HARTLAND MINISTRY REPORT

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Fall Festival!

“It was great to see the people’s emphasis on health,” says Joseph, who lives in Culpeper. “I want to have something like the greenhouses here for myself, but I think I’ll come here once a week, or every couple weeks, to get my fresh green vegetables. I know they’ll be healthy for me.”

On November 3, 2013, Hartland Natural Farm welcomed people from the surrounding communities this time to our fall festival. The visitors received a farm tour, and the Health Outreach class gave free chair massages and blood pressure checks. They also checked body mass index and health age.

Delicious food samples were given to the guests. The college cafeteria served potato salad, and Karine Sanchez served her tasty kale tomato soup with lentil “meatballs.” Students preparing to venture to the Bahamas and India sold cookies and cupcakes to finance their mission trips.

Last but not least, the visitors were able to buy fresh homegrown produce—beets, collard greens, lettuce, potatoes, radishes, spinach, Swiss chard, and winter onions.

“I liked learning about the greenhouses and how they work. It was really interesting to see how asparagus grows and how it takes almost three years for it to get to fruition. I did like the massage, too,” says David, another Culpeper resident.

Mary, David’s wife, adds, “I enjoyed learning about how the vegetables are grown, cared for, harvested, and the importance of their nutrient value. I learned that you can go grocery shopping out here for healthier food choices. And the massages and the taste testing were great.”

Joseph concludes, “It’s good to see people learning to use the land to raise their own food as God intended. The fact that they’re eating a vegetarian diet like Daniel did is good, as well. I hope a lot of these good health habits will rub off on me—that I’ll pick up on them myself.”
I’d been on the internet looking for places to help me get my blood pressure lowered,” shares Scott Frost, who has suffered from “very high blood pressure for 10 years.” He found Hartland’s Lifestyle Education Center (LEC).

Scott also relates, “I’ve taken blood pressure meds in the past, but I didn’t like how they made me feel, so when the prescription ran out, I quit taking them.” So after he dropped the meds, what did he do to keep his blood pressure from getting too high? “I’d drink some celery juice and avoid salts and sodium and so on, but it wasn’t a good way to do it. I wanted to get my blood pressure down completely.”

What has happened since he came to the LEC? “I’ve done very well. My blood pressure went down from 202/128 to 150/108. But one night I had a relapse, and it was 178/112. So they had me eat some steamed garlic and do a little bit of juicing, bringing it down to 150/110. I’ve gotten a lot of good exercise, changed my eating style to vegan, and I did some more juicing. Today my blood pressure is 142/102.” Did he enjoy the exercises? “Yes, I liked them all—the elliptical machine, treadmill, and bicycle.”

Scott continues, “I’ve had an excellent experience here. The atmosphere is very supportive, giving, and godly. I’m very impressed with the staff. They’ve been very helpful, giving, and kind. The students here are learning the health-care message and are planning on going to different countries to spread the gospel. I’ve been very impressed with them. They’re very spiritual.

“The quarters are very nice and clean, and they cook very good food here, so I’m very pleased.” Speaking of food, any favorite dishes? “They made a really, really good [vegan] pizza—extremely delicious. I’d take that over ‘real’ pizza any day.”

Would Scott encourage someone else with high blood pressure to come to Hartland’s LEC? “Yes, I would—very much so. I really believe Hartland is here by the grace of God. Not only do we get to come here and get physically better, but our mental and spiritual way of life changes.”

Scott tells us that Hartland’s “Lifestyle to Health” program has “made me realize I never took God’s health plan seriously. It’s made me realize that I need to get back to the basics.” What does he plan to do when he returns home? “I’d like to start eating healthier, taking time out to do some exercise, and sharing the message with other people.”
Ministry Doors Open Wide at Women’s Prison

“What took you so long? I’ve been waiting for the Seventh-day Adventist group for six years!” exclaimed a young inmate at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. Since June 14, 2013, volunteers from Hartland College Prison Ministry (HCPM) have been giving Bible studies at this facility.

“The very first day we arrived, one woman told us that someone gave her the book Christ Object Lessons, but she never knew which denomination they were,” relates Ivonne Restrepo. “The book moved her heart to the point where she wanted to know more about the author—Ellen G. White.

“Then someone told her that Ellen was a Seventh-day Adventist. So when she heard that Adventist volunteers were coming to give Bible studies, she immediately signed up. She lent the book to another inmate so she could read it.”

Ivonne adds, “The Holy Spirit was working on the women way before we came. That very much encouraged us.” Alexa Blair informs us, “Two of them want to be baptized and follow Jesus all the way.”

One inmate says, “This is the happiest I’ve ever been in my life.” Another shares, “I have not slept so soundly until I started attending the Seventh-day Adventist Bible study and listening to gospel music at nights and in the mornings.”

In the facility’s waiting area, the HCPM volunteers met the pastor and some members of the Love, Faith, and Hope Church—a nondenominational group of Sabbath keepers. These people give Bible studies to approximately 60 inmates. But how did they become Sabbath keepers?

In 2001, the still small voice spoke to the church elder: “Are you willing to die for Me?” “Die for you, Lord?” “Are you willing to suffer persecution for Me as I suffered for you?” “Yes, Lord. I am willing.” “I will send you a test that will seal My relationship with you. Look for the Sabbath in the Bible. This test will bring suffering and persecution.”

After the elder related the incident to his church, his pastor stated, “If this test will seal our relationship with Him, the Lord would have to show each one of us the same thing.” The church studied the subject from the Bible, and eventually they all chose to keep the seventh-day Sabbath.

The minister and his church were mentioned during the 30th anniversary presentation at Hartland’s 2013 camp meeting, which he and some of the members visited. “Every Friday, we enjoy having some time to talk and share with them,” says Ivonne.

Truly, prison ministry is a wonderful way to reach and meet special people!
If you wish to hear Bible-based messages that apply to this time, and that will prepare you for Jesus’ soon coming, subscribe to FSAT now!

Visit hartland.edu/link/fsat to download the sermons as MP3 files. To receive our free bimonthly sermon CDs, call 540-672-1995, or email us at fsat@hartland.edu.

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Knowing Himself Better

David has learned more about his own needs and the needs of others.

by Kelly Ostrom

“My first heard about Hartland from a friend about a year after coming into the church,” says Pastoral Evangelism major David Symons, who comes from South Africa. “I was still becoming acquainted with the inspired writings of the Spirit of Prophecy. However, despite my ignorance, this school my friend spoke about really intrigued me.”

David is able to study at Hartland because of the Missionary Training Fund (MTF). He says that had it not been for the MTF, he would not have been able to afford to study here.

David has learned more about himself and he’s been drawn closer to God.

“God has used this place to expose my real character weaknesses as never before,” David shares. “This might sound like a bad thing, but it is really a great blessing, for in knowing these weaknesses, I am far more prone to turn to God and ask Him for strength.

“Through my various experiences and interactions here, I have learned the importance of keeping my walk with the Lord simple and to sacredly guard the time that I have with Him in the mornings and evenings. Also, through Hartland’s nursing home outreach, I have learned that the best way to overcome a spiritual decline is to become actively involved in service. Oftentimes I would feel discouraged and want to stay in my room and sulk, or at more serious times, pack up and go home. However, when I would go to the nursing home, I would be encouraged to continue my course and draw closer to Jesus.

“Another important lesson that I have learned is that of balancing mental and physical work. God has lessons for us not only in the Bible and other textbooks, but in nature as well. When I have worked outside, especially on the farm, I have learned many precious lessons, especially regarding the importance of self-denial and our need of the Holy Spirit.

“When I go back home, I would like to train people to be as self-sustaining and independent as possible. I want to teach them how to study the Bible for themselves, make their own natural treatments, and cook their own, healthful, plant-based foods. I want to follow the inspired command, ‘Educate, educate, educate!’”

To those who give to the MTF, David would like to say how grateful he is for your assistance. “My dream of receiving training here at this wonderful school would have been impossible had it not been for your kind, freewill donations. May God bless you greatly in return for your kindness to me.”

1 White, Ellen G., Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, p. 590; vol. 7, p. 132
Do you have a bad habit or character trait that you need to kick? Come and learn how to be TRANSFORMED.

Piedmont Valley Youth Bible Camp

Visit pvybc.com, email piedmont.valley.camp@gmail.com, or call us at 540-672-1996 ext 305.
Ministry in Midwifery

Angeline desires to reach her fellow Kenyans for Christ by serving as a midwife.

by Kelly Ostrom

Hartland College will soon graduate its first Midwifery major. Meet Angeline Nyaata, a student from Kenya, Africa, who loves the Lord and ministering to His children. Here she shares about her internship experience in Tennessee:

“God allowed me to stay with a midwife and work closely with her and other midwives in her area. I learned from them how midwifery is a ministry. Apart from prenatal and postpartum visits and delivering babies, we prayed with mothers, visited former clients, and met our clients’ other needs. We cleaned homes, did hydrotherapy treatments, gave advice on other ailments for mothers or their family members, handed out literature, and visited with those who just needed company.”

Not everything about her internship was what Angeline expected. “Delivering babies has always sounded like a beautiful thing to do. However, there have been times when I have felt helpless during births and wondered if I would be able to handle certain situations.

“During these births I have found myself praying harder. I have prayed that God would keep me calm and give me the right words to say to the moms, that I could be of help to the midwife I was working with, for discernment, and for strength. And praise the Lord that His strength is made perfect in weakness! It has been after such hard or seemingly difficult births that mothers have commented on how calm and peaceful I seemed or what peace they felt as I reassured them.”

The training Angeline received at Hartland really helped in the field. “The health classes I took have really come in handy. Many of the mothers prefer natural remedies to allopathic methods. This gave me opportunities to share different natural remedies for complaints they experience during their pregnancy and other common ailments such as the common cold.

“At the other hand, I appreciate the Bible knowledge and the desire that Hartland instills in its students to study the Bible. This has been of great help when I met people who needed encouragement and when I was challenged to explain certain beliefs from the Bible.”

As her internship draws to an end, Angeline says: “I thank God for the many memorable experiences I have had during my internship. Being out in the field has given me a burden to use midwifery to reach out to families in need whether financially, physically, or spiritually. I long, by the grace of God, to go back to Kenya and help the mothers there.”

Please pray for Angeline as she continues to grow and serve in this ministry.
Johnny and his friends use their unique talents to spread the gospel worldwide.

by Kevin Wahl

“It’s interesting. I really liked what probably most people would dislike about Hartland—the fact that it wasn’t easy,” says 2000 graduate Johnny Suarez.

“I always loved the vocational training that we got working outside in the garden, except when it was really cold, or really hot, or whenever I had to change clothes afterward because I needed to go to work in the office. I also remember living in Log Manor. Three people would be tightly squashed in one room. We slept where there was no heat, no cooling—but we survived.”

What did all that do for Johnny? “Those were unpleasant times, but you learn lessons from doing hard things. You look at hurdles differently after you’ve had to overcome them. Now in my professional life, so to speak, when I face a challenge it’s very little to me because I’ve faced many other challenges. Having to put forth stronger effort to accomplish a task becomes a lot easier. Overcoming adversities is a blessing.”

Did he like anything besides difficulties? “I really liked the spiritual atmosphere. The emphasis on constantly seeking the Lord and His blessing every day was a source of inspiration for me.”

Today Johnny is CEO of Pan de Vida Productions, a multimedia company based in Berrien Springs, Michigan. “We license and distribute audio, video, and printed materials in English and Spanish. We work with a variety of speakers and organizations to produce excellent spiritually uplifting resources.”

What else is he up to? “Just recently, I helped start another company called Sanare Life Corporation. Our job is to establish a publishing branch that can impact the secular realm. We’re trying to make our distinct ‘lifestyle to health’ message available to nonreligious people. We distribute what we call ‘nutritional kitchen resources,’ like the Give Them Something Better cookbook. We’re looking to produce more health resources so we can have a broader means of reaching the masses.”

Johnny and his coworkers also use their media resources “to educate, uplift, and inspire other individuals—religious or nonreligious—to take up the banner of truth. Then we know for a fact that they’ve been blessed by the materials, because now they want to know the spiritual component of our beliefs, which includes our doctrines and our love for Christ. Furthermore, we travel all over the world. We’ve held meetings in 39 countries. Our work does not limit us to one geographic location. So it keeps us busy. And of course, doing business can also mean furthering God’s message in this present world.”

Amen!
“In October, we learned of a donor who would finalize a charitable gift annuity to benefit our ministry—but it needed to be finalized before the end of 2013,” relates Norbert Restrepo, president of Hartland Institute.

The time had come for Hartland to start to offer planned giving (PG) resources to its supporters. “These can include will and bequest planning, gift and estate planning, and charitable gift annuities,” explains Richard Reichard, director of Stewardship Ministries.

Richard had attended a Planned Giving Startup Seminar last year in June. Then in August, Hartland’s administration learned of Western Adventist Foundation (WAF). “Their commission is to make many PG instruments available to Seventh-day Adventist organizations, including Hartland,” Richard informs us. “We firmly believed that it would be in our best interest if we could utilize WAF to offer PG resources to our donors.”

There was a catch, though. “WAF requires the organizations they serve to document their commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist faith in their corporate documents,” shares Norbert, “so WAF’s attorney proposed two amendments to Hartland’s Articles of Incorporation.” Hartland’s administrative committee, bylaws committee, and board all voted in favor of making these changes.

Yet the proposed amendments to Hartland’s Articles of Incorporation still needed to be approved by its constituency. Just under the wire on December 19, Hartland held a special constituency meeting for the sole purpose of considering these amendments. The constituents unanimously voted, “Yes.” Planned giving has reached Hartland. But what is a charitable gift annuity?

First, the term annuity means “…an investment that pays someone a fixed amount of money each year.” Charitable gift annuity refers to “a type of gift transaction where an individual transfers assets to a charity in exchange for a tax benefit and a lifetime annuity [income].” For one that benefits Hartland, there are three steps:

- The donor gives cash or other property to WAF with a designation to benefit Hartland.
- The donor benefits from an income tax deduction, and WAF pays him/her a fixed monthly amount based on the donor’s age, current rates, and other market variables at the beginning of the annuity.
- The annuity ends at the death of the donor and their spouse (if included), at which time WAF transfers the remaining principal to Hartland.

If you are interested in investigating a charitable gift annuity, you may call Richard Reichard at 540-672-1995 or Jim Brown of Western Adventist Foundation at 1-866-365-5595. Richard concludes, “Planned giving resources will help us in the long run. With this, we are investing in the future of Hartland Institute—not merely in our immediate operations.”

1 www.merriam-webster.com
2 www.investopedia.com
The Perils of Humanism

Individuals and societies that elevate human reason above divine revelation could reap tragic results.

The temptation to place human reason above divine revelation has assailed us from the very beginning. It was through this subtlety that Satan deceived Eve and enticed her to disobey God. Today humanism—a system of thought that rejects divine revelation and relies on human goodness, capacities, and values—has become one of the most disarming and sophisticated ways of destroying genuine Christianity.

Based on the premise that man is intrinsically good, humanism rejects God’s moral law and reduces morality to a subjective social consensus based on culture and what is accepted as human rights. But well-meant efforts to promote human rights and equality will degenerate into confusion, immorality, and anarchy when absolute values and moral principles given through divine revelation are set aside. A clear historical example is the French Revolution.

The French civil authorities celebrated what they called “the only true worship,—that of Liberty, that of Reason.” An orator who addressed their assembly said: “Mortals, cease to tremble before the powerless thunders of a God whom your fears have created. Henceforth acknowledge no divinity but Reason.” “After France had renounced the worship of the living God,…it was only a little time till she descended to degrading idolatry, by the worship of the Goddess of Reason…”1 It is interesting to note that out of this revolution came the “Declaration of the Rights of Man” approved by the National Assembly of France in 1789.2

Recent developments in Sweden demonstrate humanism’s outcome. “Sweden has gone further than almost any other country in the world to eradicate gender discrimination. It has reached a critical turning point, moving beyond mainstream feminist goals like equal pay and equal opportunity toward a society in which gender doesn’t matter.” Critics warn: “Sweden is a dangerous experiment in political correctness that would deny biological realities and impose artificial mandates of sameness.”3 Government and other institutions have expanded their goals to include the erosion of gender itself: that is, the roles and assumptions associated with each sex.”

Whenever human reason is exalted above God’s Word, the image of God in man is destroyed. “The only safeguard for individual integrity, for the purity of the home, the well-being of society, or the stability of the nation”—“is to do what God says.”4

Norbert Restrepo, President

1 White, Ellen G., The Great Controversy, p. 275
2 avalon.law.yale.edu
4 White, Education, p. 229
Upcoming Events

Spring Convocation
April 25–27, 2014
Speaker: Dave Fiedler
Contact: Events Coordinator
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 232

Advanced Medical Missionary Training
May 25–30, 2014
Contact: Lifestyle Education Center
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 311

Spring Graduation
June 6–7, 2014
Contact: David Velez-Sepulveda
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 308

Piedmont Valley Youth Bible Camp
June 22–29, 2014
Contact: Joan Reichard
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 304

Camp Meeting
July 23–27, 2014
Speakers: Stephen Bohr, Christian Berdahl
Contact: Events Coordinator
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 232

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Spring Convocation
April 25–27, 2014
With Dave Fiedler

About Our Spring Convocation Speaker
Dave Fiedler has taught elementary, secondary, and collegiate classes in various Seventh-day Adventist schools. His two books, *Hindsight* and *d’Sozo*, both came from his appreciation for the lessons we learn about medical missionary work from our denominational history. Since August 2008, Dave and his family have been putting those lessons to practical use, as their conviction has grown that medical ministry is the essential method for finishing God’s work.

We thank those who have given in memory of...
- My parents by Priscilla McNeily
- Andrew Gabriel by Anthony Gabriel
- Rex Horner (son) and Tammy Allen (granddaughter) by Billy and Jean Horner
- Nara Lena Irvin by Emanuel and Cathy Pavlik III
- Timmy and Peggy Lail by Emanuel Jay and Cathy Pavlik III
- Douglas Pudleiner (husband) by Lenora Pudleiner

In honor of...
Simdumise Poswa by Susanne Wanzer

HARTLAND MINISTRY REPORT

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