

This is an official e-publication of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



News and Information from the North American Division

# NEWSPOINTS

January 8, 2026



**In 2025, the North American Division website garnered 1.02 million page views.**

Close to 446,000 unique page views (first visit clicks) were directed to the NAD website with 334K from the United States and 20K from Canada. The top 10 most-visited news articles in 2025 are listed

[HERE](#)



**From Aug. 6 to 10, 2025, the Prison Ministry Cross-Reach Conference convened in**

Toronto, Canada. This historic event was co-sponsored by the North American Division and the Ontario Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. [MORE](#)



**Ken Norton, Voice of Prophecy Bible School director, has accepted the invitation of the** North American Division to become the speaker/director of the ministry. Norton will begin in his new role in January 2026. [MORE](#)



**During the 2025 NAD Year-End Meeting, held Oct. 30 to Nov. 4, the NAD executive committee** received several names for new appointments recommended by the NAD’s standing committee, with strong support. [MORE](#)



**“And why do you want your child in our school?” I asked a young mother waiting for her daughter to finish her school day. Many parents are too shy to speak to the school principal. However, she looked at me for a long moment and softly replied, “If it wasn’t for**



**On a fall weekend in Raleigh, N.C., young adult leaders, local pastors, and church members gathered** for a transformative experience with worship, conversation, and community. The Young Adult LIFE Tour event, hosted by the Southern Union Conference and supported by the Carolina Conference,

your school, I wouldn't be a Christian, so I want my daughter to learn what I have learned.” [READ MORE](#)



On Nov. 9, 2025, more than 100 people gathered on East 22nd Street in Paterson, N.J., to witness a rare honor: the unveiling of “Ora Jane Bell Way.” The red and white street sign, inscribed with “Charity Sees the Need, Not the Cause,” stands as a testament to a woman whose life has been defined by compassion, resilience, and faith. [MORE](#)

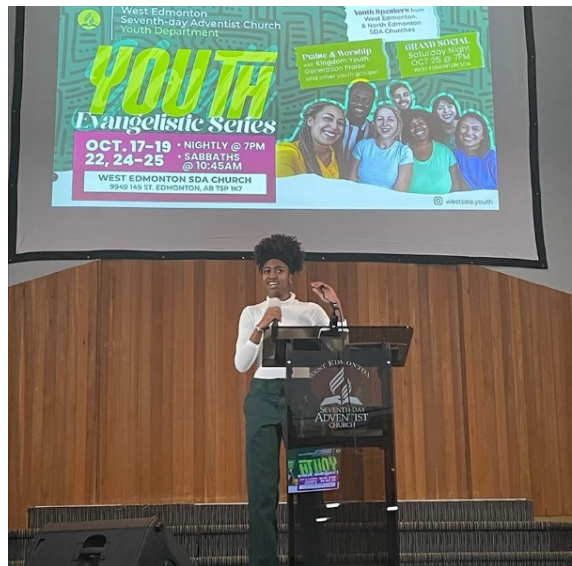


Dr. Joseph L. Wheeler, best known

created space for meaningful dialogue and practical training to grow young adult ministry where it matters most. [MORE](#)



Starting fall 2026, the It Is Written Soul-winning And Leadership Training (SALT) program will be held on the campus of Union Adventist University in Lincoln, Neb. This new SALT initiative will be in addition to the existing SALT program held at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn. [MORE](#)



For six nights in Oct. 2025 the West Edmonton Seventh-day

**for his *Christmas in My Heart* series, passed to his rest on**

Tuesday morning, Dec. 16, 2025, in Annapolis, Md. An author and editor/compiler of more than 100 books, Wheeler was widely regarded as one of America's leading short-story anthologists.

[MORE](#)

**Adventist Church (Alberta)** became the headquarters of a youth-led spiritual movement. In partnership with North Seventh-day Adventist Church and Christ the Way Seventh-day Adventist Church, the congregation hosted the "Next Gen Disciples: Be the Light" Youth Evangelistic Series. [MORE](#)

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## ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

[Jesus 101: Remembering Patrick H. Talbot](#)

[AdventHealth Celebrates Its First Births of 2026 \(Fla.\)](#)

[AdventHealth Fish Memorial Opens Outpatient Pharmacy to Make Getting Medications Easier for the Community \(Fla.\)](#)

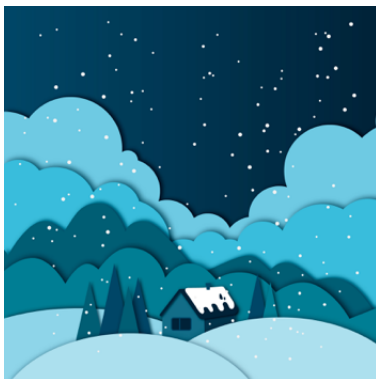
[Adventist Health Tillamook Relaunches Virtual Grief Support Groups \(Ore.\)](#)

[Mid-America Union: LouAnn Howard: Honoring Her Life and Legacy](#)

[Mid-America Union: Honoring the Life and Service of Gerard "Gerry" Ban](#)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS & RESOURCES



**Our regularly scheduled NAD NewsPoints will be not be published next week.** Please check out the NAD's social media ([Facebook](#), Twitter (X), [Instagram](#)) for new content, or visit the NAD Homepage for [news](#) and much more. [Click here](#) to read/watch *Adventist Journey* magazine stories and videos.

**A new audio drama is coming to LifeTalk Radio starting this January.** Orionsgate Theatre



presents Pilgrim's Progress, a gripping audio adventure series that brings to life the timeless classic story written by John Bunyan. Each episode is designed to spark imagination — offering thrilling adventures for children, while inviting adults to reflect on the deeper themes of life's journey and salvation. Check the kids program schedule for your time zone at: [lifetalkkids.net/kids-program-schedule](http://lifetalkkids.net/kids-program-schedule). You can also listen on our LifeTalk Radio App, a free download at: [lifetalk.net/connect](http://lifetalk.net/connect).

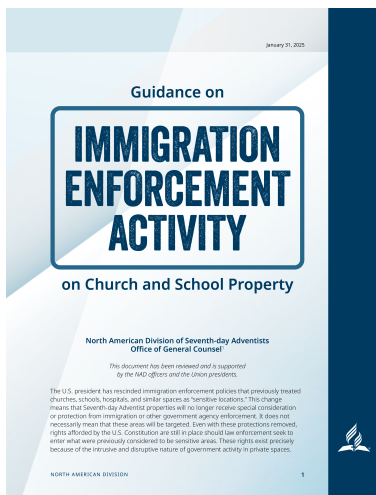


**HeSaidGoXP is a high-energy, three-day experience crafted to spark passion, purpose,** and a heart for service in the next generation of leaders —especially college students and young adults from across North America. Through hands-on XP Labs, compelling speakers, and interactive sessions, participants will discover how their unique gifts and passions connect with both global and local mission opportunities. HeSaidGoXP is about cultivating a missional identity. It's a space where stories, skills, and spiritual callings collide to shape bold, faith-driven leaders ready to impact the world with compassion and conviction. Click [here](#) to learn more.

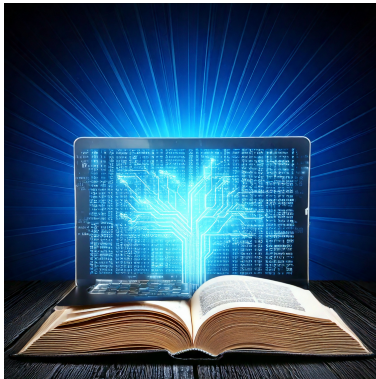


**Faith for Today presents "The Funny Thing About Sadness,"** a powerful one-hour television special that explores how God can transform pain into purpose. Hosted by Roy Ice and featuring Nikki DeLoach, Drew Lynch, and Danny Trejo, this program weaves together real stories of loss, laughter, and faith. Tune in and be inspired—then share the program with friends. For local listings, visit [ABC.com](http://ABC.com) or [lifestyle.org/shows/funny-thing](http://lifestyle.org/shows/funny-thing). Discover how faith can turn sadness into strength, and how God brings joy and new purpose through every season of life.

**The North American Division has provided for churches and schools the** document entitled



"Guidance on Immigration Enforcement Activity on Church and School Property." These guidelines, prepared by the NAD Office of General Counsel, have been reviewed — and is supported by — the NAD officers and union presidents. [CLICK HERE](#) for the guidelines in English. [Spanish](#)- and [French](#)-language versions have been published and all are also available under the [NAD website "Guidelines"](#) tab.

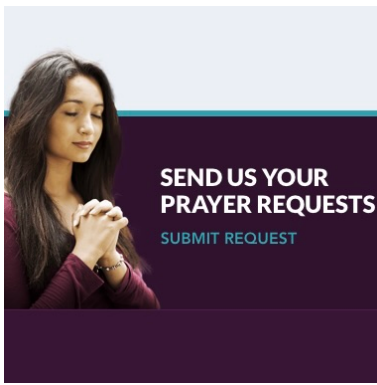


**Take your ministry beyond the pulpit and into the digital world.** This Adventist Learning Community course empowers pastors and church leaders to harness the power of AI tools to transform sermon content into engaging, shareable social media posts. You'll learn how to optimize sermon videos, design eye-catching visuals, and use online engagement tools to grow your church's digital presence. By the end of the course, you'll have the skills and confidence to combine AI technologies with creative strategies—amplifying your message, reaching new audiences, and spreading the gospel far beyond your local community. [LEARN MORE.](#)



**Join us for an engaging discussion of religious freedom issues on our show Faith and Politics.** From laws that impact faith communities to challenges facing religious organizations and communities around the world, our experienced panel of experts will provide thoughtful insight on these fundamental questions of liberty. Visit [faithandpolitics.tv](#) today!

**Are you in need of encouragement, hope, or prayer?** Jesus 101's prayer warriors would be honored to pray for your specific request. Our prayer team meets every Wednesday to pray over received prayer requests. Click [here](#) to submit your prayer request online.



**There is a Quiet Crisis Happening in Plain Sight. We Aren't Supposed to Talk About It.** It's not a crisis of faith. It's a crisis of profound isolation, affecting millions who suffer in silence while surrounded by their community. They are in our pews, in our neighborhoods, and in our families. Now, the story is finally being told. To find out more, watch the interview with Christian Record Services and 3ABN found here: <https://bit.ly/quietcrisisinterview>



**Jesus 101 has the perfect daily devotional podcast to help you connect to God daily.** *Jesus Wins!* is an audio devotional that revisits the stories of Jesus, touches on His graceful ways, and shares applicable truths found in His simple yet profound messages. Listeners can see His tender, loving care for those around Him. No element of His life is too small to provide insight, and these insights will revitalize your life! Click [here](#) for access to these free daily devotionals.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

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## ADVENTIST JOURNEY



**Cover:** Thaís Martins, student missionary teaching on Ebeye, Marshall Islands

**Feature:** “First Master Guide Camporee Brings Leaders Together for Training, Service, and Community” by Kimberly Luste Maran and Allison Grundy, pp. 04-05

**NAD Update:** "Facing Your Giants: Bronx Pentecost 2025 Series Brings Hope" by Ronnie Mills, pp.06-07

**NAD News Briefs:** “Sonscreen 2025 Brings Together 200+ Creatives to Celebrate Faith, Film, and Community;” “Women Leaders Gather to Reignite Mission at Passionate Leader Summit;” “Human Resources Conference Celebrates Quiet Champions Behind the Scenes;” “AdventSource Names André McCloud as President-Elect,” pp. 8–10.

**Perspective:** "Adventist Community Services: The Church in the Street " by W. Derrick Lea, p. 11

*This magazine is mailed to Adventists in North America; [click](#) to view the November/December issue online. [WATCH](#) the cover interview.*

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## VIEWPOINTS



## Love Your Neighbor

“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.”

— *Leviticus 19:18, NIV*

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**NAD MEDIA MINISTRIES**



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## **NAD UNION COMMUNICATION PARTNERS**

**Atlantic Union Conference**

**Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada**

**Columbia Union Conference**

**Lake Union Conference**

**Mid-America Union Conference**

**North Pacific Union Conference**

**Pacific Union Conference**

**Southern Union Conference**

# Southwestern Union Conference

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