

**LET IT GROW,
LET IT GROW**

Perhaps you've heard of "No-Shave November"? Now it's time for your lawn to get in on the *inaction*. A growing number of local towns and organizations are encouraging residents to hold off mowing their lawns for "No Mow May" (sometimes earlier depending on the geographic location). This will allow local native plants to serve as food for early season pollinators. What other ways can you reduce harmful impacts on God's nature?



30

The number of **portable baptistries** the Columbia Union Conference Multilingual Ministries Department, local conferences and the North American Division donated to church plants that have shown a great commitment to the mission.

HOW DID COVID-19 IMPACT AMERICAN RELIGIOUS LIFE?

The Survey Center for American Life reports that the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an overall decline in attendance to religious services with only one in three Americans going to church. Despite the decline, the survey also notes that participants retained their religious identity and/or had their faith strengthened.

CRS TO EXPAND BRAILLE ACCESS

Christian Record Services (CRS) has received \$597,000 from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to increase its braille production capacity. Funding will enable the ministry to add additional production space at its headquarters, purchase additional braille embossing equipment, and add one staff member to meet the increase in production. After a three-year period, CRS expects to cover ongoing costs within its operating budget, which is primarily supported by faithful donors of the ministry.—CRS Staff



READ IT, SHARE IT

As part of the General Conference's initiative to distribute 1 billion copies of *The Great Controversy*, the North American Division leadership is asking all members to read the book and personally share a copy with a friend. Members can download a free copy at thegreatcontroversy.org or purchase one of 12 approved versions at adventistbookcenter.com.



AMISH BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL LAUNCHED

Looking for a way to witness to Amish or Mennonite neighbors? Andy Weaver, lay pastor of Ohio Conference's West Salem Amish Mission church, recently wrote a new series of Bible studies designed to share with Anabaptist neighbors. The studies use graphics and colors Amish are more comfortable with, as the often intense and scary graphics would be offensive to many Amish, says designer Jeremy Westcott. The content covers biblical truths similar to other studies, and also focuses on topics of greater interest, such as "How to Know Right From Wrong."



GRAB A BOOK

With the summer season upon us, it's time to grab relaxing reads for the beach and new ideas for healthy, light meals. Check out our "must-read" list at columbiaunionvisitor.com/upfront, then stop by LivingWell in Silver Spring, Md., or shop at adventistbookcenter.com.



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