

OUTLOOK

KEEPING OUR YOUTH

COMING BACK



More Than Tuition
Money p. 8

How One Encounter
Changed My Life

p. 6

PLUS They Call Me Lazarus p.10



MAY2016
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CONTENTS | MAY 2016

THE REAL QUESTIONS



BRENDA DICKERSON
editor

We're heading into a busy time of year filled with graduations, weddings, family reunions, camp meeting and summer camp. At every turn we will be surrounded by opportunities to interact with people, especially young people.

I hope we will each remember the power of our words for either building up or tearing down, for encouraging or discouraging. I hope we will smile often, express appreciation, and show kindness and support.

And at the end of the day I hope we will ask ourselves:

Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and the life to come. —Henri Nouwen



CAMP MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Find one near you

midamericaadventist.org (click Calendar)

ONLINE



Treolo Receives Communication

Award <http://outlookmag.org/treolo-receives-communication-award/>



Our Story: La Vida Mission Video

<https://vimeo.com/150568776>

ON THE COVER

Summer camp is the number one place where young people choose to give their hearts to Christ.

Registration is now open for all Mid-America camps:

bit.ly/summercampregistration2016

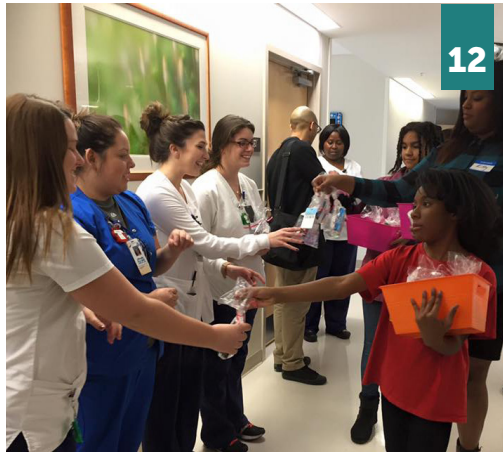
Photo: Unsplash.com



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8



12



27



6

PERSPECTIVES

WHY DOES THE UNIVERSE MAKE NO SENSE?

—Ed Dickerson
p. 4

EVERY MEMBER AS A YOUTH MINISTER

—Gary Thurber
p. 5

FEATURES

DID YOU EVER DRIVE A VOLVO?

p. 6

MORE THAN TUITION MONEY

p. 8

THEY CALL ME LAZARUS

p. 10

NEWS

12 Central States

14 Dakota

16 Iowa-Missouri

18 Kansas-Nebraska

20 Minnesota

22 Rocky Mountain

24 Union College

26 Adventist Health

28 Farewell

29 InfoMarket

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“From supper to midnight our home was open.” p. 13



24

WHY DOES THE UNIVERSE MAKE NO SENSE?

Arthur Dent, the protagonist in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, said, "You know, I've always felt there is something fundamentally wrong with the Universe."

One of the reasons I am a Seventh-day Adventist—and would recommend it to anyone who feels like Arthur Dent—is that Adventism provides the best answer to the simple question, "What is wrong with the universe?" Or, put another way, "Why does the universe make no sense?"

All of us believe in an intuitive way that if we play by the rules, do the right things and help our fellow man we will be rewarded with a long and prosperous life. We also believe that those who do wrong and hurtful things will suffer and be punished. We think that's the way things are supposed to be. Except...they are not.

Riches to rags

One of the oldest stories in the Bible explores this problem. The book of Job begins with a startlingly positive testimony: *There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was blameless, upright, fearing God and turning away from evil.*

The text goes on to confirm that Job's situation matches our basic assumption: he is rich in every sense of the word having many children, great wealth and loyal servants. He does the right things and he has been appropriately rewarded.

But then, in one day, disaster strikes him.

And suddenly Job's world no longer makes sense. He knows he has done no great wrong, certainly nothing to deserve such destruction. Yet his so-called comforters insist that he must have done something wrong—not because they know or have witnessed anything wrong, but because they want *their* world to make sense.

Invisible witnesses

The brilliance of the book of Job is that it pulls back the curtain and reveals what is happening—not on this planet, but somewhere else entirely.

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. The Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."

So here we have the issue in its starkest form. Since it's His meeting, the Lord asks, "What are you doing here? You don't belong here!" And Satan replies, "Oh, but I do! I'm in charge of the Earth."

Then God and Satan engage in a verbal sparring match, and God essentially ends up saying "All right, then. You can take away everything Job has, all the things you think I'm bribing him with."

What is the point of the story? Job is never informed that his trials are the result of the heavenly encounters

that the reader sees. In fact, Job never gets an explanation from God.

The only ones who are benefited are the "sons of God." They see the accusation made by Satan and understand why the trials come upon Job. They also see, demonstrated by Job's faithfulness, that Satan's accusations are false.

No neutral ground

Seventh-day Adventists call this idea that there are witnesses elsewhere to the conflict taking place on this earth between God and Satan the Great Controversy. But we are not the only ones to have seen it. C. S. Lewis expressed it this way: "There is no neutral ground in the universe; every square inch, every split second, is claimed by God and counter-claimed by Satan."

Still, this doctrine of the Great Controversy is part of our DNA as Adventists. It gives an explanation for the otherwise unexplainable problems of human suffering—why innocent children contract terrible diseases; why the lives of godly people are sometimes cut short; why, as a famous book title has said, bad things happen to good people.

An understanding of the Great Controversy is part of who we are, part of our identity. It helps an otherwise senseless world make sense. And that, it seems to me, is a great gift. **■**

ED DICKERSON

is a lay pastor, church planter, writer and speaker. He enjoys photography, golf, music, watching football and exegetical Bible study. His passion is to do everything in his power to see that, if the Lord tarries, there will be an Adventist church that his children and grandchildren want to belong to.

Ed has been blogging for OUTLOOK since 2009.



EVERY MEMBER AS A YOUTH MINISTER

One of my favorite parts of being a youth director was traveling to local congregations to participate in the annual Investiture of the churches' Pathfinder clubs. One particular Investiture service I will never forget because it highlighted for me the crucial role that each church member plays in the development of our young people.

The Pathfinders were in their dress uniforms and looking sharp. When the program began, they marched into the auditorium with precision, posted the colors, recited the Pathfinder law and pledge, sang the Pathfinder song, and stood at attention as their director gave a welcome. The only problem—there was no one there except us! No parents (except those in charge of the Pathfinder program) and no church members or friends chose to come out to support them, not even the pastor.

As I stared at the empty chairs, I wondered what the Pathfinders might be thinking. *Maybe what we have accomplished is not all that important, or Our church really doesn't care about us* are thoughts no young person who attends an Adventist church should ever have to entertain. The truth is, what they accomplished was tremendously important and support from the local congregation would have been extremely meaningful.

I believe there is no more important work in our churches than for members to be youth ministers. Some

might ask, "How do I do that? I am not gifted for working with young people." You don't have to lead a program to make a huge difference. Here are eight ways you can become a positive part of the youth ministry team of your church:

1. Support all the programs youth are involved in with your presence. Just by showing up you will let the young people feel your love and support and sense their worth to their church.

2. Know each young person in your church by name. I can't stress how important this is. You might not realize this, but young people look up to you as an adult. When you call them out by name with a warm greeting, it makes them feel valued and important.

3. Thank, honor and support those who work directly with the youth. Those who voluntarily give of their time and resources to teach our young people in Sabbath school, Pathfinders and youth groups need our love and care. These are not easy offices to hold in a church, but are among the most important.

4. Always be a source of encouragement to your young people. Having a patient, loving heart toward our young people does more for them than any program we could ever offer. Christ Himself spoke some of His most poignant words of rebuke about those who would dishearten our youth.

5. Support our youth and their involvement in camp

programs and mission projects. Did you know a camp setting is the number one place young people make a commitment to the Lord? Find ways to make it affordable for our kids to attend camp and be involved in short term mission trips and other youth ministry opportunities. I can think of no greater investment for our church.

6. Support and encourage our children to be a part of Christian education. The data supporting the benefits of a Christian education is amazing. Not only do students thrive academically, they are also four times less likely to be involved in self-destructive behavior and four times more likely to be involved with the church when they become an adult.

7. Pray for them. Put the children in your church on your prayer list and pray for them by name.

8. Support your youth's involvement in church. Our young people have so much talent and want to contribute. Give them the opportunity to be a part of the worship service and let them play a role in the church's activities. Chances are they will have a few faux pas, but they will enrich your church with their gifts and abilities.

If you will take to heart these suggestions, you will have a tremendous impact on the youth in your church. You are needed! You may not always see immediately the difference you are making, but the impact of youth ministries can last a lifetime. **■**

Here are eight practical ways you can become a positive part of the youth ministry team of your church.

GARY THURBER
is president of the
Mid-America Union.



DID YOU EVER DRIVE A VOLVO?

Hubert Cisneros shares life-changing encounter from his youth

At the 2014 North American Division Ministries Convention in Monterey, California, David Kinnaman, Barna Group president, reported that 59 percent of Adventist young adults who remain active in the church do so because an adult—other than a pastor or parent—took an interest in their life.

I was shocked to learn in an additional report that up to 70 percent of young people end up leaving the Christian church by the time they are

young adults, although some later return.*

We could focus on all the negative reasons why young people leave the church. But perhaps our time is better spent in considering why they stay.

Change points

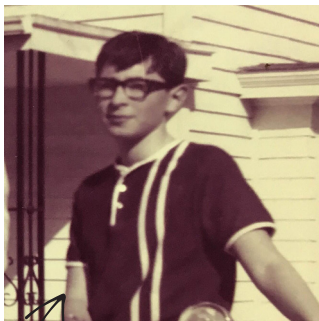
In the mind of a young person, pastors are paid to be interested in them, and their parents are naturally concerned. So, according to Barna Group research, when other adults really care too, it matters.

It has been my experience that we lose many young adults when they are about 13-16 years of age. This is the age when many young people are ending their involvement with Pathfinders and entering junior high and high school. It is an awkward age when young people are vulnerable and need acceptance from peers. It is a time for discovering their identity.

This is the time when we need adult church members to be involved and care. A

church that makes sure it has an Earliteen and/or Youth Sabbath School Team (Youth Group) is going a long way in helping its young people develop their spiritual lives.

Fortunately, I am one of those 59 percent who can point to a church, a church school, and a youth leader who took an interest in my choices. One of those adults was Lloyd Summers, a busy attorney. Not only was he our Sabbath school leader, he was also our basketball and



Me (Hubert Cisneros) at age 12.

Feeding a squirrel in my backyard on my way to Pathfinders.



My sister, Madalyn, and myself before I went away to Monterey Bay Academy to get a new start in a new school.

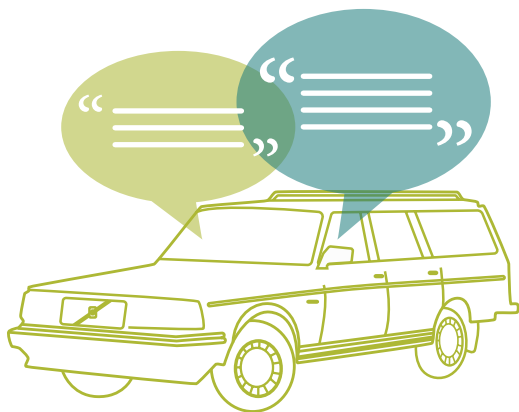
Pathfinders was a good support during my challenging 10th grade.



At home during Christmas Vacation (senior year) with house guest Bill Keresoma. We went forward together during junior year at Monterey Bay Academy and gave our lives to Christ. Today Bill Keresoma is the Education Superintendent of the Northern California Conference.

With my older brother, Arnold, (wearing my cap and gown) at my academy graduation with new friends who love and serve God.





football coach. He was someone I looked up to.

One day Lloyd came to our school, Boulder Junior Academy, and asked to speak to me privately about a serious matter. We walked out into the parking lot and sat in his Volvo. There he “care-fronted” me about some destructive choices I was making. He prayed with me and appealed to me to change the direction of my life before I destroyed it. The result? That one prayer and intervention was an important positive turning point.

Making the difference


I had not spoken with Lloyd for nearly 35 years until Steve Case, president of Involve Youth Ministries, and I decided to begin writing the first training manuals in the Seventh-day Adventist Church for local Sabbath school leaders (Youth Group). I called Lloyd, now living in Portland, Oregon, because I wanted him to know that I was dedicating the second book, *Building A Great Team*, to him.

I asked him if he remembered taking me out of school when I was in the 10th grade and talking and praying with me. He said he didn’t. Then I asked him if he drove a Volvo back then. He said that he did. How did I know? I told Lloyd that I still remember studying the chrome emblem on the dashboard while he prayed for me.

Turning hearts

You may never know in this life the difference you are making in the life of a young person. In the Mid-America Union we have hundreds of God’s children who need someone just like you to take time to care.

The Bible gives the people with the Elijah Message a promise and a consequence regarding its young people: “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to the fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse” (Mal. 4:6).

There are so many wonderful things happening in the Mid-America Union for our young people. I want to thank all the children, youth and young adult leaders of our churches—and most especially regular church members who go out of their way to care for the young people of the church. As a pastor and a parent it means so much to join with you in the salvation of our kids. 

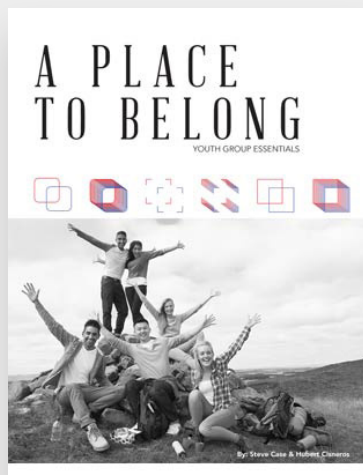
Hubert Cisneros is youth and church ministries director for the Mid-America Union.

**LifeWay Research, The EXCHANGE Blog, May 14, 2014; Dropouts and Disciples: How many students are really leaving the church? bit.ly/theexchangeblog*

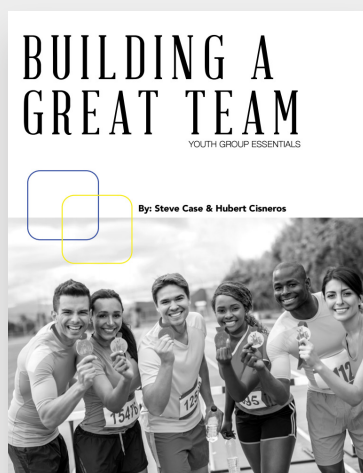
HOW TO CREATE A GREAT YOUTH GROUP

A Place to Belong is the first in a new series of five books outlining the essentials for creating a great youth group. The remaining three books in the set, soon to be published, will build on the foundational principles in *A Place to Belong* and *Building a Great Team*.

Each book has six chapters ready made for youth leadership conventions or training in the local church. These resources are available at AdventSource: bit.ly/1S11WRq



Learn how to create an atmosphere where young people love to come and learn about God and bring their friends.



Jesus needed a team and so do you. Find out what it takes to be successful in leading a team for God.

*Positive Transformations (coming in 2017)
Making Good Choices and Growing Great Relationships (to follow)*

MORE THAN TUITION MONEY

Magabook student LE summer program celebrates 20 years in Iowa-Missouri



After having worship and praying together the 2015 Youth Alive team gets fired up for the day with their morning cheer, “Maranatha! Jesus is coming soon!”

The Magabook student literature evangelism program began in the Iowa-Missouri Conference in the summer of 1996 at Hillcrest Adventist Elementary School in St. Louis, Missouri. Along the way conferences were encouraged to name their groups; thus we have the “Youth Alive—Alive to God in Christ Jesus” Magabook program.

This summer will mark the 20th year this program has been encouraging our young people to spread God’s Word in cities, large and small, while allowing them to help pay for their Adventist education.

God has been faithful to us throughout the years,

and this past summer was no exception! Not only did we have 21 young adults working in our Youth Alive program, but we also had more than 40 elementary-aged students participating in several of our elementary school programs around the conference. Students distributed more than 12,150 pieces of literature, and over \$120,300 was received in donations, with the majority of that money going for scholarships. God is indeed working powerfully with and through our young people!

Divine appointments

One of our Youth Alive students, Aaron Tan, recounts one of his favorite

experiences from this past summer. He had finished working on his assigned street and, after radioing into the team leader, he was waiting at the corner to be picked up and moved to a new street.

While waiting, he felt impressed to approach a house that had not been assigned to him. When nobody answered the knock at the door, he began wondering why God had given him the inclination to turn aside and approach this house.

As he was leaving the porch, a man pulled up in his vehicle and asked if Aaron had just knocked on the door. When Aaron replied that he had, the man tried to

explain that it was his wife’s house, and he was in the process of moving his stuff out and wouldn’t be staying long. Aaron assured him that he would not take much of his time, introduced himself, and began showing the man some books. Immediately, the man expressed an interest and asked if he had any books that focused on Bible prophecy.

Surprised and grateful for the specific interest, Aaron handed the man a copy of *The Great Controversy*. He was beginning to see God’s plan unfolding and knew this book would be just what the man needed. As the gentleman leafed through the pages, he asked Aaron what

The group gathers for prayer before dinner.



Photos: Courtesy/Edy and Charity Infante



Kyle (r) and Patrick pray together before beginning their route.



Michael and Emily keep smiling, no matter how the day goes.

religion he was. Suddenly, Aaron felt self-conscious. In recounting this experience, he described how he was tempted to mumble and rush through the name Seventh-day Adventist and just say that he was a Christian.

But God spoke to his heart and gave him the courage to slow down and clearly state that he was a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. The man seemed startled and surprised. “You’re kidding,” he said. “My sister, down in Texas, just became a Seventh-day Adventist!” Right then, Aaron knew that this was, indeed, a divine appointment. The man was thrilled and gave Aaron a donation for *The Great Controversy*,

exclaiming that he was eager to read it. Before he left, Aaron asked if he could pray with him. After they had prayed, the man thanked Aaron for stopping by and sharing the books with him.

No fear

What a beautiful reminder of the words of encouragement Jesus spoke in Matthew 10 as He was sending out the 12 disciples. In verses 31 and 32 (NASB), He says, “So do not fear, you are more valuable than many sparrows. Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven.” With these words, Jesus reminds us not to fear for our

reputations, safety, well-being or finances. He empowers us to be bold for the sake of the gospel and to speak bravely of Him to those with whom we come in contact.

I encourage you to seek out how Jesus could use you to “confess” Him to your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers. Thank you for your continued support and prayers as we, summer after summer, challenge our young people with this high calling! 📖

Charity Infante is the Iowa-Missouri Conference Magabook program director.

Perhaps God is calling you to dedicate nine weeks of your summer to literature evangelism. If you’re in high school or college, join us May 29 - July 31 in St. Louis, Missouri, and experience first hand God’s providence as He leads you to those hungry for truth and assurance of God’s love.

For more information and an application for employment, go to www.imsda.org/magabook.

THEY CALL ME LAZARUS

Miracles of a Kansas Biker



On Oct. 13, 2010, I was involved in a motorcycle accident in Wichita, Kansas. It was a beautiful day and the temperature was ideal for riding with only a jacket—no need for chaps or full gloves.

At that point in my life, I was *not* a “religious” man, and that is putting it very mildly. An “unapologetic agnostic with an attitude” would be a better description. But God had plans for me that day, and He showed me great mercies and miracles.

I have absolutely no memory of the accident itself. All I remember was seeing a shadow on my right and then the lights went out.

Angels all around

Much of what follows is second hand information from witnesses and bystanders. There were many “angels” that day who kept me from dying permanently, although I died *twice* in the hospital. Following are some of my miracles:

By the grace of God, the woman who got to me first was a Marine Corps Reserve Corporal (E-4) and an off-duty EMT for the county. She drove like the Dukes of Hazard when she saw me flying through the air and stopped 15 feet from me lying on the ground, to protect me from being run over by oncoming traffic.

She also called the accident directly to the ambulance team that she knew would be sent by the 911 dispatch. “Roll!” she told them. They jumped into their ambulance and were on their way three minutes before they even got the 911 call.

The second woman who got to me had been sitting directly across the street having lunch with her daughter and grandson at a deli. She “just happened” to be the off-duty senior ER surgical nurse at Via Christi St. Francis Hospital trauma unit. She immediately called the nurse who had just relieved her from duty to prepare them for my arrival.

The trauma surgeons on

duty that day were *the best* at St. Francis, having the necessary “attitude” of never quitting regardless of circumstances. Even then, I died twice on the table that evening from loss of blood. I was told that the head surgeon was calling “Time!” meaning that I had flat-lined for so long he was about to write up a death certificate. But by the grace of God, I came back, both times.

He’s not going to make it

I suffered what is called a class II brain shear (a severe Traumatic Brain Injury). And, yes, I was wearing my helmet. The surgeon told my now ex-wife, “You need to make preparations for a funeral. He has about a two percent chance of surviving this.”

She and many of my riding and political friends were fervently praying for my life—in whatever condition I could be saved—which led to several Facebook postings and prayer chains being activated. Within 24 hours there were literally *thousands* all over the world praying for me and my family. I am still amazed at the scope and depth of the outpouring of care and concern on my behalf.

The internal injuries on my right side were extensive: all my ribs were broken at least twice; my right lung collapsed; pancreas, kidney, stomach, gall bladder and colon were all lacerated; the right side of my liver was crushed. It took a week to stabilize my blood pressure. I spent 10 days in a coma and my brain did not



Back row, left to right:
Mark Gragg, Tim Schelske, Mikey Metz, Simon Salazar

Middle row:
Michael Archibeque, Paulena Archibeque, Sheri Wirgau, Bev Metz, Kathy Salazar, Miguel Larcher

Front row:
Jerry Watts, Patrica Watts, James Gragg

Missing members:
Steve MCGrew, Pamala Schelske

even start memory functions for nearly a month. During that time I was a complete amnesiac.

Let's get this done!

When a bed was available I was sent to the VA Regional Hospital in Minneapolis to the TBI specialty care ward. I still had significant brain impairment to be addressed, like speaking, eating, basic hygiene—the works.

The first day I was there, I went outside to have a couple cigarettes. While sitting in my wheelchair staring at the ground, God sent me another “angel”. I saw a set of shuffling feet. Then I heard this awful, guttural speaking sound coming out. When I looked up I was completely horrified.

There was a young man standing in front of me, not even 30 years old, with literally half of his head blown away. It was completely gone! I could not believe what I was seeing, partly because I had been hallucinating when I was in the Wichita VA hospital.

When I got back to the TBI ward, I asked the head nurse if what I had seen was real. She told me it was real. He was an

Iraq veteran who should have died and never made it home. “He has been here now for six years,” she said. “He is never going to leave this place, but he’s happy.”

That young man was the inspiration I needed at that time. Finally I said to myself, *Suck it up buttercup and let's get this done! If that kid can survive his injuries, you got no excuse.* From then on I attacked my therapy as hard as I could. I finished an initial six week evaluation course, successfully, in two-and-a-half weeks. I was home for Christmas.

More challenges

My recovery required multiple surgeries over the next six months, But, praise God, He allowed me to survive them and to learn many things from that process, including an understanding of His mercies and the love He holds for us all. My ex-wife told me, “God spared your life for some special purpose. You had better figure out what that is.”

My two younger brothers are Adventists and I had subconsciously leaned in that direction for years. This all brought

me to the Prophecy Seminar at Wichita Three Angels Church in August 2013, presented by Brian McMahan.

As any good husband should, I desired my ex-wife to come to know these biblical truths I was studying. She and I went together to many classes over the next few months, but as time passed eventually I was going by myself.

I was baptized on Feb. 22, 2014. She was there and shared a testimony that day. But her family strongly disapproved of what I was doing and the following week, without any warning or even an attempt to discuss marriage counseling, I was thrown out of my own home. The following Sabbath I was served divorce papers in the church parking lot.


It was the greatest grief of my entire life and, after 18 years of marriage, the strongest challenge to my new-found faith that I could have ever imagined at that time. Without the emotional strength that God has given me, the church family that I had come to know, and my faith that this will all work out for the best somehow, I would have returned to the

many serious self-destructive behaviors that anger and depression had brought to me before my accident.

Finding a new family

Three months before being baptized I had joined the Sabbath Keepers Motorcycle Ministries here in Wichita. SKMM is an outreach ministry to the motorcycle community and the “outlaw” bikers found there.

We also present our ministry to various interested Adventist churches throughout the state of Kansas, to not only solicit financial support for our difficult ministry efforts, but also to recruit new members to our ministry.

My experience is sort of like the story of Saul on the road to Damascus. As a result of the accident and its immediate aftermath, my brothers and sisters in SKMM now call me “Lazarus.” 

James (Jim) Gragg, aka “Lazarus,” is a member of the Wichita Three Angels Church in Wichita, Kansas.

Read the full story online:
bit.ly/lazarusbiker



Set an Example for the Believers

The heart of CSC Youth Ministries

Photos: Courtesy Central States Conference



Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity." 1 Tim. 4:12 describes the heart of Central States Conference Youth Ministries.

"We believe our youths should never settle for being Christian spectators when God has called them to be leaders," says **Pastor Darriel Hoy**, youth director for the Central States Conference. Adopting a ministry model called LEAD, Central States Youth Ministries is inspiring and equipping a new generation of servant leaders through Life Skills, Entertainment, Agape Love, and Discipleship.

Life Skills

Central States Conference is shaping leaders who shape today and tomorrow. Through life skills ministry, we're equipping teens in our churches and communities with tools to become productive adults. From money management to time management, entrepreneurship to relationships, car care to healthcare, and

communication to cooking, teens are learning life skills that lead them on the road to success. "We've had great community partners!" says Pastor Hoy. "Store chains such as Dillard's and Firestone welcomed us with open arms, and we utilized their professional staff to teach valuable life skills. Learning from community members at their community locations gave teens a different perspective and helped us win friends for Christ."

Entertainment

Youth and fun go hand in hand. But much of today's entertainment promotes values inconsistent with God's Word. Central States Youth Ministries is working to revive its sports league including basketball, soccer and volleyball, as well as to launch a drama ministry that produces plays and shows for the Internet.

Agape Love

"I often ask teens, 'If you could be a superhero, what would you do with your super powers?'" shares Pastor Hoy. "And the amazing thing is

every single teen responds with a desire to solve world problems. Our youth have been labeled 'Generation Selfie' but I find them to be kind, generous, and concerned for others. They're young heroes, and I want them to know that they already have the power to change the world."

As a part of the Black Adventist Youth Director Association's national iServe Movement, Central States teens are impacting their local communities and our world through community service. From feeding the hungry to making blankets for children in foster care, our teens are addressing world issues that concern them.

Every fourth Sabbath has been designated as iServe Day in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Youth from churches in Kansas City, Atchison, Leavenworth, St. Joseph and Topeka worship together, enjoy a sack lunch, and then serve together in the community for three hours. Examples of service projects include

sorting and packaging food at Harvester's Food Bank, honoring and praying for nurses at Shawnee Mission Medical Center, and making meals for families at the Ronald McDonald House. The goal is to have a monthly iServe Day to impact every major city in the conference.

Discipleship

Disciple making doesn't always take place at church. In fact, youth leaders in Central States Conference are using creative ways to help teens develop deeper relationships with Christ outside of church. Through outdoor adventure education retreats, community worship cafés, and drama ministries, church and federation youth leaders are helping teens explore and embrace fundamental beliefs such as identity in Christ, forgiveness, Bible study, faith and spiritual gifts.

.....
Brittany Winkfield is communication director for the Central States Conference.



Central States Conference
CAMP MEETING 2016

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G. COLLINS
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YOUTH ACTIVITIES BEGIN ON WEDNESDAY JUNE
8TH. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT PASTOR
DARIEL HOY YOUTHMINISTRY@CENTRAL-STATES.ORG

SABBATH LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ALL THOSE WHO
ATTEND. ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES WILL BE ANNOUNCED



K. DOUGLAS
Friday Evening



R. BERNARD
Sabbath Adult



J. JIMMERSON
Sabbath Youth



R. DAVIS
Ordination Service



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We Grew into Our Ministry



Courtesy Nelson family



Natasha Lund

Loren Nelson III with his wife, Sue, and their children, Lucas and Madisen, spend their summers at camp, where attendance has nearly tripled since the Nelsons came.

Loren Nelson III, currently vice president of administration for the Dakota Conference, is also director of senior youth and young adults as well as camp director for Flag Mountain Camp, located in South Dakota, and Northern Lights Camp, which sits along the Canadian border on Lake Metigoshe. His office days are full as he negotiates for the allowance of weeks in the field for camp season.

In the Dakotas, Nelson has made the camping program intentionally evangelistic. During the last few years over 30 campers per year have requested baptism. The Nelsons are also heavily involved in camporees, Pathfinders and campus ministries support. They have sponsored mission trips to Saint Lucia, Belize and Barbados.

Nelson is a PK (preacher's kid) but had other aspirations until at the age of 14, in 1984,

he accompanied his father to Mexico City to attend the Festival of the Laity. There he witnessed young men who were not yet pastors actively ministering, giving Bible studies and bringing people to Christ.

"One young man—I still remember his name, **Julio Lobarro Lopez**—had studied with over 200 people who were baptized in one year. After that experience I went back home with a new respect for what the church stood for."

While attending day academy, Nelson started his own evening Bible study and fellowship groups. "Until my parents kicked us out," he says grinning. "We stayed up too late." He continued the practice in college at Southern Adventist University under the direction of **Pastor Virgil Covell**, helping in youth and young adult small groups. At Andrews University Seminary he was part of the

Beth-Havor (house of fellowship in Hebrew). However, before he finished his Master of Divinity he was called to the Wisconsin Conference to be the associate pastor for youth and young adults for the Green Bay Church. He also worked with the Sheboygan, Sturgeon Bay and Fish Creek churches

Nelson met his wife-to-be, **Suzanne Rempfer**, at Andrews. "I was not sitting in the cafeteria staring across the tables looking for a wife," he quips. "My friend invited me to his house to play games. I didn't even want to go. She sat across from me and beat me in a game. She was good. I tried to ask her out but she was already dating someone else. I knew I had to leave in just a few months to be a pastor at Green Bay so I tossed a cassette tape in her car with the song *Should Have Asked Her Faster* on it. I just kept after her," Nelson confesses.

He bought the biggest



Nathan Roe

box of chocolates he could find and drove to the school where she was teaching. When he asked to see her he was told that she had transferred to a different school. "Looking at my watch I knew seminary started in two hours. The new school was an extra 30 minute drive each way. I figured I could make it. When I got there and asked for her, I was told she was teaching and could not be interrupted. I handed the box



Loren Nelson III

over and said, “Tell her this is from Loren Nelson.”

After he moved to Green Bay his buddy, **Jim**, came for his monthly visit and eventually he started bringing Sue with him. There was a group of young people who hung out together. “My sister told me to marry her. The senior pastor told me to go and visit that lovely lady,” Nelson admits.

Nelson took a break from pastoring to finish his studies at the seminary and marry Sue. Then they returned to Green Bay as a team. They opened their home every Friday night for Bible study and fellowship. “From supper to midnight our home was open,” Nelson says. “Young people came and went.”

The Nelsons also served in Appleton, Wisconsin, where they trained young adults to be leaders in their own churches. They were heavily involved in camporees there too. While serving in Indiana, they encouraged young adult involvement in church as junior deacons and deaconesses, junior elders and in taking responsibility for the church bulletin. A young person was put on the

board as a representative. “Board meetings went from three hours to an hour and a half,” Nelson says.

“We grew into our ministry,” explains Nelson. “We have done campus ministries in Ohio and Wisconsin. I pastored at summer camp or blind camp every year. Sue was the girls’ camp director in New York.”

Under the direction of the Nelsons, the camping program has grown in the Dakotas. When they arrived camp consisted of four volunteers and four paid staff with between 50 and 60 kids. Now there are 20 paid staff and over 150 kids, and each year attendance is growing. “We have also added Family Camp at both locations,” says Nelson.

The camp brochure states, “We would like all who come to our camps to experience a richer relationship with God. It is our desire that through the activities, stories, classes and fun, a friendship with Jesus is discovered and nurtured.”

.....
Jacquie Biloff is communication director for the Dakota Conference.

HOUR OF ASSURANCE

Dakota Conference Campmeeting
June 7 - 11, 2016
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LEGAL NOTICE

Quinquennial Session Iowa-Missouri Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the Tenth Regular Session of the Iowa-Missouri Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at Sunnydale Adventist Academy in Centralia, Missouri, on **Sunday, September 25, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.** The purpose of this meeting shall be the election of officers and departmental directors for the Conference, consideration of any proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Session. Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and an additional delegate for each 25 members, or major fraction thereof. All regularly elected delegates from the various churches of the Conference shall be seated at the meeting.

Dean Coridan, president
Robert Peck, vice president for administration

Quinquennial Session Iowa-Missouri Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the Tenth Regular Session of the Iowa-Missouri Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at Sunnydale Adventist Academy in Centralia, Missouri, on **Sunday, September 25, 2016, at 11:00 a.m.** The purpose of this meeting shall be the election of officers and a board of directors for the Association, consideration of any proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Session. Delegates to the Tenth Quinquennial Session of the Iowa-Missouri Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are also delegates for the Iowa-Missouri Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

Dean Coridan, president
David Lincoln, secretary

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Iowa-Missouri Conference

Camp Meeting

June 7-11, 2016

Sunnydale Adventist Academy

www.imsda.org/campmeeting



*Richard Davidson,
Professor,
Andrews University*



*Frederick Russell,
Pastor,
Berean Church*



*Dr. Philip Samaan,
Professor,
SAU*



*Pavel Goia,
Pastor,
Lexington Church*



*Dean Coridan,
President,
IA-MO Conference*



*Emmanuel Quartet,
A cappella gospel
group*



Camp Heritage



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Summer 2016



2016 Summer Camp Dates

Session Name	Date	Ages	Cost
Cub Camp	June 12-19	7-9	\$175
Junior 1 Camp	June 19-26	10-12	\$175
Junior 2 Camp	June 26-July 3	10-12	\$175
Teen Camp	July 10-17	13-17	\$195
Teen Canoe Camp	July 17-24	13-17	\$195
Family Camp	July 5-10	All Ages	Varies by Age

Registration Opens April 1 at

www.campheritage.org

Conference Welcomes Publications Director



Darin Gottfried

Stephanie Gottfried

Stephanie Gottfried was elected by the Conference Executive Committee on March 20 to be the new publications director. She received her bachelor's degree in communication from Union College in 2004 and has been an administrative assistant at our office since 2013. Before coming to our conference in 2012 when her husband, **Darin**, became the associate treasurer, they were

at Wisconsin Academy where Stephanie served as registrar.

The major responsibilities of this position are gathering and writing stories for **OUTLOOK** and writing and designing the *Conference Communique*, as well as maintaining the conference website and Facebook and producing calendars and brochures.

Stephanie will continue to administrate the conference's

scholarship program and assist in the Education Department.

We're anticipating that Stephanie's creativity, new ideas and relevance to a younger generation will bring a fresh look to the many ways our office communicates with the members of our conference.

.....
Ron Carlson is president of the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

Opening Doors to Share the Gospel



John Trelo

Willy Vazquez, pastor of the Great Bend and Hutchinson Hispanic churches, is meeting a specific need in his community.

Willy Vazquez, pastor of the Hutchinson and Great Bend Hispanic churches, understands the importance of filling a need in the community. That's why each Tuesday he volunteers at the Avenue A Elementary public school in Hutchinson, tutoring Hispanic students who are struggling with English. Some days he assists one student, other days a group.

Vazquez says, "It is amazing working with kids. I see their frustration when they do not understand the class, but when I sit with them and explain it to them, I see a smile and happiness on their faces."

Vazquez has also found a need among the parents of these students. Many of the parents do not speak English and have trouble

communicating with their child's teacher. They have questions or concerns about their child's performance, but cannot express those concerns due to the language barrier. Vazquez has offered his services as an interpreter during parent-teacher conferences.

By meeting the needs of the people in our communities, he believes we open doors to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"One of the students asked me one day to pray for his brother," says Vazquez. "I thank God because through this ministry some doors have been opened, literature has been distributed and some Bible studies have been established."

.....
Stephanie Gottfried is publications director for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

2016 CAMP DATES

Broken Arrow Ranch

June 9-12
Single Moms & Kids

June 12-19
Junior I

June 19-26
Junior II

June 26-July 3
Earliten

July 3-10
Teen

July 10-17
Adventure

July 19-24
Family

July 27-31
Hispanic Youth

Camp Arrowhead

June 20-24
Discovery Camp

KANSAS-NEBRASKA CAMP MEETING

LINCOLN, NE | JUNE 1-4, 2016



Dilys Brooks
Associate Chaplain
Loma Linda University



Jose Cortes, Jr.
Associate Ministerial
Director, NAD



Ruth Rivera
Associate Pastor
KS-NE Conference



Ron Carlson
President
KS-NE Conference



Steve Green
Concert Artist



Japhet De Oliveira
Young Adult Speaker

SEMINAR TOPICS:

Children's Ministries | Compassion Ministry
Evangelism Through Bible Studies | Health | Personal Finance
Preaching 101 | Women's Ministries

SEND ALL RESERVATIONS FOR FREE LODGING TO:

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Due to renovations in Rees Hall lodging is limited.

Must live outside Lincoln to reserve a room

Increase of Adventist Young Adults on Public Campuses

Students share the light



Courtesy Pastor Sean Lee

The Catalyst Group enjoys their time together at an Adventist Christian Fellowship event.

In an era when churches are fascinated by statistics, the number 70 percent caught my attention. As I searched “Adventist young adults leaving Adventist church,” I found many articles stating that about 70 percent of young adults have left our church in recent years.

The Adventist Church is not alone. Many Evangelical Christian denominations are going through similar struggles of Christian youth and young adults dropping out of church.

The other 70 percent statistic that challenged me was the number of Adventist college-age students attending public colleges and universities. As a person who went through the Adventist educational system from kindergarten through graduate school, I fully support Adventist education.

However it’s an interesting coincidence having a very close number to 70 percent on both reports. If the two statistical reports mean anything, then we have reason to approach the ministry to our Adventist students on public colleges and universities seriously. We need to connect Adventist students to church communities and create safe environments where our young adults can have meaningful relationships with Jesus in their spiritual journey.

Minnesota Conference Young Adult Ministry wants to create a channel of communication with Adventist college students on public campuses. The University of Minnesota has over 51,000 enrolled students (2013-14 school year) on several campuses: Minnesota State University

(over 15,000 students), Bemidji State University (over 5,000 students), St. Cloud State University (over 15,000 students), and there are other colleges around the state. These campuses attract Adventist graduating high school students because of their brand and size.

There is, therefore, need to provide opportunities for current and future college students to meet and have fellowship together on these campuses. Moreover, we want to provide resources and training for our current Adventist college students on these campuses so they can reach out to other students as ambassadors of Christ.

Thus, last March a special retreat was held at North Star Camp for Adventist college students on public universities interested in campus

ministry. **Pastor Ron Pickell** from Berkley Adventist Church, who also serves as the Adventist Christian Fellowship volunteer coordinator for the NAD, presented his personal experience based on over 30 years of ministry on public campuses. He provided resources for students and attendees, shared how to lead out in small group Bible discussions and reach out to others students, as well as discussing how to connect with our Adventist students on public campuses.

Adventist students from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Duluth campus, Bemidji State University, Minnesota State University Mankato, and several other colleges in the Twin Cities metro area attended the retreat. These participants enjoyed worship, fellowship and having fun together throughout the weekend. Sabbath afternoon encouraged meaningful dialogue on how to connect and organize Adventist student groups in different locations.

Please keep praying for public campus ministry in the Minnesota Conference, and kindly let the Youth Department know if any of your young adults have plans to attend public universities in Minnesota.

Sean Lee is an associate pastor for the Southview Church in Minneapolis.

A Piece of Our Hearts in Belize

Courtesy, Maplewood Academy



In March, 19 Maplewood Academy students and four staff members piled into the big, yellow school bus and made our way to the Minneapolis airport. The group was excited—the long anticipated Belize mission trip was officially underway! For many, this was our first mission trip, and for some, our first time outside the United States.

Checking in at an airport with a large group is no quick task. Our plane was scheduled to board at 4:30 am and we arrived at the gate just in time. After a six hour delay, we finally arrived in Belize where we piled high all our suitcases into the beds of two pickup trucks, then squeezed 30 of us into a small, orange bus affectionately nicknamed “the pumpkin.”

We helped with construction on the new Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School in Ladyville, which was already in progress, and held a one-day worship session and three days of morning worships at the school. We took turns assisting in classrooms and working one-on-one with the children, as well as leading out in the church service during our second Sabbath there.

Despite some challenges, God worked in each and every situation. Something that kept coming to my mind during this trip was the saying,

“Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.”

The children melted our hearts. Seeing their happy smiles each day gave us an even bigger desire to work as hard as possible on their school, which local leaders are hoping to open for the 2016-17 school year.

Worshipping with the people in Belize was another huge blessing. There was no doubt these people love the Lord. It was refreshing for our group to have this experience and it reignited a flame in many of our hearts to grow closer to God in our own lives.

While our main focus for this trip was building the school and sharing Jesus with those around us, we also visited an orphanage, toured the Mayan temples, went snorkeling off the coast of San Pedro Island, and visited the Belize Zoo.

Our last day was bittersweet. Saying goodbye to all of the wonderful people made us long for heaven all the more. While we were only there a short time, a piece of our hearts will remain there forever.

Danica Eystenstein is assistant dean of women at Maplewood Academy.

Read the full story online:
bit.ly/pieceofheartbelize



Minnetonka Children Conduct Worship

Donna Thiher



For several years the Minnetonka Church has periodically invited the children of the congregation to a special service away from the adults. But on February 6, the children did something different. They stayed with the adults and conducted the service themselves.

Donna Thiher, Children's Ministries coordinator, organized the service as a way to involve all the children of the church, including those who do not attend Minnetonka Christian Academy.

“I think it is important for the kids to be involved and participate in their church,” Thiher said. “If they are not involved as children, they will not be involved as adults.”

The service, entitled Love According to Kids, was based on 1 Corinthians 13, the scriptural theme for the last few children's church services. The program included special music from all the children's Sabbath schools (Cradle Roll to Junior), two skits, a puppet

show, a youth praise team, and a mini sermon by youth member **Carmen Chavez**. The congregation also watched a short movie of children in the church responding to the question, “What is love?”

Thiher said many church members expressed how much they enjoyed the program and parents thanked her for opportunities to get their children involved in the service.

According to Thiher, the kids enjoyed the experience as well. One of the children who was very nervous about going up front was all smiles afterward and told Thiher she was glad she had been part of it.

Minnetonka Church plans to make this an annual event in addition to the Children's Church programs and the special service the Vacation Bible School participants put on each summer.

Michelle Lashier Rosas is communication director for the Minnetonka Church.

Campion Library Encourages Inquiry and Exploration

Jennifer Sigler



In a world where knowledge is exploding, librarian Lindsey Santana is helping students learn to be producers instead of just consumers.

Robots and strategy games may not be the first thing to come to mind when you think “library,” but that’s what students find at Campion Academy. Managed by **Lindsey Santana**, who holds a master’s degree in Library and Information Science, the Campion library is a place where students can get help with research, find a book to read, and study quietly—but it’s also a place where students can get creative, color, play games like Suspend or Gravity Maze, or play with Sphero robots. In sum, our new librarian is helping Campion facilitate inquiry and exploration.

In the past, the library management was tacked on to a teacher’s class load, so students often searched online databases on their own. Now, Santana has the time to be a reading advocate, research assistant, curriculum collaborator, and instructor of information literacy.

Teachers at Campion are finding their librarian indispensable, and they recognize what a rare resource they have. According to North American

Division policy, academics must allot \$40 per student toward library resources. But, while the materials may be a standard investment, having an expert to manage those materials and guide students in their use is just as important.

English teacher **Erin Johnson** said, “Lindsey has great ideas and suggestions for my curriculum. And the students’ work is higher quality because of the resources she finds.” **Kathy Binder**, who teaches independent living and English, agreed, “She’s wonderful about ordering materials and making a display of the topic I’m covering in class.”

Students benefit, too. Sophomore **Juliessa Fernandez** said, “I actually get stuff done when I come in [the library]. Mrs. Santana is a really big help with research and getting resources.” *School Library Journal* reports that student achievement levels are higher in schools that employ a librarian. Besides supporting Campion’s mission to expand minds, the library’s holdings on religion and spirituality—over 10

percent of the collection—provides students with resources to grow in their walk with God.

Campion recognizes that the role of the teacher librarian is growing even more important as students and faculty are met with new challenges as they use digital information.

Santana best explains her role: “Certainly there is a transition going on in the library world from the physical concept of books to ones that are digital. There’s also the mentality, especially among teenagers, that all you need is Google.

“But what people forget is that we are living in a world where knowledge is growing at an exponential rate. Virtually anyone can publish now, so finding reliable, quality information is like trying to find that one drop of water coming out of a running fire hydrant. It’s overwhelming. Especially for students. So that’s where librarians come in—we help you find just the information you need.”

Santana is also an advocate of creativity. At the end of March the library hosted Make & Create Week where students enjoyed soldering, programming and other activities. The creative process enhances the learning process. Whether students are programming Sphero robots, making their own Lego designs, or creating duct tape masterpieces, the Campion library is a place where students can learn to be producers instead of just consumers.

Jennifer Sigler teaches English at Campion Academy.

2016 RMC CAMP MEETINGS

Connect Colorado Camp Meeting

June 3 - 4
Campion Academy
Loveland, CO
Speaker: Mic Thurber
Contact: Campion Church
970.667.7403

Cowboy Camp Meeting

July 6-10
Silver Jack Reservoir
Near Cimarron, CO
Speaker: Mic Thurber
Contact: Fritz Krieger
970.497.6175

Wyoming Camp Meeting

July 12-18
Mills Spring Ranch
Casper, WY
Speaker: David Asscherick
Contact: Don Barnt
307.757.7618

Hispanic Camp Meeting

Theme: “Recibelo, Vívelo y Compartelo”
September 2-4
Glacier View Ranch
Ward, CO
Speaker: Pastor Omar Grieve
Youth Speaker:
Dr. Oscar Carreon
Contact: Ruben Rivera
303.910.1614

Native Camp Meeting

Theme: The Centennial
September 16-18
La Vida Mission
Crown Point, NM
Speaker: Monte Church
Native Ministries Coordinator
for NW
Contact: Dorie Panganiban
213.321.0002

Western Slope Camp Meeting

Will not take place as anticipated

Twelve Years of Partnership With World Vision

Newday Church sees better quality-of-life results in Rwanda



Courtesy Dave Kennedy

Eugenie and her mother, Beatta, are thankful for the sponsorship of the Kennedy family represented by Pastor Dave, right, and his son, Logan.



Robert Jeffers

The Newday Church group enjoys visiting the offices of World Vision in Nyamagabe, Rwanda.

The sky is blue over Nyamagabe, Rwanda. The land of 1,000 hills is quietly waking up as a small cluster of people makes its way to the little community that Newday Adventist Church in Parker has sponsored through combined efforts with World Vision. They sense that God is there.

A group of eight members from the Newday congregation returned from Rwanda on March 17. Reporting on this visit to Rwanda, **Tish Jeffers** said that in just over 12 years of partnership “progress has been made whereby we see very little evidence of chronic malnutrition or death from preventable causes.”

She further reports that the hospitals are operational and the rates of diseases like HIV/AIDS, malaria and waterborne illness have plummeted. “Small micro-businesses are popping up and through the micro-loan program, these business owners can get their businesses going and support their families. They co-op and learn money management,” Jeffers comments. “Electricity is coming to

more and more homes, though it may only be one light bulb hung from the middle of the main room.”

With the funds that were raised from running marathons with Team World Vision, clean water is becoming available to more and more people. The result of all this progress is a better quality of life: more time for children to do their homework, more time for family activities, more time for children to play.

For **David Kennedy**, Newday’s lead pastor, the recent visit was his seventh. He recalls his first trip in 2004 when he met their first sponsored child, **Eugenie**, one of three personally sponsored by David and his wife, **Kim**. “She was eight then. Through sponsorship, she is a thriving 21-year-old woman who has a new home, land to farm and cows,” he shares.

Eugenie was the first in her family to graduate from secondary school and, sponsored by the Kennedys, she will be attending university over the next three years to become a teacher.

Anyone would recognize

this as a success story that is being multiplied by hundreds of children sponsored through partnership with World Vision by members of the Newday congregation. “Over these 12 years, church members sponsored more than 250 children. That’s more than the number of members in our congregation,” Kennedy says.

“As we made our way through the villages visiting our sponsored children, we were blessed with their ability to greet us in English. Some of them spoke [to us] for the first time. They were excited to show us their schools, their grades and their hope of moving on to higher education and university,” Jeffers adds.

Pastor Kennedy explains the relationship Newday has with World Vision and Nyamagabe: “The past 12 years has been a transformation for us and for them. We have been so blessed to come to know the people of their community and to receive their warm hospitality. We have even welcomed many of them into our homes and to preach in our church. And to

see the transformation that has taken place in their community through the holistic efforts of World Vision has been nothing short of astounding.”

Twelve years ago Nyamagabe was a community fighting to survive, says Kennedy. “Today, they are thriving. It is a testament to the power of long-term commitment and relationship.”

While reflecting on the involvement in Rwanda and other mission fields, one may ask, “What can I do to change the world? I am just one person.”

Jeffers concludes that “there is still so much to do, and it is evident that it can be done! We have seen so much joy and faith in the evidence of God’s blessing on our giving in this area of the world. One plus one plus 101 equals many. Many can do this! Together, with God’s blessing, we can change the outcome of many lives.”

.....
Rajmund Dabrowski is communication director for the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Visit worldvision.org to sponsor a child today.



New Curriculum Turns Out Successful Nurses

All Union's 2015 nursing graduates pass the national licensure exam on the first attempt



Amber Alas is set to start her dream job in the NICU at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital after graduating from Union in December and passing the national nursing licensure exam on the first try along with the rest of her class including Eden Wodajo, Stephanie Rubenthaler and Emily Carlson (opposite page).

When all of Union College's December 2015 graduates passed the NCLEX-RN national nursing licensure exam on their first attempt, graduate **Amber Alas** knew it wasn't a fluke.

"I knew the material. I remembered learning it in class," she said. "I talked to friends from other schools and they told me they hadn't seen half the stuff on the test."

Nationally, only about 85 percent of nursing graduates pass the NCLEX-RN—an exam all nurses must pass to receive a license to practice—on their first attempt. Union's first-time pass rate for 2015 is the best in the state of Nebraska.

"This achievement demonstrates the hard work of our students as well as the high quality professors who teach in the Union College nursing program," said **Nicole Orián**, chair of the Division of Nursing. "The NCLEX-RN is a challenging exam and we are very proud of all our students."

"The NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate is based on two things—the ability of the nursing admissions committee to identify students who are prepared to complete the nursing program and also the rigor of the curriculum that prepares students foundationally for the practice of

nursing," said **Brenda Kuhn**, chief nursing officer of Kettering Health Network.

As the one responsible for all nurses at the Adventist-owned health system in southern Ohio, she values graduates from programs like Union's. "When a school gives a strong foundation to students, the nursing graduates start at a higher level of performance and critical thinking than those from schools that don't have high pass rates. Graduates from strong schools tend to have consistent knowledge, skills and attitudes over time—qualities employers count on when selecting the best nurses to work in their healthcare organizations."

Now set to start her dream job in the neonatal intensive care unit at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, Alas felt very thankful for the preparation she received at Union.

"When I was 13, my grandpa passed away from cancer after spending two months in the hospital," Alas remembered. "I was very interested in what the nurses were doing and as we got to know them, I saw how much they cared for my family. I wanted to be that person for someone else's family. I felt God calling me."

Although she grew up in southern California, Alas decided to visit Union at the suggestion of one of her mother's coworkers. She was attracted to the Christian atmosphere, the track record of success and the friendliness and openness of the students and teachers she met. "I decided that if I was accepted, I would attend Union."

A month later found her unpacking and making friends in Rees Hall, halfway across the country from home.

Making good grades proved a little harder than making friends. "I never considered myself a good student," she said. And even though she experienced some setbacks, she quickly learned to count on her nursing professors and Union's academic coaches at the Teaching Learning Center for assistance.

"They always encouraged me and prayed with me," she said. She also learned study and organization techniques that helped her improve test taking skills along the way. "I knew that if I worked hard enough, sacrificed and put school first, I could do it."

The December 2015 graduates are the second class to graduate under a new curriculum launched in 2013 to better prepare students for a dynamically

Photos: Courtesy Amber Alas



changing healthcare environment driven by technology and information. “It’s quite uncommon to roll out a new curriculum and experience such immediate success,” said Orian. “Typically, a nursing school would expect to see a temporary decrease in the NCLEX-RN scores while minor revisions are being made to the curriculum. The time spent by the nursing faculty to systematically develop each and every nursing course to include standards of best practice and meet the expectations of our accrediting bodies is a testament to their commitment to provide excellence in nursing education. This dedication has proven to be beneficial to our students and has provided them a strong foundation to be successful nurses.”

“I am very proud of Union College. These scores are a testament to the quality of the nursing program and the way students are prepared for nursing practice,” said **Judy Blair**, senior vice president/chief clinical officer at Adventist Health System.

“A strong program like Union’s definitely makes a difference for the graduates coming into the nursing profession,” continued Blair, who oversees nurses for one of the largest nonprofit

healthcare systems in the U.S. “If a school has focused on intentional preparation—the true science and art of nursing practice—the students are better prepared when they graduate. It’s about more than just books; to be leaders at the bedside, nurses have to understand how to make decisions about what is best for the patient in real life.”

After passing the NCLEX-RN, Alas was selected for a competitive residency program at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital. “The first three months of the program are intense training for the NICU—classroom, skills and clinical studying,” she said. Then she’ll become a floor nurse. “I’m really happy to receive this training before going out on the hospital floor.”

During the selection process, the interviewers were intrigued by an Incident Command Structure certification on Alas’ resume—part of her Disaster Nursing course.

“You have a very impressive resume,” they told her. “You’re the first person we’ve interviewed with this kind of training.”

“I like to think that is one of the reasons I was selected for the residency,” Alas said. “It’s unusual for a new graduate to have an opportunity like this.”

Union College offers a five-semester Bachelor of Science in Nursing program accepting a new class of students every semester. Usually after three semesters of prerequisite and general education courses, students can apply for the nursing program and graduate in a total of four years. Now, high school seniors accepted into the Early Admission Track can guarantee a spot in the nursing program right away if they keep a high GPA through their first three semesters. Combined with significant general and nursing scholarships and no waiting list, Union has proven to be a great choice for many aspiring nurses.

For Alas, a first generation college graduate, the small classes and personal attention from the instructors made all the difference. “I didn’t realize how important my professors would be until I was in the program,” she said. “They really care about you as a person. That makes a difference, because when you’re struggling, they will encourage you, help you and pray with you. I don’t think I would have been able to graduate if I didn’t have their support.”

Ryan Teller is director of public relations for Union College.

If you would like to experience a top notch nursing program with consistently high first-time NCLEX-RN pass rates, check out Union College. You can visit for free and we’ll even help pay for the trip. Learn more at www.ucollege.edu/nursing.

Bariatric Surgery Program Changes Lives for the Better

Photos: Courtesy Shawnee Mission



Dr. Robert Aragon has the opportunity to be involved with all facets of the SMH Bariatric Program and says there is nothing more rewarding than witnessing patient transformations first hand.

With warmer weather around the corner, spring is the time of year when many people seek ways to shed those extra pounds. By committing to healthier eating and more physical activity, most of us can successfully lose five, 10 or even 20 pounds. But what about those who are very overweight and do not have the energy, know-how or motivation to accomplish this task alone?

The Bariatric Surgery Program at Shawnee Mission Health-Prairie Star in Lenexa, Kansas has been helping patients take off the weight since 2006. In 2015, surgeons performed 1,514 bariatric procedures, the most in program history and significantly more than any other bariatric program in the Kansas City area.

According to SMH Bariatric Program coordinator **Chris Bovos**, research shows that only five percent of bariatric patients who lose weight through diet and exercise successfully keep it off. Many people need

additional support and turn to SMH's Bariatric Surgery Program in an effort to regain their lives.

"Patients who present to our program have been overweight for many years," said Bovos. "They are frustrated and depressed, and some are experiencing weight-related conditions such as type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, painful joints and liver disease."

Bovos recalled one patient who rode an electric scooter because he needed hip, knee and shoulder replacements. He sought help from the program because he had to lose weight before doctors could perform the joint replacements.

"When we saw him in the hospital for bariatric surgery, he had hope for the first time in years," said Bovos. "Two years later, he was a completely different person—outgoing and jovial, and had lost more than 175 pounds, completed all joint replacements and began traveling again with his family."

One reason why patients experience success is the support they receive from the program's surgeons and associates, who consider a patient to be a patient for life and continually offer emotional and spiritual support.

Dr. Robert Aragon is one of three surgeons in the program and feels that his strong beliefs as a Seventh-day Adventist positively influence how he cares for patients.

"I believe that faith plays an important role in whole-person health," said Aragon. "Many bariatric patients suffer from deep emotional issues related to their struggle with obesity. Undergoing this surgery is a major life change and many patients are nervous. I try to connect with patients and truly understand their hopes and calm their fears by listening to them, praying with them before surgery and following their incredible progress for years after the initial surgery. This is truly a privilege and I am

blessed to have the opportunity to be their surgeon."

The program also offers support groups featuring speakers and cooking events for bariatric patients as well as a clothing exchange because the need for new clothes at different points throughout the weight loss journey can get very expensive.

Bovos has the opportunity to be involved with all facets of the program and says there is nothing more rewarding than witnessing patient transformations first hand.

"Not everyone has the privilege of seeing people's journey to happier, healthier lives," said Bovos. "It's inspiring, often brings tears to my eyes and teaches me so much about life."

Jackie Wood writes for Shawnee Mission Health.

Learn more about SMH's Bariatric Surgery Program at ShawneeMission.org/weightloss.

CREATION Health Goes to Camp

Photos: Courtesy Glacier View Ranch



It's easy to have a positive "Outlook" at Glacier View Ranch. Outlook is one of the eight healthy principles that will be taught through the CREATION Health program at GVR this summer.

Each summer, children of employees at Denver-area Centura Adventist hospitals are given the opportunity to attend summer camp at Glacier View Ranch. The Friendship Camp sponsorship program has been a huge success for 15 years and is getting even "stronger and healthier" this year with the incorporation of the CREATION Health program.

Leaders from the Rocky Mountain Conference are collaborating with Centura to bring the popular, whole-person health program to all of the summer camp programs at GVR. Adventist Health System developed CREATION Health more than a decade ago. It focuses on the eight principles of health instituted by God at the beginning of time: Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook, and Nutrition.

While CREATION Health was originally designed as a tool for hospitals to connect with their communities, they have begun using it internally as well to connect with their employees and help them experience and benefit from healthy lifestyle choices.

"Summer camp is the perfect place to incorporate CREATION Health concepts," says **Kirk King**, Centura's Friendship Camp coordinator. "In fact, the GVR summer camp programs have already been following that model pretty closely. The eight principles of health naturally occur during a week at camp. All we have to do is make them more recognizable by formally introducing the principles to the kids."

Each day during the morning campfire program campers will learn about one of the health principles, which will then be reinforced throughout the day by special

activities and interactions with staff and counselors. Customized worksheets are available for campers to use during quiet times.

"Environment" and "Activity" are easy principles to introduce, given GVR's beautiful setting in the mountains above Boulder, Colorado, with plenty of opportunities for play and exercise in the great outdoors. Further, "Interpersonal Relationships" are a natural result of daily interactions among campers and staff.

"Each year, parents specifically mention that their kids have learned interpersonal skills that spill over into their daily lives when they come home from camp," King says. "They learn how to work together in positive ways while living in close-knit groups in their cabins all week. One parent even said their child learned how to better deal with bullying at school."

"Trust" is also easy to emphasize by making clear connections to spiritual lessons in the Bible. Two-thirds of the campers at GVR are not from Adventist homes, and about 20 percent claim no church affiliation. Interestingly, 90 percent indicate satisfaction with spiritual programming at GVR, and according to King, most of the campers report that Sabbath is their favorite day of the week.

Heidi Littell, assistant youth director for the Rocky Mountain Conference, says, "We're so excited about partnering with Centura to emphasize the healthy, life-changing benefits of summer camp. We've always been about giving campers a connection with a healthy lifestyle, but we hope that these principles will become even more deeply ingrained in our campers' hearts and minds through the use of the CREATION Health program."

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

To learn more about the GVR program or to register a child for a week of camp, visit, rmcyouth.org/camp. For more information about the CREATION Health program, visit creationhealth.com.

FAREWELL

Amunson, Helen, b. Dec. 30, 1930 in Rhame, ND. d. Mar. 14, 2016 in Belle Fourche, SD. Member of Dakota Conference. Preceded in death by husband Floyd; son Dale; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughters Debra Koepf and Cindy Ketron; 4 siblings; 5 grandchildren.

Bain, Valerie K., b. Dec. 27, 1972 in Aberdeen, SD. d. Mar. 17, 2016 in Aberdeen, SD. Member of Aberdeen Church. Survivors include daughter Tori Lynn Haar; parents; 1 sister; 3 step-siblings.

Boulette, Milan "Mike," b. 1930. d. Mar. 26, 2016 in Riverton, WY. Member of Lander Church. Preceded in death by 4 siblings. Survivors include 5 siblings. Served in U.S. Army.

Clark, Betty Lou, b. Dec. 31, 1928 in Neola, IA. d. Nov. 11, 2014 in Buffalo, MO. Preceded in death by husband Chester. Survivors include daughter Carolyn Braham; sons Randall and Mark Sr., 3 sisters; 6 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

Coen, Eleanor, b. Oct. 15, 1920. d. Dec. 11, 2015 in Ottawa, KS. Member of Ottawa Church. Preceded in death by 3 siblings. Survivors include 2 siblings.

Dick, Laura E., b. Nov. 6, 1919 in Brentwood, AR. d. Feb. 2, 2016 in Greeley, CO. Member of El Dorado Church. Preceded in death by husband Marvin. Survivors include children Doyle, Milton and Helen Burton; 5 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Doporto, James, b. Aug. 12, 1982. d. Jan. 28, 2016. Member of Minot (ND) Church.

Graham, Milburn Sr., b. July 24, 1926 in Louisville, KY. d. Feb. 17, 2016 in Lincoln, NE. Member of Allon Chapel. Survivors include wife Alberta; daughter Kolette Rife; sons Milburn Jr., Lee and Keith; 1 sister; 9 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren. WWII Veteran.

Greenfield, Joan, b. Nov. 28, 1946. d. Mar. 13, 2016. Member of Sedalia (MO) Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include 3 siblings.

Hackaday, Richard Ellis, b. Apr. 30, 1934 in Keokuk, IA. d. Jan. 22, 2016. Member of Kansas City Chapel Oaks Church. Preceded in death by 2 brothers. Survivors include wife

Betty; daughter Lisa Gasca; son Rick; 3 grandchildren; 1 sister. Served in U.S. Air Force.

Hansen, Ross "Keith," b. Oct. 20, 1940 in Kansas City, MO. d. Feb. 19, 2016. Member of Kansas City Central Church.

Hanson, Jane, b. Sept. 28, 1925 in Marshalltown, IA. d. Feb. 25, 2016. Member of Spencer Church. Survivors include husband Wayne; daughters Kathy Bollinger, Carol Toay and Sue Harris; son Bruce; 7 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.

Hinger-Schultz, Jessie C., b. June 8, 1926 in St. Paul, MN. d. Mar. 24, 2016 in Fargo, ND. Member of Jamestown Church. Preceded in death by husband; Roger; husband Duane; son James; 1 sister. Survivors include sons William, Darrell and Randy; 1 sister; 11 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

Johnson, Delphia, b. Apr. 13, 1921 in Summit Township, ND. d. Mar. 5, 2016 in Wahpeton, ND. Member of Wahpeton Church. Preceded in death by 4 siblings. Survivors include 1 sister.

Judy, Carolyn, b. Oct. 20, 1934 in Hawkeye, IA. d. Jan. 21, 2016 in Hawkeye, IA. Member of Hawkeye Church. Preceded in death by husband Clayton; 2 siblings. Survivors include sons Tom and Tim Weidemann, and Clay and Gary Judy; 12 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren.

Kranz, Gary L., b. Apr. 9, 1972 in Atkinson, NE. d. Jan. 2, 2015. Member of Broken Bow Church. Preceded in death by 1 infant brother; 1 brother. Survivors include wife Stephanie; daughters Heather and Beth; parents.

Krassin, Anna, b. Dec. 10, 1920. d. Feb. 22, 2016. Member of Wahpeton (ND) Church.

Mahan, Dolores, b. July 27, 1928 in Hamilton, MO. d. July 1, 2015 in Albia, IA. Member of Albia Church. Preceded in death by husband Roy. Survivors include 3 brothers.

Nelson, George O., b. Apr. 10, 1945 in Chamberlain, SD. d. Dec. 31, 2015 in Brookings, SD. Member of Huron Church. Preceded in death by father; 3 brothers. Survivors include wife Kathleen; 3 siblings; mother.

Nies, Addie B., b. Feb. 3, 1923 in Bazine, KS. d. Nov. 4, 2015 in Goodlettsville, TN. Member of Hutchtinson Church. Preceded in death by husband Walter. Survivors include children Martin Nies, Gloria Sutherland and Bonnie Schroeder; 4 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Oberto, Sharon, b. Nov. 14, 1945 in Macon, MO. d. Feb. 4, 2016 in Macon, MO. Member of Macon Church. Preceded in death by daughter Donna; 2 sisters. Survivors include husband Charles; daughters Tammy Bartel, Laura Shriner and Charley Cooper; sons Josh Boveri and Layne Oberto; 7 siblings; 15 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Olson, Leland J., b. Mar. 25, 1958 in Williston, ND. d. Feb. 11, 2016 in Fortuna, ND. Member of Williston Church. Survivors include wife Marlene; step-sons: Brandon, Zachary and Brent Young; 5 siblings; grandchildren

Pierson, Eileen L., b. May 7, 1926 in Midwest, WY. d. Dec. 1, 2015 in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Member of Buffalo Church. Preceded in death by husband Eugene. Survivors

include daughters Lavonne Kerr and Leanna Pierson; sons Bill and Mike; 1 granddaughter.

Schnell, De-Wane E., b. Nov. 13, 1942. d. Mar. 16, 2016 in Wichita, KS. Member of Wichita South Church. Survivors include wife Loretta June; daughters Sherri and Myranda; sons David and Jeff; 6 grandchildren.

Styre, Aron "AJ," b. May 22, 1972. d. Mar. 2, 2016. Member of Cedar Rapids (IA) Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include parents; 1 brother.

Theige, Thomas J., b. Feb. 20, 1951 in Harvey, ND. d. Nov. 27, 2015 in Harvey, ND. Member of Harvey Church. Survivors include 1 brother.

Trotter, Andrew, b. July 27, 1980 in Mankato, MN. d. Dec. 24, 2015. Member of St. Louis Mid-Rivers Church (MO). Survivors include parents; 1 brother.

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

SUNSET CALENDAR	Colorado	Apr 29	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
	Denver	7:53	8:00	8:06	8:13	8:19
Grand Junction	8:06	8:12	8:19	8:25	8:31	
Pueblo	7:49	7:55	8:02	8:08	8:13	
Iowa						
Davenport	7:59	8:06	8:13	8:20	8:26	
Des Moines	8:11	8:18	8:26	8:33	8:39	
Sioux City	8:24	8:32	8:39	8:46	8:53	
Kansas						
Dodge City	8:29	8:36	8:42	8:48	8:53	
Goodland	7:39	7:46	7:52	7:59	8:04	
Topeka	8:14	8:21	8:27	8:34	8:39	
Minnesota						
Duluth	8:16	8:26	8:35	8:43	8:51	
International Falls	8:26	8:36	8:46	8:55	9:03	
Minneapolis	8:17	8:25	8:34	8:41	8:49	
Missouri						
Columbia	8:00	8:07	8:13	8:20	8:25	
Kansas City	8:10	8:16	8:23	8:29	8:35	
St. Louis	7:52	7:58	8:05	8:11	8:16	
Nebraska						
Lincoln	8:22	8:29	8:36	8:42	8:49	
North Platte	8:39	8:46	8:53	9:00	9:06	
Scottsbluff	7:52	7:59	8:07	8:13	8:20	
North Dakota						
Bismarck	8:51	9:01	9:09	9:18	9:25	
Fargo	8:35	8:45	8:54	9:02	9:10	
Williston	9:06	9:16	9:25	9:34	9:42	
South Dakota						
Pierre	8:44	8:52	9:00	9:08	9:15	
Rapid City	7:55	8:03	8:11	8:18	8:25	
Sioux Falls	8:27	8:35	8:43	8:51	8:57	
Wyoming						
Casper	8:04	8:12	8:20	8:27	8:34	
Cheyenne	7:55	8:02	8:09	8:16	8:22	
Sheridan	8:11	8:20	8:28	8:36	8:43	

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Gospel music recording artist LoLo Harris is currently accepting ministry requests for concerts, evangelism, AYS, retreats, conventions and more for 2016 and 2017. For more information, CDs and more visit www.LoLoHarris.com, call 937.545.8227 or write to PO BOX 492124, Atlanta, GA 30349.

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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 Clergy Move Center at Stevens Worldwide Van Lines is the way to move from one state to another! With special pricing for all Adventist families, and recommended by the General Conference for over 15 years, quality is inherent. Contact a Move Counselor for an estimate: 800.248.8313, sda@stevensworldwide.com, www.stevensworldwide.com/sda.

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EMPLOYMENT

Andrews University seeks Asst/ Assoc/Full Professor of Physical Therapy. This position holds a faculty appointment in the PT department and has teaching, advising, service, scholarship and administrative responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the Physical Therapy Department. We are seeking a qualified candidate to teach in their area of expertise, for example: cardiovascular/pulmonary, musculoskeletal, neuromuscular etc. For more information or to apply visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/991.

Andrews University seeks Asst/ Assoc/Full Professor of Social Work. This full time faculty position will teach graduate-level clinical practice courses, with particular expertise in advanced assessment/diagnosis, marriage and family therapy, evidence-based practices, and treatment of adult mental disorders. Responsibilities include teaching BSW and MSW courses, conducting research, and providing academic advising and service to the department, University, and surrounding community. For more information and to apply visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/970.

Andrews University seeks Course Manager. Responsibilities include overseeing online course production and delivery process from start to finish, working closely with Associate Dean for Higher Education, Instructional Designer, faculty, and editors to ensure a smooth process, a quality product, and efficient contract and pay support for adjunct online faculty. For more information or to apply visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/987.

Andrews University seeks Faculty-Public Health/Wellness. The BSPH Director/MPH Faculty will be responsible for providing solid leadership and direction for the BSPH program; implementing and evaluating

the program with an emphasis on measuring outcomes using data and best practices; regularly prioritizing pragmatic objectives and activities; teaching MPH courses as assigned. For more information or to apply visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/994.

Andrews University seeks Provost. The provost is the second officer of the University who also serves as the Chief Academic Officer and reports to the President. The combined primary functions of the Provost serve to ensure that relevant University activities contribute to the fulfillment of the University's mission. In the absence of the President, the Provost also serves as Chief Executive Officer. For more information or to apply visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/983.

It Is Written seeks full time Planned Giving Field Representative. Must be highly motivated, able to work from home, travel routinely to communicate with supporters, and represent ministry at assigned events. NAD trust services certification preferred but not required. Visit www.adventistmediacenter.com to download application. Email application and resume to mmendoza@adventistmediacenter.com.

Pacific Union College's Nursing and Health Sciences Department seeks full time and adjunct nursing faculty. Ideal candidates will possess master's degree in nursing or related field, current RN license, and meet CA BRN eligibility requirements. For more information or to apply call 707.965.6231 or visit www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings.

Southwestern Adventist University seeks Development Officer/Grant Writer. Responsibilities include grant writing, donor relations, event coordination and data entry. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills essential. Bachelor's degree required, with strong consideration given to those with experience in grant writing and donor relations. Submit cover letter and CV/resume to sgrady@swau.edu.

Southwestern Adventist University seeks qualified and visionary professional to serve the Department of Music as Director of Keyboard & Theory Studies. Responsibilities include teaching keyboard, theory and church music classes. Ideal candidate

will possess a doctoral degree, be an accomplished performer, and have professional experience as a church musician. Send CV and cover letter to Mr. Jonathan Wall at jwall@swau.edu.

Southwestern Adventist University's Department of Music seeks Director of Orchestral Studies. Responsibilities include teaching keyboard, theory and church music classes. Preferred candidate will hold doctoral degree, be an accomplished string performer, and have professional experience as a conductor. Send CV and cover letter to Mr. Jonathan Wall: jwall@swau.edu.

Southwestern Adventist University's Math & Physical Sciences

Department seeks highly motivated individual to teach combination of statistics, upper-level mathematics and/or general physics. Doctoral degree preferred; master's degree considered. Send CV and copy of transcripts to Dr. Amy Rosenthal: arosenthal@swau.edu.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction at La Sierra University invites applications for full time, tenure track faculty position. Applicants must hold PhD with Curriculum and

Instruction as preferred specialization, and must have taught for at least five years in K-12 classroom setting; be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; and have demonstrated effectiveness as a teacher and scholar. Additional details and application instructions available at goo.gl/sHijbX.

Union College seeks committed Adventist Social Work Program Director effective January 2017. Essential qualifications include an MSW (relevant doctorate preferred), and two years' professional social work experience. Successful teaching also valued. Email letter of interest and CV to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development, at dewhite@ucollege.edu.

Union College seeks committed Adventist to establish and direct an Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, effective July 2016. Essential qualifications include a master's degree in Occupational Therapy (doctorate preferred), being licensed and registered, and five years of professional experience. Email letter of interest and CV to Rick Young, Chair of Emergency Management and Exercise Science: r2young@ucollege.edu.

Wanted to hire: Individual with education and/or experience in business to write business plan for Adventist vegan restaurant startup. Please contact Teresa Morlan by phone at 417.838.3132 or by email at tmorlan08@yahoo.com.

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EVENTS

6-day Natural Remedies & Hydrotherapy Workshop: July 31-Aug. 5 at Andrews University. For details visit andrews.edu/go/nrhw, email janinec@andrews.edu or call 269.471.3541.

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Global Community Development Program is hosting a Transforming & Educating Ambassadors for Mission and Service Forum, July 14-16. Congregations across North America will discuss improvements on short-term mission impacts for sustainable difference making. For registration and information, email mgcd@southern.edu or call 423.236.2070.

Madison College Alumni Homecoming, June 24-26 at Madison Academy. For more information contact Jim Culpepper at 615.415.1925.

Oak Park Academy Alumni Weekend, Sept. 16-17. All alumni, former faculty and staff are invited. Honor Classes: '36, '41, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76. Location: Gates Hall, 825 15th St, Nevada, IA. For more information contact Allayne Petersen Martsching: 402.312.7368, allaynemartsching@gmail.com.

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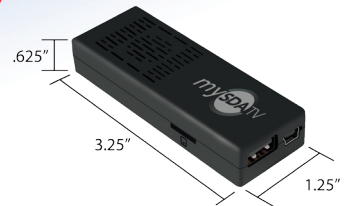
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“I am thankful to AWR for broadcasting such wonderful programs. These programs give comfort and peace to perishing souls like me. I had decided to commit suicide, but after listening to your programs I have decided to accept Christian faith and take baptism and live for Jesus. I want to serve Jesus by witnessing among my village people.”
 – Listener in Asia

I came so that they may **have** and **enjoy** life, and have it in **abundance**. — John 10:10



Abundant Life

Adventist Health System takes a Christ-centered, whole-person approach to healthcare, serving more than 4.7 million patients each year. To do this, we look to the principles of Creation as the blueprint for helping others live an abundant life. Explore these eight principles of CREATION Health at [CreationHealth.com](https://www.creationhealth.com).