

Reflections

Have a happy retirement, Linda and Diane!



Linda Tatum



Diane Gatling

Two longtime members of the Adventist Retirement benefits team retired last month.

Linda Tatum has 32 years of church service and has spent the past 18 years with the Adventist Retirement Plan. Shortly after coming to work at the North American Division she lost her husband unexpectedly to leukemia, leaving her alone to care for their two young daughters. Looking back, she says that God provided a job in a supportive environment at just the right time.

“It has been especially rewarding when I could pray with retirees facing difficult times, or to work on their applications and get retirement benefits started for them. I look forward to meeting all His

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THIS MONTH:
August 26

NEXT MONTH:
September 27

“Thank you, Diane and Linda for your dedicated service and commitment. Best wishes in your retirement!”

—Edwin Romero,
administrator/CEO,
Adventist Retirement



retirees in Heaven—I believe it will be soon,” said Tatum.

Many of her coworkers expressed their appreciation for her friendship, mentoring and “showing them the ropes” when they started working in the department.

“It has been a great privilege to co-labor with Diane and Linda over the past few years. God has faithfully used them to touch the lives of so many of our retirees, now it’s our turn to care for them.”
—Edwin Romero

“Linda’s skills in benefit analysis and policy application will be sorely missed,” said Lisa Turpen, associate administrator for the Healthcare and Defined Benefit Plans. “She brought a can-do attitude to our team that helped to lift up each one.”

Diane “Darla” Gatling also retires with 32 years of service, with the last 19 years working in Adventist Retirement. At her farewell party, she reflected on the warm relationships and connections she formed during her tenure at the North American Division. Her colleagues expressed thanks to her for sharing her wisdom and experience through the years.

“Diane has been a dedicated member of our benefit processing team. Her breadth of knowledge and communication abilities have been a real asset to the department,” Turpen added.

“It has been a great privilege to co-labor with Diane and Linda over the past few years. God has faithfully used them to touch the lives of so many of our retirees, now it’s our turn to care for them,” said Edwin Romero, administrator/CEO. “Thank you, Diane and Linda for your dedicated service and commitment. Best wishes in your retirement!” ■



Lisa Turpen, associate administrator (left), and Lisa Sharpe, assistant administrator, staff a booth in the exhibit hall.

Helping future retirees at CALLED Pastors' Family Convention

Adventist Retirement Plan administrators partnered with Empower, custodian of our Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a sponsor of the convention, to connect with attendees at the Lexington, Kentucky-based event. The meeting drew thousands of pastors and their families from across the North American Division.

As part of our commitment to sharing tools and resources for a “more abundant life” in retirement, Edwin Romero, administrator/CEO, and Wirmin Alcantara, associate



Wirmin Alcantara, associate administrator (left), and Brian Hand of Empower, discuss internet-based resources for Empower retirement account holders.

administrator for the DC Plan, presented financial wellness seminars in English and Spanish languages. Vanessa Coakley of Empower conducted a planning for retirement workshop.

“It was a joy and a blessing to dialogue with church workers about how they can meet their financial goals,” remarked Alcantara.

Six Empower representatives, including Certified Financial Planners® and Retirement Plan Advisors, were on hand in the exhibit hall to meet individually with pastors and their spouses about their retirement accounts. They demonstrated the newly enhanced EmpowerMyARP.com website and the mobile app where account holders can conveniently manage all their Empower accounts. ■

SHARP Corner

Updated Alphabet Queue to Better Assist You

The SHARP team recently welcomed Stephanie Portugal. She speaks English and Spanish and is ready to assist you. The alphabet queue has been updated as follows:

A-G (Gayle Fell)

H-Q (Stephanie Portugal)

R-Z (Bonnie Bensink)

You can reach any SHARP assistant by calling the SHARP line directly at 443-391-7338.

Aon Retiree Health Exchange is now Alight Retiree Health Solutions

Your coverage, account, and any other benefits you have through Aon remain the same. You can find more information in Alight’s Frequently Asked Questions, and our new website address is retiree.alight.com/adventistretirement.

Alight Resources

We are excited to share added resources for those with a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA)! An updated list of eligible expenses which may be reimbursed from your HRA has been added to our website. Click on Retiree, SHARP, and then the Alight Retiree Health Solutions blue bar/expandable menu. If you would like to have a copy emailed to you, please email a request to SHARP@NADAdventist.org and ask for the HRA expense list.

YSA Mobile App

Check out the new YSA Mobile App that launched last month. Detailed instructions on using the app are posted on our website in the same location as the eligible expenses list. The YSA Mobile App lets you check your balance, submit claims, and review prior claim activity. **Note: You must use the Alight website to set up recurring claims and manage those claims.**

AdventistRetirement

North American Division of SDA
9705 Patuxent Woods Drive
Columbia, MD 21046



AdventistRetirement | www.adventistretirement.org

Edwin Romero
*Administrator &
Chief Executive Officer*

Andrew Choi
*Associate Administrator &
Chief Financial Officer*

Lisa Turpen
*Associate Administrator,
Defined Benefit &
Healthcare Plans*

Wirmin Alcantara
*Associate Administrator,
Defined Contribution Plans*

Lisa Sharpe
Assistant Administrator, SHARP

Tara Mead
*Assistant Administrator,
Defined Benefit Plans*

Samantha Young
*Editor & Communications
Manager*

Adventist Retirement:
*Reporting a death, change of address,
disability reviews*
Ph.: 443-391-7300 | Fax: 443-259-4880
Email: NADRetirement@nadadventist.org
Address: 9705 Patuxent Woods Dr,
Columbia, MD 21046

Alight Retirement Health Solutions:
Phone: 1-844-360-4714
SHARP Healthcare Eligibility Queries:
Ph.: 443-391-7338
Email: SHARP@nadadventist.org

Submit DVH claims to:
Adventist Risk Management
SHARP, PO Box 1928,
Grapevine, TX 76099-1928
Ph.: 1-800-447-5002

Payroll Bulletin Board:
Ph.: 443-391-7343

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