



ASIMA Connections: Sharing Christ in the Marketplace

A Newsletter for ASI Mid-America

A Message from Your ASIMA Leadership

The Vision of ASI: More Than Just a Job Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI) is a unique organization of Seventh-day Adventist laypeople who are enthusiastic about the church's worldwide mission. Our motto, "*Sharing Christ in the Marketplace*," reflects our belief that our professional lives—whether in business, healthcare, or education—are our primary mission fields.

ASI Mid-America (ASIMA) exists to support you in this calling. We are a network of professionals and ministries across the Mid-America Union, working together to provide networking, resources, and inspiration to help you turn your workplace into a place of ministry.

Meet our leaders at asimidamerica.org/staff/

ASI MID-AMERICA CONVENTION



— with speaker —
John Bradshaw
President of *It Is Written*

THURSDAY - SUNDAY
MAY 7-10, 2026

NOW IS THE TIME



For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2

Save the Date: Denver Convention with John Bradshaw – Now Is The Time

We are so excited to invite you to the **ASI Mid-America Convention**, taking place **May 7–10, 2026**, in Denver, Colorado.

Our theme this year is "**Now is the Time**," inspired by 2 Corinthians 6:2 which says:

“For he says, “In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.” I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.” (NIV)

It’s going to be a refreshing weekend of fellowship, prayer, and inspiration as we explore how to serve our communities today.

Introducing Our Guest Speaker: John Bradshaw

We are honored to welcome **John Bradshaw**, President of *It Is Written*, as our featured speaker. John has shared the gospel on six continents and reached lives globally through *It Is Written TV*. He brings a wealth of experience and a deep passion for evangelism that will surely leave us feeling energized and motivated for the mission ahead.

A Full Weekend of Inspiration

Beyond our main sessions, we have a wonderful lineup of speakers and leaders dedicated to helping us grow:


Devotional Thoughts: Start your day with heart-centered reflections from **Pastor Jamey Houghton**, Speaker Director of *8thirty2 Ministry*.

Workshops: Looking for practical ways to make a difference? Join our workshops focused on transforming your church and community using effective lay evangelism tools.

- **Transformational Prayer:** Experience how united prayer invites the Holy Spirit to transform your church and revitalize your entire community! With **Denzil & Donna McNeilus** and **Tyler Coleman**
- **The Gospel in Action:** Discover how Christ’s method of health evangelism breaks down barriers, builds lasting friendships, and gets every member involved in sharing God’s love! With **Pastor Phil Mills**
- **Fishers of Men:** Using Christ’s model of discipleship to turn new believers into lifelong mentors unlocking exponential church growth! With **Josh Long** (ASI MA President)
- **Mission Reflex:** Discover the “double blessing” that comes when we support foreign missions and see how engaging in God’s global plan brings a powerful return of spiritual energy and growth to your local church, with **Darryl Hosford** (ASAP Ministries) and **Joy Kauffman** (FARM STEW).

Whether you’re coming for the powerful Sabbath worship, the practical workshops, or the wonderful fellowship, there is a place for you here. All are welcome!

 **Where:** DoubleTree Hilton, Westminster, CO

 **When:** Thursday, May 7 – Sunday, May 10, 2026

🌐 **Registration:** Now open! Visit asimidamerica.org/events/ to secure your spot.

We can't wait to see you there and see what God has in store for our region. **Now is the time!**



Member Spotlight: Black Hills Health & Education Center (BHHEC)

Each month, we highlight a member ministry within our union that is making a tangible difference for the Kingdom. This month, we look at the legacy and mission of Black Hills Health Retreat in Hermosa, South Dakota.

A Legacy of Healing: The Story of Black Hills Health & Education Center

In 1979, two physicians and a businessman founded a ministry near Hermosa, South Dakota, with a clear vision: to provide a training program that would inspire and equip Seventh-day Adventist young people to serve God. Their goal was to prepare Bible workers, health missionaries, and leaders for the supporting ministries of the church.



Since those early days, hundreds of graduates have entered the field as pastors and international missionaries or have launched their own supporting ministries—ranging from wellness centers and schools to radio and TV stations. In every endeavor, the focus remains the same: reaching the world with the Gospel of Jesus and the message of His soon return.

Unique Training: The Black Hills School of Massage (BHSOM)

In 2014, the Black Hills School of Massage was established to meet the demand for Christ-centered vocational training. It stands as one of the very few programs that intentionally excludes the "New Age" or spiritualistic teachings common in most massage curricula today.

Our 650-hour program prepares graduates for licensure in almost every state. More importantly, it empowers them to use their skills as a bridge for health outreach ministry while building a sustainable career.



The Heart of the Ministry: The Wellness Center

The mainstay of BHHEC is our Wellness Center, which draws guests from around the globe. While many are told by doctors to “eat better” or “exercise more”, nearly 90% of people don't know where to begin.

Our 10-day residential program bridges that gap. We provide the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to see how simple lifestyle changes can optimize health in a short amount of time. We use the **N.E.W.S.T.A.R.T.** framework to guide this transformation:

- **Nutrition:** Delicious, simple, plant-based meals and hands-on cooking schools
- **Exercise:** Personalized plans and group walks tailored to each guest's ability
- **Water:** Proper hydration and herbal teas, with a schedule to maintain at home
- **Sunshine:** Education on the vital benefits of natural light
- **Temperance:** Practicing moderation in the good and abstinence from the harmful

- **Air:** Fresh air and proper breathing techniques for vitality
- **Rest:** Emphasizing the restorative power of regular sleep
- **Trust in God:** Recognizing the Great Physician as the source of all true healing

Following the Master's Method

While we are an educational center rather than a medical facility, our mission is rooted in the example of Jesus. As noted in *The Ministry of Healing*:

“Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’” (p. 143)

Through this method, we continue to see lives transformed and hearts opened to the Savior.

Shining His Light: 2025-2026 Testimonies of Grace

As we reflect on God’s blessings over this past year at the Black Hills Health & Education Center, our hearts overflow with gratitude for His constant guidance. Our primary goal is to point everyone we meet toward Jesus, reflecting the warmth of His love: *“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven”* (Matthew 5:16).

These testimonies illustrate how God is glorified when we cooperate with His plan:

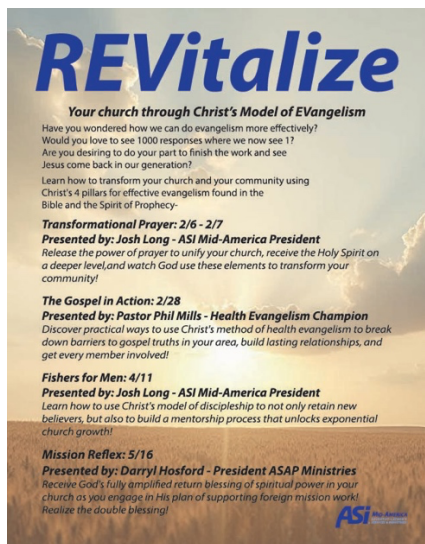
- **From Despair to Hope:** One guest arrived believing he was sent to us merely to prepare for death. Instead, he encountered a God who loved him and had the power to heal. Most importantly, he found true rest for his soul. One year later, he is active in his church, remains faithful to the health program, and continues to see his health improve daily.
- **Neighborly Connections:** Our community "Harvest Fest" welcomed over 50 neighbors who were surprised to discover the breadth of our ministry. This outreach led to a significant increase in local residents seeking our massage services, personal training, and hydrotherapy treatments.
- **Light at the End of the Tunnel:** A guest arrived overwhelmed by stress and depression, unable to see any light in her life. Through the peace of nature, inspiring daily worship, wholesome food, and what she described as the "tangible love and care of the staff," her perspective shifted. By the time she left, the quiet joy on her face told a story of a heart renewed.
- **A Place to Call Home:** God provided much-needed housing for our dedicated staff! We have completed quad-plex apartments, allowing staff members to move from cramped studio spaces into beautiful, two-bedroom homes.

- **Educational Growth:** The School of Massage restarted on January 11, 2026, with four students. We are thrilled to announce a new partnership with the **Health Sciences Department of Union Adventist University**, which will provide clinical training and hours right here on our campus.
- **The Greatest Miracle:** While many guests come to Black Hills praying for a physical miracle, the greatest miracle we witness is the moment they realize God's deep, individual care for them.

Each morning, our staff family meets for worship and prayer. We recount praises that, if time allowed, could fill hours of conversation. As we continue through this rebuilding phase, we rest in the promise of Philippians 1:6: *"being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;" NKJV*

"Support Black Hills with your prayers, for God to continue to support the work He entrusted us!" — *Leasa Hodges, President of Black Hills Health & Education Center*

Special Feature: REVitalize Your Church's Mission



Is your congregation ready to move from a single response to a harvest of thousands?

Lee's Summit SDA Church is honored to host the inaugural **REVitalize** series, a groundbreaking partnership with ASI Mid-America. This initiative isn't just a seminar; it's a practical roadmap based on Christ's four pillars of effective evangelism.

Through this series, we invite every church in the Mid-America Union to join us in prayer and action as we learn to:

- **Transform** through prayer and the Holy Spirit.
- **Break barriers** using health evangelism.
- **Mentor** new believers for exponential growth.
- **Support** foreign missions to realize a "double blessing".

Save the Dates:

- **Feb 6–7:** Transformational Prayer (Josh Long)
 - **Feb 28:** The Gospel in Action (Pr. Phil Mills)
 - **Apr 11:** Fishers for Men (Josh Long)
 - **May 16:** Mission Reflex (Darryl Hosford)
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The ASI Story: From a Tennessee Farm to a Global Movement

Ever wonder where the heart of lay ministry began? Travel back to 1904 to see how Madison College—founded by pioneers E.A. Sutherland and Percy Magan with the direct support of Ellen G. White—became the blueprint for self-supporting ministry.

Born from a "bigger vision" for the post-Civil War South, this revolutionary model trained thousands of laypeople for service without ever burdening the church treasury. Watch this inspiring video to trace the journey from a dilapidated farm to the formal creation of ASI in 1947. Discover how those same pillars of leadership and faith empower us today to share Christ in the marketplace!



https://youtu.be/wbE6_9-TAI0?si=nOkBYnllpaK8x1so

Stay Connected

- **Support BHHEC:** Learn more about their programs at bhhec.org
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Lee's Summit SDA Church** to host the inaugural **REVitalize** series in partnership with ASI Mid-America – visit our website asimidamerica.org/revitalize/ for more
 - **ASIMA ASI Mid-America Convention** with **John Bradshaw** – May 7-10, 2026 – Denver – more info at asimidamerica.org/events/