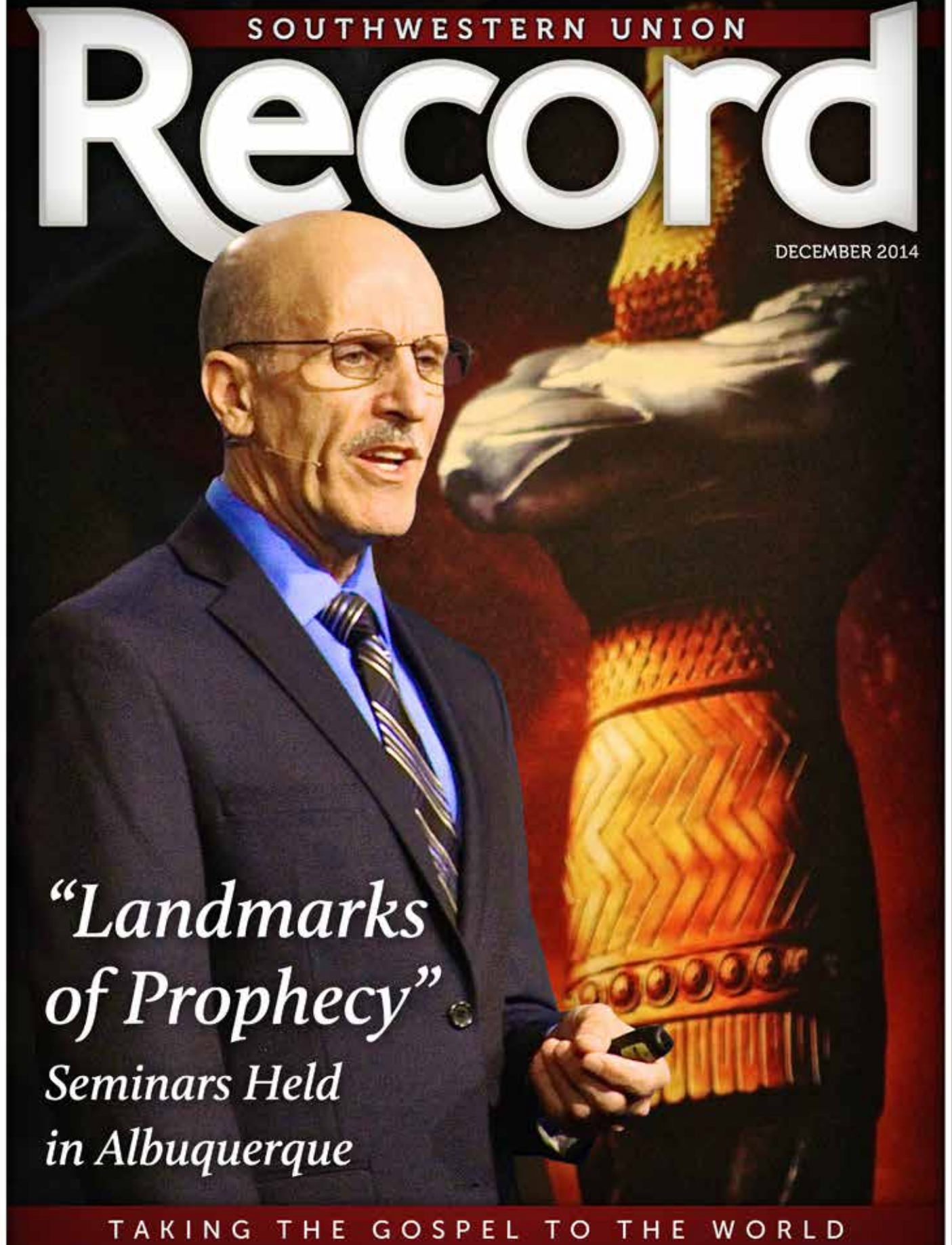


SOUTHWESTERN UNION

Record

DECEMBER 2014



*“Landmarks
of Prophecy”*

*Seminars Held
in Albuquerque*

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD



8



SIGNS OF HOPE

In this Issue...

DEPARTMENTS

CREATION Health	4
MyFaith	5
Pass It On	6
Visión Hispana	7

FEATURES

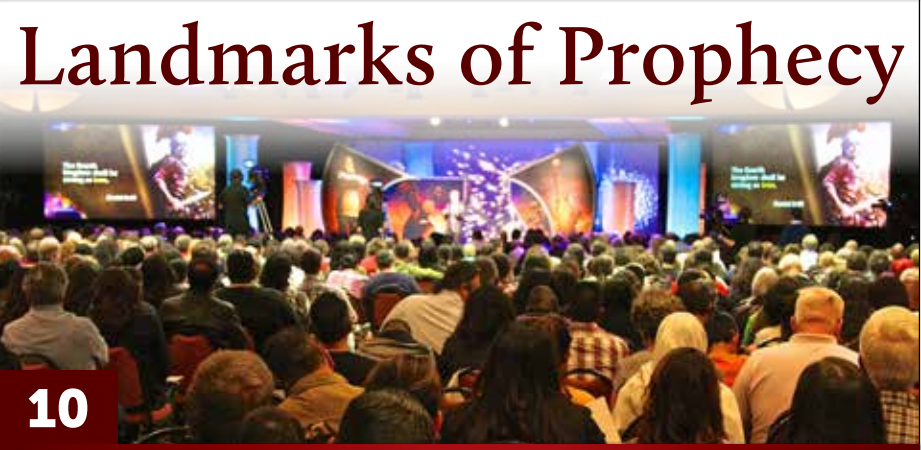
Signs of Hope	8
Landmarks of Prophecy	10
Landmarks of Prophecy Impacts Lives	13
Then Shall the End Come	14

NEWS

Arkansas-Louisiana	16
Oklahoma	19
Southwest Region	22
Texas	25
Texico	28
Southwestern Adventist University	31
Southwestern Union	32
North American Division	33

ETCETERA

Classified Ads	34
Announcements	37
Milestones	37
Obituaries	37
On the Record	39



Then Shall the End Come!



DECEMBER 2014, Vol. 113, No. 12. 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.SWURecord.org

On the Cover

In November 2014 Doug Batchelor, director/speaker of Amazing Facts, presented the Landmarks of Prophecy seminar series to a live audience of more than 1,000 people. The series also aired on 3ABN, Amazing Facts TV, and via the Amazing Facts web site, where the programs are currently archived. Batchelor says his hope for these meetings was to “work with the Lord to free people from a hopeless end and show them how to find endless hope.”

[Photo by Kenneth Lytle Photography]

Point of View»

BY LARRY MOORE » SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT



Remember—Jesus is the Focus of Prophecy!

When the subject of prophecy comes up there can be mixed reactions. The books of Daniel and Revelation usually conger up pictures of beasts, war, bloodshed, and a terrible time of trouble—things we would like to avoid if at all possible. Yet Revelation 1:1-3 tells us that Revelation is a revelation of Jesus Christ Himself and we are blessed when we hear and keep the things that are written in it. All of this tells me that when we study or teach prophecy, we must keep the focus on Jesus, the hero of Revelation. When that is missing, we miss the whole point of prophecy.

In February 1993, federal agents stormed the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. The cult leader David Koresh believed that he was Jesus Christ and had the power to open the seven seals of the book of Revelation, which would usher in the end of the world. The standoff ended in a terrible fire that cost the lives of many adults and innocent children. As I watched the tragic events unfold on television, I couldn't help thinking how one man could lead so many others to an early grave.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a unique end-time

message for the world, but remember Jesus is at the very center of that message. As I look back over my years in the Adventist Church, I can remember several predictions based on time and events that the end was near. I think the year 2000 was the most recent. Remember that all the computers were supposed to crash, causing great catastrophe and suffering? Needless to say, it didn't happen. But prognosticators have gone back to work because many people are fascinated with the end time more than they are with Jesus.

It's interesting to me that the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a corporate body has never set or endorsed a date for the second coming. Remember 1844 was several years prior to our organization in 1860. Ellen White warned against time setting. Only the Father knows the day and hour of Jesus' coming. My counsel is to live a consistent Christian life every day and be ready for His coming at any time.

Larry Moore



SOUTHWESTERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
the beginning of wisdom

Stepping Stone to Success

LM: The transition from high school to college and life beyond can seem daunting. Many travel across the U.S., and some, like Vesa, across the world, to obtain their education. Thankfully, Southwestern Adventist University is a place where the transition can be made in a Christian environment, with supportive friends and mentors, opportunities for career training, and memories to last a lifetime.

VN: I started my studies at Southwestern in January 1997. Being from Finland, I felt right at home because it was snowing when I came. I didn't know much about Texas and I was actually expecting to come to a warm, sunny place. It was really a big miracle and a blessing that I ended up coming to Southwestern. Now, when I look back at how God led me here, I can only praise Him and His goodness. I have so many good memories from Southwestern. After attending two public colleges in Finland and in Buffalo,



Vesa Naukkarinen 1999
Physical Education

New York, for three years, it was such a blessing to study at a Christian university. The best memories I have are those of making new Christian friends, playing and coaching sports, worship services, professors who made an impact in my life, working summers as a literature evangelist, and meeting my future wife. When I left Texas in 2001 to teach at Columbia Union College, I never imagined that I would move back to Texas and teach at Southwestern. However, after I got an invitation to join the faculty, I thought about all the good memories and positive experiences I had while being a student

here. That was one of the main reasons why I decided to come back. Now, being the chair of the kinesiology department and having taught here for four years, I can say that it was the right decision. When we give our lives to God He has promised to help us with all the decisions we need to make.





CREATION Health

BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN » SOUTHERN UNION HEALTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Christmas at the Moon

Apollo 8 was the first manned spaceflight to leave Earth's orbit; and her three-man crew was the first to voyage back to the Earth from another celestial body, *the Moon*. Apollo 8 entered lunar orbit on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1968. That evening the astronauts showed pictures of the moon during a live television broadcast. Lovell said, "The vast loneliness is awe-inspiring and it makes you realize just what you have back there on Earth."

The crew ended the program by taking turns reading verses from Genesis, chapter one. Lunar Module Pilot William Anders started by saying, "For all the people on Earth, the crew of Apollo 8 has a message we would like to send you." Then he continued by reading, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light' and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness."

Next, Command Module Jim Lovell continued, "And God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.' And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament:

and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day."

Then, Commander Frank Borman read, "And God said, 'Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear,' and it was so. And God called

the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas: and God saw that it was *good*." Borman finished by saying, "And from the crew of Apollo 8, we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas, and God bless all of you—all of you on the *good* Earth."





It was the most watched show in television history as three humble astronauts streamed images to televisions around the world of what Earth looked like from 240,000 miles away, and led an entire planet in remembering its magnificent beginning. I'm so glad the story doesn't end there. Just imagine life on Earth if the Creator had never come back. Our lives would be as barren and bleak as the Moon described by Commander Borman as "a vast, lonely, forbidding expanse of nothing."

The Bible says in John 1:14, "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth," (NIV). One of my colleagues, in commenting on this text, said, "You don't become what you don't love." It was because of Christ's love for us that He became one of us. But He didn't just become one of us, He came from *our* Heavenly Father, full of *grace and truth*. By grace we were created and by grace we have been recreated. Salvation's thread ties our past to our future—a future that is eternal, overflows with loving relationships, and is an inviting expanse of absolutely everything our hearts could ever hope or dream.

A little boy's daddy was a soldier and away at war. During the long years of separation he often gazed at a picture of him on the table. One day his mother overheard him saying, "If only my father could step out of that picture and be real." Jesus stepped out of the starry sky and became real. Why? Because He realized just what He had back here on Earth: you. Christ became one of us so you could become one with Him . . . and experience a *new* beginning.

That's CREATION Health!

Lynell LaMountain, Southern Union health ministries director

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

A Divine Encounter

WHEN MOSES HAD DIED, God gave the troubled Joshua a promise, saying, “The Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest” (Joshua 1:9, KJV). God always brings light and encouragement to those who are struggling. I have found this to be true in my own life. This past summer, I had powerful and difficult experiences while canvassing. Going door to door is no picnic. Sometimes things get rough, discouragement creeps in, and hope sinks beneath the waves. It is the assurance of God’s love alone that keeps the diligent, weary canvasser from deserting the cause.

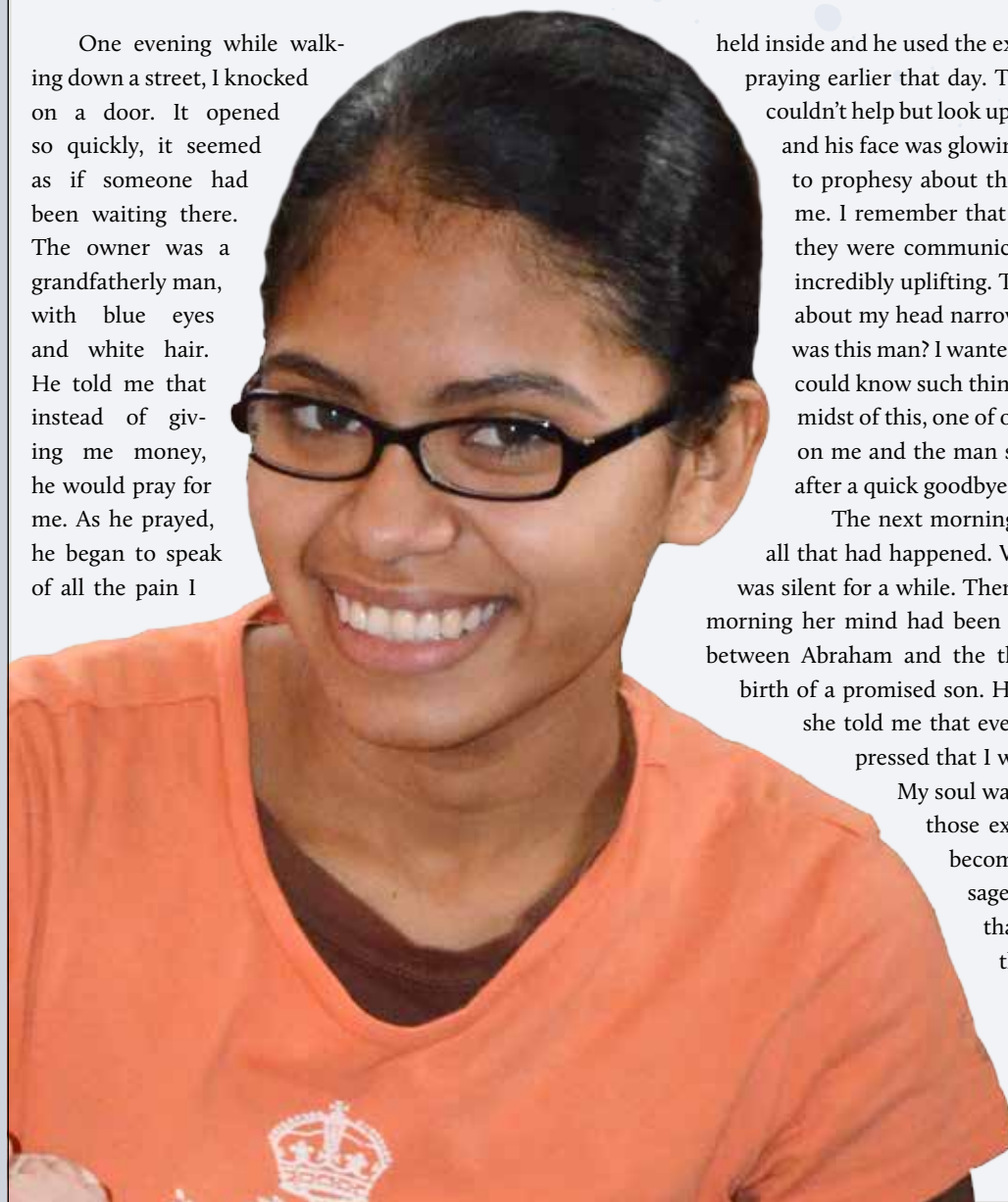
One evening while walking down a street, I knocked on a door. It opened so quickly, it seemed as if someone had been waiting there. The owner was a grandfatherly man, with blue eyes and white hair. He told me that instead of giving me money, he would pray for me. As he prayed, he began to speak of all the pain I

held inside and he used the exact words that I had spoken when praying earlier that day. Tears began to flood my face and I couldn’t help but look up at him. He was looking back at me and his face was glowing with a great intensity. He began to prophesy about the many ways that God would use me. I remember that his eyes captivated my attention; they were communicating a sense of love that was so incredibly uplifting. The whirl of questions that danced about my head narrowed into one single thought. Who was this man? I wanted so desperately to ask him how he could know such things, but my tongue was held. In the midst of this, one of our youth leaders came up to check on me and the man swiftly disappeared into his house after a quick goodbye.

The next morning I called my mother and told her all that had happened. When I had run out of breath, she was silent for a while. Then she related to me that the entire morning her mind had been constantly replaying the meeting between Abraham and the three strangers who heralded the birth of a promised son. Her voice had a subtle shakiness as she told me that even before I had called, she felt impressed that I would speak to her about an angel.

My soul was filled with that awe derivative of those experiences when the sacred world becomes palpable in our lives. The message of that man gave me a strength that kept me throughout the rest of the summer. Wherever I go, I will carry this glimpse of heaven in my heart, remembering the Father who sent it.

Deisha Buffington is a senior at North Dallas Adventist Academy.





Pass it On...

A Monthly Focus on Evangelism in the Southwest

BY LYNNWOOD AND PEGGY SPANGLER

How Does Prophecy Lead Us to Christ?

In February of 1989, I was sleeping soundly at 3:00 a.m. when the voice of our Creator woke me to begin a conversation about my wholeness in Christ. I was an elder in the Willow Brook, Maryland, church and the owner of a flourishing plumbing business with 12 employees and 6 trucks on the road, doing \$500,000 worth of commercial plumbing every year in the Hagerstown, Maryland, area. Within 30 minutes I had to wake my wife, Peggy, to share this amazing experience. Jesus told me to sell it all and go to Bible college to work for Him. This was either a diversion to our successful career or a sincere calling and a prophecy to be fulfilled.

Peggy listened earnestly but reminded me that she had a full schedule of service calls to begin in three hours. Peggy was the first licensed female plumber in the state of Maryland. After four years of night school, she was proud to be carrying her career forward with a great amount of respect. I pushed the issue until two weeks later when she told me that if God told me, then he could tell her, too. She showed me a sealed envelope, inside of which she had placed a list of three things that God had to fulfill if he wanted us to sell out and go. I asked her how long God had to give His answer. She said, "By the time the kids get out of school in June, I will have an answer."



Peggy and Lynnwood Spangler.

I remember riding in my truck thinking, "Okay, Lord, you gave Peggy to me as my life partner. Now this is your problem!" Within five days, I came home and there she was at her desk, crying. God had completed all three items on her list.

In May of 1993, I was finishing my degree in college in order to be a pastor. However, all the resumes that I had sent out came back with the message "God is leading you, but there is no opening here at this time." I thought I was training to be a pastor. Three days before graduation, I received a call from Joe Crews to confirm that I was going to be a prophecy lecturer.

Since then, Peggy and I have conducted 107 prophecy seminars all over the world. In our last five seminars we have seen 125 precious souls give their lives to Christ. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 14:22 "Prophecy is meant, not for unbelievers, but for believers." As I look back on those days and remember how God has led us in the past, it leads me to look forward to what Christ has for the future. I am dependent on Him in every sermon and every new family member I meet from town to town. Jesus gives wisdom and courage to reach out beyond the expected to the unexpected.

Come with me, will you? On the journey of faith we are drawn by His grace today! See you soon!

Lynnwood and Peggy Spangler hold prophecy seminars for churches around the Texas Conference and beyond.



Prosperidad Familiar Con Dios

Yo no sé cómo están las finanzas de tu hogar, lo que sí sé es que la mayoría de las familias tienen problemas cada mes para balancear su presupuesto familiar. Muchos saben cuánto ganan pero no cuánto gastan, porque no tienen un presupuesto mensual. El manejo del dinero es muy importante y delicado, ya que en este país, los Estados Unidos, la razón número uno de los divorcios está relacionada con el dinero. Por eso, si queremos tener finanzas sanas y prosperar económicamente, debemos administrar el dinero por medio de un presupuesto. Si no lo hacemos, formaremos parte de esa mayoría que vive luchando para sobrevivir, lejos de la prosperidad económica.

EL PRESUPUESTO: Es necesario comenzar por definir qué es un presupuesto: “El presupuesto es una manera sabia de indicarle a tu dinero el sitio al que debe ir, para no andar adivinando después cuál fue la ruta que tomó.” Si junto con tu cónyuge elaboran un presupuesto, no estarán como muchas parejas quienes, antes de concluir el mes, ya no tienen dinero para sus gastos, y se preguntan: “¿A dónde se fue todo el dinero que ganamos?”

EL ADMINISTRADOR: Para que un presupuesto familiar funcione, es necesario reconocer que el matrimonio es una sociedad. Si eres casado, tu

salario ya no es tu dinero, sino el dinero es de los dos. Juntos deben decidir cómo lo gastarán. Observen quién de los dos posee virtudes para manejarlo, y que esa persona se encargue de aplicar el presupuesto familiar. Una buena práctica consiste en incluir todas las entradas mensuales y todos los gastos de primera necesidad, y entonces ajustar el presupuesto de manera que los gastos sean menores que las entradas. Con el excedente pueden crear un fondo de emergencias. El ideal es que este fondo de emergencias alcance para los gastos familiares durante seis meses. Esto puede parecer una meta inalcanzable, pero es posible lograrlo. Comiencen a ahorrar lo necesario para un mes, y cuando lo hayan logrado,



suban la meta hasta juntar cubrir seis meses. **GASTOS Y NECESIDADES:** Por lo general, hay confusión entre gustos, lujos, y necesidades. Estas son algunas necesidades: vivienda, comida, ropa y transporte. Si no hay control, los gustos pueden remplazar las necesidades y conducir al endeudamiento. Por ejemplo, una necesidad que se puede tornar en gusto o antojo. Alguien necesita un auto para trasladarse a su lugar de trabajo; eso es una necesidad en este país. Pero si esa persona acude a un concesionario de

autos nuevos y compra un vehículo último modelo y adquiere una enorme deuda, su presupuesto tendrá una carga económica. Lo mejor sería comprar un auto al contado, aunque sea usado. **LAS DEUDAS:** Dios aconseja “No seas de aquellos que se comprometen, ni de los que salen por fiadores de deudas. Si no tuvieses para pagar, ¿por qué han de quitar tu cama de debajo de ti?” (Proverbios 22:26, 27, *Dios Habla Hoy*). Sufrir un embargo produce un serio daño emocional. Se pierde la paz y la felicidad, y en vez de que esas cosas materiales sean motivo de alegría, se tornan en fuente de amargura y pesar. **LA MEJOR SOCIEDAD:** Si queremos prosperar, nos conviene asociarnos con Dios. Jacob, el patriarca hebreo, al enfrentar una crisis hizo un pacto con Dios.

“Si fuere Dios conmigo, y me guardare en este viaje en que voy, y me diere pan para comer y vestido para vestir, y si volviere en paz a casa de mi padre, Jehová será mi Dios. Y esta piedra que he puesto por señal será casa de Dios; y de todo lo que me dieres, el diezmo apartaré para ti” (Génesis 28:20-22). El diezmo es la décima parte del salario o las ganancias, y se entrega a Dios por medio de su iglesia. Como resultado, Jacob superó la crisis y prosperó. La Biblia dice: “De esa manera Jacob se hizo muy rico” (Génesis 30:43). Elaboren un presupuesto, aprendan a vivir dentro de sus límites, hagan sociedad con Dios y, en vez de deudas, tendrán prosperidad.

Eduardo Canales, Vicepresidente y director del ministerio hispano

SIGNS OF HOPE

G. Edward Reid

When we study the Bible's prophecies and the signs Jesus gave to us regarding His second coming and then compare them with current events, we see a hand-in-glove relationship. Christians who are keeping an eye on current events with the perspective of looking for signs of the end have critics who say that we are paranoid, and that we see a "Sunday law" behind every rock and every bush. The fact is, Jesus told us to watch for the signs of His return. In Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21, the gospel writers quote Jesus' recitation of signs we should look for as tokens of His soon return. Luke concludes his list of signs by quoting Jesus as saying, "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near" (Luke 21:28, NKJV).

Most of us are familiar with the signs Jesus gave—wars, natural disasters, famines, pestilences, and other things. It is true that these are not new occurrences. They have all happened in the past, as well. What makes the signs so significant today is that we also recognize that the great prophetic timeline has run its course. We are living in the time of the end and during the anti-typical Day of Atonement—the pre-advent judgment. So the signs that we see now are the real deal! And in order to help us see the events for what they are, they are coming with greater frequency and greater intensity. El-

len White noted: "The great controversy is nearing its end. Every report of calamity by sea or land is a testimony to the fact that the end of all things is at hand. Wars and rumors of wars declare it. Is there a Christian whose pulse does not beat with quickened action as he anticipates the great events opening before us? The Lord is coming. We hear the footsteps of an approaching God" (*Maranatha*, p. 220).

The Scriptures also tell that in the last days—just before Jesus returns—the level of wickedness among men would increase. As

with the other signs that are mentioned above, wickedness has been a part of man's fallen condition. But in the last days wickedness intensifies as many move farther away from God.

In Paul's second letter to Timothy, he described how men would be living in the last days. "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come. For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money,

boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away" (2 Timothy 3:1-5). Paul lists here a total of 19 negative character qualities of men living right near the end of time. All are evident in our society

today. We will take the time and space to address just eight of them in this short article.

In the last days men will be:

Lovers of themselves. Instead of the Christ-like quality of living an unselfish life and focusing on serving others, many today are selfish, self-centered, and care little about others.

Lovers of money. Today people are stealing the identities of others—cleaning out their bank accounts and ruining their lives. Others spend and spend until they are faced with a mountain of debt. On the hour every day the movements of the stock market are featured so that people can see how their investments are doing. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. Professional athletes and actors are paid millions while law enforcement workers and teachers can barely make

"As we near the close of this world's history, the prophecies relating to the last days especially demand our study"

(Christ's Object Lessons, p. 133).



Matthew 24:7 speaks of pestilences (devasting diseases) as one of the signs of the last days. In Gbarnga, the capital city of Bong County in Liberia, there is no urban electricity line, no sanitation, or asphalt roads. In 2014, this area was strongly affected by the Ebola epidemic that spanned several West African countries, the most severe outbreak of the Ebola virus in history.

ends meet.

Without self-control. The Greek meaning says “without natural feeling.” This goes well beyond sexual mores and centers on parental love for children and normal family relationships. It is not uncommon today to learn that parents have either abandoned their children or actually taken their lives. Innocent children are frequently tortured or killed by those who should care the most for them.

Brutal. This characteristic is out of harmony with all acceptable social standards, but is common in today’s world. Innocent aid workers are being beheaded. Even in warfare some things are just ruled out by the Geneva Convention. Even domestically, law enforcement officers are frequently quoted as saying that certain murders are so grotesque that they have never seen anything like it before.

Despisers of good. Today the liberal media and the vocal minority make fun of and marginalize anyone who attempts to uphold Biblical standards and abide by the laws of God. Christians are called bigots or myopic. Even professionally, those who hold to the biblical account of Creation are ridiculed. In some countries, Christians are being driven from their homes or killed.

Traitors. Citizens of many Western nations, who have been nurtured, supported, and educated by these countries, are now joining forces to fight with the enemies of those nations.

Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. Sports franchises bring in millions of fans to events and earn billions of dollars in the pursuit of pleasure. Thousands crowd into the stadiums while church attendance dwindles.

Having a form of godliness but denying its power. Many in the

Why God Uses Prophets

Down through the ages God has used prophets to speak messages of importance regarding past, present, and future events to His people in every generation, including the generation in which we now live. Following are eight reasons why God uses prophets to communicate with His people:

1. The gift of prophecy was used to prepare the way for Christ’s first advent.
2. Prophets stood before the people as representatives of the Lord. Their very presence showed the people that God was sufficiently interested in them and close enough to them to choose men from among them to represent Him.
3. Prophets kept men constantly aware of God’s instruction to them.
4. Through the prophets God could maintain direct connection with the people without talking with them face to face.
5. It was essential that the people should have before them a demonstration of what fellowship with God could accomplish in a human life.
6. The presence of the prophets tested people’s attitude toward God.
7. Prophets assisted in the plan of salvation, for God has consistently used a combination of the human and the divine as His most effective means for reaching men.
8. As God worked through the prophets, He had in mind a broad plan, which included the preparation of a written record that He would put into the hands of all men. A consistent cumulative record, a product of human effort under divine guidance, was intended to wield a constant influence and give a sense of continuity and unity in the working out of the plan of salvation. The outstanding product of the ministry of the prophets is the Bible.

—Adapted from *A Prophet Among You* by T. Housel Jemison

Christian community today are willing to take the free breakfast, the babysitting, the music, and the gymnasium, but do not experience the life-changing power of God in their daily experience. At the same time, very few are eagerly waiting for the Second Coming of Jesus in the clouds of heaven and preparing themselves by God’s grace to be fit to dwell in the presence of holy beings in heaven.

Signs of Hope

It should be comforting to each of us that the current state of society and the conditions of the natural world that bring fear and confusion to others are the signs of the soon coming of Jesus. “A little longer, and we shall see the King in His beauty. A little longer, and He will wipe all tears from our eyes. A little longer, and He will present us ‘faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy’ Jude 24” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 632).

G. Edward Reid, retired stewardship director for the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, is author of several books, including *Sunday’s Coming, Ready or Not, and Even at the Door*.

Why God Gave the Prophecies

- “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope” (Romans 15:4).
- “Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets” (Amos 3:7).
- “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law” (Deuteronomy 29:29).
- “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw” (Revelation 1:1, 2).

LANDMARKS OF PROPHECY

Sue Hinkle, Texico communication director



A steady stream of people flowed into the Marriott Pyramid Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as people from many different states, backgrounds and religions were eager to hear Doug Batchelor, president of Amazing Facts, speak about Bible prophecy in his Landmarks of Prophecy series. Not only were people excited to be in attendance, but thousands tuned in on the Internet to be a part of this important and timely event.



Not just Seventh-day Adventists are interested in Bible prophecy and last-day events, but more and more people sense that our world seems to be in a downward spiral. Many are wondering what the future holds for them and this planet.

Before the meetings began, I was able to get more acquainted with Pastor Doug and ask him a few questions about the Landmarks of Prophecy series. Continue to “listen in” on the conversation:

Question: *Pastor Doug, why are you so passionate about preaching on the topic of Bible prophecy?*

Pastor Doug: I’m passionate about prophecy because I’m passionate about Jesus. I believe all prophecy points us to Christ and His redemption in our lives. Ever since I read *The Great Controversy*, the life-changing message of prophecy has always stirred deeply in my heart.

Question: *How many prophecy seminars have you given throughout the course of your ministry and how often do you hold these meetings?*

Pastor Doug: Too many to count! I’ve been doing them for more than 30 years. At Amazing Facts, we wait on the Lord when deciding to do these full-scale meetings. Is there interest and urgency? Many times, churches and conferences ask us to present a series, and we do all we can to accommodate these requests. We pray daily at Amazing Facts for direction on how to share the Bible with the world.

Question: *Why did you choose Albuquerque for holding the Landmarks of Prophecy meetings?*

Pastor Doug: The church in New Mexico brought this idea to Amazing Facts. We prayed for the Lord’s answer and believe He gave us a resounding yes. We’ve never had a major outreach event in New Mexico, and the leadership and laity have shown a real passion for souls. It’s been a pleasure working with them, and we feel Landmarks of Prophecy is the right investment of the gifts we’ve received from our supporters.

Question: *What is your hope and vision for these meetings in Albuquerque and for the people who attend them?*



Pastor Doug: My main purpose with every message is to draw people to a real, genuine, saving relationship with Jesus. The kingdom of heaven begins the day a person accepts Christ in their lives. They don't have to wait for heaven to experience a life without hurting God and hurting others and to experience a life with total peace and purpose. No. That process can begin to today. So my hope is that every message reveals the goodness and peace of Jesus, otherwise there is very little point. We can work with the Lord to free people from a hopeless end and show them how to find endless hope. Whether only a handful of people watch or millions upon millions, my vision is that we present a message that honors God and represents Him rightly. What He does with the results in the hearts of viewers is up to Him.

Question: *Could you explain what Landmarks of Prophecy is all about?*

Pastor Doug: Landmarks of Prophecy is all about introducing the real message of scripture to both Christians and skeptics alike. I believe there is a lot of misinformation about the Bible and prophecy circulating among our culture and churches, misrepresenting the character of God and the love of the Savior. Landmarks of Prophecy speaks to the amazing time prophecies of the Bible, but also to the events of the last days just around the corner. We want to help people by telling them the truth when it matters most—so we'll talk about salvation, the Sabbath, death, and the afterlife, the mark of the beast, last-day events, and much more. We'll cover all these topics in a logical, step-by-step way that will open eyes and hearts for Christ.

Question: *You mentioned that the events of the last days are just around the corner. Can you elaborate on your view of where we are in the prophetic timeline?*

Pastor Doug: I believe we're at the door, in all honesty. With how quickly world crises are escalating and the speed at which culture is adopting unbiblical practices, I can't imagine we have much more time to go on the prophetic clock. Of course, we don't know the day or the hour, and we don't claim to know. But Jesus says we can know that His coming is near, just as a pregnant woman knows her child is about to be born when she experiences labor pains. I believe the contractions of prophecy are very close together—so we must do all we can to warn the world.

Question: *People have so many mistaken ideas about prophecy. How do you dispel the myths and help your listeners to gain a clearer understanding of prophecy?*

Pastor Doug: I agree. Our culture is inundated with misconceptions about prophecy and the Bible as a whole. It truly breaks my heart! The only way to properly guide people into truth is to show them scripture. Landmarks of Prophecy will take each topic and gently lead viewers, step by step, into a revelation of truth. It's my job to make the Bible, not me, the central component of these lessons. So in *Landmarks*, you'll see a heavy reliance on scripture—I won't be standing up there without an open Bible. But that's not the end of it. The fact is, every listener needs prayer. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to touch the hearts of our audience, to open their eyes. I could present the most convincing truths, but without His Holy Spirit, the truth won't convict. I hope every church member in New Mexico and every person who watches will be praying that lives will be touched. God can do an incredible work if we invite Him into our efforts, letting Him lead the way.

Question: *We are really excited to have these important meetings in Albuquerque. Can you share with me how people who are not in the Albuquerque area can benefit from these meetings too?*

Pastor Doug: Absolutely. We're approaching Landmarks of Prophecy much differently than we've approached satellite series in the past. We're making it possible for churches, homes, and individuals all across the world to watch however they want to watch it—whether on their TV through 3ABN or AFTV, or on their computers, tablets, or smartphones on YouTube or AFTV.org. You don't need expensive satellite equipment to receive the signal—all you need is an Internet connection and a projector. And because we're archiving each program, churches are free to run their Landmarks of Prophecy programs when it best suits them.



Thank you, Pastor Doug, for taking the time to answer my questions. As we are just now in the first week of this wonderful series, already we see God moving on the hearts of so many people. The first two nights resulted in a registration of more than 1,000 people, which includes more than 500 people who are not members of the Adventist Church. Thousands have been watching online around the world. An Apostolic church in India and Anglican Diocese in Ghana, Africa, have preregistered to host a site in their churches, as well as unnumbered Adventist churches, families, and

individuals all over the world that are showing and watching the series. What the results will be only God knows. (Stay tuned for a Landmarks of Prophecy update in the “Texico” section of a future issue of the *Record*.)

At this time in history, more than ever, we need to boldly proclaim the love of Christ and the important truths that we hold dear. Let’s share the messages of prophecy that we have been privileged to receive so the people of this dark world will receive the Light.

Landmarks of Prophecy Impacts Lives

Naomi was new in town. She had moved to Albuquerque two months before the meetings began and was living with some friends. Her friends had received two Landmarks of Prophecy handbills in the mail, but said they weren’t interested in going. When Naomi saw the advertisement, however, she decided to go. Her friends discouraged her from going, but Naomi was determined. Not having any transportation to get there, she took the handbill and headed to the bus stop. She inquired of the bus driver how to get to the address listed on the paper and he explained what bus to get on and where to change buses to get there.

Naomi made it to the “Landmarks” meeting the first night and sat by herself. Seeing her sitting alone, one of the Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism (AFCOE) students, Isabelle Clemmerson, sat down beside her and talked with her. After hearing her difficulty in getting to the meetings, Isabelle offered to give her a ride to and from the meetings. Naomi’s friends were very impressed that someone would be willing to give her a ride.

Naomi was so excited about the messages she heard from night to night that she asked if she could have more of the handbills to invite others to come and hear too.

Destiny received something in the mail offering a free DVD about the end times, so she sent in the response card. AFCOE students Michelle and Lisa went to Destiny’s house to personally deliver the DVD and also gave her an invitation to the Landmarks of Prophecy series. Destiny really wanted to go, but she didn’t have transportation. So she was very excited when Michelle told her she would be willing to pick her up. Destiny explained that she had been attending another religious meeting, but thought the “Landmarks” series was more important because she was learning so much from the Bible there.

Tobacco has been a real struggle for Destiny, and says she was convinced more than 10 years ago that she needed to give up her smoking habit of one and a half packs of cigarettes a day. After coming to the meetings and having people praying for her, she says God is giving her the victory.

Dawn has been doing Bible studies with Amazing Facts for about nine years. She happened upon Doug Batchelor and Amazing Facts on television and really enjoyed his clear teaching from the Bible. She began checking on different channels trying to find more of his programs and subsequently learned about the Sabbath and was convicted to keep it. During this time, however, she was baptized into another

faith group. One day while she was in a chat room online with some fellow church members Dawn asked, “Who changed God’s Sabbath?” Someone responded that Jesus did. Dawn replied, “No, He did not change it.” Immediately Dawn began looking for a church that keeps the Sabbath. Dawn stopped working on Sabbath and tried to keep it in the best way she knew how.

Dawn began having such a burden for others to know God’s truth that she wrote a letter to a well-known Christian speaker and asked her to come to Albuquerque and tell people about Jesus, adding, “New Mexico needs Jesus.” She received a letter back telling her she was living in fear. About a week later, two AFCOE students, Michelle Mendoza and Lisa Fuatavai, knocked on Dawn’s door and said they were with Amazing Facts. She couldn’t believe it! Dawn said God sent Amazing Facts to Albuquerque in answer to her prayers to tell the city the truth from God’s Word.

Dawn is so thankful to God for delivering her from drugs and alcohol and how He has healed her from different illnesses, including a five-year period of being bedridden. Dawn says through her tears that she is happy to know God and learn more about Him, and she has decided to become a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



From left: Michelle Mendoza, AFCOE student; Destiny, an Amazing Facts Bible student who attended the Landmarks of Prophecy meetings; and Lisa Fuatavai, AFCOE student.

THEN SHALL THE END COME!

“Matthew 24:14”

Duane McKey, vice president, evangelism, Southwestern Union Conference

In the Bible Jesus gave many prophetic signs to indicate that His coming is near, many of which we see happening in the world around us today. The last and greatest of all the signs that Jesus gave, however, is that the gospel would be taken to all the world. In Matthew 24:14 Jesus said, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world, as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come” (NKJV). How exciting that all around the world, including the Southwestern Union, this prophecy is being fulfilled, with the gospel being proclaimed through a variety of evangelistic endeavors conducted by ministers and lay people alike. The gospel message is being spread through every means possible, including radio, television, the Internet, as well as in homes and in public venues.

The front of the church in Hot Springs, Arkansas, was full as 30 precious people made their decision to

follow Jesus. Pastor Ron Ray said to Steve Orian, Arkansas-Louisiana Conference president, “This is more exciting than the Philippines!”

Ray had recently returned from the Philippines where 10,000 were baptized in Hope Manila 2014 I Care with Ted Wilson, General Conference president, and Dan Jackson, North American



Pastor Ron Ray baptizes Penny Webster as her husband, Steve Webster, looks on.

Division president. While it was exciting to be part of such a dramatic event, for Ray it was even more exciting to see it happen in his very own church.

Remember Jesus' words, “And this Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world . . . then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14, NKJV). Manila and Hot Springs are both a part of “all the world.” Ellen White spoke of the importance of locations both far and near when she said “the prosperity of the home work depends largely, under God, upon the reflex influence of the evangelical work done in countries afar off” (*Christian Service*, p. 170).

Simply stated, as we worked in Manila, the “afar off” world field, we were blessed in Hot Springs, our homeland. Yes, blessed we have been. Many from the Southwestern Union went to Africa last year to conduct ShareHim meetings. Eddie Canales, Hispanic ministries director for the Southwestern Union, has directed meetings in Cuba this year. Leaders and laypersons joined together in Manila in April of this year. Then, we were blessed back home all across the Southwestern Union. Multiple meetings have been held in the Arkansas-Louisiana, Texico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Southwest Region Conferences. The Southwestern Union officers have been heavily involved. Larry Moore, Southwestern Union president, held meetings in Texarkana; Buford Griffith, Southwestern Union executive secretary, held meetings in Little Rock, Arkansas; Eddie Canales, Southwestern Union vice president for multicultural ministries, held meetings in Fort Smith, Arkansas; and Duane McKey, Southwestern Union vice president, led out in the Hot Springs meetings. All officers from the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference took time to hold meetings, as well.

In October, wonderful meetings were happening on the Navajo Reservation in Gallup, New Mexico, where 20 were baptized, and 30 individuals were just baptized into the San Antonio Scenic Hills church.

In addition to all that has occurred in the past year in terms of evangelism, several unique events will be taking place in San Antonio, the seventh largest U.S. city, in the next few months before our General Conference Session. In January and February of 2015, 15 meetings, organized by the Texas and Southwest Region conferences, will be held in our Spanish-speaking churches.

In March, 130 “Homes of Hope” will be organized by Dan Serns



From left: Kathy McKey, Kelli Campbell, and Duane McKey.

of the Texas Conference, where communities will be blessed by our young people through prayer and community service projects. Let me tell you about what is going to happen on April 8-11. Our first ever Your Best Pathway to Health project will be held in the Alamodome in partnership with the mayor’s office in the city of San Antonio, where over 6,000 underserved will be treated medically free of charge, including dental and eye care. Can you imagine 6,000 extremely special people will receive free health care given by 1,500 volunteers from all across the U.S. After the health event, which will be directed by Dr. Lela Lewis from ASI, the 6,000 will be invited to attend seminars on nutrition, depression recovery, Creation Health, and reducing diabetes at our local churches all across San Antonio. By the way, if you know of physicians, dentists, and eye doctors, please have them visit www.yourbestpathwaytohealth.com. Their help is needed. All these projects will climax with evangelistic reaping meetings to be held by Jose Rojas, Carlton Byrd, Mark Finley, Ted Wilson, and Alexander Bullion, which will end just before our General Conference Session that begins July 2.

Please pray with me as this gospel of the kingdom is preached all across the southwest and all around the world, that Jesus will come as He has promised in Matthew 24:14.



Eddie Canales presents an evangelistic seminar.



A Window to the Past, Present, and Future



ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

When the word “prophecy” is mentioned, most people immediately think of some aspect of predicting the future. The general understanding is that prophecy puts a magnifying glass on future events. However, a closer examination of prophecy as it is used in scripture indicates that prophecy is just as much about the past and the present as it is about the future.

It was through the prophetic gift that Moses wrote the book of Genesis and gave us the creation story. By that time the earth was already about 2,500 years old. So when Moses gave the day-by-day description of what happened and the detailed picture of the creation of Adam and Eve, he could only do that because he was under the influence of the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit’s gift of prophecy, Moses

could *look back* in time some 2,500 years just as some time later the prophet Daniel would *look forward* approximately 2,400 years from his day to foretell the beginning of the investigative judgment!

It is critical to understand that God wants us to have a clear understanding of our origin. In a world that is focused on an understanding of evolution as a theory that is totally void of a Creator, through the gift of prophecy, the curtain of time is pulled back and we get to see a picture of a literal seven-day creation by God. I could no more know about God’s creative activity than I could know about the second coming of Jesus if it were not for the gift of prophecy.

I love to read and study what God has to say to us about future events. All fulfilled prophecy gives us the assurance that what

has not yet been fulfilled will yet take place. God has a 100 percent accuracy track record! Yet to a great degree, the confidence that I have in the fulfillment of future prophesied events is grounded upon a foundation of a proper understanding of the past. Understanding who I am in the context of creation and the great controversy between Christ and Satan becomes the bedrock of my finding meaning and relevance to my life today. Understanding my past gives me a proper framework for life today and a context in which I can begin to wrap my mind around what God is holding for me tomorrow. Thus, prophecy is God’s window to the past, present, as well as the future.

Stephen Orian, president

Baton Rouge Church Wears “Walking With Jesus” Shoes

BATON ROUGE, LA. » Mike Martinez, pastor of the Baton Rouge church, challenged church members to wear their “walking with Jesus shoes” for some Sabbath afternoon outreach on June 14, 2014. More than 35 individuals showed up to go out wearing their “walking with Jesus shoes.” We spent a little time in the fellowship hall preparing peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, bananas, and watermelon for the homeless,

then we split into three different groups to go into the community. One group passed out literature, one group went to visit the sick and shut-ins, and one group went to feed the homeless. What a wonderful Sabbath it turned out to be! We would like to challenge you to put on your “walking with Jesus shoes” and see where they will lead you!

Myrtle Green



Baton Rouge church members put on their “walking with Jesus shoes” to engage in Sabbath afternoon outreach activities, including preparing and delivering food to homeless people, visiting shut-ins, and passing out literature.



Ozark Adventist Academy Assisting Others

GENTRY, ARK. » The assist program at Ozark Adventist Academy is about serving God while helping others. I have been so blessed to daily work with the assist program during this past summer. The young people earn money towards their school bill at OAA while serving the elderly and the disabled in the community. I am in awe of the students' love for the clients, the camaraderie of team members, and their love for Jesus Christ. They work on an hourly rotation every day of the week, helping

in our community. We visit shut-ins and elderly people, pray with them, cook for them, and do yard work or whatever they need.

The student workers give 100 percent to their job and have developed some very good multigenerational relationships. One of the ladies we visit has played her harmonica for us and has shared many stories of her life. The joy she radiates from being able to share her life with us is awesome. The students can't wait to see her twice a week. It is so nice to see the smiling faces waiting for

us as we drive up to their homes. One of our new friends was once an elder in the Gentry church. He and his wife had eight kids that they put through Ozark Adventist Academy. He even tells us stories of the days when gas was \$.08 per gallon. The students have learned a lot from these clients.

Throughout the summer, we have had 10-12 students working in the program. We are hoping to be extremely successful during the 2014-2015 school year. We are seeking prayer, financial support, and ideas for our program. We would like to help more people and are very grateful for the supporters we already have. Please contact Ozark Adventist Academy with any dona-

tions or kind words. If you would like a glimpse of the service, come join us for a new vision.

Julie Karkula



▲ OAA students work hard for others.

Top right: Visiting shut-ins and nursing homes brighten the day.

► Students learn as they work.

Ultimate Workout Mission Trip

BONNERDALE, ARK. » Ultimate Workout Mission Trips are organized by Maranatha Volunteers International for high school teenagers. It is a grueling two weeks of work in different locations of the world, but truly the mission trip of a lifetime for young people. For four years, Brandon Westgate, pastor, has been a part of the staff in these adventures. This summer, Westgate invited a young man, Victor Li Mandri, who had been studying with him and attending the Bonnerdale church, to be part of the staff. This is his story.

For the first 14 days of July 2014, I had the honor of being busy, exhausted, and sweaty. These qualities may not seem like privileges, however, they are—when one is working for God. I had the opportunity to serve in Barahona, Dominican Republic, with more than three hundred volunteers—a potpourri of personalities, ages, backgrounds, and denominations. We all met in the Caribbean for one mission—to serve God.

With so many volunteers, organization was essential to accomplish all the projects: Vacation Bible Schools, home renovations, medical clinics, and the construction of school classrooms and two churches at different locations within Barahona. Also, there was the cooking crew that served all the volunteers and staff much-appreciated nourishment. We were building school



Victor Li Mandri in front of the mission tour bus.

classrooms at the construction site and I was asked to be a team leader.

I had never been a leader of anyone or anything, so when told of my responsibility, I was very nervous. Not because of timidity, but because I wanted to be an effective guide to the young men assigned to my group, and to be a Christian role model. We were so busy during the trip that I am not sure just how much influence I gave, but I could see them grow spiritually from their duties at the project sites and actively worshipping in the mornings and evenings.

At the permanent camping site we con-

structed school classrooms. I worked filtering sand, filling and lifting heavy buckets, preparing mortar (or *mezcla*) and cement, distributing the *mezcla* and cement to those laborious and steadfast stewards laying brick, and diligently washing the clay from the equipment each day, so that it might become filthy again.

My most memorable moment was from three local fellows I befriended. We mainly spoke Spanish to each other, but, occasionally they would practice their English with me. Each of these guys asked me the same question (in Spanish): Could you give me a Bible in English? Thankfully, I was able to give each of them their own Bible in English. Afterwards, I realized how blessed we are to have several Bibles in our homes. To some, the ownership of a Bible becomes a simple amenity, even though the neglected Bibles are collecting dust rather than being absorbed.

I thank God for the opportunity He provided to have served on this mission trip for Him. This was my first mission trip, and I pray that I may go on many more. No matter the location or the task, working for God changes perspectives. I understand that making disciples requires prayer, study, and service—together, this is the ultimate workout. Maranatha!

Victor Li Mandri

Lake Charles Women's Ministries Project

LAKE CHARLES, LA. » As one of the Lake Charles church's women's ministries department's annual projects, the women chose to collect and make hygiene packs for the Oasis Women's Shelter. The Oasis Women's Shelter is a home for battered and abused women and their children in the area. Twenty-nine hygiene packs with *Steps to Christ* in each one were delivered. We ask God's blessings on the families that are sheltered there and on our ministry as women in our church. We know we are so blessed!

Margaret M. Jackson



Joann Benoit, Cheryl Janise, Ruth Fontenat, Margaret M. Jackson, Corina Munteanu work on the hygiene packs for the Oasis Women's Shelter.

Bible Prophecy Gives Us Confidence



I would like to say that I was seeking God, but it would be more correct to say that God was seeking me. After My initial contact with a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, I began to attend Sabbath services and very gradually the Lord put a desire in my heart to understand something about the Bible.

My friend signed me up for a Bible correspondence course, and I cautiously opened the first lesson. It was a study on Daniel 2. My first encounter with Bible prophecy left me amazed that the history of the world

from Daniel's time to the Second Coming could be predicted and fulfilled with such detail and accuracy. It was not difficult for me to understand that only God could do that.

The study of Bible prophecy gives me confidence that God is in control, not only of the events of history but, of my life, as well. Jesus said: "Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am He" (John 13:19, KJV). The religious leaders in the gospel stories made an intense study of the prophecies, not to establish God's credibility but to reenforce

their exclusive position as His chosen people. When events did not transpire according to their interpretation, they were disappointed and rejected the Messiah.

In these last days in which we live, let us be confident that God is in control and He knows just what He is doing. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5, 6, KJV).

John Moyer, president

News From the Wagoner Church

WAGONER » The geographic borders for the Wagoner church district have changed and consequently, the congregation has a new pastor, Perry Flerchinger, who is often affectionately referred to by the members

as "Pastor Perry." We are excited about our new sister church in Muskogee, which has a new school and an active Pathfinder group.

The Muskogee and Wagoner churches recently teamed up to conduct a two-day prophecy seminar in Wagoner at the local civic center. Following the seminar, 5,000 Bible study cards were

sent out to the Wagoner area. Pastor Perry is taking an active role in these evangelistic efforts and the church anticipates a fruitful return.

A men's breakfast will continue each quarter to help promote new ideas and unity among the congregations. Wagoner held a church service by the lake to kick off this new friendship and the conference's

new executive secretary, Rick Dye, spoke, centering his sermon on successful Christian living at the individual, church, and district levels. We ask for your prayers for our small church here in Wagoner, as well as for our conference leadership.

Jack Harris



Wagoner and Muskogee church members enjoyed a church service by the lake to celebrate the formation of the two churches into one district.

Fall Into Fitness Day

BRISTOW » Hafer Field in Bristow has become the choice location for the Oklahoma Pathfinder/Adventurer Fall Into Fitness Day. On October 19 the Bristow High School football field buzzed with activity as the sit-ups, pull-ups, and push-ups were counted in all areas of the field. Cheers of success followed runners as they completed quarter-mile to full-mile runs! Grunts were heard from those stretching farther than they thought possible or even wanted. It certainly was a day of challenge and victory! Twenty-five clubs were in attendance, with 423 people registered and 512 people total on the grounds! What an exciting day!

But something extra special happened in the early morning on the Hafer Field to open the activities. For the first time in the

Oklahoma Pathfinder/Adventurer Ministries, a ceremony created by Johnny Flores was conducted for “the changing of the guard” with area coordinators. Area coordinator Joy Davidson stepped down from her many, many years of service as area coordinator to pick up a new position in educational planning with the new Pathfinder program. Joy Davidson passed the torch to Glenda Sweezy for the Tulsa and Northeast Oklahoma area. Johnny Flores also stepped down after serving many, many years as an area coordinator, handing his OKC area and position to Don Adams, M.D. Johnny Flores will now work with the TLT program and act as the activities director for this ministry.

Concluding the ceremonial “changing of the guard,” youth director “Apple” Park

hung the golden cords on the shoulders of the new area coordinators, adding a blessing to the Pathfinder/Adventurer ministries with the induction of Paula Mitchell from the Norman church as an Adventurer area coordinator for the southern part of Oklahoma.

God has richly blessed the Oklahoma Conference with wonderful service-oriented people who love their young people. Everyone is watching to see the greater blessings God has for this part of the YPAC ministries.

Apple Park, youth ministries director

Kids doing arm hangs on Fall Into Fitness Day in Bristow.



God's Diamonds Oklahoma Conference Outdoor School 2014

OKLAHOMA CITY » What is more fun than learning in the outdoors? Nothing! At least, that's the thought from Oklahoma students who attend Outdoor School every year.

This year Jack Francisco, education superintendent (aka Pastor Jack), took grades 3-6 to the southeast part of the state to Beavers Bend State Park. It is such a beautiful state park, but the group didn't stay only in that area. Elephants, diamonds, graveyards, and historical towns were also on the agenda!

The children had the privilege of visiting Old Washington Historic State Park in Arkansas, which houses a tree that was on one of the space flights for NASA. It's been to space and is still growing! The town is also where the Bowie knife was created at the request of David Bowie when he was on his way to the Alamo.

Whoever thought walking through a cemetery could be an exciting journey? Mount Olivet Cemetery in Hugo, Oklahoma, was amazing with the headstones shaped like circus tents, ringmasters, and other great designs. This cemetery holds the graves of many of the former clowns, trapeze artists, and others from about five different circuses. Lane Frost, his friend and mentor, Freckles Brown, and Todd Whatley are all World Champion Bull Riders buried in this cemetery.

Down the road and around a corner is The Endangered Ark Foundation, the winter home of the Carson & Barnes and the Miller family's circus elephants. It is also a retirement home for many of the elephants that have had to retire. Amazingly, the first owners of this facility bought elephants for the circus and named each one after a family member throughout the years. They must have run out of family because the three-year-old baby Asian elephant

on the property is named Hugo, after the town that houses him. After feeding, educating, watching outdoor baths, and touring the grounds, the children returned to their camping grounds to play a few games before supper.

Last but not least was the trip to dig for diamonds at the Crater of Diamonds State Park in Arkansas. That's right! Diamonds! The day before Oklahoma students arrived, five people found diamonds worth significant value. Walking, digging, and screening are three ways diamonds can be discovered, and all were happening for several hours. Diamonds? That was the word excitedly exclaimed many times throughout the fields, but jasper, mica, and quartz were big on our lists of "diamonds." Sad to say, the diamonds you have to dig for were left in the fields for another day, but we saw an entire field full of God's "diamonds" running around all afternoon!

God is so great! Creation was when the gems were laying upon the land in abundance, and Creation was when animals were created. Thank you, God! The greatest blessing of the week-long Outdoor School was the worship each evening, with the last evening devoted to children surrendering their lives to their Creator. It was an intense and beautiful with the week's camp pastors Perry Flerchinger and James Shires praying with each of them.

What is more fun than learning outside of the classroom in the outdoors? *Nothing!*

Annette Park



This year's Outdoor School for Oklahoma students took them to historic sites in southeast Oklahoma and western Arkansas. The children had fun learning about many facets of God's creation.

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE

Shiloh Student Attends Leadership Forum in Washington D.C.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. » Daniel Usoroh, a seventh-grade student at Shiloh Adventist School, was selected by the principal as one of the outstanding students to represent the school as a "People to People" leadership ambassador. Daniel was placed in the People to People Ambassador Program (2013-2014) and on September 26-29, 2014, Daniel took a flight with the help of his parents, Rebecca Bennett and Isaac Usoroh, to Washington, D.C., where he attended the 2014 world leadership forum.

Daniel had the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with other young leaders from across the country and all around the world. As a matter of fact, there were leadership ambassadors from 46 countries! These individuals gained confidence, lifelong friendships, and a global perspective that is so essential in today's competitive world. Some of the distinct hands-on and behind-the-scenes moments that they had the opportunity to experience included:

hearing an Air Force One pilot talk about his experiences and the leadership traits that helped him achieve his goals; exploring the Smithsonian National Museum of American History and seeing our country's most important treasures; participating in

a community service project with new friends from around the globe; visiting the site of the Battle of Gettysburg to gain firsthand insights into the American Civil War; and examining the leadership styles of prominent historical figures and visiting national monuments and memorials.

Our school is very proud of Daniel Usoroh and his accomplishments! Daniel brought back several pictures of his visit, one of which is the monument of Martin Luther King, Jr.



Daniel Usoroh recently represented his school, Shiloh Adventist School, on a trip to Washington, D.C.

SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

**Young Adult
Ski Trip**

Taos, New Mexico * February 5-8, 2015

**Register now!
Space is limited!**

Contact:
Suzanna Facundo
@ 817.295.0476 for more information

www.SouthwesternAdventist.org/youth

Shiloh Church Holds Crusade

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. » As part of the Impact Ark-La for Christ evangelistic outreach, the Shiloh church was home to a wonderful “His Way of Hope” Bible prophecy seminar from September 20 to October 11.

Buford Griffith, Jr., Southwestern Union executive secretary and family ministries director, shared the Word of God in a clear, powerful, passionate, and life-changing manner night after night. A large number of church members attended the series and nearly everyone brought someone to at least one meeting. Many invited and brought their friends and relatives to several meetings.

Griffith came to the church a few weeks before the meetings and inspired the church to action. Church members worked faithfully in committees that focused on prayer,

correspondence, security, telephone, Bible working, finances, bring-a-guest, music, youth enrichment, nursery, ushers, hosts, advertisement, transportation, and medical/health. There were at least 16 church members on the Bible work team. The crusade may be over, but that team continues to work with various crusade visitors who have started and are excited about completing their Bible studies.

Many church members were blessed and refreshed by the preaching of God’s Word, felt the joy and peace that comes from serving God, and experienced spiritual growth.

It was evident that the Holy Spirit was at work from the first day until the last. The first Sabbath morning, a woman came to the church and said she couldn’t wait for the first night’s meeting. After hearing the announcement on the radio, she was so elated that she had to come right away to the worship service to reconnect with the church she had attended years ago. Family members, co-workers, missing members,

and community neighbors responded to the invitation to come out via word-of-mouth, radio, and handbills. Some visitors



The Shiloh church in Little Rock recently hosted the “His Way of Hope” Bible Prophecy Seminar during which Buford Griffith, Southwestern Union executive secretary (pictured top right), presented and 12 baptisms resulted.

had almost perfect attendance, missing only one or two nights of the 16-night series. Twelve people were baptized on the last day of the series, October 11. The whole church praised God and fellowshiped together on that special Sabbath day with more than 180 people in attendance.

Not only were the church members who attended revived, but many who came from the community are continuing to learn more about Bible truths, prophecy, the health message, and Seventh-day Adventists. There was a 24-hour prayer committee, which had someone constantly

praying for the meetings, a different person every hour. Several of those team members are continuing their prayer vigil. Won’t you join them as they pray for more fruit for God’s kingdom from seeds planted during this crusade, the newly baptized members, the church, the community, and the times in which we live?

Carmen Rhodes

SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

Hebron Stars Basketball Team

HOUSTON, TEX. » What happens when your son's friends are constantly at your house and you want to find a positive way to keep them occupied? You start a basketball team! Nicole Powell, choir director at Hebron church coordinated with Tristen Birl and Frank Harris to start a basketball team of up

to 25 young men from her neighborhood and the church's neighborhood. The Hebron Stars practice together every week and play other area churches every Saturday night. The boys are taught more than basketball skills—they are learning teamwork, respect for themselves and others, and most importantly, they are learning the Word of God. Some of these young

men come from single-parent homes where there is no strong male presence and they look forward to interacting with their "brothers" on the team, and their "father-figure" coaches. The coaches have committed their time and money to helping train, transport, and feed these young men multiple times per week. Their commitment to the team goes way beyond basketball. The coaches have become involved in their personal growth and development.



The Hebron church's Hebron Stars basketball team.

Many of the parents of these children are eager to know that their kids are involved in something positive in spite of all the negativity that surrounds them. God is making a way for us to discuss the Bible with the kids on the team and their parents. This basketball team is a means of discipleship! Praise God for His ability to move in any situation! Molding a child is not an easy task and we solicit help for these young men in every way we can.

Naomi Harris

Domestic Violence Education

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. » Rebecca Bennett is a parent of two of students, Daniel (seventh grade) and Samuel (fifth grade) at Shiloh Adventist School. Bennett is also the education coordinator for the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Bennett recently held the congregation spellbound as she talked about the many forms of domestic abuse. She said that domestic abuse is a pattern of coercive behavior exercised through diverse mediums. These mediums include verbal, physical, financial, emotional, and sexual. Domestic abuse transcends creed, race, ethnicity, age, gender, and socioeconomic status.

Abusive relationships are notorious for their three-part cycle. These are the "honeymoon," characterized by promises and

gifts, "tension building," characterized by walking on eggshells and nitpicking, and "explosion," characterized by humiliation, beating, etc. Safety is imperative in abusive situations. Each state within the United States, as well as its territories, provides domestic abuse assistance and resources. Please contact the National Domestic Violence hotline to locate this confidential service in your area at 1.800.799.7233. Above all, be a friend and never judge the person who is being abused. Bennett is available to travel to any church that would request her services.



Rebecca Bennett recently spoke to the Little Rock church about domestic violence.

Sandra Clemons

The Rise of the Faithful



In Daniel 12:1 we read the following words: “At *that time* Michael shall stand up, the Great Prince Who stands watch over the sons of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation, even to *that time*! And at *that time* your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.” The reference here in Daniel to “*that time*” must be important. It is mentioned three times in that first verse.

I can still distinctly recall the words of that old hymn entitled “Is My Name Written There?” The lyrics say, “Lord, I care not for riches, neither silver nor gold. I would make sure of heaven I would enter the fold. In the book of Thy kingdom with its pages so fair. Tell me Jesus my Savior, is my name written there? Is my name written there? On the page white and fair. In the book of Thy kingdom, is my name written there?” The reference here in Daniel to “*that time*” must be important. It is mentioned three times in that first verse.

In the previous chapter, Daniel describes the terrible exploits of Satan during the time of the end. Daniel 11:44 says, “But news from the east and the north shall trouble him (*the king of the north = Satan*) therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many!” Those prophetic words are mirrored in Revelation 12:12: “Therefore rejoice O heavens and you who dwell in them! And woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you having great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!” Back in Daniel 12:1, it states, “At *that time* Michael shall stand up...” Sound Adventist prophetic interpretation points to the moment when Christ ceases to mediate and intercede on

behalf of fallen humanity, and the final and unchangeable verdict is pronounced. Revelation 22:10, 11 says: “And he said to me, do not seal the words of this prophecy for *the time* is at hand! He who is unjust, let him be unjust still! And he who is filthy, let him be filthy still! But he who is righteous, let him be righteous still! And behold I *come quickly* and My reward is with Me to give to everyone according to his/her work!”

The Spirit of Prophecy corroborates this thought in *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 201: “When Christ shall cease His work as Mediator on behalf of humanity, then *that time* of trouble will begin. At *that time*, the case of every soul will have been decided, and hence forth, there will be no atoning blood to cleanse from sin. When Jesus leaves His position as our Intercessor before God, the solemn proclamation of Revelation 22 is made.” I believe that we have no clue as to the severity of *that time* of trouble. Jesus tried to help us understand when He said in Matthew 24:21, 22: “For then, there will be a Great Tribulation such as never has been since the beginning of the world until *that time* nor ever shall be! And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would survive, but for the elect’s sake, those days will be shortened!” Again in Luke 21 is the ominous description: “. . . and on the earth, distress of

nations with perplexity, men’s hearts failing them from fear of the expectation of those things which are coming upon the earth” (21:25, 26). We are at the doorstep of those events.

The Web site www.stresscure.com tells us that antidepressants and anti-anxiety medications account for over one-third of all prescriptions written in this country each year! In addition to that, worker’s compensation claims that are related to stress have risen 700 percent since 1990. Fear and expectation is eating people up. Today, the threat of Ebola has us unnerved! Yet the promise of Daniel 12:2 rings true and assuring in our ears. “And at *that time* your people shall be delivered. There will be an eternal inheritance for those who trust in the Lord and commit their lives to Him!

The story is told of a little girl who had lived her entire life in the city and now had the opportunity to go the country on vacation. One starlit night she and her mother stood gazing up into the black velvet sky dazzled with diamonds. The child was awestruck by its beauty! She exclaimed: “Mama! If heaven is this pretty on the wrong side, I wonder what it looks like on the right side!”

Carlos J. Craig, president

Young Adult Ski Trip
 Taos, New Mexico * February 5-8, 2015

Contact:
 Suzanna Facundo
 @ 817.295.0476
 for more information

Register now!
Space is limited!

www.SouthwesternAdventist.org/youth

West Houston Maranatha Mission Trip

Houston » For six days I got up early in the morning, far earlier than I normally would in the summer. I would wake up to the annoying sounds of some public domain noise that the phone company used as an available ringtone or alarm. I would immediately begin to get dressed in my filthy fishing pants, dark brown work boots, and a white shirt sprinkled with concrete from last year.

I would walk across the road to the restaurant where we had our meals. At that time of day, the city of Barahona was either still asleep or just waking up. The city was quiet as the rowdier citizens of the city slept off the evening's festivities but the noise of a few motorcycles punctuated the silence. Dark-skinned elders walked down the streets with open culverts beside and pink, yellow, and red flowers dropped from the trees above. Two national guardsmen sat sleeping on a sofa in the hotel lobby.

I would arrive early for breakfast with only myself and few of the adults. I would wait in my seat (which made so much noise I was scared that it would collapse) and eventually the other seats at my table would be filled up by my father, my uncle, and my cousin. Slowly, the entire group, all 58 of us, would filter in and we would have prayer. When prayer finished, a line would miraculously spawn within the span of opening one's eyes.



Then we'd have a brief worship and get on our separate buses to deliver medicine, others to tell Bible stories to the children, and others to go build the church.

At the job site, I would lay mortar and my cousin would lay the blocks down. We'd take scaffolds apart, move them, and put them back together. When it was time to pour concrete, the concrete team would climb up the scaffolding and hand plastic containers filled with concrete up and down, over and over as Dante would refill the containers with a shovel from the wheelbarrow full of concrete.

When it was over and I was back home, everything seemed so pale in comparison. The colors were not as vibrant and people seemed to complain about things that did not matter. I think heaven is going to be like an eternal mission trip, where at the end of every day, we can take a step back and say "look at what we have built with God."

Julian Ybarra

The West Houston Church group traveled with 36 youth and young adults and 22 adults to help construct a church, conduct a free medical clinic, and lead out in Vacation Bible School. The church conducts two mission trips a year as a way to spread God's Word and to build a stronger church. You can read more about the group at whsdamaranatha.blogspot.com.

Younger Generation Church Celebrates Decade of Young Adult Ministry

Arlington » “It was an absolute joy for us to be a part of Younger Generation Church’s anniversary celebration,” lauded Mike and Gayle Tucker of Faith for Today. “We loved the worship, the stories, the renewal of friendships, and the unique privilege of witnessing what God has done for the past 10 years in the lives of the people we love so much. Thank you!”

The tenth anniversary of Younger Generation Church (YG) brought together familiar and loved faces to the Arlington church early this Fall. YG began in 2004 as a fledgling young adult ministry initiated by Mike Tucker and Ritchie Pruehs, then senior and associate pastors, respectively, at Arlington. Mentoring young adult leaders, including Greg Batla, Brooks Pruehs, and Shastin Rains, YG offered a contemporary and creative worship service especially for next generations.

YG’s founding pastor, Ritchie Pruehs, shared, “Worshipping with Younger Generation Church and seeing so many we love so much was the high point of our year!”

Today, YG continues its commitment to deepen the devotion of next generations to Christ Jesus, engaging hundreds of young adults in evangelistic and

community service initiatives; relationship-building, social events; and relevant, heart-felt worship. With the development of the church’s Internet media ministry, YG has expanded its reach to hundreds more around the globe.

“As I have analyzed why the weekend was so special, I’ve realized anew that it’s the people of the Arlington church that made difference,” continued Pruehs. “To God be the glory!”

YG’s decade of ministry was celebrated in all three worship services, and then highlighted in the evening at a formal gala dinner, where distinguished legacy mentors were honored, including: Brooks and Jaclyn Pruehs; Ritchie and Sheila Pruehs; Shastin Rains; and Mike and Gayle Tucker.

“People in other places thank us for a great worship set, or a helpful message,” noted Brooks Pruehs, YG’s first worship leader. “But this past weekend YG said, ‘Thanks for letting God use you to change our lives!’”

For more information about Younger Generation Church, go to their Web site: www.YGchurch.com.

Allan Martin



▲ Faith for Today’s Mike and Gayle Tucker (center couple) were honored as distinguished legacy mentors, celebrating their transformative contributions to Younger Generation Church over the past decade.

◀ Younger Generation Church’s current lead team offers a prayer of blessing over their special tenth-anniversary guests.

Bottom left: Worship leaders past and present lead YG in a time of prayer and praise. Left to right (foreground): Kristin Garner, Shastin Rains, Brooks Pruehs, Jaclyn Pruehs.

▼ Founding pastor for Younger Generation Church (YG), Ritchie Pruehs returns to deliver a poignant message during YG’s tenth-anniversary celebration.



Adventists and Prophecy



Seventh-day Adventists are ardent students of the Bible and prophecy. We are considered the people of the Book.

From our study of the Bible, we have found that Christ is the center of Scripture and prophecy.

When William Miller preached that Christ was coming soon, sometime in the spring of 1843 and 1844, he came to that conclusion based on the Bible, history, and prophecy. Miller's central message was not the date, as some thought it was, but that Christ was coming soon. His message was: when the sanctuary is cleansed Christ will return. Christian interpretation of history is possible only on the basis of prophecy.

Seventh-day Adventists came out of the

Millerite movement. We came out of the mind frame that Christ is the center of Bible, prophecy, and history. We believe we are part of a prophetic movement with an end-time message that has to be preached before Christ comes. We love to preach and teach about end-time events. Preaching about Bible prophecy helps define who we are.

“And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts” (2 Peter 1:19-21, NKJV).

This prophetic light is like a flaming torch, says Leroy Edwin Froom, “lighting up the darksome highway illuminating the unfamiliar surrounding scenes and iden-

tifying the advancing time and place of mankind in its march across the pages of history” (*The Prophetic Faith of our Fathers*).

This prophetic light is still guiding God's people. The prophetic torch is guiding the leadership of our church. In studying prophecy, we can have full confidence that God is in control. We have nothing to fear because, even though the light of prophecy may flicker, it has not gone out. It is still there to illuminate our path. The events around us may seem out of control, but remember, God is in control of this world, history, prophecy, and even our lives.

Lee-Roy Chacon, president

Graduation: Diploma of Applied Theology (Diplomado en Teología Aplicada)

EL PASO, TEXAS » On September 13, 2014 the El Paso district held the first graduation for students of the “Diplomado en Teología,” a lay pastor training program developed by the Universidad de Montemorelos.

The course required 96 hours of class time and 54 hours of practical work in

evangelism. Besides attending the 12 eight-hour classes over a two-year period, the students had to report 54 hours of involvement in giving Bible studies, conducting small group evangelism, or being involved with an evangelistic crusade.

The laymen came from the churches of Deming Spanish, Las Cruces Spanish,

El Paso Meraz, Clint Spanish, El Montana Spanish, and El Paso Montana Vista Spanish. There were as many as 37 students at one time, but 19 completed the requirements to be able to graduate.

It was a joyful day when they received their diplomas from the Universidad de Montemorelos. Omar Velazquez, chairman of the theology department, was the representative from Montemorelos, and spoke at the graduation program on Sabbath afternoon. Lee-Roy Chacon, president of the Texico Conference was the speaker at the consecration service on Friday night.

We praise God for his blessings and for the accomplishment of our laymen, preparing to better serve the Lord. There were several baptisms that resulted from the work of the students during their training. We look forward to many more as these men and women use their new skills in the Lord's service, preparing a people to meet Jesus when He comes.



The happy graduates display their diplomas during the graduation service at the El Paso Meraz Spanish church. Front, from left: Gladstone Simmons, coordinator; Omar Velazquez; and pastors Lee-Roy Chacon, Phil Robertson, and Hector Quinones.

Gladstone Simmons

TEXICO CONFERENCE

Corrales Church Enjoys Worship in the Mountains

CORRALES, N. MEX. » Twice a year, at the beginning and end of summer, the Corrales church holds “Church in the Mountains” at the Jemez Falls National Recreation Area. Some members spend one or two nights camping at the campsite so they can experience nature at its best, while others make the trek to Jemez Falls for worship and fellowship during the Sabbath day.

One of the things that makes the event so special is that several members of the Los Alamos Company also join the worship and fellowship activities. The gathering of the two congregations has become a biannual retreat that both churches look forward to.

“Church in the Mountains” began with a few early risers taking a brisk morning hike through the forest where they experienced the beauty of His creation. At 11:00 a.m. a robust song service started, supported by a few talented musicians like Stephanie Nainani and Ken Willes, which was followed by the worship service. Pastor David McLauchlan delivered the message of Jesus as the Branch. For children’s story, Gini Fiedler told the parable of the lost sheep found in Matthew 18:12, “What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go and search for the one that is straying (NIV)?”

Fellowship lunch was a feast with several varieties of dishes to choose from. Afterward, members of both churches enjoyed the laid back Christian camaraderie and nature at its best. Even the rain did not stop the young and not-so-young alike from venturing out for a hike to the local waterfall. A children’s activity was offered where the toddlers pretended to be good shepherds looking for their lost sheep.

“Church in the Mountains” is truly a rewarding experience. Being closer to God through nature during Sabbath is a real blessing for anyone. In Psalm 118:24 it says, “This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

Monique Wilkerson



▲ Pastor David McLauchlan sharing the message with the gathered group in the Jemez Mountains.

◀ Stephanie Nainani and Ken Willes leading out in the song service.

▼ Everyone’s favorite time—the fellowship meal!



Revive and Reach: Española 2014

ESPAÑOLA, N. MEX. » On January 10, 2014, Jose Rojas, NAD volunteer ministries director, made a special visit to the Española Valley bilingual church to prepare members for a “cosecha” (harvest) that would lead up to evangelistic meetings in May. During his visit, he advised and encouraged members on how to sow for a successful harvest. Later in January, Ruben Rodriguez, pastor, held training sessions on how to have successful Bible studies, and by February, members began studying with family, friends, and acquaintances.

Rojas returned May 10-17 to present “Hope for Our Family.” Church members and visitors attended the revival with anticipation and excitement as the Holy Spirit worked in their hearts each night.

Six people made decisions to accept Christ as their Savior through baptism. Anna Marie Dominguez commented, “Rojas’s revival was God-sent to me! His presentations were the most strategically delivered messages of God’s love.

He showed me how easy and wonderful it is to have a relationship with God.”

On September 20-27, 2014, the Española church was blessed in a powerful way during a Week of Revival presented by Hector

to hear the powerful biblical messages presented throughout the week, and those in attendance were moved nightly as Quiñones and Rodriguez prayed for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the altar calls.

Three people made the decision for baptism and re-baptism, and numerous others recommitted their lives to Jesus Christ as a result of the powerful Week of Revival. The revival reinforced the calling of every person present to finish the work of the “cosecha” so that we can hasten the coming of our Lord and Savior! We wish to thank Quiñones and Rodriguez for their selfless work in the ministry of bringing people to Jesus!

Others who attended faithfully are still having Bible studies as the “cosecha” continues through the end of the year. Like the hymn, “Waiting for the harvest and the time of reaping, we shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves.”

Marian Martinez and Diahann Cordova



Following the Week of Revival, Rafaelita O. Gurule committed her life to following Jesus and was baptized by Rodriguez on Sabbath afternoon, September 27.

Quiñones, pastor. The members welcomed Quiñones back to the church, where he had served as pastor from 2000-2004. Members and visitors alike were excited

New Members in Santa Fe Get Spiritual Sisters, Brothers

SANTA FE, N. MEX. » A new tradition at the Rabbit Road church in Santa Fe is aimed at nurturing new members and integrating them fully into the life of the church. It’s called the “Spiritual Sister, Spiritual Brother” program. “Since the program’s inception two years ago, we have found new members settle quickly into the life of the church and commit to Christian fellowship. They immediately feel part of the family and are more likely to participate in church activities on a regular basis,” says head elder Allen Steele.

“The program is beautiful in its simplicity and yet powerful in helping new members embrace the mission of the church,” says Eric Redic, pastor. He recently baptized a father and his three children who joined their mother, already a baptized member. After the baptism, church leaders congratulated the family, charged the par-

ents to nurture their children in the faith, and then introduced the father, Denny Roybal, to his appointed “spiritual brother,” Paco Arguello.

As a “spiritual brother,” Arguello committed to keeping in close contact with Roybal on a weekly basis, with a contact by phone or e-mail to encourage him in his new walk with Jesus. He also agreed to try to find ways to help his new brother become an active member of the

church. It was a six-month commitment, but Steele says once the close friendship is formed, it tends to solidify well beyond those initial six months.

“We used to let new members struggle on their own to find their place in the church. Now we give them the help they need to stay connected and committed. It really works,” Steele says. “And it has proven to be as much a blessing to those members who accept the assignment as to the new members they help,” he says. Since the program’s inception, the church has recruited about a dozen Spiritual Sisters and Brothers for new members.



Jade, Isaiah, and James were recently baptized with their father Denny Roybal (also shown above being congratulated by “spiritual brother” Paco Arguello). Denny and the children join their mother, Lori Roybal, as members of the Rabbit Road church in Santa Fe.

Allen Steele

Latest News and Headlines

New University President Inaugurated

Southwestern Adventist University inaugurated new president Dr. Ken Shaw on November 7. Delegates and sponsors for the benefit gala came from around the country, creating a celebratory atmosphere as Southwestern officially welcomed its 25th president. Board of Trustee chairman Larry Moore presented Shaw with a new presidential medallion sculpted by Southwestern alumnus Jeff Gottfried (1993). The benefit gala, hosted the night before, raised more than \$102,000 for student scholarships. For more information, photos, and a complete list of sponsors and delegates, please visit swau.edu/inauguration.

Chadwick and Woods Present Paleontological Findings to GSA

Southwestern professor Dr. Art Chadwick and alumnus Justin Woods (2003) presented their website and database, created by Woods for Southwestern's paleontological site, at the annual convention of the Geological Society of America (GSA) in Vancouver, B.C. The session was titled *Advancing the Digitization of Paleontology and Geoscience Collections: Projects, Programs, and Practices I*. At the end, during the Q&A, the chairperson asked Woods if he would join the GSA's Committee on Digitization because Woods and Chadwick's work is actually digitizing the field, something no one else is currently doing. The website can be viewed at fossil.swau.edu. More information about joining the annual dig can be found at dinosaurproject.swau.edu.

University Art Show Benefits Local Community

For the third year, Southwestern's art class will host an art show for awareness of a local charity or or-

ganization under the direction of instructor Marcela Wall. The class typically draws or paints subject matter that will shed light on the organization or cause but the students are encouraged to create from their own unique perspective. The show will then be advertised and donations requested for the organization.

This year the show will help provide awareness and donations for the Johnson County Christian Lodge. The lodge combines housing for the homeless with an intensive program to get people out of homelessness. Unique to this program, guests are required to attend church weekly, encouraging residents to make friends in a Christian setting. Residents choose which denomination and church they wish to attend.

"By requiring (residents to go to church), we cannot get government funding," says Bill Wissore, president of JCCL. "But God's pockets are deeper than the government." And that's where the art class comes in, an

unexpected call with an offer to help. "Mrs. Wall called and shared her idea to help raise awareness and funds for the lodge," says Wissore. "I came to Southwestern and spoke to a couple of her classes. I'm looking forward to the show."

Enactus Team Wins Scholarship for Women's Empowerment Project

Southwestern's Enactus team recently won a \$1,500 partnership grant, sponsored by Walmart, for a project that involves women's empowerment and development. The project, developed by Enactus member and junior business major Shelby Daniel, is based on the concept that the woman is the nucleus of the family and has a powerful influence on the community around her.

The goal of the program is to empower women to improve the lives of their families and themselves. Enactus will provide several series of workshops for the community. One workshop will focus on cooking classes, recipe ideas, nutrition counseling, and meal budgeting. Another workshop will focus on resume writing, interview skills, how to dress for success, and job training resources, with the hope of improving the upward mobility of women who are currently in a low-socio economic class.

Darcy Force, marketing and public relations director



◀ Daniels and Enactus president Tony Seery meet with the team to prepare their presentation for Walmart.



Far left: Larry Moore, Southwestern Union president, presents the new president, Ken Shaw, with the presidential medallion.

◀ Justin Woods presenting his unique Web site and database design at the Geological Society of America convention.

Texas, Oklahoma, and Southwestern Adventist University Honored at Annual Communication Convention

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. » The Texas Conference, Oklahoma Conference, and Southwestern Adventist University were all honored at the 25th annual Society of Adventist Communicators awards banquet on October 18 in Jacksonville, Fla., for their outstanding work in communication.

The Texas Conference received the following five awards for the *FLAME* magazine: best in class for Best Photograph for “Little Girl” by Aaron Thomas in the Fall 2014 issue; honorable mention for Best Magazine; honorable mention for Best Magazine Cover Design for the Fall/Winter 2013 issue; honorable mention for Best Magazine Overall Design for the Fall 2014 issue; and honorable mention for Best Editorial for “Mission Possible: Love First, Speak Later” by Ruben Bullon and Kristina P. Lockhart.

Kristina Lockhart, Texas Conference assistant to the president for communication said, “It is always humbling to have our colleagues and professional counterparts recognize our work. The *FLAME* magazine has come a long way during its nearly 10 years of production. It’s exciting to see the magazine recognized for its quality and design. We want the Texas Conference magazine to be excellent. It is our responsibility to God to give Him our best work.”

The Oklahoma Conference was honored with an honorable mention for its *Wewoka Woods Summer Camp Promo* in the Best Promotional Video category.

Southwestern Adventist University also won two awards: Best in Class for Best Video Story/Project for *Southwestern Frames: Melissa DePaiva*; and honorable mention for Best Video Story/Project for *Southwestern Adventist University Acrofest 2013*.



“We are honored to have received these awards. We have a fantastic team of students and staff who pour so much time and creativity into our promotional projects. It’s wonderful that some of their hard work is being recognized” said Darcy Force, marketing and public relations director for Southwestern Adventist University.

◀ Jason Busch, associate communication director for the Texas Conference, receiving one of five awards the conference took home from the Society of Adventist Communicators awards ceremony.

▼ Richard Castillo, communication director for the Oklahoma Conference, receiving an award from Dan Weber, NAD communication director, for honorable mention for a Wewoka Woods promotional video.



Pray One Million

So here's the deal. I've got this prayer list in hand with a lot of names on it—nearly everyone I'm close friends with who are not believers and many who are. Family members. Colleagues. Neighbors. My pastor. The lady I met at the supermarket last Thursday whose name I don't even know but who asked me to pray for her. Many others. Maybe a dozen or a hundred.

I regularly pray through the list, though, because there are so many that sometimes it's more a reading of the names than it is a conscious focusing on specifics. Except that through my church and its leadership, I sense Jesus is asking me to select one (for now) for whom I will intensify my intercession. He will help me choose the person He has in mind, and together He

and I will concentrate our earnest pleas on behalf of that one, since He and the Holy Spirit are both interceding on their behalf already (Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:26).

Rather than just read over the name, I will take some additional time, at least a minute (at least) and be specific with my requests. Maybe it's my teenage niece, for instance. I might begin by asking Jesus to show me how He is interceding for her. I might pray that God will give her a glimpse of His wonderful plan for her life. I might

ask Him to show her how to attract godly friends. I might request that He will give her the strength to live pure in a dark world. I might ask that God will bring influences and circumstances



God lays on my heart. It's about remembering that God has chosen to do some things when I pray that He does not do if I don't pray (*The Great Controversy*, p. 525).

Because this is an invitation to my church family across North America, I believe others will join me. If only half of us do, every 14 weeks or so we will bring a million hours of intercession before the throne. I suspect God is not keeping time here either, but it blesses me to know that with one simple adjustment in our prayer schedule, you and I can be part of a movement with eternal consequences. I hope you find that as motivating as I do. (In the next few days, watch for resources at: www.PrayOneMillion.org.)

Don Jacobsen

PRAY ONE MILLION

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Classified Ads

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 405.208.1289.

Buy, Sell, or Property Management in Keene, Johnson County, Texas: Gillin Realty, LLC is a full service Real Estate Company handling all your Real Estate needs. If you would like to buy, sell, or lease a home contact Gillin Realty, LLC, Samantha Gillin, Broker, or Alex Federowski, Realtor. www.gillinrealty.com. 817.556.3141.

Call Glenna Calahan Real Estate Professionals for all of your Real Estate needs, 817.645.9308. Big or small, we sell them all. Servicing Texas in the DFW, Keene, Cleburne, Burleson, and surrounding areas. Residential, Farm, and Ranch, Lots and Acreage, Commercial. HUD approved broker. Ask for Glenna Calahan or Rebecca Allgood.

EMPLOYMENT

Dental Office located in Hagerstown, MD, seeking full time dentist. Cutting edge technology, including

paperless charting, digital x-rays, VaTech 3D scanner, and CEREC. View Web site at robinwooddentalcenter.com. Very competitive compensation and benefits. Contact Dawn, dthomas@robinwooddental.net or call 240.313.9659.

Biology Department, Southwestern Adventist University, is seeking a qualified applicant (Ph.D. preferred). Primary emphasis in paleontology and zoology; ability to teach introductory geology, microbiology and/or bioinformatics desirable. The successful candidate will be supportive of literal creationism. Send cover letter and CV to Schwarz.Arthur@swau.edu. Position open until filled.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International in Silver Spring, MD, is seeking a full-time Staff Auditor, CPA required. Responsibilities include: preparation of reports, evaluation of internal control systems, procedures, and best practices, applications of GAAP, GAAS, and donor compliance rules and regulations. For more information, go to www.adra.org.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in Silver Spring, MD, is seeking a full-time Senior Accountant II. Responsibilities include: review reconciliations, wire transfer requests, grant loans/advances, and prepare reports to government agencies. Record questioned cost, review GIK documentation, and compile budgets for cost

centers. For more information, go to www.adra.org.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International in Silver Spring, MD, is seeking a full-time Senior Program Finance Manager. Responsibilities include: providing day-to-day support to implementing field offices on financial management processes, compliance, policies, and adherence to donor regulations. Field experience preferred. For more information, go to www.adra.org.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Sudan in Sudan, is seeking a full-time Finance Director. Responsibilities include: preparation of all financial reports, disbursement of funds, review of financial statements, bank and journal vouchers, project budgets, and maintenance of accounting records. For more information, go to www.adra.org.

Adventist Aviation Services PNG is seeking a Maintenance Director. As a church-run and funded Aviation program in Goroka PNG, we have a fleet of two modern P750XL turbine aircraft. Required criteria: six plus years of experience, experience in a part 145 facility, an aircraft maintenance license, turbine engine experience, managerial experience. For inquiries, e-mail Nathan at mm@aaas.org.pg.

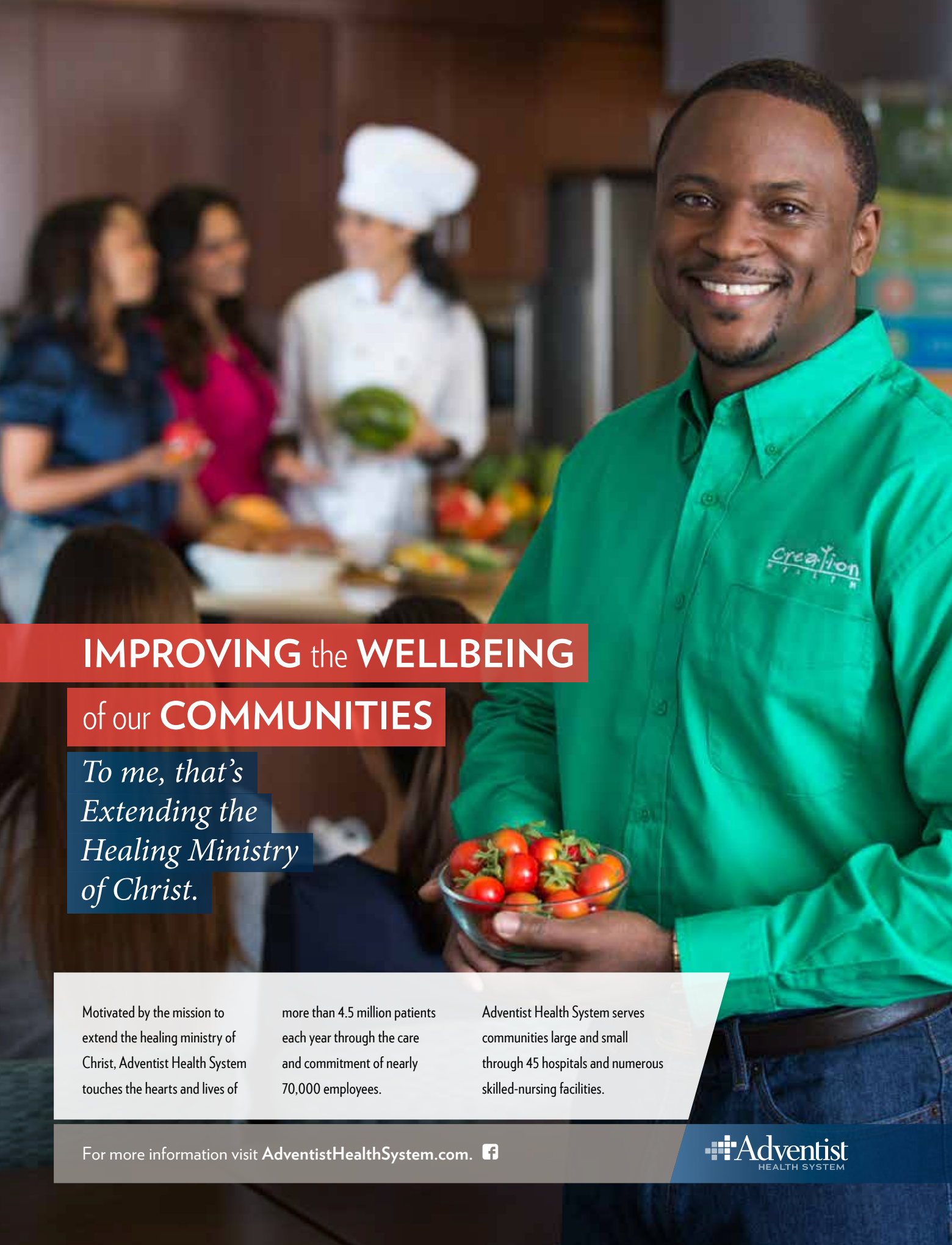
Andrews University seeks a Seminary New Testament Faculty Member. Qualified person should have a doc-

toral degree (Ph.D. or Th.D.) in the area of New Testament studies and textual criticism, preferably from a non-Adventist university. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_5.

Pacific Union College is seeking a full-time faculty in the Religion Department to begin during the 2015-2016 academic year. Preference is for candidate with a Ph.D. in Religion (open to ABD), with an emphasis in either Old Testament, New Testament, or any branch of Theology, and with successful teaching experience. For more information or to apply call 707.965.6231, or visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>.

Pacific Union College is seeking a full-time manager of the Albion Biology Field station to begin immediately. Ideal candidate will possess a bachelor's degree (business administration preferred) and strong organizational and communication skills. Expertise in budget management and knowledge of boat operations is also desired. For more information or to apply call 707.965.6231, or visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>.

Pacific Union College is seeking a Special Collections Librarian to begin July 1, 2015. Ideal candidate will possess a Master of Library Science degree from an ALA accredited institution and have experience in academic librarianship, archives, and information literacy



Creation
HEALTH


IMPROVING the WELLBEING of our COMMUNITIES

*To me, that's
Extending the
Healing Ministry
of Christ.*

Motivated by the mission to extend the healing ministry of Christ, Adventist Health System touches the hearts and lives of

more than 4.5 million patients each year through the care and commitment of nearly 70,000 employees.

Adventist Health System serves communities large and small through 45 hospitals and numerous skilled-nursing facilities.

For more information visit AdventistHealthSystem.com. 

 **Adventist**
HEALTH SYSTEM

programs for students. For more information or to apply, call 707.965.6231, or visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>.

Lead Programmer/Analyst: Pacific Press Publishing Association seeks Seventh-day Adventist for the full time position of Lead Programmer/Analyst to support all Information Technology (IT) software support functions, including problem analysis, design, programming, testing, implementation and training. Applicants should have bachelor's degree in Computer Science or related field and knowledge and experience in industry standard programming language including web development tools, and the ability to lead a team of programmer/

analysts. Contact Ms. Alix Mansker, HR Director, PO Box 5353, Nampa, ID 83653. Phone: 208.465.2567 Fax: 208.465.2531. E-mail: alix.mansker@pacificpress.com.

Andrews University seeks a faculty member to teach fulltime in Management both on-campus and online, at undergraduate and MBA levels. Qualified person should have a Ph.D. in Management. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_3.

MISCELLANEOUS

Authors of cookbooks, health books, children's chapter and picture books, call 800.367.1844 for your FREE evaluation. We

publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. Find our NEW titles at your local ABC or www.TEACH-Services.com - USED SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com.

AdventistSingles.org free 14-day trial! Join thousands of Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, profiles, match notifications! Adventist owners since 1993. Visit www.ElliotDylan.com for the Undercover Angels series of novels for Christian teens that build on Biblical principles and reinforce integrity. Great for Sabbath reading, church and home schools, and gifts!

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

Paula Montgomery's children's series: *Canyon Girl, Valley Girl, Hood River Girl, In Grandma's Footsteps and Coyotes in the Wind, Down the River Road, A Summer to Grow On, When November Comes*, available at your Adventist Book Center. New for teens and older: *Spider Preacher Man-From Motorcycle Gangs to God.*

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

Literature Evangelism made easy. Learn about a new web-based program that takes care of the busy work (taxes, inventory, shipping, payment, etc.) while you concentrate on the outreach. More than 500 items available! Full or part-time. Call Family Home Christian Books for more information: 800.426.3954.

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

Butler Creek Health Education Center - Diabetes Reversal, Permanent Weight Loss, Overcoming Depression: January 11-23, 2015. Prevention and recovery from lifestyle disease amidst the beauty of nature. Cost: \$975. Register online or call: 931.213.1329. www.butlercreekhealth.org.

19 Adventist Channels

Plus more than 60 other FREE Christian Channels and News Channels on Adventist Satellite Dish

High Definition and DVR

Official Distribution Partner for all Adventist Broadcasters

Connect to any TV • Record your favorite shows*

*optional USB memory required for recording

All New Satellite DVR Receiver

Complete satellite system only \$199 Plus shipping

No Monthly Fees
No Subscriptions
Includes 36in Dish
FREE Install Kit

Two Room System \$299 Plus shipping

866-552-6882 toll free www.adventistsat.com

Announcements

Lighthouse Brazilian Church Hosts Christmas Choir Festival:

Spend an evening getting into the Christmas spirit while enjoying a variety of musical styles at the 2nd Charitable Christmas Choir Festival on Saturday, December 13 at 6 p.m. Hosted by the Lighthouse Brazilian Seventh-day Adventist Church (6000 Bentwood Trail, Dallas, TX 75252), the festival will feature choirs from North Dallas Adventist Academy, the Brookhaven Choral Society, and other area musical groups. Admission is free.

Union College Homecoming April 2-5, 2015:

Honor classes are 1945, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1990, 1995, and 2005. Special tribute to business and computer faculty and graduates, as well as a Gymnares reunion. For more information,

contact the alumni office at 402.486.2503, 3800 S 48th St, Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@ucollege.edu.

Your Best PATHWAY to HEALTH, a three-day medical mission trip sponsored by ASI (Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries), will take place in San Antonio, Texas, April 8-10, 2015. The goal is to provide 6,000 uninsured and underinsured people of the San Antonio area with free medical, dental, and vision care, free of charge to the patients. Whole-person care will include dentistry, vision care, surgery, and primary care, including such services as massage therapy, physical therapy, laboratory, radiology, and pharmacy services, plus lifestyle medicine and chaplaincy services. If you'd like to make a huge difference in people's lives, please visit www.yourbestpathwaytohealth.com to get more info and to sign up.

Obituaries

EHRlich, Melvin A., born March 4, 1917, in Hitchcock, Okla., and died October 9, 2014 in Del Norte, Colo. He was a member of the Shawnee, Okla., church. He was an active supporter of his church, held numerous offices over the years, and assisted in prison ministry. He was a cattle rancher and wheat farmer. Survivors: daughter and son-in-law, Lou and Jack Thomas, of Monte Vista, Colo.; one granddaughter; one great-great-granddaughter; and a nephew.

FREEMAN, Betty, born November 9, 1926, in Wewoka, Okla., and died September 2, 2014, in Shawnee, Okla. She was a member of the Shawnee church, but due to illness, she had been unable to attend. Survivors: sons, Larry Freeman, of Shawnee, and Jack Freeman, of Bethel Acres, Okla.; seven grandchildren, several great-

grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

GARCIA, Jesus "Jessie" Amparan, born October 6, 1972, in Gravette, Ark., and died September 8, 2014 in Gentry, Ark. He was a member of the Gentry church. Survivors: wife, Lisa Garcia, of Gentry; son, Samuel Garcia, of Gentry; a brother and sister-in-law, Rick and Pam Garcia, of Gentry; and a brother and sister-in-law, Lorenzo and Judy Garcia, of Siloam Springs, Ark.

HOWELL, E. J., born April 2, 1931 in Stigler, Okla., and died April 2, 2014, in Fort Smith, Ark. He was a member of the Fort Smith church. E.J. was a self-employed camper manufacturer and the widower of Stella Howell, a long-time church member. He always had a smile on his face when entering the church. He was a faithful church member and loved by all. Survivors: daughter, Cheryl Walker, of

Milestones

On August 2, 2014, the Hillsboro church hosted a **70th wedding anniversary** with family, relatives, and friends of pastor **Paul and Lillian Proctor**. Paul was a young hospital corpsman in the U.S. Navy and Lillian became a young Navy bride on August 2, 1944. Paul was invited to enter the gospel ministry by the Texas Conference on August 1, 1967. His preaching ministry started 10 years before that. He has served



the church in two unions and five conferences as pastor, evangelist, departmental director, and trust services director. He has been the pastor of the Hillsboro church for the last 13 years. Max Barton, pastor, presented a brief sermonette and administered wedding vows for the next 70 years. The Proctors look forward to meeting all of you in heaven for the next anniversary.

Las Vegas, Nev.; son, Jerry Howell, of Springdale, Ark.; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

JORDAN, Loisteen (Lois) E., born March 9, 1927, in Uniform, Ala., and died August 28, 2014, in Little Rock, Ark. Lois was a long-time, active member of the Little Rock church. Her church family will miss her dearly. She was a gentle homemaker and a servant of God. Survivors: son and daughter-in-law, Carl and Lisa Jordan, of Houston, Tex.; son, Michael Jordan, of Port St. Luci, Fla.; and a brother, Arthur Smith, of Cleburne, Tex.; four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

KUYKENDALL, Willene, born August 15, 1923 in Hope, Ark., and died May 19, 2014, in Stigler, Okla. She was a member of the Fort Smith church. She was baptized into the Adventist church at the age of 13, and she remained a faithful and active member until illness prevented her from attending. She was a firm believer in Christian education and sacrificed much to see that her children and grandchildren attended church school through college. Willene served as head deaconess, Sabbath School secretary, community service leader, and many other church positions. She was married to her beloved and committed husband who was the love of her life for more than 73 years. Survivors: husband, Gene Kuykendall, of Fort Smith, Ark.; son and daughter-in-law, Lee and Martha Kuykendall, of Fort Smith, Ark.; son and daughter-in-law, Fred and Angela Kuykendall, of Chattanooga, Tenn.; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

PALMER, Marguerite "Dolores," born July 26, 1930 in San Diego, Calif., and died June 14, 2014 in Fort Smith, Ark. She was a member of the Fort Smith church. Dolores graduated from San Diego City College with an associate degree in early childhood development. After the death of her precious son, Randy, from a rare illness, she began substitute teaching at San Diego Academy. She loved to camp and travel and oil paint. In 1999 Dolores and Ray moved to Arkansas where she helped home school her grandchildren. Dolores was an inspiration to all who knew her for her love of life and her cheerful attitude, despite her ever-increasing handicap from polio. She was deeply loved by her devoted husband, her family, and her church family. Survivors: husband, Ray Palmer, of Fort Smith; daughter and son-in-law, Cindy and Paul Howell, of Fort Smith; and a son, Kevin Palmer.

ROBERTS, Laudell, born March 19, 1924 Fort Smith, Ark., and died March 5, 2014, in Siloam Springs, Ark. He was a member of the Fort Smith church for 74 years—longer than any other member. During that time he served as head elder, Sabbath School superintendent, and teacher, as well as many other church positions. He was a man of tremendous character, a true example of Christ, and loved by all. Laudell was a retired plant

superintendent for Acee Milk Company, and an Army veteran of World War II. He was buried with military honors at the U.S. National Cemetery in Fort Smith. Survivors: wife, Eula Jean Roberts; son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Carol Roberts; and son and daughter-in-law, Randy and Pam Roberts.

ROGERS, Susan Kaye, born October 30, 1951 Denver, Colo., and died March 24, 2014, in Fort Smith, Ark. She was a member of the Fort Smith church. Susie Kaye sang in the choir at Rio Lindo Academy and witnessed through her beautiful voice at church many times. She enjoyed people, music, singing, and playing games. God gifted her with the ability to empathize with others. She was intensely interested in people, and if she happened across a need, she actively looked for ways to meet it. Susie approached life with a unique sense of humor that held her up even in the midst of adverse circumstances. Susie loved

God her whole life, but in the last few years developed an intimate relationship with Jesus which filled her with joy. Survivors: husband, Robert "Bob" Rogers, of Fort Smith; daughter, Summer Campbell of Fort Smith; son and daughter-in-law, Brett and Leslie Rogers, of Fort Smith; and her mother, Betty Younce, of Lawton, Okla.; and one grandchild.

SWITZER, Marie Rose, born March 20, 1931 in Chicago, Ill., and died September 6, 2014 in Fayetteville, Ark. She was a member of the Gentry church. Survivors: daughter, Esther Switzer, of Siloam Springs, Ark.; daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Terry Sierks, of Gentry, Ark.; daughter and son-in-law, Rebecca and Steven Duncan, of Siloam Springs; son and daughter-in-law, Douglas and Brenda Switzer, of Gentry; daughter and son-in-law, Wendy and Tim Butler, of Tahlequah, Okla.; daughter, Carolyn Ellis, of Gentry; 24 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren.

SABBATH SUNSET CALENDAR						
	Dec 5	Dec 12	Dec 19	Dec 26	Jan 2	Jan 9
Abilene, TX	5:33	5:34	5:36	5:40	5:45	5:50
Albuquerque, NM	4:54	4:55	4:57	5:01	5:06	5:11
Amarillo, TX	5:35	5:35	5:38	5:41	5:46	5:52
Brownsville, TX	5:38	5:40	5:42	5:46	5:50	5:55
Dallas, TX	5:21	5:21	5:24	5:27	5:32	5:38
El Paso, TX	5:01	5:02	5:05	5:08	5:13	5:18
Fort Worth/Keene, TX	5:23	5:24	5:26	5:30	5:34	5:40
Gallup, NM	5:02	5:02	5:04	5:08	5:13	5:19
Galveston/Houston, TX	5:22	5:23	5:25	5:29	5:34	5:39
Gentry, AR	5:03	5:03	5:05	5:09	5:14	5:20
Little Rock, AR	4:58	4:59	5:01	5:05	5:10	5:15
Muskogee, OK	5:08	5:08	5:10	5:14	5:19	5:25
New Orleans, LA	5:00	5:01	5:04	5:07	5:12	5:17
Oklahoma City, OK	5:17	5:18	5:20	5:23	5:28	5:34
Roswell, NM	4:50	4:51	4:53	4:57	5:02	5:07
San Antonio, TX	5:35	5:36	5:39	5:42	5:47	5:52
Shreveport, LA	5:09	5:10	5:13	5:16	5:21	5:26
Tulsa, OK	5:09	5:09	5:12	5:15	5:20	5:26

On the Record »

BY PAT HUMPHREY » COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, SOUTHWESTERN UNION



Let's Heed the Signs

GOD GIVES US SIGNS FOR A REASON. But if we ignore those signs, what good are they? Let me share an illustration. I wear one of those “fancy” devices on my wrist (an activity monitor) that I’ve programmed so that every so often, for about 10 seconds, the word “MOVE” flashes across the screen while a vibrating sensation tingles my arm. The purpose of the device is to remind me that I need to get up and move around, such as take a walk or, at the very least, march in place at my desk. (You know that sitting for hours on end is the new smoking, right?)

Now it’s pretty hard to ignore a light flashing in your face or a tingling sensation on your wrist, but I must confess, there are more times than I care to admit that I’ve been just too busy to heed the warning that it’s time to move. As I’m busily working away at my desk (doing lots of important things, like editing the *Record!*) my mental response is often, *I’ve got to finish this project. I’ll catch up with my exercise later. I’ll walk tonight.* You can probably guess where I’m going with this illustration.

In Matthew 24 Jesus gave His disciples—and us—some of the signs of His second coming. He gave us very specific things to look for that would indicate when that time is very near. It’s amazing to me that when you look at today’s news headlines, it’s almost as if they came straight out of that chapter—wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, perplexities, distress of nations, and much more. But could it be that, like with me and my activity band, some of us see, hear, and even feel the signs—they’re literally right

in our face—but we’re not heeding them?

I believe God gave us the prophecies in His Word because He loves us. He wants the best for us and He doesn’t want any of His precious children to be caught by surprise or to be swept away or distracted by anything that would cause us to lose our focus on being ready to meet Him when He returns.

Second Peter 1:19 (NASV) tells us that “We have the prophetic word [made] more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place.” Nearly all the prophecies of the Bible have already been fulfilled with amazing accuracy. The most awesome and dramatic prophecy is soon to culminate with Christ’s second coming. Will you be ready?

Pat Humphrey

Record

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor Pat Humphrey
phumphrey@swuc.org
Associate Editor Jessica Lozano
jlozano@swuc.org
Assistant Editor/Designer Reggie Johnson
rjohnson@swuc.org
Advertising Manager Dianne Jones
djones@swuc.org
Circulation Manager Rocío López
rlopez@swuc.org

SOUTHWESTERN UNION OFFICERS

President Larry Moore
Secretary Buford Griffith, Jr.
Treasurer Deryl Knutson

Vice-President Eddie Canales
Vice-President Randy Gilliam
Vice-President Minner Labrador
Vice-President Duane McKey

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

ASI/Communication Pat Humphrey
Children’s Ministries Sonia Canó
Church Ministries/Stewardship Minner Labrador
Education Randy Gilliam
Evangelism/Ministerial Duane McKey
Family Ministries Buford Griffith, Jr.
Health Ministries Pat Humphrey
Hispanic/Personal Ministries Eddie Canales
Information Systems Jerrilynn J. Bicek

Men’s Ministries/Sabbath School Minner Labrador
Prayer Ministries/Ministerial Spouses Kathy McKey
Religious Liberty Buford Griffith, Jr.
Revolving Fund Carlos Ribeiro
Women’s Ministries Carmen Fuentes-Griffith
Young Adult/Youth Ministries Helvis C. Moody

Subscriptions

*Free to all Southwestern Union church members.
Non-member subscription is \$12/year.*

Submissions

Articles for the Record will be edited for length and content. Because space is limited, stories and articles are selected on the basis of interest and relevance to those around the Southwestern Union.

A Parent's Perspective



This year, Rick, our young adult son was encouraged to visit Southwestern Adventist University by a church friend. On previous occasions my husband and I had made similar suggestions. This time was different. Rick flew to Southwestern and stayed with a friend for the weekend. While Rick was there my husband Michael and I conversed with him via telephone and asked, "How is it?" His reply was, "I can see It, I can hear It, and I can feel It." We knew he was impressed by the Holy Spirit's presence.

Coming from a family background of educators, including higher education, we fully supported Rick in his decision to obtain a SDA Christian college education. We had the blessing of transporting Rick to Southwestern for the fall semester and recently made a second trip to attend "Parents' Weekend". We too, saw It, heard It, and felt It! The Holy Spirit was present!

Our hope for our son's future is that this opportunity sets the foundation for the path our Lord has prepared for him.

- Michael & Edna Maestas, Rick's parents



Photos of Parents' Weekend 2014

Holiday Calendar

- **Student Recital** - December 4, 7:30pm, Wharton
- **Orchestra Concert** - December 7, 6:30pm, Keene SDA Church
- **Choral Christmas Concert**—University Singers - December - 12, 8:00pm, Keene SDA Church
- **Wind Symphony Christmas Concert**—December 13, 9am & 11:30am, Keene SDA Church
- **Cleburne Christmas Concert**—Reception to follow - December 14, 7:00pm, Location TBA

