

EDITORIAL
BLEMISHES

PERSPECTIVE
HIDE-AND-SEEK

JUST LIKE JESUS
ONE PAGE

glorious

IN ACTION

HUDSON ON A MISSION

CREATION STUDY CENTER OPENS

**APR
2017**
VOL. 112, N° 4



“Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”
Matthew 17:20



14



20



21



46

DICK DUERKSEN

FEATURE

8 Hudson on a Mission

PERSPECTIVE

42 Hide-and-Seek

44 Will America Exchange Liberty for Security?

JUST LIKE JESUS

46 One Page

CONFERENCE NEWS

12 Accion

13 Alaska

15 Idaho

16 Montana

18 Oregon

23 Upper Columbia

27 Washington

30 Walla Walla University

32 Adventist Health

4 EDITORIAL

5 INTERSECTIONS

33 FAMILY

36 ANNOUNCEMENTS

37 ADVERTISEMENTS

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BLEMISHES

F

or years now, mirrors have been telling my story with increasing honesty. The supple skin of yesteryear is rapidly developing the patina of age.

This patina is not the graceful kind. There's no hint at the artful brush strokes of a Rubens or Rembrandt. Blemishes once faint are now

Truth runs clearest and best when combined with the honesty of relationship.

promenading in bold relief. They confirm the prophetic word of those old black-and-white *Reader's Digest* ads, which bemoaned "Those Horrid Age Spots." Big deal, I thought as a kid. Yet now prophecy has been fulfilled. My decades-old skin proves it. And, frankly, I suppose it is no big deal.

But these subtly encroaching blemishes are not the only thing. Bumps, bulges and bunions are cropping up in the oddest spots. I am regularly exchanging cranial follicles for hair in the most ill-favored, inconvenient places. Weight,

which used to come just for a visit, now breathes a satisfied sigh and settles in with full room and board.

Marketing gurus are eagerly waiting to address these physical annoyances with

a plethora of solutions. They offer an unending supply of pseudo-magic to melt my horrid age spots away, sculpt the body, smooth the skin, tighten up wrinkles or remove love handles. They seek to convince me my happiness will soar, my relationships will flourish, my purpose in life will be enriched, if only I invest in their cause of ridding these bumps, bulges, bunions and blemishes.

Yet those who continue to spend thousands in a never-ending search for cosmetic perfection may be missing a simple truth: Life-changing transformation comes only from the inside out, from a Father who loves us just as we are.

Indeed, an OCD bout with external correction can become a barrier to better things. Some would like our church to consistently match carefully constructed expectations — everyone spiffed up, looking the same, marching in lockstep. But that runs counter to the creative energy of the Spirit to whom we have been entrusted until the end. The perspective our Lord longs for is echoed in David's heartfelt request: "Create in me a clean heart, O God. And renew in me a right spirit."

The mother who, putting housework, business or self aside, sits down and really listens to her children has got it right. The husband who sets the mobile phone to "silent"

while on a date with his wife has his priorities figured out. The church member who welcomes a young adult into the foyer with a hug understands the core values of the kingdom. Those who spend time down among the trenches of real life are incalculably more beautiful than those with the magnifying glass or mirror. Truth runs clearest and best when combined with the honesty of relationship.

Scripture places a heavenly value on a heart aligned with the gospel mission: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'"

If you have been unjustly weighed in the balances of outward expectations and found wanting, the One in whom there was "no form or comeliness," who was "despised and rejected by men," sees and understands. He looks beyond bumps, bulges, bunions and blemishes. He goes straight to the heart and says, "I choose you. Come, follow Me."

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor



AUTHOR

Steve Vistaunet

Respond to any *Gleaner* topic by emailing talk@gleanernow.com.



LETTERS

Response to Racism

I really appreciated Martin Weber's "A Sanctuary From Racism" article. When I was a young teen and my family was living in Alaska, we befriended Caren, an exchange high school student from Kenya who was attending a Catholic high school in Copper Center, Alaska. From time to time she would come to our home in Palmer and spend the weekend with us.

When Caren graduated, we suggested that she consider attending Walla Walla College to further her education. To our utter horror and dismay, she received a letter back from the administration saying, "Sorry, we don't accept black students." I am glad that this is no longer true, but

as followers of Jesus, we must guard our hearts against any form of not accepting others because of their color, race or ethnicity.

Cheri Armstrong, Athena, Ore.

Pause the Uncivil War

It seems we now have two nations in one. We appear to be in some form of civil war And, now most tragically our church seems to be in one. Jesus said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." We pray for our nation and our church If we could press the pause button on our quarreling and unite to fight God's battles, I think we would be greatly blessed.

Linda Kinne, Estacada, Ore.

Pass the Correction Plate

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to reader Carl Bankes for pointing out an incomplete Ellen White quotation in Seth Pierce's February Perspective article. The complete quote (with previously missing words in *italics*) should have read, "It is a solemn statement that I make to the church that not *one in twenty* whose names are registered upon the church books are prepared to close their earthly history, and would be as verily without God and without hope in the world as the common sinner."



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Inside look at Noah's Ark.

SEE PAGE

8



Cambridge gives and gives.

SEE PAGE

15

UCA athletes share Christ. See online story at glnr.in/112-04_ucc





A creative use for toothpicks.

SEE PAGE
18

SAGE miracles
abound.

SEE PAGE
27





HUDSON ON A MISSION

CREATION STUDY CENTER OPENS

“IF CREATED THINGS ARE SEEN AND HANDLED AS GIFTS OF GOD AND AS MIRRORS OF HIS GLORY, THEY NEED NOT BE OCCASIONS OF IDOLATRY — IF OUR DELIGHT IN THEM IS ALWAYS ALSO A DELIGHT IN THEIR MAKER.” — JOHN PIPER

Stan Hudson is a man on a mission — and it's not sitting at a desk. You'll frequently find him at a local church for a weekend seminar or presenting a week of prayer at a Northwest Adventist elementary school or academy. It's a role he's passionate about as director of the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) Creation Study Center. For him, origins matter. The question of where we came from connects directly to the question of where we're going.

AN UNLIKELY BEGINNING

It's not where he would have envisioned himself while working at McDonald's in his early 20s. And it's not where he'd be, if it hadn't been for his co-worker and friend, appropriately named David Friend.

"David's the biggest single reason I am a Christian," says Stan.

They'd become friends at Lynwood Academy in Southern California. Stan loved science, David preferred to dabble in art. But after their high school years, both of them floundered. Stan tried La Sierra College for a year, then he went to the University of California in Riverside as a geology major for a while before dropping out.

Flipping burgers for a living didn't seem like an attractive path to success. One evening, while Stan and David were hanging out, a sense of their dead-end journey hit hard. David suddenly exclaimed, "Let's see if we can find God." It was not the normal line of conversation for two young men with no eternal purpose in life. But something suddenly clicked.

A PRAYER FOR HELP

They both wondered how long it would be before Jesus returned. Sobered, Stan prayed his first prayer in years: "Lord, it looks like we're trying to find You. Can You help us? Amen."

That simple prayer was answered. With a renewed purpose, Stan headed back to La Sierra, where he graduated with a ministerial studies degree. A few years later, he picked up his Master of Divinity degree at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

So Stan became a pastor, leading churches in Ventura, Lynwood and Whittier, California, and then moving to the Northwest as pastor in Nampa, Spokane and the Moscow (don't say "cow")/ Pullman district. In 1993 he garnered a Doctor of Ministry degree in church growth from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. The title of his dissertation is ironic for a creation buff: "The Evolution of the Role of Pastor in the Seventh-day Adventist Church."

Hudson shows some of the artifacts on display at the study center. ▶

presented in Moscow, near the University of Idaho. More than 200 people, some of them university personnel and students, attended all seven nights. It was recorded on video and can still be seen replayed on 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network).

A NEW OPPORTUNITY

So when Max Torkelsen, then NPUC president, called in 2015 to propose a new full-time role establishing a new creation study focus for the Northwest, Stan was ready and willing. "As I recall," he says with a smile, "my response was, 'well, let me pray about thi — OK!'"

He was handed an empty room at the NPUC office. After considering the blank walls, Stan thought once again of his friend David, who had gone into drafting for a career — until he got laid off. When David couldn't find work for two long years, he



PLENTY OF BAD INFORMATION WITH RADICAL OR SENSATIONAL “ALTERNATIVE FACTS” FREELY CIRCULATES THAT PRESENTS CHRISTIANS OR ADVENTISTS AS ILL-INFORMED ON EVIDENCE OR SCIENCE.

decided to pick his artist brushes back up and become really proficient at painting.

And when Stan called him up and said, “Have I got a project for you!” David was eager to start.

“I thought, this will give David a great opportunity to really minister to others through his art,” says Stan. “It might not be quite like Michaelangelo doing the Sistine Chapel, but it will no doubt be life-changing, for him and for those who come later to the study center.”

PRAYER PARTNERS AGAIN

“Stan and I knelt down and prayed over the project on day one,” says David. “And each day, each time I started on another portion of the work, I prayed that God would guide my hand.” David finished two large murals for the Creation Study Center — one of Mount St. Helens erupting and another of a large dinosaur being overwhelmed by the flood.

“I cannot imagine anything better than what David has done,” says Stan.

So there are already miracles associated with this new creation emphasis. Stan’s connection with a former academy friend who was willing and able to drop everything and spend weeks painting murals. That’s one.

Here’s another. To find an affordable large dinosaur bone in good condition is rare. Stan

found a 5-foot femur bone from a camarasaurus — the one represented by David’s mural in the study center — and was able to have it shipped at no extra cost across the continent. But to mount and display such an object weighing hundreds of pounds created a challenge. Stan was directed to a world-class bone expert who had done mountings for museums around the globe and just happened to live and work a few miles down the road from the NPUC office. The expert was further intrigued by the project since he attended Adventist schools as a child — another miraculous blessing.

Indeed, Stan’s mission with the Creation Study Center is embedded with the miracles in his own life that have led him to this role — the culmination of a lifelong passion about Scripture and science. It’s centered on his love for the Creator and His creation.

ORIGINS STUDY IS KEY

The study of origins, Stan believes, is central to an Adventist understanding of the Three Angels’ Messages. Messages like “worship him who made heaven and earth” and “the hour of his judgment is come” are words meant to be taken as seriously as any God has given. We are to take seriously the God who created and who judges. It’s central to how big God is. We too often assume things about God

without truly knowing Him or His ways.

“That’s what I hope we can help accomplish with our creation study efforts,” says Stan. “We don’t have all the answers, but we hope to inspire our members to dig a bit deeper about how and why they believe in a Creator God. I love scientists who are willing to say ‘we don’t know everything.’ It doesn’t matter if you’re a creationist or a secular scientist — if you claim to know everything, you are

most certainly underestimating the complexity of what you claim. Jim Gibson, Geoscience Research Institute director in Loma Linda, California, is famous for comparing that thought as a creationist to those of evolutionists. ‘As a trained scientist,’ he says, ‘I can live with unanswered questions. I can just live with ours better than theirs.’”

COUNTERING BAD INFORMATION

But realizing some things are beyond current understanding is no excuse for settling for false data. Adventist members often struggle with finding solid material about creation. Plenty of bad information with radical or sensational “alternative facts” freely circulates that presents Christians as ill-informed on evidence or science. Even among thoughtful Adventists,



HUDSON ON A MISSION CREATION STUDY CENTER OPENS



- ◀ One of two large murals in the Creation Study Center painted by artist David Friend.
- Ⓛ Many of the study center features are displayed as hands-on examples of fossils and other intriguing items of interest to young and old.
- ✔ Stan Hudson explains the geological column displayed as part of the large mural with the camarasaurus dinosaur.

there are differing perspectives on the creation story. The NPUC Creation Study Center, along with Stan Hudson's efforts with churches and schools, aims to help add credible information to the menu so Northwest members can confidently study the issues for themselves.

STUDY CENTER NOW OPEN

The study center, located at the NPUC headquarters in Ridgefield, Washington, is now open for arranged visits by school and church groups.

There's plenty for young and old, with graphic murals and fascinating hands-on exhibits, including a large cutaway concept HO-scale (model railroad size) model of Noah's ark. Younger children will especially enjoy a chance to search for real fossils they can keep. Associated with the center, a very helpful resource library includes journals, books, DVDs and other materials on issues involving origins.

Stan hopes to hold a special dedication service for the center in August, inviting Max



Torkelsen, Jim Gibson and others who have been instrumental in this new focus on the Creator.

To arrange a visit to the center, call 360-857-7037. School groups, Pathfinder groups, church study groups or individuals are welcome on an appointment basis. Study resources are available on site for pastors, teachers or graduate students, if study appointments are arranged ahead of time.

It would be safe to say, however, that Hudson's primary focus in time is in the extended churches and classrooms around the Northwest. He is happy to schedule church seminars or school weeks of prayer through that same contact phone number.

Beyond the miracles already associated with this center, there are likely many others to follow — some of which may include you, your

children, your church or your school. These efforts will help each of us worship our Creator with a deeper understanding than ever before.

Origins do matter. Scripture says, "In the beginning God created . . ." Anything is possible when the Creator is allowed to work, a core thought to Stan's favorite Bible verse from Jeremiah 32:27. "Behold! I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for Me?"

*Take a virtual tour of the
Creation Study Center
with Stan Hudson now at
GleanerNow.com/csc.*



COMO FLOR DE LOTO

Una de las compañeras lanzó un rumor al grupo como quien esparcía un veneno al aire, y dijo: “Ella se podrá tomar un sábado libre, pero espero el día que la veremos aquí trabajando todos los sábados.” Sarita Aparicio solamente escuchaba. Al fondo se oía un coro de carcajadas burlescas que herían los oídos de alguien más. Eran los oídos de Luisa Alva; ella escuchaba con pena y simpatía el desdén y los desaires injustos. ¿Por qué no te defiendes, si te ofenden? Preguntó en una ocasión, Luisa a Sarita.

A la palabra áspera, una palabra suave. Soy hija del Rey de reyes y no debo rebajarme a ofender a nadie le respondió Sarita, con su amable sonrisa

Luisa y su familia.

habitual mientras continuaba la jornada en la empacadora.

En medio de un fango de hostilidades y desprecios, crecía una bella amistad como la flor de loto que florece con inmaculada belleza, sin ser tocada por la impureza del lodo.

LA AMIGA

¡Cómo puede ser tan amable y agradable con todos, a pesar de las burlas y las ofensas! Exclamaba Luisa sobre el carácter de su compañera. Los intercambios del día a día dieron ocasión para cultivar entre ellas una amistad sincera. Luisa cuenta que Sarita sabía



Los esposos aparicio y los esposos alva.

escucharla y que supo ganar poco a poco su confianza.

LA MAESTRA

Frente a la faja donde las dos seleccionaban el producto, Luisa quiso saber sobre los estudios de Sarita. Ella le dijo que era Licenciada en Educación. Entonces Luisa se abrió: Yo quiero saber más del Dios en el que usted cree, y de lo que enseña la Biblia, pero nunca fui a la escuela y entonces le preguntó: ¿Usted me enseñaría a leer? Sin vacilar, Sarita le dijo que estaría más que contenta.

LA TESTIGO

Mientras Luisa más aprendía a leer, más quería conocer al Dios real y poderoso de Sarita. Luisa vivía un sueño: ella le había pedido a Dios

que le diera la oportunidad de aprender a leer. Antes de cada lección oraban juntas hasta que Luisa aprendió a conversar con Dios como con un amigo. Con el tiempo, la familia entera estudió la Biblia.

Y el pasado 7 de enero de 2017, el pastor Marcos Aparicio, esposo de Sarita, bautizó a Luisa, a Marcelino su esposo, y a su hijo Allan. Su nueva familia, la Iglesia Adventista Hispánica de Payette, los recibió con gran gozo y brazos abiertos.

El pastor Juan Francisco Altamirano, coordina la labor de las iglesias de habla hispana en la Asociación de Idaho



ANCHORAGE SPANISH CHURCH EXPERIENCES POWERFUL YEAR

The Spanish congregation in Anchorage can look back on the year 2016 with a deep sense of gratitude for what can only be described as a year of unprecedented and unexpected blessings. A number of providential occurrences allowed members to experience a faint idea of what it means for God to do “exceedingly, abundantly above” our loftiest aspirations.



Pastor Inmer Zorilla speaks during an evangelistic series at Anchorage Spanish Church.

The growing Hispanic population in Anchorage has, for a number of years, prompted the Anchorage Spanish Church to pray for God’s special blessing in bringing new members to the church. God had been answering those prayers consistently, but the year 2016 would see Him answering that prayer in ways that no one expected.

The first wave of blessing came in March 2016 when the pastor and leaders of the church decided the time was right to

host a week of revival meetings that would help to set the right spiritual tone for the rest of the year. Consequently evangelist Luis Mota was brought from Puerto Rico to conduct the meetings.

What a memorable week of spiritual rejuvenation it was. The messages helped in reaffirming the faith of many of the members.

But the Lord had more in store. At the end of the series on the final Sabbath, much to the surprise of all who were there to witness it, 12 individuals came forward for baptism.

Under certain circumstances, church members would relax their efforts while basking in this

unexpected blessing, but not these members. Acutely aware of the urgency of the hour, and taking note of the large number of visitors who indicated their interest in surrendering their lives to Christ soon, the church immediately began to make plans for another reaping series later in the year.

Those plans came to fruition in September when Inmer Zorilla visited the Anchorage Spanish Church for a week of evangelistic meetings. Again it was a week of many miracles, at the end of which 15 people were baptized, bringing the total number of new members to 27 for the year. This could be

the result of nothing less than the powerful movement of the Holy Spirit.

As if the preceding was not enough, God also led this praying church to a lovely property that will be the new home for the Anchorage Spanish Church. A deal has been reached for the church to purchase this piece of land. Prayers are continuing so God will open the door for them to start building in the near future.

Without a doubt, 2016 was a remarkable year for the Anchorage Spanish Church, and we are praising God.

Don West, Anchorage Spanish Church pastor

2017 Summer Camp

TREASURE HUNTER

WHERE JESUS IS THE ULTIMATE TREASURE HUNTER



Camp Tukuskoya	Camp Polaris	Camp Lorraine
Juniors June 18-25	July 9-16	July 30-August 6
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Read more online at
glnr.in/112-04-ak_princess



TEA PARTY CELEBRATES GOD'S PRINCESSES

A mother-daughter Princess Tea was held at Anchorage Junior Academy on Feb. 11 for more than 120 people, including 61 girls ages 4–12 and their mothers, grandmothers and adult friends.

The community-focused event was extended to neighbors, family members and friends and featured the royal treatment: eating treats, making crafts and playing games while the girls learned they too really are princesses.

The girls were encouraged to have their mothers share with them about great women in the Bible such as Esther, Ruth and Lydia. They also brought donated socks, combs, brushes, gloves, T-shirts and other items for the Anchorage Abuse Women in Crisis Center.



Kim Purvis, Anchorage Junior Academy principal, leads an activity with “God’s Princesses.”

Alaska Conference women’s ministries’ goals seek to empower little girls, build a foundation of confidence in God as they grow and teach them how uniquely special they are to Him. Girls need godly women who care about them and help guide them to God as they grow into their teens and enter adulthood.

Many of the attendees said their children have never experienced an event like this and were thankful they were able to attend. One mother from the community said, “The church I attend does not allow parents to sit in the congregation with their children; we have to sit in a separate area during the sermon. The time spent here was great.”

She went on to ask, “Where is your church located? I’d like to start attending.”

Jean Gobah, Alaska Conference women’s ministries director



Princess Willow McAllen and her mom, Carol McAllen, are among 120 people enjoying the Princess Tea.

Read more online at
glnr.in/112-04-ak_sitka



SITKA STUDENTS VIRTUALLY BIKE THE WORLD

Go faster to finish in 20 minutes!” exclaims Ryan McCutcheon, principal and head teacher at Alaska’s Sitka Adventist School, as students pedal briskly to reach their goal across town in Mexico City, a place they might never otherwise travel in their lives.

They do this all virtually, via a video of the route, with their own bikes anchored securely to the ground on stationary bike trainers.

One of the students’ bikes is plugged into the main iPad, which controls the pace of the video. The faster they ride, the faster the video plays. All the other students have iPads to track their own progress and to ensure they successfully finish their 2 miles.

The money for this project was given to the Sitka Adventist School mostly due to the Don Keele Award grant

Ryan and Kallie McCutcheon applied for in January 2016. After the money was awarded, the supplies were purchased and the setup was completed.

Students complete their 2 miles as soon as they arrive at school, and the bike riding gives them a chance to wake up and get moving in a weatherproof environment before starting on their math assignments for the day.

This physical wellness is key to holistic Adventist education. As 3 John 1:2 says, “My dear friend, I pray that everything may go well with you and that you may be in good health — as I know you are well in spirit.”

Kallie McCutcheon, Sitka Adventist School teacher



Russell Burden, Samuel Jones and Gwen Oullette bike their “morning miles” at Sitka Adventist School.



Members of the Cambridge Church with a replica of the check they sent to ADRA.

PROJECT-MINDED CAMBRIDGE CHURCH SUPPORTS COMMUNITY, MISSIONS

Sometimes mission projects are difficult for small church congregations. How can only a few people make a difference? The Cambridge Church, with its average attendance of 15, has a heart for serving those in need, so they chose an ambitious project for 2016. The church family decided to raise \$5,000 for an item in the ADRA Really Useful Gift Catalog: a water source to transform a village.

Every month the fund grew and grew, reaching the goal in only 10 months. In ad-

dition to the well project, the Cambridge Church members supported the local food bank with donations as their community mission project.

God has been good to this small church family, and they feel so blessed to share their gifts locally and as part of worldwide mission endeavors. The 2017 projects are already in the works at Cambridge, so please pray for God's continued blessing on their mission focus.

Carolyn Wesner, Cambridge Church communication leader

NAMPA HOSTS 25TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Nampa Church choir celebrated 25 years of praise ministry on Dec. 10, 2016, with their annual concert, themed "Season of Hope."

In spite of the cold and icy conditions, the church was filled to capacity with expectant listeners from all over the valley. Thanks and appreciation were given to Wilker and Shirley Maxwell for their tireless efforts in making this 25th year a signature event.

With heavy hearts the choir dedicated their concert to Cherié Richards, faithful minister of music who passed away earlier in the year.

The concert featured the choir plus a number of soloists: LeeAnna McMullen, Candice Zappia, Tod and Tracy Spainhower, Carl Zumwalt, and Kevin and Dee



The "Treat Team" (Abeni Nosik, Kathy Cannon-leader, Misty Shipp, Shelly Johnson, and Landon Johnson) prepare treats for those attending the concert.

Spainhower. Actors and readers added to the performances, and a piano prelude and offertory were performed by Paul Wilkinson.

The message was clear: "News! News! Jesus Christ is born today! Christ is born today!" The concert offered "tidings of comfort and joy" to everyone who attended.

Tim Larson, Nampa Church member

NAMPA WOMEN'S BRUNCH FOCUSES ON GIFT OF GIVING

With Christmas carols in the background and happy voices in the foreground, the Nampa Women's Christmas Brunch in Star, Idaho, was underway in the Heron River Clubhouse, which the women's ministries team had transformed into a festive event hall.

With a theme of "Gift of

Giving," attendees brought gifts of personal care items for the Nampa Women's and Children's Shelter.

After a potluck of treats, Lisa Evenson played carols on her harp, Val D'Eon offered a thought-provoking poem, and Karen Pearson presented "The Gift of Receiving." Pearson questioned why it is often more

difficult, especially for women, to receive rather than give. Perhaps the greatest blessing was the surprise and awe on the shelter workers' faces when the personal care

items were delivered. Truly, in blessing others, these women have been blessed.

Beth Peterson, Nampa Church women's ministries leader



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HIGHLAND VIEW CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CELEBRATES PROJECT COMPLETION

The Butte Church family took time on Jan. 21 to celebrate all the major projects being completed at adjacent Highland View Christian School. All of the landscaping was finished and a lighted sign put in place at the school entry during summer and fall of 2016. Parents completed the final project of putting the playground together in October.

The day was spent praising God for the miracles He has performed in the past as well as looking forward to the miracles He is continuing to perform. The celebration was attended by Merlin Knowles, Montana Conference president, and Phil Hudema, Montana Conference education superintendent.

They were joined by Archie Harris, Washington Conference superintendent, who had been a great help in the decision to start Highland View.



Members of the Butte Church lay sod on the grounds of Highland View Christian School.



Highland View Christian School with its newly completed landscaping.

Highland View Christian School started in the church basement in the fall of 2010 with six students. Since then the church has built a school building large enough to house three classrooms and has completed the landscaping and fencing to make this a safe and pleasant place to be.

The school has grown substantially and now has two teachers and 22 students in

kindergarten through eighth grade. Highland View has become one of the fastest-growing schools in the North Pacific Union Conference during the last seven years.

Kathy Edwards, Highland View Christian School head teacher



Montana Conference Camp Meeting

June 14–17, 2017
Mount Ellis Academy

Guest Speaker:
Randy Roberts, senior pastor,
Loma Linda University

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Oregon's Deaf Christian Women's Ministry holds a retreat in Ocean Park, Wash.

OREGON'S DEAF CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S MINISTRY HOSTS RETREAT

Oregon's Deaf Christian Women's Ministry (DCWM) hosted a retreat in September in Ocean Park, Wash., where 20 women from across the United States — including from Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Texas and New York — gathered for a spirit-filled weekend.

The retreat's theme, "Walking With Jesus," reminded that walking together requires a commitment to be going the same direction, at the same pace, at the same time and to the same place. Tawny Sportsman and Bunola Hovey were keynote speakers.

DCWM is able to help meet the needs of the deaf women who gather each year by providing their own retreat where they can mingle together. They speak American Sign Language and are able to understand one another.

They also use speakers

who sign in their presentations. The women benefit greatly as presentations are signed and presented in their own language. Interpreters are wonderful and appreciated but aren't as helpful for an extended retreat.

DCWM will be celebrating its 15th anniversary in October 2017 at Newberg, Ore. If you would like to help with this ministry please email Ronda Alexander, director, at alexanderronda@hotmail.com, or email Bunny Hovey, coordinator, at bumaho@gmail.com.

These women work hard all year long to earn money for retreat. One woman who sells Avon gave half of what she earned to DCWM but didn't attend because she couldn't afford to fly to Oregon.

Tawny Sportsman, Prineville Church member

TSACS HOLDS TOOTHPICK BRIDGE COMPETITION

More online at glnr.in/112-04-or_tsacs

Fundraising is one of the challenges faced by small schools. In response, Maurita Crew has her fifth-through eighth-graders at Three Sisters Adventist Christian School in Bend utilize their skills in science, geometry and engineering to accomplish a significant amount of fundraising.

Every two years, Crew leads her class in a toothpick-bridge competition and fundraiser. Students design bridges, built from up to 750 flat toothpicks, to span a 12-inch distance. Each student builds four to five single- or double-layered spans and adds cross-braces, all with just toothpicks and wood glue.

Collecting sponsors is the next step in the process. Friends, family and church members pledge either a flat rate or by-the-pound amount to support the bridge-builders.

Bridges are named creatively and spray-painted. The night of the bridge-breaking begins with a fundraiser pasta dinner.

The kindergarteners through fourth-graders display

gumdrop bridges they've built, creating anticipation for a future year when they will finally be able to join the competition themselves. After much anticipation, the bridge-breaking begins, using a special breaker to determine how much weight each bridge can hold.

Walla Walla University School of Engineering supported the project this year by donating mechanical pencils for all the students and a \$25 gift certificate for the winner. The winners were Savannah Kasabasic, whose bridge withstood 335 pounds; Ryan Cheney, whose bridge held 285 pounds; and Caleb Brissett, whose bridge supported 215 pounds. First-time builder Quinn Gillespie also took home a prize for her bridge, which held 155 pounds.

Along with the experiential learning for the students, more than \$4,000 was raised this year for upcoming eighth-grade and Washington, D.C., trips.

Becky Colvin, TSACS upper-grade aide

Students hold up the bridges they designed and built with toothpicks.



Read full article at
glnr.in/112-04-or_whipple

WHIPPLE CREEK CELEBRATES GOD'S TIMING

The Whipple Creek Church in Ridgefield, Wash., held a praise and mortgage-burning service Jan. 21. Former pastors Donavon Kack and David Bostrom, along with Dan Linrud, Oregon Conference president, and David Freedman, Oregon Conference treasurer, joined 300 members of the family of Christ to celebrate the burning



Former pastors Donavon Kack and Dave Bostrom, along with Dan Linrud, Oregon Conference president, and David Freedman, Oregon Conference treasurer, join 300 members and visitors to celebrate the burning of the mortgage.

of this mortgage. Memories of the rich history of Whipple Creek Church were shared.

Members can trace the church's roots back to the 1970s and the Sara Church, which grew to plant a new company and build a new church. The Ridge Dell Company celebrated their first Sabbath in the new church on Jan. 17, 1981.

The church planned to add on a sanctuary as funds came in at a later date. A mold disaster was used by God to bring the Hazel Dell and Ridge Dell congregations together, and they worked together to complete the new sanctuary, starting in about 2006. Members held an open house in October 2009.

A loan was taken out in 2009 to pay off the mortgage on the new sanctuary. In 2016, as the church board was evaluating the church loan, it was pointed out the church was in its seventh year of debt. "That's the year of release," quipped Edward Nelson, current pastor, referencing Deut. 15:1-6.

People pledged and gave sacrificially, and their goal got closer and closer. Dennis Schafer, church treasurer, handed over a check to NPUC on Nov. 9, 2016, completely paying off the debt 12 years ahead of time.

Whipple Creek Church continues to grow, but members are confident God will continue to lead in the future, just as He has in the past.

Heidi Nelson, Whipple Creek Church member

Read the full article at
glnr.in/112-04-or_whipple.



Children pick up prayer requests.

WHIPPLE CREEK HOLDS FAMILY- FRIENDLY 10 DAYS OF PRAYER

Members of Whipple Creek Church in Ridgefield, Wash., were excited about participating in the General Conference 10 Days of Prayer initiative during the middle of January. They wanted to make the program, which focused on praying through the sanctuary, accessible to families with children.

To this end, the Whipple Creek 10 Days of Prayer meetings included singing and a 15-minute children's story to help children understand the beautiful meaning symbolized in God's sanctuary. A scale model sanctuary was built for the event.

One night the children (and adults) received wafers with honey to remind them that God's Word is as sweet as honey. Another night the children got to take home incense sticks of frankincense to remind them how prayers to God are like a sweet-smelling aroma before Him.

Toward the end of the 10 days, adults gathered their families and laid hands on the children, asking Jesus to abundantly bless them. Many children turned to the adults and hugged them.

Members old and young were uplifted by this wonderful time of praise, learning, prayer and thanksgiving before God as a family.

Heidi Nelson



Karissa Short holds a model of the table of showbread.



PAA COLLABORATES WITH MCMINNVILLE SCHOOL FOR PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

I believe students learn on a deeper level when we are willing to leave the safety of our everyday classrooms,” says Linda Johnson, Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) teacher.



PAA students Tori Johnson (left) and Tyler Couch (right) enjoy teaching MACS students about how the heart works.

That’s why Johnson recently took her anatomy and physiology students to McMinnville Adventist Christian School (MACS) for a day of project-based learning (PBL). Her students taught the third- through fifth-graders about the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and nervous systems. The students also paired up as lab partners for bone tissue experiments and animal heart and brain dissections.

This collaboration was inspired last summer when Oregon Conference teachers

learned how to implement PBL during a Loma Linda University Excellence in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Experiential Education (EXSEED) conference. Johnson met MACS teacher Verlaine Linrud while on a cadaver lab tour, and the two bonded over the excitement of teaching anatomy. They started talking about how they could team up to reach their PBL goals.

The benefits were mutual: PAA students got to teach younger students and reinforce their learning while MACS students got hands-on discovery experiences and mentorship.

“I was nervous about the teaching part,” says Adoniah Smith, PAA junior. “But I ended up really loving to see our little buddies get so excited about the experiments.”

“I enjoyed the dissections very much,” says MACS student Ireland Duke. “I’m not sure if I liked the brain or the heart better because I enjoyed them both.”

Whether hearts or brains were preferred, the day brought students valuable skills and experiences while smiles and laughter filled the room and important memories were formed.

“Thinking outside the box can be a challenge,” says Johnson, who understands

the problems that can arise for Adventist schools working toward PBL goals. “There are field trip transportation issues, missed class time and budget concerns. PBL also requires more materials. You have to have specimens to dissect and safety equipment. These are costly, especially for the smaller schools.”

Despite challenges, Oregon Conference teachers like Johnson and Linrud know that PBL is worth the energy and are committed to implementing PBL. Collaboration is one way to help each other reach these goals.

“The goal is to inspire, to connect, to make a difference in the lives of others, and, ultimately, to be the hands and feet of Christ, our Master Teacher,” says Johnson.

“Students came away that day feeling rewarded,” she says. “They helped to light the fires of curiosity in the minds of their little buddies.”

“It gave me such a good feeling to work with them,” says Smith. “I saw what a blessing it was to share this experience, and I hope we can do it again.”



MACS students assemble a model human skeleton as if it were a 3-D puzzle during their project-based learning collaboration with PAA students.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent

MILO HOSTS 'CROSS TRAINING'

More online at
glnr.in/112-04-or_milo



In February Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek hosted "CROSS Training," a high school worship conference focused on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in an age of uncertainty. Students came from Grants Pass, Klamath Falls, McMinnville and Salem

and the topics of obedience, service and salvation.

On Sabbath afternoon, the teens divided into four teams and headed to Grants Pass, Canyonville, Myrtle Creek and Roseburg to share the love of Jesus. "We trained over 130 attendees on discipleship and evangelism," says Reisig. "We hit the streets with 500 Bibles for distribution to anyone. We had countless prayers for each other and people we met on the streets. We also saw a decision for baptism come out of it."

Senior Nyton Fullmer says a member of his group, freshman Tyler Lambie, was distributing Bibles. "He even

ran a whole block to give a Bible to a homeless woman, and she accepted it," says Fullmer. "As he was about to leave, he told her Jesus loved her. Her reply: 'I know. I just wish I could love Him as much as He loves me.'"

Freshman Becca Mahurin was with a group that included her Ethiopian classmate Derartu Olana. "We went to this house, and Carlos Lopez knocked on the door," says Mahurin. "The family was from Ethiopia, and Derartu was with us and prayed for them in their own language."

Reisig pointed out the slim odds of finding an Ethiopian family in Roseburg and



KATHY HERNANDEZ

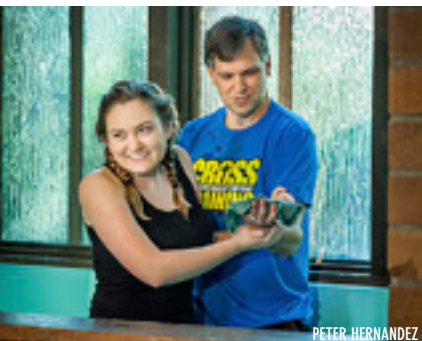
Pastor Chad Reisig addresses more than 130 teens at Milo's CROSS Training high school worship conference.

Olana "happening" to be with that group, saying, "Tell me that God cannot orchestrate some really cool stuff!"

On Sabbath, the group celebrated the baptisms of six Milo students: Abraham Salgado, junior; Elijah Baez, junior; Clarissa Hoffman, sophomore; Devin Johnson, junior; Julia Allgood, junior; and Rashad Gooding, senior. Less than a week later, Allgood and Johnson shared their testimonies as speakers for student week of prayer.

For information about Milo's worship conferences, contact Chad Reisig at chad.reisig@miloacademy.org.

Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter



PETER HERNANDEZ

Junior Julia Allgood is one of six students baptized during CROSS Training. Less than a week later she shared her testimony for student week of prayer.

to join Milo students for the weekend.

Designed especially for teens, the conference included praise music from Christian recording artist Caleb Ray and his band, drama, video clips, and stories and Bible teaching from Milo pastor Chad Reisig, who created the conference. His messages taught how we can know God is real, how to have a relationship with Jesus,



PETER HERNANDEZ

After returning from an outreach event to surrounding communities, attendees share their individual experiences with the others attending CROSS Training.

CAA FRIENDS, ALUMNI SHARE TRADE SECRETS

More online at  glnr.in/112-04-or_caa

Columbia Adventist Academy (CAA) in Battle Ground, Wash., is blessed to be a part of a diverse and supportive community and in turn sends graduates to become part of that community in many different ways, sharing their



Zach Bowden, a structural engineer, gives a demonstration.

the supplies Dr. White uses.” Labor and delivery nurse and CAA alumnus Laurisa Pearson impressed students as well. “I really liked Mrs. Pearson because she actually brought in someone and did an ultrasound, which was super cool,” says sophomore Breanna Ermshar.

Most importantly, students saw time and again the role God played in leading many of the presenters to where they are now. “It gave me a way to see a possible future God has for me,” says Mitchell Powers, sophomore.

Stacy Knight, Columbia Adventist Academy Gleaner correspondent



Les Zollbrecht gives the keynote.

talents to bless others. CAA welcomed back more than a dozen of those graduates in February, along with many other supporters of the school, to share with the current students the paths that led them to their careers and the amazing things they do on a daily basis.

Les Zollbrecht, director of Big Lake Youth Camp in Sisters, Ore., started off the morning with the keynote speech, focusing on how God has led him in his career path. Sophomore Casey Shearer gained a deeper understanding “that God can prepare you for

what He wants you to do.”

Zollbrecht encouraged students to consider what they love and are capable of, as well as the practicality of needing to actually make money, in considering careers. He emphasized the importance of connecting with people and reaching out. “It made me feel motivated to pursue my goals,” says Emily Kerbs, a sophomore.

Students spent the rest of the morning attending 35-minute sessions presented by professionals in a wide variety of fields. Students heard from many perspectives in the medical field, including from a pharmacist, flight nurse, labor and delivery nurse, emergency medicine, dentist and more. They heard from people in the business world like small-business owners, accountants and even a Nike footwear developer. Other guests included a photographer, an

author/illustrator, an interior designer and an executive chef.

Students enjoyed hands-on experiences in many of the presentations. Areny Palomera, a junior, enjoyed hearing from anesthesiologist and CAA graduate Ryan White, saying, “It was awesome because I actually got to touch some of



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JOIN THE GREAT MIVODEN ADVENTURE

THE GREAT ADVENTURER

For more information, go to mivoden.com

Enveloped in a blanket of mist, Camp MiVoden sits on the eastern shore of beautiful Hayden Lake in Idaho. The mist begins to scatter as sunbeams peak through, lighting up a place where, come spring, one will again hear the laughter of children, the singing of worship music and the hum of boats. Adventures will be enjoyed by young and old alike as a horseback ride is taken, another person zips across a large ravine and campers score success on a wakeboard. Campers will eagerly anticipate watching a rodeo, participating in games and watching with bated breath as a play unravels before their eyes.

Comments like the ones below have been made to me over and over again, giving a picture of the amazing adventure Camp MiVoden is to campers who come and spend a week in the summer:

- » “I just love camp MiVoden. It is an amazing place! I come to wakeboard camp every year, and now I would like to become a staff!”
- » “Camp MiVoden is my favorite place to be in the summer!”
- » “Camp MiVoden is my home.”
- » “Camp MiVoden is the place where I met God!”

A father came to me during one of the family camps and said, “Do you have a moment? I would like to tell you what happened when my son came to teen camp this summer. He had a wonderful time all week long doing the activities, hanging out with staff and campers and going to the worships. On Friday evening for



Teen camp

the first time in his life he gave his heart to Christ. MiVoden has changed his world! Thank you for what you are doing at Camp MiVoden!”

Whether you are young and want to be a part of teen camp, ultimate camps or any of our kids camps or you would like to come to one of our family camps, join us and be a part of the great adventure at Camp MiVoden this summer!

Jeff Wines, Upper Columbia Conference youth and family life director



Family Camp and Kids Camps are the summer vacation of choice for these campers.

2017 SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

- Adventure** (ages 8–9)
June 18–25
- Junior Camp** (ages 10–12)
June 25–July 2
- Tween Camp** (ages 12–13)
July 2–9
- Teen Camp** (ages 14–17)
July 9–16
- Family 1 Camp**
July 23–30
- Medical/Dental Family Camp**
July 30–Aug. 6
- Family 2 Camp**
Aug. 6–13

ULTIMATE CAMPS

- Cowboy Teen** (ages 14–17)
June 18–25
- Challenge Camp** (ages 13–16)
June 18–25
- Cowboy Tween** (ages 12–14)
June 25–July 2
- Wakeboard Tween** (ages 12–14)
June 25–July 2
- Extreme Teen 1** (ages 13–17)
June 25–July 2
- Junior Cowboy 1** (ages 10–12)
July 2–9
- Teen Wakeboard 1** (ages 13–17)
July 2–9
- Extreme Teen 2** (ages 13–17)
July 2–9
- Junior Cowboy 2** (ages 10–12)
July 9–16
- Teen Wakeboard 2** (ages 13–17)
July 9–16
- Extreme Teen 3** (ages 13–17)
July 9–16
- Teen Cowboy** (ages 14–17)
July 16–23
- White Water Rafting** (ages 14–17)
July 16–23



COMMUNITY ENJOYS 'DINNER WITH A DOCTOR'

It's late Sunday afternoon at Washington's Spokane Valley Church, and Dinner With a Doctor will soon begin. Although preregistration has been encouraged, there are more attendees showing up than there is space.

The three seminar rooms are full. And when the entire group later gathers in the fellowship room, it too will be full to capacity.

The seminar presenters are medical doctors Adam Lyko and Wichit Srikureja. Attendees also hear from guest presenters: Darius Howard, a professional fitness trainer, and Martha Koeske, a nutritional therapist. Behind the scenes, recording all the presentations, is Rupert Salmon and his crew of videographers and switch managers, many of whom are young people who attend Spokane Valley Adventist School.

Jamie Aquino-Streett not only presents a food demonstration to the entire group, she and her staff of volunteers prepare a delicious vegetarian meal, which is served by

students from Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash. As participants enjoy their meal, the doctors move from table to table engaging them in conversation and answering questions.

Participants speak again and again with appreciation for the practical instruction, the hospitality and the excellence of the program. This event was inspiring and a blessing. Bobbie Jo Srikureja, coordinator for the program, cites "God's big blessings" as she speaks of the results.

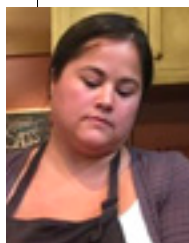
A long time ago Ellen White wrote, "The medical missionary work is as the right arm of the Third Angel's Message which must be proclaimed to a fallen world . . ." It looks as if she is on target once again.

Spokane Valley Church is intentional about reaching the community and plans to offer three more Dinner With a Doctor programs during 2017, with the next one in April.

Bill Skidmore, Spokane Valley Church member



Adam Lyko, an internist and endocrinologist, shares health principles with Dinner With a Doctor attendees.



The event's food preparation demonstrator is well-known local chef Jamie Aquino-Streett.



Teens had to build a wooden car for an activity called "The Great Race."

TEENS REMINDED OF GOD'S POWER

Imagine a world where teens came together expecting a weekend of worship fun and desire to make Jesus a reality. Teen Retreat 2017 at Camp MiVoden in Hayden Lake, Idaho, was just that.

From all over the Upper Columbia Conference, teens

Games incorporated an idea of the freedom of choice we've been given. Teens were given options of tasks to do with instructions from the Bible. One tip was "don't be lazy." Seems simple, but, as in our daily walk with God, the teens didn't always choose the right task. Luckily they were given a second chance to head up the hill where hot chocolate and a pony waited for them. Another game involved switching roles of director and Pathfinder.

Huge amounts of behind-the-scenes work was put in as well. A prayer wall, decorated mantel and the smell of delicious food was proof of that. The general unsung heroes of faith put it all together and offered guidance for teens leading the music.

Alicia Pope, Walla Walla teen Pathfinder



Teen Pathfinders enjoy Sabbath activities in the snow.

gathered to be reminded of God's power by Dean Kravig, weekend speaker and the band teacher of Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash.



Teen boys set up their tent as part of "The Great Race."

WWU HONOR BAND ALLOWS UCA MUSICIANS TO GROW

Fourteen students and staff from Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., joined musicians from 11 Adventist academies for a weekend of growing through music. Brandon Beck, Walla Walla University professor of

says Walker Johnson, a UCA junior. “It’s thrilling.”

A number of members from Honor Band performed at Friday night vespers with the Walla Walla University band. Additionally, the entire Honor Band shared music during the University Church’s second service, as well as through a seven-song concert in the afternoon.

“The WWU Honor Band was a wonderful opportunity for my students to grow as musicians,” says Dean Kravig, UCA band and orchestra director. “Just the experience of working up to the audition helps the players grow tremendously, and the opportunity to play with our church’s version of the All-State bands is a life-changing experience that inspires students to become lifelong learners on their instrument.”

Timothy Kosaka, Upper Columbia Academy communication taskforce worker



Kaitlyn Kramer and Thomas Warren join the percussion section of the WWU Honor Band.

Fourteen Upper Columbia Academy students and staff join musicians from eleven Adventist academies for the Walla Walla University Honor Band weekend.

music and band director, led this biennial event on the campus of Walla Walla University.

An intensive audition process yielded some of the “finest musicians from the country,” says Pam Cress, interim chair of the Walla Walla University (WWU) music department.

This three-and-a-half-day event gave students an opportunity to practice and perform challenging music, grow through meaningful worships, and make new connections with students who share the interest of music. “Honor Band has been a great new thing to experience, and it’s just fun playing with new music,”

ROGERS INCREASES SPANISH LEARNING

Adentro afuera arriba abajo siempre estoy feliz.”

These Spanish lyrics to a classic Adventist children’s song float down the hallways at school and even into the homes of Rogers Adventist School (RAS) students in College Place, Wash., and the surrounding area.

This is the fourth year RAS has invited Spanish teachers to share their language and culture with students in kindergarten through eighth

teach a second language.

Students start out learning the basics like the days of the week, colors and simple conversational phrases in daily classes. As they progress through the program they learn prepositions and verb conjugations.

Signs around the school are in both English and Spanish. The daily announcements made over the intercom each morning feature a Spanish message. In family groups each Friday, the students sing a song in Spanish like “Jesus Loves Me” or “The B-I-B-L-E.”

The current teacher, Monica Lazaro, is from Ecuador. “It is a blessing to put the gifts that God gives me into service for Him. It is gratifying to see the daily progress that the students have and the pride on their faces when they can greet in

Spanish, answer oral questions, record the announcements or simply sing a whole song in Spanish,” she says.

RAS hopes to incorporate more opportunities for Spanish practice each year.

Holley Bryant, Rogers Adventist School principal



grade. Teachers have come from Ecuador, Spain and Costa Rica.

RAS has a robust academic program already with physical education, technology, and multiple music options like handbells, steel drums and orchestra. However, the school couldn’t ignore the need to

PATHFINDERS DELVE DEEP INTO SCRIPTURE

How would you like to see the young people in your church adding six of Paul's books to memory? Maybe the entire book of Daniel? That's just what Pathfinder clubs across



Pathfinder teens prep for testing.

the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) have been doing since school began last fall. And they'll start on the book of Daniel this fall.

Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) teams gathered in Richland, Wash., Feb. 18, for conference-level testing on several books of the Bible. Seven teams advanced to the conference level including Walla Walla Sunrise, Wind Valley Arrows, Ponderosa Pathfinders, Yakima Braves, Brewster Blazers, Palouse Hills and Cascade Peaks. Three teams advanced to the NPUC-level testing held at the Walla Walla University Church March 11.

This huge commitment on the part of Pathfinders, parents, teachers and churches is all part of the Pathfinder Bible

Experience. Teams start studying and memorizing as soon as school starts. The first area-level testing takes place in January. At each testing event teams are faced with 90 questions from the assigned portions of Scripture. This year each team was responsible for the complete books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians, as well as 1 and 2 Timothy. The questions are deep and must be answered exactly as the passage reads.

When one team coach was asked how many hours he had put into getting his team ready for the first PBE testing event, he answered, "Over 1,000 hours." This is not for the faint of heart.

But it is for those who want to see the treasure of God's Word buried deep in the minds of young people. The experience has a ripple effect too. One mom remembers her daughter coming home from school saying she didn't have to prepare for her memory work in class that week because she already knew the verses from when her older brother was studying for the Pathfinder Bible Experience.

Teams from around the North Pacific Union Conference will be heading to Chicago, Ill., on May 22 for this year's North American



Pathfinder Bible Experience can be a family experience.

Division testing event. To get there, they will have had to successfully pass testing at the area, conference and union levels.

To learn how you can support a team or how you can get a PBE team started in your

church, contact your conference Pathfinder director.

Please keep all of the NPUC teams in your prayers as they head to Chicago.

Richie Brower, Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder director

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More online at
glnr.in/112-04-wa_sage

SAGE SEES MIRACLES EN ROUTE TO INDIA



VIRGINIA GONTHIER

John Marriott, a SAGE volunteer from Oregon, lays brick for a new Maranatha One-Day church in India.

Two weeks before the SAGE (Seniors in Action for God with Excellence) India trip, someone asked Bob Grady, SAGE president, how were things going. And he thought, "Things are just going too smoothly. By experience I know the devil hates mission trips."

Mission trips are a key time to see modern-day miracles, as 34 SAGE members from Washington, Oregon and Colorado recently experienced en route to India. This is SAGE's 18th mission trip with Maranatha Volunteers International in 20 years.

Winter snowstorms in Portland and Seattle delayed travel by two days. With all the travel changes, the seniors' visa applications for India would expire a couple hours before they landed. "Everyone was praying earnestly," Grady remembers.

The group waited four days for their visas in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The travel agent, acting upon the group's faith that the visas would arrive in four days, booked continuing flights to India.

"If the volunteers' faith was rewarded, we would still have about four days, instead of eight days, to accomplish all our planned mission tasks," Grady says.

When at last their India visas arrived, three were missing. With two frantic calls back to the United States, the three missing visas were emailed and printed out at the hotel with just enough time to spare.

SAGE volunteers flew into Delhi and awaited the final connecting arrangements to Shillong, India. Later they learned a Maranatha representative, with only 15 minutes to spare the previous Friday, had changed their tickets in good faith.

"With so little time left to work, our volunteers agreed to a 5:30 a.m. start time," Grady explains. "The framing and roof of a One-Day Church were quickly assembled in one day, nine courses of brick were laid the next day, windows installed the third day, and bricks to the roof were finished the fourth day. Another team painted a neighboring church."

The medical clinic team was equally busy treating 973 patients in four days and

giving away nearly 300 pairs of eyeglasses. The Vacation Bible School team averaged 105 children each day and brought the children much delight. The paint team finished their task in just three days.

On Sabbath, the volunteers attend the freshly painted Mawphlanga Church. The church was dedicated to the memory of long-time SAGE member Marguerite Anderson by her three children: Karen, Tom and Dan.

"The devil threw everything at us he could to stop this valuable trip," says Grady, "but we had a persistent group of prayer warriors on this trip and at home."

To get to know some of the SAGE volunteers, watch a 30-minute behind-the-scenes Maranatha mission video story at glnr.in/112-04-wa_sage.

Heidi Baumgartner, with reporting by Bob Grady and Virginia Gonthier



With half the number of expected work days, SAGE volunteers work together, starting at 5:30 a.m., and watch how God blessed their efforts.



VIRGINIA GONTHIER

SAGE volunteers dedicate the newly painted church to the memory of long-time SAGE volunteer Marguerite Anderson.

NEW CHAPTER OF GOD'S CLOSET OPENS IN MONROE

More photos online at glnr.in112-04-wa_monroe



I don't know what I would have done if I hadn't found God's Closet. My kids need new clothes so badly, and I just don't have the money."

Sentiments such as this are the very reason the Monroe Church opened a chapter of God's Closet clothing ministry. When Tracey Gaver, program director for Monroe, saw a video on Facebook about God's Closet, she knew immediately her community needed this ministry.

teers greeted the guests, offered hot chocolate, and directed them to child care and the three rooms full of new and gently used clothing.

Each family was given two shopping bags and allowed to take whatever they needed from the tables. In addition, a partnership with the Pajama Program and a local charity allowed each child to receive a brand-new pair of pajamas, a new book and a new stuffed animal.

God's Closet depends on an incredible team of volunteers. Members from the community joined church members to sort and organize clothing by size and gender. From newborn through teens, there were clothes for everyone who came.

Three families requested Bible studies, and nearly all requested information about children's programming offered by the church.

God's hand was seen all day. A moment of panic occurred when not one but three different Russian-speaking families needed assistance. The team had prepared for Spanish-speakers, but they hadn't planned on Russian-speakers. But God brought a young newlywed (who came with her new mother-in-law to volun-



More than 114 people come through the doors of Monroe's first God's Closet "Free Shop Day."

teer) who "just happened" to be fluent in Russian.

The team is already gearing up for the next event this spring. The donations keep pouring in. God is so faithful, and Monroe Church members are reminded of Acts 20:35: "In all things I have shown you

that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Tracey Gaver, Monroe God's Closet director



Three full rooms of clothing are ready to give away.

Once the need was known, donations began to come in. Local families found out about the project and began to clean out their closets. Partnerships with local agencies and charities formed, resulting in more donations.

More than 114 people attended the first "Free Shop Day" event. A team of volun-



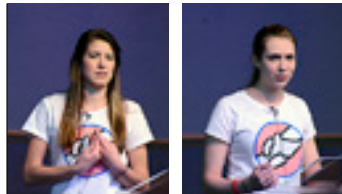
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AUBURN STUDENTS EXPLORE SERVANT LEADERSHIP TOPICS

Student week of prayer is typically a spiritual highlight for an academy campus, and the same is true for Auburn Adventist Academy (AAA).

“We see the spiritual significance of week of prayer in a very specific way that reminds us of the greater spiritual battles we are in,” says John Soulé, AAA principal. “Any week of prayer is a call



McKenna Butler Lauren Richert

my walk with God stronger,” says Tristan Johnson, a senior from California.

Each student who spoke was chosen by their classmates at the beginning of the year, and each conveyed a different of aspect of what it takes to be a servant leader for Christ. Concepts encompassed love, forgiveness, identity in God, joy and resilience.

Jennifer Woody, Bible teacher and student week of prayer coordinator, met with all the student speakers beforehand to give them coaching and witnessed their behind-the-scenes preparation journey.

“It gives the students a chance to grow in their spiritual walk because they are practicing one of the main things that cause spiritual growth — sharing,” Woody says. “For those listening, it helps them see that others are battling with the same issues, and it gives them hope.”

This week focused on servant leadership gave Auburn students a time to pray, laugh and embrace the students who courageously shared.

McKenna Butler, AAA media literacy student, with Heidi Baumgartner



PHOTOS: RAENA BAHNSEN

Juniors Andrew Armstrong and Kenneth Cho pray before Cho speaks. Each student speaker is introduced and prayed for by a close friend.

for us to continually pray for a spiritual hedge of protection for our students, staff, campus and school families.”

Auburn’s student week of prayer was scheduled during the week of Valentine’s Day and provided the right opportunity for students to talk with their peers about servant leadership.

“The opportunity to be able to share the love of Christ I have with my peers is something that is truly incredible and ultimately helped make

SAA SENIOR WINS ESSAY COMPETITION

Do you ever look at successful people and wonder why they appear to be so lucky? Maybe it is that person who always seems to get promoted or perhaps the one who gets straight A’s.

Success doesn’t happen by chance. Jacob Craig, a senior at Skagit Adventist Academy (SAA) in Burlington, recently learned this firsthand.

Earlier this year, one of his teachers asked Craig to submit an application and essay to the Daughters of the American Revolution. The essay question asked, “What are the qualities that make you a good citizen?”

Craig won the regional competition and was presented an award and scholarship to further his education, while his parents and two of his teachers witnessed his achievement.



LYNN FIEDLER

Jacob Craig holds up his award from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Next up are state and national events. Craig believes the ultimate goal of the contest promotes positive academics and citizenship.

Craig says he is blessed by the opportunities provided by SAA, and he is excited about attending Walla Walla University next year to major in engineering.

Tressa Farnsworth, Skagit Adventist Academy parent

June 16-24
2017
WASHINGTON ADVENTIST CAMP MEETING
Featuring Bill Knott • Tim Madding • Mark Anthony Elizabeth Talbot • G. Alexander Bryant
More details: washingtonconference.org



Engineering for life.



Doug Logan, chair SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

You've heard the buzz:

- Tissue engineered organs
- Advanced imaging techniques
- Neural engineering
- Cell and molecular engineering
- Nanoscale materials and devices

These technologies are developed by biologists and medical scientists in laboratories around the world—and by engineers. Engineering is essential for commercializing these products and making them affordable to more people in the world.

Bioengineering has been growing rapidly at Walla Walla University over the past few years. Currently our faculty and students are researching biomimetic medical implant materials. These implants are used to help the body repair tissues as diverse as neural or bone tissue. We have created tools to help us build these materials such as an electrospinning machine to

produce nanoscale fibers to mimic the proteins in the body, a bioreactor to culture cells in an environment that is similar to the body, and custom 3D printers to print implants for specific individuals.

Custom designed genes and the resultant proteins are used for many applications such as pharmaceuticals, biomaterials, diagnostic devices, and bioremediation. At WWU, bioengineering, biochemistry, and biology students learn these molecular biology techniques while doing original research.

Another multi-year effort at WWU is the design of a prosthetic hand that is controlled by muscle impulses from the upper or lower arm, with a cost that is reasonable for use by, say, people who have lost an extremity in an earthquake.

These developing technologies will play an increasingly significant role in the world we are creating, and you can make your mark: engineering for life.

Bioengineering students at WWU become...

cellular engineers
tissue engineers
cardiovascular engineers
biotechnicians
genetic engineers
computation molecular biologists
neurobiologists

biomedical image processors
prosthetics designers
bioinformatics
biomaterial designers
medical equipment servicers
nano (biomimetic) biomaterial engineers
bioretractors and more...

Degrees offered

Bioengineering (B.S.E.)
Bioengineering Science (B.S.)
Mechanical, Electrical, or
Computer Engineering (B.S.E.)

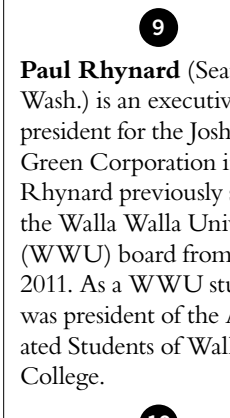
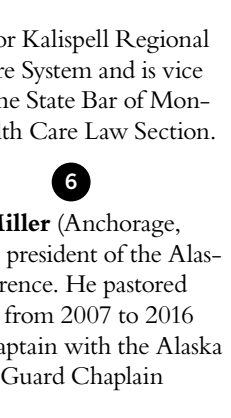
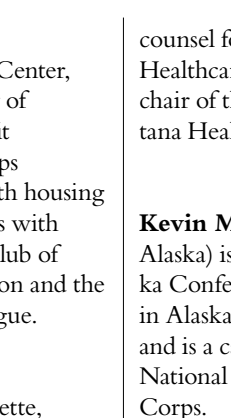
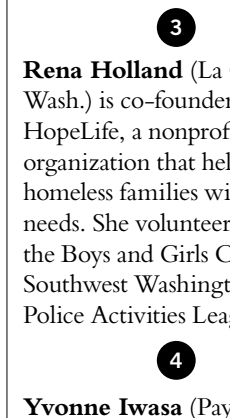
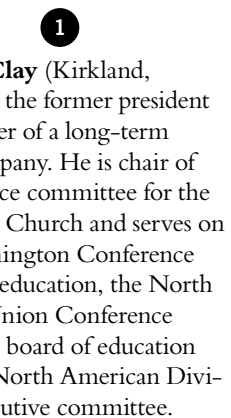
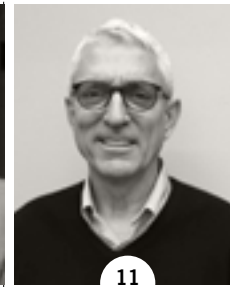
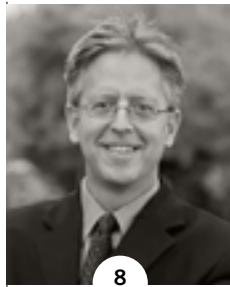
*for medical devices, implants,
imaging, and prosthetics*

For more information about studying bioengineering at Walla Walla University visit engineering.wallawalla.edu.

See for yourself: visit.wallawalla.edu



WWU WELCOMES 11 NEW BOARD MEMBERS



1

Bryan Clay (Kirkland, Wash.) is the former president and owner of a long-term care company. He is chair of the finance committee for the Kirkland Church and serves on the Washington Conference board of education, the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) board of education and the North American Division executive committee.

2

Lowell Cooper (Kennewick, Wash.) is special assistant to the General Conference president serving as chair of the board at Loma Linda University. He has been a pastor and a missionary to Pakistan and India, and he has served as general vice president of the General Conference.

3

Rena Holland (La Center, Wash.) is co-founder of HopeLife, a nonprofit organization that helps homeless families with housing needs. She volunteers with the Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Washington and the Police Activities League.

4

Yvonne Iwasa (Payette, Idaho) is a Pathfinder leader, a church elder and a youth Sabbath School teacher. She serves on the Idaho Conference executive committee and the NPUC board of education. She has taught sociology and served as social science department chair at Treasure Valley Community College.

5

Stephen Kreitner (Kalispell, Mont.) is associate general

counsel for Kalispell Regional Healthcare System and is vice chair of the State Bar of Montana Health Care Law Section.

6

Kevin Miller (Anchorage, Alaska) is president of the Alaska Conference. He pastored in Alaska from 2007 to 2016 and is a captain with the Alaska National Guard Chaplain Corps.

7

Joyce Newmyer (Happy Valley, Ore.) is president of Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region.

8

Todd Pascoe (Vancouver, Wash.) is an attorney who specializes in criminal and family law. He has also taught high school history.

9

Paul Rhynard (Seattle, Wash.) is an executive vice president for the Joshua Green Corporation in Seattle. Rhynard previously served on the Walla Walla University (WWU) board from 2006 to 2011. As a WWU student, he was president of the Associated Students of Walla Walla College.

10

Jaime Rodriguez (New York, N.Y.) is an associate professor of global history at St. John's University in Queens, New York.

11

Ron Wilkinson (Walla Walla, Wash.) is an entrepreneur and a strong supporter of Christian education. He serves on the board of Walla Walla General Hospital.

GRATITUDE: AN ESSENTIAL FOUNDATION FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

Mario DeLise had a vision in 2009 to develop an event through which attendees could participate in meaningful dialogue on spirituality and health care. At the time, DeLise was the spiritual care director at Walla Walla General Hospital in southeast Washington.

What began as a way to provide education, practical skill-building and fellowship for area ministers quickly grew both in size and diversity. The hospital held the seventh annual Spiritual Care Symposium in January 2017.

This year's theme was "Gratitude: An Essential Foundation for Spiritual Well-Being." The event included nearly 90 social workers, nurses, doctors, counselors, ministers, health care chaplains, health educators, administrators, physical therapists and dentists.

Philip Watkins, psychology professor at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Wash., presented his research on gratitude, which has been his focus since 2000. His current research investigates questions related to how gratitude enhances well-being, the nature of gratitude toward God, and the factors that enhance or inhibit gratitude.

The symposium explored the current status of the science of gratitude and showed how gratitude can be a crucial element to incorporate into spiritual care. Watkins showed how gratitude is one of the most important virtues for living well.

Building on this foundation, Watkins gave practical ways gratitude exercises can be incorporated into a practice of spiritual care and the impact



Philip Watkins, psychology professor at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Wash., presented his research findings on gratitude at the 2017 Spiritual Care Symposium.

these practices have on people's lives. Finally, he showed the significance of gratitude toward God and how recent research has shown this is important to spiritual well-being.



During the past few years, these symposiums have brought a diverse group of ministry and health care teams together for discussion, learning and inspiration.

Since its inception, the Spiritual Care Symposium has covered a range of topics, including grief and loss, ethical and spiritual issues in medicine, spirituality in helping professions, and emotional intelligence as a key to spirituality in the workplace.

In addition to meaningful dialogue, DeLise wanted to provide more local opportunities for those in helping professions to obtain continuing education units (CEUs) specifically geared toward spirituality and health care. Ultimately he wanted to provide area professionals with solid scientific content that was both inspirational and practical in nature. Partnering with Walla Walla University, the

symposium has provided a unique, local CEU option that resonates with the community.

Planning is already underway for the 2018 symposium, when the focus turns to the spiritual dimensions of aging. The main speaker will be Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, an Episcopalian priest and author. Most recently Cawthorne Crafton was interim rector of St. James, the American Church in Florence, Italy, and of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Metuchen, New Jersey. She is also an adjunct professor at the General Theological Seminary in New York.

Jaci Cress, Walla Walla General Hospital spiritual care director



Max and Patsye Farr

Farr 70th

Max and Patsye Farr celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Nov. 20, 2016, in Monroe, Wash., with a reception at the Best Western Hotel.

Max Farr married Patsye Mooney on Nov. 6, 1946, in San Bernardino, Calif. During their married life, Max has had a variety of jobs: carpenter, orchardist, welder, rancher and millwright. Patsye worked at the Loma Linda campus kitchen and also worked at Koenig's furniture factory in Sultan.

They enjoy traveling to North Dakota to visit grandchildren and great-grandchildren and have traveled extensively throughout the West to visit relatives.

The Farr family includes Max "Skip" Jr. and Helen (Koenig) Farr of Phoenix, Ariz.; Lynda (Farr) Skau of Ridgefield, Wash.; 3 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Marriott 75th

Clyde and Vernita Marriott celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary Nov. 30, 2016. They celebrated with their family at the assisted living center where they live.

Clyde and Vernita were married Nov. 30, 1941. Seven days later, Japan attacked the U.S. at Pearl Harbor. Their

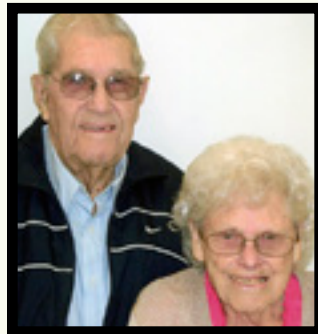
future was a little uncertain while Vernita was finishing high school and Clyde was taking aircraft mechanic courses at Sacramento Junior College in California. Yet they both trusted in the Lord.

One year later their son Ronald was born. In March 1943, Clyde was called by Uncle Sam. Nearly finished with his aircraft training, he went to England and spent two years repairing B-17 bombers.

Back home in November 1945, the Marriotts started building houses then decided to move out of Sacramento and bought a mom-and-pop country store near Glendale, Ore.

Chainsaws were new and in high demand. A friend got Clyde interested, and he soon became a chainsaw dealer.

The Marriotts added to their family a daughter, Linda, and another son, John Clyde. They raised their family in the mountains of southern Oregon, schooling their kids at Milo Adventist Academy in



Clyde and Vernita Marriott

Days Creek, Ore.

After being the building committee chairman on a new Adventist church in Canyonville, Ore., Clyde and Vernita heard about Maranatha, which became very dear to them. With their son Ron taking over the saw business, the Marriotts were able to go on more

than 80 short-term mission projects — all amazing experiences while making so many friends.

Smith 60th

Bill Smith and Sue McDaniel were both born in Montana, and both their families later moved to Alaska, where they met and became friends. Shortly after Bill and Sue became engaged, Sue's family moved back to Montana. Sue and Bill were married Aug. 11, 1956, at the Bozeman (Mont.) Church.

Bill was enrolled in Walla



Bill and Sue Smith

Walla College (now Walla Walla University). He was offered an internship in the Upper Columbia Conference, pending his acquiring a master's degree, which he received from University of the Potomac in Washington, D.C., majoring in systematic theology. While there they became parents to their first son, Daniel Jordan.

Then it was back to the Pacific Northwest to engage in evangelism in Washington's Yakima Valley, with the Spillman/Lyman team. Next Bill served as boys' dean at Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash., living in the dorm and also assisting in the build-

ing of the dormitory for the girls. Meanwhile the Smiths became parents to Bill Jr.

Another stint as evangelist with George Knowles and later with G.D. O'Brien followed. Sue served as stenographer for the team.

Overseas missionary work came next as the Smiths served God in Malaya (now Malaysia). Their daughter, Bonnie Sue, was born at Youngberg Memorial Hospital in Singapore. Four more terms found them in West and East Malaysia and East and West Indonesia.

In 1976 they requested to return from overseas service and built a home near Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., where both Sue and Bill were enrolled. Bill received his Master of Divinity degree in 1984 and had been instrumental in establishing and directing the Adventist Aviation Center. They also assisted with the Marriage Encounter program throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Balikpapan, Indonesia, was their next home. Bill directed their aviation program, served as pilot and evangelist to primitive tribes, and was ordained to the gospel ministry.

While they were clearing the jungle to make way for a landing strip in Borneo, Sue became deathly ill with mosquito-borne encephalitis and dengue fever. No diagnostic or treatment facilities were available there, so they flew to Michigan and finally received a diagnosis in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, but they were informed there was no treatment. Three years later, Sue experienced a miraculous healing following an anointing service.

FAMILY MILESTONES

Tillamook, Ore., was their next home when Bill was invited to pastor. They retired in 1997 and continue to live in the home they built there, overlooking the beautiful Pacific Ocean. Since retirement, Bill has served as interim pastor at the Seaside (Ore.) Church and helped with short-term interim pastoring of several other churches. He has also engaged in construction projects as well as serving as an Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) promoter.

So having lived such a varied and intense life, Bill and Sue did not throw a party or take a world cruise. How does one celebrate 60 years of marriage? Bill and Sue went for a hike. Sue is legally blind, so she has to be carefully guided past hazardous roots or rocks, but she loves hiking. They hiked the three-hour trail into beautiful Soapstone Lake and saw not another human. Just the three of them made the trek — Bill; his bride, Sue; and their Best Friend and Savior, Jesus.

William 90th

Oct. 11, 1926, a tiny girl was born to Joseph and Julia Wright, the second child and the first daughter, to be followed by four more brothers and two sisters. The family lived in the small community of Toledo, Ore. Her father worked as a dairy farmhand and in road construction. They named her Elthalita.

Her early years were happy ones, and this attitude of serenity and peace pervades her life today. Her schooling for the first five grades was in Toledo at the Chitwood Elementary School. In Edenville, Ore.,

she completed school through ninth grade.

The family moved to Tillamook, Ore., where she was able to attend the church school for one year, transferring to the local high school for the next two years. She left school then to marry the love of her life and establish her own family.

To this union was born three boys: Paul, Bernard



Elthalita William

Jr., and David. A baby girl, Mary, finished the family. The children all live in the area and are attentive to their widowed mother.

Elthalita was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church at age 11 at Toledo and has always been an active participant in church activities. She is an experienced seamstress, making baby quilts and repairing donated clothing for the local Adventist Community Services center. She volunteers every Tuesday and Thursdays at the front desk as she helps serve the needy of Tillamook County. She is a faithful church and Sabbath School member at the Tillamook Church.

In spite of some arthritis in her hip, she is physically active and lives alone, managing her own home. Never having learned to drive, she depends

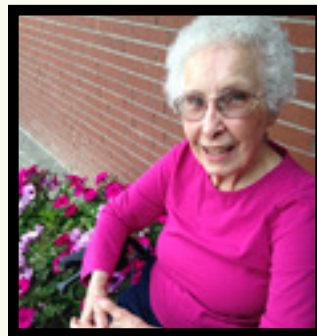
upon family and friends for transportation, but she is in generally good health. She is a talented artist and paints in oils on canvas or wood, creating still-life and landscape pictures.

Her 90th birthday was celebrated quietly at home, and she says she was delighted to receive many birthday greetings plus a corsage at church from family and friends.

Wyman 90th

Barbara Ruth Seaward Wyman celebrated her 90th birthday with family and friends on Aug. 13, 2016, at the Walla Walla Village Church fellowship hall.

Barbara was born on Aug. 15, 1926, in Pomona, Calif., to James and Ruth Seaward. She was the youngest of six children. She went to college at La Sierra College in California and took elementary education. She met her husband, Frank Wyman, at La Sierra,



Barbara Wyman

and they married on June 12, 1947, right after her graduation.

They moved to the Stanwood/Sedro Woolley area in Washington to begin pastoring as newlyweds. In 1949, they got onto a ship for Burma to begin a life as missionaries. They served in Burma for 17 years.

The new military gov-

ernment forced them to leave Burma in 1966. They returned to the Washington Conference to pastor in the Sequim area and later Tacoma.

After a brief stint in Indianapolis, the couple moved to the Upper Columbia Conference. They served in Walla Walla, Wash., then Grandview and Orofino. They decided to retire to Brewster, Wash., where their daughter lived.

During their life in Brewster, they were still very busy. They helped out in other churches, assisted in CHIP (Complete Health Improvement Program) programs, and even spent a year twice in Korea and once in Russia to assist in language schools and the Adventist Servicemen's Center.

Frank passed away in February 2005. A year later, Barbara moved to Walla Walla and has lived there ever since.

Barbara's family includes a daughter, Emily Canwell of Walla Walla; a son, Ralph Wyman of Milwaukie, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

FAMILY AT REST

ANNALA — Margaret C. (Cooper), 101; born June 8, 1915, Hood River, Ore.; died June 10, 2016, Hood River. Surviving: daughters, Judi L. Annala-Baker, Hood River; Janet E. Annala-VanHoy, Washougal, Wash.; sister, Jane Franz Cooper-Rice, The Dalles, Ore.; 3 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

BLAIR — Orval Reuben, 105; born Nov. 21, 1910, Portland, Ore.; died Nov. 20, 2016, Portland. Surviving: wife, Evelyn (Cox); son, Gary Lee, Oregon City, Ore.; stepson, Larry McClintock,

Portland; 2 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, 12 step-great-grandchildren and 3 step-great-great grandchildren.

CHOPARD — Edna (Briggs), 82; born Feb. 24, 1934, Tracy, Calif.; died Nov. 14, 2016, Corvallis, Ore. Surviving: sons, John Coffey, Peoria, Ariz.; Joseph Coffey, Portland, Ore.; brother, Bob Briggs, Brentwood, Calif.; and 6 grandchildren.

HAGEN — Marlene Deane (Varner), 80; born Jan. 8, 1936, Grants Pass, Ore.; died Nov. 8, 2016, Bend, Ore. Surviving: husband, Weldon J.; son, Kerry B., Portland, Ore.; daughters, Celeste Hagen-Proctor, Paradise, Calif.; Michelle L. Hagen, St. Helena, Calif.; and 2 grandchildren.

HANWAY — Peggy Jean, 83; born Aug. 24, 1933, Broadwater, Neb.; died Nov. 11, 2016, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: adopted family, Gordon and Peggy Kuryluk, Junction City, Ore.; their daughters, Stacy and Wendy; and 2 grandchildren.

HENDERSON — Solange C. (Carvajal), 77; born May 9, 1939, Bucaramanga, Colombia; died Aug. 16, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: son, Rob Henderson; daughters, Karen Henderson and Luz (Henderson) Hedmann.

HICKOK — Gaylen R., 77; born Oct. 30, 1938, Lincoln, Neb.; died Oct. 11, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Jane (Ruffing), College Place, Wash.; son, Randle Brown, Scotts Mills, Ore.; daughter, Elisa Blethen, Yucaipa, Calif.; and brother, George Hickok, Olympia, Wash.; 3 grandchildren.

HITCHCOCK — James Watson, 84; born May 5, 1932, Lisbon, N.D.; died

Nov. 8, 2016, Medford, Ore. Surviving: wife, Lois (Bookout); sons, Jimmy, Carlsbad, Calif.; Luke, Temecula, Calif.; daughter, Julia Hitchcock, Menlo Park, Calif.; stepson, Michael Jerde, Pine Mtn. Club, Calif.; stepdaughter, Michelle Wachter, Bozeman, Mont.; 4 grandchildren and 3 step-grandchildren.

HOBSON — Ruby Elizabeth (Lemon), 86; born April 14, 1930, Tomah, Wis.; died Nov. 24, 2016, College Place, Wash. Surviving: son, Dennis, Portland, Ore.; daughter, Rhonda Iverson, Pendleton, Ore.; 2 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

MILLS — Opal Elizabeth (Collver), 93; born Oct. 15, 1923, Coquille, Ore.; died Jan. 21, 2016, White Salmon, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Virginia Mills-Chapman, White Salmon; Janet Mills-Fullerton, Moyie Springs, Idaho; brother, Dale Collver, Odell, Ore.; stepbrother, Danny Collver, of Alaska; sister, Eva Mae Collver-Popp, Myrtle Point, Ore.; 7 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and 7 step-great-grandchildren.

MORRIS — Frederick “Fred” Eugene, 80; born Aug. 23, 1936, Topeka, Kan.; died Sept. 17, 2016, Hillsboro, Ore. Surviving: wife, Muylrene (Blehm) Morris, Gaston, Ore.; son, Danny, Mokelumne, Calif.; daughter, Francie Brock, Newberg, Ore.; sister, Treva Marshal, McDonald, Kan.; and 3 grandchildren.

MYERS — Ray C., 86; born Dec. 15, 1929, Dallas, Texas; died Nov. 13, 2016, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: sons, Doug, Roseburg; Dale R., Eugene, Ore.; daughters, Raylene Eilers, Hillsboro, Ore.; Debbie

Stranne, Maple Valley, Wash.; 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

RESECK — Lillian Edna (Jewell), 88; born Oct. 18, 1927, Denver, Colo.; died Jan. 19, 2016, Puyallup, Wash. Surviving: sons, Brian Reseck, Bonney Lake, Wash.; Greg Reseck, Port Townsend, Wash.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

REXIUS — Jack, 96; born Sept. 23, 1920, Estuary, Saskatchewan, Canada; died Nov. 12, 2016, Medford, Ore. Surviving: sons, Larry Jr., Eagle Point, Ore.; Bruce, Phoenix, Ore.; Keith, Central Point, Ore.; daughters, Marilyn Stanley, Sacramento, Calif.; Elaine Rickman, Winchester, Idaho; 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

TESSIER — Mark Earnest, 60; born Sept. 8, 1956, Dacca, East Pakistan; died Nov. 24, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Dorita (Perry); daughters, Melissa Rae, Walla Walla; Michelle Werner, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada; parents, Leonard and Carolyn Tessier, Ellijay, Ga.; sister, Martha Olson, Sinclairville, N.Y.; and 6 grandchildren.

TUPPER — Clarence Lowell, 89; born July 31, 1927, Mount Vernon, Wash.; died Oct. 31, 2016, Goldendale, Wash. Surviving: sons, Clarence Dale, Ukiah, Calif.; David L., Walla Walla, Wash.; Paul, Goldendale; Bruce W., El Paso, Texas; foster daughters, Julia Flomer Lynch, Burbank, Wash.; Susan (Flomer) Moberly, Yakima, Wash.; Anne (Flomer) Bascom, Walla Walla; sisters, A. Majorie Wentland and Geraldine Sities, both of Goldendale; 5

grandchildren and 3 foster-grandchildren.

WARD — Robert Wellington, 82; born March 10, 1934, Dayton, Ohio; died Nov. 25, 2016, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: wife, Delores (Watson); son, Anthony, Colville, Wash.; daughter, Pam Holmes, Addy, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

WIEGARDT-MORGAN — Nellie Valentine (Jones) Wiegardt, 95; born Feb. 14, 1921, Salem, Ore.; died Nov. 24, 2016, Moses Lake, Wash. Surviving: husband, Wesley Morgan; sons, Dean Wiegardt, of France; Erik Wiegardt, La Mesa, Calif.; Dan Wiegardt, Napa, Calif.; daughters, Sharon (Wiegardt) Hardcastle, Santa Rosa, Calif.; Sydney (Wiegardt) Johnston, Napa Valley, Calif.; Sheryl (Wiegardt) Edwards, Reno, Nev.; sister, Geneva (Jones) Hanson, Calistoga, Calif.; 16 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

The *Gleaner* also accepts expanded obituary announcements with short bio and photo. For submission and cost info, contact info@gleanernow.com or call 360-857-7043.

Go to GleanerNow.com/contribute to submit family announcements.

The North Pacific Union Conference *Gleaner* accepts family listings as a service to members of Adventist churches in the Northwest. While this information is not intended as an endorsement of any facts or relationships represented, the *Gleaner* does not knowingly print content contrary to the biblical beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

April 1 — Local Church Budget;

April 8 — World Budget: emphasis Christian Record Services;

April 15 — Local Church Budget;

April 22 — Local Conference Advance;

April 29 — NAD Evangelism.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

April 27–30 — Celebrate the WWU 125th anniversary at Homecoming Weekend, more information at wallawalla.edu/homecoming.

April 20 — George Yancy, professor of philosophy at Emory University, will be the keynote speaker for the first annual Donald Blake Center Academic Conference at 7 p.m., wallawalla.edu/DBC-conference.

MONTANA CONFERENCE

Official Notice of Custer Church Closure

Included on the agenda of the upcoming Montana Conference constituency meeting will be the closure of the Custer (Mont.) Adventist Church, at the request of the members, most of whom are moving away.

OREGON CONFERENCE

Columbia Adventist Academy Alumni Homecoming Weekend

April 7–9 — We will be honoring the classes of 1957, 1967, 1977, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2007 and 2017 and the honor group of 1956 and prior (the CAA Trailblazers). The weekend schedule includes: Friday evening vespers, presented by the class of 2007; Sabbath School, presented by the class of 1997; church, presented by the class of 1992; Sabbath afternoon program, presented by the class of 1967; and Saturday night event and basketball games. All weekend meetings will be held in the Meadow Glade Church. Registration will be in the school forum.

The All About Jesus Seminar

April 21–29 — The All About Jesus seminar, presented by Lee and Marji Venden, will show you how a personal relationship with Jesus is the sum and substance of the Christian life. More than that, it will offer you tangible, practical, plain-English suggestions on how to develop or deepen a meaningful friendship with Him. Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Sunday and weekdays at 6:30 p.m., at Mount Tabor Church, 1001 SE 60th Ave., Portland, Ore. More information available online at mttaborsdachurch.org or by calling 503-233-7606.

Media on the Brain Seminar

May 13 — Join us for Media on the Brain seminar with speaker Scott Ritsema. We see it all around us. Hollywood, popular music, TV, video gaming, spectator sports, e-relationships and

pornography are saturating the lives of God's professed people. But what do the latest sciences say about the mind-altering effects of 21st-century media? And what is the spiritual agenda in the entertainment and advertising industries? All-day event starting at 11 a.m. at Stone Tower Church, 3010 NE Holladay St., Portland, OR 97232. For more information, call 503-560-9920.

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

CCA and Wenatchee Church Homecoming and Alumni Weekend

April 21–22 — Cascade Christian Academy (CCA) and the Wenatchee Church will be hosting their annual Homecoming and Alumni Weekend. All alumni, attendees, former church members and friends are invited. The CCA music department will be providing music for the services, which will be held in the Wenatchee Church. Friday night vespers at 6:30 p.m. Sabbath worship service at 10:45 a.m. with guest speaker Monte Saxby, former CCA math/computer teacher. Sabbath lunch immediately following the worship service at the CCA gymnasium.

Northwest Chapter Maplewood Academy Alumni

May 6 — Alumni and attendees; come meet friends and enjoy and potluck meal at 1:30 p.m. at the Walla Walla Valley Academy, 300 SW Academy Way, College Place, Wash. For more information, contact Lois Pegel at 509-529-4837.

WORLD CHURCH

Glendale Hospital 1967 Nursing Class Reunion

May 19–21 — 50th reunion of the 1967 nursing class of Glendale Adventist Hospital will take place in Glendale, Calif. For more information, call Luella Crase Robison at 818-482-0963 or Anita Andersson Cunningham at 509-525-5182.

'Ye Olde' Cedar Lake Academy Reunion

June 9–11 — "Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion for alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich. Honor classes: 1937, 1947, 1957, 1967. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. For further information, contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit glaa.net.

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Sunset Schedule // DST

April	7	14	21	28
ALASKA CONFERENCE				
Anchorage	8:59	9:17	7:36	9:54
Fairbanks	9:00	9:22	9:45	10:08
Juneau	7:51	8:07	8:23	8:39
Ketchikan	7:35	7:48	8:02	8:16
IDAHO CONFERENCE				
Boise	8:18	8:26	8:35	8:43
La Grande	7:27	7:36	7:45	7:54
Pocatello	8:02	8:10	8:18	8:26
MONTANA CONFERENCE				
Billings	7:49	7:59	8:08	8:17
Havre	7:57	8:07	8:18	8:28
Helena	8:04	8:14	8:23	8:33
Miles City	7:39	7:49	7:58	8:07
Missoula	8:13	8:22	8:32	8:41
OREGON CONFERENCE				
Coos Bay	7:50	7:58	8:06	8:14
Medford	7:43	7:51	7:59	8:07
Portland	7:46	7:55	8:04	8:13
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE				
Pendleton	7:30	7:40	7:49	7:58
Spokane	7:27	7:37	7:47	7:57
Walla Walla	7:29	7:38	7:47	7:57
Wenatchee	7:38	7:48	7:58	8:08
Yakima	7:38	7:48	7:57	8:07
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE				
Bellingham	7:49	7:59	8:09	8:20
Seattle	7:47	7:57	8:06	8:16

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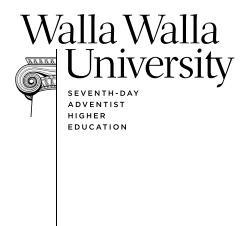
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HIDE-AND-SEEK

P

laying hide-and-peek with small children provides minimal challenge. Often children select obvious places (hiding under a blanket in the middle of the room) or, if the lights have been turned out, will request that you hide with them. At times the anticipation of being found becomes intolerable, and they burst out of closets or cupboards yelling, "HERE I AM!" However, once children grow older they become adept at disappearing.

I feel as though I possess a thorough knowledge of my home. Yet my offspring dematerialize into secret places whenever I try seeking them. After exploring every known corner of my dwelling, I am forced to admit my inferior seeking skills and I call out, "Okay! I give up."

Silence.

"Seriously, you can all come out now!" I fear a masochistic gene has been passed onto

my children since they choose to remain quiet for an inappropriate amount time — leading my mind to wonder if they wandered outside or got stuck in the chimney. We don't have a chimney, but that only demonstrates the crazed state of my mind during these prolonged silences.

Eventually they reappear

with wild laughter and mock my incompetence while I embrace them in a pool made of my own tears. Once reunited I interrogate them as to their whereabouts ... but they never tell me. Fear melts into paranoia as I contemplate the possibility of a clandestine tunnel system somewhere in the house.

I recently reflected on these hide-and-peek experiences while attending a Union College recruiting event. As I listened to potential students ask questions, I remembered my own big questions during the later of years of high school. *What college should I attend? Whom should I room with? What campus job should I apply for? I wonder who I will date ... or if some girl will be merciful enough to date me? Am I sure this is the major God wants me to pursue?*

That last question brings up what tricky prize believers everywhere want to find — God's will. For a lot of people trying to figure out what God wants them do to feels like a game of hide-and-peek — God hides, and we have the infuriating job of trying to find Him. *Okay, I give up — you can come out now! Please?!*

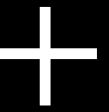
Part of the problem for a lot of Christians is "paralysis by analysis." When we are entrusted with a major life decision we become so nervous to make a bad choice we



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce





When we are entrusted with a major life decision we become so nervous to make a bad choice we lock up.

lock up — like somehow we will step outside of God’s will and take the wrong job, attend the wrong church or date someone who isn’t THE one. By the way, if you think about it, the idea God has just ONE person for us makes no sense. If we really hang on to that concept then figure all it would take is ONE person in history to marry the wrong person, all of us would end up with the wrong person.

So how can we process the task of uncovering the elusive will of God when faced with decisions?

Way back in the beginning we read, “The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die” (Gen. 2:15–17).

In this passage the Creator tells Adam he can enjoy a forest

of options and only one is off limits (and it is well-identified). Too often, believers reverse this — we picture God as creating only one good option amid of forest of death. *Look, only ONE of these trees won’t kill you — good luck! Don’t die!* This paints a terrible picture of God.

What’s more, as the narrative continues and humanity falls, it isn’t God who hides — it’s us (Gen. 3:8–10). The rest of Scripture is the story of God and His will seeking us, not the other way around.

Now this doesn’t mean there aren’t bad choices or that we don’t put any effort into a relationship with Jesus, but it grants us peace to know that sometimes we are privileged enough to have more than one option to choose from — and Jesus promises to never leave us or forsake us even when life becomes challenging.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor



WILL AMERICA EXCHANGE LIBERTY FOR SECURITY?

W

ill America forfeit civil and religious liberties in quest of national security? Our cities seethe with political and racial turmoil, while threats multiply from radical Islamic terrorism. Some foresee a crisis of such magnitude only God can save us. Desperate leaders could transform American democracy into theocracy.

How could that happen? What might it look like?

Consider the following imaginative scenario:¹

You're watching the Yankees game when suddenly the station breaks away to the newsroom. How dare they interrupt your game! Bases loaded, tying run on second.

Then you notice the somber newscaster with tousled hair announcing, "A tragedy has struck our nation's capitol this evening. At Union Station near the Capitol Building, a pressurized canister

containing poison gas was set off on the Red Line subway platform, spewing noxious fumes. Scores of passengers are being taken to hospitals. Dozens are dead.

"Authorities are uncertain what type of poison gas is involved, though cyanide is suspected. Unconfirmed reports are that one minute before the attack, a young man, perhaps of Middle Eastern descent, activated a timer



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



on a spraying device. He then ran out of the station northbound on North Capitol Street and remains at large.

"Police have sealed off the area. Rescue workers and FBI agents with gas masks are swarming the site. We'll keep you updated throughout the evening as details become available."

Wow. This is bigger than a ball game. What a calamity! But the evening is still young. People have hardly yet begun to die.

In Manhattan's Broadway theater district, tuxedo-clad attendees are running out of restaurants and writhing on sidewalks, vomiting violently. Rumors are the water supply is poisoned. Speaking of water, the George



God's Sabbatarian remnant will find no common cause with fundamentalist Christendom — a religion by force that amounts to coercive salvation by law.



Washington Bridge collapses into the Hudson River after a massive fiery explosion lights the night sky.

What a night! What's next?

Terrible beyond imagination, but not beyond belief. Jesus warned of devastating pestilence in various places (see Matt. 24:7).

Imagine a terrorist event in your locality. Picture the panic as sirens wail without ceasing. Banks and other businesses are abandoned, except for looters scurrying through shattered storefronts lugging water jugs. National Guard tanks rumble through, shoving aside wrecked taxis and

police cars. Camouflage green bulldozers dig mass graves for countless anonymous body bags. Loudspeakers blare orders from the Emergency Broadcast System — only this time it's not just a test. It's a grave new world.

That spine-chilling scenario became more plausible after 9/11 and increasingly so today, with continual threats from within and without. The core issue in my mind: What may be the role of militant Islam in Earth's final conflict and how would fundamentalist Christendom react?

Last month in this column I shared my perspectives from Daniel, Chapter 11, that militant Islam aligned with communist/socialist nations could be the end-time prophetic King of the South (KoS), versus the Western Christian alliance as King of the North (KoN). In this scenario, God's final remnant would be caught between a pincer movement of those clashing civilizations with their antigospel agendas: crusading Christendom (KoN) seeking salvation by force battling those opposed to the very concept of Jesus as Savior and Lord. In other words, counterfeit Christian faith versus open antagonism to Christianity.

How could fervently

theocratic Islam find common cause with atheistic communism? Because of their common opposition to Christendom. As the saying goes, "the enemy of my enemy is my friend."

So that's the scenario I see in Daniel 11 — a scared and scary theocracy in America confederating with right-wing movements already stirring in previously pacifistic European nations such as Germany, France and even the Netherlands (in reaction to the terrorist threat from militant Islamic immigrants).

Facing an urgent existential threat from militant Islamic jihad, the relevance of Daniel 11 in end-time prophecy is evident. Could attacks from fundamentalist Islam eventually become so frequent and intense that Western society will make a big move to revive and enforce its traditional weekly day of prayer — Sunday?

God's Sabbatarian remnant will find no common cause with fundamentalist Christendom — a religion by force that amounts to coercive salvation by law. Those faithful to God's kingdom values will resist both the KoN Sunday revival as well as Islamic Friday fervency in KoS culture. This will mark the remnant for

persecution — and open the eyes of sincere people around the world who have not yet seen the beauty and meaning of God's true character or of the Sabbath.

I realize our best understandings of last-day prophecies may prove in some cases to be off the mark. But regardless of how exact circumstances play out, the core message of Scripture seems clear. Only God's faithful remnant, comprised of true believers of every religious background who are faithful to God, will resist false worship. World powers will seek to destroy them with a death decree. But at that crisis hour, Christ will return to rescue His people.

Even so, come Lord Jesus.

1. Originally proposed in the 1999 book *Millenniumia*, published by the General Conference Ministerial Association, now out of print.

Martin Weber, Adventist product manager for Faithlife, maker of Logos Bible Software



JUST LIKE JESUS

ONE PAGE

A

nd, finally, Lord, please bless the missionaries and the colporteurs around the world.”

The man assigned to the morning prayer in worship this week was one of the older elders, a retired pastor whose gray hair and halting steps spoke of many hard years. Clearly, he had thought through his prayer carefully and spoke to God for all of us as if he and God were having a personal conversation in his living room.

When he prayed for “the missionaries and the colporteurs,” my mind wandered, finally resting on one nameless colporteur in a village market on the coast of Africa. I’ll call him Andy.

As he walked through the market, Andy prayed for God to lead him to anyone who was “ready to hear.” Then he stopped to purchase potatoes, onions and a few other basics. At each tiny stand he listened carefully and spoke with love. Many positive moments, but no word from the Spirit.

Then it happened. The eyes of one farmer locked onto his, and Andy felt the Holy Spirit’s gentle blowing in the air.

“Hello,”

AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen the farmer said. “My name is Eduardo.”

“Do you know Jesus?” Andy asked the young man sitting behind bright red tomatoes and roasted cashews.

“No. Don’t think I know

Jesus,” the man answered. “Maybe he lives up the coast a bit.”

Andy laughed and said, “No, I mean Jesus Christ, the Son of God and our personal Savior.”

“I’ve never heard of Him,” Eduardo responded. “Tell me about Him.”

Andy sat down beside the tomatoes and began to share the gospel story. However, he didn’t get very far before he realized it was time for him to catch the bus to his home.

“Eduardo,” Andy said, while placing his hand on his new friend’s shoulder, “I sell books about Jesus, but today my satchel is empty, and I have nothing to sell.”

“Then how will I learn?” Eduardo asked.

“If I had a Bible,” Andy tapped the dusty black cover of his own Bible, “I would give it to you right now. I would even like to give you my own Bible, but I must have it so I can teach this weekend.”

Eduardo’s growing excitement began to flicker out. For a couple moments, there was a growing pool of silence around the two men.

“Tell you what,” Andy broke the silence. “I will tear one page out of my Bible book

and give it to you. There is one page that tells almost the whole story. Here it is.”

Eduardo watched in awe as his new friend opened the black book, found the right page, carefully tore it from the binding and handed it across the tomatoes.

“It’s all I can do today,” the colporteur said. “I will pray over the page with you.”

Nearly 20 years later, in a dusty tomato patch beneath a mango tree, Eduardo opened his Bible and pulled out a tear-stained page.

“Pastor Dick, this is what he gave me that day so long ago. You know, I never saw that bookseller again after he gave me this page. Just one page. But in it I met Jesus.”

A pool of silence grew around us but was then broken by the sounds of singing from a small reed church down the road.

“Those are my people,” Eduardo’s eyes glistened. “And I, a Seventh-day Adventist farmer, am their pastor. I am now a son of God who is eager for the harvest.”

Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference assistant to the president for creative communications



If you could give just one page of the Bible to someone like Eduardo, which page/chapter would you choose?

Email Dick at talk@gleanernow.com.

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