



Special points of interest:

- Nov. 9—No school @ CVCS
- Nov. 11—Hal Meyer Seminar
- Nov. 22-24—Thanksgiving break @ CVCS
- Nov. 25—Special Thanksgiving church service
- Feb. 17—CVCS 60th Celebration

November 2017

“The Reformation is Unending”, Adventist Leader Tells European Parliament

What is the legacy of the Reformation for Europe in the 21st century? For Raafat Kamal, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Trans-European region (TED), his answer is simple, it is a legacy that must not end.

Together with mainly Lutheran theologians, pastors, Members of European Parliament (MEP), and church historians, Kamal was invited to present at the European Parliament Celebratory event on Tuesday, 17 October at the Parliament building in Brussels, Belgium.

Kamal was one of the last speakers who led the attentive audience back to the concept of grace, expounding on the Old Testament principle in Micah 6:8, to “do justice, love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

“Martin Luther, with his transformed conscience, held fast to this concept, which has since inspired generations of believers and non-religious people alike. During Luther’s speech at his trial at the Diet of Worms he reinforced a message for today: “Unless I am convicted by scripture and plain reason, my conscience is captive to the Word of God.”

“To embrace religious freedom is to champion and integrate the dignity of human beings in our laws, culture and way of life,” Kamal said. “It is to adopt a personal attitude of tolerance, whereby tolerance is an expression of solidarity with every member of the human family. It translates into respect for every human being, after all, we are created in God’s image and this can only be genuine when other peoples’ rights are respected.”

However, for Kamal, this goes hand-in-hand with mission. Before highlighting some of the mission aspects of the church he leads, he emphasized, “Most people know that Jesus came to bring forgiveness and grace – these are hallmarks of the Reformation. Less well known is the Biblical teaching that a true experience of the grace of Jesus Christ inevitably motivates persons, communities and nations to see and apply biblical justice and mercy in this world.”

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Hal Mayer to visit Albany SDA Church

Hal Mayer, speaker and Director of Keep the Faith Ministries is scheduled to speak at the Albany Seventh day Adventist church on November 11, 2017.

9:15 a.m., “Martin Luther and the Bible”, **11:00 a.m.**, “The Bounds of Their Habitation”; the noon meal will be provided, followed by “Foundations of the Sunday Law” at **2:00 p.m.**



PASTOR LINK



As I understand it, every year that is not a General Conference World Session year, leaders from around the world and from our division meet during the Fall months in Silver Springs, MD, for what is termed 'Annual Council'. Policies are reviewed, financial matters are considered, reports are given that affect the world field. Conference Presidents, Union leaders, and Division Executives meet together to focus on the mission and growth of our Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

I thought it would be good to relay some basic information about the decisions and actions of the council for those interested. Of course, much more detailed and broader information is available for those interested.

Reported our own conference president, Elder Dan Linrud:

Greetings from Annual Council. I am heartened by the gracious and faithful guidance of God in the life and journey of His Church, which has been reaffirmed in the Annual Council proceedings this week....

On a positive note it was stated: There have been many significant reports of God's outpouring in response to pastors and church members across the world sharing Jesus with others. The world church averages one new Seventh-day Adventist member joining the church every 23 seconds. One new member every 23 seconds! Praise God!

Other emphases included the acknowledgment of significant levels of members having disengaged from the church, the need for ongoing discipleship, for learning better how to love people more fully, to better retain members and reach out to those who have disengaged.

Dominating the landscape of the session was the issue of women's ordination. This short vignette cannot begin to represent the breadth of discussion necessary. In summary, several American and European Conferences and Unions have gone ahead with the ordaining, or in some cases, "commissioning" women pastors. This is, to some, in direct violation of the General Conference decisions made at the last three or four GC sessions.

Generated out of General Conference and circulating for some months is a "unity document" that has been devised and asks the "non-compliant" unions and conferences to abide with holding back on the issue until it is resolved. But this document was rejected at the current annual council and sent back for further study and further possible adjustment. The reasons for the "non-compliance" are beyond the scope of this short missive, but it is apparent that the leadership of our church is divided on how this difficult issue can be resolved. It remains for us to pray that God will truly lead our church through this crisis, because it is my opinion as pastor that it is indeed a crisis, a very divisive one.

But I choose to believe that God will continue to lead His church through whatever is ahead regardless of the difficulties along the way. There is every reason to rejoice that what really matters, the proclamation of the Gospel, will successfully continue until Jesus comes. May we each do our part to prepare to meet our God!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Steve

JESUS4ASIA

On December 10-17, there will be a first in this world! The first-ever Sabah Young Believers Camp for the young people of Borneo, there on the island of Borneo.

Because of his service at the Young Disciples Family Camp in Idaho this past summer, Ben Carpenter has been invited to share in the experience of this

new camp, helping to facilitate this new opportunity for the youth of Borneo.

The mission of the camp will be to encourage a personal devotional life, thus enabling personal spiritual growth, to provide Bible-study tools and methods, to train the youth to share their faith and to inspire them to be part of God's eternal King-

dom.

All Christians are called to "Go", and going has many forms. Some, like Ben, can literally pack up and go, others can facilitate that going by sharing funds, and all can lift the endeavor and the enterprise to the throne of grace, for the outpouring of God's sweet Spirit.

May your 'Going' be blessed.

A LETTER FROM BARNABAS

O Saints of Albany, grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Me-thinks that whenever our Albany Church unites together on a sacred project, we can make it happen!

Consider our brother in Christ, Jim Slusser, who remembers that about 10 years ago, our Albany Church had a project of collecting 1 million pennies (\$10,000) for a mission project to build a mission station in Guyana, South America. We thought it would take about 5 years for our church to collect 1 million pennies, but by inviting the Lebanon Church to join with us, we raised 1 million pennies in a little over 3 years (by the time the project was over, we actually raised \$15,000) and the mission station was built and still functions today, for which we thank God.

Now, brother Jim is challenging us to have

our second Million Penny collection, and we once more are asking Lebanon Church to join with us. In our last Albany Church Board meeting, it was voted to endorse this program. I propose we call the project 1 MILLION PENNIES FOR JESUS.

A large gallon jar has been placed on a table in our church narthex, and all our members are asked to collect all their pennies, and put them in the jar. Our Pastor's wife, Elizabeth Behrmann, has heartily endorsed our Million Penny project, but she is challenging our members to even save nickels and dimes to put in the jar—me-thinks we could even put in quarters, silver dollars, or even gold pieces in the jar—so your Brother Barnabas cries unto you, O Saints of Albany, "Save your pennies, and even nickels, dimes, quarters, silver dollars, and gold coins, and put them in the jar, as fast as possible, so we can finish the Gospel Commission of taking the 3

Angels Message to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.

Remember: The Gospel is not finished anywhere until it is finished everywhere."

Peace be unto you,
Your Brother Barnabas

"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High. It is good to proclaim your un-failing love in the morning, your faithfulness in the evening, accompanied by a ten-stringed instrument, a harp and the melody of a lyre. You thrill me, Lord, with all you have done for me! I sing for joy because of what you have done."

Psalm 92:1-4

Editor's Note



Years ago, I started a list of things for which I am thankful, and usually take for granted. I coordinated this list around the 5 senses— hearing, smelling, seeing, touching and tasting. I carry this in my Bible, and remind myself frequently of some of the items on the list.

Sounds that I particularly enjoy:

- Chick-a-dees' song
- Meadowlarks' song
- Purring cats
- Rain falling
- Water thunder – falls and waves

- Atmospheric thunder
- Wind through the trees
- Snow crunching
- Frog sounds

Things I like to **touch**:

- My husband's face
- Cat fur
- Tree bark
- Snow
- Feel the sun's warmth

My **aroma**-therapy:

- Fresh herbs
- Roses & lilacs
- Garlic
- Fresh rain
- Evergreen trees
- Vanilla
- Pitch
- Campfire smoke

Eye-candy:

- White puffy clouds in azure skies
- Sunsets
- Surf
- Seasons
- Baby animals
- Fields of flowers
- Rock formations

Tasteful blessings:

- Fresh, warm bread
- Cold water
- Tangerines
- Ripe pineapple
- Pasta with browned butter and mizithra
- Caramel
- Kettle corn

What are you thankful for? My list is still growing—how about starting yours?



SHUTTERSTOCK/LORETTA77

Prayers Requested Praises Offered

**Izella Stuivenga
Bernice Nielsen**

The Babb family as they grieve the loss of Barb's companionship

Beautiful Seasons

**Cleona Bolden
David Bolden**

Save your coinage—in particular those pennies—for a yet-to-be-determined Mission Project; already the jar in the narthex has been filled to overflowing once; so

BRING IN YOUR PENNIES

FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Each Sabbath there will be a hosted Fellowship meal in the Fellowship Hall. Participate as you are able by attending, and providing casseroles, salads, breads or desserts. Please bring enough for your family and extra.

In coordination with the City of Albany Emergency/Disaster Department, our church family has voted to use our location as a temporary distribution center in case of LOCAL EMERGENCIES. Our dual-entrance parking lot provides excellent egress and ingress.

News Notes to Know

NOVEMBER

- 2 Nita Rasmussen
- 3 Ron Forrester
Geraldine Genstler
- 8 Debbie Reuben
Martha Gammon
- 11 McKenzie Clarke
- 15 Irwin Rueben
- 16 Krintin Snyder
- 17 Ethan Carpenter

- 20 Amy Carter
Tim Elder
- 21 John Murray
- 22 William Morris
- 24 Ruth Bishop
- 25 Wayne Clark
- 28 Derek Abrams
- 29 Hilda Wiggins



The Continuing Adventures of Ernest Clark

By Wayne Clark

“Ernie, I have thought about what you said the other day when the cows got out and the answer is yes. Yes, I will wait for you while you are away at school.” Pearl breathed a sigh of relief now that she had made the decision. “After all, I’ll be teaching school while you are away.”

All too soon it was time to board the train bound for Boulder, Colorado. Ernie gave his mother a hug and shook his father’s hand and then turned to Pearl.

Tears were streaming down her cheeks as she said good-by. Ernie wasn’t sure how to say ‘good-by’ very well but Pearl knew and rushed to him with outstretched arms. “I will miss you!”

“I will miss you too,” said Ernie as he boarded the westbound train.

October, 1899

Dear Pearl,

Today is enrollment and to my surprise I am going to be the only male in the RN class. I have already talked to the instructor who reminds me of your father. He is a Christian doctor with years of experience. I’m very anxious to get started with classes. I have two years of studies and then I can practice almost anywhere. I have thought about becoming a missionary to Oregon. As you know my brother John is going out west.

You should see the mountains and evergreen trees here, there are fruit orchards everywhere, I would love to live here.

God be with you,
Ernie Clark

April, 1900

Dear Pearl,

I have so much to tell you. This school year has gone by so fast and I have learned much. One of the patients here in the sanitarium by the name of Dr. Lewis Young has become a good friend. It is my job each day to give him baths and fomentation treatments for his tuberculosis. You would like him.

Yesterday, I was called into the sanitarium office and was asked to consider going to the southwest as a nurse/ caretaker for Dr. Young. They feel that the dry desert air will help him recover. I have accepted the job and we will leave next week for one year. I will graduate as an RN when I return. I will understand if you do not wish to wait another year for my return.

God be with you,

Ernie Clark

June, 1900

Dear Pearl,

We have set up our tent here on the outskirts of Alamos, Colorado. Our horses need a rest and Dr. Young is not doing well. Last night I baked some biscuits and after we had eaten I gave what was left to a poor, young Indian squaw. She was barefooted and her baby was so small; I can’t imagine living the way they do. Today a man on horseback rode in and was taking a federal census. I told him that we were only passing through and he said that didn’t matter. Dr. Young knew what to say and told him what he wanted to record.

God be with you,
Ernie Clark

August, 1900

Dear Pearl,

We crossed over into Mexico this morning and the heat is intense. Dr. Young is feeling much better and his coughing has calmed a lot. The landscape is so barren and dry here in Mexico but there are villages here and there. Dr. Young can speak Spanish so we can communicate with these people

Pearl, I am missing you greatly but I keep busy so the days go by quickly. I’m keeping a diary of our trip so you can read it when I return. I learned today that there is no post office here in this part of Mexico so you won’t hear from me for a few months.

God be with you,
Ernie Clark

July, 1901

Dear Pearl,

I have so much to tell you when I return. It’s been a busy year and as you will see by the postmark that I am writing you from Carlsbad, New Mexico. Dr. Young is much improved and we have the covered wagon headed north. I have no way of knowing if you have received my letters but it helps my loneliness to write anyway.

God be with you,
Ernie Clark

“When we being to hunger after the world, we lose our ability to show others who God is and demonstrate His character.” Chap. Gary Wagner

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WANDERLUST GUIDE

By Jeanie Reed

October's bright, blue weather—one of my mom's favorite expressions for this time of year. And this year there has been an abundant number of days that showcased this axiom. October is a great month for photography, and hiking, and my most recent foray took me to McDowell Creek County Park, where I could indulge both the hiking—relatively mild, and the photography—stupendous views of autumnal gold, and crashing water. Taking Mom along to enjoy the fall scenery, I popped out of the car at the lower parking lot and began my exercise for the day. Dan and Mom drove to the up-

per parking lot, near Majestic Falls, and sat in the comfort of the car whilst enjoying the golden glow, and waiting for me to heave into sight.

First to catch my eye was a small cluster of 'shrooms—green 'shrooms—I've only seen them 1 other place, and they peeked out at me from their rocky niche.

Then on to Royal Terrace Falls, which still has a lovely amount of water, and an amazing autumnal glow that made for an amazing sight in the late afternoon sun.

I don't know how long this hike would take if you just hiked it—

I've never done that; there are too many of God's natural blessings about—I have to stop and praise God for them with voice, awed eyes and the camera.

Across the road, on up the creek, ending at the base of Majestic Falls—restorative soul food!