

Inside ASI

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

Winter 2010



From **Health to Hope** MAKING THE CONNECTION

Door-to-door in Dunsmuir

LIGHTing the World

American Girl in Hungary

The Old Model A

ASI Members: Keep in Touch With the World Church,

While You're Building a Local One



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Features

- 12 **The Path From Health to Hope**
by Deena Bartel-Wagner
- 16 **Let Go and Let God**
by Dick Nunez
- 17 **LIGHTing the World**
by Steve Hartley
- 20 **An American Girl in Hungary**
by Aubrey Seiler
- 24 **The Old Model A
and the Spirit of Sacrifice**
by Patricia Humphrey
- 26 **2009 ASI Convention Revisited**
by Steve Homstra

Departments

- 4 **Officer's Outlook:** The Right Arm Indeed! *by Norman Reitz*
- 5 **The Bottom Line:** Getting it Right *by Bill Knott*
- 6 **In the Marketplace:** Sharing Christ—Our Priority
by Dwight Hilderbrandt
- 7 **Members in Action:** Door-to-door in Dunsmuir
by Patti Guthrie
- 10 **New to the Family:** New ASI Members
- 28 **ASI Project Reports:** ASAP and Bogenhofen
- 29 **ASI Abroad:** ASI Europe
- 30 **Joining the Family:** Your Local ASI

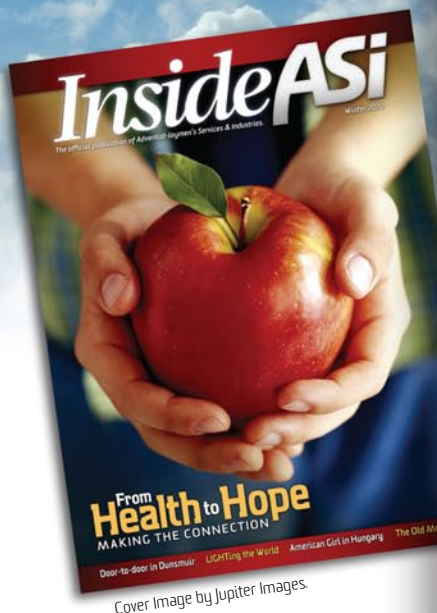
Editor's Note:

Making connections—that's what ASI is all about. This issue focuses on making the connection between physical health and spiritual hope—in our own lives and in the lives of others. It's about using health evangelism to lead others to eternal hope in Christ.

We're privileged to possess incredible knowledge on how to maintain physical health, despite the ravages of sin and the onslaught of age. But that knowledge is meaningless without a knowledge of the character of Christ. For Him, service was not a gimmick. He served because He loved—we must do the same.

As you read the stories in these pages, look for the connections. Ponder them, pray about them, and take them with you "into the marketplace."

—Conna Bond



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Inside ASI

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The Right Arm Indeed!

BY NORMAN REITZ

More and more ASI presenters who participate in public evangelism or lead group Bible studies include health subjects in their repertoire.

Health is indeed the right arm of our message. We know that it is God's will that we prosper and be in good health. God is interested in the whole being. He is not just seeking verbal or mental assent to the reality of His existence and the goodness of His grace. He seeks restoration of the whole person—body, mind, and spirit.

A feeble brotherhood of believers does not speak well of God. If before and

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after mug shots show no physical difference (at least a discernable joyous smile after baptism), perhaps a new lifestyle or exercise program is as important as Bible study.

Today there is widespread public interest in health, while many people can hardly identify Moses, Elijah, or Job as Biblical characters. They may attend a meeting to learn about vegetarian cooking—and then decide to stay when the Spirit of God touches their hearts with the “foolishness of preaching,” or when they make friends with some of the nicest people they have ever met.



As Seventh-day Adventists, we have much to offer in the area of healthful living. We know that there are real health advantages in observing a Sabbath day of rest and maintaining a healthy lifestyle without using unnecessary prescription drugs and stimulants.

A reverse influence is also possible when existing members see the changed lives of new believers. Many within the church have lost sight of the benefits of healthy lifestyle practices and their relationship to spiritual growth. Some are in need of repentance and restoration. The success of new believers in implementing healthy lifestyles can serve as a gentle rebuke.

I remember deciding to stop smoking cigars when I became persuaded that the nicotine in my brain would impair my ability to communicate with God in prayer. Why wouldn't I want a clear channel of communication between me and my Best Friend?



We have a message that is holistic; let us share it in its fullness.

Norman Reitz, a California attorney, is the president of ASI.

While the New Beginnings DVDs were developed to facilitate full message evangelism, ASI leadership determined to prepare companion health materials. The Abundant Living DVD series contains 24 health presentations suitable for sharing with Third World rural audiences and 24 health presentations designed for urban audiences. When ASI member Vern Erickson presented a program on sanitary practices in a Masai village in Kenya, the village elders immediately directed that a latrine be dug outside the village. It was the first time such a practice had been adopted in that area.

Getting it Right

BY BILL KNOTT

“We’ve missed our opportunity,” the speaker said with grim finality. “Through the gift of the Spirit of Prophecy in the nineteenth century, Seventh-day Adventists had an unparalleled chance to lead the world into principles of healthful living. And we have largely squandered that opportunity,” he concluded. “Others are now preaching the message once given to us.”

I winced in my chair from both the discomfort of an overlong meeting and the punishing we believers were getting from the front. Like all generalizations, his criticisms of this movement’s 145-year record of health promotion were at moments both true and false. And like so many others now mounting the pulpits and podiums of Adventism, he seemed content to diagnose both the message and the movement as terminal. His solution, if it could be called that, gave a prescription of hospice care for the Adventist health message. “Go gently into that good night,” he appeared to be saying. “It will all end with a whimper.”

It may simply be the contrarian in me—or it may be some bit of Spirit-supplied optimism and hope—but I am unwilling to write or publish the obituary for the Adventist health message just yet. It is a unique and willful kind of myopia that can ignore the millions of persons who have found both healing for their bodies and salvation in the last century and a half through Adventism’s emphasis on the whole person. Any candid assessment of Adventism’s contribution to the wellness of the world must surely include the persons with leprosy, HIV/AIDS, malaria—diseases of every kind—who have found the Saviour at their bedside in the person of a believer committed to them and their health. Neither can I easily dismiss the ministry of tens of thousands of dedicated believers—many of whom I know—who even now labor in outpatient clinics, acute care hospitals, wellness evangelism, and lifestyle education centers just because they believe they are building the Lord’s kingdom one well body at a time.

There can be no doubt that we have frequently failed to take full advantage of the opportunities the Lord brought us through the special insight given to this people in the Spirit of Prophecy. Beset by a caution that has often had more to do with our pride than the Lord’s honor,

we have sometimes used a megaphone when the message deserved full amplification on radio, television, and the Web. We have sometimes equated success in health ministry with the building of more institutions instead of the building of whole persons and whole communities through Christ-focused health evangelism.

But the times they are a-changin’. This summer’s remarkable Global Conference on Health and Lifestyle, sponsored by the General Conference Health Ministries Department, brought together administrators, clinicians, and lifestyle educators in Geneva for a five-day focus on redrawing the paradigm of the church’s health ministry. The *Adventist Review*’s own special 64-page special June 25 issue, “Good Health—More Than an Apple a Day” (<http://www.adventistreview.org/index.php?issue=2009-1518>), illustrated a new synergy emerging between the various branches of this movement’s health ministry—showing that excellent, evidence-based care can be paired with top-quality wellness education in leading men and women to Jesus Christ. New *Review* contributors—Hans Diehl, Neil Nedley, Martina Karunia, and Wes Youngberg—joined long-time health ministry leaders Allan Handysides and Peter Landless in emphasizing the vital connection between physical health and spiritual well-being. Expect more in the months to come.

When our health ministry has lagged, it has usually been because it disassociated body health from spiritual wellness, as many secular health promotions do today. But where it has succeeded—and is succeeding—it finds its manifesto in these inspired lines:

“The Saviour made each work of healing an occasion for implanting divine principles in the mind and soul. This was the purpose of His work. He imparted earthly blessings, that He might incline the hearts of men to receive the gospel of His grace” (Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, 20).

That’s a model for Adventist health evangelism that offers just the right balance of correction and encouragement.



Bill Knott is the editor of the *Adventist Review*. Visit www.AdventistReview.org.

Sharing Christ— Our Priority

BY DWIGHT HILDERBRANDT

A fellow ASI member once told me, “I work with computers to make a living, but I live to tell others of Jesus.” He stated well what our priority should be as followers of Jesus.

Sharing Jesus with others is our destiny. We are chosen “that [we] may proclaim the praises of Him who called [us] out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9, NKJV). “Christ’s followers have been redeemed for service. Our Lord teaches that the true object of life is ministry” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 326).

Do you ever worry, though, whether there will be fruit for your labor? “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour 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.’ There is need of coming close to the people by personal effort. . . . We are to weep with those that weep, and rejoice with those that rejoice. Accompanied by the power of persuasion, the power of prayer, the power of the love of God, this work will not, cannot, be without fruit”

(*The Ministry of Healing*, 143, 144).

Best of all, serving others has positive effects upon our own lives. “By living to minister for others, man is brought into connection with Christ. The law of service becomes the connecting link which binds us to God and to our fellow men” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 326).

“And the effort to bless others will react in blessings upon ourselves. . . . Those who thus become participants in labors of love are brought nearest to their Creator. . . . [I]n His infinite love He chose to make us co-workers with Himself, with Christ and the angels, that we might share the blessing, the joy, the spiritual



uplifting, which results from this unselfish ministry” (*Steps to Christ*, 79).

In making ministry our priority, we not only lead others to know Jesus, but we are personally uplifted and grow spiritually. In fact, spiritual growth is a direct result of

ministering to others. “One of the divine plans for growth is impartation. The Christian is to gain strength by strengthening others. ‘He that watereth shall be watered also himself’ (Prov. 11:25). This is not merely a promise; it is a divine law, a law by which God designs that the streams of benevolence, like the waters of the great deep, shall be kept in constant circulation, continually flowing back to their source. In the fulfilling of this law is the secret of spiritual growth” (*God’s Amazing Grace*, 286).

Serving others also strengthens our characters and improves our mental and physical health. “The spirit of unselfish labor for others gives depth, stability, and Christlike loveliness to the character, and brings peace and happiness to its possessor” (*Steps to Christ*, 80). “The pleasure of doing good to others imparts a glow to the feelings which flashes through the nerves, quickens the circulation of the blood, and induces mental and physical health” (*4 Testimonies for the Church*, 56).

Sharing Jesus with others through unselfish service to our fellow men truly is a “win-win situation,” a term often used in business circles. What is the priority of your business, your life, your ministry? Is sharing Christ your priority?

Text quotes, other than Biblical passages, are from the writings of Ellen G. White.



Dwight Hilderbrandt served as ASI’s secretary-treasurer from 1994–2002. He currently assists with membership recruitment.

Best of all,
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has positive
effects upon
our own lives.



(L to R) Melissa Guthrie, Dick Shearer, and Diane Shearer on the streets of Dunsmuir with surveys and Better Life Broadcasting program guides in hand for distribution. The threesome later began weekly in-home studies with one of their door-to-door contacts.

Door-to-door in Dunsmuir

BY PATTI GUTHRIE

Last December, our family went out to eat in a little restaurant in the small town of Dunsmuir, ten miles south of where we live in Mt. Shasta, California. While waiting for the restaurant to open, we decided to drive around and explore the town.

Dunsmuir, once a thriving railroad town, has a population of about 2,000. It has many older homes built close together along a river and against mountain canyon walls on either side of the river, with Interstate 5 bordering its west side.

When we'd lived in North Carolina, our personal ministries director had initiated a Sabbath afternoon door-to-door health literature distribution program to homes in our church's district. We'd gotten a taste of door-to-door work through that program, and a seed was planted.

Later over dinner, we started thinking: Dunsmuir has no Adventist church presence. A couple of members from our Mt. Shasta church live in Dunsmuir, but our church has never really made a special effort to reach the people there.

Our 14-year-old daughter Melissa said, "We need to go door-to-door in this town!"

We all agreed. But when? How? It was almost Christmas, and we were headed for winter, which typically brings heavy storms and lots of snow.

In January, our pastor asked our prayer meeting group to read *The Radical Prayer* by Derek Morris,

pastor of the Forest Lake Seventh-day Adventist Church in Florida. In the book, Morris emphasizes over and over the need to pray for laborers. It was the perfect set-up.

I asked the prayer meeting group, "What would you think about applying what we're reading in our community?"

Then we shared our idea

about reaching Dunsmuir. The group agreed.

The next Sabbath, we took the idea to the rest of the church with a door-to-door ministry demonstration during the announcement period. Then we announced the plan to go door-to-door in Dunsmuir that afternoon, and invited everyone to come.

Our church isn't big. There were probably only 40 or 50 people attending church that day. But 16 people showed up that afternoon in Dunsmuir!

First, we practiced our approach. Since 3ABN is broadcast locally via Better Life Television Network, we



Mt. Shasta Church members prepare for the door-to-door literature outreach at the home of fellow member Scott Welch, a Dunsmuir community resident.

decided the most natural thing would be to say “Hello. My name is Patti, and this is _____. We’re here on behalf of Better Life Television Network. Do you watch the Better Life TV station in this area?”

If they answered yes, then we would ask what programs they watched. If they said no, then we would tell them about the inspirational programming offered on 3ABN via Better Life TV. Either way, we’d give them a Better Life TV program guide. We’d leave a 3ABN door hanger at homes where no one answered.

After the brief orientation, we divided into teams of two or three and gave each team a set of 3ABN door hangers, Better Life program guides, and other literature to distribute. Young people were paired with adults, and drivers had maps with designated territories. We prayed for God’s blessing and departed.

Two hours later, we met back at a Dunsmuir church member’s home and shared testimonies. Some had prayed with people; others had discovered Bible study interests; still others had discovered that some people were watching 3ABN on Better Life TV. We prayed together and went home.

The next Sabbath, several team members shared their testimonies from the previous Sabbath with our church family, and we announced that we would meet again that afternoon in Dunsmuir. More people showed up this time, and more contacts were made.

By the end of five consecutive Sabbaths, our door-to-door group had grown to 31, and we had knocked on every available door in town. We’d discovered former Adventists in Dunsmuir and met people who were interested in learning how to live more healthfully. Many had concerns about the future or about family issues. Some were experiencing grief due to major loss. Others were facing jail terms, serious illness or financial troubles. Some who watch 3ABN had already been convicted about the Sabbath and Jesus’ soon coming.



(L to R) Randy Hess with sons Christopher and Andrew display literature and 3ABN door hangers during a Sabbath afternoon Dunsmuir community outreach. Randy Hess is now employed by the Mt. Shasta SDA Church as a Bible worker. He is conducting follow-up Bible studies with a growing list of interested residents.

One teenage boy dressed in black clothing and chains told me he is a god who creates reality in his own head. I told him about the Creator God of the universe who made him and loves him very much. Later I met his mom, and she was more open to spiritual things. I prayed he too would open his heart.

We gathered the names and contacts into a database and began follow-up programs: Bible studies; free community dinners at the Dunsmuir Community Center; a

seminar on the book of Daniel by James Rafferty; more Sabbath afternoon visits with those on our interest list; and a vegetarian cooking class.

We continue to enroll new people in home Bible studies as a result of our initial contacts, and our church board has voted to hire a Bible worker to help work with those who are interested in Bible studies. We’ve had many opportunities to sing and pray with people in their homes.

One man, who initially tried to cut me off when I spoke, suddenly became interested when I mentioned Doug Batchelor’s name in connection with the Bible studies we were offering. He had just heard about Doug Batchelor and decided he’d like to receive the studies after all. He has received the first twelve lessons so far, and we are praying that his interest will continue.

Our next project will be to offer a stop-smoking class for those who are interested in quitting. We’d also like to hold a children’s program and an evangelistic series, but still find ourselves much involved in the seed-sowing and cultivation phases.

The young people particularly enjoyed going door-to-door. Our daughter Melissa spent Monday nights last summer studying with a lady she met in Dunsmuir.

One 11-year-old girl told me that, if Sabbaths were always like this, she would never dread Sabbath again! Then she asked why I don’t get upset when people say “No” at the door. I explained that angels go ahead of us, preparing people at each house for our visit. Some

might not yet be ready, but the Lord is still working in their lives.

Several non-Adventists, some we'd met only once or twice, joined us in our door-to-door outreach and were really excited about it. We continue to pray for them, and we have long-term plans to conduct similar programs in other towns with no Adventist presence.

We told our story at the Better Life TV camp meeting in Oregon and volunteered to help others start door-to-door programs in their own communities. We shared that experience is gained through action, and that going two-by-two allows more experienced workers to mentor those with less experience. So far, two churches have invited us to come.

As humans, we are naturally self-centered, but reaching out to save others can be God's means of saving us from our own selfishness. Sometimes it's easier to go on a short-term mission trip to a foreign land than to be a missionary every day, right where we live.



Teens and young people were blessed as they shared the good news from door to door.

Pictured: Melissa Guthrie and Jessica Hess.

Personally, we are eager for our four teenage children to develop their own personal walk with God. Our work in Dunsmuir turned out to be an excellent way to channel the abundant energies of our young people into a faith-filled adventure with the Lord. It has also drawn us closer as a family.

Since we began attending ASI conventions in 1999, ASI has instilled in us a sense of obligation and privilege with regard to living and sharing our message every day and everywhere. We are not "one-day-in-seven" Ad-

ventists. Our message permeates every aspect of our lives and drives us to pray for opportunities to share Christ in our workplace, in our communities, in our church, and at home. There is no greater joy.



Patti Guthrie shared this story at the 2009 ASI Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. She writes from Mt. Shasta, California.

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**Sung Kwon, National Executive Director
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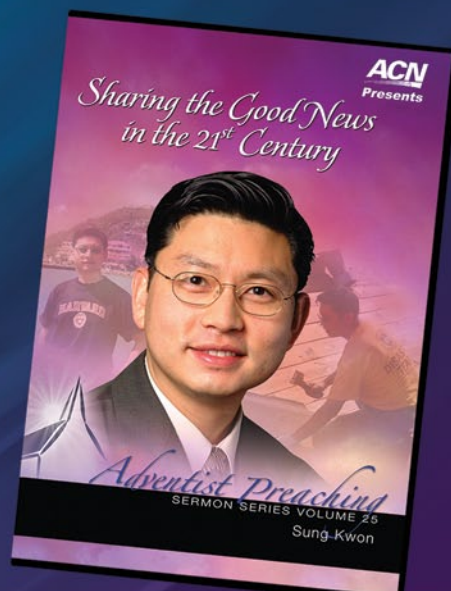
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The Path from Health to Hope

BY DEENA BARTEL-WAGNER



Within the Seventh-day Adventist community, many voices participate in the conversation of how to live a healthy lifestyle. In spite of the different approaches, their overreaching goal is to help people change habits and experience better health. Many of them also have a greater vision: to share the love of Jesus while meeting the physical needs of participants.

The typical program at a lifestyle center involves a 10- to 18-day residential stay. Participants receive medical testing and counseling from physicians, are taught how to change their eating habits, and begin to develop an exercise routine. Additionally, there is time for spiritual reflection. As staff members build relationships with the guests, they often have opportunities to share spiritual thoughts.

"We have many people return because of the spiritual component of our program," says Darlene Seath of Wildwood Lifestyle Center. "They sense a peace that they find missing in their daily routines. One lady has returned at least four times, specifically for this reason."

This is not an uncommon occurrence. Many guests do not initially realize that they are seeking any type of spiritual healing. Often they are so sick with physical disease that their focus is on finding relief from their pain and suffering.

Natalaya*, who visited Eden Valley Institute in Colorado, had cancer and was wanting relief from her symptoms.

"Natalaya came to us, and I wondered how we would be able to minister to her in a spiritual sense," says Connie Jo Roeske, director at Eden Valley Lifestyle Center. "She lives and works in a large metropolitan center and was very much into that lifestyle."

As the days passed, Natalaya's physical condition began to improve. She wanted to take in as much information as possible. One of the treatments used for Natalaya was time in the fever tanks.

"We use the fever tanks to raise and then lower a person's temperature," says Roeske. "Natalaya was so eager to use even her time in the fever tanks to learn, that we arranged for her to be able to read during her treatments."

One night as a group of guests and staff were visiting, Natalaya shared how her visit was transforming her.

"Natalaya told us that the treatments were making a difference in her physical condition," says Connie Jo. "But

it was the spiritual aspect of treatment that was really meeting her needs. At the end of her stay, it was apparent that Natalaya had opened up to spiritual matters."

Natalaya is just one example of people who might not respond to a five-night-a-week evangelistic campaign, but who begin to sense their spiritual void when their physical needs are met.

"The daily spiritual devotion time we offer seems to have a huge impact on our guests," says Frank Fournier, president of Eden Valley. "Not everyone who goes through the program is cured, but often they are healed spiritually. My approach is to build their faith and show them that God's word is true. His honor is at stake, and He won't lie to us."

Before Ron Giannoni attended Weimar Center of Health and Education, he was a drug user and an alcoholic. He had high blood pressure, diabetes, and prostate cancer, and was in need of heart bypass surgery.

"My life was a mess," says Ron. "I had the bypass surgery but didn't change my lifestyle. In fact, following the surgery I began to drink even more heavily and fell into a depression."

As he sought respite from his physical ills, Ron sensed that some important component was missing from his life.

"I was searching for something, but didn't know what it was," says Ron. "I followed New Age gurus, meditated, and even joined cults in an attempt to fill the void I felt in my life. Nothing worked."

Life wasn't looking good. One day, as Ron sat on the edge of his bed, he began to cry.

"I can't go on like this," Ron told his wife Cindy. Both of them instinctively knew that, without a change, Ron's physical health would continue to deteriorate and death would claim him.

"Cindy reminded me that we had heard about Weimar and suggested that we investigate their program," says Ron. "At that point, I was willing to try anything. On August 15, 2005, I entered their program. That was the last day that alcohol passed through my lips."

Ron began to see immediate changes in his physical condition and was grateful. His true turning point came when he heard about the idea of trusting in divine power.

Ron observed the calm and serene nature of the staff and noted there was something special about them. He longed for that same serenity. As Ron's stay came to an

end, he told the staff that he wanted to know more about what they believed. Ron and Cindy soon started taking Bible studies and attended a series of evangelistic meetings held by Brian McMahon.

"Cindy and I were so blown away by what we heard that we knew we had to be a part of it."

Ron and Cindy were baptized in November 2005. Today, Ron serves as director of the Reversing Diabetes Program at Weimar.

"God has blessed me so much," says Ron. "You truly start to learn when you teach. I'm still learning today, but I see there is hope for even the worst kind of person who feels he has no hope."

The Lifestyle Center of America, with headquarters in Sulphur, Oklahoma, is in the midst of changing how they help others face lifestyle challenges.

"When we were first established, our program was basically a sanitarium model with a 19-day residential program," says Dan Braun, LCA director of marketing. But, as the tenth anniversary of their founding approached, some serious self-examination began taking place.

"We recognized that most of our guests who had gone through the program were not able to maintain success in their daily lives after they left," says Braun. "We estimate that only about 4 percent of those who had completed the program were actually having long-term results."

The administration began to research how they could reach the public with a program that is both practical and beneficial for a lifetime. After three years of study and re-evaluation, The Full Plate Diet (www.thefullplate-diet.com) will be rolled out nationwide in January 2010.

"Our new model is like the parable of the sower and the seed," says Braun. "We have the seed, but how do we best plant it in all areas? Some people will be like the hardened ground and won't be open to any change at all. How do we reach the stony ground?"

John*, a consultant who attended LCA's planning meetings along with the physicians, took notes and listened to how simple lifestyle changes could make a difference.

"I didn't see John for about four months," says Braun. "When I did see him again, I didn't recognize him. He had lost around 50 pounds. John told me that, as he listened to the information presented by the physicians, he knew he could implement those changes in his own life. John would never have come to a 19-day program, but he's implementing change on his own terms. And

who knows where it will lead?"

Breaking down barriers is necessary to reaching others who might be resistant to lifestyle changes. The Black Hills Health and Education Center made a decision to actively engage the local citizens.

"We've opened our workout facilities to the community and are finding ways to mingle with those who come," says Dick Nunez, wellness director. "We are trying to shine our light to those around us."

Tom* and his wife are local residents who are taking advantage of the opportunity.

"I've been working out at the center for the past four years," says Tom. "I didn't know anything at all about Adventists before I started coming here. Now I'm asking Dick to hold a cooking school for the community."

Although many of the lifestyle centers offer residential programs, the Coronary Health Improvement Project, commonly known as CHIP, is found in essentially every state, and is now expanding internationally as a local church-sponsored lifestyle program. The Three Angels Church in Wichita, Kansas, has held CHIP programs regularly since 1995.

"The concept of friendship evangelism is part of the CHIP program," says Jan Wilson, the church's CHIP director. "Our table hosts are the ones who make the personal connections with individuals. As those friendships develop, trust grows."

Wilson says that by having church members show they care about the needs of those who are attending, the way is opened to talk about spiritual matters.

"As we share the truth about lifestyle issues, and our guests see that we are giving credible information, they are more willing to hear the spiritual message we also have to share," says Wilson.

During His ministry, Jesus cut through the distractions in people's lives and established their trust before sharing spiritual truths with them. Today, building trust and sharing credible answers to pressing needs still opens hearts and minds to spiritual messages.

**Not their real names.*

Deena Bartel-Wagner is owner of Verbal Oxygen, a writing and creative services firm based in Spencerport, New York. She is a regular contributor to *Inside ASI*.





IT IS WRITTEN



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Let Go and Let God

BY DICK NUNEZ

During my career as a fitness instructor, one observation stands out: Those who are willing to “Let go and let God” make the most progress in their lifestyle habits. This reveals how important it is to take into account the role that stress plays with regard to health, and to alleviate stress by making God our primary focus.

Let me explain.

The primary reason an average person starts an exercise program is to lose body fat. But very often frustration takes over well before the weight is lost.

It is difficult for a person to understand the fact that his or her body has actually become efficient at storing fat. On the other hand, people who seem to be forever lean can eat whatever they want without gaining weight, because their bodies are very efficient at burning fat.

This leads to the following conclusion: If you want to lose weight, the best thing to do is stay off the scale! The scale is a false god that many people worship every morning. It dictates for many how their day is going to go. If they want to lose weight, and they actually do lose, they feel better. But if they don't, they feel worse.

The reality is this: The scale does not show the real truth, because the individual has perhaps rehydrated his body, added some muscle, or has a little extra abdominal content from a large meal. The weight loss he is rejoicing over might just be from dehydration and muscle loss.

For those wanting to gain muscle, a similar concept comes into play. Again, stay off the scale! Those who are most successful in weight training are those who train the best that they can for the glory of God. It is about serving God to our fullest, presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God (see Romans 12:1).

When stress becomes a factor, an overweight person may tend to hold onto fat, while an underweight person may actually become leaner. Doing all to the glory of God takes away stress and sets us free to succeed!

A similar phenomenon can be seen in people who

are trying to lower their blood sugar, blood pressure, or blood lipids.

One man who came through our lifestyle program was progressing beautifully. His blood pressure and blood sugar had decreased to normal levels. After receiving a stressful phone call one evening, however, his numbers jumped significantly the next morning. Both his systolic blood pressure and blood sugar elevated 50 points. The next morning, after spending some time with our counselor, his numbers returned to normal.

Stress clearly played a role, which in turn affected his perception of his success in the program. Stress also plays a significant part in the strength of our immune systems.

“Autoimmune” has become the new buzzword in the medical community. People's immune systems are failing them, or worse, even turning against them. But lifestyle changes are extremely effective in correcting autoimmune disorders. We've seen numerous people who have battled fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue syndrome for years become pain-free in a very short period of time through simple lifestyle changes.

The key to all this is the same—to acknowledge that our bodies are not our own. They were bought with a price, and that price is the blood of Christ (see 1 Cor. 6:19). How are we taking care of the gift He gave us? Remember, He told us He is coming back to take back what is His. If all we eat and drink, and whatever we do is done to His glory (see 1 Cor. 10:31), we will have the results we seek, whether it be weight loss, muscle gain, or reversing disease—as long as we remember to “Let go and let God.”



Dick Nunez is the wellness director at the Black Hills Health and Education Center in Hermosa, South Dakota. Visit www.bhhec.org.



LIGHTing the World

BY JAMES HARTLEY

It all started when Delsin, a friend of mine, entered a Country Life Vegetarian Restaurant in Basil, Switzerland. We were both hippies, and Delsin was following a popular jam band around Europe.

After visiting Country Life, Delsin was diverted to an organic farm in Italy that was owned by an Adventist family. They used their property to teach country living, healthy lifestyle principles, and a connection with the true God. I, too, visited the farm for three months. To make a long story short, our lives were changed, and we were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

After taking a short lay training course in health evangelism at Wildwood Lifestyle Center, I was committed to advancing the three angels' messages anywhere God called, using the right arm of the gospel—the health message. After a couple of years of experience and increased responsibilities, I became director for Wildwood's College of Health Evangelism in 2002, and continued in that position full-time until a little over a year ago.

My calling began turning a corner two years ago when ASI ministry leaders asked whether I'd be interested in directing a new ministry called the Lay Institute for

Global Health Training, or LIGHT. The ministry goal was to provide short health evangelism training programs in every union worldwide. I was definitely interested and am still transitioning between my responsibilities at Wildwood and my new role as director of LIGHT.

Over the years, I've come to see more clearly how integrated the health message is to the gospel. Through the sacrifice of Jesus and through living according to His will, the effects of sin are reversed to bring us back to health and happiness in our Lord. One day we will have new bodies, but even now God's desire is that we "prosper in all things and be in

health, even as [our] soul prospers" (3 John 2, NKJV).

As we help people in this path of restoration by ministering to their physical and emotional needs, the way is prepared for their souls to be healed as well. And



LIGHT students learning hydrotherapy in Switzerland.

there is no better way to reveal the loving character of God than through reaching out a helping hand—loving, caring, teaching, and ministering to those in need. That was how Jesus worked, and it's how He wants to work through His remnant church. “We have come to a time when every member of the church should take hold of medical missionary work” (7 *Testimonies for the Church*, 62).

During the last ten years, I've traveled to over 35 different countries and have personally seen the condition of our church worldwide. Not many of our own people really understand the health message and how it is to be used to share the gospel. Very few lay training courses are available to teach our people this work. How can every church member take hold of something they don't know much about? How can we make this training available so that each one can shine as a light in the world?

Many overseas mission trips involve public evangelism and church building, which are essential parts of our mission. Meanwhile, those already in the church are often neglected and lack the local spiritual support they need to grow in their faith. Many eventually stop going to church altogether. They need to be nurtured, educated, and grounded in the truth so they can be effective missionaries themselves and leaders in their local churches.

That's where LIGHT comes into the picture. Our goal is to educate and mobilize the lay members of our church to work as active soul-winners who effectively use the right arm of the gospel. To reach this goal, we follow a simple three-step plan. First, we offer four-week training programs that introduce the fundamentals of

the health and gospel message, teaching our graduates how to become active in their communities through health expos, cooking schools, door-to-door, and personal ministry.

Second, after presenting several of these courses in any given union, we try to offer a six-month training course, inviting the most serious students from the four-week courses to attend. We only work under the invitation of local church leadership.

Third, wherever possible, we assist our LIGHT graduates in establishing

permanent centers for training and healing. During this phase, we search for rural properties with easy access to nearby cities, maintain a consistent six-month course, provide leadership training, and help develop industries so that each ministry is not dependant on continual donations.

Where do we find all of our missionary teachers? By putting graduates from our six-month LIGHT schools to work in teaching teams with staff leaders. We are also enlisting graduates from several LIGHT affiliate schools, such as Wildwood's College of Health Evangelism, Lay Institute for Evangelism (LIFE), Uchee Pines, and several other Outpost Centers International ministries

around the world that offer this type of training. Each LIGHT training course uses a set curriculum developed from the best teaching materials of each of these schools. Our curriculum has also been translated into five languages so far. In the past year, we have conducted training in over 20 countries, including difficult ones like Japan, Italy, England, and Ireland.

LIGHT schools are changing individual lives. In



Six-month LIGHT graduates in Kenya.



LIGHT student conducting first health expo in Japan.

Italy, an Adventist young man who attended our training hadn't had a real experience with God before. He spent his time playing video games, listening to worldly music, watching movies, and painting little figures of witches, warriors, and goblins that he posted in his room. But somehow he felt called to attend our training program.

After attending the LIGHT course, his whole life changed. He has removed the pictures, movies, and music from his room. He's now a vegetarian and is sharing his new experience with God with his fellow Adventist church members in Rome. He says, "I feel like I never knew what it really meant to be a Seventh-day Adventist until I attended the LIGHT course.

2009 LIGHT Schools:

Four-week courses: 42
Countries: 21
Continents: 6
Graduates: 706

Six-month courses: 19
Countries: 11
Continents: 6
Graduates: 323

village members paid for her to take the training course so she could help them when she was done. Now she is presenting health talks and making house visits in her village—praying, comforting, counseling, and applying simple water treatments.

In Honduras, a group of young people (the oldest is 24) who had previously trained in Norway had been given a large piece of property to begin a ministry. LIGHT stepped in to help them start their project by conducting a four-week school on the property.

While preaching in a local church on the prophecies of Daniel, I was invited to speak several months

later at a nearby non-denominational pastor's retreat. We prepared a 24-page Spanish syllabus on the book of Daniel for each of the 140 pastors attending from different denominations.

During the intense, two-day seminar, I was amazed at how readily the pastors accepted the truths of the judgment, 1844, and the last great deception. Their prayer for me at the end almost raised the roof off the place! Many said they would preach these messages in their churches.

Meanwhile, our six-month training course was in session. Two months later, I received word that several of our students doing door-to-door health and Bible work had discovered copies of the Daniel syllabus in the homes they'd visited. Apparently, the local pastor was selling the syllabus for one dollar. I was thankful that the Lord led our students to those homes to help the people understand the material.

I am continually amazed at how God works! Just as my own journey began when I learned about healthy lifestyle principles, I see those same principles change the lives of

others every day, all over the world. Please pray for LIGHT, and consider training at one of our schools.



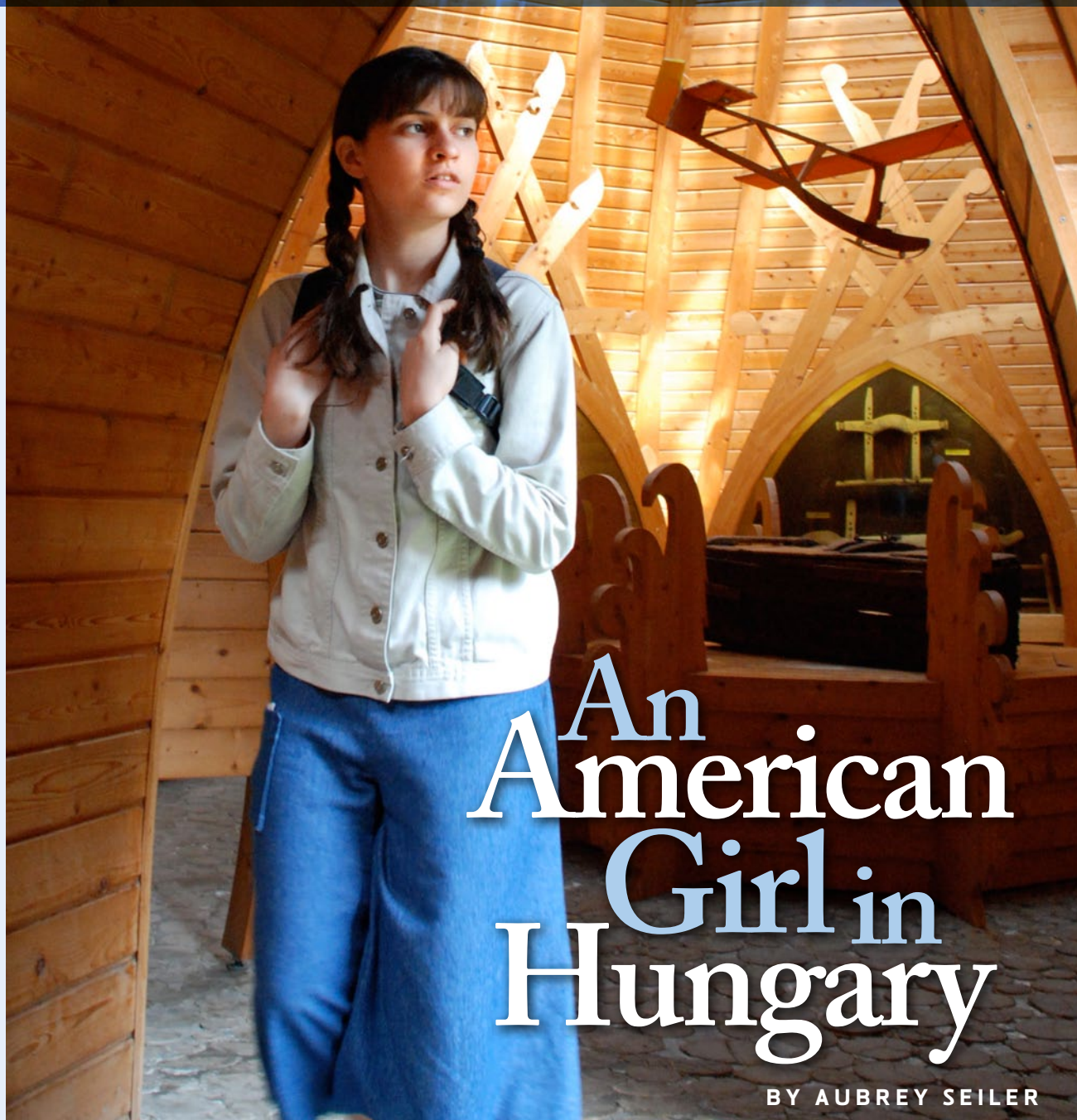
The LIGHT campus in Austria.



A worker shines "LIGHT" into a patient's home in Honduras.



James Hartley is director for Lay Institute for Global Health Training (LIGHT), which has its head office in Wildwood, Georgia. Visit www.lightingtheworld.org to find the LIGHT training program nearest you.



An American Girl in Hungary

BY AUBREY SEILER

Thinking back over good times is like looking at the stars. The more you look for them, the more you find. As I write, my mind overflows with memories of the wonderful events I experienced over the past few months. One of the most unexpected of these events was my trip to Hungary...

Two years ago, three youth from Hungary attended the Youth For Jesus program in Tampa. I became good friends with them and kept in touch after YFJ was over. Their dream was to start a Youth For Jesus program in Hungary, and they wanted me to help. Our family originally planned to go, but later decided it was too great an expense, so we gave up the idea.

God had different plans, however. After serving for an entire month as a speaker for the YFJ Phoenix program, I thought my summer experiences were over. But on the last day of the ASI convention, Leasa Hodges, the YFJ coordinator, handed my mom and me plane tickets to Budapest.

I barely had enough time to get home, do laundry, and pack my backpack. In spite of my fear of flying, I survived the trip "across the drink" with prayers from my friends and family. Eighteen hours after leaving Dallas, we arrived in Budapest, Hungary, and then drove to Hódmezővásárhely.

What a beautiful country Hungary is! The area

we visited is mainly agrarian, with fields of sunflowers and corn, unique architecture, quaint little villages, and the effects of medieval feudalism still visible in the countryside.

We reached the church at twilight, right after the meeting had finished. Everyone had gathered in the church courtyard for a light supper. The church lights cast a warm glow over the group, and the spiciness of a foreign culture permeated the air. The Hungarian youth who had attended YFJ in Tampa greeted us with excitement.

After introductions, the YFJ youth took us to see fireworks in the town square and to celebrate Hungarian Independence Day. In Hungary, August 20 is sort of like our Fourth of July.

By the time we reached our room, it was past 11:00 p.m. I had been awake for almost 35 hours, with only short naps here and there. Apparently, that had effectively killed my jetlag, and I didn't suffer from the time change.

The Hungarian people were so kind, and I especially fell in love with the children. Soon after I arrived, they decided I needed to learn the language. I quickly found

myself surrounded by a beautiful group of kids, all trying to teach me Hungarian. I tried my best to pronounce the words, but failed miserably, much to the amusement of my "teachers." It was the perfect icebreaker!

The language barrier made it difficult to get to know the other YFJ youth, but smiles and gestures go a long way. Fortunately, several of them knew English and were very helpful as translators. By the end of our visit, my mom and I felt like we were leaving family.

Hungarian hospitality is second to none, and our hosts, the Kőszegi family, topped that! On Sundays, they took us on tours of their region of Hungary. We got to cross into Romania, tour the Hungarian towns of Szeged and Hódmezővásárhely, and learn more about Hungary's history at Oposztaszter, an outdoor educational center.

We enjoyed delicious meals during our stay. I even learned to eat paprika (red bell pepper) and cucumbers for breakfast. Grapes, cantaloupe, peaches, watermelon,

and plums graced our table at almost every meal. Hungarian produce has incredible flavor. It made me long to know what food will taste like in heaven!

Although I was there mostly to give encouragement and support, I did give a health talk one evening that my dad had helped me prepare before I left. András, my translator, and I had a lot of fun giving the talk, and unbeknownst to us, attending that night was a radio talk show host who ended up loving the presentation. She asked if we would be willing to give it on the radio.

A few days later, we found ourselves in a Hungarian radio studio. The host had been very inspired by the presentation and the witness of the YFJ youth, and she asked many questions. As we left, we gave her a Bible and a copy of *The Desire of Ages*. I may never know what God plans to do in that lady's life, but I was privileged to

help plant seeds in her heart.

On five minutes' notice, I also taught a class to the YFJ group. With little time to prepare, I grabbed some notes from a YFJ class I'd taken in Tampa. The topic was "The Dangers of Hollywood." I'm not too familiar with popular entertainers. Several times I asked my



Aubrey and András with the radio talk show host (center).

audience whether they knew the entertainers' names I was talking about. They looked at me as if I had just stepped off of Mars when I told them the names were new to me.

When I finished, the pastor asked me to share my own view on Hollywood and the media since I was unfamiliar with the entertainers I'd mentioned. I was able to share with them how my parents raised me, and tell them of my decision during YFJ Tampa to stop watching TV and movies. I encouraged them that it was possible for them to do the same. I don't know what they thought, but I pray that God used me to open their eyes to the dangers of the entertainment world.

Sabbath, August 30, was our last day at YFJ Hungary. That afternoon, five beautiful souls were baptized: Zsolti and Kriszti, both YFJers, and Erika and Peti, a mother and son from Budapest.

And then there was Margó, a woman from the village of Hódmezővásárhely. She is one of the sweetest



The Ambrus family, who organized YFJ Hungary, is amazingly dedicated to spreading the gospel in Hungary. Youth For Jesus is only one of the many ways in which they are working. Their four kids—Orsi, Zozó, András, and Enikő (L to R)—along with their son-in-law, Balázs, daughter-in-law, Mónika, and niece, Melinda, help run the program. They welcomed us with open arms and made our time there so enjoyable.

ladies I've ever known. She developed a special relationship with the YFJers while preparing meals and cleaning up afterwards. She was so responsive to the messages she heard. A few days after hearing a talk about the dangers of adornment, she removed all of her jewelry. I realized like never before that nothing makes a person quite as beautiful as the love of Jesus. Margó glowed with happiness, especially when she was baptized.

Heaven was the topic of the last meeting on Saturday night. I listened with sadness and joy, knowing that I might never again see some of my



Margó's baptism after the YFJ evangelistic series.



The 2009 YFJ-Hungary participants.

new Hungarian friends on this earth. My heart longs more than ever for all of us to be finally "home."

My prayer for my YFJ friends around the world is summed up in the words of a beautiful song: "Meet me in heaven. We'll sing songs together. Meet me at the Savior's side. I'll meet you in heaven. We'll join hands together. Brother and sister, I'll be there... Pray that we all will be there."



Aubrey Seiler,

a 17-year-old homeschooled senior, writes from her home

in Sulphur, Oklahoma.

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The Old Model A AND THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE

BY PATRICIA HUMPHREY

Ever since he was 11 years old, Trenton Frost has been fascinated with Model A Fords. Little did he know, however, that his passion for buying and selling vintage automobiles would one day lead to an incredible opportunity to bless others—not once, but twice!

In 1984, when Trenton's son, Daven, was 12 years old, the family acquired a 1929 Model A Ford. It immediately became a family treasure.

"I've owned many antique autos over my lifetime, but I've always had a special affection for Model A and Model T Fords," explains Trenton. "We fixed up the old Ford, put it on the road, and made many happy memories with it."

In 1987, another opportunity arose that the Frost family couldn't pass up. Former missionaries to Africa made an appeal at their church in Canton, New York. The appeal was on behalf of a student from Tanzania who was attending Southern College, along with his wife. The couple had run into financial difficulties and needed \$2,000 to continue their education.

"Although we had a lot of affection for the car and had made some wonderful family memories with it, when we heard the story, we were inspired to sell the car

to raise the funds to help out," says Trenton. "The Lord touched our hearts with the plight of these students, and He helped us to sell it quickly. We advertised it in the newspaper, and this charming old farmer looked the car over and, wanting to go down 'memory lane,' bought it from us."

The sale brought just enough money to donate the needed school funds, with \$500 left to split between Daven and Melissa, who were ages 15 and 17 at the time.

Not long afterward, in the fall of that same year, tragedy struck. Daven was killed in a car accident on the way to school. His mother, Oriana, had been driving, and his sister, Melissa, was critically injured—but by the grace of God, and with many prayers, mother and daughter survived.

Years passed, and the family eventually relocated to California. Melissa recovered and went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing. By the summer of 2002, after completing her education, Melissa needed a vacation, so she accompanied her dad to their seasonal home in northern New York. The drive east from California was a pleasant one, providing an opportunity for some wonderful father-daughter time together.

"We had driven a ways on historic Route 66," Trenton recalls, "when I remembered hearing that the old Ford we'd sold back in 1987 was still in the barn belonging to the farmer we'd sold it to. Vintage autos have always played a role in my life, and my daughter had an appreciation for them, as well."

When the two arrived back at their northern New York home, they immediately contacted the old farmer by phone. When the farmer's wife answered, Trenton asked, "Do you still have that car we sold you back in 1987? And, if so, would your husband be willing to sell it?"

"Yes, we still have the car," she answered pleasantly. "My husband is in the barn right now. Why don't you come on down? He'll be done with chores by the time you get here."

When they arrived, the farmer welcomed them into his tractor shed, and there sat the old Ford with a very noticeable layer of dust on it. They were amazed. The car looked just the same as it had on the day they'd sold it 15 years earlier. It even had the same tires, which were still in good shape.

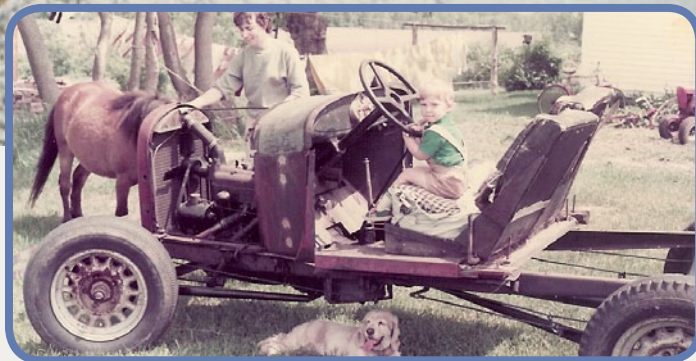
"We were very happy to see it, and it brought back many memories," says Trenton. Best of all, they were able to purchase the car for the exact same price for which they'd sold it.

Three years later, the family was living in Avon Park, Florida, to be near Oriana's aging mother. The 2008 ASI convention was scheduled to occur in Tampa that year.

"I wasn't able to go to the convention," Trenton recalls, "but my wife went, and while there, she came across the One-Day Church booth. She became very intrigued with the whole thing."

Sensing the need and excited about the opportunity to help struggling congregations in other parts of the world build places of worship, Oriana felt an overwhelming desire to contribute. She returned home and shared her convictions with her husband.

"God impressed me that there must be a way for our family to help build a church," Oriana says. "We



The old Model A before it was restored.

didn't feel we had the means for such a project, but I knew that if we could sell our Model A Ford—even though it was twice a treasured family heirloom—the proceeds could certainly be used to bless others."

Once again, the Model A Ford was offered for sale. This time, the Frosts took the car to an antique car dealer. Miraculously, the car sold very quickly.

"There were cars lined up that had not sold, but our Model A sold," recalls Trenton. "A well-to-do man from Georgia purchased it for \$3,000 (plus the dealer's commission)—exactly the amount needed to help build two churches."

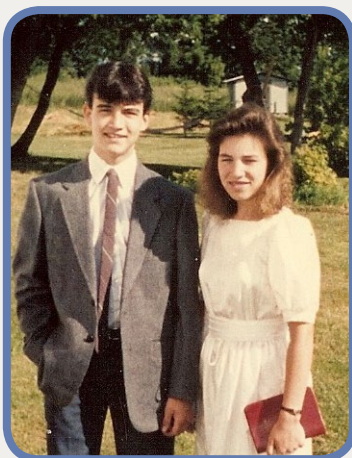
But that's not all. When the purchaser learned of the charitable purpose for which the car was being sold, he placed in Trenton's hands an extra \$300!

"At the outset, the buyer had requested a price reduction!" Trenton muses.

The Frosts chose to sponsor churches in Ecuador because Oriana's parents, Pastor Rolf and Marta Butendieck, had been missionaries in that country, and her brother was born there. So if you travel to two small towns in Ecuador called Quinsaloma and Oeste, you'll find two houses of worship that were built in a day. They replaced shade trees or other less-than-adequate structures where committed believers used to gather.

Today, two brand new churches stand because one family loved the Lord and His people more than they loved a treasured family heirloom. And somewhere out there is a Model A Ford that testifies to the fact that the Frost family's affection for old cars pales in comparison to their love for God and their desire to serve Him.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21, NIV).



Daven and Melissa Frost.



Patricia Humphrey is associate director of communication for the Southwestern Union and a frequent contributor to *Inside ASI*.

ASI Online Special Feature:

Read "The Old Model A," a poem by Trenton Frost, at <http://www.asiministries.org/the-old-model-a>.

BY KNOWING

Him



ASI officers for 2009-2011 are (from left) Donna McNeilus, general vice president; Danny Houghton, vice president for communication; Norman Reitz, president; Terry Anderson, vice president for evangelism; Steve Dickman, vice president for recruitment; Stan Smith, vice president for finance; Ramon Chow, secretary-treasurer and Harold Lance, president, ASI Missions Inc.

2009 ASI CONVENTION INSPIRED ATTENDEES TO SHARE CHRIST IN THE MARKETPLACE.

Welcomed by triple-digit temperatures, more than 2,000 people gathered in Phoenix, Ariz., for the 62nd annual ASI Convention. Themed “By Knowing Him,” the convention programming encouraged attendees to pursue a personal, committed relationship with Jesus Christ.

One of the highlights of every ASI Convention is the Friday evening Youth for Jesus recap. As early as January, YFJ Bible workers arrived in Phoenix to lay the foundation for the summer’s youth-led evangelistic campaign.

When the summer temperatures arrived, so did a team of 48 young people, ready to share Jesus with the city of Phoenix. During the month-long YFJ program, the team of youth gave Bible studies, presented evangelistic meetings and spent many hours in the scorching sun doing door-to-door outreach.

On Friday evening, they shared the wonderful results of their work. Some 109 people were baptized, and the youth who participated discovered a love for their Lord and a new passion for serving others.

The convention children and youth divisions shared the spotlight on Friday night. Developing an enthusiasm for service was a key theme in the children

and youth programming this year. Each division shared how that theme was communicated to them during the convention through various programs and activities.

In the spirit of service, the earliteen and youth departments helped build a ramp and porch for the Adventist mission school at the Gila River Indian Reservation. They also helped organize and prepare the facility for the upcoming school year.

Outstanding ASI member testimonies are highlights at every ASI convention, and many were shared this year. The Guthrie family from Northern California, inspired by an earlier experience in door-to-door witnessing, decided to do outreach in a small town near their home—one with no Adventist presence.

“It was just thrilling!” beamed Patti Guthrie, adding that follow-up Bible studies are now being given to those who expressed interest.

Some of the convention’s most exciting moments happened on Sabbath morning. Among them was a special report on the One-Day Church, a joint project between ASI and Maranatha Volunteers International.

Around the world, some 100,000 Adventist congregations are without church buildings. Introduced at



Garwin McNeilus, left, an ASI member from Dodge Center, Minn., and Dick Duerksen, from Maranatha Volunteers International, presented a special report on the One-Day Church project Sabbath morning.



Youth at the 2009 ASI Convention participated in a service project at the Maricopa Village Christian School in Laveen, Ariz. Samantha Chang, left, from Eustace, Fla., and Rachel Norman from Edmund, Okla., lent a hand with the construction of a ramp at the school.



(Above) Testimonies from ASI Youth for Jesus participants were part of the Friday evening meeting. Randrick Chance, left, and Trokon Dalmeida both shared with attendees how God had blessed the 2009 Youth for Jesus program.



Don Mackintosh, from Sacramento, Calif., presents one of the many seminars offered during the convention.

the 2008 ASI Convention, the One-Day Church is a prefabricated galvanized steel structure that can be built in one day by a handful of workers.

ASI member Garwin McNeilus shared that, thanks to generous support from last year's special projects offering, some 2,200 One-Day Church kits had been manufactured to date and sent to congregations in Ecuador, Mozambique, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Swaziland, Chad, and Haiti.

A second dimension of the project, the One-Day School, was also introduced Sabbath morning. The One-Day School is a modified One-Day Church structure that will allow Adventist schools to spring up all around the world.

Each year, ASI is honored to further the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its supporting ministries through the ASI Convention Special Projects Offering. Last year saw a record offering of more than \$8 million. Current economic conditions had created some uncertainty, however, as to what could be expected at the 2009 convention.

Despite the uncertainty, 35 projects were prayerfully selected and a target offering of \$1,362,000 was designated. In a moving testament of faith, ASI mem-

bers pledged \$2,389,864, exceeding the target and allowing the 2009 projects to move forward as planned.



Programs for children and youth are part of every ASI Convention. These kids are working on a drawing project in the Primary program.

2009 was also an election year for ASI. During the convention, a new leadership body was elected to serve for the 2009–2011 term. The new officers introduced on Sabbath afternoon included Norman Reitz, president; Donna McNeilus, general vice president; Ramon Chow, secretary-treasurer; Terry Anderson, vice president for evangelism; Steve Dickman, vice president for recruitment; Danny Houghton, vice presi-

dent for communication; Stan Smith, vice president for finance; and Harold Lance, ASI Missions Inc. president.

The 2009 ASI Convention, with its inspirational testimonies, motivating presentations, and wonderful fellowship, blessed all who attended. It's thrilling to think what the Lord has in store for next year.

Join us for the 2010 ASI Convention, August 4-7, in Orlando, Florida. The theme will be "Inspired to Finish Strong." You and your family are sure to be inspired by next year's resources, testimonies, and presentations!

Steve Hamstra served for two years as ASI's communication director. He writes from Loma Linda, Calif.

DVDs Spread in Vietnam Like the Leaves of Autumn

DVDS are being scattered like the leaves of autumn throughout Vietnam, reaching people from all walks of life. Adventist Southeast Asia Projects (ASAP) received 2009 ASI Convention special projects offering funds to distribute 500 DVD players and DVD sermon sets to the house churches there.

In Vietnam, DVD evangelism is a powerful method of spreading the gospel. Buddhists, Catholics, Communists, Christians from other denominations, and secular people discover hidden truths in God's Word through watching Pastor Isaiah Duong's sermons and the New Beginnings DVDs in their own languages.



ASAP Lay Pastor Thanh* reports, "The ASAP missionaries in my district and I distributed more than 7,000 DVDs in the last quarter. We have to be patient when the people receive the DVDs. Some need time to think

and study the materials. We keep praying before, during, and after we give out these materials. I really thank God for very special messages in the DVDs about the mark of the beast, the truth about the Sabbath, and the false prophet. All are excellent materials to bring the truth to people."

"A high-ranking retired government officer watched one of the DVDs," reports ASAP Lay Pastor Phong.* "He liked it so much, he immediately contacted the house church, asking for more. Every morning, he plays a DVD sermon and invites those he used to work with to listen and study with him. A good group is now meeting for Bible studies."

District Evangelist Cang* shares, "It's exciting to see God bring more than 700 members into the Adventist house church movement in just the area where I work—within a nine-month period! On behalf of all the ASAP missionaries I work with and the three ethnic tribes who now accept Jesus and the Seventh-day Adventist message, I thank those who have made it possible for DVD evangelism to happen here."

To receive a free DVD featuring soul-stirring stories from Vietnam, call 1-866-365-3541 or e-mail your request

to office@asapministries.org.

**Names changed and picture blurred for the safety of God's workers in Vietnam.*

*For more information about ASAP's mission work in Southeast Asia, visit www.asapministries.org.

Bogenhofen Opens Health Evangelism Training Center

Seminar Schloss Bogenhofen received 2007 ASI Convention special projects offering funds to build facilities for a new health evangelism training program. Bogenhofen previously received project funds to build an Ellen G. White Study Center, which was completed in 2005.

The new building for the evangelism training program was finally finished in October 2009, after six months of construction. The building also houses the school's administrative offices and a new cafeteria.

Bogenhofen's new health evangelism program offers training in both NEWSTART® and certified medical massage therapy. The center includes a medical massage therapy classroom large enough for approximately 24 students, a student locker room, a sauna, and a hydrotherapy training room. The massage therapy classroom is already in use. The hydrotherapy training room will soon be completed.

"We believe from the Spirit of Prophecy that in the future it will become more important to be able to reach the world through our health message," says Thomas Küsel, business director at Bogenhofen. "The time will come when we'll be prohibited from talking openly about our faith. Then our sincere interest in the physical well being of others will open a pathway to many souls: 'In new fields no work is so successful as medical missionary work. If our ministers would work earnestly to obtain an education in medical missionary lines, they would be far better fitted to do the work Christ did as a medical missionary' (Ellen G. White, *Medical Ministry*, 239)."

Küsel thanks ASI members for supporting the "new mission field" of Western Europe.



*For more information about Bogenhofen's new health evangelism training program, visit <http://languageschool.bogenhofen.com>. For related story about the E.G. White Study Center, visit http://www.asiministries.org/news_entries/108.

ASI Abroad

ASI Europe Gaining Momentum

ASI began as a grassroots movement in Europe, just as it did in North America. It continues to gain momentum in ever-widening circles of influence as church members across Europe gain a passion for sharing Christ, one personal connection at a time.

ASI Europe is an umbrella organization that supports the establishment and activities of ASI chapters in various European countries. Angel Duo, president of ASI Europe, says, "It's very difficult to explain in words how excited I feel about the programs and activities that all our European chapters are developing." He is especially excited about the efforts of 21 ASI members who recently presented New Beginnings DVD evangelistic series in various parts of Spain, and about inroads that ASI has made in the Czech Republic,

During the 2009 ASI Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, Pastor Duo met with leaders from It Is Written, Amazing Facts, and Generation of Youth for Christ. "These ministries have a long experience in evangelism, education, and youth leadership that will help us as we implement our European projects," he says.

ASI Europe had a busy convention season this fall, beginning with ASI Portugal's very first convention, held Sept. 25–27, 2009, in Aula Magna. About 2,000 people attended the Sabbath meetings.

The following month, the ASI Hungary convention met Oct. 22–24, 2009, in Budapest. The ASI Revival Congress met concurrently in the Geneva Lake Region of Switzerland Oct. 22–25. Next came conventions held by ASI Spain in Zaragoza and ASI Germany in Erfurt. Both events met Oct. 29–Nov. 1.

The ASI Germany convention was held in the monastery where Martin Luther first encountered the concept of a gracious God through studying His Word. Highlights at that convention included learning from Australian speaker Rodney MacCallum about major breakthroughs in Adventist-Moslem relations.

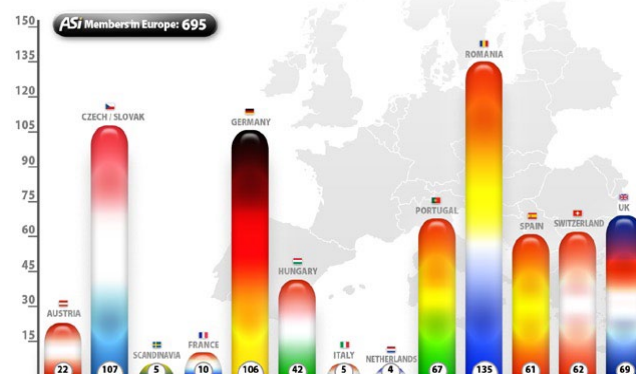
ASI United Kingdom held a special three-day event for students and young professionals Nov. 6–8 in Daventry, Northamptonshire. Although the event was open to anyone, it was specifically designed to "inspire young people with the ASI vision and to encourage them to be involved in evangelism." The annual general meeting was held on the final morning of that event.

The UK youth event represents a growing worldwide emphasis on youth evangelism projects. Significantly, many of these programs are being organized and implemented by the youth themselves.

In 2007, ASI Europe helped sponsor Charlotte Bramble, of North England, to attend the ARISE Institute for Soul-Winning and Evangelism in the United States—on the condition that she organize a Youth for Jesus program in the UK when she returned.

She kept her promise and organized a six-month YFJ program in Nottingham, England, that started in February 2009. Graduates of the evangelism training program have started teaching Bible boot camp (Bible study training) and conducting door-to-door outreach programs in their home churches.

Similar ASI youth programs have been established in many European countries. The Holy Spirit is clearly working in Europe through the committed efforts of ASI members, young and old. **Visit www.ASI-Europe.org.**



Joining the Family...

ASI Welcome!

Thanks for coming. Bring a friend!

Your Local ASI

A full season of ASI union chapter meetings is planned for the coming year. Union chapter meetings provide opportunities for ASI members to connect with each other and collaborate locally. The meetings combine the benefits of an ASI convention with the warmth of a smaller family reunion.

Best of all, if you join ASI at a union chapter meeting, you'll receive a discount on your first year's membership dues.

Upcoming ASI Union Chapter Meetings:

Atlantic Union— To be announced.

Columbia Union— March 11–14, 2010 (location in Ohio to be announced).

Lake Union— April 16–18, 2010, Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Mid-America Union— Jan. 23, 2010, Denver South Seventh-day Adventist Church;
April 8–10, 2010, Radisson Graystone Castle, Denver, Colo.

North Pacific Union— April 29–May 2, 2010, Ocean Shores Convention Center,
Ocean Shores, Wash.

Pacific Union— April 22–25, 2010, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Irvine, Calif.

Southern Union— April 8–10, 2010, Dalton Trade and Convention Center, Dalton, Ga.

Southwestern Union— February 11–14, 2010, Ozark Adventist Academy, Gentry, Arkansas.

Visit www.ASIministries.org for up-to-date information on the upcoming 2010 ASI Convention and Union chapter meetings, or to join ASI.

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This path travels through places such as China, Central Asia, the Middle East, Turkey, Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan. A special offering will be taken for this region of the world as part of the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia, on June 26 and July 3, 2010. You can also give to this offering in your local church in North America on January 30 and May 29, 2010* or online at gcsession.adventistmission.org.

Please visit our website for offering dates in your area.



2010 General Conference Session Offering

NAD: January 30, 2010 & May 29, 2010*

WORLD: April 10, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: GCSESSION.ADVENTISTMISSION.ORG

*These offering dates refer to the North American Division offering schedule, dates may vary.

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THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES!

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Join 3ABN for a celebration of 25 years of miracles, blessings, and triumphs, as 3ABN takes a look back, forward—and upward!

January 22–23, 2010

25TH ANNIVERSARY, PILLARS OF OUR FAITH, FOCUS ON RUSSIA

Location Lakeview Seventh-day Adventist Church
Powder Springs, Georgia

Special Guest John Carter, The Carter Report

May 26–29, 2010

3ABN CAMP MEETING AND PILLARS OF OUR FAITH WEEKEND

Location 3ABN Worship Center
Thompsonville, Illinois

Special Guests Lyle Albrecht, David Asscherick, Doug Batchelor, C.D. Brooks, Kenneth Cox, Jim Gilley, Bill Knott, John Lomacang, C.A. Murray, Shelley Quinn, Kenny Shelton, and David Shin



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