) for their prayers, sacrifices and support to make this school a reality and allow it to continue growing.

Raylene Hansen is principal for Southview Christian School in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

# Sisters Celebrate Sabbath—and Business Success

Courtesy Rocky Mountain Conference



Sisters Dani Stafford and Dena King, owners of The Grey House Boutique in Estes Park, Colorado are seeing sales soar despite the fact that they close their shop on Sabbath—the biggest shopping day in that town.

**W**hen sisters **Dena King** and **Dani Stafford** decided to open a mountain boutique together in Estes Park, Colorado, it was never a question of whether or not they would be open on Sabbath. “It was just what we both knew we wanted to do,” said Dani. “Sabbath observance is something we were taught when we were little and we’ve truly come to appreciate as adults.”

Although their store may look like it’s made for hipsters, many touches show they are a family friendly business. From the name “The Grey House” (derived from Dani’s son’s name) to the train table for children to play at while their parents shop, their store is designed to serve shoppers by making them feel at home. They offer a unique selection of clothing, handmade accessories and gifts for men and women and even have a small baby corner.

The location they chose for The Grey House is a second story shop with 1,000 square feet of retail space and an additional 1,000 square feet in the back where their children can play and be with them while they’re working. It is located in between a snack shop and a bar. Soon after moving in, they made friends with several of the bartenders and when one saw their closed sign on Saturday he told them, “That’s our biggest day in this town. You can’t be closed on Saturdays. That’s [expletive] suicide.”

The girls smile when they tell this story because growing sales have proven their friend wrong. They are currently in their third year of business and have seen sales double year over year.

It was important to Dena and Dani that people knew why they were closed, so they hang a simple sign out on Friday evenings that says:

*The Grey House is closed on Saturdays so that the owners may enjoy Sabbath with their families. Please visit us again Sunday through Friday, or online: [thegreyhouse.boutique](http://thegreyhouse.boutique).*

“It has been completely amazing to me how respectful people are of our decision,” said Dena. “I expected customers to be upset when they came to shop and found us closed, but instead, we’ve actually had customers happily return the next day. In fact, earlier this summer a couple told us that they planned their trip to Estes Park on Sunday instead of Saturday because they wanted to shop at The Grey House. I was blown away.”

Dani says they feel God blessing their business and have been surprised at the number of times spiritual matters come up in conversations with customers. “Lots of people have questions about why we’re closed on one of

the biggest sales days and it has given us an opportunity to share why Sabbath rest is important to us. I hope people notice we are kind and care about them before they notice we are people of faith. But I think Sabbath provides a gateway to talk about deeper matters.”

“I’m not going to lie,” said Dena. “There are times I see how much traffic there is coming into town as we’re driving to church and I wonder what our sales would be if we were open.” She is quick to add, “It’s just a passing thought though. We’ve seen too many evidences of God taking care of us. And running a business is hard work—I honestly don’t know how anyone does it without taking a Sabbath rest!”

Submitted by Dena King and Dani Stafford.

# Communication Intern Shares Fresh Insights

Rajmund Dabrowski



Katie Morrison worked for the RMC Communication Department during the summer of 2015.

included assisting with news reporting at the General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas. It was a benefit to the North American Division, and the Mid-America Union Conference's OUTLOOK news coverage to have the millennial set of eyes and an honest appraisal of what was said and done. From San Antonio, Katie's articles from the General Conference Session were shared with the church around the globe.

Barnett added that it was "pleasing to hear our North American Division communication director tell Katie that 'we will keep our eyes on you when you are ready to graduate from Union College.' It was

almost as if we watched a young college student come into her own this summer. Personally, I want to thank Katie for a job well done."

On her last day at the office, Katie reminisced: "I remember how I felt at the beginning of the summer, nervous and unsure of how I would fit in, and now that I've reached my last day, I can't imagine not coming into the office tomorrow and seeing the people who have taught me so much these last 10 weeks."

Katie added that her summer, which looked so dismal and boring in May, turned out to be one of the most impactful experiences of her life. "I couldn't be more grateful for what I've learned and the people that taught it to me," she added.

Katie's immediate plans are to travel to Italy and spend a year learning Italian at Istituto Avventista di Cultura Biblica Villa Aurora in Florence.

Rajmund Dabrowski is communication director for the Rocky Mountain Conference.

**K**atie Morrison, a junior business and communication student from Union College, completed a 10-week summer internship with the Rocky Mountain Communication Department on Aug. 6.

As part of her responsibilities, Katie wrote 20 major stories, edited the *NewsNuggets* newsletter, prepared items for the upcoming edition of the *Mountain Views*, assisted with social media and related online tasks, and was involved with marketing aspects of our communication programs.

"Katie has brought energy and an ability to help all of us look at things through different glasses," said **Ed Barnett**, RMC president. "She gave things a different slant and used different words than those we had been used to, as she sees things through the eyes of a 21-year-old."

Having been a communication intern in my professional past, I was delighted to be involved with someone who could be given a variety of tasks and watch the talents, skills and work ethic for which Katie will be remembered growing. Her internship also

## Wanted: More Semicolons

**A** semicolon is used when an author could have chosen to end his or her sentence, but didn't. Today, people all over the world are tattooing the mark on themselves as a reminder of their personal life struggle, victory and survival.

A suicide takes place every 13 minutes in America. It's a public health problem that is one of the leading causes of death among young people. Yet many of these suicides could have been prevented if the victims had received help.

**David Kennedy**, pastor of Newday Christian Fellowship in Colorado, was made aware of this problem after a conversation with Parker's mayor, **Mike Waid**, who sees suicide as an area of great community need.

This prompted Kennedy, along with his assistant **Lisa Engelkemier**, to attend a training session through the Douglas County Sheriff's Office several months ago, and then to offer the training to the community.

On Sept. 13, more than 45 people attended the safeTALK

training at Newday Church. The group included teachers from the local school district, public school students, a probation officer from Douglas County, and Campion Academy deans and assistant deans. Participants received skills training for talking to potentially suicidal people and connecting them to an agency able to keep them safe and continue to offer help.

Carol Bolden is communication assistant for the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Those living in Colorado who are interested in creating a suicide-safer community may contact Phyllis A. Harvey, Douglas County Sheriff's Office/Y.E.S.S. at [pharvey@dcsheriff.net](mailto:pharvey@dcsheriff.net). To talk to someone about your own thoughts of suicide, call the Colorado Crisis and Support Line at 1.844.493.8255.

# Shawnee Mission Health Spreads Thanks with Free Concert

Photos: Courtesy Shawnee Mission Health



**Oleta Adams**

**A**s part of its annual Celebration of Thanksgiving event, Shawnee Mission Health is celebrating gratitude with the Kansas City community throughout the month of November.

A member of Adventist Health System, SMH is once again offering its free Celebration of Thanksgiving concert on Nov. 21 as a thank you to the community from associates, physicians and staff.

This year's show will feature two local Kansas City musicians—**Oleta Adams** and **Gracie Schram**.

Concert headliner Adams saw her career blossom with her 1990 debut and Platinum album *Circle of One*, and the hit single "Get Here" which became an unofficial anthem of the 1991 Gulf War. Adams has inspired a growing legion of fans in the U.S. and Europe via songs that draw deeply from her roots in

gospel, while crossing into the realms of soul, R&B, urban and popular music.

Schram, also from Kansas City, will open for Adams. At a mere 17-years-old, Schram already possesses the songwriting and vocal brilliance needed to earn fans among critics and casual listeners alike.

For more than 20 years, SMH has given the community the gift of an inspiring concert to show their gratitude for the opportunity to serve the community's healthcare needs while also providing Kansas Citians with a fun, inspirational way to celebrate the holiday season with friends and family.

This year, SMH is extending the festivities well beyond the event day by featuring a social media campaign that will highlight videos of individuals sharing stories about why they are thankful.

"When we know why we are grateful, giving thanks is more meaningful," said SMH administrative director of Spiritual Wellness, **Mark Stoddart**. "We want to

encourage people to think about why they are grateful for the blessings they receive while also showing the community how Shawnee Mission Health makes a difference in people's lives through our mission of Improving Health Through Christian Service."

The videos will be created by SMH, and community members will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite stories. SMH will feature the winning story during the concert.

Jackie Woods is a writer for Shawnee Mission Health.

**Celebration of Thanksgiving is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 21, 3:30 pm at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas. For more information or to reserve tickets, visit [ShawneeMission.org/celebration](http://ShawneeMission.org/celebration) or call the Box Office at 913.469.4445.**



**Gracie Schram**



# Avista Adventist Hospital Facilitates Training Exchange

Photos: Rajmund Dabrowski



Karen Souza and Libia Ruiz, nurses from Peru, traveled to Avista Adventist Hospital in August to participate in the Global Health Initiative training directed by Greg Hodgson.

Two nurses from Iquitos, Peru, visited Avista Adventist Hospital for training last August. **Libia Ruiz** and **Karen Souza** spoke enthusiastically about their “happy opportunity” to spend a week on the Avista campus in Louisville, Colorado. Coordinated under Centura Health’s Global Health Initiative, their visit was part of an ongoing exchange of medical administrators, professionals, and staff between Avista and Clinica Adventista Ana Stahl, a 40-bed medical institution on the shores of the Amazon River.

Clinica Adventista is one of three hospitals operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Peru. Ruiz is manager of Clinica Adventista’s surgery nursing team. She says her visit “is about gaining a better vision... and observing a difference in techniques and processes we use with surgeries.”

Avista initiated the training exchange with Clinica Adventista nine years ago. **David Meza**, a

financial counselor at Avista, recalls his first impressions of the Peruvian hospital when he visited in 2006: “I remember seeing ants and flies in the operating room. Hygiene was their challenge. Today, everything is different. The hospital’s cafeteria serves gourmet meals nowadays!”

Avista’s involvement with Clinica Adventista has extended far beyond a one-time event. Each trip includes direct interaction between staff members in Peru and Colorado. “What you notice now is a change in quality of medical care. Hospital leaders have come to observe, then they go back, and now we see a change at their clinic,” says Meza.

Once a month, Avista CEO **Dennis Barts** consults with Clinica Adventista administrators and managers via Skype. He says his first visit to Iquitos made him realize “that sustainability of their hospital is really important...including their business plan, their business

model, and ways for expansion.”

During their visits, Clinica Adventista administrators and medical staff have received training in patient and employee satisfaction, patient safety, nursing education, leadership, financial services, and human resources. During their recent visit, Barts says that Ruiz and Souza “learned a great deal about safety, quality, patient care, and about processes to make them more efficient and more effective. Our staff spent perhaps 60 to 70 hours with them in the week they were at Avista. We brought in translators to make sure that the communication was very clear.” He is satisfied that their visit was well worth the investment made by Global Health Initiative.

The blessing is mutual. When an Avista medical mission team visits Clinica Adventista, they return with stories of how they were blessed beyond what they had to give, says Barts. They may treat as many as 1,000 patients during a visit. Many of them “take their children, their teenagers with them. It helps their teenagers realize that the latest video game, or the latest smartphone, the latest tablet, or the latest gadget is not nearly as important as changing people’s lives.”

**Calvin Smith**, who coordinates surgical services at Avista, previously served as a missionary in Peru. For him, participation in the visits to Clinica Adventista is a way to give back. “Surgery is a one-time event,” he says. “For a patient coming to surgery, it is a huge event, especially when an American doctor performs it.”

During their recent visit to Avista, Ruiz and Souza especially enjoyed training for CPR. “What I would like to take with me is a mannequin,” said Souza. “This will give me the capacity to help train others.”

Did they miss anything during their 10-day journey to Colorado and back? Their response highlights the sacrifice made for the opportunity to learn and to give back to their community.

“I miss my children,” Ruiz said.

“And of course my husband,” Souza added.

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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 Rajmund Dabrowski and edited by Mark Bond.



# FAREWELL

**Almer, Ronald D.**, b. July 20, 1951 in Moorhead, MN. d. Aug. 26, 2015 in Turtle Lake, ND. Member of Turtle Lake Church. Preceded in death by parents. Survivors include daughter Sarah Thornton; 5 siblings; 4 grandchildren.

**Bahnmler, Gerhart**, b. Jan. 3, 1914 in Halliday, ND. d. Sept. 29, 2015 in Chaseley, ND. Member of Bowdon Country Church. Preceded in death by wife Mary; parents; 11 siblings; 1 granddaughter. Survivors include daughters Genny Bahnmler and LoAnn Heier; sons Allan, Eddie, Dale, Lowell and Lynn; 9 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

**Bahnmler, Mary**, b. Dec. 10, 1915 in Dodge, ND. d. Sept. 14, 2015 in Carrington, ND. Member of Bowdon Country Church. Preceded in death by parents; siblings; 1 granddaughter. Survivors include husband Gerhart (now deceased); daughters Genny Bahnmler and LoAnn Heier; sons Allan, Eddie, Dale, Lowell and Lynn; 9 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

**Barnes, Eldon**, b. June 7, 1933. d. Sept. 6, 2015 in Sioux City, IA. Member of Sioux City Church. Preceded in death by daughter Melanie; 2 siblings. Survivors include wife Avon; daughter Valerie; sons Gregg and Terry; 5 siblings; 13 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

**Beamesderfer, Marlys**, b. Dec. 18, 1953 in Carrington, ND. d. Mar. 29, 2015 in Custer, SD. Member of Minot (ND) Church. Preceded in death by father. Survivors include husband Bly; daughter Jolene Ratts; sons Wesley and John Nostdahl; mother; 3 brothers; 3 grandchildren.

**Bergquist, Verda C.**, b. Jan. 13, 1918 in Stillwater, MN. d. Aug. 3, 2015 in Delano, MN. Member of Maple Plain Church. Preceded in death by husband Alton; 1 daughter; 6 siblings; 1 grandson. Survivors include daughter Constance Berindei; son Richard; 3 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

**Buchmiller, Shirley**, b. June 9, 1937 in Turtle Lake, ND. d. Apr. 23, 2015 in Harvey, ND. Member of Manfred Church. Preceded in death by husband Wilbert. Survivors include stepson Donald; 4 siblings.

**Burnett, Harold P.**, b. Aug. 6, 1924 in Iowa Township, SD. d. Apr. 24, 2015 in Huron, SD. Member of Huron Church. Preceded in death by wife

Ethel; siblings. Survivors include daughter Jessica Hofer; sons Roy and Harold; 9 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.

**Callahan, Nancy A.**, b. June 5, 1946 in Cozad, NE. d. Aug. 9, 2015 in Cozad, NE. Member of Gothenburg Church. Preceded in death by husband Robert. Survivors include daughters Darlene Peckham and Candi Sartin; son Shane; 4 siblings; 3 grandchildren.

**Christenson, Dorothy I.**, b. Dec. 16, 1923 in Medford, MN. d. July 11, 2015 in Buffalo, MN. Member of Albert Lea Church. Preceded in death by husband Raymond; 2 infant sons; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughters Darlene Lombard and Alvina Cook; 2 siblings; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Clark, Paul**, b. Mar. 5, 1943 in Eldon, MO. d. Aug. 28, 2015 in Otterville, MO. Member of Sedalia Church. Preceded in death by siblings. Survivors include wife Marylyn; daughters Marsha, Michelle, Shauna, Tammie, Kaliah and Sheyla; sons David, Mark, Shannon and Leon; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Dick, Elwin K.**, b. Mar. 5, 1921 near LaHarpe, KS. d. Sept. 9, 2015 in Wichita, KS. Member of Iola Church. Preceded in death by wife Fern; 3 brothers. Survivors include daughter Norma Cramer; sons Merlin and Ken; 1 brother; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

**Dietel, James B.**, b. Jan. 24, 1929 in Hawkeye, IA. d. July 2, 2015 in Minneapolis, MN. Member of Southview Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include wife Diane; children Robin Fisher, Cindy Basto and Mark; 1 sister; 6 grandchildren. Served in U.S. Army.

**Eastin, Farrell**, b. Oct. 3, 1925. d. Aug. 25, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Survivors include wife LaVerna (now deceased); daughter Gloria Razo; sons Carl Dean and Monte; 9 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild.

**Eastin, LaVerna**, b. Oct. 11, 1930. d. Sept. 6, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Preceded in death by husband Farrell. Survivors include daughter Gloria Razo; sons Carl Dean and Monte; 9 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild.

**Eichele, Virginia J.**, b. Aug. 19, 1933 in rural Medina, ND. d. July 28, 2015 in Carrington, ND. Member of Bowdon Country Church. Survivors include husband Lanerd; sons Dallas, Melvin and Kenneth; 2 sisters; 3 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

**Elving, Carol**, b. June 30, 1947 in Duluth, MN. d. Aug. 10, 2015 in Duluth, MN. Member of Duluth Church. Preceded in death by husband Bruce; parents; 1 brother. Survivors include daughters Kristine Stuart, Karin Clements and Kimberly Misson; 1 sister; numerous grandchildren.

**Ferguson, Barbara J.**, b. Jan. 25, 1951 in Alliance, NE. d. July 18, 2015 in Scottsbluff, NE. Member of Scottsbluff Church. Preceded in death by parents; 1 brother. Survivors include husband Joe; sons Shawn and Bruce; 1 brother; 2 grandchildren.

**Foreman, Sally A.**, b. Dec. 1, 1932 in Watford City, ND. d. Sept. 22, 2015 in Keene, ND. Member of Watford City Church. Preceded in death by husband Gordon; parents; 1 brother; 1 grandson. Survivors include daughters Laurie Foreman, Rita Heilman and Nita Frame; sons Wayne, Dave and Lance; 3 siblings; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren.

**Fulk, John W.**, b. Aug. 22, 1925 in Eugene, OR. d. Aug. 7, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Survivors include daughter Jan Huckins; sons Joel and John; 5 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

**Griebel, Alvin "Bud" E.**, b. July 4, 1928 in Madison, SD. d. Mar. 24, 2015 in Sioux Falls, SD. Member of Sioux Falls Church. Preceded in death by 1 sister. Survivors include wife Catherine; daughters Cathy Starnes and Lynne Griebel; son Merle; 1 grandchild.

**Haefner, Arthur E.**, b. May 31, 1927 in Glenham, SD. d. Mar. 6, 2015 in Mobridge, SD. Member of Mobridge Church. Preceded in death by wife Ruth; daughter Bonnie Weron; 11 siblings. Survivors include daughters Yvonne Haefner and Sue Bender; sons Douglas, Mike and David; 1 sister; 10 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren.

**Hansen, Maurice**, b. July 4, 1918 in Minnehaha Township, ND. d. July 23, 2015 in Hettinger, ND. Member of Bowman Church. Preceded in death by wife Dorothy; son Terry; 1 brother. Survivors include

daughter Penny; sons Miles and Tom; 1 brother; 9 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren.

**Hart, Norma D.**, b. Apr. 1, 1920. d. Aug. 24, 2015. Member of Hastings (NE) Church. Preceded in death by husband Rowland; stillborn son Philip. Survivors include sons Perry, Robert and David; 10 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren.

**Hegney, Terhold D.**, b. June 9, 1946 in Harvey, ND. d. Mar. 31, 2015 in Mandan, ND. Member of Turtle Lake Church. Preceded in death by wife Shirley; 1 brother. Survivors include wife Deborah; adopted daughter Brittny; sons Dean and Darin; 4 siblings; stepsons Alex and Anton Schwan; 3 grandchildren.

**Hieb, Bernard M.**, b. Mar. 12, 1926 in Woodworth, ND. d. Sept. 21, 2015 in Cleveland, ND. Member of Cleveland Church. Preceded in death by daughter Bernadine Borisow; 3 siblings. Survivors include wife Olga; daughter Joline Kolsky; 4 siblings; 6 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren.

**Howard, Grace A.**, b. Jan. 18, 1924. d. Oct. 5, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Preceded in death by husband Walter; 2 sisters. Survivors include daughters Linda Johnson, LouAnn Howard; 1 grandson; 5 great-grandchildren. Treasurer for College View Church for 17 years.

**Hunt, Richard A. Sr.**, b. Sept. 21, 1933 in Morton, MN. d. Mar. 19, 2015 in Sioux Falls, SD. Member of Sioux Falls Church. Preceded in death by ex-wife Betty (Cobb) Hunt; 1 sister. Survivors include daughter Mary Dybdahl; son Richard; 2 brothers; ex-wife Lorrie Hunt-Heaton; 6 grandchildren.

**Jenner, Loretta C.**, b. Oct. 23, 1929 in Long Lake, SD. d. Nov. 4, 2014 in Aberdeen, SD. Member of Aberdeen Church. Preceded in death by husband Harry; 2 siblings. Survivors include daughters Candace Nelson, Monica Jenner and Tami Yaeger; sons Mitchell, Timothy and Jody; 1 sister; 6 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

**Johnson, Josephine**, b. Oct. 27, 1932 in West Union, IA. d. July 9, 2015 in Estherville, IA. Member of Spencer Church. Survivors include husband Delbert; daughter Jeannie Allen; son Randy; 2 step-grandchildren; 3 step-great-grandchildren.

**Krueger, James**, b. Oct. 12, 1936 in

**McClusky, ND.** d. Aug. 12, 2015 in McKenzie, ND. Member of Bismarck Church. Preceded in death by son Jon. Survivors include wife Judy; daughter Jayna Kack; sons Walter, James and Jay; 4 siblings; 9 grandchildren.

**Kuehn, Irma "IJ" Jean,** b. July 22, 1932 in Golden, CO. d. Dec. 3, 2014 in Rapid City, SD. Member of Rapid City Church. Survivors include daughter Terri Lynne Harper; son Gary Wayne Shoe; 5 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.

**Logan, Deborah J. "Mrs. Giggles,"** b. Aug. 29, 1957 in Turtle Lake, ND. d. Sept. 10, 2015 in Bismarck, ND. Member of Mandan Church. Preceded in death by parents; 1 sister. Survivors include husband Ronald; children Nathan, Casey and Bailey; 1 brother.

**Look, Joyce,** b. Jan. 19, 1937 in Spokane, WA. d. Aug. 1, 2015 in Rolla, MO. Member of Rolla Church. Preceded in death by 2 brothers. Survivors include husband Ernest; daughters Tamie Hance and Amanda Rasco; son Ronald; 1 sister; 11 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

**Maline, Bernice,** b. Feb. 25, 1929 in Gothenburg, NE. d. Sept. 25, 2015 in North Platte, NE. Member of Gothenburg Church. Survivors include daughters Judy Little, Cheryl "Terri" Gonzalez, LuAnne Barner and Ronda Kreifels; son Randy; 3 siblings; 18 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.

**Martinson, Elmer J.,** b. Nov. 16, 1917. d. June 27, 2015 in Orono, MN. Member of Westview Church. Preceded in death by wife Peggy. Survivors include sons Thomas, Carl "Jack" Bruce and William; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Founder of Minnetonka and Westview Churches. Served in Air Force.

**McGuire, Gary,** b. June 28, 1947 in Cedar Rapids, IA. d. July 17, 2015 in Cedar Rapids, IA. Member of Cedar Rapids Church. Preceded in death by parents; 1 sister. Survivors include wife Janet; daughters Brooke Stammeyer and Katey Andersen; 1 brother; 3 grandchildren.

**Medaris, Michael,** b. Oct. 6, 1944 in Platte City, MO. d. July 15, 2015 in Novinger, MO. Member of Kirksville Church. Preceded in death by 2 siblings. Survivors include daughters Margie Tyler and Michelle Medaris; 2 siblings; 3 grandchildren.

**Meier, DeLane R.,** b. Jan. 17, 1938 in Sheridan County, ND. d. Sept. 10, 2015 in Bismarck, ND. Member of Bismarck Church. Preceded in death by wife Myra; parents; 1 brother. Survivors include wife Suzanne; sons DeWitt and Lee; 6 siblings; 3 grandchildren.

**Morford, Donald K.,** b. Sept. 18, 1928 in Livona, ND. d. Feb. 18, 2015 in Rapid City, SD. Member of Rapid City Church. Preceded in death by 4 siblings. Survivors include partner Janice Schüler; first wife Judy Langford; children Greg Morford and Kim Surve; 3 siblings; 7 grandchildren.

**Murray, Fred,** b. May 12, 1934. d. Aug. 23, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Preceded in death by wife Mary Ann. Survivors include sons Don and Joe; 5 grandchildren.

**Nail, Jack E.,** b. Oct. 31, 1928 in Terre Haute, IN. d. Apr. 3, 2015. Member of Tullahoma (TN) Church. Survivors include wife Ann; children Jacque Elliott, Ted Nail, Lynda Feldmann and Jon Nail.

**Neidigh, David M.,** b. Nov. 22, 1925 in Los Angeles, CA. d. May 16, 2015 in Boulder, CO. Member of Twin Peaks Church. Preceded in death by first wife Betty. Survivors include wife Gatha; sons Ralph, Ron and Roy; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Served in WWII. Pastor and evangelist for 38 years.

**Olderbak, Arlene M.,** b. Aug. 4, 1925 in New Home, ND. d. June 23, 2015 in Edmond, OK. Member of Edmond Church. Preceded in death by husband Dan; 5 siblings. Survivors include children Dennis, Carol, Wayne and Rick; 9 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren.

**Plank, Sue,** b. Aug. 27, 1940 in Lamar, MO. d. Aug. 30, 2015 in Salem, MO. Member of Salem Church. Preceded in death by 2 sisters. Survivors include husband William; daughters Cindy Smart and Barbara Contreras; sons William, Paul and Curtis; 3 siblings; 12 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

**Reno, Juanita,** b. Oct. 7, 1933 in St. Joseph, MO. d. July 25, 2015. Member of Three Angels Church. Preceded in death by husband Alfonso; 3 siblings. Survivors include 4 siblings.

**Rodacker, Kenneth J.,** b. Jan. 26, 1941 in Carrington, ND. d. Sept. 25, 2015 in Chaseley, ND. Member of

Bowdon Country Church. Preceded in death by parents. Survivors include wife Pamela; daughters Fay Fandrich and Holly Widicker; 1 brother; 2 grandchildren.

**Salsbury, Helen,** b. Jan. 2, 1932 in Peru, IA. d. Sept. 4, 2015 in Norwalk, IA. Member of Des Moines Church. Preceded in death by daughter Susan; 4 sisters. Survivors include husband Willis Jr.; daughter Peggy Crabbs; son Willis III; 3 sisters; 3 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren.

**Santiago, Reynitha,** b. Sept. 11, 1941. d. Sept. 3, 2015. Member of Dakota Conference. Survivors include 2 sisters.

**Schaffer, Joyce,** b. Mar. 19, 1929 in Kenmare, ND. d. Apr. 18, 2015 in Bismarck, ND. Member of Mandan Church. Preceded in death by husband Rueben; 2 brothers. Survivors include sons Craig and Neal; 5 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

**Schock, Arnold A.,** b. Sept. 9, 1941 in Rural Steel, ND. d. Jan. 2, 2015 in Bismarck, ND. Member of Cleveland, Church. Preceded in death by parents. Survivors include 2 siblings.

**Seal, Verna H.,** b. Dec. 30, 1932. d. May 15, 2015 in Grand Junction, CO. Member of Fruita Church. Preceded in death by husband Roy. Survivors include daughter RoyceAnn Mosher; sons Steve, Larry and Gary; 2 siblings; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren.

**Simmons, Alfreda,** b. Jan. 14, 1928 in Darby, IA. d. July 25, 2015 in Centerville, IA. Member of Centerville Church. Preceded in death by 8 siblings. Survivors include 3 siblings.

**Singhurst, Cathleen M.,** b. Sept. 6, 1921 in Madison, SD. d. Aug. 6, 2015 in Hot Springs, SD. Member of Hot Springs Church. Preceded in death by husband Max. Survivors include sons Steven and Joel; 2 sisters.

**Slef, Diana,** b. Apr. 9, 1948 in San Jose, CA. d. June 10, 2015 in St. Clair, MO. Member of Rolla Church. Preceded in death by husband Edward; 1 brother. Survivors include daughters Bernadette Royal and Lorrie Mahan; son Edward Day; 2 siblings; 9 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.

**Stroh, Marlys J.,** b. May 2, 1933 in Harvey, ND. d. Apr. 14, 2015 in Harvey, ND. Member of Bowdon Country Church. Preceded in death

by 1 brother. Survivors include husband Kenneth; daughters Susan DeVries, Dawn Kim Banta and Janeen Bonney; sons Kent, Mike and Hal; 22 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren.

**Tebelius, Larry M.,** b. Aug. 13, 1937 in Bowdon, ND. d. Sept. 5, 2015 in Bowden, ND. Member of Bowdon Country Church. Preceded in death by parents; 1 brother. Survivors include wife Freida; children Marsha Buchwitz, Marlys Harris and George Tebelius; 1 sister; 6 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.

**Tiede, Leila J.,** b. July 5, 1923 in Elm Creek, NE. d. July 22, 2015 in Lincoln, NE. Member of Kansas-Nebraska Conference. Preceded in death by husband Fred. Survivors include daughters Margaret Erickson and Becky Akert; 4 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

**Unterseher, Dennis D.,** b. Nov. 16, 1940 in Bowdon, ND. d. July 29, 2015 in Ooltewah, TN. Preceded in death by 3 siblings. Survivors include wife Jeanne; sons Darin and Craig; 3 siblings.

**VanScoy, Beverly,** b. Oct. 3, 1931 in Fargo, ND. d. Aug. 2, 2015 in Independence, MO. Member of Kansas City Central Church. Survivors include husband Ernie; daughters Susan Helfrich, Dona Grow and Annette Campbell; son Jim.

**Weber, Evelyn M.,** b. Jan. 22, 1929 in Fredrick, WI. d. Apr. 22, 2015 in Minneapolis, MN. Member of Sioux Falls (SD) Church. Preceded in death by husband Lloyd; son Danny; 3 siblings. Survivors include daughter Vicky Fogg; sons David and Richard; 9 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

**Yellow Bird-Exendine, Mary Rose,** b. Nov. 27, 1939 in Red Shirt Table, SD. d. May 7, 2015 in Chadron, NE. Member of Payabya Mission Church. Preceded in death by husband Elbert Sr.; son Larry Danforth; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughters Terri Rattler, Leslie Skinner, Kelli Skinner and Debbie Soar; 10 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

To submit an obituary visit [outlookmag.org/contact](http://outlookmag.org/contact) or email Raschelle Hines at [raschelle@outlookmag.org](mailto: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](http://southern.edu/tech) for more information.

**Do you or someone you know suffer** with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, arthritis, cancer, obesity, depression, stress or smoking? Wellness Secrets Lifestyle Center can help! 5 day, live-in health program in beautiful NW Arkansas, \$495 special. For more info visit [WellnessSecrets4u.com](http://WellnessSecrets4u.com) or call 479.752.8555.

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**Prevent & Reverse Lifestyle Disease 14 & 28-Day Programs** are all tailor-made for the individual. Natural remedies, hydrotherapy, massage. Beginning and ending dates are flexible. Cost: 14-day \$2600, 28-day \$4800. Butler Creek Health Education Center, Iron City, TN. Register online or call: [www.butlercreekhealth.org](http://www.butlercreekhealth.org), 931.213.1329.

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle).

## 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](mailto:wehlingm15@gmail.com).

**Andrews University seeks Faculty in Management/Marketing.** Responsibilities: Teach Marketing and related courses at undergraduate and graduate levels, perform various duties described in full position description available at link below. Qualifications: Doctorate in marketing with sufficient teaching experience in marketing at graduate and undergraduate levels. Must be actively engaged in research, student advising and supervising student projects. For more information and to apply visit [www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job\\_6](http://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_6).

**Church community in southern Minnesota invites Adventist physicians** to join large, multispecialty, non-church-affiliated practice in Mankato, Minnesota. Current openings: OB/GYN, dermatologist, endocrinologist, otolaryngologist, pulmonologist, psychiatrist, internist, and family practitioners. Comprehensive relocation, profit sharing, low buy-in, and excellent health benefits. Call/text Priscilla at 406.579.6395.

**Pacific Union College is a great place to work!** Vacancies in hourly positions include Human Resources Officer, Office Manager, Cashier, Preschool Teacher, Flight Instructor, Recycling, Driver. For information visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>.

**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](http://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](http://www.puc.edu/hr).

**Pacific Union College seeks Manager for College Market.** Candidate should possess a

degree/experience in business/management or related field. Knowledge and experience of merchandising, logistics, and financials. For information visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>.

**Pacific Union College seeks Public Relations Manager.**

Candidate should possess a degree/experience in journalism/communications or English. Knowledge and experience of magazine/journal writing, publication and management. For information visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>.

**Programmer with a purpose:**

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**Project Manager:** Would you like to be part of a technology team working to empower Adventist ministries to fulfill the Gospel commission and proclaim the Three Angels' Messages? Are you a detail oriented person with leadership skills? Learn more about K3 Integrations' opening for a Project Manager at [bit.ly/k3pm](http://bit.ly/k3pm).

**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](mailto: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 Senior Vice President for Academic Administration**

beginning June 2016. The VPAA leads out in the vision, strategy, and execution of the college's academic goals. Doctorally qualified SDA candidate will be an experienced leader, innovative thinker, and excellent communicator. See <https://www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings>. Send CV to Dr. Vinita Sauder, [visauder@ucollege.edu](mailto:visauder@ucollege.edu).

**Union College seeks Seventh-day Adventist Masters Prepared PA faculty member.**

Ideal candidate will have clinical experience in Family Practice and Emergency Medicine. Prior

teaching experience desired but not necessary. Start date: June 1, 2016. Send CV and references to Jodi Chewakin: [jochewak@ucollege.edu](mailto:jochewak@ucollege.edu).

**TRAVEL/RENTALS**

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**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](http://www.acichild.com) for more info or contact Charlene Binder at [rdbinder42@gmail.com](mailto:rdbinder42@gmail.com).

SUNSET CALENDAR	Colorado	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 27	Dec 4
	Denver	4:53	4:46	4:41	4:37	4:36
	Grand Junction	5:08	5:02	4:57	4:53	4:52
	Pueblo	4:54	4:48	4:43	4:40	4:38
	Iowa					
	Davenport	4:52	4:44	4:39	4:35	4:33
	Des Moines	5:04	4:56	4:51	4:47	4:45
	Sioux City	5:13	5:05	4:59	4:55	4:53
	Kansas					
	Dodge City	5:37	5:30	5:26	5:23	5:21
Goodland	4:40	4:34	4:29	4:25	4:23	
Topeka	5:17	5:10	5:05	5:02	5:00	
Minnesota						
Duluth	4:46	4:37	4:30	4:24	4:21	
International Falls	4:46	4:37	4:29	4:23	4:19	
Minneapolis	4:55	4:47	4:40	4:35	4:32	
Missouri						
Columbia	5:03	4:57	4:52	4:48	4:47	
Kansas City	5:12	5:06	5:01	4:57	4:56	
St. Louis	4:56	4:50	4:45	4:41	4:40	
Nebraska						
Lincoln	5:17	5:10	5:05	5:01	4:59	
North Platte	5:33	5:26	5:20	5:17	5:15	
Scottsbluff	4:43	4:36	4:30	4:26	4:24	
North Dakota						
Bismarck	5:20	5:12	5:04	4:59	4:56	
Fargo	5:04	4:55	4:48	4:43	4:39	
Williston	5:28	5:19	5:11	5:05	5:02	
South Dakota						
Pierre	5:24	5:16	5:10	5:05	5:03	
Rapid City	4:37	4:29	4:22	4:18	4:15	
Sioux Falls	5:12	5:04	4:58	4:53	4:51	
Wyoming						
Casper	4:52	4:44	4:38	4:34	4:31	
Cheyenne	4:49	4:42	4:37	4:33	4:31	
Sheridan	4:50	4:42	4:35	4:30	4:28	

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