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Adventist Journey

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My Journey

I absolutely love my kids. I have 22 first-graders. They're such a blessing, and I love teaching them how to pray and more about Jesus. It's fun to do lessons with them—to watch the bulb light up in their brain, knowing that I helped that happen. . . . I'm looking forward to another school year with them. Visit <https://vimeo.com/nadadventist/ajmadelineringing> for more of Madeline's story.

—**MADLINE RINGERING**,
*(soon-to-be) second-year
 student missionary, Pohnpei*

Madeline Ringering



Madeline Ringering is pictured here on a bulletin board, in a heart-shape she made with photos of all her 2017-18 students.

Cover Photo by Dan Weber

Dear Reader: The publication in your hands represents the collaborative efforts of the North American Division and *Adventist World* magazine, which is inserted halfway through *Adventist Journey* (after page 8). Please enjoy both magazines!

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ADVENTIST JOURNEY

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MISSIONARY: Cristina Norcross

LOCATION: Pucallpa, Peru

Strangers at a Funeral

WRITTEN BY ANDREA KEELE,
AS SHARED BY CRISTINA NORCROSS

Cristina Norcross is from Mount Pleasant, Michigan, working on her bachelor's degree in biology, with plans to attend medical school at Loma Linda University and become a pediatric oncologist. Her volunteer work at Amor Projects in Pucallpa, Peru, was a perfect fit. Her role for 10 months included serving as a nurse at the clinic, setting up mobile clinics, and promoting health awareness. She was also involved in other ministry projects, as told in the story below.—Editors.

After only three weeks in Peru, Cristina and some of the other volunteers attended the funeral of a local church member. She wasn't sure how her presence could be much of a support for a family she didn't know, but God used her willingness in a surprising way. While at the funeral, the volunteers discovered that some of the locals were looking for a place to attend church and have Bible studies.

Jennifer and her family, owners of the house where the funeral had been held, offered to host Bible studies and English classes. It became a house church. Cristina joined this new church family and excitedly watched it grow from four to 10 members.

As they worked together, Cristina and the other volunteers became close to Jennifer, her husband, and her three daughters. When they discovered that her oldest daughter, Laurita, was suffering from tuberculosis, they brought medicine, but realized that she needed more help than they could give.

One night the volunteers received a phone call. Laurita was not well and needed urgent medical attention. Cristina and Joffre, another volunteer missionary, drove immediately to Jennifer's house, where a crowd of family members stood outside. Laurita's fiancé rushed her out to the car, and several family members jumped in before they rushed to the medical clinic. Laurita struggled to breathe. After running tests, the doctor informed them that Laurita was septic.

When Cristina and Joffre arrived back at their home at Amor Projects they received another phone call. Laurita



Left to right: Joffre, Lauren, Cristina [Norcross], and Laurita
Photo provided by Cristina Norcross

Laurita struggled to breathe. After running tests, the doctor informed them that she was septic.

needed to go to the hospital by ambulance, but the clinic would not release her without payment. Laurita's family was poor; so Cristina quickly ran door to door and collected enough money from the missionaries to cover the medical expenses. Then she rushed with Joffre to the clinic to pay so that Laurita could be released and taken to the hospital. They stayed with the family until things were more stable, and returned to Amor late that night.

On Sabbath the missionaries returned to the hospital to visit, and although they could not enter the room, they received permission to sing to Laurita outside her room. Her expression let them know that God had lifted her spirits through the music. However, on October 18, 2017, Laurita passed away in the hospital, surrounded by loved ones.

The Sabbath after the funeral, Jennifer told Cristina that she was pregnant—she had confirmed it the same day Laurita died. She asked Cristina and Joffre to be the *padrinos* (godparents), which they happily accepted. Cristina marvels at how God worked through a stranger's funeral to lead them to this family just in time to help them through their crisis, and to look forward with them to the new life of baby Dulce Laurita, born in March 2018, as well as to eternal life and a heavenly family reunion someday.



Hearing Their Hearts

BY KIMBERLY LUSTE MARAN

Does the NAD have a strategy to help transition promising millennials into denominational leadership positions?"

This was the first question asked during to the third "Is This Thing On?" (ITTO) conversation. Walla Walla University electrical engineering major Andrew Yamada, a member of the social media student team, raised this question from "Ryan" on Twitter.

The lively discussion, which ultimately exceeded the allotted two hours, had begun.

Social issues, church culture and structure are hot topics during third "Is This Thing On?" live-streamed event.

← "Is This Thing On?" host Julio Muñoz addresses NAD administrative leaders during the May 12 live show. *Dan Weber*

The Program

Leaders from the North American Division (NAD) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church engaged in conversation with college students on the May 12, 2018, ITTO video livestream. The two-hour broadcast took place on the campus of Walla Walla University (WVU), where more than 200 gathered in the Winter Educational Complex to ask questions on many topics, including term limits for church leaders, educational costs and opportunities, women's ordination, social issues, church structure and finances, and opportunities for young adults to serve in church leadership positions.

Dan Jackson, NAD president; Alex Bryant, executive secretary; and Tom Evans, treasurer, addressed each live audience question during the unscripted program, which streamed on the NAD's Facebook page. ITTO host and producer, Julio Muñoz, also took questions from Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram via student social media ambassadors who monitored and posted from various social media accounts throughout the course of the show.

In addition to Walla Walla University student musicians performing for each segment, five students were tasked with working as social media "ambassadors" during ITTO. Four of these students, which included Yamada, interacted with Muñoz periodically throughout the broadcast, sharing viewer statistics and questions that the NAD officers answered.

"This is remarkable that NAD administrators are reaching out to Adventist young adults and asking for their engagement with church leadership," commented Facebook user Phil Muttersbaugh.

In another Facebook comment, viewer Joe Graffi said, "Thank you, young people/students for your willingness to stand up and ask tough questions. I am a 73-year-old who has the privilege of coleading the youth in our Nixa, Missouri, [Seventh-day Adventist] Church. We are a multicultural church, nearly two thirds of our congregation is Russian. We all love and support each other, and we are strong in the Lord because of our love for one another."

"We are connecting with [people] on social media," said Muñoz. "As we look through the data it is apparent that engagement, even during a time in the year when most of our NAD college students are not in school, was high. The dialogue online reflected the show."

In the Q&A

Jackson, Bryant, and Evans addressed more than 20 questions taken from both the live studio audience and online audience (from Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram) during the show proper. Questions covered a broad array of topics, including the following query on tradition and culture. Early in the show theology major Jared Frost asked, "How can we as a church distinguish tradition and culture from religion and worship?"

Each NAD officer answered, with Jackson speaking first on this question. He said, "That's a question we grapple with everywhere [we] go. It doesn't matter what continent you're on, that question is being asked, or at least questions relevant to that. . . . I think it is very important that we put emphasis on our individual members. We must be close to Jesus ourselves to begin with. We must study the Word of God for ourselves. You see, I think traditions come in,

Where to Watch

Go to [Facebook.com/NADAdventist/videos/10157319638629409/](https://www.facebook.com/NADAdventist/videos/10157319638629409/) to watch the "Is This Thing On?" video; for more information, checkout the NAD Facebook page at [Facebook.com/NADAdventist/](https://www.facebook.com/NADAdventist/); or visit www.ittoshow.org.

and we allow culture—and not all culture is bad, but we allow, perhaps at times, some of the negative aspects of culture—to come in because we're not following Jesus as carefully as we might, and we're not following the Word of God.

"There are aspects of culture that we need to embrace," continued Jackson. "It has made worship and spreading God's gospel a lot easier."

Bryant weighed in: "I think we're blinded a lot by our culture and our traditions, not realizing they are traditions and culture. Sometimes we put those on the same level as biblical truth or biblical understanding. The best we can do is to challenge ourselves to use the Word of God as a rule, and to put everything against that. Things change, culture changes, and traditions change, but . . . the principles of the Word of God are lasting and everlasting."

"I was just meeting with a group of alumni from my academy a few weeks ago, and as we went around the room some of those things came up," Evans shared. "Some of the things that we looked at from culture, back when we were in school and so forth. A large share of the class had realized that coming back and being close to the Lord was more important than those areas; and some of those things they had been brought up with had gone away from insignificance."

Being Connected

"When students walked into the gym and saw how serious the NAD was taking it with all the production value such as cameras, lights, music, and social media, it made us feel as though they care about what we have to say—that we have a voice for the NAD and can express our concerns," Yamada said.

"I appreciate that the NAD leadership is willing and doing its best to seek out our voices," said Katie Folkenberg, a junior social

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reached

2,100 views
75 uses

110
shares

1,160
reactions

1,935,193
impressions
66,300
accounts

8,500
views

↑ University students Andrew Yamada (left) and Mariela Smith monitor social media during the May 12 show. *Dan Weber*

work major at WWU. “I think they will need to prove themselves for a lot of youth in the church to show that, yes, they heard our voices, and they’re going to try to make some changes within the church.”

Near the end of the broadcast Bryant talked about the importance of connecting with young Adventists. “I would like to challenge this body, along with other students across our division, to help us,” he said. “I think we started out dealing with the generational gap in our church. Help us bridge that gap by reaching out to our seniors. The North American Division church is getting older. Many of our students and young adults, when they go to church and see some people who are so steeped in tradition, they just kind of check out.”

Bryant continued, “I encourage you: if you see your fellow students, or brothers and sisters, help them to hang in there. It’s not going to change overnight, but it will change. We need you to help us to do that.”

“The plain and simple truth is: you are needed and you are wanted in the church. Help us.”

Evans, a new guest to the show, agreed, describing how more young adults have already been participating in church meetings. He said, “These particular sessions that we’ve been holding here in the North American Division with the young folk in our colleges and universities have been a great thing. We meet with our administrative committee, probably once a month for a number of hours. What we learn in these kinds of meetings does not go unnoticed. We look to see what the trend is for our church, and how we can also help.”

With some humor Evans added, “We do notice a younger group coming into our building all the time and, as some of us go out to pasture—as they say—we will see [more of] that. We look forward to hearing what you have to say. We try

to bring that into our everyday life in our office as we move forward.”

After the broadcast ended, Evans and the other NAD officers stayed almost another hour answering questions. Jackson expressed his interest in continuing the dialogue, saying, “The plain and simple truth is: you are needed and you are wanted in the church. Help us.”

Jackson encouraged those who remained to write him with suggestions on how the church should deal with the issues it faces. “I am very open to hearing your heart on this, so that we can consider what you have to say in more depth than we can afford in terms of time in a program like this.”

Plans are underway for another live event, and a recorded show. To continue the conversation, young adults are encouraged to use #NADnow when tweeting/posting questions.

Kimberly Luste Maran is editor of Adventist Journey.

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NAD NEWS BRIEFS



ACS DISASTER RESPONSE ADVISORY INSPIRES COLLABORATION, ADDRESSES NEED

The Adventist Community Services (ACS) Disaster Response (DR) Advisory drew 50 coordinators and directors to Rhode Island on May 6 to 7, 2018, to deliver reports on projects happening around North America and beyond. The event took place at the Providence Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church just before the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) conference.

“The advisory provides a time and place for interaction among ourselves, and can be the impetus for ideas on assisting communities that may not have been considered previously,” said W. Derrick Lea, director of ACS DR. “The collaboration is helpful and can lead to partnerships during ‘blue skies’ [times without crisis] that benefit the

community when disaster strikes.”

Attendees had the opportunity to take a new course called “Delivering Powerful, Purposeful Presentations,” created as one of the requirements for DR instructors. The course will equip ACS DR leaders to offer classes to their teams to ensure the best possible services.

“One of the challenges we are experiencing is a lack of instructors in each conference. This creates a dearth in the number of classes that can be given by local instructors, which leads to additional expense covering travel of outside instructors,” said Lea. “A number of those who’ve taught previously have retired and moved to other stages of their lives. New instructors need to be certified. To that end, we have created a class that

← Adventist Community Services Disaster Relief leaders present projects and exchange ideas during the ACS DR Advisory on May 6 to 7. Provided courtesy of Adventist Community Services

will better ensure a consistent, competent, professional delivery process.”

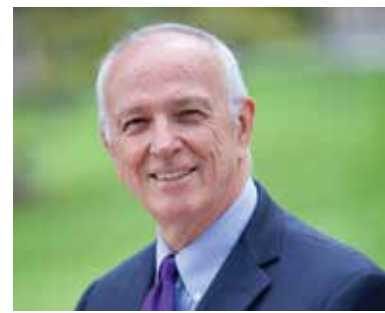
According to Lea, the course will be offered over the next year in various locations with in union conferences with the expressed purpose of certifying its leaders.

The advisory concluded with reports from various conferences and union conferences. For example, leaders from South Central Conference shared their response to the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s request in wake of Hurricane Harvey. Products and supplies were transported from Jacksonville, Florida, to Puerto Rico for five months. The team also took the opportunity to train teams from the Florida Conference and Southeastern Union Conference in warehouse operations during their five-month deployment.

Leaders from the Southwestern Union Conference spoke about the rebuilding initiative that was put in place shortly after Hurricane Harvey struck Texas. The union is now working with the Jefferson County Long Term Recovery Committee to prepare houses for rehabilitation.

—Adventist Community Services

↓ V. Bailey Gillespie
Provided by La Sierra University



V. Bailey Gillespie, Adventist Educator and Valuegenesis Leader, Passes to His Rest

V. Bailey Gillespie, Ph.D., 75, passed to his rest early on May 7, 2018, after battling liver cancer. A memorial service was held on May 19 in the La Sierra University church in Riverside, California.

Gillespie’s career in Adventist education and ministry began shortly after he received his Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University in 1966. He served as a church pastor, as an academy religion and music teacher, and as an assistant dean for admissions and student affairs in the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry before moving to higher education in Loma Linda’s Division of Religion in 1976. He earned his Ph.D. in Christian Personality and Faith Development from Claremont Graduate University in 1973.

In 1981 Gillespie returned to his undergraduate alma mater, La Sierra University (then known as the La Sierra campus of Loma Linda University), as professor of theology and Christian personality and chair of the church and ministry department. He served as associate dean of La Sierra’s H.M.S. Richards Divinity School from 2015 to 2017, and as acting dean from 2014 to 2015. He remained a vital part of La Sierra’s religion faculty until his retirement in June 2017.

Gillespie spearheaded the Valuegenesis research project, a landmark

study of students in grades 6-12 enrolled in Adventist schools. Its goal was to discover what makes Adventist young people accept or reject the faith of their parents, and what the church can do about it. Begun in North America in 1990, Valuegenesis inspired spin-offs in Mexico, South America, Europe, and Australia.

Shortly after the release of the first Valuegenesis research findings, Gillespie founded the John Hancock Center for Youth and Family Ministry at La Sierra University. His mission, in part, was to create

resources for churches and schools so that they could turn research findings into practical applications. The Adventist Church contracted with the Hancock Center to create a curriculum used by children’s Sabbath School classes worldwide. Called the Gracelink Curriculum, it presented “the four aspects of a growing Christian experience: grace, worship, community, and service.”

Gillespie is survived by his wife, Judy; son, Tim; daughter, Shannon; and five grandchildren.
— La Sierra University

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY STUDENT AWARDED BARRY GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP

On March 30, 2018, Mykhaylo M. Malakhov, a sophomore mathematics major and J. N. Andrews Honors Scholar at Andrews University, was awarded the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, the most prestigious national award for undergraduates who intend to pursue careers in the natural sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

Established by Congress in 1986 in honor of Senator Barry Goldwater, this scholarship is awarded yearly to the top STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) majors who display intellectual curiosity, a strong commitment to research, and potential to make significant future contributions to their respective fields.

To be considered, candidates must be nominated by their university and fill out an extensive application complete with a research paper. Each university can



↑ Mykhaylo M. Malakhov, an Andrews University student, was awarded the Barry Goldwater Scholarship. Jessica Condon

nominate up to four students per year. Scholarship recipients are awarded \$7,500 per year until they graduate to apply toward tuition, fees, books, and room and board. This year 211 scholarships were given to undergraduates across the United States from a pool of 1,280 nominated students.

“Mykhaylo Malakhov is an outstanding young mathematician who also has a heart for people and for Jesus,” said Shandelle Henson, professor of mathematics and ecology at Andrews University. “He is a true intellectual, with strong interests in the arts, literature, philosophy and music. He is the kind of person who will become extremely successful, and will then invest heavily in the careers of others.”

—Hannah Gallant, Andrews University



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY RECEIVES CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

Oakwood University was announced as a national finalist for Partner of the Year by Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA) during the 2018 Innovating a Healthier Future summit. The organization also extended national recognition to Oakwood for its Healthy Campus 2020 campus wellness initiative with the presentation of the Partnership for a Healthier America's Crystal Apple award on May 3, 2018, in Washington, D.C.

Oakwood is the only institution of higher education to make the list of finalists for campus wellness and the innovations built into Healthy Campus 2020. Other finalists are Mercedes-Benz, McLane, Esstans, and Bright Horizons Family Solutions.

Oakwood is also the first and only Seventh-day Adventist university nationally recognized by PHA. "We are proud to lead the industry in evidence-based health and wellness practices through this comprehensive effort," said an Oakwood representative. "[We] hope our leadership spurs others to join the healthy revolution." —Oakwood University Public Relations

← Healthy Campus team Prudence Pollard, administrator and principal investigator; Shirna Gullo, director of HC2020; Michelle Ramey, grants director; and Leslie Pollard, Oakwood president, along with James Gavin, chair of the PHA board; and Nancy Roman, CEO of PHA. *Provided by Oakwood University Public Relations*

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE PASTOR HONORED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

On May 1, 2018, Rex Bell, from Colorado, was recognized for "many years of extraordinary work and dedication to the City of Brighton" throughout the two terms he served as city councilman.

At City Hall, Bell was also presented with a *Congressional Record* plaque, signed by U.S. Congressman Mike Coffman, that read, "Council Member Bell has served his community for 23 years as a Seventh-day Adventist pastor in the City of Brighton. Council Member Bell has, without a doubt, enhanced the quality of life for every citizen in the City of Brighton throughout his tenure as a city councilmember and as a resident of the City of Brighton."

"I'm humbled, grateful, and kind of empty because it's the passing of a part of my life that

has been very important to me," said Bell while surrounded by family and members of the city council. "I feel like I'm moving on to new land and ventures."

Bell's road to city council began with newly forged friendships with people at City Hall, who would later ask him to serve on the city's planning and zoning committee. He ran for city council when an opening emerged. When the term ended, he was reelected to continue his service to Brighton.

"I [did] not want to take my religion to the city, but I [wanted] to take my faith. There's a difference. And I [wanted] to take Christ to the community and that's what we attempted to do. We got involved and one thing led to another," said Bell.

—Rajmund Dabrowski, communication director, Rocky Mountain Conference



↑ U.S. Representative Mike Coffman (right) presents Rex Bell with a Congressional Citation, in Brighton, Colorado, on May 1. *Provided by the Rocky Mountain Conference*

↓ Washington Johnson, II



NAD LEADER BECOMES HIGHEST RANKING ADVENTIST CHAPLAIN IN U.S. NAVY RESERVE

The associate director of the North American Division Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) was recently selected for promotion to captain for the United States Navy Reserve. The promotion will bring Washington Johnson, II greater leadership responsibilities through extensive oversight for religious programming and counsel to members of the Navy Reserve's senior leadership ranks regarding spiritual, moral, and ethical issues.

Johnson becomes the third African-American Seventh-day Adventist to hold the rank in the United States Navy Chaplain Corp, following Captain Herman Kibble and Admiral Barry Black.

"I am truly grateful to God for the blessing of this selection and the opportunity to continue my chaplaincy ministry in the new rank," said Johnson. "It is a high honor to serve both God and country."

Johnson's new level of administrative authority in the Navy Reserve expands the scope of his duties to include strategic planning, and the training and development of other chaplains of various faiths. In his current role at ACM, Johnson facilitates endorsements, recruits prospective chaplains, and interacts with union conference and conference leaders.

"The promotion to captain will provide increased mentoring



↑ Carmelo Mercado (left), Lake Union Conference vice president and director of multicultural ministry; Ingrid Slikkers, Andrews University assistant professor and Bethany Christian Services social worker; Nicholas Miller, Andrews University professor and Lake Union Conference Public Affairs and Religious Liberty director; Kerling Montanez, Conéctate vice president; Mayrel Narvaez, Conéctate committee member; Eva Cruz, Conéctate president stand together during the congress. *Courtesy of Lake Union Conference*

YOUTH DISTRIBUTE PETITION URGING FAIRNESS AND HUMANITY

More than 300 participants attending a Hispanic youth congress on the campus of Andrews University signed petitions requesting fairness and humanity in policies pertaining to U.S. immigration and gun control.

According to Carmelo Mercado, Lake Union Conference vice president and director of Multicultural ministries, the decision to circulate the two petitions grew out of discussions leading up to a social justice workshop at the youth congress. "We wanted to not just talk the theory, but address social justice issues in a practical way," he said. Mercado explained that the move is unusual because often Hispanics are fearful of going public about these high-profile issues.

In announcing the immigration petition on Saturday evening, Ingrid Slikkers, Andrews University social

work professor and Bethany Christian Services' social worker, shared disturbing stories of children separated from their parents. She detailed traumatic incidents, such as a 6-month old baby now in their care who was pulled away from their mother, as well as children asking about their parents' whereabouts, and the agency's social workers being unable to answer those questions.

Both of the petitions, drafted with the help of Nicholas Miller, Lake Union Conference Public Affairs and Religious director, will be mailed to members of the United States congress, and legislators in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

—Debbie Michel, associate director of Communication, Lake Union Conference; Visit <http://ow.ly/npln30kzyM4> to read petitions.

opportunities that will help to prepare the next generation of Seventh-day Adventist chaplains," said Johnson.

Johnson is also a staff chaplain at the North American Aerospace Defense Command and the United

States Northern Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The official promotion ceremony for Captain Washington Johnson, II will take place October 1, 2018.

—Mylon Medley, NAD Communication

BY LARRY BLACKMER

Learning and Loving for Eternity

Wow, what time is it? It seems that just a short time ago I was the youngest principal in the room, and later the youngest conference associate superintendent. Wasn't it only yesterday that I was looking forward to trying to implement change and innovation with the Adventist school system?

I just glanced at my watch and realized that my first day as a teacher was more than 40 years ago. I am no longer the "young buck," but rather "the establishment," the gray-haired sage. When did that happen?

I have recently been reflecting on a long career and attempting to ascertain what I did that was truly important during those years. I've determined that although meetings and policies are a vital part of our educational process and, in time, often result in needed systemic change, what really is important are the people who touch our lives, and lives that we hope we have touched along the way.

Here's the reason the Adventist Church supports Adventist education: not only to help students grow and develop into fine citizens who can support and encourage families, but also so they can develop lifelong and eternal relationships through which God can speak to and through them. Adventist education is more than sharing knowledge with students; it is teachers and administrators having a personal relationship with Jesus that is infectious. This allows students to see in us the Jesus we ourselves love, so they, too, will desire a close relationship with their Savior.

Throughout the decades the church has garnered lots of statistics that indicate, among other positives, that the longer children are in Adventist education, the longer they tend to stay in the church, the better the chances that they will pay tithe, and the higher probability they will marry another Adventist with similar

beliefs and values. Adventist education undoubtedly plays a major role in the lives of those who choose to attend our schools. But it also plays a significant role in the church as a whole.

When I was an associate education superintendent I conducted a conference study that revealed that churches connected to a school

through a constituency had higher title and membership growth compared with churches that were not involved with an Adventist school. Every year more than 40,000 young people are baptized into the Adventist Church worldwide as a result of Adventist education. This is the equivalent of adding one large conference to the church every year!

Yes, there are struggles and challenges involved with keeping a church school alive and well. But throughout my 40 years in Adventist education I have seen again and again that in districts with a strong pastor-principal team-oriented approach, the struggle is less intense. Church-and-school-shared ministry is the way forward in developing strong churches and strong schools.

What time is it? It's time that we collectively strengthen our commitment to our children, both those in our schools and the children and families that have made other choices. *Every* Adventist child deserves to know Jesus as their personal Savior within the context of the Adventist worldview. Where is a child or young person going to learn about the biblical Adventist teachings of the sanctuary message, the remnant church, or the role of Ellen White?

Yes, we have Pathfinders, Sabbath School, family worship—they all play vital roles. Yet sometimes these are not enough. If our children do not attend Adventist schools, where these values are mapped into the curriculum, they may not learn the biblical principles that define the Adventist worldview as being unique, or have the educational role models they need to lead them to develop more fully their own personal relationship with Jesus.

I can tell you from an old man's perspective of 40 years working for the church, that God is still in charge. I am confident that He who began a good work in His children will "carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Phil 1:6, NIV).

Larry Blackmer is vice president of education for the North American Division.



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Post to Rice appeal, Child Impact PO Box 763 Ooltewah TN 37363**

Child Impact International is a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and is a fully supportive ministry of the Seventh day-Adventist church.

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PRODUCED BY JARED THURMON AND RICO HILL WITH NAD PLANNED GIVING & TRUST SERVICES

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