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Keri Suarez
Andrews University

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Chippewa Valley Hospital is a place to pray

Wisconsin—Did you know there is an Adventist hospital in Durand, Wis.? Chippewa Valley Hospital and Oakview Care Center operate under the leadership of Adventist members Doug Peterson, president and CEO, and Art Miller, resident chaplain.

The 25-bed hospital and 50-bed nursing home looks after the needs of more than 15,000 local people each year.

Chaplain Miller holds Spiritual Ambassadors classes for the staff, teaching them to listen, minister and pray with their patients. Recently, an employee told Miller, “I felt like praying with a patient today, like we learned in class, but just couldn’t. But you know, I think I can pray next time that happens.”

Another employee commented, “I like that we have a hospital where we can be spiritual.”

Miller prays every morning, “Lord, help me to be humble and make an impact for You.” Then he makes rounds to visit all the employees and patients. “I just say ‘Hi, ask how they’re doing, and offer to pray with them. God opens the doors from there.”

For additional information about the hospital and nursing home, visit http://www.chippewavalleyhospital.com.

Juanita Edge, communication director, Wisconsin Conference

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Andrews

Andrews University Press to publish new Bible commentary

A major, new Bible study resource, sponsored by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Andrews University, is scheduled for release at the 2015 General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, according to Andrews University president Niels-Erik Andreasen.

“The Andrews Bible Commentary, the Church’s first, concise, one-volume commentary, is intended as a coordinated resource with the Andrews Study Bible, released by Andrews University Press in June 2010.

Andreasen made the announcement about the new commentary on Monday, April 15, to delegates from around the world at the annual Spring Meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee. Delegates convened this year in Battle Creek, Mich., in observance of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the General Conference.

The commentary project is coordinated by Andrews University Press, the world church’s only regularly-established academic publishing house, with funding from Andrews and the General Conference, and oversight by a Project Committee of General Conference and Andrews personnel.

Andreasen said that, like the Andrews Study Bible, the Andrews Bible Commentary is intended specifically for the general reader as well as pastors and church elders, providing basic Bible teaching in the congregation.

In making his announcement, Andreasen referred delegates to a purpose statement for the commentary that had been approved by the Project Committee. It states that the Andrews Bible Commentary “is a concise, one-volume exposition of Scripture written by faithful scholars of the Church as a companion to the Andrews Study Bible for lay readers, pastors, students and teachers living in expectation of the Advent Hope.”

“This commentary is aimed to help the person in the pew. It is written in plain language,” Andreasen said. He told delegates that the writers had been instructed to write at the same reading level they would write an article for the Adventist Review, the general church paper of the Adventist Church. “In some parts of the world, these two volumes — the Andrews Study Bible and the Andrews Bible Commentary — will comprise the entire theological library they will have, so we are taking this assignment very seriously,” he said.

Andreasen said that 60 writers, all Bible scholars from church institutions and organizations around the world, have been contracted to work on the commentary under the direction of a small editorial team. The general editor is Angel Rodriguez, former director of Biblical Research Institute at the General Conference. The associate editors are Greg King (Old Testament), dean of the School of Religion, Southern Adventist University; Gerald Klingbeil (Old Testament), associate editor, Adventist Review/Adventist World; and John McVay (New Testament), president of Walla Walla University.

Andreasen said some of the writers for the one-volume commentary already have completed their assignments. He assured General Conference president Ted Wilson that a small, printed sample of selected portions of the commentary will be available for the next full meeting.
of the General Conference Executive Committee at Annual Council in October, when Andreasen will give another progress report.

“We’ll hold you to that,” Wilson said.

Andreasen thanked Wilson for the support of the General Conference in the production of both the Andrews Study Bible and the forthcoming commentary. Andreasen said that these publications represent one of the many ways Andrews fulfills its responsibility to serve the world church.

Staff at Andrews University Press have noted that when the Adventist Bible Commentary is published and released in 2015, it will have about 1,800 pages of commentary and helpful articles, about three times the original content of the Andrews Study Bible.

Keri Suarez, former media relations specialist, Division of Marketing & Communication, Andrews University

Lake Union Pathfinder teams place in PBE Divisional Finals

The College View Seventh-day Adventist Church, Union College, Lincoln, Neb., was crowded with highly-trained Bible scholars, April 19–20, when 38 Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) finalist teams from across North America arrived to participate in the final testing program for the 2013 PBE Division Finals. Pathfinders from the United States, Canada and England, ages 10–16, demonstrated their knowledge of the Bible books of Acts and 1 and 2 Thessalonians by answering 90 questions of varying difficulty and point values.

“Their level of knowledge was phenomenal,” said one event judge. “They definitely know their Bible.” Many of the young people had memorized large passages of Scripture, often six to eight chapters, and they knew a lot of the content of the additional chapters.

NAD Pathfinder Bible Experience coordinator Gene Clapp reported that the 38 participating teams represented eight of the nine unions of the North American Division, plus one team from London, England. Each team was made up of six members plus an alternate.

The conferences represented were Allegheny East, Arizona, Carolina, Central California, Chesapeake, Florida, Indiana, Iowa-Missouri, Kansas-Nebraska, Michigan, Minnesota, Northern California, Ohio, Ontario, Potomac, Southern England, Southern New England, Texas and Wisconsin. Many more teams and conferences from across the Division participated in the first three levels of testing: Area, Conference and Union. The teams at Union College represented only the first-place teams from each Union.

“With team members, staff and families, we had approximately 650 persons in attendance for the weekend,” said Clapp.

On Friday night and Sabbath morning, each team participated in the programming by sharing a musical "special," and everyone became involved in the rest of the programs, which consisted of mixers focused on the books of the Bible they had been studying.

On Saturday evening, following all the testing and tallying of points, parents, staff and team members screamed with delight as each team was called to the front and awarded their placement certificate. Twenty-six teams made first place, meaning the team score was at least 90 percent of the highest score. Six teams from the Lake Union finished in this first-place group: the Centreville (Mich.) Sentinels; Fort Wayne Hispanic (Ind.) Maranatha; Lansing...