

THE ATLANTIC UNION

DECEMBER 2015

GLEANNER



AUC

Resumes
Academic
Programs

Students Participate in
Mass Emergency Drill

44 Churches Participate
in Compassion Boston Rally

inside **DECEMBER** 2015



Contents

4 AUC Resumes Academic Programs

Atlantic Union College resumed its academic programs on August 24, 2015, after a four-year interruption.

6 Students Participate in Mass Emergency Drill

Academy and junior academy students participated in a simulated disaster drill on the campus of Atlantic Union College.

8 Worcester Bible Conference Yields 12 Baptisms and More to Come

Four churches in the Worcester, Massachusetts, area joined together for a two-week evangelism effort.

8 Churches Participate in Compassion Boston Rally

Pastors, church leaders, and members from 44 churches in Greater Boston gathered at The Waymark church for a Compassion Boston Rally.

- 3 From the Editor
- 8 Atlantic Union
- 10 Greater New York
- 12 New York
- 14 Northeastern
- 16 Northern New England
- 18 Southern New England
- 19 Bermuda
- 21 Bulletin Board
- 22 Classified Ads

Cover: The photo on the cover is from iStockphoto.com.

December 2015, Vol. 114, No. 12. The Atlantic Union GLEANER is published monthly by the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®, 400 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. Printed by L. Brown and Sons Printing, Inc., 14 Jefferson Street, Barre, VT 05641. Standard postage paid at Montpelier, VT 05602. Annual subscription price, \$10.00. NEW OR RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: Mail new or renewal subscriptions to Atlantic Union GLEANER, P.O. Box 1189, South Lancaster, MA 01561. Adventist® and Seventh-day Adventist® are registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®.

We've Got Something to Talk About

“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’ ”—Isaiah 52:7, NIV

My daughter, Aiyana, tells me that I talk to everybody I meet. That’s not true, of course, but that’s her perception. I’ve explained to her that what she sees comes as a result of my being a shy person growing up. Many years ago, to overcome my shyness, I decided that whenever I attended an event, meeting, or get-together I would introduce myself to at least three people I didn’t know.

It was difficult for me to meet people at first, but, eventually, I was able to do it without giving it much thought. Now, it’s a natural thing to do and I’m better off for it, because I’ve met some interesting people.

We have a tendency to gravitate toward people we know and hang out with them, but it is not as easy to go out of our way to mingle with people we don’t know. If Christ always chose to hang out only with His friends, He would certainly not have accomplished His mission in the short time He was here on earth. Instead, Christ “mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me’ ”—THE MINISTRY OF HEALING, p. 143. We need to follow His example.

As we approach the holiday season there are many people whose paths God will allow us to cross. Some people we will know and some we won’t. Some people we meet will not have a care in the world and some will have heavy hearts. Some will seemingly have everything they need and others will have next to nothing. One thing is sure, everyone we meet will need Jesus. The question is, “Will they see Jesus in us when they meet us?”

I have no idea what impact was made on all those people I’ve met since I’ve been trying to “get over my shyness.” Hopefully,

I’ve been living true to my personal mission in life “to reflect the character of Christ and to encourage and inspire those whose lives He allows me to touch.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has recently been thrown into the spotlight as a result of an Adventist running for the highest office in the U.S. This is an important moment for the church to “get over its shyness” and share with people far and wide information about who Adventists are, what they stand for, and, most importantly, that God loves them deeply.

In response to the increased interest about Seventh-day Adventists, the church has launched a new Web site (WhoAreAdventists.org) that provides a broad overview about its history, the beliefs of the church, and background about the church’s commitment to serving people through disaster relief efforts, community service, and innovative health and wellness programs. I believe this is an effective means of communication.

However, it will take the hands and feet of many people who have “gotten over their shyness” to go out and share the good news about Christ’s soon return. An example of this is the group participating in Compassion Boston, a ministry in the Greater Boston area that seeks to show Christ’s love through humanitarian and community-focused events, projects, and initiatives. They have decided to follow Christ’s example and mingle with the people.

We have been given an opportunity as individual members to be a “point of light” and to shine brightly for Jesus. Let’s face it, we’ve got to get over our shyness, because we’ve got something to talk about. ☺

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



*“If Christ always
chose to hang
out only with
His friends,
He certainly
would not have
accomplished His
mission in the
short time He was
here on earth.”*



AUC Resumes Academic Programs

New students, past and present faculty, staff, and supporters gathered on August 23 in Machlan Auditorium on the campus of Atlantic Union College (AUC) for a convocation to dedicate the faculty and staff as the school resumes its academic program. Guest speaker, Gordon Jones, Sr., elder, said to the crowd gathered, “This assembly affords us the privilege of celebrating a revival, a resuscitation and a reinvention. . . Here we are, celebrating the possibility of the impossible.” After a four-year interruption, classes on the Lancaster, Massachusetts campus resumed on August 24, 2015.



Students attend the ESL program to become more proficient in English.

Under the leadership of the newly-elected president, Avis Hendrickson, Ed.D., AUC is returning to its roots by providing degrees and certificates in areas conducive to the school’s rich history of grooming men and women to serve God and the world. The only Seventh-day Adventist institution for higher learning in the northeast corridor of the United States, AUC is focused on developing the whole person by “inspiring faith in a loving Creator, God, and encouraging a passion for knowledge, truth, and Christian service to humanity.”

AUC offers two degree programs: a B.A. in Religion/Theology, and a B.S. in Health Sciences/Biology. Former department chairs R. Dean Davis, Ph.D., and Richard Brown, Ph.D., have returned to lead the religion department and health science department respectively. Hendrickson is pleased that AUC will continue providing the same high level of education as before. “If we are looking at the measure of academic standards, we’ve certainly retained those high standards,” Hendrickson said. “For

example, we have a great number of graduates who are in the ministry who have come through our theology program. It’s not a matter of whether our academic standards are excellent; they are, and we have proof in our alumni who are working in theology and religion.” Hendrickson adds that AUC is also noted for its strong record of having the highest passing rates among the nursing programs in America for nursing students taking the NCLEX exam.

In addition to degree programs, AUC has several options to meet the needs of those seeking a career change or wanting to increase opportunities for advancement. The picturesque campus—about an hour west of Boston—is the base camp for the NETS Evangelism Center. NETS provides training in Bible work, health evangelism, and public evangelism for persons interested in soul winning. Students enrolled in NETS courses may earn credits toward a theology degree. AUC also provides an ESL (English as a Second Language) program to assist those who want to become proficient in English.

Starting January 2016, AUC will offer accelerated certificate programs in office management, information technology, enrolled agent (tax preparation), bookkeeping, Certified Nursing Aide (CNA), and medical billing and coding. In addition, AUC is home to the renowned Thayer Performing Arts Center, where students can receive musical instruction and performance opportunities in individual instrument, band, chorus, and chamber ensembles.

In order to be eligible for accreditation, AUC must first be fully operational and functioning as a college. Hendrickson and the board of trustees recognize the dilemma this may pose to potential students as they will not be able to apply for financial aid to offset the traditional expense of higher



Kevin Sears, NETS Evangelism Center director, offers a prayer of consecration for the Atlantic Union College administrators, faculty, and staff.



Richard Brown, Ph.D., right, teaches a science class at Atlantic Union College.



James Saine

NETS Evangelism Center students learn about herbs.

education. To address this need, AUC has offered a discounted opening tuition of less than \$18,000 per year for on-campus students with the option of monthly payments—a cost of about \$6,000 less than previous years' tuition, and at a rate comparable to academy tuition. The discounted tuition is only applicable for the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 school years.

"We send students to our academies and elementary school without financial aid," Hendrickson noted. "People put a lot of weight on accreditation, and accreditation has its benefits. However when I look at what our mission is in the Seventh-day Adventist tradition, we have a history of educating our constituency without the assistance of federal financial aid. This is not new. Accreditation has not been a measure of whether we've been successful or not. Our measure of success at AUC is the quality of our education."

Hendrickson's goal is to emphasize the spiritual, Christ-centered environment of the school where faith and learning will be integrated into each class. "In all that we do with this opportunity to resume academic programs, we are embedding a culture of graciousness, dignity, respect, and Christian love. We want [those attributes] to permeate all of our interactions." She hopes that Atlantic Union constituents and those in the surrounding community will see the love

of God in all that occurs as the school continues to rebuild.

With the backing of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to resume college-level instruction, Hendrickson and her dedicated staff are actively recruiting across New York and New England. As word spreads, applications have already begun to arrive for the next school term from parents of current high school seniors who like the option of a school much closer to their homes.

Hendrickson also encourages constituents who have a love for AUC and no longer have college-aged students

in their homes to tell others about AUC as means of witnessing to their non-Adventist friends and neighbors. "Let them know to come by the college and get information. Invite them to come and enroll. There is something for everyone to do. This institution is God's property and we are in God's service."

For more information, visit the school's Web site at www.auc.edu, or call the office of enrollment at (978) 368-2251, or e-mail enroll@auc.edu. ☎

Debra McKinney Banks is the communication assistant in the Atlantic Union Conference Communication Department.

Atlantic Union College Reduced Tuition Information

Available for students enrolling for the 2015-2016 academic year, and current high school seniors enrolling for the 2016-2017 academic year

Dormitory Students:

\$17,998.00, includes tuition, room and board, plus \$400 toward the purchase of textbooks

Community Students:

\$9,998.00 (plus \$1,500.00 fees)

An interest-free payment plan is available.

For more information, contact enrollment at Atlantic Union College at (978) 368-2251 or e-mail enroll@auc.edu.





Walter Szoboszlai

Students Participate in Mass Emergency Drill

175 students and their sponsors, from academies and junior academies in the Atlantic Union, participated with local firefighters, EMS (Emergency Medical Services), and Global Rapid Rescue Relief (GR3) in a simulated disaster drill on October 25 in the Atlantic Union College (AUC) gym in Lancaster, Massachusetts. AUC's administration and staff made available the use of the gym, dormitories, and cafeteria for the event. *To view more photos, visit the Atlantic Union Conference Facebook page at <https://goo.gl/6xOPLx>.*



Ednor AP Davison



Ednor AP Davison



Debra McKinney Banks



Ednor AP Davison



James Sauve



Walter Szoboszlai



Ednor AP Davison

The students were trained by David Canther, Global Rapid Rescue Relief (GR3) founder, and his staff on how to respond during incidents involving mass casualties. Students from Heritage Academy in Tennessee also assisted with the training.

“It was eye-opening, because you never know when you will get caught in this [type of] situation. It was a really good experience,” said Alex Ulrich, Greater Boston Academy student.

Fire departments and EMS personnel from Lancaster, as well as the neighboring communities of Berlin, Bolton, Boylston, Clinton, and Woods Ambulance Service participated in the drill. The event was sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education.

“[Sunday] was a great learning experience where we could actually use skills that we learned. I also made a lot more friends,” said Justin Pelletier, Pine Tree Academy student.



James Sauve



Ednor AP Davison



Ednor AP Davison

Worcester Bible Conference Yields 12 Baptisms and More to Come



Debra McKinney Banks

Twelve of the baptismal candidates stand with the speakers, pastors, and Bible workers at the end of the "Cure for a Broken World" Bible Conference.

Four churches in the Worcester, Massachusetts, area joined together for a two-week evangelism effort September 18-October 3. The meetings, under the theme, "Cure for a Broken World," were the result of the combined efforts of the Nuevo Amancer Spanish, Pleasant Street (English), Worcester Central Spanish, and Esmirna Hispanic churches. The meetings, referred to as a Bible conference, were held at the Emmanuel Baptist church near downtown Worcester. Twelve people were baptized during the course of the meetings, with 13 more being prepared.

Francy Duran, pastor of Nuevo Amancer and Central Spanish church, and Ernan Norman, pastor of the Worcester Pleasant Street church, made arrangements with the pastor of the Baptist church to use their building for the evangelistic meetings. Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president and one of the two main speakers for the meetings, said, "I've

conducted Bible seminars in many places around the world, but I have never done them in a church of another denomination. In addition, in my experience, I have never seen churches of two different languages working together to spread the gospel. This is a first for me and I'm thrilled to be a part of it."

King reminded the attendees each evening, "If it's in the Book, we must take a look; if it's in the Word, then it must be heard." He provided in-depth PowerPoint presentations on a variety of Bible subjects, including death, hell, the second coming of Christ, and Bible prophecy. King's wife, Lois King, Atlantic Union Conference Women's Ministries director and certified family life educator, was the other main speaker who presented topics related to family dynamics and relationships. Many people indicated that they were blessed by her presentations, ranging from such topics as habits of successful families, grief, parenting, and marital relationships.

"I thank God for the ministry of Dr. Donald King. During the evangelistic campaign that he conducted in Worcester, I was literally and harshly attacked by the enemy of the souls. But the Holy Spirit used Dr. King and his messages to set me free from Satan, and by the grace of God, I was able to be baptized. Thank you, Pastor King, for allowing the Holy Spirit to use you to preach the gospel with power. May God continue blessing your ministry," said Juan Estrella, who attended the meetings and was baptized.

Each evening, crowds averaged between 150-200 English and Spanish-speaking people. Spanish translation was provided by Roberto Reyna, Atlantic Union College Human Resources director. Nightly music was provided by musicians from each of the participating churches along with special guest artist Anibel O'Connor of Lancaster, Massachusetts.

The Bible conference ended with a baptism Sabbath morning, and a joint concert

later in the afternoon at the Nuevo Amancer church. During the two weeks, attendees placed their prayer requests in a sealed box. A special service was planned by Lois King where prayers were offered for the hundreds of prayer requests in the box.

After the concert, the guest speakers were joined by Norman, Reyna, Duran, Carlyle Simmons, Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary, and Trevor Forbes, Atlantic Union Conference under treasurer, to say a final prayer over the requests. The box and its contents were taken outside and placed in a portable fire urn. Simmons offered a prayer of commitment to God and each of the church officials took a turn setting fire to the requests. The onlookers praised God in song as the glow from the flames lit their faces and smoke from the burning slips of paper ascended to heaven.

In addition to the 12 people who were baptized during the course of the two-week meetings, six others took their stand for Christ and requested baptism and/or Bible studies and seven more are being prepared. Bible workers were available to arrange studies with those who went forward during the invitation for baptism. Another baptism for these candidates will be scheduled for a later date.

—Debra McKinney Banks, communication assistant, Atlantic Union Conference

44 Churches Participate in Compassion Boston Rally

Pastors, church leaders, and members from 44 churches in the Greater Boston area gathered at The Waymark church in Dorchester, Massachusetts, on November 7 for a Compassion Boston Rally—

the first joint rally for this initiative between the Northeastern and Southern New England conferences.

Attendees joined in singing to open the rally, and were welcomed by The Waymark church pastor,

Cornell Miller. Short vision statements were shared by Atlantic Union president Donald King, Northeastern Conference president Daniel Honoré, and Southern New England Conference president David Dennis.

Speaking of the Advent message which Compassion Boston aims to spread in the city, King said, "This message is eternal, this message is celestial, and yes, it's even everlasting."

The main address was given via video by *It Is*

Written speaker/director John Bradshaw, who also appeared live for a few minutes via Skype, offering one more word of support and encouragement to the Boston churches.

These messages were followed by several practical appeals for attendees to become involved in Compassion Boston: Alina Terzi promoted the NETS Evangelism Center training program and called for Bible workers; Honoré and Dennis played a video introducing Your Best Pathway to Health, calling for medical professionals to volunteer for the big event next fall; and Olivia Ruiz-Knott presented the Winter Warmth Campaign, a drive to collect warm clothing for those in need.

The evening closed with a dedication prayer offered by John Amoah, Southern New

England Conference ministerial and evangelism director, committing the Boston-area pastors and churches to working to spread Christ's love in the city.

"Jesus is coming soon," said a paragraph printed in the program. "The people of Boston need to hear the gospel with the distinctive last-



John Amoah, Southern New England Conference ministerial and evangelism director, offers a dedication prayer committing the pastors and churches to spread Christ's love in the city of Boston.

Members from 44 churches in the Greater Boston area attend the Compassion Boston Rally at The Waymark church.

day emphasis of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Our Lord has brought us all together to share the hope of His return."

By the end of the evening, 132 attendees had volunteered for either Bible work, Your Best Pathway to Health, or signed up to be a general Compassion Boston volunteer.

—Communication staff, Compassion Boston

Photos: Olivia Ruiz-Knott

Early Childhood Education New England Rally Hosted at Stoneham Church

Armed with cameras and recording devices, parents and supporters of children enrolled in early childhood education programs were on hand to see their children perform during the Early Childhood Education Rally Day hosted at the Stoneham church in Massachusetts. The Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education sponsored the rally on November 7, to celebrate early childhood education in the New England area.

Children between the ages of three and six shared their talents through songs, scripture recitation, and skits, using the theme "We Are Thankful." The focus of the program was on Creation, a main part of the CREATIONKids curriculum for the early childhood program.

Five schools from the Northeastern and Southern New England conferences were represented at the afternoon program. This was the second rally of its kind held this year. The first was at the Community Worship Center in Queens, New York. (See page 7 of



Children from five schools in the New England area participate in the Early Childhood Education Rally Day at the Stoneham church in Massachusetts.

the June 2015 GLEANER.) The Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education plans to continue the practice of recognizing this group by holding rallies in various locations of the Atlantic Union where early childhood education programs are in operation.

The program concluded with the Early Childhood Mass Choir singing two songs, "The Butterfly Song" and "A Gift to You."

"We thank God for the opportunity to plant seeds of truth daily in the hearts of the little ones in early childhood classrooms," said Marlene Alvarez, Atlantic Union Conference Early Childhood Education assistant director. "We do it because we know that early childhood education is an investment of a lifetime."

—Ednor A. P. Davison, GLEANER editor

Ednor A. P. Davison



Adventist Community Services Celebrates 40 Years, Dedicates Van

The Greater New York Conference Adventist Community Services (ACS) Department celebrated its 40th anniversary and the dedication of its Van Ministry in mid-October at the Old Westbury church in New York. Sung Kwon, director of Adventist Community Services in North America, was the guest speaker.

A highlight of the 40th anniversary celebration was the revitalization of the van ministry and the dedication of a new community health van. Branded as “Wellness on the go” the van is expected to provide preventative care, massage therapy, blood pressure screening, and more to New Yorkers.

The retrofitting of the new ACS van was made possible by a generous planned gift from Venice Sweet Thurmon



The Greater New York Conference Adventist Community Services van was made possible by a generous gift from Venice Sweet Thurmon.

of Dyersburg, Tennessee. Thurmon, 98, passed away on Sunday, November 23, 2014, just one day following her 78th wedding anniversary. She and her husband Roy B. Thurmon ministered in the Greater New York Conference many years ago and recognized the importance of leaving a legacy to further the work in the

great mission field of New York City.

Juanita Kretschmar, co-founder of the van ministry, was present to give an historical account of how God blessed the ministry by “answering prayers even before they were prayed.” Greater New York Conference president G. Earl Knight, and General

Conference associate secretary Gerson Santos offered prayers of consecration for the ministry. Santos said that he “envisions the massage chair sitting on the sidewalk or in front of one of the city parks awaiting New Yorkers who come from a long day’s work to line up in front of the van and receive a free massage.”

Adventist world church president Ted Wilson congratulated the Greater New York Conference on its rebirth of the van ministry and said that he was thankful for all the Lord has done. He praised God for the innovative activity of the Greater New York Conference during its 40 years of dedicated service and mission to the people and the city of New York.

—Fabola Jean, reporter, GNYC Adventist News



Participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Adventist Community Services van are, from left, Carlyle Simmons, Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary; Pierre Omeler, Atlantic Union Conference Haitian and African Ministries vice president; Claude Morgan, GNYC Religious Liberty and Planned Giving director; Gerson Santos, General Conference associate secretary and former GNYC executive secretary; G. Earl Knight, GNYC president; Luis Biazotto, GNYC Adventist Community Services director; Iris Szoboszlai, GNYC retired worker; Juanita Kretschmar, co-founder of the GNYC Van Ministry; Ebenezer Agboka, GNYC treasurer; Sung Kwon, North American Division Adventist Community Services director; Henry Beras, GNYC executive secretary, and Rohann Wellington, GNYC assistant to the president for strategic planning and communication director.

New York Health Impact Day: A Comprehensive Way to Share Jesus

Earlier this year, Adventist churches throughout the five boroughs distributed the book *HEALTH & WELLNESS: SECRETS THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE* by Mark A. Finley and Peter N. Landless. The Queens Spanish church in New York made a significant impact in their community by purchasing and distributing 100,000 copies of the book. With the assistance of several other churches, the books were distributed in one day.

Representatives from the Greater New York Conference administration, departmental directors, the Atlantic Union Conference, and the Pacific Press were present and participated in the event. The members believe that the message in the book is unique and relevant for the busy lives of today. Manuel Manrique, pastor of the Queens Spanish church, said, “This is a very distinctive message. No other church in the world preaches the health

message like the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

In following Christ’s method of meeting the needs of the people, the church also distributed fruit and water and partnered with stores to distribute brand new clothes. Blood pressure screening and massages were also offered. Master Guide Cinthya Sandoval said, “We are actually following Jesus’ method of ministering to the people’s needs; especially in the low-income neighborhood of Corona

Queens.” While some of the youth went out two by two distributing books, others drew attention by walking on stilts, miming, and giving free hugs.

This health impact initiative was followed up with an eight-week health seminar in English and Spanish. The goal is to continue to fulfill the commission of going out into the community and fulfilling their needs.

—Lisa González, reporter, GNYC Adventist News



Church members and leaders pray over the books before going out to distribute them in the field.



A member gives *HEALTH & WELLNESS: SECRETS THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE* to a passerby.

Macedonia Meetings Minister to Mind, Body, and Soul

Mind, body, and soul, was the focus of a three-week evangelism series entitled “Loud Cry Health & Happiness” held at the Macedonia church in Hempstead, New York. The summer series drew many people as Desmond C. Haye, associate pastor of Grand Concourse church in the Bronx, lectured on faith, spirituality, relationships, marriage, and family. Singing evangelist Shirley-Ann Thomas complemented the spirited series with her musical renditions.

The multifaceted sermons encapsulated Haye’s philosophy that the “mind controlled by Christ is the measure of the man.” He explored strategies that can best be summarized as “practical helps for busy people.”

Haye began with counsel that plagues young and old: being one with

the crowd. Christ made everyone as “originals.” Thus fears of being accepted, popular, crowd pleasing, and succumbing to peer pressure are quelled.

Haye reminded the crowd that since their actions determine their success or failure at a given task, they should begin and close every day with Jesus. In slogan form: “plug in the power potency of prayer.” Prayer is not just to be offered in crisis, it is the spiritual equivalent of oxygen; life-sustaining.

The call to Christ drew many people who requested prayer, with six being baptized. Hayes delivered the promised “loud cry” and the Spirit prompted fruitful answers. The series was hosted by Macedonia church and its pastor Julian Jones-Campbell.

—Colsome Miah-Logan, communication secretary, Macedonia church



Julian Jones-Campbell, Macedonia church pastor, prepares to baptize a candidate from the “Loud Cry health & Happiness” series.

New Ministry Joins the Campus of Union Springs Academy

In answer to prayer that the Lord would bring both industry and ministry opportunities for the school and its students, Union Springs Academy and PROJECT: Steps to Christ (PSTC), are excited to announce a new partnership for the 2015-2016 school year. This partnership will give the students a unique opportunity for hands-on ministry and campus employment.

PROJECT: Steps to Christ is a self-supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, dedicated to bringing to every home in the U.S. the gospel message through church-sponsored zip code mailings of STEPS TO CHRIST and other truth-filled literature. Based in the New York Conference for more than 25 years and serving the Seventh-day Adventist Church for more



Union Springs Academy students Mu Hsee, Sami Runnals, Kenny Fraker, and Jonnie Baker are among the students who have a unique opportunity for hands-on ministry and campus employment.

than 43 years, the ministry has blessed more than 23 million homes with free life-changing literature.

PSTC is currently employing four students to be a part of the new mailing ministry, that uses marketing card packs. Utilized for the first time last year, these card packs included a card with a free book offer that was mailed to over six

million homes. More than 23,000 people responded, requesting free literature, including THE PATH TO PEACE (STEPS TO CHRIST), THE GREAT CONTROVERSY, ON THE EDGE OF TIME (THE GREAT CONTROVERSY abridged version), and Bible studies that are coordinated with Amazing Facts. With the branch office manager, Lisa Crittenden, students will

be processing thousands of request cards that will be coming in each month.

The goal this school year is to reach 10.4 million homes with the free book offer card. Already 50,000 books have arrived on campus to fulfill requests for these free books.

Students and staff have volunteered and moved thousands of books from the packing pallets to PSTC's operation inside the administration building. The prayer is that, while providing useful employment for the students and fulfilling a need for PSTC, the Lord will use this collaboration to bless the students as they see the handwritten requests streaming in each day, and have a part in sharing Christ with thousands of people.

—Lisa Crittenden, branch manager, and Steve Peden, director, PROJECT: Steps to Christ

Cornerstone Church Holds “The Naked Truth Revelation Series”

The members of the Cornerstone church in Horseheads, New York, and Lenox Brown, the church's pastor, launched “The Naked Truth Revelation Series” on September 13. One week before the starting date of the series, Union Springs Academy (USA) students; Timothy Raymond, USA chaplain; Brown, and elders Norman Beamsderfer and Dan Strope, went into the Horseheads community and knocked on several doors. Many books were given out along with the Revelation series handbills and post-cards. The day ended with a supper at the church, thanking the students for a job well done.

On September 10, just three days before the meeting, USA students returned

to the area, this time spending the whole day in the pouring rain giving out handbills. More than 300 books were distributed in the community and also at the Arnot Mall. Lunch and supper were provided by the church.

The “Naked Truth Revelation Series” started on September 13 and ran nightly from Sunday through Thursday and ended on Sabbath, September 26, with a big celebration. The day began at 9:30 a.m. with Sabbath School led by Beamsderfer. At 10:30 a.m., for the third time, USA students returned with a larger group who put on the day's program.

Attending the services were Elias Zabala, New York Conference president, and

his family, who also participated in the Sabbath service. Also in attendance was Tau Gofhaone from the Ithaca church, along with the Ithaca Youth Choir.

The day ended with four individuals committing their lives to Jesus through

baptism and profession of faith. A fellowship meal for everyone followed the baptismal service.

—Communication staff, Cornerstone church



Union Springs Academy students, Timothy Raymond, Union Springs Academy chaplain; Lenox Brown, Cornerstone church pastor; and elders Norman Beamsderfer and Dan Strope went into the Horseheads, New York, community and knocked on many doors, distributing handbills and books.

Vivaldi Performed at Gloversville Church

The light glowed into the night through the prism windows as the sound of music filled the air around Gloversville church in New York. Inside, the little building bulged at the seams with melody and people. Older folks, children, teenagers, and those in between sat transfixed as local church member Leo Milman and the Dolce String Ensemble coaxed the timeless music of Vivaldi's Seasons from their instruments at a quality fit for Carnegie Hall.

In an effort to acquaint the community with the little Adventist church, Milman and the Dolce String Ensemble performed a concert on October 10, free to the public. The breathless attention, and the standing ovation at the end, followed by a rendition of "Be Still, My Soul" was evidence of the success of the evening.

After the performance, attendees were invited to sign up if they



The Dolce String Ensemble members are, from left, Leo Milman, violin; Natasha Milman, viola; Nathan Lawrence, violin; Sue Kowalski, violin; William Hayes, cello, and, not pictured, Taylor Abbit, bass.

were interested in being notified of upcoming events and were given advertisements for the Doug Batchelor "Heroes" series that would be presented at the church.

As new friends munched delicious Romanian/Serbian desserts and became acquainted in the

fellowship hall, many expressed inspiration and awe at the masterful performance. May God use the gift of beautiful music to draw people who are searching for Him.

—Wendy Dunn, member and pastor's wife, Vestal Hills church

Vestal Hills Church Hosts Restoration Weekend

Every year the Men's Ministries department of Vestal Hills church in New York evaluates the needs of its church family and designated 2015 as the Year of the Family. Based on the enthusiastic encouragement of the Flores family, Tom and Alane Waters, co-founders of Restoration International, an ASI ministry, were invited to be guest speakers at the church September 25-27.

The seminars, which related to marriage and parenting issues, were designed to give guidance, hope, and encouragement to church

members. Tom Waters shared that the use of technology (smart phones, iPads, and more) has caused many to lose the gift of personal communication.

The Waters challenged the group to put aside all forms of technology during their family meals and family activity time. They pointed out the need to take back control of families. They also shared several communication tools to use in marriage and parenting. These tools have applications in church life, as well.

The Waters encouraged the group to take time to

communicate with their spouses and children on a daily basis; to listen, and to understand that different opinions and perspectives are OK. They also encouraged the participants to make sure they express appreciation and gratitude, are sensitive to non-verbal communication such as body language, stay on topic when in a disagreement, and to be honest and transparent. They also reminded the group of the need for accountability, to establish boundaries, and to understand the consequences of their actions.

Many of the attendees say they gained something from the seminars. From young adults to long-time married couples with grown children, attendees were reminded that whatever family problems they have, they can claim Matthew 19:26, "With God all things are possible," and that God will help to restore their families.

—Marnie Schrader, assistant communication leader, Vestal Hills church



Northeastern Donates to Dominica Relief Effort

The Dominica Association of Seventh-day Adventists (DASUS) in the United States acknowledged the donation of a check in the amount of \$10,000.00 (USD) from Daniel Honoré, Northeastern Conference president. The contribution from the Northeastern Conference (NEC) will benefit the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Tropical Storm Relief Effort in Dominica.

The donation is a result of appeals from DASUS; Josian Frampton, pastor and founder of He Leadeth Me Ministries; and other Dominicans who are members of NEC churches. "We are pleased to contribute to the relief effort in Dominica," Honoré said. "We are a family. When one member hurts; we are all affected." The funds will go to the



Attending the check presentation ceremony to the DASUS are, from left, Carol Bellot, DASUS founding member; William E. Bellot, DASUS vice president; W. Fitzgerald Kerr, Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services director; Edson Bovell, Northeastern Conference treasurer; Daniel Honoré, Northeastern Conference president; Oswald Euell, Northeastern Conference executive secretary; and Beryl R. Williams, DASUS president.

East Caribbean Conference, which oversees some 25 churches with approximately 7,000 members on the East Caribbean island of Dominica.

"Thank you for blessing Dominica with this generous gift. We appreciate your

contribution to helping Dominica rebuild," Beryl R. Williams, DASUS president, said, acknowledging the gift. "We are also grateful for the donations of food, clothing, and other supplies which came from our church family. Please keep Dominica,

its government, and church leaders in your prayers."

On August 27, Tropical Storm Erika devastated Dominica, leaving more than 30 people dead and many others still unaccounted for. According to Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit, the damage caused by floods, mudslides, and other storm-related activity set the island back two decades. The NEC donation comes at the culmination of an intensive in-kind relief effort by the Dominica Consulate in New York, and coincides with an urgent appeal for funds to address extensive infrastructure destruction on the island.

—Staff, Dominica Association of Seventh-day Adventists (DASUS)

First Cantonese Evangelistic Series Held in the Boston Area

Massachusetts has a higher percentage of Asians (5.34 percent) than the national average of 4.75 percent. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that the Asian population in Suffolk County, where Dorchester is located, rose from 66,973 in 2010 to 74,933 in 2014. Cornel Miller, pastor of The Waymark church, recognized the high number of Asians living in his church's neighborhood and sought to reach out to them.

An ESL ministry (English as a Second Language) was established by Tiffany Tan, part-time pastor supervising the Chinese group, in June 2013, as an outreach tool to develop and sustain connections in the Dorchester area and, ultimately, to win souls for Christ. This ministry has grown and made solid connections. The fall of 2015



Community residents, ESL students, and church members pose for a photo following the first Cantonese evangelistic series.

was the right time to hold an evangelistic series to reach this growing population.

Evangelist Matthew Yuen effectively targeted the non-believing Chinese mind. His Cantonese message was translated into English and Vietnamese. He introduced new concepts using humor

and deep sensitivity.

Guests mentioned that the three most impactful topics were "The Story Behind Satan," "The Grim Reality We Face Today," and "The Longest Vacation."

Thirty to 40 non-Adventists and ESL students, plus church members attended

the meetings. During the last meeting on Sabbath morning, two individuals decided to join the church by profession of faith. The church gives thanks and praise to God for the success of these evangelistic meetings.

—Communication team, The Waymark Chinese Mission Group

Altino Brothers and Other Performers Debut at Carnegie Hall

“Absolutely amazing performance!” “What a night!” “A night that we will never forget!” These were some of the words used to describe the debut of the pianists Nerva and Robenson Altino, the Altino Brothers Concert Chorale, the Aeolians of Oakwood University, and the Beyond Boundaries Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall on October 4.

Alfred-Donovan Burgess



Joseph Choi, assistant conductor for the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra and music director for Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland, conducts “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” with performances by the Altino Brothers, the Altino Brothers Concert Chorale, the Aeolians, the Beyond Boundaries Symphony Orchestra, and soloist Brandie Sutton at Carnegie Hall.

The 300-member ensemble was conducted by Jason Max Ferdinand, director of choral activities at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, and Joseph Choi, assistant conductor for the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra in Kentucky. The roster of soloists included soprano Brandie Sutton, Sequina DuBose, and Colleen A. C. Beaumont-Scott.

Featured works ranged from Liszt Piano Concerto

No. 1 in E-flat major, Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1, several spirituals, a Broadway favorite: “You’ll Never Walk Alone,” and the world premiere piano concerto based on the “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” that was composed by Nerva Altino for two pianos, an orchestra, a chorus, and a solo. The concerto was written from the traditional score in inten-

tional reverse notes. The piece was dedicated to the victims and families of the 9/11 tragedy, who were also given complimentary front seat tickets to attend the premiere.

The “Battle Hymn of the Republic” was the final musical rendition which concluded the stellar concert. Passionately conducted by Choi, it dramatized the tension, conflict, sadness, and

eventual triumphant victory to the memory of 9/11. The intensity of the piece had several individuals already on their feet, with one guest saying that she stood up for the last performance because she “didn’t want to miss anything.” The final performance drew the audience of 2,600 to a 10-minute standing ovation.

—Lorraine Archie, contributor, Altino Concert Chorale

Haitian Youth Support One of Their Own

October 4 marked one year since the youth fundraiser held for 24-year-old musician Dominic Regis who was diagnosed, just a few weeks before, with a rare cancer—pheochromocytoma, that affects the adrenal glands located above the kidneys. Haitian youth in the Northeastern Conference came together to support Regis, who serves as organist for Horeb French church in Brooklyn and the choir director and keyboardist for Maranatha French youth choir in Queens. The overwhelming response and money raised helped Regis fund his cancer treatment.

The rare cancer not only affected Regis’ adrenal glands, but his legs, as well. “You never know how important your two feet are until you don’t have them,” Regis says. “I was on crutches and it felt so frus-



Dominic Regis, Mount Horeb church’s organist, is back on his feet after receiving treatment for a rare form of cancer.

trating. And because I wasn’t using my left leg, it began shrinking.”

After two months, Regis began walking without his crutches, despite the protest of his family and doctor. Today, although the cancer has not gone away, Regis is back in school full-time; he is working, driving, and enjoy-

ing working out—all things he wasn’t able to do as a result of his diagnosis.

One year later, Regis describes his experience as a testament to the power of God. He recounts the story of Jesus and the blind man from John 9 when Jesus told His disciples that “this happened so the works of God might be displayed in him.”

Regis’s words of encouragement to others struggling with cancer and health issues is “Count on God. Know that God knows the end. Just as Jesus said the blind man’s condition was for the glory of God, believe that [your condition] is a blessing in itself.”

—Judith Silfrene, member, Horeb French church

Oldest Adventist Church Welcomes Hikers

The Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway Trail (MSGT) is the 50 mile hiking trail that extends through Southern New Hampshire from the summit of Mount Monadnock to the summit of Mount Sunapee. Every year, numerous hikers come for a weekend-long trip to hike the entire trail, or hike on parts of it during day trips.

The trail, which goes through parts of three counties, goes right down King Street in Washington, New Hampshire. Most of that dirt road, which was a main thoroughfare in times past, is unpassable to cars but a beautiful walking path for hikers.

King Street is also the home of the historic Washington church, the birthplace of the Adventist denomination. It was that meetinghouse that held the first congregation that believed in both the second coming of Christ and the seventh-day Sabbath. It is not uncommon for Sabbath visitors to the site to see backpack-laden hikers walking along the road in front of the church.

This past summer, I met a number of hikers who were traveling the MSGT. Some of them were familiar with the church and its history, and others were curious. One Sunday, when I was

at the church doing some cleaning, a group of four hikers approached the open door and asked if they could come in. They expressed that they had wondered about the simple building they had walked past many times, but had not had the opportunity to come inside. I told them a little bit about the denomination and the

open along at the right time of day, they are invited for a meal or snack in the newly-constructed pavilion.

One Sabbath afternoon, a lone hiker stopped to talk in answer to our greeting. When I asked him if he was familiar with Seventh-day Adventists, he replied that he had a number of relatives in Maine who were Adventist.



Marsha Hammond-Brummel is pictured with three hikers in front of the Washington, New Hampshire, church after they discovered they had a mutual friend.

history of the building. I offered a pamphlet about the site, which they accepted, even though it was one more thing to add to their packs.

Hikers that we notice walking by on Sabbath are invited to rest at the site. They are told about the modern bathrooms that are open on the other side of the parking lot. If they hap-

I was getting ready to lead the two o'clock cemetery tour and invited him to join the group. He did and took pictures while listening to the stories of the pioneers who are buried there.

Another Sabbath, a group of three hikers stopped by, asking if they could have their picture taken in front of the church. They said

they had a friend who was a Seventh-day Adventist, and wanted to post a picture of them in front of the church on her Facebook page. When I asked the name of their friend, I discovered she was also a friend of mine, so I was included in the picture. Later that week, when the photo was posted, they commented how much they enjoyed visiting and how refreshing it was to rest and enjoy the cold watermelon slices that were given to them in the pavilion.

Several times, when my husband, Ken Brummel, has spoken to groups at the church, he has posed the question, "If you were God, would you choose Washington, New Hampshire, as the place to start a worldwide, 18 million member church?" People chuckle because the humble, rural nature of the site is far from what we might choose.

Some first-time Adventist visitors have found it difficult to locate the church. Yet, there is a steady trickle of visitors walking by this remote historic site on the Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway Trail.

—Marsha Hammond-Brummel, volunteer at the historic church along with her husband, Ken, who is the site director, Washington church

4,000 Miles on a Bike Touring Historic Adventist Churches

Next May, Northern New England Conference's (NNEC) Scott Christiansen and his son, Beniah, will dip their rear bicycle tires in the Pacific Ocean at Neah Bay, Washington, then cycle roughly 4,000 miles through the northern U.S. to Quoddy Bay Lighthouse in Lubec, Maine, and dip their front tires in the Atlantic

Ocean. Along the way, they will stop at a number of historic Adventist churches, culminating the trip with stops at historic churches in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.

Christiansen will make the trip as a bike-a-thon to raise funds and awareness for the historic churches in NNEC. He plans to make

the trip in about 35 days and is inviting those interested to join him for parts of the Northern New England leg of the trip.

The NNEC portion of the tour, which will occur in early June, will first stop at the Washington, New Hampshire, church. This church is the first place a congregation met that

believed in both the imminent second coming of Christ and the Seventh-day Sabbath. It is the birthplace of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

At the Washington church, other cyclists, including NNEC president Bob Cundiff and Bordoville church pastor Cornell Preda, will ride to the



Scott Christiansen, Northern New England Conference trust services and communication director, is preparing for his 4,000 mile bike tour in May.

Bordoville church, a two-day ride of some 160 miles. The Bordoville church, which is being renovated by faithful volunteers under the leadership of Preda, was the first Adventist church that was built as an Adventist church (as opposed to, say, a Baptist

church bought for use as an Adventist church).

From the Bordoville church, cyclists who are interested in doing so will proceed to the Norridgewock church, the oldest church in the conference that has been in continuous use. The two-day ride from Bordoville to Norridgewock is some 230 miles.

Cyclists who are interested in joining parts of the ride are welcome to contact Scott Christiansen at (207) 797-3760, ext. 223. This invitation also includes those who want to ride the last few miles to any of the churches—all are welcome! Those who simply want to be at one of the churches to welcome the cyclists and join in the tour of the site are also welcome. Details of the ride and the dates of the tours are available on the NNEC Web site at www.nnec.org.

Currently only the expected dates of the tours are available, since the exact date will depend on progress of the riders across the U.S. Every attempt will be made to have the tours on the expected dates.

For some years the historic churches in NNEC were paid scant attention. That changed in the last 20 years as interest in, and volunteer support for, these historic churches increased. One signal change was the building of the Sabbath Trail on the property of the Washington, New Hampshire, church. The trail has made the church into a compelling destination for Adventists and history enthusiasts alike. But even as interest in historic sites has increased, pressing upkeep and renovation challenges have come to a head and currently the burden of maintaining these “first” Adventist

churches falls entirely on volunteers and the Northern New England Conference. The bike-a-thon is an attempt to increase awareness and offer Adventists across the country the opportunity to share in the support of these historic resources.

If you have not ever been to a historic Adventist church—a place where you can stand in the same pulpit in which James White and other Adventist pioneers preached—then you really should plan on joining one of the church visits and tours planned for this “Adventist Heritage Ride.” For more information on the bike-a-thon and how you can help support and maintain these historic churches, visit the NNEC Web site at www.nnec.org.

—Communication staff, Northern New England Conference

Bennington Church Creates A Unique Service Project

NNEC communication director's note: At this point in Earth's history, when we see prophecy being fulfilled daily and can feel the shortness of time, every individual and every church should be engaged in outreach and service. There are a thousand things the Lord will show us to do that will touch souls and open doors that would have remained closed. In the short article, Jane Coulter recounts a thoroughly creative (and fun!) service project that touched people who would not otherwise have been reached. What creative and fun outreach does the Lord have planned for you and your church? Ask Him!



Members of the Bennington church gather at the bottom of the Stratton Mountain Trail to provide meals for hikers passing through.

On August 29 the Bennington church family launched an outreach called “Trail Magic.” The church family prepared food and gathered along the Appalachian Trail at the bottom of the Stratton Mountain Trail on Kelley Stand Road in Arlington,

Vermont. The effort began early Sabbath morning and lasted until about dusk.

Hikers who came through were provided a hot meal of hot dogs, hard-boiled eggs, apples, carrots, snack packs, brownies, water, and other food items. The church group fed more than 24 hik-

ers that day. Some had been on the trail since March and others had just started heading south. The “magic” was the look of gratitude on their faces for a hot meal and some company.

Church member Jim Howe, Jr., got the idea of “Trail Magic” from the Shaftsbury postmaster, Mike Ryan. Ryan had hiked the Appalachian Trail himself and had received meals in the same way the church was giving them out. Ryan wanted to give back to fellow hikers, so about a month before, he and his wife went to the same spot and fed more than 40 hikers. The church family had a wonderful day sharing food, showing compassion, and listening to the stories of the hikers.

—Jane Coulter, member, Bennington church

Three Connecticut Churches Work Together at Brooklyn Fair

The members of the Wilimantic, Norwich, and Quinebaug churches decided to “go and preach the gospel” at the Brooklyn Fair, an annual agricultural fair held in Brooklyn, Connecticut. It was first held in 1809 and it is considered the oldest continuously active cultural fair in the United States.*

From Thursday, August 27 to Sunday, August 30, the stand was visited by hundreds of people. Most of them expressed their interest in the health magazines, DVDs that present the prophecies of the Bible, and books, including THE MINISTRY OF HEALING, STEPS TO CHRIST, THE GREAT CONTROVERSY, NOAH, EVOLUTION? THE EVIDENCE SAYS NO!, and others. The kids were not forgotten, and they got to choose a book or magazine for their age category.



Members of the Wilimantic, Norwich, and Quinebaug churches along with Mihail Baciu, the church's pastor, decided to “go and preach the gospel” at the Brooklyn Fair.

A team from the churches was present at the Brooklyn Fair, checking blood pressure or making medical assessments. They followed up with the individuals, informing them how to live a healthy lifestyle in order to be healthier and happier.

The members of the three churches praise God and



continue to pray for the hundreds of people who visited them, most of whom left

with books, magazines, and DVDs in their bags, after visiting with the medical team. Only when Jesus comes will the members know how many people accepted Jesus after receiving the material, or through a personal encounter with a Christian.

—Mihail Baciu, pastor, Wilimantic, Norwich, and Quinebaug churches

*Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brooklyn_Fair)

SNEC Staff Helps Three Angels Church

The Three Angels church in Newington, Connecticut, is soon to open their new church building after 13 years of construction. The employees of the Southern New England Conference wanted to help the church complete the last little bit of work. With a bus and tools they spent a day at the church cleaning up all the junk that construction brings.

It was an awesome day for the office team and, hopefully, they have blessed one of our churches. Thanks to Jeff Linthwaite, Southern New England Conference's property manager, and Tom Murray, Planned Giving, Trust Services, Stewardship, and ASI director, for putting together this remarkable day.



▲ Southern New England Conference employees team up with members of the Three Angels church to help complete the construction on their new church building.

—David Dennis, president, Southern New England Conference

► The Three Angels church that was under construction for 13 years is nearing completion.



Conference President Achieves Another Milestone

Who would have thought that someone who was once a Rasta (Rastafarian) would become a successful pastor, who would then become a conference president, and that a high school dropout would earn a G.E.D. and then years later, on August 1, 2015, graduate with a Doctor of Ministry in Church Leadership? Only the Lord could have seen this in His providential plan for Kenneth Manders, the fifth president of the Bermuda Conference.

Manders, a preacher and soul-winning evangelist in the Bermuda Conference, has held various posts during his 20 years of service in pastoral ministry. Before pastoral ministry, he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) and a Master of Divinity degree from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, then he became a literature evangelist. As he started his pastoral ministry, Manders became a conference youth director, conference personal ministries director, ministerial secretary, and he has pastored the Hamilton church, which became the largest Adventist church in the Bermuda Conference.

It was his election to a conference administrative position as executive secretary that became the catalyst



Kenneth Manders, Bermuda Conference's fifth president, graduated with a Doctor of Ministry in Church Leadership.

to Manders pursuing the leadership cohort at the Theological Seminary, with a focus in church leadership. For Manders, it's all about impacting lives with the servant model leadership ministry, exemplified by Jesus, who "mingled with men as one who desired their good, ministered to their needs, won their confidence, and then bade them follow me" (THE MINISTRY OF HEALING, p. 143). Manders says he has always asked himself this question: "If the church were to close its doors, would the community miss it?"

Manders wrote his assessment proposal on *Envisioning Strategies and Strategic Planning for Members in Ministry at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church*. Manders, a proponent of the New Testament teaching, believes that every member is a minister. He believes that all members should be involved in an ongoing ministry that impacts the community. The Hamilton church, where Manders served as senior pastor for 13 years, has tried to make that kind of ministry a focus of its mission to the community through a feeding ministry, G.E.D. ministry, radio program, live streamed worship service, and other outreach projects that minister to the community around them.

As the conference president, Manders is using his leadership training to lead the conference to reach every person, family, and group in Bermuda with the distinctive, Christ-centered, global Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness. He says he is ever grateful to his wife, Claudette, of 29 years, for her steadfast support of his ministry and for his three sons, Andre, Stephen, and Joseph. Most of all and best of all, Manders says he thanks the Lord for his life-changing journey toward excellence and eternity.

—Communication department, Bermuda Conference

Eugene Virgil Celebrates 86th Birthday

Eugene Virgil, a retired pastor, who served the Northeastern and Bermuda conferences for more than 45 years, celebrated his 86th birthday on October 16 with somewhat of a surprise party the night before. Approximately six weeks prior, he suggested to his daughter, Cheryl Kerr, that he wanted a birthday party. Knowing that this was an unusual request, she interrogated him, and his response was, "Well, you never know." That is when Kerr decided to invite a few friends and family to the Warwick church fellowship hall.

There were several high-lights during the party. The

evening began with Franklin Richards, Warwick church member, and David Pearman, Warwick church elder, some of Virgil's music buddies, serenading guests. Then, Virgil's brothers, Charles and Leon Virgil, joined the lively instrumental ensemble.

Kate Darrell, Virgil's 90-year-old sister, read poetry and provided tidbits of her life with the pastor. His sons, Todd and Ronald, who reside in the United States, informally honored him with heartfelt tributes via amplified cell phones. Todd credited his dad for modeling strong, spiritual leadership, and how to be a great husband and father.



Eugene Virgil, retired pastor, and his wife, Ann, celebrated his 86th birthday with family and friends in the Warwick church fellowship hall on October 15.

God's command to "Honor thy father . . ." became reality as friends and family fellowshiped and feasted with Virgil and his wife, Ann, on October

15. There was nothing but love in the hall as everyone shared in the festivities.

—Iva Wilson, in collaboration with Cheryl Kerr



CHANGING
THE WORLD.

it
ALL
BEGINS
WITH
YOU



This holiday season, buy a gift that can change the world. It's easier than you think. With ADRA's *Change the World Kit*, you can provide water for an entire community, rescue a pre-teen from sex trafficking, and more. It's easy. And, it all begins with you.

Call **1.800.424.ADRA (2372)** to request
or visit **GiftCatalog.ADRA.org**.

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR

FREE
CHANGE
THE
WORLD **Kit**
1.800.424.ADRA (2372)

Sunset Table

| January 2016 | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Bangor, ME | 4:04 | 4:12 | 4:21 | 4:30 | 4:39 |
| Portland, ME | 4:15 | 4:22 | 4:30 | 4:39 | 4:48 |
| Boston, MA | 4:23 | 4:29 | 4:37 | 4:46 | 4:55 |
| South Lancaster, MA | 4:25 | 4:31 | 4:39 | 4:48 | 4:57 |
| Pittsfield, MA | 4:31 | 4:38 | 4:46 | 4:54 | 5:03 |
| Hartford, CT | 4:26 | 4:32 | 4:40 | 4:48 | 4:57 |
| Providence, RI | 4:31 | 4:37 | 4:45 | 4:54 | 5:02 |
| New York, NY | 4:39 | 4:46 | 4:53 | 5:02 | 5:10 |
| Albany, NY | 4:31 | 4:38 | 4:45 | 4:54 | 5:03 |
| Utica, NY | 4:37 | 4:44 | 4:52 | 5:00 | 5:10 |
| Syracuse, NY | 4:40 | 4:47 | 4:55 | 5:04 | 5:13 |
| Rochester, NY | 4:46 | 4:53 | 5:01 | 5:10 | 5:19 |
| Buffalo, NY | 4:52 | 4:59 | 5:07 | 5:15 | 5:24 |
| Hamilton, Bda | 5:24 | 5:30 | 5:36 | 5:42 | 5:49 |

Eastern Standard Time

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATLANTIC UNION

Register for the "Finish Faithful" Atlantic Union Conference Camporee 2016. Join Pathfinders, Master Guides, parents, and church leaders for an excit-

ing camporee experience in 2016! Registration is open and there is a special early bird price of only \$60. That's a saving of some \$30. **The deadline for the early bird rate is December 31, 2015.** Take advantage of this very special price before it expires. Visit atlanticunion.camporee.org to register.

Northern New England Conference



Music Clinic 2016

March 31-April 2

Save \$10 - Register by December 1, 2015

Final Piano Registration - February 1, 2016

Final Registration for all others - March 1, 2016

Art Clinic 2016

February 4-6

Register by January 11, 2016

Both events hosted by
Pine Tree Academy, Freeport, Maine

FMI & to register please visit us at www.nnec.org

SAVE THE DATE

The Edward D. Herndon
Fifth Anniversary Memorial Benefit Concert

March 12, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

Mount Vernon Seventh-day Adventist Church

230 South Columbus Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10553
(914) 664-8586

An Awe-inspiring Experience! Don't miss this!

Featuring:

Paul Heflin, Renowned Vocalist, Kingdom First Ministries
Fredericksburg, Virginia

The New York Keys with Extraordinary
Keyboard, Organ, and Piano Presentations

and other
Great Gospel Performers

Join friends from near and far!

For more information, contact:

Lawrencewells19@hotmail.com (732) 979-7160

Avery12122004@yahoo.com (212) 569-4800

L. Watkins, Laurence62@yahoo.com (914) 374-1897

P. Lindo, pmlbutts@yahoo.com (347) 885-9209

*Wishing our
readers a happy,
healthy, and
prosperous season!*

—Atlantic Union GLEANER Staff



www.atlantic-union.org

facebook.com/atlanticunionconference • twitter.com/GleanerFYI

CLASSIFIEDS

All advertisements should be sent, together with payment, to your local conference office for approval by the communication director. For advertisements originating within the Atlantic Union the rate is \$35 for each insertion of 40 words or less, and 50 cents for each additional word. For all other advertisements the rate is \$40 for each insertion of 40 words or less and 50 cents for each word over the 40. There is an 80-word maximum. Check or money order should be made payable to Atlantic Union GLEANER or Atlantic Union Conference.

The Atlantic Union GLEANER reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The rejection of any advertisement should not be construed to constitute disapproval of the product or service involved.

Classified and display ads appearing in the Atlantic Union GLEANER are printed without endorsement or recommendation of the Atlantic Union Conference. The Atlantic Union GLEANER makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertisements, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns or for typographical or categorical errors.

EMPLOYMENT

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SEEKS COUNSELOR AND DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES SPECIALIST. To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Master's degree in Counseling (general or rehabilitation), Disability Studies, or related field; minimum two-years in higher education, preferably in an office setting that provides disability support services. Candidate must be a Seventh-day Adventist in regular standing and be committed to the values, principles, and expectations

of the Adventist Church and Atlantic Union College. Submit cover letter, including a statement addressing the specific minimum and preferred qualifications, CV, a copy of transcript, and three professional letters of references to: roberto.reyna@auc.edu. For details, visit www.auc.edu.

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SEEKS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES (ITS) DIRECTOR. To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Applicant must have at least a master's degree in Computing or equivalent; or four to 10 years related experience and/or equivalent combination of education and experience. Candidate must be a Seventh-day Adventist in regular standing and be committed to the values, principles, and expectations of the Adventist Church and Atlantic Union College. Submit cover letter, including a statement addressing the specific minimum and preferred qualifications, CV, a copy of transcript, and three professional letters of references to: roberto.reyna@auc.edu. For details, visit www.auc.edu.

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SEEKS VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES. The applicant should have at least a bachelor's degree in business or a related area. Professional designa-

tion and master's degree preferred. Computer business applications skills essential. Candidates should have a proven record of management of non-profit organizations and/or businesses. Values consistent with the Adventist mission and tradition of the college. Submit cover letter, a statement addressing the specific minimum and preferred qualifications, résumé, copy of transcripts and three professional letters of references to: roberto.reyna@auc.edu. For details, visit: www.auc.edu.

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SEEKS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT. To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Associate degree or equivalent from two-year college or technical school; five years of increasingly responsible secretarial and clerical experience is required. Submit cover letter, including a statement addressing the specific minimum and preferred qualifications, résumé, a copy of transcript, and three professional letters of references to: roberto.reyna@auc.edu. For details, visit www.auc.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY SEEKS PROGRAM DIRECTOR for new Physical Therapy Assistant Program. Will set up program according to Commissions on Accreditation in



19 hospitals committed to sharing God's love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.

For job opportunities, visit AdventistHealth.org

Adventist Health

Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) and seek accreditation, teach/develop courses, recruit, and evaluate students. Graduate PT degree, TN License or eligibility for licensing as PT/PTA in TN required. Minimum five years clinical, teaching, administrative experience in CAPTE program, and Adventist member. Send cover letter including teaching philosophy and research interest, curriculum vita, and unofficial transcripts to Dr. Volker Henning, P.O. BOX 370

Atlantic Union Conference 2016 Music Clinic Featuring Band, Praise Team, and Social Studies

March 2-5, 2016

Atlantic Union College Campus
338 Main St., Lancaster, MA 01523



Clinicians:

Band: Earl Raney
Praise Team: David Hunte
Social Studies: Jeffrey
and Milca Lambert

Concert:

Saturday, March 5, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Free Admission

Sponsored by

Atlantic Union Conference • Office of Education
education@atlanticunion.org • (978) 368-8333 ext. 3020
www.atlantic-union.org/education

21 Adventist Channels
Plus more than 60 other FREE Christian Channels and 4 News Channels on Adventist Satellite Dish

High Definition and DVR
Connect to any TV • Record your favorite shows*
*optional USB memory required for recording

Please ask us about INTERNET options:
SafeTV Television
Positive Life Radio,
Walla Walla

Complete satellite system only \$199
Plus shipping

**No Monthly Fees
No Subscriptions
Includes 36in Dish
FREE Install Kit**

Two Room System \$299
Plus shipping

866-552-6882 toll free www.adventistsat.com

ADVERTISEMENTS

Collegedale, TN 37315; henning@southern.edu; (423) 236-2912.

UNION COLLEGE seeks a Seventh-day Adventist, master's prepared PA faculty member. The ideal candidate will have clinical experience in Family Practice and Emergency Medicine. Prior teaching experience is desired but not necessary. Start date June 1, 2016. Send CV and references to Jodi Chewakin, jochewak@ucollege.edu.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE seeks Public Relations Manager. Candidate should possess a degree/experience in journalism/communications or English. Knowledge and experience of magazine/journal writing, publication, and management. For information, visit www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE seeks Manager for College Market. Candidate should possess a degree/experience in business/management or related field. Knowledge and experience of merchandising, logistics, and financials. For information, visit www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is a great place to work! Vacancies in hourly positions include **Human Resources Officer; Office Manager; Cashier; Preschool Teacher; Flight Instructor; Recycling; Driver**. For information, visit www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS FACULTY IN MANAGEMENT/MARKETING. Responsibilities: teach marketing and related courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as performing various duties described in the full position description. Qualifications: doctorate in marketing as well as sufficient teaching experience in marketing at the graduate and undergraduate levels and be actively engaged in research, student advising and supervising student projects. For more information and to apply visit, www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_6.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS A FACULTY MEMBER for the Department of Music. Individual is responsible for teaching full-time undergraduate and graduate courses in music history, musicology, and research in music. Qualified person should have a Ph.D. in Musicology/Music History. Evidence of excellence in teaching and potential for scholarly activity are essential. Commitment to teamwork and collegiality. Excellent interpersonal skills. Ability to work with students and colleagues with a wide range of national, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. For more information/ to apply, visit www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/838.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S BUSINESS DEPARTMENT seeks finance faculty to begin Spring or Fall term 2016. Successful candidate will possess proficiency in previous teaching experience. Candidate should hold earned doctorate in finance or related field. Master's candidate with minimum of 18 graduate hours in finance considered. Instruction in multiple areas preferred. Send cover letter and CV to Dr. Aaron Moses at mosesa@swau.edu.

at www.atlantic-union.org

REAL ESTATE/HOUSING

COLLEGEDALE, TENN., MINI-ESTATE: three minutes to SAU. 6,600+sqft, one-level with finished basement. 4BR, 5.5BA, \$545,000. Quality construction and materials, many amenities, well maintained. Efficient Mitsubishi Ductless HVAC for multi-zone climate control. Private, rural-like setting. Teen/ in-law walkout apartment. Pre-qualified buyers prior to showing. Text "7491350" to 79564. Contact Eppy, (423) 432-3195. Crye-Leike Realtors, Ooltewah, TN 37363, (423) 238-5440. www.goo.gl/VZ6z6r.

SERVICES

LIFESTYLE DISEASE: PREVENTION AND TREATMENT. A live-in program focusing on a comprehensive approach to prevention and reversal of lifestyle diseases. This aggressive lifestyle change program includes: a nutrient rich, plant-based, anti-cancer diet; personalized fitness program; simple, effective hydrotherapy treatments; daily presentations of current research on natural healing; and achieving optimal mental health. Cost: 14-days \$2,600; 28-days \$4,800. BUTLER CREEK HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER, Iron City, Tenn. Register online or call (931) 213-1329. www.butlercreekhealth.org.

DOWNLOAD FREE SERMONS FROM AUDIOVERSE.ORG! Access thousands of FREE Adventist sermons, audio Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy audiobooks, and messages from your favorite annual conferences (ASI, GYC, etc.). Available in Spanish, German, French, and Chinese. Download the iOS and Android app.

AdventistSingles.org FREE 14-day Trial! Join thousands of active Adventist Singles. FREE Chat, Search, Detailed Profiles, Match Notifications! Confidential. Witnessing opportunities to the world through Articles, Friendships, Chat, Forums. Since 1993! Adventist owners. Thousands of Successful Matches! Top ranked.

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you to reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression, and many more. To invest in your health, call (800) 634-9355 or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle.

AUTHORS of cookbooks, health books, children's chapter or picture books—Call (800) 367-1844 for FREE evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores, in 220 countries. New titles at your local ABC or www.TEACHServices.com—used books at www.LNFBooks.com.

MOVE with an award-winning agency. Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves for you. Call us for all your relocation needs. Contact Marcy Danté at (800) 766-1902 or visit us at www.apexmoving.com/adventist.



The Official Publication for the Constituents of the Seventh-day Adventist® Church in the Northeast United States and Bermuda

Established January 1, 1902

Atlantic Union Conference
400 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561
Phone (978) 368-8333, Fax (978) 368-7948
Web site: www.atlantic-union.org

Atlantic Union GLEANER Staff
E-mail: gleaner@atlanticunion.org

Editor Ednor A. P. Davison
Circulation/Back Pages/Proofreader Debra McKinney Banks
Copy Editor (off-site) Pat Humphrey
Layout & Design (off-site) Haziel Olivera

Contributors

Bermuda
Greater New York Rohann Wellington, rwellington@gnyc.org
New York Jeremy Garlock, jeremy.garlock@nyconf.org
Northeastern JeNeen Lendor, jlendor@northeastern.org
Northern New England Scott Christiansen, schristiansen@nneconline.org
Southern New England David Dennis, skypilot@sneconline.org
Atlantic Union College
Parkview Adventist Hospital Public Relations

Atlantic Union Conference Departments

President Donald G. King
Vice President, Haitian Pierre Omeler
Vice President, Hispanic Dionisio Olivo
Secretary Carlyle C. Simmons
Treasurer Leon D. Thomassian
Undertreasurer Trevor S. Forbes
Adventist Community Services Pierre Omeler
Adventist Youth Ministries Ryan Simpson
Children's Ministries Astrid Thomassian
Children's Ministries, Associate Jerrell Gilkeson
Children's Ministries, Assistant Marlene Alvarez
Communication Ednor A. P. Davison
Communication, Assistant Debra McKinney Banks
Disabilities Ministries Charlotte L. V. Thoms
Education Astrid A. Thomassian
Education, Associate Jerrell Gilkeson
Education, Assistant Marlene Alvarez
Family Ministries Dionisio Olivo
Health Ministries Carlyle C. Simmons
Human Relations Carlyle C. Simmons
Information Technology David Hunte
Ministerial Donald G. King
Ministerial, Assistant Pierre Omeler
Ministerial, Assistant Dionisio Olivo
Ministerial Spouses Association Lois King
Personal Ministries Trevor S. Forbes
Plant Services David Keith
Prayer Ministries Carlyle C. Simmons
Prison Ministries Pierre Omeler
Public Affairs/Religious Liberty Charles Eusey
Public Affairs/Religious Liberty, Assistant John Ashmeade
Publishing Donald G. King
Revolving Fund Violet Bidwell
Sabbath School Dionisio Olivo
Stewardship Leon D. Thomassian
Trust Services/Inner City/Loss Control Leon D. Thomassian
Women's Ministries Lois King

Local Conferences and Institutions

Bermuda: Kenneth Manders, President; DeJaun Tull, Secretary; W. Aaron Spencer, Treasurer. Office Address: P.O. Box HM 1170, Hamilton, HM EX Bermuda. (441) 292-4110. Web site: www.bermudaconference.org
Greater New York: G. Earl Knight, President; Henry Beras, Secretary; Ebenezer Agboka, Treasurer. Office Address: 7 Shelter Rock Rd., Manhasset, NY 11030. (516) 627-9350. Web site: www.gnyc.org
New York: Elias Zabala, Sr., President; Miguel Crespo, Secretary; Priscilla English, Treasurer. Office Address: 4930 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215. (315) 469-6921. Web site: www.nyconf.org
Northeastern: Daniel Honoré, President; Oswald Euell, Secretary; Edson Bovell, Treasurer. Office Address: 115-50 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11434. (718) 291-8006. Web site: www.northeastern.org
Northern New England: Bob Cundiff, President; Ted Huskins, Secretary; Daniel Battin, Treasurer. Office Address: 479 Main St., Westbrook, ME 04092. (207) 797-3760. Web site: www.nneconline.org
Southern New England: David Dennis, President; José Alarcón, Secretary; Joel Tompkins, Jr., Treasurer. Office Address: 34 Sawyer St., South Lancaster, MA 01561. (978) 365-4551. Web site: www.sneconline.org
Atlantic Union College: Avis Hendrickson, President; 338 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561; (978) 368-2000. Web site: www.auc.edu
NETS Evangelism Center: Kevin Sears, Director; Lois King, Assistant Director. Office Address: P.O. Box 446, South Lancaster, MA 01561. (978) 368-2638. E-mail: registrar@netsatlanticunion.org. Web site: www.netsatlanticunion.org

Member, Associated Church Press
Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

ATLANTIC UNION GLEANER
ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE
P.O. BOX 1189
SOUTH LANCASTER, MA 01561

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 61
Montpelier, VT

Your Best
PATHWAY To HEALTH
Los Angeles

3,000 Volunteers Needed

Dentists, Dental Hygienists & Assistants, Ophthalmologists, Optometrists, Nurses, Surgeons,
Doctors of All Specialties, Hair Stylists, Attorney Services, and Non-medical Volunteers

3-day Adventist Medical & Dental Mega Clinic and Convention
Los Angeles, California, April 26-29, 2016



Special convention continues through April 30 with inspiring speakers including Dan Jackson & Mark Finley.
Full children's program available for volunteers throughout the event.



Information & Volunteer Registration at
PathwaytoHealthVolunteer.org



Scan for video



Your Best Pathway to Health is a service of Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries, in partnership with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Adventist Health, Loma Linda University Health and many other organizations.