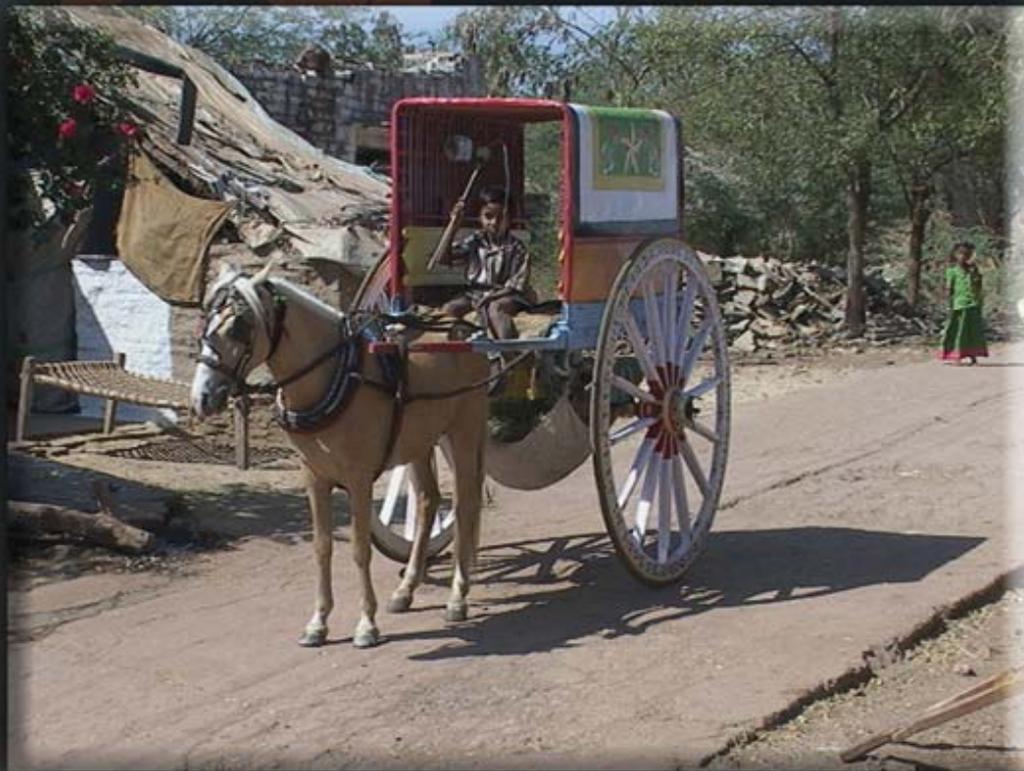


THE ATLANTIC UNION

MAY 2003

GLEANER



The Harvest is Ripe

2003 CAMP MEETING SCHEDULE

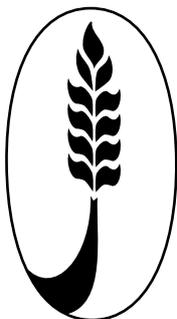
¿Qué Está Pasando?

Quoi de Neuf?



Watch Out!

Like the NASA ground officials, often we note failings in our own lives—whether some flaw of character, deficiency or extravagance in diet, lack of physical exercise, or the failure to maintain a devotional life.



While sitting in the pastor's study at a church in our conference on Sabbath morning, February 1, 2003, someone reported to us that the space shuttle Columbia had met with disaster. We mused as to what might have gone wrong and lamented the loss of life.

In the days and weeks following, the NASA officials, shaken by the loss, surmised and conjectured that the separating of some tiles at the time of launching might have been the cause of the malfunction that eventually doomed the shuttle and scattered it and the bodies of its crew of seven across three states.

Days earlier, when the launch occurred, the officials noticed something, later identified as insulation tiles, had flayed from the side of the space craft, but they deemed it insignificant to warrant concern, precaution, or any change in the mission.

Like the NASA ground officials, often we note failings in our own lives—whether some flaw of character, deficiency or extravagance in diet, lack of physical exercise, or the failure to maintain a devotional life. Unfortunately, we ignore whatever it is only to discover, when it is too late, that what we thought was a non-issue or did not warrant taking any precaution or making any change is the very thing that causes us to crash when we should stand, or brings us

sickness or even death when we should be experiencing good health or life.

Just as the shuttle had to pass through the severe temperatures of heat upon its reentry into the earth's atmosphere, so the days are fast approaching when we, as Seventh-day Adventist Christians, will have to withstand the severe pressure and heat of persecution, deprivation, and temptation. Now we must make ready for that time. The prophet Daniel and his three friends were able to stand the pressure of the lions' den and fiery furnace, because in days of tranquility they fortified and insulated themselves through being mindful of what they put into their bodies, keeping clear minds, and being diligent in their relationship with God. They were mindful of the details of daily living, and when life's sterner situations arose, were able to endure.

Similarly, we must now take all care and precaution to shore up those areas of our lives to which we may have given little thought so that our end, like the shuttle Columbia, will not be a disaster. The counsel of the wise man Solomon is still excellent counsel for today—take heed of the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines (Song of Solomon 2:15).^①

Trevor H.C. Baker is president of the Northeastern Conference.

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A Seventh-day Adventist Call for Peace

We are living in an increasingly unstable and dangerous world. Recent events have resulted in a heightened sense of vulnerability and personal or corporate fear of violence. Throughout the world, countless millions are haunted by war and apprehension and are oppressed by hate and intimidation.

Total War

Humanity has, since the middle of the last century, been living in an age of total war. Total war implies the theoretical possibility that, except for the providence of God, earth's inhabitants could wipe out their entire civilization. Nuclear weapons and biochemical arms of mass destruction are aimed at centers of population. Whole nations and societies are mobilized or targeted for war, and when such war erupts it is carried on with the greatest violence and destruction. The justification of war has become more complex, even though advances in technology make possible greater precision in destroying targets with a minimum of civilian casualties.

A New Dimension

While both the United Nations and various religious bodies have proclaimed the first decade of the 21st century as a decade for the promotion of peace and security in the place of violence in its various forms, a new and insidious dimension of violence has emerged: organized international terrorism. Terrorism itself is not new, but worldwide terrorist networks are. Another new factor is the appeal to so-called divine mandates as the rationale for terrorist activity under the guise of culture war, or even "religious" war.

**For information on upcoming events, news items,
and the GLEANER online visit our web site at:
www.atlantic-union.org**

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ABOUT THE COVER: In this month's cover story, George Wheeler, treasurer for the New York Conference, gives an account of the January 2003 mission trip to India where they shared the good news of Jesus to individuals living in 50 of the 580,000 villages there.

ASI: For information about ASI contact your local conference ASI director or visit the ASI web page at www.atlantic-union.org/asi.htm.

The rise of international terrorism makes it clear that it is not only a nation or state that makes war, but human beings in various combinations. As one of the leading founders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church pointed out a century ago, “The inhumanity of man toward man is our greatest sin.”¹ Indeed, human nature is prone to violence. From a Christian perspective, all this inhumanity is really part of a cosmic war, the great controversy between good and evil.

Terrorism Exploits the Concept of God

Terrorists, in particular those having motivations based on religion, claim that their cause is absolute and that taking lives indiscriminately is fully justified. While they claim to be representing the justice of God, they wholly fail to represent the great love of God.

Furthermore, such international terrorism is totally at odds with the concept of religious liberty. The former is based on political and/or religious extremism and fundamentalistic fanaticism which arrogate the right to impose a certain religious conviction or worldview and to destroy those who oppose their convictions. Imposing one’s religious views on other people, by means of inquisition and terror, involves an endeavor to exploit and manipulate God by turning Him into an idol of evil and violence. The result is a disregard for the dignity of human beings created in the image of God.

While it is inevitable that nations and people will try to defend themselves by responding in a military way to violence and terror—which sometimes results in short-term success—lasting answers to deep problems of

division in society cannot be achieved by using violent means.

The Pillars of Peace

From both a Christian and practical perspective, any lasting peace involves at least four ingredients: dialogue, justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Dialogue – There needs to be dialogue and discussion in place of diatribe and the cry for war. Lasting peace does not result from violent means, but is achieved by negotiation, dialogue, and, inevitably, political compromise. In the long run, reasoned discourse has superior authority over military force. In particular, Christians should always be ready to “reason together,” as the Bible says.

Justice – Unfortunately, the world is rampant with injustice and a fallout of injustice is strife. Justice and peace join hands, as do injustice and war. Poverty and exploitation breed discontent and hopelessness, which lead to desperation and violence.

On the other hand, “God’s word sanctions no policy that will enrich one class by the oppression and suffering of another.”²

Justice requires respect for human rights, in particular religious liberty which deals with the profoundest human aspirations and undergirds all human rights. Justice requires nondiscrimination, respect for human dignity and equality, and a more equitable distribution of the necessities of life. Economic and social policies will either produce peace or discontent. Seventh-day Adventist concern for social justice is expressed through the support and promotion of religious liberty, and through organizations and departments of the Church which

work to relieve poverty and conditions of marginalization. Such efforts on the part of the Church can, over time, reduce resentment and terrorism.

Forgiveness – Forgiveness is usually thought of as necessary to heal broken interpersonal relationships. It is highlighted in the prayer Jesus asked His followers to pray (Matthew 6:12). However, we must not overlook the corporate, societal, and even international dimensions. If there is to be peace, it is vital to drop the burdens of the past, to move beyond well-worn battle grounds, and to work toward reconciliation. At a minimum, this requires overlooking past injustices and violence; and, at its best, it involves forgiveness which absorbs the pain without retaliating.

Because of sinful human nature and the resulting violence, some form of forgiveness is necessary in order to break the vicious cycle of resentment, hate, and revenge on all levels. Forgiveness goes against the grain of human nature. It is natural for human beings to deal in terms of revenge and the return of evil for evil.

There is, therefore, first of all the need to foster a culture of forgiveness in the Church. As Christians and church leaders, it is our duty to help individuals and nations to liberate themselves from the shackles of past violence and refuse to reenact year after year, and even generation after generation, the hatred and violence generated by past experiences.

Reconciliation – Forgiveness provides a foundation for reconciliation and the accompanying restoration of relationships that have become estranged and hostile. Reconciliation is the only way to success on the road to



cooperation, harmony, and peace.

We call upon Christian churches and leaders to exercise a ministry of reconciliation and act as ambassadors of goodwill, openness, and forgiveness. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17-19.) This will always be a difficult, sensitive task. While trying to avoid the many political pitfalls along the way, we must nevertheless proclaim liberty in the land—liberty from persecution, discrimination, abject poverty, and other forms of injustice. It is a Christian responsibility to endeavor to provide protection for those who are in danger of being violated, exploited, and terrorized.

Support of Quality of Life

Silent efforts of religious bodies and individuals behind the scenes are invaluable. But this is not enough: “We are not just creatures of a spiritual environment. We are actively interested in everything that shapes the way we live and we are concerned about the well-being of our planet.” The Christian ministry of reconciliation will and must “contribute to the restoration of human dignity, equality, and unity through the grace of God in which human beings see each other as members of the family of God.”³

Churches should not only be known for spiritual contributions—though these are foundational—but also for their support of quality of life, and in this connection peacemaking is essential. We need to repent from expressions or deeds of violence that Christians and churches, throughout history and even more recently, have either been involved in as actors, have tolerated, or have tried to justify. We appeal to Christians and people of good will all around the world to take

an active role in making and sustaining peace, thus being part of the solution rather than part of the problem.

Peacemakers

The Seventh-day Adventist Church wishes to stand for the uncoercive harmony of God’s coming kingdom. This requires bridge-building to promote reconciliation between the various sides in a conflict. In the words of the prophet Isaiah, “You will be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets in which to dwell” (Isaiah 58:12). Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, wants His followers to be peacemakers in society and hence calls them blessed (Matthew 5:9).

Culture of Peace Through Education

The Seventh-day Adventist Church operates what may be the second largest worldwide parochial school system. Each of its more than 6,000 schools, colleges, and universities is being asked to set aside one week each school year to emphasize and highlight, through various programs, respect, cultural awareness, nonviolence, peacemaking, conflict resolution, and reconciliation as a way of making a specifically “Adventist” contribution to a culture of social harmony and peace. With this in mind, the Church’s Education Department is preparing curricula and other materials to help in implementing this peace program.

The education of the church member in the pew, for nonviolence, peace, and reconciliation, needs to be an ongoing process. Pastors are being asked to use their pulpits to proclaim the gospel of peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation which dissolves barriers created by race, ethnicity, nationality,

gender, and religion, and promotes peaceful human relations between individuals, groups, and nations.

The Christian Hope

While peacemaking may seem to be a forbidding task, there is the promise and possibility of transformation through renewal. All violence and terrorism are really one aspect of the ongoing controversy, in theological terms, between Christ and Satan. The Christian has hope because of the assurance that evil—the mystery of iniquity—will run its course and be conquered by the Prince of Peace and the world will be made new. This is our hope.

The Old Testament, despite the record of wars and violence, looks forward to the new creation and promises, like the New Testament, the end of the vicious cycle of war and terror, when arms will disappear and become agricultural implements, and peace and knowledge of God and His love will cover the whole world like the waters cover the oceans. (See Isaiah 2:4, 11:9).

In the meantime, we need, in all relationships, to follow the golden rule, which asks us to do unto others as we would wish them to do unto us (see Matthew 7:12), and not only love God, but love as God loves. (See 1 John 3:14, 15; 4:11, 20, 21).^①

¹Ellen G. White, *MINISTRY OF HEALING*, p. 163

²*Ibid*, p.187.

³Quote from Pastor Jan Paulsen, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

This statement was voted during the Spring Meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee on April 18, 2002, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

J REVIVED IN Jesus

As the rejuvenated students of Atlantic Union College returned from their long seasonal rest, ready to embark on their new and untried semester, they were greeted with something special on January 23 and 24. This gift was to aid and prepare them mentally and spiritually for all the unforeseen trials of the spring '03 semester. It was a gift in the form of a mountain top spiritual revival done by God through the human agency of Pastor Paul Graham of New York.

According to Student Ministerial Association president, Jamie Kowlessar, one of the coordinators and visionary bodies behind the event, this was for the spiritual reawakening of all entering and returning students. "We wanted the semester to start on the right foot," he said, "to get the student into Christ spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially. Pastor Graham is well known among Adventist young people. We felt led by the Spirit to ask him to come and speak to our students. He is a man of God who has a powerful message to preach."

The revival was held in the banquet hall of the Chan Shun Dining Commons where students were able to encounter Jesus under the umbrella of high wooden arches surrounded by glass panes that provided the only barrier between them and the snow. On Thursday night, the revival began with worship and praise led by a group of students. As it continued, it was filled and enriched by talented singing, powerful prayers, and strengthening testimonies. However, the inspirational evening did not end there. Everything was followed by the message from God. Pastor Graham spoke to the students about enemies in their lives and admonished them to look beyond the present state of seeming enjoyment and realize that noth-

ing on earth is worth eternal life. He encouraged all to allow God to take charge of their lives and to let go of their personal enemies. "We can't fool the devil," he said, "we need God."

It seemed as if all the students present on Thursday night went to share their wonderful experience with someone else on campus, because the Friday service was almost double in size as more people came to give God praise and be blessed. The students were lifted heavenward with two selections, "Jesus I Need More of You," and "That's What this Altar is For." As the testimonies were about to begin, it was interrupted by a spirit-led Pastor Graham who felt impressed to stand and start delivering the sermon right after the special music. Completely out of the norm and not according to the schedule, God intervened, took charge, and ordered his message to be proclaimed at that appointed time. And the timing couldn't be better. The sermon was direct, personal, and filled with the Holy Spirit's power and conviction.

After expressing his desire to get to heaven and describing what heaven is going to be like for him, Graham pleaded with the students to, through God, put away anything that would prevent them from getting to heaven. At the close of his message, ten persons stood expressing their desire to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior and be baptized or to reconsecrate their lives to God and be rebaptized.

The service ended with testimonies, singing, special music, and just a hallelujah time in the Lord. The students wept, laughed, smiled, clapped, and shouted. Yes, they did all, all to the glory of God and all because of what the Lord had done. ☉

*Nkarlo Alexander, senior
Atlantic Union College*



Endless Discovery

I hadn't come to the Adult Degree Program (ADP) completely skill-less. I had actually worked in a number of jobs that challenged my abilities. I managed retail clothing stores, worked on Wall Street for an investment bank, and worked as a consultant in the strategic planning and marketing field. It was through ADP, though, that I began to believe in what I could do when I combined my learned and natural abilities with my growing knowledge of academic protocols. Even better, I learned quickly that I could apply many of my previous life and work experiences toward a Life Experience Portfolio and earn college credits. That knowledge saved me a year of time, and money because the cost of those credits was even less than the already affordable ADP financial fees.

My comfort with the ADP process of study didn't happen all at once, it came while I was working, day after day in my home office. I enjoyed keeping my journal. I enjoyed the dialogue, largely through e-mails, with my advisors, and I really liked reading and researching material that I had written into my proposed Unit of Study. No one had told me what to read. I had chosen every book, every topic, and every day I was reaching a personal goal.

Completing my degree here at Atlantic Union College (AUC) was one of the most fulfilling accomplishments of my life. When I enrolled in ADP, I opened the door to "endless discovery," and every day in so many ways I learn and grow a little more as a result of taking a step through that door. I wish for everyone an opportunity to open a door to themselves, their interests, and their unexplored dreams... ADP is just one way, but for me it was an auspicious start.

The Adult Degree Program is open to adults 25 and older. It is a flexible alternative to attending day or evening classes and allows you to begin or complete your degree without disrupting your already busy life and schedule. The eight to ten day on-campus requirement takes place twice a year during July and January.

If you are interested in learning more about this innovative approach to adult education visit the AUC website at www.atlanticuc.edu, call (978) 368-2300, or e-mail cparris@atlanticuc.edu.

*Linda Gay, ('00), associate director for advancement
Atlantic Union College*

This excerpt is reprinted with permission from a speech delivered by Linda Gay '00 during the January 2003 ADP Convocation.



UPCOMING EVENTS Atlantic Union College:

Consecration Service

Friday, May 9, 2003
7:30 p.m.

College Church

Baccalaureate Service

Sabbath, May 10, 2003
11:00 a.m.

College Church

Nurse's Pinning Service

Sabbath, May 10, 2003
4:00 p.m.

College Church

Commencement Exercise

Sunday May 11, 2003
10:00 a.m.

Campus Mall

The Harvest Is Ripe!



Mike and Marilee Kier and Sandra Wheeler (right) prepare for opening night's meeting in Thudicherla India.



George and Sandra Wheeler were honored as visitors with beautiful leis.



Pastor Manohar baptizes Indian women in irrigation canal.



Completed and dedicated Adventist church building in the village of Bhimavaram, India.

India, with a population of more than 1.2 billion people, is a fascinating country—a subcontinent with a diversity of religions and language groups. Within this country are more than 580,000 villages where many have never heard the name of Yesu Christu (Jesus Christ), but have been worshipping one or more of the 330,000,000 gods. Christians only constitute 2.4% of the population.

When the opportunity came to bring the gospel to 50 of the 580,000 villages in India, my wife, Sandra, and I were ready to accept God's leading. On January 15, 2003, thirty-eight volunteer missionaries arrived in the small city of Kurnool, in southeastern India. We were privileged to be part of that group.

During the months prior to arriving in India, each member of the group learned to rely on the Lord as appeals were made to family and friends for funds to cover the costs of travel, effort expenses, providing continuing pastoral follow-up and care, and church building projects. One of the members experienced a real personal revival and recommitment to the Lord during preparations for the trip. It was wonderful to hear the testimonies of how the Lord prepared her and the other members of the team for the meetings.

National church leaders, pastors, and Bible workers in India prepared the way for the meetings. By January 17 all was ready for the first meetings of the ten jointly held 15-day efforts. A hotel in Kurnool served as a base and each day the teams traveled about two hours through the drought stricken land of Andhra Pradesh to the location of their meetings.

The missionaries were driven, down the left hand side of the road, from the city through the country-side by a taxi made in India, called Ambassadors. Ox carts passed us loaded with the harvests of millet, garbanzos, lentils, tobacco, sunflowers, and rice. The roads were crowded and the taxis had to dodge large trucks, buses, motorcycles, bicycles, rickshaws, people, dogs, chickens, donkeys, oxen, and water buffalo.

Very colorful Hindu temples decorated with carvings and paintings of the different gods, and minareted Muslim mosques are scattered throughout towns and villages and the countryside. Everyday, many times twice a day, the team members traveled from Kurnool. The women in the groups dressed in beautiful saris and punjabi outfits to blend with the longer dress styles of the Indian women.

During the day, team members dedicated new churches built with funds from Adventist members in the United States. They visited homes and prayed with the very hospitable, handsome, dark-skinned, brown eyed villagers. They attended baptisms and distributed more than 9,000 Bibles and the book *STEPS TO CHRIST*.

The main meetings were held during the evening hours and often did not get started before 8:00 p.m. because people from other villages had to come in by foot, bicycle, on wagons pulled by trac-



Newly baptized group in front of granite boulders near the village of L. Banda, India.



Contractor (white shirt left) and division engineer (blue shirt) oversee construction of new Adventist church.



Young boys and water buffalo bathe and cool off in irrigation canal.

tors, or in dump trucks. Each village had prepared the effort site where colorful open tents were pitched. Large painted banners in the Telugu language welcomed the foreign speakers and visitors. The polite Indian people greeted team members with praying hands and words of welcome—Anemaste and Avandanalo.

Each meeting began with musicians singing and playing their native instruments, which was broadcasted throughout the village by loudspeakers. After the music, there was a program of children's Bible stories, practical health and hygiene lectures, a portion of the film "Jesus," and finally the message of the night. The women and children sat on plastic sheets that were spread on the ground, while the older men sat on plastic chairs in the back of the tent. At the end of the meetings, many crowded around asking the

team members to place their hands on them and pray with them. Many had special requests for sickness, problems in their homes, and for problems with demon possession. The teams often returned to the hotel at midnight or later.

Baptisms were one of the highlights. Before each baptism the members of the team were given a royal welcome by pastors and villagers, and were decorated with leis of flowers and showered with marigold petals. This was followed by a ride through the village streets on decorated, oxen-pulled wagons. A parade preceded the wagons, playing drums, clarinets, trumpets, and tambourines. The baptisms were held in the muddy water of rivers, canals, irrigation ditches, and water holes. The joy on the faces of those being baptized made up for the dirty water. Women and girls went down into

the water wearing their beautiful saris while men and boys wore long shirts or loin cloths. Husbands and wives were baptized together. The elderly came needing assistance to climb up and down the steps of the irrigation canals. A crippled young man named, P. AyyaSwami, who could only move in a squatting position, made his

way into the stagnant river water and gave his life to Christ. It was not unusual for the baptisms to be interrupted by people who were demon possessed. A Baptist Indian woman witnessed one of our baptisms and was so impressed by the service and words of encouragement that followed that she requested one of our pastors to help train her sons to be Adventist ministers.

The taxi drivers were often so impressed by the caring, loving Christian spirit of their passengers that they accepted Jesus Christ. During these meetings, one particular driver pledged to follow Jesus. In a later meeting he shared his testimony with other gospel workers.

When the evangelistic series ended on Friday night, January 31 a total of 6,395 precious individuals had given their lives to Christ through baptism!

Without the help, prayers, and support of members in the U.S., sharing the hope of the gospel and the unique message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church would have been impossible. Please pray for these individuals that they will remain faithful in spite of discouragements and obstacles Satan may place in their way. Also pray that God's Spirit will continue to hold open the doors for Christianity in India and that many more volunteers will help with the ripe harvest. ☺

George Wheeler is currently serving as treasurer, trust services, and stewardship director for the New York Conference, and is a member of the Rochester Hispanic church. He and his wife, Sandra, spent almost twenty years serving in Africa in Rwanda/Burundi, Madagascar, Tanzania, and Kenya.

- In India it is very important that the new converts be nurtured and have a place of their own in which to worship. The Southern Asia Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is giving priority to pastoral care and follow-up for each of the new congregations for a period of one to two years. Having a church building of their own helps give the new believers a sense of belonging and ownership.
- One of the volunteers helped oversee 13 church building projects at different levels of construction in villages with interesting names such as Thudicherla, Rudravaram, Thatipadu, Kasanagar, Mandlem, Mallayala, Konidala, P.R. Pragaturu, Nehru Nagar and Chinna Tekuru.
- Ten thousand new members have joined the church as a result of meetings held in October 2002, January 2003, and February 2003. With this new growth, the Central India Union took action on February 13, 2003, to form a new conference in the Kurnool area.

YOUTH Relationships

Is She the Right One?

I've been dating a girl for the past two years and I really love her. I've thought of marrying her, but how do I know that she is the right one for me?

It seems as though you are the only one making all the decisions. You are dating her, loving her, thinking of marrying her, yet you don't know if she is the right one for you. Does this girl have a say in this?

Here are some tools that incorporate both of you.

- ☞ For the past two years have you both developed a relationship that progressed from friendship to the possibility of life long companions?
- ☞ Do you love, respect, and trust each other?
- ☞ Do you both possess ethical values? Are they similar or different?
- ☞ Do you both possess the same religious beliefs?
- ☞ Do you both love the Lord more than you love each other?
- ☞ Do you both value commitment and hold commitment in high esteem?
- ☞ As a possible leader of the home, do you understand and are you aware of the responsibilities of the leader of the home?
- ☞ Do you have a job?
- ☞ Have you both sat down and talked about life in general and discussed topics like, children, finances, family planning, faith and trust in God, individual goals, family goals, and gender roles?

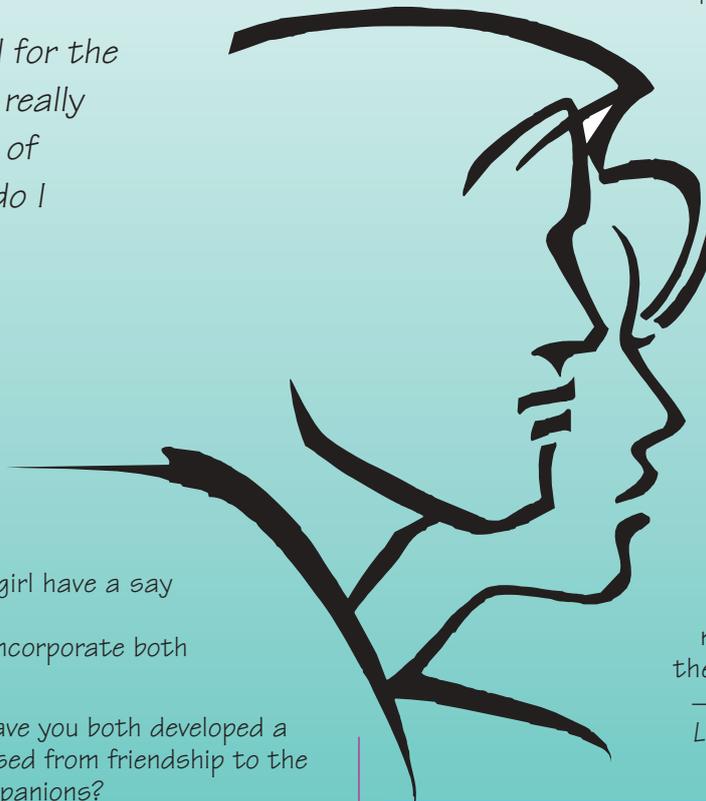
By the way, are you the right one for her and if you ask her to marry you will she accept your proposal?

An inspired lady, Ellen G. White, wrote that if you used to pray twice a day and you are contemplating marriage, then pray four times a day (MESSAGES TO YOUNG PEOPLE, p. 460).

After you have studied and taken a serious look at the above questions you will be in a position to evaluate whether you are ready to make that proposal or if she is the right one for you.

Remember that two cannot walk together unless they agree.

Lois King is a family life educator.



The "Youth Relationships" column will discuss aspects of our youth and their relationships that will help them in their spiritual growth and development. If you have questions you would like answered in this column please refer them to the Atlantic Union Conference GLEANER Office. We hope our youth of all ages will find this column useful.

These are questions being posed by the youth, therefore, it is also our hope that those who are involved in training youth will utilize the material printed in this column as a "springboard" for discussion in their youth groups.

YOUTH Relationships

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School board members attended the inauguration ceremony of the South Bay Junior Academy.

South Bay Junior Academy Opened in Fall 2002

One year after welcoming the Central Brooklyn Seventh-day Adventist School in the Greater New York Conference (GNYC), the supporters of Adventist education were thrilled to participate at the September 7, 2002, inauguration ceremony of another school—South Bay Junior Academy.

It was a distinct privilege to celebrate the establishment of a new educational institution. By faith, we are following the Lord's command, trusting that He will provide all our needs. We congratulate the parents, students, board members, constituent churches and their pastors, conference administrators, and coordinators. Our prayer is that the Lord will use this school as an instrument to lead many young people to Him.

Karleen Edwards, the school board chair, welcomed the parents, conference officials, students and delegates from the eight constituent churches: English Babylon, Spanish Bay Shore, Spanish Brentwood, Franco-Haitian Canaan, Franco-Haitian Ephraim,

English Antioch, Spanish Patchogue, and Spanish Brentwood.

Angel Rodriguez, Multiethnic Ministries director for the conference, offered the prayer of thanksgiving. Babylon church pastor, Daniel Zabaletta, introduced the community dignitaries including Assem-

blyman Phyl Boyle. Dorette Anderson, school board chair of the Oakview school, accompanied the Oakview Bell Choir, led by Joyce Hospedales. Special music was presented by Helene Mattenson, principal of the Jackson Heights school. Bruce Kelly, alumnus of the former Babylon school, which closed approximately twenty-five ago, evoked precious memories of his elementary years in the small Adventist school located in the same community. I introduced the speaker, G. Earl Knight, executive secretary of the conference. The student body led by principal Veronica Quinones and teacher Lorna Sterling presented a selection. Dionisio Olivo, conference president, offered the prayer of dedication and also led in the flag raising ceremony. Richard Marker, conference treasurer and I cut the ribbon of the newly renovated school building.

The school officially opened on September 4, 2002, with sixteen students ranging from kindergarten to Grade 4. Unable to attend, Rosemary Tyrrell, director



The Oakview school bell choir performed at the ceremony.

of education for the Atlantic Union, sent a letter that was shared with the audience.

As we enter a new century, we should remember the instructions of the servant of the Lord about the importance of Christian education in this great metropolitan area: "It is of the greatest importance that church schools shall be established, to which the children may be sent..."

"Much more can be done to save and educate the children of those who at present cannot get away from the cities. This is a matter worthy of our best efforts. Church schools are to be established for the children in the cities..."

"Our schools are the Lord's special instrumentality to fit the children and youth for missionary work." CHILD GUIDANCE, p. 306, 311.

Bordes Henry Saturné, superintendent of schools Greater New York Conference

OFFICIAL NOTICE Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Triennial Session of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the Triennial Session of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, convening at 9:00 a.m. (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.), Sunday, June 22, 2003, at Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, New York 12594. The delegates to the Conference Session are also delegates to the Corporation Triennial Session.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect a Board of Trustees for the coming triennial period, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Dionisio Olivo, President
G. Earl Knight, Executive Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fifty-Second Triennial Session of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m. (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) on Sunday June 22, 2003, at Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, New York, 12594.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers and departmental directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization, and one for every 40 members. Each church is entitled to elect alternate delegates who may be seated at the Conference Session in place of any regular delegate not present.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Organizing Committee is being called for Saturday night, June 21, 2003, at 7:30 p.m. at Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, New York, 12594. All members of the Organizing Committee should plan to be present.

Dionisio Olivo, President
G. Earl Knight, Executive Secretary



First students of the South Bay Junior Academy with principal Veronica Quiñones and teacher Lorna Sterling.



Pastor Zabalatta and John Kelly at the inauguration. Kelly was instrumental in assisting the school to meet the town's building requirements. He passed away a few weeks after the inauguration.



Students who participated in College Students' Day at Vestal Hills church. Back row from left: Nisa Albert, Johnny Loi, Clinton McKenley, Vadhya Elivert, Eddy Otieno. Front row: Kim st Val, Ann Marie Lewis, Taffae Sutton, Janelle Benjamin, Nadege Eloi.

College Students' Day at the Vestal Hills Church

When Pastor Kevin Dunn approached the college students who attend our church about conducting a worship service, he expected something good from them. What the students gave to the church surpassed good. It was an excellent Sabbath program. What made the program excellent was the power behind their willingness to serve. They love the Lord. They want to serve Him and share the love of God with others. This was conveyed in their words and actions. As much as the congregation was blessed on College Students' Day, even more were God and Christ honored.

The students took care of every detail from printing the bulletin to serving as Sabbath school superintendents and as teachers in each department. They presented the children's story, special music,



Frederick Ochanda, Peter Omolo, James Oigara, and Stephen Odongo. Frederick and Steven presented the morning's message.

served as ushers, and delivered the sermon. Frederick Ochanda and Stephen Odongo presented the sermon entitled, "What Is Your Destiny?"

At the end of the service the students presented Pastor Dunn with poinsettias and a thank you note signed by each student expressing their appreciation to the Vestal Hills members for the support of a church family away from home.

The Vestal Hills church would like to take this opportunity to thank the students for the excellent Sabbath program as well as for their involvement in the church every Sabbath with their attendance and service. Whenever they are asked to take part in leading a song service, telling the children's story, rendering special music, or reading the scripture, they answer with a yes.

*Weezie Lyons, church clerk
Vestal Hills church*

Macedonia Welcomes Atlantic Union President

Macedonia Seventh-day Adventist Church extended a warm welcome to Dr. Donald G. King, president of the Atlantic Union, and his wife, Lois, on Sabbath, January 25. This was a special and historic occasion for the congregation and one which could have an impact on soul winning events in the region in the future.

The presence of the couple underscored the significance of the day for this vibrant group of believers. Undaunted by the frigid weather and the persistent below-zero temperatures, the members turned out with much enthusiasm and zeal for worship.

Macedonia is a relatively young congregation, having been formally organized just over three years ago, and worshiping at its present location for less than two years. A brief history of the growth of the church, including the events leading up to the purchasing of the building for one dollar from the city of Schenectady, was traced by Olive Foster before the president gave the divine hour message. King congratulated the congregation for the work done in transforming the old building into the present edifice for worship and for the warm spirit that was evident among the believers. His spiritual admonition drew up themes from the paralytic and his friends on the roof, for whom the roof became merely a vantage point in the exercise of their faith. Instead of

being an obstacle, the roof served as a channel for access to the Master. King urged the group to keep hope alive while we do all we can to bring others to Jesus.

The Lay Activities Rally which convened at the Greater Albany Seventh-day Adventist Church in Cohoes, New York, later that afternoon, was a significant highlight of the day's activities. Lay preachers, local elders, and members from six area churches assembled to exchange reports and ideas on the progress of evangelism in their churches. The churches represented the Greater New York, Northeastern, and New York conferences—three of the six conferences in the Atlantic Union.

Organized by Patrick Waugh, church planter, this gathering was

the first of its kind in the region. Pastor Donald Bozarth, senior pastor for the New York conference churches in the area, was the presiding chairman for the afternoon's events. He welcomed the Kings on behalf of the group. King's keynote address focused on the pool at Bethesda and aimed at rallying the group to work together towards the goal of lifting lost souls from their "mats of defeat!" The response was a rededication to the cause of evangelism on a personal level by all present. The day ended with a discussion among the churches, during which they agreed to explore new ways to work cooperatively in the planning of future evangelistic events in the Capital District area.

*Olive W. Foster, communication director
Macedonia church*

Pathfinder Winter Camp Out

Camping in the winter can be the ultimate challenge, especially when it is minus 12 degrees. On February 14-16 three clubs attended an area

camp out at Highland Forest, a county park near Syracuse, New York.

Events included: cross country skiing, a horse-drawn sleigh ride, and sledding. Pathfinders went hiking on Sabbath afternoon, and a talented fire builder made a great camp fire outside for Saturday night. The group braved cold temperatures to play games outside. King of the Hill was the favorite. With Sabbath school, church service, and three other worship times, a lot of time was also devoted to God's word. The weekend proved a blessing to mind,

body, and spirit.
*Derick Colaw, Pathfinder director
Elmira church*

Come remember with us the dedication 30 years ago of the Bay Knoll Seventh-day Adventist Church in Rochester, New York.

1973 – 2003

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May 23 – 24

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Enjoy local musical talent
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**NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
2003 CAMP MEETING APPLICATION
JUNE 27 - JULY 5, 2003**

Please Check Accommodations Desired:	Full-time Fee	Daily Fee:	Cabins: Cabins are pre-assigned. Furnishings in the cabins are the sole responsibility of the cabin user. We usually do have some cabins available for specific nights and will try to accommodate you if we can.
<input type="checkbox"/> Dormitory Room (2 single beds, no cooking)	\$129	\$15	Pets: For health reasons and for the consideration of others, pets are not allowed on the camp grounds. There are dog kennels in Auburn. This will be strictly enforced.
<input type="checkbox"/> \$5 per additional bed.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Tent/Trailer Site on Hill (includes electricity)	\$73	\$8	Minors: Accommodations are made available on the basis that the person applying for them will provide proper supervision of any minors under his/her jurisdiction.
<input type="checkbox"/> Trailer Site off Hill (includes electricity and water)	\$79	\$9	
<input type="checkbox"/> Trailer Site off Hill (w/air conditioning and water)	\$109	\$12	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tent/Trailer Site lower ballfield (no electricity)	\$36	\$4	
<input type="checkbox"/> Large Cabin	\$159	\$17	
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Cabin	\$129	\$15	

Stay: If you are staying part of the time please indicate below which nights you will be on campus. Everyone staying overnight must register at Locating:

<input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 6/27	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday, 6/30	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, 7/3
<input type="checkbox"/> Sabbath, 6/28	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, 7/1	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 7/4
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday, 6/29	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, 7/2	<input type="checkbox"/> Sabbath, 7/5

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Please mail completed application and payment to:
New York Conference, Attn: Priscilla English, 4930 W Seneca Tpke, Syracuse, NY 13215.

Morgan Gets the Chair

As the attendees to the Albany Departmental Training Convention packed the main meeting room at the Holiday Inn, they noticed and were puzzled by a slightly different stage set-up. Instead of the usual line of chairs along the back of the stage where program participants customarily sat, the stage was bare except for the sign announcing the convention theme "... And Now a Word from Our Sponsor," the clear acrylic pulpit, beautiful plants and flowers lining the front, and a conspicuous chair-shaped object curiously hidden under a white cloth.

Northeastern Conference Sabbath school director, C.A. Murray, soon solved the mystery behind the stage treatment during his opening remarks. Murray remembered convention founder, the late Pastor James Paul (POP) Willis. He also presented his immediate predecessor, Lois King, with a thank you gift for her help and past work as the Sabbath school department director.

The object under the cloth, however, was reserved for Pastor Arthur Morgan who served as the Sabbath school department director from 1986 to 2000. Conference president Trevor H.C. Baker and executive secretary Larry J. Bailey were asked to lift the cloth which revealed a beige

recliner. Murray announced that Morgan, who began his service in the Northeastern Conference on July 1, 1953, would be celebrating 50 years of service in Northeastern on July 1, 2003. "Morgan," he noted, "was still in service even after officially retiring in late 2000."

He is the interim pastor of a church in Albany and is working with various interfaith groups in the Albany-Colonie area to bring about racial healing and reconciliation. His efforts have been written about in area newspapers and the Atlantic Union *GLEANER*.

Morgan sat in the chair as Noelette Leader Hutton sang a song dedicated to him and all of the long-time workers in the conference. Morgan thanked the Sabbath school department for the gift which was delivered to his home and placed in his study among the myriad of plaques and trophies which stand as testament to his life of service. Morgan's wife, Mae, said jokingly as the "movers," Pastor Murray and Cliff Murray brought the chair in, "It doesn't really matter who the chair was presented to or where in the house it sits, we're partners and I'll get my use out of the recliner too, particularly since it has a massage feature." Morgan, never one to pass up an opportunity for a quip responded, "Well, I'm the boss in this house, and I get to say who sits in my chair. Okay honey, you can sit in it anytime you want!"

Clement A. Murray, correspondent NEC

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Constituency meeting of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, June 1, 2003, at Camp Victory Lake, Hyde Park, New York.

The purpose of this meeting is to address the financial concerns of the Northeastern Conference, and related business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each organized church within the Conference is entitled to be represented by duly appointed delegates chosen on the basis of one for the organization, and one additional delegate for each 70 members or major fraction thereof.

Trevor H.C. Baker, President
Larry J. Bailey, Secretary

Snow Doesn't Stop 21st Annual Albany Training Workshop

What weather and newsmen called one of the worst storms in a decade began as much needed rain in California! By the time it reached the Midwest and Northeast it had grown to a fierce traffic crippling blast that dumped between fourteen and thirty inches of snow across the New York and New England area.

The storm and the intense cold

that preceded it did little to dampen the attendance and enthusiasm of the more than 1,100 pastors, denominational leaders, conference leaders, and church officers who packed the Holiday Inn Turf Hotel in Albany, New York, for the 21st annual church officers training convention.

Most of our attendees had already checked in when the storm hit Albany on Monday and by the time the meetings ended on Wednesday, the snow had stopped, the roads were plowed, and the temperature was slightly above freezing.

The storm did prevent a few individuals from attending including Faith Crumbly from the North American Division and the Tuesday morning worship speaker, conference evangelist Conklin Gentry.

Pastor Abraham Jules accepted the challenge and preached a second sermon. His stirring and passionate messages on Monday and Wednesday morning surrounded an insightful sermon drawn from the book of Revelation delivered on Tuesday by Pastor Stephen Williams.

The conference actually began on Sunday evening with a dynamic prayer and praise service led by Pastor Llewellyn Williams, Patricia Langley, and guest soloist, Noelette Leader Hutton. Hutton and I teamed up on Monday morning to sing a duet just prior to the devotional.

The wide array of seminars included a few new offerings including: immigration taught by Dr. W. Fitzgerald Kerr, small business taught by Ann Marie Fraser, and Prophecy by Pastor Dwayne Turner.

Each year we will try to add one or two new seminars to give our people exposure to other facets of Christian life and service.

One of the true highlights was the Tuesday night concert by the Southern Gospel group Valor. The group, which had sung in the Washington, D.C. and Maryland area on Saturday, was caught in the snowstorm and suffered a transmission breakdown near

Yonkers, New York. They were calling my cell phone about five or six times a day with reports on their progress or lack of it. We announced it to the delegates and they prayed for them. Valor was supposed to arrive Sunday evening for a Monday night concert. We praised God when they arrived Tuesday afternoon about 4:30.

Their Tuesday night concert was a spiritual highpoint.

The snow and cold did little to dampen the joy and spirit of this year's convention. Northeastern Conference president, Trevor H.C. Baker, stated as much in his challenge delivered during Wednesday's closing service.

Perhaps one of the greatest tes-

taments to the spirit of the convention was that by the end of February well over six thousand dollars in reservations for next year's convention had already been received by the Sabbath school department.

C.A. Murray, correspondent NEC

Haitian Officers Training a Success

More than 350 Haitian speaking local church officers gathered at the Victory Lake Campground for an intensive three days of preaching, training, and instruction in March.

Haitian Ministries coordinator, Pastor George St. Jean, welcomed the attendees on Friday evening and Saturday morning along with the worship hour speaker and conference departmental directors, R. Stanley Michael, W. Fitzgerald Kerr, Desmond Francis, Mirielle St. Pierre, C.A. Murray and health guru Sebastian Teh. Training was conducted in subject areas covering stewardship, community ministries, health, women's ministry, and wellness. Murray also made presentations on communication and religious liberty to the general body of delegates.

The 2003 gathering marked the first time that conference departmental directors had the opportunity to address a large number of Haitian church officers in a concentrated workshop setting.

St. Jean noted that the officers were not only attentive but also quite excited at the chance to be exposed directly to the conference program. The conference departmental directors also noted the elevated level of interest and excitement exhibited by everyone who attended the weekend meeting. He also noted that the Lord was particularly kind in sending the first extended warm weather of what was proving to be one of the longest and snowiest winters in years.

C.A. Murray, correspondent NEC

The "We Attitudes"

Try to smile rather than frown
Try to lift up and not pull down
Be courteous and kind
Make your children mind

Be positive when you talk
Don't run when you can walk
Pray before you eat
Think before you speak

Try not to let a negative word slip
Be gracious to the staff, give them a cheerful smile and a tip
Let Christ's love shine even in adversity
Don't take everything so personally

You will have to put up with my short comings, that's true
But as you have to put up with Me, I have to put up with You
Then when it's time to leave this place
We will go ensconced in the Savior's grace

Remember your patience and deportment even
When you stand in line
Be like Jesus 100 percent of the time
Think of the fact that in all you do
Non-Christians are looking to see Jesus in you

Don't disappoint them
Show them your best
Begin each act with prayer
The Holy Spirit will do the rest

And remember as you return to your homes
That He has promised never to leave you alone
Jesus has determined there's no such thing as a hopeless case
He eradicates sin leaving not a trace

So work for Him in every place
Tell the world of His matchless grace
Make your home, your church, a heavenly place
Determine to finish your Christian race
And soon you will see Him face to blessed face

C.A. Murray

Each morning during the Albany Training Convention the attendees stood and recited the "We Attitudes"—an original poem on thought and behavior written by C.A. Murray.

Atlantic Union Conference

Schedule

Camp Meeting

2003

Footprints of Hope for a Finished Work

Bermuda Conference Camp Meeting
Bermuda Institute/Southampton Church Complex
June 20 – 28

Speakers:

Ezra Mendinghall
Director of Regional Ministries
Pacific Union Conference

Donald G. King
President
Atlantic Union Conference

Samuel Bulgin
President
Bermuda Conference

Sydney Gibbons
Secretary
Bermuda Conference

Derek Furbert
Treasurer
Bermuda Conference

Special Features:

Health Presentations
Leonard Gibbons
Health Ministries Director
Bermuda Conference



Samuel Bulgin



Ezra Mendinghall



Sydney Gibbons



Derek Furbert



Donald G. King

Growing the Kingdom

Northern New England Conference • Pine Tree Academy, Freeport, Maine • July 11 – 19

Speakers – First Weekend

Oliver McKinney
Stewardship & Children's Ministries
Southern Union

Gary Krause
Communication Director
Global Mission

Roger Bothwell
Professor
Atlantic Union College

Kim Johnson
Associate Treasurer
Northern New England Conference

Weekday Seminars

A Journey in the Gospel of John – *Arne Swanson*
How to Place Members in Effective, Fulfilling Ministries – *Kim Johnson*
Cooking School – *Cesy Rodriguez & Mike Ortel*
Connecting People to Jesus – *Rick Kuntz*
Relationships – *Lynn & Mike Ortel*

God's Medical Plan – *Steve Brownell*
Dysfunctional Lifestyles – *Hal Gates*

Weekday Series

Women's Ministries Series
Recovery Series – *Hal Gates*
Health Series – *Parkview Hospital*

Speakers – Second Weekend

Joel Tompkins
ADRA International Staff
Dave Gemmell
Adventist Mission: Making a World of Difference

Mike Ortel
President
Northern New England Conference

Rick Kuntz
Pastor/Evangelist
Northern New England Conference
Annual Music Program



Kim Johnson



Mike & Lynn Ortel



Joel Tompkins

One Lord, One People, One Mission

Greater New York Conference Camp Meeting • Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, New York

Luzo-Brazilian Camp Meeting

May 23 – 25

Korean Camp Meeting

June 5 – 7

Filipino Camp Meeting

June 27 – 29

English Camp Meeting

July 12, 2003

Roscoe Howard

Secretary

North American Division

Hispanic Camp Meeting

July 18 – 26

Marvin Moore

Editor

Revista "SIGNS OF THE TIMES," Pacific Press

Armando & Alicia Miranda

General Vice President

General Conference

Silvestrie González

Communication Director

Dominican Union

Roger Hernández

Senior Pastor

Hillsboro Spanish Church

Portland, Oregon

Youth Speaker

French Camp Meeting

July 27 - August 3

Jerry A. Moon

Associate Professor

Andrews University Theological Seminary

Jenks Brutus

Pastor

Northeastern Conference

United Camp Meeting

September 13



Armando Miranda



Alicia Miranda



Roscoe Howard



Marvin Moore

Certainty, in Uncertain Times

New York Conference Camp Meeting • Union Springs Academy, Union Springs, New York

English Camp Meeting

June 27 – July 5

Jim Gilley

Vice President

North American Division

Shawn Boonstra

Director/Speaker

It Is Written Canada

Mic Thurber

Pastor, Keene Church

Southwestern Adventist University

Stan Rouse

Executive Secretary/Superintendent of Schools

New York Conference

George Wheeler

Treasurer

New York Conference

"Mission to India"

William Proulx

Associate Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics

SUNY Oneonta

Karen Glassford

Voice of Prophecy Presenter

On-line Evangelism

Ani O'Connor

Vocalist

Hispanic Camp Meeting

Seguridad en un Tiempo Inseguro

June 27 – July 6

Union Springs Academy,

Union Springs, New York

Augustin Galicia

Associate Secretary

General Conference

Native American Camp Meeting

August 1 – 3

Location: To Be Determined (Contact

Bruce Wilkinson (315-672-3024)

Lou Blanchfield

Native American Author/Lecturer

Family Relations and Child Development

Deborah Claymore

Lakota Native Ministries Coordinator/Director

of Substance Abuse Counseling

Mid-America

Northern Adirondack Camp Meeting

August 22– August 23

West Bangor Church

West Bangor, New York



Ani O'Connor



Lou Blanchfield



James Gilley



Mic Thurber



George Wheeler



Shawn Boonstra



Karen Glassford



Stan Rouse



William Proulx



John Nixon



In His Likeness Growing in the Spirit

Northeastern Camp Meeting • Camp Victory Lake, Hyde Park, New York

Atlantic Union
Conference

Schedule

Camp Meeting

2003

Hispanic and Portuguese Camp Meeting

Growing in the Spirit
May 23 – 25

Hispanic Speaker
Hugo Gambetta
Vice President for Hispanic Ministries
Lake Region Conference

Portuguese Speaker
Leo Ranzolin
General Vice President
General Conference

English Camp Meeting In His Likeness

June 29
Rear Admiral Barry Black
Chief of Navy Chaplains
United States Navy

July 4 – 5
John S. Nixon
Senior Pastor
Oakwood College Church
Huntsville, Alabama

Franco-Haitian Camp Meeting In His Likeness

August 18 – 24
Vaillant Youte
Pastor
Leonard Church
Quebec, Canada



Barry Black



Leo Ranzolin

Festival of Faith 2003

Southern New England Conference • South Lancaster, Massachusetts • June 20 – 28



Forgiven

English Meetings Weekend Speakers

June 20 – 28
Randy Roberts
Pastor
Loma Linda University Church

June 28, 29
Mark Finley
Director/Speaker
It is Written

Early Mornings

TBA
Mornings at 11:00
Philip G. Samaan
Theology Professor
Southern Adventist University

Evenings, Friday – Thursday
Randy Roberts
Pastor
Loma Linda University Church

Haitian Meetings

Max Jose Pierre
Pastor
Ottawa French Church
Ontario Conference

Portuguese Meetings

Williams and Sonete Costa
Adventist Media Center, Brazil
Relvz Junior
São Paulo, Brazil

Spanish Meetings First Weekend

Bernardo Rodriguez
Youth Director
Inter-American Division

Second weekend
Armando Minanda
Vice President
General Conference

During the week
Humberto Treiyer
Professor
Argentina Adventist University

Youth
Jose Pagan
Pastor
Florida Conference

Music
First Sabbath
Jose Gomez
Dominican Republic

Second Sabbath
Forgiven
Riverside, California

Workshops
Healthy Choices
How To Discover Your Gifts With Jesus
How To Start A Church
Trust Services Seminars
Women's Issues

Other features:
Third Annual 5K run, run4hlth@snecc

For details/applications call
(978) 365-4551
Adventist Book Center Sunday Sale
Nightly Mini Concerts

Native American Camp Meeting

June 27 – 28
Speakers
Friday Evening/Sabbath Morning
Roscoe Howard
Secretary
North American Division

Sabbath Afternoon
Native Education/Health Emphasis
Fred Rogers
Director, Native Education/Health Initiative
Southern Union

David DeRose
Diplomat, National Board of Medical Examiners, Board-Certified specialist in Internal and Preventive Medicine

Saturday Evening
Robert Burnette
Native Ministries

Special Music
Navajo Choir
Indian Flute Music



Armando Miranda



Roscoe Howard



Mark Finley



Philip Samaan



Humberto Treiyer



Bernard Rodriguez

Footprints of Hope — Day of Prayer

The Bermuda Conference conducted its first Day of Prayer for the new year from sunset to sunset on the last Tuesday and Wednesday in January.

The Day of Prayer began with a dramatization from "Pastor Peter," in costume, done by Mike Faison, associate pastor of the Southampton church. We saw the Lord work in mysterious ways through prayer. While the service was being held, one of the members became sick and was taken to the hospital by ambulance. We prayed that the Lord would heal her. He answered our prayers and she was out of the hospital the next day. Praise God!

An early morning service was held at which Pastor Eugene Gibbons of the St. David's church presented the message. Samuel Bulgin, president of the Bermuda Conference, spoke at the midday service which was open to the public. Present for that service were the following civic leaders: the Deputy Premier, Eugene Cox; Deputy Opposition Leader, Erwin Adderley; the Mayor of the city of Hamilton, Lawson Mapp; and the Commissioner of Police, Johnathan Smith.



Pastor Mike Faison's dramatization of "Pastor Peter" began the Day of Prayer events.

Kenneth Manders, pastor of the Hamilton church, presented the message at the final service on Wednesday evening. He shared a powerful message about our responsibility to witness for Christ. We rejoiced at the blessing of the Lord upon us.

D. Randolph Wilson, correspondent BDA

The Willing Workers of Bermuda

For more than twenty years, the Willing Workers have donated their time, resources, and efforts towards improving the quality of life of people living around the world, including the Caribbean, United States, and Africa. With its humble beginnings originating out of the Devonshire Seventh-day Adventist Church on Robert's Avenue in Devonshire, Bermuda, the Willing Workers have responded whenever and wherever the call, purely because of their genuine concern for their fellow man.

The ultimate goal of this organization is to plan, develop, and implement programs that sustain and/or enhance the quality of life of individuals, groups, and communities with educational, social, economical, and spiritual needs. However, over the next year, the specific goals of the group will include: a) implementing programs for the incarcerated and other residents of Bermuda, b) finding a central location from which to operate,

and c) increasing the membership of the organization to include those who are interested in using their talents and abilities toward the betterment of others.

While not claiming to have all of the answers to the numbers of problems identified, the Willing Workers have chosen to be an active part of the solution. On the weekend of Feb. 21-23 these very talented and qualified individuals sponsored a lecture series presented by Dr. Paul Corbier of Lakeland, Florida, on subjects such as stress management and 7-related illnesses, drug abuse, and cardiovascular disease. The lectures were open to the general public, and on Sunday afternoon free health screenings were available. The weekend ended with a spectacular gospel concert.

This group of volunteers give of their time, talents, and abilities, and are willing to consult or work with professionals who are also interested in making life more meaningful and our environment more livable for those who are less fortunate. It is our prayer that with God's divine

guidance, the Willing Workers will find a much needed home for their organization.

*Laureen Bassett, communication leader
Devonshire church*

60th Anniversary Celebration
1943 – 2003

**"A Legacy of
Excellence"**

Bermuda Institute
Alumni Weekend

May 15-18, 2003

For more information contact
Frigga Simmons, director of
development for Bermuda Institute

Phone: (441) 238-1566

Fax: (441) 238-1309

E-mail: bidevelopment@ibl.bm

Young Artists Head to Vermont for Art Clinic

The Northern New England Conference 2003 Art Clinic, held January 26-27, found a home at Central Vermont Academy in Barre, Vt. It established several new beginnings and traditions. This year the number of classes was increased to nine. Students were intensely involved in one medium of art for almost ten hours over a two-day period with the following options available to them:

- Pen and ink – Jeff Birth
- Floral Design – Damita Zavaski
- Photography Composition – Paula and Mary Miller
- Photo Development – Cynthia Craig
- Sculpture – Ellen Busl
- Drawing – Richard Sutton
- Tole Painting – Judy Sabnani
- Watercolor – Pastor Cliff Gleason
- Acrylic Painting – Jeff Barcelow

One area we hoped to improve was giving students time to have outdoor exercise and social interaction in a natural environment. We accomplished this through snow sculpture. Our theme was

“The Garden of Eden.” All ninety-six students participated and produced a work of art. They were assisted and supported by the thirty-three attending sponsors. During a month of below zero weather, God gave us a Sunday afternoon window of warm 20-degree weather. However, it was 29 below zero again on Tuesday. A beautiful Adam and Eve sculpture was created by: Lea Williams, Heather Frigon, Sunny Tier, and Wendy Williams.

The two worships held were geared to enable students to see how God wants them to be a portrait of Jesus and be able, through the art of friendship, to bring peers to Jesus. Budding artists were encouraged to continue their pursuit of art through a closing art show in the gymnasium/auditorium. Every class displayed amazing results. Scholarship recipients for the 2004 Art Clinic

were applauded.

Lauri Perry returned as cook bringing along her amazing cookie ministry to the students. We all gratefully thank, Central Vermont Academy, Principal Sherrie Wall, the staff, and constituents for their hospitality and housing. It truly was a portrait of Jesus through friendship and art.

Trudy Wright, superintendent of schools Northern New England Conference

ATTENTION SINGLES!!

Plan now to attend the Annual Northern New England Conference

**Single's Memorial Day Retreat
May 23-26, 2003.**



Our annual Single's Retreat offers a warm, accepting fellowship with a strong spiritual emphasis. We also offer health information and wonderful vegan meals. Singles, this is a very special weekend prepared just for you! Why not make this the year YOU experience the joy of this blessed, spirit-filled time together? See you there.

Beautiful Camp Lawroweld is located in the western Maine mountains and on Lake Webb. Come enjoy a Christ-centered weekend. Get your reservation in EARLY to avoid missing out on the blessings awaiting you. **Deadline is May 14** (no refunds after that date). For more information call: Northern New England Conference, Single's Ministry (207) 797-3760, ext. 15. Please bring your own bedding. Cost is \$70.00. Make checks payable to: Northern New England Conference with a memo of "Single's Retreat." Mail application and check to: Northern New England Conference, Attn.: Single's Retreat, 91 Allen Ave., Portland, ME 04103.

SINGLE'S RETREAT APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone () _____

Date of Birth: _____

Friends of Camp Lawroweld Reunion

June 20-22, 2003
Held at Camp Lawroweld
Cost: \$40 per person \$60 per couple
\$80 per family

Come and enjoy great spiritual food, stories around the campfire, renewing old friendships, making new friends and Lawroweld's wonderful natural atmosphere. For information call Linda at (207) 797-3760 ext. 15.

Sponsored by Northern New England Conference



Acilio Alves Accepts Call to Adventist Institute of São Paulo

Acilio Alves has accepted a call to serve as president of the Adventist Institute of São Paulo in the Central Brazil Union. He will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with him as he assumes his new position.

Esther Toussaint, correspondent SNEC

Marriage Commitment Weekend at Camp Winnekeag

The Family Ministries department held a Marriage Commitment Weekend at Camp Winnekeag in February. Presenters Bill Wood, family ministries director for the Atlantic Union, and his wife Janet, shared information on marriage relationships from temperaments and respecting each other to conflict resolution. Bob Saunders, family ministries director for Southern New England Conference (SNEC) and his wife, Angie, focused their seminar

on the importance of communication. All aspects of marriage, including family finances were addressed. W. Robert Daum, stewardship director and trust services advisor for SNEC, held a session entitled, "Help, the Piggy Bank is Empty!"

An Agape Supper and Communion Service were held on Sabbath evening. Marriage vows were renewed and each couple publicly affirmed one another. Throughout the weekend, the couples received special surprises. As they departed on Sunday, each was presented with a gift bag of goodies. Many thanks to those who made the weekend a success! We wish God's blessings on the marriages of those who attended.

Carol Cabrera, secretary for the Family/Youth Ministries departments Southern New England Conference

Ordination Service – Amado Luzbet

When Amado Luzbet was a teenager in New York city, he came to know and accept Jesus through reading a thrown-away Bible. As he read the Bible, he felt compelled to search for a church that held to sound biblical doctrine. On December 24, 1981, through the invitation of a friend of his family, Luzbet attended a live telecast Christmas Eve presentation at the Spanish Fort Washington church. He felt under conviction that he had found the remnant church described in the book of Revelation. At the age of 16 he was baptized. In the fall of 1986 he set

out in response to the call of God to pursue preparation for the pastoral ministry.

He was ordained to the gospel ministry on Saturday afternoon, December 14, 2002, in a beautiful



Pictured are Amado, his wife, Jane, and their two sons, AJ and Joshua.

service at the Willimantic church in Connecticut. He had that Bible at the service.

Luzbet, a graduate of Atlantic Union College and Andrews University, is currently pastor of the New London, Norwich, and Willimantic churches in Connecticut.

Judy A. Thomsen, former correspondent SNEC

Royal Treatment

On a recent Sabbath visit to the Bethel Haitian church in Clinton, Massachusetts, I was treated royally. It was raining, windy, and cold. Upon entering the foyer, I was warmly received by Bernard Joseph, the music director. Spontaneously, he volunteered to give me a tour of the facility. Soon he was showing me the various areas of the building and providing descriptive vignettes of each. When we were in the fellowship hall, he volunteered to hang my coat. Needless to say, I was

BEAT THE HEAT!

Visit the College Church in South Lancaster this summer (July and August).

Summer Hours:

Sabbath School	9:00 a.m.
Worship Service	10:15 a.m.

Phone: (978) 368-2130
www.thecollegechurch.com

Southern New England Conference Camp Meeting
Red Cross Blood Donor Drive
Sunday, June 22, 2003
Bailey Hall
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Appointment cards will be distributed in the churches in the Southern New England Conference soon.

Also available will be a Children's Identification Program

This service is free and available during the blood donor program.

thrilled by the attention and dedication of this fine Christian man.

The worship experience was fulfilling and rich in expression. We stayed for lunch and were served a fine Haitian meal. What I experi-

enced that Sabbath is what I hope that every person visiting Bethel feels upon entering its premises. Additionally, I hope that it is the experience of all visitors to all of our churches. If we want our visitors to

keep coming, we need to treat them royally—as sons and daughters of God.

*Gilbert Vega, president and communication director
Southern New England Conference*

Connecticut Youth Rally & Youth Evangelistic Series



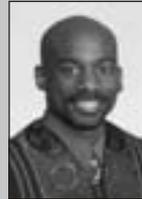
With
Pastor Steve Eastwood

May 31 - June 7

DATE	AREA
May 31	Hartford - Youth Rally
June 1	Connecticut Valley - One on One
June 2	Willimantic - One on One
June 3	New Haven - One on One
June 4	Brooklawn - One on One
June 6	Hartford - Music Fest
June 7	Hartford - One on One

Sponsored by the Connecticut Youth & Young Adult Federation
Southern New England Conference Youth Ministries

Massachusetts Youth Rally & Youth Evangelistic Series



With
Pastor Paul Graham

April 26 - May 3

DATE	AREA
April 26	Springfield - Youth Rally
April 27	Springfield - Six Flags
April 28	Atlantic Union College - One on One
April 29	Worcester - One on One
April 30	Framingham - One on One
May 1	Memorial Church - One on One
May 2	Springfield - Music Fest
May 3	Springfield - One on One

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Youth & Young Adult Federation
Southern New England Conference Youth Ministries

Southern New England Conference Festival of Faith Camp Meeting 2003 June 20-28, 2003 Camp Meeting Reservation

Mail With Deposit To: Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
34 Sawyer St., P.O. Box 1169, South Lancaster, Massachusetts 01561

For information: Phone (978)365-4551, Fax (978) 365-3838, E-mail: SNEConference@sneonline.org

EQUIPMENT

___ Tent with floor	\$80 ⁰⁰
___ Double bed—spring and mattress	30 ⁰⁰
___ Single bed—spring and mattress	17 ⁰⁰
___ Table	5 ⁰⁰
___ Chairs—each	2 ⁰⁰
___ *Per night private tent or small trailer—no hook-up	10 ⁰⁰
___ *Full-time private tent or small trailer—no hook-up	70 ⁰⁰
___ *Full-time 24-foot trailer or motor home elec./water	130 ⁰⁰

Please contact: Lenheim Hall (men's dorm) (978) 368- 2900 or Preston Hall (women's dorm) (978) 368-2700 at Atlantic Union College to make your reservations for dormitory rooms.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Emergency # while at camp meeting (____) _____

July 31, 2002 was the deadline for reserving the same accommodations as last year. After July 31 all reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Application MUST have a deposit of \$20.00. DEPOSIT IS NOT REFUNDABLE AFTER JUNE 1, 2003. (*) Every order change after June 6 will require a \$5.00 charge.

On site for private tent or trailer, only one family permitted per site. An adult is required to stay in each tent or trailer. Tents in RV spaces may be moved to private tent sites if the space is needed for an RV.

Private tents in section E are now on a reservation basis. Those registered in a site have priority. All other regulations will apply.

*Senior citizen discount of ten percent (10%) will be given upon request with this application for those 60 years and above.

Number of adults staying on grounds _____

Number of children in:

Beginners _____ Juniors _____

Kindergarten _____ Earliteens _____

Primary _____ Youth _____

Hiding

His Word

in My Heart

A couple of years ago, I was contemplating doing something special and challenging for my 50th birthday. As a fitness and martial arts instructor I wanted to be in awesome shape by age 50. After some thought I decided to take on a marathon. Not being a runner, this would certainly fit the challenging aspect! So, I chose Honolulu as an incentive and told everyone I knew. Mom had osteoporosis and Dad is an amputee from diabetes. I knew this would also be an opportunity to share with my friends and students the importance of diet and exercise to prevent these diseases, even if they were hereditary. Since Mom had passed away on Memorial Day, I wanted to run in her memory.

I began training in July 2002. It wasn't always pleasant as we live and run in very hilly terrain. But everyone knew I was going to run a marathon, so I hit the pavement. I took the opportunity to memorize scripture, especially Hebrews 11, the faith chapter. My husband, Jim, helped me train and decided to participate in the marathon as well. This was his first marathon and he did remind me that he was five years older! Our youngest son Bryan also joined in some of the long-run training.

As I look back on the sometimes difficult training, it reminds me of the Christian walk. There are so many similarities. You must be consistent in your training, do research and study, and when you take a fall or hit a wall you need to regroup and get right back on the course. This all counted when we began the marathon at 5:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 8.

I don't remember hearing the gun go off, but the firework display was exciting. As the pack moved forward, we took a breath and off we went. I remember seeing a T-shirt with a saying about praying on it, so I said the Lord's Prayer out loud. Off and on



Jim and Carol practice martial arts.

during the journey I silently repeated memory texts and songs to help me through the hurdles. I remember the anxiety I had about the two hills on the run. At mile eight, as the sun was rising over Diamond Head, I heard someone cheering us on with "You've made it to the top of the hill." And I thought, "That was the hill?" I was so thankful for having trained at home on Sunset Ridge and Diamond Ledge. Just like some of the trials

we face in life, if we succeed in facing them and dealing with them, the other trials may seem less significant.

At mile 20, I was feeling great. This seemed remarkable until mile 22 when it felt like one of my toenails ripped off. I was not giving up now. So I started praying and singing and praising. I just had to do the last four miles. Within a mile, someone started up a conversation that helped get my mind off the pain and we chatted for the next two miles. The last leg proved to be the longest, hardest part of the journey, but I thought of Christ and His journey to Calvary—no comparison. With His help I made it to the Finish Line. To God be the Glory was the song on my lips and my text was, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith"—2 Timothy 4:7.

As I was preparing for my shower when we returned to the hotel, a slip of paper fell to the floor. It was the copy of Hebrews 11 that I took on my runs. As I picked it up I realized the sweat had peeled the paper and Hebrews 11 was tattooed over my heart! God and His awesome promises—"I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people"—Jeremiah 31:33. ①

Carol Covensky is a member of the Rockville-Tolland Seventh-day Adventist Church.

BY CAROL COVENSKY

Haitian Men's Ministry Retreat

May 30 – June 1, 2003

Friar Tuck Resort & Convention Center
Catskill, New York

Contact

Margarette T. Voyard
Atlantic Union Conference
Haitian Ministries Department
(978) 368-8333 ext. 3013
e-mail: mvoyard@atlanticunion.org

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BULLETIN BOARD

Sunset Table

Eastern Daylight Saving Time

June 2003	6	13	20	27
Bangor, ME	8:18	8:22	8:24	8:25
Portland, ME	8:19	8:23	8:26	8:26
Boston, MA	8:18	8:22	8:24	8:25
South Lancaster, MA	8:21	8:25	8:27	8:27
Pittsfield, MA	8:27	8:31	8:33	8:34
Hartford, CT	8:22	8:26	8:28	8:29
New York, NY	8:24	8:28	8:30	8:31
Albany, NY	8:28	8:32	8:34	8:35
Utica, NY	8:37	8:41	8:43	8:44
Syracuse, NY	8:41	8:45	8:47	8:48
Rochester, NY	8:47	8:51	8:53	8:54
Buffalo, NY	8:51	8:55	8:57	8:57
Hamilton, Bda	8:22	8:25	8:27	8:28

Spot News

Northeastern Academy Alumni Weekend — The next annual alumni weekend will be held on June 6-7, 2003, at Northeastern Academy. Visit the alumni web site for additional information: www.neaalumni.com or e-mail neaalumni@hotmail.com.

Out-of-Union

Fellowship of Adventist Missionaries (FAMA) to Africa 2003 Retreat — Jul. 24-27, Shenandoah Valley Academy, New Market, Virginia. Registration information on FAMA website: www.tagnet.org/fama. For more info call Dorothy Jean Salhany at (931) 829 4608, e-mail: dsfama@mycidco.com, or Duane Brenneman, (979) 846-6116 or e-mail: duanebrenneman@hotmail.com.

Deaths

ANDERSON, Nita P.L., 86; b. Dec. 15, 1915, in Nova Scotia, Canada; d. Dec. 8, 2002, in Concord, N.H. She was a member of the Washington church in N.H. Survivors include: a son, Douglas Murray of Bedford, N.H.; five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

BEISIEGEL, Carolyn—b. Feb. 19, 1929, in Penfield, N.Y.; d. Dec. 8, 2002, in San Diego, Calif. Survivors are: sisters, Myrtle Mudd of Ontario, N.Y.; Eunice Tickner of Victor, N.Y.; Esther Wilson of Fort Ann, N.Y.; Doris Hart (Arnold); brothers Grantley Beisiegel of Fort Ann, N.Y., Raymond Beisiegel of Wayne, N.Y., Bertram Beisiegel of Adams, Mass.; and 17 nephews and nieces. For the past 24 years she was a faithful member of the Paradise Valley church in National City, Calif.

DAVISON, Ken—86; b. Aug. 21, 1916, in Elmore, Vt.; d. Feb. 15, 2003. He was a member of Barre-Montpelier church in Barre, Vt. Survivors include: sons, Gary, Carlton, and Ronnie, and a daughter, Sandy MacAulay.

JAMES, Mary Elizabeth—b. Mar. 20, 1908, on the island of Antigua, West Indies; d. January 4, 2003, in Florida. She migrated to Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1968. She was a member of the Hanson Place church and served in the Deaconess and Adventist Community Services departments. She was a champion in the Harvest Ingathering program. Survivors include a son, Avill James (Sylvia) of Florida; a daughter, Flora James Baptiste (Osmond); five grandchildren, and

five great-grandchildren; two brothers, Samuel Knight of St. Thomas and Ronald Knight (Vivian) of the U.K., and one sister, Jane Fergus of Antigua.

JONES, Jeffrey B.,—44; b. Aug. 8, 1959, in Portland, Maine; d. Jan. 19, 2003, at his home in Barre, Vt. His parents were Raymond and Mary B (Bowker) Jones, Jr. He was a member of the Barre-Montpelier church in Barre, Vt.

McKENZIE, Marsha Rosanna—12; b. Feb. 1, 1990, in Boston, Mass.; d. Dec. 27, 2002, in Plymouth, Mass. Marsha was born with many medical challenges. She never walked, but she did what she knew best which was to smile. Left to mourn her loss are: her parents, Steve and Diana McKenzie; her sisters, Marcelle and Melissa; aunts, uncles, cousins, and her Mattapan church family.

WASHBURN, Elizabeth Rose (Learn)—b. May 19, 1915; d. Nov. 22, 2002. She was a member of the Elmira church, in Elmira, N.Y., the Adventist Community Services, the Chemung County Parents of A.R.C., and a member of the Home Bureau. She is survived by: her loving husband of 65 years, Harold T. Washburn Sr.; daughter, Nancy (Edward) Happ of Corfu, N.Y.; sons, Harold T. Washburn Jr., of Wellsburg, N.Y., and Clair Washburn of Savona, N.Y.; grandchildren: Susan Anthony, Lisa Fridman, Bruce Jacobs, and Julie Fuller; nine great-grandchildren; sister, Loretta Farwell of Olean, N.Y. She was predeceased by her daughter Rita B. Jacobs in 1978.

YOUNG, Charles H.—86; b. Oct. 5, 1916, in Wallingford, Conn.; d. Jan. 18, 2003, in Lebanon, N.H. He was a member of Randolph church in Randolph, Vt. Survivors include: his wife, Leta Ward; sons, Charles H., David H., and Wayne H., and five grandchildren.

¿Qué Está Pasando?

ALREDEDOR DE LA IGLESIA MUNDIAL

Fábrica argentina lanza nuevos productos

18 febrero, 2003, Libertador San Martín, Entre Ríos, Argentina [ANN] — La fábrica de alimentos Ceapé, de la Universidad Adventista del Plata, Argentina, acaba de presentar varios productos nuevos, incluyendo una línea completa de sopas y guisos de fideos, poroto soja y arroz integral. Según los administradores de la fábrica, estos productos tienen un alto contenido en proteína, aminoácidos esenciales, y 0 por ciento de colesterol, además de aceites ricos en omega tres, seis y nueve.

“La nueva línea busca satisfacer las necesidades de la población con alimentos ricos en proteínas a un bajo costo”, afirmó el gerente de la fábrica Roberto Benech.

La fábrica Ceapé lanzará dentro de poco leche de soja en polvo enriquecida con vitaminas y minerales. Junto con las proteínas de soja, la leche puede ayudar al consumidor a reducir el riesgo de enfermedades cardiovasculares.

Alimentos Ceapé distribuye sus productos en comedores escolares y al público en general desde Libertador San Martín, Entre Ríos, Argentina.

ASN/RPAU/Hugo A. Carlino/ANN
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

Israel: Se inaugura casa editora con el beneplácito de los medios

11 Febrero, 2003, Jerusalem, Israel [ANN] — La reciente inauguración de la primera casa editora adventista en Israel, “Jaim Veshalom,” que en hebreo significa “Vida y paz,” marcó un hito para la iglesia, que tiene 107 años de antigüedad.

“Por vez primera, la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día en Israel tiene su propia casa editora, que publicará libros en hebreo,” declaró el Pastor Richard Elofer, presidente de la iglesia en Israel. “Pronto saldrá a la venta el primer volumen.”

Presente en Tierra Santa desde 1896, la Iglesia Adventista ha crecido en años recientes en alrededor de 2,000 personas, muchos de ellos inmigrantes de Europa y la ex Unión Soviética. Estas personas, o bien eran adventistas en sus países de origen, o se unieron al movimiento como resultados de los programas misioneros en Israel.

La presencia de la pequeña y entusiasta iglesia ha capturado la atención local: “Ha’aretz,”

el periódico más antiguo de Israel, envió un periodista y un fotógrafo para entrevistar a los adventistas y mirar las cinco congregaciones del país así como la nueva casa editora. Para un país que a menudo ha sido hostil al testimonio y evangelismo cristianos (más de una ley proscribiendo o restringiendo estos esfuerzos ha sido introducida por el Parlamento Israeli, sólo para ser finalmente rechazada), la atención que los medios dieron a los adventistas fue bien recibida y altamente positiva.

El artículo destacó la industria, honestidad, estilo de vida temperante y el reposo sabático de los creyentes adventistas. También incluyó un reportaje a un empleador israelí, identificado sólo como “Eli,” que afirmó: “Ellos son limpios y cuidadosos en el vestir. No fuman, no beben. Son obreros excelentes, diligentes y completamente honestos. Confío en ellos con los ojos cerrados. Les mando a hacer algo y no tengo que volver a revisar el trabajo. La palabra de ellos vale oro.”

De acuerdo con el Pastor Elofer, el informe de Ha’aretz apareció en un momento en que el segmento más grande de la población puede leer el artículo: “El informe apareció un viernes [7 de febrero de 2003] en la edición hebrea del periódico. Es el mejor día porque la edición del viernes es la más importante y es cuando también se publican muchas revistas. Muchos israelíes no compran la edición de todos los días, pero compran la edición del viernes.” El artículo también aparece en la edición en inglés en Internet, y puede verse en <http://www.haaretz.com>.

“Nuestra iglesia está creciendo y la necesidad de tener libros en hebreo también es mayor,” dijo José Luis Campos, director de publicaciones de la iglesia mundial, y uno de los varios líderes internacionales que se reunió en Jerusalem para la inauguración.

La Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día tiene alrededor de 60 casas editoras alrededor del mundo. En 2001, esas publicadoras vendieron libros por \$98 millones de dólares, publicaron 409 publicaciones periódicas diferentes y fue la razón de 87,751 bautismos de nuevos miembros en todo el mundo, gracias al trabajo de 16,236 evangelistas vendedores de libros de tiempo parcial y completo.

Junto con la inauguración de la casa editora, se desarrolló un seminario de grupos pequeños en Jerusalem, del 16 al 18 de enero, con la participación del Dr. Bertil Wiklander, presidente de la iglesia en la región Transeuropea, de la que Israel es parte. Las reuniones se llevaron a

cabo en las instalaciones alquiladas al Hebrew Union College entre la Casa Editora y la Ciudad Vieja de Jerusalem.

Mark A. Kellner
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

Pastor colombiano liberado luego de seis meses de cautividad

12 Febrero, 2003, Medellín, Colombia [ANN] — Los adventistas de todo Colombia y el resto de la región Interamericana se regocijaron al enterarse de la liberación de Gonzalo Cardona el pasado 6 de febrero luego de haber estado secuestrado casi 6 meses en manos de los guerrilleros de ese país.

El pastor Cardona, a cargo de una iglesia de 800 miembros en Uraba, en el noroeste colombiano, fue secuestrado el 19 de agosto mientras viajaba en su automóvil con su familia.

“Gracias a Dios he nacido de nuevo,” declaró Cardona luego de su liberación.

Los feligreses, los pastores, los líderes y amigos dieron la bienvenida al pastor Cardona con carteles y exclamaciones cuando él y su familia arribaron a la ciudad de Medellín el 9 de febrero. Su liberación se dio luego de un día especial de ayuno y oración que se llevó a cabo el 14 de diciembre de 2002, donde tomaron parte feligreses de Colombia y de todo el mundo.

“Cardona ha pasado por varias situaciones de estrés, y tiene una malaria leve debido a las condiciones insalubres a las que estuvo expuesto en la selva mientras estuvo en cautividad,” dijo José Rojano, director de comunicaciones de la iglesia de Colombia.

“Esperamos que pronto se recupere plenamente. Su ánimo y su estado psicológico, sin embargo, es estable,” agregó Rojano.

De acuerdo con Rojano, el pastor Cardona y su familia se encuentran en el suroeste del país visitando a familiares y amigos, y pronto será transferido al distrito de Oasis en Medellín para ser pastor de una iglesia.

Durante 2002, seis feligreses fueron secuestrados y todos fueron liberados con excepción del auditor eclesiástico Dionisio Galindo, que desapareció a comienzos de este año.

Hay más de 200,000 adventistas en Colombia.

Libna Stevens
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

Quoi de Neuf?

A TRAVERS L'ÉGLISE MONDIALE

Guyane : une mission de l'Église adventiste atteint en deux mois son objectif de l'année

11 Mars, 2003, Cayenne, Guyane [ANN] — On peut parler d'une mission avec intention. Pour l'Église adventiste de Guyane, petit pays situé dans la partie nord-est de l'Amérique du Sud, multiplier les contacts entre la mission locale et la communauté environnante va amener l'Église à battre des records.

D'après Guy Roger, président de l'Église dans la région (ou « Union ») des Antilles-Guyane, l'objectif de l'ensemble de l'année en matière de baptêmes a été dépassé dès la fin du mois de février, ce qui bat le record des prises de contacts. On avait fixé à 120 le but à atteindre pour 2003. Or, dès le 24 Février, 126 personnes étaient devenues membres de l'Église adventiste.

«C'est la première fois que l'objectif baptismal est dépassé si tôt dans l'année,» commente Guy Roger, avant d'expliquer que c'est dû à un doublement du nombre des campagnes d'évangélisation organisées au début de l'année. Et d'autres activités d'évangélisation, conduites par la jeunesse guyanaise, sont prévues pour un avenir proche.

Avec une population de 150,000 personnes, la Guyane est à dominante catholique. On y compte 1,936 adventistes répartis en 16 congrégations.

*Libna Stevens
Traduction: Claude Fivel*

Un pasteur rwandais a été déclaré coupable par un tribunal des Nations unies

14 février, 2003, Silver Spring, Maryland, États-Unis [ANN] — Le Tribunal pénal international pénal pour le Rwanda (TPIR) a condamné un ancien administrateur adventiste, Elizaphan Ntakirutimana, à 10 ans de prison et son fils, Gérard, à 25 ans de prison pour leur rôle dans le génocide perpétré en 1994 au Rwanda.

Dans une déclaration relative à son verdict du 19 février, le tribunal des Nations unies a précisé que Gérard Ntakirutimana, 45 ans, médecin en exercice à l'hôpital adventiste de Mugonero, était déclaré coupable de génocide et de crimes contre l'humanité (des meurtres) et qu'Elizaphan Ntakirutimana, 78 ans, était déclaré coupable d'aide et d'encouragement au génocide.

«On ne peut oublier la tragédie rwandaise – cette annihilation insensée de milliers de vies,» a déclaré Ray Dabrowski, directeur de la communication au siège mondiale de l'Église adventiste. «Les chrétiens doivent rejeter la violence comme mode de résolution des conflits. Il y a au cœur du message chrétien la réconciliation, la compassion et l'amour, qui transcendent toutes les différences de langue, de race ou de nationalité.»

«L'issue de ce procès nous attriste, poursuit-il. L'extrême complexité du dossier, l'immense quantité de témoignages souvent conflictuels et l'amertume durable d'un grand nombre de gens qui ont été imbriqués dans cette tragédie – autant de facteurs qui ont rendu malaisée la tâche du tribunal. En tant qu'Église, nous éprouvons la plus grande sympathie pour tous ceux dont la vie a été brisée par cette horrible expérience.»

«Il nous faut reconnaître avec une profonde tristesse que certains de nos membres d'Église se sont retournés contre leur frères et contre leurs voisins. Nous sommes profondément peiné parce que les accusés n'ont pas agi conformément aux principes de leur Église. À ce titre, présentons nos excuses,» conclut Ray Dabrowski.

Dès les premières mentions publiques des allégations dont Ntakirutimana faisait l'objet, les responsables adventistes ont poussé à ce que ces accusations soient traitées dans un cadre judiciaire approprié. L'Église a accordé sa pleine coopération aussi bien au tribunal des Nations unies qu'aux avocats de la défense de Ntakirutimana et de son fils.

Elizaphan Ntakirutimana, citoyen rwandais vivant retiré, depuis 1994, près de Laredo, au Texas, a été mis en accusation devant le TPIR en juin 1996. Il fut arrêté au mois de septembre de cette même année et extradé par les États-Unis au début de l'an 2000 afin d'être jugé en Tanzanie. A l'époque du conflit rwandais, il était président du Champ (ou territoire missionnaire) du Sud Rwanda de l'Église adventiste.

Le TPIR rappelle que les Ntakirutimana père et fils ont conjointement fait l'objet de deux inculpations : l'une au titre de l'affaire de Mugonero avec cinq chefs d'accusation et l'autre au titre de l'affaire de Bisesero avec sept chefs d'accusation. Les inculpés étaient donc accusés de génocide, de complicité de génocide, de conspiration en vue de commettre un génocide ainsi que de crimes contre l'humanité. Le père et le fils ont participé, dit-on, à des tueries et à des

attaques contre «un grand nombre d'hommes, de femmes et d'enfants» venus chercher refuge dans le complexe adventiste de Mugonero ainsi qu'aux environs de Bisesero, deux endroits situés dans la préfecture de Kibuye.

Les attendus du jugement expliquent que les juges composant le tribunal «ont examiné en détail toutes les allégations avancées par le procureur à l'encontre des deux accusés et ont estimé qu'il n'y avait pas assez de preuves à charge contre ni l'un ni l'autre quant aux chefs d'accusation de complicité de génocide, de conspiration en vue de commettre un génocide, de deux catégories de crimes contre l'humanité (extermination et autres actes inhumains) figurant dans les deux inculpations, et quant au chef d'accusation de graves violations des conventions de Genève, figurant dans l'affaire de Bisesero.»

Tout au long des 12 mois qu'a duré le procès, à Arusha en Tanzanie, E. Ntakirutimana et son fils ont protesté de leur innocence.

Le communiqué du TPIR indique que les juges sont parvenus à un verdict unanime et que, sous réserve d'appel, le père et le fils purgeront leurs peines dans les prisons d'un des pays avec lesquels le tribunal a passé un accord pour l'application des sentences qu'il prononce. A ce jour, ce tribunal a condamné dix accusés et en a acquitté un.

Au niveau mondial comme à celui du Rwanda, les dirigeants adventistes ont fait de la réconciliation – tant au sein de la communauté rwandaise au sens large qu'entre membres d'Église – une de leurs toutes premières priorités après la guerre civile. Au mois de mars 1998, une série de grandes «conventions de réconciliation» a été parrainée par l'Église adventiste, avec pour but d'arriver à d'honnêtes discussions et à restaurer la confiance entre ethnies rivales. Le pasteur adventiste Esdras Mpyisi, ancien conseiller de l'ex roi du Rwanda, a ouvert les débats au cours desquels des délégués des factions hostiles ont décidé de collaborer pour parvenir à une tolérance et à une compréhension mutuelles.

L'Église adventiste du septième jour compte quelque 350,000 membres au Rwanda et y gère trois écoles, un hôpital et neuf centres médicaux. On estime que 10,000 membres d'Église ont perdu la vie dans le conflit interethnique de 1994.

Pour de plus amples renseignements, voir aussi: <http://www.ictr.org/wwwroot/default.htm>

*ANN
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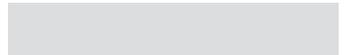
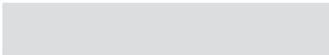
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