

GLADSTONE GAZETTE

The Daily Voice of the Gladstone Camp Meeting » Thursday, July 16, 2026



MORE THAN A ROBOT: HOW COLUMBIA ADVENTIST ACADEMY BUILT A TEAM

BY STEPHANIE COOPER

When Columbia Adventist Academy launched its FIRST Tech Challenge robotics team during the 2025–2026 school year, there was no history to build on. There were eight students, one teacher, one parent volunteer coach, and a dream. They called themselves the CODEiaks—a play on Columbia’s Kodiak mascot and the coding skills they knew they would need to learn.

At first, the CODEiaks were not really a team. They shared a workspace, but they didn’t know how to work together. As they began, designs failed. Parts broke. Code refused to cooperate. Solutions that seemed promising one day created new problems the next. They wondered if they would ever get their robot to perform the way they imagined.

But they kept at it. They learned how to use 3D modeling software to design custom parts. They learned to program, troubleshoot, redesign. More importantly, they learned that success comes through perseverance and humility.

Students who once focused on their own piece of the project began caring about the success of the entire team. They learned to trust one another’s strengths, solve problems together, and celebrate victories together. Reflecting on the experience, Kyler Alekel shared, “I’m better at working with other people and seeing what people are better at what tasks. My favorite part is working together to find

solutions to problems.” Fellow team member CJ Nelson, saw a similar transformation. “I think robotics has helped me understand the importance of teamwork,” he said.

The story of the CODEiaks is also the story of Oregon Conference Education. In Oregon Conference schools, we believe every child is created by God with unique talents and a unique purpose. Education is much more than academics. It is learning perseverance when things are difficult, faith when the path forward is uncertain, and collaboration when the challenge is too large to face alone.

When the season culminated at the Adventist Robotics League Competition in Apopka, Florida, the team had the opportunity to showcase their robot against teams from across the country. Traditionally, the Design Award is won by veteran teams with years of experience. But that year, the award went to the Columbia Adventist Academy CODEiaks!

The rookie team that had started the season simply hoping to compete had earned recognition for having the best robot design at the event!

By the end of the season, the CODEiaks had certainly built a robot. But the most important thing they built was a team. And this is exactly the kind of transformation Adventist education works to inspire!

WHERE FAITH MEETS INNOVATION

BY STEPHANIE COOPER

This year, Adventist students from across the North Pacific Union showed creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving through FIRST Robotics competitions.

These students weren’t just building robots, however, they were building confidence, perseverance, leadership, and a desire to use their God-given talents to serve others. Their experiences reflect the mission of Adventist education: developing students academically, spiritually, and socially while preparing them for lives of purpose.

Research shows that most people who accept Jesus make that decision before the age of 18. Adventist schools provide daily opportunities for young people to encounter God’s love,

grow in faith, and discover their unique gifts.

This evening’s offering helps make those opportunities available to more students. Your gift supports tuition assistance and student recruitment efforts, opening doors for families who want a Christ-centered education.

When you give, you invest in students learning to think critically, work together, lead with integrity, and follow Jesus. Give during the offering using the remittance envelopes in the Pavilion, through the Adventist Giving app, or online at orad.us/ORGiving.

Thank you for partnering with Adventist education to help prepare the next generation of disciples, leaders, and innovators!

SMALL ACT, BIG IMPACT



ONE PINT OF BLOOD CAN SAVE UP TO 3 LIVES!

We’re *super short* on blood donors this year!
Sign up to give **TODAY!**

HOLDEN CENTER LOBBY
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

MIDDLE SCHOOL INNOVATORS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

In February 2026, the Oregon Conference Education Department hosted the Adventist FIRST LEGO League Robotics Competition, bringing together middle school students from across the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC). Students and volunteers enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to solve real-world problems, think creatively, and put their robot designs to the test.

The excitement continues! In February 2027, NPUC middle school students will gather once again to compete, collaborate, and innovate. Six Oregon Conference schools have already committed to participating. **Contact your local Adventist school to learn how you can join a team or start one of your own!**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gladstone Camp Meeting 2026

Attention church treasurers! The Conference treasury and risk management team will host a Q&A session on Friday at 10:30 am for general treasury and insurance questions, followed by a specific time for answer questions related to the Jewel software suite. Find them in Cascade A in the Holden Center.

International Festival: Bring your friends (or meet them there) and join us for special time of cultural celebration on Friday afternoon at 3:00 pm! Enjoy great music, conversation, and sample foods from around the world!

Tad Worku Concert: Enjoy a concert on Sabbath afternoon at 3:00 pm by Tad Worku. Tad's career has taken a rather unconventional path, yet God has led him to share hope and healing. You will be blessed and inspired by his style of weaving music and story! Plan to enjoy this relaxing, inspiring concert on Sabbath afternoon.

Filipinos and Filipino-at-heart are all invited to the Camp Meeting Annual OWAFF (Oregon-Washington Adventists Filipino Fellowship) Lunch Potluck on July 18 right after church service at the grassy area between next to the Butterfly building. Bring your favorite food/drinks to share. Bring also your chair if you need it. Utensils will be provided. Come and enjoy God's goodness!

Conference Office Tours: Never been in the Conference Office before? Take a tour this week, led by one of our administrative team members. Tour size is limited each day, so stop by the conference office to sign up at the front desk.

Veterans: Everyone is invited to join us in honoring our veterans and their families on Friday afternoon at 2:30 in the Holden Convention Center. Refreshments will be served and fellowship with other veterans and their families will abound.

Singles Ministry Fellowship Lunch - Bring ingredients you enjoy for a haystack potluck lunch. Beans, olives, plates, cups, napkins, and plasticware will be provided. Join us downstairs in the Holden Center Laurelwood Room after church is finished in the Pavilion, for lunch with other single friends!

TODAY'S CAFETERIA MENU

Breakfast 7:30-8:30AM

Egg Sandwiches
Potato Wedges
Hot Cereal
Cold Cereal
Breads & Fruit

Lunch 12:00-1:30PM

Pot Pie
Steamed Veggies
Salad Bar

Dinner 5:00-6:15PM

Root Veg Yellow Curry
Rice
Naan
Salad Bar

Full menu at www.OregonAdventist.org/cafeteria

Gluten-free, Dairy-free and vegan options available.

LADIES...

Join us for fun,
food & prizes!

Out of the pit.
Onto the Rock
Singing
a Song!

It's all about the **new song**
God places in our hearts —
discover why your voice,
your story, and your praise
matter more than you can imagine!

Friday, July 17, 2026

10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Conference Office Boardroom

Sponsored by Oregon Conference Women's Ministries

Veterans! You're invited

VETERANS
RECOGNITION

Mt Hood Auditorium

Join us for this special event honoring our
armed forces personnel and their families!

Refreshments will be served.

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2:30-4:00 PM

TODAY



76°

LOW 54

20%

FRI



82°

LOW 56

0%

SAB



85°

LOW 57

0%

GLADSTONE FAMILY FUN RUN

JULY 17, 2026 | 7AM
GLADSTONE PARK CONFERENCE CENTER

REGISTER TODAY BY 6PM →

www.OregonAdventist.org/funrun



GLADSTONE GAZETTE

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Announcements submitted for publication are not guaranteed inclusion in the *Gladstone Gazette* and are subject to editing for space, clarity, & suitability.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:
11:00 AM **today** for Friday or Sabbath's issues

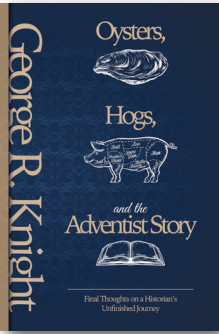
SUBMIT TO:
Krissy.Barber@oregonadventist.org
or at Oregon Conference Headquarters

Adventist Book Center's

CAMP MEETING SALE

Store Hours

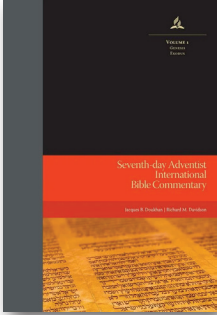
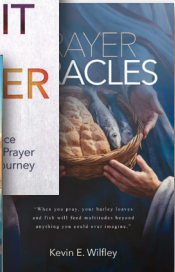
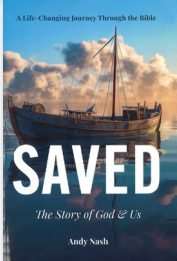
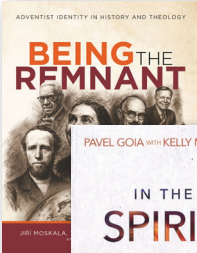
Tues.-Thurs. | 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Friday | 9:00 AM to 6:30 PM
Sabbath | 9:15 PM to 10:30 PM
Sunday | 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM



Oysters, Hogs & the Adventist Story

\$18.69

regular \$21.99



International Bible Commentary 1: Genesis & Exodus

\$50.99

regular \$59.99

	Regular	Sale
Being the Remnant	\$39.99	\$33.99
In the Spirit & the Power	\$16.99	\$14.49
Prayer Miracles	\$15.99	\$13.59
Saved: The Story of God & Us	\$19.99	\$16.99