Not Satisfied with a D
Ray learned to do his best for God.

by Martin Colebank

“I really enjoyed my time and experience at Hartland College,” Ray DeCarlo still says, twenty years after he graduated in 1989. “As I look back 20 years, I can see things taking place in my life that were stepping stones, as it were, that show the hand of God.”

When, shortly after his conversion, Ray saw his need of more Bible training, he also knew that several things stood in the way. Married and several years out of school, it would be more complicated for him and his wife to adjust to student life. He wasn’t even sure whether Hartland would accept him, because he had graduated from high school with a GPA of 1.7. He knew that doors would have to open for him.

These doors opened. Miraculously, he was accepted—though on academic probation. His wife, who had business experience, was hired by the college while he went to school. Since they were married, they couldn’t live on campus. God provided housing nearby. “One by one, everything just came into line,” Ray explains.

That was only the beginning of Ray’s journey. The 1.7 GPA high school student now had to do college work. “There was so much reading, so much homework, etc., and I’d never really been a student,” Ray recalls. But as time went on, and he began to achieve academic success, he realized that God was teaching him a very important lesson: “If you really try your very best, no matter what your grade is, then you’ve done the very best that you can do by God’s grace. And from that point forward, my focal point was not grades anymore. My focal point was doing my best, no matter what my grades would be. And that didn’t mean I was going to be satisfied with a D. I was going to try. I was going to really put forth an effort. I knew God can work miracles.”

God continued to bless Ray—whether it was his opportunity to teach Bible at Hartland Academy or his time after graduation spent as a Hartland College Bible teacher and revivalist. And Hartland prepared him for his current work at Present Truth Ministries, which he founded in 1992 and for which he is now speaker/director. “God said to me when I first came to Hartland, ‘You need to grow up in a different realm than where you are presently.’ So that’s what happened for me at Hartland. That’s my experience.”

If you want to read our interview with Ray DeCarlo, go to www.hartland.edu; to learn more about his ministry, visit www.rjtruthministries.org.
Ray DeCarlo just finished teaching two classes for us during the Winter Term—Pauline I, which he taught with Aaron Baker and Sung Hoon Kang, and Evangelism. Students give their feedback on this class, which teaches principles and methods of spreading Present Truth.

“Evangelism class was excellent! What intrigued me was learning the philosophy behind the Three Angels’ Messages—things like the order in which they should be presented. As I put my sermons together, the teacher told us—and I realized myself—that I was halfway there. Now I have the message; I just need God to show me the necessary outlet.” — Ike Anurukem, Sophomore, Nigeria

“The whole class was great – relevant, practical, and with very essential insights. I’m so much more confident now on how to preach, teach, and give Bible studies! Praise the Lord!” — Eliezer Alemeza, Junior, United Kingdom

“I enjoyed learning from the experience of Brother DeCarlo. This class gave me a better idea of how I can win souls for Christ.” — Yik Foo Soon, Senior, Malaysia

“I learned so much about evangelism in so many forms. Wherever God leads me, I already have a head start.” — Chris Fowler, Freshman, Virginia
God Rewards Pureseed’s Faith

Despite opposition from friends and family, Pureseed persevered.

by Kristine Lucrida

“You’re destroying your future; you’re crazy! We don’t approve of this!” Pureseed’s friends and family told her when she began to pursue an education at Hartland College. Pureseed herself needed to know that she wasn’t making a mistake. “I had to make sure I wasn’t hearing funny voices. My duty was to know that it was God speaking to me, not some hallucinations.”

Ever since she was a teenager, Pureseed Lefhoko from Botswana has been an active church member. Pureseed was encouraged to combine nursing skills with the health message to enhance her ministry. With this in mind she entered nursing school, but was dissatisfied with the education she was receiving and decided to leave. Then she remembered a copy of the Hartland Ministry Report she had seen. “I had never heard about a school like Hartland which offers true education before,” Pureseed relates. “I wanted to gain a true education.” But she couldn’t afford Hartland and needed a sponsor. She began to search for possible sponsorships. Many hours, days, and months were spent in fruitless quests.

After ten months of what seemed to be a hopeless hunt, God rewarded Pureseed’s faith. While she was holding a health seminar she received an email from Hartland. She skimmed through it, then rushed to her next speaking engagement. “I didn’t understand exactly, but I felt like this must be something for my sponsorship. While I was presenting my lecture, a power came over me, telling me, ‘Keep courage.’ So I went back home and I read it: ‘Missionary Training Sponsorship.’ I didn’t know what to do. I thought, Wow! God is real! God is SO real!”

“I realized that my coming to Hartland would fulfill a lot of things,” Pureseed says. Pureseed is a health major, but she is excited to be creating her first album on the side, fulfilling one of her dreams. “Singing is what I most like doing. I’ve been composing since I was 14.”

“I believe that the things I’m learning here at Hartland will help in my vision to do missionary work in Africa. After I graduate I plan to go back to Africa and establish a health institution. I am one of the people who are blessed because of your donations to the Missionary Training Fund; I am here because of your gifts. Thank you so much!”
"I didn’t know that the Roman Catholic Church changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday," said Tatenda from New Zealand after reading a *Last Generation* magazine. She wants to follow Jesus and loves to learn more about the Bible.

Ennice, who gives *Last Generation* magazines to Tatenda, loves to share it with anyone she can. "It comes across in such a friendly way," she says. "It is a regular magazine, and its style is very relaxed."

On another occasion Tatenda resolved, "Now that I’ve read about the state of the dead, I’ll never watch movies on spiritualism again!"

Ennice studies the Bible regularly with Tatenda. Obviously, Tatenda is coming closer to the truth through reading *Last Generation*. She has even learned about modesty in dress through reading the tasteful and practical articles in the magazine. "Oh," she exclaimed after reading one of the articles, "so that’s why we should dress in a certain way!"

New Zealand is a very secular country, but even there, *Last Generation* is making its way into the hearts of men and women who are longing for the truth. You can have a part in the work of *Last Generation* magazine. You, too, can use it to reach souls for Jesus, just like Ennice did.

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The Loud Cry—this is the final warning to be given to the world. Combined with the Third Angel’s Message, it will lighten the earth with its glory. You are called to be part of spreading this truth for this time. In these talks, Pastor David Kang and Sung Hoon Kang present the implications of living this message.
If anybody didn’t know the Lord before they came here, they couldn’t help knowing Him tonight,” one of our guests said after our first spring community concert. “He was in all of your faces. I didn’t know whether to cry, scream hallelujah, or sit there and pray.”

April 17-19, the Hartland College Music Department joined with Hospice of the Rapidan to help the hospice with fundraising by conducting a concert series entitled “No More Night.” Hospice of the Rapidan is a non-profit group that works to provide dignified end-of-life care for the terminally ill in our community, regardless of their ability to pay. Our singing was able not only to further this worthy cause, but also to touch the bereaved with the message of hope after the grave—the message of a life-giving Savior. We were also able to set up a booth that showcased Hartland College and the Lifestyle Education Center, which attracted many during intermission and after the program.

“We would like to come see you again,” many told us after our concerts. Some did. A few came to all three concerts we held that weekend in an assortment of Methodist and Assembly of God churches in Orange, Remington, and Warrenton. One even attended the afternoon concert at Spring Convocation a week later.

Needless to say, Hospice of the Rapidan was extremely grateful for our willingness to help them. After thanking us profusely, Kathy Clements, Executive Director of the Hospice, wrote, “No More Night’ was truly a ministry in song, and I’m sure that everyone in attendance was blessed beyond measure.”

James was one who was blessed. “The messages I heard in your songs touched me more than all the sermons I have heard in the past year.” Yes, music does move hearts, and through our music we proclaimed truths regarding the state of the dead that many would have rejected if from the pulpit. With selections like “The Blessed Hope,” “Deep River,” and “The Morning Trumpet,” our guests saw a glimpse of glory—they could leave with a greater understanding of God’s big plan.

So even if we were fundraising for another organization, God didn’t limit our music to a money drive. That we were lending our voices to an organization that benefits our neighborhood actually increased our audience’s willingness to hear the truth we sang. For James, the Holy Spirit moved through music and crafted a concert that was worth more than a year of preaching. Who dares to declare godly music lacks results? ❖
“I refuse! I’m not going to take steroids, and I don’t want a blood transfusion,” Carole Johnson declared to the doctor. “God has another way. I want God’s remedies.”

Carole, a volunteer receptionist at Hartland Institute, had been fighting a life-threatening platelet problem for the last 10 years. After a week of praying that God would show her His remedies so that she could get over her problem, she received a phone call from the Lifestyle Education Center inviting her to join their 18-day session. Recognizing the leading of Providence, she gladly accepted.

By that time her platelets were already very low. “I was getting black and blue marks all over my body. That meant that I was bleeding under my skin,” Carole explains. When they checked her platelet count, it was 11. (A normal count is at least 140.) The second time they checked, a week later, the count was down to 9.

Program director Maria Gligor researched to see if there was anybody else who had low platelets. She found several, including Jean Randall, who had been at the lifestyle center several years ago and had been hospitalized for the same thing. “In fact, her case was much worse than mine,” Carole recalls, “but the last time I saw her she was much better! She said she found a cure in Pennsylvania.” So Maria called Jean to find out what she did. Maria also counseled with Dr. Agatha Thrash. With all the information she had gathered, Maria put together a treatment package for Carole.

Carole began immediately with the intensive treatment program, which included white willow bark, milk thistle, hawthorn, red clover, and lemon. She also received daily hydrotherapy treatments and went for walks morning and evening.

“It worked!” Tears moisten Carole’s face. “God is so good. He answered my prayer! I’m very grateful for the effort that has been put forth to help me find God’s remedy.” Her black marks disappeared, and when she took her last blood test, the results showed that her platelet count had doubled. “I really appreciate the students’ patience with me. I’m going to continue the regimen that the Lifestyle Education Center has given me, and we’re going to check my blood again. And I expect it to be going up. One day I expect to tell everybody, ‘I’m normal!’”
Receive massage, hydrotherapy, vegan cuisine, and individualized counseling from caring health personnel. Each 18-day session allows up to seven guests to participate in healthful activities designed to help combat lifestyle-related illnesses. Enjoy a relaxed, home-like setting complete with exercise equipment and kitchen facilities for health classes and cooking demonstrations.

Sign up for Hartland’s NEW Lifestyle Education Program!

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Desse Mode, by Jay and Cathy Pavlik

In Honor of

Rachel Perry, by Lucille Swithers
NEW STAFF

Barry Dickenson

A year ago, you might have found Barry Dickenson at a Baptist revival. Now he is part of the grounds department at Hartland. How did this happen? “I saw an ad for a tent meeting in Culpeper,” he relates, “so I went. I liked the atmosphere and the spirit of the people.” The messages also intrigued him. Barry was hooked.

But he had a dilemma. “I was going to church on Saturday and Sunday. I didn’t want to forsake the Baptists, but I hungered to know God’s will. My pastor told me that Seventh-day Adventism was a cult, and warned, ‘Don’t bring it here.’” However, Barry was convicted that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is God’s remnant church. He left the Baptist church and was baptized into the Culpeper Seventh-day Adventist Church, where many Hartland staff and students are active members. They told him about Hartland.

“What impressed me,” says Barry, “is that Hartland takes the holistic approach—physical, mental, and spiritual. I felt the Spirit of God here, and I wanted to be an asset.” We are happy Barry has joined our team. He says, “I now have the people and tools around me that will help me be what the Lord would have me be.”

VOLUNTEERS

Vinh Lang

“I read an article in the Hartland Ministry Report about what Kevin Wagner was trying to do with the woodshop, teaching the students to work with their hands,” says Vinh Lang, “and I thought my knowledge about log-cabin building would fit in. I wanted to come down and share with Kevin and the students.”

Vinh, a professional forester from New Jersey, took three days out of his busy schedule to teach log cabin construction at Hartland. “What we did during this three-day session is just a beginning,” he says. “I think it’s going to be a two-session process. We started on the walls of the cabin, and during convocation we’ll come back and work on the roof and the trusses.

“I really enjoyed working with the students and Kevin because they showed a lot of interest. And they’ve done very well! It’s the best group of students that I’ve ever taught. I’m really impressed and thankful for the chance to work with them.” Thank you, Vinh, for taking the time to teach us this valuable skill!
Many of you have heard the first installment of “For Such a Time”, Hartland’s monthly sermon CD. HMR asked Richard and Joan Reichard, who have helped to spearhead this ministry, to tell you about its purpose.

“Each CD ministry has a focus, and our focus is to give a nurturing message,” Richard smiles. His wife, Joan chimes in, “We want to present uplifting messages that feed the soul.”

Though we are starting with a CD, soon, “For Such a Time” will be available in other formats, such as a podcast. Nor do we plan to constrict it to one speaker. Richard explains, “We’re intending to have multiple speakers, not just one. We may have a series, but we want to not be limited to one speaker.

“We want to get beyond the limitations of our four walls so we can proactively get the message out,” Richard concludes. While geared for Seventh-day Adventists, “For Such a Time” is a CD you can unashamedly give to non-Adventists. For yourself, however, think of it as “a continuation of convocation between convocations,” as Richard puts it—a buoy to your spirituality. We hope you are drawn to heaven as you listen, for this is the time.

Conference Center Update

“It will be more attractive, more user friendly and more accommodating for events like convocation,” says Devon Blackwood, director of plant services at Hartland, about plans to bring the conference center up to code. Plans are becoming reality; on the 25th of May, we began the work, which includes a sprinkler system, a new stage, new lighting, new ventilation, an added restroom wing, and a booth area.

“About a fifth of the existing building is going to be segregated for a display area,” Mark Bruno, chair of the Master Plan Committee, says. Devon adds, “This makes the meeting area quieter, and there’ll be less distraction from people floating around looking at displays.”

“Our goal is to have it ready for Fall Convocation, but we need the Lord’s help,” says Richard Reichard, member of the Renovation Committee. “If weather gets in the way, we could be delayed.

But as the schedule currently is, it will be ready for Fall Convocation.” That means camp meeting will be held in a tent, but, by God’s grace, you’ll be in a pleasant air-conditioned building by fall.

We are excited that God is moving forward in this part of Hartland. Thank you for your contributions that enable this rebuilding work to proceed.
Luther’s Legacy

“Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world.” —Martin Luther

by Joseph Ware

Ein feste burg ist unser Gott
Ein gute wehr und waffen.”

In 1527, Martin Luther penned these lines, destined to be loved by Christians even five hundred years later. I’m sure you’ve sung these stirring words (in English, as the hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”) more than once, but have you thought that you wouldn’t be singing this hymn without Martin Luther’s efforts not only to write this hymn, but also to allow you the right to sing at all in church?

If you went to church before the Reformation, you wouldn’t have much chance to exercise your vocal cords. Congregational participation was restricted to an occasional chanted response. Really, the only people who could sing in church were priests and choir boys. Since these professions were limited to males, women had almost no chance to sing in church.

Almost worse than the limited opportunities for congregational participation were the hymns available to sing. Mirrors of the dead faith they celebrated, these Latin hymns were typically mournful and ritualistic. “Technique was developed at the expense of clarity and direct appeal.”1 Even if you could, you might not want to sing.

Luther changed all that. Not a shoddy musician (he wrote many tunes, sang, and played the lute, among other instruments), he recognized the importance of song to knit the community of Christ together. With good music, worship could be moved beyond ritual to embrace personal experience. Everyone could and should sing—except they needed something to sing.

In 1523, Luther published eight hymns in German, the language of the people. He went on to write many more, including “Ein Feste Burg,” for which it is believed he wrote the melody. Whether he wrote the tune or borrowed a folk melody (as he often did), he made his hymns attractive to his congregants, and more, an expression of the wonders of justification by faith.

Often, your success can be measured by what your enemies say. Conzenius, a Catholic, realizing that the Rome-shattering truths Luther had rediscovered were being reinforced by song, wrote, “[The] hymns of Luther have destroyed more souls than his writing and sermons.”2 Luther understood the power music has to strengthen faith, and used it as a tool to propel the Reformation, much to his foes’ chagrin.

Good music, sung jointly by the body of Christ, still has effect. There is little more appropriate than song to express a living faith in Christ. So as you sing in church next Sabbath, remember the part Luther played in giving this privilege to you. As you remember, straighten your back, sing a little more loudly, and revel in the joy of praising our amazing God.

Hartland has been accused of being a church within a church. Is this true?

A. We have never considered ourselves a church within a church, and certainly we do not consider ourselves such today. We are, by God’s grace, doing all that we can to be faithful and loyal Seventh-day Adventists.

Q. Who was responsible for that evaluation?

A. It was a statement made in 2000 in a report on Hartland Institute by the Biblical Research Institute. At the time we totally denied such an assertion, and we still believe today that it does not characterize the position of Hartland Institute.

Q. What was their evidence?

A. They pointed out that we ran convocations and camp meetings, and that we had a publishing house, a health center, a media production center (though it was quite limited at that time), and a college. Thus they noted that many things operated by the denomination were also in operation in a smaller way at Hartland Institute.

Q. How have you been able to show that you are not a church within a church?

A. It is obvious that many self-supporting ministries worldwide operate some or all of the same activities we do. However, it goes well beyond this. Hartland does not operate a church on its campus. Our staff and students attend about 10 different Seventh-day Adventist churches in the region and many hold church offices. Some are even pastors in local churches. We do not have an organization in which there is an exclusive membership, nor do we encourage people to call the Seventh-day Adventist Church “Babylon.” We do not believe that this is the counsel of the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy. We know from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy that the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be fearfully shaken and sifted before the close of probation when, sadly, the majority of members will be sifted out. However, we want to work with God’s people to help them understand how they can remain true and faithful for the kingdom of Heaven.
The devil shouldn’t have all of the good tunes,” said Luther. So he replaced the medieval dirges of his church with hymns that reflected and encouraged personal experience—giving us a heritage of great music to express a living faith. (See “Luther’s Legacy” on page 12.)

Likewise, we must revolutionize the way we sing praise to God. Choral director Jeffrey Lauritzen points out two unscriptural approaches to church music today. The first approach is pleasing the congregation’s musical taste: “Solid text material is less important than the way the music sounds; as long as the majority of the congregation likes this sound, the music is deemed appropriate.”

The second approach seeks to preserve cultural values and the musical legacy of the church. Neither approach considers whether the music pleases God.

We need to adopt a third approach—one that allows us to praise God appropriately and express our living faith. I would encourage our musicians to create new church music. Our choristers should raise interest in the history and context of hymns, and accompanists should play in ways that draw music from unmusical congregations. We should sing as though we mean it! All of us should embrace only that music which is an expression of true praise, seeking to make our songs as much like those of the angelic choirs as possible.

Hartland College is striving to revive dynamic sacred music. Like the schools of the prophets, we endeavor to train our students to be leaders in praise—active participants in the worship of God. While our community concerts (“No More Night,” p. 7) clearly demonstrate that “Music can be a great power for good,” they also show the work of Hartland to restore interest in godly music. These concerts also refute the claim that we must lower the standard of music to reach the world.

Together, let us “Sing unto the LORD a new song” in ways that will please Him, encourage ourselves, and attract others to the truth.

1 Lauritzen, Jeffrey K., Adventists Affirm, Fall 1991, p. 44.
3 White, Ellen G., The Voice in Speech and Song, p. 415.
4 Psalm 149:1.

by Joan Reichard
No Scripture writer proclaims the grace of the gospel more eloquently than does Paul. Here are a couple of examples.

“For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:17.

“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.” Romans 6:14.

Paul just as emphatically proclaims the power of the gospel:

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth…” Romans 1:16.

Many Christians rightly proclaim the grace of the gospel, but they often overlook or ignore the power of the gospel. Paul warned against a form of religion which is devoid of the power of the gospel.

“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.” 2 Timothy 3:5.

I can never forget what was perhaps the greatest demonstration I have ever witnessed of the sanctifying power of the gospel. That demonstration came from my 81-year-old, full-blooded Irish maternal grandfather, John Oliver Bailey.

John Bailey had lived a life of godlessness. His heavy drinking had been a lifelong curse to him and his family. However, his life changed dramatically after the death of Alice, his beloved wife of 56 years. It was then that I, a struggling carlteen, witnessed the power of the gospel. What a change—from a crusty, foul-tempered man to a loving Christian grandfather! The witness of Alice, though she was resting in the grave, had at last penetrated his life. He received Bible studies and was baptized. I saw not only the grace of our Savior in his life, but also the transformation of his character.

Why do I present this great example of the power of the gospel? July 2009 is the sixtieth anniversary of Grandfather Bailey’s death. His witness profoundly influenced my life and settled my conviction that grace and power combined justifies and sanctifies the life of every Christian. It is my prayer that each of you will experience the saving grace and power of Jesus in your life.

Colin D. Standish, President, Hartland Institute
Upcoming Events

Piedmont Valley Youth Bible Camp
June 14-21, 2009
Contact: Joan Reichard
540-672-1996 ext 305
piedmontvalleycamp@gmail.com

June 25, 2009
Colton, CA
Speaker: Colin Standish
Contact: Harold Cortez
909-370-1311

Camp Meeting
July 28-Aug. 2, 2009
Contact: Nancy Carmouche
540-672-1996 ext 232
hwm@hartland.edu

August 30, 2009
Argentina
Speaker: Colin Standish
Contact: Daniel Baranow
danielbaranow@yahoo.com

September 18, 2009
Deering, NH
Speaker: Colin Standish
Contact: Joe Wawrzynek
603-540-2705

Stewardship Ministries, PO Box 1, Rapidan, VA 22733-0001

Summer Camp Meeting
JULY 28-AUG. 2, 2009

Behold, the Bridegroom Cometh

SPEAKERS INCLUDE
ERIC BETTS, KENT MILLARD, RAY DECARLO, DR. JOHN KELLY

About Our Camp Meeting Speaker:

Eric Betts, from South Boston, Virginia, graduated from Hartland College in 1996. He is the pastor of the Present Truth Bible Fellowship in Washington, D.C., where he has been serving for three years. Previously, he served the Lord for 10 years in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Seminars:

John Kelly, MD, MPH
End-time Medical Ministry

Ray DeCarlo
Christ Our Righteousness

Kent Millard
How to Sell Literature and Win Souls Door to Door

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