

A new way to keep up  
with what's going on in  
the Oregon Conference  
—without wasting paper.

# eCOMMUNIQUE

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## TWENTY YEARS OF MINISTRY IN MUSIC

The Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus began as a random chorus of men at camp meeting, but turned in so much more!

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## CAMP MEETING BY THE NUMBERS

Amaze your friends with some great trivia facts about Gladstone Camp Meeting!

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## MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

A personal look at the spiritual journey of one Milo Academy student as she reflects on her senior year of high school.

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## NOTE WORTHY NEWS

Bits of news from around the Conference and around the world that we thought you might find interesting.

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## A GLIMPSE AT GLADSTONE

By Greg Brothers

### Tuesday evening, July 16 Main Plaza – Gladstone Camp Meeting

A brass quartet is practicing for tonight's program, and golf carts are skittering around on last-minute errands. Even the weather seems to be getting ready for camp meeting – it's been hot and muggy today, but a cool breeze started blowing around 5:00 pm.

So what's with all the Hawaiian shirts and palm trees in the children's divisions? Are we planning a tribute to our 50th state, or have we picked up Trader Joe's as a corporate sponsor?

### Wednesday evening, July 17 Main Plaza – Gladstone Camp Meeting

It's easy to enjoy a day like this: sunny and warm – just right for the children on the Primary Division's giant, inflatable water-slide. Add the sound of the Russian choir in the Plaza Pavilion, and you'd think we were in heaven.

But, a first aid team just drove through the Plaza, followed by paramedics and an ambulance... and it's a reminder that though camp meeting may have its palm trees, it still isn't paradise.

### Thursday evening, July 18 Main Plaza – Gladstone Camp Meeting

"Troubles remind us," we heard in special music, "this world is not our home" – and we got another reminder, with a request that we pray for a family who was injured in a car accident on their way to camp meeting.

Yet even *this* can't spoil a good day – not when there are friends to see, speakers to hear, and children to watch having fun....

Speaking of which, somebody told me the tropical-island-theme of the children's divisions is somehow tied in with heaven. Obviously, I missed something on my last trip to Oahu.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...



## GLIMPSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**Friday evening, July 19**

**Main Plaza – Gladstone Camp Meeting**

People-watching has made me think about this week's sermon by John McVay – the one in which he said the Holy Spirit is like an X-ray that "lets us see beneath surface of everyday life, and know that Jesus is Lord."

Watch people stroll around Camp Meeting, for instance, and it's generally "birds of a feather" – young with young, and old with old. But every now and then, you see one of the young run up to one of the old and give them a hug. And when that happens, you catch a glimpse of that day when "the young and the old shall rejoice together."

Just a glimpse – but still....

**Sabbath evening, July 20**

**Main Plaza – Gladstone Camp Meeting**

I finally learned what's going on in the children's divisions. "In Matthew 13," I was told, "Jesus said heaven is like buried treasure – and we've been on a treasure hunt!"

So have we all.

In fact, all through this Camp Meeting, I've been finding clues, hints, and even the occasional map with directions to God's kingdom. And when I hear the Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus singing, "We Have This Hope," then I can't help but feel that I'm on the right track and getting close.

No, the Oregon Camp Meeting isn't heaven. But with God's help, you can find it here.

**See more photos from this year's Gladstone Camp Meeting on page 3!**



# TWENTY YEARS OF MINISTRY IN MUSIC

By Louise Craig & Paul Johnson

**In 1994, more than 100 men raised their voices in praise at Gladstone Camp Meeting. And not one of them had any thought of ever singing together again.**

Only one person present on that Sabbath envisioned more than a one-time event—and that was newly-elected Oregon Conference President Alf Birch. Conductor Lou Wildman clearly recalls Alf saying, "Lou, do you have any idea what you have here?"

"No, I didn't," says Wildman. But he then shared his vision of an expansive global ministry for these men.

That camp meeting chorus became the Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus (OAMC), singing at Gladstone, around the Northwest, and eventually, the world. In July, OAMC kicked off a year-long celebration of its 20th anniversary.

A lot happens in 20 years. Not quite by accident, but certainly by the Spirit and not without a little fear and trepidation, Wildman and co-founder Pastor David Schmidt began the chorus with more worship and prayer time than usually happens in a choral rehearsal. The formula for OAMC's success was born.

The power of OAMC comes from the behind-the-scenes ministry of men praying with and for each other, and the bond of fellowship holding each other accountable to be men of God. Only then can the joy of singing together move the hearts of audiences around the globe.

There is no audition process to join OAMC. A desire to be used by God is the greatest qualification. Lou often says, "When we show up, God swings into action."

"One day after we returned from our mission to South Africa in 2012," Wildman said, "I looked through singer rosters from the last 20 years. I

was astounded to discover that more than 1,000 men had sung under the OAMC banner around the world."

That number will grow as OAMC prepares for Mission to Ukraine 2014, in response to an invitation from the Ukraine Union Conference to launch strong outreach programs in eight cities. Next April, OAMC will be joined by more than 200 singers from OAMC chapters in Romania and Spain, as well as singers from Africa, Canada, France, Poland, and Ukraine.

"We never thought of ourselves as a traveling chorus," Schmidt says, "but God clearly had other plans."

As exciting as international missions might be, OAMC is also energized by, and strongly committed to, its outreach to student singers. "Involving our

young men is vital not only for the future of OAMC, but to help keep them involved in their churches," Wildman explains.

Thanks to Alf Birch, dedicated singers and their families, and various donors and supporters, OAMC's

music has soared through seven countries: the United States, Canada, The Philippines, Kenya, Tanzania, Romania, South Africa, and next to Ukraine.

God's call to the various ministries of OAMC embraces any willing person, man or woman. Learn how you can be part of the mission of OAMC at [www.oamc.org](http://www.oamc.org).

**"...more than 1,000 men had sung under the OAMC banner around the world."**





# MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

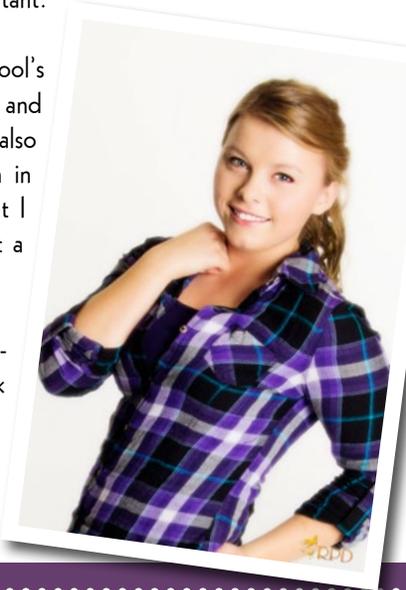
By Viktoria Kolpacoff

I thought my senior year in Milo Adventist Academy would start like all the years before... I would be excited to see my friends and gain new experiences. But, something else happened that year. The morning of registration, something had changed for me. I wanted to study the Bible and know Jesus better. Although I'd been baptized several years before, my relationship with God had always been difficult. It's hard for me to trust in people, much less in a God I can't see or touch.

However, something compelled me to work on a relationship with Christ and grow in my faith. I see now that it was the working of the Holy Spirit. Although trials may become harder because of your increase in faith, God provides many things to nurture your faith. In our Bible 4 class, Mrs. Sumerlin introduced us to Pastor Lee Venden, through his video sermons. We listened to many sermons from his All About Jesus seminar. Those sermons were crucial to my understanding Christ more. I learned that He is a friend and that it's "Who" you know that is important.

I became involved in the school's Apostles' Outreach program, and my faith continued to grow. I also learned I could share my faith in a way I had never thought that I could. I gave my testimony at a church one Sabbath.

God puts many divine interventions in our paths. If you look for them, and follow God's leading, you will not only bless others, but your relationship with Christ will grow as well.



## CAMP MEETING BY THE NUMBERS

Average number of lunches served in the cafeteria on a weekday: 350

- Lunches on Sabbath: 1,200
- Number of pronto pups sold on the first day of Camp Meeting: 658
- Pronto pups sold on the second day of Camp Meeting: 1,293
- Number of Bibles sold by the ABC during Camp Meeting: around a thousand
- Number of Big Franks sold by the ABC during Camp Meeting: 52,000
- Number of parking spaces in the Main Lot: 2,000
- Number of cars on campus during Sabbath: 5,000
- Number of six-passenger golf carts used as parking shuttles: 6
- Number of service animal permits granted by Locations: around a dozen
- Average number of First Aid runs in a day: around a dozen
- Number of quilts on sale at the Dorcas Boutique: roughly 100 (plus baby quilts)
- Number of camping sites and cabins in use: 703
- Number of blue garbage cans on campus: 90
- Number of ID badges in use: 819
- Number of channels on the PA system's "Big Board" in the Main Pavilion: 48
- Number of channels used for Saturday night's service: all of them



John McVay, Walla Walla University president, (pictured here), spoke Tuesday through Thursday evenings in the Plaza Pavilion. John Bradshaw spoke Friday and Sabbath evenings.



This year's 5k Fun Run/Walk saw nearly 300 participants of all ages! Laurissa Mancia, (pictured here) was one of them.



Students showed their school spirit by wearing their favorite Adventist school's logo on Thursday for Education Day.



Elsie Payne (left, age 96) has been attending Gladstone Camp Meeting since 1951, together with her sister Elva Payne (age 98). Bill Williams (age 99) began attending in 1949!



It takes a lot of golf carts to make Gladstone Camp Meeting happen. Here are some of them lined up behind the Conference office while their drivers were inside the building.



## NOTE WORTHY...

### LES ZOLLBRECHT TAKES ON NEW ROLES

In August, the Oregon Conference will welcome Pastor Les Zollbrecht as Associate Youth and Big Lake Youth Camp Director. He will be joining the Oregon Conference staff after 11 years at Portland Adventist Academy as Bible teacher and Chaplain. As Associate Youth Director, Zollbrecht will share responsibility for Youth and Young Adult Ministries and event planning with Tracy Wood, while as Big Lake Camp Director, he will spend his summers at Big Lake Youth Camp, managing camp ministry and planning. Zollbrecht has been connected with Big Lake Youth Camp for many years and already has a positive working relationship with the camp staff. Starting as a camp counselor in 1994, he moved on to roles including Rad Camp counselor and Associate Director, later helping introduce Mountain Leadership Institute camps. He and his wife, Marschelle, have a two-year-old daughter, Sofie.

### JENNIFER SCOTT ACCEPTS NEW TEXAS ROLE

Jennifer Scott, currently pastor of the Washington Conference church in Shelton, Wash., has accepted the invitation to become senior pastor at the Keene Adventist Church in Keene, Texas. The Keene Church serves not only the surrounding community but also Southwestern Adventist University. Scott previously served at the Green Lake Church in Seattle and the Loma Linda University Church in Loma Linda, Calif. While in Shelton, she has been instrumental in the development of the Shelton Valley Christian School and Child Development Center, which in recent years has seen enrollment blossom to more than 250 children. According to the Keene Church, Scott hopes to make a full transition to Texas with her family in September.

### ADVENTIST PASTOR JOINS DIGITAL PUBLISHER

Martin Weber, well-known Adventist pastor, author and communicator, has taken a role at Logos Bible Software as Seventh-day Adventist product manager for the software maker. The firm, located in Bellingham, Wash., chose Weber to spearhead new efforts to add Adventist content to its growing database of books and authors. "I'm hoping to take leading Adventist writers and speakers, contemporary and historical, and have them available in an Adventist-specific package," says Martin. Logos plans to make materials available in English as well as Spanish, Portuguese, French and German. In addition to printed material, the software will be able to index and search audio and video recordings, so archived recordings could be included in the database.

### ADVENTIST DENTIST DIES ON PERU MISSION TRIP

W. Curtis Mathisen, Adventist dentist from White Salmon, Wash., died last month while on a mission trip. Mathisen was on his way to Iquitos, Peru, along with his wife Elaina, when he suffered a heart attack in the Lima airport. While being transported from the airport to the hospital, he suffered a second heart attack and passed away. Mathisen was traveling to Peru to serve at the People of Peru Project dental clinic. "I am shocked and devastated," Mathisen's wife told a friend, "but Jesus has been my best friend since I was about 11, and he has not left me now." Read the complete story at <http://bit.ly/13ihOzz>.

### YVONNE HOUSE RETIRES FROM UCC

Longtime Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) Corporation treasurer Yvonne House has retired. House, who grew up in the Northwest, served the Adventist Church for more than 40 years in financial management. After graduating from Walla Walla University, she served at the North Pacific Union Conference office, followed by some time in Southern California and then back to UCC. House has been replaced by Jimmy Johnson, formerly the corporation assistant treasurer.

### PASTOR ROB LLOYD PASSES

Pastor Rob Lloyd passed away at a hospital in Hong Kong on the morning of July 6. He was on his way to the mission field in Rawanda to manage 40 ShareHim International campaigns with Don Folkenberg. He began feeling ill in Korea and when his flight landed in Hong Kong he was taken to the hospital. It appears he suffered a perforated bowel and doctors found extensive gangrene that was untreatable. Rob was able to video conference with his family and by the grace of God, the Hawaii Conference President, Elder Ralph Watts III, was traveling in Vietnam and was able to get to Hong Kong and join him at his bedside for a few hours before Pastor Rob drifted peacefully to sleep in our Lord. Rob was the pastor of the Kailua Adventist Church for 21 years.

### JOE MELASHENKO, EARLY VOP QUARTET MEMBER, DIES

Joe Melashenko, longtime singing evangelist throughout North America, died recently at the age of 91 after a long battle with cancer. Melashenko sang with the King's Heralds quartet as part of the Voice of Prophecy broadcast from 1948-1950. For the next several decades he served as teacher, pastor and evangelist — more than a decade of that for the Voice of Prophecy. He and his wife, Anne, often featured their family of five sons as part of the Melashenko Family Singers for musical ministry during their many series of meetings. One son, Joedy, served for a time as pastor within the Oregon Conference. Another, Lonnie, was Voice of Prophecy speaker/director for a number of years. Services for Joe Melashenko will be held in Paradise, Calif., on July 21. Read more about his years of service at <http://bit.ly/12pXSWt>.

### INSIGHT MAGAZINE GETS NEW EDITOR

Omar Miranda, a trained counselor, has been named the new editor of *Insight Magazine*. Miranda, who came to youth ministry from a career as a youth and family counselor, has a heart for young people and understands the struggles that many face. He is not new to *Insight*, as he has been writing an online column for several years. Miranda's new title, Director of Insight Ministries, reflects a desire to expand the ministry beyond simply a magazine. He plans to make the website, [InsightMagazine.org](http://InsightMagazine.org), more immediately responsive to teens' questions and prayer requests, and envisions training events for youth workers and parents to better connect to youth. Miranda takes over as editor from Dwain Esmond, who is now Review and Herald vice president of editorial services.

### LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH WINS EMMY AWARDS

Loma Linda University Health (LLUH) won Five Emmy® Awards at the 39th Annual Pacific Southwest Emmy® Awards program June 15 in Las Vegas, Nevada. LLUH's TV show "Loma Linda 360" was recognized by The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences with the most highly regarded award in the television industry — the Emmy®. Read more at <http://bit.ly/15RdbEX>.

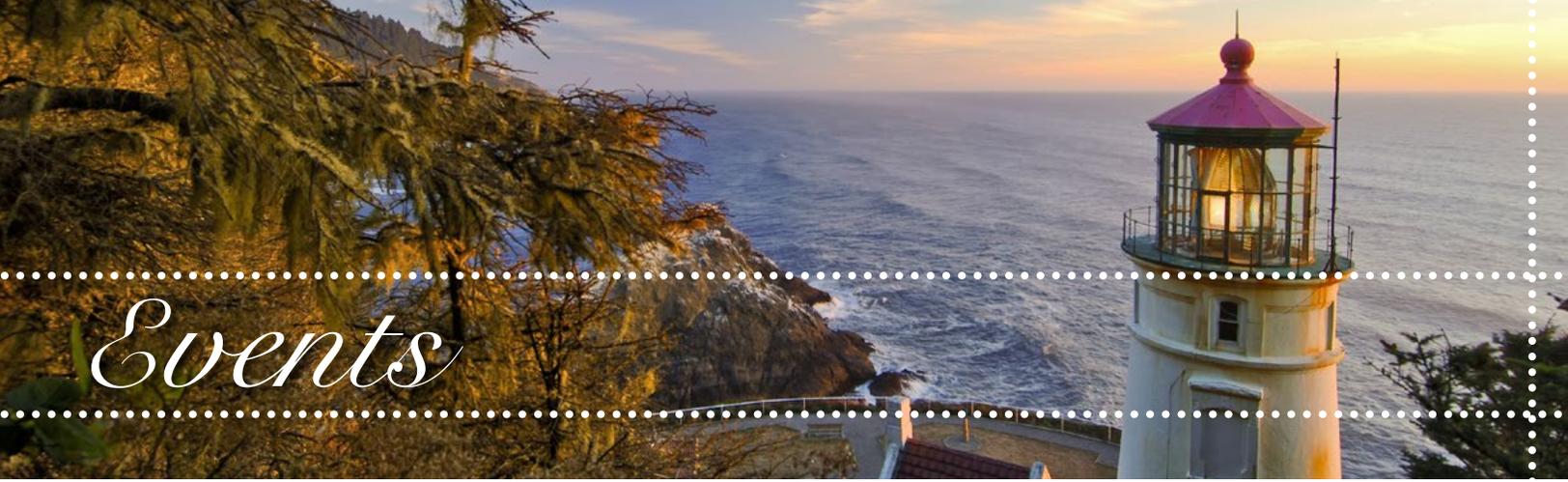
### CALIFORNIA YOUTH CAMP EVACUATED AFTER WILDFIRE APPROACHES

Summer camp was in full swing at Pine Springs Ranch (PSR) this week when 179 campers and staff were given less than 60 minutes to evacuate from the path of a looming wild fire on Monday afternoon. The youth camp, run by the Southeastern California Conference (SECC), is located in Mountain Center, Calif., and in the middle of the growing Wildland Fire in the San Jacinto Mountains. All the campers and staff were safely evacuated to the Hemet Adventist Church where they were met by parents. While no one was hurt, some homes and the sewer plant on the ranch were completely destroyed and there was damage to some of the out buildings.

### NW YOUTH BEGIN SERVICE PROJECT AFTER CONFERENCE ENDS

In July, the World Youth Conference wrapped up in Pretoria, South Africa, with speeches from Ben Carson, renowned Adventist surgeon and Ted N.C. Wilson, Adventist church president. Sabbath morning more than 18,000 attendees and community members gathered at the Lucas Masterpieces Moripe Stadium in Pretoria for the worship service. With the conference over, 22 Northwest delegates headed to Botswana for a community service project. The participants are volunteering at orphanages with health outreach programs and construction projects.

For additional news visit [http://www.oregonconference.org/news\\_entries](http://www.oregonconference.org/news_entries)



# Events

## WORSHIP FEST

*When: August 3, 10 & 31, 7:00 pm*

*Location: Milwaukie Spanish Adventist Church*

Join us for a special summer series presented by youth for youth! Worship Fest is the first of many uplifting events created on purpose with a purpose of offering meaningful and exciting opportunities for youth to serve God! ALL are welcome. Come August 3, 10, and 31 at 7:00 pm for this great worship experience. The Milwaukie Spanish Adventist Church is located at 7903 Otty Rd, Milwaukie, Ore.

## SUSTAINABLE PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR

*When: August 3 & 4, 2013*

*Location: Eugene Adventist Church*

Join us at the Eugene Adventist Church for a special weekend on sustainable preparedness! Sabbath's meeting, 5:30-8:30 pm, will present the spiritual reasons for preparedness. Emphasis will be on our privilege and duty to be of help to others, and the steps we need to take to be able to do this. Sunday's meeting (10:00 am-4:30 pm) Will explore natural health remedies, preparing for disasters, creating a home grocery store, canning, choosing land and homesteading, and using renewable energy systems. Bring a bag lunch or purchase food from the Maui Vegetarian. The Eugene Adventist Church is located at 1275 Polk Street, Eugene, Ore.

## VBS - ESCAPE TO ATHENS AT HOOD VIEW

*When: July 29-August 2, 9:30-11:30 am*

*Location: Hood View Adventist Church*

Escape to Athens with Paul! Learn about Paul and some of his adventures during his second missionary journey. Experience music, crafts, games, and meet Paul and his friends through drama; all of which will spread the life-changing truth of God's love. Register now to be part of this Athens VBS July 29-August 2! To register go to [www.hoodviewchurch.org](http://www.hoodviewchurch.org) and click on the "Ministries" tab at the top of the page. Click on VBS 2013 and then on the Cat and you are ready to register. Hood View Adventist Church is located at 26775 SE Kelso Rd in Boring, Oregon.

## SALEM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*When: July 29-August 2, 6:00-8:30 pm*

*Location: Salem Central Adventist Church*

Vacation Bible School at Salem Central Adventist Church is happening Monday, July 29 through Friday August 2nd from 6:00 - 8:30 pm. Ages 4 to 12. The Salem Central Adventist Church is located at 1330 Summer Street, Salem Ore.

## HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR TO SPEAK AT VANCOUVER

*When: August 10, 7:00 pm*

*Location: Adventist Community Church of Vancouver*

Alter Wiener will share his powerful and poignant autobiographical story, "From a Name to a Number" on August 10 at 7:00 pm at the Adventist Community Church of Vancouver. He is an internationally-recognized holocaust survivor from Poland who lives in Hillsboro, Ore. Alter survived five concentration camps and was less than 50 feet from being loaded up on a gas chamber train when he was singled out by a soldier saying that he was still fit to work. A day or two later, the war ended and he was liberated. You will not want to miss his deeply moving life story. August 10, 7:00 pm, Adventist Community Church, 9711 NE St. Johns Road, Vancouver, Wash.

## CHRISTIAN BERDAHL AT CASTLE ROCK

*When: August 6-September 24, 6:30 pm*

*Location: Castle Rock Adventist Church*

Christian Berdahl, the Director of Shepherd's Call Ministry, will be featured in an free six-week video presentation at the Castle Rock Adventist Church, each Tuesday, August 6 to September 24, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. The series title is "Distraction Dilemma: Exposing Distractions & Dangers in Music". To conclude the series, Christian Berdahl will speak in person on September 27 & September 28, 2013, with a fellowship dinner on the 28th and sacred concert by Christian Berdahl in the evening. The Castle Rock Adventist Church is located at 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N., Castle Rock, Wash. To register, or for more information please call Wanda at 360-967-2165 or Jeanne at 360-274-6709.

## BOBBY MCGHEE & FRIENDS AT SUNNYSIDE

*When: August 31, 2013*

*Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church*

Bobby McGhee & Friends will be at Sunnyside Adventist Church on August 31st. Sabbath morning, 8:45 am and 11:15 am, with Raj Attiken, Ohio Conference president. Vespers at 6:00 pm, featuring the Three Wisemen Quartet and many local artists!

## OREGON CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT

*When: October 18-20, 2013*

*Location: Eagle Crest Resort*

Register now for this exciting weekend! Elizabeth Talbot from the Jesus 101 Institute will be our speaker this year at Eagle Crest Resort, October 18-20! Download the brochure at <http://bit.ly/13tWCO>.

## THE DELLEN'S IN CONCERT

*When: August 10, 7:30 pm*

*Location: Hood View Adventist Church*

Hood View Church will host a concert on August 10 at 7:30 pm. Alicia and Matthew Dellens were taught and mentored by internationally known artist, Dr. Tamar Orlovsky. They perform both solo and two piano duets, a wonderful concert for the whole family! Join us for a free concert at Hood View Church located 26775 SE Kelso Rd, in Boring, Ore.

## REFRESHED RETREAT IN CENTRAL OREGON

*When: August 29-September 1, 2013*

*Location: Central Oregon*

Join us for the 3rd Annual Refreshed Retreat at the foot of Paulina Peak in central Oregon August 29th - September 1st. Guest speaker Dr. Jo Ann Davidson from Andrews University Theological Seminary will be sharing with us Friday evening and Sabbath. A haystack fellowship meal will follow the church service. The cost is \$25 per family for camping, or just come and join us for Sabbath! Please RSVP by August 25th. We will be in Ogden Group Camp B. Look for the Refreshed signs. For more information, contact Tobi Pawson at 541-306-8360 or email [tobipawson@gmail.com](mailto:tobipawson@gmail.com).

*All links are clickable here and elsewhere in the eCommuniq .*



# Transitions

**Steve Behrmann** (Elizabeth) is transitioning from the position of interim pastor at Milo Academy to fill the position of pastor for the Albany church.

**David Davies** (Patricia) has taken the position of part-time Associate Superintendent for Education, primarily for the southern Oregon schools.

**George White** (Joyce) has ended his part-time appointment as interim pastor for the Central Point and Shady Point churches.

**Abraham Acosta** (Natalya) is transitioning from his temporary appointment as Assistant for the Hispanic Ministries department, to that of Bible Worker Trainer for the Portland-area Spanish churches.

**Sheldon Eakins** (Amanda) is joining the Oregon Conference from the Southwestern Region Conference to fill the position of Principal/Teacher for Emerald Christian Academy.

**Dallas Melashenko** (Donna) is joining the Oregon Conference from Texico Conference to fill the position of Principal/Teacher for the McMinnville Adventist Christian School.

**Judi Clark** (Marvin) is transitioning from Principal/Teacher for Grants Pass Adventist School to a teaching position at Tillamook Adventist School.



## SUMMER ROSES

By Ivalee Clark

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	Aug 3	Aug 10	Aug 17	Aug 24	Aug 31	Sep 7
Bend	8:28 PM	8:18 PM	8:08 PM	7:56 PM	7:44 PM	7:32 PM
Eugene	8:35 PM	8:25 PM	8:15 PM	8:04 PM	7:52 PM	7:39 PM
Hood River	8:33 PM	8:23 PM	8:12 PM	8:00 PM	7:47 PM	7:34 PM
Longview	8:40 PM	8:30 PM	8:19 PM	8:06 PM	7:54 PM	7:40 PM
Medford	8:29 PM	8:21 PM	8:11 PM	8:00 PM	7:48 PM	7:36 PM
Newport	8:40 PM	8:31 PM	8:20 PM	8:08 PM	7:56 PM	7:43 PM
Portland	8:37 PM	8:27 PM	8:16 PM	8:04 PM	7:52 PM	7:39 PM

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