

THE ATLANTIC UNION

JANUARY 2004

GLEANNER



MOORE ABOUT THE

Ten Commandments

Se Inaugura Templo Histórico

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ABOUT THE COVER: This month's cover story, "Moore About the Commandments," addresses the subject of religious liberty. The cover photo is a PhotoDisk image.

MISSION STATEMENT

To faithfully chronicle the work and progress of the church in the Atlantic Union territory and inform, instruct, and inspire our church members.

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Trust the Unknown to God

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand”—Isaiah 41:10, NKJV.

Years ago I began my professional career in the claims department of a major insurance company that had employed me while I was working my way through college. Approximately one year after full-time employment, I was offered a promotion to the position of customer service supervisor. I recall the nervous feeling I had about assuming the assignment. Inwardly, I was apprehensive because I did not know what to expect. Contingent upon giving my best, I embraced the challenge. It would mean leaving my comfort zone and moving to another level totally unfamiliar to me. Early in my new assignment, I sought assistance from a manager to resolve a problem and was surprised at the response: “If we didn’t think you could handle the job, we would not have offered it to you.” It was clear I was not going to get any support.

That experience was a defining moment in my life. I made the decision that, no matter what the circumstances, I would equip myself by God’s grace and always produce to the best of my ability. I was determined that I would not fail!

Many promotions were offered to me during my fifteen-year career with that company. Each time I was given a new assignment, I renewed my commitment to God determined to follow His direction and succeed. With each challenging opportunity I became less afraid of the unknown.

Then came the announcement of a major reorganization of the company. They were downsizing their operation and instead of having twenty-four managers in that office, there would be twelve. Also, once the downsizing was completed, they would divide the office into two, moving one to another location.

I can still remember the day the announcement was made and being among the twenty-four managers waiting to find out our fate. Thankfully, I was one of the twelve chosen to continue. They assigned me to the larger office as one of eight managers, the only black and the only female. I did not have as many anxious moments about my job at that point in my experience nor did I become frightened about the unknown because it had become clear to me that God was guiding me step by step. He was my teacher, coach, supporter, and shoulder to lean on when things got rough. It was obvious He was saying “When the challenges and changes in life come, trust Me. I will be there to take you through.”

There is much more to the story, but what is significant to share is that, by the end of my career with the company, I had been assigned to the highest position possible in that area managing one of the five offices in the state.

It is the dawn of a new year—2004. I have been thinking about the many changes I have been through in my journey with God. There is so much transpiring around us. We are watching the rapid movements of time. There are wars and rumors of wars, terrorism is on the rise, people’s hearts are failing them for fear, knowledge is constantly increasing but not always for the good of humanity, and many people are bewildered. The challenges we face seem so unpredictable, but I am encouraged because God has personally proven multiple times and reminds me that “[He] will never leave [me] nor forsake [me]”—Hebrews 13.5, NKJV.

So, as you begin this new year remember, “no matter what is looming around you, be encouraged to **trust the unknown to God**” and watch Him work miracles in your life. ①

Ednor A. P. Davison is editor of the Atlantic Union GLEANER and assistant communication director for the Atlantic Union Conference.



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Women's Ministries

— The Training Institutes

Women's Ministries continues to evolve in its quest of living the mission of service to humanity while lifting up Jesus Christ. From its beginnings with the North American Division Commission for Women's Ministries headed by Dr. Rosa Banks, to the myriads of women heading departments on the church level, Women's Ministries has met each challenge with the spirit of a Deborah and the finesse of a Dorcas.

Women's Ministries' evolution from the town hall meetings to retreats to prayer breakfasts to evangelistic crusades warrants another level in its metamorphosis. The new level will replace the need for the Atlantic Union director to travel each weekend to encourage, educate, and engage the constituents of the Atlantic Union Conference. The next step is **The Training Institute (TTI)**.

TTI will focus on the issues and topics women have stated as instrumental in their continued positive growth. Personal growth to serve humanity and spiritual growth to lift up Jesus will open the door for women to live more fully the mission of the ministry while gaining expertise and confidence from leaders across the country. The Atlantic Union Conference Women's Ministries Department will host four Training Institutes in the year 2004 focusing on prayer, leadership, evangelism, and health. Leaders in each field will present one-day training sessions. **TTI** will be an intense, no-frills, educational day of focused training. These hands-on sessions will allow the women to replicate the instruction and, once home, move toward implementation. Each session will

1. be set to accommodate smaller groups of women,
2. be modestly priced,
3. be held on Sundays only,
4. be enrolled on a first-come, first-serve basis,
5. be an intense, educational training experience,
6. be held from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and
7. be closed once a session reaches capacity attendees.

TTI should not be compared nor will compete with the women's retreats in expectations or results. **TTI** will provide specialized training only. The lovely amenities that

are provided at other functions hosted by the Women's Ministries department will not be included in **TTI**.

However, **The Training Institute** will resemble other Women's Ministries functions in that the sessions will provide the attendees with the most spiritually, professionally qualified, expert facilitators, male or female, in each area of concentration. **TTI** is for the woman who wants a day to focus and sharpen her skills in a particular area but does not want to pick and choose sessions. Every woman will be able

1. to attend each session,
2. to receive highly specialized instruction,
3. to question the experts and receive on-the-spot answers,
4. to take home (free of charge) books or other resource materials developed by the facilitator related to the topic,
5. to take home a road map to replicate tried-and-proven strategies,
6. to network with others of like interest, and
7. to access a help line available for one month after each training session.

Through **The Training Institute**, the Women's Ministries department will, under the guidance of the Master Teacher, meet the constant challenge of the women who serve others in the Atlantic Union Conference.

Look for dates and places in the coming issues of the *GLEANER* and on the web site: www.atlantic-union.org/women.htm.

Charlotte L. V. Thoms is the women's ministries director for the Atlantic Union Conference.

For questions about The Training Institute call (585)329-9295 or (585)442-9295 or e-mail: cthoms513@hotmail.com.



It's Our Turn

By Bill Wood

Student leaders from the seven academies in the Atlantic Union, 120 in all, attended the 2003 Atlantic Union Conference Academy Leadership Conference on the weekend of November 6-8, 2003. *It's Our Turn* was the theme for the conference held at Camp Winnekeag in Ashburnham, Massachusetts. For the first time students from Central Vermont Academy in Barre, Vermont, participated in the conference. These student leaders included class presidents, vice presidents, spiritual vice presidents, and editors of yearbooks and school papers.

The program was planned around various leadership principles. A group of students from Atlantic Union College led out in team and group building activities on Thursday and Friday afternoon. According to the comments heard from many of the participants this was one of the favorite activities of the weekend.

Donald King, president of the Atlantic Union Conference, was the keynote speaker on Thursday night. King's presentation centered around various attributes of the Christian leader.

Several workshops conducted included topics such as: *Four Essential Qualities of Effective Leadership*, *Priorities of a*



Leader, How to Prepare a Devotion, How to Lead an Effective Team Meeting, and Intimacy With God. The workshops were conducted by the local conference youth directors and the Atlantic Union Conference administrators and departmental directors. Jerry Gilkerson, principal at Greater Boston Academy, worked with the spiritual vice presidents and pastors, and Rhondi Astrup, vice principal and English teacher at Greater Boston Academy, facilitated the workshops for yearbook and newspaper editors.

I was the speaker for the Sabbath worship service and challenged the leaders that it is "their turn" to heed God's call to make a difference in their world similar to other youth whom God

called such as David, Timothy, the disciples, and even the early leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Two leadership books written by John Maxwell,

RUNNING WITH GIANTS: WHAT OLD TESTAMENT

HEROES WANT YOU TO

KNOW ABOUT LIFE AND LEADERSHIP

and *THE WINNING ATTITUDE: YOUR KEY TO PERSONAL SUCCESS*, were given to each delegate.

The goal of this leadership weekend for youth from around the Atlantic Union was to empower them to begin to make a positive impact in their schools, communities, and churches. ☺

Bill Wood, youth director for the Atlantic Union Conference, writes from South Lancaster, Massachusetts.



Students at AUC are Encouraged to Build on the Solid Rock

Atlantic Union College held a spirit-filled week of prayer from September 15-20, 2003. Abraham Jules pastor of the City Tabernacle church in the Northeastern Conference was the speaker for the week.

Day after day Jules inspired and challenged the students with messages such as "Word Power: So Near, Yet So Far," and "Moving from History to Destiny." His messages were understandable and down to earth. The sermons addressed each person on an individual basis while touching the entire audience. After leaving each meeting students felt a conviction—a need to examine themselves more closely.

The theme "Solid as a Rock" was very timely. The theme song also tied right in, "We'll Build on the Rock." Each of the topics brought home the idea that Jesus should be the rock on which we build our lives. Jules made it clear that without Jesus as the foundation of our lives we cannot be



Abraham Jules, pastor of the City Tabernacle church in New York, encouraged the students to make sure they have Jesus as the foundation of their lives.

stable. This analogy brings to mind the parable of the wise and foolish men. The foolish man built his house upon the sand, and the wise man built his house upon the rock which is Christ Jesus.

Each night a group of student prayer warriors met and prayed for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the meetings. It was an invigorating experience to be part of this team. When we were finished praying we felt full of power from the Holy Spirit.

The week of prayer was a much-needed spiritual feast. We were truly fed. On our campus it is imperative that we do not lose sight of our goals—making sure that stu-

dents are not only academically wise, but also spiritually wise. It is necessary that we are not only trained to be professionals, but also as missionaries for the Lord.

Keisha Kirk-Martin, '07
Atlantic Union College



Singspiration at AUC

Every Friday night at AUC students have the opportunity to attend Singspiration. This worship session combines singing and a night filled with testimonies and inspirational thoughts. Led by students, it is their way of expressing themselves spiritually at the end of a long and tedious week. It is held either in Kilgore Chapel or the banquet room of the Chan Shun Dinning Commons. Even though attending this worship service is not mandatory, everyone wants to be there. It is always full of energy and life.

Testimonies are the most awaited part of the program. It is an awe-

some sight to see how students just cannot wait their turn to say what God has done for them. Most times their testimony uplifts someone else or gives them strength to continue. It is a spiritual growth session. Once it starts, everyone wants to share their blessings and their hope. Sometimes students are worshipping God even after midnight. This is so beautiful because at our age we don't have to be there, but we choose to because we know that spending time in God's presence is a fulfilling thing to do. Even though we live on a Christian campus not everyone is a Christian here. This is a good way to show Christ to stu-

dents without the formalities of a church setting.

The worship session gives a homey warmth, and jumpstarts the weekend. I know, for the freshmen, it takes away the loneliness of being away from home. It makes one feel like they have a home and a family away from home. Singspiration ends with the song *O Lord how Excellent*, a timely reminder that God is excellent. A simple, yet powerful ending to an energetic spirit-filled worship session usually leaves the participants filled with the Holy Spirit.

Keisha Kirk-Martin, class of '07
Atlantic Union College

AUC Streamlines, Develops Creative Programs, and Cuts Tuition

Even though I am writing this during the Thanksgiving vacation, you will not read it until after Christmas. But, the news will still be exciting! Of course, by the time January comes there will be even more to report. I always find it thrilling and soul-stirring to report on how God is blessing Atlantic Union College—even in spite of challenges.

- As a cost containment measure and until enrollment grows, AUC is temporarily reducing some majors and minors that have few students. Students in these programs will be helped to finish. Contact the Vice President for Academic Administration for details.
- A new Bachelor of Arts in Evangelism along with a certificate program in Evangelism is being started in August 2004. No Seventh-day Adventist college or university currently offers a degree at the bachelors level specifically designed to train young people for evangelism and AUC will be the first to do so. The certificate program will be for adults who may or may not be eligible for college credit but who desire to share their love for Jesus and want to sharpen their skills.
- A new Master's in Education degree will be offered in Clinical Ministry (Chaplaincy). This program can be earned like the Adult Degree Program which meets only twice a year for two weeks in January and two weeks in July. Several pastors have expressed keen interest in becoming chaplains so they can be prepared to help people at their time of greatest need.
- A creative Gourmet Vegetarian/Vegan Chef program will start in August 2004 to meet the great need for expert food directors in Seventh-day Adventist academies, colleges, and hospitals. This is another area where there is currently no training program in our educational system. AUC is coming to the rescue with a super fine program. This will be an Associate of Science (2 year) degree program which will con-

tain enough business courses so that students will know how to operate their own restaurants if they so choose.

As reported earlier, the financial cuts for the 2004-05 academic year will reduce each student's overall expense by about \$3,000 per year. This includes a seven percent reduction in tuition plus lowered costs in dormitory rates and other fees. AUC is determined to make education affordable and we are willing to buck the trend to make it possible. Quality is going up, but costs are coming down at AUC!

Kudos to the Department of Education and Psychology who recently had the State of Massachusetts Department of Education on campus to conduct their regular evaluation of AUC's teacher training programs. The results were exceptionally positive and AUC has been given full approval to continue these high quality programs.

The biggest current need on the Atlantic Union College campus is money to meet outstanding bills. Our accreditation depends upon paying off these debts. Now that God has worked miracles regarding our status with the Federal Department of Education and with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, we must each do our part in providing these desperately needed monies. Every gift no matter how small is needed and appreciated.

As you can see, God is continuing to bless His college. I trust that everyone in the Atlantic Union and elsewhere will assist us with funds and your prayers. We must work together to make AUC successful.

George Babcock is president of Atlantic Union College.



More about the COMMANDMENTS

A common question posed to me is, “What is the Adventist church going to do in support of Judge Roy Moore and the Ten Commandments?” The question is usually followed by a passionate declaration like: “We must stand up for the Ten Commandments and support this man of God!” My response is simple. Seventh-day Adventists undisputedly believe the Ten Commandments in their entirety. Every Christian church in town claims to believe in some of the commandments. Some churches accept eight of them. They eliminate the second and the fourth. Other churches believe in nine of them. They say the fourth is no longer binding. But the Adventist church believes in all ten of the commandments. However, the Church takes a firm stand for the separation between church and state. Judge Moore does not. At a meeting last October

where Judge Moore was present, Roberta Combes, president of the Religious Coalition, said, “We are here on a mission to save America. We need to bring the spiritual and the legislative together and swell the Christian ranks in our government.” In the same meeting Judge Roy Moore stated, “The idea of a

wall of separation between church and state is a fable. No phrase is more widely used or widely abused.” There was a popular attitude among the attendees that in order to save America from peril, they must impose their interpretation of Christianity upon all Americans “for the good of the nation.”

Important Web Sites

-  **<http://www.atlantic-union.org/public.htm>**
 Web site for the Atlantic Union Conference Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty. The primary mission of the department is to assist those whose religious freedom has been threatened. A secondary emphasis is to uphold the American tradition of the separation of church and state.
-  **<http://nadadventist.org/nadfreedom>**
 Religious Liberty and You—Web site for the North American Division Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty. An Adventist organization that is dedicated to protecting the religious freedoms of people of all denominations.
-  **<http://ola.adventist.org>**
 Web site for the Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the world church. The primary focus of this department is issues that relate to religious liberty and the relationship between church and state. You can also visit the web site to sign up to receive e-mail updates on breaking religious liberty news as it occurs.

The Public Affairs & Religious Liberty (PARL) director in the local conferences is also available if information is needed (see page 31 for the conference office numbers).

Whenever the government is involved in endorsing one religion above another, it relegates all other religions as inferior. The results are religious persecution of those who do not accept the government's version of religion. An endorsement may be the commandments now, but once the precedence has been established, should we expect the Quran, Veda, and Wiccans later? History has proven repeatedly that the freedom of conscience cannot coexist in the ambience of a state-supported religion. Hence, the best role for government to play is to stay out of religion. Christianity espouses a personal, loving God, not a federal, legal god.

There are other reasons why the Church does not support Judge Moore.

1. The 5,280 pound monument of the Decalogue was quietly delivered and installed by night in the rotunda of the judicial building.

Read on and you will understand why.

2. Judge Moore had no authority to install the monument in the government building. It was not by an act of the legislature. There was no executive order from the governor's office. Since the judicial branch interprets law, Moore reasoned that inasmuch as the state constitution acknowledges God, he should acknowledge God by placing the monument in the rotunda of the state building.

3. The judge's rendition of the fourth commandment is "Remember the

Sabbath day." This version varies from the common Protestant version. There is a stark difference in remembering a day and remembering a day to keep it holy.

4. His associate justices of the state supreme court made it known that they do not support his defiance. All eight other supreme court justices repudiated Judge Moore's action and instructed the building manager to "take all steps necessary to comply with the injunction as soon as possible."

5. The judge lost his case in federal court. He appealed it to the 11th Circuit and was ordered to remove

In writing a Constitution that would accommodate diverse religious beliefs, the founding fathers took care not to mention the name of God in the Constitution. It was not because they did not believe in God. They wanted a government that would protect the freedom of conscience for all.

the monument by August 20, 2003. The court found that the monument was a violation of the First Amendment principle of separation of church and state and amounted to "nothing less than an obtrusive year-round religious display."

The union of the church with the state, be the degree never so slight, while it may appear to bring the world nearer to the church, does in reality but bring the church nearer to the world—THE GREAT CONTROVERSY, p. 297.

6. He appealed to the United States Supreme Court to stay the appellate court's order to remove the slab. The Supreme Court did not interfere with the circuit court's decision.

7. Judge Moore vowed that he would not remove the granite block in defiance of the court order. His defiance places him above the law which he had pledged to uphold.

On August 22 Judge Moore was suspended from the bench by the Judiciary Inquiry Commission for disobeying a federal court order. "The fight to defend our Constitutional right to acknowledge God must and will continue," he said before a group of cheering supporters. Moore does have the right to acknowledge God, but he should not use his public office, in a nation whose constitution demands

governmental neutrality toward religion, to support one religion above another. If the next chief justice were Jewish, should he be permitted to place in the rotunda the Star of David enshrined in granite?

One may argue that we live in a Christian nation founded by devout Christians. Another may counterargue that Sears, established by a Jewish merchant, is not a Jewish department store. Yes, many of the founding fathers were Christians, some were deists, and others atheists. Their belief or lack of belief in Christianity did not make this country a Christian nation any more than the practice of Judaism by Sears made his company a Jewish store. In writing a Constitution that would accommodate diverse religious beliefs, the founding fathers took care not to mention the name of God in the Constitution. It was not because they did not believe in God. They wanted a government that would protect the freedom of conscience for all. No amendment of the Constitution has ever declared Christianity to be the official state religion. In fact, George Washington, sometimes called the father of our country, said, "The government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion."

Judge Moore argues that the state constitution acknowledges God, therefore, he must acknowledge God through his display of the commandments. One may quickly conclude that it is better to acknowledge God through a spirit-filled life rather than a block of granite. Secondly, placing the monument in his private chamber or on privately-owned property could accomplish the same goal without

involving the government.

Some argue that the United States Supreme Court perpetuates a double standard. On its wall is a fresco of the Ten Commandments. Along with the Decalogue are representations of the laws of Hammurabi, an ancient ruler of Babylon who is believed to have

Whenever the government is involved in endorsing one religion above another it relegates all other religions as inferior. The results are religious persecution of those who do not accept the government's version of religion.

produced the first written codes of human behavior. There are other inscriptions commemorating the foundation of modern law. The Supreme Court has ruled on the same principle in previous cases. Regarding a Christmas display the Court said that it is not the establishment of religion for a community to display a Christian nativity scene as part of a larger, secular holiday array of decorations (*Lynch v. Donnelly*, 1984); however, it is the establishment of religion if the nativity scene is displayed alone in the seat of government which is tantamount to governmental endorsement of a particular religion (*Allegheny County v. ACLU*, 1989). Judge Moore attempts to equate his display of a single religious memento with the fresco in the Supreme Court, and he refuses to dis-

play any religious symbols other than the Judo-Christian symbol of his choice.

Many supporters who defend Judge Moore's actions are ardent believers that the Decalogue is no longer binding, nailed to the cross, and abolished. Paradoxically, at the same moment they wish to display the "obsolete relic" in the seat of government. In a free society where the freedom of religion is nurtured, government cannot endorse religion, be the endorsement ever so subtle as the judge's effort to promote his version of the Ten Commandments by the State of Alabama. The government must remain neutral. It must

not promote religion. It must not impede religion. "The union of the church with the state, be the degree never so slight, while it may appear to bring the world nearer to the church, does in reality but bring the church nearer to the world"—THE GREAT CONTROVERSY, p. 297.

Adventist Christians believe in God's law with all their hearts, yet they should never join any coalition empowering the government to legislate, adjudicate, or impose religion upon their fellow citizens. ☉

Nathaniel G. Higgs is the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty director for the Southern Union Conference.



Epic Story of Egypt Brought to Life

A very special Adventist Youth program, highlighting Egypt, was held at the Bermuda Institute auditorium on Sabbath, November 1, 2003. A powerful documentary was shown entitled "Return to Glory." The narrator was Adrian Branch along with Ben Carson, Ivan Van Sertima, Bishop Eddie Long, Lenny Moore, Clarence Walker and Bishop B. Courtney McBath. The inspiring documentary presented a penetrating glimpse into ancient Egypt/Africa.

The epic story of Egypt on the children of Israel's journey from slavery to freedom was brought to life through drama by All God's Children, under the direction of Ellington Anderson. The auditorium had undergone a total make-over from the ordinary, into a re-make of the courts of an Egyptian Pharaoh. Upon entry, folks were greeted by individuals dressed in Egyptian attire. Nubian Usherettes were also on hand to assist with seating.

From the three hundred and fifty people who attended this function,



Greeters at the program included Nefetari - Shirley Crockwell, Queen of the Nile - Tiffany Smith, Cleopatra - Brittany Smith, Boy King - Dominique Hill, and Pharaoh Mummy - Magic Boyles.

the question often asked was, "Why a program on Egypt?" Egypt, is a fascinating country. It has vast biblical significance which is important to every

Cast of the drama All God's Children brought to life the story of Egypt on the children of Israel's journey from slavery to freedom.



Christian and it was the birthplace of one of the world's first civilizations, according to THE WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA. Therefore, I felt the need to do a program on this country for several reasons: (1) to highlight this country's biblical importance, (2) to bring the story of the children of Israel's journey from slavery to freedom before a live audience, and (3) a tour of Egypt (from Cairo to Nubia) is being planned for July 18 to August 1, 2004. It will be a 15-day educational journey of a lifetime. Individuals seeking information on the tour may contact Patrice (Fortes) Smith, at (441) 232-3745 or e-mail: brs@northrock.bm.

Some of the highlights of the program included Moses and Pharaoh, played by Wayne Williams, and Alty Anderson respectfully, as well as Pharaoh's Quartet, who sang *Go Down Moses*, and *Chariot Wheels A'Rumbling Lord*. Quartet members are Warren Williams, Morton Williams, Eugene Richardson and Bob Smith.

Several tables displaying Egyptian paraphernalia were used as educational tools. These included Egyptian books, materials and maps, videotapes, DVD's, Egyptian artifacts, Egyptian musk oils, photo albums, a Red Sea drinking fountain as well as an Egyptian pyramid cake which contained a mummy. Another highlight was the tables for Café Cairo provided by Egyptian born Amre Elside. He also provided a tasting table of Egyptian cuisine and deserts which were enjoyed by all as he explained each dish.

This indeed was a unique program which the audience seemed to have enjoyed immensely judging by their enthusiastic round of applause with each segment.

It is important to support the Adventist Youth programs in all of our churches, for you never know what you will miss!

*Bob Smith, communication director
Southampton church*



Gethsemane French Church Celebrates 20th Anniversary of the Le Phare Pathfinder Club

Coupled with the World Pathfinder Day, the 20th anniversary of Gethsemane French church's Le Phare Pathfinder Club turned out to be a memorable event. Hundreds of Pathfinders from neighboring clubs joined them to make Sabbath, September 27, 2003, a grand day, one of exuberance, extravaganza, but most of all a day of worship.

The Pathfinders, in their crisp, fully decorated uniforms, entered the green carpeted sanctuary majestically to the rumbling sound of Gethsemane's well renowned ten member drum corps. On that day all the living forces of the church youth were in action. The action band and youth choir provided beautiful music that added to the excitement of the day.

Jean-Joseph Lapierre, director of the club, appropriately honored his predecessors by decorating those who were present with medals and military salutes. Among the special guests decorated were: Antoine Vaval, the founder and first director, Carline Templier, Odny Ulysse, and Yves Deshommes. A minute of silence was observed in memory of Wilsiono Boliscar, the second director. He passed away about fifteen years ago. They took advantage of the day and honored Paul Luc Bastien and his wife, Gerta, who have been longtime supporters of the youth.

The high point of the day was the divine service



Paul Luc Bastien and his wife, Gerta, standing on the right, were recognized for their longtime support of the youth.

where the bread of life was presented by José Cortéz, the Pathfinder director for the Greater New York Conference. His sermon, *The Church the Best Place Yet*, translated by Daniel Beauzil, was enlightening, interesting, appropriate, appealing to the youth, and close to the hearts of the Pathfinders.

Lunch was served in the newly renovated hall. To mark the importance of this accomplishment, the executive staff of the Greater New York Conference together with the church administrators led the inaugural ceremony. The ribbon was cut by Pastor Jean-Marie Charles, Richard Marker, the conference treasurer, and G. Earle Knight, the conference executive secretary. The first elder of the church, Odny Ulysse, and Knight delivered two brief speeches.

An induction ceremony was conducted in the afternoon under the leadership of Chief Chris Bramwell. A prayer of consecration and rededication was offered for the Pathfinders and their parents. The day was historically memorable for its multiple activities and also its pomp and circumstance. With a smile on their lips, joy in their hearts, and a little exhaustion on their faces, everyone left knowing they had been in God's presence for a complete Sabbath day.

Daniel Beauzil, communication director
Gethsemane French church



Platform personnel for the 20th anniversary celebration of Gethsemane French church's Le Phare Pathfinder Club included (from r. to l.) Pastor J. M. Charles, Pastor José Cortéz, L. Appolon, Daniel Beauzil, J. J. Lapierre, Y. Lapierre, and D. Laguerre.

GNYC President Join Crossroads Pathfinders for a Day of Celebration

Pathfinders at the Crossroads Seventh-day Adventist Church were honored to have Dionisio Olivo, Greater New York Conference president, his wife, Maria, and daughter, Ismary, join them as one of the highlights of their Pathfinder Day celebration last August. As a token of their appreciation, Pastor Roy Bowen and his wife, Ulia, presented roses to the

family. According to Maria Olivo, who graciously accepted the roses, "The flowers are a wonderful token of love." "The Lord is coming very soon," she added. "We're just working for Him."

Using the story of Samuel, Olivo delivered a powerful message entitled *For This Child I Prayed*. It was directed not only to the Crossroads' congregation, but to visiting members of the Pathfinder club from the Victory Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Bronx, N.Y.

During the Adventist Youth meeting, the Pathfinders, under the leadership of Dermaine Isaacs, made a presentation of marches. Later, the group's director, Walter



Director Walter Harris demonstrated how to tie a variety of knots.

Harris, demonstrated how to properly make a variety of knots. It was a day well spent for the Pathfinders, members, friends, and guests.

Alanzo Smith, correspondent GNYC



Pathfinders, under the leadership of Dermaine Isaacs, made a presentation of marches.

Vacation Bible School at Jackson Heights

Children from the Jackson Heights church display their certificates during their August 2003 graduation ceremony at the church. Assistant pastor, Steve Siciliano, was the graduation speaker. He reminded the graduates not to be like Jonah and run away from the Lord, instead they should always stay in the precious arms of Jesus. Host pastor, Angel Rodriguez, commended the teachers, student helpers, parents, and members of the community for their help, dedication, and strong support of the summer program.

Alanzo H. Smith, correspondent GNYC



Children from the Jackson Heights church proudly hold their certificates during the Vacation Bible School Graduation.

From Damaged to Delightful

Being the dean of girls at Union Springs Academy certainly has its challenges. Let me share some which occurred just in the first two months of school that have caused us to lift our voices in praise to God for how He is working on our behalf.

This year began with the girls getting settled in their rooms, some with roommates and some without. It is always an adjustment to live away from home, but it's even more so when you share a room with someone you have never met before. It's a time when the girls learn about giving and taking and adjusting to the little quirks of others. However, by our first home leave they were well settled into their rooms.

The dorm has lots of old pipes which tend to break down. During home

when a pipe broke flooding the first floor of the dorm and soaking the carpets in the hallways and the girls' rooms. Water also poured down through the floor into the dining area, damaging ceiling tiles, walls, and carpet.

When the girls returned after break those whose rooms had been damaged were forced to move upstairs and in with others. Large machines were brought in to dry out the walls and carpets. The dining room had to be addressed first as it affected all students and not just a handful of girls. While it was being restored, everyone ate outside or in the small serving area. Carpet was torn out and ceiling tiles taken down. Even wet insulation had to be removed from the walls. Fresh coats of paint along with new ceiling

leave, several problems were being addressed

tiles and light fixtures were added. The carpet was replaced with a bright new tile floor. Pastor Londa then worked her magic with the interior decorations which added the finishing touches.

The renovation of the dorm's first floor hallway quickly followed. Room carpets were steam-cleaned. New carpet was installed in the hallway. How nice everything looked when it was all done! From the beginning we had been told that the girls' rooms would not be ready until Thanksgiving, but repairs progressed steadily and within six weeks everyone was able to move back.

Damages totaled around \$35,000. We are thankful for insurance, the maintenance director Steve Fraker who pulled it all together, and the patience of our students who handled the disruptions well.

*Sue Walter, dean of girls
Union Springs Academy*

Love and Joy Perfected

Among the most noted and courageous men that history holds are those who have dedicated their lives and energy to taking the love of God to our dying world. The Buffalo Suburban Seventh-day Adventist Church decided it was time to express love and appreciation to their pastor, Mike Armayor, for the dedication and sacrifice he and his family have made for His message and followers. One Sabbath morning, immediately preceding Pastor Armayor's message, head elder, Robin Erwin, made an "unscheduled" and surprising entrance into the pulpit. A large screen rolled down from the ceiling, with the following congregational reading:

With Praise for Your Pastor

By Greg Adoimakoupoubs

*Your Pastor is a friend of God,
But did you know just how much your pastor cares for you?*

*Your pastor often contemplates the ways you bless his life, and
how you affirm his children and how much you love his wife.*

*You make his job less stressful as you follow where he leads
through the pasture of his preaching.*

*Your pastor needs your friendship, your patience, and your
prayers—for no one knows a shepherd's plight, his heart
aches, and his cares*

*God bless you as you try to show, in varied sundry ways,
how much he means on Sabbath and all the other days.*

As the members recited the words aloud, surprised Pastor Armayor's heart and soul were filled with tears of humility. "It meant so much to me" said Armayor after the service. "I felt humbled... and honored that these members would take so much time and energy to affirm my ministry, and the ministry of my family."

Yet another slide appeared on the large screen, this time with a quote from scripture: "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching"—I Tim 5:17, NIV.

A huge certificate was placed on the screen which read, "In deepest appreciation of Pastor Michael Armayor and family for unselfish commitment to the body of Jesus Christ, the Buffalo Suburban Seventh-day Adventist Church, we present this certificate, November 2003."

Following the service, all met in fellowship over a large cake decorated with a picture of the church. Nancy Raquet had designed a 8 x 17 card with a pencil drawing of Pastor Armayor preaching to several members. Inside were signatures and personal messages of love and gratitude. Vivian Tordaski presented Armayor with a beautiful boutonniere for his lapel.

Love and joy manifested itself in this church in a way that still permeates the lives of everyone who participated in the service. "These things I have spoken to you... that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you"—John 15:11-12, NKJV. The love and joy that Christ has promised was again perfected.

Charé Gallimore, correspondent NYC



Russ Crerar, lay church planter, works with Ada Temsko a church member, in presenting an evangelistic series.



Len Augustine and Benjamin Crerar do their part to ensure a successful evangelistic meeting.

Endicott Brings the Promise to the Community, Under Fire

Following the commission that Christ gave every believer, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation”—Mark

16:15, NASB, Russ Crerar, lay church planter for the Endicott Company, his dedicated wife, Dawn, and its members could not keep quiet. Therefore, the decision was made to launch into an evangelistic campaign bringing God’s message to their community.

On October 17, 2003, the Friday evening before the series was scheduled to begin, the company of believers met for an agape supper, communion, and prayer to strengthen their union with Christ and each other, and to plead for those in their community who did not know Him. Lyndsey Crerar, a ten year old member, noticed a smokey smell and quickly informed the group.

Within minutes, smoke filled the building. Someone

dialled 911. The group was escorted outside, and Russ Crerar and James Nile, with fire extinguishers in hand, carefully scanned the premises trying to discover where the fire began. The fire trucks arrived on the scene within minutes and the firefighters spent more than four hours finding “hotspots” with their infrared camera and dissipating the fire.

The local newspaper, PRESS AND SUN BULLETIN, a Binghamton press, wrote a full page article on the fire, and included a quote from Russ stating, “It was God’s grace, His abundant Grace” that allowed the fire to take place while the group was there to catch it early. And by His grace, more heard about the wonderful message that was going to be presented the following week. Attendance during the meetings, just a short week later—in a building with the hint of smoke in the air—rose to well over 50. More than 35 NonAdventist visitors joined the Endicott members to hear about Jesus and the magnificent Advent message.



Dawn Crerar works with members of the Endicott church to bring God’s message to the community.

Charé Gallimore, correspondent NYC



Veterans Honored by Local Adventists



By Ednor A. P. Davison

Seventh-day Adventists in the Lancaster, Massachusetts, area sponsored a Veterans Day program on November 11, 2003, in honor of those who served this country. The standing room only event was held at the Atlantic Union Conference Office, headquarters for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Northeast United States and Bermuda. Local area veterans came with family members and friends—many dressed in uniform. This is one in a series of projects undertaken by the workers at the Atlantic Union office as they attempt to share that the Adventist church is interested in its local community and cares.

Donald G. King, president of the Atlantic Union Conference, welcomed the veterans and other attendees and indicated that “as a church we want to recognize the invaluable contribution made by so many on behalf of this country.”

Speakers for the event included Henry Richter, commander of the Everett H. Minigan American Legion Post 96 in Lancaster. He shared several of his experiences while serving in counter intelligence in Germany. According to Richter, the veterans were appreciative of the Adventist church’s kind gesture of

acknowledging the service of veterans.

In addition, Juan Borges, a military chaplain who was stationed at Camp Arifjan in Kuwait from March through June 2003, briefly shared his experiences of offering comfort and hope to soldiers who were experiencing homesickness, the stress of war, and the possibility of death. Borges was featured in the November 17, 2003, METROWEST DAILY NEWS and referenced as saying “I had to be an anchor for young people.... No one was happy to be at war.... The general feeling was, ‘let’s do our job and go back home to our loved ones.’”

In his presentation, Borges, pastor of the Framingham, Jamaica Plain, and Waltham Group Spanish churches, shared photos of his experience and gave a graphic demonstration on the importance of a quick response when it becomes necessary to don gas masks.

Students from the Worcester Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School participated in the program by presenting a skit about what it is like to be a Veteran. They also expressed their deep regard for those who have served this country.

Rosalie Barton-May, president of the Franco American War Veterans Ladies Auxiliary, Unit 13 in Leominster, Massachusetts, expressed how proud she was that “an event of this type was held by Adventists in the area. Barton-May is the first Seventh-day Adventist to serve as president of the predominantly Catholic organization. The ladies auxiliary raises



Donald G. King, president of the Atlantic Union, and veteran Ed Fortmiller, talked with other veterans after the program.

funds for Veterans causes and participates in parades and other events honoring veterans.

At the conclusion of the program each veteran was presented with a medal and a compilation of notes of appreciation written by students from the local elementary schools and academy. They were also given an opportunity to share their names and addresses on a mailing list to receive information about future events and also cite any needs they have so that the office staff can assist.

Representatives of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at its Atlantic Union headquarters hope this day of honoring the veterans and their families is a warm reminder that they are loved and not forgotten but forever etched upon the hearts of the Lancaster community.⓪

Ednor A. P. Davison is the editor of the Atlantic Union GLEANER and assistant communication director for the Atlantic Union Conference.



Local area veterans and their family members attended a special Veterans Day program sponsored by the Adventist church in the Lancaster area.

Lincoln Church Successfully Opens School and Holds Evangelistic Meetings

By Ednor A. P. Davison

Sabbath, October 11, 2003, was a special day for the Lincoln Seventh-day Adventist Church located near Providence, Rhode Island. It was the day that culminated a two-week series of evangelistic meetings conducted by Donald G. King, president of the Atlantic Union Conference, in which 15 individuals were baptized into the discipleship of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The meetings were planned one year in advance and held at the invitation of Whitford Shaw, pastor of the Lincoln Adventist church. Committees were formed to pray and plan for the series even as plans were made to open a church school in the facilities of the Lincoln church (read more about the opening of this school in the February issue of the *GLEANER*). With the Lord's help, the prayers of the people, and the hard work of the pastor and associates including Ken D'Aloisio, a church member and local attorney, both events came off successfully. The school opened with high praises from the Rhode Island State Department of Education for "pulling everything together so well so quickly" and the evangelistic meetings opened with a musical mini-concert by the renown Pro Arts International Choir from Atlantic Union College led by Francisco Araujo.

Melbourne Gregory, a Bible worker



The a capella group, Men of Israel, shared their musical talent as part of the two-week series.



Cheryl Linton, one of several individuals who provided music for the evangelistic meetings, is seen here with Whitford Shaw (left), pastor of the Lincoln church, and Donald King, the evangelist who led out in the meetings.

from Brooklyn, New York, and member of the Atlantic Union's executive committee, gave valuable assistance during the meetings

as he worked with the candidates who indicated a desire to join the Adventist church. One such individual was Jonathan Whitfield, a former pas-



A total of fifteen individuals were baptized as a result of the two-week series of evangelistic meetings.

tor with the House of Praise Pentecostal Church in Providence, Rhode Island, and also a former Golden Glove Boxing champion. He attended the meetings and as result of the prayers, support, and influence of D'Aloisio and the tutorial assistance of Pastor Shaw and Gregory, Whitfield made his decision to accept the Sabbath message and join the Adventist church. He was baptized one week after the series culminated.

Musical guests also included Cheryl Linton, a soprano vocalist from Queens, New York, the Men of Israel, an a capella group also from Queens, New York; and Christine Sinclair, soprano vocalist from Stamford, Connecticut.

When asked what were his thoughts on the series of meetings, King said, "We continue to praise the Lord for His marvelous acts through the miracle of soul-winning." The meetings were a part of a conference-wide evangelistic thrust in the Southern New England Conference and an overall thrust by the Atlantic Union Conference to increase its net discipleship to 100,000 by the year 2005.®

Ednor A. P. Davison is the editor for the Atlantic Union GLEANER and assistant communication director for the Atlantic Union Conference.

Aroostook Rangers Serve Their Community

The Aroostook Rangers, a youth group of the Pathfinder club and members of the Oakfield Seventh-day Adventist Church, recently spent a day cutting and



The Aroostook Rangers Pathfinder Club members get involved in their community.

stacking wood for a woman living alone and in need in the town of Monticello.

Lance Cook, director of the Pathfinder club, supervised and helped with the work. The children ranged in

ages from 11 to 18. In this way the children showed their love for Jesus and others in the community. For more information on the Aroostook Ranger Pathfinder Club call (207)538-9214 and ask for Lance Cook.

Sandy Fleish, Aroostook Rangers staff member



Members of the Aroostook Rangers Pathfinder Club cutting and stacking wood for a woman living alone and in need of assistance.

Bordoville Seventh-Day Adventist Church Celebrates Its 139th Year

September 21, 2003, found 156 worshippers making their way from far and near to Sabbath Day Hill to celebrate the 139th Anniversary Homecoming of the first church to be built exclusively as a Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1864. In Bordoville, the roots of Adventism run deep. Ellen G. White had preached here in the early years.

Bordoville Church has been under renovation for the past five summers. The Lord has certainly blessed in all the volunteer labor, monetary gifts, and work that has been done. Just when labor or materials were needed, the Lord provided. Pictures of the renovation are on display in the foyer of the church.

With a tremendous sense of accomplishment and the Lord's blessing, members and friends celebrated.



William Fagal was the speaker for the Sabbath morning service.

Joanne Stango from Silver Spring, Md., welcomed the members to Sabbath school. Bob Sundin, Northern New England Conference treasurer, gave a personal report from the mission field in Zimbabwe, having recently traveled there. Mike Ortel, Northern New England Conference president, led in the Bible lesson study. Reggie Dingman and his group were present; Erwin Eckson and Joanne Stango gave musical selections. William Fagal, from the Ellen G. White Estates in Silver Spring, Md., was the speaker for the morning service.

Barbara Rolland and Janina Bethmann served a fellowship lunch.

Warren and Irene Hill coordinated the afternoon program. There were many musical selections, a short talk by Fagal, and mission slides with Sundin.

The celebration was a spiritually refreshing time for all present. As the afternoon activities came to a close, many lingered to visit. It was



Many came to join in the 139th anniversary celebration of the Bordoville church.

a peaceful atmosphere of being close to God in nature.

*Erwin and Ginny Eckson, directors
Bordoville Seventh-day Adventist Church Renovation*

Pastor's First Baptism

In an area where there could be more moose population per square mile than adults, the Calais and Lubec Seventh-day Adventist churches rejoiced together as three people from Machias were baptized in Howard Lake in September. As head elder Bill Sawtelle and Pastor Jason Disch ministered together, the Lord abundantly blessed. Their passion for ministry in Machias, an area without Adventist representation, resulted in the baptism of Marjorie Wood, and her daughter and husband, Pam and Allen Duenas. This is the first baptism for young Pastor Disch, who has been in that district for about one year.

*Maxine Smith, communication secretary
Lubec church*

Visit the Atlantic Union Web site

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Barre-Montpelier Celebrates 100th Anniversary

The parking lot was full of cars and pews full of people at the Barre-Montpelier Seventh-day Adventist Church, as people came from as far away as Texas and nearby New England states to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the church. Interestingly, participating in the program were some descendants of the organizers of the church.

Gene Armstrong, grandson of Lugene Armstrong, the first elder who organized the church a century ago, coordinated the Sabbath school program. Gwen Armstrong and her son furnished the special music. Tom Rolland had the mission report. Larry Brown gave an inspiring lesson study. We were happy to have the conference president, Mike Ortel give the morning message. The Charlestream boys had the special music.

Following the church service there was an abundant fellowship dinner organized by Barbara Rolland. Memories flooded the table conversations as stories and

photos were shared. People were so enjoying the sweet fellowship, it was difficult to get them to return to the church for the afternoon dedicatory service!

Those taking part in the dedication service were: Ken Scribner, past pastor; George Armstrong, grandson of Lugene Armstrong; Tom and Ty Rolland; Warner McClure; and Gwen Armstrong and Stephanie Wall had our special music. Virginia Eckson gave a brief history of the church using a slide presentation. Al Cyr had the sermonette and Gene Armstrong read the Act of Dedication. Ortel gave the dedicatory prayer and Willis Armstrong, son of the original elder, Lugene Armstrong, had the benediction.

This Sabbath celebration was an inspiring day, particularly for the relatives of those who sacrificed to start this church.

*Virginia Eckson, clerk
Barre-Montpelier church*



Ty and Tom Rolland and Warren McClure provided special music at the 100th anniversary of the Barre-Montpelier church.

Reporting Live... Making a Sanctuary



The service began with the flags of many countries paraded and displayed. The excitement was infectious as each culture group welcomed their representatives with applause and cheers.

What a privilege recently to experience two long-awaited and exciting events. On Sabbath, October 18, 2003, the Clinton Spanish church celebrated the inauguration of their new building, and the New England Ghanaian church in Worcester did the same on October 25, adding new pages to their already emerging histories.

Clinton Spanish church members were able to purchase a historic building in Clinton, Massachusetts, the oldest church in town. The inauguration as an Adventist church actually took place on the exact date of the anniversary of the opening of the same building as a Unitarian church 150 years before.

The service began in flamboyant style with the church pastor and his wife, Edison and Rosa Gonzalez, North American Division, Atlantic Union, Southern New England and Florida Conference representatives, along with many church members, walking around the town square with a colorful escort of parading Pathfinders and drum corps, town fire engine, police cars and ambulance. Waiting at the church was a large

crowd anticipating the opening. After a ribbon cutting ceremony the doors were opened wide and a choir immediately inside sang "Open the Gates of the Temple." Once inside, the congregation applauded the entrance of the flags of at least 18 countries representing former homes of church members, as the national anthem was played for each country.

Roger Steel, representative from the Unitarian church, Terrance Ignano from the Clinton Historical society, Steven Mendoza from the Town of Clinton's Board of Selectmen, Kurby Bechtold, Connecticut Valley church member and contractor who provided construction and renovation assistance, as well as the architect who guided the group were also in attendance. Everyone who spoke was affirmative in their approval of the new site of the Seventh-day Adventist church, praising the members for preserving its historical accuracy. Roger Steele said, "It has been a long time since the church was filled with so many wonderful people. The last time was 25 years ago when our daughter was married here. The Unitarians were here for 150 years. I know you people will be here for another 150!" He was very gracious in his presentation of a \$5,000 check to Pastor



Ray Steele, a Unitarian member, presented a \$5,000 check to Pastor Gonzalez for the ministries of the church.

Gonzalez for the ministries of the church. Interestingly enough, the church was originally built for just over \$5,000 in 1853.

The church is located on Church Street, directly across from the town square and next to the town hall.

The New England Ghanaian church purchased the Grace Community Church in Worcester, Massachusetts, for its new home. Church members under the leadership of Pastor John Amoah worked untiring-



Pastor John Amoah (second from left) with his wife, Christine, and some of the leaders of the New England Ghanaian church.



The services were exciting, filled with prayer and praise.

ly to find an appropriate building in which to worship. Church members had embarked upon a building fund project soon after its organization as a group in 1998 and after much praying, evaluating, searching, and strategizing were able to purchase the present building at 67 Vernon Street. The membership has gone the second and third mile in giving. The spirit of unselfishness trickled down even to the children and many brought offerings, one little boy a bag of coins amounting to about \$10.

The congregation had a ribbon cutting ceremony on the church steps prior to the morning worship service on October 25. There were many in

attendance at both morning and afternoon services, including guests from the North American Division, the Southern New England Conference, visiting pastors and choirs from New Jersey, Washington, D.C., Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Toronto and Montreal, Canada. As is the custom many brought gifts to add to the fund raising efforts. And as usual,

the services were colorful and exciting, filled with praise. One of the special numbers was a trumpet solo and as it was played members joined in quietly singing the words, "There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood."

The church has grown from a fledgling group of a few to an organized church with a current membership of 157. They hope to plant another church in Rhode Island. There are many young people and the group is an energetic, warm, and welcoming fellowship of believers who say, "We, the people of this congregation, now consecrating ourselves anew, inaugurate this entire building to the cause of Christ and to the service of mankind."

*Judy Thomsen, office manager
Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI)
North American Division*



The New England Ghanaian church has a bright future with many young people as a part of its congregation.

Multicultural Holiday Tea

On Sunday, November 9, the sun was shining overhead, the sky was blue, and the temperature was cold and crisp while inside the fellowship hall of the Leominster Seventh-day Adventist Church there was warmth, enthusiasm, and excitement as ladies from a variety of cultures came together to fellowship and share how they celebrate the holiday season in their native land.

As the ladies entered the fellowship hall, they were greeted with soft music playing in the background and a beautiful Nativity scene. The tables were beautifully decorated with seasonal colors of Christmas. In the center of each table was a beautiful wreath, laced with ornaments.

This was a time of sharing and learning to value and appreciate people from various cultures. Ladies from China, Indonesia, Cuba, Haiti, and Africa shared fascinating stories and experiences about their native lands. In

addition to sharing stories and experiences, there were demonstrations on how to prepare holiday foods from their cultures, give-a-ways and gift ideas for celebrating the holiday season.

During the food demonstrations, the sweet aroma of prepared food in the kitchen soon permeated the dining hall—an indication that tasting time was near. Finally, the group seized the moment to enjoy the delicious food from cultures around the world.

Truly, this was an event that will forever live in the hearts of all who attended. There were fifty ladies in all. As they reflected on the warmth, the laughter and the fellowship they experienced at this event, it was with eager anticipation that they looked forward to the time when God's children from every corner of the world will share and enjoy the fellowship when together they sit at the feet of Jesus.

*Lisa Paden, women's ministries director
Southern New England Conference*



Mount of Olives' Wellness Weekend Wows Bushwick Community

Members of the Mount of Olives church located in the Bushwick area of Brooklyn, New York, had a dynamic and exciting weekend on September 26-28, 2003. The theme for the weekend was *Total Wellness*, and was coordinated by Cleopatra Morgan-Payne, the church's health ministries director, and her dedicated and able team.

The guest speaker and presenter was Sherine R. Brown, a young, vibrant doctor who is the first African-American in the United States to receive the combination scientific doctorate from Harvard

University in Nutritional Biochemistry, Genetic Epidemiology, and Cholesterol Metabolism for research to determine coronary heart disease risk and prevention.

The weekend began on Friday night with Brown's seminar on *Eight Keys to Healthy Living That Have Stood the Test of Time*. On Sabbath she presented a sermon entitled *Healing in Him*. The Scripture used throughout the weekend was 3 John 2 "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." A seminar continuing with the weekend theme was held on Sabbath afternoon.

The final part of the wellness weekend was a health fair held on Sunday in front of the church. Downstate Medical

Center sent a staff of six individuals who completed screenings for blood sugar, blood pressure, weight, and self-breast exam.

Brookdale University and Medical Center provided its health van and staff to do bone marrow screenings. Northeastern Conference's health van was also on site. Other services included speech pathology, social security counseling, dental and asthma screening, adolescent obesity information, and disaster preparedness. Also on hand

were the American Red Cross and the Department of Environmental Protection.

Though threatened because of a heavy downpour of rain on Sunday morning and drizzles throughout the day, tents with mesh flaps were provided, and the Fair continued as planned and was an overwhelming success. The day ended with Brown offering individual Lifestyle/Health consultations. Because

of the cooperation of many agencies and representatives the entire weekend was a success that will long be remembered to the glory of God.

*Gloria Felder, communication staff
(information supplied by Cleopatra Morgan-Payne)
Mount of Olives church*



Geraldine Bass, holding clipboard, was responsible for registering the health fair participants.

Dr. Sherine Brown, guest speaker and presenter at the Mount of Olives Wellness weekend, shown here with Ernest Jennels standing at the literature table.



The drum corps from the Mount of Olives church participated in the community health fair.



¿Qué Está Pasando?

EN LA UNIÓN DEL ATLANTICO

Gran Sabado Juvenil

El 25 de Octubre un grupo de jóvenes de Massachusetts, Connecticut, Nueva York y Rhode Island se dieron cita en la Iglesia Hispana de Providence para celebrar el último Sábado Joven del 2003 a nivel de la Unión del Atlántico. Este fue un gran día de alabanza, consagración y compañerismo.

En la tarde aproximadamente 600 personas, jóvenes y niños salieron a las calles de Providence, Rhode Island, en una marcha en contra de las drogas, el alcohol y la violencia. Más de 2,000 piezas de literatura fueron distribuidas a lo largo de la marcha, la cual recorrió un tramo de aproximadamente 3 millas. Este evento tuvo un gran impacto en la comunidad de la ciudad de Providence. Para más información en cuanto a otros eventos de Sábado Joven visite la página electrónica www.sabadojoven.com.

*Hamilton Ramos y Johanna Viteri
Miembros del Ministerio Sábado Joven*



Más de 600 personas se unieron a la parada dirigida por los Conquistadores en una marcha en contra de las drogas, el alcohol y la violencia.

Se Inaugura Templo Histórico

El 18 de Octubre, cientos de personas se unieron a los miembros de la Iglesia Adventista Hispana de Clinton al acto de inauguración de su nuevo y hermoso templo. Este edificio fue construido en el año 1853 como requisito para otorgarle a Clinton la categoría de pueblo (Township). Está ubicado en el corazón del pueblo, al lado de la Alcaldía y frente al parque Central. Aunque este templo permaneció cerrado por 14 años, nunca estuvo en venta. Sin embargo, mediante el ayuno y la oración, Dios obró y la Iglesia Unitaria decidió venderlo únicamente a los Adventistas del Séptimo Día. Debido al milagro de Dios, el Pastor Edison González desafió a los miembros de su iglesia a no tomar nada prestado para reconstruirlo, sino a depender únicamente del poder de Dios. El costo de la reconstrucción de este edificio sobrepasó más de medio millón de dólares, pero por la gracia de Dios al inaugurarse el templo se hizo sin deuda.



El servicio se inició con un desfile. La policía local cerró varias calles importantes y los bomberos estuvieron al frente del desfile. Representantes de 15 países

Los clubes de Conquistadores y Aventureros participaron en la parada que dio comienzo a los eventos de la inauguración.

Oficiales de la Iglesia Hispana de Clinton, la Asociación y la División Norteamericana estuvieron presentes y participaron de los servicios de inauguración.



desfilaron con sus banderas y sus trajes típicos. Los clubes de Conquistadores y Aventureros también participaron. Se contó con la presencia de la televisión y reporteros de tres periódicos. Entre los invitados especiales se contó con la pres-

encia del Dr. Donald G. King, presidente de la Unión del Atlántico; Pr. Frank Tochterman, presidente de la Asociación del Sur de Nueva Inglaterra; Pr. Frank González, director de la Voz de La Esperanza; Sr. Thomas Verill, tesoroero de la Asociación de la Florida; Pr. Enrique Becerra, director asociado de educación de la Asociación General; Sr. Terrance Ingano, presidente de la Sociedad Histórica de Clinton; Sr. Steven Mendoza, representante de la Alcaldía de Clinton y varios pastores del área. El discurso inaugural estuvo a cargo del Pr. Halvard Thomsen, asistente administrativo al presidente de la División Norteamericana. Los miembros y amigos de la Iglesia Hispana de Clinton fueron bendecidos por los eventos del día los cuales dan comienzo a un nuevo faro que alumbrará a la comunidad de Clinton con las buenas nuevas del amor de Dios.

*Pr. Edison González
Pastor Iglesia Hispana de Clinton*

My Relationship with Him

When we talk about youth and relationships, we tend to think only in terms of relationships with human beings. I recently met a young lady who was convinced that her relationship with Jesus made the difference in her life and that she only survived this tragedy because of her relationship with Jesus. Listen as she relates the story.

The spring semester came to an end. I was looking forward to the long summer break, and was anxiously and excitedly hoping to return home to see my family. In the midst of my anxiety, I received an e-mail informing me that my favorite aunt was diagnosed with cancer. I was shocked, devastated, and felt numb. To make matters worse, she died one month later.

This was the aunt who helped me pay my tuition when I wanted to begin my studies at a Seventh-day Adventist Christian college. I could call upon her anytime and now she is gone! When I graduate in May 2004, she will not have the privilege to see the fruits of her labor. I was overwhelmed with grief and sadness. It was too much for me to bear. What will I do now?

The summer was fast coming to an end and it was tuition time again. I began trying as best I could to get loans, but to no avail. My aunt was not here for me to call on. I felt depressed, but did not lose faith. I attended classes even though I was not officially registered. There was one lady who would inquire about how things were

going. I would respond, and with a calm spirit she would reply, "God will take care of it." To this day, she still inquires about how things are going and always says, "God will work things out."

However, one night upon my return from New York City, I received a phone call from an individual I had not spoken to nor informed about my financial situation. As we spoke, he said, "I heard about your situation, and I am willing to help." With the help of both these individuals I was able to pay my outstanding balance and register for the fall semester 2003. To God be the glory.

*As
I reflected upon
the recent heartache
and sorrow, I know without
a doubt that I was able
to withstand this difficult
time because of my
relationship with
God.*

This young lady ended her story by saying, "As I reflected upon the recent heartache and sorrow, I know without a doubt that I was able to withstand this difficult time because of my relationship with God."

Friends, I want to encourage you that while you develop relationships with others, do not neglect to develop a special relationship with Jesus. He is truly a friend that sticks closer than a brother. He is the bridge over troubled waters, the judge who never loses a case, and the manufacturer who guarantees the products with His very life. You can trust Him!

Lois King is a family life educator.

Send your questions and letters in response to the Youth & Relationships column to:

YOUTH Relationships

Atlantic Union Conference
PO Box 1189
So. Lancaster, MA 01561

Phone: (978) 368-8333

Fax: (978) 368-7948

E-mail: gleaner@atlanticunion.org

BulletinBoard

Sunset Table

February 2004	Eastern Standard Time			
	6	13	20	27
Bangor, ME	4:51	5:01	5:10	5:20
Portland, ME	4:59	5:09	5:18	5:27
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South Lancaster, MA	5:07	5:16	5:25	5:34
Pittsfield, MA	5:14	5:23	5:32	5:40
Hartford, CT	5:13	5:21	5:30	5:39
New York, NY	5:20	5:28	5:37	5:45
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ATLANTIC UNION

Greater New York

Greater New York Academy Reunion 2004
Spring spectacular 3-day Cruise boarding Royal Caribbean Cruise Liner leaving Cape Canaveral, Florida, on Friday, April 23, 2004. Contact: Jake206@netzero.net or Leah Consuegra at (407) 814-9480. All GNYA alumni are invited.

New York Conference

Jamestown Seventh-day Adventist Church School's 90th-year Homecoming Celebration. Coming spring 2004. We want

to contact as many alumni as possible. If you are an alumnus or know of one, contact Susan Caster (716) 661-9393 or sueka@usa.net with your current contact information as soon as possible.

Northeastern

The Pine Forge Creative Arts Group is coming to the Boston, Massachusetts area on Saturday, January 10, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. at the Roxbury Community College, Media Arts Building, 1234 Columbus Avenue, Roxbury, Massachusetts. The play is entitled: "9-1-1." The group is being sponsored by the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Academy. For more information and to secure tickets contact the Berea Academy at (617) 436-8301 or e-mail: berea_academy@hotmail.com.

OUT-OF-UNION

2004 North American Division Youth Ministries Leadership Convention — Denver, Colorado — February 19-22.— Adams Mark Hotel & Convention Center. Join 4000 Pastors, Youth, Pathfinder, Adventurer, Master Guide, Young Adult, Campus, and

Camp Ministries leaders for all levels of leadership training. Theme: "Stand Still... See God's Salvation." For more information visit: www.adventistyouthministries.org.

Highland Academy Alumni — Are you an alumnus of Highland Academy or its forerunner, Fountain Head Rural School, in Portland, Tennessee? Plan now to attend the 2004 Alumni Weekend, April 2 and 3. The theme is "Memories for Eternity." Honor classes include '39, '44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, and '99. For more information, check the Highland Academy Alumni web site at www.highland-alumni.com. The Academy and the Alumni Association are working together to develop an up-to-date mailing list. E-mail your name, maiden name, address, phone number, and year of graduation to Salli Jenks at Highland Academy.

La Sierra University Homecoming Weekend February 26-28. All alumni, former faculty, and friends invited. Honor classes include '94, '84, '79 (25 year), '74, '64, '52 (50 year) and 51 plus years. For more details or reservations contact the LSU Alumni Office at (909) 785-2LSU; or write to 4700 Pierce Street, Riverside, CA 92515, or e-mail: alumni@lasierra.edu.

North American and Inter-American Division Health Summit. Feb. 1-7. Hilton Orlando, Altamonte Springs. Learn cutting-edge methods for preventative health edu-

cation, discuss health strategies with nationally recognized experts in their fields, and update your classes. If you want to be certified and effective in health education, you'll want to be at this Health Summit. 20 seminars, limited enrollment, register early. Special rates also available for students and CEUs. Registration: <http://www.plusline.org/> or 1-800-732-7587. Hotel reservations: 1-800-445-8667.

The Quiet Hour's Windows of Hope: Peace For a Troubled World. Join hosts Pastor Bill and Jackie Tucker as they tackle contemporary themes of stress, depression, coping with tragedy, the silences of God, emotional issues, financial loss, and geopolitical strife, giving the answer to our distress: finding peace only in Jesus Christ. Look for Windows of Hope on Christian satellite and cable channels. For information, visit www.thequiethour.org, or call 1-800-900-9021 weekdays.

Union College Homecoming Weekend, April 1-4, 2004. All alumni, friends, and former faculty are invited to The Light Still Shines Homecoming 2004. Honor classes are '34, '44, '49, '54, '64, '74, '79, '84, and '94. For reservations or more information contact the UC Alumni Office at (402) 486-2503, 3800 S 48th St, Lincoln, NE 68506 or alumni@ucollege.edu.



Quoi de Neuf?

A TRAVERS L'ÉGLISE MONDIALE

Discussion sur un code d'éthique sexuelle pour pasteurs

11 Novembre 2003, Riverside, Californie, États-Unis [ANN] — Plein de succès dans son ministère, ce pasteur était depuis cinq ans en poste dans son église. Il avait 35 ans, était marié et avait deux enfants. Puis, il y eut cette rumeur au sein de la congrégation – rumeur qui s'est avérée fondée et confirmée: il aurait une liaison sexuelle avec une des membres de l'Église.

“Comment agir à ce stade soulève de nombreuses questions,” dit Nikolaus Satelmajer, secrétaire pastoral adjoint de l'Église adventiste mondiale. “Que doit faire l'administration de l'Église locale? Qu'en est-il de l'épouse et des enfants du pasteur impliqué? Qu'en est-il de l'impact douloureux d'une telle situation sur la congrégation et la communauté environnante? Qu'en est-il de la partenaire du pasteur dans cette liaison?”

“Les dégâts que provoque une telle inconduite sexuelle sont cause d'une douleur presque infinie chez nombre de gens,” commente-t-il.

Certains estiment que 10 % des psychothérapeutes entretiennent des liaisons indélicates. Ce genre d'inconduite est peut-être encore plus fréquente au sein du clergé masculin, si l'on en croit Stanley J. Grenz et Roy D. Bell dans leur ouvrage “Betrayal of Trust: Confronting and Preventing Clergy Sexual Misconduct” (La confiance trahie: confronter et prévenir l'inconduite sexuelle dans le clergé).

Les responsables de l'Église adventiste se sont réunis dernièrement afin de voir comment les pasteurs peuvent être mieux préparés à éviter l'inconduite sexuelle. Quelque 70 pasteurs adventistes se sont retrouvés à La Sierra University, institution adventiste située à Riverside, en Californie, afin de débattre de l'éthique sexuelle dans la vie des pasteurs.

L'intervenant chargé de donner le ton, Louis McBurney, et son épouse Melissa, sont les fondateurs du Marble Retreat Center, centre interreligieux d'aide psychologique situé dans le Colorado. L. McBurney veut que les pasteurs comprennent bien qu'ils sont vulnérables et

qu'ils “Ne devraient jamais, jamais, jamais, jamais, se dire que cela ne peut pas leur arriver.” Il dit que 100 %, probablement, de ses pensionnaires croient que cela ne leur arriverait jamais.

Louis McBurney dit qu'il y a des pasteurs qui prêchent contre l'adultère et peuvent quand même se trouver impliqués dans une liaison extraconjugale. “C'est remarquable à quel point les gens arrivent à compartimenter leur comportement.”

Il explique que certains des facteurs pouvant mener à l'indélicatesse en ce domaine sont la solitude, les cas où on “pète les plombs”, les tensions entre époux et le stress.

Rosa Banks, directrice de relations humaines de l'Église adventiste d'Amérique du Nord, se fait écho du point de vue de Louis McBurney à propos de ceux qui se croient à l'abri de ce genre de choses.

“Les pasteurs qui pensent qu'ils ne peuvent être tentés sont presque toujours ceux qui sont vulnérables.” Elle dit que ça commence quand les pasteurs négligent d'emmener leur épouse avec eux quand ils vont conseiller des femmes ou qui conseillent des femmes seul à seule dans des locaux privés, voire secrets.

C'est de manières diverses et variées que l'administration ecclésiale traite ce genre de situation.

“Certains pasteurs coupables de tels abus en ont subi les conséquences, jusqu'à perdre leur accréditation et leur autorisation d'exercer, dit Rosa Banks. Certains autres se sont faits un peu secouer, d'autres ont été transférés d'un bout à l'autre du pays. Et je crois que ce manque de constance et de cohérence, dans l'application des politiques disciplinaires à tous sans exception, pose problème.”

“Elle a tout à fait raison, estime N. Satelmajer. Il est urgent pour nous de parvenir à une application constante et cohérente afin que des conduites semblables aient des conséquences semblables.”

Selon lui, il est fréquent que le même acte n'entraîne pas les mêmes conséquences. Un groupe de travail chargé

de faire des recommandations donnerait lieu à une approche plus standardisée pour chaque cas, estime-t-il. Il espère qu'un jour ou l'autre c'est ainsi que l'on traitera les cas d'inconduite sexuelle au sein de l'Église.

Les responsables de l'Église d'Amérique du Nord ont décidé la semaine dernière que leur code relatif à l'inconduite sexuelle (North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists Policy 30 15) ne s'appliquerait désormais plus seulement au clergé et aux autres employés de l'Église, mais aussi aux bénévoles, car il faut tenir compte du nombre de bénévoles présents dans les écoles adventistes. Ils ont aussi décidé de signaler toute infraction à ce code aux forces de l'ordre compétentes.

“Il est important que nous en fassions une priorité,” déclare Roscoe J. Howard III, secrétaire de l'Église en Amérique du Nord. “Nous avons beaucoup tardé à adopter ce code de bonne conduite. L'Église a pour responsabilité la protection des enfants. Et il est aussi important que nous ne la mettions pas en danger de procès parce que nous n'aurions pas préparé de code de bonne conduite.”

La région administrative adventiste de Californie du Sud-Est a élaboré un plan quinquennal de réconciliation pour les pasteurs ayant fait preuve d'inconduite sexuelle. Ce plan recommande que le pasteur soit envoyé dans un autre district ecclésial, qu'il satisfasse à une procédure d'aide psychologique et soit suivi par l'administration.

“En bien des cas, c'est le pasteur qui se trouve séduit par une femme membre de la congrégation, dit Rosa Banks. Mais néanmoins... c'est lui qui est l'employé de l'Église, lui dont on attend qu'il guide jusqu'à Jésus les membres égarés. Si la femme l'approche et le supplie de sortir du droit chemin, c'est à lui qu'il revient, en tant que représentant du Seigneur, d'agir exactement comme le fit Joseph si nécessaire, prendre ses jambes à son cou!”

Ansel Oliver
Adventist News Network
Traduction: Claude Fivel





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Faith on Fire International Pathfinder Camporee

Atlantic Union Pathfinders will be attending the largest six-day Adventist Youth Event in the world from August 9-14, 2004, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. More than 20,000



Atlantic Union Pathfinders at the 1999 Discover the Power Camporee.

Pathfinders from more than 60 countries will be attending this historical youth event. Participants will experience six days of unbelievable fun and spiritual growth.



Each night the powerful life story of Joseph will be presented so all can see how he kept his Faith on Fire in the good and the bad times. A special, giant outdoor stage is being designed for this unique Bible story. Two massive Jumbotron screens with a state of the art sound system will make it easy for our "city" of 20,000 to see and hear God's message.

This once in a lifetime event for many Pathfinders will also include being inspired by some of the best marching/drill teams in the world such as the Hong Kong club which took first place at the 1999 Discover the Power Camporee. New for the 2004 Camporee is a drum corps exhibition that everyone will want to see and hear.

Many Pathfinders are preparing to be baptized and invested as Master Guides. Others are planning to collect new and used Bibles to help surpass the 32,000 Bibles collected in the 1999 Discover the Power Camporee. 100,000 Bibles is the Faith on Fire Camporee goal.

Faith on Fire Camporee is an opportunity to let Jesus come close to Pathfinders in a powerful and special way.

For more information about this important and historical North American Division Youth event contact the Andrews University Center for Youth Evangelism at 1-800-YOUTH-2-U or (269) 471-8380 or visit the following web sites: www.camporee.org or www.AdventistYouth.org.

Ron Whitehead is the executive director of the Faith on Fire Camporee.

Send your questions and comments to the Editor, Atlantic Union GLEANER, PO Box 1189, So. Lancaster, MA 01561.

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