On Dec. 28, 2017, the ADRA Canada board of directors voted unanimously to appoint Stephen Matthews as the executive director of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Canada. Matthews will succeed the former executive director, James Astleford, who retired on Jan. 1, 2018.

Elliot Smith’s college advisor pulled him aside and used the term “depression” with him. “I did what a lot of people do — I didn’t want to talk about it,” said Smith. But he started sharing his struggles with his advisor and says that she opened his eyes to the reality of his disease. Smith realized it wasn’t something he could just “pray away.”
God is in the business of transforming each of us, but He only can do it by us keeping our eyes fixed on Him. ... God wants to transform us. He knows we can't do it by ourselves. He says, “Watch me. Look at what I’ve done, and it will literally transform you. You have a way back in.” READ MORE of this devotional article.

It's important for non-profits to embrace video as a marketing and ministry tool. CLICK HERE for 10 basic tips to help your video content cut through the clutter online and leave a lasting impression on viewers.

ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

Adventist Health Chooses Cerner for Revenue Cycle, Cloud-Based Clinical Apps (Calif.)

Adventist Health Clinic and Urgent Care Open for Business in Banks (Ore.)

Riverdale Seventh-day Adventist Church Closes (Mich.)

Art Professor's Exhibit "Precarious Structures" Opens at Southern Adventist University (Tenn.)

Adventist Health Creates Sock Bonanza for the Homeless (Ore.)

Adventist Health Employees Bring Joy to 200 Local Families (Calif.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RESOURCES
New Programs on Hope Channel! Tune in to catch new programs on Hope Channel like Mike Tucker’s *Home At Last; FAQ*, host by Dr. Ron Clouzet; and *Faith & Life*, where you can learn practical ways to apply faith and Scripture to everyday living. Check out our online program guide to find air dates and times.

Safety Sabbath 2018 is Coming! If an active shooter entered your church, would you know what to do? Would your church members know how to respond, or what the church emergency plan is for active shooter incidents? Prepare your church for emergencies by conducting an active shooter drill on Safety Sabbath, March 24. Register now at SafetySabbath.com to get your FREE resources for Safety Sabbath 2018!

NAD Stewardship Ministries creates an offertory reading booklet each year as a resource for churches to use each week in their offering appeals. CLICK HERE for the electronic versions of the booklet. In addition to English, it is available in Spanish, French, and Portuguese. If you have any questions about this resource, please contact Bonita Shields at bonitashields@nadadventist.org.

2018 NAD Human Resources Conference to be held on April 22-24. The conference is planned for all conference/union human resources directors, secretaries, treasurers, academy treasurers, college and university directors and university VPs of finance. Get Early Bird registration through February 28! Reserve a hotel by March 20.

The final One project gathering will take place in San Diego, Calif., on Feb. 11-12. The two-day conference is focused on developing a stronger faith in Jesus through community and conversation. The theme for this gathering is “Oh, How I Love Jesus!” CLICK
We've moved! The North American Division Headquarters has moved to a new location. Our new address is 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046. The NAD offices are open regular business hours, Monday through Thursday, at this new address. Phone number: 443-391-7200. Fax: 443-259-4884.

CALENDAR

January

13 Offering: Local Conference Advance
20 Offering: Local Church Budget
27 Offering: North American Division
(Emphasis: Religious Liberty)

January Focus:
Friendship
Evangelism

Month of Prayer:
Adventist Mission

February

3 Offering: Local Church Budget
3-24 Black History Month
10 Christian Marriage Sabbath
10 Health Ministries Sabbath
10 Offering: World Budget (Emphasis:
Adventist Television Ministries)
10-17 Christian Family Week
17 Christian Parenting Sabbath
17 Offering: Local Church Budget

February Focus:
Family Life

Month of Prayer:
ADVENTIST WORLD - NAD EDITION

NAD Feature: "Do We Hear Their Voices?" by Brenda Dickerson, pp. 30-31

NAD News: Student's Film Nominated for an Oscar, Lake Union Elects Maurice R. Valentine as President, Pathfinders Participate in First-Ever Mongolia Camporee, Beloved La Sierra University Professor Passes Away, pp. 13-15

NAD Update: "Building for the Future on the Back of a Bike," by Kimberly Luste Maran, pp. 16-17

NAD Perspective: "The Fragrance of Our Gracious God" by Daniel R. Jackson, p. 21

This magazine is mailed to Adventists in North America; click HERE to read online.

VIEWPOINTS
"You know, I do work in Secretariat and I just don't think that if Jesus was here, that He would spend a lot of time taking minutes! ... I mean, somebody has to do it! But I just want to ask the Lord as I start this new year that I don't get so busy with doing "church" and "the Lord's business" that I forget about the people who the Lord's business is supposed to be for. ... [We] get so busy with the work of the church that we forget about the purpose of the church and that God will give us the wisdom, energy, and compassion of Jesus Christ for those [in need]."

— G. Alexander Bryant, NAD Executive Secretary, speaking at NAD staff worship Jan. 10, 2018