



Seventh-day
Adventist® Church
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

News and Information from the North American Division

NEWSPOINTS

February 23, 2023



One year ago, on Feb. 19, 2022, the Oakwood Adventist Academy Mustangs high school basketball team did not play in the Alabama High School Athletic Association State Tournament in Jacksonville, Ala., due to the AHSSA not honoring the school's Sabbath accommodation request. This year, after a [new rule was adopted by the AHSSA](#) that provides for member schools with objections to playing on any day to give notice to the association each fall before the school year, the team is back in the



"To go or not to go?" That was the question! We had just been informed that John, my husband, had idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, a terminal disease, and he had anywhere from six months to two years to live. After collecting our breath (literally), and crying together, we refocused our future on the eternal. It seemed clear that the Lord was leading us to serve as AVS volunteers in Malawi. [MORE](#)

post-season this week. [WATCH](#) OAA's inspiring story from last year.



Southwestern Adventist University recently hosted the largest basketball tournament in the NAD with more than a thousand in attendance. Twenty-five Adventist academies and Christian high schools brought 48 teams from all across the U.S. to Keene, Texas, to play in the 27th SWAU Annual Hoops Classic tournament. While on campus, students got a taste of what it is like to be a student there, including a spiritual experience. [MORE](#)



Delegates of the Atlantic Union College Corporation Constituency Session voted on Feb. 14, 2023, to approve a recommendation to negotiate with Seventh-day Adventist higher education institutions to create a “Hub of Education” where higher education courses and degrees will be offered on the campus. The delegates voted unanimously to authorize the board to begin implementing steps to create this hub. “The community, along with the young adults throughout our union, has been asking for this,” said Pierre E. Omeler, Atlantic Union Conference president. [MORE](#)

ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

[The Adventist Truth and Sojourner’s Legacy \(Lake Union *Herald* special article\)](#)

[Adventist Health to Break Ground on New Concoran Medical Office](#)

[Jacksonville Churches Come Together for ‘Stand up Against the Violence’ Rally \(Fla.\)](#)

[City of Lansing Agrees to Consent Decree to Settle Lawsuit Over Religious Discrimination \(Mich.\)](#)

[East St. Paul Church Fire Deemed Not Suspicious, Cause Undetermined \(Minn.\)](#)

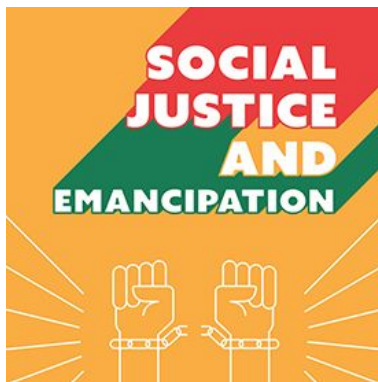
[The Sky Is the Limit for Allen; Local Student-Athlete to Graduate From Washington Adventist University \(Md.\)](#)

[Adventhealth Partners With California School to Train More Orlando Doctors \(Calif.\)](#)

[Adventist Healthcare Opens New Vascular Lab in Prince George's County \(Md.\)](#)

[Mid-Columbia Medical Center in The Dalles, Oregon, joins Adventist Health](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RESOURCES



Get your church or school group ready for Black History Month with this study guide. The 2023 Black History Month Bible Study Guide is for churches and schools who would like to study what the Word of God says about emancipation. Each week there will be different topics relating to emancipation with daily lessons following the theme. [View on AdventSource.](#)



Every church is vulnerable to fire — no matter the size of your congregation or where your church is located. Having a plan to evacuate the church in case of fire is vital to the safety of your members. Practicing your plan is just as important as having a plan. That's what Safety Sabbath is all about. Register your church today to take part in Safety Sabbath and practice a fire drill with your congregation on March 25, 2023. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more/register.

The 2023 NAD Human Resources Conference will be held on April 23-25 in Chantilly, VA. The conference is planned for all conference/union human



resources directors, secretaries, treasurers, academy treasurers, college and university directors, and university VPs of finance. Register [here](#) by March 24. Click [here](#) for hotel reservations by April 3.



Join us at the 2023 "Power to Heal" NAD Health Summit to refresh your skills, gain more tools and resources for health ministry, connect with others who are passionate about health, be inspired as you serve others, be reenergized, and so much more! [Registration](#) is open, and space is limited. Make your plans now for this live, in-person conference, to be held in Lexington, Ky., on April 2-8.



Discovery Mountain audio available for purchase — We've now gone fully digital! In line with current tech and rising costs, we've moved away from selling season CD sets and have started selling digital/MP3 downloads of all seasons [in our store](#). This is a great option if you're looking for a more permanent/offline way to listen to Discovery Mountain, like on road trips. To learn all about the digital download format, as well as ways for kids to listen screen-free, read our Studio Scoop post [here](#).



Kids need never be bored! LifeTalk Kids offers stellar programs 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Discover great programs like: Discovery Mountain, Your Story Hour, Adventures in Odyssey, Awesome Science, Brinkman Adventures, Lamplighter Theatre, Pathways of the Pioneers, Sailor Sam and more. LifeTalk Kids is great for kids of all ages. Kids grow better with radio! Fuel their imagination and

engage their curiosity. Help your kids learn and have fun at: LifeTalkKids.net.



Would you like some short videos to help inspire your friends and family? Jesus 101 has released new free downloadable inspirational videos that you can use as a valuable resource to share your faith, in both English and Spanish. These short videos cover doctrinal topics such as Creation, the Second Coming, Sabbath rest, Prayer, etc. in a Christ-centered manner. Click to access the videos in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#). Take advantage of this free resource today!



The dates for the International Pathfinder Camporee are August 5-11, 2024, in Gillette, Wyoming. The 2024 Believe the Promise Camporee will highlight the exciting story of Moses and Miriam in an exciting production each evening as well as offer various honors and activities each day that Pathfinders from around the world will enjoy. We hope to see you there! [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.



Season 5 of *Authentic* Debuts Nationwide – Join Shawn Boonstra of the Voice of Prophecy as he starts with “The Four Witnesses,” a five-part exploration of the four gospels, their authors, and their different themes and approaches that still astonish readers today. This series and other *Authentic* episodes can be viewed on 3ABN and Hope Channel, and at vop.com/authentic.

EVENTS CALENDAR

February

[Camp Meeting](#)

- 4 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 11 [Adventist Television Ministries Evangelism](#)
- 18 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 25 [Local Conference Advance](#)

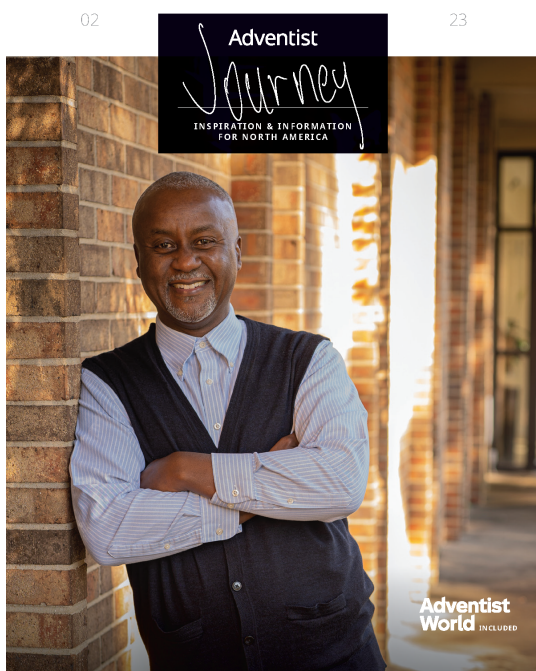
[Calendar](#)

[Adventist Mission](#)

March

- 4 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 11 [Adventist World Radio](#)
- 18 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 25 [Local Conference Advance](#)

ADVENTIST JOURNEY



Cover: *Boyd Stephens, Entrepreneur, IT company founder, and “community steward,” from Montgomery, Alabama*

Feature: *"The Righteous Mission of Message" by Carmela Monk Crawford, pp. 04-06*

Mission Upfront: *"See You in the Morning" by Sharon Pittman, pp. 08-09*

NAD News Briefs: *"NAD Distributes 10,000 Pounds of Fresh Produce; Sonscreen Film Festival Hosts Second Virtual Filmmaker Mixer; New Leaders In Place at the North American Division in Fall 2022," pp. 10-12*

Perspective: *"The Star of Hope" by Washington Johnson II, p. 13*

This magazine is mailed to Adventists in North America; click [HERE](#) to view the February issue online. [WATCH](#) the cover video.

VIEWPOINTS



Called

"God doesn't call us to positions. God does not call us to locations. He calls us to obedience, and surrender, wherever that is."

— Ann Roda, Adventist HealthCare Vice President for Mission and Spiritual Care, during her NAD Week of Prayer devotional talk on Feb. 22, 2023

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