

F&C

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

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FOR GOD AND COUNTRY newsletter is published by the National Service Organization (NSO), a chapter of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM). It is mailed free of charge to Seventh-day Adventist men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. If you know of someone who should be added to our mailing list, call us toll-free at 301-680-6782 or 6784. This number may also be used to inform us of persons who are attending non-Adventist colleges and universities or those who are incarcerated.

Comments and/or articles are welcome and should be sent to the attention of the managing editor at editor@verbaloxigen.com. Include your full name, complete mailing address, telephone and email address with all entries. Items submitted by mail will not be returned unless you include a self-addressed envelope, stamped. Stock photographs used in this publication are obtained from Photos.com unless otherwise noted.

The National Service Organization is the official military-relations office of the Adventist Church. Its primary mission is to provide resources and spiritual support for Seventh-day Adventist military-related personnel.

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*But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice:
 let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let
 them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.
 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt
 thou compass him as with a shield.*

PSALMS 5:11-12

“VISION, MISSION and GOALS”

By Gary R. Councill,
Associate Director/Military Endorser

The prophet Habakkuk rightly observed, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18. During the past two years your ACM staff has prayerfully sought the Lord’s leading for ministry to Adventists associated with military service. We have worked hard to develop a strategy for ministry to the military that reflects our understanding of God’s will, the mission of the Church, the changing political-military situation in the world and the transformation of military forces. As a result, ACM formulated the vision, mission and goals statement shown below

VISION

A deeply spiritual, professionally led and flexible ministry to military-related church members that can adapt to the rapidly changing political-military world situation and provide for their spiritual well-being via pastoral care on par with civilian members in the denomination. Wise stewardship that maximizes use of adequate resources for the spiritual well-being of members in uniform and accomplishment of the ACM mission.

MISSION

Support an Adventist presence and witness in military and government circles. Provide spiritual well-being and pastoral care of the “saints in Caesar’s household” (Philippians 4:22). Foster allegiance of Adventists in uniform to Jesus Christ and His Remnant Church. Prepare church membership for conscription and any future contingency.

GOALS

1. Assist church members in decision-making about military and public service; educate general membership about denominational positions and ethical questions of saving life.
2. Enable military personnel to become and make disciples of Jesus Christ.
3. Support military-related church members with pastoral care, resources and training.
4. Engage Adventists in uniform with the Church on a similar basis as other civilian members; i.e., maintain contact while serving. No forgotten or “second-class” members.

Translated in practical terms, the ACM vision means more direct support of church members in uniform deployed and stationed overseas. Plans are underway for adding field representatives, continuing assistance to Adventist military chapel worship groups with CDs, DVDs, devotionals, kits and other items, and establishing a “conference type church” for military members stationed overseas.

Furthermore, outreach and instructional materials have been budgeted and are being procured for promoting spiritual well-being and witnessing. ACM desires every military-related member to be engaged in “Tell the World” about Jesus and His soon coming. We want to help you exercise your spiritual gift(s) by supporting your ministry.

Vision without resources is hallucination, and resources that are irrelevant to member needs are wasted. ACM is open to your comments, ideas and suggestions about how your ACM staff can best serve you in fulfilling this vision, mission and goals. Without your input, we can only do our best to assess and analyze requirements from afar.



News Notes

Army Col. Loree K. Sutton has been nominated for appointment to the grade of brigadier general. At the time of her nomination, Sutton was serving as commander at Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, Fort Hood, Texas.



Keith Mattingly is serving as the dean of the college of Arts and Sciences at Andrews University. He served as a chaplain in the U. S. Army Reserves for 28 years (1971-1999). Mattingly had earned the rank of lieutenant colonel at his retirement. He served tours of duty in Germany and in the Persian Gulf War.



Dr. Washington Johnson II is serving as editor of Message magazine. He has served the Seventh-day Adventist Church as an ordained minister for more than 20 years. Washington is a graduate of Oakwood College, Andrews University Theological Seminary and Reformed Theological Seminary, respectively receiving a Bachelors of Arts, Masters of Divinity, and Doctor of Ministry degrees. He additionally serves as a Chaplain (Lieutenant Commander) in the United States Navy Reserve, assigned to Naval District Washington D.C.



In observance of Veterans Day, 2007 173 veterans were honored with a prestigious medallion of appreciation at the Loma Linda University Seventh-day Adventist church on Sabbath, Nov. 10, according to Michael Walter, retired Brigadier General, MD, and Chairman of Support Our Troops committee. The medallion comes from Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries and carries the words, "In Appreciation From Seventh-day Adventist Chaplains." The medallion portrays an image of an ancient warrior dressed in armor as described in Ephesians 6. Surrounding it are the Bible meanings of each piece of armor.



MY CHRISTIAN JOURNEY AS A SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth and final installment of an article that has been featured during 2007 in For God and Country.

By Dr. Tom Waters

Part IV - Other Trials & Blessings – Leaving for Germany – DoDDS



Blessings in Disguise:

I retired from the Air Force in August 1997 with 32½ years total active duty service as NCO and officer. I settled down in Las Vegas, Nevada in June 1997 where I had planned to stay. Having received my Ed.D. Degree while still on active duty, I received several offers for employment including the one I wanted with Clark County School District. However, I was told I would have to wait until they had placed their “seasoned” teachers. However, they did state that I should have a “firm offer” within a week. After much prayer for the Lord to guide my path, we agreed that I would accept the job that gave the first “firm offer” for employment ... knowing that Clark County would be first.

Within seconds of concluding the prayer the phone rang. It was a “firm offer” from ITT Technical Institute. Wait!!!! That was not what I wanted! I had not yet finished unpacking from my move to Las Vegas and certainly did NOT want to re-pack for a move to the Chicago area. So, in remembering the words I’ve said so many times, “I’ll go where You want me to go, dear Lord,” I accepted the job in October 1997 as Director of Education for ITT Technical Institute in Burr Ridge, Illinois. We bought a beautiful house in Bolingbrook, Illinois and the Bolingbrook SDA Church is a “close” church family where my membership has remained.

I enjoyed working with the other departmental directors but the boss, Director Joan, made life miserable for everyone by reminding us each day that she was “the boss.” She said that since I had a Doctorate Degree, I must want her job. I tried to assure her that her job was safe from me. Also, while in Las Vegas, I had received an offer from DoDDS (Department of Defense Dependent Schools) but I needed to be retired for six months to accept that offer. So, after several months of “Joan” I realized that something MUST change. I prayed that the Lord would help me find the peace that we all deserve. He was already working on my behalf.

So, in late July 1998, I received another call from DoDDS, this time with an offer to go to Germany. I really wanted to accept, but that meant trying to sell a house in a market where homes were NOT selling ... especially at the price I would have to ask. After much prayer, I accepted DoDDS offer and asked the Lord to take care of the house when the time came. So, in mid to late August, we put the house on the market on a Thursday and brought the dilemma to the Bolingbrook family on Sabbath. They held a congregational prayer for the sale of the house ... and we had a firm offer for the sale of the house on Monday at the asking price. Again, Praise the Lord.

I felt the Lord wanted me out of Las Vegas, but knew I would really resist, so he sent me to Illinois first where I would meet Joan and be more inclined to listen to Him.



2008 DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

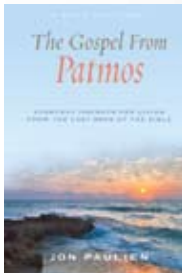
ADULT

The Gospel From Patmos

Jon Paulien

The book of Revelation tells about the future—but it also teaches how to live today. Uncover practical insights from the Apocalypse, including guidance on treating others with kindness, paying attention to Jesus' words, and living to your full potential.

978-0-8280-2092-3. Hardcover.
US\$14.99.



TEEN

GodSpace

Tompaul Wheeler

With wit, spirit, and honesty, *GodSpace* zooms in on seven different themes—one for each day of the week. It will open teenagers' minds to new thoughts on love, God, spirituality, and what life is really all about.

978-0-8280-2027-5. Paperback.
US\$14.99

FIRST TIME EVER-DAILY
DEVOTIONAL FOR TEENS



WOMEN

Heaven's Whisper

Ardis Dick Stenbakken, Editor

In the pages of this book you will meet 200 women from all over the world who have heard a whisper from God. Each story is a reminder that God longs to quietly speak to us and guide us through each day.

978-0-8280-2016-9. Hardcover.
US\$17.99.



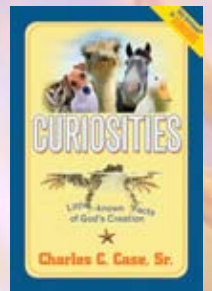
JUNIOR

Curiosities

Charles C. Case, Sr.

Children will trek across the desert, climb the mountain peaks, dive deep into the ocean, and fly high into the sky—all to discover the fascinating lessons God has hidden in the details of His creation.

978-0-8280-1916-3. Hardcover.
US\$14.99



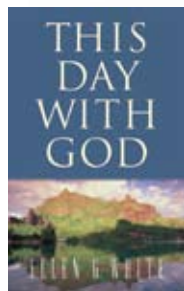
EVENING

This Day With God

Ellen G. White

Drawn largely from unpublished letters and manuscripts, these uplifting readings are arranged according to the day on which they were originally written. This collection includes encouragement, advice, and motivation for every Christian.

978-0-8280-1790-9. Hardcover.
US\$14.99.



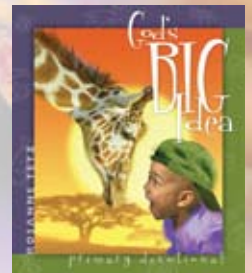
PRIMARY

God's Big Idea

Rosanne Tetz

God's Big Idea takes children on a journey from creation to the new earth. Along the way they'll learn exciting lessons about nature, life, the Bible, and God's plan for our world.

978-0-8280-1762-6. Hardcover.
US\$14.99



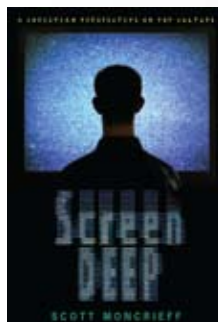
YOUNG ADULT

Screen Deep

Scott Moncrieff

This witty, insightful book takes a look at the implied messages that popular culture sends into our world every day. It will leave you thinking about the views of pop culture and whether they square with or conflict with a biblical perspective.

978-0-8280-2066-4. Paperback.
US\$11.99



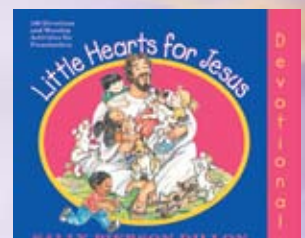
PRESCHOOL

Little Hearts for Jesus

Sally Pierson Dillon

Here are 180 creative lessons that teach young children about God's love. Each reading includes a game, activity, craft, or song that will lead children to delight in our amazing God.

978-0-8280-1344-4.
Hardcover.
US\$14.99



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fill out the personal information section.
2. Select your two free devotional books and those you would like to purchase.
3. Select your two free magazines.
4. Mail form and any payment due (made payable to NSO) to the address below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Are you on active duty now? Yes No Reserves DOD

Where are you stationed? _____

Are you an Adventist church member?

Local church and conference holding membership:

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

Adventist active duty military personnel are invited to select two devotional books which will be sent free of charge. Additional books may be ordered at the discounted rate of \$5.00 each (limited to one copy of each title). Those not on active duty are asked to remit the full retail price for each book selected. Please check the appropriate boxes indicating your choices.

- ADULT—*The Gospel From Patmos*
- EVENING—*This Day With God*
- WOMEN—*Heaven's Whisper*
- YOUTH ADULT—*Screen Deep*
- TEEN—*GodSpace*
- JUNIOR—*Curiosities*
- PRIMARY—*God's Big Idea*
- PRESCHOOL—*Little Hearts for Jesus*

Number of books ordered: _____

Amount enclosed with order: \$ _____

MAGAZINES

Each year NSO will send Adventist active duty members a 1-year subscription to two magazines from the following list. Please check the appropriate boxes.

- El Centinela
- Guide
- Insight
- La Sentinelle
- Liberty
- Listen
- Message
- Our Little Friend
- Primary Treasure
- Sabbath School Leadership
- Shabbat Shalom
- Signs of the Times
- Vibrant Life
- Winner
- Women of Spirit

The *Adventist Review* (weekly) and the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guides* (quarterly) are automatically sent to you in addition to the magazines you select!



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STRENGTH

“Anyone can give up, it’s the easiest thing in the world to do. But to hold it together when everyone else would understand if you fell apart, that’s true strength.”

ANONYMOUS QUOTE