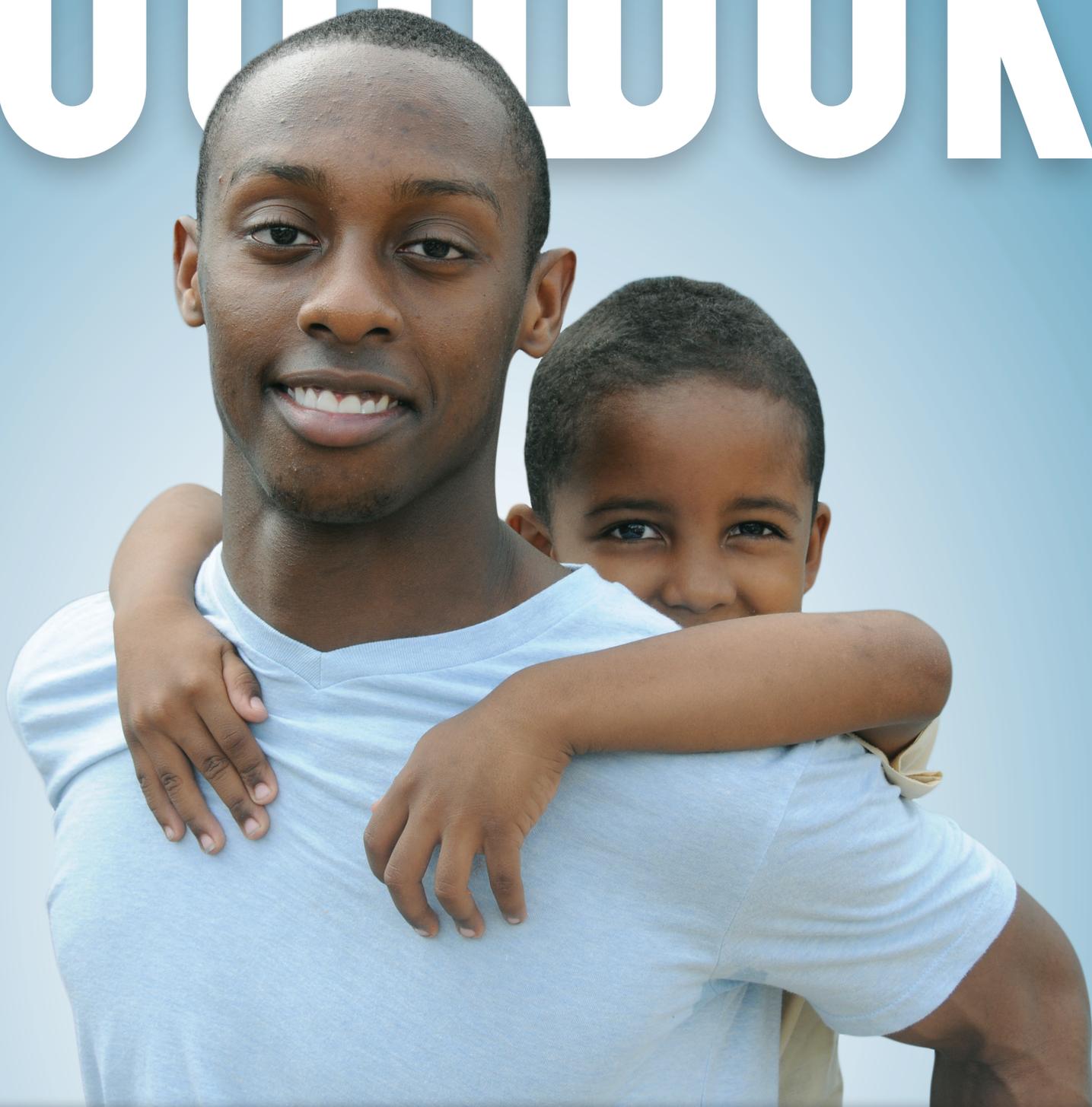


NEWS AND INSPIRATION FROM THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN MID-AMERICA

# OUTLOOK

JUNE 2013



ANNUAL **K-12 EDUCATION** SPECIAL



# 16



## Treolo Receives Lifetime Award

*KS-NE Conference's ACS director recognized by EMSAK*

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## Homecoming Queen Honors the Sabbath

*Sierra Clark remains true to her convictions*

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## Minnesotans Create Small Town VBS Manual

*Three complete, unique programs available for purchase*

**BY G. ANDERSON AND S. TOEWS**

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**Cover Photo:** Maplewood Academy student Edward Onyangore with a local child during a March mission trip to Belize. Photo courtesy MWA.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*We all live with change. And so it is with this issue of OUTLOOK. Our editor of the last eight years, Dr. Martin Weber, has chosen to retire and begin a new adventure at Logos Research Systems, which has sought closer ties with the Adventist Church (see p. 9). I have experienced Elder Weber as a deeply sincere and highly committed church leader. We have prayed together, collaborated together, shared biblical insights, and I for my part have grown as a result. I have appreciated his faithfulness to truth even as he has challenged many to surrender to the One who is the Truth, rather than simply accept a truth. "Truth without love is a lie" is something many of us have heard him expound upon. I have appreciated Elder Weber's commitment to the church even as he has fearlessly pointed out opportunities for the church to be more like her master, Jesus Christ. We wish Martin and Darlene every blessing from heaven as we watch for, wait for and work for Christ's return.*

**—THOMAS L. LEMON**

OUTLOOK (ISSN 0887-977X) June 2013, Volume 34, Number 6. OUTLOOK is published monthly (10 months per year) by the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 8307 Pine Lake Road, Lincoln, NE 68516; Telephone: 402.484.3000; Fax: 402.484.4453; Email: info@maucsa.org. Printed at Pacific Press Publishing Association, Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE and additional offices. USPS number 006-245. Free for Mid-America church members and \$10 per year for non-Mid-America subscribers. ©2013 Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. All Rights Reserved. Unless noted, all uncredited photos are stock photography. Adventist® and Seventh-day Adventist® are registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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# What's Online?

**O** [OutlookMag.org](http://OutlookMag.org) has exclusive daily content, breaking news, photos, videos and blogs!

Scan the QR codes below for direct access on your smartphone.



#### —Event:

### MAUC 2013 Hispanic Youth Congress

June 7-9 at Union College in Lincoln, NE

<http://bit.ly/ZRxJ0F>



#### —Blog:

### Polarized

What is the opposite of progress?

<http://bit.ly/115OJNW>



#### —News:

### NAD 2013 Pathfinder Bible Experience

Official results and lots of photos

<http://bit.ly/16dA6gM>



#### —Article:

### Six Ways to Increase Your Creativity

Practical tips for beating burnout

<http://bit.ly/WG61RF>





# How a Biblical Worldview Impacts Adventist Education

by LouAnn Howard



Teaching has always been my passion, and teaching in Adventist schools was a part of my being even before I graduated from Union College. For me, the idea of not incorporating an Adventist worldview in everything that happens in the classroom is incompatible with being a teacher.

What, exactly, is the Adventist worldview? It begins with the Bible as the standard by which we measure everything. This brings four key concepts to our curriculum development: God's original intention (the perfect world of Creation); how that intention has been distorted (the Fall); how God helps us respond (Redemption); and finally, how we are restored in the image of God (Re-creation). Everything we do in curriculum development begins and ends with these four concepts.

I remember how teachers throughout my school years in Adventist education communicated these concepts to us. Mrs. Clayborn was so kind to us as we studied in the basement of the church. Mr. Wilson wasn't afraid to play jacks with us and to instill a love of music as he celebrated the pieces we played at our piano recitals. Elder Holtz taught History during my academy years and also invited students to his home for Friday night vespers. In college, Elder Baldwin taught us how to search the Bible for deep truths. These teachers and many others had a key part—not only in my training for life on this earth but in leading me to Christ and in my

decision to remain faithful to God.

Nevertheless, I sometimes hear questions about whether Adventist education is still important. From my perspective, the answer is a resounding yes. And I remember an Adventist principal (who had also worked in the public schools) explain four practices that make Adventist schools different from public schools:

1. Daily staff worship give teachers a shot in the arm and prepare them for the day. Even teachers in a one room classroom spend time in prayer and study.
2. Weeks of Prayer provide an opportunity for God to touch students' hearts. Teachers have seen hard-hearted students melt as the Holy Spirit molds their lives during these special weeks.
3. We are able to talk about and pray about tragedies from a biblical view.
4. Redemptive discipline is practiced. Many times I've seen how the Holy Spirit works when prayerful discipline decisions are made.

The North American Division has created a document entitled "The Core of Adventist Education Curriculum"<sup>1</sup> that guides in the development of curriculum so that the Adventist worldview is at the forefront of every curriculum, instructional, and assessment decision. Four curricular goals inform this decision-making process and provide guidance to teachers in the classroom:

1. Learners will choose to accept God as the Creator and the Redeemer.

2. Learners will grow in their knowledge and understanding of God's creation.
3. Learners will creatively apply their spiritual, physical, intellectual, and social-emotional knowledge.
4. Learners will demonstrate their commitment to the Creator through service to others.

Curriculum, instruction, and assessment design inculcate the Adventist worldview at every step. Curriculum standards define what students should know and be able to do; they also provide a framework for curriculum development. Instruction encourages teachers to present curriculum in many different ways so that students can connect, explain, apply, and extend learning. Different types of assessment are utilized that are aligned with the curriculum standards to inform instruction and help students develop self-assessment skills.

Teaching and sharing from an Adventist worldview is a part of my being. It's also what I see happening every day as I visit schools throughout Mid-America. Not only do we witness excellent academic education, we are seeing the development of the whole person—"the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers" (Ellen White, *Education*, p. 9).<sup>2</sup> ■

LouAnn Howard is associate director of education for the Mid-America Union.

<sup>1</sup>Available at <http://bit.ly/13xSSLO>

<sup>2</sup>White, Ellen G., *Education*. Pacific Press, 2000.



# MAUC Students Win Souls for Christ

Student testimonies compiled by *OUTLOOK* staff



**Service is a key component of Adventist education. While it's traditional for young people in secular society to spend Spring Break seeking pleasure for themselves, Adventist academies provide opportunities for students (sponsored by academy and conference staff) to serve here in the United States and overseas.**

—John Kriegelstein, director of the Mid-America Union Office of Education

Read more mission stories online at <http://bit.ly/11WglX3>. Scan QR code below for direct access.



## “Sharing Him” in Nepal

When eight Sunnydale Adventist Academy students arrived in Nepal, each expecting to present “Share Him” evangelistic series, they were told that there were not enough translators for everyone. So senior student Josh Barnet volunteered to go without a translator.

Upon arriving at the site the first night, Josh began to set up when a man appeared and offered to translate. The presentation went well, but the man never showed up again. On the second night Josh met

a man named Umesh who knew simple sentences but not enough to translate sermons. Umesh helped find D.P., an “English teacher” in the village with limited skills. Josh knew that words like “God” and “sin” would not make it through the language barrier. Four of the sermons (Creation, the Bible, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit) were translated by another student’s translator when her site had problems and she wasn’t able to hold her meeting.

“On the other nights I showed the Nepali Jesus video and nature videos that Pastor

Jensen gave us. When enough people arrived I would preach and D.P. would do the best he could to translate,” Josh said.

One night during his series, Josh was not able to start the generator. Two other team members from Sunnydale, Kurtis and Michael, showed up that evening to check on Josh and encourage him. After they tried unsuccessfully to start the generator, the three young men stepped aside to discuss the situation. While they were talking, they heard the generator start! A young boy had walked up and pulled the rope. As the three

**When enough people arrived I would preach.**



Each day  
we tackled  
different  
jobs.

missionaries stood looking at the running generator with praise in their hearts, a man from the village who had been watching walked up to them and said, “Your God answers prayers and I’m going to tell others what I have seen.” The man then hurried off.

Josh immediately tried to run the computer and projector, but they wouldn’t work, even with the generator running. Then another boy walked up and pointed to himself saying, “electrician.” Taking the electrical cord the boy cut the end off, stripped the insulation from the wires, and then plugged the twisted wires into the socket on the running generator. The equipment turned on and Josh completed the meetings that night.

“I gave out over 50 Nepali Bibles at my site,” Josh added. “I don’t know how much

from the sermons the people understood, but I praise God they understood that the Bible is good and is the Word of God. And, at the end of my meetings, D.P. was baptized!”

### **Mission Accomplished**

Pine Ridge Oglala Sioux Reservation in South Dakota was the destination for a group of Minnesota students and their sponsors during Spring Break. Over the years the mission had fallen into disrepair, so they arrived at the Payabya SDA Mission ready to work on the buildings and grounds and hold a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for the children.

Each day students tackled different jobs under the direction of Bill Glassford, Pine Ridge Mission coordinator. The group divided up to accomplish

different tasks such as painting the church’s fellowship hall and stairway, fencing the perimeter of the mission, picking up trash, and clearing trees and brush around the campus.

Many generous people throughout Minnesota had donated coats, gloves, clothes and diapers for this mission trip. The students distributed these items to families living in a culture of addiction and poverty as they invited the children to VBS. From Tuesday through Sabbath afternoon, this program was the highlight of the group’s experience.

Maplewood Academy senior Rachel Lozano said, “During our VBS program we taught them about David’s bravery against Goliath, about Esther’s courage to save her people, and Jonah’s odyssey through disobedience and



repentance. The eagerness they showed toward learning, not only about the heroes in the Bible but also the praise songs, was so inspiring. It warmed my heart every time one of the little girls volunteered to pray.”

Lozano added that each day brought new adventures with the kids. “We did arts and crafts and played tiring—but amusing—games. One of my favorites was when they asked for piggyback rides. They seemed to have Steven Keinath and Jordan Kaldahl as their top picks for playing duck-duck-goose and letting their hair be tousled.”

Lozano hopes to return to Pine Ridge Reservation. “The joy, affection and warmth the kids demonstrated is irreplaceable, but I find comfort in knowing that God has a special plan for each of those children. They have inspired and motivated me to

have a better relationship with Christ and to continue to show Jesus to others. I am forever grateful for the journey God privileged me to experience on this mission trip.”

### Relevance Restored

March 7 was a cold morning in Minnesota (-2°F to be exact) when student and staff volunteers boarded the American Airlines flight to Miami. After a quick layover they soon landed in tropical Belize City, walked off the runway, and departed to their temporary home—the White House. Escorts Vern Byrd and Martin Smith, from WeCare, explained how the week would unfold.

The goal was to lay the foundation for the Ladyville Seventh-day Adventist Primary School’s new facility. Moving heavy rebar and

lumber was the beginning of the project. Both guys and girls cut the thick rebar used to hold the foundation. The hardest work was digging. The lot where the school is being built was once the town dump; it was filled with trash of all kinds. A bulldozer started the job, but long hours of digging through dirt and junk taught many lessons about labor and ministry.

As construction proceeded, the laughter of the school children next door caught the attention of the volunteers. They played with the kids during recess on their sand-filled schoolyard. Some children would jump on the backs of their visitors for rides. Others would play Tag, or as Belizean kids call it, Catch. Still others would do gymnastics, sing songs to their guests, or play marbles. Sometimes the kids would

**The children motivated me to continue showing Jesus to others.**



All photos courtesy/local conferences

**Our memories are worth more than silver or gold.**

cling to the fence and monitor construction progress until they had to go back to their classes. On one occasion, the student missionaries had opportunity to help in the classrooms.

The Youth Rally, themed Restoration, was held at the Sinai Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ladyville. The long weekend was filled with music, skits and sermons. Briggitte Chavez and Krista Froemming talked about rediscovering love; Sylvia Smith shared her testimony about God's restored value in her own life; Jenni Vigil spoke about how God can restore a damaged soul; and Edward Onyangore (pictured on front cover) involved fellow students in demonstrating how Jesus works in lives individually. Nic Morrison's message was about how God brings beauty out of ugly things, while Abner

Campos' sermon explored God's restoration of the earth, starting with human hearts. Pastor Jose Rojas concluded the event.

The last full day was spent touring beautiful San Pedro Island and snorkeling in the clear ocean waters. Students said their memories of Belize are more precious than silver or gold. They know God was with them while they worked to restore the relevance of His love.

### **Mr. Paul's Conversion**

Sometimes God works in unusual ways to reach people. Kolby Beem, Sunnydale student evangelist in Tanzania, experienced an apparent setback when his translator didn't show up. In an act of desperation they found Mr. Paul, a man who knew enough English to try translating. The

first sermon didn't go well; Mr. Paul, a backslidden Christian, was struggling. Speakers usually have a committed Christian partnering with them to share the gospel. Yet Kolby wanted to keep Mr. Paul because he had told Kolby, "I am not a believer but I am willing to receive the message."

Before the second meeting Mr. Paul, noticing Kolby's nervousness, said, "Usiogope!" (meaning "do not be afraid"). In the middle of the meetings Mr. Paul started to dress nicer when he came to translate. This was an outward sign of what was happening in Mr. Paul's heart. Later he told Beryl Hagen, the woman in charge of the orphanage, that he wanted to be baptized. Kolby rejoiced for all 24 people who were baptized, but especially for Mr. Paul as he committed his life to Christ.



# OUTLOOK Editor Martin Weber Retires

by Martin Weber



Courtesy Martin Weber

**Career Flashback:** Retiring OUTLOOK editor Martin Weber (2nd from right), in Moscow during the days of Soviet communism, with four brave soldiers at Sabbath services in 1990. That afternoon he went with a translator to Gorki Park for impromptu street preaching, during which dozens accepted Christ despite the presence of Soviet security agents. Weber was representing the It Is Written telecast as assistant to director/speaker George Vandeman, for whom he also authored telecast scripts and books.

Eight years ago this summer, the Mid-America Union extended me the privilege of being your servant in charge of communication. Having now completed 41 years in full-time denominational ministry (the first several with independent Adventist ministries), it's time to retire.

This month's educational focus of OUTLOOK provides an appropriate theme for my farewell. Education, as I see it, is a core component of communication. Our goal should be to inform, not to merely put a positive spin on whatever is happening. (Elder Lemon, Mid-America Union president, certainly believes this as well.) But I've often felt frustrated through the years when certain church leaders

(none of the presidents I've worked for in Mid-America) would say at a committee meeting: "Let's hear a good report!"

Well, suppose you go to the doctor and tests reveal that you have cancer. If the doctors are doing their job, don't expect a "good report." They need to communicate the whole truth and nothing but the truth about your situation, so you can know what's going on and pursue a remedy. Making the spiritual application, isn't this what Christ's warning to the last-day Laodicean Church is all about? (see Rev. 3:16-20). But I wonder: Do some of us Adventists (and some other Christians too) take the name of the Lord in vain, using "God talk" to justify unfruitful initiatives and make ourselves look good?

Have we become experts at sugarcoating mediocrity with exaggerated religious jargon that could make a bragging fisherman jealous?

With God's help, I want to work toward changing that during the next phase of my life. It will not be a rusty retirement for my wife Darlene and me as we move to Bellingham, Washington. Logos Research Systems (an Adventist-friendly producer of Bible software and digitized Christian books) has invited me to become their Seventh-day Adventist product manager. It will be exciting as well as challenging to represent our beloved church in coordinating the production and dissemination of e-books written by Adventists and for Adventists—and for the wider Christian market.

God has entrusted Seventh-day Adventists with a unique and inspiring last-day message. Please pray that I will communicate His grace and truth with a balance of courage and prudence in my new venue.

And now, as the time has come to say goodbye, you are left in good hands with Brenda Dickerson and Randy Harmdierks, with whom it has been such an honor to serve you in the Mid-America Union Communication Department.

---

Martin Weber, DMin, outgoing editor of OUTLOOK and Mid-America Union communication director, has retired and is now the Seventh-day Adventist product manager for Logos Research Systems in Bellingham, Washington.



# Publishing Rally Energizes Workers

by Philip Baptiste

Courtesy Central States Conference



Pastor Roosevelt Williams shares an early morning devotional at the publishing rally.

The Central States Publishing Department hosted its annual rally at the conference office in Kansas City April 19-21. **Pastor Compton Ross, Jr.**, conference publishing director and rally organizer, chose the theme One Word, One Voice, One Mission. “We need to come together to get the word out,” Dr. Ross said. “We recognize the urgency of the moment and with all the natural disasters happening around us, we must share the hope of Jesus’ soon return.”

The rally focused on equipping workers for

Christ. Over 40 literature evangelist (LE) workers attended the rally, representing every area of the conference’s nine-state region.

There were two main presenters. **Elder Java Mattison**, publishing director for the South Central Conference, spoke about preparing the next generation of LEs. He passionately explained how to encourage young people to witness through the summer MagaBook program. About 20 youth and young adults who attended were empowered

to spend this summer in selfless service for the Savior.

The other presenter, **Audra Wells Mark**, is an educator, brain research expert, and author of the book *The Bible, Anthropology and the Ancient Cave Man*. She shared fresh insights about convincingly communicating God’s love, Creation and His soon return. Conference president **Maurice Valentine II** inspired the group with a dynamic Sabbath morning message.

Fifteen precious souls were baptized in 2012 as a result of the

publishing ministry. Over \$41,000 worth of books and magazines were distributed—an \$11,000 increase from the year before. The top LE for the conference, **Mrs. Theresa Page**, received an award for the highest district sales.

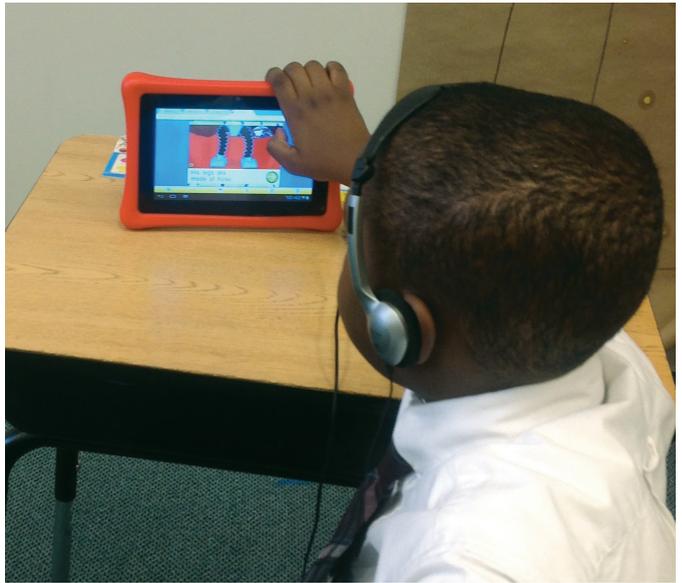
Philip Baptiste is communication director for the Central States Conference.



# iPad Expands Learning Experiences

One teacher's testimony about technology

by Brittany Wimberly



Courtesy Central States Conference

Brittany Wimberly and her students at V. Lindsay enjoy greater opportunities for online learning using the school's new iPad.

One enduring scholastic tradition is giving the teacher an apple on the first day of school. In the 21st century, giving the teacher an Apple has new meaning.

During professional development meetings, Central States Conference superintendent **Judith Mason** excitedly gave out one of the greatest tools to grace the educational setting—an Apple iPad 4 with Retina display. The result has been transformational for my classroom in our use of technology. The iPad not only increases the availability of information and resources but also increases student attentiveness and interest.

Teachers spend countless hours planning and obtaining resources to engage and capture the interest of their budding scholars. Innovation is a key

factor as teachers are forced to compete with television, video games, smartphones and personal gaming systems. When I introduced the iPad as another tool for learning, my students were ecstatic. We put it to use immediately.

As an example, we were discussing the materials that make up earth's layers when a student asked, "Why do worms come above ground after it rains?" We used the iPad for on-the-spot research into this fascinating question, discovering that it remains a mystery among scientists. Each student created his or her own hypothesis. They were engaged and excited about their theories. By using the iPad we were able to infuse more critical thinking into the lesson. And a seemingly complex concept became fun and exciting.

As I researched the many

iPad apps, I discovered one to assist struggling readers. Reading can be tedious and overwhelming for some students, but using the iPad can make reading enjoyable. My struggling reader has finally entered the exciting world of reading and become confident and enthusiastic about it. My own heart filled with joy when this student smiled and said, "I read with the iPad, and it was so fun!"

The organization and fluidity of our classroom has also increased as we've used the iPad as a multitasking tool. It provides numerous benefits and opportunities for children, no matter what their grade level. The iPad assists greatly in navigating a multigrade setting. We discover, analyze, compare, define and synthesize a large quantity of information.

In seconds, I can assign 1st graders a math game online, using our Go Math THINKcentral website, even as 2nd graders are discovering new things in their books for the current Pathways theme. Meanwhile, 3rd graders are watching a real life application about the science lesson as 4th graders are taking a test. When the timer sounds students shuffle to their respective desks for the next lesson.

Although I enjoy apples from students on the first day of school, my Apple iPad benefits our entire classroom throughout the school year, enriching my teaching and the learning experiences of my students.

Brittany Wimberly teaches grades 1-4 at the V. Lindsay SDA School in Kansas City, Kansas.



### Where Kids and Families Come Together to Meet Jesus

Camp is a place to make friends and learn about God's great outdoors. Learning about nature, ceramics, archery, horses, leather craft, hiking, biking and many other enjoyable activities is only a hint at the fun Dakota camps have to offer.

Come join us as we explore what it means to depend on God for everything. Our theme this year is: **When Life Throws you a Giant, Go to The Rock!**

Send your children or come as a family. You will experience inspiring and wonderful things. We are very excited to show you a world full of the wonders of God.

From caves at Flag Mountain to wake-boarding at Northern Lights, you won't want to miss being a part of Dakota camping this summer!



#### Summer Schedule

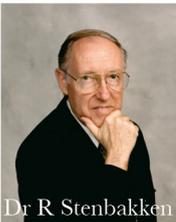
Dates	Place	Camp
June 16-23	Flag Mountain	Junior
June 23-30	Flag Mountain	Teen Extreme
July 1-7	Flag Mountain	Family Camp I
July 8-14	Northern Lights	Family Camp II
July 14-21	Northern Lights	Junior Camp II
July 21-28	Northern Lights	Teen Camp



Eld D. Schneider



Dr. Sung Kwon



Dr. R. Stenbakken

# DAKOTA CONFERENCE



Dr. Darold Bigger



Barbara Bigger



His Voice Quartet

JUNE 4 - 8, 2013

## Campmeeting in Bismarck



# Grand Opening Planned for Dakota Conference Office

by Jacquie Biloff

Jacquie Biloff



The new Dakota Conference office in Bismarck will be open for tours during camp meeting.

“Like most conferences, Dakota has a rich and interesting history. From the first request for Adventist literature in the

1870s, the Lord has steadily built the work in the northern plains.” So began the June 2012 OUTLOOK article introducing

the building of a new headquarters facility in which Dakota Conference office workers serve the field. **Neil Biloff**, conference president, reminisced in staff worship: “One year ago, the weekend of March 31, we began this project. It would not have been possible this year, with the ground still frozen.”

Elder Biloff reported that Adventists and non-Adventists alike have stopped by to see the new facility. It is bright and cheery, with a window in every office.

At the close of camp meeting, a new Adventist Book Center (ABC) will

open in the lower level of the conference building. **Lynette Miller**, a native North Dakotan, will move back to operate the store. Miller managed the ABC for five years at its previous Dakota Adventist Academy location. She then operated an ABC in Wisconsin, for a total of 13 years’ experience.

Grand opening for the Dakota Conference office is scheduled during camp meeting, with bus transportation from the academy.

.....  
Jacquie Biloff is communication director for the Dakota Conference.

# Bryce Pascoe Becomes Ministerial Secretary

by Jacquie Biloff

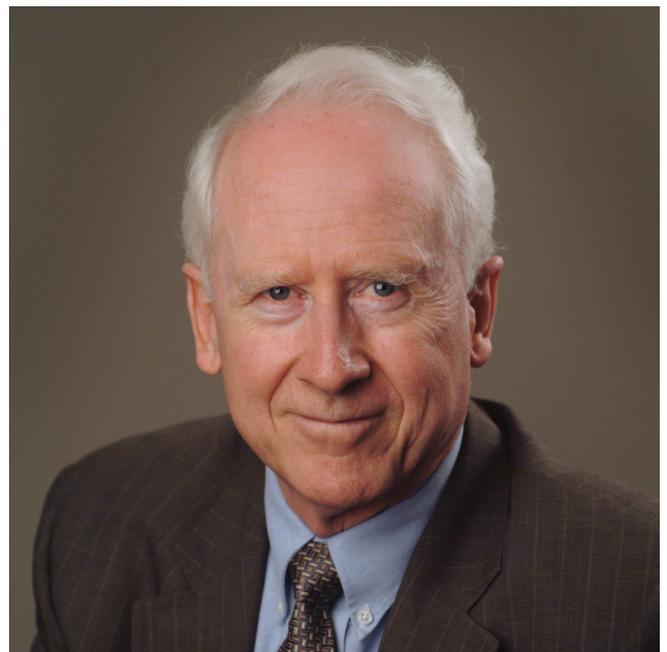
Dakota Conference is pleased to announce that **Elder Bryce Pascoe** has accepted the position of ministerial secretary. In 2010 Elder Pascoe retired from the North Pacific Union Conference, where he served as executive secretary and health director for 16 years.

Pascoe was born in Sydney, Australia and transferred to the United States for further education, graduating from Andrews University Theological Seminary with a Masters of Divinity. Following his ministerial training and five years of pastoral ministry in Pennsylvania, Pascoe graduated from Loma Linda University with a

Masters in Public Health and directed the Columbia Union Conference’s health education, stewardship and development departments. In 1986 the Pascoes transferred to the Upper Columbia Conference, where he served as ministerial secretary and then as executive secretary until 1994.

Pascoe and his wife, **Genia**, have a son, **Todd**, a Walla Walla University graduate who is an attorney in Vancouver, Washington.

Pascoe continues to reside in Oregon, where he has retired, but since his acceptance of the ministerial position has met with all Dakota Conference pastors and is available via phone and



Courtesy Dakota Conference

email. He will come to the Dakotas to provide a three-day seminar and will

be speaking for an evening meeting during Dakota camp meeting (June 4–8).



# Parsons Named Teacher of the Month

by Judy A. Hansen

Julie Morse



Jamison Prull (left) with her teacher Julie Parsons

**Mrs. Julie Parsons**, principal and grades 5-8 teacher at J.N. Andrews Christian Academy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa was named Teacher of the Month for April 2013 in a local radio station's contest. Parsons was selected based on an essay written by 8th grader **Jamison Prull**. In her essay Prull described how much it has meant to her to have Mrs. Parsons as her teacher for the past four years. Prull, who has attended J. N. Andrews for seven years, said, "The school has been a big part of my life, and I am truly blessed to have had

this opportunity." Prull added that both Mrs. Parsons and K-4 teacher **Mrs. Leesa Morrison** "are the greatest part of the school, and to have a great school you have to have amazing teachers." Parsons exclaimed that she was very honored to have been nominated. Her prizes included a trophy, balloons, baked goodies and a "stay-cation" at a local hotel.

Judy A. Hansen is a member of the Cedar Rapids Church.

Gary Jr. Dollins



Caitlin Dollins, 10, of the Poplar Bluff (MO) Church, displays some of the scarves she has made to benefit a special project for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Caitlin knew about ADRA's Food Matching Grant Program, which turns every \$1 donated into \$7 to benefit various food programs around the world. When she saw her grandmother making a scarf, she got the idea to make scarves herself and sell them for the grant program. Since January Caitlin has made 80 scarves, in multiple styles, and sold them for a profit of \$275—which automatically grew to \$1,995, thanks to ADRA's 7-1 Grant Program. Caitlin's love of helping has already started her on her next project, Bibles for Africa.

## Greetings from Camp Heritage,

According to recent research,\* American children spend the equivalent of 113 days annually on electronic media. These same children spend a mere 4 minutes per day playing outside and only 3.5 minutes in meaningful conversation with their parents every week.

I will now take this opportunity to introduce you to a very special place called summer camp. The nearly 10,000 minutes your child will spend here this summer will be full of opportunities to be challenged physically, develop lifelong friendships, be surrounded by nature while pursuing adventure, interact with 40 role models showing them Jesus, and return home transformed.

I invite you to visit our website: [www.campheritage.org](http://www.campheritage.org). Here you can register and save \$10, read about Camp Heritage receiving the 2012 Norm Middag Award of Excellence in our news section, and check out our FAQ section for more information.

We hope to see you this summer at Camp Heritage!

Denison Sager, Director, Camp Heritage

\*[www.thepowerofcamp.com](http://www.thepowerofcamp.com)





# Multicultural Church Recommits to Serving Community

*Second Anniversary for the Kansas City Congregation*

by Michelle Hansen



Michelle Hansen

Ernest Castillo, director of multilingual ministries for North America, challenges members during their anniversary celebration.

The Kansas City Multicultural Church for the Community in Kansas City, Missouri celebrated its second anniversary in a new church facility. Formerly called Kansas City Central Spanish, the church was established 32 years ago. Over those years, members and pastors have planted 12 Hispanic congregations throughout Missouri and Iowa.

Current pastor **Manuel Moral** explained the purpose behind the

anniversary celebration: “We recognize that everything comes from God, including the 60 new members we have welcomed since moving into our new sanctuary. We want to renew our covenant with God and recommit ourselves to His service.”

**Robert Peck**, Iowa-Missouri Conference vice president for administration, spoke about the commitment Christians must have to Christ. “Marriage in the

Bible is a model of how we are to relate to God,” said Peck. “We are to love God, daily submit to His will and not put others or things before Him.”

Featured speaker **Ernest Castillo**, director of Multilingual Ministries for the North American Division, shared the three greatest reasons he loves the Adventist Church: “First, God asked us to be the faithful guardians of the Bible truth—what a privilege! Second, we have

the eternal gospel of Jesus dying for our sins to share with others. And third, we are a movement here to stir the world and bring people to Christ.”

Michelle Hansen is communication/Sabbath school director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference.



# Treolo Receives Lifetime Award

by Martin Weber

Vaughn Lorenzen



John Treolo (left) receives the Lifetime Achievement Award from Gilbert Valerio, emergency manager for Finney County, Kansas.

**John Treolo**, director of communication as well as Adventist Community Services (ACS) for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Emergency Management Support Association of Kansas (EMSAK) at their annual conference in Wichita. EMSAK is a group of county emergency managers and support agencies, including ACS, who network together and work hand-in-hand during disasters.

According to Treolo, this lifetime award only goes to members serving

10 or more years and holding an officer position on the EMSAK Executive Committee. Treolo has been a member for 15 years and has served as treasurer and awards committee chairperson. "It's gratifying when ACS is recognized by a group such as EMSAK," Treolo said. "During disasters, it's so important for all disaster response personnel to work together for the good of the community."

Martin Weber, DMin, is outgoing Mid-America Union communication director and editor of OUTLOOK.

# Men Challenged and Refreshed at Annual Retreat

by John Treolo

John Treolo



Delbert Pearman described how mission offerings help advance the gospel around the world.

Men's retreats are usually promoted as weekends for fellowship, group prayer and bonding. Those attending the 2013 retreat

received all that and more as they journeyed toward a closer relationship with Jesus.

The retreat was held

at Broken Arrow Ranch, the Kansas-Nebraska Conference's youth camp near Manhattan, Kansas—an ideal location for serenity and inspiration to collaborate in promoting communion with God.

Featured speaker **Delbert Pearman**, planning director for Adventist Mission at the General Conference, shared exciting stories and inspiration about the church's membership growth around the globe due to support of missions.

"I loved hearing how my offerings are helping the church at large," said one attendee. "It was nice to hear about where mission money goes and how the Adventist Church is involved," commented another.

During vespers, conference president **Ron Carlson** challenged the men to be helpers not hurters, citing the Boston Marathon tragedy in which those who helped outnumbered those who hurt by several thousand to two.

Music was a major part of the weekend. REVIVE, a praise team from the Wichita South Church, led worship singing and provided special music; the Topeka Wanamaker Orchestra performed during the Sabbath afternoon concert.

The 2014 Men's Retreat is scheduled for April 18-20.

John Treolo is communication director for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.



# Homecoming Queen Honors the Sabbath

by John Treolo

**Sierra Clark** may not be of royal ancestry, yet she was recently crowned Homecoming Queen at her local high school. The ceremony, traditionally held during halftime of the Friday night football game, was moved up before sundown so Sierra could honor her Sabbath—an act far more important to her than any contest.

A senior at Blue Valley High School in Oslburg, Kansas, Sierra is the daughter of **John Clark**, ranger at Broken Arrow Ranch (BAR), the conference's youth camp. Sierra grew up at BAR and attended the Blue Valley school system all 12 grades.

Active and popular at school, Sierra has been a member of the volleyball and track teams, played in the band, served on the yearbook staff and participated in scholars' bowl. She was also voted senior class president.

Sierra has a humble nature and would never brag about her 4.0 GPA. Her father said, "Sierra doesn't just get A's; she gets A-pluses. I am very proud of her."

Her crowning almost didn't happen, even before the voting among the final three candidates. Sierra was called to the principal's office and reminded that the ceremony was on Friday night. Aware of Sierra's Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, the principal said she wouldn't be eligible

due to not being present during halftime. Sierra was disappointed, but she assured the principal her faith meant more to her than being queen.

"I just figured it wasn't that big of a deal," Sierra later told interviewers. "Obviously, keeping the Sabbath is more important. It was no contest as to what my decision would be."

An hour later, however, her disappointment turned to joy after two teachers convinced the principal that the ceremony could be moved. "It's always a distraction during halftime for the star players," stated one of the teachers.

Sierra still wasn't sure who would be named queen, but she had her hands ready to clap for the winner. When her name was called she felt overwhelmed. "I was very honored. Knowing they moved the ceremony for me was really rewarding."

As for future educational plans, Sierra is still deciding among Union College, Southern Adventist University (older sister **Savannah** is there) or Kansas State University. One thing, though, is certain—being true to her convictions will always be the norm in Sierra's life.



John Treolo

## KS-NE CONFERENCE CALENDAR

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT [WWW.KS-NE.ORG](http://WWW.KS-NE.ORG)

May 29-  
June 1

**KS-NE Camp Meeting**  
Lincoln, NE - Live streaming at  
[www.ucollege.edu/uclive](http://www.ucollege.edu/uclive)

June 6-9

**Single Moms & Kids Retreat**  
Broken Arrow Ranch  
Contact: [scarlson@ks-ne.org](mailto:scarlson@ks-ne.org)

June 9-16

**Junior 1 Camp**  
Broken Arrow Ranch  
Contact: [tsager@ks-ne.org](mailto:tsager@ks-ne.org)

June 14-15

**Cowboy Camp Meeting**  
Crawford, NE  
Contact: [ckwyatt@bbcwb.net](mailto:ckwyatt@bbcwb.net)

June 16-23

**Junior 2 Camp**  
Broken Arrow Ranch  
Contact: [tsager@ks-ne.org](mailto:tsager@ks-ne.org)

June 23-28

**Discovery Camp**  
Camp Arrowhead  
Contact: [michelaray202@msn.com](mailto:michelaray202@msn.com)

June 23-30

**Teen Camp**  
Broken Arrow Ranch  
Contact: [tsager@ks-ne.org](mailto:tsager@ks-ne.org)



## Wadena Members Create Small Town VBS Manual

As the Wadena Church prepares for another year's Vacation Bible School (VBS), their program is in good hands. **Gennifer Anderson** and **Sonja Toews** have written the book on VBS—literally! After years of helping direct VBS from prepared packages, they saw the need for a program that better fits their church's dynamics.

*Small Town VBS* offers three unique programs,

complete with crafts, games, skits and ideas for food. Published by Teach Services, *Small Town VBS* can be ordered by phone at 800.367.1844 or online, including at BarnesandNoble.com or Amazon.com.

Find *Small Town VBS* on Facebook for more information.



Courtesy Minnesota Conference

Gennifer Anderson (left) and Sonja Toews, creators of *Small Town VBS*

## Rescue Consortium Focuses on Safe Environments

by **Connie McCormick**

For the first time among Adventists in Minnesota, Maplewood Academy students were included in conference workers' meetings. The topic, originally planned around bullying in Adventist churches and schools, morphed to become RESCUE: The Calling We Share.

The tone was set the evening of February 4 with the Maplewood Academy Choraliars singing "Lord Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace." Then **Nathan Greene**, beloved Adventist artist, shared the story behind his painting "The Rescue." While people usually identify with the lamb, Greene suggested that it is just as valid to identify with the Good Shepherd, willing to risk everything in order to rescue one lost lamb.

The next morning **Joseph Kidder** told the story of his escape from Iraq. Beaten to the point of death for honoring the seventh-day Sabbath, he survived with God's help and emigrated to the United States. There he finished an engineering degree at Walla Walla University—only to subsequently sense a call from God to pastoral ministry. He now teaches at Andrews University and has authored the books *Majesty* and *Four Secrets to a Thriving Church*.

**Christopher Wall**, assistant professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Mayo Clinic, explored reasons why young teens are not equipped to handle the stress of bullying. He described the loss of life that sometimes results from bullying and answered

questions from students and workers.

**Rick Young**, head of the International Rescue and Relief Program at Union College, showed the students active means of rescue after he testified about how God had rescued him personally. Rick survived a 32-year law enforcement career in greater Los Angeles, working primarily with gangs and other troubled youth. His breakout session with pastors and academy teachers provided awareness of drug abuse patterns among young people.

**Kari Schebo**, a grade-school teacher from Minnetonka Christian Academy, explained to her colleague educators the benefits of the Responsive Classroom approach to fostering a culture of compassion within schools

and classrooms.

Throughout the day each presenter approached the concept of rescue from a different angle, but each affirmed that the cure for bullying is not to blame or change the victim but to establish a corps of rescuers who create an environment where bullying cannot succeed. **John Kriegelstein**, Mid-America Union education director concluded the day by encouraging pastors and teachers to commit to the loving care of someone in need of the rescue they can provide.

Connie McCormick is educational superintendent for the Minnesota Conference.



## Sacred Revolution Refreshes and Restores Youth

by Abner Campos

Young people from across Minnesota gathered on Sabbath April 6 at The Edge Christian Worship Center with the expectation that God wanted to speak to them. No one knew exactly how the program would unfold, but they sensed it was going to be mysterious and sacred. As praise music filled the room, voices joined in unity and adoration ascended heavenward like burning incense.

Following icebreaker activities, **Bernie Anderson**, an Adventist pastor from Orlando, Florida, shared his testimony of having struggled with pornography. He spoke on the emptiness of lust and fullness of love, the goodness of Jesus and darkness of pornographic lies.

After a delightful lunch experience, the young men and women divided into separate groups due to the sensitivity of their discussion. Pastor Anderson spoke again about relationships, trust, and one's future soul mate. Then everyone shared what his or her ideal mate would be like. Several girls mentioned "sensitive and a good listener" while guys said they want a girl with "a good sense of humor" and "good conversation skills."

Then Pastor Anderson explained the damage done to relationships through pornography—the sickness of soul and false expectations created within those who are addicted. Sex

in its proper timing and God-intended purpose is beautiful and ultimately good, but sexuality of any type outside marriage destroys trust—which is so essential between husband and wife. Anderson recounted the pain and brokenness that came to his own marriage and the battle to restore trust. The ensuing table talk among

participants centered on how to avoid pornography and also how to help friends who are addicted. Pastor Anderson concluded with a question and answer session about purity and healthy relationships.

At the end of the day, participants sensed that God had been with them. The snare of pornography, though uncomfortable to

talk about, was exposed and addressed. Love and grace grasped the hands of the young attendees, expressing the redeeming and transforming power through Christ.

Abner Campos is a senior at Maplewood Academy.



Andrew Christiansen

**Bernie Anderson, an Adventist pastor from Orlando, shared a powerful testimony about the dangers of pornography.**



# RMC Schools Test Core Values Program

by Ardis Stenbakken

Bullying is often reported in schools, but at HMS Richards Elementary School in Loveland, Colorado you would be more likely to hear a student complimenting another for showing Christ-centered living, or giving a shout-out for a student exemplifying respect or integrity. And instead of hurting others, the students focus on service.

Students are participating in a new program called Core Values. The seven values are Christ-centered living, responsibility, respect, integrity, courage, exploration and service.

In April the school hosted a Banner Ceremony—the public kickoff for the core values program. Teachers, students, parents, and supporters excitedly watched as seven beautiful banners picturing an HMS student and one of the values were hung in the school gym.

Each week the school focuses on one core value. During an all-school morning worship a teacher gives a devotional on that week’s value and then the students respond—sometimes apologizing for being late (shows disrespect), sometimes

giving a shout-out for someone who has shown courage, sometimes expressing thanks for extra help. Teachers also give special recognition to students who have worked diligently on their studies.

The core values program is being test piloted by five schools in the Rocky Mountain Conference. A small committee worked for many weeks with conference educational director **Lonnie Hetterle** to develop the program and select the values.

**Brittany McLachlan**, grades 1-3 teacher at HMS Richards, has been

spearheading the program. “These principles express our definitive purpose. They direct our interactions with each other, our students and their parents, and the members of our community,” McLachlan said. “Banners and posters around the school help to encourage the kids to hold these core values in their minds and hearts.” She explained that HMS Richards wants to support students in living these ideals every day and that students should be recognized for exhibiting behaviors that exemplify core values.

After the Banner Ceremony, parents received a letter outlining the core values and inviting them to commit to intentionally practice and model these values.

McLachlan’s husband, **Matthew**, has produced a video featuring some of the students in the five pilot schools and how these core values permeate the school day (view the video: <http://bit.ly/rmc-core>).

Ardis Stenbakken is communication director for the Campion Academy Church.

Courtesy Rocky Mountain Conference



Colorful banners at HMS Richards Elementary in Campion, Colorado support the Core Values program being tested across the Rocky Mountain Conference.



## SWAT Team Aims at Local Churches

by Bill Hay

The Champion Academy SWAT Team (Students With A Testimony) has infiltrated more than 20 churches around the Rocky Mountain Conference and beyond. SWAT Teams are four to eight academy students equipped and empowered to present Sabbath morning services at churches they visit.

They provide elements of worship such as prayer, children's story, call for offering, special music and of course, personal testimonies. Students prepare and rehearse their parts, so that on Sabbath morning they are ready to lead the service.

SWAT teams have traveled as far as Farmington, New Mexico; Laramie, Wyoming; and Wichita, Kansas. They have also served nearby congregations in Ft. Collins and Estes Park. Often participating students sign up to visit their own home church. This gives opportunity for parents and church members to see maturity and growth taking place in their young people.

There is no shortage of students yearning to go out on SWAT assignments. The biggest challenge is arranging the extra efforts of the dedicated staff who accompany them.

The SWAT program is a great blessing in many ways. It gives students experience in planning and implementing a church service. Many current church leaders today trace their first "sermon"



Bill Hay

**Campion Academy SWAT Team member Amy Luu-fabela shares her testimony with the Great Bend (KS) Church.**

to an experience much like those of our SWAT teams. It blesses the local congregation with variety and fresh faces in their service and creates a bond between Champion Academy and the local church. Members get to see firsthand what the youth of our church are really like. It also opens up recruiting opportunities when Campion students meet and mingle with young people who are not attending Campion.

Although students may occasionally make mistakes, the caring staff members are there to encourage and cheer them on. And as students and church members get to know one another, they learn to love each other. These opportunities help Campion students take ownership in their church and feel like valued future leaders.

Do you have a church group of five to 10 youth willing to go out and

conduct a church service? Campion Academy has information available to help get them started. And it's not too early to request a SWAT team visit for your congregation next school year. Contact **Nick Clark** at Campion Academy (303.956.6059) or **Bill Hay** at the Rocky Mountain Conference office (303.733.3771).

Bill Hay is the director of stewardship for the Rocky Mountain Conference.



# Union Student Lands Washington Internship

by Ruby Ruano

Ryan Teller/Union College



Union College social work graduate Iliana Panameno will spend her summer as an intern at the Institute for Philanthropy and Volunteer Service in Washington, D.C.

When senior White House policy analyst **Allan Manuel** visited Union College in November 2012 to encourage students to explore a career in civil service, **Iliana Panameno** couldn't attend his chapel talk. But with Manuel's help, Panameno, a senior social work major, will spend the summer as an intern at the Institute for Philanthropy and Voluntary Service in Washington, D.C.

"I actually was unable to hear him speak that day because I was doing my internship," said Panameno. "I was too busy at the time to even think about anything other than graduate school applications."

Social work majors at Union need a minimum 480 hours of internship

experience to graduate, which Panameno already earned this past year working alongside lawyers and social workers at Nebraska Appleseed, a nonprofit organization in Lincoln. A native of Boston, Panameno transferred to Union her sophomore year because she found it more affordable than the West Coast school she attended as a freshman. "It was after taking a social policy class at Union that the interest became stronger," Panameno explained. "It's amazing what advocacy can do for marginalized groups of people. You are basically giving them a voice."

Although she is a shy student, Union College classes and the Appleseed internship have helped her step outside her comfort

zone. After being accepted into graduate school at both Boston University and Boston College, Panameno decided to pursue more experience through a summer internship. "I was unsure of my chances of acceptance for the internship program," she said, "since the application was much more work than my graduate school applications." Manuel, a friend of **John Wagner**, Union's president, helped her through the internship application process. "He gave me a lot of suggestions that made the application better and played a big role in my acceptance into the program."

Manuel is a Seventh-day Adventist attorney who served as a deputy division chief at the Federal Communications Commission before his current post as senior policy analyst, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President of the United States. He has a burden for helping talented people with strong moral principles start careers in government service. During his talk at Union, he used biblical examples such as Daniel and Joseph—men who stood true to their convictions and were able to have great influence in government.

"Public service in the executive, judicial and legislative branches is a noble calling," he explained. "Our country needs its best and brightest to develop

and implement policies, laws and decisions that impact and benefit all Americans and influence the whole world."

For Panameno, every step at Union College helped her form a career plan, and the internship at Nebraska Appleseed connected her with community leaders as well as lawyers and social workers who are doing the type of work and leadership she hopes to do in the future.

"I know that it was all in God's plan for me to be part of this summer internship at the White House," said Panameno. "I have good grades, but it took a lot—like a recommendation from a Nebraska Appleseed lawyer who is known at the federal level. Things just lined up like they were supposed to."

At one time uncertain of her future career, Panameno has put all fears aside thanks to her hands-on internship at Nebraska Appleseed and her upcoming internship working with representatives at the federal level. "I'm very excited for this opportunity," she said. "I began to question a lot of things last semester and after a while I just decided to move forward. Things happen for a reason—I'll always believe that."

Ruby Ruano is a senior nursing major at Union College.



# Union Students Connect with Orphans Through Stories

by Joellyn Sheehy

For students in **Jill Morstad's** Basic Skills in English class, learning became much more real than figuring out how to order words on a page. This spring, the 16 students undertook an unusual project to benefit children at the orphanage of Pan American Health Service in Peña Blanca, Honduras—while enhancing their own communication skills.

The project began when Morstad asked her students to write in the style of **Rudyard Kipling's** *Just So Stories*. “I wanted students to begin with the simple study of a story,” she said. “We all know what stories are: we hear them, we tell them and we share them. I wanted the students to start at a place where they were comfortable with their own language skills.”

In the famous stories, Kipling outlines explanations for how certain animals got their present-day characteristics. Students in Morstad's class were each given a Beanie Baby toy animal and asked to follow the *Just So* formula to build a story around how it came to be.

**Tanya Cochran**, associate professor of English, provided several Beanie Babies for the project but informed Morstad she intended to donate them to junior psychology major **Laura Selivanoff**, whose family travels to Honduras several times a year to visit friends and children at an orphanage in Peña Blanca. “Suddenly I thought, ‘What

if the stories could go with the Beanies?’” recalled Morstad. “What could help student writers more than giving them a real audience?”

Morstad invited Laura and her mother **Sheryl** to come speak to the class about their work in the Central American country. The Selivanoffs played audio recordings and showed a video to the class about the orphanage and a student trying to raise money for college. The students responded well to the Selivanoffs' presentation and had their stories translated into Spanish by the end of the semester.

The assignment provided a unique opportunity for students to express themselves. “This time I wasn't just writing for a teacher, so I put more time and meaning into it,” said **Dillon Conley**, freshman pre-nursing student. “My story is based on a true story, and I know that some of those kids in Honduras will probably be able to relate to it. I put myself into the story because it's about me.” Based on personal experiences, he wanted to show the kids the importance of facing your fears.

“In my story a rambunctious lamb who loved to go astray is saved from a dragon by the Shepherd Jesus,” said **Thomas Clark**, freshman pre-nursing student. “At the end he realizes that Jesus' way is best and asks Him for the power to obey. I

thought this story would be a good way to share my testimony and show readers Jesus' great love for them.”

Stories from Union College students will accompany the Selivanoffs to the orphanage where they will be distributed with their corresponding animals. “There are kids all the way from infancy to their early 20s,” said Laura. “I think they'll love the idea. They like to get toys and gifts from the U.S., and having the stories will add a personal element. They'll feel like they're connected to Union instead of just randomly receiving gifts from people they don't know.”

“I hope the experience of doing this assignment makes these particular students feel more connected to Union, even in their very first semester,” said Morstad. “In the beginning of their college career they're part of a larger commitment—not only to their development,

but to all our development as servants, leaders and writers.”

Morstad enjoys using service-learning projects to instruct students and frequently assigns them in her classes. “Service learning is so connected to what we want to do at Union, and God certainly had a hand in this project,” she said. “It developed through a circumstantial conversation with Dr. Cochran that connected the assignment with the kids at the orphanage. There was a master plan; we just played a part.”

“I would definitely recommend this kind of project,” said Clark. “My motivation for writing was significantly increased, and I greatly enjoyed doing it.”

Joellyn Sheehy is a junior International Rescue and Relief major at Union College.



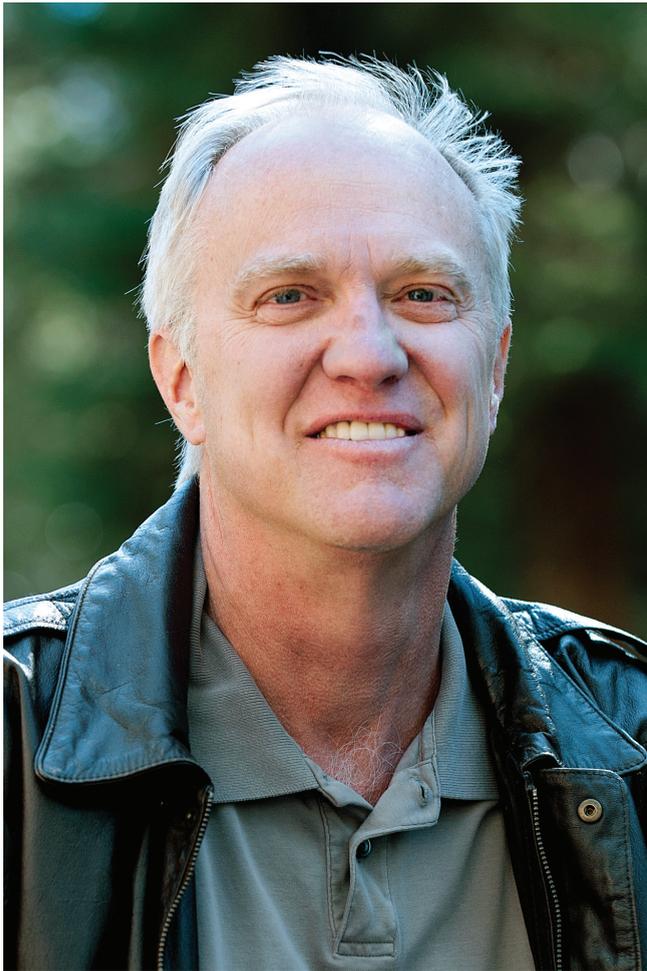
The students in Jill Morstad's Basic Skills in English class each wrote a fictional children's tale describing the story of a Beanie Baby. This summer the stories, translated into Spanish, will be sent along with the toys to children in a Honduran orphanage.

Ryan Teller/Union College



# Tale of Nine Lives

Courtesy Adventist Health System



**Porter Adventist Hospital's patient Ken Woodbury had no idea that his decision to donate a kidney to a stranger would end up saving nine lives.**

When Ken Woodbury first decided to donate a kidney, his goal was to help one person. He didn't know it would affect the lives of nine families. But thanks to a new medical technology, to Porter Adventist Hospital and to the willingness of an altruistic donor, countless people's lives were changed.

But it all started with Ken.

Ken Woodbury, husband and father of four daughters, is a Boston native now living near Vail, Colorado where he manages restaurants for Vail Resorts.

Ken's choice to donate a kidney wasn't a quick one. It started with a local newspaper column about a woman who herself had given a kidney. "Something clicked," he said. "I wondered if that was something I could do." It turned out the lady went to Calvary Chapel, the same church he attended. He met up with her and came away feeling that this was something God wanted him to do.

So he began praying, talking with doctors and doing research. "I

didn't want to rush into it," he says. For about six months he mulled the idea over in his head. His wife was skeptical. She could understand giving a kidney to a close friend or family member, but why a stranger? His reply: "I don't see the difference between a family member and a stranger. "There is no greater love than this, to lay down his life for his brother."

Ken saw donating a kidney as a chance to save a life. "How often does a person get that opportunity?" he says. Once he had made up his mind, he contacted a doctor at Porter Adventist Hospital. Porter had recently joined the National Kidney Registry, an organization dedicated to improving how kidney transplants are performed.

The Registry works by using advanced algorithms and a database of donors and patients to set up chain reactions, where one donation can create a cascade of more. For example, take a husband who wants to donate a kidney to his wife, but is the wrong match. If someone across the country is in a similar situation, instead of giving to their own wives, they can give to each other's wife.

In Ken's case, his choice to give to a stranger set off a reaction that rippled through the lives of nine other people. The procedure involves coordination from doctors around the country. The day of the

transplant, Ken was in for the operation at 4:30 am. The kidney was flown to New York, where the recipient was already on the operating table. Meanwhile, the recipient's family member was having his own kidney flown to Cleveland.

The procedure was a complete success. Ken recovered in a few weeks and says he feels better now than he ever has. Thinking back, he knows he made the right choice.

"When you read about all the evil in the world, like the recent shootings, everybody always wants to blame God. They never give Him credit for the good things," he says.

For Ken, the decision to donate a kidney turned out to be more positive than he could imagine—and he would do it again in a heartbeat. "I think it's changed my life as much as it changed any of theirs. I had more joy this last Christmas than I had in a long time, just knowing all those families were able to celebrate together."

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This article was submitted by Stephen King, senior vice president for mission and ministry for the Rocky Mountain Adventist Health System/Centura Health, where he serves the five Adventist hospital campuses in Colorado. It was written by CMBell Company.



# One Family's Journey to Better Health

by Mallory Saylor

Hermila Ayon Soto never lost faith that somehow, some way, her family would resolve its many health problems. Her son's nose bleeds. Her husband's kidney ailments. Her teenage daughter's complexion challenges. And her own decade-long struggle with her weight.

But she had no idea that there would be one solution to all these problems, or that the transformation would come, not from a doctor's office, but from their church.

It all started in March 2012, when Mark Stoddart, Shawnee Mission Medical Center's (SMMC) administrative director of Spiritual Wellness, saw an opportunity to help a large audience near SMMC learn how to live longer, healthier lives. As Stoddart puts it, "The CREATION Health wellness-based lifestyle is so important that we wanted to share it with the world."

Together with Estrella Dominguez, who serves as a fulltime chaplain for SMMC, Stoddart invited 24 Spanish-speaking Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders in the Kansas City area to a weekend seminar. There, they learned about the principles of CREATION Health, a powerful, lifestyle transformation program designed to help people live life to the fullest.

One of those church leaders, Jose Peña, of the New Haven Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lenexa, realized

that the program might be perfect for a family he knew. So he presented it to the Ruiz family as a way to help them address their health challenges. They were immediately interested and arranged to start learning all about CREATION Health.

During a series of classes and over the phone, they learned that this life-transforming approach to total person wellness is based on the eight CREATION Health principles: Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook and Nutrition.

While the CREATION Health lifestyle is helping people all over the country live longer and healthier lives, Hermila had no idea it would make such a swift and dramatic difference in her family's life.

Her son, Jesus Ruiz, Jr., had experienced nosebleeds

almost daily for nine years. Doctors said it was congenital and that nothing could be done about it. He couldn't participate in sports and missed a lot of school. Yet, once he adopted the CREATION Health program, the nose bleeds stopped.

Jose de Jesus Ruiz, Hermila's husband, had kidney problems for more than three months. But once the family eliminated soft drinks and changed from a diet of chain restaurants and pizza to eating healthy, balanced meals, Jose's kidney problems disappeared.

After her daughter, Neftali Ruiz, also adopted the CREATION Health program, her complexion problems cleared up within a few weeks, and she was a more relaxed and confident teenager.

Hermila herself had been on the weight roller coaster

for years, quickly losing and then gaining back unwanted weight.

Hermila has now lost 83 pounds, and kept it off, thanks to much better eating habits and walking five miles every day.

After the dramatic results that each family member experienced from the program, the Ruiz family has chosen to adopt CREATION Health for good.

"The program gives people the power to make better choices," states Stoddart.

Mallory Saylor is a marketing and communications specialist at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

To learn more about CREATION Health and its year-round schedule of classes and seminars, visit [ShawneeMission.org/CreationHealth](http://ShawneeMission.org/CreationHealth).



The Ruiz family received dramatic benefits from CREATION health through Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

Courtesy SMMC

**Achtziger, Alexander "Ron"**, b. May 15, 1949 in Belle Fourche, SD. d. Mar. 26, 2013 in Lincoln, NE. Member of College View Church. Served in US Army as a medic in Vietnam. Preceded in death by parents. Survivors include wife Anna; 2 sisters.

**Bachman, Art Jr.**, b. Dec. 15, 1928 in IA. d. Jan. 24, 2013 in Madison County, MO. Member of St. Louis Central Church. Survivors include daughter Chris Nungesser; 1 grandchild.

**Brunken, Herbert G.**, b. Dec. 26, 1923 in Danville, IA. d. Apr. 9, 2013 in Calimesa, CA. Member of Calimesa Church. Survivors include wife Ilien; daughters Cinda Brunken-Peterson and Melissa Brunken; sons Rodney and Randy; 2 siblings; 3 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

**Cooper, Elizabeth**, b. Sept. 19, 1913. d. Jan. 26, 2013 in Springfield, MO. Member of Oak Grove Heights Church. Preceded in death by son Robert Cooper. Survivors include daughter Stephanie Tillmanns.

**Fulton, Edith**, b. Apr. 18, 1918 in Burlington, IA. d. Aug. 24, 2011 in Crystal Beach, TX. Member of Rolla (MO) Church. Preceded in death by husband William; daughter Jane Mannel; son Ted; 4 siblings; 3 grandchildren. Survivors include daughters Janice Anderson and Jeanette Fulton; sons William, Thomas and Robert; 1 brother; 12 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

**Johnson-Hamling, Nicole**, b. Apr. 1, 1972 in Columbus, NE. d. Feb. 21, 2013 in Omaha, NE. Member of Columbus Church where she was instrumental in starting a Pathfinder club. Survivors include husband Randy; daughter Ashley Hamling; son Zachary; parents.

**Ladd, Lela "Leon"**, b. Nov. 30, 1921 in Holcomb, MO. d. Jan. 2, 2013 in Poplar Bluff,

MO. Member of Poplar Bluff Church. Survivors include daughter Dewania Murray; son Tony; 7 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.

**Low, Lena R.**, b. Nov. 21, 1931 in Mona, WY. d. Apr. 24, 2013 in Alliance, NE. Member of Dakota Conference. Served in US Airforce. Preceded in death by 1 sister. Survivors include husband Jack, daughter Charlotte Anderson; sons Jack Jr. and Joe; 2 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

**Marsh, Helen**, b. Mar. 29, 1927 in Ola, AR. d. Apr. 18, 2012 in Rolla, MO. Member of Rolla Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother; 1 grandson. Survivors include daughters Linda Grecian, Rita Kuerzinger and Sandra Hann; son Larry; 7 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren.

**McLaughlin, Mabel**, b. July 21, 1927 in Hitchcock County, NE. d. Jan. 7, 2013 in Vacaville, CA. Member of Sunnydale (Centralia, MO) Church. Served in US Navy. Preceded in death by 10 siblings. Survivors include sons Michael and George; 2 grandsons.

**Peterson, Wesley D.**, b. Dec. 28, 1932 in Chamberlain, SD. d. Mar. 18, 2013 in Moberly, MO. Member of Moberly Church. Served church as pastor, teacher, missionary and education superintendent in several conferences and divisions. Survivors include wife Lois; daughters Kristine Key, Linnaea Swayze and Ingrid Amonette; son Eric; 2 siblings; 8 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

**Quast, Leone**, b. Oct. 24, 1916 near Grassy Butte, ND. d. Mar. 28, 2013 in Wibaux, MT. Member of Dakota Conference. Preceded in death by husband Emil; 3 brothers. Survivors include children Leroy Quast, Sally Abernethy, Lou Quast, Bonnie Underwood and Barb Austin; 4 siblings; 9 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren.

**Rittenbach, Esther**, b. Aug. 26, 1918 in Granville, ND. d. Dec. 16, 2012 in Jamestown, ND. Member of Jamestown Church. Preceded in death by husband Hilbert; 5 siblings. Survivors include daughter Kathleen Trautman; sons Rudy, Warren, Donovan and Jerry; 14 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren.

**Shepherd, Lorraine**, b. May 15, 1925 in Highmore, SD. d. Apr. 11, 2013 in Pierre, SD. Member of Pierre Church. Preceded in death by 7 siblings. Survivors include sons Gary and Lanny; 2 siblings; 3 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

**Shultz-Shivers, Mary**, b. Oct. 1, 1960 in Collegedale, TN. d. Feb. 26, 2013 in Mexico, MO. Member of Sunnydale (Centralia, MO) Church. Survivors include husband Ronald; daughter Brienna Thompson; sons Trevor Johnson, Brad, Blaine and Blake Matter; 1 sister.

**Walkup, Paul**, b. Oct. 26, 1927. d. Jan. 29, 2013 in Jericho Springs, MO. Member of Nevada (MO) Church. Survivors include son Phillip.

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."*  
Revelation 14:13

**To submit an obituary to OUTLOOK**, visit [outlookmag.org/submit-obituary](http://outlookmag.org/submit-obituary). Please contact Randy Harmdierks with questions: 402.484.3012 [randy@outlookmag.org](mailto:randy@outlookmag.org)

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Colorado	May 31	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
Denver		8:21	8:26	8:29	8:31	8:32
Grand Junction		8:34	8:38	8:42	8:44	8:44
Pueblo		8:16	8:20	8:23	8:26	8:26
<b>Iowa</b>						
Davenport		8:29	8:34	8:38	8:40	8:40
Des Moines		8:42	8:47	8:50	8:52	8:53
Sioux City		8:56	9:01	9:04	9:07	9:07
<b>Kansas</b>						
Dodge City		8:56	9:00	9:03	9:05	9:06
Goodland		8:07	8:12	8:15	8:17	8:18
Topeka		8:42	8:47	8:50	8:52	8:53
<b>Minnesota</b>						
Duluth		8:54	9:00	9:04	9:06	9:07
International Falls		9:07	9:13	9:17	9:20	9:20
Minneapolis		8:52	8:57	9:01	9:03	9:04
<b>Missouri</b>						
Columbia		8:28	8:32	8:36	8:38	8:38
Kansas City		8:38	8:42	8:45	8:48	8:48
St. Louis		8:19	8:24	8:27	8:29	8:30
<b>Nebraska</b>						
Lincoln		8:51	8:56	9:00	9:02	9:02
North Platte		9:09	9:14	9:17	9:19	9:20
Scottsbluff		8:23	8:28	8:31	8:33	8:34
<b>North Dakota</b>						
Bismarck		9:29	9:35	9:39	9:41	9:41
Fargo		9:13	9:19	9:23	9:25	9:26
Williston		9:46	9:52	9:56	9:58	9:59
<b>South Dakota</b>						
Pierre		9:18	9:23	9:27	9:29	9:30
Rapid City		8:29	8:34	8:38	8:40	8:40
Sioux Falls		9:01	9:06	9:09	9:12	9:12
<b>Wyoming</b>						
Casper		8:37	8:42	8:45	8:47	8:48
Cheyenne		8:25	8:30	8:33	8:35	8:36
Sheridan		8:46	8:51	8:55	8:57	8:58



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**Adventist University of Health Sciences is seeking applicants for the position of Program Director for a new Physician Assistant program.** A master's degree is required; doctoral degree is preferred. Adventist University is a faith-based institution which seeks candidates who fit the unique culture and mission of the college. Please email CV to: Dr. Len M. Archer, Assoc. VP for Academic Administration, Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; [len.archer@adu.edu](mailto:len.archer@adu.edu).

**Adventist University of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL is seeking a Physical Therapist Program Director** beginning 2013. The Program Director will provide overall academic leadership developing this program and salary will be competitive. Required:

- Doctoral degree from regionally accredited school
- PT academic experience
- Eligible for FL PT licensure

Preferred:

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Submit letter of interest, curriculum vita, three references and/or letters of recommendation to Dr. Don Williams, Sr VP Academic Administration, Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; [don.williams@adu.edu](mailto:don.williams@adu.edu).

**Andrews University seeks an Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology.** Candidates should have an earned doctorate in Speech-Language Pathology. CCC-SLP is required. For more information and to apply visit: [http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp\\_jobs\\_faculty.cgi](http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi).

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**Southern Adventist University School of Computing** invites applications for a computing professor for fall 2013. A graduate degree in computer science, software engineering, computer information systems, or computer engineering is required; candidates with a doctoral degree are preferred. Duties include

teaching undergraduate computing courses, directing student projects, research, advising computing majors, and serving on University committees. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular standing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Please send a curriculum vita to [halterman@southern.edu](mailto:halterman@southern.edu).

**Southern Adventist University Counseling & Testing Services/ Student Success Center** seeks Licensed Professional Counselor. Candidates must have a Master's degree and licensure in counseling (LPC) and a minimum of three years of successful counseling related experience. Candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, and be a Seventh-day Adventist church member in good and regular standing. Submit resume and cover letter to Jim Wampler, Southern Adventist University, Student Success Center, Box 370, Collegedale, TN, 37315-0370 or [jwampler@southern.edu](mailto:jwampler@southern.edu).

**Southern Adventist University seeks graduate faculty** to join our mission-focused team at the MSN and DNP levels. Candidate must hold current family/adult NP certification. Requisite qualities include interest in research, successful teaching and advanced practice nursing experience, flexibility, and commitment to SDA education. The candidate must be a member in good and regular standing in the SDA Church. Doctorate required. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Holly Gadd, [hgadd@southern.edu](mailto:hgadd@southern.edu). SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

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edu. SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

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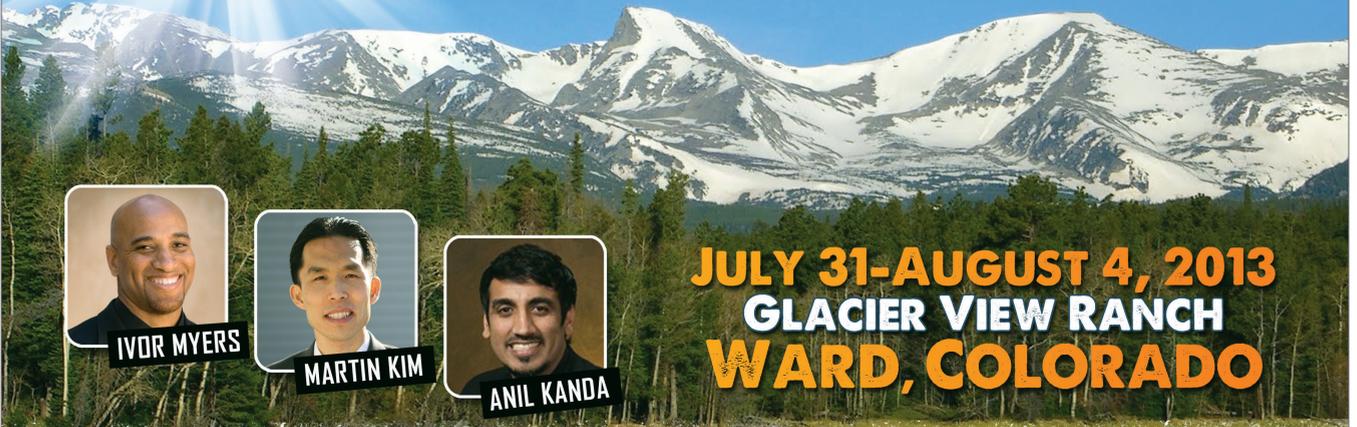
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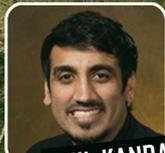
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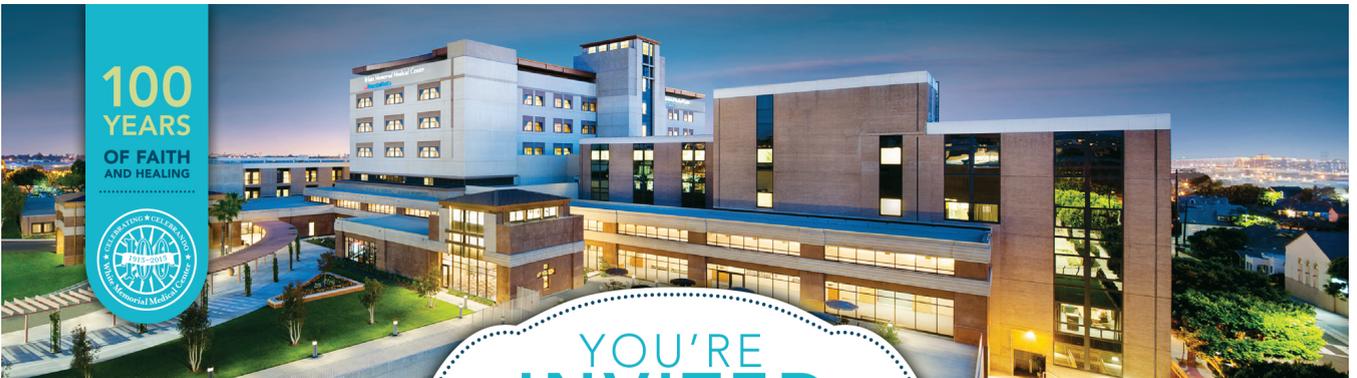
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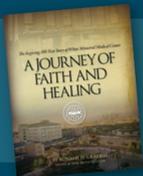
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A fund-raising celebration for WMMC

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Scan this QR code or visit [www.ucollege.edu/emergingmedia](http://www.ucollege.edu/emergingmedia) to hear more about Harrison's story and the communication program at Union College.



#### EXPERIENCE UNION COLLEGE

- 1 Harrison, a junior who decided to switch from computing to a major in communication with Union's new emerging media emphasis.
- 2 As the social media manager for a music blog, he already knows the language. Now he wants to learn how to use online tools to say something meaningful.
- 3 In a world where nearly all employers want a digital presence, Harrison will be ready to make their stories stand out.

#### CONTACT US

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