

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

Record

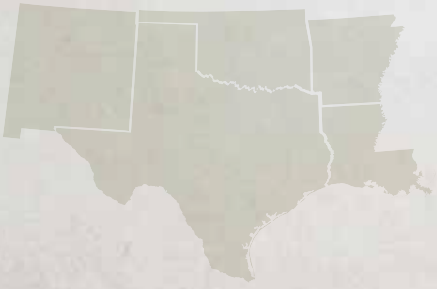
FEBRUARY 2014



ASI

EMPOWERS LAY
MEMBERS TO
SHARE CHRIST

ADVENTIST-LAYMEN'S SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES SPECIAL ISSUE



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ASI EMPOWERS LAY MEMBERS TO SHARE CHRIST



ASI IS ALIVE AND WELL IN THE SOUTHWEST

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FEBRUARY 2014, Vol. 113, No. 2. The Southwestern Union Record is a monthly publication of the Seventh-day Adventist churches in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas, and is published at the headquarters of the Southwestern Union Conference, 777 S. Burleson Blvd., Burleson, TX 76028, 817.295.0476. www.SouthwesternAdventist.org | www.SWURRecord.org

On the Cover

Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) is a unique network of lay people who take seriously the charge to share the gospel. Enthusiastic members utilize their businesses and other resources to sponsor ministries and projects around the world. Pictured on the cover is Jarrell Bell, a former student at Ouachita Hills College in Amity, Arkansas, an ASI-member organization, where literature evangelism is a regular activity.

Point of View»

BY LARRY MOORE » SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT



ASI Ministries

I have the strong belief that the work God has entrusted to us will not be complete until lay people and pastors join together to work under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Then, and only then, will the Spirit bring empowerment for a finished work. I see this beginning to happen on a small scale in comparison to what I believe God wants to do through His church.

Adventist-laymen Services and Industries (ASI) is a Seventh-day Adventist organization of lay people who take the church's mission seriously. They have dedicated their time and talent to work with the church in spreading the gospel through any means

possible. Their businesses are blessed as they cooperate with their church in mission. I have heard wonderful stories of how God is blessing their businesses so they can bless others.

Let me encourage you to consider this means of labor for Jesus. As you read this issue and hear these stories, why not consider joining the ranks of those already in service? May God bless you and may the ranks of ASI grow.

Larry Moore



SOUTHWESTERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
the beginning of wisdom

Stepping Stone to Success

LM: College is a time of great change in a young person's life. In between the friendships, studies, and fun times, there are serious, life-changing events that can impact a person's entire life. Consider Ben and Danae, former students of Southwestern Adventist University, who graduated with more than an academic education.

BP: "I can sum up my learning at Southwestern Adventist University in one phrase: Always get in the water. After more than 12 years working for colleges and corporations, I'm now the principal of my own design firm, Protasio Media in Keizer, Oregon. This phrase constantly leads my life and career.

"One of my professors, Bob Mendenhall, gave us an extra credit question outlining the dilemma of whether to cover the story of a boat full of drowning people or help them first. In the first and only time I heard his voice crack he said, "You get in the water. You always get in the water." We are Christians first, journalists second.

"In a single extra credit question, he defined a simple criterion for my professional career and personal life. So whatever I do professionally, I do so as a servant of Christ first. It takes flexibility. It takes humility. I came away from Southwestern with more than a degree. It's more like I have some secondary education to back up my first and foremost profession."

DWG: "My years at Southwestern Adventist University are filled



Ben Protasio, 2001
Journalism



Danae White
Gilliam, 2004 BBA

with happy memories of swim races in the pool outside Harmon Hall, attending vespers, playing basketball and volleyball, and even standing on my chair in front of the entire cafeteria to sing "I'm a little teapot" as loudly as I could. Most importantly, my time at Southwestern was spent shaping my character as a follower of Jesus Christ. Bill Kilgore's class, History of the SDA Church, encouraged me to fall in love with my Savior and instilled in me a pride for our church's founding fathers. While working at the front desk of the men's dorm for Dean The, I learned valuable lessons like hard work, discipline, and that boys will do anything to get your attention. It was at this same front desk that I met my husband, Damon.

"My time at Southwestern also prepared me for the work force. In fact, I've worked in human resources at Sewell Automotive Companies for 10 years and it was through a campus counselor that I even heard of the job in the first place. My business degree also gave me the necessary academics to go on to earn my MBA from the University of Texas at Arlington. Today, Damon and I live in Grand Prairie, Texas, with our son and daughter. I passionately believe that Adventist education is one of the most important decisions that a parent can make. Southwestern changed my life for the better and taught me the importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. It's because of the spiritual foundation that I received at Southwestern that I am the person I am today."





CREATION Health

BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN » SOUTHERN UNION HEALTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

How Much Do People Matter?

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should love one another,” (John 13:34).

THE POWER OF PEOPLE

Do interpersonal relationships affect our personal sense of well being? Think about it: How does hearing a kind word of encouragement make you feel during tough times? Or a warm hug? These encounters can make all of the difference between feeling isolated and unsupported to feeling connected and loved.

But isn't it ironic that the very same people who are a source of love and joy can also be a source of life's greatest challenges?

People have the power to inspire or discourage. Which is why it is so important for us to remember the first principle of CREATION Health: Choice.

THE POWER OF CHOICE

Regardless of how people treat us, we have the choice of deciding how we will respond and treat others. Jesus never let anyone dictate the quality or nature of His interpersonal interactions. Despite being ridiculed, rejected, and isolated on the cross, He chose to respond with love and grace.

Sidney Harris, writing in the *Chicago Daily News*, described walking to the newspaper stand with a friend. His friend bought a paper and thanked the newsboy politely. The young man replied with a grunt.

“A solemn fellow, isn't he?” Harris said.

“Yes, he's that way every day.”

“Yet I noticed that you went out of your way to be courteous to him.”

The friend replied, “Why should I let *him* decide how *I* am going to act?”

We can approach our relationships and interpersonal encounters either as a victim of circumstance or an agent of grace and change. The choice is ours.

THE POWER OF AFFIRMATION

Acceptance is affirming the infinite worth of another person, regardless of what he or she has done because we view that person through the eyes of the Savior. This doesn't mean we condone a person's poor choices or endorse their ideas, but it does mean we respect the dignity and intrinsic value of another human being. This boils down to how much we believe people really matter.

When people genuinely matter to us because we view them

as sons and daughters of God, then we are compassionate, caring, respectful and uplifting. But when people are seen as commodities, our personal interactions tend to be void of Christian courtesies and graces.

So, how much do people matter? What might Christ's answer be? That is how much people should matter to us.

As we continue our journey into 2014, let's make this year really count by focusing on what matters most: Our relationship with God and others.

Chances are, most people's New Year's resolutions are collecting dust in a drawer by now. Let's resolve today to put people first. Let's choose to love people like Jesus did. Let's decide that although we cannot change the world we can change someone's world. Let's take an active interest in people—not because we're trying to gain something but because we're trying to share something, which is the grace and hope of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

James D. Mills writes these sage words: “You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him.”

That's CREATION Health!

- C** Choice 
- R** Rest 
- E** Environment 
- A** Activity 
- T** Trust 
- I** Interpersonal RELATIONSHIPS 
- O** Outlook 
- N** Nutrition 

Lynell LaMountain, Southern Union health ministries director

My Place in God's Plan

"WHAT IS MY PLACE IN GOD'S PLAN? AM I REALLY IMPORTANT IN HIS PLAN? GOD, SHOW ME HOW TO BE A SERVANT." I have asked these questions in my prayers to God, and sometimes it's hard to hear God's voice in the hustle and bustle of life. In 2012, I had the opportunity to go to Youth For Jesus (a summer evangelistic outreach program for youth that precedes ASI each year) in Fort Worth, Texas, which changed my life through rebaptism and a new love for ministry. I made friends for eternity and watched God change the lives of 98 souls.

As time came for me to sign up for the 2013 Youth For Jesus, I was hesitant, because I would be gone for five weeks of the summer and possibly not have a job when I returned. I struggled with God because I knew that He would love me whether or I chose to go or not, and it was a hefty expense that I did not have funds for. A few weeks later, I had the acceptance letter in my hand and I was faced with a decision—to go or not go. I prayed, "God, if You want me to go, then I need You to get me the money and I need to have my job when I get back." A month before I had to leave, I got most of the money I needed and my boss said that I would have my job when I got back. So, I left for Lady Lake, Florida, which is about an hour northwest of Orlando. When I got to our home site, I immediately saw friends from the previous year.

We were split up into three groups and we went to our churches. My group was a little church 30 minutes away from home base. We had outreach from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., and most afternoons it rained from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., which cut out most of our time. This made me really sad, but through it all we still got Bible studies. I led out in my first Bible study ever and it was the most wonderful feeling in the world to share my faith with a stranger—just wonderful!

As we came to the close of our time at Youth For Jesus, many of the new friends I'd made decided to get baptized. This was a true answer to prayer, and brought my faith closer to my Lord and Savior. My place

in God's plan is to show unconditional love to my friends, to the strangers I study with, and to be assured that I am so important to God that He came and died for my sins. Youth For Jesus was the key to showing me my plan in God's important work. Go and share your faith with your friends and anyone that the Holy Spirit leads you to. Trust me—sharing will change your life, just like it did for me.



Justin Weidman (wearing the cowboy hat) was one of many young people who attended Youth For Jesus last summer. For him, it helped clarify his place in God's plan.



Pass it On...

A Monthly Focus on Evangelism in the Southwest

BY RUSS LORENZ » VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP, SOUTHWEST ASI CHAPTER

Give ASI a Try

I attended my first Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) international convention in 1992. I assumed it was just another business convention. It was only 50 miles from home, so if I decided it wasn't for me, I would only lose a day or two. I got there Wednesday at 11:00 a.m., looked around, and then went to the hotel restaurant and had lunch with some members.

That afternoon I registered as a visitor and stayed for the evening meeting. I was impressed that the speaker was very good and the people were so friendly and loving. Nobody talked about their businesses. They talked about missions and how their hearts were centered on sharing Christ wherever they were. I was "hooked." I joined the next day.

During the following years we have seen the growth of many different ministries. ASI has helped many of them to improve their ministries so they can focus on what they do best. If you are involved with a ministry, ASI has many willing members who can draw on their own experience in order to help you develop your ministry. If you need someone to pray with you, we are only a phone call away.

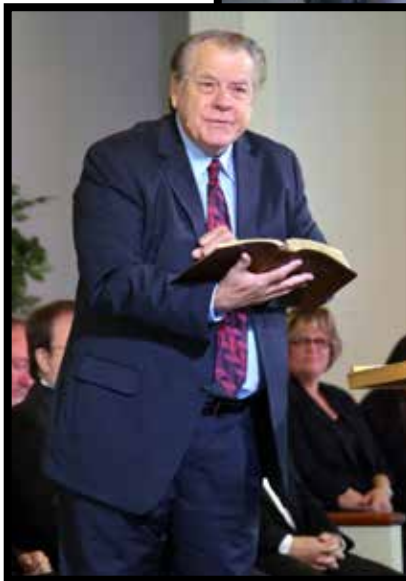
We, ASI members, desire to share Christ wherever we are, and encourage local church members to do so also. During the past 20-plus years, my wife and I have made many friends from all parts of the world. Every year attending the convention is like going home to see family.

At the meetings I've attended, listening to stories of how other people shared Christ in their marketplaces has made me think about my own ministry participation. Perhaps some of the things I saw I could do in my own community. What was stopping me from trying it? Nothing. That is what many members do when they return home—they begin to improve on their own ministries



▲ Art Humphrey (right), vice president for communication for ASI's Southwest Chapter, interviews Ouachita Hills College students and administrator Chester Clark during the ASI convention in 2012 in Joshua, Texas.

◀ Ron Halvorsen, Sr., speaking at the 2012 ASI convention at the Joshua, Texas church.



and their involvement in ministries locally. Many who come to ASI convention find they are refreshed in God's love and go home to share with their local church. What a blessing to see all these businesses and ministries sharing Christ with people they work with, clients, employees, etc., and those whom God puts in their paths each day.

ASI meetings are refreshing to our spirits. I have been profoundly encouraged by the programs for young people of all ages. Our oldest granddaughter went with us to the national ASI conventions for 11 years. She enjoyed the programs and made many friends and still talks about her friends from ASI now—well into her young adult life.

When we talk about ASI conventions, we are referring either to national conventions or the chapter meetings that take place in each union. The Southwestern Union's chapter meeting is coming up next month in San Antonio, Texas. Whether you own a business, are involved with a ministry, you're a professional with a private practice, or simply a church member who enjoys hearing about and supporting mission projects, I invite you to attend. I'll be looking for you! (For info, visit asisw.org or call 817.295.0476.)



Cambiando Vidas

Mis amigos Daryl y Mary Jo Oft tienen un negocio médico en Arizona y también operan un ministerio independiente de (ASI) en Kenya. El ministerio se llama Aguas Vivas (Living Waters). En donde alimentan a 150 niños huérfanos. Los padres han muerto a causa del Virus de Inmunodeficiencia Humana (VIH) y la mayoría de estos niños son VIH positivos. Algunos de ellos caminan hasta cuatro millas de distancia para recibir su única comida diaria, los más pequeños reciben dos comidas. En viviendas hechas de barro crudo y paja, los niños duermen en el piso de tierra y el niño mayor es la cabeza del hogar. Los Oft también operan una academia para que los niños puedan ir a la escuela. El año pasado construyeron 111 Iglesias de Un-día, con el apoyo de Maranatha y ASI en Kenya. Asimismo, operan un centro evangélico en Payson, Arizona. Sin embargo, Daryl y Mary Jo no siempre han sido “como son.”

Siete años atrás estaban “casi fuera” de la iglesia. Realmente no creían en las “cosas” que enseñamos como iglesia. Mi esposa Kathy y yo fuimos invitados a predicar en Payson, Ariz., y por casualidad los Oft estuvieron en la iglesia ese Sábado, y se quedaron para la comida. Ellos llegaron tarde y tomaron los últimos dos asientos en el salón, quedando frente a nosotros. No les interesaba tener trato con los administradores de la asociación, mucho menos con el presidente. Les extendimos la invitación para que nos acompañaran a un viaje a África y predicar una serie de reuniones evangélicas. Casi se desplomaron pensando, “el presidente no sabe quienes somos.” En ese tiempo ellos estaban básicamente en la pobreza, ya que el negocio no marchaba bien.

Ambos nos acompañaron a Kenya y predicaron la primera serie evangélica de sus vidas. Daryl me dijo más tarde: “Yo no creía

las cosas que estaba predicando pero gradualmente al predicarlo empecé a creer.” Fue entonces que sus vidas fueron transformadas después de predicar una serie evangélica. ¡El evangelismo cambia vidas! Es interesante cómo Dios había planeado todo.

Fue tres años atrás que Daryl estaba predicando una serie de reuniones en una montaña con vista al Lago Victoria. Tenían altoparlantes grandes que apuntaban hacia la montaña. Al final de las reuniones una anciana de nombre Esther hizo su decisión de ser bautizada. Ella le dijo Daryl, “quiero compartir contigo por qué me bautizo. Hace 51 años yo estaba durmiendo en mi choza de barro al pie de esta misma montaña y un ángel me habló en medio de la noche. El ángel dijo, ‘algún día escucharás la voz de

un muzungu (extranjero) resonando a lo largo de la montaña hablando de Jesús. Y cuando la escuches sabrás que es verdad y la debes seguir.” Daryl quedó asombrado, porque en ese tiempo Daryl acababa de cumplir 51 años. Así que cuando Daryl nació Esther recibió esta visión. Dios sabía que 51 años más tarde Daryl predicaría una serie evangélica, que su vida cambiaría, que sería un evangelista internacional y comenzaría a creer y predicar sobre todas las “cosas” que creemos como adventistas. Además, de las bendiciones espiritua-



Daryl Oft con la hermana Esther.

les, después de las primeras predicaciones en Kenya, el negocio médico en Payson, Ariz., floreció. ¡Dios es impresionante! El evangelismo no sólo cambia la vida de los “oyentes,” sino también la vida de los “predicadores.” Únete a estos esfuerzos para continuar alimentando y cuidando a estos niños. Visita la página www.livingwatersintl.org para saber más sobre este ministerio.

Duane McKey, Southwestern Union vice president

ASI EMPOWERS LAY MEMBERS TO SHARE CHRIST

Jessica Fields, ASI communication assistant

E.A. Sutherland and Percy Magan founded Madison College in 1904 in Madison, Tennessee. The college began as a self-supporting Adventist institution, and over the years, it expanded, establishing more self-supporting institutions around the country. In 1947 these units formed the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Self-Supporting Institutions, or ASI. ASI members at that time were usually organizations dedicated to education or health. Over the years, as technology increased, making available more mediums for gospel ministry, ASI membership began to include other types of organizations, such as Adventist business owners and professionals, in addition to self-supporting ministries. In 1979, ASI changed its name to Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries, which it still uses today. Here are some thoughts from ASI members with ministries and businesses in the Southwestern Union.

Linda de Romanett, an ASI member from Family First Radio, believes that the most important aspect of ASI is the networking that happens between members. Linda says, "At ASI meetings, as well as in their publications, members learn about all sorts of ministries that they would never otherwise know

about. ASI helps to keep Seventh-day Adventist self-supporting ministries connected. Through them we can hear about evangelistic opportunities that we can be a part of or help with."

Family First Radio reaches out to communities by spreading the gospel through talk-radio, which features mainly sermons. De Romanett affirms, "Family First Radio has been a ministry of ASI for many years. We have had over 500 baptisms because of our radio

ministry. Recently, a lady who was suicidal changed her life and was baptized."

ASI's motto is "Sharing Christ in the Marketplace." Its philosophy promotes a daily partnership with God, and a lifestyle much like Christ's ministry on earth. Its members are encouraged to seek the experience of God's love in their own lives, and to share that love with individuals that they encounter during their daily activities. Members of ASI are enthusiastic about active participation in the church's mission to spread the gospel of Christ throughout the entire world.

Even for-profit businesses associated with ASI embrace this mission. Edgemont Video is located in Mountain View, Arkansas. Although it is a small community, folk music and art draw a great number of tourists. This company



provides IT services, repairs, sales, and video production services for the area. Chip Doss from Edgemont explains, “Edgemont Video puts us into businesses and homes. As we serve the needs of the community, hearts are touched, as well. Our church has been conducting monthly cooking classes and sponsoring a Country Life Natural Foods Co-op for years. We have had the joy of inviting our customers and contacts to these service-related outreach opportunities. As we interact with clients in the community, we have opportunities to dialog with them about what they have been learning. They meet the same person who solved their computer problems loading their food order or the person who scheduled their service demonstrating how to make a vegan meal. Friendship evangelism is an old cliché but we find that in our community friendship is an integral ingredient in witnessing. A good number

of our contacts from these health outreach ministries have trusted us enough to come to church services and other meetings because they consider us friends.”

ASI’s vision statement reads: “Unswerving honesty in business principles and practices, unflagging participation in the various ministries of the church, unwavering positiveness toward church leadership, unhesitating provision for the needs of others, and untiring focus on the Christ they represent in the marketplace.”

When asked to explain how ASI works hand-in-hand with the church, Chris Holland, secretary and treasurer of ASI said, “ASI provides an association of supporting ministries, business people

Previous page: Jarrell Bell, a former student at Ouachita Hills College, shares literature with a community member through their door-to-door literature evangelism program.

▶ ASI is a great place to do business networking, reunite with old friends, and meet new ones.

▼ Attendance at ASI national conventions has grown steadily over the years, and each year conference planners are faced with the challenge of finding larger venues for future meetings.



and professionals who desire to help the church accomplish its mission.” ASI provides an opportunity for them to support the mission of the church, and provide encouragement, training, and experience to share Christ in the marketplace, using the talents and skills that God has given them. “From a very practical sense, ASI works with the church by being connected to the church,” Chris explained. “The North American Division provides ASI with an office, secretary/treasurer, and administrative assistant so that there is a direct connection to the church. That direct connection provides opportunity for collaboration with the church in its missionary activities.” Chip Doss believes that ASI-member business owners and professionals should become creative as they seek to represent Jesus to their contacts.

Many ASI ministries are self-supporting, such as Ouachita Hills Ministry, a private Adventist academy and college in Amity, Arkansas. In addition to their media ministry, the student and staff lead mission trips and other forms of outreach. They send stu-

Chip and Esther Doss of Edgemont Video in Mountain View, Arkansas, are known in their small community for their business activities and are also involved in their church's outreach through a food coop and cooking classes.



Lisa Baker



Lisa Baker



Students from Ouachita Hills Academy and College learn to actively share their faith and frequently go on mission trips where they are involved in preaching the gospel.

dents regularly to door-to-door literature evangelism programs. This not only helps students pay for their education, but also helps to financially support the ministry. They have even canvassed ASI books. While canvassing, students encounter many souls who are hungry for the gospel, and some who are even on the verge of death who need a last-minute encounter with Jesus Christ.

ASI holds inspiring annual conventions. Members, supporters, and friends gather to encourage one another and exchange ideas that will help them in their ministry goals. At the convention, networks are formed, friendships are formed, and ASI members help each other to accomplish goals that one individual or organization could never accomplish alone. The convention is intended to inspire and equip all who attend in spreading the gospel to their community and to the world. De Romanett said, “The yearly convention is the most mission-oriented and spiritual of any Adventist conventions I have attended. It is very motivating and inspiring.”

The 2014 convention will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from August 6 to 9. More information regarding the convention can be found on ASI’s Web site at www.asiministries.org/convention. In addition to the annual convention, ASI is divided into different chapters, which hold their

own chapter meetings. The Southwest spring chapter meeting will be held from March 27 to 29 at the Scenic Hills church in San Antonio, Texas. ASI’s membership, although divided into chapters, is still recognized at the national level. There are also ASI members abroad, as well as special interest groups.

ASI members receive discounts on registration at ASI conventions. Members also receive a free netASI Web site. In addition, members have access to resources such as the *Inside ASI* magazine and *ASI connections* e-newsletter. Members are provided with field-tested evangelism tools, such as *New Beginnings* and *Abundant Life*. The fellowship and networking opportunities for members are phenomenal. For more information about membership, including categories and benefits, please visit: www.asiministries.org/membership. ASI empowers lay members to share Christ.



◀ **Scan for more info**

Learn more about ASI, the national convention, and all the benefits ASI has to offer by scanning this QR code.

ASI

IS ALIVE AND WELL IN THE SOUTHWEST

Floyd Courtney and Pat Humphrey

Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI), is an international organization comprised of dedicated men and women—lay people, professionals, and business owners—who live by the motto “Sharing Christ in the Marketplace.” ASI in the North American Division is comprised of eight chapters, each of which is represented by a union territory. The members of the Southwest Chapter, which covers the Southwestern Union territory of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico, are a diverse group of people from all walks of life. Some are business owners, others are professionals, such doctors, dentists, or nurses. Some are church members who are simply excited about ASI and its mission and participate as associate members of ASI. Still others are involved with full-time self-supporting ministries. Every ASI member in the Southwest is engaged in and excited about the business of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with those in their sphere of influence. We'd like to introduce you to a few of them.



Lily Cabansag, still going strong at 90 years old, is a vibrant and active member of ASI. Lily, a registered nurse, and her late husband, Filemon, who was a physician, joined ASI in 1975 while they were operating a sanitarium and lifestyle center in Santa Ana, Texas. The Cabansags' very first national ASI convention was held in Hawaii, where they were immediately drawn to ASI by the loving atmosphere and its focus on missions. Lily is a regular attendee, not only at national ASI conventions, but the Southwest chapter meetings, as well, and has only missed two or three conventions since 1975.

But for Lily, ASI is about much more than attending conventions. When she's not attending ASI meetings, she's busy pursuing her passion of helping and teaching others to live healthfully, along with the practical skills of preparing tasty and



Top: Lily Cabansag, an active member of ASI, conducts monthly vegetarian cooking schools through her ministry, Accent on Total Health.

◀ Lily Cabansag teaching a class of interested students how to cook tasty, healthy food.

good-for-you dishes. “There’s lots of information available on vegetarianism,” she says, “but few people are actually helping people to transition from a meat diet to a plant-based diet.” Hearing God’s call to educate others on healthful living, she started “Accent on Total Health,” a ministry in which she demonstrates how to “cook food and make it *taste good*.” There’s a real art to doing so, and Lily has mastered it well.

Her monthly classes in Fort Worth, Texas, draw anywhere from 20-25 people each session and they’ve caught the attention of some members of PCRM (The Physician’s Committee for Responsible Medicine, a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., that focuses on preventive medicine and promotes a plant-based diet). When several members of PCRM identified themselves at a recent cooking class, Lily told them, “Oh, no! Now you’re making me nervous!” Others who have attended Lily’s classes include a local cardiologist (who also recommends the class to his patients), a nutrition instructor, and the president of a local vegetarian club. Most who attend the cooking classes are not members of the Adventist Church.

Lily enjoys what she does and has no plans to quit any time soon. “As long as I have the strength, I will keep on going,” Lily says. She attributes the inspiration for her ministry to God and to her association with ASI.

Jack Stout joined ASI about 15 years ago at the invitation of the Southwestern Union ASI executive secretary. He remembers attending his first national ASI meeting in Palm Springs, California. Like many other people, after attending his first meeting, he says that he “just had to keep going.” Jack is a business owner and also has a ministry. His business is Superior Graphics and Signs in Muskogee, Oklahoma. He keeps a ready stash of literature in the business to share with clients and staff, and always has his Bible on top of his computer, ready for use. Sometimes he can spend an hour or two discussing a Bible topic with a client, and he says, “It seems like just a few minutes have passed!” His ministry is called “Turn to Jesus Ministry,” a prison ministry that he and a friend, Tom Sullivan, have engaged in on Sabbath afternoons for 22 years. Jack says he has not counted the number of baptisms that resulted from their efforts, but there have been many, and there were so many baptisms at one point

in time that the local paper covered the event!

Jack is currently active in the Southwest Chapter of ASI as its general vice president. He says that, for him, the ASI meetings provide “a refuge in time to be with God’s people, which also allows them to be inspired by ‘cream of the crop’ speakers.” His invitation to those considering joining ASI is to “Try it out and see if you won’t be inspired,” as he has. He also says that being part of ASI will help to keep your “spiritual tank filled.”



◀ Jack Stout participates in homeless outreach ministry in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

▼ A homeless feeding ministry in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that Jack Stout is involved with.



▲ Jack Stout playing special music in Mexico.



▲ Jack Stout poses with two people who were baptized as a result of his evangelistic meetings in Mexico.



▲ Jack Stout helped make signs for CMS.

Jaime Espinal, who serves as president of a health ministry called Centro Misionero de Salud (CMS) in Galiana, Mexico, has been a member of ASI since 1998. He, too, attended his first ASI convention after being invited by another member, and says he has not missed one since. Jaime has been active in the Southwest Chapter of ASI as the immediate past vice president for evangelism.

Centro Misionero de Salud is a very active ministry with various facets. CMS produces health food products, such as peanut butter, and has a bakery that sells its products to the local community. Also, CMS operates a health food store, called The Health Zone, in Galiana, where meals are served and health foods and other products are available for sale. Connected with the food production is a domestic distribution program in which families can use their products in conjunction with their own home business. This program is available in Mexico and the United States.

CMS has two training programs each year. One is a six-month medical missionary training course in which the students learn gardening, simple health remedies, healthful cooking, principles of a healthful diet, and how to give Bible studies. To graduate, students must organize and carry out an evangelistic campaign and also conduct a health fair. There is also a 10-month program to train families on how to start their own family ministry.

In addition to these programs, for the last 14 years CMS has had a local half-hour radio program in Galiana, which airs twice a week. The programming covers topics related to health, family, and moral values.

The newest of their outreach projects is a program called "I Want to Live Healthy," developed in conjunction with the Northern Mexican Union. This program, which is offered in English and Spanish, focuses on the importance of a healthy diet and getting regular exercise. The program begins in the school

with training the teachers, extends to the students, and then the parents. It has met with success in 23 public schools in the Galiana area and there are currently requests from 100 counties in Mexico to bring the program to their schools! Currently, this program is being replicated in a public school in San Antonio, Texas.

Jaime says that the training he has received at ASI meetings has been very beneficial to him in the operation of this multifaceted ministry. He has found the networking aspect very helpful and the inspiration and motivation that he gained have been invaluable. His challenge to those who are considering ASI is to "Come and see—try it, and you will be hooked."

Tim Arakawa, M.D., is an internal medicine specialist and is currently working on a fellowship in endocrinology at the University Health System in San Antonio, Texas. He has also been involved with ministries in ASI in one way or another since about 2003. Arakawa has been on the programming committee for national ASI as well as ministry vice president for GYC (Generation of



▲ Jaime Espinal, president of Centro Misionero de Salud (CMS) in Galiana, Mexico, has been a member of ASI since 1998.

◀ Jaime Espinal giving a health lecture.

Bottom left: Church leaders and CMS students at a health event in Mexico with Jaime Espinal.



Youth for Christ). In that position he coordinated the work of GYC with the work of other ASI ministries. He was also general vice president of GYC for several years, finishing in 2012. His current association with ASI is through AudioVerse, an organization that is a member of ASI. AudioVerse is a ministry that publishes to the Internet audio recordings of ASI convention meetings and seminars, as well as special speakers at many different churches, meetings, and conventions around the country. A visit to their Web site, www.audioverse.org, will give you access to many hours of inspirational messages from Seventh-day Adventist speakers. In the past year, AudioVerse distributed over 3.5 million sermons world-

wide, with more than 125,000 downloads from within the Southwestern Union. The total number of downloads from the Southwestern Union since 2007 is greater than half a million.

When asked about the benefits of being an ASI member, he says that for the ministries he has participated in, The Josiah Ministry, GYC, and AudioVerse, that ASI has been a great resource for networking with other ministries as well as being helpful in sharing and distributing media. But, he continues, ASI has gone beyond being a good place for networking and sharing, and has provided moral support, mentorship, and an atmosphere or “spirit” that has been an immeasurable blessing. He says that we fulfill God’s calling in our ministry by helping each other out, and ASI sets the background for that to happen.

When asked about personal benefits, he says that for him, the same networking and relationship building opportunities that are there for ministries and businesses apply to the individual. Moreover, he observes that the spiritual content of the programming has been eye opening and moves one toward spiritual renewal that makes it possible for one to maximize their effectiveness in God’s work.

Paul Karmy, owner of Liquid Stone Concrete in Burleson, Texas, joined ASI in 2004. After he and his wife, Darlene, attended their first convention in Phoenix, Arizona, it changed their focus in life and they saw clearly that they needed to be a part of the organization. “After being involved in ASI, our business has become more of a way to raise revenue to spread the gospel,” Paul says. “It’s an income source to support ASI and the ministries that are a part of ASI.” For Paul Karmy, ASI also provides inspiration to be personally involved in ministry, as well.

At the Phoenix ASI convention, having an interest in aviation, Paul volunteered to help at the Adventist World Aviation booth. Directly across from that booth was the Good News Television booth, where he became acquainted with the people who had launched that ministry in Phoenix. “We learned what they were doing, and they sent us their programming schedule,” Paul remembers. That contact eventually led to the launch of Good News Television at Paul’s home church, the Crowley church in Crowley, Texas, which broadcasts Adventist programming throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. Paul is intimately involved with the ministry, and is spearheading the construction of a new television studio at the Crowley church.

“Sharing Christ in the Marketplace” is the motto of ASI



Paul Karmy, owner of Liquid Stone Concrete in Burleson, Texas, says that his affiliation with ASI inspired him to turn his business into a source of funding for missions.

member organizations and Paul Karmy’s concrete business, which employs 23 people, is no exception. “A few years ago we sent Clear Word Bibles to all the people we normally send Christmas cards to [a total of about 50],” Paul says. He tells the story of one of the Bible recipients, a customer of Liquid Stone Concrete, who became really upset when he received the Bible—so upset that he decided not to continue doing business with Paul’s company. “It’s probably because it clashed with his lifestyle,” Paul explains. But a foreman at this customer’s business had a good relationship with Liquid Stone Concrete, and convinced his boss to go back to doing business with Paul’s company. The business owner

consented and the relationship with Liquid Stone Concrete was mended and actually began to flourish.

Paul Karmy also makes available religious tracts that other ministries provide for him. The employees help themselves to the literature, and it’s often a challenge to keep the literature rack full. “We have some employees who are very interested in the Bible. We have a good relationship with them and they often come and ask us questions about various Bible topics.”

Paul says that “ASI is a great place to make contacts and to see where your money goes to help support missions.” He strongly believes that every Adventist who owns a business and has an interest in missions should be part of ASI.

If you’d like to learn more about ASI and be inspired to get more involved in witnessing and outreach in your corner of the world, why not attend the upcoming chapter meeting March 27-29 at the Scenic Hills church in San Antonio, Texas? You don’t have to be an ASI member to attend, but here’s fair warning: If you do attend, you just might get hooked on ASI!

Floyd Courtney is president of the Southwest Chapter of ASI and **Pat Humphrey** serves as the executive secretary/treasurer of the Southwest Chapter.



◀ **Scan for more info**

Use your smart phone and QR code scanner app to scan this QR code and access the ASI Southwestern Union Chapter’s Web site now! You can also access the site at www.ASISW.org.

ASI: Mission-focused and Driven



ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

Members of Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) are truly a distinctive group of people. They are people with a passion. They are people who look for ways in which they can be involved in the mission of the church. They are people who use their work as an avenue to share hope and uplift others. They are people who are not ashamed of sharing the love of Jesus while engaged in their marketplace. They are not employees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but they are active lay people who are finding ways within or through their work environment to share the distinctive truths of the Bible with others.

Within the Adventist Church there are many self-supporting ministries. Unfortu-

nately, not all of them are truly "supportive" of the church. However, those that are supportive bring added strength to the outreach ministries of the world church. Employees of the church will never by themselves be able to finish the work given to us by Christ. It will be through the combined efforts of ministers and laymen that the gospel will go to the world. That's why supportive self-supporting ministries are so vital to the church. Most of these self-supporting ministries are members of ASI.

It has been most fascinating to attend either a local union chapter of ASI or the national ASI convention. These are high-energy meetings! A number of people have commented that an ASI meeting is like a General Conference Session with all the thrilling reports of the advance of the gos-

pel. There the spotlight is focused on ASI members in action. Report after report is shared by lay people who are using their talents and resources to make a difference in the lives of others. Whether it is through some aspect of the health message or education or just a simple personal testimony, lay people are making a difference. They are driven!

If you are not already a member of ASI and you are a professional or have your own business, why not become a member yourself? The church will be blessed and strengthened by your participation and you will not be disappointed!

Steve Orian, president

Baton Rouge Adventurers Induction

BATON ROUGE, LA. » The Baton Rouge Adventurer Club's calendar year had just begun, but because of our great parents and volunteers, we had already done so much! The induction ceremony was a highlight as we realized the beautiful hearts and minds that have been entrusted into our care and dedicated to the Lord.

God has been working in our kids and their prayer lives. The answers we have received are bringing us closer to our goal of teaching these children to love, trust, and worship Jesus. We took a field trip to the Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center and

the kids were excited about getting to pet a snake and a baby alligator. Although the forecast for the day showed a 90 percent chance of rain, the Adventurers prayed about it and were blessed with a rain-free field trip. We have also incorporated the importance of healthy eating into our club meetings by providing healthy snacks, such as fruits and nuts.

By working in conjunction with the Pathfinder Club we were able to share in activities like the Presidential Youth Fitness Program Award, where the kids had to run a mile and participate in lots of other

exercises. All of us are hoping these activities will instill a lifelong habit of exercise. We also tie-dyed T-shirts together, which the kids will be able to enjoy for many months to come. While having fun with our kids we can share the importance of doing God's will no matter what comes our way, and we hope this is the memory that outshines all others.

In October we planned a nature hike to search for leaves to earn an award. Sharing the beauty of nature with the next generation is one of the greatest joys of this ministry. Knowing we have these children in our care during the character building years is a responsibility we do not take lightly and we would like to thank God for His help throughout the coming year.

Kelly Wilkinson and Damaris Dupertuis



Induction of the Baton Rouge Adventurers.

Umpire Teen Vacation Bible School

UMPIRE, ARK. » The Umpire church finished the last event of its teen Vacation Bible School program with a beginners triathlon at Daisy State Park. The church tries to focus on helping the youth develop spiritually, physically, and in service to others.

During the week, they had fun making cookies for the Jackson House homeless shelter in Hot Springs. Later in the week they visited the shelter to help feed the homeless. The teens also spent four hours on the Caddo River canoeing and having fun.

Jonathan Baylon



The Umpire church held a triathlon during its teen Vacation Bible School. Back row: first place, boys: Junior Peres; first place, girls: Nicole Baylon; first place team: Tanner Manasco; second place team: Haley Manasco. Front row: second place, boys: Jaime Garcia; second place, girls: Daniella Marquez; second place team: Stephanie Baylon.

Deridder's Hayday VBS

DERIDDER, LA. » The Deridder church held its "Hayday" VBS Celebration, Friday through Sunday, September 6-8, 2013, for the young people in the church and community.

Under the direction of Angel Tucker—who played "Little Peep," the children learned to grow in friendship with Jesus and others. Haley Tucker, who played

"Moo Sila," the cow, taught them more about prayer, having faith, claiming Bible verses, and understanding Bible stories.

With William Miller, who played "Sunflower Sam," and Jim and Lanette Janda,

the young people participated in an outreach project called "Projects—With A Purpose," showing Jesus' love to everyone in the community and families.

During the finale, Edgar Alvarado came in portraying Jesus, "The Light of the World." Jesus gave His light to everyone, showing love to all. What an exciting time for God's children, and just the perfect ending to a beautiful time spent with Jesus. On Sunday the kids enjoyed hay rides, food, and visiting with the characters.

Nell Miller



Top: The Deridder church held a "Hayday" Vacation Bible School.

Far left: "Little Peep" and "Moo Sila" taught the young people about Jesus.

◀ The country food was great!

Colquitt Christian Academy Uses iPads

SHREVEPORT, LA. » In an era where differentiation and individualization is stressed in our educational systems, Colquitt Christian Academy in Shreveport is at the head of the class. Alongside the Smart Boards and computers that were previously utilized on campus, iPads and an accelerated math program were added this year.

Accelerated Math Live has enabled teachers at CCA to personalize math practice, differentiate instruction, monitor progress, and make data-driven decisions to guide each student to success. Accelerated Math Live is standards-based, and provides an opportunity not only for the struggling student to obtain the necessary practice to succeed, but propels stu-

dents who are self-motivated learners to excel beyond the standard graded curriculum. With Accelerated Math Live, students can access resources through both computers and iPads, at home and at school.

The use of iPads has opened a whole new world to the classroom and has produced a bevy of eager learners in the CCA classrooms. There are thousands of applications that can provide for students' individual needs. With research and proper implementation, iPads and computers, along with links to curriculum resources, ensure abundant opportunities to meet each student's needs. Practicing penmanship, reading with Raz-Kids, project-based learning, learning the basics of program-

ming, accessing Spirit of Prophecy books and concordances, etc. make our two-room school as rich in technological resources as any school.

Success is a great motivator, and we have seen students beam with pride in their accomplishments in math, where previously they had floundered. When the digital library allows a "bookworm" to read 36 books in a week's time, you know they've unlocked a door that will lead to success in the future. These are some of the joys of attending a Seventh-day Adventist Christian school!

Kathy Davis



Colquitt Christian Academy student using an iPad.



Searcy's Kingdom Rock VBS

SEARCY, ARK. » The Searcy church held Vacation Bible School in July 2013. Rebecca Evans did a great job leading out in the program called Kingdom Rock. The theme was "Be strong in the Lord." Thirty-four children attended and 25 adults helped with everything from the program to the food and the music. The children energetically participated in the songs. A meal



was served each evening. The main course of food varied each evening from pizza to pasta. Everyone loved VBS and we all look forward to next year!

Richard Hall, pastor

The "king" listens to his messenger during the Kingdom Rock VBS program at Searcy, Arkansas.

ASI Members Reaching the World



As administrator for Summit Ridge Retirement Village in Harrah, Oklahoma, I've had the opportunity to attend the national ASI conventions for the past 13 years, crisscrossing the country from the East Coast to the West Coast.

Each year, business men and women from across the country meet to consider how they can further the Lord's work around the world. ASI works to reach areas where the church has a difficult time reaching.

I've had two opportunities to see ASI up close and working. The first was in Zimbabwe, where Duane McKey was able to arrange for us to put up One-day Churches in the city of Bulawayo. The Oklahoma Con-

ference team put up 40 One-day Churches in a little over two weeks. We worked from morning to night assembling the frames, and some of the churches were already filled by the time we got them built. We were also able to help with the orphanage, where the government assigned kids to our church's care. It was heart rending that several of the kids were HIV positive, which made it heart-tugging to work with them. We were also able to do evangelism while there, and many people committed their lives to the Lord.

The second opportunity was when ASI went to Chad, where my sister-in-law, brother-in-law, and father-in-law, Olin and Danae Netteberg and Rolland Bland, work at the only hospital in that town. It is a town of 50,000 people and they don't even have a

restaurant.

ASI built one-day structures that are being used by the hospital to supplement the fact that they just don't have enough room there. Also, there is no electricity except by generator. When they operate on someone, by the time they finish, they are soaked with perspiration. If you have surgery in the ward, they dismiss you to the porch, then to under a tree. ASI is providing multiple buildings to get the hospital up to par. As medical work is the "right arm of the gospel," this is an important project.

As you can see, ASI is reaching a lot of areas that are in great need for spreading the gospel around the world.

Bill Norman

Special Prayer Session at Bristow

BRISTOW » Last fall, the atmosphere was somber yet anticipatory as more than a dozen parishioners made their way into the Bristow church's sanctuary. It would be the first four-hour prayer service held at the Bristow church. Annette Park, the church prayer coordinator, led the service. She had instructed each parishioner to bring three prayer requests, which they would address during the course of the evening.

For the first 30 minutes, each worship-

per, having found his or her separate area, combed the Scriptures to find promises they could apply to their individual prayer requests. At the end of the 30 minutes of Bible searching, all gathered together once again.

The scheduled four-hour prayer session extended to five and one-half hours, as one by one each person took his or her seat in a specially-selected chair and shared with the others the one specific prayer request

that lay heaviest on his or her heart; then those who were moved to pray lifted up their voices in united entreaty for that designated person.

During the course of the evening, different ones slipped out of the door as they were needed elsewhere, but seven brave soldiers endured until the last "Amen" was sounded. Hallelujah!

Virginia Harrison

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE

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OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE

Sharing the Christmas Spirit Inside and Outside the Church

CHOCTAW » The Choctaw church loves celebrating Christmas and bringing our members closer to each other and to Christ. On Sabbath, December 14, we had a day full of Christmas-themed activities. Children's Sabbath School classes were heard practicing songs for their special musical program to be held during the church service.

This special musical program is a tradition at Choctaw. The Primary class led out with song service. The sermon time was filled with various musical numbers

and children playing their musical instruments. A large number of adults shared their musical talents, also.

After a delicious potluck, the children from Bible Club assisted children's ministries leader Robin Sagel in assembling bags with candy canes and literature. The children, accompanied by adults, gave them out at a local senior apartment complex, where they also sang Christmas carols to the residents. The groups knocked on each door and the residents enjoyed the music. One lady commented that no one had

done this for her since she was a kid. She was delighted that the Choctaw church made a special effort to bless and brighten their day. Each participant returned to the church with the special feeling you get when you help others. They were happy to share God's love and to brighten the lives of a few senior citizens who normally would not have visitors during the holiday season.

Robin Sagel

Small Group Bible Study in Del City

DEL CITY » Michael Smith, pastor of the Oklahoma International church, encouraged members to start small groups and Bible studies in their homes in preparation for Fall evangelism meetings. Some years ago, my husband and I had hoped to build on to the back of our home. I prayed that God would provide the funds, and in response I promised to use the space for

Bible studies. I was delighted that God answered my prayer and provided all the funds necessary to complete our remodeling project.

A small group started praying for God's guidance on who we should invite. When the meetings began, my husband, who is not an Adventist, would leave. But, with time, he joined us and I was thrilled. My

cousin and her daughter joined us also. I understand that they have never attended a church before. I was excited that an old school friend I've known for more than 50 years joined us as well.

We followed Smith's advice and designated a "care-er," whose responsibility was to contact everyone to organize meal preparation and clean up for our meetings. We

always enjoyed a wonderful meal followed by prayer and Bible study. The entire event rarely lasted more than 90 minutes and we always had a good time together. We pray that our personal efforts with our friends and neighbors will reap spiritual benefits.

Peggy Devinish

Peggy Devinish recently held Bible studies at her home to support evangelism in her area.



Oklahoma Chapter Sabbath Keepers Motorcycle Ministry Meet in Alva's New Church Building

ALVA » The Alva church was blessed to host the Oklahoma chapter of Sabbath Keepers Motorcycle Ministry in its new church building. We had visitors who told me to thank the Sabbath Keepers for making them feel so welcome. "Medic" had a great Sabbath School discussing prayer. "Coyote" gave a great sermon asking everyone to look at themselves, and asked if we are threatening enough to Satan that he knows us by name. "Guard Dog" was officially given his Sabbath Keepers



patch, and "Toolman" was voted vice president of the Oklahoma chapter. After church, a wonderful meal was served. Since the Lord gave us such a beautiful afternoon, we had a wonderful Sabbath ride, and even had three non-members join us.

R.L. Simpson ("Toolman")

R.L. Simpson, also known as "Toolman," presented the sermon for the Alva church, which was host to the Oklahoma chapter of the Sabbath Keepers Motorcycle Ministries.

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ASI: An Exciting Tool for Evangelism



Experiencing the joy of sharing Jesus in your workplace is what ASI (Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries) is all about. ASI members are lay individuals, professionals, business owners, and ministries who collectively support the global mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and it is another exciting way that the Southwest Region Conference can inspire and inform the masses about the soon coming of Jesus.

Being a member of ASI is exciting

and rewarding; in getting to know other members at local and national conventions and conferences, members develop a deepening love for both the ASI family and the worldwide church family. Benefits of ASI membership include participation in the annual ASI convention at a discounted rate; fellowship with local members at union chapter meetings; inspirational and informative stories and articles in ASI publications; online media featuring dynamic speakers and seminar presenters; heartfelt, motivating testimonies by fellow ASI members; and exposure

for your ministry or business with an exhibit booth at ASI conventions.

Attend a convention and you will see what all the fuss is about. The next union chapter meeting is in San Antonio, Texas, March 14-16, 2014, and the next international convention is in Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 6-9, 2014. For more information about these events and joining ASI, visit www.ASISW.org or www.asiministries.org.

Nancy Jones, treasurer

Recommitting To God

BATON ROUGE » "I couldn't believe my eyes when the person in a white baptismal gown turned around and I saw who had been in the dressing room next to mine!" said an excited Traci Patin. The person to whom she was referring to was Denise Myles Green, and the occasion was their rebaptism.

It had been 44 years since Traci and Denise had first met. They were both first-graders in Eunice Bruce's class at the Berean church school, which at that time was located on South 14th Street. According to both, it didn't take long for them to realize they would become "best friends forever," even before that phrase was popularized. This friendship would carry them through baptism at Berean, marriage, children, grandchildren, and all that life would hurl at them.

Recently, Traci, upon attending Green's father's funeral and after "too many years away," came to Berean on a certain Sabbath, and responded to Robert Davis' altar appeal, indicating her desire to be rebaptized. Little did she know that



Charles Wilson reading baptismal vows; deaconesses Bertha Stewart and Marian Wilson (left), and Traci Patin and Denise Green, who were re-baptized.



Robert Davis baptizing Denise Green and Traci Patin.

her lifelong friend was contemplating the same decision.

"But instead of publicly responding, I chose to share my decision with a select few with the intention of surprising Traci on the Sabbath of her rebaptism," reported Green. And a surprise it was! Davis, head deaconess Bertha Stewart, and Bible worker Carolyn Blevins were the only ones privy to the surprise. It was not until Green emerged from her dressing stall and turned around to join Patin as they were about to stand before the congregation to repeat their baptismal vows that Patin realized her friend was the other person getting baptized. "I knew someone else was getting baptized, but no one would tell me who," said Patin.

"It was truly a 'Kodak moment' when Traci saw me," Green chuckled. "Based on our history, it was only fitting that we would be baptized together," they said. On that Sabbath, these "BFFs" were once again reunited—except this time for God's kingdom and eternity.

Evelyn M. Edwards

SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

Forest Hill Tigers Pathfinders' Run to Oshkosh

FOREST HILL, TEX. » With the Forever Faithful International Pathfinder Camporee quickly approaching, the Forest Hill Tigers Pathfinder Club has been working hard to raise the funds necessary for their trip in August. Along with the more common fundraisers, such as car washes, bake sales, etc., the Forest Hill Tigers decided to do something on a much larger scale. They chose to host an event that would not only raise funds for their trip, but would also promote healthy activity among the community as a whole. Thus, the event, "Run to Oshkosh 5K Run/Walk."

The endeavor started out with much enthusiasm. However, as they proceeded with the planning process, it began to appear to be an impossible feat for such a small group—and it got to the point where some wanted to cancel it. They even started to question whether the Tigers had taken on something that was beyond their capability to complete. But, however difficult things seemed, "it was through prayers and the desire to have our youth experience such an opportunity that kept us going. You see, many of our youth have never even been out of the Dallas-Fort Worth area, much less out of the state of Texas. The opportunity to attend Forever Faithful, where they will meet youth from over 60

countries and learn about various cultures, is, in itself, almost unbelievable," said Pathfinder director Lance Duncan.

The Tigers reached out to the community for sponsors and supporters with great success, including various businesses. As they prayed for God's leading, courage to continue and guidance, they continued to market the 5K run/walk. Without the funds to utilize the heavy advertisement tools, this made it a little more difficult and called for more creativity and work. After communicating with various media and by God's grace, the most exciting and biggest opportunity came when Dallas' WFAA, an ABC news affiliate, invited the Tigers to be interviewed about the event. This invitation to be on a local news station and major network was the added boost needed to push all the way to the end.

"As a Christian youth organization, we wanted to present to the community that our youth do have purpose, are capable of positive endeavors and are responsible enough to host such a multi-city-wide event as a means to an end," said Duncan.

They succeeded! The event took place on Sunday, November 3, 2013 at Trinity Park in Fort Worth with many participants from the community. The grand-prize winner received a full-year gym membership from one of our sponsors, Texas Health Huguley Fitness Center.

"In a world filled with so many distractions for our youth, they need as much exposure to positive experiences, so much more than their everyday situations and environments, to keep them within God's realm. Just as we believe that it was David's relationship with God that made him forever faithful, our hope is for our youth to build that same relationship through positive exposure and experience that will help them to be 'forever faithful,'" said Duncan.

Linda Murray



Teshorn Jackson



Teshorn Jackson



Teshorn Jackson

Participants of the "Run to Oshkosh 5K" were able to help the Forest Hill Tigers Pathfinder Club earn funds to attend the August, 2014 international camporee.

A local news station in Dallas interviewed members of the Forest Hill Tigers Pathfinder Club about the 5K. The publicity gave the event a major boost.

Teshorn Jackson



Teshorn Jackson



Teshorn Jackson

Shoes 4 My Children

CORSICANA, TEXAS » In 1989, Bernita Tyler Scott, pastor of Church House of Prayer Bible Study of South Oak Cliff/Dallas, Texas founded Shoes 4 My Children, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, of which she is also the CEO.

A group of women would come to study the Bible on Wednesday evening, bringing their children with them. At the end of the study, Scott would serve the women and children hotdogs and beverages. The children began to love, trust, and appreciate the pastor for sharing such love and care. The children began to call her "Aunt Tessie." They invited their friends to join them for the Bible study, but especially for the hotdogs and beverages.

One day, one of the little boys asked her if she could buy him some shoes because his friends and classmates at school would laugh at him and make fun of him because his shoes were so worn, torn, and entirely too big. She looked at his shoes and discovered he was right. She imagined how he felt because she remembered a similar experience she had in her younger years. She used her own money and purchased him a new pair of shoes and soon the word spread that "Aunt Tessie is buying new shoes for kids who need shoes." That was the beginning of Shoes 4 My Children.

Since 1989, more than 100,000 pairs of shoes and other needed items have been distributed to children in Texas. The program is funded by private donors, foundations, corporations, and businesses. Norman Stiggers, an Adventist pastor and cousin of Scott, invited her to come to the Bethel church he pastors, in Corsicana, in order to distribute shoes to children in that community. More than 100 shoes were distributed to children there.

When a tornado hit Lancaster, Texas in April 2012, destroying many homes

and displacing families, Lorraine Stiggers, who lives and worked as a counselor in the district, contacted Scott, Lancaster ISD, Neighborhood Credit Union, Lancaster



Shoes 4 My Children is a ministry based out of South Oak Cliff/Dallas, Texas, founded by Bernita Tyler Scott, which has helped to distribute more than 100,000 shoes and other much-needed personal items to children and families.

After the April, 2012 tornado in Lancaster, Texas, Shoes 4 My Children and other businesses and ministries helped care for the community's needs.

Outreach, and several area businesses to work collaboratively in helping the students and their families. The support, volunteers, and contributions were great. Those who were asked were more than eager to help and willing to give shoes, socks, toothbrushes, T-shirts, snacks, free facility usage, news coverage, photos, flyers, radio announcements, student volunteers and much more. In May and again in July of 2012, more than 1,000 pairs of shoes and other items were distributed to children and families in Lancaster.

We are grateful to Scott for her love,

dedication, commitment, and vision to help children and their families through Shoes 4 My Children ministry, and are especially thankful to the Lord for His many blessings and this particular promise found in His word: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7,8).

Lorraine James-Stiggers, Bethel family ministries and education coordinator

ASI: A Biblical Model for Reaching Our Communities



There is an intriguing passage found in Proverbs 10:16 that reads, “The labor of the righteous leads to life...” It is not difficult to encounter in Scripture the principle that places the idea of sons and daughters of God laboring for much more than a simple paycheck. The Bible seems to make clear that there is much more to life than the simple nine-to-five drudgery of putting food on the table and clothes on our backs. Our labor and enterprise should have an evangelistic and discipleship component that somehow draws others to Christ, the Hope of salvation!

ASI, Adventist business owners and entrepreneurs who have not only given their lives to Christ, but have also chosen to conduct their businesses in a manner that glorifies the Master and reaches out to the communities around and beyond themselves, is certainly accomplishing that objective. From ASI’s Southwest Chapter’s Web site, I found the following words describing their mission: “To provide chal-

lenge, nurture and experience in sharing Christ in the marketplace. To be known for our unwavering honesty in business principles and practices, unflinching participation in the various ministries of the church, unwavering positivity toward church leadership, unhesitating provision for the needs of others and untiring focus on the Christ we represent in the marketplace...”

I fell in love with that statement of mission, especially the last few words: “...untiring focus on the Christ we represent in the marketplace...”

We are called to represent Christ, be His ambassadors in everything we do Sunday through Friday, as well as on His holy day. What we do, how we act, how we talk, our body language, our attitude, our objectives and our priorities tell the world around us much more about who we are than our posture in church on Sabbath.

Listen to the words of the prophet of the Lord, Ellen White: “The world needs missionaries, consecrated missionaries, and *no one* will be registered in the books of

heaven as a Christian who doesn’t have a missionary spirit. If the church members do not *individually* take hold of the work, then they are showing that they have no living connection with God! It would do us well to remember the record that is kept on high, that book in which there are no omissions or mistakes, out of which we shall be judged. There, every neglected opportunity to do service for God will be recorded...” (*Christian Service*, p. 86-87, emphasis supplied).

What better place than the workplace? What greater opportunities than the workplace? We must ask ourselves, how many non-Adventist friends do we have? Do they feel comfortable and accepted in our presence, in our place of business? Do they trust us? That is our challenge for 2014! That is our mission! To be the salt of the earth, that light in the midst of darkness.

Carlos J. Craig, president

VBS at Southern Worship Center

ARLINGTON » Southern Worship Center church recently held their first Vacation Bible School under the leadership of Tamara Anderson. The theme, “Athens: Paul’s Dangerous Journey to Share the

Truth” helped the kids see how daily Bible verses connect to everyday life.

Various stations and a market place portrayed Paul’s jaw-dropping experience in Athens. The kids experienced the first-hand account of Paul’s dangerous journey to share

the life-changing truth about God. Kids explored the shops’ unique crafts, were involved in creative activities based on biblical history, and sang songs and performed motions that allowed them to explore worship. Southern Worship Center hopes its outreach to children and youth will encourage community members to see our church as a warm and inviting place, full of God’s love.

Alice James



As part of the Southern Worship Center’s outreach to children, volunteers held a Vacation Bible School about Paul’s journey to share God’s life-changing truths.

Adventists Sell Tickets to “Hell”

COLLEGE STATION » Inviting your friends to “hell” usually doesn’t qualify for evangelism. But, in Central Texas, Adventists are seizing every opportunity to share God’s love. Even if that means renting a theater and talking about God’s love revealed in the strangest of places: hellfire.

Hell and Mr. Fudge is a film produced by LLT Productions, the same company that produced the Hal Holbrook documentary *The Seventh Day: Revelations From the Lost Pages of History*. The full-length movie stars professional actors and tells the true story of scholar and author Edward Fudge, who was paid to research the topic of eternally-burning hell more than 30 years ago. What he discovered turned his life upside down. After realizing that Scripture teaches that hellfire destroys the wicked rather than torturing them endlessly, Edward struggled to share this with others. He faced great personal loss and opposition during the following years. Ultimately, in 1982, his research led him to write *The Fire That Consumes*, arguably the most authoritative and extensive book ever written on the subject.

After seeing a trailer for the movie, members from the Three Angels church in College Station seized the opportunity to share the good news about the character of God with their friends and families. Two showings were negotiated with a local theater in Bryan for consecutive Sundays in July. Good things then began to happen: members invited neighbors and co-workers to join them at the theater, especially those who might not feel comfortable entering through church doors. Invitations were sent to local churches. One member arranged for two TV interviews in the week between the showings. Another member created Google and Facebook ads. Some in the church agreed to sponsor tickets. Fudge and his wife, Sara Faye, who currently live in Houston, even agreed to



During the session with Fudge, one guest shared how his father was seriously ill and an unbeliever. He commented, “This understanding of hell is so refreshing! Now I have a framework to talk to him about his life. It gives me peace.” Another said his minister had encouraged him not to come to see the movie, but he was still curious why we had to be motivated by fear (of hell) to follow God. Three ministers in the area from other faiths also attended the movie.

Books on hell and tickets to future showings were given away as door prizes. Study guides and magazines on the

Members of the Three Angels church in College Station invited friends, neighbors, and the community to see *Hell and Mr. Fudge*, the story of scholar and author Edward Fudge who researched the topic of eternally-burning hellfire for more than 30 years.



come for a question-and-answer session after one showing of the film!

But, how would people respond to such a movie that touched on theology, especially when 60 percent of Americans believe in eternally-burning hellfire? Very well, apparently. Even though more of the patrons were friends of church members, dozens came from the public, as well. Some came from Houston and North Dallas to see the screening, two- and three-hour drives, respectively! Response was so good that a third showing was scheduled to accommodate more. Overall, 214 attended the three screenings. Approximately 130 of those were guests! But the numbers were not the only thing to rejoice about.

truth about hell were distributed to every attendee as they left, with the Adventist church contact info and links to Edward Fudge’s teaching on the subject, as well. We understand many spiritual conversations between church members and their friends were held over dinner and on the way home after the movie.

The Three Angels church was pleasantly surprised at the blessings received when they met their community with the love of God in a neutral place on a hot summer afternoon. As the church holds reaping meetings this fall, the movie may be shown again on the campus of Texas A&M University. If you are interested in sponsoring a showing in your area, contact Jim Wood at 707.337.4648, or e-mail jww@me.com.

Jim Wood

GYC En Español: Escrito Está

KEENE » The 2013 Spanish-language GYC conference, “GYC En Español,” held at the Keene Spanish church, was a spiritual feast that inspired many young people to seek God’s guidance and promises through a deep searching of His Word. The conference theme, “Escrito Está,” or “It is Written,” was designed to help the youth hear God’s voice through the Holy Scripture.

Attendees were blessed by messages about the wonderful evangelistic work being done across the world. They received practical lessons on how to study and analyze the Bible to receive the maximum blessing from every word written in God’s Book. The youth were taught important truths about the prophetic messages that

make the Adventist message distinctive. They also were given practical lessons on how to memorize Bible verses to carry with them everywhere they go and to be able to meet all temptation. In the spirit of the GYC movement, the conference was designed to not only inspire our youth to have a deep relationship with Christ, but to also better equip them to share the everlasting gospel.

During the Sabbath message, more than 30 young people walked toward the pulpit to accept the call to have the mind of Christ and to join the army of youth that would finish the good work that Christ Himself started. It was a beautiful sight to see a church filled with attentive young people

yearning for a purpose for their lives.

The community was blessed along with the youth. On Sabbath, the youth went out to the nearby city of Cleburne to carry the glad tidings of salvation from door to door. Emboldened by the messages they heard, the youth surveyed the individuals they met and lifted up prayers for their special requests. In just one hour, participants confirmed 50 Bible studies and ministered to dozens of other people through literature, invitations to an upcoming health fair, and prayer!

In the coming years, GYC En Español is planning to reach out to youth in areas where it has not gone before, and will be seeking to integrate the Hispanic community into the work that other demographics are involved in. We will be seeking to spread the missionary spirit of the GYC movement to youth that have not yet been reached. With God’s help, we will reach many hearts within Hispanic communities to motivate them to make a decision to follow Christ and complete the work of spreading the gospel to the entire world in this generation.

Misael Manjares

GYC En Español was recently held at the Keene Spanish church.



Stewardship and Financial Education Pays

JOSHUA » Last June and July, Joshua church members Tim and Kim Arkusinski hosted Dave Ramsey’s nine-week Financial Peace University. The successful training event was opened with a special stewardship Sabbath, and closed with a special Sabbath service.

The difference made in the lives of the attendees over the course of the nine-week training was astonishing. A surprising 24 credit card accounts were closed, an additional \$71,000 was saved in personal accounts, and almost



The Joshua church’s Financial Peace University resulted in 24 credit cards closed and \$50,000 in personal debt paid off for the participants, in addition to other financial goals that were attained.

\$50,000 of personal debt was paid during the 9 weeks. Of those that attended the

seminar, there was also a 30 percent increase in giving for church budget.

Since then, the local church budget has been surpassed and the church continues to operate in positive territory. It has become a financially healthy congregation with financially equipped members and friends. Stewardship and financial education pay huge dividends.

Minner Labrador, Jr.

Are We Willing to be Used by the Lord?



TEXICO CONFERENCE

During an evangelistic meeting in Alaska, a family was baptized into the newly-formed Spanish group in Anchorage. Since the group was just beginning, it did not have many leaders. It was a great blessing when a family of five joined the small group. This family did not have any previous knowledge of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but I admired them because they were willing to learn and be used by the Lord.

Months had gone by after the family was baptized. The husband, Jose, and wife, Maria, had been maturing spiritually and they were natural leaders. One day, I asked Jose if he would be willing to teach the Sabbath School lesson. His first response was, "Sure, but I have never taught a Sabbath School lesson before." After a quick training, he was ready. He did an excellent job

and the church wanted him to continue being a teacher. Anything we would ask this family to do, from Sabbath School, youth programs, to social events, they were always willing to help because of the love they had for the Lord.

When the time came to select some officers for the small group, after much prayer, I was convicted to place this couple in leadership roles. Jose was elected as an elder and Maria as treasurer.

I learned a valuable lesson from this family. When you are willing to be used by the Lord, He will give you the talents and gifts that are needed to move God's kingdom ahead. Ministry is using the gifts and talents God has given us for His service. If we hide our talent or gifts, how can God use us?

As this family used the gifts God had given them, He added and multiplied the

talents that were needed to advance the church in Alaska. He will do the same for us also.

Christ keeps no servant idle. We each have a work to do. People in God's service joyfully do what they can to be a blessing to others.

Let us remember that each of us has been given at least one talent to be used for the Lord. Let us use our gifts and talents wisely. Ellen White said, "Put your talent out to the exchangers. If you use it faithfully, you will gain another talent; and by a faithful use of these two talents, you will gain two more" (Ellen White, *Peter's Counsel to Parents*, p. 23).

What are we doing with the talent God has given us? Have we used them faithfully for Him and His kingdom?

Lee-Roy Chacon, president

Texico Conference Holds 40th Constituency Session

The Texico Conference held its 40th regular Constituency Session on Sunday, December 15 at the Albuquerque Heights church in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where 291 delegates met to elect officers for the 2013-2017 quadrennial term. Lee-Roy Chacon, who has served the conference as executive secretary since 1997, was elected president.

Chacon succeeds James Stevens, who retired as president after serving the Texico Conference for 17+ years. Philip Robertson, who has served as treasurer since July 2013, was re-elected as treasurer and in addition, was elected to serve as executive secretary/ministerial and stewardship director. Derral Reeve was re-elected as education superintendent.

The positions of director of Planned Giving, Trust, Properties, and Adventist Community Services were referred to the conference committee.

Three new churches were accepted into the sisterhood of churches: Pie Town Company, El Paso Montana Vista Company, and Tulia Company.

A video report featured the work and growth in the Texico Conference over the past four years, highlighting church building projects, education programs, and new members won to the church as a result of

evangelism. Robertson, who gave the treasurer's report, expressed his gratitude for the role of the administrators, staff, pastors, teachers, and local church treasurers, who work as a team to keep the conference on a strong financial footing. He noted that despite the economic challenges our country faces, the first 11 months of 2013 brought in more than six million dollars in tithe. "God never participates in recession," he said.



From left: Philip Robertson, Rita Stevens, James Stevens, and Lee-Roy Chacon following a presentation of appreciation plaques for the Stevens, who have recently retired.

Outgoing president James Stevens has given 35 years of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He and his wife, Rita, were honored for their dedicated service with a vote of gratitude and an expression of thanks. "Your leadership and your vision speak for themselves," Robertson said. "We honor you and we thank you."

James and Rita Stevens were each presented with a plaque of their own, and Buford Griffith, executive secretary of the



From left: Derral Reeve, education superintendent; Philip Robertson, treasurer, executive secretary/ministerial and stewardship director; James Stevens, newly-retired president; Lee-Roy Chacon, newly-elected president; Sean Robinson, association secretary; Derrick Williamson, director of literature ministries.

Southwestern Union, closed the meeting with a prayer of dedication for them. The Stevens have relocated to Florida, where they will spend their retirement. Though retired, Stevens, whose leadership led the conference to double in size during his administration, will continue to serve the church through his passion for evangelism. Chacon, who now takes up the mantle of leadership, summed up the mission of the Texico Conference with these words: "We must keep God first. We are here for a mission, which is to spread God's kingdom and God's Word."

Pat Humphrey, *Record* editor

Changed from Bitter to Blessed

ODESSA, TEXAS » The Odessa church conducted one of the most successful evangelistic campaigns in recent years in its territory. The opening night commenced at the Odessa College Saulsbury Auditorium. More than 150 people pre-registered for the meetings and the place was packed for most sessions. Hector Quinones, Texico Conference pastor and evangelist presented amazing topics on Revelation and end-time prophecy. Each night he had an altar call and challenged the audience to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

On the last week of the meetings, Abner Razon, Odessa church pastor, conducted baptisms every night. The efforts of the church were rewarded tremendously with 42 precious souls. Here is the testimony of Josh Romero, who was one of the people who came to know Christ through these meetings:

"I knew God since I was a little boy, but because of certain choices in my life and things that happened I decided to turn away from Him. I became very bitter at Him and wanted nothing to do with church, or anything associated with God. Little did I know that God was working out a marvelous plan for my life, as well as my family's lives.

"Laura, my girlfriend, received a brochure for a Revelation seminar with Hector Quinones. She wanted to go, but to tell you the truth, I really didn't want to go. But I thought if it would make her happy, I would do it.



Josh and his family experience the joy of baptism at the Odessa church.

"We began attending, and through the lectures on end-time prophecy, I started to be convicted. Right away, the Lord started dealing with me. Then, one day I was sitting at home by myself and I just started to break down and cry out to God. I asked God to restore me, forgive me, and fix my broken heart. From that day on I made a change in my life and gave my heart fully to the Lord.

"I came to realize the prophecy seminar was sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Odessa. Everyone at the church was so welcoming. Pastor Abner Razon and his wife, Nefritire, welcomed us with great love and compassion!

"October 17 was an important day for Laura and me. We became husband and wife, with Razon officiating our wedding. It was also our privilege to be baptized as a

family along with our children, Brandon, Andy, and A.B., who also accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

"I'm happy to be a part of the Odessa Seventh-day Adventist Church because I know God's presence is in this church. When we meet for church services and programs I feel blessed. I know I'm being fed the truth from God's Holy Word.

"I am grateful to God for the church officers and all its members for their efforts in sharing God's Word. I would like to thank especially the Razons for their leadership in spreading God's love."

Dodie Pelopero and Josh Romero

A Tribute to Veterans

ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX. » Almost 300 people gathered on November 9, 2013 for Albuquerque Central's annual Veteran's Day celebration Sabbath. Once again, festive banners were in place, special music selections were on the program, and a very special guest presented the worship hour message.

Sergeant Justin Bond (USA-Retired), CEO and founder of Our Heroes Dreams (<http://www.ourheroesdreams.org>) spoke to those present about his time in Iraq, the day he was injured in 2004, which led to multiple surgeries and the loss of his leg, and what he is doing now to help wounded veterans and their families. He spoke about post-traumatic stress, from which many veterans suffer, and how some who have been provided with a week's rest at a ranch in California are able to address some of what they dealt with and begin a life-long recovery process.

Earlier in the service, the choir performed Salute to the Armed Forces while about 40 veterans and service men and women, some in dress uniform, came to the front and received a special gift from our church as a token of our appreciation for their service. There was an air of solemnity in the sanctuary, as three trumpet players positioned themselves about the perimeter

and played taps, while a representative from each service gave a salute for those who have died this past year.

At the conclusion of the program, Javier Gonzales and Cammy Cook sang a duet: "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor." They also gave a special concert at 7 p.m. that evening in honor of Veteran's Day. The Central Sentinels Pathfinder Club members had the honorary duty of posting the

colors (both the American and the Christian flags) early in the program and retiring them at the end of the program. The morning was finished off with a tasty meal provided by great cooks who volunteered to put together a noon meal for guests and members alike.

Terri Gibson

► The church choir led out in singing The Star Spangled Banner.

▼ Juanita Camacho, Miriam Marquez, Kim Williams, Karen Anderson, and Sharon LaClair cooked for the event.

Bottom left: Salute given by (left to right) Don Gibson, pastor, Jim Bucher, Ray Van Why, Wendy DeLuca, and Frank Swartz.

Bottom right: Sergeant Justin Bond (USA-Retired), CEO and founder of Our Heroes Dreams, spoke to those present about his time in Iraq.



Terri Gibson



Terri Gibson





No Lost Time: Southwestern professor presents controversial findings to Geological Society of America

It's not rocket science: it's rock science. Art Chadwick, research professor at Southwestern Adventist University, and Leonard Brand, head of the division of natural science at Loma Linda University, recently told the Geological Society of America, and the thousands of scientists in attendance, that there's no missing time in the history of earth.

"There's a contact in earth where two layers come together," said Chadwick. "To many geologists, this represents 10 to 30 million years of missing informa-

tion. That's enough time to erode America down to sea level. I would like to suggest that there's no missing time."

It might seem like common knowledge, at least to creationists, that the world is relatively young. Yet the majority of scientists, including those in attendance, believe otherwise. Presenting evidence that the earth is much younger than people often assume, implies that the theory of evolution should be brought to question.

Geologists know scientifically how old the upper and lower layers are. The middle layer, known as the Shinarump/Moenkopi contact, is more of a blur. Rather than take the contact point at face value, they draw the conclusion that it must represent missing information.

Chadwick and Brand studied this contact in Utah. They found it completely flat and sitting on top of an underlying layer

that's soft and unchanged. They are now working to publish their findings.

"How could nothing happen over that long a period of time?" Chadwick said, "I don't believe that the layer could remain completely flat for that many years. At the presentation, I showed my documentation carefully and then suggested that there must be some other explanation. I just brought the layers together, suggesting that there is no missing time."

The presentation, at the annual convention in Denver last fall, caused a bit of a stir. A friend of Chadwick's sat in the audience and watched for reactions. There was a lot of head shaking at the beginning but by the second half of the presentation, some heads were nodding.

"The program seemed to have an impact. Most importantly, I want people to start thinking about how a layer could last that long without any change," he said. "We really haven't been on this earth as long as most people think."

Makala Coleman, junior journalism major



▲ Chadwick at the dinosaur research project in Wyoming where he spends a month every summer with a team of students and faculty preserving dinosaur bones. The museum on campus holds more than 17,000 bones.

Top: Art Chadwick studies the Shinarump/Moenkopi contact in Utah.

Above right: Elbows deep in fine dust, Chadwick exemplifies the excruciating patience necessary for digging up dinosaur bones.

Experience the Spirit of Southwestern!

University Open House

Monday, February 3
Southwestern campus

University Experience

Sunday & Monday, March 2 and 3
Southwestern campus

Brain Games: Environmental Science

Thursday-Saturday, March 6-8
Southwestern campus

Spring Break

Friday-Sunday, March 14-23

Music Festival

Wednesday-Sunday, March 27-30
Southwestern campus

Check our website and Facebook page for upcoming events! Watch live events at swau.edu/campus-life/liveevents or videos and archived events at www.vimeo/swau.

NAD Strengthens Its Response to Local Communities

The North American Division (NAD) is announcing several changes that have taken place recently within its humanitarian outreach efforts in the territory. It has been decided to combine the ministries of Adventist Community Services (ACS) and Hope for Humanity (HFH) into one organization so they can better respond to the changing needs of the communities they represent.

In December the NAD ACS board voted the following decisions for leadership:

Sung Kwon will serve as the executive director of ACS, focusing on leadership development, transformational evangelism and urban ministry.

Working with Kwon will be Maitland DiPinto, who will serve as director of community engagement and development. His responsibilities will be to oversee community development, HFH (formally Ingathering) and the tutoring/mentoring program.

Sean Robinson will be joining ACS and

will serve as the director of disaster response and will be in charge of disaster response, crisis care/spiritual and emotional care, and Youth Empowered to Serve (YES). Robinson comes to ACS from the Texico Conference, where he had been serving as the ACS director.

Wynelle Stevens has been promoted from administrative assistant to the position of assistant director of ACS and will be working on elder care as well as internal management and operations. Joining her will be Kati Britton who will serve as a communication assistant.

Several other regional ACS leaders will play instrumental roles in the training and coordination of the many volunteers who are the backbone of the ACS network throughout the Division.

“Truly God has blessed our journey in many ways and I am looking forward to continually strengthening the ACS ministry with the new team members,” says Sung Kwon, ACS executive director. “I also

want to express my deepest gratitude towards the NAD administration for their support of ACS ministry and desire to expand the scope of compassion ministries in NAD.”

NAD ACS and its partner ADRA Canada, respond to the local needs of communities, where help is needed in recovering from natural disasters, in training and educating new immigrants, providing food and clothing assistance to those in financial trouble and serving as Christ’s hands here on earth.

NAD ACS will also be looking at ways that it can expand its relationship with ADRA International as they respond to the needs and challenges that face the North American Division territory.

More information on Adventist Community Services can be found on its Web site at www.communityservices.org.

Daniel Weber, associate director of communication, NAD

Voice of Prophecy Reaches New Heights with Relocation in 2014

SIMI VALLEY, CALIF. » The Voice of Prophecy will relocate to Loveland, Colorado, sometime this fall. The relocation from current headquarters in Simi Valley, California, follows the decision by Voice of Prophecy’s parent organization, the North American Division, to close and sell the Adventist Media Center.

“We are excited to be re-booting the ministry in Colorado,” said Shawn Boonstra, speaker/ director. “Voice of Prophecy will always be about one thing, and one thing only—saving lost souls for eternity. Colorado will offer us a cost-effective, centrally located place to continue our evangelistic work, and to develop new and innovative outreach platforms. Technology has advanced in the last 84 years to the point that we can produce quality media content from almost anywhere. H.M.S. Richards started his evangelistic ministry

in Colorado, and we can’t imagine a better place to relocate this ministry.”

The Voice of Prophecy plans to develop land adjacent to Champion Academy sometime in the near future. This fall they will move into temporary offices in Loveland. Victor Pires, manager/treasurer said, “The ministry will have the opportunity to grow and thrive in this new environment. The brightest days for the Voice of Prophecy are still ahead.”

The Voice of Prophecy headquarters has been at the Adventist Media Center since June 1978, from then until November 1995 in Newbury Park, California, and since 1995 at the present Simi Valley location. From the mid-1930s to 1978, Voice of Prophecy was based in Glendale (north of Los Angeles).

H.M.S. Richards began regular radio broadcasts on October 19, 1929 on KNX

(AM) in Los Angeles. Later Richards presented daily live broadcasts of The Tabernacle of the Air over KGER in Long Beach, and live weekly remote broadcasts from his tabernacle to KMPC (AM) in Beverly Hills. In January 1937 his footprint expanded over a network of several stations of the Don Lee Broadcasting System, and the name of the broadcast was changed to the Voice of Prophecy. His first coast-to-coast broadcast over 89 stations of the Mutual Broadcasting System was on Sunday, January 4, 1942.

For updates and more information visit www.vop.com.

Eldyn Karr, Voice of Prophecy



Shawn Boonstra, speaker/ director, Voice of Prophecy

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NAD Vice President



Derek Morris

GC Ministerial Association



Barry Black

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REAL ESTATE/HOUSING

Summit Ridge Retirement Village is an Adventist community in a rural setting but close to Oklahoma City medical facilities and shopping. Made up of mostly individual homes, the village has fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, independent living, nursing home, and transportation as needed. Web site: <http://www.summitridgevillage.org>, or call Bill Norman at 405.208.1289.

EMPLOYMENT

Walla Walla University seeks applicants for full-time, tenure-track faculty positions in Business, Computer Science and Nursing.

For more information and application process, please visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>. All positions will remain open until filled.

Food Service Supervisor needed for Wewoka Woods Summer Camp to manage food service operations, plan and prepare meals, and supervise kitchen staff. Experience in quantity cooking, kitchen management, and supervision required. Position is from mid-May through July 2014. For more information, contact Carol Chadwick at the Oklahoma Conference Youth Department, 405.721.6110. Mail resume to: Youth Department, Oklahoma Conference, P.O. Box 32098, Oklahoma City, OK, 73123.

The Oregon Conference

is looking for a full-time moving van driver. Primary duties include loading, driving and unloading household goods. Requirements include current Class A CDL and medical certificate, normal vision, and the ability to work with people in a kind and courteous manner. Contact: <http://www.oregonconference.org/employment-home>, or 503.850.3510 for more information.

Adventist Health System seeks law student for 6-8 week summer clerkship in 2014. Position is limited to students who have finished only one year of law school. Ideal candidates would be in the top 25% of their class. Duties include legal research and projects. Send resume and transcript to

david.gordon@ahss.org.

Union College seeks PhD in Engineering. Strong commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching, and scholarship essential. Will teach courses in complementary discipline in addition to engineering - TBD. Submit vitae and cover letter to Dr. Carrie Wolfe, Chair, Division of Science and Mathematics, cawolfe@ucollege.edu.

Now hiring Children's English Teachers to be based in Chengdu, China with competitive salary package based on competence and experience. Must be a native English speaker and hold a Bachelor's degree, preferably with some teaching experiences. Education Center run by

ASI SOUTHWEST CHAPTER MEETING REVIVED BY HIS SPIRIT

March 27-29, 2014
Scenic Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church
San Antonio, Texas



Dan Jackson



Duane McKey



Ed Reid



Grace Daley

Worship Speaker: Dan Jackson, NAD president
Evangelism Training by Duane McKey
End-time Events Preparation with Ed Reid
Honoring the Sabbath – Testimony by Grace Daley, former pro basketball player

For more information, visit to www.asisw.org, or call 817.295.0476, ext. 339.

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Don't miss Wellness Secrets' Spiritual Health Retreat in beautiful NW AR, March 23-30, 2014. Our theme is the *Gift of the Holy Spirit*; our goal is spiritual revival. Activities: Bible study, interactive discussions, cooking classes, nature walks, etc. "Come away and rest a while," recharging your spiritual batteries. Contact: 479.752.8555, WellnessSecrets4u.com.

Medical Missionary Training at Wellness Secrets in NW AR April 3-20, 2014. This program is designed to teach the fundamentals of health evangelism. Classes will be given on principles of medical missionary work, healthful living, common diseases and natural treatment, hydrotherapy, herbs, and community health evangelism. For more information: 479.752.8555, WellnessSecrets4u.com.

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Milestones

ANNIVERSARIES

On December 31, 2013, **Michael and Pamela Robinson** of Burleson, Texas, celebrated their **25th** wedding anniversary. They have two children: daughter, Amanda Robinson; and son, Zachary Robinson of Burleson, Texas; and two grandchildren, Layla and Nolan Robinson.



Michael and Pamela Robinson

Announcements

Broadview Academy Alumni Association: Alumni Weekend is April 25-26, 2014. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars! Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now! Honor classes: 1944, 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1989, 1994, and 2004. Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, and Church. All ideas and information welcome. N. Aurora SDA Church, N. Aurora, Ill. For communication purposes, we need your email addresses as postage is too expensive. Send email addresses to: Ed Gutierrez, edjulie1@att.net; or call: 630.232.9034. More information to come. Don't miss it!

Kona Adventist School invites all former students, staff, and members of the Southwestern Union to attend our 50th Anniversary. July 26-27. Contact Valerie Oskins at 808.960.2406, or Cyndi Kiyabu 808.896.8646. Located at 82-1013 Kinue Rd., Captain Cook, HI.

Southwestern Adventist University Alumni Homecoming is scheduled for April 10-13, 2014, in Keene, Texas. Highlights include a golf tournament, spring concert, alumni fellowship potluck, class parties, and more. Honor classes are those ending with 4 or 9. Contact: Bev Mendenhall, alumni director, 817.202.6232, or BevM@swau.edu.

Jefferson Academy's 100th Anniversary Celebration: April 18-20, 2014. Guest speaker: Steve Darmody. Jefferson Academy Alumni, P.O. Box 187, Jefferson, TX 75657. jeffersonacademyalumni@gmail.com.

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Obituaries

BALL, Ramona "Joy," born January 22, 1924 in Wichita, Kan. and died December 2, 2013 in Harrah, Okla. She was a resident of Summit Ridge Retirement Village for 30 years. She was a kind and generous woman who loved sending notes to friends. She was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years, Lester Ball. Survivors: sister, Berdell Cubbon of Wichita, Kan.; a niece and nephew of Atlanta, Ga.; and her dear friend, Kirby McCarley.

BOTTSFORD, Ronald Charles, born August 25, 1938 in Loma Linda, Calif., and died August 21, 2013 in Keene, Tex. After graduating from Southern Missionary College in 1961, Ron and his wife served eight years in Brazil as a departmental secretary of two missions and

as an evangelist in a third. In their 40 years of ministry they also worked in Arizona, Hawaii, Montana, Alabama, Mississippi and finally moved to Texas in 1984 where he pastored Spanish, Portuguese and English churches around the Texas Conference. After retiring, he answered hundreds of Bible e-mails for the Amazing Facts program for 10 years. Survivors: wife, Beverly Hegstad Bottsford; daughter, Tina Bottsford; daughter and son-in-law, Tammy and Tony Muse; and two grandsons.

CHURCHWELL, J. W., born January 8, 1927 in Whitten, Ark., and died December 2, 2013 in Little Rock, Ark. He was a member of the Little Rock church. Churchwell was a WWII Veteran and a pilot who had his own plane. He was a faithful husband and loving dad, a caring person who loved the Lord dearly.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, two brothers, and one daughter, Debra Linneman. His family and many friends will miss him dearly. We look forward to the resurrection morning when God wakes up the sleeping saints and reunites his family. Survivors: wife, Aletha Juanita Churchwell, of Little Rock; a son and daughter-in-law, Jerry Wayne and Becky Churchwell, of Eldorado, Ark.; a daughter and son-in-law, Lavida and Bill Whitson, of Lonsdale, Ark.; a son-in-law and granddaughter, Robert Linneman, of Mabelvale, Ark.; two grandchildren; two great-grandsons, brother, Harold Wayne Churchwell, of Griffenville, Ark.; and brother, Carl Larry Churchwell, of Boonville, Ark.

EAST, James "Jimmy" R., born January 26, 1935 in Tulsa, Okla., and died January

5, 2014 in Wewoka, Okla. He was a member of the Bristow, Okla., church. Jimmy passed away at Wewoka Care Center, where he had resided since 2009. He suffered with Parkinson's disease for 26 years and recently developed cancer. He finally lost his battle with cancer, while surrounded by his family. He attended middle school and high school at Southwestern Junior Academy, and then took X-ray training at the Methodist hospital in Dallas, Tex., while waiting for his future wife, Gayle, to turn 18, so they could be married. Jimmy was married to his high school sweetheart, Scottie Gayle Putnam of Keene, Tex. on September 29, 1957. He served in the U.S. Army at Fort Sam Houston from 1957-1959. After his service, he attended Union College in Lincoln, Neb., and then went on to Loma Linda University where he gradu-



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ated in 1964 receiving a doctor of dental surgery degree. Over the years they had three rambunctious boys and he started his dental practice in Bristow, Okla., in July 1964. He retired in 1998. Over the years he held board positions for the Oklahoma Conference, the Sunbelt Health Care Systems, Southwestern Adventist University, and was an active member of the Bristow Jaycee's, Toastmasters, and the Bristow Pathfinder Club. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1988, and in 1994 chose to undergo the first outpatient thalamotomy, and walked out of the operating room minus the Parkinson's symptoms on his left side. The disease continued into the right side of his brain and as a result of this disease he had a total of three surgeries between 1994 and 2000. His faith and good humor sustained him and he never complained. With lots of help from Gayle and his sons, he did not let it slow him down. Survivors: wife of 56 years, Scottie Gayle; two sisters, Jean Kennett and Ann Hottal; sons and daughters-in-law, Rodney and Stephanie East, Robin and Lisa East, and Randy and Crystal East; five grandchildren; one great niece and one great nephew.

GOMEZ, Elias G., born in Harlingen, Tex. in 1934 and died December 15, 2013 in Keene, Tex. after having suffered the painful effects of spasmodic torticollis and cerebellar ataxia for more than 25 years. Gomez was a minister and professor who spent 12 years as a pastor and evangelist in three world divisions. During that time, five churches and 15 companies

were organized. He organized the first Spanish-speaking church in Berrien Springs in the Michigan Conference. He worked as an administrator in California and Michigan where he was also a member of academy, college, university, and organization boards including the Adventist Media Center, and Pacific Press. He was the first Hispanic American to be appointed associate director of the Office of Human Relations at the General Conference. During his life, Gomez served as chairman of the religion department at Northeast Brazil College; the dean of the School of Theology at Central American Adventist University in Costa Rica; and as professor of theology at Colombia Adventist University. He organized and implemented the Institute of Hispanic Ministry at the seminary at Andrews University where he was also associate professor in the department of Christian Ministry. His greatest joy was seeing his students develop into church leaders. Survivors: wife, Marcia M. Gomez; and daughters, Rose-Yvonne Colletta and Zani McPherson.

HEADLEY, Stephen Sylvester, born February 8, 1937 in St. James, Barbados, West Indies, and died October 19, 2013 in Little Rock, Ark. He was a member of the Little Rock church. Headley had a degree in electronic technology and for many years he was a mechanic and drove for Aaron Coach Lines. He also worked as an LPTN for 14 years at Baptist Rehabilitation Institute. He was an ordained deacon in the Little Rock church and was a very faithful, friendly member of the

Little Rock church family. He will truly be missed. Survivors: wife, Barbara Headley; son and daughter-in-law, Mark and Debbie Headley, of Little Rock, Ark.; son and daughter-in-law, Andrew and Allison Headley, of Charlotte, N.C.; and five grand daughters.

JOHNSON, Jerry V., born November 29, 1933 in Minneapolis, Minn., and died October 29, 2013 in Harrah, Okla. He was an active member of the Summit Ridge church and was dedicated to holding prayer meeting every Wednesday night. Survivors: wife, Carol; sister, Marion Stone, of New Jersey; two daughters, Pamela Grigg of Milwaukie, Ore., and Michelle West of Tujunga, Calif.; grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and a host of brothers and sisters in Christ at Summit Ridge.

KRIPPS, Helen, born September 11, 1940 in Providence, R.I. and died October 29, 2013 in Burseson, Tex.

She was a member of the Alvarado church. Survivors: husband, Francis Kripps; daughter, Bonnie Garnier; sons, Jim and Tim Kripps; brother, Earl Fenner; sister, Margery Paul.

O'KELLY, Stephanie Roxanne Engle, born October 20, 1992 in Dallas, Tex., and died November 2, 2013 in Ardmore, Okla. She was a member of the Cleburne First church. Survivors: husband, Travis O'Kelly; daughters, Angela and Penelope O'Kelly; parents, Renee Pogue and Kylee Engle; and eight brothers and sisters.

STREETER, James Lawrence, born April 19, 1934 in Amsterdam, N.Y., and died November 14, 2013 in McAllen, Tex. He was a member of the Edinburg church. Survivors: sons, James Lawrence Streeter and Lawrence Edwin Streeter; daughter, Bonnie Streeter; and three grandchildren.

SABBATH SUNSET CALENDAR

	Feb 7	Feb 14	Feb 21	Feb 28	Mar 7	Mar 14
Abilene, TX	6:17	6:23	6:29	6:35	6:40	7:46
Albuquerque, NM	5:40	5:47	5:54	6:00	6:07	7:12
Amarillo, TX	6:21	6:28	6:35	6:41	6:47	6:53
Brownsville, TX	6:17	6:22	6:26	6:30	6:34	7:38
Dallas, TX	6:04	6:11	6:17	6:23	6:28	7:34
El Paso, TX	5:45	5:51	5:57	6:02	6:07	7:12
Fort Worth/Keene, TX	6:07	6:13	6:19	6:25	6:31	7:36
Gallup, NM	5:48	5:55	6:02	6:08	6:15	7:21
Galveston/Houston, TX	6:03	6:09	6:14	6:19	6:24	7:29
Gentry, AR	5:50	5:57	6:04	6:11	6:17	7:24
Little Rock, AR	5:44	5:51	5:57	6:04	6:10	7:15
Muskogee, OK	5:54	6:01	6:08	6:15	6:21	7:27
New Orleans, LA	5:42	5:48	5:53	5:58	6:03	7:07
Oklahoma City, OK	6:03	6:10	6:17	6:24	6:30	7:36
Roswell, NM	5:35	5:41	5:47	5:53	5:59	7:04
San Antonio, TX	6:16	6:22	6:27	6:32	6:37	7:41
Shreveport, LA	5:53	5:59	6:05	6:11	6:17	7:22
Tulsa, OK	5:56	6:03	6:10	6:17	6:23	7:29

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on March 9.



On the Record »

BY PAT HUMPHREY » COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, SOUTHWESTERN UNION

See You In San Antonio!

I REMEMBER WELL THE VERY FIRST ASI CONVENTION OUR FAMILY ATTENDED.

It was held in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1996. At the time my husband, our children, and I owned and operated a copy center in a small town in Virginia. One day we noticed an ad in the Columbia Union *Visitor* about a convention for Adventist business and lay people that emphasized “Sharing Christ in the Marketplace.” We had never heard of ASI and had no idea what the organization was about or what to expect at the convention. But for some reason, we felt impressed to go.

Before making our final decision, the discussion between my husband and I went something like this:

“You know, money is tight, and we really can’t afford this trip.”

“That is true. But let’s just make the sacrifice and go.”

“Well, do you think we should take the kids?”

“I don’t know, but what other options do we have?”

“You’re right. I sure hope they don’t get bored during the meetings, but since we have nowhere to leave them, we might as well take them along.”

And so we went. The drive from Virginia to Rhode Island was long and tiresome, but we arrived on Wednesday evening just in time to check into the

hotel and then head for the opening session. When we got to the meeting we were “blown away.” The testimonies, the music, the preaching—everything was so inspiring! Before the first meeting was even halfway over, my husband, Art, and I looked at each other and said, “This is worth every dime!”

The next day we were pleasantly surprised to learn that ASI is a family-friendly organization, with well-planned, Christ-centered children’s programs, field trips, and outreach projects geared to every age group. And to think we were worried that our kids might have been bored!

It’s hard to say what we enjoyed most about that ASI convention, because it was all so good. From the moment we arrived to the very last, we were filled with

inspiration. We learned a lot, made new friends, and were encouraged to do more sharing and outreach. And by the time the convention was over, we decided we’d never miss another one, unless circumstances prevented us from attending.

At the end of March, the Southwest chapter of ASI will hold its annual meeting in San Antonio. Now I can’t promise you that a chapter meeting is as exciting as a national convention. But I can assure you that, if you attend, you will be blessed. This year’s speakers include NAD president Dan Jackson; former NAD stewardship director, Ed Reid; and our very own Duane McKey, vice president of the Southwestern Union, who will teach and inspire you to get involved in evangelism. And you won’t want to miss Grace Daley’s fantastic testimony on how God led her to give up a successful career in basketball to keep His Sabbath.

I hope to see you there! (For registration info, visit asisw.org or call 817.295.0476.)

Pat Humphrey

Record

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Monday, February 3, 6:00 pm

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Tuesday, February 4, 6:30 pm, **high school building**

The Oaks Adventist Christian School
Thursday, February 6, 7:00 pm, **at the chapel**

Dallas Christian Academy
Wednesday, February 13, 7:00 pm

Central Albuquerque Church
Saturday, February 15