Destination: Dominican Republic

Questions & Answers Regarding Tithe

Called to Teach the Bible

Spring Graduation 2014
It was helpful to learn some of the natural treatments for cancer, because it’s a major health concern and people want other options. Learning about the herbs, first aid, and the correct way of eating were also good. I learned some things about eating that I’m going to change. Also, from the talks about the various ways Jesus healed, I learned that healing includes the mind and the soul. So I want to do some things differently with my patients.—Adina, Physical Therapist

I enjoyed the presentations on cancer, diabetes, and hypertension. I also enjoyed the exercise every morning and the hands-on experience making poultices and learning to give fever baths. Being a nurse, I see a lot of sickness treated with medication but not lifestyle changes. I’m also a nursing educator and I will, by the Lord’s grace, give students and patients more information on the eight laws of health.—Usha, Registered Nurse

Even though I’d taken some of the classes before, I learned many new things, especially on herbology and insulin. Insulin resistance causes obesity and heart failure. And the first aid class made me realize that we all need to be certified. You never know when you’ll need to help someone. If you know what to do at the right moment, then you can save lives. Most of Jesus’ ministry was healing, and we need to follow His example.—Ed, General Contractor

I was stunned the most by the talks on pH balance, vegan dieting, and the Ten Commandments from the spiritual and medical viewpoints. The lifestyle has to change. And I really got to see the connection between healing and reaching people for Jesus. I work with about eight people who are experiencing physical or emotional problems. People in pain really don’t want to hear about the Lord or do Bible studies—they want to get well. But when you’re able to help them through their pain and they feel better, then they’re ready to hear about God’s love, what they should be doing to be healthy, and the need for a relationship with Christ.—Brenda, Retired English Teacher
From the Pregnancy Centers of Central Virginia

A director’s letter attests to the quality of Hartland’s Childbirth Education and Doula certification program.

The Orange Pregnancy Center, located in Orange, Virginia, serves the community of Orange and surrounding counties, offering free pregnancy tests, counseling, limited medical services and material help. The Center has a building block program that allows moms-to-be to earn blocks for baby clothing, strollers, swings, pack’n plays, breast pumps, etc., while learning about childbirth and parenting.

Hartland College’s Childbirth Education and Doula students in training have been teaching a childbirth and newborn care class at the Pregnancy Center. The students take turns sharing their expertise with our clients, using models, audiovisu, and handouts to aid in explanations. Each Hartland class counts as a block and has the additional benefit of allowing our ladies-in-waiting to ask questions of the knowledgeable students and their teacher, Patti Barnes (Director of the program at Hartland). “This is so interesting,” has been the comment most often overheard. One mom is expecting her third child, but even she learned from the classes—“I didn’t know that!”

The Hartland students are a joy to be around, very friendly, open and encouraging, as well as competent in their areas of study. And because the Center is a ministry, the students are able to pray with the moms, giving all the glory to God.

In behalf of the Center, I want to thank you for your assistance in the outreach to our community and look forward to further collaboration with you.

Margaret Shaw, Orange Center Director

For 12 months, the staff at Last Generation Ministries tried to get this pallet of 12,000 magazines to the Dominican Republic (DR), but ran into obstacles that tried their faith. It was the last of four pallets given through your generous donations to help with evangelism in Spanish-speaking countries. Pallets had been received in Venezuela, Chile, and Colombia over nine months ago. Finally, the pallet designated for the DR has been shipped!

But the miracle is only beginning! Now, the spotlight turns to Hartland graduate Samuel Francis. He has a vision to train young people in the DR in literature evangelism and soul winning.

Samuel is not Dominican. He is American. But while a student, he caught a vision for Hispanic outreach and began learning Spanish. He went to the DR for his internship and immersed himself in the language and the culture. After graduating in 2013 with a degree in Pastoral Evangelism, he returned to the DR and began networking with young Seventh-day Adventists who want to do evangelism on secular college campuses.

Samuel is a seasoned literature evangelist, having spent many summers in canvassing Twelve thousand evangelists are on their way with God’s message for these times.

by Betsy Mayer
programs. He knows that you have to have the right bait (quality literature) if you want to catch the right kind of fish. Two years ago, Samuel helped raise funds to produce the Spanish edition of *Last Generation* entitled *Volviendo a lo Básico* so that he could have his “bait.”

Last year, Samuel waited patiently for his pallet to arrive, but the logistics kept falling apart—a place and person to receive the shipment in the DR fell through; the shipper wanted to pick the pallet up on Sabbath; then the boxes were deemed unsuitable for the shipper, and the only ones suitable were in New Jersey. We knew the devil was throwing up every roadblock imaginable to hedge our way.

For many weeks, the Last Generation staff prayed for a way to get these magazines to Samuel. Finally, Julio Arias contacted the shipper with the offer to bring the boxes to the port himself. God gave Julio wisdom and tact to explain to the Dominican manager that this was a gift for his people. At last, he accepted the shipment in our boxes and it is on its way to the DR!

Every year, it is getting logistically harder and more expensive to ship literature outside of the United States. If we could print it inexpensively in these countries, we would. But surprisingly, printing costs are considerably higher than they are here. Even with shipping costs, it is less expensive and easier to do the work here.

This summer, Samuel Francis is in the United States canvassing so that he can earn funds to support himself upon his return to the DR. This fall, he plans to hold training events for young people in the DR to learn soul-winning skills. He will use *Volviendo a lo Básico* for these purposes. Pray for Samuel Francis and his team in the DR.

Watch for upcoming reports on how God is using your gifts to do a special work with literature in the Spanish-speaking countries of the DR, Chile, Colombia, and Venezuela!

*Back to Basics*
Spring Graduation 2014

Aim: Higher than the highest
Motto: Reaching God’s ideal in our generation

On June 6–7, seven Hartland graduates attended the ceremonies as this year’s spring class was launched into its lifework. They shared their internship reports and testimonies, encouraging the college students to press on, preparing for each one’s high calling. Loago Setswalo, 2012 graduate, spoke about reaching God’s ideal in this generation by preaching the gospel. President Norbert Restrepo challenged the entire audience, saying that the best means to finishing the work is experiencing true education. President Emeritus Colin Standish offered the dedicatory prayer.

Dennis “Azariah” Anderson, USA
Pastoral Evangelism
Christian Media
Management Minor
Bible verse: 2 Corinthians 3:18
Vision: To be balanced and reflect Christ

Esther Borges, Brazil
Health Ministry
Bible verse: Proverbs 16:9
Vision: To work for the Lord through the health message and to help others to look at the cross of Jesus Christ and be saved

Martha Castañeda, Colombia
Health Ministry
Bible verse: Joshua 1:9
Vision: To go back to Chile to open a place of service where people can receive restoration through the health message and the plan of true education

Lomaswati Dlamini, Swaziland
Health Ministry
Bible verse: 1 Chronicles 28:20
Vision: To prepare a people who will be able to stand in the day the Lord returns, using the right and left arms of the gospel—medical missionary work and country living
Benjamin Jacobs, USA
Bible Instruction
Bible verse: Philippians 2:13
Vision: To embrace the mission where I am

Samuel Kaiyanuyanu, Fiji
Christian Secondary Education
Bible verse: Isaiah 45:22
Vision: To restore the image of God in man throughout the South Pacific

Ysaura Marca, Bolivia
Christian Elementary Education
Music Minor
Bible verse: Joshua 1:9
Vision: To go where God sends me and to help others as He has helped me

Angeline Nyaata, Kenya
Health Ministry
Bible verse: Isaiah 30:21
Vision: To cheerfully and willingly work for Christ, completely surrendered to His will, going where He wants me to go and doing what He wants me to do

Simdumise Poswa, South Africa
Pastoral Evangelism
Health Ministry Minor
Bible verse: Isaiah 53:11
Vision: To train young people in Africa and to spread the third angel’s message throughout the continent and beyond

Rosimeire Souza, Brazil
Health Ministry
Bible verses: Proverbs 4
Vision: To go back to my home country and share the gospel through health ministry

Jim Whitaker, USA
Christian Elementary Education
Bible verse: Psalm 55:22
Vision: To use the education of children to bring souls to Jesus

Cheng Long Zhao, China
Pastoral Evangelism
Bible verses: Revelation 22:20, 21
Vision: To be a missionary
On June 6, 2014, Hartland’s Board of Directors voted that beginning July 1, 2014, the institution will no longer accept donations designated as tithe from known Seventh-day Adventist church members. This brief article seeks to answer why Hartland is taking this step of faith.

Why does Hartland no longer accept donations designated as tithe?

Paul stated, “I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.” 1 Corinthians 9:22. Paul’s overarching desire was to lead men and women to our Savior that they may be saved for His kingdom. He was willing to do anything possible without compromising principle to achieve this one great aim. Another time he said, “But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably,… It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.” Romans 14:15, 21.

Paul would give up any right without sacrificing principle in order to not offend others or to increase his ability to minister for the salvation of souls. We have taken this lesson to heart. Our tithe acceptance has built unnecessary barriers between us and our brethren in the denomination. We believe it is our Christian duty to do all in our part to remove these roadblocks.

Is this decision in accordance with the Spirit of Prophecy?

There were times when Sister White gave her tithe and the tithe of others to neglected southern workers, Bible workers, and others. From this we realize that it is not wrong for...
an individual to take personal responsibility in the giving of their tithe. Yet Sister White does recommend a “better way.”

“You ask if I will accept tithe from you and use it in the cause of God where most needed. In reply I will say that I shall not refuse to do this, but at the same time I will tell you that there is a better way. It is better to put confidence in the ministers of the conference where you live and in the officers of the church where you worship. Draw nigh to your brethren. Love them with a true heart fervently, and encourage them to bear their responsibilities faithfully in the fear of God.” Thus there is nothing in the Spirit of Prophecy that Hartland would be violating with this decision.

How can I continue to support Hartland’s ministry?

There are exciting things happening in God’s work, and we believe that God has called Hartland “for such a time as this.” Esther 4:14. As we look to increase and expand the work at Hartland, we need your fervent prayers and support more than ever before. Our needs are much the same as before and here are some of our main funds:

- **Where Needed Most** donations may be used anywhere in the institute according to the greatest need.
- **Ministry** meets the needs of our Bible teachers and those engaged in various lines of ministry work.
- **Evangelism** covers our many evangelistic projects including Bible studies, health ministry, literature ministry, and so forth.
- **Our Missionary Training Fund** provides scholarships for worthy students to be trained as missionaries.

We greatly appreciate your partnership with us as we strive to train young people to spread the everlasting gospel. Together we can all have a part in preparing others for Jesus’ soon return.

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1 White, Ellen G., The Spalding-Magan Collection, p. 215
God chose Alexi to fill a great need in Venezuela.
by Kevin Wahl

“I was about to finish my health studies at Las Delicias Institute in Venezuela when the institute’s director told me about Hartland College,” shares sophomore Alexi Garcia. “He wanted me to develop more in the area of Bible, because Las Delicias has a big need for Bible teachers. After I graduated from Las Delicias, I received the acceptance letter from Hartland.”

Alexi chose to major in Pastoral Evangelism. “There is a great work to do in my country—teaching youth how to study the Bible and share it through their personal experience and walk with God. It was not an easy decision because I wanted to further my health studies. But after several prayers, God showed me His will. I received my visa and flew to America.”

What have been Alexi’s most important experiences at Hartland? “I’ve learned the importance of having a deep connection with God and how to have it, which for me is the substance of what being a Christian really is.

“I can say that for a foreign language student it is hard, but worth it. In less than one year I could speak English and understand my classes and the people around me. I appreciate the opportunity God has given me to learn in an intellectual, social, and practical way the lessons that will make me a better servant.

“Also, the testimonies of the staff and students, and how everyone is willing to help you in your spiritual experience, have taught me what being a missionary really is.”

What will Alexi do when he returns home? “I’ll teach Bible classes at Las Delicias, and help with their lifestyle center, farm, and outreach activities.”

When Hartland accepted Alexi, he received the opportunity to be a Missionary Training Fund (MTF) student. Could Alexi have come if it were not for the MTF? “No, because I have no way to pay for my studies since money from my parents wouldn’t be enough, as the currency in my country is much lower than the US dollar.”

Alexi concludes by thanking those who give to the MTF. “I’m very thankful for all the support you give to us, because it helps to spread the gospel around the world. I know that for each student it is a blessing to be here, but without your help we MTF students would not able to reach the high calling God has for us. Thank you so much, and I know God will give back what you have given to us—not just in money, but also in health and spiritual growth.”

MISSIONARY TRAINING FUND

Called to Teach the Bible

God chose Alexi to fill a great need in Venezuela.

by Kevin Wahl
The mystery of the power of the gospel is experienced when we accept Jesus’ invitation: “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.” Luke 9: 23. However, this gospel message does not appeal to the carnal mind. The preaching of the cross is considered foolishness by the world because it is contrary to self-exaltation.

The “survival of the fittest,” a famous phrase coined by the British philosopher Herbert Spencer, illustrates a central concept of evolution—“natural selection.” It describes the idea that there is, in nature, competition to survive and reproduce. Spencer applied this evolutionary concept to many other fields, from the origin of the solar system to economics. Furthermore, natural selection has been utilized by many, including social Darwinists, to justify selfish practices.¹

But selfishness cannot produce healthy progress. It “is the strongest and most general of human impulses and the struggle of the soul between sympathy and covetousness is an unequal contest; for while selfishness is the strongest passion, love and benevolence are too often the weakest, and as a rule the evil gains the victory.”² Consequently, there is no hope in natural human progress because our inherent selfishness breeds degeneration and sin.

Our only hope lies in receiving into our lives God’s self-sacrificing love. This is His character, the essence of His glory and power. “There is no other way to save men than to cut them away from their life of selfishness. Christ’s life was a true representation of the power of the gospel. Through the exercise of the spirit that characterized His lifework, we are to become partakers of His nature. Partaking in this life of sacrifice for the sake of others, we shall share with Him in the life to come the ‘far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.’”³

Regrettably, secular humanist education rejects a message of self-denial. “At such a time as this,” the motivating appeal most often is self-seeking. “In true education the selfish ambition, the greed for power, the disregard for the rights and needs of humanity, that are the curse of our world, find a counterinfluence.”⁴

Norbert Restrepo, President

¹ www.newworldencyclopedia.org
² White, Ellen G., Review and Herald, Dec. 7, 1886
³ Ibid, Sept. 28, 1911
⁴ White, Education, pp. 225, 226
Upcoming Events

Fall Convocation
October 24–26, 2014
Speakers: Michael Carducci, Ron Woolsey
Contact: Events Coordinator
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 232

Fall Graduation
November 8, 2014
Contact: David Velez-Sepulveda
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 308

Winter Convocation
January 30–February 1, 2015
Speakers: Tom and Alane Waters
Contact: Events Coordinator
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 232

Spring Convocation
April 24–26, 2015
Speakers: Edwin Nebbitt and Family
Contact: Events Coordinator
☎ (540) 672-1996 ext 232

Stewardship Ministries PO Box 1 Rapidan VA 22733

The Gay Puzzle
Leading souls to Christ

Fall Convocation
October 24–26, 2014
With Ron Woolsey & Michael Carducci

Opening his heart to a tender and loving Savior led Michael to breaking free from same-sex attraction and sexual addiction. Today he speaks at high schools, academies, colleges, churches, on radio and television interviews, and internationally at ministerial conferences, helping people who are sexually defiled and addicted.

Ron Woolsey, a former homosexual, pastors the Marshall, Arkansas Seventh-day Adventist Church. He is also speaker/director of The Narrow Way Ministry, serving as an author, musician, radio evanglist, and international speaker. Ron now helps gays and lesbians to understand and overcome their homosexuality. Under the pen name Victor J. Adamson, Ron authored the book entitled “That Kind Can Never Change!” Can They…?

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We thank those who have given in memory of...
• James Fulton Sr. by Michael Fulton
• Mary Ellen Lenihan by Carl Rennhack
• Carol McPherson (sister) by Cora M. Falls
• Pastor and Mrs. Alex Snyman
• Kelly Starr and Traci Bahnmler by Edwin and Joyce Bahnmler

In honor of...
Sonny Abbott by Jamie Whitaker

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