6-2013

Making a Difference in Majuro

Ashleigh Jardine
Andrews University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs

Part of the Biology Commons

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs/198
Ever since his first mission trip in 2008, Phil Giddings wanted to be a student missionary.

“I really enjoyed the trip, and saw a lot of opportunities at Andrews [University] to be a student missionary,” says Phil. “Everything I had as a reason not to go, God took away from me. Then the decision was easy.”

The biology student at Andrews spent the 2011–2012 school year in Majuro of the Marshall Islands. He taught eighth grade at an SDA school and formed friendships with the students and staff.

There was one person, in particular, with whom Phil felt compelled to share Jesus. It took Phil no time to realize that “Peter was a troublemaker,” he laughs. The eighth-grader lied, cheated on assignments and got in trouble often. As the school year went on, however, Phil noticed a change in his behavior.

“The first thing we did every day in eighth grade was devotions and then Bible class,” says Phil. “Throughout the year, Peter would really tune in during talks, stories and the Bible lessons I gave.” Phil saw Peter’s character change right before his eyes. The student showed a genuine interest in God and wanted to learn more about Him.

One day, Phil received enough money donations to buy a Bible for each student in his class. Peter was thrilled and began reading the Book in- and outside of school. Then, during a week of prayer, Peter decided to start Bible studies with Phil. He attended each session until his baptism at the end of the school year.

“I gave a little testimony for him, and he was baptized at the church,” says Phil. “I was able to make a difference, and Peter’s decision is the evidence of my work. I’m thankful for that opportunity, and I hope he is continuing along the right path.”

Phil hopes to be a missionary again someday in the future. Until then, he is completing undergraduate studies at Andrews and spends his summers ministering to youth at Fun Learning About God (FLAG) Camp.

Ashleigh Jardine is a freelance writer from Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she is majoring in physical therapy at Andrews University.

Address Correction

Only paid subscribers should contact the Lake Union Herald office with their address changes. Members should contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all Lake Union Herald address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right. Online submissions can be made at http://herald.lakeunion.org under “Subscription Change.”

Lake Union Herald Office: (269) 473-8242  Lake Region: (773) 846-2661
Illinois: (630) 856-2874  Michigan: (517) 316-1568
Indiana: (317) 844-6201 ext. 241  Wisconsin: (920) 484-6555

Members outside the Lake Union may subscribe by sending a check for $12.00 (per year) to P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287. Note: If you are a member of a church in the Lake Union but are not receiving the Lake Union Herald, please request it through your church clerk or your local conference secretary.