



Seventh-day
Adventist® Church
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

News and Information from the North American Division

NEWSPOINTS

December 20, 2023



“Seasons’ greetings and happy holidays to our North American Division family! In a time of wars, political divisions, cultural disputes, cynicism, and loneliness, the message of Jesus, even in this season is peace on earth, goodwill toward men. Immanuel means ‘God is present with us.’ ... He is here. It doesn’t take away the circumstances of life, however, it’s a reminder that the challenges of life don’t eclipse His presence.” [READ/VIEW](#); or



The North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists held the 2023 Leadership Summit at its headquarters in Columbia, Md., on Nov. 12. The theme of the day-long event was “Developing Effective Teams.” About 200 people attended in person, while about 700 attended virtually. [MORE](#)

[WATCH](#) this holiday video message.



“At PELC, you just might experience spontaneous praise syndrome!” said Oakwood

University Church pastor Kimberly Mann in her welcome to the 2023 Pastoral Evangelism and Leadership Council (PELC), held on the university campus in Huntsville, Ala., on Dec. 3-6. [MORE](#)



The 2023 NAD Educators’ Convention in Phoenix, Ariz., was a time of spiritual rejuvenation, learning, and fellowship. Reflecting on the rich, yet somewhat turbulent history of Adventist education, the convention introduced “Turning Points,” a six-part video series jointly produced by the NAD Office of Education and the Department of Archives, Statistics, and Research. It’s one of the first efforts to produce a film series specifically highlighting the origins of Adventist education. [MORE](#)

ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

[Highland Adventist School Presents Annual Christmas Play \(W.Va.\)](#)

[Riverdale ‘Supercentenarian’ Celebrates 110th Birthday \(N.Y.\)](#)

[A Joyful Noise: Mason City Church Is Host to Live Nativity \(Iowa\)](#)

[Nurse’s Mission Leads Adventhealth to Donate 9 Aeds to Littleton Schools \(Colo.\)](#)

[Foundation Funds Tree-Planting at Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley \(Calif.\)](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RESOURCES

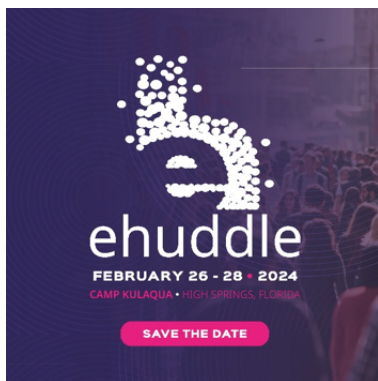


No NAD NewsPoints until 2024! We hope you enjoy our special edition next week, and we will see you again in 2024 with our regular editions starting up again on Jan. 10! Until then please enjoy our frequently updated [News page](#); or [Adventist Journey magazine](#). Each cover story of the magazine is a video that you can watch right from the NAD website!

Don't miss special Christmas concerts on LifeTalk Radio during Christmas week each evening at 9 p.m. ET, Dec. 21-25. Concerts include: Christmas in MyHeart, The Wondrous Gift, The Promise, Handel's Messiah and more. Invite your friends to listen to LifeTalk Radio online at: [LifeTalk.net](#) and [LifeTalkMusic.net](#). Also available on Roku, Amazon Echo, Google Home, or listen anywhere with our handy LifeTalk Radio App. Download it FREE at: [lifetalk.net/connect](#).

Are you a ministry leader passionate about young adult ministry? The [Young Adult LIFE Tour](#) is coming to the Mid-America Union on Jan. 26-27, 2024. This free training event will take place at the College View Church, Lincoln, Neb., and will offer expert practical training, exclusive resources, inspirational worship, ministry networking, and meals. It's an opportunity for church leaders, parents, pastors, elders, and young adults to unite and shape a church community where every generation is valued, connected, and empowered. Free registration at [youngadulthoodlife.com](#).

Get ready for an unforgettable experience at ehuddle 2024! Held from Feb. 26-28 at Camp Kulaqua, Fla., we welcome pastors and volunteer lay



pastors to join this event. Alongside union and conference leaders, dive into discussions with our South Pacific Division guests, exploring innovative church growth and evangelism practices. Don't miss out — free registration opens soon, and offers access, daily lunches, and exclusive gear. Note: Lodging is separate, with additional meal options available.



Is there someone in your life dealing with substance abuse? Jeremy Miller, known for his role as Ben Seaver on the hit sitcom *Growing Pains*, along with his fiancée, Joanie Miller, are going to share their personal journey of how Jeremy has managed to channel his own pain and tragedy into opportunities to help others. [WATCH IT HERE!](#)



Attention Educators! Check out the Winter 2023 edition of the NAD Adventist Education Engage newsletter! Read articles with NAD Education updates, tips on technology use in schools, creative ideas for classroom learning, mental health challenge, curriculum developments, and much more. And [CLICK HERE](#) for an option to subscribe (at bottom of page).

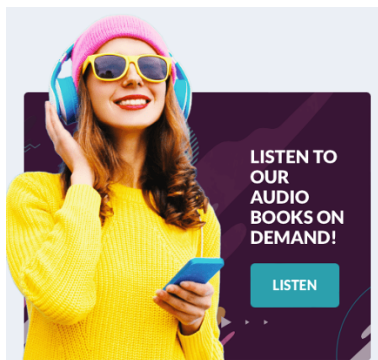


We all handle rejection differently, but it's important we keep moving forward regardless. Join us as we talk with acclaimed actress Kathy Garver, to hear her thoughts on self-image and discuss her passion for living every minute. [WATCH IT HERE!](#)

Get Ready for [The Bible Lab](#) Global Launch on YouTube! Join the global conversation about the character of God, starting Dec. 9 at 10:30 a.m. PT. Share your thoughts live, connect your loved ones, and be part of something groundbreaking. Your voice



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matters. Be there when the world tunes in! Beginning Dec. 9, a direct link to the live stream will be at the top of The Bible Lab's homepage. [WATCH IT HERE!](#) The Bible Lab is a ministry of [Faith For Today](#).

Exciting news for social media users! If you've ever wanted to share your faith in practical and meaningful ways on social media, but weren't sure how to do it effectively, check out the NAD resources [HERE](#). It's not just about sharing faith online; it's about fostering faith-based communities. The NAD training resources are the place to help you become a successful digital disciple.

View the 2018-2023 NAD Adventist Education Progress Report by clicking [HERE](#). The purpose of this report is to describe the status of education in the North American Division, including early childhood through higher education programs. View the full report at [this link](#).

Do you love listening to audiobooks on the go? Jesus 101 has a variety of audiobooks available for free on the Jesus 101 mobile app, Apple Podcast, Google Play, and www.Jesus101.tv. Audiobooks are available in both English and Spanish and include some of Pacific Press's best sellers: *Surprised by Love*, *Radical Discipleship*, *Revelation: The Fifth Gospel*, and more titles by Dr. Elizabeth Talbot.

Breath of Life: Fresh Start Sundays now airing on LifeTalk Radio! Four new inspirational programs have been added to the line up from Breath of Life Ministries. The first and third Sundays of the month



will feature *Scripture Lab* hosted by Pastor Debleaire Snell, speaker/director for Breath of Life. On the second Sunday of the month listen to *Point of View*, a program on marriage and family life, hosted by Snell and his wife, Gianna. The program on the fourth Sunday is called *Vision Sunday*, hosted by Snell and Kirk Nugent. On months with a fifth Sunday, Pastor Snell will host a program focusing on lifestyle and well-being called *Healthier U*. For a complete LifeTalk program schedule for your time zone visit: lifetalk.net/program-schedule



Christian Record Services is a ministry of the **Seventh-day Adventist Church in North**

America serving people of all faiths and walks of life who are blind worldwide. Churches, individuals, and businesses provide support for services. All who are legally blind or have physical impairments that prevent them from holding reading material or focusing on ink print are eligible for these free services: [Full-Vision Books](#); [Gift Bibles](#) and [Study Guides](#); [Naomi Chapman Turner Library for the Blind](#); [National Camps for Blind Children \(NCBC\)](#); [Subscription Magazines](#); and [Zoo Buds](#). Service may vary by region due to contractual agreements.

EVENTS CALENDAR

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- 02 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 09 [Adventist Community Services](#)
- 16 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 23 [Local Conference Advance](#)
- 30 [Union Designated](#)

[Camp Meeting](#)
[Calendar](#)

[Adventist Mission](#)

January

- 06 [Local Church Budget](#)

13 [Religious Liberty](#)

20 [Local Church Budget](#)

27 [Local Conference Advance](#)

ADVENTIST JOURNEY



Cover: Jennifer Tomita, early childhood education director at the Maui Adventist Pre-Elementary School in Kahului, Hawaii

Feature: "Divine Genius: Funding the Seventh-day Adventist Worldwide Movement " by Randy Robinson, pp. 04-07

NAD Update: "Adventist Information Ministry's New Suicide Prevention Course a Lifeline for Callers" by Christelle Agboka, pp. 08-09

NAD News Briefs: "Sonscreen Film "Those Were the Good Days" Wins Award, Receives Accolades at Several Festivals" by Kimberly Luste Maran, p. 11

Perspective: "Seeking the Lost" by John Bradshaw, p. 13

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

VIEWPOINTS



For Unto Us a Child Is Born ...

"For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

— *Isaiah 9:6, NKJV*

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