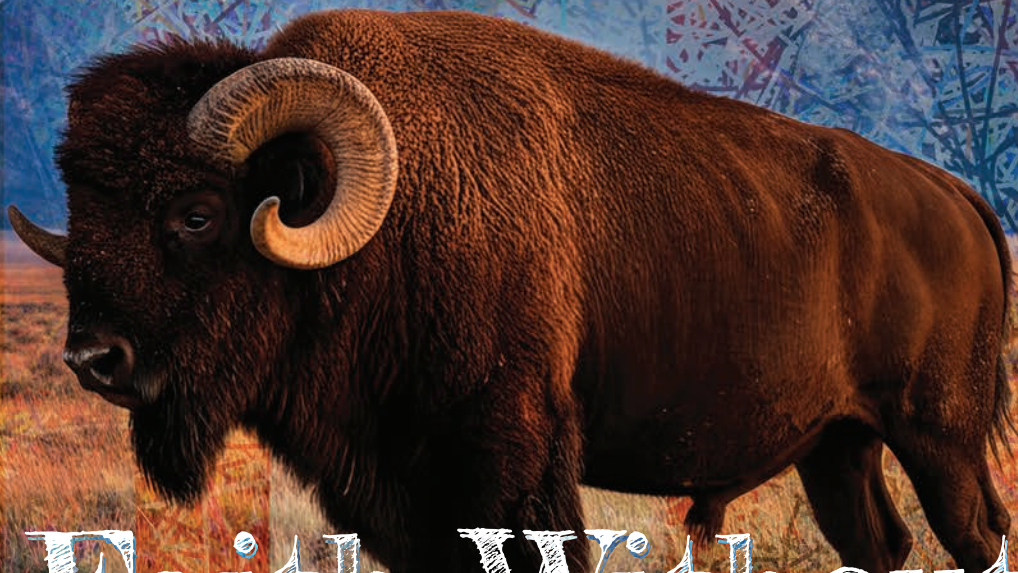


ATLANTIC UNION

GLEANER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026



Faith Without FORCE

Reclaiming the Adventist Understanding of Church & State

ATLANTIC UNION ELECTS
NEW TREASURER AND VP FOR
YOUTH MINISTRIES

PATIENT RECEIVES IMMERSION
BAPTISM IN LOCAL HOSPITAL

HURRICANE VICTIMS IN
JAMAICA RECEIVE RELIEF
AND HOPE

Inside JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026

- 4 Atlantic Union Conference News Briefs
- 6 Faith Without Force: Reclaiming the Adventist Understanding of Church & State
- 14 Bermuda Conference
- 16 Greater New York Conference
- 18 New York Conference
- 20 Northeastern Conference
- 22 Northern New England Conference
- 24 Southern New England Conference
- 28 Advertisements/Announcements
- 29 Sunset Calendar



January/February 2026, Vol. 125, No. 1. The Atlantic Union GLEANER is published bimonthly by the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®, 400 Main Street, Lancaster, MA 01523-2804. Printed by Pacific Press Publishing Association®, 1350 N. Kings Rd., Nampa, ID 83687-3193. Standard postage paid at Nampa, ID 83687. Annual subscription price, \$10.00. NEW OR RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: Mail new or renewal subscriptions to Atlantic Union GLEANER, 400 Main Street, Lancaster, MA 01523-2804. Adventist® and Seventh-day Adventist® are registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®.

Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the King James Version (KJV) | Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. | Scripture taken from the New King James Version®, Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Cover created by Haziel Olivera using Adobe Firefly.



Sign up for the
GLEANER FYI
weekly newsletter
delivered to your
inbox.



*“Religious liberty
is not peripheral
to the gospel—it
is its essential
expression.”*
— p. 10

View the GLEANER
online with your
smartphone or tablet.



Speaking the Truth in Love

Times are changing—rapidly. Long-held assumptions are being questioned, cultural fault lines are widening, and conversations that once felt manageable now feel charged. Public discourse has grown sharper and more impatient. Snide remarks and smug opinions travel quickly online, rewarded with likes and shares. What begins behind a screen often spills into real life—fracturing relationships, eroding trust, and, sometimes sadly, finding its way into the church itself.

In moments like these, it is worth pausing to ask not only what we believe, but how should we treat one another as we hold those beliefs. This is not merely a social concern. It is a spiritual one.

Ellen G. White warned of such moments with striking clarity. In *THE UPWARD LOOK*, she describes Satan’s efforts to hinder God’s work by “setting brother against brother,” cultivating suspicion, and encouraging believers to charge one another with “evil surmising” (p. 114). She traces this spirit to the rebellion that ignited the great controversy itself—a reminder that how we treat one another is never spiritually neutral.

In polarized times, it can be tempting to reach quickly for Scripture or the writings of Ellen White—not to bring clarity or healing, but to win an argument. Adventists know our Bibles well. We know our quotations well, too. Yet truth, when wielded without humility, can become a weapon rather than a witness. Too often, conclusions are drawn before facts are known, and motives are judged rather than understood.

Religious liberty calls us to something better.

In a recent *LIBERTY* magazine editorial (September/October 2024), Bettina Krause offered a timely reminder: the same protections that allow us to live and worship according to our convictions also extend to others—regardless of whether their beliefs align with ours. That reciprocity can be difficult, but it is essential.

For Seventh-day Adventists, our commitment to liberty of conscience and the separation of church and state grows out of our understanding of a God who invites rather than coerces. Faith, to be genuine, must be freely chosen. Worship, to be authentic, must come from love—not pressure, fear, or force.

This does not require abandoning conviction or moral clarity. It does require resisting the impulse to dehumanize those with whom we disagree or to reduce people to labels. Defending truth never requires us to wound one another in the process.

In a world tempted to weaponize belief or legislate morality, the church is called to model a different way. We can hold to conviction without contempt; speak truth in love; and uphold liberty for everyone, not only for ourselves. How we engage one another—especially in disagreement—may be one of the clearest measures of whether we truly believe in faith without force.

—Debra Banks Cuadro is the Atlantic Union Conference communication director and *GLEANER* editor.



*In a world
tempted to
weaponize
belief or
legislate
morality,
the church
is called
to model
a different
way.*

Atlantic Union Elects New Treasurer and VP for Youth Ministries

On November 19, the Atlantic Union Conference Executive Committee elected Thomas “Tom” Murray as the next treasurer of the Atlantic Union Conference. He will begin serving Jan. 1, 2026. Prior to this vote, Murray served the Southern New England Conference (SNEC) for many years as stewardship and trust services director and SNEC association secretary before being elected in January 2019 as treasurer/CFO.

Abraham J. Jules, Atlantic Union Conference president, affirmed the committee’s decision. “Tom Murray brings a wealth of experience and a heart deeply committed to the mission of the Atlantic Union Conference,” he said. “His proven leadership and dedication to responsible stewardship will be a blessing to our union as he steps into this role.”

During the same meeting, the Executive Committee elected Enmanuel Contreras to serve the Atlantic Union Conference as vice president for Youth and Young Adult Ministries, beginning Jan. 1, 2026. Previously, Contreras served as Youth and Young Adult Ministries director for the Greater New York Conference. His



Pictured from left is David McKenzie, Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary; Tom Murray, newly elected Atlantic Union Conference treasurer; Enmanuel Contreras, newly elected vice president for Youth and Young Adult Ministries; Abraham J. Jules, Atlantic Union Conference president; and Kyoshin Ahn, North American Division executive secretary.

Naquan Toit

election fills the position previously held by David McKenzie, who continued in the dual role after being elected as executive secretary of the Atlantic Union Conference in July 2025.

Expressing support for this appointment, Jules added, “Pastor Contreras is a dynamic and passionate leader whose ministry consistently uplifts, equips, and inspires

young people. I am grateful for his willingness to serve and look forward to the impact he will have on the youth across our union.”

Please join the Atlantic Union Conference administration, directors, and staff in prayerful support of these newly elected servant leaders as they begin this next chapter of ministry within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Attorneys Explore ‘Religious Liberty In a Time of Trouble’

“Religious Liberty in a Time of Trouble” was the theme of the 2025 Atlantic Union Attorneys’ Conference, held October 24–25 in Stamford, Connecticut. The annual event brought together attorneys and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL)

coordinators from across the Atlantic Union for a weekend of reflection, learning, and fellowship centered on the principles of freedom of conscience and faith.

Participants engaged in thought-provoking presenta-

tions, stimulating discussions with peers, and meaningful interactions with students exploring careers in law, including several seniors from Union Springs Academy.

Guest presenters included Sean Pittman, M.D., pa-

thologist; Bettina Krause, (pictured) LIBERTY magazine editor and PARL associate director for the North American Division; Bill Knott, retired PARL associate director for the General Conference and former senior editor of the ADVENTIST RE-

VIEW and ADVENTIST WORLD magazines; and attorney Jonathan Nelson, Esq.

Weekend topics covered a wide range of issues: the relationship between legal due process and civil rights—long critical to religious minorities such as Seventh-day Adventists; Adventist engagement with civic and political matters; and the call for Christians to live according to biblical principles while avoiding the idolatry of partisanship, to name a few.

“We are facing issues of religious liberty that have never challenged us,” said

Charles Eusey, Atlantic Union Conference PARL director. “It is important that we listen to God and to experts in the field of religious liberty so that we are not misled by those who do not have a correct understanding of the times.”

His words underscored the conference’s central message—that understanding the legal and spiritual foundations of freedom of conscience is both a civic duty and a gospel calling.

Special thanks to the Atlantic Union Conference PARL team—Charles Eusey,

Debra Banks Cuadro



director, and associate directors John Ashmeade and James Richmond—for organizing another successful conference that reaffirmed the Adventist Church’s ongoing commitment to religious liberty.

Religious Liberty Day Ignites Faith, Freedom, and Renewed Advocacy

On Sabbath, Nov. 1, 2025, Adventist members and community guests gathered at Hanson Place church in Brooklyn, New York, for Religious Liberty Day. The event, organized by the Atlantic Union Conference Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Ministries (PARL), centered on the theme “Igniting Faith, Freedom, and Justice.”

PARL associate directors John Ashmeade and James Richmond coordinated the day’s activities, which included a lively Sabbath School discussion, an inspiring worship service featuring guest speaker Ivor Myers (pictured), pastor of the Living Manna online church, and a thought-provoking afternoon panel.

“Religious liberty is important for everyone,” Ashmeade said. “We all need freedom of conscience and the ability to think for ourselves, worship for ourselves, speak for ourselves, and gather together for ourselves. [Religious liberty] is one of the foundational rights we have in this country, and we need to protect it and preserve it.”

In his sermon, “A False Jesus,” Myers juxtaposed the prisoner Barabbas—whose name means “son of the



Merari Medina

father”—with Jesus of Nazareth, the true Son of the Father. He highlighted how the crowd, under the spell of Satan, “chose a counterfeit Jesus.” Myers urged listeners to reflect on Christ, the One who offers genuine spiritual and religious freedom.

Marie Martin, an attendee celebrating her birthday, said the experience was a “double blessing.” “When I saw it was on my birthday, I said, I’m definitely going,” she said. Her biggest takeaways were the reminder to be wary of the

enemy’s deceptions and to always choose the true Jesus.

Ashmeade said he hoped attendees left with a renewed sense of purpose. “I want them to renew their relationship with Christ,” he said. “I want them to understand that they need to advocate for those who are disenfranchised—the weak, the homeless. That’s our obligation. That was the ministry of Jesus, and that should be our ministry.”

—Judith Silfrene-Georges, GLEANER reporter

At the heart of the Adventist faith is the belief that God never forces the conscience. True worship grows from love freely given, not from obedience imposed by law. The voices gathered here, and the essays that follow, reflect a historic Adventist conviction: religious liberty is the foundational freedom upon which all other human rights rest.



To man alone, the crowning work of his creation, God has given a conscience to realize the sacred claims of the divine law, and a heart capable of loving it as holy, just, and good; and of man prompt and perfect obedience is required. Yet God does not compel him to obey; he is left a free moral agent.

— THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES, April 15, 1886, par. 2

To allow freedom of conscience is to recognize that there is a higher government on the earth than the civil governments—the government of God. To interfere with this right is to interfere with God’s government, and also to turn civil government out of its proper channel, and bring it to a disastrous end.

—THE AMERICAN SENTINEL, December 2, 1897, p. 749

God never forces the will or the conscience; but Satan’s constant resort—to gain control of those whom he cannot otherwise seduce—is compulsion by cruelty.

— THE GREAT CONTROVERSY (1888 ed.), p. 591

The exercise of force is contrary to the principles of God’s government; He desires only the service of love; and love cannot be commanded; it cannot be won by force or authority. Only by love is love awakened.

— THE DESIRE OF AGES, p. 22

He who has God’s law written in the heart will obey God rather than men, and will sooner disobey all men than deviate in the least from the commandment of God. God’s people, taught by the inspiration of truth, and led by a good conscience to live by every word of God, will take His law, written in their hearts, as the only authority which they can acknowledge or consent to obey.

— TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH, vol.1, p. 361

When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the State to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result.

— THE GREAT CONTROVERSY (1888 ed.), p. 445

When the Lamb Speaks as a

DRAGON

Revisiting America's Role in Prophecy



The book of Revelation describes three symbolic beasts that require careful attention. The first appears in Revelation 11 as the beast from the bottomless pit. Seventh-day Adventists understand this prophecy as identifying atheism as a system, with France serving as the historical location where that system was openly manifested. France itself is not the beast; rather, it provides the setting in which the system is revealed.

The second beast appears in Revelation 13:1–10. Adventists identify this power with the Papacy, again recognizing that Rome functions as the geographical reference point, not the beast itself. These prophecies do not condemn nations, but expose systems that oppose God's authority.

This distinction between location and system is essential for understanding the third beast described in Revelation 13:11—the beast with lamb-like horns that speaks like a dragon.

PROTESTANTISM AS A SYSTEM

Seventh-day Adventists have long recognized that the location of this beast is the United States of America. However, unlike the first two beasts, this power is often treated differently. Some describe it as a “good” beast that later becomes corrupt. Scripture, however, does not make this distinction. The Bible does not describe the beast as becoming dragon-like; it simply states that it speaks like a dragon.

When this distinction is understood, it becomes clear that while the geographical setting is America, the system being exposed is Protestantism within America. Ellen White addressed this directly:

“Protestantism, a power which while professing to have the temper and spirit of a lamb, and to be allied to heaven, speaks with the voice of a dragon. It is moved by a power from beneath” (Letter 232, 1899).

Notably, she describes this power as speaking in the present tense. This

indicates that the dragon-like voice is not merely future, but has characterized the system from its inception.

This voice is synonymous with the fallen churches that constitute Babylon. In *EARLY WRITINGS*, under the heading “The Sins of Babylon,” Ellen White wrote:

“I saw that since the second angel proclaimed the fall of the churches, they have been growing more and more corrupt... I saw great iniquity and vile-ness in the churches; yet their members profess to be Christians” (p. 273).

“His wrath burns against this nation and especially against the religious bodies that have sanctioned this terrible traffic and have themselves engaged in it. Such injustice, such oppression, such sufferings, are looked upon with heartless indifference by many professed followers of the meek and lowly Jesus. And many of them can themselves inflict, with hateful satisfaction, all this indescribable agony; and yet they dare to worship God. It is solemn mockery; Satan exults over it” (p. 275).

Understanding this nuance helps clarify that the beast has spoken like a dragon from the beginning, but the responsibility rests with professed Christian churches—Babylon—not with the nation itself. To defend the beast in the name of defending America is, therefore, to drift toward defending Babylon, and eventually to sympathize with religious systems that, even today, continue to seek civil enforcement of religious beliefs in the name of Jesus.

AN APPROACHING STORM

Ellen White issued a clear warning: In *THE GREAT CONTROVERSY* (1888 ed), p. 608, Ellen White issued a clear warning:

“As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel’s message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position, and join the ranks of the opposition.”

This opposition is not atheistic or secular. It is composed of professed Christians who speak with a dragon’s voice.

She continues:

“By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side.”

Here, “the world” refers specifically to the Protestant world that will dominate at the time the storm approaches.

She concludes:

“Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren” (ibid).

Elsewhere she writes:

“The professed Protestant world will form a confederacy with the man of sin, and the church and the world will be in corrupt harmony” (Selected Messages, vol. 2, p. 367).

DISCERNMENT IS THE SAFEGUARD

Revelation 13:11 is not a prophecy against a nation, but a warning against a system that cloaks compulsory worship in religious language. The danger for God’s people is not persecution from secular powers, but the temptation to align with religiopolitical movements that seek control rather than conscience. Spiritual discernment, not nationalism, remains the safeguard for those who would remain faithful to the principles of the third angel’s message.

Ivor Myers is the pastor of the Living Manna Online Seventh-day Adventist Church

The Sabbath and the Final Test of
ALLEGIANCE



The Sabbath is more than a day, or a commandment to remember—it is a symbol of freedom to worship the Creator according to conscience. In the Seventh-day Adventist understanding, the Sabbath embodies key biblical truths: creation, redemption, and allegiance to the Creator who alone is worthy of worship. As prophecy points toward a climactic moment in history, the question of worship and law moves from the margins to the center of the gospel and the great controversy.

Genesis 2:1–3 reminds us that the Sabbath rests within the Creator’s completed work: “Thus the heavens and the earth were finished... And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day... So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy” (ESV).

THE SABBATH AS A TESTIMONY OF FREEDOM

From Creation to Covenant, the Sabbath represents God’s will for human freedom. It is not a human tradition but a divine ordinance that affirms both God’s sovereignty and the dignity of conscience. Ellen G. White consistently presents the Sabbath as a safeguard against coercion, inviting reflection on a central question: Who is worthy of worship?

Kept in sincerity and by faith, the Sabbath proclaims that worship is an act of allegiance to God, not an expression of social conformity. Scripture affirms this call: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy” (Exodus 20:8).

This understanding anchors Adventist identity in the broader principle of religious liberty—the right of every person to follow conscience under the authority of Scripture. Liberty, in this sense, is not merely civil freedom; it reflects the gospel’s invitation into a relationship of trust, reverence, and obedience to the Creator. As Scripture declares, “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” (2 Corinthians 3:17).

SUNDAY LAWS: A FOCAL POINT IN THE GREAT CONTROVERSY

Prophecy indicates a testing time when earthly powers will seek to regulate worship. The issue is not merely one of calendars, but of obedience—

whether allegiance belongs to God or to human authority. The advent of Sunday legislation highlights this tension by placing worship under legal pressure and testing individual conscience.

This scenario reflects the great controversy theme: a conflict between truth and an oppressive power. Scripture counsels believers to be “fully persuaded in his own mind” (Romans 14:5) and reminds us that “we ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).

For Seventh-day Adventists, Sunday laws represent a potential moment when religious liberty is tested publicly. Yet, even in this tension, the church’s witness is not primarily a political protest, but a theological proclamation—affirming God’s sovereignty over worship and the moral order, while advocating for freedom of conscience. “For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver” (Isaiah 33:22).

THE CENTRALITY OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN THE GOSPEL STORY

Religious liberty is not peripheral to the gospel—it is its essential expression. The sanctuary services taught that Christ’s redemptive work addresses the whole person, including the conscience and its freedom to respond to truth. The Spirit of Prophecy urges believers to uphold liberty of conscience, resist authoritarian measures in matters of worship, and pursue peace with people of all faiths. This posture reflects the fruit of the Spirit described in Galatians 5:22–23.

Within the Adventist framework, three principles stand out:

- The Sabbath as a sign of loyalty to God and a call to worship in freedom.
- The authority of Scripture under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- A prophetic understanding that anticipates a test of allegiance centered on worship.

PRACTICAL WAYS TO HELP CHURCHES UNDERSTAND LIBERTY IN THE GOSPEL

Churches play an important role in helping members understand the relationship between faith and freedom. This can be done by:

- Teaching the biblical view of human moral agency, recognizing that every person bears the image of God and deserves freedom to respond to divine truth (Genesis 1:26).
- Grounding discussions in the sanctuary message, connecting Sabbath observance with Christ’s redemptive work and the call to live righteously in a plural society (Hebrews 9).
- Emphasizing counsel from the Bible and Ellen White’s writings on civil and religious liberty, encouraging respectful engagement and compassionate dialogue with civic authorities while firmly upholding conscience-based worship (John 18:36).
- Modeling liberty in practice by supporting just laws that protect worship without coercion, advocating for the oppressed, and bearing a Christlike witness (Micah 6:8).

A HEARTBEAT FOR THE FINAL TEST

The final test of allegiance will reveal where loyalties rest—on the God of creation and redemption or on the pressures of the moment. The Sabbath stands as both a shield and a witness, affirming freedom to worship God, even amid external pressure.

When challenges arise from Sunday laws, the gospel remains stronger than political power. It calls the church to a principled and compassionate stand for religious liberty as a core expression of the gospel in the great controversy.

In a world of competing claims, Adventists have a responsibility to articulate that freedom of conscience is essential to Christian witness. By teaching, modeling, and praying for genuine religious liberty, churches can help believers embrace the Sabbath not as a legal obligation, but as a joyful acknowledgment of God’s sovereignty and a commitment to worship guided by truth. “The truth shall make you free” (John 8:32).

James Richmond is the Atlantic Union Conference Public Affairs and Religious Liberty associate director.

Ancient Frogs, Modern Faith

Heket and the Rise of Christian NATIONALISM

On the rocky island of Patmos (Revelation 1:9), the apostle John received visions that pulled back the curtain of history and revealed the great controversy between good and evil. Among the most unsettling images is that of “three unclean spirits like frogs” emerging from the mouths of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet (Revelation 16:13)—symbols of deception and mobilization in the final conflict. The imagery is striking and invites reflection on the plagues of Egypt, where frogs filled the land (Exodus 8:1–15).

For the Egyptians, frogs were not merely pests; they were symbols of fertility, tied to Heket, the goddess of fertility and resurrection.¹ During the Nile’s breeding season, their presence—and their chorus—was impossible to ignore. In John’s vision, this ancient imagery resurfaces as a warning of deceptive powers that rise with persuasive voices, promising life and renewal while producing spiritual confusion. Like the frogs of Egypt, deceptive religious voices can grow loud and pervasive, filling the land with promises that ultimately draw faith away from Christ’s eternal kingdom of love and liberty.

Today, parallels emerge in the rise of modern religiopolitical movements that merge faith with national identity. America, shaped by principles of religious liberty and formed by settlers seeking freedom of religion, now grapples with a spiritual drought. Violence in schools, human trafficking,

economic pressures on families, and moral disorientation testify to a nation searching for answers. Into this vacuum, Christian nationalism presents itself as a prophetic voice, claiming solutions to immigration, socioeconomic struggles, and moral decay. It speaks the language of faith, but its gospel is distorted.²

John foresaw a lamb-like beast that “spoke like a dragon” (Revelation 13:11). Though outwardly gentle, it reveals a satanic spirit by demanding worship and blurring the line between devotion to Christ and allegiance to political power. In a similar fashion, religiopolitical systems may proclaim God’s commandments while neglecting the Sabbath and sidelining the heart of the gospel—“Love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31). History reminds us that pseudo-gospels—whether in the Dark Ages or Nazi Germany—bring devastation when faith is co-opted by ideology.³

Scripture identifies the dragon as Satan (Revelation 12:9), the beast as a religious system rising from Rome’s ruins (Daniel 7:3; Revelation 13:1–10), and the false prophet as a power emerging from a new land—lamb-like in appearance yet dragon-voiced (Revelation 13:11–18). America’s story reflects this tension: a nation marked by revival, missionary zeal, and influence, yet vulnerable—when Christ is no longer central—to speaking with a dragon’s voice, echoing what Adventist commentators describe as “the deceptive and seductive words of the serpent

in the Garden of Eden” (ANDREWS ADVENTIST BIBLE COMMENTARY).

John’s vision cautions against religious movements that seek salvation through political power rather than faithfulness to Christ. Just as Egypt could not ignore the frogs’ chorus, we cannot ignore the growing voice of nationalism cloaked in religion. It promises salvation through politics, but salvation belongs to Christ alone.

The good news is that Revelation does not end with frogs or false prophets. It ends with the Lamb—Jesus Christ—victorious and calling His people to faithfulness. In a time when counterfeit gospels grow louder, the true gospel still shines: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

Christian nationalism may blur the lines between church and state, but the gospel of Jesus Christ restores clarity. It reminds us that our hope is not in political saviors but in the risen Savior. And just as frogs once filled Egypt, today’s noise may be deafening—but the voice of Christ still calls us to love, liberty, and life everlasting.

Edgardo J. Herrera, executive secretary and PARL director, Southern New England Conference

¹ M. Lichtheim, *Ancient Egyptian Literature*, vol. 1, p. 220

² Barry A. Kosmin and Seymour P. Lachman, *One Nation Under God: Religion in Contemporary American Society*, pp. 28–20

³ Roland H. Bainton, *The Reformation of the Sixteenth Century*, pp. 45–47; Richard J. Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, pp. 112–15.



Bermuda Conference Honors Pathfinder Leaders on World Pathfinder Day

The Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists marked World Pathfinder Day on Sept. 20, 2025, by celebrating 75 years of Pathfinding and honoring leaders who helped shape the ministry in Bermuda. The special service recognized individuals whose leadership and dedication have influenced generations of young people over the past four decades.

Under the leadership of Kenneth Manders, Bermuda Conference president; Dwayne Caines, Adventist Youth Ministries director; and LaGregg Smith, Bermuda Conference Pathfinder director, the conference organized a worship service to express gratitude to past and present Pathfinder leaders. During the Divine Worship service, organizers recognized these leaders for their faithful service, commitment to youth mentorship, and lasting impact on the church and community.

Each honoree received a commemorative plaque acknowledging years of service to local clubs and the Bermuda Conference and recognizing their positive influence on the spiritual development of Bermuda's youth. Many of those recognized once guided children who are now leading out in Pathfinders and Adventurers, reflecting the enduring legacy of the ministry.

Those honored included Sandra Bean, Carolyn Wilson, Sheryll Kelly, Cheryl King, Troy Pitcher, Eileen Rodriguez, Maureen Fox, Sonya Holder, Keva Evans, Marquita Lee, Anthony Albuoy, Carolyn Albuoy, Lynette Albuoy, Roy Butler, Alsenia Russell, Curtis DeGraff, Anthony Caisey, Cheryl-Ann Norford, Sandra Lightbourne, Juanita Swann, Deborah VanPutton, Elizabeth Ray, Cynthia Mallory, Rosamund Gibbons, Marie Binns, Gina Richardson, Erma Nisbett,



Honorees pose for a group photo with Kenneth Manders, seated center, Bermuda Conference president.

Tanya Bean, Joann Furburt, and LaGregg Smith.

Pathfinders and Adventurers extend beyond camping, honors, and activities. Their central mission is to guide young people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. The Pathfinder ministry began in Anaheim, California, and expanded worldwide by the 1950s, when the General Conference adopted it as an official youth organization

of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The Adventurer Program supports parents in their role as primary spiritual educators by strengthening family relationships and nurturing children's spiritual, physical, mental, and social development. Through age-appropriate activities and lessons, Adventurers learn to live out Christian values rooted in obedience, kindness, respect, and service.



The program now includes six age-based classes for children ages 4 through 9, creating a structured pathway for early spiritual growth. Through collaboration among church, home, and school, the Adventurer ministry aims to develop

confident, Christ-centered children.

Pathfinders serve youth ages 10 and older, emphasizing leadership development, service, and personal responsibility. The program challenges teens to live with purpose, demonstrate Christian

character, and share God’s love through service and outreach. Its guiding principles encourage a daily commitment to faith, integrity, health, respect, and service to others.

Through the Pathfinder and Adventurer ministries, the Bermuda Conference

continues to invest in the spiritual formation of its youth, while honoring the leaders whose dedication has made the ministry a lasting influence across generations.

—Michael Simmons, communication director, Bermuda Conference

Bermuda Students Excel in Safety, Business, and Ministry

Students at Bermuda Institute have had an active and productive fall semester, marked by academic achievement, practical learning, and community involvement. In October, they participated in Bermuda’s Fire Safety Awareness Week, proclaimed by the Hon. Michael Weeks, JP, MP, for October 6–11. The 2025 theme, “Charge Into Fire Safety,” focused on the safety of lithium-ion batteries and everyday prevention practices.

As part of the observance, younger students visited the Hamilton Fire Station and met “Sparky,” the mascot of the Bermuda Fire and Rescue Service.

Middle school students from class entered an essay competition sponsored by the Bermuda Fire and Rescue Service, earning top honors. Hanniel Sing’Ombe placed first, Carter Murray second, and Ava Rabain third. Rhya Saltus received first place in the primary school category.

Students also explored entrepreneurship through a hands-on business project designed to teach financial responsibility and innovation. After developing business plans, students partnered with the Bermuda Economic Development Corporation to refine their ideas. On October 5, students launched their projects by

selling products, raising a total of \$1,900.

In November, four students from the Bermuda Institute spoke during the Hamilton Church Children’s Sabbath Service, leading the entire worship experience. Their sermons centered on the theme “Mission Possible” and garnered strong online engagement.

The Bermuda Institute is the Seventh-day Adventist educational institution of the Bermuda Conference, dedicated to fostering academic growth, spiritual development, and practical life skills in its students.

—LaToya Tull, teacher, Bermuda Institute, and GLEANER staff



Students work together on their business project.



Students sell some of their products helping to raise \$1,900.



A student holds his winning certificate while posing with event sponsors.

Hurricane Victims in Jamaica Receive Relief and Hope

In the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa, the Greater New York Conference traveled to Jamaica to provide relief and support to communities devastated by the storm. The visit underscored both the depth of loss across the island and the urgent need for assistance, while also revealing resilience and hope among those affected.

Conference leaders visited the parishes of Hanover, Westmoreland, St. Elizabeth and Manchester, traveling through some of the hardest-hit towns and communities, including Black River, Savanna-la-Mar, and surrounding areas. While early reports warned of widespread destruction, the reality proved far more severe. Hurricane-force winds damaged nearly every aspect of community life, leaving homes, buildings and infrastructure



Greater New York administrators and directors pose for a group photo with Glen Samuels, West Jamaica Conference president, fifth from left. Pictured, from left, is Clavour Tucker, communication director; Lincoln Smith, English Ministries coordinator; Ariel Manzueta, secretary; Everett Samuel, Adventist Community Services director; Alanzo Smith, president; and June Smith, ministerial spouses coordinator, and Marvin Williams.

extensively compromised. Entire neighborhoods bore visible scars, and the scale of loss was overwhelming.

Despite the devastation, signs of determination and faith remained evident. During the visit, the Greater New York Conference delivered critical supplies and resources to families and communities struggling

to meet basic needs. These efforts provided immediate relief and a measure of stability during a time of deep uncertainty.

The relief team was led by Alanzo Smith, president; Ariel Manzueta, executive secretary; June Smith, ministerial spouses coordinator; Everett Samuel, Adventist

Community Services director; Lincoln Smith, English Ministries coordinator; Clavour R. Tucker, communication director; and Marvin Williams. In addition to direct aid, the conference provided financial support to local congregations, enabling them to begin the long process of recovery and rebuilding. These churches serve as vital anchors within their communities, and strengthening them is essential to long-term restoration efforts. The conference's support continues beyond the initial visit, with a container of additional supplies already packed and shipped to assist with rebuilding infrastructure and restoring essential services.

Although Hurricane Melissa left lasting damage across Jamaica, it also highlighted the power of unity, compassion, and faith. The Greater New York Conference remains committed to standing with those affected, offering practical support and hope as communities work to rebuild and move forward.

—Communication department, Greater New York Conference



Representatives from the Greater New York Conference tour an area ravaged by Hurricane Melissa.

Greater New York Conference SDA Schools: A Journey to Excellence

Pentecost 2025 “A Movement of Faith and Education”

This past school year, the Greater New York Conference experienced a powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit through Pentecost 2025, a movement that touched every corner of our educational system. From elementary classrooms to high school campuses, our Adventist schools united in mission, demonstrating that education is not only about academic achievement but also about spiritual transformation.

The most remarkable fruit of this initiative was the baptism of 64 students across our schools. Each young person stood before their peers, family, and church communities to declare their commitment to Christ. These baptisms were not isolated events but the culmination of intentional discipleship, daily worship, and the nurturing guidance of teachers and pastors who see their classrooms as mission fields.

Voices from the Movement

Students, teachers, and administrators shared what Pentecost 2025 meant to them:

- “I felt God calling me during our school Week of Prayer. When I stepped into the water, I knew my life had changed forever,” said one newly baptized high school student.
- “Teaching is more than lessons and homework. It’s about shaping hearts. Watching my students choose Jesus was the greatest reward I could ever receive,” reflected a teacher from one of our elementary schools.
- “This was not just a conference initiative, it was a spiritual revival. Our schools became sanctuaries where the Spirit moved among young people,” noted a school principal.
- “Seeing 64 students baptized reminds us that



Pastors Daniel Duffis, standing left, and Paputi Watson, far right, baptize a student.



Posing with the baptismal candidates standing in the center, is, from left, Pastor Daniel Duffis, Pastor Paputi Watson, Damary Ramirez Soto, second from right, Bronx-Manhattan school principal; and Maria Thomas, right, GNYC superintendent of schools.

Adventist education is evangelism at its core. We are raising a generation of disciples,” added a local pastor who partnered with the schools.

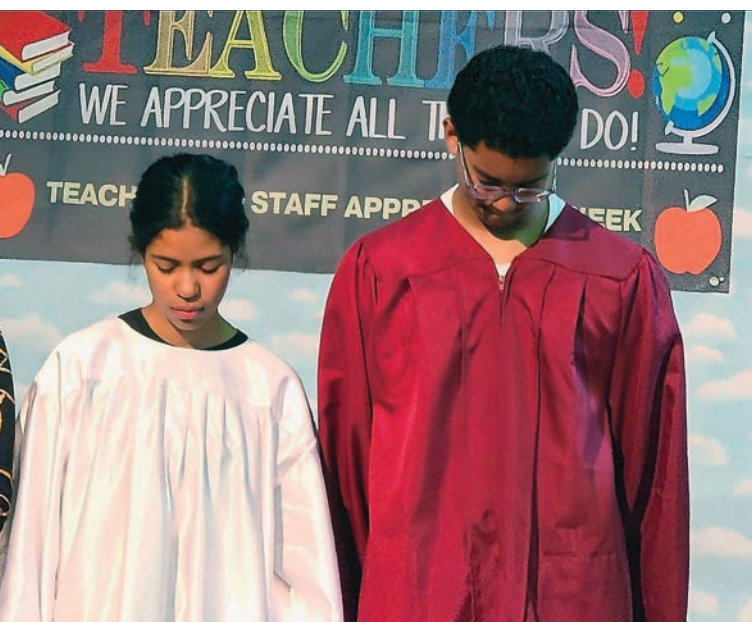
Schools as Centers of Revival

Pentecost 2025 reminded us that our schools are more than institutions of learning — they are centers of revival. Teachers became mentors in faith, administrators became shepherds of vision, and students became evangelists to one another. Parents joined in prayer circles, pastors led Bible studies on campus, and entire

communities rallied around the spiritual growth of our young people.

This movement was not confined to one school. Every Seventh-day Adventist school in the Greater New York Conference participated, creating a unified testimony that Adventist education is alive, vibrant, and mission-driven.

—Maria Thomas, superintendent of schools, Greater New York Conference



Patient Receives Immersion Baptism in Local Hospital

After more than 30 years as a registered nurse on the oncology floor at St. Joseph's Health Hospital in Syracuse, Janice Viau found herself on the same unit—not as a caregiver, but as a patient battling metastatic cancer.

Grounded by a lifetime of faith and experience, Viau expressed a desire to give her heart fully to Jesus Christ. She was familiar with the Seventh-day Adventist message through her mother, a longtime member of the Westvale Seventh-day Adventist Church until her death several years earlier.

While hospitalized, Viau requested a visit from Pastor Giovanni Esposito, formerly of the Westvale church and now serving at Split Rock, along with Joan Payne, church elder and a Faith Community Nurse. The visits provided meaningful spiritual support, during which Viau expressed her desire to be baptized. Because of her declining health, baptism at the church was not possible.

Viau was also visited by

Pastor Ralph Featherstone, the first Adventist chaplain to serve at St. Joseph's Health Hospital. Through several conversations, the two discussed her spiritual journey and wishes. As Viau's condition worsened, Featherstone shared her final request with the nursing staff—many of whom had once worked alongside her—that she be baptized by immersion.

The nurses responded without hesitation.

On Monday, Sept. 15, Viau was transported by wheelchair to the labor and delivery unit, where she was baptized by immersion in a birthing tub—the first immersion baptism at the hospital. The service was witnessed by nursing staff members, Viau's sister and niece, and a Catholic hospital chaplain who read Scripture. It was a deeply moving spiritual celebration.

The setting proved especially meaningful. Just as new life begins in the birthing unit, Viau entered new life in Christ. Prior to the bap-



Ralph Featherstone, an Adventist chaplain, hugs Janice Viau during a visit.

tism, Payne formally accepted her into membership at the Split Rock Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The following day, the hospital's Nursing Honor

Guard held a ceremony releasing Viau from her nursing responsibilities. The service, held in a conference room filled with colleagues and friends, honored her years of faithful service. Viau attended in a recliner to ensure her comfort. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Esposito and Payne presented her with a certificate of baptism and a gift from the church.

On Friday evening of that week, Viau passed away.

Payne later received a message from Featherstone that read, "I am satisfied with the knowledge that she went to sleep in the Lord, and on that great getting-up morning, she will be raised when our Lord returns, at the sound of the trumpet, and we will meet her again."

—Communication team, Split Rock church



Janice Viau, seated, is honored by the St. Joseph's Health Hospital Nursing Honor Guard during a ceremony recognizing her service as a nurse.

A New Home, a Renewed Mission

Sabbath, Aug. 23, 2025, marked a day of celebration and gratitude for the Split Rock Seventh-day Adventist Church, formerly known as the Westvale Seventh-day Adventist Church. Members and guests gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony held before the worship service, symbolizing both the opening of a new church home and the beginning of a renewed mission in a new community.

Rather than holding a traditional Sabbath School, the congregation began the morning with a fellowship breakfast prepared and served by the hospitality team. Members and guests shared laughter, memories, and anticipation as they gathered around the tables.

Longtime

member Fred Burghardt led the worship service, guiding the congregation through a visual presentation of the church's history. Using photographs dating back to 1888, he traced the congregation's journey through various locations in Syracuse and highlighted its establishment in its new home. Musical selections from the Karen and African groups added depth to the service, reflecting the church's growing diversity and unity in Christ.

Miguel Crespo, New York Conference president, served as guest speaker and shared the story behind the church's

transition. He explained that, through what he described as divine providence, Grace Assemblies of God Church proposed a church exchange that allowed both congregations to meet their ministry needs without a financial transaction. For the Westvale congregation—now Split Rock church—the move provided space better suited for growth and expanded outreach.

Senior Pastor Giovanni Esposito reflected on the

opportunities to minister to our community here in Syracuse. We praise God for the blessing of this new home."

Members echoed that sense of gratitude and enthusiasm. Joan Payne, administrative assistant, shared her appreciation for the new space.

"I truly love our new church," Payne said. "It is bright, welcoming, and filled with light. Worshiping in this sanctuary feels uplifting and draws us

closer to God. The spacious kitchen and large fellowship hall also allow us to gather, share meals, and connect more comfortably. It feels like we have become more of a family than ever before."

As Split Rock church begins this new chapter, its mission remains unchanged—to serve as a light in the community where God has placed it. With gratitude for the past and anticipation for the future,

members look forward to continued ministry and service through this renewed journey of faith and fellowship.

—Communication team, Split Rock church



significance of the moment.

"Exciting times lie ahead for Split Rock Seventh-day Adventist Church," Esposito said. "This building is a tool that allows us greater

Northeastern Conference Honors 80 Members for Stellar Service

Northeastern Conference held its 80th Anniversary Honors Gala on Nov. 2, 2025, at the VIP Country Club in New Rochelle, New York. The prestigious event attracted almost 500 attendees from across the seven states that comprise the Northeastern Conference (NEC). Eighty honorees, representing various churches, were recognized for their outstanding service and commitment in community outreach, Adventist education, youth leadership and empowerment, evangelism, witnessing and spiritual outreach, community involvement, and youth ministry. NEC administrators, led by Eldeen C. King, president; Nicardo Delahaye, executive secretary; and Brian McDonald, CFO/treasurer, presented each honoree with their awards.

“It is people like you who make the Northeastern Conference what it is today—a community rooted

in service, strengthened by faith, and united in purpose,” King said. “Your dedication, your prayers, and your willingness to stand firm in both challenging and triumphant moments are what keep this ministry moving forward. Let us continue to fight the good fight of faith, not just in words but in action, supporting one another and lifting up those who need encouragement. Let’s keep our hands in the hands of God, trusting His guidance even when the path seems uncertain.

“And as God leads,” King further encouraged, “we will follow. He will elevate us to be confident that His direction will always take us toward a greater mission, deeper compassion, and stronger, more faithful church family.”

John Ashmeade, Esq., Atlantic Union Conference Public Affairs and Religious Liberty associate director, delivered the keynote



Pictured are Northeastern Conference administrators, from left, Oswald Euell, former executive secretary; Keith Albury, associate executive secretary; Eldeen King, president; Brian McDonald, treasurer; Nicardo Delahaye, executive secretary; and Ainsworth Morris, vice president.

address. He reminded attendees of the sacred responsibility of the Northeastern Conference to “rebuild broken places.”

“We live in a world that can weigh us down in so many ways—mentally and physically. Our church should exist to restore the brokenhearted, heal bodies, educate young minds, and



John Ashmeade, Atlantic Union Conference Public Affairs and Religious Liberty associate director, delivers the keynote address.

provide skills to those in our communities that will lead them to a prosperous life,” Ashmeade said.

The gala embodied an evening of elegance and inspiration, celebrating the conference’s 80th anniversary with a sense of gratitude and triumph. At the climax of the event, Keith Albury, NEC associate executive secretary and chairperson of the 80th Anniversary Committee, offered heartfelt commendations to all who contributed to the success of the milestone celebration.

—Lavern Sturup, communication director, Northeastern Conference



Attendees to the 80th Anniversary Honors Gala enjoy their evening.

Empowering Ministry: ALCA Hosts Lay Chaplains Training in Northeastern Conference

The Adventist Lay Chaplains Association (ALCA) hosted a Level 1 Lay Chaplains Training at the Northeastern Conference (NEC) headquarters from Oct. 10–12, 2025, equipping lay leaders with practical tools for compassionate ministry across the Atlantic Union.

Held in the newly redesigned multipurpose room at the conference headquarters, the three-day training welcomed participants from churches and communities throughout the region. Each attendee shared a common purpose: to learn how to provide meaningful emotional and spiritual support to individuals facing crisis and need.

The training was organized through a collaborative effort led by Joshua Deonarine, Northeastern Conference chaplaincy ministries director; Miguel



Attendees to the Lay Chaplains Training pose for a group photo at the Northeastern Conference headquarters in Jamaica, New York.

facilitators emphasized empathy, confidentiality, personal integrity, and Christlike compassion.

As the training concluded, graduates expressed enthusiasm about applying their new skills in local churches, hospitals, community outreach programs, and personal ministries. The successful completion of this Level 1

Participants engaged in interactive workshops, theological discussions, scenario-based learning and practical exercises designed to mirror real-world chaplaincy settings.

Crespo, New York Conference president and Atlantic Union Conference Chaplaincy Ministries director (volunteer); Sherwin and Jennifer Evans, Atlantic Union Conference lay chaplaincy coordinators; and instructor Mike Lombardo. Their partnership reflected a shared commitment to strengthening chaplaincy ministry through spiritual grounding, ethical practice, and hands-on preparation.

Participants engaged in interactive workshops, theological discussions, scenario-based learning and practical exercises designed to mirror real-world chaplaincy settings. Drawing on years of pastoral and chaplaincy experience, facilitators addressed topics such as crisis intervention, grief counseling, hospital visitation protocols, suicide awareness and prevention, and ethical standards. Throughout the sessions,

training represents a meaningful step in expanding chaplaincy services across the Atlantic Union. Through continued investment in lay chaplains, NEC and the Atlantic Union Conference reaffirm their commitment to meeting the emotional and spiritual needs of their communities with excellence, compassion, and faith.

Adventist Lay Chaplains Association trains and credentials individuals who are not ordained clergy to offer spiritual and emotional care. Since being voted in December 2023 to serve as volunteer chaplaincy director for the Atlantic Union, Crespo and his leadership team have moved forward with their vision to provide spiritual and emotional support to individuals in crisis. The inaugural ALCA training and graduation session took place in October 2024, with 50 participants



Pictured, left to right, Bonnie Crespo, Sherwin and Jennifer Evans, Atlantic Union Conference lay chaplaincy coordinators; and Miguel Crespo, New York Conference president and volunteer Atlantic Union Conference Chaplaincy Ministries director.

attending the level one training session (see the January/February 2025 GLEANER). Enthusiasm is growing!

For more information about ALCA, visit the website at alcasda.org (or scan the QR code below).

—Avery Dawson, administrative assistant, Northeastern Conference

Scan for more information about the Atlantic Union Adventist Lay Chaplains Association.



Outdoor School in Northern New England

From September 10 to 12, over 100 students, parents, and teachers attended Outdoor School at Camp Lawroweld in Weld, Maine. The theme this year was “Learning from God’s Creatures and Creation” and was based on Job 35:11: “Who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth, and makes us wiser than the birds of heaven?”

Featured presenters included Mr. Drew of “Mr. Drew and His Animals, Too” who taught the students about the habits and habitats of many exotic animals. Northern New England Conference (NNEC) students especially enjoyed petting several of the animals, including a boa constrictor, desert tortoises, and spotted lizards. Mr. Drew educated the students about the importance of wild animals in their ecosystems and how we can help



Students listen as Cody Louder, a Maine game warden, teaches about conservation.



Wearing a boa constrictor around his neck, Mr. Drew talks to the students.



Students, parents, and teachers pose for a group photo.

preserve and protect these animals for the future.

Cody Louder, a Maine game warden, shared important lessons on conservation and stewardship of natural resources. He described how game wardens collaborate with citizens to protect the land and wildlife of Maine for hunting, fishing, recreation, and open space. A highlight of the game warden’s presentation was the landing of their

float plane on Lake Webb. The pilot flew the aircraft to the camp dock and gave the students an up-close lesson on how Maine game wardens use the float plane for their work in environmental law enforcement, conservation, hunting and fishing management, and search and rescue. It was exciting to watch the plane take off and land at Lake Webb.

Students participated in classes that included

the Webb Lake Canoe Trip, Nature Arts and Crafts, Trees of Maine, and the Egg Drop Challenge. Recreation included boating, basketball, fishing, swimming, kickball, soccer, disc golf, canoeing, and kayaking.

NNEC Outdoor School would not be complete without worship around the campfire. Students and staff enjoyed singing, praying, and sharing stories from the Bible and from people’s

own life experiences with God. The students loved the s’mores that were served on the final evening around the campfire pit.

Thank God for the beauty of His creation and His creatures! Special thanks to the parents, teachers, and volunteers who made the 2025 NNEC Outdoor School a success.

—Mark Bugbee, superintendent of schools, Northern New England Conference

Riverview Memorial School Commemorates 110 Years of Faith-Based Education

In 2025, The Riverview Memorial school proudly marked its 110th anniversary, celebrating more than a century of faith-based education and service. Since opening its doors in 1915, the school has remained steadfast in its mission to nurture the whole child—mind, body, and spirit. Located in the serene town of Norridgewock, Maine, the campus spans over 100 acres of forest and agricultural land, offering students an ideal environment for both academic and spiritual growth.

To commemorate this historic milestone, Riverview Memorial school hosted a special pasta dinner fundraiser. The event paid tribute to the school’s rich legacy

and to generations of students, teachers, and supporters who have contributed to its enduring success.

Riverview Memorial school continues its tradition of service through the “Partnering for Eternity” program. This initiative connects students with retired church members, building intergenerational relationships and providing tuition assistance to students as they learn from and support their elders.

The dinner brought together alumni, former educators, and members of the Norridgewock church, all long-time supporters of the school. Volunteers Mike and Robin Doody, Melissa Beatrice, and the Chase family



Riverview Memorial school alumni pose for a group photo to commemorate the school’s 110th anniversary.

prepared and served the meal. Current students contributed by serving refreshments and performing ukulele and vocal selections, adding a unique element to the festivities.

The anniversary event was both a joyful reunion and a meaningful reflection on the school’s legacy of Christian education.

Riverview Memorial school extends heartfelt gratitude to all who attended and supported the celebration. May God continue to bless the school as it strives to educate and inspire future generations in His service.

—Andrew Marple, head teacher, Riverview Memorial school

Southern New England Conference Year-End Meeting Reports Unity and Continued Growth

On Nov. 16, 2025, at Southern New England Conference's (SNEC) third annual year-end meeting, the administration and departmental leaders were excited to report God's blessings of continued growth and unity as they grapple with predominantly growth-related challenges.

Robert Folkenberg, Jr., SNEC president, began the reports by citing gatherings and projects that have united SNEC. More than 8,000

effort of pastors and lay professionals, was launched and 52 church members graduated in its inaugural class.

Folkenberg also reported a 5.8 percent growth in membership since 2024. The average weekly church attendance across SNEC has also increased to 60 - 70 percent of church membership, up from 40 - 50 percent. As of October 2025, 862 precious souls were baptized, and over 1,000 total baptisms are expected by year's

growth. He also shared statistics showing that churches are retaining more newly baptized members.

Tom Murray, SNEC treasurer at the time of the meeting, praised God for the continued increase in tithe, membership, and church plants. He noted that even in growth, there are challenges as income must keep up with rapidly increasing needs. With sadness, he explained the financial reasons for closing the Adventist Book

the early Adventist church.

The education department reported that SNEC schools are at capacity, and some have waiting lists, but all require funding to expand their facilities. They shared the success of the Plus 1 campaign, which allows members to support every school in SNEC.

Youth and Young Adult Ministries are flourishing. SNEC Public Campus Ministries, led by Endri Misho, has almost doubled the number of campuses where it has established a presence. Under the leadership of Teddy Williamson, SNEC's Young Adult and Youth Sabbath School ministries director, young adult leadership training just graduated 40 leaders, almost 40 percent more than expected. During the summer, Williamson visited Vacation Bible Schools at local churches and found that they were thriving centers of evangelism: half of the children attending were non-Adventists from the community.

Danny Velez, SNEC Youth and Club Ministries director, reported that, by the grace of God, club ministries are growing, too. In 2022, there were 34 Pathfinder clubs across SNEC; today, there are 72. Adventurer clubs grew from 20 clubs to 70.

Yves Francis, Adventist Community Service, Personal Ministries, and Sabbath School director, and his team, who are frequently sighted across the conference wearing bright yellow "We Care" vests, launched Prison and Welcome Home Ministries. They have trained 200 lay leaders to serve their communities.



Edgardo Herrera, standing, Southern New England Conference (SNEC) executive secretary, presents during the year-end meeting, as SNEC administrators, Robert Folkenberg, Jr., president, left; Tom Murray, treasurer, observe.

gathered for worship, fellowship, and seminars at United Camp Meeting 2025. Church members are supporting the construction of a new lodge at Camp Winnekeag, with a total of \$1.7 million already donated. The SNEC education department has collaborated with Atlanta Adventist Academy in Georgia to create the SNEC Virtual Academy, a local Adventist education program for grades 9-12. The online SNEC Discipleship Institute, a collaborative

end. "We are excited to be over the 23,000-member mark!" Folkenberg said.

Edgardo Herrera, SNEC executive secretary, reported that more churches are now submitting attendance reports regularly, which he attributes to the efficacy of upgraded clerk training events. Reporting is necessary for accountability, Herrera maintained, and organization and accountability are indispensable foundations for vigorous

Center. Murray reported that one of SNEC's great financial challenges is the skyrocketing cost of health insurance for conference employees. However, rather than allowing expenses to hinder church growth, the SNEC administration has prayerfully launched an Apostolic Leadership Task Force to guide the conference back to the more cost- and ministry-effective model of pastoral leadership seen in the early Christian church and

SNEC volunteer ministries, including women's, men's, prayer, health, and deaf ministries, are actively serving their target audiences and are collaborating with other SNEC ministries and departments to maximize their impact.

In response to the reports, attendees engaged in thoughtful dialogue with the administration, reflecting their united desire to fulfill

God's mission. Questions arose such as, "How can we make Adventist education more accessible?" The education department shared that SNEC offers scholarships for elementary, high school, and college students, as well as health science majors. Another attendee asked, "Are we successfully reaching every people group—what about the Caucasians?" The administration acknowledged

that more intentional effort is needed and has committed to strengthening outreach in that area. Attendees also expressed concern for the 30–40 percent of members who no longer attend church. April Montoya-Gonzalez added, "And let's celebrate our reclaimed members just as we celebrate baptisms and professions of faith." Folkenberg suggested to make reaching out to missing mem-

bers and discipling them a key performance indicator for 2026. Together, these exchanges highlighted a shared vision of inclusivity, discipleship, and renewed commitment to advancing God's mission.

Herrera encouraged all to "give all praise and glory to God Almighty for what He's doing in SNEC!"

—Sandra Dombrowski, communication team, Southern New England Conference

From Mites to Millions: Building Camp Ministry Together

Camp Winnekeag is growing stronger. Plans are underway for the construction of a new Pathfinder Lodge, which will replace the old A-frame lodge that currently faces the lake. During the 2025 camp meeting, Southern New England Conference (SNEC) and the Camp Ministries department announced the launch of "From Mites to Millions," the fundraising campaign to raise \$6 million for this new ministry tool.

"The construction timeline will be guided by faith and financial readiness," said Tom Murray, SNEC treasurer at the time. "The estimated cost for the new lodge is \$6.5 million. We plan to begin when the \$3 million in cash and the \$500,000 in pledges have been secured. We are blessed to share that \$1.7 million has already been raised. Our prayer is to reach our fundraising goal by the end of 2025 and begin construction in the fall of 2026."

Once a cornerstone of Camp Winnekeag's ministry, the Pathfinder Lodge has faithfully served generations of youth, church groups, and conference events. Today, the aging infrastructure, with its



Image of proposed exterior of the new Pathfinder Lodge.

limited space and outdated systems, restricts the excellence, hospitality, and year-round ministries that Camp Winnekeag is called to offer.

The new two-story lodge will feature 18 rooms with maximum occupancy of 72, handicap-accessible lodging, bathrooms in each room, youth and family retreat-friendly rooms, central air conditioning, a covered drop-off/pick-up entrance, a small kitchen, and a meeting area with a grand fireplace overlooking Lake Winnekeag.

But the new Pathfinder Lodge is not merely about bricks, mortar, and new features. It's about creating a space that will allow Camp Winnekeag to expand its ministry and welcome all people in greater numbers. At its core, it's about spreading the joy and love of the gospel farther and wider and equipping more and more people to be laborers for the harvest.

If you have a passion for camp ministry, if you've enjoyed even one great expe-

rience at Camp Winnekeag, or if its very name elicits a lifetime of fond memories for you, become part of its growth with a pledge, one-time donation, or a monthly gift for the new Pathfinder Lodge. Your gift of mites or millions—and anywhere in between—will help grow God's kingdom. Join us as we move forward together in mission!

—Camp Ministries staff and communication team, Southern New England Conference



Northern New England Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

“DAY OF REJOICING”

MUSIC CLINIC

MARCH 26-28, 2026

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!

For Grades 2-12*

- Band
- Choir
- Strings
- Piano

*Some options not for all grades

Register at



www.nnec.org/music-clinic

ACADEMY CONNECT

March 11 - 14, 2026

SPIRITUAL • LEADERSHIP • ART • MEDIA



A PLACE WHERE ACADEMY STUDENTS CAN
SHARE CAMPUS MINISTRY SUCCESSES

A PLACE WHERE ACADEMY STUDENTS CAN
EXPLORE AND BUILD THEIR SKILLS

A TIME WHEN ACADEMY STUDENTS CAN ENJOY
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Sponsored by

Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education
education@atlanticunion.org
(978) 368-8333, ext. 3020
www.atlantic-union.org/education

Wish You Were **HERE**



Southern Adventist University

is located outside of Chattanooga, Tennessee, voted “Best Town Ever” by *Outside Magazine* **twice** in the last decade.

Other awards include “Best Adventure Town in the U.S. to Live + Play” by *National Geographic Adventure* and “Best in the U.S. Travel Destination” by *Lonely Planet*.

Come enjoy worshipping, learning, making godly friends, and playing in an environment full of opportunities to hike, bike, kayak, climb, and explore God’s nature year ‘round!

Learn more about visiting at southern.edu/visit.



Collegedale, TN

GleanerAd1 | 11.2025

1.800.SOUTHERN • enrollment@southern.edu • southern.edu/enrollment


SOUTHERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
Power for Mind & Soul

CLASSIFIEDS

All advertisements should be sent, together with payment, to your local conference office for approval by the communication director. For advertisements originating within the Atlantic Union the rate is \$35 for each insertion of 40 words or less, and 50 cents for each additional word. For all other advertisements the rate is \$40 for each insertion of 40 words or less and 50 cents for each word over the 40. There is an 80-word maximum. Check or money order should be made payable to Atlantic Union GLEANER or Atlantic Union Conference.

The Atlantic Union GLEANER reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The rejection of any advertisement should not be construed to constitute disapproval of the product or service involved.

Classified and display ads appearing in the Atlantic Union GLEANER are printed without endorsement or recommendation of the Atlantic Union Conference. The Atlantic Union Gleaner makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertisements, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns or for typographical or categorical errors.

EMPLOYMENT

GUAM ADVENTIST CLINIC seeks missionary OB/GYN Physician and Physical Therapist. Join our

Christ-centered, multi-specialty team delivering high quality healthcare and education. U.S. medical license and minimum commitment of two years required. Benefits include clinic-sponsored mission trips, generous annual leave, competitive compensation, and beautiful beaches. Inquire today at connect@adventistclinic.com.

UNION ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking qualified applicants for Research and Instruction Librarian. This position develops and provides reference and library instruction to diverse groups of students, faculty, staff, and community visitors, using modalities suited to the individual, classroom, or online environments. ALA-accredited Master of Library and Information Science or equivalent required. See job description and apply at uau.edu/employment.

UNION ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for Executive Assistant to the President. This is a full-time, non-exempt position. The executive assistant functions as an administrative assistant and a project manager for the president in a caring, fast-paced environment working with multiple projects and assignments designed to maximize progress toward strategic outcomes. See the full job description and apply at uau.edu/employment.

UNION ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a Controller to direct and coordinate Union Adventist University accounting operation to include disbursements, accounting data, accounting records, payroll, general accounting services and accounting operation system and to develop and administer accounting business policies and regulations. Please see full job description and apply at uau.edu/employment.

events to enhance stakeholder engagement, foster community spirit, and promote the university's mission and values. This role involves collaborating with various departments, managing logistics, overseeing event budgets, and ensuring successful delivery of events that meet the university's standards. Please apply at uau.edu/employment.

UNION ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Nursing Program Faculty to prepare undergraduate students to successfully complete the Nursing Program Bachelor of Science (BSN) curriculum and pass the National Council State Boards of Nursing Examination (NCLEX-RN). UAU nursing faculty have a philosophy of partnering with students to help them reach their goals while caring for students holistically. Doctoral degree preferred; master's degree in nursing required. Please apply at uau.edu/employment.

UNION ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a Plant Service General Maintenance employee to be responsible for performing a variety of maintenance tasks to ensure the safety, functionality, and aesthetic quality of university facilities. This position involves routine inspections, repairs and preventive maintenance across campus buildings and grounds. Please see full job description and apply at uau.edu/employment.

UNION ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks candidates for two new positions for a grant-funded TRIO Student Support Services Program: Director and Life Coach. The Director will lead and administer the program and oversee services, grant compliance, and student success for low-income, first-generation, and disabled students. The Life Coach will utilize coaching best practices to mentor and provide specialized services as needed. Please see job descriptions and apply at uau.edu/employment.

UNION ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is searching for applicants for Special Events Director. This position is responsible for planning, organizing, and executing a wide range of alumni and university promotion

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY continuously seeks qualified candidates to fill various positions

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference
Constituency Session

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the 39th Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists called to convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, August 23, 2026, in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. The purpose of this meeting is:

1. To receive reports.
2. To elect conference officers, departmental directors, an Executive Committee, a Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and an Association Board.
3. To consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the conference.
4. To consider amendments to Set Fund Guidelines.
5. To accept new churches or disband churches as may be necessary.
6. To transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southern New England Conference, Article 3, Section 5, A1 "each Church shall be entitled to select one Delegate for the Church and one additional Delegate for each forty-five (45) members or major fraction thereof, provided that each Church shall be entitled to select not less than two (2) Delegates."

Lunch will be provided.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Organizing Committee will convene at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 14, 2026, at the College Seventh-day Adventist Church, 337 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561, for the purpose of appointing members of the Nominating Committee to serve for that meeting. According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southern New England Conference, Article 3, Section 8A "each Church shall select, from its Delegates, one (1) representative for the Church, and one (1) additional representative for each five hundred (500) members of that Church or major fraction thereof."

Lunch will be provided.

Robert Folkenberg, Jr., President
Edgardo Herrera, Executive Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference Association
Regular Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference Association, a Massachusetts corporation, is called to meet in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561, on Sunday, August 23, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., concurrently with the regular session of the conference.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and a board of trustees, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates of the Southern New England Conference Constituency Session will be the delegates for the Southern New England Conference Association.

Lunch will be provided.

Robert Folkenberg, Jr., President
Tom Murray, Secretary

around campus, including faculty, salaried staff, and hourly staff positions. If you are interested in working at Southern, we encourage you to view the positions that are currently open at sau.catsone.com/careers and apply as God leads. To view current open Pre-K through college educational positions across the North American Division, please visit jobs.adventisteducation.org.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE seeks qualified candidates to fill open positions in fulfilling our mission to “Learn with Purpose, Rise in Faith, and Serve in Love.” Beautiful mountain campus, minutes to shopping, an hour+ drive of ocean and skiing. If interested, please check out our current openings at www.puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings.

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPISTS wanted at Poplar Creek Spa in

Collegedale, TN. Serve alongside a professional, supportive team located in an SDA community. Adventist-owned and operated by a practicing massage therapist, we offer mentorship, hour W-2 pay, and Sabbaths off. www.poplarcreekspa.com/careers.

SERVICES

WILLIAM TYNDALE REFORMATION TOUR Traveling on Aug. 26-Sept. 11, 2026, celebrating the 500th anniversary of the English New Testament with Dr. Carl Cosaert of Walla Walla University. Explore Tyndale’s England, with optional extensions to Scotland or Germany and Belgium. Visit www.adventtours.org or email info@adventtours.org.

DON’T JUST RETIRE Live with purpose at Fletcher Park Inn, an independent living retirement community located on the

campus of Fletcher Academy near Hendersonville, North Carolina. Join our family, take part in the many opportunities for staying active, volunteering, making new friends and living with a purpose. Celebrating 35 years of welcoming you home! Call to find out more about our apartment and villa homes (828) 209-6930. Ask for our marketing department or visit www.fletcherparkinn.org.

ADVENTIST SINGLES WANTED! Looking for meaningful, faith-centered connection? Join AdventistDating.com—where single Seventh-day Adventists meet for friendship, companionship, and love grounded in shared beliefs. Safe, sincere, and free to join. Start your journey today at AdventistDating.com—where faith meets love!

KIDS NEED NEVER BE BORED! Just point them to LifeTalkKids.net and let them listen to great adven-

tures, faith-building Bible stories, captivating science and awesome nature programs and more 24/7. Kids grow better with radio. Download our FREE APP at: LifeTalk.net.

TEACH SERVICES HELPING AUTHORS Publish your book, including editing, design, marketing, and worldwide distribution. Visit www.TEACHServices.com to submit your manuscript for a free evaluation, or call (800) 367-1844. Shop for NEW/USED ADVENTIST BOOKS at www.TEACHServices.com, or at your local ABC.

MOVE with an award-winning agency. Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves for you. Call us for all your relocation needs. Contact Marcy Danté at (800) 766-1902 or visit us at www.apexmoving.com/adventist.

Sunset Calendar

Eastern Standard Time*

	Feb. 6	Feb. 13	Feb. 20	Feb. 27	Mar. 6	Mar. 13	Mar. 20	Mar. 27
Bangor, ME	4:51	5:01	5:11	5:20	5:30	6:39	6:48	6:56
Portland, ME	4:59	5:09	5:18	5:27	5:36	6:45	6:53	7:02
Boston, MA	5:05	5:14	5:23	5:32	5:41	6:49	6:57	7:05
South Lancaster, MA	5:07	5:16	5:25	5:34	5:42	6:50	6:59	7:07
Pittsfield, MA	5:13	5:22	5:31	5:40	5:48	6:57	7:05	7:13
Hartford, CT	5:12	5:21	5:30	5:38	5:47	6:55	7:02	7:10
Providence, RI	5:07	5:16	5:25	5:33	5:41	6:49	6:57	7:05
New York, NY	5:19	5:28	5:36	5:44	5:52	7:00	7:08	7:15
Albany, NY	5:15	5:24	5:33	5:42	5:50	6:59	7:07	7:15
Utica, NY	5:20	5:29	5:38	5:47	5:56	7:04	7:13	7:21
Syracuse, NY	5:23	5:33	5:42	5:51	6:00	7:08	7:16	7:25
Rochester, NY	5:29	5:38	5:48	5:57	6:05	7:14	7:22	7:31
Buffalo, NY	5:35	5:44	5:53	6:02	6:11	7:19	7:27	7:36
Keene, NH	5:08	5:18	5:27	5:36	5:44	6:53	7:01	7:09
Manchester, NH	5:05	5:14	5:23	5:32	5:41	6:49	6:58	7:06
Portsmouth, NH	5:02	5:11	5:20	5:29	5:38	6:47	6:55	7:03
Brattleboro, VT	5:09	5:19	5:28	5:37	5:45	6:54	7:02	7:10
Burlington, VT	5:09	5:19	5:28	5:38	5:47	6:56	7:05	7:14
Rutland, VT	5:10	5:19	5:28	5:38	5:47	6:55	7:04	7:12
Hamilton, Bda	5:57	6:03	6:09	6:15	6:20	7:25	7:30	7:35

*Daylight Saving Time begins on March 8.




REWRITING OUR
Love Story
COUPLE'S RETREAT

Greece 2-10 AUGUST 2026 Vienna

7 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS OF CRUISE AND LAND ACTIVITIES

MYKONOS, SANTORINI, PATMOS, KUSADASI, RHODES, CRETE AND THE CITY OF HERAKLION

SEMINARS - COUNSELING - 5 STAR HOTELS - RENEWAL OF VOWS AND MUCH MORE.

OPTION A - AUG 2-10, 2026
\$3,649.00 PER PERSON INCLUDES
OPTION B+ EVENTS IN VIENNA,
AUSTRIA, 5-STAR HOTEL
ACCOMMODATION, AND MUCH MORE.

OPTION B - AUG 2-7, 2026
\$1,885.00 PER PERSON, INCLUDES
OPTION B+ EVENTS IN VIENNA,
AUSTRIA, 5-STAR HOTEL
ACCOMMODATION, AND MUCH MORE.

RESERVE YOUR SPACE WITH \$200 PER PERSON
RESERVE: WANDA@GOSPELTRAVEL.NET
PHONE NUMBER: 919-593-0239
MORE INFO: WWW.GNYC.ORG

GOSPEL TRAVEL





International Adventist
Single's Retreat
UNSTOPPABLE

Greece 2-10 AUGUST 2026 Vienna

7 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS CRUISE AND LAND EVENTS

MYKONOS, SANTORINI, PATMOS, KUSADASI, RHODES, CRETE AND THE CITY OF HERAKLION

SEMINARS - COUNSELING - 5 STAR HOTELS AND MUCH MORE.

OPTION A - AUG 2-10, 2026
\$3,649.00 PER PERSON INCLUDES
OPTION B+ EVENTS IN VIENNA,
AUSTRIA, 5-STAR HOTEL
ACCOMMODATION, AND MUCH MORE.

OPTION B - AUG 2-7, 2026
\$1,885.00 PER PERSON, INCLUDES
OPTION B+ EVENTS IN VIENNA,
AUSTRIA, 5-STAR HOTEL
ACCOMMODATION, AND MUCH MORE.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT WITH \$200 PER PERSON
RESERVE: WANDA@GOSPELTRAVEL.NET
PHONE NUMBER: 919-593-0239
MORE INFO: WWW.GNYC.ORG

GOSPEL TRAVEL




ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE ADVENTIST YOUTH MINISTRIES PRESENTS
PATHFINDER & ADVENTURER CAMPOREE



MAY 28 - 31, 2026

**GOSHEN FAIRGROUNDS
116 OLD MIDDLE STREET • GOSHEN • CT 06756**

*PATHFINDERS AND ADVENTURERS WILL ENJOY SEPARATE, AGE-APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES

EARLY JULY 15 - DEC 31, 2025 \$65 • REGULAR JAN 1 - MARCH 31, 2026 \$70 • LATE APRIL 1 - APRIL 30, 2026 \$80

THE FIRST 500 REGISTRANTS WILL RECEIVE AN EXCLUSIVE **AU CAMPOREE SPECIAL PIN**
EARLY BIRD AND REGULAR REGISTRATION INCLUDE A **CAMPOREE PIN, PATCH, AND T-SHIRT**



NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in all of its church schools, admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools, and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs.

Greater New York

Bronx-Manhattan—1440 Plimpton Ave., Bronx, NY 10452
Brooklyn—1260 Ocean Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11230
Greater New York Academy—41-32 58th St., Woodside, NY 11377
Jackson Heights—72-25 Woodside Ave., Woodside, NY 11377
Middletown—70 Highland Ave., Middletown, NY 10940
Oakview Preparatory—29 Chestnut St., Yonkers, NY 10701
Poughkeepsie—110 S. Grand Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
South Bay Junior Academy—150 Fire Island Ave., Babylon, NY 11702
Whispering Pines—211 Jericho Turnpike, Old Westbury, NY 11568

New York Conference

Buffalo Suburban Christian Academy—5580 Genesee St., Lancaster, NY 14086
Kingsbury Jr. Academy—3991 State Rt. 4, Hudson Falls, NY 12839
Parkview Jr. Academy—412 South Avery Ave., Syracuse, NY 13219
Rochester Bay Knoll—2639 E. Ridge Rd., Rochester, NY 14622
Union Springs Academy Elementary—963 Spring St., Union Springs, NY 13160
Union Springs Academy—40 Spring St., Union Springs, NY 13160

Northeastern Conference

Berea Academy—800 Morton St., Mattapan, MA 02126
Bethesda Jr. Academy—76 Parkway Ave., Amityville, NY 11701
Brockton Area—243 Court St., Brockton, MA 02302
Fairfield County—827 Trumbull Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606
Flatbush—5810 Snyder Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11203
Linden—137-01 228th St., Laurelton, NY 11413
Northeastern Academy Brooklyn Campus—
 418 E. 45th St., Brooklyn, NY 11203
Northeastern Adventist Academy Hartford Campus—
 474 Woodland St., Hartford, CT 06112
Springfield Jr. Academy—797 State St., Springfield, MA 01109
Westchester Area—456 Webster Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10801

Northern New England Conference

Caledonia Christian School—54 Southard St., St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
Capital Christian—310 Sheep Davis Rd., Concord, NH 03301
Estabrook Christian—1050 Rt. 12A, Plainfield, NH 03781
Forestdale Christian—27 Perkins Valley Rd., Bryant Pond, ME 04219
North Star Christian—42 Orion Way, Hermon, ME 04401
Pine Tree Academy—67 Pownall Rd., Freeport, ME 04032
Pioneer Jr. Academy—13 Mt. Gilboa Rd., Westmoreland, NH 03467
Riverview Memorial—201 Mercer Rd., Norridgewock, ME 04957
Webb River—58 Pine St., Dixfield, ME 04224

Southern New England Conference

Amesbury—285 Main Ave. Rt. 107A, South Hampton, NH 03827
Bayberry Christian—2736 Falmouth Rd., Osterville, MA 02655
Cedar Brook—24 Ralsie Rd., Rehoboth, MA 02769
Greater Boston Academy—108 Pond St., Stoneham, MA 02180
Laurel Oaks—14 W. Shepard Ave., Hamden, CT 06514
South Lancaster Academy—198 George Hill Rd., Lancaster, MA 01523
Wachusett Hills Christian—100 Colony Rd., Westminster, MA 01473
Warren—1570 Southbridge Rd., W. Brookfield, MA 01585
Worcester—2 Airport Dr., Worcester, MA 01602

ATLANTIC UNION GLEANER

The Official Publication for the Constituents of the Seventh-day Adventist[®]
Church in the Northeast United States and Bermuda

Established January 1, 1902

Atlantic Union Conference
400 Main Street, Lancaster, MA 01523-2804
Phone (978) 368-8333, Fax (978) 368-7948
Website: atlantic-union.org
GLEANER Website: atlanticuniongleaner.org

Atlantic Union GLEANER Staff
E-mail: gleaner@atlanticunion.org

Editor Debra Banks Cuadro
Copy Editor (off-site) Pat Humphrey
Layout & Design (off-site) Hazieli Olivera
Proofreader (off-site) Lisa Krueger

Editorial Contributors

Bermuda Michael Simmons, communications@bermudaconference.org
Greater New York Clavour Tucker, ctucker@gnyc.org
New York Reynolds Rodriguez, reynoldsrodriguez@gmail.com
Northeastern Lavern Sturup, lsturup@northeastern.org
Northern New England Dustin Johnson, djohnson@nneec.org
Southern New England Shawn Santana, ssantana@sneconline.org

Atlantic Union Conference Directory

President Abraham J. Jules
Assistant to President for Evangelism David O. McKenzie
Executive Secretary David O. McKenzie
Treasurer Thomas (Tom) Murray
Undertreasurer Trevor S. Forbes
Associate Judine Lockhart
Vice President, Haitian/African Jose Joseph
Vice President, Hispanic/Portuguese Henry Beras
Adventist Community Services Jose Joseph
Adventist Risk Management Thomas (Tom) Murray
Adventist Youth/Young Adult Ministries
Vice President Emmanuel Contreras
ASI David O. McKenzie
Chaplaincy, volunteer Miguel Crespo
Children's Ministries Marlene Alvarez
Associate Theresa Robidoux
Communication Debra Banks Cuadro
Disabilities Ministries Lileth Coke
Early Childhood Education Marlene Alvarez
Education, Vice President Marlene Alvarez
Associate/Certification Registrar Lileth Coke
Associate Theresa Robidoux
Evangelism/Growth/Outreach Abraham J. Jules
Facilities Manager David Keith
Family Ministries Henry Beras
Health Ministries Jose Joseph
Human Relations/Human Resources David O. McKenzie
Assistant Trevor S. Forbes
Information Technology Naquan Taitt
Medical Cadet Corps, volunteer Dionisio Olivo
Ministerial Abraham J. Jules
Assistant Jose Joseph
Assistant Henry Beras
Ministerial Spouses Director Dominique Jules
National Services Organization David O. McKenzie
Native Ministries Coordinator
Personal Ministries Trevor S. Forbes
Assistant, volunteer Louis Mancebo
Planned Giving and Trust Services/
Development Cynthia Huskins
Prayer Ministries Angela Beras
Assistant, volunteer Michelle Hill
Assistant, volunteer Kettlie Joseph
Prison Ministries, volunteer Ron Vincent
Assistant, volunteer Kevin Santucci
Assistant, volunteer Lloyd Scharffenberg
Advisor Trevor S. Forbes
Public Affairs & Religious Liberty (PARL) Charles Eusey
Associate John Ashmeade
Associate James Richmond
Revolving Fund
Accountant Violet Bidwell
Revolving Fund Support Cynthia Huskins
Sabbath School Henry Beras
Stewardship Ministries Cynthia Huskins
Women's Ministries Angela Beras

Local Conferences and Institutions

BERMUDA: Kenneth Manders, President; W. DeJaun Tull, Secretary. Office Address: P.O. Box HM 1170, Hamilton, HM EX Bermuda. (441) 292-4110. Website: www.bermudaadventist.org
GREATER NEW YORK: Alanzo Smith, President; Ariel Manzueta, Secretary; Ysaías Javier, Treasurer. Office Address: 7 Shelter Rock Rd., Manhasset, NY 11030. (516) 627-9350. Website: www.gnyc.org
NEW YORK: Miguel Crespo, President; Claudio Gomez, Secretary; Priscilla English, Treasurer. Office Address: 4930 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215. (315) 469-6921. Website: www.nyconf.org
NORTHEASTERN: Eldeen King, President; Nicardo Delahaye, Secretary; Brian S. McDonald, Treasurer. Office Address: 115-50 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11434. (718) 291-8006. Website: www.northeastern.org
NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND: Gary Blanchard, President; Larry Kirkpatrick, Secretary; Daniel Battin, Treasurer. Office Address: 479 Main St., Westbrook, ME 04092. (207) 797-3760. Website: www.nneec.org
SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND: Robert Folkenberg, Jr., President; Edgardo Herrera, Secretary. Office Address: 34 Sawyer St., South Lancaster, MA 01561. (978) 365-4551. Website: www.sneconline.org
ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE CORPORATION: Abraham J. Jules, Chairman; David McKenzie, Secretary; Thomas (Tom) Murray, Treasurer; Cynthia Huskins, Director of Development; 338 Main St., Lancaster, MA 01523; (978) 368-2000. Website: www.auc.edu

Member, Associated Church Press
Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

ATLANTIC UNION GLEANER
ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE
400 MAIN STREET
LANCASTER, MA 01523-2804



Grounded in Purpose. Growing in Faith.

You've grown in ways that reflect your values, guided by faith, family, and focus. Whether you're homeschooling, in a traditional school, or something in between, at Andrews, your next chapter builds on that strong foundation.

- Christ-centered learning
- Personalized support and family-like community
- Clear pathways—wherever your journey began

Andrews  University
World Changers Made Here.



andrews.edu