

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

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TWO DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES

Presentation and attitude make all the difference! How are you portraying your walk with God? Will others want to join you?

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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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TRANSITIONS

Learn who we will be welcoming to our conference and churches, and who we will be bidding farewell to this month in Transitions.

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EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events and announcements abound with retreats, concerts, gatherings, and much more! Read about these exciting upcoming occasions.

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OREGON PATHFINDERS HOLD ANNUAL Teen Leadership Training Convention

By Al Reimche

It was a damp weekend in the forest of Camp Adams near Molalla, Ore., Jan. 30-Feb. 2, where 127 people converged for the annual Oregon Pathfinders TLT (Teen Leadership Training) Convention. However, the spirits of those who attended were not dampened by the weather. Inside it was warm and cozy as we filled the meeting room, dining room, and cabins with excitement and energy. Friday night started off with making new friends and getting re-acquainted with old ones through ice-breaker activities and M&M meetings. Sabbath morning everyone participated in Go Fish Children's Evangelism training hosted by Oregon Conference Children's

Ministries under the direction of Sherri Uhrig and Gloria Beerman. In the afternoon, 19 new TLTs were inducted into the TLT program and received their TLT shoulder cord.

"It was our privilege to host 10 conference leaders from around the North American Division..."

The weekend was filled with leadership training workshops for TLTs, mentors, and conference leaders. There were 50 TLTs training, 45 mentors modeling, 14 clubs attending, 19 instructors teaching, 26 convention staff participating, five certified teen leadership trainers (young adults who completed the TLT program) inspiring, 10 out-of-conference leaders learning, and our three-in-one God guiding! "This has

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TLT CONVENTION

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been our best TLT Convention ever!" say Ray Jordan and Ralph Staley, both Oregon Conference district coordinators.

TLTs from throughout the Oregon Conference, along with three clubs from the Washington Conference attended. "It was our privilege to host 10 conference leaders from around the North American Division," says Tracy Wood, Oregon Conference Pathfinders director. Conference leaders came from the South New England, Potomac, Georgia-Cumberland, Florida and Texas conferences, and Advent Source in Lincoln, Neb. Their goal was to observe and learn concepts of TLT ministry that they could take back and implement within their organizations.

Plans are already developing for next year's TLT Convention scheduled for Jan. 29-31, 2016. We anticipate another year of Teen Leadership Training where TLTs and mentors, along with coordinators and conference directors can experience leadership training together. We praise Jesus for TLT ministry and the powerful impact it makes in the lives of our teen Pathfinders and leaders!



TWO DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES

By Al Reimche

I recently read an article written by one of our millennials about two experiences they had within twenty-four hours. Though these experiences happened a few years ago and in an area far from our conference, I felt that they speak to us today.

The article began by describing a recruiting event that the author had attended. The job offer had many challenges, it and the informational session attempted to portray that to the group that had come to apply. Recruiting officers explained the process that would happen for the next few hours, how the recruits would be mentally and physically evaluated before even having the opportunity to apply for the job. The mental exam and application forms would be difficult and would require openness and honesty about their lives and their way of thinking. The physical test would be rigorous and each person would have to push themselves to the limits and beyond. Of the one hundred or so that were at this event, only five or six would make it through the process and be accepted to move further down the process toward final hiring.

After portraying such a challenging picture, the recruiting officers started explaining the end goal. They spent the next few minutes talking about how they enjoyed their work and how the applications challenges were worth all the effort these new recruits would put into this. They shared a video that showed the vision, passion and excitement of those that had pursued this career. All this was done to inspire these recruits to put heart and soul into applying.

In talking with the author, subsequent experiences found the officers continuing to cheer these novices on. Even the recruits began to catch the attitude and in turn cheered each other on as the physical challenges were attempted.

The second experience involved attending a church service. First impressions were positive as the visitors were warmly greeted at the door by some of the members. However, the sense of wanting to belong

quickly dwindled as the service began. The sermon was filled with gloomy thoughts about how hard it is to get into the kingdom, but the encouragements and support that had just been felt in the recruiting event were missing. When exiting the service, instead of having a sense of excitement about the prospects of the Christian life, the atmosphere was one of discouragement and hopelessness.

The article continued by describing a service a week later where the pastor started his remarks by saying, "Hello, I am a Seventh-day Adventist Christian and I love Jesus." In a nutshell he explained that "healthy sheep...make sheep.... If we are a church that is healthy and excited about why we exist, we will be building each other up and drawing others into the fold. We all need encouragement and it's okay to be the first one to reach out and share that with others."

Be Jesus to those you encounter, share a kind word, an encouraging thought.

It is not just millennials that need encouragement and support. The Christian life can be difficult and challenging. The world around us can be seeking to hold us back. We deal with discouragement in our everyday world. We need each other to encourage and strengthen our resolve.

The author of Hebrews said it like this: "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. [25] Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the day approaching," Hebrews 10:23-25.

It is so true that how we see our journey and our involvement in something affects how we portray that to others. Jesus has asked us to focus on Him, to 'keep our eyes on Him,' and He promises that, in turn, we will become like Him. Be Jesus to those you encounter, share a kind word, an encouraging thought. Be the conduit for God's love to flow through you in blessing to others. In so doing those around you will be attracted to His love and want to join us in the journey to the kingdom.



NOTE WORTHY...

WORLD CHURCH STATEMENT ON IMMUNIZATION

To immunize or not is the question many parents are asking today. The news is full of debate on the perils or virtues of vaccinations. Schools struggle with policies of protection, while some parents worry about the safety of their children. Where does the Adventist Church stand on this issue? Is this a matter of policy or conscience? Read the latest guidelines statement published by our world church at <http://bit.ly/1zRFMXB>.

ADVENTIST YOUNG ADULT STUDY RELEASED

A recently published report details findings from the Barna Group regarding Adventist young adults and their relationship to the church. Among many challenging points, it discovers that many young adults find few connections after they graduate from college. "If you aren't a child and don't have a child," says one respondent, "there's nothing for you." The study also finds that today's young adults are more comfortable with ambiguity and nuance than the average church member. When it comes to Adventist doctrine and standards, they are sifting through church teachings — even the ones who consider themselves strong members. Read the study results at <http://bit.ly/1Eklynw>.

REVIEW & HERALD CLOSES TO THE PUBLIC

The Review and Herald Publishing Association officially closed its public operations at the Hagerstown, Md., plant this month. Several employees will remain on site for the next few weeks to close out inventory and help prepare the facility for sale. Forty semi-truck loads of materials and equipment were shipped earlier to the Pacific Press in Nampa, Idaho, as it has now begun printing of products such as *Adventist World* and *Guide* magazines, and the Sabbath School quarterlies. When both printing houses were operating simultaneously, they were under the direction of the General Conference. The new one-printing-house plan ties Pacific Press directly to the North American Division. Read more about this transition at <http://bit.ly/1DZ8qLw>.

NAD INTRODUCES YOUNG LIFE COMMUNICATION HUB

The North American Division (NAD) has launched a website, www.YoungAdultLife.com, that it hopes will serve as a communication hub for young adult ministry across the continent. The stated mission of Young Adult Life is this: Reach young adult leadership with support and encouragement, connect leaders to a growing community, help leaders expand their influence, discover a ministry model that works for them, and together create a united young adult ministry effort to glorify Jesus. Check out the website for yourself at <http://bit.ly/1BV4qy1>.

HARDINGE TO JOIN WORLD CHURCH TEAM

Brent Hardinge, North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) digital media coordinator, will be moving his talents to the world church. On March 1, he began a new role as web manager for the General Conference in Silver Spring, Md. Hardinge will be responsible for continued development of the main world church website, building additional web resources and assisting other departments that serve the world field. "Brent has been an invaluable colleague for us here in the Northwest," says Steve Vistaunet, NPUC assistant to the president for communication. "We bid him God's blessings as he takes up this new post." The NPUC has initiated a job search for a new digital media coordinator. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/1DQWOaB>.

ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEM TO BE USED AT GC SESSION

Delegates to the Seventh-day Adventist Church's General Conference Session in July won't hold up yellow cards to vote as they have in past sessions. Instead, for the first time, delegates will vote by pressing a button on an electronic voting device. Votes will be tallied instantly, and final results will be displayed in a bar chart on a screen. Church officials say the use of technology will bring greater accuracy to votes and offer anonymity, potentially relieving some of the pressure some people may feel to vote a certain way. Read more from Adventist News Network at <http://bit.ly/1AMFWje>.

MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY TO CLOSE

Mount Vernon Academy (MVA) will have to cease operations at the end of this school year. Because of an ongoing struggle for enough funding for MVA, the Ohio Conference Executive Committee and delegates of the January 11 Special Constituency Meeting voted a process which called for \$1.5 million to be raised by February 10, and another \$1.5 million by March 10. This amount would have enabled MVA to remain operational next school year. Unfortunately, they have received only \$17,069. Their two goals now are 1) to find a way to have more Ohio Conference academy aged young people receive an Adventist education, and 2) to oversee and care for the MVA campus and land at the end of this school year. Read more at <http://bit.ly/17WWuyy>. (MVA Update #8)

WWU GRIEVES A LOSS

Madison "Maddy" Baird, Walla Walla University (WWU) sophomore, passed away on February 11 as a result of critical injuries suffered in a bicycle accident the day before. Maddy was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle after the accident, where she remained in critical condition until her death. John McVay, WWU president, says: "Maddy was a bright light on our campus and in our community, and our hearts are broken. As we gathered during the last two days to pray for Maddy, we placed our trust in our Heavenly Father, and now we continue to look to Him in the blessed hope that soon, at the resurrection, we will see Maddy again." Read more from WWU at <http://bit.ly/1G4OJDz>, and join with us in holding up Maddy's family and the extended WWU family in prayer.

NW CHURCHES ENGAGED WITH MILLENNIALS

Young adults are vital to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. But in many local church congregations, the millennial generation is increasingly absent. With the average age of church members hovering close to 60, the question seems obvious: In 10 more years, will the Adventist movement still be moving? Six churches in the Oregon Conference are in the midst of taking active steps this year toward answering that question. They have joined in a common mission called Millennial Matrix 2.0 which is focused on integrating each church with young adults. Read more at <http://bit.ly/1EROY54>.

NAD TO LAUNCH DISTANCE LEARNING PORTAL

The North American Division (NAD) has announced plans to launch a distance learning web portal next month at www.AdventistLearningCommunity.com. The initiative, named the Adventist Learning Community, will enable church entities and schools to share courses and certification resources, and may minimize duplication of such courses across the country. Adam Fenner, initiative director, notes that five Adventist universities in North America currently offer identical courses online and employ separate staff to support the programming for each. Read more online from the Adventist Review at <http://bit.ly/1GoVT7f>.

For additional news visit http://www.oregonconference.org/news_entries.



Transitions



John Glass (Teresa) has joined the Oregon Conference as the new pastor for the Christmas Valley and La Pine congregations.

Edi Ciobanu (Raluca) has transitioned from pastoring the Woodburn/Molalla district to pastor the Mt. Tabor congregation.

Kody Hendrickson has joined the Oregon Conference as the new accountant at the Gladstone headquarters.



WINTER'S SUN

By Krissy Barber

CAPTURING GOD'S HANDIWORK...

Share your photos that capture our amazing world for inclusion in an upcoming issue of the *eCommunique*! Email your photos to krissy.barber@oc.npuc.org. All photos are subject to approval before publishing. Digital high quality (200 dpi or higher), please.

For more announcement
& event information, visit
<http://bit.ly/1eN3VpV>.
This page is updated
each week.

Events

2015 OREGON PRAYER RETREAT

When: March 27-29, 2015
Location: Rockaway Beach, Ore.

Our 2015 Oregon Prayer Retreat features Jeffrey Rosario, speaker and teacher at Light Bearers Ministry and ARISE, as our keynote speaker. We will meet at the Twin Rocks camp at Rockaway Beach on the beautiful Oregon coast. For more info, or to register, go to <http://bit.ly/14Aq6RO>.

CHRISTIAN EDITION MEN'S CHORUS CONCERT

When: March 20, 7:30 pm
Location: Pleasant Valley Adventist Church

Join us for a concert by acclaimed men's chorus, Christian Edition, March 20 at 7:30 pm! Christian Edition has been spreading God's love through music since 1981. They have performed at the White House, the New Orleans Superdome, and thousands of churches, nursing homes, and camp meetings in between. You won't want to miss this special concert. Bring a friend!

OREGON CONFERENCE JR. HIGH CHOIR FESTIVAL 2015

When: March 10, 4:30 pm
Location: Rockwood Adventist Church

You're invited to the Oregon Conference Jr. High Choir Festival on March 15, 4:30 pm at the Rockwood Adventist Church. Hear 7th and 8th graders from the Oregon Conference Adventist schools perform in this annual event! The Rockwood Adventist Church is located at 1910 SE 182nd Ave in Portland, Ore. Come support our students!

SUNNYSIDE SPRING MUSICAL PROGRAM

When: March 14, 6:00 pm
Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church

The Sunnyside Adventist church in Portland, Ore. will present its annual Spring Musical Program, March 14, at 6:00 pm. Invite your friends to come hear some of Portland's finest musicians share their talents in praise to God. Refreshments will follow the program.

RE-FRESH RETREAT AT SUNSET LAKE

When: March 14, 10:00 am-4:00 pm
Location: Sunset Lake Camp

Sunset Lake Camp is excited to welcome Bill Knott on March 14 from 10:00 am-4:00 pm for the 2nd annual Re-Fresh weekend. Knott is editor and executive publisher of the *Adventist Review* and *Adventist World* magazines. This one-day event will focus your heart on Jesus through music and the spoken word; it's like spring cleaning for the soul. Children's programming (grades 1-5) will also be provided. Cabins are available to rent for those who would like to come Friday evening. Meals are available for purchase or guests can bring their own. For meals or lodging, RSVP by calling Sunset Lake at 360-829-0311. The event is free of charge.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR BOB MANLEY

When: March 28, 4:00 pm
Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church

Bob Manley, MD, passed away on February 6. A memorial service for him is planned for March 28 at 4:00 pm, at Sunnyside Adventist Church, located at 10501 SE Market Street in Portland, Oregon.

WORSHIP CONCERT WITH HIS PRAISE

When: March 21, 11:00 am
Location: Castle Rock Adventist Church

His Praise Men's Chorus will be presenting their Worship in Praise of Jesus concert on Sabbath, March 21 at 11:00 am at the Castle Rock Adventist Church. There will be a Fellowship Meal (potluck) following the service. Invite a friend to come with you and be blessed by the music and the special fellowship. Call 360-274-6090 for more details. The Castle Rock Adventist Church is located at 7531 Old Pacific Highway North in Castle Rock, Wash.

MILO ACADEMY DAYS

When: April 12-13, 2015
Location: Milo Adventist Academy

Milo Adventist Academy invites students (and their families) to learn about attending Milo this fall at Academy Days, April 12-13. For more details or to register email kathy.hernandez@miloacademy.org.

YOUNG ADULT SPRING RETREAT

When: April 10-12, 2015
Location: Rockaway Beach, Ore.

Join us at the Young Adult Spring Retreat at Camp Magruder in Rockaway Beach, Ore. Our guest speaker will be Pastor Nick Jones. The registration fee is \$25 per person before April 3, \$35 per person afterwards. The cost includes lodging, food, and activities. You must be 18 or older to attend. To learn more, or to register for the weekend, visit <http://bit.ly/1ET9ljh>.

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

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Mar 7	Mar 14	Mar 21	Mar 28	Apr 4	Apr 11
Bend	6:00 PM	7:09 PM	7:17 PM	7:26 PM	7:34 PM	7:43 PM
Eugene	6:07 PM	7:16 PM	7:25 PM	7:33 PM	7:42 PM	7:50 PM
Hood River	6:00 PM	7:09 PM	7:18 PM	7:28 PM	7:37 PM	7:46 PM
Longview	6:05 PM	7:15 PM	7:24 PM	7:34 PM	7:43 PM	7:52 PM
Medford	6:07 PM	7:15 PM	7:23 PM	7:31 PM	7:39 PM	7:47 PM
Newport	6:10 PM	7:19 PM	7:28 PM	7:37 PM	7:46 PM	7:55 PM
Portland	6:04 PM	7:14 PM	7:23 PM	7:32 PM	7:41 PM	7:50 PM