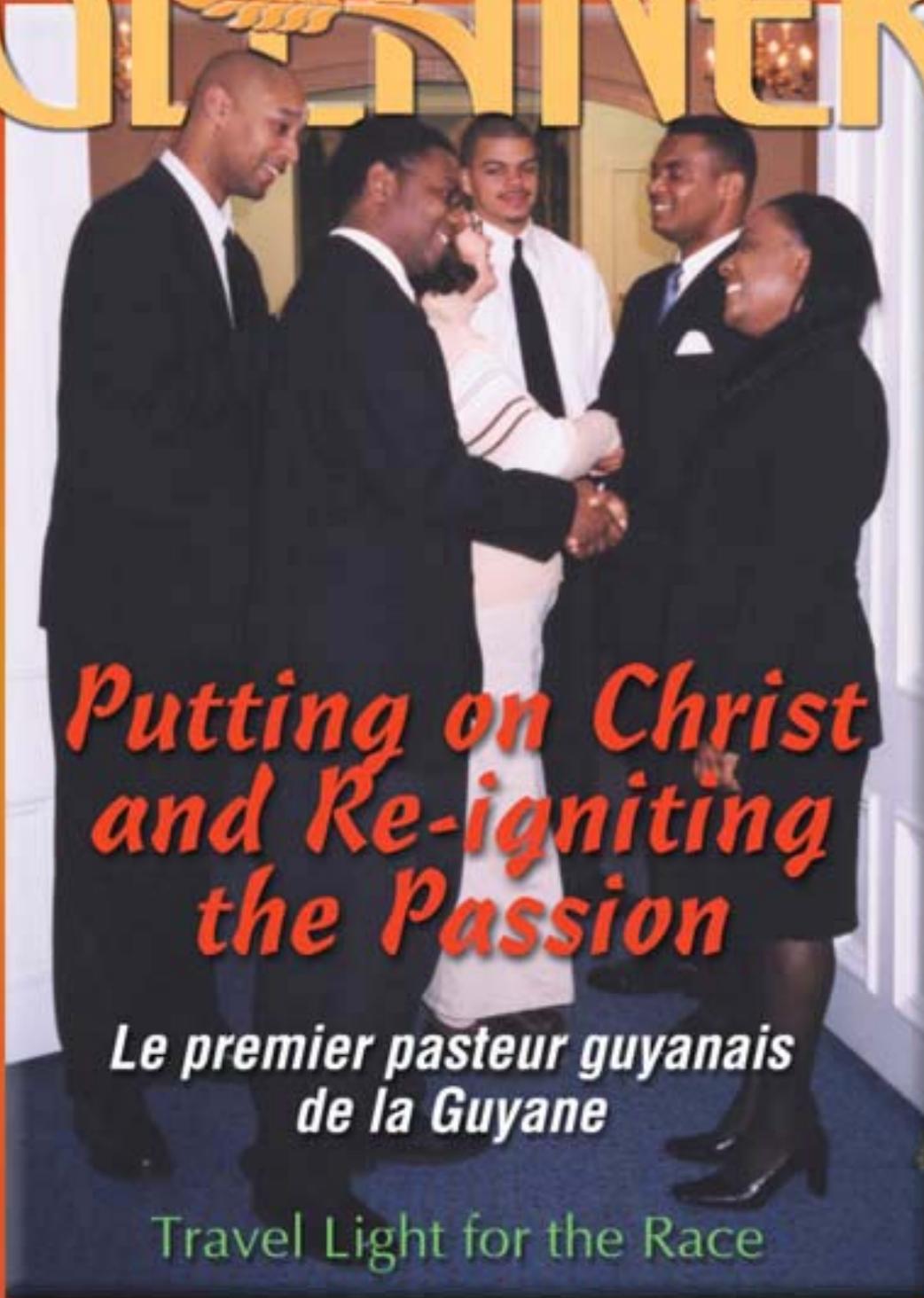


THE ATLANTIC UNION

FEBRUARY 2003

# GLEANER



*Putting on Christ  
and Re-igniting  
the Passion*

*Le premier pasteur guyanais  
de la Guyane*

*Travel Light for the Race*

*¿Qué Está Pasando?*



# Travel Light for the Race

*“The luggage carousel we’re pushing is not necessarily the one in the airport. It’s the one in the mind. And the bags we pick up are not made of cloth, vinyl or leather, they’re made of burdens—ones we were never intended to bear.”*

I have not always traveled light. But I am learning to do it out of necessity.

Especially these days, when the airlines are requiring heightened security, it is important to travel light.

But just how do you do it? Believe me, it’s not easy. Would somebody tell me how to pack even a carry-on without packing granola bars, rain gear, a flash light, vitamins, extra strength Tylenol (to calm the nerves), and not to mention your trusted ten pound computer gear and accessories? Then there’s the jacket, windbreaker, top coat, undercoat, overcoat, a myriad of ties or scarves, running shoes, dress shoes and more shoes, and of course a drawer of undergarments.

I need to learn to travel light. And so do you. Why? Because you can’t enjoy a trip carrying so much stuff. It’s exhausting and burdensome. It saps your energy—which is why you feel so tired when you finally get back home. It seems the baggage terminal is not just at the airport, it’s at home too.

Excuse me, what did you just say? You don’t remember seeing a baggage terminal at home? That’s because the luggage carousel we’re pushing is not necessarily the one in the airport. It’s the one in the mind. And the bags we pick up are not made of cloth, vinyl or leather, they’re made of burdens—ones we were never intended to bear.

If you’re wondering why we really need to travel light, permit me to give a reality check. Whether we are aware or not, we’re all in a race... the Race of Life. And we’ve all got “stuff” we need to shed.

The Apostle Paul put it this way: “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us”—Heb 12:1 (NRSV).

As we face a new year let us lay aside the weights (excess baggage) that sap our spiritual energy and tires us out at the end of the day. The suitcase of guilt. A sack of discontent. The duffle bag of grief. A carton of arrogance. The grip (super large suitcase) of gossip. A briefcase of insecurities. The carry-on of prejudice. The handbag of jealousy. A backpack of doubt. The overnight bag of loneliness, and a trunk of fear.

Hauling around that kind of freight can be deadly—spiritually deadly. So, God is saying to each of us right now, “Put that stuff down! You’re carrying cargo you don’t need to bear and lugging luggage you don’t need to haul.”

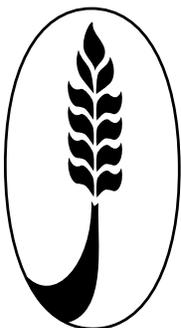
“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest”—Matt 11:28 (NRSV).

The Lord is not only willing to lighten our loads, but is quite able to do so—if we’ll let Him. But how do we let Him? Listen to the Apostle again, “Looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God”—Heb 12:2 (NRSV).

Jesus is the “author and finisher,” the “beginning and the ending,” the “pioneer and perfecter” of the faith we place in Him. It is grounded in Calvary and empowered by His resurrection. In short, it’s all Jesus!

The Race of Life is not just for the swift but for those who willingly leave their baggage at the foot of the cross and place their faith in an enduring Christ who will never fail us nor forsake us along the ravaging journey of life. ☉

*Donald G. King is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees.*



# FINE!

“Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters”—Isaiah 32:20.

It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. Yes, it was Friday.

We Adventists know it as preparation day, a time to get everything finished so no work is done on Saturday. I know it as chore day, and those who know me well know that I do not like chores. Though I was elated that the school week was over, I always dreaded the chores.

I slowly trudged off the bus and walked into my house.

“Hi Andrew,” my mom said happily, almost seeming like she enjoyed seeing my anguish. “Have a snack and then you can start your chores.” I smirked sarcastically behind her back showing my disgust for her giddiness. Every Friday I did the same chores, stacked firewood and dusted the house. As I began carrying the wood inside, my mom told me to vacuum the rugs instead. As much as I hated my chores, I was used to them and I was not about to do a different one.

“No, I’m not going to stack the wood!” I protested.

“Oh Andrew please, Katie is not here and I need you to do it for her,” she softly answered.

“What about the wood?”

“Do not worry about that and please just vacuum!” she said with a little more tone. Not knowing anything else to do, I simply turned around and continued stacking wood. My mom walked away in disgust. A battle rages in my mind—*Should I help my dear mother who loved me or should I refuse and maintain my pride?* Then, a wise old saying came into my head: *Pride comes before getting grounded.*

“Fine!” I shouted out loud, even though no one was around to hear it. I reluctantly began to set up the vacuum. In EDUCATION, p. 108, Ellen G. White wrote that we should, “give wherever help is needed.” Believe it or not, I actually felt good when I was vacuuming for my mother. I felt even better when I was done. I learned that we should give where help is needed, not where [we] are comfortable giving.

*Andrew C. Platt wrote this as part of a class assignment while a student at Laurel Oaks Seventh-day Adventist School in Hamden, Connecticut. He currently attends high school in New Haven, Connecticut, and worships at the New Haven Seventh-day Adventist Church. Reprinted from the book LIAR LIAR PANTS ON FIRE and other faith-building stories.*

For information on upcoming events, news items,  
and the GLEANER online visit our web site at:  
[www.atlantic-union.org](http://www.atlantic-union.org)

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**ABOUT THE COVER:** The cover photo is of (from left) Dee Baker, Mario Ashmore, Monica Basantes, and Lance Wilbur being welcomed to the Fitchburg church by Pastor James Scarborough and his wife, Althea. Dee, Mario, and Lance were all members of a “Barber Shop” Bible study group and it was greatly through their influence that Monica made her decision even though she was not in attendance every week (see cover story beginning on page 8 for more details). Photo taken by Judy Thomsen.

**ASi:** For information about ASi contact your local conference ASi director or visit the ASi web page at [www.atlantic-union.org/asi.htm](http://www.atlantic-union.org/asi.htm).



# OUR SCHOOLS:

## An Evangelistic Opportunity

**M**y husband, Allyx, and I were married in August 1991. On February 1, 1993, we had our daughter, Jayde Allyson. Allyx had long since left the church although his beliefs were strong. I had never regularly attended church but had gone occasionally and attended some Vacation Bible Schools with friends as a child. As Jayde grew, Allyx's mom, "Nana," would get Jayde and take her to church. I loved that since Jayde was an only child and it was a great environment for her to interact with other kids her age—plus I got Saturday mornings off from parenting. After a while I started attending occasionally with Jayde and "Nana."

Sooner than I could imagine, it was time to start thinking about getting ready to send Jayde to school. Allyx and I had a decision to make. Would she go to Riverview Memorial School where my husband had attended or public school where I had attended? We

shared our experiences with each other from the two different school settings—comparing atmosphere, opportunities, and major differences. I then called to set up visits to the schools under consideration. I was blown away by the difference. Riverview won my heart straight away.

Riverview has such a loving family atmosphere. Their kindergarten program, just starting that year, has a wonderful character development program teaching moral values along with ABCs and 123s and social skills. The love, patience, and gentleness of this school, exemplified by the teachers, carried through to their students. This was the environment in which I wanted my daughter to spend her time away from me.

We never regretted our decision to pay tuition and send our daughter to a private Christian school. Soon after sending Jayde to Riverview I started Bible studies with a friend, also a mom of Riverview Memorial School students, and Pastor Roger Gilbert. I needed to find out what my daughter was learning and she was asking all kinds of questions I couldn't answer. As Bible studies progressed, I started regularly attending church with my daughter. We persistently invited Allyx but he resisted. Eventually our persistence won—Allyx started regularly attending church with us every Saturday.

Three months after we had been attending church as a family, on June 9, 2001, we lost our eight-year-old daughter in a motorcycle accident. But God had been working through those around us, and especially through Jayde, to have us where we needed to be to deal with the tragedy and to be on a

road to heaven to be reunited with our daughter.

Our schools are a wonderful evangelistic tool. There are many parents looking for an alternative to the unsafe and questionable environment of public schools. Thanks to "Nana," the church, and Riverview Memorial School we had a daughter who frequently exclaimed, "I can't wait to get to heaven" and who is sleeping in Christ until the glorious day He comes to get us. And thanks to the influence of our daughter and the outreach through Riverview Memorial School I was baptized and my husband rebaptized on Jayde's birthday, February 1, 2002, eight months after her death. ☺



Karena, Jade, and Allyx Cochran – taken August 24, 1998.

*Karena Cochran is a member of the Norridgewock church in Maine.*

# “Cloning” Report Raises Ethical Questions

← by Mark Kellner

**D**ecember 30, 2002, Loma Linda, California, [ANN] —The announcement that a human being has been “cloned” by a group of scientists—a claim for which no evidence has yet been seen—rekindles interest in, and speculation about, how far science can and should go to alleviate human suffering. Considering its long-standing involvement in health care and cutting edge techniques, such as infant heart transplants, professionals and lay members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church might well ask if there are instances where cloning is permissible, or is all cloning always wrong?

According to Dr. Gerald Winslow, dean of the Faculty of Religion and professor of ethics at Loma Linda University, “Attempting to clone a human being at this point in human history would be irresponsible, and the main point [is] it would be highly dangerous. We don’t know what the likely risks are for any baby that would or might be produced in this way.”

Such uncertainty about the results—would a “cloned” human experience immediate or unforeseen illness or impairment, for example, and would society treat such persons as less desirable or expendable—raise moral issues Christians will need to confront, Winslow said.

“What gets altered in all of this is the set of questions that we bring to the topic of the essence of human existence. The basic question that arises in the minds of a lot of Christians... is whether we’ve overstepped the boundaries,” Winslow told ANN in a telephone interview. “It’s fairly evident that we won’t be able to look up a passage of scripture, so we will have to do something that Christians have always had to do, and that is search for underlying biblical principles,” he said.

He added, “Part of the Adventist commitment in ethics is to say this is a responsibility that each member has as a matter of personal accountability before God. We’re given instruction and the power of the Holy Spirit and we’re asked to be thoughtful. I think it’s a good opportunity for Christians to think about basic principles.”

The Adventist church, in a 1998 statement drafted in part by Winslow and Loma Linda University School of Medicine microbiology and biochemistry professor Dr. Anthony J. Zuccarelli, said that while cloning to produce a human being was morally unacceptable, the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer, which creates genetic material that can be used to prevent or repair damage from disease, can be allowed.

“It is a Christian responsibility to prevent suffering and to preserve the quality of human life (Acts 10:38; Luke 9:2),” the Adventist statement said. “If it is possible to prevent genetic disease through the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer, the use of this technology may be in keeping with the goal of preventing avoidable suffering.”

The 1998 statement, available online in English at [http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/main\\_stat38.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/main_stat38.html), notes that “the rapid pace of progress in this field will require periodic review of these principles in light of new developments.”

Loma Linda University Medical Center, established by the Adventist church in 1905, is internationally renowned for its medical research and treatments in areas such as heart transplant surgery and non-invasive proton beam therapy for prostate and breast cancer.®

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*Mark Kellner is a staff member for Adventist News Network.*



# YOUTH PROFILES

## **DERRICK HENDERSON** — Allowing God to Take Control

“Everything that happens in church you might not enjoy, but stick with God. Find your niche in life and perform to the best of your ability. Keep an open mind about things. Don't be afraid of change. Trust God always and don't worry about things.” This is Derrick Hendrickson's encouragement to others, especially other youth.

Who is Derrick Henderson? Well, he is a member of the Southampton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Southampton, Bermuda. Derrick is a recent graduate of Bermuda Institute—June 2002—and is currently attending Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama. Derrick plans to major in computer science and mathematics and pursue a career in information technology (IT).

Derrick has been presented with many opportunities to widen his horizon. In February 2001 he attended the National Student Leadership Conference (NSLC) in Washington D.C. In June 2002 he was a delegate for the Global Young Leaders Conference (GYLC) held in Washington D.C. and New York. And in July 2002 he traveled with the Voices of Triumph, the Southampton church youth choir, to Canada where they had the opportunity to minister at a few churches and participate in Street Ministry.

Derrick plays basketball with others in the community. He has a “home front barber shop,” that is frequented by friends and neighbors alike, with the neighbors knowing that the “barber shop” is closed for the Sabbath hours.

As far as his involvement in church is concerned, He works with the Adventist Youth Society (AYS) and is not only a member of the youth choir but also the church's mass choir.

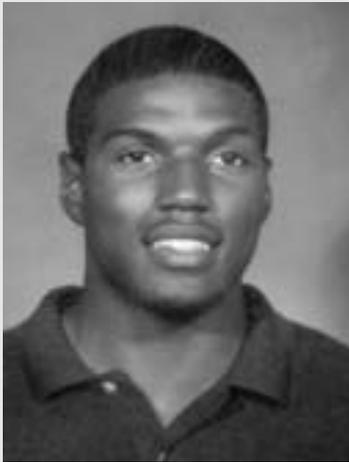
Derrick believes that the reason he has never felt stress is because of his relationship with God. He believes that everything he experiences God knows about so he just accepts the things he cannot control and allows God to be in control. Derrick believes that it is his connection with God that makes the difference.

## **PETRINA ST. AGATHE** — Moving on With God as Leader

Petrina St. Agathe is a student at Bayside High School in Bayside, Queens, and a member of the Lebanon Seventh-day Adventist Church in Laurelton, Queens. Her career focus is to be a musician and mathematician. The Lord has blessed her not only with a great musical talent but also with the ability to solve equations, so she is pursuing a degree in mathematics and a minor in music at Adelphi University in Garden City, N.Y.

Petrina possesses a cheerful personality and always displays a positive attitude. She is actively involved in the music department of the church as an organist and pianist. There is an exquisite happiness that radiates when she plays. She is a past member of the youth choir, Ambassadors for Christ, which is the nursery for the other choirs. Because of her love for music she has promised to learn to play the violin in the future. Petrina is also the musician at the church's annual Thanksgiving senior citizens dinner. Her involvement in community work is vast, while in school, she helped to tutor some of her classmates in mathematics and music in order for them to pass their exams.

Petrina's father is an elder and her mother is a Sabbath school superintendent so we see that she is molded by strong Christian's parents. Her outlook in life is, “I know that God is the source of everything and I want to thank Him for my parents who have shown me the right way. I call upon Him each day for His guidance for I know that I can lean on Him. He has given me the opportunity to witness for Christ through music.” Her advice to other youths is to trust in God, ask Him to be the leader in their life and everything else will be added.



Atlantic Union Conference Youth Congress 2003

# Hangin' Round or Heaven Bound

April 9-12, 2003

Holiday Inn Turf Hotel  
205 Wolf Road  
Albany, New York

**Cost:** \$250 per person, four to a room.

**Chaperones:** Each room must have an adult chaperone. Female chaperones must be 21 or older, Male chaperones must be 25 or older. All chaperones must be delegates.

## Speakers

### Wednesday

Keynote Address

*Jose Rojas*

*North American Division*

### Thursday

General Session A.M.

*Pete Maldonado*

*Probation Officer*

General Session P.M.

*Byard Parks*

*Adventist Frontier Missions*

### Friday

General Session A.M.

*Donnett Blake*

*Northeastern Conference*

General Session P.M.

*Israel-Jean Leon*

*Northeastern Conference*

### Saturday

Sabbath Worship

*James Black*

*Youth Director – North American Division*

Closing Session

*Alfredo Garcia-Marenko*

*Senior Youth Director – General Conference*

## Special Guest Music Artist

*Patty Cabrera*

*Saturday P.M.*

## Workshops and Presenters

Are You Hooked? — *Pastor James Clarke*

Being Single — *Robert Sierra – Youth Pastor*

Community Involvement by Youth — *Sung Kwon*

Courtship, Dating, & Sex — *Willie and Elaine Oliver*

Creative Bible Study — *Rick Trott*

Diversity Awareness for a Growing Youth Church

— *Colette Pekar*

Drama as Ministry — *Mike Faison*

Each One Reach One — *Dr. Walt Rose*

Gang Bangers!!! — *Elder James Black*

Health Nuts and Heaven! — *Rick and Gwen*

*Shorter*

How Can I Afford a Christian Education? —

*Haroldo Barcelo*

How Do I Spend My Money — *Ed Reid*

How to Be a Successful Youth/Dress for Success

— *Lois King*

How to Deal With Loss and Grief — *Javier Alcon*

How to Do Youth Church — *Rob Colon*

How to Do a Youth-Led Evangelistic Series —

*Justin McNeillus*

How to Get Along with Your Parents — *Bob*

*Saunders*

How to Make Your Honeymoon Last Forever —

*Daniel and Tirsia Gonzales*

Prayer Group Ministry — *Northern New England*

*Conference*

Making Religion Real — *Paul Graham*

Mind Your Manners — *Ednor Davison*

Reclaiming Wounded Youth — *Dr. Barry Gane*

The Temperature of Adventure — *Byard Parks*

Too Legit to Quit Maintaining Your Integrity as a  
Youth — *Gary Thurber*

Total Employment (Global Mission) — *Marti*  
*Schneider*

Traveling the Information Highway — *Dave*  
*Spence*

Why Christian Education? — *Dwight Carnegie*

Why Don't We Dance? — *Mario Augustave*

Youth and the Law — *Jeff Hunt*

Youth & Music — *Rick Silverstri*

Youth Evangelism — *Sergio Torres*

Youth Ministry Tools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century — *Ron*  
*Edmonds*

## Friday Afternoon

The Albany Project — *Gospel in Work Boots*

## Exciting Sabbath School

Planned by *Sabado Joven*

## Saturday Night

CPR — *A Christian Comedy Group*

## Special Feature

Internet Chatroom — *Chat with your friends about  
what is happening at youth congress*

All reservations must be made through the Atlantic Union Conference Youth Department.  
The Holiday Inn will not be taking reservations for the Youth Congress.

# “PUTTING ON CHRIST”

## and Re-igniting the Passion

I wish you could have been part of one of the A World to Win celebrations that took place in Southern New England during the months of September and October 2002. Rallies took place in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish in twelve different locations across the conference. Each program was designed to build enthusiasm, enlist the help of interested lay members, and recruit lay evangelists, and at each program attendees were given the chance to commit themselves to an unprecedented evangelistic effort for the month of October 2003. Many attended and many have caught the vision.

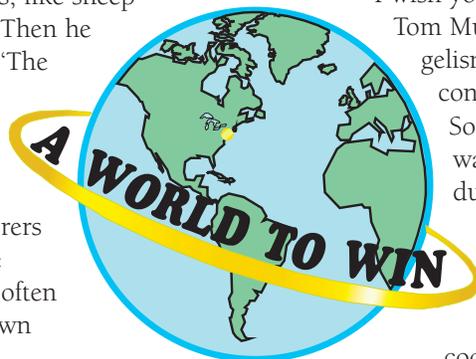
I wish you could have heard the sermon “The Cannibals Don’t Live Here Anymore!” by Bill Knott, master of words, at Festival of Faith 2002 Southern New England’s camp meeting. His thoughts centered on Jesus’ words in Matthew 9:35-38 (NRSV), “Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.’” He inspired us: “We are often the answers to our own prayers. When Jesus told His disciples to pray that the Lord of the harvest would send reapers to do the needed work, I’m sure He did so with a twinkle in His eyes. Jesus knows that it’s impossible to pour out your



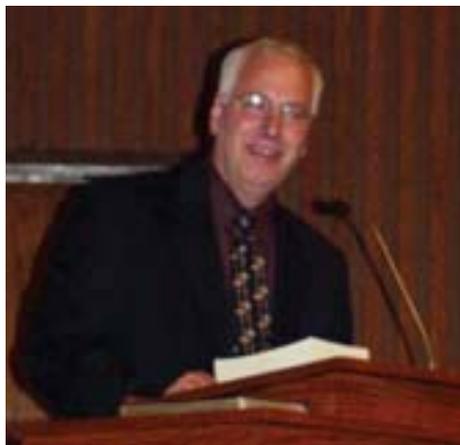
Pathfinders from the Knights Club, “ready to serve” at the Providence Spanish convocation.

heart to God to finish His work while remaining uncommitted and uninvolved yourself.... It’s a risky thing to ask God to send another worker to the field when you’re the only one without a tool in your hand.”

I wish you could have heard Tom Murray’s story of evangelism in Africa. Tom is a contractor who lives in South Lancaster who was invited last summer during Festival of Faith 2002 to go as an evangelist to Rwanda by Jim Zachary, evangelism coordinator for The Quiet Hour. He shared his story at the A World to Win celebration at the College, Connecticut Valley, Worcester, Stoneham, and Lincoln churches. I wish you could have heard him tell how he



### Re-ignite the Passion



Tom Murray shares his story of evangelism in Africa.

and the others involved with the efforts in Africa were energized for telling the story of Jesus—obviously where they were, but how they couldn't wait to get home to do the same thing. There were 248 baptisms following Tom's meetings.

And then I wish you could have been at SEEDS New England the weekend of October 18-20, 2002. Talk about inspiration. More than 250 enjoyed keynote speakers Don Schneider, North American Division president; Herb Larsen, Jr., businessman and church planter; Russell Burrill, director, North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI); and a host of seminars presented by these and others meant to help listeners think in new ways about discipling. One special highlight of the weekend was the prayer led by Gilbert Vega, conference secretary, during the worship service Sabbath morning. He explained that there would be a time during the prayer when everyone could

audibly say the name of someone they hoped to reach with the saving knowledge of Jesus. It was awesome—from every corner of the auditorium there were names called for many minutes. It was a moment charged with emotion. I wish you could have felt God's presence that morning.

You would have been thrilled, too, by the interviews conducted by Don Schneider with Southern New England pastors and lay members about the exciting things happening in their churches—for instance the Bible study begun by Fitchburg and Gardner pastor James Scarborough in a barber shop that resulted in 12 baptisms. Or his conver-

*“The laborers are few.  
And there's only one of you—  
only one of you with your  
unique set of relationships  
with family, friends, and  
acquaintances. What is your  
role in all of this?”—Bill Knott.*

sation with Boston Project leader Byron Corbett from Amazing Facts and several group members—Patricia Phillip, the

first person baptized as a result of their work, was also in attendance at SEEDS; or Gary Wagner, pastor in Western Massachusetts, who has several student groups meeting on a public university campus.

At the end of the SEEDS Conference



The “A World to Win” celebration at the Leominster Spanish church—a wonderful attendance and a lot of excitement about future evangelism!

most of the audience went forward in commitment to moving ahead with the work of spreading the gospel and making disciples.

We are absorbed with evangelism—we are committed to it. You see, we have a world to win—eleven million people living in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island! One hundred and sixty years ago the Three Angels' Messages were rediscovered by the pioneers of the Adventist church right here in New England—rugged men and women of faith were determined to carry the message everywhere. Southern New England members are recapturing that determination: “Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you”—Mark 5:19 (NKJV). We mean to make a difference—the work of spreading the gospel is alive and well in the Southern New England Conference!

Ongoing training events have been planned to continue the momentum toward October 2003 when every church will engage in some form of public outreach—a meeting in each of the 124 congregations as well as in each of the 78 cities where population exceeds 25,000 and there is currently no Adventist presence. Already Don James, associate director, cell church consultant from NADEI, has been in four sites to talk with members about small groups. Freda Shultz from Lancaster, Ohio, spent nine days teach-





Don Schneider interviews Lance Wilbur and Monica Basantes, Fitchburg church members.

brings his experience to train in the use of this exciting new tool for personal and public evangelism.

- **How to Start and Organize a New Church, June 23-27** – Rod and Donna Willey of Peoria, Illinois, develop the ABCs of leading a new church from inception to mission-driven congregation.

ing how to implement her video Bible school ministry that works in tandem with reaping meetings by evangelist Kenneth Cox.

### FOR THE FUTURE:

- **The Cycle of Evangelism, March 15, 16** – A one-day seminar by Louis Torres which will teach how to set up an evangelism schedule including necessary preparation for public meetings. He will also help you know how to watch for the Holy Spirit's work in convicting people and when to call for decisions.
- **Awakening Spiritual Interest, March 28-30** – Gain new hope to teach the seemingly unreachable, the indifferent or the hostile; explore the process of leading someone to a recognition of their need and much more.
- **Lighting Your World for God, April 5-7** – Ernestine Finley will teach how to lead your church into a personal Bible study ministry. She will cover the five Biblical keys to successful evangelism.
- **Conducting an Evangelistic Campaign Using the New Beginnings DVD, April 11-13** – Bruce Johnston, coordinator of hundreds of evangelistic campaigns in India during the last two years,

- **Christ's Way of Wining People, June 23-27** – Philip Samaan teaches simple, practical methods for sharing Jesus with friends.
- **The Art of Getting Decisions for Christ, June 29, 30** – Mark Finley will teach how to bring interested people to a commitment to Christ.

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

*“Sociologists tell us that even the most introverted individual will influence ten thousand other people during his or her lifetime.”*

—John C. Maxwell

- **Harvest Celebrations, November-December 2003** – Celebrating the addition of new members to the Southern New England Adventist family.

We have only just begun—the best is yet to come! “For we are God’s fellow workers”—1 Corinthians 3:9 (NKJV). “And do this, knowing the time,



Russell Burrill, Director North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI).

that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day... put on the Lord Jesus Christ”—Romans 13:11-14 (NKJV). Consider this your invitation, too.

“I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. It is I, Lord. I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.”<sup>©</sup>

—Words and music, Dan Schutte, 1981

Judy A. Thomsen, is the associate communication director for the Southern New England Conference. Photos taken by Judy Thomsen.

Readers interested in any of the training events should call the Southern New England Conference for further details, (978) 365-4551.



Angela Simmons dedicating Stefan Michael Duane Simmons to the Lord.

### A Special Baby Dedication

"We give thanks and appreciation to God by dedicating Stefan Michael Duane Simons." Stefan, born to Kenneth and Angela (nee Ackah) Simons on December 15, 2001, was dedicated to the Lord by pastors Kenneth Manders and D. Randolph Wilson on October 12, 2002. Relatives along with other family members and friends gathered at the Pembroke Seventh-day Adventist Church for the special ceremony. Stefan's parents, Kenneth and Angela, are both graduates of Bermuda Institute where they met several years ago. Both parents pledged to bring up Stefan in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

*D. Randolph Wilson, correspondent BDA*

### Children's Church — Into God's Hands

The children of the Southampton Seventh-day Adventist Church led out in the divine worship on Sabbath, December 7, 2002. The Children's church is just one of the many projects carried out during the course of the year by the Children's Ministry team led by Delray Smith.

Speakers of the day were Vershon Simmons, G. Joshua Gibbons, and Hannah Eggen. Each gave presentations that were approximately twelve minutes in length in which they spoke on the theme "Into God's Hand." First speaker, Vershon, admonished the church to be holy

because they are in God's hands. He said that it is his aim to please God and that young people are not perfect—but who of us is? G. Joshua's contribution was that although we may not always want to do what is right, there are specific things God wants us to do and there are specific ways God wants them to be done.

"We must bring to God what he wants us to bring and obedience will bring happiness." In a fitting ending, Hannah let us know that references to God's hands and His touch are throughout the Bible. This was shown in the creation of man, to His living as a human and eventually bearing a cross and then being nailed on it. She asked "Are your hands being used by God? Take a good look at your hands. Put them in God's hands."

*Edwin M. E. Smith, webmaster  
Southampton church*

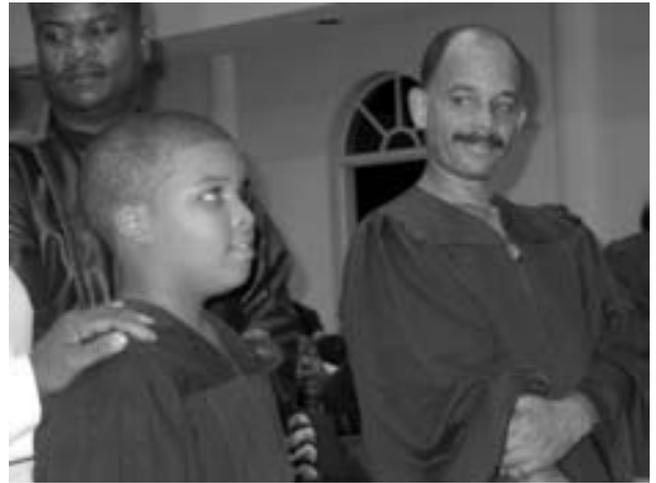
### NAD President Brings in the New Year in Bermuda

NAD President Don Schneider brought in the New Year at the annual celebration held at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda. He presented an inspiring message to all present to "become obligated to share Jesus" in a positive sense.

In addition to his presence, the Premier of Bermuda, Jennifer Smith,



The Premier of Bermuda, Jennifer Smith, addressing the congregation at the New Year's Eve celebration.



Bringing in the new year in the right manner by baptism is Jonathan Jarvis (left) and D. Dickinson (right).

her bodyguard, Col. David Burch and our own member of Parliament, MP Dennis Lister, were among the more than 600 members who crowded the church for this special occasion.

One of the major highlights of the evening was the baptism of two individuals who chose to start the new year off right—in the watery grave of baptism. It was truly a high to see these individuals take their stand for Jesus and be baptized.

Services began just before sunset on Tuesday and ran for about three hours. Special music included the sons of President Samuel Bulgin, Lee and Paul, DeVaughn DeGraff, the Inspirational Choir, Katherina Gibbons and Roseclaire Bulgin, wives of the executive secretary and president respectively and special guest, Michael Harris visiting from California.

We were challenged to do more for Christ this year than ever before. Condolences were extended to Marti Schneider, wife of the NAD president, on the loss of her father.

*D Randolph Wilson, correspondent BDA*



Don Schneider, NAD president during his presentation at the Hamilton church on New Year's Eve.

## Union Springs Academy — Strong in the Spirit

At the end of 2002 New York Conference constituents determined to secure the future operation of Union Springs Academy (USA). The fund-raising goal of \$635,000 was achieved in a two-and-one-half month period. New York Conference members showed their commitment to Christian education by keeping USA moving ahead. Two special offerings will be taken in New York Conference churches during 2003 for USA. New York Conference operates USA not just for New York Conference members but also for all conferences in the Atlantic Union. USA is the only full conference-owned boarding academy in the Atlantic Union.

USA is off to a great start for the 2002-2003 school year. The school year began with 64 students, nine more than had been expected. Last year the payables (bills owed) at the start of the school year were about \$100,000. This year the payables were about \$25,000, which is about what would be expected in normal operation. In addition, there was about \$200,000 in the bank for operation this school year.

USA is continually busy, not only with learning but also with fun and activities. So far this year there have been the following activities:

- Faculty/Staff/Student camp retreat
- Senior Survival at Pennsylvania Grand Canyon

- Student Association Barn Party
- Heritage Tour to Massachusetts
- Home School Intensive
- Weekend with a special music department performance, "Tribute to the Family and the Lord"—more than 150 attended
- "Food From Around The World" benefit raised \$1,000
- National Honor Society Induction

Here are some things you might like to know about the current student body at Union Springs Academy:

- 76% of all students that attend USA attend college after graduation.
- 5 of the students came to the academy from public high schools.
- Gender: 23 male, 41 female.
- Relatively evenly distributed between classes freshman – seniors.

Union Springs welcomes visitors to its campus. If you are in the area and "just stopping by" or if you make a special trip to see this beautiful campus or to bring a prospective student, you are always welcome. Just check in at the administration building and you will be greeted with open arms.

*Judy Hoddard, principal  
Union Springs Academy*

## Blessed Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church Dedication

October 5, 2002, saw the Blessed Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church packed almost to overflowing as friends and family members of the little church came to celebrate God's blessings on Dedication Sabbath. The members of Blessed Hope had long waited to have a church of their own, having worshiped in several rented

spaces over the more than seven years of their existence. Now, at last, God had given them a home on top of a hill overlooking the city of Binghamton. Because of their long wait for a church home, it seemed fitting to hold a service of consecration during which they could publicly thank God for His blessings and share a testimonial of how they were led to purchase the church building.

Featured during the worship hour were the music ministry of recording artist Beth Buczkowski, a brief memorial to Gordan Howard, deceased elder of Blessed Hope, a gift of flowers given to Madeline Mosher, the church's founder, and a sermon preached by Richard Coston, former executive secretary of the New York Conference, now retired and living in Virginia.

Services were followed by the biggest dinner ever held at the church. Friends, family, and members together celebrated God's lead-



ing the Blessed Hope people home at last.

*Kevin Dunn, pastor  
Blessed Hope church*

## Sanctuary Festival 2002

On the weekend closest to the October 23 anniversary of Hiram Edson's Sanctuary revelation, specifically October 18-19, 2002, the Rochester Bay Knoll church invited surrounding churches to join them in celebrating the event in a Friday evening meeting and Sabbath wor-



Richard Coston, former executive secretary of New York Conference and his wife, Clarice.



ship services at the church with afternoon and evening activities at Hiram Edson's barn in Port Gibson. The weekend program was under the leadership of Howard Krug.

The Friday evening service featured pioneer stories interspersed with congregational singing with background stories. Some of the songs were solos by Marilee Allen. Special note was made of Annie Smith's poetic and musical contributions to our heritage. The November weather coming two or three weeks early may have had some effect on the church programs and attempted to discourage the barn activities but the sun smiled on the afternoon and evening program. Lawrence Maxwell had the morning service in which he reminded us that our Savior's return depends not so much on the calamities of the Devil as the Holy Spirit's fruit being manifested in the lives of those looking for His return. Jon Clayburn with his guitar led out in the afternoon's music while the barn, the property and its ownership and their significance was discussed by Howard Krug and Robert Allen. Fred Nudd and Fran Dispenza with Pathfinder helpers worked together in providing the evening's refreshments before vespers. Vespers consisted of more singing of pioneer songs and the reading of the poem, "Edson's Barn" by its author.

#### EDSON'S BARN

Edson's barn may be a  
thing of the past,  
That some would leave there to rot.  
But because of events that it  
witnessed long ago,  
Many there be who think not!  
Though barns give dimensions  
to the men that they serve,  
As they protect their  
beasts and work,

They also give storage  
and shelter too,  
And a place for shovel and fork.

But Edson's Barn saw  
men wrestle with God,  
And witnessed their  
study of His word;  
It was there God came  
close to His faithful few,  
Revealing to them that He heard.

Where God meets with  
men is a holy place,  
And its memory lingers and inspires  
Giving hope and trust in the lead-  
ing of God,  
And in all that His Word requires.

May Edson's faith be  
renewed in each heart  
Of those who linger here  
Reviving in each their trust in God,  
As they feel His presence draw near.

RHA 8/27/97

The fitting word of Maxwell's bene-  
diction brought the vesper program



to an end and the Bay Knoll Social Committee's Harvest Festival took over under the direction of Chiara DeSanctis with the challenge of an exclusive donut on a string, a hayride and a pie tasting contest. "Charming Billy's" questioner should have been able to learn whether "she could bake a cherry pie" or at least some kind of pie from that contest. The high wind brought safety concerns for a bonfire, but for a day filled with so many blessed memories, there was little room for disappointment.

R. Allen, communication secretary  
Bay Knoll church

#### Outdoor School at Camp Cherokee

Every year New York Conference elementary students spend a week learning surrounded by the beauty of the Adirondack mountains. Last year, sixteen teachers and parents joined 65 students in Grades 5-8.



Outdoor school group.

Outdoor school provides an opportunity for church school students to study nature in an outdoor environment. It also gives students in small schools a chance to meet new friends and to see themselves as part of a larger group.

Students at this year's outdoor school studied amphibians, spiders, and stars. In addition to written casework, the students collected spider webs, searched the lakeshore for frogs and salamanders, and identified constellations in the night sky. Most students were able to complete Pathfinder honor badges by the end of the week.

Afternoons were devoted to special activities, including a nature scavenger hunt at Paul Smith's Visitors Center, and a canoe trip on Upper Saranac Lake. There was time for plenty of swimming, horse-back riding, tubing, crafts, and kickball.

The kitchen staff provided excellent meals, and Pastor Mike Armayor delighted the students with dynamic daily worships. Many dedicated parents joined the group and supervised recreation and assisted with other activities. What a great way to learn!

Sue Hayford, principal  
Parkview Jr Academy

# AUC PRESENTS

## Handel's Messiah

at the College Church.

On Friday evening, December 6, 2002, the Music Department of Atlantic Union College presented the Collegiate Chorale and Chamber Orchestra in a performance of G. F. Handel's *Messiah* at the College church. The ninety minute performance, conducted by Dr. Erick Parris, included the Christmas portions of the oratorio and featured soprano soloists Olga Bilan and Corina Parris, mezzo-soprano Kristal Imperio, tenor Brendan Daly, and bass Ramon Gonzales. The *Messiah* presents the life of Christ, beginning with prophecies from the Old Testament and continuing through Christ's birth, life, and triumph over death. Handel's masterful musical contemplations on the biblical texts created a sacred and joyful atmosphere, coinciding with the College church's

Homecoming Weekend, and the church was bursting at the seams with eager listeners from the surrounding community.

On December 7, 2002, a repeat performance of the *Messiah* was presented at the Boston Temple and another performance was done on December 14, 2002, at the Linden church in Queens, New York.

Upcoming musical events presented by the music department include the AUC Music Clinic – February 26-March 1, AUC Chamber Orchestra concerts – April 5 and May 3, and the Atlantic Wind Symphony spring concert – April 26. ☺

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*Karin Thompson, assistant professor of music  
Atlantic Union College*

### ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SPONSORS

## "The Other Wise Man"

The ground was covered with snow, the sky was bright and clear and as many as could fit gathered in Machlan Auditorium on Sabbath afternoon, December 7, 2002, and enjoyed the production of "The Other Wise Man," a story

by Henry Van Dyke. The musical drama was adapted for the stage by Francisco de Araujo who both produced and directed the show and featured the Pro Arts International Choir and the Biblical Players.

The play was described as "the perfect Christmas gift to the community!"—and that it surely was. Every guest listened to hear the story about the fourth wise man. The wise man who carried precious jewels as gifts for the "one." He traveled the land for 33 years following the path of Christ, never actually finding him as he had initially hoped to. Discovering, when near death himself and penniless



from having given his jewels to save the lives of others throughout the years, that he had been carrying him in his heart all along. At the end he finds himself near the foot of the cross that held the body of Christ.

The stage was set to represent the scenes of the play but also held the Pro Arts International Choir mem-

bers who sang throughout the performance. It was a glorious afternoon and Araujo, the choir, and the wonderful Biblical Players all deserve another round of applause!

The cultural calendar at Atlantic Union College may be viewed by going to [www.](http://www.atlanticuc.edu)

[atlanticuc.edu](http://atlanticuc.edu) and looking on the news and events link. ☺

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*Desiree Ham-Ying, vice president for advancement  
Atlantic Union College*



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# Joy, International!

## Declaring the Three Angels' Message in Nigeria

“Accepting Jesus brings joy to living, even under the most desperate of circumstances,” stated Rob Mackay, a pastor in the New York Conference, who firmly believes that God still works miracles. On October 7, 2002, Pastor Mackay and his wife, Kay, journeyed across the world to bring this promise to people in the impoverished country of Nigeria. The Quiet Hour and Global Evangelism combined efforts to conduct a city-wide, full message, evangelistic revival in the city of Lagos. Several teams were dispersed into the city, following a devotional period led by Robert Faulkenberg and team members including Bill and Jackie Tucker.

The onset of the meetings, combined with the dynamic and friendly style that Pastor Mackay generates, immediately cemented bonds destined to last for eternity. Kay Mackay began each evening with health messages. Rob Mackay then opened the Scriptures, delivering the message of hope needed worldwide. The Mackays had no way of knowing the impact their words would have.

### God Prepares the Way

Abraham Olubanwo had a Muslim background. His lifelong friend, Ebenezer Ayedun, was a faithful member of the Church of Christ and, through Ebenezer's influence, Abraham met Christ in 1996. Soon after, Abraham became a pastor of a Pentecostal church.

Later, during a friendly discussion on religion, Abraham encouraged Ebenezer to start attending a “Bible believing church.” Abraham felt impressed to advise Ebenezer to “Fast and pray for one week, and in the following week you will meet a leader of a faithful Bible believing church.”

Returning from his shop at the end of this agreed week of fasting, Ebenezer became stranded. Ghenga Alao, a local elder from the Seventh-day Adventist Church, stopped and offered



Many turned out for the evangelistic meetings held in the city of Lagos.

him a ride. On the way home Ghenga shared the love of Christ and pointed Ebenezer in the direction of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, telling him of the revival meetings currently in progress. Ebenezer instantly remembered the divine directive given through his friend, Abraham, and attended the meetings. Ebenezer was amazed with the Bible centered messages delivered by Pastor Mackay. Soon, Ebenezer was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

### Domino Effect

Meanwhile, the Spirit of God moved persistently on Abraham impressing him to visit his good friend, Ebenezer. On October 17, 2002, upon arriving back in Lagos, Abraham discovered that Ebenezer had joined the Adventist church. Ebenezer enthusiastically invited Abraham to the meetings, but Abraham firmly refused.

### Quick Facts

Lagos, Nigeria, is a highly populated, impoverished city, with poor living conditions. Nigeria is located in western Africa, and is Africa's most populous country. There is an estimated 70% of the population living below poverty levels. The region is highly Muslim (50%). English is the official language, however, there are four main tribes located in the region that have their own independent languages. Life expectancy is 52 years, with 57% of the population over age 15 able to read and write.

The Holy Spirit went to work once again. While Abraham was resting at his sister's house, he heard a voice tell him three times that people were waiting for him at the revival and that he must go. Reluctantly he made his way to the meetings. The topic covered that evening was the Sabbath. Abraham was deeply moved and convicted by the flood of Scriptures Pastor Mackay presented. That very night Abraham made the decision for baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Just one revival meeting changed his life forever. Standing first in line to be baptized on October 24, 2002, Abraham said, "This was made possible through the influence of my lifelong friend, Ebenezer; the powerful preaching of God's word by Pastor Mackay; and most importantly the relentless pursuit of the Holy Spirit!"

In addition to Abraham and Ebenezer, there was an average of 300 others who attended the meetings during the week, with peak attendance on weekends of more than 500. Total baptisms for the campaign reached over one thousand with hundreds still involved in Bible studies.

### *Policeman Joins Special Forces*

A young police officer was another who attended the meetings. Ugekile Peter is a rookie officer of the Lagos Mobile Unit. During the revival meetings he rode with Pastor Mackay every night and safeguarded the evangelism equipment. One evening Peter pointed out the hopelessness of those seen in the streets. "Lagos is a city where people search for hope and treasure it greatly," Peter said.

"Such hope is realized only in Christ," Pastor Mackay gently replied. "People are looking for a better life, a way out, freedom from oppression, and healing from disease. The only way out is up," said Mackay. "The gospel brings Someone to trust; Someone to heal; Someone to free; and Someone to deliver all of humanity!"



Officer Peter safeguarded the evangelism equipment.



Pastor Abraham after his baptism.

Peter recognized the grace of God throughout his life. He said, "God especially intervened with His kindness and assigned me to your evangelistic team where I heard the word of God and accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord. My baptism of October 26 will remain special because it is on that Sabbath day that God revealed His grace and power."

### *Until He Comes*

Making the long journey back to the mission field that waited for them in the Atlantic Union, Robert and Kay Mackay became keenly aware of the eternal impact their lives and actions can have. The Atlantic Union is the home of more than 32 million people needing, "Someone to trust, Someone to heal; Someone to free; and Someone to deliver all of humanity!"<sup>①</sup>

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*Charè Gallimore is communication director and Robert Mackay a pastor in the New York Conference.*



Pastor Mackay with children at the SOS (Save Our Souls) Orphanage in Lagos.



TaNasha McGriff and Sammy Theodore playing a duet.



Esther Kansinally, Shauna Menns and Gregory Romeo enjoy the view.



Eli Forestal against the backdrop of the Adirondacks.

### Capital City Youth Hosts Retreat

On July 12-14, 2002, the Capital City church youth department hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Youth Retreat at the Dippikill Wilderness Retreat Center located in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains. The theme for this year's retreat was, "Ready Or Not—Here He Comes." This spiritual event was attended by more than 60 youths who came from Montreal, Canada, New York City, New Rochelle, New York, and

Albany, New York. Just imagine waking up Sabbath morning, taking a peaceful prayer walk through the woods, down to a breathtaking lake where you commune with your brothers and sisters in Christ to discuss the still quiet voice of God. This retreat was filled with moments like this. Other activities, included mountain biking, canoeing, a scripture scavenger hunt, and of course an evening social. There were countless testimonies shared that edified everyone who attended.

Guest speakers for the weekend were Raymond Alock from the Solid Rock Seventh-day Adventist Church in Queens, New York, and Gregory Romeo, Personal Ministries director from the Springfield Gardens Seventh-day Adventist Church in Queens, New York. In the end, everyone was sad that they had to leave such a beautiful place but were looking forward to next year's retreat.

*Ron Husband, communication director  
Capital City church*

### Gifted Pianist visits South Ozone Park Church

The South Ozone Park church family welcomed Chris Cerna, his mother Carmen and his seeing-eye dog to the worship service. Chris, who is from Cebu, Philippines, is an identical twin. As a young child Chuck, his twin brother, showed an unusual talent in music but died of cancer before his fifth birthday. During that time, Chris, preferred playing with toy soldiers and matchbox cars. At the tender age of five-and-a-half, just nine months after his twin brother's death, Chris, without formal training, began playing the piano, which could be considered a miracle since he has been blind from the age of eighteen months.

Both brothers were diagnosed with retinal blastoma, a cancer of the eye when they were one year old. Both of Chris' eyes were removed through reconstructive surgery. He has hydroxyapatite implants or artificial eyes. Chris jokes about his blindness

and encourages others to passionately pursue their dreams even with a physical disability. Chris has received many awards, among them, the Perlas Award as the Valuable Filipino for Special Talent from The Philippines Foundation, Inc., for harnessing his gift of music and sharing his talent and skills with the community, particularly those who need inspiration to live productively despite a physical handicap.

Prior to his visit the South Ozone Park church, Chris and his mother traveled and held a series of concerts around the East Coast and in Illinois. He also played in the Youth Chapel at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Chris and his Mom had come from Waipahu, Hawaii, to attend the Filipino Camp meeting at Camp Berkshire, New York. They accompanied their relatives Andy and Rose Cerna, who are frequent visitors (to the Sabbath service) at the South Ozone Park church. Upon request, this gifted pianist reverently began to play the sweetest

version of "Fairest Lord Jesus" they had ever heard. "The piano sounded like it was singing," exclaimed one member. The congregation was awed not only by the piece but by the musical gift that God has given this 21-year-old. The members later learned that Chris had taught himself to play the mandolin, Native



American flute, recorder, vibraphone, tuba, guitar, bass, banjo, samisen (Japanese stringed instrument resembling a banjo), and violin.

The members were truly blessed to have met Chris Cerna and to have heard him play. It is not the first time hearing a member of the Cerna family play the piano. His cousin, Heidi Cerna, who resides in Berrien Springs, Michigan, is an accomplished pianist and has visited South Ozone. South Ozone church feels indebted to Andy and Rose Cerna for bringing to the congregation their family to share such beautiful instrumental music.

*Marjorie Locker and Lorraine Archie,  
communication correspondents  
South Ozone Park church*

**Community Services on the Move**

The Springfield Gardens Seventh-day Adventist Church Community Services Department is on the move.

On September 28, 2002, they had a very special graduation program. As a result of a Bible class that was conducted by Minzie Smith and Theodore Morgan, six precious souls became graduates of the Bible course.

Last June an outdoor neighborhood fair was held, which featured pony rides, balloons, blood pressure, glucose, weight and nutrition screening, snow cones, fruit smoothies, and the best vegetarian burgers and hot dogs ever tasted. The chef was Rupert Fulton. Minzie Smith, Pastor Richard Bryant, and Kevin Channer hosted the fair. The on-site personnel were Eileen Hibbert, Christina Neives and Rosalie Van Putten. Various departments and their representatives, including Personal Ministries, Pathfinders, Education, and Sabbath School also set up booths. The Health Ministries booth screened more than 150 persons. The fair was attended by nearly 250 of our neighbors.

In October seventeen persons graduated from the nutrition and

cooking course that was conducted by the department, which also hosts an ongoing sewing class.

The department gives out bags of groceries to the community each Sunday and Thursday. Hot breakfast is served on Thursday mornings. Last year, 15,920 bags of groceries were distributed, 1,465 hot meals were served, 1,122 books and 26 Bibles were distributed, and 39,200 articles of clothing were given away. Every Thursday, licensed social workers and case managers are on hand to provide important information to the community. On many Sundays, Rosalie Van Putten provides free blood pressure screening and health advice.

Though small, the Springfield Gardens Seventh-day Adventist Church Community Services Department is serving their neighborhood to the glory of God. And this they say is just the beginning.

*Minzie Smith, Community Services director  
Springfield church*

**Women's Day Program at the Capital City Church**

"Take Your Candle, Go Light Your World" was the theme of last year's women's day program at the Capital City Seventh-day Adventist Church in Albany, New York. Pastor Doctor Smith gave an inspiring sermon entitled, "Two Women for One Son." Dr. Charles Canver, a cardiologist and head of the heart transplant unit at Albany Medical Center, was the guest speaker for the afternoon service, which provided the audience with vital information. The day ended with a candle-light service.

*Ron Husband, communication director  
Capital City church*



Pastor John Talbert and his wife, Vera; Dr. Charles Canver and his wife, Renee; and Vashti Johnson.



Pastor Doctor Smith spoke at the Women's Day Program.



Dr. Charles Canver gives a lecture for the afternoon program on the heart and the Heart Transplant program.



**Baptism at Williston**

"Well, I was brought up in the church," was 16-year-old Karen Briggs' personal testimony when asked what events led up to her conversion and baptism. Less than ten words summarized a lifetime of nurturing by devoted Christian parents, home school training, the influence of dedicated pastors, Sabbath school teachers, and a loving church family. For Karen, daughter of Dale and Alma Briggs, baptism was the most natural result of her walk with Jesus. Younger brother Peter is planning to follow her example in the future.

Ron Mills, lifetime friend and previous pastor of the Williston, Bristol, and former Bordoville, Vermont church district, who is now pastoring in the Michigan Conference, baptized Karen. Freely sharing her talents with the church she was brought up in, Karen plays piano, leads out in song services, occasionally teaches, and actively participates in her

This Is My Father's World



**Music Clinic 2003  
April 3-4, 2003**

Application deadline,  
March 1, 2003.

For an application or more information  
go to [www.nnec.org](http://www.nnec.org) or call  
(207) 797-3760 ext. 13.

Sabbath school class programs.

*Connie Hallock, communication secretary  
Williston church*

**Cliff Island Day**

"All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small. All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all." Speaking in reference to Cliff Island, the words to this familiar hymn ring very true. God certainly made Cliff, bright, beautiful and small. It is almost as if one takes a step back in time upon debarking the Casco Bay ferry to meander the gravelly, winding roads of this beautiful rock-bound, 425 acre, isle. Stress level is appropriately at nil. Cliff Island has a volunteer fire department, three EMT's as well as a Lifelight Helicopter Ambulance Service on call,

a K-5 one room school house, a community hall providing occasional events, non-existent crime, a general store, and a mail boat that comes at noon. Besides all that, it has a little white Adventist church, the only church on the island.

The Cliff Island church holds a long history in the denomination going back for many years. At one time, all residents, except for one, were Seventh-day Adventists. It is to this small, white church, that those with Cliff Island ties nostalgically are drawn annually celebrating the Cliff Island Day event. It was held on August 17, 2002. Fittingly, the sermon, in keeping with the nautical theme, was entitled, "Going Out In The Boat." Pastor Gary Thurber, former Northern New England Conference president, masterfully delivered the stirring, inspiring sermon as he likened the "boat" to

**Men's Ministry  
Retreat 2002**

On the first weekend in October 2002 men had the opportunity to gather at Camp Lawroweld for fellowship, rest and relaxation, and inspiration at the annual Men's Retreat. The theme was "A Man of Prayer."



The speaker, Gary Kinne of Rutland, Vermont, gave his personal testimony and several devotionals on living a life of prayer like Jesus, the best example of a praying man. He shared this quotation as a definition of prayer: "Prayer is staying on your face before God until His glory overtakes you and His love overpowers you until the only thing that matters to you is what matters to Him."

In spite of the threat of rain, it was a clear Sabbath afternoon to take a walk through the new property adjoining the camp, hear a report on the work of Friends of Lawroweld, and elect a steering committee of two men each from Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, to guide the course of men's activities in 2003. The goal is to increase and multiply!

The meetings ended on Saturday night to allow those who were delegates to be at the constituency meeting on Sunday morning. Those who were able to stay helped pull in the docks by hand (it took about a dozen men) because a crane could not be rented on that side of Portland.

They came as individuals from all over the conference and left as brothers and coworkers in Christ committed to pray for one another, and to gather again in 2003!

*Tom Kohls, men's ministry coordinator  
Northern New England Conference*

the kingdom of God and encouraged all to get on board. Beautiful music by the ever ready and willing Krueger family and friends further characterized the day. God's spirit noticeably beckoned each soul to the capacity filled church with a larger "spillover" on the lawn. The setting of this event on this beautiful sunny day spoke as a testimony to God's creative power as well as the spiritual food received from the sermon. All felt greatly blessed.

*Gloria DePalma, office secretary  
Northern New England Conference*

**Women's Ministry  
Retreat 2002**

The 2002 Northern New England Conference Women's Retreat was held last fall at Camp Lawroweld on September 6-8, 2002. The theme was "Springs of Living Water" and the featured speakers were Dr.

Mabel Dunbar, president of Women in Renewal, Inc., a nonprofit organization which is a Christian response to domestic violence, and Kim Bryan, executive director of Polly's Place Ministries, a newly opened organization which again addresses the needs rising from domestic violence. They provided many insights on women being themselves, realizing they are all special creations, and gave examples of how to allow themselves to be empty vessels which God can use to supply living water to a thirsty world.

The retreat was extra special because teen girls ages 15-19 were included. They received a rich blessing as well. The attendance was a record 144. Even the early morning meetings were overflowing with women thirsty to hear God's word and continued plan for their lives. Comfortable accommodations, beautiful decorations, fun crafts, and simple, yet simply delicious



food complimented the restful weekend in the beautiful mountains of Maine. An extra treat awaited those who attended the Saturday night "sing" around the campfire, as they were entertained by the heavenly host and witnessed the "northern lights," which were absolutely spectacular.

The women of Northern New England left the retreat weekend refreshed and already excited about the retreat in 2003.

*Debi Verrill, retreat participant  
Northern New England Conference*

**More Than Job Training at  
Central Vermont Academy**



The Central Vermont Academy (CVA) is in full swing for the 2002-2003 school year. Nathan Knowles has been hired as the newest staff member, working with Grades 11 and 12. Their unique program, combining a challenging academic program, adding a full outdoor education curriculum, and participating in job training experiences, has brought great excitement to the academy students.

Their first collective job experience came as an opportunity for learning basic carpentry skills. Two of the school parents, Gary and Mary Downs, were planning to build a two-car garage before winter set in when Gary suffered a heart attack. He had visions of waiting for the spring to begin shelling his garage. Then, Knowles jumped on the band wagon, quickly organizing the students into working groups. Erwin Eckson, a Barre church member, led one team while Knowles worked with the others. Gary Downs shared the following comment, "If it hadn't been for those students, we'd still be looking at a cement slab!" Gary's wife, Mary, provided home cooked meals to keep up the students' strength while they worked on the project. Barre church members donated a Sunday to put up the roof rafters.

Knowles is truly an added blessing to CVA. He is teaching students the love of God through nature and instilling a desire for good work, ethics in academics, and job training.

*Sherrie Wall, principal  
Central Vermont Academy*



**September Was a High Month at the Athol Church**

The Athol church members worked diligently to get ready for a Homecoming and Visitors Day on September 7, 2002. There were more than 30 visitors that day from as far away as New York state and as close as Athol. The climax of the day came with the vesper baptism of Elinor Britt.

September 14 the church hosted a Community Hymn Sing, and on September 21 a Campfire

Participants in the Food and Fitness Class.



Vespers in a unique place built by member John Alner and his friends. They used large rocks to form a semicircular wall and made a stone bench to face the campfire pit. September 22 was the third and final Food and Fitness Class for the season. The emphasis was Thanksgiving Vegan Recipes and the evening concluded with Kristine Goody leading the 16 men and women attending in simple exercises.

Eight of these were guests from the community.

We at the Athol church look forward to many events for our church in the future, not the least of which is our Centennial Celebration scheduled for August 30, 2003. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope"—Romans 15:13 (NIV).

Marian R. Bidwell, communication secretary Athol church



Warren Ruf, Athol pastor, baptized Elinor Britt.

**College Church Hosts Vocal4**

On Sabbath evening, November 23, 2002, the College church hosted a vesper program featuring Vocal4, a men's quartet which includes Sergio DeJesus, bass; Fernando De Jesus, baritone; Elton Miranda, second tenor, and Marcelo Nascimento, tenor.

The group has been together for two-and-a-half years, singing in locations all over New England and also in California, Florida, and Georgia. They have performed the national anthem at a Nascar race and will have the privilege of doing the same at a Red Sox game at the beginning of next season. The four recently traveled to California to open a concert for the Heritage Singers in Loma Linda.

They arrange their own music and



have a unique sound. They have produced one CD so far. Check them out at [www.vocal4.com](http://www.vocal4.com). You might like to have the quartet at your church or at a special convocation in your area.

Judy A. Thomsen, correspondent SNEC

**Community Guest Day**

The New England Ghanaian church in Worcester welcomed members and friends at a Community Guest Day on Sabbath, November 9, 2002. If you haven't experienced the warmth of a Ghanaian church service, you need to have that experience! Happiness and praise are evident everywhere from prayers and testimony to planned and spontaneous music.

There were many on hand that day to enjoy the music, the dedication of three babies and special guest speaker Matthew Bediako, secretary of the General Conference, with his wife, Elizabeth. The choir sang in its typical wonderful style! Everyone was invited to enjoy a delicious meal that featured traditional dishes following the worship service.



Matthew Bediako and his wife, Elizabeth.

Take a Sabbath and be a guest—you'll be glad you did!

Judy A. Thomsen, correspondent SNEC

**Southern New England Sponsors Tri-Conference Youth Rally**

Sabbath, October 12, 2002, brought 335 youth to register for the Tri-Conference Youth Rally "Unify to Glorify" at Machlan Auditorium. In addition to attendees from Southern New England, the host Conference, Bob Saunders, youth ministries director for the Southern New England, welcomed Newton Cleghorne, Northeastern Conference's youth ministries director and his young people to the convocation and the twenty-three youth, including the



Forty-eight youth made a decision for baptism that day.

musical group U-Turn, representing Northern New England Conference.

Jason McCracken, who currently works at the Review and Herald representing MESSAGE magazine, was speaker for the worship service. He has a passion for helping teens and young kids develop a relationship with Jesus. A large group of young people responded to his call for commitment to Jesus and baptism. The afternoon program included music, praise, and

testimony. Each conference provided a segment of the program. The afternoon closed with a concert by the quartet Vocal4.

Judy A. Thomsen, correspondent SNEC

### Three Churches Worship Together

Sabbath, November 23, 2002, brought the Lowell All Nations company, the Lowell Haitian group, and the Cambridge Haitian church together for a blended worship service. Former conference president Hal Thomsen, was scheduled to speak for the Lowell Haitian group that particular Sabbath so Pastor Yves Francis arranged for his Cambridge members to attend as well, transporting many of them by school bus!

The Lowell Haitian group meets



Pictured are the two pastors and their families: on the left, Yves and Natacha Francis and their little boys Jonathan and Emmanuel and on the right Paul and Dusuba Koroma with twin daughters Priscilla and Johanna.

regularly in the same building as Lowell All Nations company and when the All Nations pastor, Paul Koroma, learned of the guest speaker that day he wanted to join the other two congregations. Many were in attendance to enjoy the blending of cultures in praise and worship—and the bountiful potluck dinner which followed.

Judy A. Thomsen, correspondent SNEC

### Boston Van Ministry Has 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Praise Service

The Boston Van Ministry had its 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Praise Service and hosted a concert of wonderful music presented by Oscar, Claudius, and David on Sunday afternoon, November 3, 2002. The music included violin, flute, and voice in contemporary arrangements of hymn favorites and original compositions. It was an exquisite program—personal favorites, “Softly and Tenderly,” “You Have Lifted Me,” and “The Old Rugged Cross.” Van Ministry director, John Ferraro, expressed appreciation to the many volunteers who give time and energy to support the ministry. Some of the many volunteers have a regular schedule every week, some come for a few hours on a single day, some have been with the van for several years, while others are brand new. The ministry is touching people all around—a DVD player has been purchased recently for use in Bible studies for interested clients who come aboard the van for medical and spiritual help.

Southern New England is very appreciative of John and Julie Ferraro for their leadership in this ministry to Boston and the surrounding area, and to the volunteers for giving time, emotion, and energy to serve and share the Lord in this way. “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, “Follow Me!”—THE MINISTRY OF HEALING, p. 143.

Judy A. Thomsen, correspondent SNEC



David Gonzalez accompanied Claudius Cazan as he played for the offering taken in support of the Boston Van Ministry. David plays the flute as well; and in addition to the violin, Claudius sings and joined vocalist Oscar Sales in several duets during one portion of the concert. All are members of Southern New England churches.



Oscar Sales



Little Natalia Cazan had a part in the program playing her 1/8 size violin!

# BULLETIN BOARD

## Deaths

CHENEY, Sandra E.—51; b. May 20, 1951, in Clinton, Mass.; d. June 6, 2002, in Collegedale, Tenn., after a two-and-one-half-year battle with cancer. She was a member of the Berkshire Hills church in Lanesboro, Mass. She is remembered for her buoyant happy spirit, enthusiasm for life and her strong faith in God. She is survived by her husband, Arthur Cheney of Lanesboro, Mass.; two daughters, Ginger Cheney of Collegedale, Tenn., and Julie Donohue of Ooltewah, Tenn.

CURTIS, Lillian H (Haskell),—98; b. Jan. 23, 1904, in Stetson, Maine; d. Aug. 10, 2002, in W. Swanzey, N.H. She was a member of the Keene church in Keene, New Hampshire. Survivors include: her daughters, Margaret Smead, and Philla-Mae Morris, two grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

GRAVES, Marvin R.,—79; b. Jul. 24, 1921; d. Oct. 26, 2000, in Worcester, Mass., following hospitalization for a fall at his summer home in Winchendon, Mass. He was a graduate of Southwestern Jr. College, Atlantic Union College, and received his master's degree from Worcester State College. He served as SLA board chairman and Sabbath school teacher at the Village church for a number of years. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Beryl (Allen) Graves; son, Richard Graves of Clinton, Mass; four daughters, Linda Lesi of Nevada, Melodie Adams of Leominster, Mass., Sandy Cheney of Lanesboro, Mass. (deceased Jun. 2002), and Darlene Arsenault of Sterling, Mass, and ten grandchildren.

VOORHEES, Charlotte H.,—b. Nov. 12, 1937, in Calcutta, India, while Harold E. and Ruth V. Voorhees, her parents, were missionaries to India; d. Aug. 16, 2002, due to pneumonia and Alzheimers complications. She moved from South Lancaster, Mass., in 1996 with her mother to Rio Rancho, New Mexico.

## Sunset Table

Eastern Standard Time

March	7	14	21	28
Bangor, ME	5:31	5:40	5:49	5:58
Portland, ME	5:38	5:46	5:55	6:03
Boston, MA	5:42	5:50	5:58	6:06
South Lancaster, MA	5:44	5:52	6:00	6:08
Pittsfield, MA	5:50	5:59	6:07	6:15
Hartford, CT	5:48	5:56	6:04	6:12
New York, NY	5:54	6:02	6:09	6:17
Albany, NY	5:51	5:59	6:07	6:15
Utica, NY	5:58	6:06	6:15	6:23
Syracuse, NY	6:02	6:10	6:18	6:27
Rochester, NY	6:07	6:16	6:24	6:32
Buffalo, NY	6:12	6:21	6:29	6:37
Hamilton, Bda	6:20	6:25	6:30	6:35

## Out-of-Union

Kingsway College Alumni will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the school during Alumni Weekend May 2-4, 2003. You won't want to miss this opportunity to renew friendships and to make new ones. For information on programming, rental cars and motels rates, or to register and receive a ticket for the banquet; please check at: [www.kingswaycollege.on.ca/alumni.htm](http://www.kingswaycollege.on.ca/alumni.htm), or contact Wally Wasyluk, director of Alumni Affairs by e-mail at [wasyliukw@kingswayCollege.on.ca](mailto:wasyliukw@kingswayCollege.on.ca), or, Kingsway College, 1200 Leland Road, Oshawa, Ontario, L1K 2H4, Phone (905) 433-1144.

## Spot News

Atlantic Union Conference Youth Congress 2003 — "Hangin' Round, Heaven Bound," April 9-12, 2003, at the Holiday Inn Turf Hotel, Albany, New York. For information on registration, workshops, visit the web site at [www.atlantic-union.org/youthcongress2003.htm](http://www.atlantic-union.org/youthcongress2003.htm) or call the Atlantic Union Youth Ministries Department at (978) 368-8333 ext.3016. Additional information is also available on page 7 of this issue.

Calling all Berea Seventh-day Academy Alumni, former faculty and staff, friends and supporters — to the First Annual Alumni Weekend. March 28-30, 2003. Help us update our alumni and supporters mailing list by sending your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address information today. For registration information, contact the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Academy, 800 Morton Street, Mattapan, Massachusetts, 02126, (617) 436-8301, or log on to: [www.tagnet.org/bereasda](http://www.tagnet.org/bereasda).

Hispanic Elders Retreat, "Carry Your Torch" — March 21-23, 2003. Friar Tuck Resort, Catskill, New York. For more information visit the web site at: [www.atlantic-union.org/hispanic3.htm](http://www.atlantic-union.org/hispanic3.htm) or contact the Hispanic Ministries Department at (978) 368-8333 ext. 3016.

## Wedding

JACKSON—Betsy E. Bhola, daughter of Eric and Magdalene Bohla of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Anthony Jackson, son of Harold and the late, Roslyn Jackson of Queens, N.Y. were married on April 28, 2002, in Brooklyn, N.Y. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Allan W. Hay. The Jacksons reside in Brooklyn, N.Y.

## Alumni Weekend Ahead!

Make plans now to join your fellow classmates at Alumni Weekend.  
April 18, 19 and 20, 2003!

Look for the Fiat Lux in the mail or go to [www.atlanticuc.edu](http://www.atlanticuc.edu) for information regarding weekend activities.

*Hope to see you there!*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Atlantic Union College:

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2003

EVENTS	DATES
February 2003	
Orlando Fla., Alumni Chapter Meeting	Feb. 16 12:00 p.m.
March 2003	
Michigan Alumni Chapter Meeting	Mar. 2 2:00 p.m.







# ¿Qué Está Pasando?

## ALREDEDOR DE LA IGLESIA MUNDIAL

### Brasil: Miles de jóvenes trabajan por la comunidad

Noviembre 26, 2002, Foz do Iguaçu, Paraná, Brasil [ANN] — Cerca de 9,000 jóvenes del sur de Brasil se reunieron en Foz do Iguaçu, Paraná, donde se desarrolló un camporee de 5 días, la octava convención realizada por el grupo de Conquistadores (Boy Scouts) de la región.

Los Conquistadores, una organización mundial de jóvenes coordinada por la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día, colaboró con diversos proyectos en el lugar, tales como limpieza de ríos y plantado de árboles, donación voluntaria de sangre, recolección de alimentos y juguetes, a la vez que participaban en actividades recreativas.

“Dimos toda nuestra fuerza y calor humano a la gente que vive en la zona”, dice Elías Brenha, un pastor adventista de la región. “Les llevamos amistad, solidaridad y esperanza. Ese era nuestro gran desafío”.

Los Conquistadores tienen jóvenes de entre 10 y 15 años. Las actividades se desarrollan en las áreas de educación, servicio comunitario, ceremonias cívicas, reflexión espiritual y eventos deportivos. El club está abierto a jóvenes de cualquier denominación religiosa.

*Sônia Cristina Poltronieri Mendonça and Rossana Schimidi/Agência Leon*  
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

### Camerún: La iglesia lleva a cabo las primeras conferencias vía satélite

Diciembre 3, 2002, Yaounde, Camerún [ANN] — Miles de personas asistieron al primer seminario vía satélite llevado a cabo en un país de habla francesa en la región de África Occidental de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día. El mismo, que se desarrolló del 8 al 30 de Noviembre con la participación del orador Doug Batchelor, fue transmitido por Adventist Television Network desde Yaounde, Camerún, a 24 países en 23 idiomas.

Según los organizadores de “Visions for Life” (Visiones para la vida), alrededor de 6.000 personas se reunieron cada noche en el estadio de la selección nacional de fútbol de Camerún, un complejo polideportivo en Yaounde. Los directivos de la iglesia pudieron utilizar el estadio en forma gratuita, siendo ésta la primera vez que se concede este permiso a una organización religiosa.

“Como parte de los preparativos, los miembros de iglesia brindaron más de 30.000 estudios bíblicos”, dice Luka Daniel, Presidente de la iglesia en la división o región eclesiástica de África Occidental. “Los mismos fueron dados por personas de todas las edades, de ambos sexos”. Los estudios bíblicos

fueron seguidos de casi 1.000 pequeñas campañas grupales, dirigidas por un grupo de ministros y voluntarios laicos y coordinadas por Gabriel Boakye-Dankwa, director de la Oficina de Evangelismo y Misión Global de la iglesia en esa región.

Un equipo médico de los Estados Unidos también cooperó con el personal de salud local en el desarrollo de pequeñas clínicas médicas y dentales en el estadio.

Yaounde, la capital de Camerún, tiene una población de un millón y medio de habitantes, mientras que el país tiene 16 millones. Hay alrededor de 100.000 adventistas en el país, que se reúnen en casi 800 iglesias.

*Julio Munoz*  
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

### Los líderes eclesiásticos se concentran en alcanzar otros grupos religiosos

Diciembre 10, 2002, Sao Paulo, Brasil [ANN] — Los adventistas del séptimo día están comprometidos en alcanzar otras comunidades de fe. Los expertos y directores de misión de los centros de estudios religiosos de Misión Global de la iglesia se reunieron del 5 al 7 de Diciembre en Sao Paulo, Brasil, para brindar informes y discutir la dirección futura de las relaciones adventistas con otras religiones alrededor del mundo.

El punto principal de la reunión fue la interacción adventista con los judíos, e incluyó una visita del Rabino Henry Sobel, de la Congregação Israelita Paulista, la sinagoga más grande de Brasil. Sobel, ampliamente considerado como el líder no oficial de la comunidad judía de Brasil, enfatizó la necesidad de continuar el diálogo entre los diferentes grupos religiosos. El grupo visitó la sinagoga de Sobel durante los servicios que celebraban el fin del festival judío de Janucá.

El Sábado, día sagrado de los adventistas, el grupo de estudio se reunió en el templo adventista Beth B'nei Tsion, donde la liturgia de la congregación adventista se asemeja a los servicios judíos. El grupo entonces visitó una iglesia adventista donde los servicios están diseñados especialmente para alcanzar a la comunidad árabe y musulmana.

Los centros de estudios religiosos de Misión Global exploran diversas maneras de alcanzar las comunidades seculares de musulmanes, judíos, hindúes y budistas. “Fueron creados con el propósito de experimentar formas de entenderse y comunicarse mejor con los adherentes de otras religiones”, dice Mike Ryan, director de Misión Global. “La cuestión primordial que les planteamos a los directores de esos centros es, ‘¿Tenemos modelos de acercamiento según se están implementando en todo el mundo?’ Ellos están encargados de producir

los recursos, así como de concientizar a los feligreses acerca de lo que están haciendo.

Si desea más información en relación con Misión Global y sus centros de estudios religiosos, visite [www.global-mission.org](http://www.global-mission.org).

*Gary Krause*  
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

### Se recordará a pastor secuestrado con día de ayuno y oración

Diciembre 10, 2002, Medellín, Colombia [ANN] — El próximo 14 de diciembre se llevará a cabo en Colombia un día especial de ayuno y oración para recordar al pastor adventista que fue secuestrado más de tres meses atrás.

Este año la iglesia de Colombia ha sufrido seis secuestros, según José Rojano, director de comunicaciones de la iglesia en la región. Varios de ellos han sido liberados.

“Pedimos a los adventistas de todo el mundo que se unan a nosotros en oración por la liberación del Pastor Cardona y por nuestra situación aquí en Colombia”, dice Eliseo Bustamante, Presidente de la iglesia en Colombia.

Cardona, que era pastor de una iglesia de 800 miembros en Uraba, fue secuestrado en Agosto cuando viajaba en vehículo con su familia. También fue alcanzado por el Pastor Jacob Rodríguez y su familia, que viajaban en otro auto. Los guerrilleros rodearon a ambos vehículos y se llevaron a Cardona y Rodríguez junto con otras 20 personas, dejando sus familias. El automóvil de Rodríguez quedó atascado en un camino lateral, y los guerrilleros lo liberaron, aunque se quedaron con Cardona.

“Tenemos pruebas de que el Pastor Cardona todavía está vivo”, dice Rojano. “Cardona envió una carta a su esposa por medio de otra víctima que fue liberada. En la carta, pedía que lo ayuden a ser liberado”.

“No se ha pedido rescate por su liberación”, dice Rojano. “Creemos que lo tienen para un intercambio posterior”.

Rojano explica que los grupos guerrilleros continúan recurriendo al secuestro como forma de financiar su guerra, y que, desafortunadamente, esto ha afectado a miembros de iglesia.

“La iglesia de Colombia es cautelosa”, dice Rojano. “Los administradores locales están convencidos de que no pueden acceder a ciertas áreas conflictivas debido a la situación peligrosa. Se les pide a los pastores y a los miembros que sean cautelosos”.

Existen más de 197.000 adventistas en Colombia, que se reúnen en 847 iglesias.

*Libna Stevens*  
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

# Quoi de Neuf?

## A TRAVERS L'ÉGLISE MONDIALE

### Cameroun: une première: la série d'émissions de l'Église retransmises par satellite

3 Décembre, 2002, Yaoundé, Cameroun [ANN] — Des milliers de personnes ont regardé le premier programme de séminaires retransmis par satellite jamais organisé dans un pays francophone africain par l'Église adventiste de la région de l'Afrique occidentale, du 8 au 30 novembre. Cette série, avec Doug Batchelor pour orateur, a été retransmise de Yaoundé (Cameroun) par le réseau de télévision adventiste (Adventist Television Network) vers 24 pays et en 23 langues.

Selon les organisateurs de « Visions pour la vie, » quelque 6,000 personnes se sont retrouvées chaque soir au stade multi-sports de Yaoundé, résidence de l'équipe nationale de football du Cameroun, qui a pu être utilisé gratuitement. Les responsables de l'Église au Cameroun précisent que c'est la première fois qu'une organisation religieuse recevait la permission d'utiliser ce stade.

« En préparation des réunions, plus de 30,000 études bibliques ont été données par des membres d'Église, » explique Luka Daniel, président de l'Église dans la Division (ou région) de l'Afrique occidentale. « Elle l'ont été par des gens de tous âges et des deux sexes. » Ces études ont été suivies de près d'un millier de mini-campagnes en petits groupes, organisées par une équipe de pasteurs et de bénévoles laïcs et coordonnées par Gabriel Boakye-Dankwa, directeur du Bureau de l'évangélisation et de la Mission globale de l'Église pour la région.

Une équipe médicale venue des États-Unis a travaillé en coopération avec les professionnels de santé autochtones pour proposer, au stade de Yaoundé, les services de dispensaires dentaires et médicaux.

Il y a à Yaoundé, capitale du Cameroun, 1,5 million d'habitants, dans un pays qui en compte 16. On trouve au Cameroun quelque 100,000 adventistes qui rendent un culte au Seigneur dans près de 800 églises.

Julio Munoz  
Traduction: Calude Fivel

### Journée de jeûne et de prière pour la victime d'un enlèvement

10 Décembre, 2002, Medellín, Colombie [ANN] — Une journée spéciale de jeûne et de prière aura lieu en Colombie le 14 décembre prochain pour un pasteur adventiste enlevé dans

ce pays il y a plus de trois mois.

Cette année, l'Église adventiste de Colombie a subi six enlèvements, comme le précise José Rojano, directeur de la communication de l'Église dans la région. Plusieurs de ces personnes ont été relâchées depuis. « Nous demandons à tous les adventistes du monde entier de se joindre à nous dans la prière pour la libération du pasteur Cardona et pour notre situation, ici en Colombie, » déclare Eliseo Bustamante, président de l'Église adventiste de ce pays.

Cardona, pasteur d'une Église de 800 membres de la région d'Uraba, a été enlevé au mois d'août lors d'un déplacement en voiture avec sa famille. Il y avait aussi avec lui le pasteur Jacob Rodriguez et sa famille, qui voyageaient dans leur propre voiture. Des guérilleros ont entouré les deux véhicules et s'en sont emparés avec les deux pasteurs (sans leurs familles) ainsi que 20 autres personnes. La voiture de Rodriguez est restée coincée sur la chaussée dégradée et les guérilleros l'ont libéré, mais ont gardé Cardona.

« Nous avons la preuve que le pasteur Cardona est en vie, explique J. Rojano. Il a fait parvenir une lettre à sa femme par l'intermédiaire d'une autre victime relâchée. Dans cette lettre, il demandait de l'aide pour obtenir sa libération. »

« Aucune demande de rançon n'a été formulée à ce titre, poursuit Rojano. Nous pensons qu'il est gardé prisonnier en vue d'un échange ultérieur. »

Rojano explique que les groupes de guérilleros continuent de recourir aux enlèvements comme moyen de financement de leur guerre et que, malheureusement, cela a frappé des membres d'Église.

« Au niveau national, l'Église se montre prudente, ajoute-t-il. Les responsables administratifs locaux sont convaincus qu'ils ne peuvent accéder à certaines zones de conflit tant la situation y est dangereuse. On demande aux pasteurs et aux membres d'Église de faire preuve de prudence. »

Il y a en Colombie plus de 197 000 adventistes adorant le Seigneur dans 847 églises.

Libna Stevens  
Traduction: Calude Fivel

### Le premier pasteur guyanais de la Guyane

10 Décembre, 2002, Cayenne, Guyane [ANN] — Cinquante sept ans après que des missionnaires aient introduit l'Église adventiste en Guyane française, le premier pasteur guyanais d'origine a été consacré à Cayenne le 23 novembre.

Récemment consacré, EsaVe Auguste a la

charge pastorale de trois communautés adventistes situées à Saint-Laurent du Maroni, dans la partie occidentale du pays.

« Il y a un symbole fort dans le fait que la Guyane ait un enfant du pays consacré pasteur, » a déclaré Guy Roger, président de l'Église adventiste de la région Antilles-Guyane. « C'est un jeune homme remarquable et nous espérons que son exemple sera suivi par d'autres. »

Située sur la côte nord de l'Amérique du Sud, la Guyane a une population de plus de 150,000 habitants, dont 1,700 adventistes qui se réunissent dans six églises.

Libna Stevens  
Traduction: Calude Fivel

### Un enfant bengali rentre chez lui avec un cœur réparé

10 Décembre, 2002, Dhaka, Bangladesh [ANN] — Âgé de trois ans, Sree Mankhin a regagné le 5 décembre dernier sa maison au Bangladesh, après avoir subi une opération à cœur ouvert au Centre hospitalier universitaire de Loma Linda, institution adventiste. Les médecins avaient dit à son père, Jeshio, que Sree mourrait s'il ne bénéficiait pas de cette opération, qui n'est pas pratiquée au Bangladesh.

« Je suis profondément reconnaissant aux gens qui nous ont aidés, mon fils et moi, à aller en Amérique et à Loma Linda, qui a réalisé cette opération du cœur si importante, lui sauvant la vie, » a dit Jeshio d'une voix brisée par l'émotion.

« Ce gentil petit garçon et son papa ont bien contribué à l'atmosphère agréable de la Loma Linda University, » a dit le Dr. Bailey. Nous sommes heureux de les connaître et de leur rendre service dans le cadre de notre mission globale. Nous prions pour qu'ils aient une longue et bonne vie. »

On avait diagnostiqué chez Sree la présence de deux trous d'origine congénitale dans son petit cœur. Il a été envoyé par avion à Loma Linda, en Californie, où l'opération fut effectuée le 19 novembre par le Dr. Leonard L. Bailey. Chirurgien de réputation mondiale, celui est professeur et directeur du service de chirurgie de la Loma Linda University.

« Sree a l'air bien et j'ai même eu droit à un sourire et à un câlin, » a raconté, plusieurs jours après l'opération, Alyna Taylor, assistante administrative des patients au centre hospitalier. « Il court partout et est tout plein d'une énergie qu'il n'a jamais connue auparavant. Il dit qu'il est heureux parce qu'il n'a pas mal et qu'il ne pleure pas. »

Ellen E. Mayr  
Traduction: Calude Fivel





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*“As long as time  
shall last, we  
shall have need  
of schools” —*

FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, p. 359.

**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES  
IN THE ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE**

Amesbury	Hartford Area
Bay Knoll	Hebron Bilingual
Bayberry	Jackson Heights
Berea	Jamaica
Berkshire Hills	Jamestown
Bermuda Institute	Kellogg
Bethel	Kingsbury
Bethesda	Laurel Oaks
Brockton Area Academy	Linden
Bronx-Manhattan	Livingston
Brooklyn	Maranatha Regional
Brooklyn Temple	Middletown
Brownell Mountain	North Star Christian
Browning	Northeastern Academy
Buffalo Suburban	Oakview Preparatory
Cady Memorial	Parkview Jr. Academy
Cedar Brook	Pearl River
Central Brooklyn	Pine Tree Academy
Central Connecticut Adventist Virtual	Pioneer Jr. Academy
Central Vermont Junior Academy	Poughkeepsie
Dexterville	R.T. Hudson
Edgewood	Riverview Memorial
Estabrook	Rochester Jr. Academy
Eva Jeltz Junior Academy	South Bay Jr. Academy
Excelsior	South Lancaster Academy
Fairfield	South Shore
Flatbush	Southern Tier
Forestdale	St. Johnsburry
Forrest Ward	Union Springs Academy
Frontenac	Wachusett Hill Christian
Greater Boston Academy	Warren
Greater New York Academy	Westchester Area
Green Mountain	Whispering Pines
Hanson Place	Worcester

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