

# CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

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Read this newsletter online at [circle.adventist.org/services/newsletter/archive/circlenews1-08.pdf](http://circle.adventist.org/services/newsletter/archive/circlenews1-08.pdf)

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## A. NEW! ADVENTIST TEACHER BOOK REVIEWS

Looking for books for your classroom or school library? Ever wished for media reviews from an Adventist worldview? Visit CIRCLE's new category, [Book Reviews](#). We've begun a collection of book reviews by Adventist teachers, organized by character traits exemplified, and cross-referenced to applicable content areas. Set filters to your grade level, language, or find books using the advanced search by keyword, title, author, publisher, character trait or subject. We've created a simple form to add [your reviews](#), so please contribute or email suggestions to build this collaborative project. By summer, we'll add the ability for Adventist educators to review any resource from a biblical worldview. Watch this grow!

## B. EARN PAC BY CONTRIBUTING TO CIRCLE

Please help spread the word. What you develop to teach faith-integrated lessons aligned with your region's Adventist curriculum, is valuable to other teachers. NAD teachers can dialogue with their union certification registrar to receive up to half their annual professional activity credit (PAC) for teaching materials personally created and classroom-tested, in any format (course/unit/lesson plans, multimedia, classroom management strategies, school spiritual growth plans, and more), submitted to CIRCLE. [Learn more online](#).

## C. BUILDING AN ADVENTIST SCHOOL CLIMATE

How does your school respond to community needs? How well does your school climate reflect the overarching goals for Adventist education? Here's how one school put the principles of Adventist education into practice. Steven Atkins, Andrews Academy Science teacher, reflected in an e-newsletter in Fall 2007:

“Most people associate school spirit with cheering for the school team during a sports event as seen during the Shydepoke game Saturday night. People also associate school climate with many students participating in school spirit week activities as seen by so many students joining in the school spirit events last week. At Andrews Academy there are so many times that school spirit is expressed in a relatively silent but truly meaningful way.... a good example of this happened recently.

One of our staff had not been able to work due to a prolonged illness. A few people suggested that we assist in a meaningful way, and the school family rallied around the idea. A large vase was used at the conclusion of the Fall Week of Spiritual Emphasis. As faculty members and students poured little cups of colored water in the vase, the question, “What can one person do?” was repeated. Although at that time it was symbolic, these last

two weeks it was used in a tangible way. Students were invited to give their change and their snack money in an effort to fill the vase once again, this time for the financial needs of one of the school families.

School spirit was truly expressed as students raised over \$ 1,100 and faculty raised a significant amount as well. Thanks again school family for your impressive expression of school spirit.”

Find new ideas on building classroom and school climate, service learning and outreach, student and teacher spiritual growth, values and character education, and lots of worship and chapel talk resources in CIRCLE's [Adventist Education Climate](#) category.

#### **D. NEW ADVENTIST EDUCATION FORUM BLOG**

The [Adventist Education Forum](#) is open to Adventist educators around the world and lively, respectful discussion is encouraged. EdForum now includes two e-mail groups, one hosted by [Google](#) and the other by [Yahoo!](#). The new EdForum web log, or blog, contains excerpts of post from the e-mail lists as well as postings by selected bloggers.

#### **E. TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS**

If you're considering options for your school computer network, review Village Adventist Elementary School's successful switch to a Linux platform, reducing costs and time-consuming maintenance, increasing stability and security. Read VAES Technology Director's blog at [vaes.org/dpr/](#) for details. And check the NAD Technology and Distance Education Committee K-12 site [www.nadtdec.org](#) regularly for updates on technology offers and tips for Adventist elementary and secondary education in North America.

#### **F. TEACHER BULLETIN ONLINE**

Did you know that the NAD Atlantic Union Conference Teacher Bulletin is now available online at [www.teacherbulletin.org](#)? To search all units created 2001-2007 by title or grade level, visit the full listing at [circle.adventist.org/browse/?browse\\_node=450](#) (units prior to 2007 can be purchased still, not available online, listed in CIRCLE for easy searching and browsing).

#### **G. PACIFIC PRESS FEATURED RESOURCES RSS**

Every month Pacific Press will review new books of interest to Adventist education, and update this RSS feed: [www.pacificpress.com/rss/booklook2.xml](#) Click on this link to set up the feed in your browser or homepage manager (eg. Google, Yahoo!) and/or add it to your school website.

#### **H. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SMARTLABS**

The Andrews University Physics department is again offering three excellent continuing education opportunities for Physic teachers at the middle and secondary school levels. Three options include:

- A. SmartLabsVI Workshop: Easy upgrades for your physics labs – June 16-20, 2008
- B. SmartLabsVI Coursework: Work on your physics endorsement – June 23-July 3, 2008
- C. SummerPhysics: A great way to do a full year of General Physics I&II – May 5-June 27, 2008

Read CIRCLE's [ENEWS-SMARTLABS](#) or visit [physics.andrews.edu/smartlabs](#) for more information.

#### **I. NEW & UPDATED CIRCLE RESOURCE COLLECTIONS**

1. [Adventist Education Essentials](#) – refresh your calling to serve as an Adventist educator by reading articles from this recently organized category including Adventist education philosophy, the why and how of faith integration, the ministry of teaching, and testimonies on 'Why I Believe in Adventist Education' – then [contribute](#) your experience.
2. [Adventist Connections](#) – explore links to all discovered Adventist ministries and services valuable to Adventist education, including Bible studies, communication networks, church history, ministries, and directories.

3. [Media Literacy](#) – this new section will link to resources to facilitate the education of critical thinking and evaluation of media of all forms – please [contribute](#) resources you have developed or regularly use for this important purpose.
4. [Internet Safety](#) – a growing collection of resources to assist educators and students in appropriately using technology online.
5. [Partnerships](#) – link to resources to build alumni, grants and funding, marketing, and partnerships with home, church and community through this section, and please [contribute](#) resources you recommend to this collection
6. [Physical Fitness](#) – is your school encouraging every student to develop lifelong physical exercise habits? Review [Personal Best](#), [FitnessGram/ActivityGram](#), and other resources in this category.
7. [Early Childhood Education](#) – many new links were added to US [State Pre-Kindergarten](#) subcategory in December, and more submitted recently will soon be up.

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CIRCLE is the North American Division (NAD) sponsored curriculum and instruction resource center linking Adventist educators. Visit [circle.adventist.org](http://circle.adventist.org) today to find or share resources, or contact us with questions or suggestions: email [webmaster@circle.adventist.org](mailto:webmaster@circle.adventist.org), call US 269.471.3432, fax US 269.471.6374 or mail CIRCLE, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0118, USA.

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