



Seventh-day  
Adventist Church  
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

News and Information from the North American Division

# NEWSPOINTS

December 5, 2024



**At the 2024 NAD Year-End Meeting, evangelism was a recurring theme, evidenced in reports on how NAD departments and territories are leveraging their resources to spread the gospel. Evangelism took the spotlight on day three of the business meetings, Sunday, Nov. 3, with attendees tackling questions clarifying mission in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. [MORE](#)**



**On Sunday, Nov. 3, AdventHealth leaders presented a portrait of Charles E. Bradford at the NAD Year-End Meeting in Columbia, Md. The painting — *Preaching the Word* — was commissioned by AdventHealth in 2000. It was designed to honor Bradford's leadership while serving on the AdventHealth board and to celebrate his treasured friendships with former CEO Mardian Blair and others. [MORE](#)**



**Research on the high energetic cost of color change in octopuses, conducted by Kirt Onthank, biology professor at Walla Walla University, and WWU graduate Sofie Sonner, has been published in one of the world's most prestigious and cited scientific journals, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS). Onthank's and Sonner's findings have sparked interest in the scientific community, and within hours of the initial PNAS publication, *Popular Science* and *ScienceAlert* also published stories about the research. [MORE](#)**



**The Association of Adventist Women has named Elizabeth Talbot, Ph.D., the 2024 Woman of the Year for spiritual leadership and media ministry. Talbot was presented this honorary award at the Association of Adventist Women banquet on Oct. 12. Talbot was recognized for her commitment to sharing Jesus through her preaching, writing, and visual ministry. [MORE](#)**



**Have you ever hit rock bottom and found hope from an unexpected source? For a 16-year-old girl from California, that hope came in the form of a**

## Southern Adventist University has experienced record growth in recent years, fostering new

opportunities for students and expanding their experiences and avenues for success. The largest freshman class in university history enrolled in 2023, and, this year, Southern is hosting its largest ever undergraduate student body. [MORE](#)

pocket-sized Signs of the Times given to her by a stranger on an Amtrak train. Hers is one of countless stories of a tract sparking transformation. Take advantage of the holidays, and a limited sale, to spread the love of God organically with these life-changing materials. [MORE](#)

---

## ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

[Seventh-day Adventists \[Union\] Headquarters Plan Move to Westborough \(Mass.\)](#)

[Music Lovers Thrilled at Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra's First Concert of the Season \(Ore.\)](#)

[AdventHealth West Florida Hospital Now Using AI Technology for Early Colon Cancer Detection \(Fla.\)](#)

[AdventHealth Signs Deal to Buy Two Hospitals in Charlotte County; Sale to Close Early 2025 \(Fla.\)](#)

---

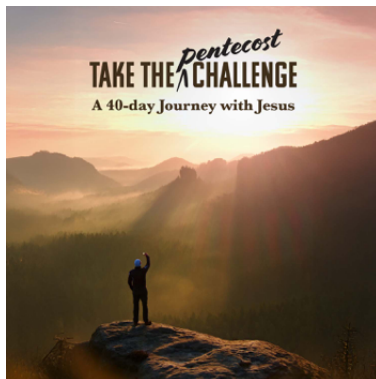
## ANNOUNCEMENTS & RESOURCES



**Our regularly scheduled NAD NewsPoints will be not be published next week.** Please check out the NAD's social media ([Facebook](#), Twitter (X), [Instagram](#)) for new content, or visit the NAD Homepage for [news](#) and much more. And [click here](#) to read/watch *Adventist Journey* magazine stories and videos.

**Don't miss special nightly Christmas concerts on LifeTalk Radio during the Christmas season**—each evening at 9 pm ET, beginning





December 6 through December 25. Invite your friends to listen to LifeTalk Radio online at: [LifeTalk.net](https://www.lifetalk.net) and [LifeTalkMusic.net](https://www.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](https://www.lifetalk.net/connect)

**The Annual Day of Giving for Adventist Community Services is on Sabbath**, December 14, 2024. This offering keeps volunteers serving communities across the North American Division. Whether distributing food and clothes, welcoming refugees, teaching life skills, or offering showers to the unsheltered, ACS fulfills Christ's mission to reach people by meeting needs and making communities places of wholeness. Plan now to give at your church on December 14 or give [here](#) online.

**Ready to strengthen your faith and grow in confidence in God's promises?** Embark on a 40-day journey with Jesus, designed not for mere fasting or prayer, but for intentional, daily time with Him. This challenge, starting now, is all about personal spiritual growth and transformation —a journey to be inspired, empowered, and changed from the inside out. Over these 40 days, deepen your relationship with Jesus and experience the life-changing power of consistent time in His presence. Embrace the challenge and be transformed! Click [here](#) to learn more.

**NEWS: The NAD Office of Volunteer Ministries is pleased to share the announcement** that Sterling Volunteers has been successfully acquired by First Advantage. They will continue to provide their excellent partnership and service as a First Advantage company. The trusted Adventist Screening Verification (ASV) platform and exceptional customer service remain



unchanged. We are excited to continue our partnership with Sterling as a First Advantage company and look forward to new products and services to help you hire smarter and onboard faster. Click [here](#) to view the press release from First Advantage.



**Jesus 101 is giving away the perfect stocking stuffer, *Luke: Salvation for All*** – a booklet that follows the shepherds’ story on the hills of Bethlehem. Additionally, Jesus 101 has a video devotional series based on the gospel of Luke, that helps you and your loved ones connect with God in just 8 minutes. [Check out this series](#) to find out how God’s grace reaches out to everyone! For your free copy of *Luke: Salvation for All*, download the Jesus 101 mobile app and enter the code XMAS into the Book Offers section. Code valid thru December 31, 2024. Limit 1 copy per household. US and Canada only.



**With [Pentecost 2025](#), our goal in North America is to hold at least 3,000 proclamation initiatives in 2025**, more than 4,100 have already signed up; funding is still available for approved events — DEADLINE is Dec. 31, 2024! [LEARN MORE/FAQS](#). Check out our [news page](#); and consider donating to your local church's Pentecost 2025 initiative through the [AdventistGiving platform](#).

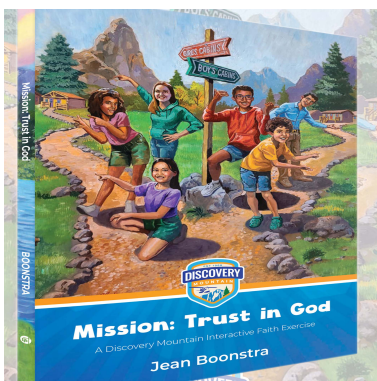


**Share Christ with the children in your community through our My Place With Jesus resources.** Our notes and bookmarks are perfect for school giveaways, birthday parties, Halloween, and stocking stuffers! Check out our [Sunshine Notes](#), [Journey Through the Bible Bookmarks \(Spanish\)](#), and [My Place With Jesus Bookmarks \(Spanish\)](#).

**It Is Written has recently released two new episodes of its flagship program.** In [“1, 2, 3, 4,](#)



Prayer, join John Bradshaw as he explores transformative prayers from Scripture and discover four simple steps that will empower you to pray effective prayers. In “Daniel the Prophet: Ten Times Better,” learn how Daniel and his three friends were able to thrive under trying circumstances and how important it is to remain committed to your beliefs. Watch on It Is Written TV.



**Are you ready for a faith exercise mission?** Ms. Jean has written a fun interactive story with *Mission: Trust in God*, a brand-new *Discovery Mountain* book published by our friends at Pacific Press. Your journey begins at Lookout Ledge, where you lose something important and begin to panic . . . As you choose different story paths in your search across town, you’ll meet Jake, Natasha, Cyrus, Carson, Sam, and other friendly faces. They’ll help you ultimately learn how to calm your anxieties and place your trust in God. Click here to visit [vop.com/store](http://vop.com/store) and pick up copies for you and your friends



**Lifestyle with Roy Ice has just released a new season of episodes.** This award-winning talk show focuses on living your best life; featuring discussions, interviews, and demonstrations centered around whole life health. Some of the guests from this season include: Alison Arngrim, Dean Butler, Nikki DeLoach, Billy Gardell, J. Scott Reed, Lara Love Hardin, Josh and Lauren Swickard, and many more. To watch the latest shows, visit: [www.lifestyle.org](http://www.lifestyle.org).

**Study the book of John this quarter with It Is Written Sabbath School** host Eric Flickinger and Dr. Thomas R. Shepherd, co-author of this quarter’s Bible study guide. A new half-hour program is released every Sabbath that coordinates with the lesson study. Watch on YouTube or It Is Written TV.



**Season 8 of *Authentic* is in full swing! Join host Shawn Boonstra** as he cuts to the core of our fallen human nature and heaven’s radical remedy. He discusses dealing with anger, our deep natural dislike for rules and authority, and most of all, why God’s moral law and commandments are more relevant than ever. New episodes come out every Friday at 7 ET—catch them on our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) channels, plus at [vop.com/authentic](http://vop.com/authentic).

**Pentecost 2025 is an exciting initiative by the North American Division**, calling Seventh-day Adventist churches across North America to unite in hosting more than 3,000 evangelistic events throughout 2025. It Is Written is excited to provide a variety of resources designed to support pastors, churches, and lay members in sharing the message of hope and faith during this significant year. Click [here](#) to learn more.

**[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

### December

- 07 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 14 [Adventist Community Services](#)
- 21 [Local Church Budget](#)
- 28 [Local Conference Advance](#)

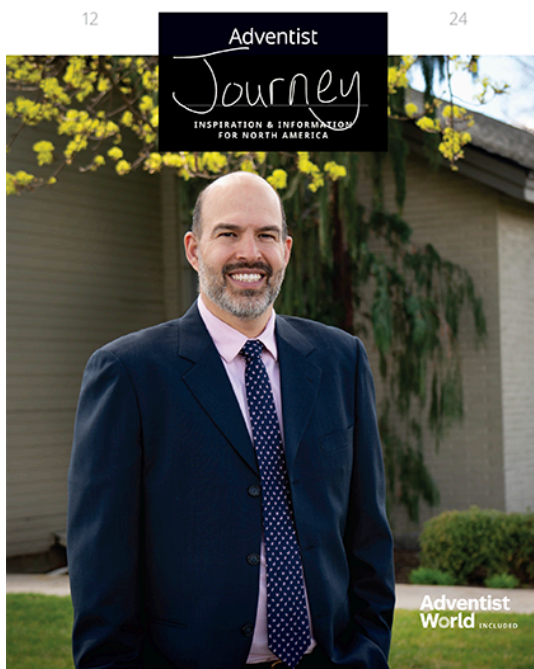
[Camp Meeting  
Calendar](#)

[Adventist Mission](#)

### January

- 04 [Local Church Budget](#)
  - 11 [Religious Liberty](#)
  - 18 [Local Church Budget](#)
  - 25 [Local Conference Advance](#)
- 

## ADVENTIST JOURNEY



**Cover:** Jonathan Calderon, Kennewick, Washington, Elementary School Teacher

**Feature:** "New Children's Sabbath School Curriculum Alive in Jesus to Roll Out in 2025" by Kimberly Maran, with reporting from Nina Atcheson and Sherri Uhrig pp. 04-07

**NAD Update:** "Proclaiming God's Love for 150 Years" by Christelle Agboka, pp. 08-10

**Perspective:** "Hope at 30,000 Feet" by Carl McRoy, p. 11

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

---

## VIEWPOINTS



### **Call Upon Him in Faith**

"Prayer moves the arm of Omnipotence. He who marshals the stars in order in the heavens, whose word controls the waves of the great deep — the same infinite Creator will work in behalf of His people if they call upon Him in faith."

*—Ellen G. White, Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, p. 453*

---

## NAD MEDIA MINISTRIES



---

## **NAD UNION COMMUNICATION PARTNERS**

**Atlantic Union Conference**

**Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada**

**Columbia Union Conference**

**Lake Union Conference**

**Mid-America Union Conference**

**North Pacific Union Conference**

**Pacific Union Conference**

**Southern Union Conference**



# Southwestern Union Conference

---

[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Vimeo](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Website](#)



[Forward to a Friend](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [NewsPoints Archives and PDFs](#)

2024 North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists | 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046  
Kimberly Maran, director, NewsPoints editor | Julio Muñoz, associate director | Art Brondo, editorial assistant

---

North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists · 9705 Patuxent Woods Dr. · Columbia, MD 21046 · USA