

“CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS.” JUDE 3

Adventists Attend *Ecumenical* Faith-based Health Conference

On November 13-19, 2011, a global, ecumenical healthcare conference was held at the Augusta Victoria Hospital located on the Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem. This conference brought together leaders of different faith-based healthcare organizations. The purpose of this event, according to the conference invitation posted on faithbasedhealthcare.com, was to “inspire and inform each other” and to “strengthen their institutions.”



Above: Anglican Rev. Mark Brown (left) and Luther Bishop Dr. Munib Younan (right) Below: Participants assembled during the conference.



The conference also promised that all would participate and “engage in a participatory learning process” which would include “key notes” on different “themes” and “*multi faith witness and worship.*”

According to a press release from the Anglican Health Network, we find who were the participants to the conference: “Amongst the participants were representatives from the —continued on page 7

Some Seeing Red over Connecticut’s Blue Laws

By Sabadino Parker
Examiner.com
April 10, 2011



When most people come to Connecticut for the first time, they often express befuddlement at what we have taken as a matter of course: the state’s “Blue Laws”—particularly the one prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sundays.

Caitlin Horan, who recently relocated to Connecticut from Florida, said, “It makes no sense. What’s the big deal about selling alcohol on Sundays?”

Many people in Connecticut feel the same way: “I’ve never understood it,” said Sheila Roberts, a lifelong Connecticut resident. “It seems like a throwback to the Puritan era.” —continued on page 4

Officials Debate Blue Laws and Sunday Hunting

By Philip Petrunak
Daily American [Somerset, Pennsylvania]
June 11, 2011

The issue of Sunday hunting rekindles the age-old debate regarding Pennsylvania’s blue laws. The House Games and Fisheries Committee are considering a change that would allow Pennsylvania’s whitetail deer to be hunted on Sundays.

One of the bill’s largest opponents, the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, testified before the House committee Thursday that farmers and private landowners control approximately 80 percent of the state’s huntable land, according to a 2005 survey.

Farm Bureau member Nila Cogan opposes the expansion of Sunday hunting for several reasons, including the preservation of a day of peace and relaxation on her farm, the —continued on page 4

Churches Spend \$400 Million Lobbying Washington

Religion-related lobby groups thrive in Washington

By Andrew Stern, Reuters News, Nov. 21, 2011

The number of religion-related lobbying groups in Washington has grown five-fold in the past 40 years, with their spending reaching almost \$400 million annually, a study showed on Monday.



United States Conference of Catholic Bishops spend \$27 million a year lobbying our political leaders.

The Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life study identified 212 groups, up from 158 a decade ago and 40 in 1970.

Forty groups accounted for the bulk of the spending, led by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, which spent nearly \$88 million in 2008, the last year for which data was provided.

Also in 2008, the Family Research Council —continued on page 5

Samoa: Seventh Day Adventists To Have Two Sabbaths

By Edwin Puni, Eventpolynesia.com, Jan. 2, 2012

Seventh Day Adventists In Samoa To Have Two Sabbaths When The International Dateline Change Comes Into Effect

As Samoa prepares to mark the change of Samoa’s position in relation to the International Dateline, where on the stroke of midnight Thursday night, the date will shift from Thursday 29th of December 2011 to Saturday 31st of December 2011; it will also mark the division in conviction of Seventh Day Adventists in Samoa. Those that will continue to keep Saturday as their Sabbath and others that will now worship on Sunday as the new Sabbath.

Yesterday at the end of year gathering of the Samatau SDA church, Puni Raea informed the church minister Pastor Kereta Milo that Samatau will continue to worship on Saturday. Puni announced, “There are no two Sabbaths for Seventh Day Adventists in Samatau.” Puni is one of the paramount chiefs of the village and head of the Sa Puni family where the SDA church stands. —continued on page 4

The Ministry of Our High Priest

By M. L. Andreasen
Review and Herald
Oct. 11, 1945

The Day of Atonement was a high day in Israel. It was the day of judgment, when all the sins of the year came into review and were finally disposed of. When the day was ended, for all who had humbled their hearts had become beneficiaries of the atonement made on that day by the high priest. Their sins were blotted out; the sanctuary itself was cleansed from all defilement...This was in obedience to the command of God “to make an atonement for the children of Israel for all their sins once a year” (Lev. 16:34).

Forgiveness and Cleansing—The difference between forgiveness of sin and cleansing from sin should be understood by all. A man has an unclean habit that he has battled with for years. Repeatedly he falls, but each time he repents and asks God's forgiveness. As God asks us to forgive until seventy times seven, we may presume that God will do no less. And God forgives again and again, but the man is not cleansed.

Suddenly the man becomes aware that there is a higher experience than that of forgiveness. God promises not only to forgive but to cleanse. The man claims God’s promise and is cleansed from —continued on page 5

The Value of a Soul

—by Pastor Raphael Perez

To often the world places the highest value upon the earthly possessions that it considers to be worthy of having—whether it be riches, honor, power, or fame. Yet the world is completely void of the true and eternal riches that God offers.

“Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.” Jer. 9:23, 24.

God tells us through His word that the greatest riches are not found in this world. The true riches are found in the things that will last forever.

“The salvation of souls is of greater consequence than the whole world. One soul saved, to live throughout the ages of eternity, to praise God and the Lamb, is of more value than millions in money. Wealth sinks into insignificance when compared with the worth of souls for whom Christ died.” Testimonies, Vol. 2, p. 246.

“The value of a soul, who can estimate? Would you know its worth, go to Gethsemane, and there watch with Christ through those hours of anguish, when He sweat as it were great drops of blood.” Christ Object Lessons, p. 196.

“My cry to God is, Help me to save souls; make me a savor of life unto life.” Manuscript Release, Vol. 7, p. 34.

God has raised us up in this final hour to give the last invitation of mercy to the world. The destiny of thousands of souls depend on the work of God’s people. God’s message must reach each soul that wants to escape the bondage of sin and the destruction of the world during the last days.

We have no time to lose. The end of all things is at hand. However brief the time or huge the task, the work will be accomplished in the might of divine power. This is the long awaited experience that has been promised to us. Notice this wonderful experience:

“Suppose Christ should abide in every heart and selfishness in all its forms should be banished from the church, what would be the result? Harmony, unity, and brotherly love would be seen as verily as in the church which Christ first established. Christian activity would be seen everywhere. The whole church would be kindled into a sacrificial flame for the glory of God. Every Christian would cast in the fruit of his self-denial to be consumed upon the altar. There would be far greater activity in devising fresh methods of usefulness and in studying how to come close to poor sinners to save them from eter-

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The Eternal Gospel Herald is published from West Palm Beach, Florida, USA, by the Eternal Gospel Church, a ministry that was founded in 1992 by Seventh-day Adventist believers to bring true, genuine, world-wide revival and reformation by proclaiming the Third Angel’s Message. The Eternal Gospel Herald is sent to you free of charge, with much love, work, and sacrifice. Every effort is made to insure the accuracy of the information contained herein. This publication is printed to communicate the issues and subjects pertaining solely to the development and fulfillment of the third angel’s message and the advance of Christ’s character in the lives of God’s faithful people. We hope and pray that you will not only enjoy it but that it will be informative and spiritually enlightening to all of you. It is only by the grace of God and the support of each of you that we are able to participate in publishing, radio, newspapers, billboards, and foreign missions.

nal ruin.” Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 206.

Oh that this may be the blessed experience of the church in this final hour, both individually and to the great body of believers in all the world. Then men everywhere would behold a repetition of the experience of Pentecost. The earth would soon, be lightened with the glory of God, and our fondest hopes, so long cherished, would be realized in the coming of our blessed Redeemer and Savior in power and great glory. This is the only hope that can heal the wounds of this troubled, distressed, and sin-filled world—the return of our blessed Lord and Master.

This work constitutes a mighty challenge. The work should appeal to the very strength and fiber of our lives. They are spoken to us as a divine invitation. This is a call for volunteers. God wants you to help finish His work and usher in the new and better world that will be established in righteousness when the Lord comes again in glory.

"The Lord calls for soldiers who will not fail nor be discouraged; but who will accept the work with all its disagreeable features. He would have us all take Christ for our pattern."—*Christian Service*, p. 240.

By God’s grace we have begun to lay plans to quickly enter into new fields for the advancement of the work of the third angel’s message. We see the value of each soul for which Christ gave His life. Stirring times are ahead of us. In the last hours of time the remnant church must move forward in the accomplishment of her God-given task.

It is of the greatest importance that every individual member of the church, at least those who are awake, to work for Christ giving the final warning message. We must keep pace with the unfolding of events of these last days. I appeal to each believer to keep us in mind as we move forward with the task which God has given us for this time with your prayers and support. Let us do all that we can do at the beginning of this new year to multiply the billboards, newspapers, radio programs, and the literature publications. We have been told that these will play a major role in the finishing of the Loud Cry of Revelation 18.

Letters

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I was raised Pentecostal but after years of study I believe that Seventh-day Adventists have the truth as it is in the word of God. I just finished reading some literature from your church on the Antichrist and at the bottom of the page it mentioned to write for a free book. Could you please send me all literature you can on Seventh-day Adventism. I’m still confused on the issues of baptism and the laying of hands. Thank you so much for your time and concern. Sincerely,
John Patterson, Indiana.

Dear Eternal Gospel, Let’s hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ! (2 Peter 3:12). I am excited about those Sabbath billboards. Thank you so much and keep up the good work. **Bryan Przychodniec, Florida.**

Dear Eternal Gospel Ministry, I’ve been keeping the seventh-day Sabbath for several months now. I understand the importance of keeping this day as the day of worship we give to the Lord. I’m writing because I would like the newsletter you send. Any other materials you have would be greatly appreciated. May the Lord of the Sabbath bless you, **Adam Loza, California.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Thank you so much for sending us 10 copies each of *What Happens After Death, The Antichrist Identified, and Earth’s Final Warning*. It has been a blessing to us all and to other precious souls. Could you send us 10 copies of each in Spanish as well for our Latino brothers who are hungry for the truth. They have asked us if we have these materials in Spanish. Thank you. In Christ’s love, _____, **Arizona State Prison, Arizona.**

Dear Eternal Gospel Herald, Thank you so much for sending me your publication. It is a wonderfully informative paper. Please continue sending me your free issues. Thank you, **Mary Knupp, North Carolina.**

Dear Eternal Gospel Ministry, Warmest greetings in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! I pray all is well at the ministry. I really enjoy your DVDs and I am impressed with the work you are able to accomplish for the Lord. Your newspapers are the most informative and eye-opening available. Not many people are getting the message out. Many talk about the 3 Angels’ Messages, but they never give any warning. May God richly bless you as you continue so courageously to do the work He has called you to do. Together with Him, **Jo Phelps, Oregon.**

Dear Brethren, I believe that your billboards on the highways is an extraordinary method of spreading the gospel. May God richly bless you. Your sister in Christ, **Fabiola Triana, Texas.**

Full-page Newspaper Ads

We are currently working with a major daily newspaper that will reach many tens of thousands of people. We are hoping to reach those within the political arena with the saving truths of the three angel's message. There is no question that Sunday is being agitated in different places around the world. In every issue of The Eternal Gospel Herald we chronicle the world wide push for Sunday legislation. The signs of the times clearly tell us that the Sabbath issue will be at the forefront of the controversy.

“The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not.” Great Controversy, p. 605.

Since the Seventh-day Sabbath is the great test, we must let people know about it before the test comes. May the Lord help us to work in His vineyard so that the seeds of the Third Angel can be sown. There is a great harvest of souls waiting to be gathered in.

“But not one is made to suffer the wrath of God until the truth has been

brought home to his mind and conscience, and has been rejected. There are many who have never had an opportunity to hear the special truths for this time. The obligation of the fourth commandment has never been set before them in its true light.” Ibid.



These full-page advertisements speak clearly about the issue over the Sabbath/Sunday debate. Please read carefully page 6 of this issue of The Eternal Gospel Herald to see a copy of the ad. We publish all the Bible verses that show how the Sabbath has never been changed, including the misconceptions that Christians have regarding Sunday-keeping. We also gave a warning about the Sunday laws that are soon coming. Please pray that many will come to a knowledge of the truth through these efforts. For the glory of God, we have been sending books and literature to people who want more information after seeing this full-page ad.

Oklahoma Camp Ground

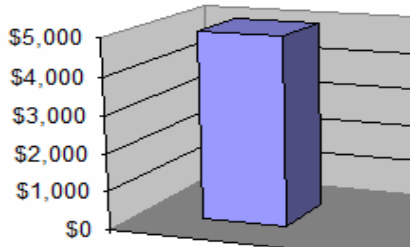


Our camp meetings have truly been a great blessing. We receive letters and phone calls from brethren who have attended and have been enriched and blessed after attending. The Holy Spirit on many occasions has renewed and revived the lives of so many. Praise the Lord for all this! We can truly say that souls will be seen in the kingdom of heaven as a direct result of these camp meetings. Every year we have baptisms, and we know that this is what the work is all about. We want to see lives transformed and dedicated to Christ.

Now that our chapel extension and baptismal has been completed, we want to step out in faith and place before our brethren the need of providing a separate facility that will provide housing for our guests. The arrangements which we presently have can only accommodate about 35 people. This represents about 1/4 of our camp meeting attendees. We would like to be able to do better than that; so therefore we are praying that the Lord will open the doors for those who take the time and effort to attend these spiritual meetings, that they can stay on the premises without having to seek outside accommodations. Please keep this project in your prayers. As always, we seek to be able to provide these accommodations at the least possible expense.

If you feel impressed to help in this uplifting and blessed project, either with your God-given talents in construction or in helping with the funding of this work please move as the Lord leads you.

\$5,000 Raised for Sleeping Facility



Sabbath Billboard Work



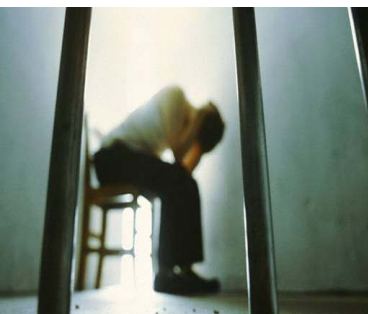
“The third angel's message is to be at this time regarded as of the highest importance...presenting the truth in no measured terms, but with boldness and power.” Maranatha, p. 191.

If you know of any empty billboards that are reasonably priced and in a good location please let us know.



We have been busy signing contracts with different billboard companies. The great blessing of this kind of evangelism is that many of these truth-filled billboards are in plain view of over 100,000 cars that pass by them daily! We praise the Lord that many people are reading a summary of the important issues for these last days. We would like to ask all of you to continue to pray for us in this next year as we endeavor to bring more billboards proclaiming the Sabbath message. We plan on beginning a new series of billboards featuring the subject regarding the state of the dead/Virgin Mary. This is an important issue which is being ignored. Please pray for us and this project.

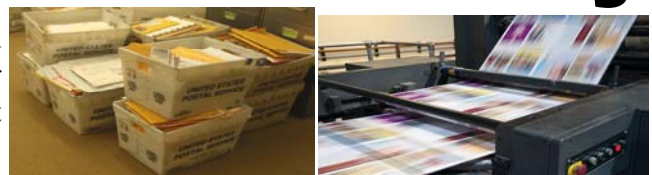
Literature, Postage, Prison Ministry



We praise the Lord that we can report that 100% of the funds needed for literature, postage, and prison ministry has been raised for year 2011! The 2012 year has already begun. Let's all hope and pray that we can do more as we get closer to the end of time.

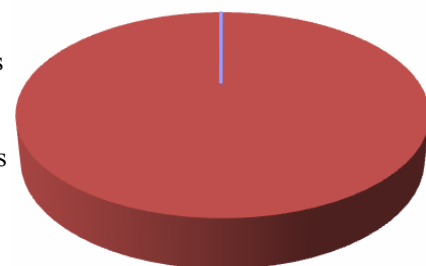
“I was in prison, and ye came unto me.” Matt. 25:36.

“Christ identified Himself with the necessities of His people. Their needs and their sufferings were His.” Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 186



\$8,700 of \$8,700 raised for Literature

- Literature Funds Needed — 0%
- Literature Funds Raised — 100%



We are so thankful to all of our supporters who help make this work possible. God's hand is in this work and together we will not forget those who are prisoners behind bars nor those who are prisoners to sin. It is such a blessing to be able to make available the free literature. Inspiration tells us that God's Holy Spirit attends these silent preachers and makes deep impressions on the hearts and minds of those who read these truth-filled publications.

—continued from page 1 “*Samoan Adventists Have Two Sabbaths*”

Samatau’s position to continue to worship on Saturday is supported by many as confirmed by Mano’o Lutena Mulitalo and Pa’u Fereti Puni, both are members of the SDA church at Samatau and prominent community leaders in New Zealand and with the Samoa government.

According to Pa’u, “There is no intention for us to change religion or to set up a new church. The only difference is that, *church members at Samatau SDA church will continue to worship on Saturday while others in Samoa will now worship on Sundays.*”

This situation has arisen following the decision by the church in Samoa to keep the unbroken cycle of days with the seventh day being Sabbath. The position of the Samoa administration is a result of this week having just six days, *making the coming Sunday as the seventh day and so becomes the new Sabbath for the church going into the future.*

On Thursday 17th November this year a special meeting was held in Samoa attended by Samoa SDA church ministers from America, Australia, and New Zealand by invitation of the President of the Samoa Mission, Pastor Uili Solofa, to deliberate on the matter. However, according to Pastor Solofa, the decision by the Samoa administration is final.

The meeting in Samoa involved a presentation by the visiting ministers advising the Samoa administration against their decision to change the worship day to Sunday for Seventh Day Adventists in Samoa.

The coming Saturday in Samoa, 31 December 2011 will also go down in the history of the Seventh Day Adventist church as the beginning for Seventh Day Adventists in Samoa to have two Sabbaths as the next Sabbath for the Samoa Mission will now be Sunday 1st January 2012, while the Samatau SDA church and others that have maintained their conviction will worship on Saturday 31st December 2011 instead.

Current Legislation of the Independent State of Samoa protects the rights of religion. Furthermore the change of Samoa’s position in relation to the International Dateline does not enforce a change in the day Seventh Day Adventists worship in Samoa. Samoa’s position according to the IDL was first changed in 1892 to align with countries on the eastern side like America. Which means, Samoa is going back to its original position.

Editor’s Note: Let us hope and pray that the seven day cycle will continue to be observed by the brethren at large wherever they may be found. We know that Satan has many way for us to keep the spurious Sabbath.

—continued from page 1 “*Connecticut’s Blue Sunday Laws*”

And, indeed, the prohibition of alcohol sales on Sundays is a restriction dating back hundreds of years. In fact, Connecticut has the honor of being the first state in the nation to establish Blue Laws in relation to the sale of alcohol on Sundays. Currently Connecticut is one of only three states prohibiting alcohol sales on Sundays, the other two being Indiana and Georgia.

“Blue laws” refers to any laws regulating activities on Sundays, not just alcohol (for example, it is illegal to purchase cars on Sunday in Illinois). In Connecticut, Blue Laws were part of the initial statutes established by Governor Theophilus Eaton, with the help of the infamous Rev. John Cotton, in 1655, although the state’s official ban went into effect in 1933, the year national prohibition was repealed and left to the states. *It goes without saying, such laws were the result of the Christian reverence for Sunday as the Holy Sabbath, which, to many, flies in the face of the U.S. Constitution, which establishes a separation between church and state.*

Many state residents who wish to purchase alcohol on Sundays tend to travel to Massachusetts, and many lawmakers wish to keep that revenue within Connecticut borders. Liquor and beer companies and lobbyist are also pushing for a lift on the ban, claiming it would increase their profits.

Even with the lift of Connecticut’s Blue Laws, even the most optimistic figures regarding increased tax revenue barely put a dent in the state’s deficit. Still Governor Daniel Malloy has promised to sign the bill into law should its passage in the legislature reach his desk.

As an interesting side note, other Blue Laws that had at one time existed in the state (and have since been repealed) include the stipulations that “No one shall run on the Sabbath day, or walk in his garden or elsewhere, except reverently to and from meeting,” “no one shall travel, cook victuals, make beds, sweep house, cut hair, or shave, on the Sabbath day,” and “no woman shall kiss her child on the Sabbath or fasting day,” among others.

—continued from page 1 “*Officials Debate Blue Laws*”

private use of her own land for recreational purposes and religious beliefs.

Those religious beliefs have once again sparked the debate over blue laws. *Blue laws are designed to enforce religious standards, such as the observance of Sunday as a day of worship and rest.*

“I doubt it’s a surprise to you that the church community is very opposed to the expansion of Sunday hunting,” Cogan said before the committee. “In a day and age where Sundays have become just another day of the week, we (Christians) feel like we are losing the battle. The question of Sunday hunting is about more than changing the commonwealth, it’s about changing our way of life.”

John Hohenwarter, the National Rifle Association’s Pennsylvania state liaison, said the religious views of some, even many, should not dictate the laws of everyone.

“It’s personal choice whether you go to church on Sunday,” he said before the committee. “I think you need to keep in mind that there are other religions (besides Christianity) in this state. It’s been determined that Sunday is the day of rest, but that’s not the case for everyone.”

Pennsylvania’s blue laws have played a role in preventing Sunday liquor and car sales.

Joel Rotz, state governmental relations director for the Farm Bureau, said Sunday hunting is different from other forms of blue laws.

“Private landowners are not going to benefit from this change, and they don’t want it,” he said.

Those in favor of Sunday hunting point out double standards involved with blue laws. Coyote, fox and crow hunting is legal, for example, while hunting for deer and turkey is not. Fishing on Sundays is also legal.

State Rep. Jeff Pyle, R-Armstrong/Indiana, said he has not yet decided whether he will vote in favor of the expansion of Sunday hunting.

“I agree that Sunday is a day of rest,” he said. “But why is hiking, biking, or riding quads and motorcycles acceptable on Sundays, but hunting is not?”

Editor's Note on the Sunday Question

We should be doing much more to voice the warnings of the third angel’s message. We must warn the world against the formation of the image of the beast, warn against the union of church and state, warn against the notorious Sunday laws, and the union of churches towards Rome through radio, publications, newspapers, billboards, or by any means of communicating the truth for such a time as this. Notice what is about to break upon the world in an overwhelming surprise:

“It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday-sabbath, that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced, and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, *preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity.*” The Great Controversy, p. 590.

“If the people can be led to favor a Sunday law, then the clergy intend to exert their united influence to obtain a religious *amendment to the Constitution*, and compel the nation to keep Sunday.” Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, December 24, 1889.

We can see from these statements that for the final conflict to come, a religious awakening regarding the Sunday question in public life must be created. All these articles from different newspapers discussing the Sunday law question can only lead up to one thing—a Universal Sunday observance in which Satan will persuade men that this is what is desperately needed to save the world.

Let us move forward while we still can and take the third angel to the world. The time is now! The signs of the times all reveal how near we are to Christ’s return.

“If every soldier of Christ had done his duty, if every watchman on the walls of Zion had given the trumpet a certain sound, the world might ere this have heard the message of warning. But the work is years behind. While men have slept, Satan has stolen a march upon us.” Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, p. 29.

—continued from page 1 “The Ministry of Our High Priest”

his filthy habit. No more is forgiveness needed. He has overcome. A higher experience has come to him. He is kept from falling into his old sin. He is now clean.

He has overcome this sin entirely. God’s power to help man is not exhausted in forgiveness. That, indeed, is necessary for each one of us. All have sinned, and all need forgiveness, over and over. But let no one rest satisfied with forgiveness alone, wonderful as it is.

Forgiveness operates only after sin has been committed, and is an evidence of failure on the part of man. The fountain whence evil things proceed must be cleansed. The man needs to be cleansed. Until that is done he will need forgiveness. But forgiveness must not be considered an end in itself. It is a blessed means of God until the man gets his eyes open to the possibility of overcoming. When at last he is cleansed, a new song is put into his mouth. The power of sin is broken. Sin no longer holds dominion over him. He has gained the victory. He has experienced the power of God not only to forgive but to cleanse.

A New Experience—This promise of cleansing is the same in the Old Testament as in the New. As noted before, God commanded the priest to “make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the Lord.” In the daily service their sins had already been forgiven. But on the Day of Atonement they were, to enter into a new experience. In the Day of Atonement the high priest went not only into the first apartment, where forgiveness had daily been obtained, but into the most holy, where cleansing was accomplished. He went on behalf of, and for, the people, and they were to follow him by faith.

In the high priest the people went in, and when he was accepted they were accepted. He bore the names of the children of Israel “upon his two shoulders” and “upon his heart.” He represented Israel; in a certain sense he was Israel. In the New Testament we are invited with “boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us” (Heb. 10:19, 20). This is a parallel experience to that of Israel of old.

A Heavenly Sanctuary—Seventh-day Adventists believe in a literal sanctuary in heaven which was to be cleansed in 1844 at the end of the 2300 days. They believe that at this time Christ, having finished His work in the first apartment, went into the second apartment, and there did and is now doing a work similar to that of the high priest on earth. This includes “an atonement for the holy sanctuary, and . . . for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar, and he shall make an atonement for the priests, and for all the people of the congregation.” Lev. 16:33.

When this work is finished, Christ will come. While this work is going on in heaven, a complementary work is going on in the church on earth. As the physical sanctuary on earth was cleansed, so a cleansing work will be done in heaven, in harmony with Hebrews 9:23: “It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.”

As Israel of old was included in the cleansing, so now a people is being prepared that will be without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. They

—continued from page 1 “Churches Spend \$400 Million”

spent \$14 million and the American Jewish Committee \$13 million.

In 2009, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops spent \$27 million, Concerned Women for America \$13 million, Bread for the World \$11 million, the National Right to Life Committee \$11 million and the Home School Legal Defense Association \$11 million.

Issues the various groups lobbied on included support of Israel, church-state issues, and religious rights. The Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life said other topics were bioethics, abortion, capital punishment, and end-of-life and family-marriage issues. Many of the groups also addressed international issues such as poverty.

Editor’s Note: “When the churches of our land, uniting upon such points of faith as are held by them in common, shall influence the State to enforce their decrees and sustain their institutions, then will Protestant America have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy.” Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 4, p. 278.

These well organized, powerful, well-funded, religious groups—like the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops—are spending millions of dollars trying to influence our elected officials. Their main task

will “keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” (Rev. 12:17).

Doctrinal Heresy—About the beginning of this century heresies began to creep into the denomination which denied the reality of the sanctuary in heaven, rejected the 1844 date, and in general attempted to remove one of the foundation pillars of the movement. To combat the influence of these spiritualizing tendencies, Adventists began to emphasize the literality of the heavenly sanctuary and its cleansing.

Others conceived the idea that the sanctuary services concerned only the question of cleansing a building in heaven, a purely theoretical conception that had no practical application to Christianity; and that while the theory itself might be true, it had no practical value as a doctrine of the church. And it must be admitted that we have not always given the sanctuary doctrine the central place in Biblical teaching which it once held as a vital spiritual force. The time has come when the sanctuary must come into its own again as the very hub of our message.

We are far enough removed from the time of these heresies to be no longer affected by them. They have run their course, and the truth stands unmoved. We can again stress the spiritual aspects of the sanctuary without destroying the old foundations. We believe as much as ever that there is a literal sanctuary in heaven, that this sanctuary was to be cleansed at the end of the 2300 days in 1844; that at that time Christ began His work in the most holy and that the investigative judgment then began; and that the finishing of this work will usher in the coming of the Lord.

A Cleansed People—With this we believe that a parallel work must be done on earth. On the Day of Atonement in Israel the priest should “make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the Lord” (Lev. 16:30).

This work was part of the work done on the Day of Atonement then. This same work of cleansing is also to be done now. There is a sanctuary to be cleansed in heaven. There is a church to be cleansed on earth. The two works must go hand in hand. Unless we send our sins up beforehand to judgment, the work in heaven as well as on earth will be hindered. Christ stands ready to cleanse the sanctuary above, to finish His work. He is waiting for us to send our sins up, so He can carry them out in His closing ministry.

What, then, is the ministry of our High Priest now? He is ministering in the most holy. There He is tarrying a moment to include the sins that are sent up while He is finishing His work. And He will not wait much longer. A true conception of the work needed now in the church includes sanctification, victory over sin, and entering with Christ into the holiest of all. May God help us to hold to the faith once delivered to saints, enter the open door set before us, believe in a literal, real sanctuary in heaven to be cleansed, and with all our hearts seek Him who not only is faithful and just to forgive us our sins but will cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

When the church on earth is cleansed, when all sins are sent up beforehand, then, and not until then, can Christ carry them away. The sanctuary in heaven will then be cleansed from even the record of sin, and God's people will be sanctified, holy.

is to try to actively promote legislation through political persuasion.

It is disheartening to know that these church groups are running around with too much power and money trying to buy votes. One thing is for sure, prophecy tells us that one day these religious powers will go too far and lobby for Sunday laws.

“The *dignitaries of church* and state will unite to *bribe, persuade, [What is lobbying if not this?] or compel all classes to honor the Sunday*...Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance.” The Great Controversy, p. 592.

Ellen White is accurately illustrating political corruption at its worst. Over 100 years ago she revealed exactly what the Churches are doing today. Church leaders through (1) strong-arm lobbying, through (2) large political contributions, and by (3) threats will push for laws that will reflect their doctrine. Unbelievable!

Is this not being fulfilled before our eyes? As Seventh-day Adventists, we must continue giving the warning of the third angel’s message—which warns against civil power sustaining the teachings of the church.

Below is the full-page ad that was recently published in the Aberdeen newspaper in South Dakota.

Sabbath Billboard Stirs Controversy

Recently, the Aberdeen News ran an editorial on August 21, 2011 entitled “Church Mislabels Antichrist” written by Martin Albl. The Chicago Tribune, along with online bloggers, also carried the story. The article described a billboard that was placed in the city of Aberdeen, South Dakota that spoke about Saturday being the true Lord’s day and how the Antichrist had changed the day from Saturday to Sunday. It also attempted to defend Sunday as the day of rest as well as portray those responsible for the billboard as an obscure group whose beliefs on the Antichrist and on the Seventh-day Sabbath have been “rejected” by most churches, including Seventh-day Adventists.



The purpose of the billboard ad is to simply report historical and theological facts. We are also trying to protest the Sunday Law Movement that is sweeping across the world.

The European Sunday Alliance, supported by the Catholic Bishop’s Conference of Europe [COMECE], is lobbying the European Union to pass Sunday as the day of rest for all of Europe. Many countries like Germany and Croatia have very strict Sunday restrictions.

Here in America the Sunday movement is rapidly gaining popularity once again. North Dakota Catholic Conference on July 15, 2011 said that Sunday laws would benefit all people. Four days later Vatican Insider for the Pontifical Council for the Laity, Monsignor Miguel Delagado Galindo, made a call that Sunday should be set aside for God.

Minnesota Senator Rodger Reinert has been trying to loosen Sunday retail legislation for a long time, and he hasn’t had much success. The New York Times published on Sept. 3, 2010 an article defending Sunday as a day of Rest— “Sunday Shopping Linked with Less Happiness.”

These are just a few examples of how the Sunday movement is gaining momentum around the world. Many more examples can be cited. History tells us that Sunday legislation, regardless of how sincere it may appear, always brings persecution to small minorities. Prophecy declares that such religious intolerance will again be revived to the point that “no man might buy or sell, save he that had the MARK, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Rev. 13:17. From this prophetic insight we can see that church and state will unite and all of our most cherished liberties will be lost. God have mercy on us all when these days shall “come to pass” John 14:29.

Sabbath from the Biblical Perspective

Jesus — “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read.” Luke 4:16.

Jesus declared — “...The sabbath was made for man*..” Mark 2:27 The word for *man* in this verse is the Greek word “anthropos,” meaning mankind and not just the Jews. See also Isa 56:2-6. “The Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.” Matthew 12:8. Many say Revelation 1:10 is used to designate Sunday as the Lord’s day: “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day.” The Greek word is *Kuriake (Lord’s) hemera (day)*. So what is the day of the Lord’s. Jesus answers this question himself: “The Son of man is Lord (Kurios) even of the Sabbath day” (Matt. 12:8). Lord’s day is just another way of saying the day of the Lord. All through scriptures the seventh-day Sabbath is the Lord’s “own day” (Isa. 58:13, Gen. 2:2-3, Exo. 20:8-11).

God commanded — “But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God.” Exodus 20:10.

Paul — “And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures.” Acts 17:2, 3.

“And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.” Acts 18:4.

Paul declared — “There remaineth therefore a rest [*Sabbath*] to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His.” Hebrews 4:9, 10.

“For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day...And God did rest the seventh day from all his works,” “and blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.” Hebrews 4:4.

Paul and the Gentiles — “And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. And the next Sabbath came almost the whole city to-

gether to hear the Word of God.” Acts 13:42, 44. The book of Acts records 84 Sabbaths on which the Apostle Paul and his associates held religious services (Acts 18:4, 11). Yet there is not ONE word in the entire Bible authorizing Sunday keeping in place of the Seventh-day Sabbath.

Disciples — “And that day was the preparation and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulcher, and how His body was laid. And they returned and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment” (Luke 23:54–56).

Notice that Luke, a non-Jewish biblical writer, approximately 37 years AFTER the resurrection of Christ, still called the Sabbath (the seventh day of the week) a Commandment of God.

“And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James...very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulcher at the rising of the sun... And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man...And he saith unto them, be not affrighted; Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He is risen.” (Mark 16:1–6). It is well known that Sunday was the resurrection day. “*The Sabbath was past*” when it dawned. Thus, it is evident that the Sabbath is Saturday, the day before Sunday.

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill”. “For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled” (Matthew 5:17, 18). Throughout the New Testament, there are no fewer than 59 references to the Sabbath.

Sabbath in the New Earth — “For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain; and it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the LORD” (Isaiah 66:22, 23). According to Colossians 2:14–17, the sacrifices with its rituals as registered in Leviticus 23 and other texts, were nailed [*abolished*] on the cross. But not the Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment that is Eternal, as indicated in the above Bible verses.

“Sunday in the Bible”

Millions of faithful Christians attend church each Sunday, the first day of the week. They do this thinking that somehow there was a change in the day of worship. Others keep Sunday because they are not conscious that God set apart the seventh-day as His holy day and not the first day of the week. It is true that there has been a change but by who? There are only 8 Bible texts in the New Testament that speak about the first day: (1) Matt. 28:1, (2) Mark 16:1-2, (3) Mark 16:9, (4) Luke 24:1, (5) John 20:1, (6) John 20:19, (7) Acts 20:7-8, (8) 1 Cor. 16:1-2.

The first five texts simply mention that the women went to the sepulcher early in the morning of the resurrection (Sunday) and that Jesus had resurrected. The sixth text reveals that they were gathered together “for fear of the Jews” not knowing if they would also be crucified as was their Savior. They were hiding Sunday morning, they were not having a worship service nor is there any mention of any change of the Sabbath.

The seventh text is Acts 20:7-8: “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together.”

This was a Saturday night meeting—the dark part of the first day of the week. Remember, according to Biblical time, the day begins at evening. “And the evening and the morning were the first day.” Gen. 1:5. In other words, at sunset (evening) is when the next day begins, not at midnight as we calculate today. The Bible registers the days from sunset to sunset. The Seventh-day, Saturday begins Friday evening at sunset. The first day of the week actually begins at Saturday evening at sunset. Paul was meeting on the first day of the week during the dark part of the day, which was actually Saturday night. Remember, Acts 20:7-8 speaks about how “there were many lights.” Paul spent Sunday morning traveling to Assos. We do not see any change or command to keep Sunday holy.

The New World Translation says, “On *Saturday night*, in our assembling for the breaking of bread, Paul, who was to leave next day.” Acts 20:7.

The last text that mentions Sunday is found in 1 Cor. 16:1-2: “Now concerning

—continued on page 7

—*continued from page 5* the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”

This verse does not speak about a worship service in the church. Notice how the International Standard Versions translates the verse: “After the Sabbath ends, each of you should set aside and save something from your surplus in proportion to what you have, so that no collections will have to be made when I arrive.”

After the Sabbath is over, the Seventh-day, the first day of the week is the best time to start saving your money so as not to spend it during the rest of the week. Paul told the church to do this so that when he came, which was always on the Seventh-day Sabbath (Acts 13:42, 44), the church wouldn’t have to try to collect everything at once.

The Encyclopedia Britannica —“There is no evidence that in the earliest years of Christianity there was any formal observance of Sunday as a day of rest or any general cessation of work.” 1911 Edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, Article: Sunday (www.1911encyclopedia.org).

Baptist: “Of course I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of Paganism, and christened with the name of the sun-god, then adopted as sanctified by the Papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism.” Dr. E.T. Hiscox, author of the Baptist Manuel, from a photostatic copy of a notarized statement by Dr. Hiscox.

Methodist: “It is true that there is no positive command for infant baptism. Nor is there any for keeping holy the first day of the week. Many believe that Christ changed the Sabbath. But, from His own words, we see that He came for no such purpose. Those who believe that Jesus changed the Sabbath base it only on a supposition.” Amos Binney, *Theological Compendium*, 1902 edition, pp. 180-181. Binny [1802-1978] was a Methodist minister and presiding elder, whose compendium was published for forty years in many languages. He also wrote a Methodist New –Testament Commentary.

—*continued from page 1 “Adventists and Ecumenical Health Care”*

Lutheran Church in Norway and Germany, the United Methodist Church in the United States, the Salvation Army in London and Zambia, the Adventist Health System and other independent Christian hospitals in India, Mozambique, and Taiwan.” —*Press release from the Anglican Health Network 17 November 2011, Jerusalem by Rev. Paul Holley, Coordinator of the 2011 Faith-based Health Care Conference.*

Gerald Winslow, PhD., a professor of ethics from Loma Linda University where he teaches students of the health professions, represented the Seventh-day Adventists at the ecumenical conference. He was also a keynote speaker at the Jerusalem’s conference and addressed the participants.

This ecumenical health care conference is meant to improve health care through multi faith-based community partnerships! In other words, we can improve the medical missionary work by joining and learning from other different faith-based health communities—such as Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, and other Christians groups. Yet this is not the counsel that God has given us. In fact, it is all the opposite.

“There should be a more clear, definite understanding of what medical missionary work comprehends. Those who desire to honor God will not mingle worldly policy plans with his plans.” *Review and Herald*, June 16, 1904.

In this age of “socialized medicine” with federal and state regulations, HMOs [Blue Cross, Blue Shield, etc.] guidelines, government subsidies to hospitals, and the overall politicizing of healthcare so many of our people are mistaken on the meaning of our health work.

“True medical missionary work is of divine origin, and has a most glorious mission to fulfill.” *Review and Herald*, June 16, 1904

We seem to be focusing only on the cultural, social, and political issues surrounding healthcare. And the answer is not multi faith-based community partnerships.

“The proclamation of the third angel’s message, the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus, is the burden of our work. The message is to be proclaimed with a loud cry, and is to go to the whole world. The presentation of health principles must be united with this message, but must not in any case be independent of it.” *Colporteur Ministry*, p. 138.

“Combine the medical missionary work with the proclamation of the

Disciples of Christ: “If it [Ten Commandments] yet exist, let us observe it... And if it does not exist, let us abandon a mock observance of another day for it. ‘But,’ some say, ‘it was changed from the seventh to the first day.’ Where? When? And by whom? No, it never was changed, nor could it be, unless creation was to be gone through again – for the reason assigned [Genesis 2:1–3] must be changed before the observance or respect to the reason, can be changed. It is all old wives’ fables to talk of the change of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day. If it be changed, it was that personage who changed it who I think his name is ‘Doctor Antichrist.’ Alexander Campbell, the Christian Baptist, February 2, 1824, vol. 1 no. 7. Campbell [1788-1866] was an Irish Protestant who founded in America the denomination known as the Disciples of Christ.

Lutheran: “They [the Catholics] allege the change of the Sabbath into the Lord’s Day, as it seemeth, to the Decalogue [Ten Commandments]; and they have no example more in their mouths than the change of the Sabbath. They will needs have the Church’s power to be very great, because it hath dispensed with a precept of the Decalogue.” The *Ausburg Confession*, 1530 A.D. (Lutheran), part 2, article 7, in Philip Schaff’s, *the Creeds of Christendom*, fourth edition, vol. 3 p. 64.

Roman Catholic: “Question: Which is the Sabbath day? Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day. Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.” Peter Geiermann, *The Convert’s Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, 1957 edition.

Roman Catholic: “Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act... And the act is a **MARK** of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things.” H.F. Thomas, *Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons*. Nov 11, 1895.

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third angel’s message.” *Testimony to Ministers* p. 416.

The health work given to us by God was never meant to be separated from the great testing truths of the Three Angels’ Message. The health work has come to a place in Adventism in which it has become completely devoid of our distinctive messages. Have we come to a place where doctrinal accuracy has become unimportant to our medical missionary work? Can we honestly ignore our fundamental truths and only focus on restoring physical health yet ignore the spiritual restoration of the soul? Should we only help people with their physical ailments and allow them to continue as they were without trying to bring life-changing godly influences?

“Let the leaders among our people emphasize the necessity of a strong religious influence being maintained in our medical institutions. The Lord designs that these shall be places where He will be honored in word and in deed, places where His law will be magnified and the truths of the Bible made prominent.” 7T 104.

“Let the watchmen on the walls of Zion not join with those who are making of none effect the truth as it is in Christ. Let them not join the confederacy of infidelity, popery, and Protestantism.” 4BC 1141.

In order to begin to restore the gospel with the medical work, we must recognize that multi-faith ecumenical health care partnerships is not the answer. It would be a failure for any Seventh-day Adventist to replace our unique, distinguishing faith from our public witness by substituting our work and message with a social-ecumenical agenda.

“It was by associating with idolaters and joining in their festivities that the Hebrews were led to transgress God’s law and bring His judgments upon the nation. So now it is by leading the followers of Christ to associate with the ungodly and unite in their amusements that Satan is most successful in alluring them into sin.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 458.

“God requires of His people now as great a distinction from the world, in customs, habits, and principles, as He required of Israel anciently. If they faithfully follow the teachings of His word, this distinction will exist; it cannot be otherwise.” *Ibid.*, p. 458.

The word of God teaches us that we cannot ignore the weightier matters, such as the moral issues, preventative care, the eight laws of health, and the healing of the sin-sick soul with the everlasting gospel of Revelation 14.

—*The Editors*



GIGLIO, Italy (Reuters) - Jan. 15, 2011, Divers found the bodies of two elderly men inside a capsized cruiseliner on Sunday, bringing the known death toll from a spectacular accident off Italy's coast to five, with another 70 people injured. Divers and other rescuers were painstakingly checking thousands of cabins on the Italian liner Costa Concordia for 15 people still unaccounted for after the huge vessel foundered and keeled over with more than 4,229 passengers and crew on board.



AFP News, Mon, Dec 26, 2011—Tens of thousands of flash flood survivors in the Philippines face life in tent cities for months while safe areas to resettle them are sought, top relief officials said Monday. More than 60,000 people displaced by tropical storm Washi. Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman said army engineers were building temporary bunkhouses and latrines in Cagayan de Oro, which accounted for half the 1,236 officially confirmed deaths.



AFP News, Sat, Jan 7, 2012—Rescuers look for bodies at the site of the landslide in Pantukan town in Philippines' Mindanao on January 6. The number of dead from a landslide in the southern Philippines hit 28 Saturday but rescuers said they expected the toll to rise with about 35 people unaccounted for.



Virgin Mary, Patron of Brazil, to Be Enthroned in Slovakia, Jan. 16, 2012 (Zenit.org) —The invitation for the enthronement was made to Cardinal Damasceno, by the archbishop of Bratislava, Stanislav Zvolenský, and by the ambassador of Brazil in Slovakia, Marilia Sardemberg. The shrine of Our Lady of Aparecida is the second biggest basilica in the world.

The End Time Events

“So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.” Matthew 24:33



Natural disasters such as the huge earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan caused a record \$366 billion (285 million euros) damage in 2011, the UN disaster risk reduction agency UNISDR said on Wednesday. A total of 29,782 people were killed in 302 disasters last year, the body said. Storms and floods accounted for up to 70 percent of catastrophes but earthquakes were the biggest killer.



Pope Benedict XVI is welcomed during an audience with the 178 ambassadors of the world to discuss different political and social issues at the Vatican, Monday, Jan. 9, 2012. (AP Photo/Pier Paolo Cito, Pool)



NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Thousands of people died needlessly and millions of dollars were wasted because the international community did not respond fast enough to early signs of famine in East Africa. The British government estimates that between 50,000 and 100,000 people died from the famine, mostly Somalis. Ethiopia and Kenya were also affected but aid agencies were able to work more easily there than in war-ravaged Somalia. More than half of those who died are believed to be children. The United Nations says 250,000 Somalis are still at risk of starvation and more than 13 million people need aid.



AP News, January 12, 2012—Torrential rains lashing southeastern Brazil have killed at least 33 people, including five members of one family buried in a landslide, according to a new official death toll issued Wednesday. The five relatives, including a pregnant woman, were trapped in their car when it was buried in mud on Monday in Rio de Janeiro state's northern Sapucaia municipality. Their bodies were found Wednesday, civil defense officials said.



AP News—Rev. Jeffrey Steenson, right, a former Episcopal bishop who was named the Ordinariate Chair of Saint Peter by Pope Benedict XVI, is greeted after a press conference at Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Church Monday, Jan. 2, 2012, in Houston. To date, more than 100 Anglican priests have applied to be ordained Catholic. (AP Photo/Houston Chronicle, Johnny Hanson)



UPI News, Jan. 17, 2012—The Lake Texana boat ramp stands out of the water in central Jackson County, Texas, in this undated hand-out photo received by Reuters on January 13, 2012. Many Texans stayed away from the 94 state parks during last year's historic drought and heat. Government scientists forecast that the disastrous drought in the southern United States will go on. Drought conditions in the South led to \$10 billion in crop and agricultural losses in 2011.