

This is an official e-publication of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

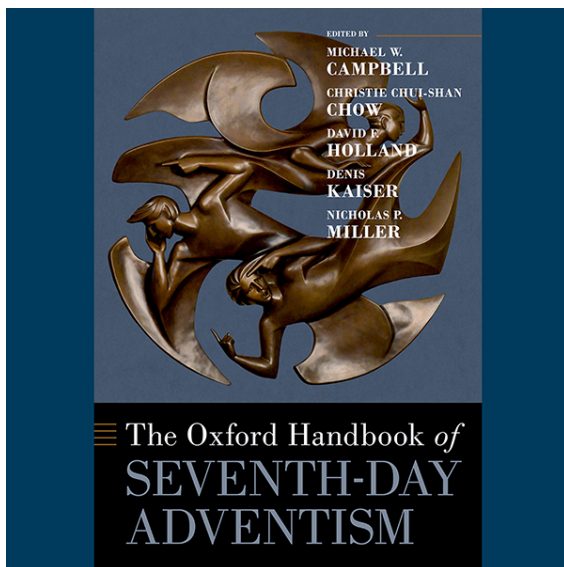


Seventh-day
Adventist Church
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

News and Information from the North American Division

NEWSPOINTS

January 22, 2025



Ten years ago, after delivering a presentation at the annual American Society of Church History meeting, Michael Campbell, NAD director of Archives, Statistics, and Research, pitched the idea of a book on Adventism to the head book editor at Oxford University Press. Intrigued by Campbell's introduction to Adventist scholarship, the editor invited him to submit a proposal. Their conversation was the catalyst for the groundbreaking Oxford Handbook of



Around 5:30 a.m. on Jan. 8, the alert sounded on Southern California Conference president John Cress's phone. He and his wife would have to evacuate their home in the Glen Oaks neighborhood of Glendale as the Eaton Fire charred a path toward them. The sky was black with smoke and tinged with red and orange. [MORE](#)

Seventh-day Adventism. [MORE](#)



During their senior year, Luke Graham and Avianna Alvarez, Walla Walla University engineering alumni, were two of 16 student finalists chosen for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Pressure Vessel Piping Conference student paper competition. The PVP conference offers a platform for students and engineers to keep up with new technologies and network with experts. At the 2024 conference in July, Graham and Alvarez presented their work to a group of 40 engineers from around the world. [MORE](#)



Adventist Health Glendale and Adventist Health Global Mission are partnering with the Southern California Conference and the Pasadena Seventh-day Adventist Church to begin offering help (and hope) for residents of Altadena and Pasadena affected by the ongoing fires. The initial phases of response began Jan. 10, and will continue during the coming months. [MORE](#)



On Wednesday evening, January 8, 2025, the North American Division hosted a special prayer meeting to launch the world church's 10



Days of Prayer with emphasis on "Seeking God's Spirit" for Pentecost 2025. "We're delighted to have you here with us tonight. We're excited about what God is going to do and about His promises, and tonight, we're going to claim those promises." NAD president G. Alexander Bryant said in his greetings. [MORE](#)

Jack J. Blanco, former dean of the Southern Adventist University School of Religion and professor emeritus, and author of *The Clear Word* Bible paraphrase, passed peacefully to his rest on Sabbath, January 11, 2025. He was 95. [MORE](#)

ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

[Adventhealth's Dr. Ryan Reed Shares AI Insights in Health Care Roundtable \(Fla.\)](#)

[Doctors Tracking a Big Increase in Flu and RSV Cases \(Fla.\)](#)

[Coast Health Care District Finalizes Negotiations With Adventist Health Before Deadline \(Calif.\)](#)

[Galeton Shop Offers Assistance, Opens Food Pantry \(Pa.\)](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RESOURCES

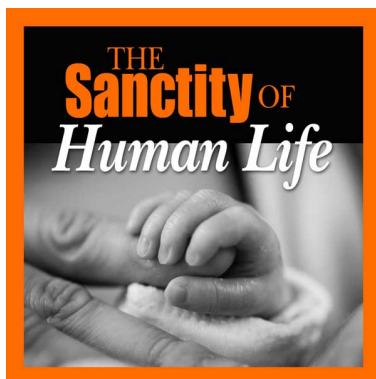
Our regularly scheduled NAD NewsPoints will be not be published next week. Please check out the NAD's social media ([Facebook](#), Twitter (X),



[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.

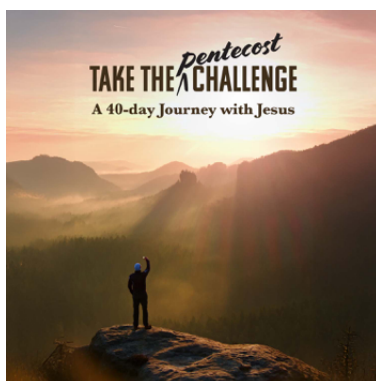


Join Safeguarding Peace, the training arm of enditnow North America, for a life-changing weekend on Feb. 9-11, 2025, in Columbia, Md. This event equips you to recognize, respond to, and prevent abuse with expert-led sessions and practical tools. Led by professionals in social work, pastoral ministry, and academia, this training empowers you to create safer communities and support survivors. Together, we can reflect Christ's love by taking a stand against abuse. [Register today](#) and help safeguard peace!



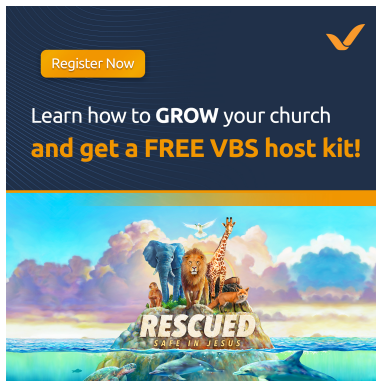
Did you know that your heart will beat more than 3.2 billion times over your lifetime?

January is designated as the Sanctity of Human Life month and January 22 is recognized annually as the National Sanctity of Human Life Day. Join [LifeTalk Radio](#) in celebrating the gift of life. Each of us has the power to choose to respect and protect the sanctity of human life. Life is beautiful, treasure it!



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.



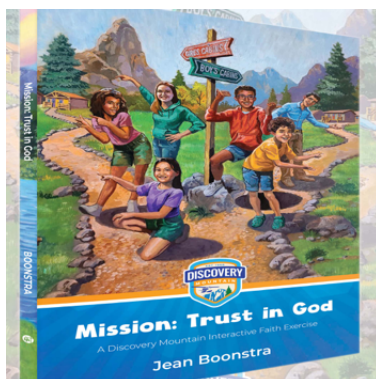
Church leaders, it's time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School! Join our Voice of Prophecy evangelism team for an open webinar on how you can use VBS to GROW your church this year. Everyone will also be able to get a FREE host kit for our VBS, *Rescued: Safe in Jesus!* Mark your calendar for Wednesday, January 22, at 12:30 p.m. ET. [Click here to reserve your spot.](#)



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.



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](https://www.youtube.com) or [It Is Written TV](http://itiswritten.tv).

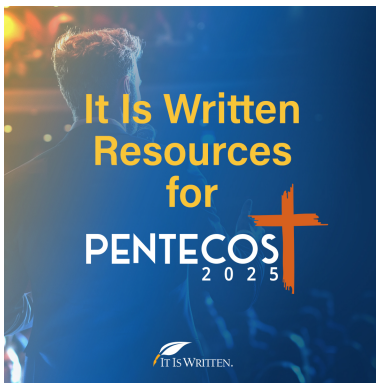


Don't miss some of Authentic's most-watched episodes!

Join host Shawn Boonstra in this winter best-of season as he cuts to the core of our fallen human nature and heaven's radical remedy. Using Scripture as his guide, he confronts tough topics like the truth about hell, slavery in the Bible, and the mystery of sin and temptation. Episodes rerun every Friday on 3ABN (6 p.m. ET) and our [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) channel (7 p.m. ET). View our entire back catalog of episodes on our [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) channel and at 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

January

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

[Camp Meeting Calendar](#)

[Adventist Mission](#)

February

- 01 [Local Church Budget](#)
 - 08 [Adventist Television Ministries Evangelism](#)
 - 15 [Local Church Budget](#)
 - 22 [Local Conference Advance](#)
-

ADVENTIST JOURNEY



Cover: Jessica Moon, wife, mom, and Adventist school principal in Dover, Delaware.

Feature: "NAD Year-end Meeting Vespers: An Upper Room Experience " by Becky St. Clair, pp. 04-05

Feature: "Faith, Determination, and Divine Power: Summary of the 2024 Year-end Meeting Sermon" by Julio C. Muñoz, pp. 06-07

NAD Update: "Coming Together in Mission: Officers Share Reports at the 2024 North American Division Year-end Meeting" by Christelle Agboka and Becky St. Clair, pp. 08-10

Perspective: "More Than One" by Angeline D. Brauer, p. 11

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

VIEWPOINTS



Start With Me

"Let us be unified in purpose, and let this change start with me. May our faith in you see ourselves as one humanity. May our faith in you help us to see past the artificial distinctions of language and color, ethnicity, culture, and religion. May our faith in you see in every human being the heartbeat of God. For Jesus said, 'Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me (Matt. 25:40, NIV).'"

— *G. Alexander Bryant, NAD president, on Jan. 22, 2025, during the annual NAD prayer breakfast hosted by the division's Public Affairs and Religious Liberty department*

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](#)

2025 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

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

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