Giving birth at home? While the idea may raise some eyebrows, a growing number of women with low-risk pregnancies opt for a midwife as their primary caregiver during pregnancy.

Midwives spend more time with their clients in prenatal and postpartum visits, as well as during the actual birth, than do obstetricians. This can result in fewer birth complications and medical interventions. Home environments also slash risks from hospital infections and, a major factor to many, midwifery care can cost from half or even less than half the total expense of traditional hospital deliveries.¹

From September 6–10, 2010, Hartland Institute hosted a midwifery seminar by Dr. Mary Ann McNeilus and Patricia Barnes, CPM (Certified Professional Midwife). Offered every two years, the seminar covers prenatal care, labor and delivery, postpartum care, natural birth planning, and neonatal assessment.

“I heard about this seminar from a Christian midwife group called Charis Childbirth,” comments Amy Elliott. Amy, a doula (a woman who assists women during labor and after childbirth) who attended from Norfolk, Virginia, continues, “Currently, I teach childbirth education classes in Central Asia, and I definitely feel this seminar gave me more confidence to move forward with that.”

Patricia Barnes, a CPM for many years, shares, “Midwifery is not a business or a hobby. It’s a ministry. You learn to work in the fear of the Lord. Even with the training and experience I already have, I still need God’s presence to make decisions that could mean life or death. It’s not just catching babies.”

Dr. McNeilus adds, “Women will always meet women who need this information. We would like to put together a midwifery course where you can be certified and learn the unique service offered by Seventh-day Adventist midwives.”

Students appreciated the seminar. Martha Castañeda comments, “My mother suffered a lot having me as a baby, and even more so with the births of my sister and my brother. What I learned this week helped me understand why. I am so excited to have the knowledge to help others avoid more suffering, especially in the mission field.”

Ladies, plan on being at the next midwifery seminar in September 2012!

by Leilani Hortaleza

“It came without any warning. I just grew dizzy, my left side became weak, and my mouth drooped,” says Iluminada Boado. Last year in October, at the age of 52 she suffered a stroke, even after her doctor claimed that she was too young to have one.

This past January, Iluminada’s brother, Eugenio Boado, went through the 18-day health session at Hartland’s Lifestyle Education Center (LEC). After Eugenio related his LEC experience to Iluminada, she decided, “I’ll go there, too.”

Iluminada’s stroke resulted from high blood pressure and borderline diabetes. “I think it crept in slowly,” she shared. “Because I recovered from my stroke, I know God allowed it to happen to get me to come to a lifestyle center and to teach me to be aware of the health message.”

Iluminada arrived in June, taking two blood pressure medications, with her blood glucose up to 125, her cholesterol 207, and her triglycerides 287.

And she did not come alone. Four of Iluminada’s friends came with her, because they also faced health problems. “It was really fun, because I don’t think it will ever happen again in my whole life that five friends come together at the same time.” She added with enthusiasm, “So much fun! We were able to encourage each other.”

Before coming to the LEC, Iluminada lived a lifestyle in shambles. “I work a high-pressure job in the financial business; I see clients during the day and late in the evening, around 7:00. The earliest I stopped for lunch was 3:00 pm, or sometimes 5:00 pm. My timing was bad. I didn’t sleep early, and I didn’t eat a regular diet with proper meals.”

“Here the atmosphere is friendly, and the staff members are all very good, very nice, and very helpful.” Iluminada left the LEC with normal blood pressure, her blood glucose down to 96, her cholesterol 141, and her triglycerides 95. Before leaving, she discontinued both of her blood pressure medications.

“I found my 18-day experience uplifting and to be one of the best investments in my life. As a Seventh-day Adventist Christian you know about the health message, but if you don’t know how to live it, or if no one shows you how to live it, or you don’t have friends to encourage you, then it’s hard to live it. And that’s really the main reason I came, because I knew I’d learn how to live the health message.”

Iluminada concluded, “I will share my faith and my experience with anybody. I always share. I’m not ashamed to share my faith.”

by Kevin Wahl
Now is the time to give our lives to Him. It’s a tough decision to make, but God can give us the strength and power to do that,” encouraged a young man, his face barely lit by the flickering camp fire.

One by one, over thirty young people made commitments to Christ on the last night of Piedmont Valley Youth Bible Camp (PVYBC). Why were they moved to take their stand? We believe God used PVYBC to touch their hearts.

Every year youth, ages 12-17, flock to this summer camp held on the grounds of Hartland Institute. They anticipate the fun and friends summer camps advertise, but soon find that PVYBC offers more. Reports one parent, “This was the first time I had known about your camp. When I asked my son what it was like, he said, ’At other camps the focus is all on how much fun you can have. At PVYBC the focus is all on how your life can be used of God and how to serve Him.’ What a testimony! They came home radiant and on fire.”

“Victory in Surrender,” this year’s camp theme, became a reality in the lives of many campers. Camp director Joan Reichard enthuses, “Young people want to experience a practical Christianity instead of just going along with a system of dos and don’ts. They have a lot of fun at PVYBC—fun with a purpose.

Thrown together with other campers and enthusiastic staff, we help them do what they think they never could such as fly a plane or hand out literature. How about surviving in the wilderness? Surrendering to God? They learn to trust God and step forward in faith.”

Many are repeat campers. One young lady testifies, “I thank God for a camp like this because there are not many of them. This is my third year, and every time I leave, I can’t wait to come back. I feel much closer to God than before.”

Wish you had come? Reserve your spot for next year’s camp (June 19-26, 2011) at pvybc.com for a week that could change your life!

By Leilani Hortaleza
Life after camp: Christian de los Santos

“I think everybody should go to Piedmont—I really do. When they asked us what to do to make Piedmont better, I just said, ‘Make it longer,’ because it was such a blessing. They made the rules and activities so interesting that you just do it automatically out of your love for God. The last day of Piedmont I decided to get baptized. Everybody was saying ‘Bye,’ and I had to decide to keep this going or go back to the way I was. That’s when I left it all. I remember a preacher saying, ‘Life in the world without God is not life.’ ‘It’s just like you’re existing, but you’re not alive. I don’t want to simply exist anymore. I want to really live. Please pray for me so I can see God’s will more clearly to do that.”

Youth, Do You Dare?

Hartland holds youth rally

“The greatest want is the want of men,—men who will... stand for the right though the heavens fall.” 1 As the old standard bearers grow weary, who will dare to take their place and let God use them in the closing battle between good and evil? Hartland hosted its first “Youth, Do You Dare?” (YDYD) youth rally on July 8-11, 2010. Hartland’s community services coordinator Brian Beavers explains, “YDYD gives young people an opportunity to dialogue with our faculty, attracting them to God’s Word and the health message.” Three attendees share their experiences:

“I’d never heard the topic of dress and adornment presented in such a Christ-centered way. I saw the subject in a different, but very clear light. I learned that Christ needs to be the center of my life, and that in any thing I do, others must be able to see Christ through me.” Debbie, Argentina

“The sermons were very real and not shallow. Pastor Berry’s testimonies helped me realize how much the canvassing work and ministering to others is needed now. His canvassing testimonies showed that miracles do happen, and that God provides your needs when you serve him.” Rena, Georgia

“I couldn’t wait to hear the messages about the Holy Spirit and true education. Pastor Olatunji gave a serious talk on having a daily, practical experience with the Holy Spirit. YDYD was unlike any other youth rally I’ve been to.” Christian, Argentina

1 White, Ellen G., Education, p. 57
Hartland Camp Meeting 2010

Righteousness by Faith

Practical instruction on living by faith

This year’s theme for Hartland’s annual camp meeting was “Righteousness by Faith.” Camp meeting attendees were abundantly blessed hearing the discourses presented by Brendan White, Norbert Restrepo, Jr., Dr. Agatha Thrash, and several other speakers.

Two of the speakers spoke on the true relation between faith and works, while Brendan White preached on the various characteristics of Jesus Christ, the Pattern we are to imitate. Others delivered messages of hope, showing from the Scriptures what Jesus has already done and what He’s doing today for our salvation. They also talked about the works Jesus performed during His earthly life, “leaving us an example.”

Derrol Sawyer and Brian Beavers held weekday afternoon seminars. Derrol delivered lectures on music, while Brian lectured on Bible prophecy.

To order DVDs or audio CDs of these messages, call 1-800-774-3566.
Camp Meeting Testimonies

“I go mainly because I want to get my batteries recharged. It’s spiritually uplifting and a good break from the normal routine to spend a week with God’s people attending meetings. Brendan White’s messages were tremendous. I recommend that all readers order the DVDs of him from Hartland. They will be blessed. The remodeled conference center was also a blessing, and the cafeteria did a terrific job preparing very delicious meals.”

Richard, Virginia

“I love coming to camp meeting! Our new president is very encouraging and just the man for our wonderful college. Praise God!”

Susan, Maryland

“In Primary, I learned how to make spring rolls, and I learned that when I get tempted, I should surrender it to God right away.”

Nicolai, age 9, Virginia

Top: Simdumise Poswa instructs the Primary students
Bottom: Primary choir during afternoon concert

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God’s Call
Through Hartland’s freshman retreat I heard God’s calling more clearly

The sun was shining, the birds were singing, the sky was blue, and the clouds were like soft cotton candy. I was on my way to West Virginia for the Hartland College freshman retreat. My class would spend the whole week there, and we soon grew to feel like family. Mrs. Pulley, the ladies’ dean, was like our mom and prepared delicious food. Mr. Ball, the men’s dean, led out in deep Bible study. At first I thought, “Oh well, this is just another trip to get away and relax before the term starts.” However, a better reason existed for escaping to the mountains of West Virginia: God wanted to teach me how to be an excellent student and a successful missionary.

As we studied the Bible in our beautiful retreat, I discovered that it became more interesting the more I studied it. The more I studied Jesus’ character, the more unworthy I felt to be His child. Looking more deeply into His humility, the more I wanted to be emptied of self and fully surrendered to Him. I realized that His Word converts the soul and His love awakens our dead, stony hearts, making them tender, fresh, and pure. How strong and yet how gentle is God’s love!

I knew God led me to Hartland College, but through this retreat I recognized His calling more clearly. It was an incredible freshman retreat because I experienced God there.

by Xue Jiao Hou
What Hartland Did for Me

“I learned that ministry is not a career. It’s a calling and a mission.”

Before studying at Hartland, I misunderstood many things about walking with God, having a relationship with Him, and serving Him,” shares alumnus Mark Roberts. “I had a narrow picture of what it meant to be a Christian. Hartland expanded that incredibly. I learned how to study, how to pray, and how to witness. Hartland taught me mission. I also learned about character development and the importance of end-time preparation. Those things didn’t mean much to me before I studied there.”

After studying at Hartland, Mark helped start Higher Ground Ministries, doing evangelistic work in different parts of Sydney, Australia. Mark relates, “For the first two years we did it the hard way, but God called us into ministry, and we were young and ambitious. We didn’t have much, and we all shared a house together. But we never starved, and we didn’t often have to push the car. The Lord really blessed us, sending people to provide us with the very things we needed.”

“We prayed a lot. Through the preaching and teaching of the gospel, people came into the faith and were baptized. We also ran two-week evangelism training schools. It was an exciting time!” Mark exclaims.

Their two-week training schools inspired many attendees who became evangelistic workers themselves, and some are now pastors in the Australian conferences. “It’s an easy, accessible way for people to attend a training school and get a taste of how to do evangelism. I’ve always used a lot of structure when teaching classes—the way Hartland taught me. Our course included classes such as Daniel, Revelation, and Sanctuary.”

Following the Higher Ground Ministries years, Mark spent six years as the education director at Eastward Missionary College (EMC) in the northern part of New South Wales, where he helped set up the curriculum. Then Mark moved to Sydney and helped establish the It Is Written Evangelism College, based on the four-month Bible training program he introduced at EMC. Today, he’s the assistant pastor of a Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sydney, with about 150-170 people attending the services. He runs annual evangelistic campaigns and continues to train Bible workers.

“Hartland taught me principles. The classes inspired, encouraged, and even challenged me. I learned how to interpret the Bible, test things by the Word, read and study for myself, be an independent thinker, and how to try the spirits whether they are of God.” Mark concludes, “I learned that ministry is not a career. It’s a calling and a mission. It’s about winning souls. That’s been the focus of my ministry ever since.”

by Kevin Wahl

*Mark and Shelly Roberts, and Lyle and Michelle Southwell
Great rulers from antiquity recognized that power offers only two options: to conquer or be conquered. Alexander the Great won his first battle as a teenager. At 22, he destroyed the city of Thebes, terrorizing the Grecian city states into a unified empire. Genghis Khan, builder of the Mongol Empire, once stated: “The vanquished can never be the friends of the victors; the death of the former is necessary therefore for the safety of the latter.” The destiny of nations sways to this contest for supremacy; yet ironically—after kings and kingdoms have all passed away—it will be the meek who inherit the earth.

What qualifies the meek for worldwide power? It is not strength or politicking—instead, they inherit the earth from God’s hand. Far from being weakness, meekness conquers by surrendering to the power of unselfish love and receiving its strength. We see this in the life of Moses—a great statesman, prince, and leader—who the Bible describes as the meekest man on the earth.

Moses had been groomed to rule ancient Egypt while schooled in its sophistication and power. He was trained to conquer. But what course did God assign the future liberator of His people? Herding sheep! Conquering his pride, enslaving his will, and sacrificing his dreams to care for sheep, Moses became meek. Forty years of herding sheep erased from his life the dynamic of force while experiencing instead the constraining love of God for His people.

The great Alexander—conqueror at 16, emperor at 22, and shortly after a drunken party, dead at 33—at one point voiced a great longing: “I would rather excel others in the knowledge of what is excellent than in the extent of my powers and dominion.” Everyday we touch others like him. Will they see in us the excellence of One who longs to save them from sin? Can we turn from their desperation to pursue our proud ambitions? Going before them, can we, in Christ’s compassion, ask them to follow? His meekness places all these in our grasp. “The object of the Christian life is… the reproduction of Christ’s character in the believer, that it may be reproduced in others.” “When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own.” As we see the world’s great need, let us learn that meekness which enables us, and those around us, to conquer.

Leilani Hortaleza, Student Editor

1 macedonia.org
2 mindef.gov.sg, Hee, Ronald, “Alexander and Genghis Khan: Two World Conquerors Compared”
3 allgreatquotes.com, Plutarch, Life of Alexander, bk. XIV
4 White, Ellen G., Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 61
5 Ibid., p. 69

We thank those who have given...

In memory of Nedra Duckworth (mother) by Charlotte Duckworth; T.J. Kimbrow, Sr. by Katy Kimbrow; Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Van Gundy and Paula Sue (daughter) by Eldon Van Gundy; Mary Ellen Lenihan by Carl Rennhack
When the college admissions director informed us that eleven young people sent applications to Hartland for the winter term, I asked him, “How many are likely to come?” He replied, “Only three—most of them don’t have the finances to come.”

I have entitled this article “A President’s Dilemma” because this issue is difficult for me. As I travel the world and see our graduates spreading the everlasting gospel, I know how important this is. My thoughts turned to these powerful statements by Sister White:

“With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come—the end of suffering and sorrow and sin!” CT 555

“The times demand an intelligent, educated ministry, not novices. . . . The world is becoming educated to a high standard of literary attainment. . . . This state of things calls for the use of every power of the intellect; for it is keen minds, under the control of Satan, that the minister will have to meet.” 5T 528

God called Hartland for this purpose. Our Missionary Training Fund is very low, and my heart is greatly burdened for young people not to be hindered from being educated due to lack of funds. The students work hard in various endeavors, frequently in colporteursing. Our fees are about half those of denominational colleges, yet they are still beyond the means most American and international students. To subsidize one student takes about $8,000 per year. God’s plan is for all of us to contribute as much as we can.

“Some provision should now be made for the maintenance of such a fund to lend to poor but worthy students who desire to prepare themselves for missionary work.” CT 70

We face many financial needs now, when we dearly want to further the ministry which God has entrusted to us. The calls upon us to help around the world are many. It is heart-breaking to not have the funds to forward the world-wide work of training. I pray that God will impress His people to do all they can to support this endeavor.

Yours in the blessed hope,

Colin D. Standish, President, Hartland Institute
Upcoming Events

The Three Angels’ Chorale will be giving concerts from November 26 to December 15 in Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, and California.

Important Note:
We appreciate your loving and faithful gifts for God’s work at Hartland. In order to receive a receipt for 2010, your envelope must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2010. All credit card donations must be received by Dec. 29, 2010.