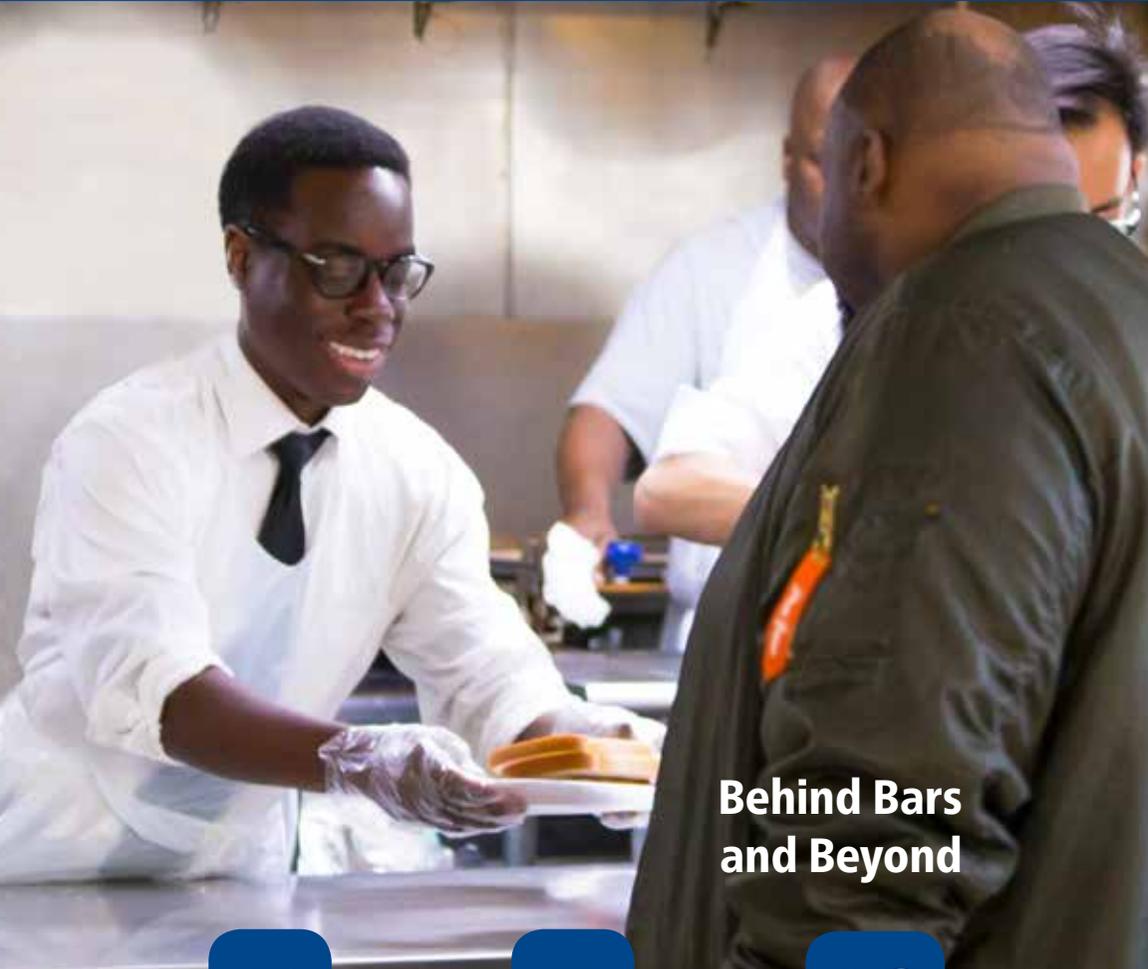




Hartland

MINISTRY REPORT



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Behind Bars and Beyond

God uses the Three Angels' Chorale to touch many hearts in Michigan.

by Kevin Lawrensen

“God sent you here to minister to me,” said a prisoner in maximum security.

During our spring break tour in Michigan this year, Hartland’s Three Angels’ Chorale (TAC) volunteered at Indiana State Prison, a maximum-security prison for adult males in Michigan City. We cooperated with Christmas Behind Bars to give out parcels to the prisoners.

“Many of these prisoners have at least 20 years of imprisonment—some even a lifetime sentence—and this might be the only visit they receive in years,” says Lemuel Vega, founder of Christmas Behind Bars. Each parcel includes not just food, but also books such as *The Great Controversy*, *Bible Answers to Your Questions*, and more.

“I thought that I needed to know everything before I went out to minister to people, but I realized that just praying and giving Bible promises can change people’s lives,” shares Michelle, one of the TAC members. Besides handing out parcels, TAC members also prayed with the inmates, gave them Bible promises, and even shared their testimonies. At the end of the visit,

we sang an acapella piece about the peace the Lord wants to give every one of them.

“When God closes one door, He opens another,” says TAC director Betsy Mayer. “I just go through the open door.” We were supposed to have a concert in the prison that afternoon, but because of a power outage, the concert was canceled. However, our God is a mighty God! Through this cancellation, God opened the way for us to minister in the minimum-security prison. We sang in three dormitories, to at least 300 people. In the blocks, we again distributed parcels and prayed with the inmates. “We’ve never had this opportunity to minister to the inmates directly inside their blocks,” marveled Donna Vega, cofounder of Christmas Behind Bars. “God knows the best place for us to go!”

During our trip, we had the opportunity to sing and share the gospel not just with prisoners, but also with homeless people, children, teenagers, Christians from different denominations, and Adventist church members. Many people shared how the Lord touched their



hearts, and how their faith in the Lord was strengthened as a result.

“We are grateful that you came to our church, and it is an encouragement for us to see young people devoting their time for the Lord,” said Pastor Hersel Wing at the Grace Community Bible Church.

This concert was added providentially when the pastor of the Cadillac SDA Church received an email with our itinerary. “Do you have room to put Cadillac in your schedule?” he responded. “Pastor Wing is a personal friend of mine who has come to all but two nights of our crusade. He is reading *The Great Controversy* right now and has read some of our other books. He would be thrilled to host your group and invite the community.” And so it was that we found

ourselves singing at the Grace Community Bible Church for their Sunday service.

“The Bible has answers to all the questions that puzzle humans the most,” said one of the church members after our concert. They were impressed by the truth presented in our songs, especially “The Blessed Hope.” This piece is taken directly from 1 Thessalonians 4:13–17, where the Bible explains that the dead in Christ shall rise first, and the living will be caught up together to meet the Lord and forever dwell with Him.

“Now I know why God told me to stay in TAC,” remarks Asahel, one of the choir members. At first, he had been planning to drop out of TAC; however, he felt God telling him to stay and join the spring break trip, and he didn’t know why. The testimonies from the prisoners, the homeless people, the new converts, and countless others showed him—and the rest of us—how God has been working in their hearts, and why He has called us to this outreach. “God wants me to minister to His children,” Asahel concludes.

The spring break trip not only changed other people’s lives for the better, but it also helped us chorale members to grow spiritually. This trip taught us that music can touch people’s hearts, and despite our imperfection, God uses us as His instruments as long as we are willing.



A Missionary for Life

Debbie had her own ideas of being a missionary, but God guided Debbie to **His** mission for her.

by Jaleesa Almarales



“Hartland gave me the big picture of ministry and provided a strong foundation for my following studies and work opportunities,” says Debbie Paúl, a 2013 graduate.

Raised as a missionary kid in Argentina, Debbie knew she wanted to be a missionary for life. “I did not want to come to a country where you find comfort, but I wanted a place where I would learn how to serve those in need.” So when she received an email from Hartland inviting her to apply as a student, immediately she thought, *No! This cannot be God’s will.* She didn’t respond to that email for months. However, as she prayed and surrendered her ideas to God, she felt peace and saw signs that He was leading.

“I knew in my heart that I was a teacher,” Debbie relates, “but my calling was in the health field.” While serving in Colombia previously, she had worked in a lifestyle center, where God gave her a vision and passion for health ministry. “I knew there was a great need in this area, but I had no training. Only later God made me understand he wanted me as a health educator. In this way He would be using all my talents—but in His way, not mine.”

“My future vision is, through health education, to lead many souls to find joy, hope, and meaning in Jesus,” states Debbie. Currently, she is working as a health coach, where she works with people one-on-one as a partner in their health and wellness journey. She also serves as the health director at her church and has started a health club, where she uses the things she learned in the health and Bible classes at Hartland to teach church members a better lifestyle and how to reach the surrounding community.

“I value very much the opportunities the teachers gave us to develop skills,” Debbie affirms. “All the information and experience I received have led me to where I am today.

“I appreciate that Hartland hasn’t changed in its core values,” she continues. “They still keep the Word of God as the rule for their education, and I can totally recommend them to others.”

“Don’t think about the money, and don’t think about the time it will take,” Debbie advises. “If God is calling you to Hartland, surrender and follow; He will always lead you best!”

Jaemey's Challenge

"You're never too young or too old to do something for God." Jaemey Ndege, age 11

by Jamie Whitaker



Jaemey Ndege, age 11, came with her family to visit Hartland College, where her older brother is a student. She and her family were well impressed with the way the school operates. "I like Hartland," Jaemey says. "There are so many different avenues they are using to share God with the community and helping young people to be more involved. They're doing an amazing work for God, and it will have a ripple effect far out from the campus."

Jaemey's brother, Egedn, is studying health ministry; she is proud of him and how he has grown. She observes that he has become much more active in church, leading out in the music and interacting with others. His family is thankful to God that he chose to come here.

During their stay, the family noticed that the student dormitories could use an overhaul; Jaemey especially noticed the showers. "They look very old, and some things need to be replaced." But her reaction was proactive: "Instead of complaining, I want to do something."

After returning home, they contacted a group called Maranatha that does construction and renovation, and learned

that they are willing to help if Hartland Institute applies to be put on the waiting list, and the work can be done in phases.

Next, they began making contacts to raise funds for the work. Jaemey says the response was positive: "A lot of people said, 'This is a good thing to do. We need to be helping God's children in the college.' We also have a garden, and we're selling crops to raise money. Our whole family is involved. I am teaching piano and donating the money for the dorm renovation, and I've decided to give all of my college savings, because I believe that God will provide the funds for my education when I am older." Thus the fundraising for this important project is well underway, thanks in part to a young girl's big faith!

"You are never too young or too old to do something for God," Jaemey says. "You can do little things: open doors for people, smile at someone, or pray for people—these simple things can make a huge difference in somebody's life."

We thank Jaemey and her family for setting to work and doing something to help and bless. Think of what you can do!



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More Than Midwifery

Victoria is getting a well-rounded training for future ministry.

by Rachel Perry

I am learning so much more than just midwifery!" Victoria beams. "My experiences are equipping me with tools for ministry."

Victoria Adeyeye, a midwifery major from Nigeria, has a burden for families in her home country. She plans to use midwifery as an entering wedge to introduce Christ and His practical gospel into Nigerian homes.

"I am so thankful to have the privilege to work with an Adventist midwife," continues Victoria, who is now interning at Dove Charity Home Birth Services in Pennsylvania. She was offered another internship—and a job afterwards—with a non-Adventist midwife, but she sees God's hand in directing her to her current position where she is free to participate in church activities without any Sabbath conflicts.

At her new church, Victoria is especially active in the youth Sabbath school and Pathfinders. "I am able to use the knowledge gained from my Bible classes at Hartland as we discuss different topics." She has also invited the youth members to join her in outreach to a secular school, in partnership with Adventist Christian Fellowship. "This has brought to my mind the privilege I had to attend an Adventist mission-focused college."

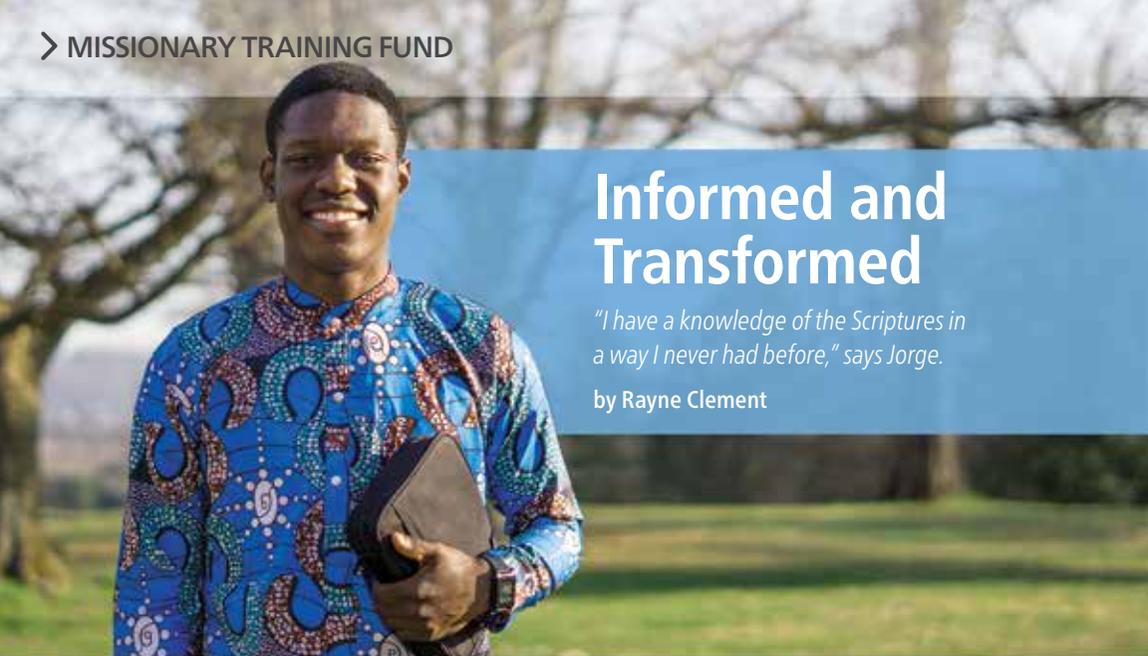
"I knew internship would be hard work and a growing experience," Victoria relates.



"Besides midwifery, I am learning how to run a business, how to be a teacher, and how to do media work. I like the challenge! I look forward to seeing how God will use all of this in my future ministry."

Even though she has just one main preceptor, the Lord has opened ways for her to work with other midwives, too. "My preceptor hasn't been very busy this year," she explains, "so I've had the amazing privilege to work with two other midwives and learn different ways to do things. One of them had a negative experience with students in the past and was totally closed to working with students again. But now she wants me to work with her and calls me her student!"

"I'm learning that the way we live our lives is the best way to lead others to Christ. I am learning to be a balanced Christian, to be content and thankful in all situations, and that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."



Informed and Transformed

"I have a knowledge of the Scriptures in a way I never had before," says Jorge.

by Rayne Clement

Through a personal encounter of faith with the One who is faithful, I accepted the call to fully work for God as His under-shepherd because of the burden of souls He placed on my heart."

Born into an Adventist family in Angola, Jorge Neketela received a well-balanced education from his parents. He grew up knowing the Bible, especially the book of Proverbs, which was a guide in his Christian life. This gave him a strong foundation, and even when he was away from home studying in Thailand, he had a personal knowledge of Christ. However, while studying in Thailand, he encountered financial challenges.

Jorge was on the verge of being sent home by the university because he had no money. But God touched the heart of a sponsor to pay his debt. He was so grateful to God for His providence that he committed four months of his time to doing mission work for God through canvassing.

At the end of these four months, one of his close friends encouraged him to speak with one of the university teachers, who advised him to apply to Hartland College. Jorge had no idea about Hartland,

yet he felt impressed to apply. He had no money, but God provided miraculously. Through His leading, Jorge was granted the Missionary Training Fund (MTF) scholarship and received a visa—even after being rejected once.

"The classes here are like spiritual food to me; they are not just a class but a space where I can perfect my relationship with God," Jorge says. "I had a theoretical understanding of the Bible, but not a transforming experience. But now, by God's grace, I have the knowledge of the Scriptures in a way I never had before."

Jorge is passionate to share the gospel with the people in Angola who are mainly Catholic, and where the majority of them do not believe the foundational doctrines of the Bible. He feels a burden to prepare the way in the hearts and lives of his people that they may behold Christ.

"Words are not able to describe the impact and blessing you have been to many," Jorge concludes, speaking to those who have given to support the MTF. "Thank you so much for being a blessing to us, and I pray that the Lord may bless you, keep you, and make His face to shine upon you."



God Is Always by My Side

*I've seen His love and been strengthened for ministry through my new family at Loma Linda Campestre.**

by Luvian Fernando Sierra García, age 23
(pictured on right)

I grew up with my stepfather and his children. Being the oldest child, I was entrusted with the food preparation and housework responsibilities. One day, because I didn't want to take care of my stepfather's children anymore, my mother told me to leave the house. I was only 15 years old. I packed my clothes in two plastic bags and looked for my friends to help me, but they all turned their backs on me.

I thought of ending my life. Everything seemed absurd, and I planned to throw myself down a cliff. Along the way, I met an elderly friend who told me, "Just remember the good things." The day passed, and I climbed a nearby mountain, still intending to end my life, but then I remembered my friend's words. In that moment, I realized that I was not alone, that God was with me and had always been by my side.

For two weeks I slept in the parks of Villa de Leyva. Eventually I found work in a fast-food restaurant and saved enough money to pay rent. For a month I slept in an apartment without furniture. God then gave me a good-paying job as a security guard. I managed to save up enough to start studying gastronomy to be a chef and one day set up my own restaurant.

Although I was persecuted by problems and difficulties, I have been able to recover, and I trust that God has given me a second chance and purpose to serve humanity and achieve my goals. I want to be useful to society and help others.

I was always different from others. I never smoked and was never in heavy environments. I thought I was weird, but now I've realized this was God's way of freeing me from troubles and making me a better person.

After finishing my studies, I met Loma Linda Campestre ministry,* who have been like a family to me. They have given me love, and I have managed to improve my self-esteem and make better decisions. I have learned again what family is all about, and how to work as a team.

I have learned to face crises, and I feel strengthened, full of joy, because God is with me and never abandons me. God has great purposes for my life and for all those who believe in Him.

*Loma Linda Campestre is a ministry operated by Freddy and Connie Castro, and supported through Hartland's Lord, Send Me program. Freddy Castro is a graduate of Hartland College.



No Chemo for Me!

A healthy lifestyle strengthens Shirley in her fight against cancer.

by Rachel Perry

I have no intention of going through chemo,” declares Shirley.

When 89-year-old Shirley Cleveland was diagnosed with colon cancer, she knew she didn’t want chemotherapy and opted for surgery instead. Knowing the risk of surgery at her age, Shirley’s son Scott—the only Seventh-day Adventist in the family—advised her to go through Hartland’s “Lifestyle to Health” program in order to boost her immune system before the surgery.

“I was ready to be completely cleansed out and get back onto something more healthy so that I could normally go through the surgery and avoid the chemo,” Shirley says. “I also wanted to change my habits so that I could continue on with better health.”

The team at the Lifestyle Education Center (LEC) put together a customized program for Shirley to help her achieve her goals. The regimen included daily charcoal poultices and castor oil packs, specially adapted exercises, as well as hydrotherapy treatments designed to stimulate circulation and expel toxins from the body.

“I think probably the best therapy for me has been the fever baths,” Shirley

continues. “I’m seeing the results of toxins being removed. It does drain you to the point that you’re tired a lot, but I feel like that’s just part of healing, because when you’re losing toxins from the body, you’re going to be tired.”

When asked how she enjoyed the food, she announced, “I’m going to become a vegan when I get home!” Although she had a “pretty good diet” and already felt healthy before she came to the LEC, now she has learned the benefits of a plant-based diet. “It’s not going to be hard for me to switch over. The hard part is going to be going home and cleaning out the freezer and the pantry,” she laughs.

“I really appreciate the education that Hartland gives to all of the students here,” she adds. “They are so well rounded that they’re prepared for just about anything in life. Everybody here has been very helpful and they go out of their way to make sure that everything is the way it should be.”

“I highly recommend the ‘Lifestyle to Health’ program,” Shirley concludes. “You would not only enjoy it, but you would learn so much and go home with more than what you came for.”

Self-Deception

Take heed lest any man deceive you.

by Norbert Restrepo



Christ began His message on last-day events with a warning against deception. He reiterated it several times as He answered the disciples' question about the signs of His coming and of the end of the world. "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you." Matthew 24:4.

In His message to Laodicea, Christ warns His church of being in a state of self-deception. "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." Revelation 3:17. Jeremiah declares that deception is a condition of the human heart: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9. And Paul warns us that in the last days the man of sin shall deceive all those who "received not the love of the truth." 2 Thessalonians 2:3-10.

We might be tempted to think, as Peter did, that we are exempt from these warnings. But history proves that even Peter was deceived, though he loved Jesus and professed to believe in His word. Why was Peter self-deceived, denying Christ in the hour of trial? The apostle Paul gave us the answer: we are deceived when we do not love the truth. Loving truth is more than intellectual assent. It is loving the

experience of truth, not just the theory of truth—and the truth is Jesus. If we truly love Him, we will yearn to be like Him!

Peter was willing to die to defend Jesus, but he did not love Jesus as the truth; he did not love and yearn to be like Him. Jesus said, "Learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart." Matthew 11:29. Paul exhorts us, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." Christ took upon Himself "the form of a servant" and "He humbled Himself...even [unto] the death of the cross." Philippians 2:5-8. Paul yearned to be like Christ in His humility and death! He said, "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death." Philippians 3:10.

"The whole gospel is comprised in learning of Christ—His meekness and lowliness. What is justification by faith? It is the work of God in laying the glory of man in the dust and doing for man that which it is not in his power to do for himself."¹

It is only as we experience Christ's humility that we are safe from the peril of self-deception in these last days!

¹ Ellen G. White, *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 456.

Upcoming Events

Piedmont Valley Youth Bible Camp *June 10-17, 2018*

Speakers: Giancarlo De Miranda and Eugene Prewitt
Contact: Joan Reichard
(540) 672-1996 ext 305

Summer Camp Meeting

July 25-29, 2018
Speakers: Jay Gallimore and Jim Howard
Contact: Events Coordinator
(540) 672-1996 ext 232

Fall Convocation

October 19-21, 2018
Speaker: Christian Berdahl
Contact: Events Coordinator
(540) 672-1996 ext 232

Winter Convocation

January 25-27, 2019
Speaker: Phil Mills, MD
Contact: Events Coordinator
(540) 672-1996 ext 232

You may now register for our events online at booking.hartland.edu. On-site registration is also available. We look forward to seeing you!

Staff Openings

Contact: J. H. Shin
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About Our Camp Meeting Speakers

Jay Gallimore retired as president of the Michigan Conference in January 2018. Previously he served as conference secretary and ministerial director of the Michigan Conference. He has also served as director of the Northwest Ministries Training Center for the North Pacific Union Conference, associate ministerial director in the Kansas-Nebraska Conference, and as a pastor in both the Kansas-Nebraska and the Carolina conferences.

Jim Howard is the associate director of the General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department. Prior to this, he served as a pastor in the Ohio and Michigan conferences, and as the evangelism coordinator and personal ministries director for the Michigan Conference. His burden is to lead every member to a closer walk with Jesus through communion with God, church fellowship, and active involvement in personal and public outreach.

We thank those who have given in memory of...

Dessie Mode by Emanuel and Cathy Pavlik
Edith Terrell by Allie Valentine
Gloria Laura by Lesli Smith

In honor of...

Evangelism and Hartland Institute by Phyllis Zabala

Prayer Request

Please remember Dr. Colin Standish and family in your prayers.

“Prepared for the Final Crisis”

SUMMER CAMP MEETING

JULY 25-29, 2018



Jay Gallimore



Jim Howard



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