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

OUTLOOK

NOVEMBER 2013



UNION COLLEGE ANNUAL SPOTLIGHT

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OUTLOOK



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Cover Photo: Chiyunga Chiyabi, a senior graphic design major from Zambia, created his own clothing line, The Kulture (page 6). Photo by Steve Nazario.

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This month's OUTLOOK *focuses on activities of Union College students and how they are preparing to serve in their chosen fields. As you read their stories, you will see how Union fuses real-world experience and classroom theory to prepare students for a life of learning.*

As the daughter of a Union College alumnus, I am blessed to have grown up in a home where Christian education was highly valued. As a graduate of Union myself, I am grateful for the professors who diligently prepared me for the challenges of the communication world. As the wife of a current Union College professor, I am thankful for the fine colleagues with whom my husband is privileged to work. As the mother of a Union Scholar, I am thrilled for the many opportunities our daughter has to participate in spiritual and social activities, both on and off campus. And as the Sabbath lunch hostess for a house full of her energetic and creative friends, I am optimistic for the future of the Adventist Church.

—BRENDA DICKERSON

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Union College: Doing the Right Things the Right Way



by Thomas L. Lemon

Obviously the Lord knew what He was doing when He created us limited to being in one place at a time. Some of us would no doubt add to our stress by being in multiple places at once. The limitation, however, does not stop us from wishing.

It happened to me a few weeks ago. I was sitting in a meeting during which we were making some significant decisions, when **Ron Carlson** (Kansas-Nebraska Conference president) caught my attention with a photograph of the Union College student body, faculty, staff and friends—some 840 strong—taken that morning before they launched into the 33rd annual Project Impact day. For the first time in five years I was missing out on participating in that event. I just couldn't be in two places at once.

Over my years of working with Project Impact I have been privileged to clean and sort library books for the Lincoln Public Library system, install roofing and siding on Habitat for Humanity houses, put up fencing and playground equipment for a single-moms halfway house, and tutor second graders in math and reading. All of it alongside our wonderful Union College students.

And it's not just participating in community service one day a year. According to national surveys, Union students are far more engaged in campus activities than the vast majority of other college students. Whether in or out of the classroom, Union students are creating strong friendships, building resumes through internships, conducting original research and learning through hands-on student employment.

They are also meeting with faculty spiritual mentors, exploring new ways to worship, and praying regularly with classmates. Every week students lead out in 10 small group Sabbath schools scattered across campus. And during the week over 30 students work in Campus Ministries, coordinating spiritual activities with every department on campus and organizing volunteer community service.

I have long been asking the question "If my church burned down would the community even notice once the fire was out?" Well, I can assure you that if Union College would somehow cease to exist, not only would the Lincoln community miss it, our entire Mid-America Union and beyond would be negatively affected in an incredible way.

The impact that Union's graduates have on the Adventist Church continues to amaze me—all across the spectrum. I run into alums in business, medicine, healthcare, education, church leadership, ranching, overseas missions and more. And the ones I encounter are nearly all still deeply committed to the Lord, His message and His church.

The campus itself has undergone a major transformation over the last two years with a couple of substantial construction projects. The new math and science complex and the newly renovated space for the Physician Assistant program and International Rescue and Relief program are an investment in the long range future of our school, its coming generation of students and the mission it promulgates. If you haven't been on the campus for a while, we invite you to come home again soon and tour these beautiful new facilities.

Of all my responsibilities, working with the leadership of our college is one of my most fulfilling roles. **Dr. Wagner** and his administrative team are completely dedicated to fufilling the mission of Adventist education at Union. I would urge you with every fiber I have to lift up Union College in prayer on a daily basis. We need the Lord's presence by His Spirit on our campus to sustain us—not only to do the right things, but to do them in the right way.

Union College is your school, my school, but above all His school. ■

Thomas L. Lemon is president of the Mid-America Union.



More than just Book Learning

by John Wagner

For hundreds of years young men and women prepared for a career, and for life, by learning alongside experts in a chosen vocation—as farmers, craftsmen, theologians, shop keepers—virtually any trade or career. Teenagers often learned the family business from parents and older siblings, or were apprenticed to tradesmen in the community. There was little time for education as we know it, for either men or women.

Now, the world has changed. Jobs have changed. In our global society success no longer depends on simply learning a trade to support a family. Union College, along with universities and colleges around the world, strives to give students the broadest and best possible preparation for life by not only helping students prepare for careers, but showing them how to learn, to adapt and to communicate effectively—skills that will lead to success in any life path.

However, Union College has not lost sight of the effectiveness of an apprenticeship, though now terms such as "job shadowing" and "internship" are more typical. Many programs on our campus intentionally create ways for students to experience real life situations and work alongside seasoned mentors in order to learn, not just by book study, but also by doing.

Take **Joe Hoffman** for example. Joe is a pre-nursing major who, at the encouragement of friends and mentors, decided to enter Union's leadership minor program. Last semester Joe took the Creative Leadership class—an exercise in group learning, studying successful leaders and participating in a citizen leadership project.

Interested in recycling, Joe thought he could encourage recycling on Union's campus by creating a poster campaign for his project. But his professor, **Dr. Linda Becker**, Union's vice president for Student Services, suggested he take his idea a bit further.

Recently Union's garbage collection company introduced free single stream recycling to our campus—meaning nearly all recyclables can be dumped into the same container and will be hauled away for free. So the more Union recycles, the more money we save on garbage collection.

Dr. Becker and Joe decided to try to make it easier to recycle—both to save the planet and to save the college money. So they wrote a grant proposal to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality seeking funds to purchase recycle bins for the entire campus to make it simple for everyone to recycle instead of just throwing away paper, plastic and reusable trash.

As part of the proposal writing process, Joe conducted research and discovered that Union was throwing away 65 tons of garbage each month, about 45 tons of which could be recycled. He learned that by diverting organic materials from landfills, the methane naturally released as these materials decompose is reduced. His passion for recycling increased and in the end his work earned a $3,200 grant—enough to place attention-grabbing blue recycle bins in all our buildings.

When he started, Joe did not realize the impact this project would ultimately have on our campus. Joe said he felt inspired by the teamwork as he volunteered his time to distribute the bins. He learned one of the most important lessons of leadership. "I couldn't do this without everyone else at Union," he said. "This is not my project—it's Union's project."

I'm so impressed with Union College professors as every day I see them encouraging students to go beyond getting a grade by taking an active role in their own education. In the next few pages, we share a sampling of stories of students who have found varieties of ways to make their education more meaningful and practical.

Thank you for your continued support of the great students we have at Union College. Please keep each one in your prayers as they prepare, not only for a career, but for a life that makes a difference. ◼

John Wagner is president of Union College.

Opportunies Abound

On-campus training helps students

by Joellyn Sheehy

Finding a full-time job often seems like a daunting challenge for graduating seniors. But three Union College students have taken advantage of opportunities to not only solidify a choice of vocation, but also gain a head start on their career journeys.

Chiyunga—Resources make dreams a reality

"People at Union are open to helping enable students to grow as a professional and a person," said **Chiyunga Chiyabi**. "Everyone has helped me with my business, whether by providing space to work on my projects or the materials to make them possible. Once they understand your goals and what you're trying to do, you can ask for almost anything."

A senior graphic design major from Zambia, Chiyabi began designing and selling street wear apparel at the beginning of his junior year. "The idea had always been in my mind," he said. "Last year I finally had the resources and decided to push myself to get it started."

A fan of street wear, Chiyabi decided to create his own brand, The Kulture, to offer affordable designs that incorporate positive messages. "The thing with apparel is that people see it every day," he said. "I can post something on Facebook and a few friends will see it, but if I have a T-shirt it's viewed by everyone I pass. Brands cause interactions and can influence people you haven't even met."

Using Union students as his first audience, Chiyabi utilizes his time as a designer for the Associated Student Body at Union to improve his skills and adapt his style. "Being an ASB officer has meant that a lot of people have seen and even worn my designs," he said. "I'm learning to produce work that's likeable to a lot of people, and many are starting to recognize my style. Having such a close-knit school is great as I build a fan base for my brand."

Cid—Classes that prepare you for clients

"In the online world, if you have not created something online, you don't exist," said **Ben Barber**, web developer and adjunct instructor at Union College. "It's as simple as that. If you don't make anything, you aren't a web designer or a web developer. You might be someone who knows how, but if there is no tangible product it doesn't matter. You're non-existent."

Students in the web design class taught by Barber learn to not only theoretically create websites, but also actually develop sites for themselves as well as third parties. "We really get a solid foundation in basic concepts and learn to apply those skills to real world situations," said **Cid Coto**, senior computing major from Wyoming with dual emphases in computer science and web design. "We literally have to find a client and build a site to fit their needs."

After taking Barber's class in the spring, many students have created sites for both friends and professionals. "Taking the class made me feel more confident about designing websites for pay" said Coto. "This summer I had a client who wanted to redesign the site for his start-up business. It was a great way to gain more experience, and because of the class I felt as though I already had a process to follow."

Coto applied classroom strategies to create a product of which he can be proud. "The client loved the final product, and I loved making it," he said. "The new site is serving his needs much better, which makes me really happy."

Having first earned his associate's degree in computer science at a community college, Coto came to Union specifically to study web design. "Being in the program has helped cement what I want to do," he said. "All these extra opportunities continue to reinforce that web design is something I enjoy and want to pursue."

Steven—Developing your passion

"Coming to Union was the best career decision I've ever made," said **Steven Foster**,

We really get a solid foundation in basic concepts and learn to apply those skills to real world situations.

to Hone Job Skills

pay the bills

junior communication major with dual emphases in public relations and emerging media. "In my job as a videographer in Marketing Communications, I discovered my passion for film and how much I want to pursue it."

A transfer student from Colorado, Foster only realized his fervor for film after being hired to make promotional videos for the college. As a student videographer, he is building a portfolio for his future career while earning his bachelor's degree.

"Videography is a very up-and-coming career," said Foster. "Businesses are on the lookout for people with skills in this area because it has become such a huge part of connecting with audiences. Working in the Marketing Communications department gives me space to really grow my skills and passion for such a sought-after job. I've already filmed and produced a number of videos that I can show to potential employers after I graduate."

On-campus employment opportunities are open to students registered for 12 or more credit hours and range from grading papers to managing Cooper's Corner, Union's student-led convenience store. "All the students who have worked for me have built portfolios of real, published materials that they can show when applying for jobs," said **Steve Nazario**, director of visual communications. "From an interviewer's perspective, that's really impressive."

In addition to portfolio plumping, employment experiences at Union provide avenues to explore future career paths. "The more I learn, the more I realize I don't know anything and want to learn more," said Foster. "Having people like **Ryan Teller**, director of public relations, assigning projects that push me to become better has been indispensable. Now every time I get an assignment that might seem routine or even a little boring, I look for ways to add creativity to make it, and myself, better."

By working on campus, Foster is paying off his school bill while investing in his future. "My job isn't even a job," he said. "I'm getting paid to do what I like. If you want it, it's so easy to be successful at Union."

Joellyn Sheehy is a senior international rescue and relief major at Union College.



(l-r) Steven Foster, Chiyunga Chiyabi and Cid Coto have gained a head start on their careers.

Honors Scholar

Student's original research will yield

by Joellyn Sheehy

Most college students choose to research papers and projects from the comfort of a couch in the cool glow of their laptop screen. But not **Michael Rohm**. When the senior Union Scholar decided to research postpartum depression among mothers in refugee camps for his honors thesis, he decided to go to Africa to find answers for himself.

But Rohm has never done things the easy way. When he chose to attend Union College shortly after returning from building churches in Africa back in 2010, he walked the 1,600 miles from his home in Canby, Oregon to Lincoln so he could experience the country. Now as a senior, Rohm doesn't want to read about his topic; he wants to experience it.



Senior Michael Rohm doesn't do things "the easy way."

"It's great that my research is so practical and in an area that I am passionate about," he said of his venture to Africa. "This work is exactly what I want to do in life, and I think I'll make good contacts and learn a lot for my future career."

After creating a personalized degree in international relations and communications, Rohm decided to conduct his research abroad to coincide with his passion for helping people in developing nations. "I definitely want to work overseas," he said. "It's nice going now while I still have support and guidance from the college and professors, especially since this project relates directly to my career."

Rohm began drafting the project in his honors Research Methods class the fall semester of his junior year. "Everyone was really supportive," he said. "When I presented my proposal to the Scholar's committee, everyone thought it was a big project, but they were also optimistic that I could do it." Rohm will also take directed study courses while doing his research during the first half of the 2013-14 school year.

Seeking new experiences

The Union Scholars Honors Program gives students who want to pursue academic excellence the opportunity to travel, receive scholarships, explore major global issues and conduct original research as an undergraduate. Scholars, who must have a minimum high school GPA of 3.5 and a composite ACT score of at least 24, have the opportunity to travel to Hong Kong and Malaysia the summer of their junior year and present a thesis right before graduation.

Attracted to the program for the scholarships, Rohm had mixed feelings about the research expectations. "Now I'm really glad for the opportunity," he said. "I'm not the kind of person to take the initiative and just begin a project like this, but being forced to has really made me evaluate what I want to do. The honors program has been good for helping me appreciate and seek out new experiences. Also, **Dr. Tanya Cochran** [professor of English] is a really good teacher."

In the middle of September Rohm began his venture at the Kakuma refugee camp in the Turkana district of

Heads to Africa

first-hand answers

North Kenya. Made famous by hosting the Lost Boys of Sudan, in 2012 the camp was believed to house more than 100,000 displaced persons.

Rohm is planning to reside in the camp for several weeks and interview internally displaced mothers who have given birth within the last year. "The idea came just from me wanting to be useful to developing countries," he explained. "I spent time looking into vulnerable populations and then realized *who's more vulnerable than a mother with a young child in a refugee camp?* Especially if there's no support system, that's about as vulnerable as you can get."

Researching the possibilities

As he explored the project more, Rohm found little information on displaced mothers' mental health. "What I did find came mostly from Canada and was about postpartum depression among mothers who had come seeking asylum," he said. "While useful to read, the issues are much different. If a woman travels from Kenya to Canada there are a lot of cultural differences that can contribute to depression. In looking at internal displacement, I'm narrowing my scope down to the effects of being in a refugee camp, whether that translates into the loss of social support or living in a hazardous environment."

Assisted by advisor **Rick Young**, director of the international rescue and relief program, Rohm will work under the umbrella of ADRA International. "Rick Young went out of his way to help me get connected with potential sites," he said. "He contacted an IRR alumna within ADRA, who then spoke with the ADRA director in Rwanda and Kenya. I wasn't asking for funding, just a place to go."

Rohm will collect the majority of his data while in Africa, then write and polish his paper by April 2014. "One thing I've considered is that maybe there's no problem because of a strong community feel or other factors," he said. "They might get help from other people in raising a child and be happy with their mental status; it really could go either way. But it's exciting to know there are a lot of possibilities. That's what research is all about."

The Union Scholars Honors Program is open to incoming freshmen and transfer students meeting the academic prerequisites. Scholars requires six semester hours less than the general education (LEAD) requirements, and the substituted interdisciplinary courses focus on complex global issues. For more information or to apply visit www.ucollege.edu/honors.

Joellyn Sheehy is a senior international rescue and relief major at Union College.

About Union Scholars

The Union Scholars Honors program is designed to inspire academically gifted students to excellence in learning, spirituality and service. The program gives students access to exclusive classes, interdisciplinary courses that address complex issues, individualized assistance with an original research project, coursework abroad and additional scholarships.

"The Union College honors program put me into contact with professors who truly cared about my academic career, as well as students who shared my love of learning," said **Serena Stevens**, a 2011 graduate currently in a clinical psychology PhD program at Loma Linda University. "I enjoyed the variety of classes that helped expand my worldview—Nonviolence and Peacemaking [now Conflict and Peacemaking] by **Mr. Blake** and the Holocaust class by **Professor Schroeder**, for example, made me think in ways that I hadn't considered before.

"Although my psychology degree also required a senior research project, the requirement for the honors program is invaluable for anyone interested in pursuing higher education. The entire process—from developing my proposal, to working through the kinks in the design, to creating and presenting, was great preparation for grad school, where these skills are vital."

What Should I Be

Practical experience helps Union

by Elena Cornwell

Some of the challenges we are discussing in class are things I had to overcome when I worked with the Hispanic families.

Ask a typical group of 5-year-olds what they want to be when they grow up and you'll get responses like "fireman," "movie star" or "football player." But **Priscilla Rodriguez**, now a sophomore at Union College, had a different answer. "At kindergarten graduation, when they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I said 'social worker,'" she laughed. "Everyone else said, 'princess' or 'ballerina.'"

Rodriguez found inspiration early in life from her mom, a social worker, who often took her daughter to work with her to help care for newborns and kids who had been abused. The children loved Priscilla, and she found that she loved them back. Later in high school, Rodriguez worked at an equitherapy barn—a place dedicated to aiding healing through interaction with horses. "I absolutely loved working with the kids there," she recalled.

Volunteering helps clarify goals

Last fall Rodriguez registered as a social work major at Union because of the college's focus on serving the community. She quickly got involved in activities across campus including band, the student-led Footprints drama ministry, the J-High program, being one of the team leaders for women's ministries, and recruiting for Union throughout the Midwest.

Even with all her involvement on campus, Rodriguez soon discovered that a first-year social work major starts volunteering for community organizations right away. New program director **Shawna Herwick** requires freshmen who enroll in the Intro to Social Work course to volunteer for 15 hours at a local service agency. Rodriguez chose El Centro de las Américas, a Lincoln-based organization dedicated to educating and empowering Latino and Hispanic families.

But instead of volunteering, the organization asked her to apply for an internship. Fluent in both Spanish and English, Rodriguez knew her Mexican and Puerto Rican background made for a good fit. Her first task was to help clients fill out a variety of government documents, but Rodriguez found herself struggling to understand words in Spanish that she didn't even know in English. With time, however, she became comfortable with a variety of tasks, including completing government forms for everything from Medicaid to immigration.

As the semester progressed, Rodriguez began interviewing clients and setting up medical appointments—duties Herwick had only seen senior social work majors doing during their required 480-hour practicums. "I was shocked when she would come back and say, 'I got to do this or that today,'" Herwick said.

Internship brings benefits

Right before her internship ended, the director asked Rodriguez to add one final project. El Centro de las Américas was one of 12 nonprofit organizations chosen to be represented in the Marketplace of Community Values, an exhibit at the Sheldon Museum of Art in Lincoln. While preparing for end-of-semester finals, Rodriguez directed the creation of the display embodying the essence of El Centro de las Américas for the Lincoln community.

Because of her work, Rodriguez received a scholarship from El Centro, as well as three letters of recommendation: one from the director of the art gallery, one from the artist with whom she worked, and one from the director of El Centro. She was also offered a job at El Centro but couldn't accept because of her class schedule.

The social work curriculum provides many other opportunities for service as well. The Issues of Diversity class—required for social work majors—teams students with the Good Neighbor Community Center to help organize the Samples of the World event. This community fundraiser gives students experience gathering donations and working with nonprofit organizations to create a successful event.

When I Grow Up?
students discover their calling

For Rodriguez, the experience working with families at El Centro de las Américas changed her perspective on her classwork. "Right now I'm taking Issues of Diversity class," she said. "Some of the challenges we are discussing in class are things I had to overcome when I worked with the Hispanic families."

Her internship also helped clarify her long-term goals. "Working with Hispanic families is something I want to do," said Rodriguez. "I'm from Texas, and that is a big issue there."

Finding a God-given calling

Based on these experiences, Herwick plans to eventually integrate more service learning hours into sophomore and junior level classes she teaches. Additionally, her own experience has taught her the importance of discovering a calling early in college.

As a high school senior, Herwick found herself grading papers for a teacher. While discussing her plans to become a dental hygienist, she was stopped short by her astounded teacher's response, "I thought you were going to be a social worker!"

Herwick had never even considered social work. In fact, she was unsure what a social worker did. But some research and her first day of class in college helped her realize that social work was where she belonged. "I was sitting in Intro to Social Work and I just felt it in my heart—*this is what I want to do.* The classes and the practicum experiences only solidified that calling."

Although many students come into the social work program like Rodriguez, already sure of their calling, Herwick has found that most transfer into the program after starting out in another major. Herwick's life parallels Experience Your Calling, a new program at Union designed to help students discover their individual calling. Thanks to a $50,000 grant from the Council of Independent Colleges, Experience Your Calling will strive to create an environment to help students discover more than just a career, but a life calling. Through assessments to learn about gifts and passions, books, coaching, volunteer opportunities and interested professors, students have the opportunity to learn what it means to find a God-given purpose for life.

To learn more about how Union helps students discover their calling, visit www.ucollege.edu/calling.

Elena Cornwell is a junior communication major at Union College who is studying this year at Universidad Adventista del Plata in Argentina as part of the Adventist Colleges Abroad program.



Sophomore Priscilla Rodriguez is confident about her long-term goals.

CSC Welcomes New Human Resources Specialist

by Philip Baptiste

The Central States Conference is pleased to announce **Lori Taylor-Baynham** as their new Human Resources specialist. Taylor-Baynham has completed advanced training in the field and brings a wealth of experience to the position, having served with distinction for the past three years as the Human Resources assistant. We are delighted for her to assume this expanded role, in addition to continuing to serve as conference membership clerk and executive assistant to the conference president, vice president and ministerial director.

Philip Baptiste is communication director for the Central States Conference.



Courtesy Central States Conference

CSC Appreciates Former Leaders

by Philip Baptiste

This Thanksgiving season, the Central States Conference would like to express appreciation for three former leaders.

Pastor Dwain Thomas, who ministered in Central States for over a decade, has accepted a call to the South Central Conference.

Dr. Charles Drake III, who served with distinction as conference president from 2009 to 2012, has moved to the Allegheny East Conference.

Pastor Will Pergerson, former conference evangelist and most recently senior pastor of the Philadelphia Church in Des Moines, Iowa, has decided to go into full time evangelism. Please join us in praying for God to richly bless these leaders as they continue to selflessly serve our Savior in new locations.

Young Adult Authors New Book

by Philip Baptiste

Ladell Farrar seeks to show how God's message can practically relate to everyday life in his new book on soul winning, *Building the Body of Christ*. Farrar's pastor, **Claval Hunter**, strongly recommends the book and describes it as a practical guide to growing in Christ.

The book is dedicated to Farrar's Lighthouse Adventist Church family in St. Louis, Missouri, where he serves as church clerk, assistant treasurer and deacon.

The book is available for digital download through the Kindle app or for purchase at Barnes & Nobel bookstores.

Creative Evangelism Yields Results

by Philip Baptiste

The Palace of Peace Church in Colorado Springs recently engaged in five weekends of creative evangelism by inviting different speakers to share at an evangelist event called A Better Life Conference.

Pastors **Laurent Grosvenor**, **Kimberly Bulgin**, **Gil Webb**, **Roger Bernard** and **Abraham Jules** presented the Adventist message in an exciting, fresh and creative way to the many guests and members. Each evening, participants were given a colorful half page summary of the message to share with a friend.

Twenty individuals were baptized and more are studying to join the church. Follow up activities included a six-week Starting Point class on Sunday evenings to help the newly baptized individuals grow in Christ.

Palace of Peace is planning to continue to utilize creative methods of sharing the good news of Jesus.

Stewardship Director Promotes Synergy

by George Bryant

***Pastor George Bryant** is passionate about sharing stewardship and biblical finance principles with members across the Central States Conference region. Following is an excerpt from his latest Stewardship Seminar.*

Synergy is the harmonious working together of two or more people or groups that yields a result greater than the sum of their individual efforts. This concept of synergy was at work on the day of Pentecost when a small band of unlearned common workers united together in one accord and began to spread the gospel with such forcefulness that people said they had "turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6). Coming together in one accord allowed them to be filled with the Holy Spirit—the power source behind synergy.

How does this concept of synergy relate to the principle of tithing? First, we must remember that tithing was chosen by God as His instrument for sustaining those who preach the gospel. The storehouse is merely the establishment where the tithe is both collected and distributed. Could this be the local church? Absolutely yes; however, not with the same effectiveness as in a system where many churches band together, allowing for the operation of synergy. Simply stated, in view of our global mission, no one local church is capable of taking on this mission with efficiency.

Now let's take a look at our structure within the Seventh-day Adventist Church. All the churches within a given locale join together into a combined unit to accomplish two basic functions: provide equitably for those carrying the gospel within its territory, and provide substantial assistance for those in other parts of the world where the need for tithe resources is considerably greater. When these several churches come together, under the influence of the Holy Spirit as on the day of Pentecost, we have synergy at work within our tithing system so that the gospel can go to the world both with equity and efficiency.

Does God need our money? Absolutely not! Nevertheless, He has devised a plan that requires us to all pull together in the same direction. While God does not need our resources, we need the opportunity His system affords for coming together in one accord. No wonder Scripture declares, "Great is the mystery of godliness!"

Pastor George Bryant is stewardship director for the Central States Conference.



Courtesy Central States Conference

Kerr Accepts Women's Ministries Mantle

by Jacquie Biloff

Karen Roe



Retiring Women's Ministries director Anne Wham (right) offers a prayer consecrating incoming director Brenna Kerr.

Dakota Conference Women's Ministries retiring director **Anne Wham** passed the leadership mantel to **Brenna Kerr** on Sunday, September 15, during the 25th annual Women's Retreat by draping Kerr in a scarf and saying a prayer of consecration. Kerr, who resides in Drayton, North Dakota and is employed as a physician assistant, has worked with Wham as a Women's Ministries team member for many years.

Approximately 115 women from several states convened in Aberdeen, South Dakota to attend Extreme Makeover: The Butterfly Effect. The weekend was replete with spiritual overtones and undergirded with humor.

Dr. Rebekah Wang, medical director for quality at Kettering Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio, emphasized the caterpillar, chrysalis and butterfly stages of life using 2 Cor. 5:17 as a scriptural theme: "Therefore if any woman is in Christ she is a new creature altogether; the old is gone, behold, the fresh and new has come."

Breakout sessions included Butterflies in the Garden by **Marilyn Heilman** and **Paulette Bollinger**; In the Cocoon by **Sandy Simantan** and **Colette Doss**; and On Butterfly Wings by **Jennifer Erikson** and **Lisa Miller**.

The retreat featured musicians from the previous 25 years throughout the weekend and dedicated a special room to memorabilia and photos.

The women of the Dakota Conference are sad to see Wham retire, but happy that Kerr has accepted the leadership of Women's Ministries.

Jacquie Biloff is communication director for the Dakota Conference.

DAA Students Share Talents

by Sharon Heinrich

Early Sabbath morning, August 31, students and staff from Dakota Adventist Academy headed out to visit 12 churches across the Dakota Conference. It was a special Sabbath focusing on secondary Christian education with the offering going to the education endowment fund held at the conference.

Students participated in worship services by leading out in music, children's story, Scripture reading, prayer, and in some churches sharing their personal testimonies of how Christian education has impacted their lives. As they returned to campus later that day, students were excited about the opportunity they had to witness and asked when they could do it again.

Churches participating in this special education Sabbath were Bismarck, Bowdle, Bowdon Country, Fargo, Goodrich, Grand Forks, Minot, Pierre, Tolstoy, Wahpeton, Williston, and the Edgeley, Kulm, and Lehr district. This was the second year students participated in Endowment Sabbath. Both the number of churches visited and total donations received increased this year.

Sharon Heinrich is development director at Dakota Adventist Academy.

Adventists Say Yes

Let's Move Day draws participants

by Colleen Wolf

The Sioux Falls Adventist church in South Dakota had a total of 22 people walking or biking the trails of Falls Park North on September 22 in support of Let's Move Day. There were a similar number of people participating in other activities.

Ed Simanton and his two children, **JT** and **Alana**, rode a total of 20 miles each. **Ashley Wolf** guided the smallest biker who rode her training bike three miles and never quit even though she had hills to climb.

Jerry Closs, who takes neighboring children to Sabbath school and church programs, brought them to the park, carrying five bikes in his van. The total number of miles recorded was 167 with an average of 7.5 per person.

Nedd Brown brought water and fruit snacks, compliments of the church's social committee, for the event. It was a windy but beautiful day.

Preparations for this day included the distribution of Adventists Say Yes brochures and a Saturday night vespers program explaining Let's Move Day and how it ties in with the National Initiative for Childhood Obesity.

Colleen Wolf is Health Ministries leader for the Sioux Falls Church.

Photos: Colleen Wolf



JT, Ed and Alana Simanton each rode 20 miles.



Ashley Wolf guided the smallest biker, who rode three miles without stopping.

Family Achieves Summer Camp Goal

by Casey Johnson

Sister and brother **Disiree Atkinson**, 15, and **Brandon Kelough**, 12, from the Lebanon (MO) Adventist Church, wanted to attend Camp Heritage. Rather than giving them the money, their parents gave them a goal: sponsor yourselves and two other friends for a week of camp.

Disiree and Brandon had no idea how they were going to achieve their goal, but they trusted that God had a plan. In May their mother, **Amy Gutierrez**, went to a yard sale and found 100 small American flag bumper stickers for 50 cents total. The sibling duo sold the stickers to their neighbors for $1 each. Some people gave additional donations and in just two days they had enough money to purchase supplies to make leather beaded key chains to sell.

The two young people and their mom worked quickly to make the key chains and sold them for $5 each at local businesses and door-to-door in neighborhoods. Every day before they headed out to sell, they prayed. They also prayed when rejections discouraged them. Some days it poured rain, but it was amazing how God stopped the rain when they went out and the rain would start again as soon as they got back home.

After about three weeks of sales, Disiree and Brandon had made enough money to go to camp for not just one week, but for two weeks each. They also had enough to pay for two other people to go for one week. The nearly $2,000 profit allowed them to purchase needed supplies and give all four of them $50 to spend at the camp store. The family has already set their goal for next year!

Casey Johnson is communication secretary for the Lebanon Church.

Mobile Tire Repair Ministry Meets Needs

by Michelle Hansen

Courtesy Debbie Mitchell



Bobby Mitchell and his son, Aaron, repaired tires free of charge in a 7-Eleven parking lot in Moore, Oklahoma.

When the devastating EF5 tornado hit Joplin, Missouri two years ago, local church members **Bobby** and **Debbie Mitchell,** who operate a used car business, knew they could offer their neighbors some help. The Mitchells had at one point considered opening a tire business, so they had a large amount of tire repair equipment. "We had thought about selling our gas-powered tire compressor a couple of times but felt impressed to hang on to it," said Debbie. The couple, their son **Aaron**, and West Plains Missouri Adventist Church member **Phil Bridges** spent a week repairing and replacing over 600 tires.

When the EF5 tornado hit Moore, Oklahoma this past May, the Mitchells were ready and willing to head 225 miles southwest to help those in need because they knew first hand how the debris from a storm of that magnitude can wreak havoc on tires. The pastor of the Adventist Church in Moore helped them find a family to stay with during their whirlwind week of tire repairs.

The city of Moore set up a Facebook page announcing services being offered after the tornado. "Our post about repairing tires in the 7-Eleven parking lot was shared over 3,000 times," said Debbie. "It's really exciting to see how social media can be such a blessing. Getting to meet peoples' needs is a great ministry."

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

Women's Retreat Celebrates 25th Anniversary

by Michelle Hansen

The Iowa-Missouri Christian Women's Retreat celebrated its 25-year anniversary in September. **Diane Brown**, former conference Women's Ministries director and church member **Sharon Koenke** organized the first retreat in 1989. **Gail Coridan**, current conference Women's Ministries director, recognized the efforts of Brown and Koenke by giving them certificates of appreciation at this year's retreat.

Each year the retreat alternates locations between Iowa and Missouri. This year 230 women gathered in Des Moines for a weekend filled with worship, fellowship, learning opportunities and fun. Throughout the weekend, speaker **Annie Pérez** PhD, MA, BSN, RN, CDE, shared her thoughts on how to Stand Still in the Storm. "When the storm hits, it's better to be in the boat with Jesus than to be out on land without Jesus," said Pérez. "There is nothing more important in life, to Jesus, than you. If a problem matters to you, it matters to Jesus."

Each year a mission offering is collected on Sabbath morning. This year over $3,500 was given to help pay the way of 10 conference teachers who will be going to Lupane, Zimbabwe to build a secondary school over the 2014 spring break.

Photos: Michelle Hansen



Speaker Annie Pérez talked about times in her life when she struggled to trust God's plan.



Glenda Bascom (left), and Judy Rochholz, both Guthrie Center (IA) Church members, shared tips on how to make hospitality a powerful witness.



Retreat attendees learned how to make ruffled scarves during an Early Bird session on Friday afternoon.

Pathfinder Leaders Enhance Skills

by John Treolo

In an on-going effort to improve the Pathfindering experience for leaders and young people, conference Pathfinder director **Travis Sager** recently coordinated a Leadership Track weekend at Broken Arrow Ranch. Nearly 50 leaders came together for four sessions: Youth Ministry, taught by **Shayne Daughenbaugh**; Adventurer, taught by **Anne Wham**; Pathfinder, taught by Sager; and Master Guide, taught by **Kathy Story**.

"The purpose of this weekend was to spend time together focusing on our leadership and ministry," Sager said. "You can't replace the relationships and confidence-building with each other."

Recently retired from the Dakota Conference, Wham brought more than 40 years of Pathfinder experience to teach the Adventurer track. "My mission statement is found in Psalm 71:17-18. This is what motivates me," she noted. "When the lights come on and the Pathfinders get it about Jesus and accept Him as their own, those are the rewards I receive."

Maria Johnson, who has spent eight years working with Lincoln's Piedmont Park Pathfinders and Adventurers, said, "I would like to be able to support the incoming kids in our groups and to help them realize their God-given talents."

A Master Guide veteran of 32 years, Story is teaching Johnson and others how to join the ranks of the (currently) 8,249 Master Guides in North America. "I enjoy helping others so they are able to work with their kids and become successful in their Pathfinder clubs," Story said.

Steve Ladig, Pathfinder director of the College View Church club in Lincoln, said "I see young people who grow into a deeper relationship with Jesus and who take on responsibility and leadership at their church or school." Ladig supported the event by transporting on the bus 36 attendees from the Lincoln area.

For information about getting involved with Pathfinders, contact Travis Sager at tsager@ks-ne.org or 785.478.4726.

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



John Treolo

Coordinator Travis Sager (center) encouraged attendees during the Pathfinder Leadership Track weekend.

KS-NE CONFERENCE CALENDAR

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT **WWW.KS-NE.ORG**

Nov 1-3	**Marriage Encounter** Kansas City Area Info: k-melindustries@sbcglobal.net
Nov 8-9	**KC Area Youth Rally** Speaker: Ben Lundquist Info: tsager@ks-ne.org
Nov 8-10	**Wichita Area Hispanic Couples' Retreat** Info: robpaucorrea@hotmail.com
Nov 15-16	**Wichita Area Youth Rally** Info: tsager@ks-ne.org

Kansas Girl Assists English Peer

Reprinted with permission from the Lawrence Journal-World

When **Heidi Burke** sets her mind on something, nothing is going to stand in her way. So when the 9-year-old girl recently launched an epic fundraiser—needing almost $9,000 in less than a week—there was no doubt she would somehow make it happen.

Heidi turned to PayPal and the kindness of family and Internet strangers to help her spring a life-changing surprise on her friend **Ellie May Challis**, who lives in Essex, England. Heidi was planning to pay for Ellie Mae and her family to visit America.

Heidi and Ellie May had never met in person. But they share a powerful bond. "We are both 9," Heidi says. "We both have blond hair, we have the same color eyes and are about as tall as each other. And we both do not have hands or legs."

Heidi is a quadrilateral congenital amputee—she was born that way. Ellie May, meanwhile, lost her hands and lower legs due to bacterial meningitis when she was a toddler.

The fundraiser was to assist Ellie May and her family in attending the International Child Amputee Network (ICAN) convention, held this past summer in Baltimore, Maryland. There the girls would meet in person for the first time.

When the fundraising goal was met, "We just called the Challis family and screamed into the phone to each other," Heidi's mother, **Dawn**, recalls. "The British are coming!"

During the convention, 30-40 amputee children like Heidi and Ellie Mae swim, play games and just hang out. One evening they all go to a big dinner with their families, and for once they aren't the ones being stared at.

Heidi and Dawn both agree it was a wonderful experience to get acquainted with the Challis family. They also express sincere appreciation to their Chapel Oaks Church family in Shawnee, Kansas for their love and support through the years.



Dawn Burke

While at the ICAN convention, Heidi (left) and Ellie Mae met Miss Iowa, Nicole Kelly, herself born without a forearm.

More Reasons to Praise Him!

State of the conference message from president Ed Barnett

Brothers and sisters of the Minnesota Conference, God is doing amazing, exciting things in Minnesota! Please allow me to update you:

Church Plants

We have several new church plants starting in and around the Twin Cities. One is a Kenyan group meeting in Champlin. They had their grand opening the last Sabbath of September. There is another congregation talking of starting a plant south of the Twin Cities. More details will come as plans progress, but both of these plants are born of a desire to establish more churches in more areas to share Jesus in their communities.

Evangelism

We are excited that **Shawn Boonstra** will be coming to preach a major Twin Cities evangelistic series in 2015. In preparation for this we already have seven major lay training programs scheduled to take place. We have also hired **Karen Lewis** to come and facilitate Bible study training around the Twin Cities. Each of our metro churches is going to hold an effort before Shawn's meetings to feed interest into his. Please start praying now for these meetings.

Maplewood Academy

Last year we started with 107 students and graduated 31 at the end of the year. We only had 11 eighth-graders graduating across our conference who didn't have a local K-10 school to attend. We were concerned about our enrollment at Maplewood. The good news is we have started with 109 students this year—even more than we had last year! I praise God for what He is doing at Maplewood Academy! Please keep our young people and staff on your prayer list.

Elementary Schools

We reopened a school in Thief River Falls! No Adventist school has operated there for many years, and they are off to a great start. We have a 24 percent increase in our elementary schools across the conference this year. This is unheard of today; so again, we praise God that Seventh-day Adventist education is alive and well in Minnesota!

North Star Camp

We rejoice that over 400 campers attended our 2013 summer camps, and 125 young people asked to be baptized! In regard to the renovation/building project, we are continuing with Phase II and the Lord has steadily provided the funds in advance to move forward.

Tithe

There is also good news in regard to our tithe results through August. The report shows a 4.57 percent increase compared to this time last year. The Lord is greatly blessing!

So often we hear bad news and everything seems negative but, brothers and sisters, God is blessing and we give Him the credit and praise for the great things He is doing! Thank you for your faithfulness and your prayers.

Jeff Wines



Retreat Reveals New Normal

by Ricky Melendez

"I went into it thinking it was just school bonding time," said Maplewood Academy senior **Nicholas Morrison**. Many students arrived at North Star Camp thinking the same thing—hang out with friends, eat food, open the Bible some, maybe get a spiritual high. But everything would return to normal after it was over. What actually happened during this year's Spiritual Retreat was a surprise to everyone.



Courtesy Minnesota Conference

Maplewood Academy students experienced the outpouring of God's Spirit during their retreat at North Star Camp.

Honestly, I would have to describe it as the "outpouring of the Holy Spirit" or even "latter rain." I remember standing in the middle of Polaris Hall and thinking to myself, *This is what it must have been like at Pentecost.* The Spirit was pouring, I mean *pouring* Himself out onto the students and staff during that incredible night.

We began the worship service at 7pm Sunday evening. After an awesome time of praise and worship we moved into Bible study. As we started sharing with one another and reading the Word, time seemed to stand still. Before we realized it, we had been together for *five hours.* Yes, for five hours we thought about Jesus, talked about Jesus, were saturated by Jesus and the reality of His being. Students and faculty were prophesying; they were speaking the truths of God. They were living out the prophecy of Joel that states that in the last days God's Spirit will be poured out and young men shall see visions and old men shall have dreams (Joel 2:28).

The Holy Spirit took over and allowed 103 students to willingly listen to Him and permit Him to speak through them. If I had a dollar for every time I heard students get up front and say, "I never do this" or "I'm not a public speaker—I don't even know why I am up here" I would be rich. In fact, I was rich—rich with the Holy Spirit who showed up in a gigantic way.

So what is the aftermath of all of this? Here is what some staff and students are saying:

Many students have experienced Jesus for the first time. They have tasted and they see that He tastes good. —**Mollie Cummings**, assistant Bible teacher.

Our students this year are interested in God. It's not a passing fancy. The Holy Spirit is moving in ways I have never anticipated, but I'm not going to slow Him down or get in His way. —**Linda Vigil**, chaplain.

God has brought people out of their comfort zones to express how they feel about Him. It's amazing to see what's happening on our campus—something that hasn't happened in past years. —**Anesia**, Junior.

Everyone is just getting into their Bibles. Even if you don't really know a person, you can go up to someone and just talk about God. —**Jonathan**, Sophmore.

I see the kids' hearts being more open to spiritual things. —**Christopher Morrison**, athletic director.

I feel like it's still unknown why this year is so awesome and what's going to happen next, but I'm just going to ride the wave. —**Dru**, Junior.

The students are continuing to engulf themselves in God's Word, holding nightly Bible studies in dorm rooms. They are rising up and living out the call to go and preach God's word. Many have preached at their home churches, sharing the remarkable things God is doing on campus and, more importantly, in their hearts. Within the first month three students were baptized and many more have either recommitted their lives to Christ or are studying for baptism.

What if Jesus is actually coming soon? What if the prophecies of old are coming to fruition? What if the Holy Spirit we have pleaded for is actually here, and here to stay? I'm telling you, God is up to something big. He has begun a work not just at Maplewood, but all around this world. Something huge is about to happen with our young people. They are ready for the Spirit's continual outpouring. They are rising up as a youth army of God. What if this is the new normal? Are the rest of us ready to jump on board this train?

Ricky Melendez is a Union College student youth pastor assisting the Hutchinson Church on the campus of Maplewood Academy.

Retiring Teacher Leaves Inspiring Legacy

by Linda Jackson

Linda Jackson



During the service honoring his 14 years of teaching ministry at Daystar Christian School, Dave Walker expressed appreciation for the support of the Pueblo First Church.

After 14 years of service, **Dave Walker** has retired as principal, teacher and friend from Daystar Christian School, operated by the Pueblo First Church.

Walker taught foundational subjects that took students well into high school and beyond. Many of his former students have graduated from college with majors such as business, pre-med, physics, music, nursing, math and engineering. His students have attended Union College, Andrews University, Southern Adventist University, Walla Walla University, Pueblo Community College, University of Colorado at Boulder, The U.S. Naval Academy and others.

Walker has been dedicated to his students' intellectual, emotional, spiritual and physical growth. Many of his students have been on mission trips, traveling to Honduras, Costa Rica, Belize, Japan, Egypt, Spain, Mexico and the Marshall Islands. In addition, several of the men are now officers in the Marine Corps and Navy.

Linda Jackson is a member of the Pueblo First Church.

LaVida Mission to Benefit from Supply Drive

The Rocky Mountain Conference is blessed to have LaVida Mission in our territory. LaVida serves the Navajo Nation living within the conference. For a self-supporting ministry, funding is always a challenge. One of the ways we can help is by sending supplies necessary to operate this school. To participate in this outreach ministry that is touching the lives of the Navajo for Jesus, view the complete list of needed supplies at rmcsda.org/LaVida and take your donation to a church listed below.

Sun. Nov. 3

8am - Delta
9am - Cedaredge
1pm - Rifle
5pm - Craig

Mon. Nov. 4

8 am - Casper
12pm - Cheyenne
2pm - Greeley
3pm - Loveland
4pm - Campion
5:30pm - Brighton

Tues. Nov. 5

8am - Denver
11am - Co. Spgs. Cent.
2pm - Canon City
3pm - Pueblo Central

Wed. Nov. 6

8am - Alamosa
5pm - Deliver to La Vida

Floods Ravage Colorado

by Mark Bond

Massive amounts of rain in September caused extensive flooding along the Front Range of Colorado. Boulder and adjacent communities fared the worst, but there was also flooding in many other communities. Estes Park, Lewisville, Longmont, Loveland, and Aurora were some of the hardest hit. At least 10 deaths have been attributed to the flooding, more than 19,000 structures were damaged, and more than 1,500 homes have been completely demolished. Complicating matters is the fact that numerous roads and bridges have been destroyed, leaving some areas hard to reach by clean up crews.

According to **Craig Carr**, ministerial director for the Rocky Mountain Conference, three members of the Boulder Church have lost their homes—one couple from Lyons, and an individual who lives in Jamestown. There was minor damage reported at the Boulder Church. Some damage was also reported in the basement at the Estes Park Church.

Twin Peaks disaster averted

Blake Jones, pastor of the Twin Peaks Church in Lewisville, said the flooding began in their area during prayer meeting on the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 11. Approximately 20 members had gathered when water started flooding into the church and filling the basement.

The head elder alerted members, and within minutes there were about 50 people at the church building a makeshift dam to divert the river of water that was flooding the basement.

Before this was accomplished, about two inches had accumulated in the basement of the church. One member with an industrial shop-vacuum was able to get most of the standing water out of the basement, while other members rushed to rent carpet cleaners.

By the time the wet, weary church members left, they had been able to extract the rest of the water from the downstairs carpet, but there was considerable dampness left behind. Jones called a restoration company to come dry out their carpets with fans and dehumidifiers. He was told that they would be added to a list, since there were over 800 calls in ahead of them.

On Friday, with many of the roads impassable because of flooding, Jones headed out to see if it was even possible to drive to the church. He spotted a restoration company van parked on the side of the road and stopped to speak to the driver regarding the Twin Peaks church basement. The driver said, "Since it's the weekend, and this is the Lord's house, I'll come set up some fans and a dehumidifier for you right now." Because of that little miracle, the Twin Peaks Church didn't even need to report an insurance claim.

"If we hadn't had a good attendance at prayer meeting, we would have certainly had the entire basement flooded," Jones said. "But that prayer meeting turned into the fastest church work bee in history. I'm so thankful for all the members who showed up to help us avoid a major calamity."

How you can help

Please continue to pray for the thousands who have been impacted by this disaster. **Cathy Kissner**, Rocky Mountain Adventist Community Services and Disaster Response director, reports that emergency supplies are being distributed near the Colorado flood areas in Loveland. You may donate to ACS-DR online by visiting mcsda.org/acs or by calling 800.381.7171.

Mark Bond is communication director for the Rocky Mountain Conference.



Giving Thanks Through Music

by Kara Cowie

For Shawnee Mission Medical Center (SMMC), there's no better way to kick off the holiday season than by giving back to the community. That's why SMMC is once again hosting the Celebration of Thanksgiving, a free concert featuring Christian singer/songwriter Francesca Battistelli, a Grammy nominee and six-time Dove Award winning artist. Battistelli writes pop, soul-infused music to motivate and encourage listeners of any age. Her debut album, My Paper Heart, was Certified Gold in July 2012.

The inspirational concert will take place at 3:30 pm on Saturday, Nov. 23, at Cross Points Church located at 6824 Lackman Road in Shawnee, Kansas. Attendees are encouraged to bring food items to donate to Harvesters, but donations are not required.

"We want to encourage everyone to give back to the community during this time of the year just as we are," said SMMC's administrative director of Spiritual Wellness Mark Stoddart.

SMMC associates, physicians and staff created Celebration of Thanksgiving years ago as a way to extend their gratitude and give back to patients and the community.

"We're a faith-based hospital, and we wanted to find a way to give something to our community that would be inspiring," said Stoddart. "This celebration also marks the beginning of the holiday season in a way that focuses on God."

Founded on the values of the Seventh-day Adventist church, SMMC has been committed to improving health through Christian service for more than 50 years. The Celebration of Thanksgiving is yet another way to honor the hospital's history and mission—making this year's featured performer a perfect match for the concert and SMMC.

Not only did Battistelli's album produce four major hits on the Christian charts—I'm Letting Go, Free To Be Me, It's Your Life and Beautiful Beautiful—but her music spread like wildfire on TV shows including ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, NBC's The Biggest Loser, FOX's So You Think You Can Dance, TLC's Jon & Kate Plus 8, MTV's The Hills, the Style Network's Running in Heels and more.

The release was the biggest seller for a debut Christian artist in nearly a decade and the longest-running No. 1 for a female artist in Billboard Christian Album Chart history. It earned Battistelli a raft of Dove Award nominations; she picked up the Female Vocalist of the Year and Artist of the Year awards in April 2011, as well as a Grammy nomination en route to selling more than half a million copies and a million downloads.

Battistelli's second album, Hundred More Years, and its first single, This Is The Stuff debuted in the Top 20 on the Christian charts and in the Top 10 on iTunes Christian and Gospel songs.

Battistelli says she creates spiritual music to lift people up. "I need songs like that in my life—songs that make you feel better about life, not things that bring you down," she said. "I'm not perfect, but at the end of the day God still loves me and everything's going to be okay."

For tickets, visit ShawneeMission.org/Celebration.

Courtesy SMMC

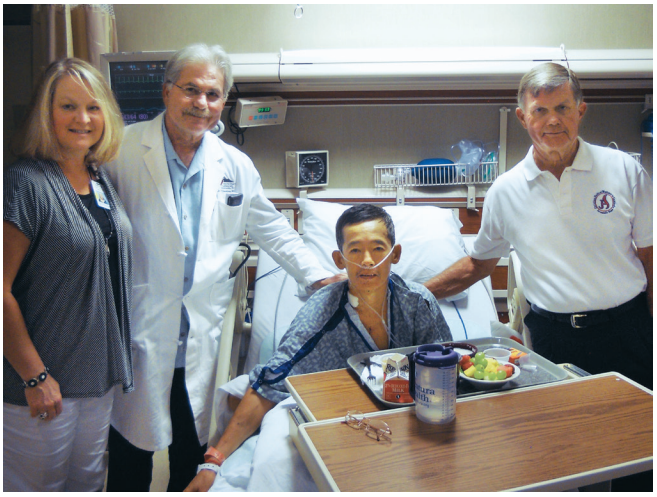


Celebration of Thanksgiving is a free concert featuring Christian singer/songwriter Francesca Battistelli, a Grammy nominee and six-time Dove Award winning artist. Battistelli writes pop, soul-infused music to motivate and encourage listeners of any age.

Kara Cowie is a writer for Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

Cambodian Patient Finds Help at Porter

Courtesy Adventist Health System



PNam leng Bun (center right) was unable to have his heart repaired in his homeland of Cambodia, so Porter Adventist Hospital stepped up to help. Shown with him are Sara Schaecher, RN, Dr. Mark Sheehan and Dr. Dan Smith, part of the team who gave him a brighter future.

Two Porter Adventist Hospital doctors, **Daniel Smith** and **Mark Sheehan**, felt something was missing from their lives. Both had practiced in the states for their whole careers; both needed a change. Then, 14 years ago they went on an exploratory mission to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, a once-modern city decimated by decades of civil war.

Their plan was to tour the medical facilities, provide as much care as possible in the time they had, and, they hoped, share the message of Christ.

They didn't know the impact the Cambodian people would have on their lives, and they certainly didn't know they'd be returning dozens of times and founding an organization called Jeremiah's Hope.

But then, so often it's the things we didn't expect that inspire the greatest change.

The Killing Fields

After the Indochina War, and backed in part by the Vietnamese, the Communist Party of Kampuchea, or Khmer Rouge, wrested control of the government and began to brutally murder millions of Cambodians in what is known as the Killing Fields.

The country struggled to find its footing as its population was reduced by 21 percent in the genocide. It wasn't until 1993 that, with the help of the UN, the country was able to hold its first democratic elections.

While Phnom Penh has grown significantly during the 2000s, medical care lags behind. "The government spends roughly $2 per person, per year," explains Smith.

A Country in Recovery

The two doctors were simultaneously struck upon seeing the conditions—poor sanitation, little to no medical supplies, and severe lack of knowledgeable physicians. "Immediately after the Killing Fields, the whole country only had 19 doctors," says Sheehan.

Sheehan and Smith have been steadily growing Jeremiah's Hope, a nonprofit organization devoted to Cambodian medical care. With the help of volunteers, Porter Adventist Hospital and Jeremiah's Hope, medical teams are sent every other month to Cambodia to perform surgeries, train doctors and improve conditions in hospitals.

"Without foreign aid, the less fortunate in Cambodia would receive no healthcare whatsoever," says Smith. Doctors donate their time, Porter Adventist Hospital donates equipment, and others donate funds to help pay for airfares.

The effect is nothing shy of remarkable—yielding hundreds of surgeries, hours of training of young promising students, and what's never forgotten: spreading the message of Christ's love.

Borders, the doctors believe, are not limits. So when PNam leng Bun came to a Phnom Penh hospital with an aortic aneurism, they wanted to help. "He was a rice farmer with nine children, and if he didn't get help, he would die," says Smith.

But the procedure couldn't be done in Cambodia. So phone calls and pleas were made, and thanks to the generosity of many, the patient was flown to America.

Since the man couldn't speak English, a translator explained the operational procedures to him. He recovered in the house of a pastor from Cambodia before being flown back to his home.

This is the fourth time they've brought someone to the states for care because it wasn't available in Cambodia. Yet work still remains to be done. Jeremiah's Hope is always endeavoring to expand medical care in Cambodia, and there can never be too much help.

The urgency of Drs. Smith and Sheehan to make a difference is contagious. "My restlessness was cured when I found this calling, and I hope to continue going as long as I've got my health," says Sheehan.

Judging from the outpouring of support for the mission, he isn't the only committed one.

For more information about Jeremiah's Hope, visit their website at www.cmmcjh.com.

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.

Anderson, Marilou, b. Feb. 1, 1928 in Joplin, MO. d. Aug. 2, 2013 in Joplin, MO. Member of Joplin Church. Preceded in death by son E. Clark Anderson; 6 siblings. Survivors include husband Randy; daughter Vicki Holley; 1 sister; 3 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Armijo, Janet L., b. Oct. 1, 1947 in Garden City, KS. d. July 21, 2013 in Rye, CO. Member of Pueblo First Church. Survivors include husband John; daughters Donna Armijo, Bonnie Ramos and Robyn McMahon; sons Scotty and James; 5 siblings; 19 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

Bohlender, Irene R., b. Sept. 6, 1924 in Elkhart, KS. d. July 15, 2013 in Denver, CO. Member of Greeley Church. Preceded in death by husbands Harold Rouse and Dale Bohlender. Survivors include son Dan Rouse; 1 sister; 7 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.

Bostick, Cleveland H., b. Mar. 14, 1926 in Titasville, FL. d. June 23, 2013 in Pueblo, CO. Member of Canon City Church. Survivors include wife Florence; daughter Beth Crook; sons David and James; 7 grandchildren.

Bralliar, Anne K., b. May 24, 1920 in New York, NY. d. July 13, 2013 in Boulder, CO. Member of Boulder Church. Preceded in death by husband Floyd. Survivors include daughters Diane and Suzy; son Richard; 2 grandchildren.

Buege, Theresa "Teri", b. May 27, 1945. d. July 17, 2013 in Parkersburg, IA. Member of Waterloo Church. Preceded in death by husband Raymond; daughters Chloe Stucky and Madison Price. Survivors include daughters Pamala Meyer, Carey Price and Allison Stucky; sons Jerry, William and Jeff; 1 brother; 13 grandchildren; 1 great-granddaughter.

Burdorf, Elmer H., b. Aug. 8, 1927 in Arlington, MN. d. Aug. 19, 2013 in Arlington, MN. Member of Arlington Church. Preceded in death by first wife Arlene; second wife Lorane. Survivors include sons Gary, Steven and Dale; 8 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Cansler, Virginia "Sue", b. Mar. 8, 1940 in Buffalo, MO. d. May 8, 2013 in Diamond, MO. Member of Joplin Church. Preceded in death by daughter Kayla Kokalis; 1 granddaughter. Survivors include husband Larry; daughter Twyla Little; son Kelly; 2 siblings; 5 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

Carlson, Lorene M., b. July 6, 1917. d. July 2, 2013 in Sunizona, AZ. Member of Fort Lupton Church.

Christianson, Keith, b. Apr. 29, 1940. d. May 20, 2013. Member of Denver West Church.

Cisneros, Larry P., b. Aug. 4, 1954. d. Sept. 15, 2010. Member of Rocky Mountain Conference.

Cordova, Phillip L., b. June 13, 1954. d. Sept. 16, 2013. Member of Denver West Church. Survivors include wife Lorraine; daughters Savannah Cordova and Diamond Duarte; son Rick.

Davis, Katherine H., b. Oct. 17, 1918 in Bird City, KS. d. Aug. 22, 2013 in Goodland, KS. Member of Goodland Church. Preceded in death by husbands Jim Trablik and Irvin Davis; 4 siblings; 3 grandchildren; 1 great-granddaughter. Survivors include daughters Judy Nations, Beth Pugh and Vicki Fitzwater; 1 sister; 10 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; 16 great-great-grandchildren.

Dupper, Calvin, b. Apr. 16, 1928 in Greeley, CO. d. May 12, 2013 in Greeley, CO. Member of Greeley Church. Survivors include daughters Diane Soderstrom and LeAnne Holms; son Larry; 5 siblings; 8 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Epple, David L., b. Sept. 24, 1914 in Houstonia, MO. d. May 24, 2013 in Pueblo, CO. Member of Pueblo First Church. Preceded in death by wife Gladys. Survivors include daughters Judith Laxineta, Beverly Jean Smith and Linda Roberts-Garcia; son David; 6 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren.

Ekrem, Roy M., b. Oct. 8, 1923 in Minneapolis, MN. d. Sept. 20, 2013 in Wayzata, MN. Member of Minnetonka Church. Served in Army during WWI. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include wife Doris; sons Martin and Dennis; 1 sister; 4 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

Ellstrom, Aslaug "Alice" P., b. May 8, 1918 in Sykkylven, Norway. d. Aug. 12, 2013 in Hutchinson, MN. Member of Hutchinson Church. Preceded in death by husband Runar; 6 siblings. Survivors include daughters Marlene McDonald, Yvonne Heinrich and Kathy Miller; sons Howard, Kenneth, Keith, Richard, Roger and Wayne; 1 sister; 18 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren.

Evers, Eleanor S., b. Mar. 9, 1938 in Rock Springs, WY. d. Aug. 10, 2013 in Rock Springs, WY. Member of Rock Springs Church. Preceded in death by husband. Survivors include son Mark.

Gates, H. G., b. Feb. 10, 1923. d. Dec. 20, 2009. Member of LifeSource Church.

Gottfried, Bertha, b. Sept. 26, 1918 in Freeman, SD. d. Apr. 29, 2013 in Littleton, CO. Member of Littleton Church. Preceded in death by husband William; 3 children; 4 siblings. Survivors include daughters Donna Hibberd and Karen Schmidt; 9 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

Hamilton, Mildred B., b. July 15, 1924 in Delta, CO. d. Mar. 22, 2013 in Delta, CO. Member of Delta Church. Preceded in death by husband Ray Burritt; son Richard Hamilton; 2 siblings. Survivors include daughter Janet Quinn; 2 brothers; 1 grandson.

Harding, Fred E., b. Aug. 5, 1928 in Colorado Springs, CO. d. June 15, 2013 in Westminster, CO. Member of Arvada Church. Preceded in death by son Kevin; 1 brother. Survivors include wife Ellen; daughters Kathy Bell and Karma Patton; son Dustin; 3 grandchildren.

Haugen, Warren C., b. Aug. 1, 1930 in Bradley, SD. d. Dec. 21, 2012 in Watertown, SD. Member of Watertown Church. Preceded in death by 5 siblings; 1 granddaughter. Survivors include wife Marcie; daughters Kathryn Fogg and Denise Wandersleben; sons Darrell, Bruce and Vance; 2 sisters; 18 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren.

Hehn, Albert C., b. July 21, 1921 in Jordan, MT. d. Aug. 27, 2013. Member of Piedmont Park (Lincoln, NE) Church. Preceded in death by 5 siblings. Survivors include wife Violet; daughter Lisa Truax; sons Randy, Bruce and Daryl; 11 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Hufman, Glen C. Jr., b. Dec. 13, 1924 in Blanca, CO. d. Nov. 10, 2012 in Blanca, CO. Member of Rocky Mountain Conference. Preceded in death by son Norman. Survivors include wife Thelma; daughters Murleen Goodrich and Ardith Gifford; sons Jerry, Bob and Lee; 1 brother; 14 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

Hunt, Dorothy J., b. June 29, 1922 in Pueblo, CO. d. Mar. 31, 2013 in Wheat Ridge, CO.

Member of Arvada Church. Preceded in death by husband Warner; sons Lawrence and Donald; 8 siblings.

Jepson, Irene V., b. May 3, 1922 in White River Junction, VT. d. Sept. 9, 2013 in Walla Walla, WA. Member of College Place (WA) Village Church. Served as school teacher and missionary in Thailand. Survivors include husband Clayton; daughter Gail Szana; sons Trent and Gary; 1 brother; 4 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

Kellogg, Alfred D., b. July 30, 1933 in Denver, CO. d. Aug. 6, 2013 in Wolsey, SD. Member of Huron Church. Preceded in death by wife Agnes; daughter Phyllis Taylor; 2 brothers. Survivors include daughters Mary Speck and Yolanda Beltran; 5 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Korgan, Laura J., b. Apr. 13, 1934 in Fort Collins CO. d. June 23, 2013 in Greeley, CO. Member of Greeley Church. Survivors include daughter Wendy Korgan; son Lonnie; 3 grandchildren.

Kronk, Patsy "Pat", b. Mar. 26, 1947 in Lake Ozark, MO. d. Mar. 19, 2013 in Holts Summit, MO. Member of Fulton Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include husband Larry; sons Curtis and Darin; 3 siblings; 7 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Law, Barbara L., b. Jan. 1, 1942. d. Mar. 2007. Member of Rocky Mountain Conference. Survivors include 1 granddaughter.

Long, Carolina, b. Oct. 10, 1928 in Casper, WY. d. Apr. 19, 2007 in Las Vegas, NV. Member of Casper Church. Survivors include husband Harry Sr.; daughters Marie Taylor and Susan Cornett; son Harry Jr.; stepdaughter Nancy Branson; 8 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren.

Marah, Robert E. "Ed", b. Nov. 30, 1922 in Cedaredge, CO. d. Mar. 11, 2013 in Cedaredge, CO. Member of Cedaredge Church. Preceded in death by 3 siblings. Survivors include wife Beryle; daughters Terry Rutan, Pat Chapman; son Robert; 3 siblings; 7 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

Martinez, Mary E., b. Feb. 12, 1927 in Maxwell, NM. d. June 16, 2013 in Aurora, CO. Member of Pueblo First Church. Survivors include husband Max Sr.; daughter Nina Ballenger; sons Paul, Max Jr. and David; 5 siblings; 5 grandchildren.

O'Loughlin, Clara, b. June 29, 1934 in Hannibal, MO. d. Sept. 13, 2013 in Muscatine, MO. Member of Muscatine Church. Preceded in death by husband Richard; son Kevin; 4 siblings.

O'Neil, Bruce, b. Nov. 27, 1936 in Oakland, CA. d. May 13, 2013 in Fresno, CA. Previously member of Littleton Church. Survivors include daughters Sherilynne O'Neil-Blanchet and Shelly O'Neil; 2 siblings.

Pogue, Barbara G., b. Feb. 16 1928 in Beaver City, NE. d. July 29, 2013 in Prescott, AZ. Member of Prescott Church. Served as missionary to British Guiana, Rwanda and Korea. Taught math at Union College. Preceded in death by husband Oliver; 4 siblings. Survivors include daughters Carol Pogue and Pamela Emerson; sons Maynard and Roy; 4 siblings; 6 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

Rhinesmith, Myron C., b. June 13, 1926 in Mosinee, WI. d. Mar. 21, 2013 in Harrison, AR. Member of Alpena Church. Survivors include wife Jeannette; daughters Connie and Rose; son Glenn; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Robinett, Mark G., b. Dec. 22, 1954 in Casper, WY. d. May 5, 2013 in Casper, WY. Member of Casper Church. Survivors include wife Kim; son Glen; mother; 1 brother; 1 granddaughter.

Schrenk, Rose, b. Apr. 23, 1924 near Fredonia, ND. d. Sept. 10, 2013 in Ellendale, ND. Member of Ellendale Church. Preceded in death by husband Herman; 5 daughters in infancy. Survivors include son Earl; 1 sister; 2 half-sisters; 3 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Smith, Betty L., b. Aug. 11, 1936 in Anderson, IN. d. Apr. 11, 2013 in Aztec, NM. Member of Aztec Church.

Tachenko, Steven C., b. Nov. 28, 1920 in Grassy Butte, ND. d. Sept. 5, 2013 in Dickinson, ND. Member of Grassy Butte Church. Preceded in death by son Jeff; 10 siblings; Survivors include wife Virginia; daughters Rita Smith and Cheryl Buckley; 3 siblings; 6 grandchildren.

Thomas, Lawrence "Larry" E., b. Aug. 12, 1933 in Papillion, NE. d. Aug. 30, 2013. Member of Worland (WY) Church. Preceded in death by wives Emma and Gladys; 2 siblings Survivors include daughters Vicki Weaver and Virginia Stephenson; sons Jim Thomas and Tom McMullen; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Woltering, Arthur L., b. June 5, 1917. d. Aug. 14, 2013 in Montrose, CO. Member of Cedaredge Church. Suvivors include daughter Cathy Miller.

To submit an obituary to OUTLOOK, visit outlookmag.org/submit-obituary. Please contact Randy Harmdierks with questions: 402.484.3012 randy@outlookmag.org

SUNSET CALENDAR

Colorado	Nov 1	Nov 8	Nov 15	Nov 22	Nov 29
Denver	5:58	4:50	4:44	4:39	4:36
Grand Junction	6:13	5:06	5:00	4:55	4:53
Pueblo	5:59	4:52	4:46	4:42	4:39
Iowa					
Davenport	5:57	4:49	4:42	4:37	4:34
Des Moines	6:09	5:01	4:54	4:49	4:46
Sioux City	6:18	5:10	5:03	4:58	4:54
Kansas					
Dodge City	6:41	5:34	5:29	5:24	5:22
Goodland	5:45	4:38	4:32	4:27	4:24
Topeka	6:22	5:14	5:08	5:04	5:01
Minnesota					
Duluth	5:52	4:42	4:34	4:28	4:23
International Falls	5:53	4:43	4:34	4:27	4:21
Minneapolis	6:01	4:52	4:44	4:38	4:34
Missouri					
Columbia	6:08	5:01	4:55	4:50	4:47
Kansas City	6:17	5:10	5:04	4:59	4:57
St. Louis	6:01	4:53	4:48	4:43	4:40
Nebraska					
Lincoln	6:22	5:15	5:08	5:03	5:00
North Platte	6:38	5:30	5:25	5:19	5:16
Scottsbluff	5:48	4:40	4:34	4:28	4:25
North Dakota					
Bismarck	6:27	5:17	5:09	5:02	4:57
Fargo	6:11	5:01	4:53	4:46	4:41
Williston	6:35	5:25	5:16	5:09	5:04
South Dakota					
Pierre	6:30	5:21	5:14	5:08	5:04
Rapid City	5:43	4:34	4:26	4:20	4:17
Sioux Falls	6:18	5:09	5:02	4:56	4:52
Wyoming					
Casper	5:57	4:49	4:42	4:36	4:33
Cheyenne	5:54	4:46	4:40	4:35	4:32
Sheridan	5:56	4:47	4:39	4:33	4:29

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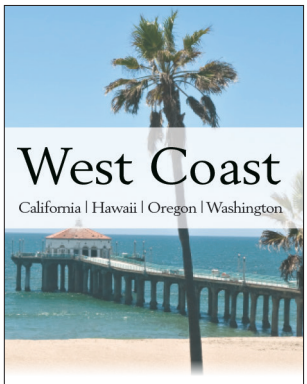
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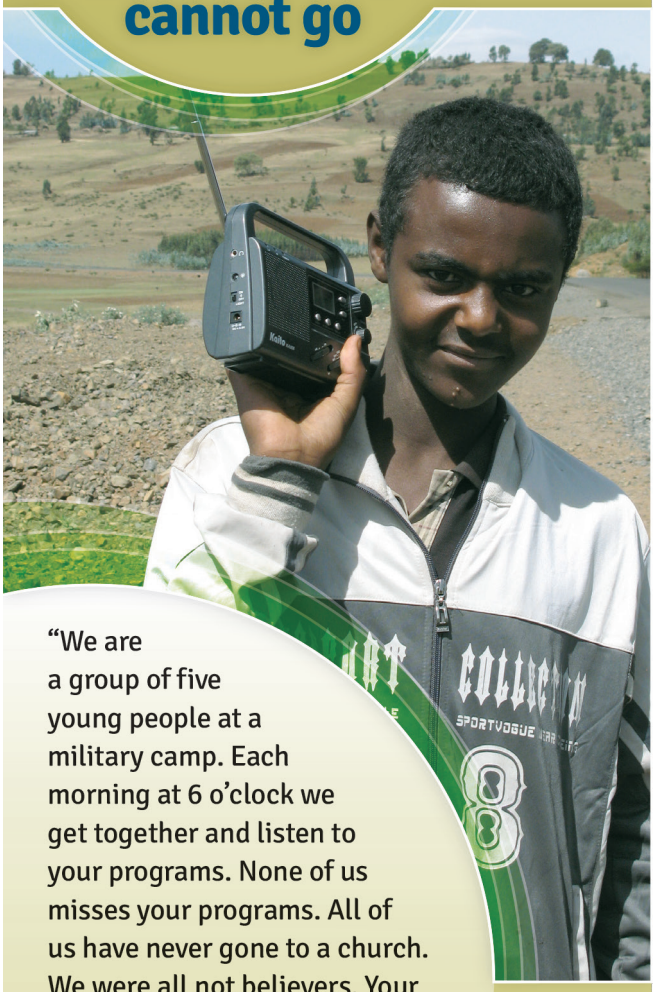
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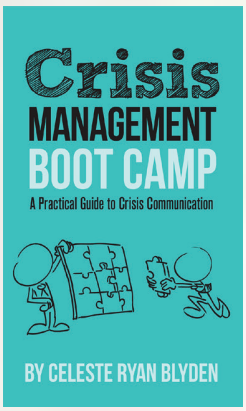
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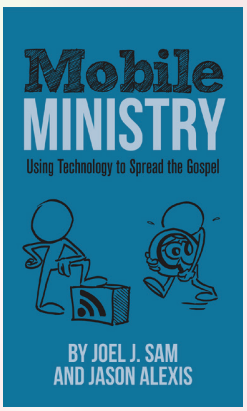
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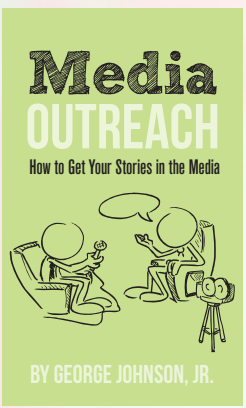
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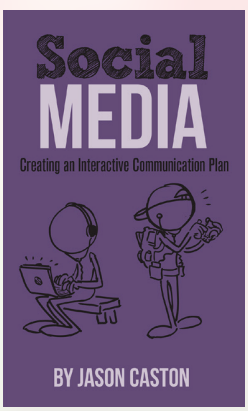
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