

THE ATLANTIC UNION

NOVEMBER 2003

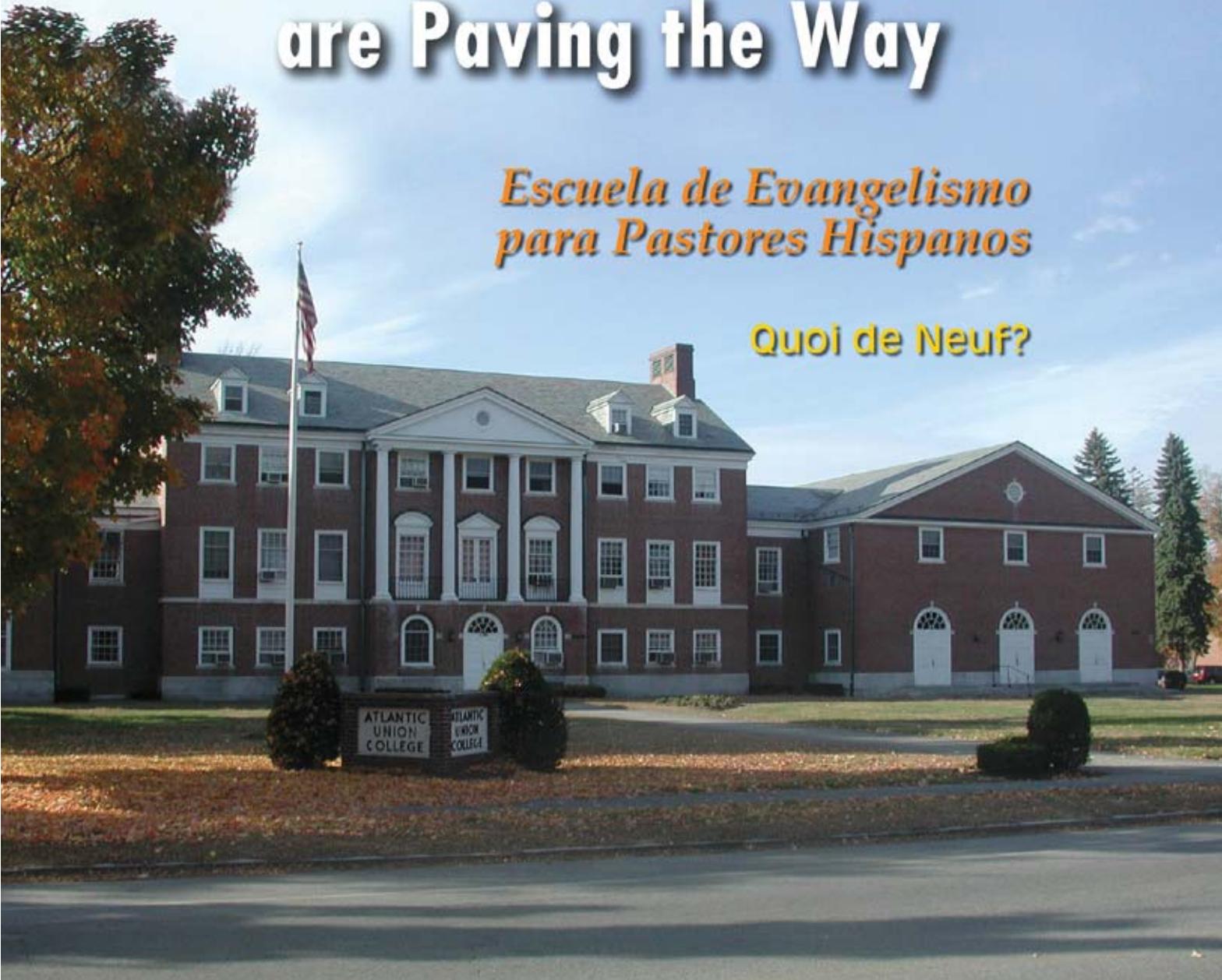
GLEANER



**AUC Alumni and Friends
are Paving the Way**

*Escuela de Evangelismo
para Pastores Hispanos*

Quoi de Neuf?





“What’s in Your Hand?”

The Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?”—Exodus 4:2, NIV.

That was the question God asked Moses in the wilderness of Midian. It is the question He asks of us today. Moses had only a rod, just a stick he had cut from a tree or picked up along the way. We, too, may have in our hand only a hammer, or a broom, or a ballpoint pen. Whatever it is, as in Moses’ case, it can become a potent instrument to be used in God’s behalf.

Moses threw down his rod before Pharaoh and it became a serpent, swallowing up other rods. He struck the Nile River with it and the water became blood. He held it over the streams of Egypt and they spewed forth frogs. He stuck it in the sand and each grain became an insect. He held it up to the sky and there fell hail and fire. He held it over the Red Sea and a path was formed through the deep water. He struck a rock with it and out gushed life-giving water.

What about Samson? He held a donkey’s jawbone in his hand and with it destroyed the Philistines. Only a small pebble in David’s sling routed a whole army. Clay and saliva healed a blind man and returned his sight. A boy’s small lunch of five loaves and two fish fed perhaps ten thousand people. So what do you have in your hand? Are miracles beyond human experience? Are they out of our class?

Then we must ask ourselves the ques-

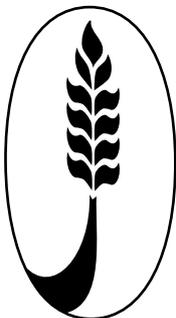
tions, “Didn’t God guide David’s pebble to its mark?” That was a miracle. “Didn’t He supply Samson’s strength?” That too was miraculous. “Didn’t He perform miracles under Moses’ rod?” Sure, He did. God used a human being, who in turn used some little thing in his hand, to accomplish His great purpose.

Now then, let’s look at our own situation. We, too, are provided with little things, and like the prophets of old we may make them work for God. You don’t have a college education? Neither did Peter. You have to help provide for the family? So did Priscilla. You don’t know where to start or how to begin working for the Lord? Neither did Amos. But all these people had one thing in common—they loved the Lord supremely. He was first in their lives. They gave to Him whatever they had in their hands. From that point, He showed them and taught them and gave them power—staying power. “Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts”—Zecariah 4:6. The power is always God’s, and the spirit must always be God’s spirit. It is dangerous to go forward in any other spirit.

So what’s in your hand? Whatever it is, turn it over to the Lord for His use. Who knows, you may also be God’s miracle worker to fulfil His divine purpose. ☺

Donald G. King is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the board of trustees of Atlantic Union College.

“God used a human being, who in turn used some little thing in his hand, to accomplish His great purpose.”



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Glad you asked!

inside **NOVEMBER**
2003

Q: *I am looking for information about the Sow 1 Billion global evangelistic initiative. What can you tell me about it?*

A: *Sow 1 Billion* is a global evangelistic initiative with an extraordinary goal—to distribute one billion invitations to study the Bible. The theme of each small brochure is “Don’t Be Afraid” and the brochures will offer various ways for people to request Bible studies.

Every division of the world church will participate in this unprecedented outreach project. Already, brochures are being printed and distribution has started in many regions of the world. Everyone can be involved in *Sow 1 Billion*. It just requires a commitment to pass out brochures to friends, neighbors, and people we meet during the course of our everyday lives.

Sow 1 billion will rely on a high level of commitment and enthusiasm among all departments and entities of the world church, and on the part of the individual church members. The church must also find creative ways to strengthen its capacity to offer Bible studies, through its Bible Correspondence Schools around the world, lay supporting organizations, and local churches.

Sow 1 Billion, a GC presidential initiative, was approved by the General Conference executive committee in October 2002. Adventist-Laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) is a major partner in the project, providing funds for printing the one billion brochures, and working to develop a website that will offer online Bible studies in up to 100 languages.

Sow 1 Billion is closely linked with other outreach initiatives of the church such as *Go One Million* and *Year of World Evangelism 2004*. For example, *Sow 1 Billion* will provide another outreach tool for *Go One Million*—the plan to mobilize and equip one million lay people for evangelism, and the *Year of World Evangelism 2004* will be, in part, a reaping from these earlier outreach initiatives.

If you would like to read more about *Sow 1 Billion* visit the following sites:

- <http://www.adventistreview.org/2003-1515/spring3.html>
- <http://www.adventist.org/news/data/2003/03/1050528584/index.html.en>
- http://www.adventist.org/news/specials/annual_council_2002/sow_1_billion.html ①

The above information was obtained from the Sow 1 Billion fact sheet in addition to some of the websites listed above.

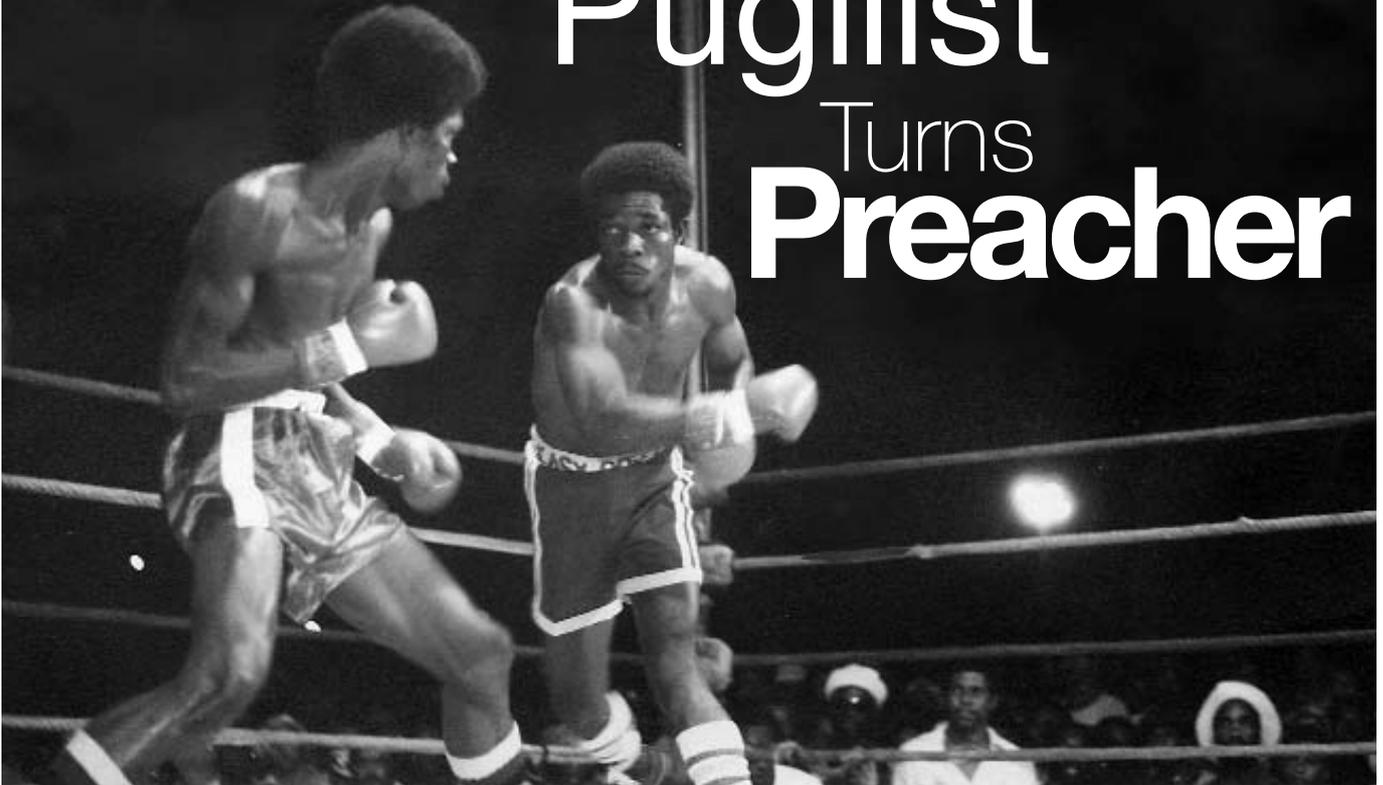
We welcome your comments about Glad You Asked! Send to the Editor, Atlantic Union GLEANER, PO Box 1189, So. Lancaster, MA 01561.

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

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ABOUT THE COVER: Atlantic Union College, the Seventh-day Adventist college in the northern portion of the United States, is in its 121st year of service to young people. In this issue you will read about efforts underway to restore the buildings located on its campus in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. Photo by Bill Wood, Atlantic Union Conference youth director.

Pugilist Turns Preacher



Liburd fought in the Carribean and the United States before turning in his gloves to fight to win souls for Christ.

The path to ministry is not always a straight one. History has shown that God does not always use “saints” or those of sterling and spotless character to act as His spokespersons. In fact, many times the opposite is true. Notable examples include Abraham, who was not adverse to lying when the situation dictated it; Moses was a murderer; King David, a liar, adulterer, and murderer. Christ selected as His followers brawlers, tax cheats, embezzlers, and men with various character flaws. Paul, arguably the greatest of the New Testament evangelists, began his career holding the clothes for those who stoned Stephen. Acts 8:1 states that he “consented” to his death. He further embellished his reputation by breaking into the homes of Christians and dragging them off to prison.

The lives of these men, reclaimed from Satan and turned into polished weapons in the army of God, are testaments to the regenerating, renewing power of our Lord. Rather than straight, the road to ministry is many times serpentine, if not outright convoluted. It is, perhaps, the negotiating of life’s twists and turns that makes each pastor special and allows him or her to bring a certain enthusiasm to the work of ministry.

Case in point, Pastor Earl Liburd of the Newburgh and Beacon Light Tabernacle churches in the Hudson Valley region of New York State. Liburd, who hails from the diminutive island of Nevis, was the fifth of eleven children born in an Adventist home. Of his first nineteen years of education, eighteen were spent in Adventist schools. Yet, even with this background, while being raised by a mother who worked tirelessly

for her church as Sabbath school leader, choir member, and personal ministries director, Liburd admits, I had my wilderness years—times when I was away from God and the church.

Perhaps, it was because he was away from home at school in the Virgin Islands, or it was the natural curiosity of a teenage, testosterone-loaded young man. Whatever the case, an adolescent Liburd found himself at a boxing match watching his friend win and thinking to himself, “I can’t believe he won. I could beat him any day.” His friend asked him to put his boxing gloves on. Liburd laced up the gloves and suffered through one of the worst beatings of his life, but the pummeling aroused an interest in him. He had talent. He was raw and undisciplined, but he could box. A coach, Willie George, saw the potential and became his mentor and trainer for the then five-foot nine, 147 pound welterweight who was but 17 years of age.

“My parents didn’t approve of the boxing,” states Liburd, “but I was not attending church, not praying, and I had no problem with boxing at that time.” And besides that, he was doing well. “I won my first twelve amateur fights,” says Liburd, whose seventh fight was for the welterweight championship of the Virgin Islands.

Meanwhile, Liburd had enlisted into the U.S. Army and boxed during his three-year stint. He was discharged in 1975 in time to try out for the Virgin Island olympic boxing team. The qualifying regimen consisted of an elimination tournament where he had to fight and defeat the then-welterweight

champ of the Virgin Islands. Liburd made the team which practiced with the U.S. boxers in Montreal, Canada. He recalls the pomp and pageantry of the Olympics. “My first match in the Olympics was against Tunisia. I won that match, but lost in the second round to a fighter from Cuba.” The Cubans have a long and impressive record of fielding excellent boxing teams. The famous Teofilo Stevenson, who won a number of gold medals in the heavyweight division, also led the boxing contingent from Cuba that year. Liburd recalls, how muscular and big he was and how “his large hands engulfed mine as we shook hands.” At one time, Stevenson was considered the greatest boxer in the world.

After the Olympics, Liburd decided to “turn pro” and fought across the Caribbean. He became the Virgin Island and Caribbean champion in 1978 and was even ranked 15th in the United States. Liburd decided to come to the United States and trained under Jimmy Dupree with likes of the famous Emil Griffiths.

Soon, the seamy side of boxing began to surface as situations with managers constantly eroded the joy of boxing. He was booked for fights while out of shape and not training. There were constant calls for money and a lot of shady stuff. It was at that time that Liburd took up marijuana smoking. Boxing was losing its appeal. He was working in a factory in Jersey City, New Jersey, smoking dope with his hair in dreads. “It was one day while in my marijuana-induced haze that the thought came to me, if Jesus came today, where would you go,” reflects Liburd.

“I knew I was not living well enough to make it to heaven. My sister had a friend who needed a summer job and I got her a job at my plant. I was impressed by the way she read her little Bible during break time and at lunch. It was her life, not her words, that impressed me and I developed feelings for her. When I mentioned this to her, she said that we would be unequally yoked, so I started attending church to impress her. I went to church to impress her, but found

Earl Liburd and his wife, Veronica, spend their time ministering to the members of the Newburgh Tabernacle church in Newburgh, New York, and Beacon Light Tabernacle in Wappinger Falls, New York.



Jesus,” states Liburd with a laugh.

Things didn’t work out with that girl, but she showed him the kind of girl with whom he would want to spend his life. The kind of partner that possessed those Christian graces that would compliment his walk with Jesus. So later, when his wife, Veronica, came along he was impressed that she was the one after the first meeting because he knew what he wanted and needed in a mate, and Veronica had the “right stuff.”

“From that first time in church, I said to myself, ‘this is the woman God has for me,’” Liburd said. In retrospect, Veronica was not as certain, having heard about his days with marijuana and dread locks. Like Saul turned Paul, his reputation had preceded him and he needed to do some repair work before this young lady, also an athlete having won medals in the Northeastern Conference Olympics, was ready to accept him.

The fighter was becoming a force for good and others were seeing it. A number of people commented that his demeanor was ministerial, asking if he had any notion of becoming a pastor. The idea had occurred to him many times and now he was ready to pursue it. The events moved like a whirlwind. He was baptized in 1987, married in 1989, went off to Oakwood College in 1991, graduated in 1995, and received his master of divinity degree in 1998. While at Oakwood, Liburd distinguished himself by winning the Homiletics Award.

“I had no call and no job when I left the Seminary,” says Liburd, “but I spoke to Stennett Brooks, then president of the Northeastern Conference. He said that the conference had nothing.” I had sent out thirty-five resumes, but was impressed to be persistent with Northeastern. His persistence paid off as he was given a small congregation in Peekskill, New York. In 2000 he was transferred to the Newburgh church and in the following year added twenty persons through baptism, thus increasing the membership by more than ten percent.

In June 2003 the Beacon church was added to his district, and the Liburd’s are enjoying their ministry. Together, they are fighting a new foe—not one made of flesh and blood. They are fighting the principalities and powers that seek to bring down the kingdom of God. Liburd was accustomed to winning in the boxing ring and he knows that he is on the winning side. He has exchanged his shorts for suits, and a Bible now graces his fists instead of boxing gloves. He fights “not as one that beateth the air,” but as one with purpose. Like all of us, he get his share of blows. He even gets knocked down occasionally, but he fights on—not in his own strength, but in the power and might of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ☉

Clement A. Murray writes from Jamaica, New York, where he is the communication director for the Northeastern Conference.

AUC's Social Work Department Launches Sunday Classes

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education for more than 25 years, Atlantic Union College continues to be an innovator in the educational arena. Beginning in January 2004, in addition to the classes offered daily and in the evenings throughout the week, AUC will offer courses to undergraduate and continuing education students on Sundays. As a student in the Atlantic Union College Social Work Department you will benefit from experienced teachers and advisors, a supportive networking system, and guidance in planning your internship. As a student in the field of social work you will fulfill your dreams of helping others while you empower them to help themselves. You will find employment opportunities in the fields of Child Welfare, Criminal Justice, Gerontology, Law, and Mental Health. And AUC, because of its accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education, will prepare you to begin a master's degree program as an advanced placement student—that means you can complete your master's program requirements in one year rather than two. The value to being able to finish the program so quickly and begin work immediately after you receive your degree is more than \$50,000.00 in savings. Contact Susan Willoughby, head of the social work department, at (978) 368-2190 to learn more about the program.

*Linda Gay, associate director for advancement
Atlantic Union College*

AUC's Online Community Moves Home

Atlantic Union College would like to announce to all friends and alumni of the college that we have relocated our Online Community to the AUC website. This is an exciting innovation for the college website and it brings all of us closer to the college community, even when online. The service is set up so that it is easy to become an online member, just log on to www.atlanticuc.edu and go to the Alumni Link. When you visit to find fellow classmates, take a look at our News and Events page for all that is happening on campus. Look for other enhancements to the website in the future. We hope to have a scrapbook section soon for all of us to share pictures with each other.



AUC on the Rise

As fall paints the campus maples, rays of hope continue to bring a new day to Atlantic Union College. A detailed report of changes accomplished from June to September, pleased the accrediting association, and our accreditation still stands.

- The U.S. Department of Education approved the significant changes in student finance, and student aid funding from the government will continue.
- The College Board of Trustees authorized the president to streamline the institution to make it more financially viable and to update academic programs. Some changes have been made and others are on the way.
- Vincent Botticelli, the new vice president for advancement, came to us from the same position at Babcock University in Nigeria, West Africa. We will soon launch a new capital campaign for AUC.
- The former registrar, Dr. Issumael Nzamatuma, accepted the position of vice-president of academic affairs, and is doing an outstanding job. His previous experience as academic dean at another institution prepared him for the post. Thanks to his excellent training, the staff in the registrar's office continues to keep the records in first-class shape.
- As expected, enrollment dipped slightly, but the college actually took in more cash at registration than last year, thanks to a new financial policy which requires a zero balance for the previous year before re-enrollment.
- Fall Week of Prayer proved a blessing to our entire campus. Dr. Abraham Jules, a dynamic speaker, captivated and inspired his audience at the eleven services he conducted, and the response from both students and staff clearly demonstrated that God's spirit was among us.

And so you have here the newest rays of daybreak at AUC. While we still have a long way to go, it's been thrilling to watch God intervening and blessing our college. Thank you for the assurances of prayer and support that I have been receiving. God is good, and He is definitely leading us toward the sunrise!

*George P. Babcock is the president
of Atlantic Union College.*



ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE

Special Offering – November 29, 2003

“If you want to understand the inspiring history of Adventists in the Northeast, the history of the Architecture, Adventist Education, and the Vision for Unity, take a trip through the cradle of Adventism—New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, and Rhode Island,” says D. Robert Kennedy, director of the New England Adventist Heritage Center at Atlantic Union College. Many who visit these historical places may observe that a few of the buildings are getting face-lifts. Concerned leaders, church members, alumni,

Founders Hall



Power Plant

friends, and other supporters have been “putting their money, time, and resources where their mouth is” to make sure these buildings which speak of the history of the Adventist church are preserved for years to come.

The buildings on the Atlantic Union College (AUC) campus are no exception. AUC's existence goes back 121 years and its buildings are part of the Adventist history in the Northeast. There is a massive campaign underway to raise funds to restore and maintain many of the buildings. One of the main areas of focus is the replacement of the underground steam pipes that heat the entire campus.

The special Atlantic Union College offering that will be collected in churches on November 29, 2003, will assist in this massive campaign to help

restore these buildings. It is possible you may get a call from one of the many students at AUC who are busy with the annual phone-a-thon, soliciting your contribution for this important endeavor. We thank those who have been continued supporters of the college and the work of educating students for service in this world and eternal life in the world to come. If you are just getting on board, “Welcome” and, we thank you for adding your support to assist in the upkeep of our college.

Your tax deductible donation may be sent directly to the Office of Advancement, Atlantic Union College, PO Box 1000, South Lancaster, MA 01561.

Thank you for your generous offering on November 29, 2003.

Thayer Performing Arts Center...

Paving the Way

When the Lord visits, it can sometimes turn a good vacation into a mission trip. Such was the case when Paul Bernet and his wife, Marian, took their annual trip north to South Lancaster to visit their daughter Debbie Gifford. What started out as a relaxing visit with family and old friends quickly became a personal mission for Paul. Every day for one week Paul drove Debbie to work at the Thayer Performing Arts Center at Atlantic Union College, picked her up for lunch, took her back and picked her up for dinner. Every day that Paul drove up the driveway to drop Debbie at the front door he would ponder how a driveway got in such bad condition—there were potholes everywhere—and what could be done about it?

Paul knew the school was struggling financially, so understood that it might not be a priority to replace the driveway, but what could he do? After days of coming and going over the torn up

driveway Paul prayed to the Lord about what could be done, and the answer came in a resounding voice. “Paul,” the Lord said, “fix it!” And so went the long quiet days of vacation lingering over conversation with family and friends.

Paul began in earnest, before leaving Lancaster, to contact friends of his that might be interested in helping to see the driveway replaced. And, because he is Paul, he decided that it wasn't enough to just raise the necessary \$30,000.00 to do the job right. It had to be done before school started in August. This meant that, in less than 2 months, all the money had to be in hand or it would be a “no go” for the job. It was then that the Lord put the name of Houston and Margarita Merriman in Paul's head and as he visited with them he knew that they, with the Lord's help, would have a major impact on the fund raising task. Houston and Margarita became the New England team with Paul working



Paul and Marian Bernet recognized that the driveway at the Thayer Performing Arts Center needed to be replaced and they made it happen.

hard from Florida. And Paul says with enthusiasm, “The money they needed was in hand by July 29!”

The project was met with such enthusiasm, including the involvement of Randy Gifford and many other volunteers working weekends, donating time, equipment, and their expertise, that the driveway is paved. There are parking lots, light fixtures are being installed, and there is a beautiful stone piazza in the front of the house with a



As Paul Bernet drove his daughter to work each day he pondered what to do about the driveway.



Workers brought in equipment to complete the task of replacing the driveway.



Margarita and Huston Merriman are part of the New England team.

stone sidewalk to the parking areas. Paul's initiative is best captured in a quote from former U.S.

president, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, "Some people see things as they are and say "so what," others see things as they might be and say " why not!"

Paul Bernet says, "If you visit AUC and see something that needs doing, don't go home and complain about it. Set a plan in motion to help fix the problem!" Dr. George Babcock, president of Atlantic Union College, says smiling, "What project can we get him to work on next? Thanks to all who have made this project such a success story!" ☺

Linda Gay writes from South Lancaster, Massachusetts where she is associate director for advancement and Thayer Restoration coordinator at Atlantic Union College.



The repaired driveway now includes a stone piazza in the front of the building.

AUC's Million Dollar Scholarship Fund, *Poised to Make a Difference*

At this crucial moment in the history of Atlantic Union College, the board of trustees, faculty and staff, and the Atlantic Union Conference family have joined together to launch one of the most significant fund-raising drives for the college. Under the personal leadership of the board chairman, Donald G. King, with a select team of board members, college faculty and staff, community personnel, alumni, and 100 committee leaders across North America, a goal has been established to raise \$1.1 million over the next three years.

The purpose for launching this campaign is premised on four reasons:

1) The need for a significant infusion of funds for student financial aid scholarship assistance.

2) The need to immediately provide for capital improvements, especially directed to our physical plant.

3) The need to urgently improve our endowment fund, which helps in the furtherance of our mission.

4) To demonstrate to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), the accrediting body of the college, our intent to establish financial stability for the college.

There will be careful management of this fund, which has been placed in a specially created account at the college with the funds restricted to the above use. Eighty percent of the funds are being dedicated to scholarships, ten percent to capital improvements, and ten percent to the endowment. Also, a centralized receipting system has been

arranged for donors to receive their tax-deductible receipts by mail. Communication will be maintained with all contributors in which they will be told of the progress of the fund and the progress the college is making from the fund.

Over its history Atlantic Union College has graduated some of the best and brightest leaders across America and the world. It is continuing with this tradition without compromising its spiritual mission and its vision to help those students, who are economically challenged, some of whom are first generation college students.

To learn more about the Atlantic Union College Million Dollar Scholarship Fund, contact the office of the chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees, at (978) 368-8333. ☺

Greater New York Conference holds Commissioning Service

The Greater New York Conference Education Department held its 2003 Teaching Commissioning Service on Saturday, September 13 at the United Camp Meeting. Leon Thomassian, treasurer for the Atlantic Union, was the keynote speaker. Thomassian charged the teachers to give the students their best because, when they give their best, it will come back to them. Astrid Thomassian, associate director of education for the Atlantic Union, led out in the litany and commitment. Bordes Henry Saturné, superintendent of schools for the Greater New York Conference, presented the four candidates to be commissioned.

Belinda Marie Edwards is a product of Adventist education. Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, she



attended the Brooklyn Seventh-day Adventist School from 1980-1988. It was there, through her teachers, that she first learned of the love of Christ. After graduating from Erasmus Hall High School in 1992, she returned to Adventist education by attending Atlantic Union College. She graduated in 1997 with a bachelor of science in elementary education and psychology. Since then, Edwards has served at the Bronx-Manhattan Seventh-day Adventist School as a teacher in the first, sixth, and second grades. She is also near the completion of her master's degree from AUC. Belinda wishes to extend her gratitude to God, her mother—for countless hours of help, supportive family and friends, her teachers—whose dedication inspired her to become an educator, past and present co-workers at the Bronx-Manhattan school, Helen Meade, Carolyn Kearbey, and her

students for their patience, understanding, and love.

Bevan McKenna was born in the beautiful twin-island Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. She is the second of three children born into a devoted Seventh-day Adventist home. While she and her siblings were quite young her parents instilled in them the importance of Christian education, and as such, McKenna attended Seventh-day Adventist schools from the elementary to tertiary level. She obtained her baccalaureate degree from Andrews University and has served in Seventh-day Adventist elementary education for all but two years of her career. McKenna was privileged to serve both in the Caribbean and the United States. At present, she is the sixth grade homeroom teacher at the Bronx-Manhattan school, where she also teaches language arts and reading in the upper grades. She says that she finds great joy in teaching, and a greater joy when that teaching occurs in Seventh-day Adventist schools. She thanks God for every opportunity she has been given to prepare youngsters for this world and for the kingdom of God.

Trenton R. Hamidan serves as the religion teacher and chaplain of Greater New York Academy. This is his seventh



year in that challenging, yet exciting position. He is originally from Guyana, South America, and has traveled extensively for the purposes of study and adventure. He holds a bachelor's degree in theology and a master's in education. He will imminently embark on the pursuit of a still more advanced degree. His wife, Guitelle, is in the medical ministry and his two daughters, Shakeena and Samantha, attend Jackson Heights Seventh-day Adventist School, where he serves as

school board chairman. His passion is to teach and preach the gospel and to impact young lives for Jesus.

Reymelinda Villaruel is married to Ephraim Maristela Villaruel with two children, Prime Daniel and Shaina Dale. She



graduated from Southern Luzon Polytechnic College, Lucban, Quezon in the Philippines in March 1993 with a bachelor of science in secondary education, majoring in math. Right after graduation she was hired to teach Math Grades 1-6, and first to third year high school at Los Banos Science School in Laguna for a year. After passing the board exam she was hired at Caigdal National High School in Unisan Quezon to teach math, values education, technology and home economics for four years. She came to United States in August 1997 with her son, Prime Daniel to join her husband. She stayed at home for few months to take care of her son while taking a course in early childhood management. She intended to run her own Day Care Center but one day was impressed by the Holy Spirit to apply to the Jackson Heights Seventh-day Adventist School as a kindergarten aide. After a year she was hired as a kindergarten teacher where she has remained to the present. She likes being with children and helping to lovingly mold them into the image of God.

Alanzo Smith, correspondent GNYC

OFFICIAL NOTICE
Greater New York Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will hold a special Constituency Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 7, 2003, at the First Ghana Seventh-day Adventist Church located at 45 Goble Place, Bronx, NY 10451. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss matters relating to the Adventist Nursing Home and to deal with any other matters that might be duly brought before the constituency.

Dionisio Olivo, President
G. Earl Knight, Executive Secretary

2002-2003 News Clips from the GNYC Education Department

South Bay's First Kindergarten Graduation

The South Bay school opened its doors in September 2002 in Babylon Village, Long Island, New York. It's first kindergarten graduation ceremony was held in June 2003.



Pictured from left to right are Harry Montello, Daniel Zabaleta, pastor, Veronica Quinones, principal, Lorna Sterling, teacher, and Dilcia Gonzalez, graduation speaker. The graduates are Karen Campos, Josua Gonzalez, and Danny Reyes.



Saluting the flag at the beginning of the celebration are representatives from the Greater New York Conference, and Atlantic Union College, with students (front row) Victoria Tuckett, Lisa Escobar, and Kisha Romain (not seen).

Education Department's 2003 Expo-Concert

The Sixth Conference-wide Expo-Concert was sensational with the participation of eleven schools and an audience of about 1,000 people. It was held at the Bronx High School of Science on March 23, 2003.



The North Bronx church drum corps' performance was very impressive.



Pearl River school students playing Pachelbel's "Canon."

Dr. Bordes Henry Saturné, superintendent of schools Greater New York Conference



The "Sounds of Noah," based on the theme "Endangered Species," was performed by the Oakview Preparatory school.



Pastor Bill Hrovat prays with the children before they go into the tabernacle for the evening meeting.

Hrovat Speaks at Dempster Grove Camp Meeting

"Do you think your pastor would speak at our camp meeting?" was the question I was asked by Carolyn McKay, a parish nurse for the Penneville Methodist Church and a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, New York, where I also work. "I'm sure he would," I quickly responded. That is how Bill Hrovat, pastor of the Westvale church, became the speaker on Thursday evening, August 21 at the 129th annual Dempster Grove Camp Meeting in New Haven, New York, near Lake Ontario.

Dempster Grove, which is now designated as a historic Methodist site, has been the home for the



Joan Payne from the Westvale church seen here with Penneville Methodist church's Carolyn McKay, vice president of the Dempster Grove Association.

Methodist camp meeting for years. Still owned by the Methodist Conference, it has now turned into the Dempster Grove Association with a yearly ecumenical camp meeting with people of all faiths from all over the United States attending for the week.

The theme for this year's camp meeting was "God's Wonderful Grace." Pastor Hrovat preached a very powerful message on God's grace that evening. He also told the children's story. After the service one of the Methodist pastors told me I should be very proud of my pastor. Yes, the Westvale church is blessed to have Bill Hrovat for their pastor and thank the Lord for sending him to Westvale.

*Joan Payne, communication secretary
Westvale church*

Pulaski Church Celebrates 100th Anniversary

The Pulaski church was organized in 1877 and for 26 years members met in different homes until 1903

when the church was built. In commemoration of their one hundred years, Pulaski church members were blessed with a Sabbath message on August 3 presented by Steve Gallimore, president of the New York

Conference. Gallimore shared information with the members about Jesus, their surety and hope for salvation. His wife, Charé, shared a beautiful song, "He is wonderful."

On August 23 the church was filled once again as Pastor

Herb Coe and his wife, Marie, shared memories of the seven years they spent in the Pulaski church from 1977-1984. Pastor Coe's sermon was entitled "Hang in There." Eunice Weber read the history of how the early church started in 1877 and the church was built in 1903. Judy and Aleesha Tremper, mother and daughter, presented "Change My Heart O Lord." They did sign language to this song. Randy LaCelle and Aleesha Tremper played their guitars to "Amazing Grace." Sabbath school was made special as Donna Detor, featured the woman at the well. Guests from Governour, Natural Bridge, Saratoga Springs, Mont Alto, Pa., Camden, New York, and other areas joined in the commemoration.



Herb and Marie Coe shared memories of the seven years they spent at the Pulaski church.



Randy LaCelle and Aleesha Tremper played "Amazing Grace" on their guitars.

Pulaski is just a little lighthouse but will shine till Jesus comes and welcome all to visit.

*Doreen Weeden, communication secretary
Pulaski church*

**William Miller
Chapel 49th Annual
Commemoration Service**

The William Miller Home and Farm, located in upstate New York was the birthplace of the Adventist movement in America. It was on this farm that William Miller worked

to support his family as well as cover his expenses in later years when he went out preaching. Miller believed that scripture "is its own interpreter, and that the words ought to be understood literally, except in those instances where the writer used figurative language." He placed a great emphasis on the 2300 day prophecy, and he, with other believers, concluded that in about 1843-1844 the Lord would return. During his life, there was no church organization that held his beliefs. He considered himself to be a Baptist preacher. Miller died on December 20, 1849, and nine years later his followers organized the American Millennial Association, later known as Evangelical Adventists. Other churches sprouted from this early movement, including the Advent Christian Church and the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Each year the
New York

Conference hosts an annual commemoration service. The speaker this year was Denis Fortin, associate professor of theology at Andrews University Theological Seminary. The local churches in the area provided Sabbath school, along with prayer, offerings, and music. New York Conference president, Steven Gallimore, welcomed those who traveled from far and near. The youth Sabbath school, under the direction of Gary Bombard, worshiped and studied on "Ascension Rock." It was on this location, overlooking mountains covering two states, that our forefathers (and mothers) longingly awaited the Lord's return and survived the historical "Great Disappointment" of October 22, 1844.

Charé Gallimore, correspondent NYC



Steven Gallimore, president of the New York Conference with Denis Fortin, associate professor of theology at Andrew University Theological Seminary.

**100th Anniversary
Commemoration**

**Saranac Lake Church
November 14-15**

Vespers

Friday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Organ Concert featuring Carl Hackert, organist at Rensselaer Polytech Institute in Troy, New York, on the new Allen organ.

Sabbath School and Worship

Saturday, November 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Speaker

William Fagal
Associate Director
Ellen G. White Estate

Afternoon

Musical Program
Featuring the Union Springs Choir

For more information
Call Marilyn Kempton at (518) 359-3249.

As we move forward into our second century of being a "light upon the hill" we ask for your prayers and hope you enjoy the weekend with us in the heart of the beautiful Adirondack Mountains and lakes—a little taste of heaven!



A local group touched the congregation with their music.

Adventists Participate in NYC 9-11 Ceremonies

Bill Bremner, Greater New York Conference community services and television ministries director, Iris Szoboszlai, veteran community services worker, and Clement A. Murray, Northeastern Conference communication, Sabbath school and public affairs and religious liberty director, were among a selected group who were asked to serve as part of the honor guards at "Ground Zero" during the second anniversary remembrance of the September 11, 2001, World Trade Center, Pentagon, and Western Pennsylvania terrorist attacks.

The three Adventists joined approximately 300 civilians and uniformed officials representing a cross section of society. An impressive number of uniformed services were part of the honor guards including the principal branches of the Military, New York Police Department, Fire Department of New York, Corrections, Parks, Courts, Environmentalists, Public, State Troopers, County Policemen, EMS, EMT, Public Works, Buildings, Metro Transit and others representing New York, adjacent states and municipalities from as far away as Texas, Canada, Florida, and California.

The guards were divided into four groups, A, B, C, and D, which lined the perimeter of the enclosed



Bill Bremner, Iris Szoboszlai, and Clement Murray served as part of the honor guards at Ground Zero.

area which has become known as the "pit"—the actual dust-carved bedrock floor where Towers 1 and 2 formerly stood. The perimeter was outlined by a fence on which hung large 4-foot square paintings made by children of the 9-11 victims. The honor guards stood in thirty minute shifts from 8:30 a.m. when the program began to its conclusion at 1:30 p.m.

The actual program took place at street level and included a recitation of the names of each of the 2,892 victims by their children, interspersed with speeches by officials including New York City



Officers from the British police lined the ramp leading down to the pit.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, former mayor, Rudolph Giuliani, New York Governor George Pataki, senators Charles Schumer and Hillary Rodham Clinton, and others.

Perhaps the most sobering sight was the unbroken stream of victims' family members, many clutching pictures and small bouquets of flowers that descended the 1000-foot ramp and extended from street level down some seven stories to the bedrock floor of the pit. The ramp was lined by an impressive phalanx of neatly dressed police officers from London, England.



Many sank to the dust in tears while some built little altars from mounds of dirt that they ringed with flowers and adorned with photographs and candles.

There was a noticeable difference from last year in the tenor of the service as well as the demeanor of the attendees. Perhaps it is the lapse in time, the additional year to process the pain, and the sense of senseless loss of life. Or perhaps it is because there is currently so much discussion and debate over what should be built on this site hallowed by so much innocent blood. The fear voiced by many is that commercialism and the making of money will ultimately take precedence or be deemed more important than the preservation of the memory of the innocent lives lost at that site. The mood was more reserved and reflective. The passion was still there.

However, many sank to the dust in tears or tearfully held onto family members. Some built little altars from mounds of dirt that they ringed with flowers and later adorned with photographs and candles. Spontaneous shrines also sprang up along the perimeter wall of paintings, and the sound of weeping could be clearly heard during the frequent moments of silence that dotted the ceremonies.

The scene was sobering and surreal. September 11 seemed at once eminent and transcendent, far away and yet very near. This year the city didn't seem to focus so much on the day, the plans, or the towers. Somehow, it was all about the people, the lives lived, and the loves lost. And perhaps it was a bit

ironic particularly to those of us who understand the doctrine of the state of the dead that so many of the youthful readers of the names of the fallen ended their recitation with the words "I love you Mom," "Dad," "Auntie," or "Uncle" as though the departed loved ones could hear what was going on some two years later.

As we stood there, we were drawn to thoughts of our own Adventist brothers and sisters who lost their lives on that day. We understood that the dead could not now hear those statements of love and affection, but we were comforted by the truth that "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we

which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words"—1 Thessalonians 4:16.

Clement A. Murray, correspondent NEC

The King is Coming Evangelistic Series

History was made when the Solid Rock Seventh-day Adventist Church, the Queens Federation of Adventist Youth, and the Northeastern Conference Youth Ministries Department joined forces together to prepare for and conduct the "King is Coming" Evangelistic Series. For three weeks, July 6-26, Evangelist Raymond G. Alcock preached with power, clari-

ty, and conviction the truths of the Bible. Miracles were wrought and twenty-five precious individuals were converted and have joined the remnant family.

Hats off to Pastor Baldwin Barnes, the various coordinators, elders, members of Solid Rock church, the conference youth directors, and officers of the Queens Federation of Adventist Youth for their dedication and commitment to involving youth in their programs. The youth have again proven that if they are allowed to participate in the mission, message, and management of the church, God can do great things through them. Stay tuned for the next evangelistic series conducted and led by youth of the Northeastern Conference.

*Newton Cleghorne, youth director
Northeastern Conference*

Beacon Light Tabernacle Church Dedicates New Building

Mother nature could not have provided a more beautiful Sabbath for the official opening of the Beacon Light Tabernacle church in Wappingers Falls, New York, on September 6, 2003.

The weekend of celebration and the sunny autumn-like day seemed a fitting end to what had been several days of clouds and rain. The sanctuary, designed to seat about four hundred people was filled to capacity with members, guests, and friends who had come to celebrate the opening of the beautiful, neat, country church which sits on some five plus acres of manicured and lightly wooded land.

The celebration began with a Friday evening serv-

ice at which former pastor Gilbert Foster spoke. The worship service was reserved for former pastor and founder George Sampson, whose vision and prayerful guidance birthed the fledgling congregation back in 1972. During the morning service Doice Hill read a history of the congregation whose nomadic existence came to an end with the building of the beautiful air conditioned church which includes a fellowship hall which is also for children Sabbath school classes as well as social functions. Special recognition was also given to Earl McKinney for his tireless effort on behalf of the church.

The Sabbath afternoon service featured a concert and the weekend was capped by a Sunday morning dedication service which was well attended by church members and local public officials.

Larry Bailey, secretary of the Northeastern Conference and Clement Murray, communication director for the conference gave remarks. Notes of commendation were read from former pastor Tony Taylor who now serves in Florida, Pastor Kyram John who serves in Guam and Pastor Eddie Kinley, currently a chaplain in the army, stationed in Korea. Other pastors who were recognized as former pastors of the church were Reginald Washington, Farrell Jones, Trevor O'Rreggio, Martin Benjamin and the current pastor Earl Liburd.

Liburd pledged to assist the members as they endeavor to fill the church that so many have labored to construct.

C. A. Murray, correspondent NEC



Members, guests, friends celebrated the dedication of the New Beacon Light Tabernacle church on September 6.

Adventists in Bermuda Assist in the Clean-up Efforts in the Aftermath of

HURRICANE FABIAN

Hurricane Fabian will be remembered as the strongest hurricane to make a direct hit on the islands of Bermuda in more than fifty years. Packing winds of approximately 120 miles per hour when it hit Bermuda around 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 5, Hurricane Fabian lashed the island for more than eight hours, knocking out power, ripping off parts of roofs, blowing in windows and doors and, in some cases, destroying roads through sea erosion. Several hotels were damaged and closed for repairs. Parts of the island most devastated include the causeway leading to the Bermuda International Airport and the area near John Smith's Bay where the road was completely impassable. The walls along the causeway were washed away in the early hours of the hurricane. By Saturday morning when the sun rose there was a gentle breeze blowing over the chaotic scene.

The damage caused by the hurricane has been estimated at around \$60 million. There was minimal loss of life with four missing and presumed dead after their cars were swept off the causeway. The exact intensity of the hurricane winds at the height of the storm are not known since the recording



South Shore Road, Smiths Parish between John Smith's Bay and Watch Hill Park, taken out by Hurricane Fabian.



Community Services director Marion Pearman from the Pembroke church helps cook up a great meal.

equipment broke when winds reached 143 miles per hour. Later it was reported from another source that the highest winds were recorded at 150 miles per hour.

As residents on the island began the cleanup effort, Adventists in Bermuda were mobilized into action to assist in the area around their churches. According to Errol McLean, community services director for the Bermuda Conference, the St. George's church became a helping center for shelter and food for those on the east end of the island.



This tree, like several others, was uprooted during the storm.

The church is located in the parish that was literally cut off from the rest of the island when the hurricane took out the only road connecting them to the airport and islands to the west. “The church was also struck and had roof damage, but this did not stop them from being an asset to the community during this time of need,” McLean said.

Churches on the other parts of the island opened their doors to assist residents by providing food, shelter, and shower facilities for those who had no running water. Members assisted others in the community helping place tarpaulin on their roofs to prevent any further damage. Some pastors and members joined forces and assisted with

Dorothy Tucker from the Devonshire church helps in preparation of the meals that were served to neighbors and workers.



Hurricane Fabian left its mark damaging the roof on several houses in the Loyal Hill, Devonshire Parish.

roof repairs. Members also opened their homes to allow neighbors to take showers, cook, wash clothes, and even sleep. Pastor Mike Faison tells of going up and down his street having prayer with those who came out of their homes to share testimonies of God’s goodness.

The name of the Adventist church rang loud and clear on local radio talk shows as a church that came to the aid of the community when in trouble. On the Sabbath following the storm the radio program “Adventists in Focus,” presented individuals with an opportunity to share what the Lord had done for them during the hurricane.

Hurricane Fabian is a storm that will not soon be forgotten, but out of that moment of crisis Adventists in Bermuda truly exemplified what improving “quality of life” is all about—helping in time of need, even though their backs were also against the wall. Adventists on the island will continue to assist where needed while the cleanup continues. ☺

D. Randolph Wilson writes from Bermuda where he is the communication director for the Bermuda Conference.



Surf erosion cut through this portion of the road along the South Shore, Smith's Parish near John Smith's Bay.



Better Health for Everyone!

Adventist Health Study-2

Loma Linda University has received a five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to conduct Adventist Health Study-2 (AHS-2). The study will involve 125,000 church members from across the nation. It will build on the achievements of previous Adventist Health Studies and explore further how diet and lifestyle affect risk of cancer and other chronic diseases and quality of life.

Earlier Adventist Health Studies were conducted in 1960 and 1976. The 1976 study included 34,000 Californian Adventists. These earlier studies showed that Adventists live longer than non-Adventists and have a much lower risk of heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, prostate and colon cancer, arthritis and other disease.

This new longitudinal study will explore further how diet and lifestyle affect the risk of cancer and other chronic diseases and influence quality of life.

Significance of AHS-2

- This study will be one of the best, largest, and most exciting health studies ever designed.
- It will have tremendous potential to make significant discoveries in health during the next 15 years if large numbers are enrolled now.
- It will broaden the opportunity for Adventists across the entire country to participate in health research.
- It will have national importance and international significance in numerous circles (scientific, government, community, medical/health providers, and religious).
- It will help answer the many unanswered questions about the causes and prevention of cancer (particularly prostate and breast cancer) and heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's, and other diseases.
- It will increase the understanding of the benefits of healthy eating. It is estimated that 40 percent of cancers could be prevented by a proper diet.
- Clear some of the controversy surrounding the role of soy in the diet.
- It will evaluate the interaction of heredity and lifestyle factors in the promotion of health.

- It will be one of the largest health studies ever of African Americans/blacks.

It will help explain why African Americans/blacks have disproportionate amount of cancers and heart disease.

The Plan

The enrollment of 125,000 participants requires the involvement of practically all the English-speaking churches in the nation and a good response rate from the members.

During 2002-2005 the major focus is on enrollment of members and collection of baseline data.

We need 80,000 members (35 years or age and older) from non-black, English-speaking churches and 45,000 African American/black members (30 years of age and older). Non-Adventist regular church attendees are also invited to participate. (Because of language and cultural diet issues we will not be directly targeting ethnic churches, however, any ethnic member in an English-speaking church will be included, and any member in an ethnic church who is fluent in English can participate).

AHS-2 has two strategies for promotion and recruitment.

- 1) A progressive rollout which started in California in 2002 and going conference by conference, church by church across the country. This will be a more personal approach.
- 2) A national campaign—church media, ADVENTIST REVIEW, union papers, etc., where members can enroll by mail or via a toll free number or on the Internet.

A questionnaire is mailed directly to the enrollee, who, upon completion of the questionnaire, mails it directly to the AHS-2 office in the postage-paid envelope provided.

An annual AHS-2 newsletter and report will be sent to participants and every two years there will be a brief follow-up questionnaire.

If you would like to receive more information regarding the Adventist Health Study-2 you can: (1) fill out the form inserted between pages 16 and 17 of this issue, (2) call toll-free 1-877-700-7077, (3) go online at: www.adventisthealthstudy.org, (3) write to Adventist Health Study-2, Evans Hall Room 203, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA 92354, or (4) contact the health ministries director in your local church.

Farewell

to Kim and Ann Johnson

Best-selling author, associate treasurer, inspiring and illustrative preacher, supportive confidante to church members, and faithful helpmate for over three decades, Kim Allan Johnson left Northern New England Conference (NNEC) in October to become the undertreasurer for the Florida Conference with membership exceeding fifty thousand. His wife Ann, who has been Kim's inspiration, his partner in accounting and mom to their adult daughter, Stefanie, will be joining him shortly.

Kim graduated from the Andrews University Seminary with a master of divinity in 1973. He began his ministry as an associate pastor the following January in Southern New England Conference and soon became district pastor from 1975 to 1981. He then relocated to Northern New England Conference and pastored the Portland, Freeport, and Cliff Island churches until 1984 when he became auditor and then computer operator. He became assistant treasurer in 1986 and served as associate treasurer from 1987 to present.

Efficient in treasury, his passion is also displayed in his writing skills. His pen has been inspired by the Holy Spirit in his books, *THE GIFT* and *THE MORNING*. His publications received accolades from Pacific Press Publishing Association, and scores of testimonies from his readers. Changed lives, hopeful hearts, and a re-connection with Christ testify of his God-given talents.

The average Adventist has heard hundreds of sermons and read scores of books. Most of the information is forgotten or neglected. Not the situation when you hear or read Kim's sharing. One woman stated, "I remember

many, perhaps most of Kim's sermons during the past ten to fifteen years. They are alive with illustrations I've never forgotten."

Not only has Kim shared his talents in NNEC, he has held seminars throughout North America. His program, "Spiritual Body Building," has stirred the hearts of listeners to become more sensitive to community awareness and the power of Christianity within and without the church.

Ann was a stay-at-home mom until their daughter went to school. She was hired by NNEC to work in treasury, auditing the local church financial statements. She soon became a full-time employee as accountant in the conference office.

It is with sadness of our loss, yet anticipation of what God will do, that NNEC says farewell to Kim and Ann. This remarkably talented and dedicated couple are wholly committed to Christ. Friends in

the Northern New England Conference and the Atlantic Union, and there are many, will miss you dearly. We pray you will continue to "grow in grace" and "in favor with God and man." Farewell, Kim and Ann.

Lynn Ortel, correspondent NNEC



Secrets of the Vine

"These weekends keep getting better and better. When you leave from a previous year, you think, 'nothing can top this year.' Guess what? Each year gets more and more spiritual."

"I wouldn't miss this weekend for anything!"

"It's worth all the hassle and long travels to be enriched and experience this great fellowship."

These are some of the numerous positive comments from more than 120 attendees to the Northern New England Conference Women's Retreat held September 5-7 at Camp Lawroweld, in Weld, Maine, reported Debi Verrill, co-coordinator.

More than forty women volunteers from all over Northern New England Conference pulled their energies and talents

Attendees to the "Secrets of the Vine" Women's Retreat were encouraged, affirmed, and refreshed.



together to transform picturesque Camp Lawroweld into a life-giving vineyard. Sharing the "Secrets of the Vine," Kelly Veilleux, outgoing Women's Ministry leader for the NNEC, served succulent grapes during her presentations, a tasty reminder of Jesus' relevance in our lives. Early morning worships by Crystal Holden, focused on creative ideas for a relevant devotional life.

Elizabeth Boyd led in a powerful prayer service, where the women were refreshed as they informally, yet inspirationally lifted their petitions to God. "I never thought I could pray for that long and not go to sleep and feel so refreshed! Those 45 minutes just flew by!" one guest commented.

The delicious meals (including vegan options) were prepared by Lorraine Mathers. Even 80-

Energetic and dedicated youth shared their testimonies and participated in the retreat.



This backdrop was a part of the setting at the women's retreat.

something year old, Clara Jobe, helped decorate for Sabbath lunch. Louise Sanders hauled her motor home, filled with decorations, to create a warm and welcome atmosphere.

The NNEC Xtreme Teens, an active training ministry for youth, concurrently held their own retreat at one of the camp's lodges, with Laura Paise moderating. These energetic, dedicated youth shared their testimonies, offered prayer vigils, and provided special music for the group at large.

Plans are already being made for a prayerful, spiritually relevant Women's Retreat for September 10-12, 2004. Come and enjoy the fun!

Lynn Ortel, correspondent NNEC



**MUSIC CLINIC
2004**

April 1-3, 2004

Applications due December 1, 2003,
for early registration

Final Application deadline March 1, 2004

**ART CLINIC
2004**

January 29-31, 2004

Applications due January 9, 2004

Applications available online at www.nnec.org or contact the
NNEC Education Department at 207-797-3760, ext. 13.

SNEC News Briefs

Ordination at Joint Worship Service

The Peniel Haitian church in Cambridge, Massachusetts, held a joint worship service on September 27 with the Lowell Haitian church at which four individuals were ordained: Moise Pierre as elder; Micel Gelin, Alvarez Louis, Jean-Pierre Louis Charles, and Ricardo Mehu as deacons. Accompanying them at the ordination were their wives. Pastor Yves Francis officiated at the service.

Church Clerk's Training Workshop

The Southern New England Conference sponsored a Church Clerk's Training Workshop on Sunday, September 28 led by Esther Toussaint and April Montoya. The new denominational computer software for church clerks was introduced. The workshop was well attended.

New Beginnings Evangelistic Meetings

Dr. Donald G. King, president of the Atlantic Union Conference, joined the Southern New England Conference in conducting evangelistic meetings in Lincoln, Rhode Island. More than seventy evangelistic series occurred in Southern New England as part of their first annual "A World to Win" evangelism thrust, the vision of former conference president Hal Thomsen to evangelize the thirteen million people in Southern New England. King is pictured



with Whitford Shaw, pastor of the Lincoln church.

A Dream Come True

The Lincoln, Rhode Island, church had a dream come true. This fall the church opened a new church school with twenty-five students. Pictured are teachers Laura Smith and Gloris Shaw. The church spent \$80,000 to bring their building up to code to house the new school.



Evangelistic Outreach to People of Chinese Background

A Boston area evangelistic outreach to people of Chinese background was held August 15-25 in Quincy, Mass. Tiffany Tan, outreach worker to Boston Chinese and Rollin Shoemaker, pastor of the Boston Temple planned the meetings with speaker and author, Samuel Wang of Tennessee. The meetings resulted in one baptism and several individuals interested in Bible studies. As preparation for the meetings a Vacation Bible School (VBS) took place several weeks before. Pictured are children from the VBS singing a song for the evangelistic meeting.



Frank Tochtermann, correspondent SNEC

Reconnecting Ministries Training Held at the College Church

The first of nine training conferences on Reconnecting Ministries took place September 13, 2003, at the College Church in South Lancaster, Mass. In major studies done by Adventist researchers, 72 percent of active church members say they have a relative or friend who used to attend the Adventist church. Sponsored by the North

American Division (NAD) for members across the Atlantic Union, the one-day event included a variety of activities for those who are interested in reaching out to members who are inactive. Three people shared their experiences of reconnecting with the Adventist church. The worship service focused on the resurrection of Jesus and His reconnection with God and His disciples.

With the theme "Bind Us Together," the afternoon session

included an introduction to Reconnecting Ministries for the NAD. A responsive reading titled "The Ministry of Reconciliation" was created for this event. Paul Richardson, coordinator of Reconnecting Ministries for NAD, taught a seminar on "Creating Safe Places for Returning Members," while Norma Sahlin, communication director for the Center for Creative Ministry, led a seminar on "Listening from the Heart." The afternoon concluded with a

presentation on "Ten Steps to Reconnecting," and a time of prayer led by Patrick Morrison, senior pastor at the College Church. Musical interludes throughout the afternoon featured songs such as "Amazing Grace" and "Just as I Am."

"During this event we raised awareness of ways to make our congregations safe places to which people can return after taking a break from church," states Paul Richardson. "We know from listening to people talk that the Holy Spirit didn't give up on them. We need to pray for them and offer friendship."

Elizabeth Castle, pastor for outreach and training at the College Church, praised God for opportunity to meet with people from other churches throughout the Atlantic Union to create a network that will undertake the ministry of reconciliation outlined in 2 Corinthians 5:18-20.

Details about upcoming Reconnecting Ministries training events across North America can be found on the website of the Center for Creative Ministry, a resource center for the North American Division. The center also conducts research for various organizations and provides information, consultants and trainers for local churches. Check the center's website at www.creativeministry.org or call 1-800-272-4664.

*Norma Sahlin, communication director
Center for Creative Ministry*

YOU ARE INVITED TO

The Southern New England
Conference Office
Fall Open House
Sunday, November 23
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- Tour the office.
- Visit with conference officers, departmental directors and other office personnel.
- Enjoy fellowship and getting better acquainted with your church.
- Have some refreshments and let the children choose a holiday surprise!
- And shop at the

Annual Holiday Sale
at the

Adventist Book Center

Office and ABC located at
34 Sawyer Street, So. Lancaster, Mass.

For additional information
Call 978.365.4551
or the ABC at 978.365.6376
or 800.435.0008

**GBA Blocks Out Schedule
for 2003-2004 School Year**

When new Edgewood and Greater Boston Academy principal, Jerrell Gilkeson, started talking about scheduling for the new school year, he didn't mean the typical academy schedule. He meant "block" scheduling, one of several cutting edge academic concepts Gilkeson brought to the table during post school week.

According to research, more than 40 percent of high schools nationwide were using some form of block or alternative scheduling in 1996. By 2010 as many as 75 percent of schools will be using alternative schedules. There are many reasons for moving to a block schedule. Among them are:

- to increase the time students spend in quality learning situations,
- to encourage the use of a variety of instructional methods,
- to provide for more in-depth exploration of a topic,
- to improve school climate and decrease stress on teachers and students,
- to reduce the discipline problems,

- to accommodate different learning needs, and
- to focus on fewer subjects at one time.

The benefits range from giving students opportunities to broaden their higher order thinking skills by manipulating information and ideas, to having students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of concepts and content through alternative assessment. Students also engage in substantive conversations with one another and with their teachers to learn valuable research and organizational skills.

That is the theory, at least. Now that two months of school have passed, both students and teachers have had the opportunity to evaluate how this concept has translated into reality. Judging by the responses of most, the transition has been relatively easy. Students are enjoying the lighter homework loads—because of the every other day schedule, and teachers actually feel like they've accomplished something by the end of a class period.

The proof, as they say, is in the pudding. In this case, while not 100 percent perfect, there is far more to recommend it, and far fewer roadblocks, than was thought at first.

*Rondi Aastrup, English teacher,
vice principal, and recruiter
Greater Boston Academy*

YOUTH Relationships

I Am So Frustrated With Him!

Two years ago I met an amazing young man at my church. Over the last year I began to realize that he does not do the little things for me anymore and he rarely calls me. I've explained to him that the little things in a relationship count and that a telephone call at least three times a week isn't asking for much. I also tried to teach by example. Which also did not work. I am very frustrated and I have reached the point where I am reconsidering the continuation of our relationship because this means a lot to me. Do you have any suggestions as to what else I can do to help him improve our relationship?

I don't know what you mean by an "amazing young man." Can you identify what made him amazing to you? Nevertheless, we all operate from different levels based on our backgrounds. You must first understand that your level or what you are comfortable with might not be another person's comfort zone. That is why dating, defined as a period of getting to know someone of the opposite sex without having intimate physical contact, is so important. If you are in a relationship for a year and the young man is neglecting you by not participating in relationship building activities such as you have mentioned above, here are some issues or thoughts to ponder as you reconsider:

- ☛ Analyze the relationship to determine if it is a casual, growing or committed one. If it is a committed one and you have to constantly remind him of what you like or what makes you feel loved by him, is the relationship growing or stagnating?
- ☛ People in relationships most times tend to overlook little things that annoy them during friendship/courtship. They believe that they will be able to change each other after they get married. If you think you are frustrated now, think about what it will be like living in a house with that person for the rest of your life! Usually, people are motivated to make changes to impress or win the other person or to get what they want. After they have realized their goal they cease to be motivated or challenged.

- ☛ Many men do not like women to tell them what to do. Especially if these men are from cultures where men dominate and see the woman in a subservient role. Unfortunately, even some Christians have adopted this philosophy. It is a good idea to check this philosophy out with the individual you are interested in before getting involved emotionally with him.
- ☛ If someone is not happy or feels burdened doing something that the other person likes or feels is a building relationship activity, there is very little you can do to help him improve the relationship.

It would appear that this experience presents an opportunity to include others who are in the same situation in their relationship by suggesting that a seminar be conducted at your church dealing with the issue of "How to Build Relationships." Extend an invitation to the young man to attend. Another way would be to show a video on the subject and have a group discussion at the end. A third possibility would be to engage in discussion on the topic by utilizing this article and have members of the group share their thoughts on the subject. On a more personal level, as far as the individual is concerned, you could use this article to introduce a discussion with him. You might learn much about what his ideas, philosophy and intent are on the subject. Then you might be able to decide more fully if this is something you can live with for the rest of your life.

God bless you, and remember that God is interested in every aspect of our lives.

Lois King is a family life educator.

We would appreciate hearing from you. Send your questions and letters in response to the Youth & Relationships column to:

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¿Qué Está Pasando?

EN LA UNION DEL ATLANTICO

Escuela de Evangelismo para Pastores Hispánicos

Más de treinta pastores hispanos asistieron a la escuela de evangelismo llevada a cabo en la Iglesia Hispana de Corona en Queens, Nueva York. Del 29 de Septiembre hasta el 1^{er} de Octubre los pastores asistieron a una serie de seminarios de entrenamiento sobre evangelismo. Los presentadores de estos seminarios lo fueron el Dr. Armando Juárez, quien actualmente es el coordinador hispano de la Asociación de Utah-Nevada; el Pastor Hermes Tavera Bueno, evangelista y director del Instituto de Investigación Bíblica en la Asociación Central



Pastores que participaron de la escuela de evangelismo con los presentadores.

Dominicana; el Dr. Ramón Canals, director asociado del departamento ministerial en la Asociación de Oregon y el Pastor Alejandro Bullón, evangelista de "La Red 2003." Al completar las horas de entrenamiento requeridas,

los pastores recibieron una certificación. Ahora los pastores estarán mejor equipados para evangelizar en sus territorios.

Johanna Viteri, secretaria del Ministerio Hispano Unión del Atlántico

Seminario de Powerpoint 2000 para Pastores Hispánicos

Pastores Hispánicos viajaron a las oficinas de la Unión del Atlántico para participar de un Seminario de Powerpoint 2000, el cual se llevó a cabo el 4 y 5 de Agosto. En este evento de dos días, Sarah I. Kelly, la presentadora condujo un entrenamiento en el cual le enseñó a los pastores el uso de las pre-



Participantes del seminario (izquierda a derecha): René Quispe, Marco Rivas, Ramón Rodríguez, Johanna Viteri, Sarah I. Kelly, Roberto Reyna, Sergio Parra, Tulio Terrero, Gonzalo Monroy y Migdonio Rojas.

sentaciones de Powerpoint para utilización en sus sermones, servicios de canto y en presentaciones educativas como un método de cautivar el interés de su audiencia. La Sra. Kelly enseñó todos los niveles desde básico hasta avanzado.

Johanna Viteri, secretaria, Departamento de Ministerios Hispánicos Unión del Atlántico

Quoi de Neuf?

A TRAVERS L'ÉGLISE MONDIALE

Barbade: en réponse à de réels besoins, l'Église sponsorise des microentreprises

2 Septembre 2003, Bridgetown, Barbade [ANN] — Réagissant face à une économie accablée par le chômage et pour lutter contre les préjugés dont sont victimes les personnes observant le Sabbat, l'Église adventiste du septième jour vient de prendre une nouvelle initiative favorisant la création de petites entreprises et d'emplois pour les jeunes.

«Nous avons un taux de chômage qui atteint les 35 % et si on prend en compte en plus le Sabbat, on a affaire à un immense problème,» déclare le pasteur Clive Dottin, bon berger de cette nouvelle aventure qu'est l'Association des petites entreprises adventistes de la Caraïbe (Caribbean Adventist Small Business Association, ou CASBA).

Les objectifs retenus sont le développement de «Bargain Cities» (ou marchés communautaires) dans toute la Caraïbe, la formation au management et au marketing des jeunes désireux de fonder de petites entre-

prises et l'établissement d'un réseau d'import-export leur permettant de commercialiser leurs produits dans 25 territoires de l'archipel antillais.

CASBA s'est donné pour but de fonder 60 petites entreprises en deux ans. Onze l'ont été durant sa première semaine d'existence : cinq à la Trinité et Tobago et six à la Barbade.

Deux Bargain Cities fonctionnent désormais et cinq autres vont être mises sur pied.

Le pasteur Dottin dit que le moteur de cet effort est le désir d'essayer de faire plus pour les jeunes adultes que de seulement leur faire l'aumône.

«Il faut que nous soyons capable de motiver les jeunes pour qu'ils découvrent en eux-mêmes quels sont leurs talents et pour qu'ils créent et développent des entreprises basées sur ces talents, sans quoi l'Église deviendra un service social se contentant d'allouer de l'argent,» déclare-t-il.

«Après Pentecôte, il y eut une expérience de réseau... qui a facilité la satisfaction des besoins des gens,» continue Clive Dottin, se rappelant l'exemple de l'Église chrétienne primitive. «Je crois que si nous disons que

nous devons nous mettre au service des besoins des jeunes, il ne faut pas que ce ne soit qu'une proclamation faite du pupitre. Il y a dans le monde et dans l'Église des jeunes qui se trouvent impliqués dans toutes sortes de choses pas claires rien que pour gagner leur vie.»

C. Dottin explique que des Bargain Cities seront bientôt ouvertes en Guyana, à St. Lucie, à Antigua, à la Grenade, à la Trinité et Tobago, et que plusieurs seront ouvertes à temps pour un moment important de l'année, la saison des achats qui précède Noël, fin novembre et début décembre. Ensuite, un annuaire régional des membres de CASBA sera publié et on est en train de préparer un séminaire de formation qui fera bénéficier les jeunes entrepreneurs d'une certaine expertise.

«En avril prochain, aux environs de Pâques, nous allons sponsoriser un atelier en gestion et en marketing pour les petites entreprises, qui se tiendra à Trinidad, dit C. Dottin. Tous les dirigeants de petites entreprises y seront invités. Nous avons déjà recruté des hommes d'affaires expérimentés pour qu'ils y interviennent et nous y programmerons des formations en marketing, en gestion et en premiers pas en comptabilité. De plus, nous organiserons une Bargain City spéciale pour la durée de cet atelier, à titre d'expérience d'apprentissage.»

Bien que le projet CASBA n'en soit qu'à ses premiers pas, Clive Dottin dit qu'il a déjà suscité une réaction favorable des jeunes de l'Église.

«Si vous voyiez l'enthousiasme de gens de Trinidad qui n'avaient aucun espoir, et qui ressentent maintenant un espoir comme je n'en ai encore jamais vu. On sent de l'électricité dans l'air, un réel optimisme. L'Église doit injecter de l'espoir, par des moyens différents,» dit-il.

Mark A. Kellner

Adventist News Network

Traduction: Claude Fivel

Le président malgache s'invite à la conférence du ministère pour les femmes

2 Septembre 2003, Silver Spring, Maryland, États-Unis [ANN] — Tout récemment, alors qu'il survolait en hélicoptère le stade de Mahajanga, dans la grande île de Madagascar (Océan Indien), le président du pays, Marc Ravalomanana a été intrigué à la vue de 4 000 adventistes participant à un congrès des ministères pour les femmes de la région. Il a donc décidé de «venir voir» cette manifestation dont le thème était « Femmes victorieuses, unies dans le Christ.»

«Vous ne vous attendiez pas à me voir, mais Dieu lui n'a pas été surpris,» a déclaré le président malgache. «Vous voulez, mesdames, être victorieuses. Vous ne pouvez l'être par vous-mêmes, mais Dieu l'accomplira.»

En reconnaissance de l'engagement des femmes adventistes dans ce pays, M. Ravalomanana a promis un don personnel de 40 000 dollars, contribution à leurs efforts de lutte contre le SIDA.

E. Rasamoely

Adventist News Network

Traduction: Claude Fivel

BULLETIN BOARD

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Eastern Standard Time

December 2003	5	12	19	26
Bangor, ME	3:54	3:54	3:56	4:00
Portland, ME	4:04	4:04	4:06	4:10
Boston, MA	4:11	4:12	4:14	4:18
South Lancaster, MA	4:13	4:13	4:16	4:20
Pittsfield, MA	4:20	4:20	4:22	4:26
Hartford, CT	4:20	4:20	4:22	4:26
New York, NY	4:28	4:28	4:31	4:35
Albany, NY	4:19	4:20	4:22	4:26
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Syracuse, NY	4:29	4:29	4:32	4:36
Rochester, NY	4:35	4:35	4:37	4:41
Buffalo, NY	4:41	4:41	4:43	4:47
Hamilton, Bda	5:12	5:13	5:16	5:20

uation to Salli Jenks at Highland Academy.

The Bella Vista Hospital in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, will celebrate its 50th anniversary, March 11-14, 2004, and its administration is hereby inviting all its former missionaries, employees, and their families to this memorable celebration. Contact us by telephone (787) 652-6045, fax (787) 831-6315, or e-mail: btorrres@bvhp.com. Come and join us.

Out-of-Union

Events occurring outside the Atlantic Union territory

2004 North American Division Youth Ministries Leadership Convention — Denver, Colorado — February 19-22.— Adams Mark Hotel & Convention Center. Join 4000 Pastors, Youth, Pathfinder, Adventurer, Master Guide, Young Adult, Campus, and Camp Ministries leaders for all levels of leadership training. Theme: "Stand Still... See God's Salvation." For more information visit: www.adventistyouthministries.org.

Highland Academy Alumni — Are you an alumnus of Highland Academy or its forerunner, Fountain Head Rural School, in Portland, Tennessee? Plan now to attend the 2004 Alumni Weekend, April 2 and 3. The theme is "Memories for Eternity." Honor classes include 1939, 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, and 1999. For more information, check the Highland Academy Alumni web site at www.highland-alumni.com. The Academy and the Alumni Association are working together to develop an up-to-date mailing list. E-mail your name, maiden name, address, phone number, and year of grad-

Union College Homecoming Weekend, April 1-4, 2004. All alumni, friends, and former faculty are invited to The Light Still Shines Homecoming 2004. Honor classes are 1934, 1944, 1949, 1954, 1964, 1974, 1979, 1984, and 1994. For reservations or more information contact the UC Alumni Office at (402) 486-2503, 3800 S 48th St, Lincoln, NE 68506 or alumni@ucollege.edu.

Spot News

Events occurring in the Atlantic Union territory

GREATER NEW YORK

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

NORTHEASTERN

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

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

The Gospel According to Mark performed by Richard Garey will be held on Saturday, November 15 at 8:00 p.m. at the Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham, Mass. Sponsored by the Stoneham Seventh-day Adventist Church. Event coordinator, Robert Carruthers (781) 438-0287.



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