

MID-AMERICA SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST NEWS & INSPIRATION

OUTLOOK

OUTLOOKMAG.ORG

WHAT'S
YOUR
STORY?

P. 8



CELEBRATING
the gift of
LEADERSHIP

FEB 2021



PERSPECTIVES

- 4 CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP IN A CHANGING WORLD**
—Gary Thurber
- 5 TIPS FOR LEADING MINISTRY**
—Shelina Bonjour

FEATURES

- 6 YOUNG LEADERS**
- 8 WHAT'S YOUR STORY?**
DR. SETH PIERCE

NEWS

- 10 CENTRAL STATES**
- 12 DAKOTA**
- 14 IOWA-MISSOURI**
- 16 KANSAS-NEBRASKA**
- 18 MINNESOTA**
- 20 ROCKY MOUNTAIN**
- 22 MID-AMERICA UNION**
- 24 UNION COLLEGE**
- 26 ADVENTHEALTH**
- 28 FAREWELL**
- 30 INFOMARKET**

OUTLOOK (ISSN 0887-977X) February 2021, Volume 42, Number 2. OUTLOOK is published monthly (10 months per year) by the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 8307 Pine Lake Road, Lincoln, NE 68516. Printed at Pacific Press Publishing Association, Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE and additional offices. USPS number 006-245. **Postmaster: Send all undeliverables to CFE.** Free for Mid-America church members and \$10 per year for subscribers. ©2017 Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Unless otherwise credited, all images are iStock. Adventist® and Seventh-day Adventist® are registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. **CONTACT us by email: info@maucsd.org or phone: 402.484.3000.**



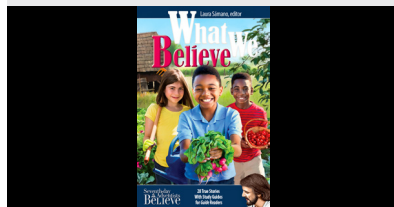
“Ignorance is a barrier, especially willful ignorance. We need to be willing to sit and listen to other’s experiences.” —p. 8





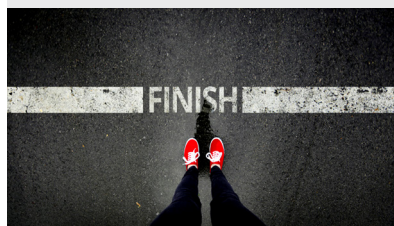
OUTLOOKmag.org

NEWS AND INSPIRATION



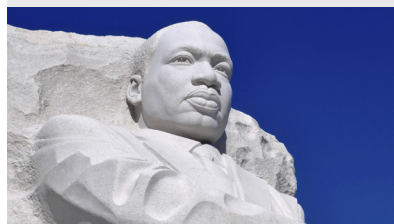
New Book for Kids

outlookmag.org/guide-magazine-publishes-story-based-adventist-fundamental-beliefs-book



#TuesdayTalk

outlookmag.org/tuesdaytalk-endings-and-what-we-do-with-them



Black History Month

outlookmag.org/martin-luther-king-hero-for-us-all

NEW METRICS FOR LEADERSHIP

As we take another step into the year 2021, we find that our culture is shifting yet again. All the chaos of 2020 was not an interruption—it was a disruption that is forcing us to pivot as we prepare for the future. We cannot return to a world that no longer exists. We must look forward and discover new realities, new goals, new metrics for measurement.

Now, more than ever, leadership matters. This process of positively influencing the thoughts and behaviors of others is truly a spiritual gift.

As you read the stories in this issue of leaders in Mid-America, I pray you will be encouraged, inspired and filled with hope for your life in Jesus Christ.



BRENDA DICKERSON
editor



ON THE COVER

Kiefer and Jessyka Dooley serve as the director and assistant director of Youth Ministries for the Rocky Mountain Conference.

More on p. 6

Photo by Eddie Hall

MID-AMERICA UNION CONFERENCE

President

Gary Thurber

Secretary

Hubert J. Morel Jr.

Treasurer

Troy Peoples

Church Ministries

Roger Wade

Communication

Brenda Dickerson

Education

LouAnn Howard

Hispanic Ministries

Roberto Correa

Human Resources

Raylene Jones

Ministerial

Mic Thurber

Religious Liberty

Darrel Huenergardt

Women's Ministries

Nancy Buxton

midamericaadventist.org

OUTLOOK STAFF

Editor:

Brenda Dickerson

Digital Media Manager:

Hugh Davis

outlookmag.org

DESIGN

Hallock Writing & Design

brennanhallock.com

CONFERENCE NEWS EDITORS

Central States

Cryston Josiah

josiah.c@central-states.org

913.371.1071

central-states.org

Dakota

Jodi Dossenko

j.dossenko@gmail.com

701.751.6177

dakotaadventist.org

Iowa-Missouri

Randy Harmdierks

rhardierks@imsda.org

515.223.1197

imsda.org

Kansas-Nebraska

Stephanie Gottfried

sgottfried@ks-ne.org

785.478.4726

ks-ne.org

Minnesota

Savannah Carlson

scarlson@mnsda.com

763.424.8923

mnsda.com

Rocky Mountain

Rajmund Dabrowski

rayd@rmcsda.org

303.733.3771

rmcsda.org

UNION COLLEGE

Ryan Teller

ryteller@ucollege.edu

402.486.2538

ucollege.edu

Celebrating Leadership in a Changing World

If there is one reality we can count on, it is change! The past year has stretched all of us greatly. Because of the invasive COVID-19 virus, we have learned to shop differently, work differently, go to school differently, experience our passage of life events such as weddings, graduations and funerals differently, and worship differently.

At this time last year, we had a need for leaders. Leaders who would step up and take our schools online within a 24-hour period. Pastors who could live stream their services to their congregations as their sanctuary doors had to be closed. We also needed leaders who could conduct virtual events of all types.

This has happened because we have wonderful leadership throughout our territory who could implement the changes necessary to keep schools going and members worshipping together in a new way. And we should realize that, for the most part, it was our younger generations who led the charge for us. We have talented and dedicated young leadership in our church who have helped us greatly through this pandemic.

When it comes to leadership, we ought not to be afraid at all of young people stepping up. As we have been

reminded many times, our denomination was started by a group of young adults who responded to a call and enabling of our Lord.

Age has never been the real issue for leadership. That is not to say experience doesn't matter—because it does. I believe, however, if you maintain godly, biblical principles in your leadership journey, the Lord will be with you and bless your efforts.

What does godly, biblical leadership look like?

There is a theory of leadership called Authentic Leadership (AL) which I believe grew out of Scripture in both its proverbs and narratives. AL has four basic tenants:

1. **Self awareness,**
2. **Relational transparency,**
3. **Balanced processing,**
4. **An internalized moral perspective.**

How does this play out in real life? Here are ways in which this kind of leadership works in everyday situations.

1. The authentic leader has the **ability to assess his/her own strengths and weaknesses** without bias, being true to themselves first before they lead others.
2. The AL is **all in for the team he/she is leading**. There is nothing

half-hearted about their effort and they are in it for the long haul.

3. The AL leader **has integrity**. I can't stress this one enough. Without integrity, a leader can do much more harm than good in leading a team or organization.
4. The AL is someone who is **transparent about both the good and the bad** that comes along. There will always be both. You can almost always deal with the hard issues if you are open and honest about the challenge before you. Without that transparency, you are not able to understand or address the challenges that inevitably will arise.
5. The AL is a **good listener**, someone who can take advice, and is collaborative.
6. The AL is **consistent in the way they lead**. They are the same person with the same internal values no matter who they are working with. They are also inclusive and integrate people from all backgrounds and walks of life into their organization.
7. Finally, they **love to share the credit**. They are quick to give kudos to their team and to those who have worked hard for the success that has been achieved.

Have you noticed these traits in leaders around you? I certainly have. The truth is, almost everyone reading this has been or is a leader of something, whether it's Sabbath school, Pathfinders, a Bible study group, an evangelistic team, a deaconess, chorister ... and I could go on. Whatever your role, I encourage you to follow the most authentic leader of all—Christ Himself.

And let's support the authentic leaders around us, including our teachers and pastors. Most of all, let's cheer on and pray for our young leaders growing up right before us who reflect Christ in the way they go about their work. **0**

GARY THURBER
is president of the
Mid-America Union.



Tips for Leading Ministry with a God-listening heart

Zoom was silent after my co-worker said, “We should sing *Happy Birthday* to David.” Seeing a need for leadership, I came close to the computer camera and counted down on my fingers: three, two, one. And across Zoom rang out the most discordant *Happy Birthday* you’ve ever heard.

There were as many keys, speeds and volumes as participants. A few seconds after the song began, I realized my sound was still muted. It was bad—even my “glass half full” outlook on life couldn’t blame our disastrous performance entirely on internet lag.

This painful rendition of *Happy Birthday* was embarrassing. And I personally felt the blow more deeply as I was responsible for “conducting” this disaster. The birthday boy questioningly said, “It’s the thought that counts?” and shrugged off the event.

As I reflect upon the ministry events or “songs” of

2020, I have to say that subpar, painful and discordant are more accurate descriptions than I would like. But let’s stop looking behind us and instead turn our hearts to creating a beautiful symphony of ministry in this new year. As Psalm 98:1 says: “Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!”

Steps to a ministry symphony

1. Learn to direct from the

Master: In the best of times, we need God’s direction and leading in our lives. But for me personally reflecting on some ministry lows (like my testimonial vespers where I lined up six speakers but only three people attended, speakers included), I am aware more than usual of my need for God’s wisdom.

As I head into a new season of Pathfinders, youth events and summer camp, I fall on my knees and pray Solomon’s prayer: “Give me a God-listening heart so I can lead your people well” (1 Kings 3:9, MSG). The first step to ministry success is studying under the master director: God.

2. Recruit orchestra

members: In this time of isolation, it is tempting to pull a rock star solo act. With limited social interactions, it’s

easy to assume everyone is disinterested and unreliable. And honestly, it is faster and easier to just do ministry on your own. A one-man band in need of no support ... but that is not how God designed His church.

God called the church to be a body of believers. 1 Cor. 12:21 warns, “The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I don’t need you!’ And the head cannot say to the feet, ‘I don’t need you!’”

God has designed and gifted His church to work in collaboration with each other. This means that the song will be incomplete if people are missing. As directors, let us cast the vision of team ministry and remind everyone that they are needed in this orchestra!

3. Choose the right

music: A third grade teacher announced to the class that they were starting a chime choir. Excitement filled the air and one little girl raised her hand to ask, “Can we play *Hallelujah* (Handel’s Messiah)?” The teacher winked and said, “Let’s learn *Ode to Joy* first.” Ecc. 3:1 says, “There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.”

Like a music teacher, a ministry leader is responsible for helping set the direction for the group. Taking into account the intended audience and the group’s skill level, a wise director selects

A Ministry Leader’s Prayer for 2021

God, recently I have struggled in directing ministry. I ask for your wisdom! Help me not rob your people of their calling by trying to do everything on my own.

As I work toward the ministry dreams you have put in my heart, show me how to start with the basics and build from there. Thank you for listening to my heart!

Amen

pieces that are challenging, interesting *and* achievable. Whatever your “Handel’s Messiah” dream may be, start today by mastering Zoom renditions of *Happy Birthday*. **0**

SHELINA BONJOUR

is director of Youth Ministries for the Minnesota Conference.



YOUNG LEADERS

Creating Authentic Culture and Sharing an Exciting God

Jessyka and Kiefer Dooley

are Seventh-day Adventist Millennial youth leaders who grew up with no interest in becoming leaders. But through a winding river of circumstances—including being introduced to a lifelong relationship with Jesus—they have both developed a passion for summer camp and youth ministries.



Eddie Hall

Jessyka recalls not having a positive experience in school or church until she met Jesus as a friend. “I had an incredible chaplain and mentor my senior year in academy,” says Jessyka. “She connected me with a relationship with Jesus that was so much deeper than what the church had offered me in the past.”

After graduating from Auburn Adventist Academy in 2012, Jessyka decided to study theology at Union College. Her passion for youth ministry became evident during her internship with the Boulder Adventist Church in Colorado during her last year of college.

“At Boulder Church I got to work with Japhet de Oliveira, who taught me everything I could ever learn about ministry in the years that I was able to work with him. I fell in love with doing kids and youth ministry and actually connecting with the kids at a young age and making a difference for them long-term,” Jessyka explains. Now serving as assistant youth director for the Rocky Mountain Conference, Jessyka adds that this is the reason she is still involved in the Adventist Church.

Kiefer was raised in the Midwest and attended Ozark

Academy. His passion for summer camp ministry began while he was a teenager.

“At summer camp I fell in love with what ministry is. I remember talking to a youth director one summer and asking, ‘How do you know the plans God has for your life?’ I was thinking about switching my major in college and didn’t really know. And he was the one who told me, ‘God’s gonna use you where you are. Say yes to opportunities and do a really good job,’” Kiefer recalls.

After graduating from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in 2015, Kiefer got a good job at JB Hunt Transport Services, Inc.

However, he felt empty and wanted to spend one more summer at camp, where his passion was engaged.

“I wanted one last hurrah at Glacier View Ranch with my brother and sister, who were also working there that summer,” recalls Kiefer. “And then my plan was to go to grad school. God had different ideas that summer. Steve Hamilton, Ed Barnet and Brennan and Brandy Kirstein were just a few of the people who prompted me to consider running summer camps and doing youth ministry as a career.” Kiefer has been facilitating

youth ministry in the Rocky Mountain Conference ever since and is now the director of the conference's Youth Ministry Department.

Other leaders in youth ministry see the Dooleys' passion and natural abilities as leaders for summer camp and beyond. "Working as a husband and wife ministry team allows them to make the group feel like they're part of the family," observes Pastor Roger Wade, Mid-America Union Conference Church Ministries director. "The young adults who work for them at camp are not just commodities; they're coming to their family."

Wade, who is valued by Jessyka and Kiefer for his mentorship, adds that they both have a heart for the young people they serve. "They know them. They are constantly in tune with where they are, and that, I think, is their secret sauce. Because they know where the young people are, they're able to minister directly to what the issues are. And their leadership styles work well together."

Authentic community

As Christians, we understand that the relationship with Jesus is at the center of everything—our work, play, friends and even our existence. So when new leadership assumes a role in the church dedicated to developing people's relationship with Jesus, it's understandable that some questions might arise.

"As humans we like to be comfortable, and the familiar is always more comfortable than the unknown," says Kiefer. "I think that open and honest dialogue is very important in situations with

young leaders in the church—the goal of the conversation being to discover that the core component of the fresh, young, emerging leader's platform is still to promote Jesus and everything that a life with Him entails to the world."

Kiefer points out that Jesus, at the age of many of our Millennial leaders today, often shook up religious traditions because they were clouding the beauty of God's love for His people. "As young leaders we want to bring the excitement of a life with Jesus to everyone we work with. It's important to remember that God has a creative and fun personality."

What draws young adults to ministry at summer camp? Kiefer thinks it's all about the relationship building that is exemplified at camp, because relationships are the key to success. Camp provides young adults a chance to develop relationships with others in areas they are passionate about.

"At camp there's the opportunity for basically anyone to do something they're gifted and talented in," states Kiefer. "You might want to run sound, you might want to cook, you might love rock

climbing—there's always a way for young adults to use their talents and passions to better the program and connect with people and then, ultimately, to help those people connect to God."

Summer camp leadership gives the Dooleys a chance to excel. In Jessyka's words, "Summer camp really is where we get to lead; we get to create. We are hiring staff, or sometimes firing staff, because we're actually responsible for not only 70 young adults, we're also directly responsible for roughly 140 campers every single week."

Closing the gaps

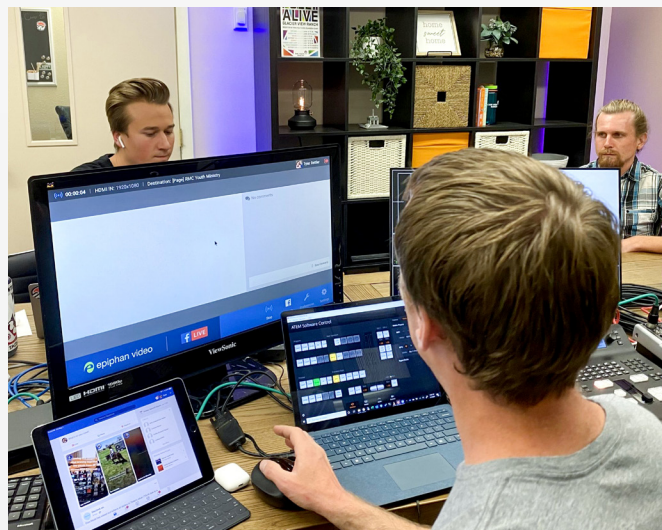
Reflecting on why young adults are attracted to the summer camp model they have created, Jessyka points out that the new staff who come in are able to bring their own flavor, their own ideas, their own way of doing things. "The secret to successful young adult leadership is to give the youth the ability to lead in their own way," says Jessyka. "We want to help guide the ship [of the Adventist Church] and our goal is to work together with all generations to land

it safely on a beautiful beach, not let it crash and flounder on the rocks of a disengaged community."

Jessyka adds that when there's a healthy, positive culture the rest just kind of takes off. "I've seen that with summer camp, where we've created a really professional, but also a fun and energetic culture. When our state inspectors come in, they're wowed by how organized and how on top of it we all are."

Jessyka and Kiefer see the creating of culture as fundamental to building up our church. "When we actually connect with younger kids and show them a Jesus who is fun and creative, caring, exciting, they take that with them into their teen years, through college, then on into adulthood," says Jessyka. "And that's the gap I think we've missed—connecting with our children in a way that permanently engages them. In the end, the success of any ministry is building relationships and showing people a God who is creative and active in their life." **O**

Jon Roberts is assistant communication director for the Rocky Mountain Conference.



Photos Courtesy Rocky Mountain Conference



What's Your Story?

This month we continue our series of interviews as Mid-America Union president Gary Thurber talks with Dr. Seth Pierce about his experiences.

Dr. Seth Pierce: "We're not there yet."

What did you learn from your family about racism?

I'm the son of a pastor and I was always taught to treat everyone equally and with respect. I had a grand uncle who was black and it was modeled in my family that we treat everyone equally. But there was never a sit-down talk to really explain what racism is, how it's been a part of American life, and what others have experienced.

What do you think when you hear people say "I'm color blind"?

The first thing I hear is the

intention of the comment. They are trying to say that they see everyone equally and they treat everyone the same. However, the *impact* of that statement is different because you have this social construct of race. And there are people who, because of their race, have gone through struggles and terrible suffering. Saying "I'm color blind" means "I don't see that" and it erases that tie to their racial identity as a family and a community.

The idea of colorblind racism is decades old, and people who continue to use that statement have not really done the work to understand the issues. The intention may be equality, but the impact is erasure.

What's the difference between prejudice and racism?

Any person of any color can be prejudiced and exhibit bullying behaviors. But racism is the combination of prejudice plus power—being in a position to create the laws and the policies that structure society. And historically, in terms of representation, it's been predominantly white people who held that power.

Yes, we've come a long way since Jim Crow laws, and we should celebrate that. But that doesn't mean we've eradicated racism. Even if I'm a conscientious white leader, I

still have blind spots because I don't know what it's like to be a Person of Color. When we're talking about developing equitable policy and practice, we need equitable representation.

What, in your view, is systemic racism?

Systemic racism is linked to the policies, laws, social norms and systems that we have in place, perhaps even with good intentions. But when I talk with colleagues and students who are People of Color, they point out that things aren't working the same for everyone. As much progress as we've made, we're still not there yet.



Hugh Davis

Dr. Seth Pierce is an author, speaker and communication professor at Union College and the director of the communication program. His new book titled *Seeking an Understanding* is available from AdventSource.

Watch the full interview with Dr. Seth Pierce at [YouTube.com/MidAmericaOutlook](https://www.youtube.com/MidAmericaOutlook) and subscribe to our weekly eNewsletter myOUTLOOK at bit.ly/myoutlook to receive the next interview.

What do you see as some of the barriers to progress?

On the interpersonal level, we have trust issues. And part of that comes with the history. If you've been on the short end of the stick for a long time, it's hard to trust that there will be meaningful conversations on race and prejudice. If you're a Person of Color and you've been through painful experiences and trauma that are real and raw, and then you talk to a white friend who says it doesn't exist, not only are you suffering from the results of systemic racism but now the person who you thought was your friend just denied your entire experience.

Anxiety is another big issue. White people have not generally been taught how to talk about racism and we are so nervous about saying the wrong thing and being thought of as a terrible person that we just don't say anything at all. Then we're not dealing with the problem.

Ignorance is also a barrier, especially willful ignorance. We need to be willing to sit and listen to other's experiences without going on the defensive. We need to read books—not just watch YouTube videos—and do that hard work of sitting with the material and grappling on a deep level with the real issues.

As a professor, what do you see that is different with the younger generations?

Digital communication has given us easy access to all

kinds of history and stories that have not been told in our textbooks and curated documents—things we didn't even know existed.

Have we ever apologized for these racist things? Are we just going to pretend they didn't happen? How are we as a church addressing it? We are so polarized in this country that we may be hesitant to speak. But younger church members are less tolerant of that and more vocal in calling on their church to be proactive in dealing with this issue that is hurting the mission of the church.

What can we do more of as a church to promote healing and healthy dialogue?

First, just acknowledge that we still have issues. And then understand that our theology is not opposed to dealing with racism.

When people say “just preach the gospel and don't get into social justice” I know that they have not studied Revelation 14 and the three angels' messages that include every race and nation and give instructions to come out of a system of exploitation. The third message is about worship and rest, which cannot truly happen in broken systems. We need to put the gospel and social justice in dialogue together.

What would you like to say to your fellow Caucasian church members?

There are several things, and I'm saying this to myself as

well. We have to stop coding attempts to talk about racism as being Marxist or secular. We need to realize it's a biblical issue, a gospel issue, a missional issue. We need to listen and learn.

We also need to toughen up a bit. We are so sensitive around this topic that we tend to go on the defensive and find ways to pick arguments apart instead of listening to others' experiences. This is very slow, patient work. Dismantling racism involves getting good information, building intercultural relationships rooted in trust, and having those slow, understanding conversations.

Finally, we must realize that it's *our* work to do this. We cannot go to a Person of Color and say, “Condense all your knowledge and lived experiences for me into five minutes and do it now, for free.” No, it's on us to find the voices who have written and been published and to do the learning work.

What would you like to say to People of Color who might be reading this?

First, it's important for Caucasians to apologize for the things that have minimized and silenced the voices of People of Color—the policies, the systems, the treatments from the interpersonal level to mass communications. We'll get some theological chatter about not being personally responsible, but consider the prophet Daniel's prayer. He had not done anything wrong, but he included himself when asking for forgiveness.

I also want to make a statement of solidarity by saying black lives matter. This is not aligning myself with a political party or ideology. It's saying that certainly, all lives matter, but in this moment, this group of people is being treated as if their lives don't matter as much.

What are some practical steps for the Adventist Church to take right now?

I threw this exact question out on my Twitter a while back and I'll give you a summary of the suggestions. The biggest thing by far is investing in education. Pastors and teachers are not being adequately trained to have these necessary conversations in churches and classrooms. There needs to be very intentional effort to give them these tools.

Also, people mentioned the Sabbath school lessons. We want to talk about real issues of racism, sexism and other legal issues. We need concrete biblical education on how to engage people and deal with these concerns.

A third area was creating offices of diversity and inclusion, not just for schools but for all entities of the church. It's important to invest in creating these positions and not just assigning the task to someone who already has 13 other assignments on their plate, otherwise it's not going to be done well. It has to be an area of specialty and passion. 0

Four Churches Distribute Gifts to Children in Need



Photos Courtesy Keith Hackle, Jr.

Without question, 2020 was a difficult year. Countries closed their borders, cruise ships were forced to dock, schools transitioned to online learning, churches suspended in-person worship services and provided options via Zoom and other platforms, and the number of individuals experiencing depression and other mental health issues began to climb.

There were protests against injustice in various cities around the world, businesses closed, fires broke out in the western U.S. and hurricanes in the southern U.S., the number of those affected by COVID-19 continued to climb, deaths from the virus

surpassed 1.6 million people, and facemasks became an essential part of the wardrobe for every person who dared to leave their house.

Citizens of the United States cast their votes during the presidential election in record numbers, yet it took weeks for the official announcement of the results. As the holiday season approached many citizens had to strongly consider foregoing the traditional family gatherings, and Zoom gatherings quickly became the plan for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

As the last weeks of the year arrived, millions were thinking less about stuffing

Members of four churches in Missouri (Grand Avenue, Lighthouse, Agape and St. Louis Spanish) worked hard during the holidays to provide toys for children in their communities who otherwise would not have received any.

stockings and wrapping presents to place under their tree and more about whether they'd be evicted or foreclosed on, if their unemployment benefits would be reduced, or if a second stimulus to bolster the economy would be passed.

Undeniably, the issues of this present time led millions of individuals to resolve that gift-giving was not an option—a reality that was tough to process for adults and children alike.

Wright. Though they are over 150 miles apart in location, they were together in vision, distributing over 350 toys as a result of members donating their time and money.

Commenting on the impact of the toy drives in both of his churches, Pastor Wright stated that “the giveaways were a huge blessing to the low income and poverty-stricken households in the areas that were served that have no means to provide Christmas gifts to their children. Getting involved allowed us to extend the love of God and bring hope to our local community.”

About five miles west of Lighthouse Church, the Agape Church held a toy and food distribution as well. The toy drive was an addition to an ongoing partnership with the St. Louis Spanish Church in which food is taken to the community and distributed to a largely immigrant population.

The community members

Something to smile about

2020 gave much for people to complain about, but for four Adventist churches in Missouri it was an opportunity to give people something to smile about!

Both Grand Avenue Church in Charleston, Missouri, and Lighthouse Church in St. Louis, Missouri, are led by **Pastor Byron**



Miracle on 47th Provides Free Christmas Meal

were overjoyed when they learned that the distribution truck was filled with toys in addition to the food. Many of the parents—who have little to no income—do not have a way of providing toys for their children. Being able to receive a gift, no matter the size, helps the community feel more a part of the larger community in which they reside.

“I’m glad to see not just the community out here to receive the blessings, but also the children from the church volunteering and distributing the blessing,” stated **Keith Hackle Jr.**, pastor of the Agape Church. “This day is an embodiment of Sister White’s counsel for us regarding how to recognize Christmas.”

In her book *The Adventist Home*, White says, “[The children’s] desire to make gifts may be turned into pure and holy channels and made to result in good to our fellow men by supplying the treasury in the great, grand work for which Christ came into our world” (p. 478).

Only God knows what is in store for us in the future. In the midst of social distancing and adjustments to the way we live, our churches have a great opportunity to be a light that shines in a dark world. We truly can give ‘em something to smile about.

Keith Hackle Jr. pastors the Agape Church in University City, Missouri, and is director of Adventist Community Services for the Central States Conference.



Photos Courtesy Central States Conference

While COVID-19 forced many people to scale back their holiday traditions, many others experienced an increased need for food and other basic necessities.

Recognizing the great need, **Sister Deborah Mann**, executive director of the Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center in Kansas City, determined to continue their tradition of service despite the restrictions implemented during the pandemic.

Volunteers from various Kansas City community organizations, Beacon Light Adventist Church members, and other volunteers unite together every year in this effort to impact hundreds of families in the community. Previously called Miracle on 35th Street, this year’s event was titled Miracle on 47th because organizers had to change the venue due to city gathering restrictions.

Mann and a team of volunteers gave out free hot meals to over 300 people on Friday afternoon during the Miracle on 47th event. Mann knew that people in their community were going through a lot and she believed this was the best way to offer support.

Participants could drive or walk up and receive hot meals, a large bag of groceries, hygiene products, clothes and gifts for kids. Drivers could request multiples of supplies if they were delivering to other families.

Vincent Jones, minister of music for the Beacon Light Church, oversees the music that provides wholesome Christian entertainment for the event. Members of the church’s praise team and musicians sing and play, creating a joyful atmosphere.

“Sister Mann sometimes says that on Christmas Day this meal may be the best meal many have had all

year. Many in the homeless community also come by and are blessed not only with food but scarves, shoes and gloves,” said **Pastor Cryston Josiah**, vice president of administration for the Central States Conference.

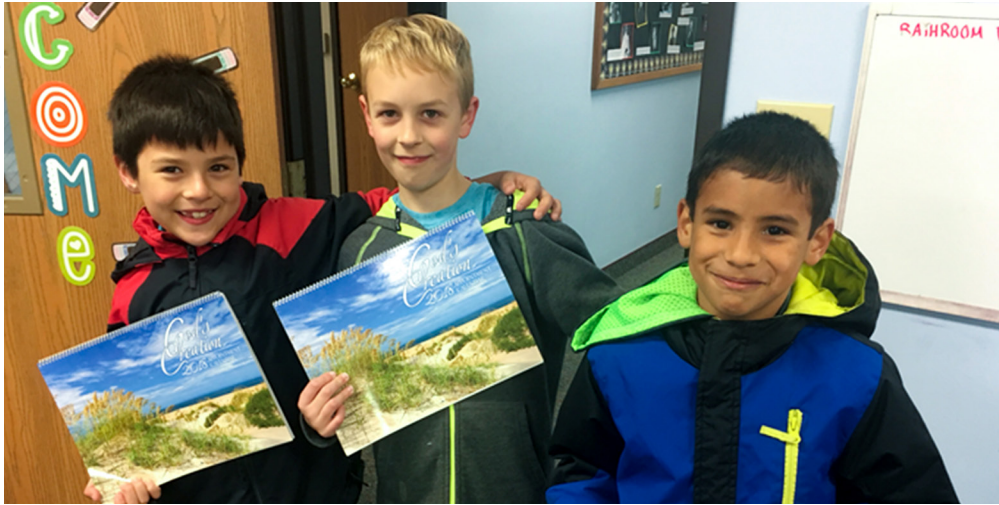
In a year full of changes, those in need have said it’s a blessing to count on people who never had a change of heart. Several expressed their appreciation at being able to “have a Christmas after all.”

“Elder and Sister Mann have a passion for the people in their community that is real and powerful,” added Josiah. “They are literally the hands and feet of Jesus, providing for the needs of the least of these willingly and without earthly reward. But I certainly believe that great will be their reward in heaven. As someone who served as their pastor for almost seven years, I must admit I have always been quite proud of their love for people that takes action, not only at Christmas but all year round. I believe this ministry can serve as an inspiration for other community service ministries all around the Mid-America Union.”

Information supplied by the Central States Conference.

Sioux Falls Church Makes Youth Top Priority

Dragos Profir



Church school students Joshua Profir, Kole Rickard and Josue Menezes help out during a prior year's annual calendar fundraiser.

in various other fundraisers, including this summer's sale of locally grown sweet corn, which was greatly appreciated by the local community.

It is because of everyone's combined efforts and contributions over the years that we have been able to make the future of children and youth the top priority. Through the various improvements, both small and large, the church and school have not only created a welcome and safe place to play and learn, but also communicated to the community that whether it is the programs offered or the facilities used, we always strive to become better while excellence is pursued.

Dragos Profir is pastor of the Sioux Falls Church in South Dakota.

Despite challenges and disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020, the Sioux Falls Church and school have continued to focus on making their facility a welcome and safe place for children and youth.

After the successful renovation of the gymnasium, which included

new adjustable basketball hoops, a new gym floor and repainted walls, followed by the extreme makeover of the Youth Room, the focus shifted to the aging playground. It has been the place where children play in fresh air and many meaningful conversations have been held. But after decades of surviving storms, high winds and the

creative use of children, the time had come to say goodbye to the faithful playground that had become quite shaky in its old age.

The church and school leaders wish to extend a huge thank you to church members who donated toward the project. Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the annual summer fruit sales, to the supportive church school board who organized the annual fall festival fundraisers, and to the school students who participated

(left) Spiritual growth is encouraged during a gathering in the updated youth room.

(right) New playground equipment has been installed and is ready for children.





Photos: Caleb Haakenson

The Lodge Retreat Celebrates Five Years

Young Adult annual weekend brings heaven to earth

The Lodge tends to be a divine contradiction—full of holy and heavenly time, yet completely void of things we typically think make events “special.” It is truly an experience of the simple gospel.

During the first weekend in October 2020, The Lodge young adult retreat celebrated its fifth anniversary. For five years, this event has epitomized everything we could ever hope for ministry to be—a true moment of heaven touching earth. For five years, this weekend has been a retreat in every sense of the word, prioritizing physical, emotional and spiritual renewal. For five years, the Lodge has been our Mount Sinai experience, where we all go to see God face-to-face in order to come down and share this good and beautiful God with our communities.

The Lodge gets its name from our favorite and most frequently used venue: Coteau des Prairies Lodge, located near Havana, North Dakota. It is a giant, single

structure in the middle of nowhere with the capacity to house 65 young people.

The weekend is modeled after the community of worship found in Acts chapter 2, where the disciples gather together to feast, celebrate, pray, serve and share life together. We experience not just a surface level community, but the deep, intimate, vulnerable community that brings us to acknowledge who we are and what we were made for; where there is space to weep, mourn, confess, laugh and ultimately return to God. It is an opportunity for strangers to become family and family to become the church that Jesus intended, where no one has any need because each person is found complete in Christ.

The Lodge has always been intended to be for Dakota young adults, but it has also hosted a variety of young adults from across our union and division. We have witnessed young people flock from different regions of the country because they have

heard about, and mostly have yearned for, the experience that happens there. Every year we see more and more young adults from different places come to find what and who they have been craving their whole lives: the body of Christ on earth and the Holy Spirit that sets it ablaze.

The Lodge 2021 will be held Oct. 15-17. If you are a young adult who desires a community like this, come and see. Come hang out.

Come find new friends. Come and meet your Maker. Or simply bring this type of event to life in your community, where young adults like you and me are desperately desiring an authentic and genuine experience with the Divine. You will not regret it.

Ricky and Brooke Melendez (pictured below with their dog Wallace) are the youth and young adult directors for the Dakota Conference.



Conference Welcomes Four New Bible Workers

The Iowa-Missouri Conference recently hired four new Bible workers as it sets eyes on evangelism efforts taking place in 2021.

Courtesy Iowa-Missouri Conference



Aadesh Biswa

Aadesh Biswa is serving in the Kansas City area. He came to the United States from Nepal in 2013 and was introduced to the Adventist Church through his involvement with

Courtesy Iowa-Missouri Conference



Shelby Clark

the NC4Y Pathfinder Club in Kansas City. He briefly attended Sunnysdale Academy and recently completed training with It Is Written's School of Evangelism, SALT. While

Courtesy North American Division



Dana Connell

there, he, a friend and several others involved in the program were baptized.

Shelby Clark is serving the Des Moines area through the Ankeny and Woodland Hills churches. She is no stranger to our conference, having grown

Courtesy Iowa-Missouri Conference



Doh Htoo

up as an active member of the Houston Church in Missouri. She graduated last year from SALT and was working with It Is Written on a major outreach effort in Indianapolis before the pandemic hit. Clark has a powerful personal testimony

LET'S CONNECT

Did you know the conference sends out a weekly e-newsletter called imConnected?



CHURCH LIFE

Celebrate what God is doing in churches around the conference, such as baptisms, ministry in our communities and more.



SCHOOL LIFE

Find out what students are learning as they grow academically and spiritually at our elementary schools and Sunnysdale Academy.



PERSONAL LIFE

Get to know fellow believers around the conference as you read powerful testimonies about what God is doing in people's lives.



SIGN UP TODAY!
imsda.org/newsletter

imConnected

and a great passion for leading others to a transformational relationship with Jesus Christ.

Dana Connell is serving in Belle Plaine and surrounding areas of Iowa. She earned her Master of Divinity degree from the seminary at Andrews University in 2016 and has served the church in various capacities including associate pastor, chaplain and community service and outreach coordinator for Impact San Antonio during the 2015 General Conference Session.

Following the derecho that tore through the Belle Plaine area last August, Connell was one of the volunteers who came to the area, along with Gideon Rescue Company and Union College's International Rescue and Relief program. She spent many weeks getting to know residents, assessing needs, distributing Red Cross food packets and providing spiritual care and praying with people.

Doh Htoo is serving the Des Moines community through the Des Moines Church. He came to the United States as a refugee in 2010 and graduated from Sunnysdale Academy last year. While at Sunnysdale, Htoo often held Bible studies in the dorm, leading several fellow students to Christ. He recently finished his training with SALT.

Please keep each of these Bible workers, the communities and churches they're serving and our conference in your prayers as we work together to reach Iowa and Missouri for Jesus throughout this next year.

Stories on these pages were written by Lee Rochholz, ministerial director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference.

Change in Seasons Brings Four Pastoral Transitions to Iowa-Missouri

Four pastoral transitions have recently taken place in the Iowa-Missouri Conference.

(top row, l-r) **Fainer Benjamin, Dale Fuhrmeister**

(bottom row, l-r) **Bob Joseph, Taariq Patel**

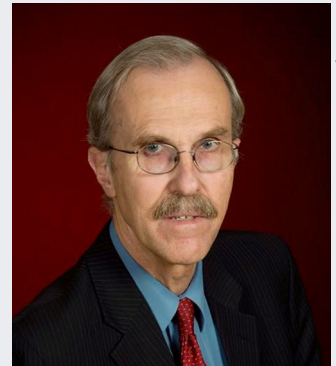
Fainer Benjamin is now serving the Gladstone and Independence churches in Missouri. He comes to us from Andrews Theological Seminary, where he graduated last summer. Before attending seminary, Benjamin served as a Bible worker in various areas of the country.

Dale Fuhrmeister is now serving the Kirksville and Macon churches in Missouri as a Bible worker. He performs a number of pastoral functions but is primarily focused on evangelism through Bible studies and Bible study training.

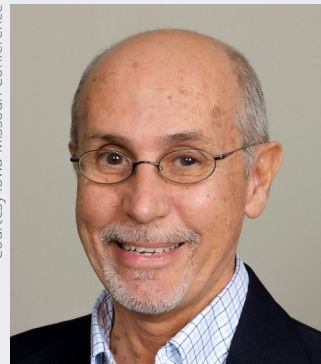
He previously served as an elder for the Cedar Rapids Church in Iowa, where he was instrumental in leading people to Jesus through Bible studies. He received Bible worker training through the Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism, has served as a Bible worker and lay pastor in Colorado, and has most recently taught automotive



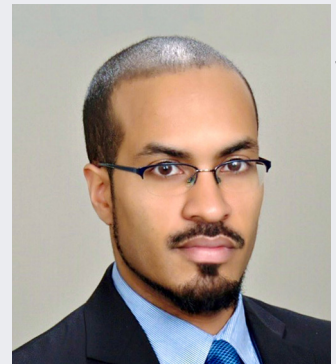
Courtesy Fainer Benjamin



Courtesy Dale Fuhrmeister



Courtesy Iowa-Missouri Conference



Courtesy Iowa-Missouri Conference

classes at Quachita Hills Academy in Arkansas.

Bob Joseph and his wife, **Angie**, are now serving the Cedar Rapids Church in Iowa. Joseph has been a pastor for 33 years, 18 of which have been in the Iowa-Missouri Conference. The Josephs have most recently served the Gladstone and Independence churches in the Kansas City area.

Taariq Patel, his wife, **Igdaly**, and their three children are now serving the Des Moines and Jordan Crossing churches in Iowa. For the past two years, the Patels served the Atlantic, Council Bluffs, Exira and Harlan churches.

Wichita South Members Share Holiday Blessings

Courtesy Kansas-Nebraska Conference



Ms. Beardsley's third and fourth grade students at Wichita Adventist Christian Academy used their handwriting and art skills to create 18 cards with Bible texts about giving thanks. These cards were placed inside the Thanksgiving meal food baskets for shut-ins.

For many years **Debbie Manasco** has orchestrated a church Thanksgiving meal at her Wichita South Church. But 2020 was different. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, a large feast to feed the whole church in a social act of thanksgiving for God's blessings and fellowship to kick off the holiday season was out of the question.

Rather than just scrapping the meal tradition this year, Manasco decided to bring the food to those who have missed church fellowship entirely—our shut-ins and other folks who are too vulnerable to infection to be around friends and family at church. Getting the meal cooked and organized for distribution required a logistical adjustment for Manasco

and her helpers.

"This year was different, involving precautions I don't usually think about," said Manasco. "The older people needed to know we were being careful; that they didn't need to worry about infection." The 23 meals were prepared at Manasco's home, where she could control sanitation thoroughly. She then packaged each in containers to keep the food clean and portable.

Although the planning was more involved than her usual potluck-style Thanksgiving feast in the church fellowship hall, the quality and style of the menu remained traditional and delicious. "We served all the usual Thanksgiving treats: veggie turkey loaf with gravy,

mashed potatoes, green beans and Hawaiian rolls. Then four other church ladies came through with pie and cranberry salad to complete the festive flair," she said.

The only element missing from the usual menu was hot apple cider, which wouldn't transport easily. Along with a warm meal, each bag was packed on Sabbath with an original piece of themed artwork, and personal notes from church kids and Wichita Adventist Christian Academy students in **Ms. Heidi Beardsley's** class.

Once the bags were packed, each was sent to its destination via a volunteer couple or family from our church—wearing masks, of course—to make the personal delivery, along with conversation and prayer.

"It was really special for our girls to help with a service activity that brings the focus off of ourselves while fostering that church family warmth," said **Stevie Cowgill**, who delivered one of the bags with her husband, **Curtis**, and two daughters **Nora** and **Charlotte**. "It is easy to feel really stressed during

this pandemic, and I know it's been isolating for lots of people in different ways, so we were just thankful to have a chance to spread cheer and pray for a member my girls know from church and miss getting to see while things are far from normal."

Manasco was pleased that more members volunteered to deliver bags than they even had need for, signaling that her project spread its impact beyond even sharing a tasty dinner. From the kids who colored and made cards to the families who drove around Wichita to get the bags delivered while the food was still warm, this was truly a Thanksgiving project that involved the whole church family at Wichita South.

In the following weeks, those who received the meals flooded Manasco with kind responses. "Everybody was so sweet and sent thank you notes for being remembered over the holiday. It was certainly worth the work and effort on everyone's part," she added.

Whitni Carlson serves as Family Life Ministry director at Wichita South Church in Wichita, Kansas.

Mission Continues During COVID

“This pandemic changed all our plans, but not our mission,” says **Roberto Correa** (Hispanic Ministries coordinator for the conference at the time of this writing). “After upgrading our equipment at the Topeka Hispanic Church we launched our virtual evangelist series called *Moments with the Master*. Even though it is tough not to be able to gather at the church as we normally do, something amazing happened. We had more members viewing and sharing our presentation through Facebook live every night. By having our online program many more visitors were connected with us than we have had previously. The series was wrapped up with baptisms. We praise the Lord for blessing these meetings and the people who joined us for them,” says Pastor Correa.



Photos Courtesy Kansas-Nebraska Conference

“Last Sabbath our El Dorado congregation gathered in the afternoon to put together gift boxes for our neighbors,” says **Pastor Francois Erasmus**. “Inside each box we included a Christmas card signed by our members, sealed store-bought treats, a Christmas tree ornament, as well as a *Steps to Christ*. After dividing into groups of two, we walked down the main street our church is located on, gave our neighbors a gift box and prayed for them. Afterward we debriefed at the church building and all agreed that God blessed our outreach effort!” shares Pastor Francois.



Sharing music through in-person concerts has become a challenge this year at our schools. Midland Adventist Academy has found a creative way to tackle that challenge. “In November, Midland Adventist Academy’s choir released our first video performance of the school year,” says **Steve Hutchison**, music director. “The song is called ‘He’ll Make it Alright’ by **Pastor Charles Jenkins**. Several parents and community members have responded with how touched they were by the message of hope and peace.”



 [Watch Midland’s choir video at www.youtu.be/-KOEIOqkmcu.](http://www.youtu.be/-KOEIOqkmcu)

Conference Team Serves with Intentionality

Using spiritual gifts during COVID

In 2020 many of us found ourselves asking *What is my purpose?* With the stress of stay-at-home orders, rescheduled events and closed schools, life has been challenging.

At the Minnesota Conference, we found ourselves talking about our purpose as well. Our conference mission statement (*To help people realize they are accepted in Jesus Christ, and come to know, love, serve, and share Him*) can be boiled down to this: *We exist to make disciples who accept and know Jesus as Savior, people who love the Lord and share Him as disciple makers.*

However, at the conference office we generally work with the people who are at the forefront of seeking the lost—we work with people who already know and love Jesus.

In the Human Resources

Department, our question was, *How can we minister to ministers in this COVID environment?* It is possible this was a question throughout the Mid-America Union, as we were all separated from work, friends and family: *How do we minister to our workforce when we cannot interact—when life as we know it has changed so significantly?*

We concluded that God has given each of us gifts to do His work. This applies whether one is serving as a pastor, a doctor or a construction worker. As Christians, we are called to serve one another, and so we used 2020 as a reset for our departmental ministry. We refocused on ministering to our ministers. We renewed our efforts to care for our employees more directly.

In the past, we served our

employees through standard means: a strong benefits package, answering questions, encouraging use of vacation time, meeting twice per year to develop those relationships, and checking in to schedule church visits. In 2020, we became much more focused on developing those relationships.

In 2017, our conference adopted a relationship-based ministry focus from a statement in *Ministry of Healing* (p. 143). Ellen White wrote that Jesus' method to mingle among the people as one who desires their good "gives true success in reaching the people."

Steps toward deeper relationships

Concentrating on relationship-based ministry, our HR department modeled this practice. With that goal in mind, our conference leaders took intentional steps to further develop those relationships.

- **Our Hispanic Ministries coordinator** leads a monthly meeting with the Hispanic pastors via video conferencing. Prior to

COVID they met regularly, but even in the COVID environment, ministry among the Hispanic pastors has continued. They moved forward with an evangelistic campaign and performed COVID-friendly baptisms. Although they did not meet their pre-COVID goals, their work has been effective and inspirational.

- **Our African Ministries coordinator** has met regularly with the African pastors via video conference. Ministry continued to happen, churches continued to meet, conversions continued to culminate and tithes continued to grow.
- **Our interim ministerial director** created a scheduled rotation for calling each pastor to check in and see how they were doing. Those conversations could be anything the pastor needed, from spiritual encouragement to a quick "I'm fine" and prayer. By all accounts, this has created a boost in morale among employees.
- **The education superintendent** has been in regular communication with teachers, despite a difficult year with constant adjustments to doing school. When the teachers were discouraged, the superintendent prayed for them



Courtesy Carol Lyons

The conference HR team distributed gifts of encouragement in 2020, deepening relationships even during COVID.

and did all he could to provide support.

- **Our youth director** reimagined her thank you cards and Christmas cards to previous camp staff, instead opting for a small gift and a “praying for you” note that had a lasting impact.
- **The conference office team** created small “thinking of you” gifts to send to each employee. The first was sent in March, the second in October, just to let employees know they were valued and not alone.

Isolation was a huge hurdle in 2020, and ministry was challenging. If we felt it in the office, we knew our employees would feel it too. But praise the Lord that we are never alone in ministry. We wanted to take the opportunity to remind our employees that God is always with them, and so are we.

In addition, individual employees took the initiative to write (sometimes anonymously) encouraging notes to workers and members alike.

The steps we took to intentionally target our employees weren't earth-shattering, but our ministry reset became a shift in culture. We implemented basic, hospitality-oriented ideas that focused on serving. Among the office team, we have a myriad of

spiritual gifts: serving, teaching, encouraging, leading, preaching and helping, to name a few.

If 2020 taught us anything, it was to be intentional with our actions, our thoughts and our words. We learned that a simple phone call to a worker lifted their spirits and reminded them they were not alone—those of us in the office were thinking of and standing with them.

We are all in this together

We are living in an exceptional time period. We need to remember that community, compassion and empathy are necessary elements for those in the forefront of ministry.

Throughout this experience, our HR department has learned to emphasize the following: we are all in this together, and together we will do the Lord's work. We will reach out to our workers to make a positive, impactful touch because we care.

We pray for God's continued presence and guidance as we serve those who serve His people in 2021, looking ever forward to that triumphant return.

.....
Savannah Carlson is assistant communication director for the Minnesota Conference; Brian Mungandi is communication director for the Minnesota Conference.

Constituency Session Notice

Postponement of meetings due to state COVID-19 restrictions

The Minnesota Conference Board of Trustees took a formal vote under its “...authority to act on behalf of the constituency between constituency sessions” in Article IX, section 3, to postpone the said May 16, 2021, Minnesota Constituency Session, called in accordance with the provisions in the Conference Articles and Bylaws.

The Board of Trustees will revisit the Constituency Session issue with a view of setting a new date in the next duly called Board of Trustees.

A new notice of the date, time and place for the postponed Constituency Session shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Conference Bylaws electronically and through the printed OUTLOOK magazine.

Harris Voted Director of Education for RMC



Diane Harris became the Rocky Mountain Conference director of education on Jan. 1, 2021. The RMC Executive Committee, meeting on Dec. 8 via Zoom, voted unanimously to accept the RMC Administrative Committee's recommendation of the appointment of Harris to replace **Lonnie Hetterle**, who retired at the end of the year after serving more than 25 years in RMC education.

Harris brings over 20 years of experience in education, having served as RMC's associate superintendent since 2003. Prior to joining the education department, Harris taught second grade at Mile High Academy.

Education has always been a passion for Harris, and she is excited about the opportunity ahead of her. "The Rocky Mountain Conference is blessed with incredibly talented teachers who strive to show their students Jesus. I am so blessed to continue to work alongside them," Harris said.

Outgoing superintendent Lonnie Hetterle said, "Harris is not only an expert in Adventist education, but

also has a God-given ability to understand and to care for people of all ages. She is a licensed counselor and has a passion for all of God's people, but especially for children and young people.

"She has a tender and compassionate spirit and yet has the ability to have difficult conversations when necessary. Diane Harris has the confidence of the teachers and has the vision to lead our schools into the future. She is a consummate professional. I am so very pleased to welcome her to her new role and know that she will be a blessing to the Rocky Mountain Conference for years to come," Hetterle concluded.

Keeping Jesus at the center of the education experience will continue to be top priority for Harris. "Together we can move forward in the effort to educate the children of Rocky Mountain Conference and, more importantly, make sure each student gets to know Jesus," Harris said.

RMC president **Ed Barnett**, commenting on the new role Harris has assumed, said, "We couldn't be more excited about Diane accepting the position as our new education director. She has been training for 20 years to step into this position. I believe she will continue to be a blessing to the Rocky Mountain Conference."

RMCNews

Shaving Cream and Candy Key to Learning at HMS Richards School

During in-person school at HMS Richards Elementary, kindergarten teacher **Kristie Smith** is helping her students explore the story of creation in a fun, interactive way.

The activities she has presented include constructing creation scenes out of candy, drawing events with shaving cream, and talking about why each part of creation was essential to the world. "It was a very big, messy project," stated Smith.

Due to the uncertainty 2020 brought, Smith wanted to encourage reading the Bible and building a closer relationship with God among her charges. However, for kindergartners, it can sometimes be hard to focus their attention on the Bible. So Smith utilized hands-on activities to keep them engaged.

"I feel like with COVID, Bible class is a very important part of the curriculum because, while we don't know when Jesus is returning, there are so many signs right now that He will be returning

soon," explained Smith.

In Smith's classroom, helping students connect to God isn't limited to Bible class. Throughout the day when students bring up personal concerns, she teaches them to stop and pray.

"We've seen miracles happen in our class," stated Smith. "We'll pray about something, and just a few minutes later we can see how God has answered us."

Because of the pandemic, it is always a question if schools will be able to stay open for in-person learning. "Every day I go in, I know it's a blessing that I'm there with my kids and we're not meeting online," said Smith. "It's really neat to be with them and laugh with them. Every day is a miracle and my kids know that too. We thank God and pray that we can continue to stay open."

Haley Enochs is a senior at Champion Academy.



Photos Courtesy Rocky Mountain Conference

RMC Communicator Recognized for Dedication to Excellence

The 2020 Excellence in Communication Ministry award was presented last November to **Rajmund Dabrowski**, RMC communication director, during the Mid-America Union Conference's year-end communicator's online gathering. "This award is being given annually to an individual in our territory based on their dedication to fulfilling the mission of the Adventist Church, their creativity, collaboration and innovation in addressing communication challenges," said **Brenda Dickerson**, MAUC communication director.

Dabrowski began his journalism career more than 50 years ago by joining the editorial team of his high school student paper in communist Poland, which was, at the time, a difficult yet cutting edge production. From a young age, he had a passion to serve others and to treat others as he would like to be treated.

"My love was for the Polish language and for history, and it seemed being a part of history [in Poland] and being involved in communication was a natural thing," Dabrowski said while reflecting on his beginnings. "When the first student issue came out, we were proud of our achievement. We walked with our heads held high and pretended to be real journalists. Once a month, we went

to a well-known café to plan for the following issues. At a table next to ours sat a gentleman who, we discovered, was a famous journalist. He introduced himself to us and asked what we were editing. As we chatted, he gave us tips on how to survive the stormy weather under communism."

Dabrowski began his ministry in the Adventist Church as editor and manager of the *Signs of the Times* Publishing House located in Warszawa. After 13 years in publishing, he was elected to serve as communication director for the Trans-European Division. In 1993, he was invited to the General Conference as communication director, where he served until 2010.

"Ray's list of professional accomplishments is long and impressive, and it is an honor to add to his collection of awards this token of our appreciation for his dedicated and creative service in the Mid-America Union," Dickerson stated.

Dabrowski's excellence in communication and his love for others and for service is evident to the many people who have worked with him over the years.

"Working with Ray Dabrowski has been one of the highlights of my church employment," said **Dan Weber**, North American Division communication director. "If there was one word to describe Ray, it would

Rajmund Dabrowski received the 2020 Excellence in Communication Ministry award.

be 'professional.' Everything he does is executed at the highest level. His passion for pushing the Adventist Church in the area of communication is exemplary. The high standard he holds for himself and the organization he represents is a model for all communicators."

Weber's comments are echoed by many of Dabrowski's current and former colleagues.

"I'm privileged to not only work with him, learn from him, but most importantly, I'm honored to call him a friend," said **Jon Roberts**, RMC media/communication assistant.

"Working for Ray was the highlight of my career," said **Carol Bolden**, RMC communication assistant, before her retirement in 2019. "He creates a camaraderie in the workplace that promotes creativity and freedom yet maintains a high standard for the art. His productions are always on the cutting edge of Adventist culture as he encourages readers to think and to represent Jesus more fully. A number of young people in communication today were mentored by him and are making their own mark on the field. We're all indebted to his vision."



Jon Roberts

Ed Barnett, RMC president, said, "Congratulations, Ray. We are proud of you for the tremendous job you do for our conference. I am not surprised that you received this prestigious award. We see your excellence in communication, we are enriched by the global vision you bring to us, we see the quality that you put into all of the different communications the church releases, whether it be the *Mountain Views*, the weekly *NewsNuggets* or the items you put on Facebook. Ray, you are a blessing to our conference. Well done!"

Dabrowski said he is humbled by the dozens of comments left on his Facebook page. "Naturally, it was a nice moment to experience, especially a recognition to aim for excellence in what one does in communication. This is a recognition of those who helped me to aim for excellence, and of those young professionals who make us 'present-truth' Christians," he said.

RMCNews

Adventist Education: Paying It Forward

Through every age, God “has always had a people” to be His hands to serve the world. They cover every ministry that serves others.

One of those ministries involves our education system. We have all heard of the accomplishments of Adventist education—the higher test scores, higher percentage of graduates going to college, higher retention in the church, a stronger culture of kindness and service.

What we don’t often hear about are the donors who recognize the financial investments of putting a child through Adventist education. They are the ones who may have long since finished putting their own children through our system yet continue to give because they value the benefits of Adventist education and want to continue to make a difference in the lives of others.

The Rocky Mountain Conference has been blessed with many individuals who recognize the importance of Adventist education and the financial requirements to keep students in school, especially through the COVID pandemic when many families have been hit hard financially. They may have to choose between an Adventist education and many other things, even food.

During this time, God has a people to be His hands to serve the world—people who pay it forward with no desire for acknowledgment.

Thanks to these donors, who give unselfishly, many students have been blessed by their financial support. There are families who were going to have to tell their children they would need to leave the school because there was no money to keep them there. And there were students who were able to graduate because someone paid the remaining balance of a school bill. There has been story after story of lives impacted by people who gave, not because they had to, or because they wanted recognition, but because they believe in our Adventist education system.

A lasting commitment

I was one of those students whose life was benefited because someone had the commitment and passion to make sure Adventist education was available to all. Coming from a single parent home, I was the recipient of many scholarships and generosity of individuals from elementary school through academy and

finally through Southwestern Adventist University.

God “has always had a people” to be His hands to the world. We are blessed to have so many of them right here in our territory.

Diane Harris is education superintendent for the Rocky Mountain Conference.



Photos Courtesy Rocky Mountain Conference

Correa to Lead MAUC Multi-Language, Disabilities and Hispanic Ministries

Hugh Davis



During a specially convened Zoom meeting last December, the Mid-America Union Conference Executive Committee voted unanimously to invite **Elder Roberto M. Correa Bublitz** to transition from part-time leadership of Hispanic Ministries for the union to serve as the first full-time director of Multi-Language and Disabilities Ministries and Hispanic Ministries coordinator for the nine-state territory of the Mid-America Union.

“Roberto has already provided excellent leadership for our union working on a part-time basis,” said MAUC president **Gary Thurber**. “He has wonderful skills for pulling people together for ministry and will be a great blessing for our Multi-Language, Disabilities and Hispanic Ministries in the

days to come.”

Correa is a bilingual/bicultural pastor originally from Argentina, where he earned a theology degree at River Plate University and served as a Bible worker and then a pastor before coming to the United States in 2000. He pastored in Oregon and Montana, then graduated from Andrews University with a master’s degree in pastoral ministry in 2008.

Correa was ordained to the gospel ministry in 2004 and served as senior pastor for the Kansas City Hispanic District for two years. He has continued to pastor and work part time as the Hispanic Ministries coordinator for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference and the Mid-America Union Conference.

“I am happy with this great opportunity given and privileged to be elected as Hispanic Ministries director for the Mid-America Union Conference,” said Correa. “I want to be a servant and leader, humbly fulfilling my

Roberto Correa (top right) with his wife Paula and two sons Lucas (top left) and Gabriel will transition to Lincoln, Nebraska, later in the year.

responsibility. I will need the constant guidance of the Holy Spirit to enlarge God’s kingdom in our territory among the Hispanic and multicultural population.”

Correa stated that he is committed to providing resources for all the MAUC Hispanic churches as they focus on reaching Hispanic people. “We will provide consultation, materials and leadership in evangelistic seminars. I will work closely with all the Hispanic coordinators of our union,” Correa added.

Correa has been married to **Paula**, a dietician, since 1997 and together they

have two sons. **Gabriel** is a freshman at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, and **Lucas** currently attends Topeka Christian School.

“We are a very united family,” Correa said. “We enjoy traveling together, walking, playing soccer and overall we love the ministry. Prayers are appreciated for our family as we make this transition.”

Correa began his full-time work with the MAUC the first of January. **O**

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



Courtesy Roberto Correa

New Scholarship Covers Tuition Costs for Families Making \$60,000 or Less

Union College has launched the new Bridge to Union Scholarship—a plan that will cover the tuition costs for students from most families with an income of \$60,000 or less.

“In these challenging economic times, every dollar matters,” said **Dr. Vinita Sauder**, president of Union College. “We want to bridge the tuition gap for any student and family who dreams of taking advantage of the life coach for every freshman, career preparation and spiritual community at Union College so they have that opportunity. The Bridge to Union Scholarship helps make our unparalleled personalized support available to many more students—regardless of financial circumstances.”

For first-time freshman students enrolling for the Fall 2021 semester, Union College will scholarship all tuition costs not covered by their federal and state financial aid package. To qualify, a student simply needs to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) showing that they are eligible for a Pell Grant and their family income for the FAFSA year is \$60,000 or less.

The scholarship will be renewable for up to seven additional semesters as long as the student remains enrolled as a full-time student (12-17 credit hours)



Scott Cushman/Union College

during that time, maintains a 2.0 GPA, is Pell-eligible and their family income stays at \$60,000 or below.

“No motivated student should be denied a quality education,” said Sauder. “We are excited to remove more of the financial burden for students who want a Christian education as they seek to find God’s calling for their lives.”

The Bridge to Union program covers tuition only. Students can earn a majority of their room and board by working on campus throughout both semesters and contributing summer work earnings to their account. Outside scholarships may also be applied toward room and board.

Financial aid is available to all Union undergraduate students—regardless of income or eligibility for federal financial aid. For instance, every

The new Bridge to Union Scholarship bridges the tuition gap not covered by their federal financial aid package for students from families who make \$60,000 or less.

For more information about the Bridge to Union Scholarship, call **402.486.2504** or visit **ucollege.edu/bridge-to-union**.

freshman admitted to Union already receives a four-year renewable scholarship of \$4,000 up to full tuition (worth nearly \$100,000 over four years) based on academic achievement, financial situation and other factors.

Stories on these pages were written by Ryan Teller, executive director of Integrated Marketing Communications for Union College.

Renovated Learning Space Named Harris Center

Kim Peckham/Union College



Union has named the upper floor of the Don Love Building south of the library the Harris Center in honor of Edna Maier Harris, whose estate gift made it possible to renovate the facility into new learning spaces for the PA, IRR and OTA programs.

In recent years, the south end of Union College's Don Love Building has become a vibrant learning hub for some of Union's popular programs dedicated to healthcare and service. This recently renovated home for the Physician Assistant Program, International Rescue and Relief Program and Occupational Therapy Assistant Program has now been named the Harris Center in honor of Edna Maier Harris, whose estate gift made this learning space possible.

The Harris Center comprises the upper floor of the Don Love Building south of the library and was renovated into learning spaces in 2013 after AdventSource—the former occupants—moved to a new facility on the southeast corner of campus.

"We are so thankful for the tremendous generosity Edna Harris has shown toward Union," said **Dr. Vinita Sauder**, Union College president. "These funds made a direct and lasting impact on many Union College students through the creation of the Harris Center and many other campus projects."

Edna Maier Harris' grandparents came to the United States from what is

now Ukraine and settled in South Dakota in 1885. The family worked as farmers, and eventually grew the family farm to 880 acres in Edmunds and Faulk counties in South Dakota.

Edna was born and raised on the family farm before coming to Union College in the mid-1940s. When she died April 22, 2014, five days before her 88th birthday, Edna left all 880 acres of the farmland to Union College—a gift ultimately worth more than \$3 million.

"She did not graduate from Union, but always wished she had," said her son, **Lance Harris**. "Her experiences at Union College shaped her life, and she wanted to help others have the same experiences."

Harris was a lifelong supporter of Union College, and her final estate gift provided the funding for the Harris Center renovations, the launch of the OTA Program and other campus projects

including the Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics in 2014 and the campus entrance at 48th Street and Prescott Avenue in 2017.

She met her husband, Jack Harris, at Plainview Academy, formerly located in Redfield, South Dakota. Four days after they started dating, Jack was drafted into the U.S. Army at the peak of World War II. While Jack served in the European theater, Edna enrolled at Union and studied education. Jack came home the fall of 1945 and they were married on Dec. 23, 1945.

Jack joined Edna at Union College and studied theology. In 1949 they started their family and, after Jack graduated, he received a pastoral call to Oklahoma which started Edna's career of moving. The Harris family lived in 35 different homes all over the world. They traveled to 50 countries and visited every continent except Antarctica.

"They lived an adventurous

life and saw many wondrous things," Lance explained. "They hiked the mountains in Rwanda to see the 'Gorillas in the Mist' long before it was fashionable."

Now Edna's love for adventure will live on in the high-tech, hands-on learning spaces that prepare students for careers in healthcare, emergency response and global development. "Nearly a quarter of our student body study in programs housed in the Harris Center," said Sauder. "They are training for careers that directly serve people and make the world a better place. I can't think of a more fitting legacy for Edna Harris."

"She wanted to give to an educational institution that was aligned with her beliefs," said Lance. "She certainly saw that in Union College."

Edna Maier Harris' estate gift of her family farm has funded many other projects at Union College—including building the Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics, building the campus entrance at 48th and Prescott Streets and launching the OTA Program.



Courtesy Union College



Task Force Focuses on Emotional Well-Being

In March 2020, **Nathan Harrup** knew that the coming weeks and months would be stressful for his fellow healthcare team members at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission.

“When the World Health Organization declared COVID a pandemic, we realized we could be facing an upcoming mental health crisis among healthcare workers,” says Harrup, regional director of Clinical Mission Integration at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission. “There was a lot of fear of the unknown and what it would mean for patients.”

Harrup wanted to find a way to help team members handle the tough road ahead. He met with Behavioral Health leaders at the hospital to discuss ways to support the emotional well-being of team members throughout the organization.

Along with **Rennie Shuler-McKinney**, director of Behavioral Health, he helped set up a Behavioral Health Task Force, which included leaders from Behavioral Health, Social Work, Spiritual Wellness and Human Resources. The group started in April and has continued to meet with department leaders to assess the needs of

the hospital community and find ways to give support.

“We knew this had taken an emotional toll on everyone,” says Shuler-McKinney. “Our healthcare team is very resilient, but to see the amount of death throughout the nation was weighing heavily on everyone, particularly when we’re an organization that’s about healing and providing life-saving measures.”

The task force helped prioritize regular calls with team members to discuss topics related to mental and emotional well-being. The Well Being C.A.R.E. (Compassion, Acceptance, Respect and Empathy) calls are led by **Dr. Ravi Sabapathy**, Shuler-McKinney and ICU nurse director **Kirsten Larson**.

“The calls are to help us stay connected and engaged, especially during this time of social distancing,” says Dr. Sabapathy. “We wanted to find time to be present with our team and acknowledge the struggles we’re facing.”

Team members throughout the hospital are invited to join the meetings. While the meetings started off as in-person sessions, they later switched to a virtual format to allow more

people to attend. Participants can decide whether they want to use video to participate or log in anonymously to listen. “We try to meet each team member where they’re at,” says Shuler-McKinney.

The virtual format can also help reach people who might not otherwise ask for it. “Oftentimes, people may say they’re fine when they’re not fine,” adds Dr. Sabapathy. “There’s an assumption that we’re supposed to handle everything, even in a pandemic. We want to make sure we’re providing many different opportunities for people to reach out.”

The calls often start with a general theme to discuss. Examples include the challenges of virtual school for kids, social distancing or holiday plans. Often, the topics go in different directions depending on what people want to discuss.

“We want to establish an environment and culture where our strong team members feel validated and safe in sharing their understandable fears and frustrations,” says Dr. Sabapathy. “It might be something that they feel comfortable sharing in our

group, or they might decide to talk about it on their own with someone they trust.”

In addition to the virtual meetings, the task force helped identify the need for team members to have access to free therapy sessions. The sessions are made possible with the support of the AdventHealth Foundation Shawnee Mission.

“I give a lot of credit to our administration and medical staff because this couldn’t happen without the complete support from our leadership team,” says Dr. Sabapathy. “We’ve been very fortunate to have their aid in programs that provide confidential coaching, consulting and counseling for our team members.”

The therapy sessions and virtual calls are planned to continue indefinitely in the coming months as team members find ways to heal. Part of the task force’s goal is to re-assess and find ways to meet the needs of the hospital community. “We have to recognize that what we’ve been through is tragic and draining and find ways to rebuild,” says Shuler-McKinney.

That message not only applies to team members but the community as a whole, says Harrup. “It’s important to acknowledge that we’ve been through an unprecedented time and give ourselves space to heal,” he says. “Be honest with yourself about your limitations. Find opportunities to talk about your stress with others, whether that’s a friend or therapist. And give yourself the same compassion you would give a friend.”

Ann Muder is a freelance writer for AdventHealth Shawnee Mission.

No Leadership Playbook During Pandemic

Matt Rainey/AdventHealth



At the age of 16, **Isaac Sendros** took a job as a greeter at what is now AdventHealth Sebring in Sebring, Florida. One day, he noticed a blind man waiting near the entrance. **Sam Leonor**, CEO of the hospital, approached and began making conversation, keeping the man company while he waited for his ride to arrive.

When it was time for the gentleman to go, Sendros asked Leonor what his role was at the hospital. Leonor replied, “I am simply an employee.” Isaac was struck by the humility in the CEO’s response, and the memory of that day stayed with him long after. “The level of servant leadership that Mr. Leonor showed me at 16 has shaped my leadership philosophy, and was one of the primary moments I realized healthcare was my calling,” Sendros said.

As CEO of Centura Avista Adventist Hospital, Sendros’ approach to leadership is deeply rooted in the example of Christ, and he points to a number of profoundly impactful moments, like his observation of Leonor’s humble servant leadership, that

Isaac Sendros is CEO of Centura Avista Adventist Hospital in Louisville, Colorado.

have strengthened his faith and shown him the path God has laid out for him.

His faith was initially shaped by the example his parents provided. Cuban immigrants who came to the United States seeking a better life for their family, his parents struggled at times to provide for Sendros and his brother. One day, down to their last 50 cents, they couldn’t even afford to buy milk. Sendros watched as his parents knelt and prayed to God to provide. Later that day, \$50 arrived in the mail from a friend who wanted to help support the family.

“The money had been sent days earlier—God had answered their prayer before they even knew to pray for it,” Sendros reflected. “That is the first time I remember seeing the providence of God in action, and it helped me understand that our job is to pray for guidance, seek understanding and have the faith to trust that God is leading our path.”

Sendros has seen God’s providence and guidance in his life many times since that day. When his first son was born via emergency C-section, Isaac watched, helpless and terrified, as a team of caregivers worked to resuscitate the lifeless child. In that moment, a nurse anesthetist locked

eyes with Sendros, wordlessly providing the assurance he needed to remember that he and his family were in good hands—hers, the care team’s and God’s.

That day, Sendros vowed to leave his work in healthcare sales and return to healthcare administration, where his servant leadership could support the invaluable work of caregivers like those who saved his son.

Sendros’ career is marked with many noteworthy accomplishments, including building a \$26 million surgical expansion, designing an \$84 million tower expansion at AdventHealth Kissimmee and leading a hospital to continue delivering high quality whole person care through the current pandemic. But it is still the small moments in which he sees the light of Christ shine through those around him that are most meaningful to him as a leader.

Sendros vividly recalls a patient with COVID-19 who was admitted to the Avista ICU during the early months of the pandemic. She was intubated for over a month with no signs of improvement. There were days Sendros questioned whether or not she was going to make it. But the incredible caregivers never lost hope and never faltered in

providing the highest quality compassionate care.

After 60 days in the ICU, the patient was discharged. As she exited the hospital, caregivers lined the hallways to clap for her. There wasn’t a dry eye among them. Through the Christlike care delivered, Sendros once again saw the providence of God in action and knew he was exactly where he was meant to be.

“Leadership has no playbook during a pandemic, and I have experienced many days of doubt over the past year. I moved my family across the country from Florida to Colorado, and in the early months of the pandemic I found myself questioning whether I should have done this,” Sendros said. “Then I spent time reflecting on how God showed His hand in moving our family, and the many signs of affirmation He gave us. I was called to be here for this very moment, to lead during this pandemic, and for me there is no greater honor than knowing I am doing God’s work.”

Amy Thompson is a writer for Centura Health.



Courtesy Isaac Sendros

Isaac Sendros prepares for the holidays with his wife Suzie and their sons John Tomás and Isaac William.

Anderson, Cleo, b. Sept. 11, 1926 in Tolstoy, SD. d. Nov. 1, 2020 in Redfield, SD. Member of Dakota Conference Church. Preceded in death by spouse Russell; 1 sister. Survivors include daughter Candee Werth; sons Randall, Rocky, Reginald, Reed and Ryan; 8 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Brissette, Rita M., b. Feb. 5, 1938 in Eau Claire, WI. d. Oct. 29, 2020 in Waterloo, IA. Member of Waterloo Church. Preceded in death by spouse Wayne; 2 siblings. Survivors include sons Richard and David; 1 sister; 5 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Campbell, Barbara J., b. March 24, 1935 in St. Joseph, MO. d. Oct. 20, 2020 in St. Joseph, MO. Member of St. Joseph Three Angels Church. Preceded in death by daughter Laura Groover; 2 siblings. Survivors include spouse David; daughter Marcy Burgess; 4 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

Crowell, Frederick "Fred", b. Dec. 15, 1952 in Hibbing, MN. d. Oct. 28, 2020 in Detroit Lakes, MN. Preceded in death by 1 sister; 2 brothers.

Survivors include spouse Roberta; daughters Kelli and Amy Bower; 3 sisters; 2 brothers; 1 granddaughter.

Eichenberger, Bernice R., b. June 18, 1921 in Ainsworth, NE. d. Nov. 3, 2020 in Kearney, NE. Member of Valentine (NE) Church. Preceded in death by spouse Paul; son Max; 2 sisters; infant granddaughter. Survivors include daughters Virginia Schoettger and Paula Utsey; son Ted; 7 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren.

Ekrem, Doris, b. April 4, 1926. d. Oct. 18, 2020. Member of Minnetonka (MN) Church. Preceded in death by spouse Roy; 1 great-granddaughter. Survivors include sons Martin and Dennis; 3 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Miller, Luella Jean, b. July 24, 1924 in Rockford, IL. d. Nov. 12, 2020 in Carrington, ND. Member of Dakota Conference Church. Preceded in death by spouse Earl; daughters Melanie, Victoria and Joan; 3 sisters; 3 brothers. Survivors include daughters Deborah Wasemiller, Jean

Stratton, Caroline Scofield and Julie Lutman; sons John, Paul, David, Timothy, Michael and James; 1 brother; 15 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren.

Musick, Norma Jean, b. Nov. 6, 1931 in Pierre, SD. d. Oct. 28, 2020 in Pierre, SD. Member of Pierre Church. Preceded in death by spouse Roy; 3 brothers. Survivors include daughter Pamela Scott; son Doyle; 4 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

Pfaff, Donna, b. Jan. 10, 1933 in Long Prairie, MN. d. Nov. 7, 2020 in Bismarck, ND. Member of Bismarck Church. Preceded in death by spouse Raymond; sons Mark and Jesse; twin sisters; 1 brother; 1 granddaughter. Survivors include daughter Pamela Irvine; son Randy; 21 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren.

Correction: Reisig, Jeremy, b. Nov. 27, 1973 in Youngstown, OH. d. Oct. 19, 2020 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Member of Turtle Lake (ND) Church. Survivors include spouse Maritza; daughter Emilie; parents Stanley and Lila Reiswig; brothers Kerwin and Ryan.

Teske, Marvin Emanuel, b. Jan 27, 1941 in Ellendale, ND. d. Nov. 2020 in Aberdeen, SD. Member of Edgeley (ND) Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include spouse Connie; daughters Tonya Smith and Tenielle Holste; sons Trevor and Trenton; 2 sisters; 3 grandchildren.

Wheeler, Karl R., b. April 10, 1930. d. Oct. 19, 2020. Member of Hemingford (NE) Church. Survivors include spouse Blanche.

Notice

Please email obituary information for the OUTLOOK to Barb Engquist at barb.engquist@maucsd.org.

FEBRUARY 2021

COLORADO	FEB 5	FEB 12	FEB 19	FEB 26
Denver	5:26	5:33	5:41	5:49
Grand Junction	5:40	5:48	5:56	6:04
Pueblo	5:26	5:33	5:41	5:48
IOWA				
Davenport	5:23	5:32	5:41	5:49
Des Moines	5:35	5:44	5:53	6:01
Sioux City	5:45	5:54	6:03	6:12
KANSAS				
Dodge City	6:08	6:16	6:23	6:31
Goodland	5:12	5:20	5:28	5:36
Topeka	5:48	5:56	6:04	6:12
MINNESOTA				
Duluth	5:18	5:29	5:39	5:50
International Falls	5:19	5:30	5:42	5:53
Minneapolis	5:27	5:37	5:47	5:56
MISSOURI				
Columbia	5:35	5:43	5:51	5:59
Kansas City	5:44	5:52	6:00	6:08
St. Louis	5:27	5:35	5:43	5:50
NEBRASKA				
Lincoln	5:49	5:58	6:06	6:14
North Platte	6:05	6:14	6:22	6:30
Scottsbluff	5:15	5:24	5:33	5:41
NORTH DAKOTA				
Bismarck	5:53	6:03	6:14	6:24
Fargo	5:37	5:47	5:58	6:08
Williston	6:01	6:12	6:23	6:34
SOUTH DAKOTA				
Pierre	5:56	6:06	6:16	6:25
Rapid City	5:09	5:18	5:28	5:37
Sioux Falls	5:44	5:53	6:03	6:12
WYOMING				
Casper	5:24	5:33	5:42	5:51
Cheyenne	5:21	5:30	5:38	5:47
Sheridan	5:22	5:32	5:42	5:51

SUNSET CALENDAR

OUTLOOK

www.outlookmag.org

A POWER STRONGER THAN WITCHCRAFT

AWR
ANNUAL OFFERING
MARCH 13, 2021



Commander Liam's reputation is that of a hard man who has complete control over his country's military.

In fact, to ensure his continued success and protection from his enemies, a few months ago he hired a modern-day "witch."

Recently, he received an unexpected text message. It had a link to the **Unlocking Bible Prophecies** series from **Adventist World Radio**. He wasn't sure who'd sent it, but he enjoyed the powerful presentation and the speaker's soothing voice that seemed to calm his soul. New messages began arriving daily, and as he listened, something changed in his heart.

Soon his resident "witch" began to notice the change in him and demanded to know who was sending the messages. She said, "That woman you're listening to has a magic more powerful than mine—I want some of that power! It gives me a strange sense of peace I haven't felt before. How can I receive these messages too?"

That's the power of Adventist World Radio and cell phone evangelism—you never know who's listening and how the Lord is working on their hearts. To read the rest of this story and see how your support is reaching millions around the world, **visit awr.org/offering.**





TWO WAYS TO SUPPORT AWR:


On **Sabbath, March 13**, mark the offering line on your tithe envelope.


Or give now by visiting awr.org/offering

1-800-337-4297

 awr.org

 [/awr360](https://www.facebook.com/awr360)

 [@awr360](https://www.instagram.com/awr360)

 [@awr360](https://twitter.com/awr360)

 [youtube.com/awrweb](https://www.youtube.com/awrweb)

12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA

SERVICES

Enrollment for 2021 at Atlanta Adventist Academy is now open! Atlanta Adventist Academy offers excellent Adventist education locally (Atlanta, Georgia) as well as virtually through our live online program for homeschoolers and distance campuses. To enroll your student, call 404.699.1400 or visit aaa.edu/admissions.

Looking for a new career or ministry? Why not take the Massage Program at Black Hills School of Massage? With our new hybrid program you take the first four months online and then come to our campus for the last three months. AND at a REDUCED Price! Don't pass up this opportunity and call today! State recognized and MBLEx eligible! Call 423.710.4873 or 605.255.4101.

Move with an award-winning agency. Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves at a discounted rate. Call us for all your relocation needs! Adventist beliefs uncompromised. Contact Marcy Danté at 800.766.1902 for a free estimate. Visit us at www.apexmoving.com/Adventist.

NEW/USED Adventist Books: TEACH Services helps authors publish their book, including editing, design, marketing and worldwide distribution. Call 800.367.1844 for a free evaluation. Visit www.LNF-BOOKS.com for used books and your local ABC or www.TEACHServices.com for new book releases.

Summit Ridge Retirement Village: An Adventist

community in a rural setting that offers affordable homes or apartments and caring neighbors with a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, planned activities and transportation as needed. Also, Wolfe Living Center offering independent living and nursing home. Website: www.summitridgevillage.org or call Bill Norman at 405.208.1289.

EMPLOYMENT

It Is Written is seeking a full-time Planned Giving Field Representative. Candidates must be highly motivated, some work from home office, travel routinely to communicate with supporters, and represent the ministry at assigned events. NAD trust services certification preferred but not required. If interested, please email your resume to work@iiw.org.

Opening: Southern Adventist University Department of Biology/Allied Health, beginning fall 2021. Prefer biology PhD who will teach upper and lower division courses and labs with heavy weighting on Anatomy and Physiology I and II. Please review full job description and requirements at www.southern.edu before applying. Send CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to: Keith Snyder, Biology Search Committee Chair, Southern Adventist University, Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; 423.236.2929; FAX: 423.236.1926; kasnyder@southern.edu.

Stallant Health, a rural health clinic in Weimar, California, is accepting applications for a Family Health Physician as well as an NP or PA to join the team. Interest-

ed individuals should contact Marva by email: marva@stallanthhealth.com.

Walla Walla University is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to jobs.wallawalla.edu.

FOR SALE

Adventist coin dealer open in College View just two blocks from Union College. Buying estates and coin collections. Call 531.333.6858 to set up an appointment or email me at lawrencejlee42@gmail.com.

NOTICES

Mission opportunity for individuals, families or Sabbath School groups: Urgent request from Adventist Child India. There are 183 children who have lost their sponsors, and we have over 300 new applications for whom we need to find sponsors. \$35 per month provides tuition, lodging, food, books, clothing and medical for a child. For more information visit www.adventistchildindia.org.

MID-AMERICA UNION CHURCH MINISTRIES

TRUST JESUS

2021 MINISTRIES CONVENTION
LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES TRAINING

PS. 373-5

NEXT LEVEL TRAINING IN :

- PRAYER MINISTRIES
- ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES
- DISASTER RESPONSE
- HEALTH MINISTRIES
- FAMILY MINISTRIES
- COMMUNICATION MINISTRIES
- WOMEN'S MINISTRIES
- MEN'S MINISTRIES
- SCHOOL BOARD MINISTRIES
- EVANGELISM

FAITH FILLED WITH FOLLOWING JESUS JESUS JESUS

INSPIRING MESSAGES
UPLIFTING MUSIC
DYNAMIC COACHING

OUTLOOK
AdventSource

MARCH 25-28, 2021

REGISTER AT WWW.ADVENTSOURCE.ORG



She can go to college

because of the new Bridge to Union Scholarship

Announcing a new scholarship for freshmen that reduces their tuition payments to \$0. Room, board and fees are their only monthly expenses.

Created for Pell-eligible families with an income of \$60,000 or less, the Bridge to Union Scholarship covers the balance of tuition after the federal aid package.*

This can be an answer to prayer for freshmen who dream of getting their degree in a vibrant and supportive Christian community, but worry about costs.

Now they don't have to settle for their second choice. They can enjoy teachers who take an interest and friends who share their faith.

No one needs to lose their shot at a Christian education because of money worries. Now they have a bridge to Union.

UNION
COLLEGE

Finding purpose. Unlocking potential.

*See all the conditions at ucollege.edu/bridge-to-union



OUTLOOK

PO Box 6128
Lincoln, NE
68506-0128

PERIODICALS

Live life to the fullest.



20-COMMCL-0911-19

CREATION Life

is a whole-person lifestyle that helps you be healthy, happy and more fulfilled. Each letter of the word CREATION represents one of the eight principles of wholeness found in the Bible's creation story.

Learn how this philosophy can work for you at [CREATIONLife.com](https://www.CREATIONLife.com).

