

## ASI Mid America Newsletter - April, 2017

**It's Not Too Late To Register for "Before It's Too Late"**

### Mid America ASI – 2017 Convention Program Denver, Colorado April 27 – 30, 2017

Registration and exhibitor set-up: 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Thursday Evening Program: 6:30 - 8:45 p.m.**

Song Service	Karen Phillips, Anabel Albuja,
Welcome	Barbara Taylor, President, Mid America ASI
Opening Prayer	Steve Dickman, President, National ASI
Members in Action	Mark Cromwell
Special Music	Clayton Nunes
Keynote Presentation	Dr. Neil Nedley, President, Weimar Institute
The Crisis in Education in the Nation and the Church	
Closing Song	Rescue the Perishing #367
Closing Prayer	Dr. Neil Nedley

Exhibits open until 9:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 22**

Exercise time! 6:30 - 7:15 a.m. Meet in the lobby (Don't be left behind!)

Rich Smith of Black Hills Health and Education Center will lead out

Breakfast 7:00 - 7:45 a.m.

Friday Morning Devotional: 8:00 - 8:40 am

Song Service	Karen Phillips and Anabel Albuja
Opening Prayer	Mark Cromwell
Devotional Speaker	Elder Gary Thurber, President, MAUC

Too Late For What?

Closing Prayer – Elder Thurber

Break: Exhibits open from 8:40 - 9:15 a.m.

Morning Program: 9:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Opening Song	Karen Phillips, Anabel Albuja,
Opening Prayer	Andi Hunsaker MD, General VP National ASI
Special Music	Daniel Birai
Health Seminar	Dr. Neil Nedley, President, Weimar Institute

Heterosexual Sex and Mental Health

Break: Exhibits open until 12:30 p.m.

Lunch: 12:30 - 2:15 p.m.

For those with meal tickets, lunch will be at Cinzetti's Italian Restaurant

Address: 281 W 104th Ave, Northglenn, Colorado

Afternoon program: 2:15 - 4:15 p.m.

Song Service	Vern and Clair Erickson
Opening Song	Tis Almost Time for the Lord to Come #330
Prayer	Karen Phillips



Welcome & Introduction of Speaker Elder Gary Thurber, President, MAUC  
Message Pastor John Bradshaw, Speaker/Director IIW  
"Before It's Too Late"

Closing Hymn Work, for the Night is Coming. #375  
Benediction Pastor John Bradshaw

Lunch Break: 12:30 - 2:15 p.m.  
Break: 1:30 - 2:15 Non-commercial exhibits open  
Afternoon Program: 2:15 - 4:30 p.m.

Song Service Karen Phillips, Anabel Albuja  
Special Music Kenny Orr  
Welcome & Opening Prayer Donna McNeilus  
Members in Action Barbara Taylor  
Music in Concert  
Health Seminar Dr. Neil Nedley, President, Weimar Institute  
"Emotional Intelligence and the Moral Law"

Special Music Frank Reste  
Closing Prayer Donna McNeilus  
Break: 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Non-commercial exhibits open  
Supper: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Sabbath Vespers: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Children's program: 6:15 - 8:30 p.m.  
Song Service Karen Phillips, Anabel Albuja, Vern and Clair Erickson Special Music  
Graybill Family

Welcome & Opening Prayer Mark Cromwell  
Members in Action Barbara Taylor  
Special Music Clayton Nunes  
Message Pastor John Bradshaw  
"Good Enough"

Closing Prayer Pastor John Bradshaw  
Exhibits open until 9:30 p.m.  
(ALL booths must be disassembled and out of the room by 10:30 p.m.)

**Sunday, April 24**

Exercise time! 6:30 - 7:15 a.m. Meet in the lobby (Don't be left behind!)

Breakfast: 7:00 - 7:45  
Morning Meeting: 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Opening Song Karen Phillips, Anabel Albuja, Vern and Clair Erickson  
Opening Prayer Kyle Allen, Executive Secretary, National ASI  
Devotional Pastor John Bradshaw  
"Last Day Events"

Closing Prayer Barbara Taylor

We request that you refrain from applauding during the worship service. A hearty "Amen" would be appreciated.  
Piano provided by the Paul Howe Piano Company  
Children's Program: Friday Night 6:30-8:30PM, Sabbath School 9AM - 10:30 AM  
Sabbath Evening: 6:30-8:30PM - A special thank you to Dave and Sonja Upham for their help with the children's program.

## Note From the President – Barbara Taylor

It is just weeks away before our Mid America ASI Convention, April 27-30, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Denver. I pray that all of you who receive this newsletter will pray about attending and join us for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. I encourage you to invite someone to attend with you. I can promise you, that once they attend, they will want to return each and every year. The spiritual blessings, the friendships, the fellowship, the inspiring testimonies, the music, the seminars and the sermons are an inspiration to each and every one. Our mission in Sharing Christ is renewed and inspired with new and creative ways when we visit the exhibit booths and listen to the Members in Action Testimonies. This is one convention you don't want to miss. Go to our [asimidamerica.org](http://asimidamerica.org) website and register now. Don't miss out on the Blessings.

Barbara Taylor, ASIMA President

## 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

Again, it isn't too late to register for 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.

## Scripture Reading

### Mark 16: 1 – 8

And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.

# 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)

## **Update On the ASIMA Rally in Omaha, NE**

The ASI Mid-America Rally was held at the Omaha Memorial SDA Church, Omaha, Nebraska on March 3rd and 4th, 2017. The theme of the event was "Before It's Too Late" based on John 9:4 which states, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work." We were privileged to have as our guest speakers Shelley Quinn, Program Development Manager for 3ABN and her husband, J.D. Quinn, Pastoral Manager for 3ABN and elder at the Thompsonville SDA Church in Illinois. Shelley presented three messages on Friday night, Sabbath worship, and Sabbath afternoon. Preaching on Romans 12:1, she enlightened us on what "reasonable service" is. Our service to Christ in these end times is "reasonable" because of all He gave to us that we should present ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God. She stressed that we need to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and lead us in our lives as we work for Him. J.D. led out in a short Sabbath School discussion and also shared with us the work currently being done at 3ABN.

We were blessed with special music by Anabel Albuja of HeReturns ministries, by the Omaha Memorial Church Choir, and by Franklina Durham, a local member.

Several ministries presented Members in Action (MIA) spotlights. These ministries included HeReturns publishing/health/multi-media outreaches, KOTA – King of the Angels Ministry, and Adventist United from the Kansas City area. Barbara Taylor, ASIMA President, shared with us her worldwide ministry of sharing New Beginnings all over the globe. We were also blessed with an ASI video on ministries of Outpost Centers International (OCI) and the one-day church/school projects.

The Lord truly blessed our rally in Omaha. We give Him all the glory and honor and praise for the messages that were presented.

## Devotional

### Put "GO" in the Gospel

#### Devotion by Karen Phillips, ASIMA VP of Marketing

The Lord gave a command to Moses to send representatives from all the 12 tribes of Israel to go and spy out the land of Canaan – the land which the Lord was giving to the children of Israel. This land was commonly referred to as the "land flowing with milk and honey." They did indeed see the great abundance of grapes, pomegranates, figs, and other fruits on their 40-day journey. In fact, the grape cluster was so big it took two men to carry it on a pole. But their minds were also filled with images of very strong people, fortified cities, and the dreaded descendants of Anak who were giants in stature.

Did the Lord really need them to go and spy out the land? Of course not. He already knew what was there. He knew about the obstacles they would face. He wanted these leaders to see for themselves what was there and bring their report back to the people. It was a test of faith and all but two leaders failed it. This bad report stated, "We are not able to go up against the people for they are stronger than we." Numbers 13:31

Really? "Stronger than we"? Had they not seen with their own eyes the Red Sea open up in a miraculous display of God's power? Had they not eaten the manna that fell down from the skies each morning to feed them? Had they not witnessed water flowing out of a rock to quench their thirst? Their focus was on the obstacles and not on the Lord. And because of their lack of faith, a great blessing was turned into a great curse – 40 more years in the wilderness.

We also have a great command from the Lord in Matthew 28: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nation baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." We have our marching orders for our Commander and Chief. In order to reach the people with the Gospel message, we need to GO. Just as with the Israelite spies, God knows what we will find in our mission field. He knows the obstacles we will face. He wants us to receive a blessing from being the foot soldiers in His army. Do we instead complain to the Lord that the people there are stronger than we? Are the governments, laws, climates, finances or situations giants in our eyes? Are they so strong that the God of Heaven cannot break down these barriers to enable the Good News of Jesus Christ to reach the unreached?



Let's have the faith of Joshua and Caleb who took their focus off of the obstacles and put it on the Lord. Their response was, "Let us GO up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it." Numbers 13:20

We want the Lord to come and not have 40+ years left on this earth. Put "GO" in your gospel mission and you and others will receive the blessing from the Lord.

## Inspirational Story

**Submitted by Jesse Johnson (taken from It Is Written "Impressions"  
Partner Magazine)**

### **Boston Cover Story:**

Cathy's life got off to a rough start. When she was just five years old, her violently abusive father almost killed her. Although she survived, a subsequent beating left her badly injured. As a result, she would never be able to have children. Her childhood and young adult life were filled with sadness and pain, and a dark cloud seemed to follow her wherever she went. Finally, this past April, she decided to end her life.

But God had other plans for Cathy. A group of Revelation Today Boston Bible workers ordered a mailing of Bible study interest cards to Cathy's area. She received the invitation in the mail to enroll in It Is Written Bible studies, and with nothing to lose, she signed up. Shortly after, two Bible workers came to her door and offered to study the Bible with her. Again, Cathy agreed. After studying with Cathy for some time and working through several of the study guides, they invited her to attend the Revelation Today evangelistic meetings at a local church.

From the moment she stepped inside the church, Cathy felt right at home and attended every meeting. As the meetings at the church came to an end, the Bible workers invited Cathy to the final week of meetings presented by It Is Written Speaker/Director John Bradshaw.

In the morning of October 29, Cathy joined some 3,000 people throughout the greater Boston area at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, the venue rented for the final day of what some have identified as the largest evangelistic event in Boston in over 50 years.

"Revelation Today: A New Day is Dawning" was the title and theme of a three-week seminar hosted in the city of Boston by It Is Written in partnership with the local churches as part of the Compassion Boston initiative. The series ran from Friday, October 7 to Saturday, October 29, 2016 in over 50 local host locations throughout the city, with all attendees joining together for the final weekend.

And at that final weekend, Cathy and 50 other people gave their lives to Christ in baptism. After her emotional baptism, Cathy shared her story. As she wiped away tears, she said, "But you people loved me. I've finally found the family I've never had."

### **An Evangelist's Graveyard**

Tom Murray, the project manager for Compassion Boston, said that the planning for this Revelation Today series began as early as 2010. He went to his local church leadership with a dream to reach Boston, and reached out to It Is Written about doing evangelism in the city. In 2015 It Is Written officially partnered with Compassion Boston to work toward these meetings.



“In spite of many who consider Boston to be an ‘evangelist’s graveyard,’ It Is Written leadership responded enthusiastically, creatively, and energetically with us to plan a series that fit the unique challenges and opportunities of the Boston area,” Murray said.

One such “fit” was the theme chosen for the series: “A New Day is Dawning.” This affected the tone of the presentations and all visual communication, such as graphics, handbills, posters, and other advertising. Rather than focusing on apocalyptic themes, “What we wanted to do in Boston was share a message that gave confidence and assurance,” It Is Written Evangelism Director Yves Monnier said.

All this planning resulted in a multi-church project that involved 55 churches. These churches boasted a diversity of languages: 15 English-speaking, seven French, three Portuguese, and 25 Spanish, as well as Korean, Mandarin, and Twi congregations. During the three-week series, most churches began by having a local speaker present the first week of meetings, then switched to watching a live-stream of Pastor Bradshaw for the remaining two weeks, until all the churches came together at the Reggie Lewis Center for the final weekend.

Twenty-four of the 25 Spanish-language churches joined together in one location for a week of live presentations with Pastor Elias Sarmiento. Besides these 55, 26 more churches tuned into the live-streamed presentations, bringing the total number of involved churches to 74.

#### Preparation Equals Harvest

In preparation for the series, It Is Written mailed out 390,159 flyers, provided 48,090 handbills, 19,995 door hangers, and 1,290 posters that were distributed locally by church members. Social media advertising reached over 18,900 link clicks, with most of those clicks coming from men between the ages of 25 and 34 (women of the same age were just 2 percent behind), according to It Is Written Representative Keith LaRoy.

But that wasn’t the only preparation. In the months leading up to this series, It Is Written hired six full-time Bible workers to begin studying the Bible with many people just like Cathy in the Boston area. It Is Written sent out mailers offering free Bible study lessons to several Boston neighborhoods and—while expecting no more than two per thousand to be returned—received back as many as eight per thousand in some areas. By the time the meetings started, the Bible work team had 95 friends in sit-down, in-home studies, and 165 friends receiving drop-off studies every week.

#### A Continuing Work

Now that the Revelation Today meetings are over, church leaders are taking a moment to look back—and to look forward.

“Revelation Today Boston was truly blessed by God,” said Pastor Bradshaw. “We saw what happens when God’s people come together, reach out to their communities and share Jesus with people who have become their friends. I’m excited to see that this project was not an end in itself, but part of a great, continuing work God is doing in the Boston area.”

Perhaps the theme chosen for this evangelistic series was more apt than intended. A new day is dawning in Boston: not only in the lives of now more than 80 new believers who now have assurance

and hope for the future; not only in the sense that we understand the world to be on the brink of the Second Coming; not only in Cathy's new meaningful life in Christ; but it seems that a new day has dawned in the Boston church.

Yves Monnier commented, "When an evangelistic series is completed, the first question people will ask is, 'How many baptisms did you have?' It's a good question, but there's a better question: 'How has the evangelistic series transformed the churches involved?' Well, from everything I've observed and heard, It Is Written's participation in Boston has had a profound, positive impact on the churches. There's a belief that evangelism can work even in Boston. There's a desire to build on the momentum and reach more people for Jesus. It Is Written's role in Boston may have ended, but the work is far from done. It's good to see that churches are more than ever energized to do something great."

## Recipe

### Creamy Chili Sauce with Zucchini, Spinach and Pasta (Vegan)

Yields About 8 cups

You only need 8 ingredients (plus s&p) to make this amazing creamy and full-flavored dish. It is so fast to come together and so delicious and filling. This will become a weekly staple.

15 min Prep Time    30 min Cook Time    45 min Total Time

#### Ingredients

- 2 cups dry elbow pasta
- 1 cup low-sodium veggie broth or water, more as needed (I used broth for more flavor)
- 1 loosely filled cup (130 g) finely chopped onion
- 2 small zucchini (365 g), sliced into rounds 1/4 inch thick, then in 1/4th's
- 1 cup homemade cashew milk (SEE NOTE below. DO NOT sub with store-bought cashew, it will NOT thicken like my version)
- 3/4 cup tomato sauce
- 1 tablespoon dried Italian spice blend (I use the McCormick blend, you want one with no salt or red pepper added)
- 1/2-1 tablespoon chili powder (SEE NOTE, not habanero, just a standard American chili powder. McCormick or Fiesta brand is good)
- 4 large handfuls fresh spinach
- 1 1/4 teaspoons fine sea salt (notice in directions you are adding salt at different times)
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper



NOTE: I highly recommend making this with my homemade cashew milk. I make my own cashew milk by adding 1 cup raw cashews to 3 cups filtered water and blend in a Vitamix until completely smooth. That's it, no need to drain. Store extra in fridge and I use it for baking and for oatmeal. Cashew milk is absolutely going to give the BEST creamy results, so I wouldn't recommend subbing UNLESS allergic to nuts. Otherwise use canned FULL-FAT coconut milk (well shaken) or if you want to use soy then mix it first with 2 Tbsp brown rice flour (see directions), the results will be less creamy/rich, but will work.

•NOTE 2: Regarding the chili powder, 1/2 tablespoon will give it a very mild level of heat and chili flavor, whereas 1 tablespoon will give it a noticeable level of heat, which both my hubby and I thought was perfect. But it may be too much for sensitive people and for kids. My daughter thought it was a tad too spicy, so if you are unsure, start with 1/2 tablespoon.

### Instructions

1. Make sure your veggies are chopped/prepared at the beginning, as the sauce comes together pretty quickly.
2. Begin by bringing a large pot of water to boil for your pasta. Adding a lid will make it boil faster. Make sure to salt your water well so the pasta is well seasoned.
3. Add the onion and broth to a large sauce pan over medium heat. Once it begins to simmer, cook 5 mins and then add the zucchini and just 1/4 teaspoon of salt at this time. Stir well and add cover. Turn the heat down to medium-low. It's important to cover the zucchini so it cooks through well. Let it all cook about 8 minutes until the zucchini is nice and tender (no longer crunchy), but not mushy. Check it a couple of times to stir it and make sure there is enough broth, if necessary to keep the zucchini cooking, add a little bit more. You basically want most of the liquid gone though before the next step.
4. Once the zucchini is tender, remove temporarily from the heat and add the cashew milk, tomato sauce, Italian spices, chili powder (start out with 1/2 T), remaining 1 teaspoon salt, pepper and liquid smoke (if using). If using the coconut milk version, add it at this point and stir it around the veggies until mixed, then add the coconut milk and other ingredients. Stir well and add the spinach. Return back to the heat over medium heat. The spinach will look like a ton but will decrease significantly. Stand over the stove stirring the spinach around until it wilts down and is cooked and the sauce thickens just a bit. You don't want to overcook the sauce, you want it fairly creamy/saucy but it should be creamy thick, not watery.
5. Taste the sauce and add more salt or chili powder if desired for more spicy. I used the full 1 tablespoon chili powder and loved the perfect kick of heat and chili flavor. Remove from heat.
6. The pasta should be done. Drain and scoop in desired amount of pasta into the sauce, leaving plenty of sauce to enjoy. Devour! How much you end up with will depend on how much pasta you add, but this makes a good amount of sauce.