

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICANTS!

ARISE

2011 Cornerstone Program

By the time you receive this newsletter, the ARISE team will be making the move to the beautiful Pacific Northwest to join forces with Light Bearers. ARISE is known around the world for its outstanding evangelistic training programs, the first of which in its new capacity as part of Light Bearers will be held August 31–December 10, 2011 in Jasper, Oregon, just twenty minutes from downtown Eugene.

Cornerstone is a 15-week session that affords the student a total immersion experience in both public evangelism and personal soul-winning. Intense in-class instruction augmented by genuine, practical “in the community” ministry make this course the flagship of our training programs. The program provides the perfect Cornerstone for building a Christ-centered, lifelong personal ministry.

Space is limited, so act now!
Go to www.arisehub.org for more details,
or call 541-988-3333.

JUNE 2011

Events Schedule

- **June 1-4**
Iowa-Missouri Conference Camp Meeting
Sunnyside Adventist Academy, Centralia, MO
Ty Gibson • (573)682-2164
- **June 11**
Lebanon SDA Church, OR
James Rafferty • (541)258-7827
- **June 19-25**
Deerpark SDA Church, WA
James Rafferty • (509)315-7200
- **June 22**
Bible Study, Light Bearers Ministry
Ty Gibson • (541)988-3333
- **July 5-9**
LBM Convocation, Jasper, OR
Ty Gibson • (541)988-3333
- **July 16**
Cascade SDA Church, Bend, OR
James Rafferty • www.cascade22.adventistchurchconnect.org
- **July 19**
Bible Study, Light Bearers Ministry
Ty Gibson • (541)988-3333
- **August 19-20**
North West Youth Conference,
Valley View SDA Church, WA
James Rafferty • (509)860-9076
- **August 27**
Cascade SDA Church, Bend, OR
James Rafferty • www.cascade22.adventistchurchconnect.org

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*Light Bearers is a non-profit ministry based in beautiful Oregon State.
Our purpose is to help proclaim the gospel
of our Lord Jesus Christ through the spoken and published word.*

MISSION UPDATE

The Newsletter of Light Bearers Ministry



By Mark Finley

Dear Ty and James,

Our relationship through the years has blessed me. Your commitment to Jesus, your bedrock faith in Scripture, your confidence in the uniqueness and prophetic significance of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and dedication to Christ's mission of preaching the gospel to the world has been a positive influence in the lives of thousands of people.

I have personally witnessed the impact of Light Bearers Ministry throughout Africa and the world. Only eternity will reveal the lasting significance of the millions of tracts and books that you have distributed. Both of you have made a major difference for the kingdom of God.

And now adding ARISE with David Asscherick to Light Bearers Ministry will provide even more opportunity for advancing God's work and preparing people for the coming of our Lord. The combination of the printed page, lay-training and a comprehensive evangelistic strategy is a plan born of heaven. I praise God that He has brought these two powerful soul-winning ministries together and I will continue to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon your ministry.

JUNE 2011

CONSIDER THIS . . .

The church of Christ is dependent on Him for her very existence. Only through Him can it gain continued life and strength. The members are to live constantly in the most intimate vital relationship with the Savior.

Ellen White,
Medical Ministry, p. 318

Daily revelations of the character and majesty of his Creator filled the young poet's heart with adoration and rejoicing. In contemplation of God and His works the faculties of David's mind and heart were developing and strengthening for the work of his afterlife. He was daily coming into a more intimate communion with God. His mind was constantly penetrating into new depths for fresh themes to inspire his song and to wake the music of his harp. The rich melody of his voice poured out upon the air, echoed to the rejoicing of the angels' songs in heaven.

Ellen White,
Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 641

It was in looking in faith to Jesus, in asking of Him, in believing that every word

spoken would be verified, that Enoch walked with God. He kept close by the side of God, obeying His every word. . . . His was a wonderful life of oneness. Christ was his Companion. He was in intimate fellowship with God.

Ellen White,
SDA Bible Commentary,
vol. 1, p. 1087

Can we conceive of a closer, more intimate relation to Christ than is set forth in the words: "I am the Vine, ye are the branches"? The fibers of the branch are almost identical with those of the vine. The communication of life, strength, and fruitfulness from the trunk to the branches is unobstructed and constant. The root sends its nourishment through the branch. Such is the true believer's relation to Christ. He abides in Christ and draws his nourishment from Him.

Ellen White,
Testimonies for the Church,
vol. 5, p. 229

The deepest and truest philosophy of life and faith is to bring ourselves into the most intimate relation with God.

Ellen White,
The Upward Look, p. 276

. . . we're trying to see what God sees and create what He dreams and desires . . .



Yesterday, May 12th, something amazing happened. Something providential and miraculous. Two ministries became one. This did not happen overnight, as you might imagine. We do, after all, live in a Newtonian world, and when two things come together there is friction. And yet, this merger, and the events leading up to it, has happened so providentially, so precisely and so definitively, that we felt—no, we *knew*—that God was moving.

Newton, it seemed, took a break. And God stepped in.

ARISE has been training, teaching and preaching for a decade. Light Bearers for more than two decades. Both ministries have been stable, effective and successful in their respective specialties. Ty Gibson and James Rafferty have been Co-directors of Light Bearers from day one. Too, David Asscherick has been the Director of ARISE since day one. So these are two well-established and moored ministries. This, then, was not a "fly by the seat of one's pants" decision.

It began as a friendship. Moved

to a conversation. Grew to an exploration. Matured to a real possibility. And then arrived as a Providence-laden reality.

Like a birth, if we may employ that analogy, it began slowly and, uh well, "the last movements" were "rapid ones." The last three weeks in particular have been filled with many evidences, openings, epiphanies and providences. It is not an exaggeration to say that every person in both ministries feels that we have been led along by God Himself in this venture.

It can be difficult to get two preachers to agree. What happens when you have seven? That's a miracle! And we're not just saying that. There were so many opportunities for red flags and impossibilities to present themselves. From logistics, to philosophies, to perspectives and emphasis, to mission objectives and methodologies, to dreams and visions, to future hopes and plans, to finances, to committees, to boards, to websites, to personalities, and many more things beside, it would have been easy for this merger to get

hung up and die at a hundred places. It never did.

And not only did it not get "hung up," it gained momentum, excitement and plausibility as it progressed!

So here we are. Yesterday, Light Bearers' Board of Directors voted the merger unanimously. ARISE's team did the same. ARISE's own Conference President, Elder Ramiro Cano, gave his heartfelt blessing even while confessing, "We'll be very sad to see you go."

And this brings us to an important element. There is some sadness mingled with the joy. ARISE's departure from its local conference (Central California) and local church (Sonora) is not easy. The relationships are many, and they are deep. As ARISE transitions to Oregon, we will deeply, genuinely miss our many colleagues and friends in the Sunshine State. But this is not "good-bye," but rather "fare thee well." For this world is not our home. There is work to be done in other vineyards.

So the brief sadness will pass and give way to a great happiness and joy, indeed an *eternal* happiness and

joy! And this is what this merger is all about: eternity. We are taking the "long" view on reality. We're trying to see what God sees and create what He dreams and desires. And right now we are immovably confident that God's dream for us is a dream *together*.

Two becoming one. Twice the light.

Unity. Synergy. Activity. Possibility. Ministry.

We're excited! Can you tell?

Stay tuned to arisehub.org and lbm.org for much more to come, because yesterday was just the beginning, and tomorrow is not the end!

Forward together!

The Light Bearers Team
and the ARISE Team