



SPECIAL GENERAL
CONFERENCE EDITION

Inside ASI

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

Summer 2015

**YOU HAVE DONE IT
UNTO ME**

**NOW AT THE BEST PRICE
SINCE THE 20TH CENTURY!**

LAUNCH SPECIAL

Try the new Review
for 6 months for

\$9.95

or

For a one-year
subscription

\$19.95

(regular \$26.95)

Canada

US\$19.95

or

US\$32.95

(regular US\$39.95)

Includes our
FREE app!
(Available Fall 15)

FREE print
supplement
(Kidsview)

Full access
to our **NEW**
website!

THE **NEW** REVIEW COMES WITH 4 NEW SECTIONS

Connect

How do we relate to an
eternal truth in a digital
culture?

Engage

How do we give meaning to
our lives for the sake of God's
love and grace?

News & Commentary

From North America and from
around the world.

Discover

What are the guiding
principles that make us
citizens of God's kingdom?

Completely redesigned for a
generation on the go.

Compact and sturdy to go
wherever you go.

Striking and Modern and to
be seen wherever you are!

Now **once a month!**

ADVENTIST REVIEW

THE NEW ADVENTIST REVIEW
It'll travel with you!

Order NOW by visiting our website www.adventistreview.org or call 1-800-447-7377!

Features

14 **Pathway to Health Testimonies**

by Kelly A. Kinsley, Gordon Guild, and Sherri Keith

18 **Image of Christ**

by Randy Hess

20 **Meet Eden Valley's New President**

30 **Mafgia** *by Dianne Wagner*

Departments

4 **Officer's Outlook:** Unto the Least of These

by Steve Dickman

5 **The Bottom Line:** Conquering Your Neighborhood for Christ is a Process *by Madlyn Hamblin*

8 **To Your Health:** Your Best Pathway to Health

by Chris Lewis

10 **In the Marketplace:** Living Your Faith *by Peter Lombard*

Members in Action:

11 Full Circle *by John Holbrook*

12 Sharing Christ *by Winnie Benjamin*

16 True Step Ministries *by Cheri Peters*

23 **ASI Project Reports:** Better Living / Audioverse

ASI Abroad:

24 Dunia Ya Heri *by Thomas Küsel*

26 Canvasback Missions *by Sterling Spence*

28 **New Member Highlight:** Butler Creek Health Center *by Lew Keith*



Inside ASI

ASI President: Frank Fournier

Executive Secretary– Treasurer: Kyle Allen

Editor/Vice President for Communication: Wayne Atwood

Designers: Glesni Mason and Mark Bond

Copy Editors: Melissa Summers 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

Online: www.asiministries.org

Editor's Note:

Sharing Christ in the marketplace is the goal of every ASI member. I'm inspired by the extraordinary as well as the simple ways that members of the ASI family lift Jesus up to those around them.

One method featured in this special General Conference Edition of *Inside ASI* is the amazing Your Best Pathway to Health event that was held in 2015 in San Antonio, Texas. Thousands of people received medical services who would otherwise have been untreated.

This edition of *Inside ASI* also contains other uplifting stories and articles that will help us remember that whenever we bless those around us, we do it unto Jesus. May your heart be touched and your zeal set on fire as you read the following pages.



BY STEVE DICKMAN



UNTO THE LEAST OF THESE

The crowd was gathered, the blessing was said, and the lunches began to be distributed. More people than we had anticipated kept coming. The truckload of lunches was quickly disappearing, and I had a sinking feeling that not everyone would get a lunch. Who would it be? How would they respond?

As the last few lunches found their way into grateful hands, we checked carefully to see if there were any left. Empty boxes, empty boxes. And then I was approached by a young volunteer looking for two lunches. I told him I thought they were all gone but pointed to some boxes that we could check. Sure enough, in one of the boxes we found one last lunch. He reminded me that he needed two, one for him and one for a patient. We looked again but found no more. My eyes followed him as he worked his way over to the patient and handed him the last lunch—the lunch that could have been his own—and thought to myself, “Is that generous young man Jesus? Or is the patient Jesus? Or maybe both.” The words of Jesus came quickly to my mind: “If ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me.” Yes, I had seen Jesus today in an unexpected way in an unexpected place.

Serving the underserved may cause us some discomfort and even require sacrifice. As I read the words of Jesus in Matthew 25 where He is talking about how He will separate those whom He knows from those whom He does not know, I am challenged. Jesus is found all around us today. The world is full of hungry, hurting, thirsty, naked, and sick strangers and prisoners. We are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We are called to serve the least of these my brethren. We are called to a life of service and sacrifice. To the young man who gave his lunch away, I say “Thank you. Thank you for reminding me that service to those in need involves sacrifice and that sacrifice brings joy along with it. Your smile told me more than words could ever say.”

Was that Jesus I saw? I think so.



Steve Dickman serves as ASI's vice president for membership and recruitment and is the president of Harbert Hills Academy in Savannah, Tennessee. He presented a seminar on strategic planning at the 2009 ASI Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, which can be viewed at www.asiministries.org.

CONQUERING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FOR CHRIST IS A PROCESS

BY MADLYN HAMBLIN

For many years I held a women's Bible study in my home. I felt comfortable sharing a vegetarian meal or snack, and then opening God's Word using a prepared set of lessons. Most of the ladies attending had at one time or another sought me out for friendship. I had never experienced "knocking on doors" to invite some of my more intimidating neighbors to come and study the Bible with me. I often asked my friends from church to join the group, and at times there were eight or twelve of us fellowshiping together.

With joy I watched one young mother return to her roots—the Seventh-day Adventist Church—and followed her progress through the years as she put her children in church school and became a very active member in her local congregation.

Then something sad happened. Three of the ladies (two sisters and a mother) had a terrible family feud and would not come and study if one of the others was there. This problem broke up my neighborhood Bible study group, and my Tuesday evening witnessing endeavors came to a screeching halt!

The Lord impressed me that I should reach my neighborhood for Christ, and I began paying special attention to the other families living around us. I prayed that God would show me what to do, and impressions and thoughts came to my mind.

I began sharing my delicious homemade bread and received many compliments. Whenever we held any type of social gathering (we live on a lake), I would make sure to invite the neighbors. It soon became apparent that two specific families responded to almost every gesture of friendship.

One summer evening, Becky, the wife of one of the couples, stopped by for a little chat on our back porch. We talked about our families and our gardens, and eventually the subject of religion and God came up. I was very interested to learn that Becky had a deceased aunt who

had been a Seventh-day Adventist. As we chatted, I noted that Becky had strong opinions on what to eat, the state of the dead, and why she felt it just was not important to belong to any church. Our conversation ended, and I filed away in my head some of the things she shared regarding her spiritual beliefs.

A few months later there was a death in Becky's family. I took food to them and offered to have their lawn mowed. This was deeply appreciated. That same year, the husband in the other family lost his job and they became extremely worried about finances. Our family spoke with them often, prayed for them, and shared from our garden that summer. We also offered assistance with yard maintenance, as the husband had had surgery and was not able to keep up with things around the house. We felt a deepening bond of friendship during this time.



A couple of years later our church was promoting small groups in individual homes. My husband, Ray, and I signed up to host a group, thinking no one would probably come to our home because we lived quite a distance from the church. To our surprise, two families signed up. One friend of ours wanted to bring her husband, a non-church member. We were excited about that and decided to show the videos by Lee Venden on how to have a relationship with Jesus. Because we were encouraged to invite non-church members to this group, I gathered my courage and asked the two

neighbor families to attend. To my surprise, they acted eager to come. I also invited another neighbor family, and they too accepted my invitation.

With much prayer we began to study the simple Bible truth of getting to know Jesus on a personal level. Soon Becky and her husband, Paul, wanted to include their close friends. Our group grew from six to twelve for a period of time. When our video presentations ended, we all decided to pick a book of the Bible and read through it verse by verse, commenting on the passages. This way we were not perceived as “pushing our religion on anyone.”

This group has continued now for three years, and we are enjoying a tremendous blessing. Week by week we watch spiritual growth in those who have made no commitment to Jesus and His church. When we study the Bible with secular people, it becomes easy to discern their spiritual walk and maturity. Some have previously given their lives to Jesus and others have not. Most have not yet come to know the full truth, but they are learning, step by step.

Becky asked us recently if she could invite another set of neighbors who live down the street to our weekly studies. The thought came to me that if we reach only one family initially in our neighborhoods, they in turn can reach others, including family members living in distant areas. In almost every community there are many people who won’t attend a preaching seminar or church service, but they will respond to a personal invitation to your home, or to an act of kindness.

So where does all this group study lead, you are thinking? I asked myself that same question this past winter when our pastor announced an evangelistic series at the church. I wondered whether any of our neighbors would respond, as they are very resistant to being involved with “one denomination.” However, we decided to give them a flyer anyway and encouraged them to look at the subjects and see if they saw anything they were interested in.

To our complete surprise, Becky and Paul attended nearly every meeting. We made sure to drop off to them a DVD of the meetings they missed and they watched them in their home. Just this past week they asked our pastor to come to their home and review “The State of the Dead.” You can imagine our delight as we see them moving closer to accepting the truths of the Bible.

Have they started attending church? Occasionally.

Did they request baptism? No! However, we have had the privilege of watching them grow in Christ over the past three years. We know that conversion is a process, and we have had the privilege of watching this process grow in our friends’ lives. We are not discouraged over the fact that they have not yet accepted every doctrine. We will continue inviting them to church and other events that interest them. We have come to realize that God is in control, and in His own time He will convict. That is not our job. Our job is to sow the seed and pray for God’s Holy Spirit to nourish, grow, and bring to harvest.

We are learning as we continue our Bible study group that conquering our neighborhood for Christ involves witnessing training, sowing the seed, patience, and leaving the baptisms to God!



Madlyn Hamblin is a long-time ASI member. She is the author of five books and has written hundreds of articles for various publications including *Woman’s Day*. She is the co-owner of The Hamblin Company, and enjoys planning and organizing health events for her community. She also assists her husband, Ray, in giving Bible studies to friends and neighbors.

“I was in prison, and you visited me.” Matthew 25:36

Christmas Behind Bars

Sharing Christ’s love with those behind bars not just on Christmas, but 365 days per year.



Lasting positive changes are definitely attainable through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ . . .



Donations and sponsorships are always appreciated as we continue to move forward in reaching those behind bars.

Donate online today with



Christmas Behind Bars
PO Box 474

Bluffton, IN 46714

Ph: (260) 824-3182

Contact@ChristmasBehindBars.org
facebook.com/christmasbehindbars



www.ChristmasBehindBars.org

My Bible First

Bible lessons for youth and children

ENGLISH • FRENCH • SPANISH • MANDARIN • KHMER • VIETNAMESE
HUNGARIAN • SWAHILI • KOREAN • TURKISH • NEPALI • POLISH



My Bible First!

“These lessons helped my children get anchored in the truth. —PARENT

- Reveal the plan of salvation and the great controversy from Genesis to Revelation.
- Emphasize Jesus' amazing love for each one of us.
- Ask practical thought questions throughout.
- Divided into short, daily sections.
- Filled with Scripture to look up. Study references from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. (*Ideal for Sabbath school, family worship, or personal devotions.*)
- Beautifully illustrated in full color.
- Other resources: MV booklets, teaching aids, posters, VBS, illustrated songs, music CDs, nature lessons, child evangelism, and more!

ORDERS • FREE SAMPLES • INFORMATION

Toll-free: 1.877.242.5317

mybiblefirst.org • sales@mybiblefirst.org

➤ **First-time customers:** Mention code **GC2015** to receive a free gift with your order of \$20 or more. Offer expires October 31, 2015.

PARENTS and TEACHERS do you want your children to



- understand Jesus' plan of salvation for them and be on the winning side with Him?
- know how to apply truth to their lives?
- learn how to have their own personal, daily devotions?

“ ”

My son reads well now, and I find him every morning with his lesson and his Bible feasting on the words of life.

—PARENT

Our teachers have noted increased interest and participation in Sabbath school. The kids love the lessons!

—TEACHER

YOUR BEST PATHWAY TO HEALTH

BY CHRIS LEWIS, MD

The medical care planning started fourteen months in advance—by email and teleconference. *Your Best Pathway to Health*, a service of ASI, collaborated with leadership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Adventist Health System, Loma Linda University, and many other entities to provide a free mega-clinic event in San Antonio at the Alamodome April 8-10, 2015. Pathway board members and department heads met with city officials, and God opened doors and answered prayers. The medical advisory board, as it would come to be called, met again and again to put protocols in place for evaluation, treatment, and follow-up. Obstacles came up and God moved them out of the way. Three times the Alamodome was promised for free use during the event, only to have it taken away twice. Pastors and church leaders—representatives from the General Conference, the North American Division, the Southwestern Union Conference, the Southwest Regional Conference, and the Texas Conference—met with Pathway leaders to plan the follow-up. The entire experience was an exercise in faith, as played out through the group's motto: Trust, pray and obey!

Come April, dentists shut down their busy practices, some even paying to bring their office staff to come and participate. Physicians arranged for colleagues to cover their patients. Eye doctors gave of their time that others might see clearly. In all, 1,700

Seventh-day Adventist volunteers traveled from around the country and around the world, using vacation time that might have been used for leisure and relaxation to get up early and stay late. Many were medical professionals, but many were not. Businessmen and women, computer programmers, administrators, store clerks, administrative assistants, and many others volunteered to become medical missionaries for three days in San Antonio in the very building where, in a few short weeks, between 40,000 and 70,000 Seventh-day Adventist delegates and others from around the world would come to participate in the 2015 quinquennial General Conference Session.

In early 2014, Pathway leaders set a goal to see 5,000 patients over three days. In the end, volunteers were able to serve 6,192 patients in just two-and-a-half days, including performing about 344 surgical procedures, more than 1,400 eye exams for free pairs of glasses, about 1,100 dental treatments, countless primary care and specialty examinations, about 450 haircuts, hundreds of massages, and many other services, including all patients receiving one-on-one lifestyle counseling on the eight laws of health and being offered prayer and literature in chaplaincy services. Patients so appreciated having their physical, mental, and social needs met that they voluntarily took more than 23,000 pieces of literature. Just looking at

the numbers, I believe that God blessed mightily as His people from all walks of life pressed together to serve Christ by serving “the least of these” (Matthew 25:40). However, I believe that the two most exciting results are more difficult to measure: the impact on the patients and residents from San Antonio and the impact on the volunteers themselves.

Countless patients said, “Thank-you,” to volunteers. One patient, after undergoing a surgical procedure on her shoulder, was overheard talking excitedly to her daughter on the telephone. “Los Adventistas! Los Adventistas!” she exclaimed, and then continued enthusiastically about how much she appreciated her care. Altogether, she said, “Los Adventistas!” *seven* times and told her daughter how thankful she was. Another patient, after driving for four-and-a-half hours to receive care, took all of the literature she could carry, then stayed, along with her mother, for the evening meeting where they sang hymns of praise, heard miracle stories, and listened as the Bread of Life was broken. The name “Seventh-day Adventist” was on the lips of thousands, from patients to television newscasters, from bus drivers to city officials. God’s name was lifted up in San Antonio.

Personally, I was expecting all of that. After all, I had already participated in Pathway San Francisco. What I was not expecting was the number of volunteers who talked about how *their* lives had been

changed by Pathway San Antonio. One volunteer in hospitality services, a director of a department at Loma Linda University Medical Center, said after the event was over, “I’m going home a different person. I will never be the same again!” Another said, “This event has changed me!” Someone else said, “Thank-you for allowing us to do this!” Administration at Central Texas Medical Center, the site where free surgeries were performed during the event, decided to hold an annual “free surgery day” going forward. A dentist who volunteered her skills said, “I’ve been practicing for 35 years, and I have never prayed with a patient. Now I’m going home to make up for lost time.” A highly educated nutritionist, in practice for many years, became convicted during the event that she had been teaching the health message apart from the saving love of Jesus Christ. She asked for prayer as she embarked on a new direction in life. Ultimately, 1,700 people went home from San Antonio on fire to share Jesus through service to others. I think that is *Your Best Pathway to Health*.



Chris Lewis graduated from Loma Linda University School of Medicine and attended General Surgery residency at Phoenix Integrated Surgical Residency. He has a busy general surgery practice in California and is actively involved in health evangelism on multiple levels.



living your faith



BY PETER LOMBARD

About a year and a half ago, I made the decision to work with a mastermind group of small business owners from around the country. Early on, I made it very clear that Sabbath was a day set aside for God, family, and rest. It was something I wasn't going to forsake, even to compete in growth challenges. With raised eyebrows, everyone agreed to let me have the day off. One of the events I was encouraged to attend was over a weekend in Las Vegas, and I agreed to go with the understanding that during the Sabbath hours I would not be participating. As I left the event Friday evening, one of my peers, a Mormon, asked if he could

treat me to dinner and learn more about my church that I was so passionate about. The next evening, as I returned to the event, he approached me and asked if he could borrow my rental car because, after our conversation, he was so impressed by my commitment that he had decided for himself to stop working on Sunday and start keeping it as he believed it should be.

That was a year ago. To this day, it is understood that any event that occurs over the weekend I will not participate on Sabbath. Thanks to the divine inspiration of conversations between business peers, attitudes have gone from questioning why I would sacrifice an entire day of potential productivity to outright support for keeping the Sabbath and the values I hold dear to my heart. Regardless of their background, my business peers support me in my goal to grow my business around my beliefs and values. Conversations around the boardroom, in the pool, or in the car often turn to asking about my beliefs and who Adventists are, opening the opportunity for me to share.

While not the typical marketplace, these peers and industry leaders are watching me and observing the choices I make on a personal and professional level. Every day, God gives me opportunities to reflect Him. I believe that God is leading me and my business, not only in ways of success but also in small ways to use relationships to build bridges and share.



Be In Good Health
Utilizing the Laws of Health

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. — 3 John 2

Providing Education and Resources for Optimal Health

- Biblically-based Counseling
- Lifestyle Consultations
- Seminars
- Training

By Phone or Skype

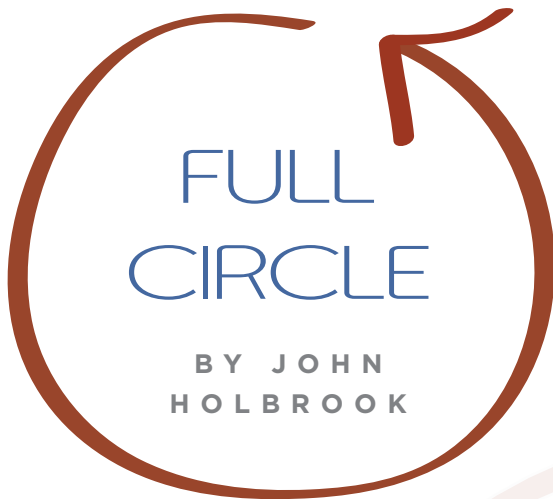
Bringing the gospel of release from suffering

Contact us today, and Be In Good Health

Phone: 678.561.7512
Email: info@bingoodhealth.com
Web: bingoodhealth.com



Peter Lombard founded Insouciance Abroad out of a passion for music and travel. He is committed to bringing vast expertise and attention to detail to simplify travel and create experiences that profoundly impact both travelers and their communities.



The little boy lay limply in his mother's arms. I could tell immediately that he was on death's doorstep. The family had heard that the Adventist missionaries had powerful medicine, but when they arrived in our village they found that my parents were gone on a month-long trip, and I was the only missionary home.

The year was 2000. We were phasing out of our completed Adventist Frontier Missions project among the Alangan people, and my dad transitioned to his new role as an AFM field director. While my parents were away on business, I had stayed behind in our village to keep working on school. I was just a teenager back then, but my mom had taught me many principles of medical diagnosis and treatment, and I was running the clinic. It was immediately apparent to me that this little boy would probably not leave my front porch alive.

Poring over our diagnostic books, I selected the most likely diagnosis. I gave the parents the appropriate medicine and prayed over the dying little boy. With hardly a word, they turned and walked away, leaving me to pray that I had chosen the medicine correctly, that it wasn't too late, and that God would intervene. I never heard from those parents again. That was 15 years ago, and I had completely forgotten about the incident—until two nights ago.

I am teaching a baptismal class right now for a group of Tawbuid who want to become Christians. One of my candidates is a young Alangan man. I inadvertently introduced him to his future wife when I took her and a group of other Tawbuid believers to an Alangan camp meeting two years ago. The couple

moved back here to Balangabong, and when I started teaching the baptismal class he joined immediately.

That evening before class, he told me that as a child he had nearly died. His parents had taken him to the missionaries, but they were disappointed to find only their teenage son. His parents hadn't held out much hope, but he had recovered miraculously. Through the years, as his parents told him the story over and over, he knew that someday he must devote his life to the God of that missionary kid, if only he could find him. Now, all these years later, God had brought us back together, and he knew it was time to fulfill his pledge and surrender his heart to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



John Holbrook lived and worked with his AFM missionary parents among the Alangan tribe on the Philippine island of Mindoro from 1994 to 2002. In 2009 he returned to Mindoro with AFM to pioneer a new ministry to a neighboring unreached tribe, the isolated Tawbuid people. John is one of several second-generation AFM missionaries who have followed in their parents' footsteps to advance Christ's Gospel

Commission among the unreached. Second-generation missionaries are uniquely equipped for their calling. Having grown up in cross-cultural contexts, they possess cultural understanding, language abilities, adaptability, and other life skills that greatly enable their ministry.

WE PRINT CUSTOM T-SHIRTS

- Churches
- Ministries
- Pathfinders
- Mission Trips
- Camps Meetings
- Conferences
- Group Events
- Corporate

Printed in
Houston, TX

GET 25% OFF
ENTIRE ORDER FOR MISSION TRIPS!

SHARING CHRIST

BY WINNIE BENJAMIN

I have a passion for making Scripture relevant and palatable to leaders in the marketplace. As a Seventh-day Adventist Christian taking to heart the message found in 1 Peter 2:9, I decided to step boldly into the darkness of society to lead those imprisoned there into the Marvelous Light.

Moving forward by faith, I opened a meeting space where clients could receive training in Stewardship Masters International Inc.'s six core classes: Understanding Biblical Principles; How To Make Sound Decisions Using Biblical



Principles; Learning The Effective Way Of Building Great Relationships; Understanding and Applying The 8 Laws of Health; Understanding and Expanding Emotional Intelligence; and The Art of Earning and Managing Finances.

SMI was originally created to solve a burgeoning social dilemma that seems to be spiraling out of control. This dilemma has much to do with ineffective leadership in our society today.

I remember clearly when Kevin came in to find out more about what we do. He got excited and said he had found what he had been searching for. He was a very successful business accountant who had fallen from social graces and had lost everything except life itself. I asked, "How do you see us helping you?"

Kevin responded, "I believe you

can help me find my spirituality," which I interpreted to mean God. He said he had never been to church or even opened a Bible.

I enrolled Kevin in our Bible-based personal growth and development program. He got excited and signed up for our Amazing Facts Bible Certificate program. He was so excited to learn more of Christ. I explained our 28 fundamental beliefs and how church standards support growth of one's emotional/spiritual maturity.

Kevin noticed that although I was facing economic struggle to keep the space open, I remained peaceful and serene. I told him that is an example of what God can do in our lives when we put our trust in Him. He then requested to be baptized. Ironically, one year later to the day, Kevin was offered a senior accountant position at a fine dining restaurant, receiving more income than he had expected since he had been out of work for so long.

What amazes Kevin most is that the church members thought he was an Adventist already. I praise God for allowing me to teach an unchurched marketplace leader what it means to sustainably prosper in the likeness of Jesus Christ.



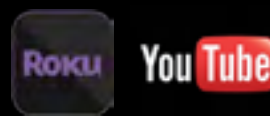
Winnie Benjamin is certified by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists as a Consultant to Declining Churches and Non-Profit Leadership as well as certified by John C. Maxwell as Leadership Coach and Trainer. She is passionate in supporting

the personal growth and spiritual development of human beings. She has been trained in Christian Shwartz's Natural Church Development System and is currently the program director for Stewardship Masters International Inc. in Queens, New York.



Unlocking Truth brings quality Christian-focused programming designed to share the truth of God's love to people of every nation.

Find us on



<https://www.roku.com/youtube.com/user/UnlockingTruth>

or UnlockingTruth.org



A global **health and family** ministry for integrated **balanced living** designed to train and equip **medical and family missionaries**.



- researched based
- gospel centered
- heart touching
- 29 presentations
- 3 book series
- 29 languages
- new book:
Jesus—Who is He?

www.winwellness.org
GC Exhibit C1733

Nature's Remedies...

Real

Help
People
Miracles



Hope

Uchee Pines
Improving Health...One Choice at a Time.

ucheepines.org 877-UCHEEPINES Booth B207

Miracle Meadows School relocates to Blue Ridge, Georgia

*Serving At-Risk Students
since 1988*

Urgent Pre-opening Needs:

Repair / Remodel Buildings
Clear Trash, Trees, Trails
Volunteer Alone or With Groups
Financial and In-Kind Gifts

Staffing Needs:

Academic / Chaplain
Administration / Finance
Deans / Dorm Staff
Maintenance / Mechanics
Grounds / Food Service

304-782-3628/3630 ~ info.miraclemeadows@gmail.com

Member: ASI, OCI, EASEA, TLF, Nationally Accredited

PATHWAY TO HEALTH TESTIMONIES

Kelly A. Kinsley, MD

She had been standing in lines for more than six hours, plagued with a large lesion on her chin. “That is so gross!” she had been told. “Get it fixed and maybe we will hire you,” others had said. It had cost her three jobs, and she found it difficult to look people in the eyes; she knew what they were thinking.

“Are you the dermatologist?” she quietly asked. “Yes, I am. How may I help you?” I replied. For three years, a draining cyst had festered on her chin. She had seen multiple doctors and was told it would cost her a thousand dollars to have it removed. She didn’t have the money, and no one would help.

“Let’s get that off,” I told her.

“Today?” she asked.

“Right now!” I responded.

Her eyes widened, filling with tears, her hands covering her mouth in disbelief.

We laid her down on a camping cot. Crouching down next to her, I adjusted the very small light and prepped her chin. With excitement and disbelief she kept saying over and over again, “This is going to change my life...because of you my life will never be the same...” All the while, I was trying to remove the cyst from her chin. I gently requested that she pause for a moment while I did the portion of the procedure that required a non-moving mandible. She stopped but was still smiling—really big.

The cyst came out very easily and intact. “Thank you Lord,” I said to myself. After placing the last suture, I removed the surgical drape that covered her face. She knew we were done and once again began to repeat how this was going to change her life.

After bandaging and instructions, I knew it was time to say what God had been pressing upon my heart. “I know that having this cyst gone will change your life and open up opportunities, and I am so thankful to have had the privilege to help you today. But there is something I need to tell you. It is not because of me that your life will be different. It is because of God. He is the one that made it possible for me to be here, and He is the one that brought you here. So you see it is because of God that your cyst is gone. What we did here today will make a difference, but the only One who can really change a life is Jesus. He has changed my heart and life, and I know He can do the same for you.”

Her eyes got big and moist with tears again. “May I pray with you?” I asked.

“Yes,” she said. And we did.



Dr. Gordon Guild

Our family practice cubical for *Your best Pathway to Health* was being dismantled when the last patient drove his electric wheelchair into my cubical, accompanied by his wife and two young sons. A truck accident in 2012 had left this young man in his early 30s a quadriplegic. He was a God-send for me. As a rehab physician, I was able to examine him and answer many of his concerns. He told me that he had seen multiple physicians without a glimmer of hope, and had even told one physician who was negative about his paralytic condition to leave his room. He said to me, “You are the first physician who has given me any hope. God sent you just for me.”

“No” I replied, God sent you just for *me!* You are going to see further function in your arms and hands, and with God’s healing and your determination you will walk again. God healed a paralytic, and He can heal you according to His will.”

I saw many patients, but if I’d only seen him the trip would have been worth it. With tears in our eyes, we prayed together and said our goodbyes.



Sherri Keith, RN

This was my very first mission trip! I had always wanted to go, but I had put everything in front of saying “yes” to God. I saw Dr. Chris and Dr. Lela Lewis on 3ABN one Sabbath. My husband said to me, “You should go.” I had a million reasons not to go, but with my husband’s encouragement and financial support I submitted my vacation request at work with the promise that I would go and serve my Lord if He would open the doors. Within a couple of days I had the time off. This was confirmation enough for me! I am a surgical nurse, and I really wanted to use the skills that God has provided me with, so I was happy to be placed in surgical services. There I helped set up the stations and then helped to organize and separate

some of the donated supplies.

Wednesday morning when I walked into the Alamodome, I could feel God’s presence! This was just what I was seeking to serve others. I worked with a wonderful plastic surgeon, Dr. Jonathan Freed, and I met two beautiful young ladies from Weimar! They are interested in the medical field and also possibly in nursing. I was deeply impressed with Dr. Freed as he shared with the two young ladies about their future. It is refreshing to see a genuine, caring doctor! He cared equally about each person we saw, and we always prayed with them. One patient allowed me to take his picture with the students. He was quite happy to have a lipoma removed from the left side of his head. He was so happy he could hardly wait to tell his wife! The young ladies took a selfie with Dr. Freed and myself. I truly enjoyed this mission trip. Every evening I talked with my husband, and he was thrilled at what we were accomplishing for the Lord. I believe that I received more blessings than anyone else! Miracle after miracle I witnessed God’s hand! Now I know what it truly means to step out on faith and let God lead. See you in Spokane!

TRUE STEP MINISTRIES

BY CHERI PETERS

My workplace often includes prisons, which personally I love because I myself found Christ in the midst of some incredibly dark places. Recently, I gave my testimony at a women's prison. At first they didn't want to listen. They wanted to push God aside because the language of the wounded is anger, acting out, and addiction. It's almost as if we're telling the world that we've given up. You could see that in the faces of those women.

As I talked, they realized that I came from the same places they came from and that I've had the same pain. I told them I wasn't loved by my mom. My mom was wounded herself and didn't know how to give me anything. When I said, "You know what? I still love her," most of them teared up because they have children on the outside and would love to hear their child say, "I still love you and I forgive you."

I watched their faces as the Holy Spirit moved over the group. I wish I could take you inside that prison, on the other side of the bars with guards standing at the doors. That environment screams anything but freedom, but just then, with the Holy Spirit hovering over the group, freedom was all they heard. When I finished speaking, we were like family. We hugged and cried and prayed together. It seemed that the bars and the guards and the pain vanished, and there was only hope—hope that there's a God who can restore us to sanity, who knows us, and who is calling, "Come home."

One woman was the head of one of the most intense gangs in her country. She had a copy of my book, "Miracle From the Streets," in her hand and wanted it signed for her daughter. She said her daughter had forgiven her. It made her cry, which was really difficult for her because she's the tough girl. She's the girl who has to enforce things in the prison. She can't show any vulnerability or weakness. But she cried, and I held her, and the more she relaxed in my arms, the more the tears came. Then the Holy Spirit nudged me, and I asked her, "Are you ready to forgive

your mother?" Suddenly she got serious and everything changed! The bravado came back and the anger, and she said, "Absolutely not! I will never forgive my mother!"

I said, "Then you'll never be free. God assures us that He'll forgive us beyond what we could imagine, but He asks, to the same extent He forgives you, that you forgive those who have hurt you, however deeply."

We stared at each other, and all the bars and the guards came back into focus. You could feel it so intensely. I think the guards stood up because they thought she might kill me! She had a choice to make—the choice of forgiveness. She looked at me, and suddenly she softened. The transformation was absolutely a miracle! She said, "I'm ready."

I led her in a prayer of forgiveness. There were times she couldn't say the words because of the tears. At some points she had to stop and think about what she was forgiving her mom for. After the prayer, I said, "I want you to hand all of the pain to God. Place it at the foot of the cross, because Jesus Himself said, 'I will carry this burden for you. I died so you no longer have to carry it. I died so you no longer have to be in bondage to it.'" She gave it to Him, and it was done!

We stood up and held each other, and she looked at me like, "What just happened? I am not the same person!" I wanted to say to her, "I absolutely know that because I remember the moment when I was no longer the same person! I pray you remember that moment for yourself."

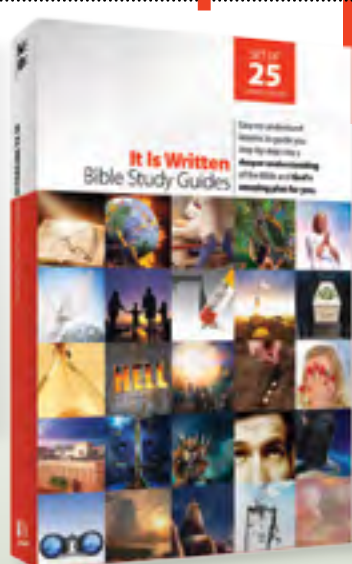
If you still have forgiveness work to do, do it. If you need help, contact our ministry (truestep.org). Let's work on that stuff, because Jesus died to set us free.



Cheri Peters is the founder of True Step Ministries (truestep.org). Her organization provides the Celebrating Life in Recovery 12-step program, with resources to help people step into recovery.

Gain a deeper

understanding



**NOW ALSO
IN SPANISH!**

FREE

FREE SHIPPING

Use code **ASI15** when you order

ORDER TODAY!

1-888-664-5573 • Mon–Thu, 8:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m. ET

➤ Answer key included

➤ All the major teachings in 25 lessons

➤ Each lesson can be used independently

An innovative event YOU can use to win souls! Plan now!



Bring Pastor John Bradshaw into your home or church to share with your friends and family insights and applications from Revelation.

1. **Get the app**
2. **Show your friends**
3. **Invite them to learn with you**

Be part of the next generation of evangelistic outreach by internet, smart phone, tablet, or television.

Plan now to participate through interactive media and by hosting the event! Watch for more details in coming weeks!

REVELATION
TODAY
**THE
MYSTERIES
REVEALED**



**ONLINE OCTOBER 9–24, 2015
LIVE FROM CHATTANOOGA**

and **ON DEMAND** at
RevelationToday.com



IT IS WRITTEN

PO Box 6, Chattanooga, TN 37401 • 423-362-5800
itiswritten.com • revelationtoday.com

facebook.com/itiswritten • twitter.com/itiswritten

IMAGE OF CHRIST



BY RANDY HESS

The second coming of Christ and the resurrection are the hope of the Christian. It is what the apostles pointed forward to and eagerly anticipated. Jesus told us in Revelation that He was coming quickly, and certainly no one is more anxious than God to bring an end to sickness, suffering, sin, and death. Why, then, has Christ not returned? What is He waiting for?

The answer we usually give is found in Matthew 24:14: “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations, and then the end shall come.” We have a long way to go to get the gospel to every person as we have been told to do and as prophecy says must happen. I have even heard ministers state that Christ could not come back for at least thirty to forty years, because we can’t get the gospel to every language and people group in less time than that.

While it is certainly true that the gospel will be preached in all the world, to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, it is also true that the final movements will be rapid ones. We usually quote this passage when we’re talking about the mark of the beast and the actions of nations on the side of Satan, but God is faster and more powerful than the devil, and I believe that His work will meet that description just as much, if not more. We are told that God is going to take the reins of the work in His own hands. He is not constrained by human limitations and human inadequacies. He can finish the work of spreading the gospel faster than we can imagine.

I am sure we have all heard or read the stories of missionaries going to remote jungle villages and being welcomed by people who say, “You have finally come. We have been waiting for you.” When the missionaries arrive they find the village already clean and free of

spirit worship. The stories often tell of a chief who had a vision in which an angel gave him instructions, which they followed. The chief was also told that the people of the Book would come, and that they would teach them more truth than they should follow.

There are also recent stories from Adventist World Radio about villages in the mountains of the Middle East where missionaries cannot officially go, but the villages are clean; the villagers are keeping the Sabbath and worshipping God. The village chiefs tell of a tall stranger dressed in white that brought them a radio, tuned it to AWR, and told them to listen to that station, because it would teach them truth. When I heard these stories a few years ago, there were approximately two hundred villages of about a thousand people each where everyone was following the teachings of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church proclaimed through AWR on radios that had been brought to them in this way.

God does not need our help to take the gospel to the world. He can and does at times use angels, visions, and dreams, and who knows what else. We should not be so proud to think that we are indispensable to the work of God. That does not mean that there won’t be people lost if we don’t do our assigned work, or that people won’t be saved if we do share Christ with them. Certainly there are people whom no other person on earth can reach, and it is our responsibility to reach them. God gives us responsibility and asks us to play a part in His work. It is, nevertheless, His work, and He does not need our help to take the gospel to the world.

What, then, is He waiting for? He is waiting for the restoration of that which was lost: the image of God in man.

“When the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come”

(Mark 4:29). Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own.

It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for, but also to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:12, margin). Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel. Quickly the last great harvest would be ripened, and Christ would come to gather the precious grain” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 69).

God is waiting for us to be ready. God’s problem is not so much finishing the work of taking the gospel to the world; His problem is finishing the work of the gospel in our hearts. He has not given us the work for the salvation of souls because He needs us to do it, but rather, because we need to do it.

“God could have reached His object in saving sinners without our aid; but in order for us to develop a character like Christ’s, we must share in His work. In order to enter into His joy—the joy of seeing souls redeemed by His sacrifice—we must participate in His labors for their redemption” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 142).

We have here a type of positive feedback loop. When we give our lives to Christ, He changes our characters and we long to win souls to Him. As we work for souls, our characters become molded more into His image. As our characters are molded into His image, we have a greater burden for souls. This feedback loop gets broken when we let our devotional life slide, when we get too involved in earning a living, too caught up in self-indulgence, pleasure, and leisure, or when we become proud and self-righteous.

Many times in our churches, God cannot give the success He would love to give because, if He brought some of the people into the church that He is working to save, we would blow them right back out with our criticism, fault-finding, murmuring, bickering, complaining, and our lack of zeal for the cause of Christ. The witness of our self-pleasing, ease-loving, self-serving ways, or our

attempts to control others and be their conscience would also repel these dear people. We need Christ to transform us through the work of the Holy Spirit so that we can be effective soul-winners, united in love, nurturing one another and allowing others the freedom to grow in their own walk with Christ.

“All true obedience comes from the heart. It was heart work with Christ. And if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses. The will, refined and sanctified, will find its highest delight in doing His service. When we know God as it is our privilege to know Him, our life will be a life of continual obedience. Through an appreciation of the character of Christ, through communion with God, sin will become hateful to us” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 668).

This is what He came to do—to restore that which was lost. Primarily what was lost through sin was the image of God in man. Speaking of Christ, the book of Hebrews says, “Who being the brightness of his glory and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high” (Hebrews 1:3). Christ was the “express image” of the Father. The word translated “express image” is the word character. This is the image of God that Christ came to restore in man. When it is restored, He will come to claim us as His own.

Why are we still here? Why hasn’t Christ returned? Don’t look so much to the unreached masses and think of the time it will take to reach them. Instead, look in the mirror and ask the Lord to help you be more focused upon Him, His Word, His character, and His work. Ask Him to help you overcome those defects in your character. Ask Him to help you cooperate with Him and allow Him to complete the gospel work in your heart. Seek Him with all your heart. If we do that, and Christ can finish the work in our hearts, the work in the world will wrap up quickly, and Christ will come to claim us as His own.



Randy Hess has a BS in Physical Science from PUC and a BA in Pastoral Ministries from Mission College of Evangelism. He owns and operates Hess Technology Services, Inc. and 7 & 4 Realty, and is a lay preacher. He and his wife, Adriana, have three children—Jessica, Andrew, and Christopher.

MEET EDEN VALLEY'S NEW PRESIDENT

Eden Valley (EV): How did you become interested in natural medicine?

Daniel McKibben (DM): I was born and raised in Denver, Colorado, as a Roman Catholic in a family with ten siblings. When I was 12 years old, I wanted to be a priest so I could get close to God. A few years later, my life was turned around by several events. My oldest sister was diagnosed with a brain tumor and given eighteen months to live. At the same time, my 27-year-old brother was diagnosed with arthritis so severe that he couldn't bend one knee, and he also had sinusitis that needed surgical intervention. My sister opted for chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery. Every chemo treatment was so traumatic. She would come home and vomit for the next three days. And after eighteen months, she died. My brother, on the other hand, had started dating a vegan woman, who helped him change his diet. His health issues, which admittedly were much milder than my sister's, cleared up without any medical intervention. I realized that "There are many ways of practicing the healing art ... God's remedies are the simple agencies of nature that will not tax or debilitate the system through their powerful properties." (*Counsels on Diet and Foods*, p. 301) So I began to seek a better lifestyle.

EV: You mentioned you wanted to be a priest so you could get close to God. How has He fulfilled the desire to get close to Him?

DM: I pursued the New Age movement and began using marijuana as I searched for spiritual fulfillment. By the time I reached my early twenties I was lost and I knew it. I cried out to God. Then my truck broke down and I took it to the most honest mechanic I knew. He happened to be a Seventh-day Adventist. I was a vegetarian at the time, and very interested in herbs and natural remedies. He didn't just fix my truck. This mechanic and his family ministered to my physical needs using natural remedies, and then gave me Bible studies until I became a baptized member of their church! Jesus used healing as a ministry so effectively. For example, John 6:2 says, "And a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His miracles which He did, on them that were diseased." I now had a passion for lost

souls, and since the health message had been so powerful in bringing me to Christ, I wanted to use it for the same purpose. So I studied herbal, natural, and massage therapy.

EV: How did you become acquainted with Eden Valley?

DM: Eden Valley called me and asked me to work as a lifestyle therapist in their Lifestyle Center. I accepted the job offer and was soon promoted to Lifestyle Center Director. I lived at Eden Valley for ten years before I got married and moved away.

EV: What did you and your wife do then?

DM: We initially trained at the Amazing Facts College of Evangelism and then worked as medical missionary Bible workers in Decatur, Arkansas. While there, my wife and I started a small health ministry that has subsequently grown into a thriving lifestyle center (<http://www.wellnesssecrets4u.com/>).

EV: Why did you move from Decatur, Arkansas?

DM: My wife, Nerida, is a physician from New Zealand. In order to maintain her license, she needed to move back to her home country. So we packed up and moved to New Zealand for the next ten years. While there I had the privilege and opportunity to do full-time pastoral ministry.

EV: When did you return to the United States?

DM: In 2012 the Hope Channel asked Nerida to host a new health program, called, "Go Healthy ... for Good."

EV: God's ways are mysterious. How does it feel to be back to Eden Valley?

DM: I am very glad to be here. After much prayer and consideration, we believe that it is God who has called me. It is a privilege to serve Eden Valley as president.



MARANATHA VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL

NEARING HOME

A Weekend Celebrating World Missions

OCTOBER 2-3, 2015



**ROLLING HILLS
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

3550 SW BORLAND ROAD
TUALATIN, OREGON

FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

SABBATH, 10:00 A.M. & 2:30 P.M.

Free Admission & Lunch



**FEATURING
MUSICAL GUEST
Wintley Phipps**

www.maranatha.org/convention

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SEMINARS
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING AVAILABLE SABBATH
REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED

MARANATHA
VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL





MEETING *your* NEEDS



LIFESTYLE CENTER



NATURAL AGRICULTURE



PUBLIC HEALTH EVANGELISM



TRAINING SCHOOL



PUBLISHING

"M.E.E.T. Ministry is a multi-faceted ministry that includes "Our Home" Lifestyle Center, Natural Agriculture, Public Health Evangelism, Onsite and Global Medical Missionary Training Schools, and a Publishing and Herbal Industry. We conduct seminars all over the world, covering all seven continents in an effort to answer the *Macedonian cry* of Acts 16:9-10 and to declare the last message of warning to a *dying* world."

Join Us! Let's **MEET** the needs...

MEET MINISTRY | 480 Neely Lane, Huntingdon TN 38344 | 731.986.3518

www.meetministry.org



Better Living Ministry (Mieux Vivre)

Better Living Ministry (Mieux Vivre) was founded in Québec, Canada, in 2009. Our goal is to produce culturally-sensitive radio and television programming in French. There are very few resources available in French, especially compared to the materials available in English or Spanish. Our programming has been aired on 3ABN, Hope Channel and is offered free of charge on our website.

Thanks to ASI and other supporters, Better Living Ministry launched a media training program designed to help young people to learn to use media to answer the Gospel Commission. Our first training program started in January 2014. We hit the ground running because we had just moved into a new facility when the training program started. The first thing the students learned was how to build a computer. They would use that computer a lot over the next year!

As the year progressed, students acquired skills such as operating a video camera, video editing, live production, script writing, set design, content delivery, website development, and graphic design for web, video, and print.

Our most ambitious project was producing 52 episodes of *Conviction*, a series designed for young people ages 18 to 25;

26 episodes were recorded in French and 26 episodes in English. Some of our students were even presenters in the series. Students quickly learned how much work is involved in video production.

Another large project we worked on was website development. We had the opportunity of building several websites where students learned the important aspects of harnessing the power of the web.

As we worked on projects together, we grew closer as a team. We had many opportunities to share spiritual thoughts in our daily group Bible study. We prayed for the angels to accompany us through the day, and we felt the presence of the Holy Spirit as we went about our daily activities. We saw the power of God touch young people's lives and inspire them to make a full commitment.

Our next media training program begins September 8, 2015. If you are a spiritually-minded young person who is passionate about serving God and has a keen interest in media ministry, we would love to have you join us. For more information, visit betterlivingministry.org.

AudioVerse

The 2014 funding from ASI went toward redesigning a new website for AudioVerse. Being an online ministry, continued investment was necessary in the technology platform to keep it compliant and efficient with new Internet technologies. The result has been a much more robust infrastructure underlying the website and also a vastly improved experience for the tens of thousands of users around the world to more easily access the powerful truths of God's Word.

Here are just a few of the major developments that were enabled through the funds from ASI:

- **Mobile Responsive Design.** The website was redesigned to be more intuitive and attractive to the end user, but more importantly, it now automatically adjusts itself to fit to any sized screen, whether a full-sized computer or a small smartphone.
- **New User Features.** Scores of features were implemented that made the user experience more custom-tailored to each individual user, with features like social media login options, custom playlist creation, favorites, and history.

- **Improved Search.** With the burgeoning library of content, a vastly improved search function was incorporated into the new site. Users can find content much more accurately now, especially with the filtering tools that are enabled as well.
- **Transcriptions.** Our audio files are now also auto-transcribed into text to enhance search engine traffic and user interaction.
- **Cloud-based Network.** We were able to migrate our dated servers into the cloud where we have lower costs, more scalability, and much higher reliability.
- **Improved Media Delivery.** Our media delivery channels were also updated to be positioned for high-bandwidth content as media content quality and file sizes continue to increase.

AudioVerse is very grateful to the ASI family for providing the funds necessary to conduct such a thorough update and redesign to our web platform. On behalf of the thousands around the world who benefit from these improvements every day, we want to say, "THANK YOU!"

DUNIA YA HERI LAND OF BLESSING

BY THOMAS KÜSEL

We met him in November. His name is Kaleb. We decided to give him this name. Nobody knows exactly when he was born, but when we first saw him we estimated that he was around two weeks old. The morning before, somebody had found him lying near the railway tracks. He was fortunate. He was brought to one of the local orphanages. Kaleb is not the only child suffering abandonment. In some of the African countries of the Sub-Saharan region, more than 30 percent of the population is infected with HIV. Whole generations of parents are dying from AIDS, leaving their children behind. Often, their family members are not able to take care of them.

Because each child is unique and precious, we would like to give children like Kaleb a home and establish an orphanage so they will have a chance of becoming contributing members of society. Children are important to God. On many occasions we can see that Jesus takes special care of and interest in children. On one of these occasions he invites them by saying, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them. For to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.” This should be an example for us.

We called this project “Dunia Ya Heri,” which means “Land of Blessing” in Swahili. This name expresses the idea we have in mind—a fruitful and fertile piece of land that shall come as a blessing to many children. Ideally, orphans will be admitted as babies or toddlers, and just like in any other family they should be cared for until the

time when they have completed their education and are able to take full responsibility for their own lives.

In order to provide a family atmosphere, “Dunia Ya Heri” wants to limit its capacity to approximately 60 children. If, in the long run, more space will be needed, an additional orphanage would have to be constructed.

Of all the countries that need humanitarian aid, we chose Tanzania. Despite its political stability, Tanzania is not the strongest country economically. Even though recent developments are very encouraging, the number of individuals infected by AIDS is still very high. As a

result, Tanzania has approximately one million AIDS orphans. Only a small number of these children can be helped by means of private or governmental initiatives.

As we were looking for a suitable place for “Dunia ya Heri,” we became aware of a piece of land that was not too far from the “House of Peace,” as the city of Dar es Salaam is called. The purchase of the property was finalized in November of 2014.

The property meets some important criteria:

- There are 12 acres of rolling land with sufficient space for all of the buildings of the orphanage.
- The soil is fertile and suitable for the cultivation of fruit trees and vegetables.
- Within its vicinity there is a primary and a secondary school which could be used for our children during the first few years until we set up our own school.
- For medical emergencies there is a small clinic in the nearby village of Yale Yale Puna.



- In 2015 the property will be connected to a public power supply.

Our faith in God gave us the courage to start with this ambitious project. We ask God to lead us all the way, because “unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.”

Within the next few months the construction of the first buildings for the orphanage will involve intensive work. Despite this vast amount of work, we have set ourselves the goal of receiving the first orphans during the first half of 2016.

Some individuals from our team will move to Tanzania in order to dedicate their lives to this project. They will work together with the local population and try to give people a chance to find hope and courage in their lives—to help them make their lives once

again worth living, not only for the years to come but especially for eternity.

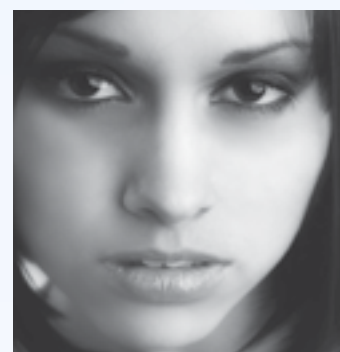
“Dunia ya Heri” is a German NGO founded by Adventist laymen, with a branch in Tanzania. “Dunia ya Heri” is also a member of ASI Germany.

Thomas Küsel, after a career at Lever Brothers and Procter & Gamble in the field of international marketing and strategic company development, began to work for the church at the Swiss-Austrian senior college Seminar Schloss Bogenhofen as vice president for Administration and Finance.



Thomas and his wife, Beate, have three grown children.

Thomas and Beate have spent a few years in Africa running an orphanage for AIDS orphans, as well as a health care center designed to reach non-Adventist Europeans, Americans, and upper-class Tanzanians who would like to spend their vacation where they can learn more about health.



THE HOPE OF SURVIVORS

UNDERSTANDING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AMONG SPIRITUAL LEADERS

Booth **B226**
at GC Session

TheHopeOfSurvivors.com

agible

everything is possible




app features

- streaming v
- alerts
- GPS maps
- Android & Apple
- in-app purcha

some of
our clients






contact us with your app needs
www.agible.com ~ info@agible.com

CANVASBACK MISSIONS

BY STERLING SPENCE

Being an Adventist business person isn't an easy task, nor should we expect it to be. After all, at its finest, what we do in the world is the continuation of God's mission. That means we must be missionaries, navigating the line between secular business practice and a commitment to the gospel.

We've all seen promotional videos for charitable organizations that open with sad music and soft focus on barefoot children playing around garbage, or perhaps they start with a black background and white words, listing statistics of disease rates in a country across the sea. The people served are shown as needy and sad. The message is that all of this could be turned around with our help. The music shifts to being a little bit more upbeat. The narrator says something like, "We're making a difference. For a small donation you can give a kid a smile. Won't you give?"

It's a tried and true fundraising formula. It works for animal rescues, inner-city after-school programs, and especially overseas aid work. It works because it pulls on our heartstrings, but it also plays on a sense of superiority. There is, perhaps, something about this formula that misses a Christian notion of human dignity. The child is presented not as a person but as a problem. The defining feature is her need, or his disease. Yet, that isn't the way God has called us to see each other. Christian business people are committed to seeing those they serve as God sees them.

Adventists are a Christ-oriented people. At the heart of our belief is the idea that the infinite, triune God found us to be valuable and thought that humanity was worthwhile. So the divine came in the Advent, incarnated in human form, and entered into this small, broken world by bringing wholeness. In this act, God has affirmed our humanity and said that creation has value.

I work for Canvasback Missions, and this is an idea we've been wrestling with for a long time. How do we portray people as God sees them? Canvasback has been in the Micronesian Islands for more than 30 years. We provide specialty medical care for hospitals,

as well as run a full-time wellness center on the island of Majuro that strives to reverse an epidemic of type 2 diabetes through diet, exercise, and agriculture. Like all organizations, we've learned some things in that time.

One of my favorite stories comes from the early days of the mission, back in the late 80s. In the beginning, Canvasback was bringing doctors to remote islands by ship. American doctors would fly out, board the ship, and off we'd go. They'd get seasick and spend the voyage vomiting over the side. As we neared our destination, they'd look up with hazy eyes and see lines of people waiting on the coconut tree-lined beaches to see them. In one of these crowds, on the island of Namonuito, stood Kiki Always, the health assistant.

Some of the outer islands were equipped with a small dispensary, a building with a health assistant who had gone through a few months training after high school, a radio to contact the main island, and some pills. It would have been so easy to dismiss this whole operation. To our foreign eyes, it looked like an island of half-naked folks, with an under-trained health official just waiting for Canvasback to save them. But that was before we really knew Kiki.

As he worked with us, we began to see his tireless dedication in clinics and through stories others told us. When a baby was stillborn, Kiki wouldn't give up. Once, after over half an hour of breathing into a newborn's lungs, the infant began to breathe on his own.

In the middle of a typhoon, our team was waiting out the storm on the island of Weno when we saw the figure of Kiki in a canoe with an outboard motor coming across the ocean to find us. He had heard over the radio that Canvasback was there and traveled 165 miles across the rolling ocean because his people needed supplies that we could provide. He was fearless and dedicated. We began to see Kiki as a hero.

Kiki and the people he served were not helpless. They were not defined by their problems, but rather by their humanity. The love and sacrifice Kiki embodied was profoundly Christ-like, and showed us that our



doctors were not the only heroes in these stories. We learned what dedication meant from a health assistant on an island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean that doesn't even show up on most maps. We were, and still are, blessed to be partners with some of the most amazing people we could imagine.

When we call ourselves Christian business people, we commit ourselves to trying to get past our biases and see people as Jesus would see them. It's true that many are struggling with health problems, poverty, or addictions, but each individual has a story of joy as well as sadness, beauty as well as pain—humor, intelligence, and insight. We are dedicated to first seeing the dignity within. When I sit down to create a brochure or write a story about the islands, I challenge myself to help my audience see beauty and dignity. I challenge my fellow Adventist business folk to try and do the same.



Sterling Spence is the program manager for Canvasback Missions, Inc. He is a La Sierra University graduate with degrees in Management and Religious Studies. He is currently studying ethics at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California.

"I was in prison, and you visited me." – Matthew 25:36



Buy a set of **FREE INDEED** DVDs and a second set will be mailed to a prison of your choice!

Completely unscripted and shot behind the bars of Indiana's prisons, this gripping series features inmates telling how they came to Jesus—in their words, and their own way. You'll moved, inspired, and amazed as you realize the depths of God's grace.

Note from Inmate:
"I want to say thank you all for what you do. For myself and my fellow inmates."
— Joy



Visit our site today...
www.christmasbehindbars.org
and donate with ease online.



Christmas Behind Bars
PO Box 474 • Bluffton, IN 46714
Ph: (260) 824-3182
Contact@ChristmasBehindBars.org
facebook.com/christmasbehindbars

www.ChristmasBehindBars.org

STRIDE

Adventist Ministry to Secular Campuses in Boston

Boston - arguably the intellectual capital of the world with 300,000 students from 139 countries studying in over 80 colleges/universities. STRIDE ministers to and equips Adventist students to be effective witnesses for Christ on their campus.

Are you or someone you know a student in the Boston-area? Do you feel called to support this unique ministry?

Connect with us at strideboston.org and facebook.com/strideboston.



1964 2014
50 Years

CHURCH
STATE
COUNCIL

~ Education - Legislative Advocacy - Legal Services

Providing services to employees
and employers alike!

We are a non-profit ministry of the Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and work vigorously to protect and defend the rights of both individuals, and religious associations, charities and ministries.

Northern California:

1228 N Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 446-2552

Southern California:

2686 Townsgate Road, Westlake Village, CA 91361
Phone: (805) 413-7396

www.churchstate.org - info@churchstate.org

BUTLER CREEK *health center*

The first time I heard the phrase “medical missionary work” I was puzzled. In my mind it was hard to join the word “medical” with “missionary.” But when at the end of a difficult pregnancy my wife gave birth to a stillborn son, I found great comfort in friends who understood the delicate science of ministering to both body and soul. Through that personal crisis, my wife and I became acquainted with Seventh-day Adventists. Later we joined the church, and for the last two decades we’ve been actively involved in health ministry. This year we joined ASI. It’s a blessing to work with dedicated Christian business professionals to share Christ in the home, the school, the lifestyle center, and the marketplace.

Sixteen years ago we started a home lifestyle center two hours southwest of Nashville. Over the years the ministry has grown into a health center, missionary training school, canvassing program, and farm. The Butler Creek Health Center is a nonprofit corporation following Jesus’ model of medical ministry. As guests adopt a healthy lifestyle, they see evidence that God’s plan works as cholesterol levels drops, blood sugars become normal, and blood pressures normalize. Moreover, they

receive the unexpected blessing of peace of mind and spiritual renewal.

Success in any line of health education is the sure result of following principles found in the Bible and true science. Butler Creek is located in the foothills of rural southern Tennessee; the sights and sounds of country living, along with simple remedies, are employed as effective agents in the restoration of health. In this setting, guests quickly see improvement.

Our comprehensive approach to healthful living includes the “practical” side of life: exercising in God’s creation, lectures on nutrition and physiology, hands-on cooking classes, understanding Biblical problem solving, and instruction on hydrotherapy, charcoal, and other natural remedies.



Lew Keith served for 21 years on the staff of Wildwood Hospital, which gave him a love for sharing the “gospel of health.” Now Lew shares the “health message” at home and abroad. This year, he and his wife celebrated 35 years of marriage and like to spend their time together working in their garden. Lew currently serves as the president of Sequatchie Valley Sanitarium and the Butler Creek Health Education Center.

BUTLER CREEK: ALMA’S TESTIMONY

Some time ago we had a lifestyle guest named Alma. After completing her lifestyle change program at Butler Creek, she returned to her home in New Jersey. She became more than a friend—she was part of the family. This is her testimony:

Miserable, guilt ridden, utterly depressed, dejected, and sick, I found myself being transported to the desolate hills of Tennessee not knowing what to expect when

I arrived. At the age of 56, my problems stemmed from over 35 years of alcoholism. God knows I tried so many times, but I still had not conquered this addiction. In my late twenties I began toiling with psychiatrists, psychologists, detox facilities, and any other program that was available to help me with excessive drinking, depression, and emotional problems. By the time I

was 30, I accepted the fact that I was an uncontrollable alcoholic.

So now I’m on my way to some place in Iron City, Tennessee—240 acres of nothing but land, trees, farms, and who knows what. Humiliatingly and ironically, “my children, now in their late thirties and who have been victims of my addiction, were driving me to this “new” health center. I was told that this facility was not like any others I had been to. This center was designed to help the guest make personal life changes. It was also a program for training you to have a



nutritious and healthier lifestyle.

From my previous experience with other facilities, I waited for my bags to be inspected. There was no bag check! From the beginning there was actually trust, which provided me with an earnest motivation. Feeling that I was safe, my children eventually left. Being a black female in the middle of nowhere and not knowing what to expect, I never felt more alone. But from day one, I felt that the Butler Creek staff provided personal care not only to the mind, spirit, and soul, but also to the body as well. A staff nurse patiently explained what the daily routines would be.

My peaceful days there were filled with eating nutritious foods, participating in health lectures, receiving hydrotherapy treatments and massages, doing simple chores, taking walks, exercising, cooking vegetarian foods, communicating with nature, resting and relaxing, and building a spiritual relationship with God.

The whole time I was there I was so busy learning a new lifestyle that I had very little time to think about alcohol and the stresses that I left behind that caused me to drink. While I was there, certain troubling home issues came up that would have normally caused me to drink.

However, at Butler Creek I had learned to remain calm and began to know how to think clearly. This new attitude helped me immensely when I finally returned home.

An added bonus was my unexpected interest in learning more about God. For about thirty years my brother, a Seventh-day Adventist, has been trying to get me to walk with God. I went to his church a few times but never really followed up. For some reason, while at Butler Creek and learning my new lifestyle, I became fascinated in learning Bible scripture. Though Bible studies were not a required part of the program, I asked for them. One of the directors personally provided them. I became consumed with learning. Attending church on the Sabbath was also not mandatory. However, I found that I looked forward to it each week.

I believe my newfound spiritual connection came about by the examples of Christian faith, practice, and spirituality that were exemplified by the staff members and the directors during day-to-day living. That influence was infectious. I've been home now for five weeks. In that time, not only have

I successfully avoided alcohol, but I also have brought home the practice of following a "new" way of living.

Besides living healthfully and attending church, I am also attending prayer meetings, Sabbath school, and taking Bible study lessons. Furthermore, relations that had been severely damaged because of my alcoholism are being vastly improved. Last week, I brought my mother to church and had a Bible study conducted at her house. I have many two-way phone contacts with my children each week and we have mended many broken fences. Not only that, I have made many new friends in church and have gained a never-ending friendship with the Butler Creek staff members I grew to love and cherish.

So, if you're sick and tired of being sick and tired, or finally found that you've rock bottomed out, I recommend that you try becoming a guest at the Butler Creek Health Education Center located in the beautiful rolling hills of southwest Tennessee. My personal experience there brought about phenomenal results and gave me a precious new lease on life.

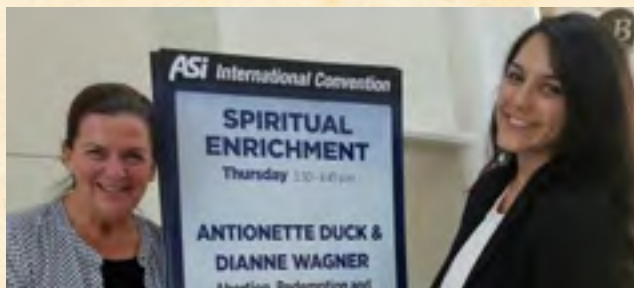
FEATURE

MAFGIA BY DIANNE WAGNER

Taken from Scripture, the word “mafgia” (maf-GEE-ah) is Hebrew for “intercessor.”

My husband and I were involved in the Mafgia ministry before even meeting the founder, Antionette Duck. Becoming involved was an answer to prayer that had not even been whispered yet. Truly, the Lord directs our path in ways we can’t even imagine.

Years before, when Antionette’s mother was pregnant, alone, and afraid, a nearby Baptist church offered her help. Her mother was in a destructive relationship and was planning to return to her home in California to have an abortion. But the church’s ad in the local newspaper, “Hey, I’m alive,” caught her attention, and she made an appointment. They were able to confirm her pregnancy, and although they would not assist in an abortion, she agreed to go back for counseling.



When she returned for counseling, Antionette’s mother picked up a vintage 1965 *LIFE* magazine that premiered photographs documenting the life of pre-born babies from conception to birth. She saw tiny hands with fingers, feet with toes, and was able to read about heartbeats and brainwaves, kicking and movement. It changed everything! She didn’t know what the future would hold, but she was determined that she and her baby would face it together.

That baby was Antionette. Along with her mother, Antionette has been a spokesperson on behalf of the unborn since she was a child. In September of 2010, Antionette joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and in the early spring of 2011 she founded the ministry Mafgia.

Taken from Scripture, the word “mafgia” (maf-GEE-ah) is Hebrew for “intercessor.” We are committed to interceding for the sanctity of human life at every level, from conception to death. Through education and thoughtful dialogue, we seek to take captive every imagination that has exalted itself above the knowledge of God.

What’s more, Mafgia is a ministry dedicated to interceding for reconciliation, for the total and complete life-giving healing the Lord purposes to write on the heart of every post-abortive woman and man. We are committed to the message of redemption and the freedom that redemptive grace brings—total, complete, and possible, here and now.

Later that year at the 2011 Generation of Youth for Christ Conference in Houston, Texas, we met Antionette. When she shared her story with us, I realized as I stood there listening to this beautiful young woman that if I had not had an abortion, my firstborn would have been close to her age.

In the year that followed, we invited Antionette to come and share her story with our church and others in the area. The response was amazing. Everywhere she went, Adventist women opened up about a past abortion. It became very evident to me that I was not the only one suffering from a secret sorrow.

In the spring of 2013, I joined Antionette and became a part of Mafgia. The Lord blessed and the doors opened for us to provide education and hope to women and men of all ages. The letters we have received from as far away as Australia, Trinidad, and Ukraine confirm to us that there is a need for reconciliation and recommitment to the Great Physician, Jesus.

While helping the disheartened break free from their bondage and equipping those in need, our light shines like the morning sun, and restoration quickly appears; righteousness goes before us, and the glory of the Lord is our rear guard. We cry out for relief and the Lord answers and says, “Here am I.” And the old waste places will be rebuilt, the foundations will be raised up, the breach will be repaired, and the paths to dwell in restored (paraphrased from Isaiah 58).

If you would like more information about the Mafgia ministry, please visit our website, www.mafgia.com.



Dianne Wagner lives with her husband, David, and is the mother of four grown children. Being post-abortive herself, she knows firsthand the crippling shame that so often comes from choosing abortion. She has dealt with denial and grief, has experienced full forgiveness, and has embraced the sweet re-creative power of her Lord and Savior. Seeing the need within our church, she speaks on how to minister to those who have been affected by an abortion experience.



believe | you are called



Shawn Boonstra
Speaker/Director

Jean Boonstra
Associate Speaker



We invite our Voice of Prophecy Sponsors to join us for a Sponsorship Weekend.

"We have been busy this year and we can't wait to tell you—and even better, show you—how God is working through this ministry. Come and fellowship with us in a beautiful, relaxed setting as we dream about the future and remember just why we believe." – Shawn and Jean

Skamania, Washington



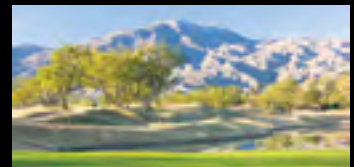
OCTOBER 16-18
(Greater Portland area)

Kingsport, Tennessee



NOVEMBER 6-8

Palm Springs, California



DECEMBER 4-6

Register for one of these inspirational Sponsorship Weekends

**Call us at 1-800-429-5700 or
register online at vopsponsors.com**

Each of the tranquil, carefully-chosen, settings is unique. Choose the one most convenient for you—we can't wait to see you!

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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Tecumseh, MI
Permit No. 12

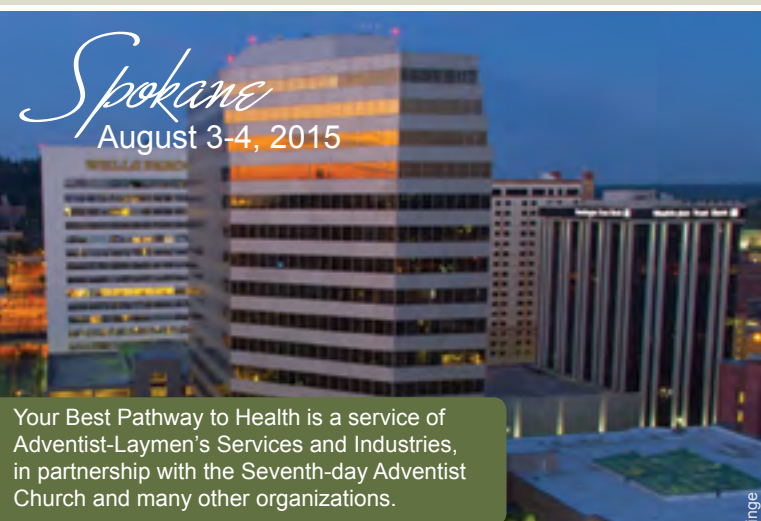
Advertisement sponsored by Sterling State Bank

Your Best PATHWAY *to* HEALTH

Join *Your Best Pathway to Health* for two unforgettable
Adventist Medical & Dental Mission Trips and Conventions

1,500 Volunteers Needed

Dentists, Dental Hygienists & Assistants, Ophthalmologists, Surgeons,
Anesthesiologists, Other Physicians, Other Medical and Non-medical Volunteers



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



Conventions continue through Sabbath of each week, featuring notable speakers and inspiring stories.
Full children's program available for volunteers throughout the event.

Information & Volunteer Registration at
PathwaytoHealthVolunteer.org
1 (888) 44 - Pathway



Scan for video