

## ASI Mid America Newsletter - February, 2017

Welcome to the February Issue of the ASIMA Newsletter. Things in this world seem to be speeding up as we get closer to the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are asking for comments, feedback and help with articles going forward. If you have any news or exciting events to pass along, please forward to us to add to the next Newsletter. We strive to make this as well put together as we possibly can, but please forgive any typos or errors that you may find. If you have any projects you are working on or mission related items, please feel free to share them with us as well. Send your thoughts, ideas and comments to [newsletter@asi-ma.org](mailto:newsletter@asi-ma.org).

We sincerely hope you enjoy this and get a blessing from it. We send them out by email to all the members, but feel free to share with your friends, family and churches. They will also be loaded onto our website and stored there for future reference at [www.asimidamerica.org](http://www.asimidamerica.org)

### Note From the President – Barbara Taylor

I'm a passionate person when it comes to ASI and the benefits of being a part of this organization. When I first attended and saw all the witnessing tools, ministries and projects here at home and around the world, along with the fellowship of like-minded people whose passion is Sharing Christ in their sphere of influence; I realized that God has created this ministry in the last days to encourage, motivate and energize lay men and women to finish the Work before it's too late. I encourage each and every one of you to attend our Rallies, March 3 and 4 in Omaha, April 8 at the Denver South Church and our Convention April 27-30 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Denver. Come and let the Holy Spirit refresh you. Blessings and Hugs, Barbara, President, Mid America ASI.

### Sharing Christ in the Marketplace

Seeking testimonies of your stories sharing Christ in the Marketplace which is what ASI is all about. Please send any testimonies [newsletter@asi-ma.org](mailto:newsletter@asi-ma.org).

### Upcoming Events

It isn't too late to plan to attend the ASI Rally in Omaha, NE this weekend, March 3 and 4, 2017. Shelly Quinn from 3ABN will be the main speaker. We will be having our ASIMA convention in Denver again this year April 27 – 30, 2017. The main speaker will be John Bradshaw from "It Is Written". The convention will be at the Plaza Hotel in Northglenn, Co and the theme is "Before it's Too Late" John 9:4. For more information on each of these events go to our website [www.asimidamerica.org](http://www.asimidamerica.org). Please register early for the convention. If you would like to submit a funding request for your ministry, there is a link on the website as well. Please do this as soon as possible. Registering doesn't guarantee funding.

# SAVE THE DATE

*Before It's  
Too Late*



THE NIGHT COMETH, WHEN NO MAN CAN WORK  
-JOHN 9:4

## ASI MID-AMERICA RALLY

**March 3-4, 2017**

**Omaha Memorial SDA Church**

**840 N 72nd St, Omaha, NE 68114**



**Shelley Quinn**

*A Program Development Manager for 3ABN, a host for many teaching and interview programs and author.*



**J.D. Quinn**

*A Pastoral Manager for 3ABN, also an Elder at Thompsonville Seventh-day Adventist Church, in Illinois.*

For more information visit [asimidamerica.org](http://asimidamerica.org)

# SAVE THE DATE

*Before It's Too Late*

THE NIGHT COMETH, WHEN NO MAN CAN WORK

-JOHN 9:4

## ASI MID-AMERICA CONVENTION

Ramada Plaza, Denver, CO

April 27-30, 2017



**Featured Speaker**  
**Pastor John Bradshaw**  
*Director of It Is Written*



**Seminar Speaker**  
**Dr. Neal Nedley**  
*President of Weimer*



**Workshop**  
**Gospel Through Technology**  
**Jesse Johnson**  
*Manager of It Is Written*



**Morning Devotionals**  
**Pastor Gary Thurber**  
*President of Mid America Union*

Plus Members in Action Testimonies,  
Music, Exhibits, and More!

For more information visit [asimidamerica.org](http://asimidamerica.org)

## ASIMA Ministry Highlight

### Binding Broken Hearts

“This is the most beautiful thing I have ever seen,” the inmate murmured, stroking the leather cover of my H.M.S. Richards Bible. It was 2009. I had been visiting and studying with the female inmates at the Johnson County Jail in Buffalo, Wyoming, for several months. This comment shook me. It was the first time I’d realized these ladies had never seen, much less owned, a beautiful Bible.

With this comment the Binding Broken Hearts ministry began.

Over 13,000 inmates in 36 states from coast to coast have received Bibles, letters, and Bible studies through the efforts of Binding Broken Hearts, Inc., a supporting ministry of the Sheridan Seventh-day Adventist church. Since November 2012, over 11,184 bonded leather, special edition Andrews Study Bibles have been donated to inmates in these states. Currently there are 4,000 inmates who have received a Bible and are continuing to receive monthly letters with Bible studies. We have over 300 on the waiting list for a Bible.

It began with a couple of church members visiting inmates in the local county jail. This led to leading out in Sunday and Wednesday worship services. That door closed after a year, and the focus changed to a correspondence ministry. Letters were written, and free Bibles and Bible studies were offered to any inmate who requested them. We started with around 22 inmates in the Wyoming prison system, but a letter to an inmate in Missouri led to an explosion in the ministry! In 2012 we gave away 2 Bibles; in 2013 we gave away 218. Every year since then has seen the number of requests multiply exponentially.



In 2013, the director of Andrews University Press became aware of a tiny ministry in Wyoming which was donating their Bibles to inmates. Arrangements were made to provide these Bibles to Binding Broken Hearts at a reduced rate when purchased in bulk. In 2014, at the request of a prison ministry in Washington, Andrews University Press created a special, large print, monochrome version of the Andrews Study Bible available only for prison ministries. They realized that this Bible would be of interest to our ministry, so they contacted the Founder, Judy Mackie, and asked if she would be interested in getting in on this large order. Taking a leap of faith, Judy ordered 750 of these special Bibles.

Within six months of receiving the first order, the Bibles were completely distributed, but the requests kept coming. God provided generous donors who came together and enabled us to purchase 5,000 Bibles. These too disappeared within a few months. And then came the famine. Enough money came in to mail letters, but not enough to buy more Bibles. But, trusting in God to provide, we kept telling the

inmates they would get one when God provided. Finally, by borrowing everything possible, we were able to purchase another 5,000 Bibles. Some inmates had waited for over a year for their treasured gift.

Currently, Andrews Study Bibles have been placed in 522 Federal and state prisons and county jails. Each inmate who requests a Bible is placed on the mailing list and receives a personalized letter with one or two Bible studies every month. Since 2012, we have mailed over 117,885 letters.

This ministry is entirely powered by volunteers from ages 7 to 89. Every family in the Sheridan Seventh-day Adventist church receives a box each month with addressed envelopes along with personalized letters and Bible studies. The envelopes are then stuffed with the corresponding letter and Bible studies, sealed, and returned to Binding Broken Hearts' headquarters for mailing.

Whenever we have the money available we ship out 300 Bibles at a time. Getting a shipment ready takes the loving labor of the entire church which gets together for "Bible boxing parties." The boxes are built, packed, labeled, sealed, and bagged. When the Postmaster picks up the hundreds of Bibles, it fills the back of the truck.

This ministry is totally donation based. Each shipped Bible costs \$24.50, and every letter mailed costs \$.50. Were it not for God's faithfulness, the tiny church with 45 active members could not carry on this ministry. Every month it appears that we will not be able to send out letters, and, every month, just in time, we get just enough money to cover the mailing costs. We are currently praying for God to provide the funds for us to mail the 900 Bibles we still have on hand and for Him to enable us to purchase and send more Bibles when these are gone.

Binding Broken Hearts' focus is on encouraging and supporting lonely, broken people through monthly letters, and by providing Bibles when we have them available. Most inmates get no mail, and some even write letters to themselves just to hear their name called for mail. Over 80% of Bible recipients have asked to remain on the mailing list. Every month Binding Broken Hearts receives over 300 pieces of mail from inmates sharing their lives, fears, and joys. Each letter is read by at least one volunteer, and the return letter is tailored to respond to the inmate. Because they know they are being heard, over 400 inmates who have been released are still receiving monthly letters and Bible studies.

The only requirements an inmate must meet to receive a Bible is that he or she must be incarcerated at the time the request is made. And, each person must request a Bible for themselves. However, Binding Broken Hearts has received requests from family members of inmates who want to receive the letters and Bible studies.

But, why these Bibles? 1) They are study Bibles with Seventh-day Adventist commentary and study guides; and 2) They are beautiful and the inmates treasure them for their beauty and because they recognize their value.

Binding Broken Hearts is totally dependent upon God's providence for donations and volunteers. We invite you to join us in this exciting work of introducing people to Jesus.

To learn more, to see what resources the ministry offers, or to partner with us, go to:

<http://www.bindingbrokenhearts.org> or <https://www.facebook.com/BindingBrokenHearts/>

## Health Nugget

Peppermint Ezekiel 47:12 "...and the leaf thereof for medicine." Peppermint is a common household remedy used for a variety of conditions. The reason why we chose peppermint is because peppermint contains menthol.

- Menthol provides a cooling sensation with a calm and numbing effect. This is especially good for people who suffer from migraines, memory loss or a lack of alertness. Other Benefits of Peppermint

- Sinus infections
- Heartburn
- Morning sickness
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)
- Muscle and nerve Pain
- Toothache
- Inflammation of the mouth.
- Relieves Stress

Activated Charcoal (AC) is the pulverized remains of burned eucalyptus bark, or coconut shells.

- It is also an adsorbent, whereas harmful molecules stick to its surface like a magnet, especially 29 of the 30 most poisonous substances.
- Because of its properties you can use activated charcoal if you're bitten by a poisonous snake or spider.

Other Benefits of Charcoal

- Whitens Teeth
- Emergency Toxin Removal
- Alleviates Gas & Bloating
- Digestive Cleanse
- Mold cleansing
- Skin infections

Contraindications:

Peppermint: is not recommended to those who suffer from heartburn. As it may cause stomach acid to back up into the esophagus, causing pain or discomfort. Charcoal: Activated charcoal is safe for most adults when used short-term. Side effects of activated charcoal include constipation and black stools. More serious, but rare, side effects are a slowing or blockage of the intestinal tract, regurgitation into the lungs, and dehydration.

## Scripture Readings

In Jesus' description of the last days in Luke 21: 26 he says "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

If we look around today, we can see this literally coming to pass. As I was reading through the Bible plan in a year the plan we have been sharing, I came across this in Joshua and thought it was worthy of note in these last days:

Joshua 1: 5 "...as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee".

Joshua 1: 6 "Be strong and of a good courage....."

Joshua 1: 7 "Only be thou strong and very courageous...."

Joshua 1: 9 "Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest."

I can only imagine how Joshua felt after Moses died. He had been such a strong, dedicated, courageous leader. Now, as Joshua is left to lead the children of Israel into the promised land, he had to be reminded, as do we, that the Lord is in control. It is his battle, and we are simply instruments. I loved how Jesus himself not only gives him much encouragement in this one chapter, but comes to him in person in chapter 5. It is a powerful message he gives Joshua standing there with the outstretched sword and telling him that he is "the captain of the Lord's host". We don't have anything to fear, the Lord goes before us and has promised us in Deuteronomy 31: 6 and Hebrews 13: 5 that he "will never leave us or forsake us". Let us all be reminded of this as we go about our days in preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. God bless each of you.

## Devotional

### “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

By Karen Phillips, ASIMA VP of Marketing

“Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ...” Colossians 4:2-3

I love conducting the music at our weekly worships and bible studies. As part of our HeReturns ministry, my husband and I go to nursing homes and assisted living facilities. One of the songs I sing with the residents is “Sweet Hour of Prayer” which was written by a blind man, William Walford. After singing those beautiful words, I asked them if they had ever spent an entire hour in prayer. Most of them look at me with a blank stare. But one older man, John, while sitting in his wheelchair slowly affirmed that he had with the nodding of his head and the whispering of “Yes.”



As this man knows, the time we spend with Jesus is precious and yet most of us rush through our prayers with a hurried attitude so we can get to “more important things.” We should be more like the apostle, James. He was known as Camel Knees because he “was frequently found upon his knees begging forgiveness for the people, so that his knees became hard like those of a camel, in consequence of his constantly bending them in his worship of God, and asking forgiveness for the people.” (Quote from Hegesippus, fifth book of his Memoirs) He was well aware of the necessity of spending much time in prayer for himself and for others.

As ASI members, we are all actively serving the Lord in our various ministries and missions. However, we should never be too busy to pray. It must be the very fabric of our lives in order for us to succeed in the work the Lord has prepared for us. Ellen White states the following:

“There must be no pretense in the lives of those who have so sacred and solemn a message as we have been given to bear. The world is watching Seventh-Day Adventists, because it knows something of their beliefs and of the high standard they have; and when it sees those who do not live up to their profession, it points at them with scorn. God’s people should now make mighty intercessions to Him for help. It is the privilege of every believer, first to talk to God, and then, as God’s mouthpiece, to talk with others. In order that we may have something to impart, we must daily receive light and blessing.” R&H Dec 8, 1910

His Spirit is calling us. As a reminder, let’s take time to find the power in prayer and the genuine joy that God wants to give us. After all, an hour is not long at all when you are spending it with the Lord. Just ask John.



## Recipe

### Middle Eastern Lentil Soup

This recipe is from a local Middle Eastern Restaurant in the River Market area in Kansas City

- 2 cup dried red lentils rinsed until water runs clear
- 4 cups vegetable stock
- 4 cups water
- 1 yellow pepper (will only work with yellow pepper)
- 1 lemon
- ground cumin to taste
- salt to taste

Directions: Rinse lentils and put in large pot with a lid. Add vegetable broth and water. Core and de-seed the pepper and blend in a blender until liquid. Add to the pot with the lentils and broth. Cook over med-high heat until starts to boil. Reduce heat and cook covered 35 – 40 minutes or until lentils are soft. Cut the lemon in half and squeeze the juice into the soup with the cumin and salt. Fyi, it takes about 1 – 2 T. of cumin (taste before adding all of it) or more.



This recipe is so comforting and soothing and is almost like chicken noodle soup for a vegan.

### Golden Milk (For colds, flu, depression and more)

- 2 cups coconut milk
- 1 t. dried Turmeric (or 1 inch fresh, thinly sliced or diced)
- 1 t. dried ginger (or ½ inch fresh, thinly sliced or diced)
- Honey to taste

Directions: Place milk in saucepan over medium heat, add turmeric and ginger (stir well if using dried spices). Let the milk begin to simmer (small bubbles will form on the sides of the pan). Stir and allow to heat for another minute or 2 being careful not to overheat. Continue to stir. Turn off heat, cover and let sit for 10 mins. Strain if using fresh spices. Put in a glass and add honey to taste.