

# *Inside* ASI

The official publication of Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries.

Summer/Fall 2014

Lift **HIM** up

**ASI CONVENTION 2014**  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
August 6-9, DeVos Place

# Still hungry?



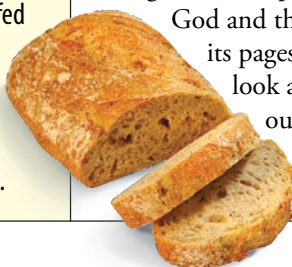
**If *Adventist World* leaves you hungry, subscribe to *Adventist Review*.**

*Adventist Review* has been the official voice of the Church since 1849. It has fed millions of Seventh-day Adventists since; helped to ground them in the Word, made them into more committed Christians, and kept them informed on what the Church is doing.

## **Bread for the Soul**

*Adventist Review* serves those who hunger for a deeper knowledge of God and the Bible. Dig into its pages for a thoughtful look at our doctrines and our heritage.

The *Adventist Review* is a weekly



feast that can strengthen and inspire you. You already get a taste of the *Adventist World* once a month. That's the free edition. But three more editions come out each month that can add to your spiritual nutrition.

**Includes KidsView,**  
the award-winning  
section just for  
children.

**Why wait for *Adventist World* once a month when you can get *Adventist Review* in your mailbox 3 times a month? Go online and Order at [www.AdventistReview.org](http://www.AdventistReview.org).**

**Adventist  
Review**



## Features

- 14 Lift Him Up**  
*by Frank Fournier*
- 16 Multiplication of Resources**  
*by Melodious Echo Mason*
- 18 Building Bridges to Health**  
*by Julie Lorenz*

## Departments

- 4 Officer's Outlook: Stay Focused** *by Kyle Allen*
- 5 The Bottom Line: God Comes First in the Business of Life** *by Patricia LaVanture*
- 6 To Your Health: Living Free** *by Vicki Griffin*
- 9 In the Marketplace: Christ's Method Alone** *by Naomi Jackson*
- 11 Project Report: One Day Church** *by Garwin McNeilus*
- 12 New to the Family: New ASI Members**
- 22 ASI Chapter Reports:** *ASI chapter news and information*
- 24 Members in Action: Dreams Really Do Come True** *by Samantha Nelson*
- 27 Project Report: Water For Life Guatemala**
- 28 Project Report: Kibidula Farm**
- 29 ASI Abroad: City Outpost, Tolstoy and a Modern Conversion Story** *by Alexey Ostapenco*
- 30 Youth For Jesus: YFJ in the Czech Republic** *by René Metz*

## Editor's Note:

**T**he ASI theme chosen for the next two years is "Lift Him Up." I believe this is a very fitting theme for the ASI family as we share Christ in the marketplace. How better to share Christ than by giving Him first place in our own lives, by truly lifting Him up to all we come in contact with. I believe that as others see Christ in us they will be drawn to Him, for Jesus has promised, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32.

I was truly blessed to read the many articles and stories that were submitted for this issue of *Inside ASI*. In fact, the only challenge was deciding which ones to publish. I believe that these pages will be a source of spiritual enlightenment, encouragement, joy, and inspiration. My prayer is that God will take center stage in our lives and that lifting Him up will become as natural as breathing.



# Inside ASI

**ASI President:** Frank Fournier

**Executive Secretary–  
Treasurer:** Kyle Allen

**Editor/Vice President for  
Communication:** Wayne Atwood

**Designer:** Mark Bond

**Copy Editor:** Gail Bosarge and Conna Bond

*Inside ASI* is published twice yearly by  
Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries.  
Address and subscription correspondence  
may be sent to:

### ASI Corporate Office

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

**Telephone:** 301-680-6450

**Fax:** 301-622-5017

**E-mail:** [asi@nad.adventist.org](mailto:asi@nad.adventist.org)

**Online:** [www.asiministries.org](http://www.asiministries.org)

# STAY **FOCUSED**

BY KYLE ALLEN

I'll admit, I have a hard time staying focused sometimes. Whether it's text messages, phone calls, Facebook, or just thinking about what I need to do the next day—it seems like everything around me can be a distraction sometimes, especially when I'm trying to focus on finishing a task!



Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14. Nothing is more important! Jesus is coming soon, and now is the time for His church—lay members and church workers, young and old, rich and poor—to focus on the mission God has given us to reach the world! In speaking of the importance for

In our spiritual life, it can also be a challenge to stay focused. Life throws many distractions at us that take our time, energy, and resources away from what's most important. Jesus knew that anyone who followed Him would face challenges in staying focused on the main priority. He taught that nothing else was more important than focusing on Him and doing His work.

There was a time when I especially struggled to know where to focus my life. It was at that critical juncture that someone shared with me this verse: "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62). From then on I knew that God was calling me to focus my life on doing His work. For all of us—whatever our occupational calling in life—our first calling is ministry, as we are all called to be full-time missionaries wherever He has placed us! And He wants us always to stay focused on that calling. You are a "chosen generation and a royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9).

As Seventh-day Adventists, we are here on this earth for one purpose—to lift up Christ in all that we do, and to tell others of His soon return. All of us have a part in that mission. No matter what our professional occupation, the clear and distinct focus of our lives should be His mission. We are called to share the message of hope and salvation as found in the everlasting gospel of the

God's people to focus their lives on lifting up Jesus by proclaiming the Three Angels' Messages, Ellen White wrote, "There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention. (*Testimonies to the Church*, Vol. 9, p. 19, 20)

We have incredible opportunities just before us. In a special way, ASI is uniquely called to unite the powerful energy, enthusiasm, and spirit of lay workers and supporting ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to help fulfill our mission to take the gospel to the world. The world is waiting to hear our message! A new generation stands at the threshold to take up the torch and press forward. We must unite together and focus on the task to finish the work. Jesus said that "the fields are ripe for harvest." We must prayerfully focus our lives single-mindedly on lifting Him up as we "share Christ in the marketplace." Distractions abound, but now is the time for us to stay focused. Together, let us put our hands to the plow, keep our eyes focused on Jesus, and never look back.



**Kyle Allen** has recently been appointed secretary-treasurer for ASI. He is senior pastor of the Mentone (Calif.) Seventh-day Adventist Church. Kyle grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and is a graduate of the seminary at Andrews University. He is passionate about the role of lay people in finishing the work. He attended the ASI Youth for Jesus program and has been involved with GYC. He has a passion for evangelism and in engaging young adults in mission.



# GOD COMES FIRST IN THE BUSINESS OF LIFE

BY PATRICIA LAVANTURE

**T**he first time we met him, we had no idea he was on a heart transplant waiting list. It was Robert's first cooking class, and it was all so new to him. Vocal about his perplexity, he cornered the instructor with a series of questions.

After a few more classes, the unexpected happened: he and his wife registered for our type 2 diabetes prevention program. As the classes progressed, he became strangely quiet. Something was happening...

From its inception nearly 55 years ago, Oak Haven's mission of spreading the gospel combined with the health message has continued to expand through ever-widening doors. Stories like Robert's have strewn the pages of its history.

Today, Oak Haven includes Country Life Natural Foods, which reaches thousands of people each year through health programs and outreach, a retail store, and wholesale health food distribution (truck deliveries, distributorships, mail order sales, and exports). In partnership with the Michigan Conference, Oak Haven is also home to Emmanuel Institute of Evangelism.

At Oak Haven, business and ministry go hand-in-hand. Since its humble beginnings in 1961, witnessing for Christ in practical ways has been a way of life at Oak Haven. The Bible and writings of Ellen White have provided our motivation and assurance of success: "It requires much more grace . . . to work for God in the capacity of mechanic, merchant, lawyer, or farmer, carrying the precepts of Christianity into the ordinary business of life than to labor as an acknowledged missionary in the open field" (*Child Guidance*, p. 358).

Each day begins with staff worship, for "prayer and faith will do what no power on earth can accomplish;... we must have the continual light that comes from God"



(*Ministry of Healing*, p. 509).

Whether taking orders, praying with customers, delivering products, placing tracts in packages, teaching health classes, or maintaining facilities, staff members are encouraged to use their talents and influence to share the love of God. "Religion and business are not two separate things;

they are one. Bible religion is to be interwoven with all we do or say" (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 349).

... As our guest Robert continued to attend diabetes classes, his wife shared how their lives were improving. Robert admitted that he had struggled with the new dietary and lifestyle information, but was beginning to see results.

He lost more than 50 pounds and was sleeping better. As his blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and triglycerides dropped, his doctor began to reduce and then eliminate medications. And finally—good news! Robert no longer needed a heart transplant! In fact, Robert's cardiologist was so amazed at the improvements brought about by lifestyle changes that he left his cardiology practice to pursue preventive medicine.

That wasn't the end of the story: Robert and his wife attended evangelistic meetings, were baptized, and are now active members of their local church.

May the end of our story include many souls in the kingdom as we keep God first in the business of life.



**Patricia LaVanture** is the vice president for communication for the ASI Lake Union Chapter. She is the director of health evangelism at Country Life Natural Foods in Pullman, Michigan.

*"Religion and business are not two separate things; they are one. Bible religion is to be interwoven with all we do or say."*



BY VICKI GRIFFIN

**H**abits—we all have them. American author Elbert Hubbard said, “Habit is the great economizer of energy.” He was exactly right.

Habits are our friends—when they’re good ones. Habits are routines that help us perform multiple tasks with minimal mental effort. They help us repeat safe and effective behaviors and build consistency and security into our lives.

The brain is constantly learning new ways to increase the efficiency with which we perceive and respond to our world. Habits—the brain’s automatic pilot—enable us to perform safe, effective routines that help us cope with daily life.

Bad habits can sometimes become addictions. The addiction picture is bigger than drugs. Howard Shaffer, who heads the Division of Addictions at Harvard University, asserts that drug use “is not a necessary and sufficient cause of addiction. It is improper to consider drugs as the necessary precondition for addiction....

A lot of addiction is the result of experience: repetitive, high-emotion, high-frequency experience.”

Stanford University psychologist Brian Knutson agrees: “It stands to reason if you can derange these circuits with pharmacology (drugs), you can do it with natural rewards too.”

“What is coming up fast as being the central core issue...is continued engagement in self-destructive behavior despite adverse consequences,” says Steven Grant of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

With this expanded definition, addictions can take the form of not only drugs but food, gambling, shopping, overwork, sex, television, or any other activity that becomes excessive, destructive, or compulsive.

Addiction of any kind has many possible roots, including emotional, spiritual, physical, environmental, and genetic. It is important to understand the strength of the enemy in order to develop a strategy for decided victory. Addictions can creep into the lives of the vulnerable or unwary in many forms, crossing all racial, class, social, educational, and economic boundaries with cold impartiality. Emotional, behavioral, spiritual, and lifestyle factors are involved in addictions. Finding lasting freedom

requires positive change in every one of these areas.

But the weapons available to win the war against addiction are mighty. They include creating an environment, both internal and external; creating a lifestyle; creating a community; and most importantly, creating a spiritual connection.

Brain structure is not predetermined and fixed—even when early experience has not been good. Neuropsychiatrist John Ratey makes an important point: “We humans are not prisoners of our genes or our environment....It may be harder for people with certain genes or surroundings, but harder is a long way from predetermination.”

People make dramatic mid-life career changes, master new skills, adopt healthful lifestyles after years of wrong habits, make positive changes in the way they relate to people after years of dysfunctional relationships, and learn to enjoy new activities, hobbies, foods, and friends. All this human dynamism involves change—genetic, neuronal, and hormonal.

We have all heard the expression, “Practice makes perfect.” Practice also makes “permanent.” That is, the performance of a given task or behavior improves or strengthens with repetition. This is because the brain is wonderfully elastic, or changeable, throughout life. The processes of thinking, learning, and memory are dynamic and ongoing.

God often uses the things we can see to help us understand the things we cannot see. Man was originally endowed with a noble spirit and a well-balanced mind, but now mankind is broken and in need of healing. God compares our broken condition with a storm-ravaged city. “A person without self control is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.”

Remember Hurricane Katrina? That massive storm broke key levees in New Orleans in 2005, leaving the city’s infrastructure ravaged and defenseless. A storm-damaged city such as this ceases normal function. Plans for development and growth are shelved as the city switches into survival mode. The city is vulnerable to vandalism and violence; no sector is left untouched. It is in need of renewal, restoration, and recovery.

What an apt description of the human brain, broken down over time by stress, depression, bad habits, and addictions.

People with addictions feel they have lost the power to choose what they rationally know is right. Knowing

that the brain can recover from addictions and learn new habits is exciting. As Dr. Schwartz puts it, “With the ability to shape our brains comes the power to shape our destiny.”

One of the hardest struggles of the human heart is to realize the need of a power outside of oneself. It is natural to think independently, to try to solve all of life’s perplexities without help. But our Creator knows we need His help, power, and guidance in order to successfully manage ourselves and our life situation. We need to let God have control in our lives.

Often the single biggest issue for someone struggling to break free from an addiction is trust. An attempt to factor out pain often leads to an excessive need to control the people or circumstances in one’s life. But if the need to control is not replaced with trust, a person will eventually replace one addiction with another.

The Bible teaches us that when we turn our lives completely over to God’s control, He will equip us to face life’s challenges and give us a new heart—a new way of looking at life. He will guide us in the right way and at last grant us eternal life. He invites us to “[t]rust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.”

Getting free and staying free from addictions or bad habits requires applying biblical keys to life that impact the internal environment—how we think, our external environment and lifestyle choices, the community we surround ourselves with, and most importantly, cultivating a strong connection with our Savior, the Author of freedom and liberty.



**Vicky Griffin**, MS, Human Nutrition, MPA, is the director of Health Ministry for the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Lansing, Michigan.

# GET OVER TOBACCO



## WITH POWER

14 days of coaching.  
All from our website.  
3 format options.

**FREE!**

Wholistic, Motivating,  
Evidence-based,  
Biblical approach.

Designed for sponsorship  
by churches and small  
groups who build a support  
structure for participants.

Details online:  
[www.GetOverTobacco.org](http://www.GetOverTobacco.org)  
Contact: Linda Royer 540.333.2412



# The Divine Blueprint

*True education means more than the pursuit of a certain course of study. It means more than a preparation for the life that now is. It has to do with the whole being, and with the whole period of existence possible to man. It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come.*

*-- E.G. White, Education*



**DAYSTAR ADVENTIST ACADEMY...**  
**BUILDING ON THE BLUE PRINT, ROOTED IN THE WORD,**  
**SHARING WITH THE WORLD, DISTINCTLY ADVENTIST**

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT US:**

[daystaradventistacademy.org](http://daystaradventistacademy.org)

(435) 259-7719 (Phone)

(435) 259-5209 (Fax)

[askus@daystaradventistacademy.org](mailto:askus@daystaradventistacademy.org)



*Multivita*  
Products for an "Abundant Life"



## Activated Charcoal

GOOD FOR YOUR BODY

GOOD FOR YOUR SOIL



**multavita.com**  
**amazon.com**  
[amazon.com/shops/multavita](http://amazon.com/shops/multavita)





# CHRIST'S METHOD ALONE

BY NAOMI JACKSON

**C**arliani and her boyfriend, Ananias, developed a strong friendship with their neighbors in Manaus, Brazil. Their new friends (Bible workers with Amazon Lifesavers Ministry) led Carliani and Ananias to know God. Soon they acted as “wedding planners,” then watched as the newlyweds were baptized and began Bible worker training. Mingling with neighbors was of eternal value to Carliani and Ananias.

Jesus was a Master at mingling when He walked the earth. “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior 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’” (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 143).

## MINGLING TOGETHER

Outpost Centers International (OCI) is a family of supporting ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that desire to follow Christ’s example of soul winning. A member of ASI, OCI nurtures approximately 100 ministries in 45 countries worldwide. OCI’s member ministries, including Amazon Lifesavers Ministry, creatively build relationships with their neighbors in order to share Christ in their marketplace.

## TEACHING

Large tents are lined up along a major highway. Golden pillars peek over the top of white curtains. It isn’t a traveling circus; it’s Messiah’s Mansion, an out-

reach ministry of Oklahoma Academy. Its students are on the frontlines guiding inquisitive visitors through a full-scale model of Moses’ wilderness sanctuary. Oklahoma Academy has taken Messiah’s Mansion on numerous tours around the world to explain the significance of what Jesus is currently doing in the heavenly sanctuary, as well as God’s plan of salvation. The students reach people who may never step foot inside a church.

## FEEDING

It’s lunchtime in Prague, Czech Republic. A busy office worker weaves determinedly through Old Town Square looking for a bite to eat. The forest green restaurant façade of Country Life Prague catches the eye and invites the hungry passerby inside. Thousands of such customers visit Country Life Prague’s three restaurants and health food stores each week. Inside, staff care not only for their clients’ physical but also for their spiritual well being.

## HEALING

In India, nearly 3,000 babies die every day.\* Pregnant women, especially in rural villages, often don’t receive the necessary medical attention that would enable them to enjoy the blessings of motherhood. Traditional superstitions, such as keeping the baby small for birthing by not eating a substantial diet, put both babies and mothers at risk. Living Springs Overseas Missions fights these trends by training young women as midwives. More than 70 midwifery graduates are now saving mothers and

babies through prenatal education and Christ-centered medical care in India.

## JUST LIKE JESUS

Jesus understood that success in ministry was about cultivating sincere relationships with those He came in contact with, whenever and wherever He met them. “The Savior’s work was not restricted to any time or place. His compassion knew no limit. On so large a scale did He conduct His work of healing and teaching that there was not a building in Palestine large enough to receive the multitudes that thronged to Him....Wherever there were hearts ready to receive His message, He comforted them with the assurance of their heavenly Father’s love” (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 17).

Angelica Miller served in School by the Sea in Poland. The school reaches out to its neighbors through language acquisition classes. “I taught English to all ages, and it was an amazing ministry,” she says. “I found that friendship ministry is fantastic

and effective! I was asked numerous times about my beliefs or about the Bible. I know it was the Lord impressing upon them that I was different.”

So many people are anxious to meet the Giver of Life. All they need is a friend to show the way. “There is need of coming close to the people by personal effort. If less time were given to sermonizing, and more time were spent in personal ministry, greater results would be seen. The poor are to be relieved, the sick cared for, the sorrowing and the bereaved comforted, the ignorant instructed, the inexperienced counseled. We are to weep with those that weep, and rejoice with those that rejoice” (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 143).

## AN AUDIENCE OF ONE

People followed Jesus because they knew they were more than just a statistic in His eyes. He crossed the Sea of Galilee to show compassion toward a demon-possessed man; that man then told his entire town about the One who set him free. Jesus sat on a well with parched lips as He waited for the Samaritan woman to share news of the Prophet she had encountered. On Sabbath at Bethesda, He watched a man skip away from the pool where he’d lain crippled for 38 years. Jesus’ divine appointments were often just an audience of one—one person in desperate need of His sympathy and care.

As OCI member ministries spread the love of Jesus one person at a time, they hold onto the promise that the Holy Spirit will be their Guide. “Every worker who follows the example of Christ will be prepared to receive and use the power that God has promised to His church for the ripening of earth’s harvest.... As they go forth to the day’s duties, they have the assurance that the unseen agency of the Holy Spirit enables them to be ‘laborers together with God’” (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 56).

\* According to statistics from the CIA World Factbook.



**"A brief, simple, clear and compelling case for victory over sin this side of heaven."**

**Pastor Stephen Bohr,**  
*Secrets Unsealed*

Call now to obtain hard copies of *The Mind of Christ*  
**1-707-462-3080**  
**info@philippianstwofive.com**  
**philippianstwofive.com**



**Naomi Jackson** resides in Tennessee, where she serves as communication specialist for OCI. A graduate of Andrews University, she spent four years working at VIDA Internacional, an OCI member ministry in Honduras. She enjoys experiencing how God meshes her love for languages, mission work, and music into full-time ministry.



# ONE DAY CHURCH

BY GARWIN McNEILUS

It is with joy and praise for God's continued blessings that we share an update on the progress of the One Day Church and School Project. Last year was truly remarkable.

Thanks to the generosity of our ASI family, partnership with Maranatha Volunteers International, and help from many others, we were able to ship 20 containers carrying 735 One Day Churches to countries around the world. In addition to the One Day Churches, we shipped another 17 containers with 222 One Day Schools worldwide.

Construction of One Day structures has been accomplished with remarkable results by ASI Supporting Ministries such as Kibidula Farm Institute, Congo Frontline Missions, Maranatha International Volunteers, Riverside Farm Institute, and Mukuyu Outreach, with thousands of dedicated volunteers who built in some of the remotest areas of the world.

Since 2011, containers bearing One Day Churches or One Day Schools have been sent to Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Ghana, Angola, Chad, Congo, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Honduras, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Ecuador, Belize, Panama, Nicaragua, India, and the Solomon Islands.

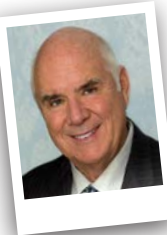
To date, 5,095 One Day Churches have been manufactured. With each One Day Church seating 200 people, these new churches represent worship space for 1,019,000 individuals worldwide.

In addition to the 5,095 One Day Churches constructed, a total of 987 One Day Schools were manufactured. With a seating capacity of 40 students each, this represents new classroom space for 39,480 eager learners!

Besides churches and schools, we have also been blessed with the opportunity to manufacture 12 One Day Dormitories, 16 One Day Greenhouses, 15 One Day Hospital housing units, and 8 new One Day Hospitals. Here in North America, we were able to construct and deliver 1,200 feet of greenhouse structures.

The One Day Building program truly equals souls for eternity. Every Sabbath, more than 1 million people gather under a One Day Church roof to worship God, and each week 39,480 children receive a Christian education in a One Day School.

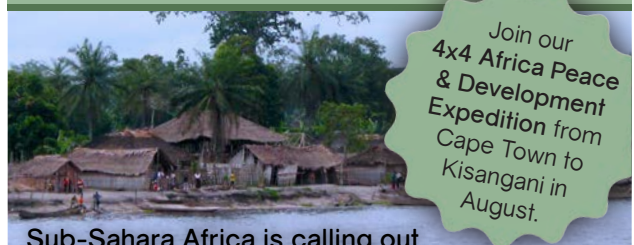
We praise the Lord for His blessings and leading in this project, and we thank everyone for your prayers and support. Through our humble efforts, the Lord is making a profound and positive difference in many lives around the world.



**Garwin McNeilus** founded McNeilus Truck & Manufacturing in 1970. MTM became the largest manufacturer of concrete mixers and refuse packers in the world. After selling the manufacturing company to Oshkosh Truck Corporation, retirement was not in store for Garwin. Garwin is presently active with the production of One Day Churches and Schools at his shop in Dodge Center.

## Congo River Mission

El-Shaddai Projects is a tentmaker missionary and multi entrepreneurial enterprise with a full gospel focus upon the rural regions of Sub-Sahara Africa. We encourage and facilitate independent but co-operative Christian development partnerships into Africa, based upon an Adventist interpretation of Scripture.



**Sub-Sahara Africa is calling out for Christian Development Partners!**

- Business Mentors
- New Church Plants based upon an original and uncompromised Gospel
- Medical Mission
- Entrepreneurial Coaching
- Innovative Agricultural Development
- Motivated Community Leaders



Abraham J. Meintjes  
esprojects@swissmail.org  
www.elshaddai.givengain.org  
www.asisauministries.org.za  
www.eco1st.org



# WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

## ORGANIZATIONAL NON-PROFIT ASI MEMBERS

---

**ADVENT SHARE MINISTRIES INC.**

**ROY CUSTODIO**

Edinburg, TX

**HOPESIDE MINISTRIES INC.**

**ANAND CHAVAKULA**

College Park, MD

**TEKOA MISSIONS**

**LANCE WILBUR**

Antrim, NH

**BROKEN CHAINS FOR HUMANITY**

**ERNEST TAKEUCHI**

Redding, CA

**LIVING WATERS INTERNATIONAL**

**DARYL OFT**

Payson, AZ

**UNSCENE MEDIA GROUP INC**

**BENJAMIN MIDDLETON & RYAN HILLAIRE**

Berrien Springs, MI

**GOD'S FINAL CALL AND WARNING INC**

**RALPH AND DELORES RHYNE**

Chatham, VA

**STRONG TOWER RADIO**

**JILANE FENNER**

Cadillac, MI

**FIRSTLIGHT BROADCASTING NETWORK**

**MIKE DUTT**

Ashurst, New Zealand

(ASI Associate International Member)

## ORGANIZATIONAL FOR-PROFIT ASI MEMBERS

---

**AGREN BRIGHT CONSULTING LLC**

**SABRINA AND JOHN SLINEY**

Squaw Valley, CA

**INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE**

**OF ORIGINAL MEDICINE**

**JIM & ELISA SHARPS**

Smithfield, VA

**PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL SERVICE INC.**

**DAVID LUTTRELL**

Rogersville, TN

**BASCOM TRUCK & AUTO INC**

**DICK BASCOM**

Des Moines, IA

**JUSTICE & JUSTICE ENTERPRISES**

**SHARON JUSTICE**

Indianapolis, IN

**REMEDIOS R. CABANSAG MD PA**

Fort Worth, TX

**CLARION MUSIC**

**WILLIAM BAKER**

Keene, TX

**KOTA INC.**

**JANE & MICHAEL SMITH**

Edgerton, MO

**SANARE LIFE INC.**

**JONATHAN COLLINS**

Berrien Springs, MI

**COMMERCIAL INTERIORS**

**GARY MIDDLETON**

Tallahassee, FL

**LAW OFFICES OF RUTHVEN R. PHILLIP**

**RUTHVEN PHILLIP**

Washington, DC

**STEWARDSHIP MASTERS INTERNATIONAL INC.**

**WINNIE BENJAMIN**

St. Albans, NY

**CONTEMPORARY GENERAL DENTISTRY LLC**

**BRYAN WILSON**

West Hartford, CT

**ORTHO MICHIGAN**

**DAVID FERNANDEZ**

Holly, MI

**VILLAGE DO IT BEST HARDWARE INC.**

**GARREN DENT**

Berrien Springs, MI

**FOWLER INDUSTRIAL PLATING LLC**

**RANDALL & DEBRA FOWLER**

Collegedale, TN

**POOL KITS USA LLC**

**JEFFERY BISHOP**

Portland, TN

**WRI APPLICATIONS LLC**

**GERRY & NANCY WAGONER**

Piqua, OH

## ASSOCIATE ASI MEMBERS:

---

**ARIC GLASSER**

Tulsa, OK

**DONNA & PHILLIP WALTON**

Burleson, TX

**JENNIFER MARTINEZ**

Dallas, TX

**CINDA OSTERMAN**

Grand Ledge, MI

**FRANKLIN CID**

Lenexa, KS

**DALE HUNTER**

Baltimore, MD

**GIANLUCA BACCHIOCCHI**

Saint Joseph, MI

**PAY YOUR ASI MEMBERSHIP DUES  
ONLINE AT [WWW.ASIMINISTRIES.ORG](http://WWW.ASIMINISTRIES.ORG)**

---

MARANATHA  
VOLUNTEERS  
INTERNATIONAL  
**CONVENTION**

# ANYWHERE *with* Jesus

**SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2014**

*where:*

ADVENTURE CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
6401 STANFORD RANCH ROAD  
ROSEVILLE, CA 95678

FRIDAY, 7 P.M. • SABBATH 9:30 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. (FREE LUNCH)

∞ **FREE ADMISSION** ∞



*featuring musical guest*  
**Wintley Phipps**

**916.774.7700**

**MARANATHA.ORG/CONVENTION**

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SEMINARS BEGIN AT 3 P.M.

**CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING**

REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED

MARANATHA   
VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL



# Lift HIM up

BY FRANK FOURNIER

**T**he theme for this year's ASI Convention is "Lift Him Up." Think on those three words for a moment. If we really appreciated Jesus; if our lives reflected His exalted character; if we "Lifted Him Up" in thought, word, and deed, what would onlookers think? Seriously!

Jesus promised, "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Me" (John 12:32). His disciples, anticipating the fulfillment of this promise, stretched every nerve and fiber to meet that condition before a mostly pagan world, and within one short generation they turned their world upside down.

The disciples knew Jesus was God, and they boldly presented Him as such. How unfathomable that idea must have seemed in those days. Indeed, it still does. An infinite, eternal, incarnate God is mind-boggling. Can your mind encompass that thought?

Mark Robert Waldman, an Associate Fellow at the Center for Spirituality and the Mind at the University of Pennsylvania, is tasked with researching the brain to learn the effects of meditation on positive or negative big ideas.\* Among other things, his work resulted in his co-authoring the book *How God Changes the Brain*. Now, why would an atheist want to write about a God in whom he does not believe? First of all, Waldman

isn't interested in God as Creator and Sustainer of the cosmos; he is interested in God only as a "big idea." He couldn't hit on a bigger idea than that.

## WALDMAN'S PREMISE

Waldman begins by saying, "I think this is a perfect day to change the world, and I'm going to begin with God. Yes, God. God? Oh, God. No matter how you think about it, God is going to change your brain. . . . Why? Because God is a big idea. . . . And any big idea, any really big idea, is going to grow dendrites in some of the most important parts of your brain."

Here is his point: "By meditating on your big [positive] idea, you begin to align yourself with your dream, your goal, and your vision." This, submits Waldman, stimulates the brain, which promotes health, which in turn extends life.

On the other hand, he says, "If you ruminate on a negative thought for more than twenty seconds, you're actually going to do damage to your brain. . . . In fact, if I put you in an MRI machine and show you this [negative] word for less than one second, it will release more stress neurochemicals than can possibly be good for your body or your brain."



His conclusion: “If you meditate on your big [positive] idea for forty-five or fifty minutes [essentially one hour], a most unusual thing begins to happen. Your parietal lobe activity goes down. You actually disappear. You’re losing your ego, and all that remains is your big idea.” In other words, your big idea becomes your inner and outer reality.

Here we have a basic scientific discovery that explains what the Apostle Paul meant when he said, “I die daily” (1 Corinthians 15:31). He disappeared; he lost his ego every day. What was it that happened to Paul? The answer is, “God.” To Paul, God was everything—God, as Paul’s constant focus, became his inner and outer reality.

I don’t know about you, but that’s what I want. I long to be eclipsed, to see myself insignificant in the light of the glory that is God, don’t you?

In his epistle to the Galatians, Paul wrote, “If a man thinks himself something when he is nothing, he deceives himself” (Galatians 6:3). When God becomes our inner and outer reality, our dreams and goals and visions, our very lives begin to align themselves with who He is. That is a demonstrable, scientific fact.

Unfortunately, God is not the only big idea out there. Satan has flooded the world with ideas big and small, seemingly good and bad. He would have us align our lives with anything but God. It is clear to him that if Jesus becomes our big idea, if He is exalted, magnified, lifted up in our minds, He will become our inner and outer reality, and all who see Jesus in us will be attracted away from sin and self and worldliness.

“Truth is so large,” wrote Ellen White, “so far-reaching, so deep, so broad, that self is lost sight of.” This is how we are transformed. “Be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your

mind, [by refocusing your mind away from earthly trivia to heavenly grandeur]” (*Testimonies to the Church*, Vol. 8, p. 322; Romans 12:3).

Jesus did that daily: “In His youth the early morning and evening twilight often found [Jesus]... spending a quiet hour in prayer and the study of God’s word” (*Education*, p. 185) Why one hour? Because it takes that long to grow “dendrites in some of the most important parts of your brain.”

## BACK TO ASI

ASI members have birthed some really big ideas, ideas so far reaching that an untold number of souls have been won to God’s church. But as big and powerful and practical as these ideas are, they are not big enough to make one carnal heart holy. The only Agent with such power is God through Christ. He promised that “[a]s many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons [and daughters] of God.” (John 1:12). How is this accomplished?

“The thought that the righteousness of Christ is imputed to us not because of any merit on our part, but as a free gift from God, is a precious thought. The enemy of God and man is not willing that this truth should be clearly presented; for he knows that if the people fully receive it, *his power will be broken*” (*Gospel Workers*, p. 161, emphasis supplied). And when exactly will Satan’s power be broken? Jesus answers: “I, [when] I be lifted up [when the world beholds God in us] will draw all men unto Me.” Now that’s a big idea!



**FRANK FOURNIER** is president of ASI. He is also the president of Eden Valley Institute in Loveland, Colorado.

\*“Big Idea,” by Mark Robert Waldman, TED Talk,

# 2014 ASI INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

August 6-9 | Grand Rapids, Michigan | DeVos Place Convention Center

FEATURING:



**Chris Holland**



**Steve Wohlberg**



**Vicki Griffin**



**Wes Youngberg**



**Charissa Fong**



**Dan Houghton**



**Mark Finley**



**Frank Fournier**

For registration information visit [www.ASIministries.org](http://www.ASIministries.org)

Phone: 301-680-6450 | Fax: 301-622-5017 | 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904



# THE KEY TO MULTIPLICATION OF RESOURCES

BY MELODIOUS ECHO MASON

**W**hen bills pile up, when resources are running short, it is easy to second guess God's calling in our life and ministry. In fact, sometimes it's all we can do not to panic.

The disciples were panicking that day when Jesus broke the bread of life to thousands on a mountain above the Sea of Galilee (see John 6). As the day wore on, it became obvious that His audience needed more than just spiritual bread. It's easy to imagine the disciples' rising panic.

Jesus could have brought bread from heaven instantly, but to test their faith He questioned the disciples, "Where can we buy bread to feed the people?"

Recognizing the human impossibility of the situation, the disciples responded, "Two hundred pennyworth would not be enough?" (In other words, "Even if there were a place to buy bread, we couldn't afford to feed all these people!")

One young boy had five barley loaves and two small fishes. Hearing that food was needed, he unselfishly offered his simple lunch to the disciples, who in turn brought it to Jesus. They brought Him the food, but little faith.

"This lad has given us five barley loaves and two small fishes, but what are these among so many?"

Isn't this so often our question today? "We have but five barley loaves and two small fishes. God has given us only a little—time, money, talent. But what are these compared with the great need before us? How can we possibly accomplish what needs to be done with such limited resources?"

The disciples looked only at the bread they had in their hands, not at what Christ could do. The lesson Christ wanted His disciples to learn, then and now, is that faith in God multiplies resources. If we have the faith, God has the resources—it's that simple!

As Jesus prayed over the loaves and fishes, His invisible resources became visible. Faith was the converting power.

Today, outward appearances may be unpromising. We may face what seem to be insurmountable challenges within our family, church, or personal ministries. But we serve the God of all possibilities. He has a thousand more ways to provide for our needs than we can possibly comprehend.

Often, when it seems we can't move forward or be as successful as we had hoped, we focus on method improvement. While our methods can always be improved, in God's Kingdom our methods, lack of resources, or lack of talent are usually not the problem.

Our problem is our lack of faith. Inspiration boldly tells us, “Every failure on the part of the children of God is due to their lack of faith!”<sup>1</sup>

Faith is one of the most emphasized gifts in Scripture. It is the gateway to receiving all other gifts. The sick are healed by faith (Matt. 9:22), by grace we are saved through faith (Eph. 2:8), we are justified by faith (Rom. 3:28), the disciples worked by faith (Acts 6:8), we carry a shield of faith (Eph. 6:16), the just live by faith (Rom. 1:17), the righteous walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7), we are children of God by faith (Gal. 3:26), and in the end, the only thing that counts is the faith that works by love (Gal. 5:6).

The foundation of Christianity is built upon faith; the gospel is rendered powerless in our lives without it. This is why the enemy is so intent on bringing doubt and unbelief into our lives! Without faith, our ministries will fail to thrive; without faith, we ourselves wither spiritually.

Ellen White tells us, “When we give ourselves wholly to God and in our work follow His directions, He makes Himself responsible for its accomplishment. He would not have us conjecture as to the success of our honest endeavors. Not once should we even think of failure. We are to cooperate with One who knows no failure.”<sup>2</sup>

How dangerous are doubt and unbelief?

Ellen White warns us soberly: “We have too little faith. We limit the Holy One of Israel. We should be grateful God condescends to use any of us as His instruments. For every earnest prayer put up in faith for anything, answers will be returned. They may not come just as we have expected, but they will come—not perhaps as we have devised, but at the very time we need them most! But oh how sinful is our unbelief!”<sup>3</sup>

The question to ask as we work in these final days of earth’s history is not: “Do we have enough resources, or will our efforts be successful?” The question is: “Will we be faithful to God’s call and use what He’s given us?” If we use what He’s given us and move forward in faith, He will continue to supply our needs. He won’t simply fill our cup with blessings; He will fill it to overflowing!

The key to multiplication of resources? Faith!

The Duke of Wellington was once present where



**THE HARVEST IS RIPE...  
...THE LABORERS ARE FEW.**

**EXPERIENCE:**

- Personal Revival
- Outreach evangelism training
- Health evangelism
- Literature ministry
- Leadership development
- Comprehensive biblical teaching
- Missionary experience in the pacific northwest
- Over 2,200 hours of mentored evangelism experience

**GODneedsYOU.**

Learn more at [soulsnorthwest.org](http://soulsnorthwest.org)

a party of Christian men were discussing the possibility of success in missionary effort among the heathen. They appealed to the Duke to say whether in his judgment such efforts were likely to prove a success in comparison to the cost. The old soldier replied, “Gentlemen, what are your marching orders? Success is not the question for you to discuss. If I read your orders aright, they run thus, ‘Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.’ Gentlemen, obey your marching orders.”<sup>4</sup>

“With men this [work] is impossible, but not with God, for with God ALL THINGS are possible” (Mark 10:27).



**Melody Mason** is a registered nurse who works full-time in ministry, both with ARME Bible Camp and speaking and traveling in prayer initiatives for the Church. Excerpts of this article are taken from her soon-to-be-released book *Daring to Ask for More: Divine Keys to Answered Prayer and Successful Ministry*.

1. *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 657

2. *Christ Object Lessons*, p. 363

3. *Christian Experience and Teachings*, p. 215

4. *Gospel Workers*, p. 115





# BUILDING BRIDGES TO HEALTH

BY JULIE LORENZ

**A**pproximately 600 Adventist volunteers participated in Bridges to Health, an outreach event in California that brought free medical and dental services to nearly 3,000 people at the San Francisco Armory on April 23 and 24 and the Oakland Coliseum on April 25, 2014. Community members lined up overnight to make sure they could receive care over a three-day period. In all, more than \$5.2 million worth of medical services were provided.

This unique “medical mission trip” was organized and sponsored by the Pacific Union Chapter of Adventist-laymen’s Services & Industries. The Pacific Union, Central California, and Northern California Conferences served as co-sponsors. Many organizations within the Adventist church, including Adventist Health, were also involved in the event.

## A VISIT TO THE CLINIC

Each morning, volunteers provided visitors with forms to fill out as they approached the doors. Once inside the doors, the potential patients received help from assistants in filling out the forms, then were directed to a medical triage station to get their vital signs checked. From triage, the visitors went to various clinical areas to receive medical and dental services.

Dentistry was the most requested service. “The need for dental services is just as great right here in our own country as it is in many of the 25 other developing countries I’ve done mission dental trips in,” said Dr. Peter Nelson, a dentist from San Luis Obispo, California.

One patient asked Dr. Ted McDow, a dentist from Modesto, what the volunteers were getting for doing their

work. McDow told him that they were followers of Jesus and wanted to do what He did. The patient responded that he hoped he could go to heaven. “I was able to tell him just how easy it is,” said McDow, who prayed with the man. He later told McDow that he planned to visit an Adventist church in the area.

Eye care was the second most requested service. While nurse Gertie Warnick, from Martinez, California, was performing eye exams, she met a 71-year-old man who hadn’t had new glasses in 20 years. Warnick was moved by the gratitude displayed by the patients. “They all were very thankful,” she said.

Other medical services included primary care, women’s health, pediatrics, mental health, HIV/STD screening, X-rays, lab tests, and minor surgeries. One man had a grapefruit-sized lipoma removed from his back. A number of the caregivers commented that they enjoyed serving patients in this venue because they could take extra time to make connections. “It was very freeing to work without the usual time constraints,” said occupational therapist Teresita Davis, also from Martinez.

In the women’s health area, physician Melinda Skau from Oroville, California, examined a woman

◀ A long line of people wait in the rain outside the Oakland Coliseum to receive free medical care coordinated by the Pacific Union Chapter of ASI. Nearly 3,000 patients were treated.

Photo by Gerry Chudleigh.

who was unhappy with the 70 pounds she had gained. “We spent about 30 minutes handling the four issues that added to her weight,” said Skau. “At the close of our visit, when I asked if we could pray together, she responded excitedly, ‘Jesus helped me quit drugs, and now He is going to help me get healthy!’”

Throughout the event, pharmacists dispensed medications prescribed by the physicians. There were also extra touches designed to give the patients a positive experience. Massage therapists gave chair massages to many surprised and grateful patients, while students from Weimar and Fountainview Academies serenaded them throughout the day with choral and instrumental music. Each of the patients was offered a healthy free meal. At various stations, children were introduced to the eight laws of health, and before going home each child received a coloring book, a storybook, and a stuffed animal.

After their exams and treatments, patients met with lifestyle counselors. The counselors reviewed surveys the patients had completed to document their lifestyle practices. They then talked with the patients about the eight laws of health, suggesting ways they could improve their health through lifestyle changes and giving them a magazine about NEWSTART principles.

## SPIRITUAL HEALTH

Just before leaving, each patient was offered a chance to meet individually with a chaplain. “We told them they are healthier when they are connected to a faith com-

munity, and we asked, ‘Do you have one?’” said Teresa Nelson, chaplain at Sonora Regional Medical Center. The chaplains offered to pray with the patients. “Most people said yes to prayer,” said Weimar College English instructor Cosmin Ritivoiu, who served as a chaplain.

Paul Crampton, assistant vice president for mission and spiritual care at Adventist Health in Roseville, California, began talking with a couple waiting in line, and the woman burst into tears. “It’s been so long since someone has treated us with dignity that I couldn’t contain my emotions. Thank you so much!” she said. At the end of the day, Crampton saw the couple again. “They told me, ‘I’ve heard it said many times that God is love, but today we experienced it through you people.’” They requested a referral to a local church.

## A YEAR IN THE MAKING

The idea for Bridges to Health began last year at the 2013 ASI Pacific Union Conference. Don Mackintosh, HEALTH director and campus chaplain for Weimar Institute, challenged conference attendees to plan a project for their next convention that would be in accordance with ASI’s motto, “Sharing Christ in the marketplace.”

“The Holy Spirit very much inspired the board and me: this is definitely what God wants us to do,” said Lela Lewis, president of ASI Pacific Union. The ASI

*“It’s been so long since someone has treated us with dignity that I couldn’t contain my emotions. Thank you so much!”*

## RECOGNITION FROM MAYORS’ OFFICES

Bridges to Health coincided with the annual ASI Pacific Union Spring Conference, held this year south of San Francisco in Burlingame. On Sabbath afternoon, Oakland Mayor Jean Quan spoke to the volunteers, thanking them for their work in her city. “All your work has truly been a blessing for our city. We want to thank you for the work you did,” she said. “We hope you can come back sometime.”

Representing San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee was Kara Zordel, executive director of Project Homeless Connect in San Francisco. She repeated Alexis de Tocqueville’s famous quote, “America is great because she is good,” and told the volunteers, “Thank you for bringing good to our community.”

During her response to the officials, ASI Pacific Union president Lela Lewis said, “It’s been a tremendous blessing. We are so happy as a Seventh-day Adventist group to work with you and collaborate with you to help those in need.”



*Christiane's*  
Copywriting & Business Services  
Helping To Bring Your Business Online!



### Need a writer?

With over 30 years of writing experience, I can tackle just about any creative project you need help with! I even have some affordable packages to help bring your business online.

*Some of the services I offer include:*

- Website content
- B2B projects such as white papers and case studies
- Social media content and social media management
- Catalog copy
- Group classes
- Editing services
- Sales pages & Landing pages
- Online to offline marketing integration
- Grant writing
- One-on-one training or consultation
- SEO writing and editing

Also available for teaching of writing. Have a homeschool group that could use a creative writing class? Are you a junior high, high school or college student in need of tutoring or private lessons in writing? *(I also have an M.Ed. in curriculum & instruction, and an M.Ed. in special education, plus a few years of classroom experience.)*

[www.ineedawriter.net](http://www.ineedawriter.net)

<https://www.facebook.com/OutoftheCanisterCreations> 1st Year

Pacific Union board members had decided to host a large medical outreach event in either Los Angeles or San Francisco. They'd sent proposals to the mayors' offices in both cities, praying that the Lord would direct the mayors' responses. The San Francisco mayor's office responded enthusiastically.

"They called, basically begging us to come," said Lewis. "We took it as a sign that God wanted us to go to San Francisco." Later she discovered that the Central and Northern California Conferences were planning joint evangelism work in the Bay Area. The ASI medical event fit well into the conferences' overall goals, and the organizations joined forces. They eventually decided to offer help on both sides of the Bay by adding a day of medical outreach in Oakland.

## THE NEED IS GREAT

The need is great for future events like Bridges to Health. Northern California Conference president Jim Pedersen and Central California Conference president Ramiro Cano want their two conferences to continue to reach people in these cities through a joint confer-

ence program called Bridges: Bay Area for Jesus. "This medical event was just the beginning," said Pedersen.

Lewis hopes that Bridges to Health will serve as a model for others interested in this type of mission work. "There is no reason this can't be replicated everywhere in cities across the nation," she said. Plans are in the works to bring a similar event to San Antonio, Texas, prior to the General Conference Session, which will be held there in 2015.

Lewis acknowledges that all recognition for the event's success belongs to God. "I believe with all my heart that God blessed in such a mighty way because we sought to do His will and present His love, without wanting a specific result. We sought to follow His blueprint according to the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, which implores each of us as Seventh-day Adventists to go out and do these humanitarian efforts on a local level—to do work just as Christ did for those in need."



**Julie Lorenz** is an assistant in the Communication Department at the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.



A man with glasses and a mustache, wearing a suit and tie, is smiling and waving his right hand. He is positioned in the upper right portion of the image.

*Beginning October 31  
From Amazing Facts*

# LANDMARKS *of* PROPHECY

A television and web event broadcast live from Albuquerque, NM

Join Doug Batchelor this November for *Landmarks of Prophecy*, a brand-new multi-media evangelistic series to be aired live on:



What significance does a prophecy given thousands of years ago have for us today? Which recent world events are the fulfillment of prophecy and harbingers of the end? Are you ready for what's coming? Discover how the Word of God offers clear answers to these questions, giving us keen insight into what lies next.

The *Landmarks of Prophecy* series will feature a wealth of free online resources and tools to help you gain a deeper understanding of our times and a stronger personal experience with Jesus Christ.

**You can play a key role in this milestone event by turning your church, home, or office into one of our satellite locations in three easy steps:**

1. Invite your friends and neighbors to your location with **FREE** materials
2. Download and print **FREE** seminar resources
3. Stream *Landmarks of Prophecy* live **FREE** on air or online!

Visit **landmarksofprophecy.com** for details.

Look for the way-marks,  
the great prophetic way-marks,

Down through the ages,  
past the kingdoms four.

Look for the way-marks,  
the great prophetic way-marks;

The journey's almost over.

—Franklin E. Belden, 1886



# 2014 ASI CHAPTER MEETING REPORTS

## ASI ATLANTIC UNION

The Holy Spirit blessed the group of 130 who gathered May 2-4 for the 2014 ASI Atlantic Union Convention in Newport, Rhode Island. The event attracted members and visitors from more than six conferences to hear speakers John Bradshaw and Ty Gibson share fresh perspectives on God's unfailing love and desire to free humankind from the bondage of this world. Chapter vice-president Peter Lombard said, "Members brought their passion for the Lord and commitment to supporting each other together in a faith-filled weekend." Funds of more than \$41,000 were raised to support Project Steps to Christ and Tekoa Missions. With just 42 active members, the chapter will focus on introducing ASI to the Atlantic Union's 110,000 church members over the coming year, says chapter president Greg Perry.

## ASI COLUMBIA UNION

On April 17, ASI Columbia Union members arrived in Washington, D.C., hungry to engage in mission. This year's convention planning team had to create overflow space for the many attendees, including exhibitors eager to demonstrate God's direction in their ministries. Many were new ASI members or new member applicants. The theme of this year's convention, "Answering the Call," was inspired by Isaiah 6:8. Shalini David shared how God has guided Chrysalis ministry, which operates an orphanage in Uganda. Many attendees were impressed at the youthfulness and commitment of that ministry's leaders. On Sabbath morning, a Skype interview was conducted with lead-

ers of King's Messengers, a prison ministry in Kenya, Africa, that has baptized more than 10,000 prisoners. MissionServe also unveiled its two-ton "Evolution" machine, which creates usable building materials out of construction rubble. Attendees were impressed with the energy and vision that seemed to pervade the air during the convention.



## ASI LAKE UNION

"We prayed for the blessing of the Holy Spirit on every aspect of our Spring Fellowship, and the Lord did not disappoint us!" says Patty LaVanture, ASI Lake Union vice president for communication, concerning the ASI Lake Union regional convention held April 18 and 19 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel near the Grand Rapids, Michigan, airport. The theme, "Ultimate Surrender," was communicated in remarkably diverse ways by presenters that included Don Livesay, Lake Union president; Pastor Rodlie Ortiz, of Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs; and Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division. The meetings streamed live, thanks to ASI member Ray Young and a team from International Learning Systems, based in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Richard Aguilera, nature columnist for *Guide* magazine and founder of One Mustard Seed, Inc., a brand new ASI member ministry, led the children's program. The hotel staff

said, "This is the nicest group we've ever serviced!"

## ASI MID-AMERICA

The 2014 ASI Mid-America Convention kicked off Thursday evening, March 27, at the John Knox Pavilion in Lee's Summit, Missouri, with welcome messages from ASI president Frank Fournier and ASI Mid-America president Jesse Johnson. While speaker Scott Ritsema gave a special presentation to more than 30 youth, approximately 200 people in the main auditorium were blessed by Doug Batchelor's opening presentation. On Sabbath,



Doug Batchelor spoke to a congregation of more than 1,200, with musical numbers by Voice of One, Markeeda Scott, Rachel Harlon, Claire Erickson, Jesse Johnson, and Joan Gurski. An amazing Sabbath afternoon concert series featured performances by Midland Academy Diversity, followed by the Samoan Youth Choir and SIFA African Choir. The event closed with Sabbath vespers. "A very special thanks to our local Pathfinders for providing three delicious meals," said Johnson. "We congratulate the Kansas City Adventist community for being a part of the largest ASI Mid-America Convention to date."



## ASI NORTHWEST

The ASI Northwest Spring Convention was held May 2 to 4 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound, Washington, featuring presentations by G. Edward Reid, past director of Stewardship for the North American Division, and Mihail Motzev, professor for the School of Business at Walla Walla University. Lay members, including chapter president Chuck Hagele of Project Patch, Frank Fournier of Eden Valley, Tom Sanford of Project Patch, and Ellen Butler of Butler Travel, also shared their experiences and perspectives. The Sabbath afternoon program featured performances by Daystar Academy's vocal and bell choirs from Castle Valley, Utah. The chapter raised money to help Young Disciple Ministry replace leaky tents for its youth camp, and to help Water For Life purchase Spanish Bible study guides for distribution by Bible workers in Guatemala.

## ASI PACIFIC UNION

The Hyatt Regency, San Francisco Airport, was an unlikely spot for the powerful presence of God as members and supporters of ASI Pacific Union converged April 23 to 27 to hear speakers Don Mackintosh, Duane McKey, and John Bradshaw at the chapter's spring convention. Stories were told by tired but triumphant healthcare volunteers who had participated in Bridges to Health in San

Francisco and Oakland just prior to the meetings (see page 18). Fountainview, Weimar, and Daystar Academies poured out songs of praise, and a series of offerings resulted in donations and pledges that ultimately reached the chapter's fundraising goal of \$250,000. Those funds will support this year's Bridges to Health effort, as well as similar efforts in the future to provide medical services and spiritual hope to residents of inner cities.

## ASI SOUTHERN UNION

Nearly 400 people traveled to the Cohutta Springs (Ga.) Conference Center April 10 to 12 to hear Chris Holland, Frank Fournier, and other presenters at the ASI Southern Union Convention share biblical counsel on how and why we should be "Prepared to Stand" in these last days. The 21 Members in Action testimonies regarding outreach in Cuba, Kazakhstan, and Honduras moved attendees to tears. Record numbers remained after church on Sabbath to hear the EASEA Choir



sing, and to listen to a panel discussion on how to help others be "prepared to stand." Panelists included Steve Dickman, Frank Fournier, and Jesse Zwiker, as well as Verlyne Starr, professor at Southern Adventist University, and Leslie Louis, president of the Carolina

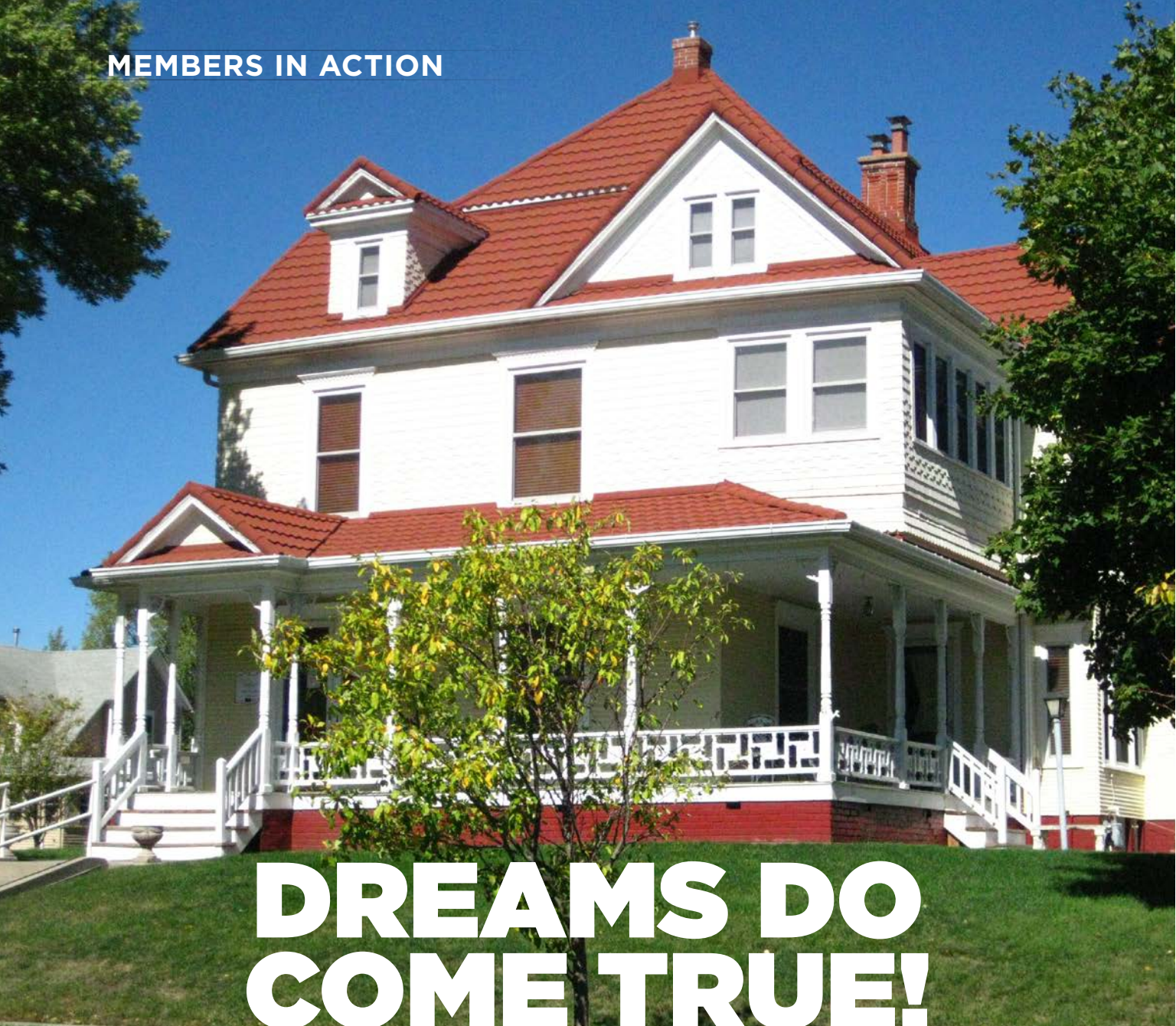
Conference. The group agreed that we must daily seek the Word if we wish to be prepared to stand against challenges unique to our times.



## ASI SOUTHWESTERN UNION

The beautiful Scenic Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church in San Antonio, Texas, was the site for the 2014 ASI Southwestern Union Spring Conference, held March 27 to 29. Approximately 40 members and many visitors gathered for networking and inspirational presentations. G. Edward Reid shared evidence of the Lord's soon return, and Grace Daley shared how she left her professional basketball career to become a teacher for the Lord. Pastor Duane McKey gave a brief history of the New Beginnings evangelism tool, as well as practical instructions on how to use it. Jaime Espinal, director of Centro Misionero de Salud in Galiana, Mexico, introduced a new medical evangelism program called, "I Want to be Healthy," which his ministry developed in conjunction with the Northern Mexico Union. Finally, North American Division president Dan Jackson emphasized the importance of unity and working together in spite of our differences in nationality, culture, education and background.





# DREAMS DO COME TRUE!

BY SAMANTHA NELSON

In 2002, my husband Steve and I started The Hope of Survivors, a ministry that provides emotional and spiritual support for victims of clergy sexual abuse, and educational seminars and resources for pastors and church administrators. Within a very short time, we realized the needs were far greater than we had imagined.

Over the years, we allowed some victims to stay with us for long weekends and sometimes for much longer time periods. However, we needed a proper facility where victims could stay.

We prayed and fasted, fasted and prayed, but every time we thought something might work out, it fell through. In April 2013, after believing that a place was finally found and funding would be secured, we were

disappointed once again when the door was closed. God shut it, clearly, but where was He leading? Was this vision—this dream of being able to provide what victims needed—only a dream?

In that moment of disappointment, I prayed, “God, I can’t take this emotional roller coaster ride anymore. If you want The Hope of Survivors to have a healing center, you’re going to have to drop it in our laps!” I

refused to search anymore. I was done with it! In June, the possibility of a place was once more brought to our attention. Would it work out this time?

The potential donors—owners of the Bedford Inn—had questions to resolve. In June, I prayed, “God, if this is your will, please let the answers this couple needs come on July 1st. That way they will know beyond a shadow of a doubt that You want them to donate this place to The Hope of Survivors, and we will know beyond a shadow of a doubt that this is your will and not our own.”

The donors received the answer to their prayer on July 1, just as I’d prayed. It took a few months for things to be processed, but by the first of October The Hope of Survivors finally had a healing center! It amazes me to think of how God orchestrated it all!

Early on we realized that renovations would be needed. How could we do them? The Hope of Survivors didn’t have funds to have the work done, and we didn’t have time to do it ourselves. In answer to more prayers, God sent Maranatha Volunteers International to help with the construction; and what a blessing those volunteers were! God even provided a grant from ASI Mid-America that will enable us to complete the renovations.

Steve and I were scheduled to be out of the country for various speaking appointments through the end of 2013, so we knew we couldn’t officially open the Renewal Center until January 2014. But we also needed a program director for the facility!

Because of our many other obligations—Steve’s pastoral duties and my administrative work at The Hope of Survivors—we had always known we could not operate the healing center ourselves. We just knew there was a need, and we had a burden to help fill it. So again we went before God and prayed, “Lord, you alone know whom You want for program director. We don’t have time to search for someone, to wade through resumes and references, to risk bringing in the wrong person. Just as you did with the healing center, please drop a program director in our laps.” And God did!

On January 20, 2013, Vivienne Keli and her husband, Sangman Lee, arrived. Viv now serves as program director for the Renewal Center, and already we’ve housed several victims who received renewed

hope and healing as they reconnected with Jesus, our Savior and Healer.

One person reported, “The Hope of Survivors did exactly what their name says—they gave hope, light, and encouragement to our daughter and her family as they are dealing with sexual abuse by their pastor. I am a pastor, and this is the most appalling and bitter emotional experience I’ve ever faced. I thank God that our family sensed His Spirit of wisdom, love, acceptance, and comfort through the lives of the staff at The Hope of Survivors—a ‘light shining in a dark place’ (2 Peter 1:19). We were in a very dark place as a family trying to reach out to precious family members who were being abused by the very one we had all trusted. Out of the darkness came this glorious light God gave through The Hope of Survivors. This ministry is true to God’s Word and in tune with the Holy Spirit. It was evident that God rescued our family and used The Hope of Survivors in His healing process.”

Praise God for answered prayers!

So, my friends, if you are ever discouraged, wondering whether God will accomplish what He has placed on your heart to do, please take courage in the promise in Hebrews 6:15: “And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.” What God has said He will do—*He will do!*

We are amazed at what God has done and how He has opened so many doors of opportunity for The Hope of Survivors. But our focus is on the wounded lambs that God wants to heal and restore. By His grace and with your support we will continue to lift Him up for these victims to behold, and The Hope of Survivors will continue to fulfill its God-given mission.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

#### The Hope of Survivors

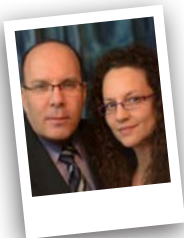
607 Jefferson Street, Bedford, IA 50833

Toll-Free (866) 260-8958

or (618) 983-6434

Website: [www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com](http://www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com)

Email: [Help@TheHopeOfSurvivors.com](mailto:Help@TheHopeOfSurvivors.com)



**Samantha Nelson** is a pastor’s wife who loves serving alongside her husband Steve. She is also the vice president and CEO of The Hope of Survivors, a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting victims of clergy sexual abuse and providing educational seminars to clergy of all faiths. She and Steve love traveling, hiking in the mountains, and enjoying the beauty of God’s creation.



# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GLOBAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



**Southern Adventist University now offers a Christ-centered master's degree that may be a perfect fit for you if:**

- You have a heart for global service and building thriving communities through servant leadership.
- You feel called to work with populations in need.

Complete this hybrid program from anywhere in the world through a combination of online classes and one semester at a field site. You can begin during any semester, and full- and part-time options are available.

**[southern.edu/graduatestudies](https://southern.edu/graduatestudies)  
1.800.SOUTHERN**



**Power for Mind & Soul**





# WATER FOR LIFE GUATEMALA: VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTE, GOD PROVIDES

Each year, Water for Life coordinates groups of volunteers to drill wells in rural Guatemala where people are desperately in need of clean water, and acute water-related health issues are pervasive. The volunteers combine well-drilling with evangelistic and outreach programs

to provide rural Guatemalans with improved health and eternal hope. The 2014 Water for Life well-drilling and evangelism season began in late December 2013 with the arrival of 27 volunteers to various project sites in Guatemala.

Thanks to the efforts of those self-sacrificing volunteers, a total of 17 wells were drilled, including one at an orphanage and another at an infant nutrition center. The deepest was 541 feet, the shallowest was 65 feet, and the average well depth was 150 feet. One of the wells was drilled at the North Guatemala Mission campground.

Several hours away from the campground, a team was able to complete a well drilling project begun previously by two local men who had been digging by hand. About the time the men reached a depth of 14 meters, both died. Our volunteers picked up where they left off. The completed well now provides clean, safe water for grateful local residents.

Several WFL drillers also recognized a critical need for a well at a nearby orphanage where 42 orphans are housed in a very small but clean building. The volunteers said, "We'll work at night if necessary to provide water there." The new well they drilled ensures that never again will water barrels run dry long before neighbors get around to delivering more water to the orphanage.

In February, WFL volunteers provided teeth extractions in surrounding



Wells like the one pictured here bring clean water to villages across Guatemala.

villages. Many residents suffer intense pain as a result of broken or abscessed teeth and are happy for the opportunity to have them pulled. On the last day of dental work, the team saw a three-year-old boy who literally was "tongue-tied." The volunteer dentist was able to clip the tissue restricting the boy's tongue,

enabling him to speak clearly and stick out his tongue for the first time.

The 2014 evangelistic series resulted in the baptism of 13 precious souls. Others will follow after they complete more Bible studies.

At the end of the 2014 well-drilling season, Water for Life rejoices over the many wells its faithful volunteers left behind in Guatemala this year. Although their efforts leave behind an even greater need for

Bible workers, evangelistic efforts, and church buildings, Water for Life rejoices because God will provide!



**Gary Bartholomew** lives in Spokane, Washington, with his wife, Angie. Though recently retired, he stays busy with Water for Life International and his church. In his spare time, he enjoys working in his orchard and garden.

For CDs, Concerts  
& Special Events  
alessandrasorace.com  
info@alessandrasorace.com  
Facebook.com/  
alessandrasorace  
LinkedIn & Twitter



# KIBIDULA FARM: A NEW HARVEST

Since its establishment 25 years ago, Kibidula has become known throughout Tanzania, Africa, for its work in training, evangelism, publishing, healthy lifestyle promotion, and for roofing and building churches. One area the ministry has struggled to succeed in, however, is agriculture.

Poor soil, coupled with the fact that the local climate is either extremely dry or extremely wet, with no in-between, has made farming at Kibidula challenging by any standard. Yet, God has given us this land and a promise that, rightly worked, the soil will yield its treasures.

For some years, the few avocado trees scattered throughout various gardens at Kibidula attracted little attention. As time went by and they began to produce



So far we have added about 1000 trees to the old avocado orchard.

more fruit, however, it became obvious that Kibidula avocados were far superior to anything available in the local market. In fact, any visitor to Kibidula might judge our avocados to be some of the best in the world. The challenge has been to replicate what is happening in our small gardens on a larger scale.

The local market primarily features large, watery avocados of every size, shape, and color known among avocados. They are generally grown and harvested on the volcanic slopes near Mbeya, where it rains approximately 11 months of the year. They are harvested way too early, poured into large, 200-pound bags, stacked eight feet deep in trucks, then transported on rough roads for days, hopefully reaching the market before they ripen. At best, they arrive green and cracked, with many visible bruises. At worst, they arrive mashed and rotten. About half of the market avocados rot before ripening.

Recently, ASI joined forces with Kibidula to establish a commercial-sized avocado orchard that will yield dependable yearly income to support the evangelism work that Kibidula has become known for, as well as to help the ministry grow. Project funds were used to install an irrigation set-up that cost approximately \$50,000 with shipping. It includes a small dam and a six-inch pipe that will run nearly two miles from the dam to the field. In addition, a comprehensive distribution system using micro-sprinklers has been purchased and is in the process of being installed.

Meanwhile, we've added 1,000 avocado trees to the old orchard, planted and grafted 8,000 seedlings in plastic pots, and cleared an additional 25 acres for a new orchard. A small tractor and equipment shed has been built that includes space for handling the fruit during the first few years of development. We've already purchased a scale, plastic handling crates, and fruit stickers with our logo in preparation for the initial harvest, not only of avocados, but of hearts won for eternity.

**NEW!**

## *The Academy* Study Bible

- Cross Reference and Translator's Notes
- Ellen G White Study Comments
- Scriptural Index to the Writings of Ellen G. White
- Extensive 88-page Bible Concordance
- Verse-By-Verse Bible Studies
- Strong's Hebrew Dictionary
- Strong's Greek Dictionary
- The Period Between the Testaments
- The Fourfold Gospel Narrative
- Wide Margins

Available now! Come see it for yourself at our ASI convention booth this August.

To order visit: [www.oklahomaaacademy.org/store](http://www.oklahomaaacademy.org/store) Or call: (405) 454-6211



# CITY OUTPOST, TOLSTOY, AND A MODERN CONVERSION STORY

BY ALEXEY OSTAPENCO

**M**rs. Natalia, from the Moscow suburb of Fryazino, has been to Our Home Lifestyle Center and Medical Missionary School in Ukraine at least eleven times that she can remember. She fell in love with the institution, a member ministry of both ASI Europe and OCI, on her first visit in 2006.

At the turn of the 20th century, Mrs. Natalia's grandfather, a military lawyer in the Russian army, became friends with Leo Tolstoy, a renowned Russian writer, and was touched by Tolstoy's understanding of the gospel.

"You think very much like Tolstoy," Mrs. Natalia would often say to me after morning devotionals or evening meetings at Our Home. "He would probably have become an Adventist if he had lived in our time." As she told me stories of famous Russian writers, Tolstoy especially, I tried to share gospel truths with her.

This past winter, Mrs. Natalia became sick and was hospitalized in Moscow. Soon after her release, she traveled to Our Home with a friend. The next morning it was my turn to conduct morning devotionals and patient counseling. She was eager to talk. Spoiled relationships between Ukraine and Russia had made her very upset, but she believed Our Home would be the same "home" for her as it always had been.

On this visit, Mrs. Natalia was very interested in the Bible. Although her eyesight had dimmed, she could read passages from the New Testament. By the end of her second ten-day session she asked me, "What shall I do?"

"I don't want to tell you what you should do," I replied. "You should ask God, and He will tell you what you should do."

"No," she said, "I want to know what you think."

"You know what I think. You

should become a Seventh-day Adventist," I smiled.

"But I know so many good people in my church. We have a very progressive Orthodox church, which in many respects thinks as you do," Mrs. Natalia countered. "Wouldn't it be a betrayal if I changed churches?"

"Nobody would force you to break friendships, but you should make your stand for the Lord."

"Is there an Adventist church in Fryazino?"

It turned out that there is a 30-member Adventist congregation in that town, with many children and a new church building. I phoned the pastor, and he said that he and his church members would be glad to welcome Mrs. Natalia.

Now we pray that Mrs. Natalia will find her way into God's remnant family. We praise God for this opportunity to serve busy city people from Our Home outpost.



**Alexey Ostapenco** is the assistant director for Our Home Lifestyle Center and Medical Missionary School in Ukraine. Our Home is a member of Outpost Centers International, an ASI member ministry. Ostapenco also serves as an elder for the local Adventist church.



9530 E. Cornville Road, Suite C \* Cornville Arizona 86325

928-284-0884 \* fax 928-268-3480

[www.VerdeSolarPower.com](http://www.VerdeSolarPower.com) \* [info@verdesolarpower.com](mailto:info@verdesolarpower.com)

*The Energy Solution Comes Up Every Morning!*





## YFU IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

BY RENÉ METZ

The ASI Youth for Jesus project is one of our best tools for involving young people in ministry in the Czech Republic. A few years ago, several young people from the Czech-Slovak Union of Seventh-day Adventists participated in the ASI Youth for Jesus program in Tampa, Florida. Two years later, a “baby” Youth for Jesus program was born in the Czech Republic, launched by those students who had attended the Tampa program. Since the summer of 2009, Youth for Jesus programs have been held for five consecutive summers in twelve cities across the Czech and Slovak unions.

What makes the Youth for Jesus program so unique? As a supporting lay-driven organization, we are learning to communicate with church administrators, involve local pastors and lay members, mobilize our youth, and spread the message to the communities we work in. Another unique aspect of the Youth for Jesus program is that, although it targets young people, it impacts people of all ages.

Our goals over the last five years have included encouraging local churches, getting our young people involved, spreading the message in local communities, and initiating personal revival among young people and local church members.

Last summer, nearly 100 youth were involved in two cities in Slovakia—Banska Bystrica and Zvolen. When church members saw the avalanche of energy, zeal, and excitement emanating from these programs, not only were they happy and blessed, but also challenged to take part and join in with the young people. They realized that they would need to carry on the work after the young people left.

The climax of each summer Youth For Jesus program is a series of evangelistic meetings featuring the youth as presenters. Hours of practice, time on their knees with the Lord, and final preparation set the stage

for the opening night of each series. Anticipation is high, and you can tell how happy the young people are when they see someone attend whom they have met on the street or while knocking on doors. On that first night, many individuals are there to hear the message for the first time ever. It is the perfect opportunity to fervently pray once more for the Spirit to work.

One young presenter, Christina, shared with me that on the second night of the meetings she recognized a gentleman she had met a few days before in the city square during the Health Expo. She had talked with him and invited him to take a few minutes to visit the various stations. He had replied that he had no time to waste. Christina had given him a handout, and then he’d walked away. She kept watching him, and after a short hesitation he went to the registration table, picked up the materials, and went through all eight stops at the Health Expo, including the last one where volunteers were sharing their faith with the guests.

She was thrilled when he showed up for the evangelistic meetings, and was even more thrilled when he came back the second night and never missed a meeting. Even though he didn’t make a commitment and decision for baptism, Christina was very thankful to the Lord. We are thankful for the part that Youth for Jesus can play in allowing others to answer God’s call.

*Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:37-38).*



**René Metz** lives in the Czech Republic and is director of Maranatha O.S., an ASI member organization and supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He previously worked in the United States as a pastor for the Mountain View Conference and as youth publishing director for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. In 2013, he was elected president of ASI Europe.

# The Jack Blanco Story



**ORDER YOUR DVD TODAY**  
**[www.n7mc.org/blanco](http://www.n7mc.org/blanco)**  
**888.221.6272**





General Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists  
12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20904  
*Address service requested*

Advertisement sponsored by Sterling State Bank.



# Be a Light

## Outpost Centers

INTERNATIONAL

Traditionally, **missionaries** were doctors, teachers, or pastors. But true mission work is that and much more. It is everyday people living for the One who knows their true **potential**.



**Outpost Centers International** (OCI) is a global network of ministries connecting laypeople with mission opportunities. With more than 100 ministries in at least 45 countries, there is room for everyone to make a difference for eternity, including **you**.

[www.outpostcenters.org](http://www.outpostcenters.org)  
[info@outpostcenters.org](mailto:info@outpostcenters.org)  
423.236.5600