

# Lake Union HERALD

DECEMBER 2004



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*Thinking  
Outside the  
BOX*

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## COVER

It seems at every turn, Jesus countered the conventional wisdom of His day. His fidelity to principle, and His desire to be about His Father's business often placed Him at odds with tradition and practice. You might say He was always thinking outside the box. As His followers, we might do well to follow His example. The founders of the Advent movement were such followers. That's why it was called a movement. Our "Outside the Box" cover was illustrated by Mark Bond. *The Lake Union Herald* (ISSN 0194-908X) is published monthly by the Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.



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BY WALTER L. WRIGHT,  
LAKE UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

# The Least of These

I believe I am known as a church leader who is committed and thoroughly oriented to evangelism. Therefore, you may be surprised to hear that I believe service to our fellow man comes before evangelism. It is the method and plan of Jesus to serve before, or at least during, our efforts to teach the world about Him.

Far back in my pastor-evangelist experience, we seemed to largely ignore our neighborhoods and communities until it was time to pitch a tent on some street corner and begin the awesome task of evangelism. Since then, we have learned that a handbill announcing the meetings is not quite enough to convince a total stranger to come hear what you have to say. I believe *service* is the answer.

Jesus, our great Example, put food into a hungry stomach before speaking about eternal things. He made a blind man see before discussing his faith. He cast out devils before commissioning to go spread the Good News. What a marvelous pattern of humane concern!

Jesus invited the faithful servants to come and inherit the kingdom, and His basis was predicated on the service they had rendered unto Him. Those servants, described in Mathew 25:37-39, seem a bit surprised at the pronouncement of Jesus as they asked, "When did we do all these things unto Thee?" The answer, of course, is, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

First of all, it seems service was rendered because it was the right thing to do rather than any thought of earning a place in the kingdom. We have the same opportunities today.

Last spring, our Union office staff journeyed over to Benton Harbor to clean up and repair a park in the inner city. We had a wonderful time watching that area slowly return to its natural beauty. It was a special joy to see the children reclaim their play areas, and to hear adult citizens asking, "Who are you, and why are you doing this?"

We may not have been completely aware that the real answer was, "We are doing this unto Jesus." As bleachers were repaired and righted, picnic tables painted, and leaves and rubbish raked and bagged, there was a sense of accomplishment because we knew we had made a difference.

But the crowning experience of the day was when various community members timidly joined us to share our supper. The word spread like a prairie fire through the neighborhood! Maybe, just maybe, this small effort made the evangelism effort that followed a bit more acceptable in that community. Do you really want to serve Jesus? Find a way to reach out to "one of the least of these."



# YOUTH IN ACTION



## A MODERN-DAY GIDEON STORY

BY RAHAB KIMANI AND BRUCE BABIENCO

Rahab Kimani, Elizabeth Stigney, and Diane Coon worked together in the Michigan student magabook program last summer. One day, when two team-members were sick, they decided to continue selling Christian literature. The girls wondered if they would be able to meet their daily magabook goal with two members absent. Then they remembered the biblical story of Gideon, his 300 soldiers, and how God's blessings overcame the hosts of the Midianites who were as numerous as the sands of the sea. So these students prayed, then moved forward, believing success is not found in numbers, but comes to those who are ready to be used by God.

The girls began canvassing in the city's business district. Just before their lunch break, Rahab entered an office. Impressed to bypass the receptionist, she went directly to the lady in a small office at the back. Rahab showed her a

cookbook, and shared how it would help her eat healthy foods. The lady responded positively, stating she needed the book because she ate junk foods. Then she asked, "What else do you have?" When Rahab showed her the children's books, she expressed interest because of her children at home. She again asked, "What else do you have?" Rahab answered, "I have *The Conflict of the Ages* books for adults seeking to have a better understanding of the Bible." At this point, the lady asked Rahab what all the books would cost. Rahab explained the book prices and offered two extra books if the whole set was purchased.

After lunch, Rahab felt the presence of angels as she continued working; it seemed she didn't have to try to convince people to buy books. She kept hearing, "I will take these books."

Rahab later met a man with cancer who said, "I am glad you came because I just began eating a vegetarian diet."

At the end of this "Gideon Day," Rahab counted her receipts and discovered that, by God's grace, she had placed 71 magabooks in homes—more books than she had ever sold in one day! In fact, 15 books sold in a day is considered a good day.

The wonderful truth is that all the students were blessed last summer. Together book sales totaled \$265,000, with an average of \$3,300 per student.

The students are praising the Lord that everyone, including you, can join Gideon's team! Will you consider being a part of the magabook program? If so, contact your conference magabook director.

*Rahab Kimani, 2004 magabook top sales leader, and Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent*



Rahab Kimani shares her testimony at the 2004 Michigan camp meeting.



Rahab Kimani, Elizabeth Stigney, and Diane Coon, preparing to canvass.

The lady commented, "And you are doing this to become a missionary? I think I should be a missionary because you seem so happy." Rahab told her these books would prepare her to be a missionary. With this order, Rahab sold 32 books before lunch.



The Michigan summer literature evangelist group, preparing to sing and share testimonies at the 2004 Michigan camp meeting.



*Cari Vath (center) was supported by her father, John, (left) and her mother, Penny, (right) at her baptism and during the dedication ceremony of her daughter, Madison, (seated left of Annelise Prohaska). David Sitler, Elmhurst pastor, officiated.*

## Illinois

I (**Cari Vath**) think I broke every commandment while growing up. I lied, stole, disobeyed, and dishonored my parents. I worshiped rock bands, and hated my sister. I ran away from home, drank, smoked, and did whatever I could to disgrace my parents. Then I moved to Wisconsin, thinking it was “my ticket” out of my past, but we all know how history repeats itself.

I wound up involved in an abusive relationship; after two years, I sent up the “white flag” and came home. You can imagine the wheelbarrow of emotions I allowed to ruin my life—shame, guilt, and depression.

My answer was to get involved in another relationship with someone I had known for a long time. After dating for two years, we moved in together; one month after that, I was pregnant!

As my boyfriend looked at the positive pregnancy test and rambled excitedly about how he couldn’t wait to be a dad, all I could think was, “I have to change. I’m not good enough to be a mom.” A still, small voice interrupted my thoughts and said, “It’s time to give your life to Jesus.” I had no idea what that meant, but for some reason that voice gave me hope.

Soon afterwards, I became close friends with my neighbor downstairs, Vicki Debartolo. She invited me to her apartment for meals too numerous to count. She brought me groceries, drove me to pre-natal check-ups, and took me to her church in Elmhurst, Illinois. She began talking to me about the Bible, and we began Bible studies. Once, she told me how she had been thinking of moving into my apartment before I came. The landlord unlocked the door, and as soon as they stepped inside

she heard a voice say, “No, this place is not for you.” God always has a plan. I kept studying and completed other Bible lessons by mail.

My boyfriend, on the other hand, wasn’t so interested. In fact, the faith that Jesus was building in me was a source for many arguments. He soon left me for another woman. At this time I was a baby in the faith and wasn’t seeing the big picture, so I prayed fervently for his return and indeed, he came home. I vowed to become the woman in Proverb 31, and by God’s grace, I was.

In September 2004, my husband left again. A month before he left, my daughter was diagnosed with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. She could hardly walk. If it wasn’t for God’s promises, many prayers, supportive parents, and an absolutely wonderful church family, I’m not sure where I would be. My daughter just turned three and now she can climb stairs, run, jump, and play like any three-year-old.

On July 17, 2004, I was baptized and my daughter was dedicated. I will never forget the moment I publicly professed my love for Jesus, my true husband. He made me a new creation. He has cleansed me with His righteous blood and I can boast only in Him. I am forgiven and the Creator of the Universe loves me. What can possibly be better than that? So I want to say, “Thank you mom and dad, Vick, and Elmhurst Church family for all the love, guidance, and support. I can’t wait to hug you all in Heaven.” Most of all, “Thank you, Jesus, for dying for me, forgiving me, and loving me with an agape love that’s hard to grasp sometimes. Your grace will always be sufficient enough for me, no matter what!”

*Cari Vath, as told to Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer writer*

## Michigan

**Arlene Pesik** lives in Ovid, Michigan, in rural eastern Clinton County. The church she was attending seemed to be in decline, in more ways than one, leading her to “church shop” for a new spiritual home.

In 2000, she saw a newspaper ad for a personal finance seminar at the St. Johns (Michigan) Church. Elodia Jones led out in the G. Edward Reid video series, “It’s Your Money, Isn’t It?” “Arlene attended every night,” Elodia remembers.



From left: Arlene Pesik and Alan Meis, St. Johns Church pastor

When Arlene discovered a *Hope for the Homeland* prophecy series offered near her home, she was delighted. She attended two or three meetings at the VFW Hall where they were held, but stopped attending because of a medical condition. No follow-up visits were scheduled with Arlene.

The next Adventist ad that caught Arlene’s eye was in the *Clinton County News* in January 2004. The ad announced a four-night cooking class taught by Mary Burnt, an award-winning restaurant cook, affiliated with the ARISE Institute at the Troy Church. Arlene attended the seminar and was invited to a prophecy series at its conclusion.

The next month she attended a seminar conducted by Dan Towar, a Michigan Conference evangelist

and member of the St. Johns Church. “I enjoyed the study of Scripture. It was presented very well and I didn’t miss a one, though I had to take advantage of both the noon-time and evening sessions,” commented Arlene.

Each contact helped Arlene build a growing relationship with Adventists, while learning the biblical truths that deepened her commitment to the Lord. It seemed natural to make the Adventist church her spiritual home.

Arlene was baptized on Sabbath, March 27. Her husband, John, has been coming to Sabbath services with her since her baptism.

**Shane Le Baron** was born to Adventist parents who later enrolled him in the George Sumner Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School in St. Johns, Michigan. However, when it was time for Shane to consider going to an academy, his family could not meet the financial challenge.

By the time Shane graduated from public high school in 1989, he had walked away from the Lord. Once he was on his own, he moved to Hawaii to pursue what he described as “a lifestyle of fast cars and fast women.” In time, Shane moved back to Michigan.

The news of a 2003 disco club fire in Rhode Island, that resulted in the deaths of more than 80 people, caused Shane to do some serious thinking. He started attending services at his former Adventist church in St. Johns and enjoyed being back in the place where he had developed spiritual roots. He met Alan Meis, the St. Johns pastor, and felt drawn to this professional who was close to his age.

Shane experienced painful medical issues and a truck-driving job he did not enjoy. “I began to pray while working, and from time to time would phone Pastor Meis while on the road,” Shane remembered. “He always provided encouragement, as well as the right counsel.”

While attending the St. Johns Church one Sabbath, Shane witnessed a baptism. As the pastor made an appeal from the baptistry, Shane heard the voice of the Lord speaking to his heart and he responded to the appeal. He began to study with the pastor in preparation for re-baptism.

Meanwhile, Shane began to talk to the Lord about a new job. When he learned of an opening for a mechanic to work on emergency vehicles, he responded and was called for an interview. “During the interview I told the manager that I could not work on Friday evenings, but would be willing to come in on Sundays,” Shane said as he spoke of his convictions about Sabbath observance. “I don’t have a problem with that,” the manager responded.



From left: Shane Le Baron and Alan Meis, St. Johns Church pastor

Shane now commutes to Grand Rapids where he works second shift three days each week, and to facilitate his Sabbath commitment, works first shift each Friday.

Shane was blessed by the Kenneth Cox video series and CDs he received from Lanette Brandow, one of his former church school teachers. He studied regularly with the pastor last winter and was re-baptized on February 28.

*Paul Pellandini, Michigan Conference stewardship director*



## The First “Seventh-day” Adventists

BY ANN FISHER

Just as the original Christian church began with the devastating events of “Crucifixion Friday,” so the Seventh-day Adventist movement also began with a “Great Disappointment.” While many of the Millerite Adventists, disappointed and embarrassed, quickly scattered from the movement, those who had truly felt the outpouring of the Holy Spirit were not willing to abandon the spiritual awakening they had experienced. Joseph Bates was one of the active participants in the Advent movement who moved beyond the “Great Disappointment” to become a founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

### Joseph Bates (1792–1872)

Joseph Bates was a tough-minded sea captain. During his youth, he accumulated a small fortune through his successful career as the skipper of a merchant ship. Converted to the Millerite movement, Joseph committed both his enthusiasm and his entire fortune to spreading the Advent message. His faith in God was not shaken by either the “Great Disappointment” or the loss of his financial resources.

Joseph devoted his life to four major movements during

his lifetime—Millerite/second advent, temperance/health reform, abolitionist/anti-slavery, and the Sabbatarian/seventh-day Sabbath. Through his commitment to each of these movements, Joseph greatly influenced the unique identity and direction the Seventh-day Adventist movement would take.

As a health reformer, Joseph committed himself to the principles of temperate living long before the Advent movement came into existence. In the 1820s, he gave up alcohol and tobacco, much to the amazement of his fellow sailors. In the 1830s, he removed tea, coffee, meat, butter, cheese, pies, and other rich and greasy foods from his diet. Years later, when many of his fellow Advent believers half his age were suffering from overwork and poor health, Joseph introduced them to the health principles that enabled him to enjoy vigorous health until his death at the age of 80.

The causes Joseph committed his life to were demanding. Just as his commitment to health reform demanded self-control, so his belief in abolitionism, the second coming, and the Sabbath all demanded self-sacrifice and tremendous courage. Troubled by the injustice and tragic human suffering in the South, Joseph helped organize the Fairhaven Anti-slavery Society in

1835. He became a radical advocate of freedom and social justice because he believed he could not be a “consistent Christian” and ignore oppression. His example influenced many Adventists to become strong abolitionists.

In February 1845, Joseph read Thomas Preble’s paper entitled “The Hope of Israel,” which introduced him to the idea that the seventh day was God’s Sabbath. He could not rest until he had searched the Scriptures on the topic for himself. He traveled 140 miles to Washington, New Hampshire, to meet with Frederick Wheeler who had been preaching the Sabbath truth for some time. Joseph arrived at the Wheeler home in the middle of the night, woke Frederick up, and studied the Sabbath with him until morning.

Joseph carried the good news about the Sabbath to James and Ellen White in Maine, and to Hiram Edson in New York. In 1849, his pioneer spirit led him west to Michigan, where he eventually organized a company of believers in Jackson. In 1852, he traveled to Battle Creek, where he asked the postmaster for the name of the most honest man in town. After being directed to David Hewitt, he immediately went to his home and knocked on the door. He told David he had important biblical truth for him. Their Bible study lasted all day, and the Hewitts became the first converts in Battle Creek.

Joseph Bates, more than any other individual, was responsible for introducing the seventh-day Sabbath to his fellow Adventist believers who would later form the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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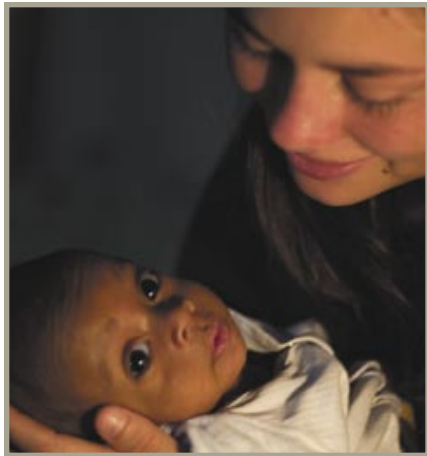
*Portions of this article were adapted by Ann Fisher from Welcome to the Family, an out-of-print book published jointly by Home Study International and the North American Division, and used with permission. Ann writes from Walla Walla, Washington.*

HE'S PUTTING UP A FIGHT TO LIVE

# Caring for Kaden

BY SARAH SPANGLER

"Good Luck," was the name given to him at the Lutheran Orphanage. My roommate, Julie, and I stood over his makeshift crib. With absolutely no fat or muscle on his body, he just wanted to be held and never let go. Today, I look down at my fingers and marvel at the memory of his wrists being the same size.



*Sarah Spangler, holding Kaden in her arms.*

Understaffed, with only two caregivers to watch thirty-five energetic children, this little boy would never receive the attention needed to recover. His big, sad eyes stared into mine with a serious gaze as he struggled for each breath. It was a terrible feeling to leave him lying there, but there were still several hurdles to overcome before we could take him back to the Cradle of Love Baby Home, where he could receive the individual care he so desperately needed.

A few days later, after a pre-scheduled trip, I returned to find an exhausted but enthusiastic roommate. And in Julie's arms, newly christened Kaden, which means "fighter" in Celtic. "He's putting up a fight to live," Julie said with a smile.

Although he was extremely malnourished, through the painstaking process of squeezing milk into his mouth he would finish off about two ounces of liquid in an hour. We kept him in our apartment to assure he received constant care.

In the middle of the night I would often awaken to silence, wondering where the sound of his labored breathing had gone. More than once, I stood over his cradle to make sure his lungs were still going in and out.

A hospital test confirmed Kaden was HIV-positive, and a life-saving saline solution was deposited through an IV to re-hydrate his system and allow him to have a chance at life. What a difference that made! He began to drink more than ever, and after two weeks he had gained almost a pound, raising his weight to an even seven pounds. Though it was impossible to know his real age, his alert eyes and attitude placed him around five or six months old.

The time to return home came too quickly, and I had to say goodbye to everyone who had touched my life so deeply. As I held Kaden in my arms, I wondered who he might become someday and wished I could see



*Kaden gripped Sarah Spangler's finger.*

him celebrate his first birthday ... and beyond. What a journey his life had been, from abandonment at the police station to living like a prince, lavished with love and attention.

Over two months passed before I saw his face again. Davona Church, from the Cradle of Love Baby Home, wrote to inform me he had fought hard against an illness, but just couldn't beat it in the end. Kaden passed away in her arms as she sang, "Jesus Loves the Little Children."

Everything in me wanted to hold him in my arms once more.

Kaden was just one of so many children still struggling to survive in Tanzania. If you would like to learn more about Davona's ministry, please visit <http://www.cradleoflove.com>.



*Kaden's final rest.*

*Sarah Spangler, a 2002 Andrews University graduate, spent last summer working for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in Tanzania, Africa. While there, she also assisted Davona Church in the development of the Cradle of Love Baby Home.*



## Gifts for the Marital Soul

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

**T**his time of year many desire to give those they love the very best gifts. Tangible gifts—when given from the heart and received in love—are appreciated deeply, bringing joy to the giver as well. There are other gifts that can also enhance your soul connection.

Have you thought of giving gifts for your marital soul this year?

There is no single right way nor are there easy steps that work for all relationships, but in building a consistent and meaningful relationship, couple quiet time plays an important part. This is time when deliberate energy is spent to nurture and enhance marital closeness.

While there is no one “right” way or “three easy steps,” I invite you to consider three classic spiritual disciplines, which can be used in special ways to create a pattern that benefits both of you.

### Focus on Shared Worship

Attending church together is important, but it is easy to attend week after week without making a conscious effort to see that you are doing this as a married couple. In worship, God’s transforming power makes its way into your hearts and can give you a renewed capacity to love one another.

### Focus on Shared Service

Something wonderful happens when a couple works as a team to reach out to others. Reaching out together provides opportunities to share compassion with others, which can be reflected back in your marriage. The key is to be deliberate in your plan, seeing this as an opportunity to build your marriage and finding something that fits your own style as a couple.

### Focus on Shared Prayer

Couples who frequently pray together are twice as likely as those who pray less often to

describe their marriages as being highly romantic. Many spiritually devout couples, who are active in church and committed to their faith, never seem to get around to praying together as a couple. No level of being “religious” can make up for the time couples spend in shared prayer. It is important to pray in ways that are meaningful to both; the form of a couples’ prayer is not nearly as important as the act of having a prayer time together. While you each focus on your individual walks with the Lord on a daily basis, committing time each week to nurture prayer time together will reap even more blessings.

Worship, service, and prayer. How exciting that these three spiritual disciplines, ones that we as Christians are so familiar with, can be gifts to your marriage. This holiday season, I invite you to intentionally and specifically honor your marriage partner with gifts that can last a lifetime.



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*Susan Murray is an assistant professor of behavioral science and social work at Andrews University.*



# EXTREME GRACE

## God's Perfect Gift

BY DICK DUERKSEN

A wonderful old story tells of a shepherd who was herding his flock near an oasis in the Sinai desert. Hot day. VERY hot day!

The sweat dribbled down his forehead and evaporated before it reached his beard. He leaned against a rock, eyes narrowed to thin slits, trying not to move, suffering till evening.

Then, a nearby bush exploded into flame.

Eyes wide open, the shepherd remembered other shrubs catching fire on hot desert days. Their oily bark, combined with blast furnace air, would spontaneously combust into a firestorm. Ten, fifteen seconds at the most, before the bush would use up its fuel and drop as ashes onto the sand.

He squinted, watching for this bush to flame out.

It kept burning. And burning—each flame calling him to come closer and see the magic of its fire.

Forgetting the heat he walked toward the fire, getting as close as he could without barbecuing his cloak.

Then the bush called his name. "Moses," the fire said. "Moses!"

Moses, the shepherd, wondered if he was having a heat stroke, tried to remember if he had eaten something dangerous for breakfast,

and looked around for a safe place to hide. But his feet, trembling in their leather sandals, wouldn't move.

"I'm here," he heard his voice answering the bush.

"Take off your sandals," the bush responded, "you're standing on a safe place."



The shepherd never walked in the desert without his sandals. They protected him from sharp rocks, snakes, scorpions, thorns, and incredibly hot sand. Taking them off would be to remove his safety, to abandon what he knew about protecting himself, to trust the voice in the burning bush.

"Moses," the voice echoed as he removed his sandals and stood, safe, on cool soft sand.

For the next twenty minutes, God and Moses talked through the bush. God asked Moses to do a long list of impossible tasks, and Moses argued that he couldn't. God asked again, and Moses still argued that it wouldn't be safe, or wise, or feasible. Then God said the one thing that got Moses through the next 40 years of his life, a life of doing the impossible for God. It was God's perfect gift.

"It's not about you. It's about me. I am the one who will do it all... through you" (see Exodus 3:14).

As the voice died away, and the flames disappeared, Moses understood the fire. If the flames had been using the bush's creosote-filled bark as its fuel, it would have quickly burned out.

Instead, drawing on Divine Fuel, the bush kept burning, and flaming, and crackling, and brightening the mountainside.

"I can't," the shepherd mumbled to himself. Then he looked at the bright-green, unburned bush. "But He can."

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*Dick Duerksen is the assistant vice president of mission development for Florida Hospital in Orlando.*

## Alcohol? It's a No-Brainer

BY VICKI GRIFFIN

Some widely-publicized studies suggest that light to moderate amounts of red wine consumption may lower the risk of heart attacks and fatal heart disease. But one analysis of such studies concluded that, "consumption of up to two drinks per day can promote changes in the levels of molecules that reduce the risk of heart disease, while also increasing the level of certain molecules that promote heart disease."<sup>1</sup>

In fact, even socially-acceptable levels deemed safe for driving prompt a sharp increase in destructive, free radical activity, linked to a wide array of chronic diseases, including liver and heart disease.

Alcohol molecules are very small and are soluble in both fat and water, allowing them to attack almost every tissue in the body. Alcohol is listed by the U.S. National Toxicology Program and the International Agency for Research on Cancer as a known human cancer-causing agent. Just one drink a day increases a woman's risk of breast cancer by nine percent.<sup>2</sup>

According to Kenneth Mukamal, an instructor at Harvard Medical School and associate in medicine at Boston's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, every drink is associated with greater brain shrinkage—linked to dementia.

He remarked, "It's been clear that alcoholics have shrunken brains; it was a bit of a surprise that it wasn't just alcoholics."<sup>3</sup>

The parts of the brain especially susceptible to alcohol damage are the frontal lobes, which are the centers for emotions, planning, and decision making.

In an animal model, dark grape juice was "much more effective" than alcohol-containing wine in its ability to inhibit plaque build-up in the arteries, improve lipids, and raise blood levels of antioxidants that help stave off heart disease.<sup>4</sup>

Plant compounds called polyphenols are thought to be the main source of benefit. It may even be that these polyphenols are behind red wine's ability to dilate blood vessels, apart from the alcohol. Wine without alcohol had the benefit of dilating them more quickly. Alcohol actually delayed the beneficial response, although it did occur.<sup>5</sup>

### So in review:

- ▶ Some studies suggest that drinking wine may have some health benefits, and those benefits appear to be much greater with unfermented grape juice.
- ▶ Alcohol attacks every tissue in the body and increases the risk of disease, including cancer.



- ▶ With each drink of alcohol, brain cells are destroyed and you have less of a brain.

Alcohol? It's a no-brainer!

<sup>1</sup> Mukamal K.J., Rimm E.B., "Alcohol's Effects on the Risk for Coronary Heart Disease," *Alcohol Research & Health*, 2001 Nov:25(4)255-61.

<sup>2</sup> Hamajima N. Br. J., "Alcohol, Tobacco and Breast Cancer—Collaborative Reanalysis of Individual Data from 53 Epidemiological Studies, Including 58,515 Women with Breast Cancer and 95,067 Women Without the Disease," *Cancer*, 2002:87 (11)1234-45.

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Press, Sept. 17, 2001.

<sup>4</sup> Vinson J. A., et al., *Atherosclerosis*, 2001:156(1)67-72.

<sup>5</sup> "Benefits of Red Wine May Not Be Due to Alcohol Content," *Medical Tribune*, 1999:40(1)24.

CORRECTION: The reference from last month's *Lifestyle Matters* article, "Are the Perks Worth the Price?" is from Hurlges Jr., et al., "Endorsement of DSM-IV Dependence Criteria Among Caffeine Users," *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 1998 Oct:52(2)99-107.

Vicki Griffin is the Michigan Conference Health and Temperance director.



## A Sabbath Gift for You

Food for Thought at Jasper Strassenfest

BY BRIAN WILSON

In the towns and cities dotting the rolling hills of southwestern Indiana, there remains a sense of pride among residents in who they are and where they live. This can be seen in the annual festivals each town sponsors. These festivals provide a wonderful opportunity for small churches to witness about the love of Jesus Christ. The challenge is how to create a positive witness without offending others' sense of pride in their own churches and towns, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



Over 30,000 individuals fill the streets of Jasper, Ind., for Strassenfest. Many enjoy the variety of food options available.

For six years, the Huntingburg (Indiana) Church has sold food at a booth during Jasper Strassenfest. This festival has a 26-year history and is held annually during the first week of August. Over 30,000 festival visitors celebrate the area's rich German heritage, more than doubling the town's population.

Members have tried various ways to present a positive witness at Strassenfest, including: passing

out literature, raffling off vegetarian cookbooks, passing out balloons with the church's name on it, etc.

Strassenfest runs from Thursday night to Sunday afternoon, giving the Huntingburg Church the challenge of determining what to do from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown each year. For the past two years, the Holy Spirit led us to a bold witnessing plan; we gave food away during the Sabbath hours.

The Huntingburg Church has never operated a booth at the Strassenfest to make money, but we do our best to break even. Giving away a few hundred dollars worth of food is a step of faith, based on the relatively small annual budget of a church with only 20 members or so. We put our faith in God, and started giving away food this year as the sun set in the west on Friday.

Persons approaching our booth during Sabbath hours fully expected to pay the full price for the nachos and cheese, water, vegetarian tacos or fajitas listed on our sign. Their look of surprise and confusion when told the food was free drew comments like: "You are kidding, right?"; "Can I give a donation?"; and, "Why are you giving the food away?"

Each visitor received a card with the words of Exodus 20:8-11 printed on one side and on the other, the Seventh-day Adventist

Church name, logo, and the words, "A Sabbath gift for you!"

Historically, our slowest day to sell food is Sunday. Even with the parade passing directly in front of our booth, situated on the west side of the Jasper town square, the three-mile route spreads people out so far they are not just located on the square. In the past, a normal Sunday-sale total averaged \$200 to \$300. The cooler weather, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit, resulted in sales of over \$600 this year.

Just as the people of southwestern Indiana have a sense of pride in who they are and where they live, the members of the Huntingburg Church feel a sense of pride in Who we serve and what He accomplished through us during the 2004 Strassenfest.

*Brian Wilson is a member of the Huntingburg Church.*



Huntingburg members prepare to give away free food on Sabbath at Strassenfest.

## Spiritual Refreshment Nurtures Hospital Staff

Laughter and the spirit of love have helped GlenOaks Hospital's female employees get to know each other better during monthly teas offered this year by the Spiritual Life Committee. The *Women in Touch* teas provide an "oasis in the middle of the day," said Delora Hagen, GlenOaks chaplain.

Recently, the committee met to evaluate its *Women in Touch* teas, and concluded they have been a blessing for the hospital's women, providing fellowship, encouragement, and support through a themed tea-time and light lunch. Women relax, reflect, and interact with one another in a spiritual kind of way through topics such as music, memories, relationships, and freedom. For the topic of mothers, the women interacted trying to correctly match pictures of co-workers with their mothers.

"We offer a break for spiritual, physical, and emotional nourishment—with a little bit of fun," said Hagen.

"Participants have been appreciative and thankful for this opportunity," said Char Partlo, a Spiritual Life Committee member, who noted the programs all have a spiritual component. For example, the presentation on humor related to the biblical text, "A cheerful heart is good medicine."

Patrice Beal, a nurse in Employee Health Services, acknowledged the success of the program this way:

"I want to share with you how happy I am to be working in a health organization that is committed to supporting its employees. Since I've been at GlenOaks, I have been increasingly impressed with the integrity

of the AHS organization. They put feet on their mission statement, values, and beliefs—specifically in the spiritual realm. While I have worked at other faith-based hospitals, I have never experienced such a solid



Debbie Buerger, Char Partlo, Suzanne Syputa, Sophia Apostolopoulos, and Delora Hagen are some of the organizers of *Women in Touch* teas at GlenOaks Hospital.

commitment of money and staff and programs to be conduits for Divine activity in the lives of the people who walk the halls and occupy the spaces of the organization.

"Specifically, I have personally benefitted from the *Women In Touch* program. I

feel strongly that women who give of themselves in healthcare need a place to connect and nurture each other in order to continue to serve ... and I have long believed that if women can learn to do this for one another, there will be less burn-out, less turnover, and a strong, healthy, enthusiastic staff to provide excellent customer service from the heart ... not from a mandated program.

"I have seen women come back from *Women in Touch* renewed and serene. I have seen this translated to patients and caring interaction with our customers. Thank you for serving those of us who are serving."

Hagen brought the idea for *Women in Touch* teas to the Spiritual Life Committee. "Women need women to nurture one another, and I proposed this venue for women to build relationships with their co-workers. The committee embraced the idea, and all have pitched in to plan the program topics, menus, and décor."

Suzanne Syputa, another committee member, said, "Employees like the ambiance of the teas, and being away from the hustle and bustle of their workstation."

According to Pam Yates, another committee member, "The lowered lights, music, and conversation transform you for a while. Women like the chance for fellowship in a different atmosphere and appreciate the opportunity to talk with other employees."

"It's nice to see someone in the hall that you met at a tea and now feel that you know them a little better," said Sophia Apostolopoulos.

Attendees have included clinical and non-clinical staff, volunteers, and corporate visitors. The committee is hopeful participants will share the blessing of the programs by inviting other co-workers to come, or taking turns with their co-workers who haven't been able to experience the monthly fellowship because they are covering shift duties.

"We relax, and can be more spontaneous during the teas," said Hagen. "We find we become nicer to each other and that carries back to the workplace."

Lynn Larson, *Adventist Health System Midwest Region*  
Lake Union Herald correspondent



Spiritual Life Committee members Tina Marie Johnson (left) and Debbie Buerger plan a giveaway for their "Memories" program on scrapbooking, presented at a *Women in Touch* tea at GlenOaks Hospital.

## AU Offers New Online Graduate Nursing Degree

The Andrews University Nursing department is very excited about the new, completely online Master of Science in Nursing Education degree program. The degree has been available as an on-site degree for about three years, but effective in the fall of 2004, the degree program is now also available totally online.



*AU now offers a completely online Master of Science in Nursing Education degree program.*

The decision to put the program online was in response to requests, from students across the country and around the world, who would like to continue their education at Andrews but cannot come physically to the campus because they work full-time. Requests were coming from as far as India, Korea, and the West Indies. "Our goal is to reach out, be mission-minded in providing education, moving beyond the borders of the Andrews University campus," stated Karen Allen, Nursing department chair.

Classes are taught through the webCT program, and students can interact with their professors and classmates through chat rooms, e-mail, a discussion board, and phone conferences. An online course provides students the opportunity to access lectures and assignments as often as they like, whenever they like.

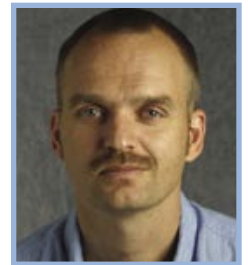
This venue is great for the working parent who can only devote time for education in the evening or on weekends. The program is designed in an intensive format. Students take one class per month, completing a new class every five weeks. The program can be finished in a minimum of five semesters.

The first year consists of core classes; the second year focuses on more advanced, specific courses. The third year is a practicum, which can be completed in the student's selected setting.

The program is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission. For more information about Andrews' M.S. in Nursing Education online degree program, call (800) 253-2874, email [nursing@andrews.edu](mailto:nursing@andrews.edu), or log onto their website at [nursing@andrews.edu](http://nursing@andrews.edu), or log onto their website at [www.andrews.edu/nursing](http://www.andrews.edu/nursing).

*Beverly Stout, University Relations  
Lake Union Herald correspondent*

## Teacher in the Spotlight



*Gunnar Lovhoiden*

Unless you've been blessed with the Herculean veins of Arnold Schwarzenegger, you probably don't look forward to having your blood drawn. While it might never be a desirable experience, future blood tests should be a significantly less-threatening ordeal for all hemophobes, thanks to the work of Gunnar Lovhoiden, professor of engineering at Andrews University.

In his recently-completed Ph.D. project, Lovhoiden successfully designed a device that enables medical professionals to detect usable veins in 94 percent of all difficult intravenous cases. The device, named OnTarget, beams infrared light into a patient's skin, and utilizes the differing absorption properties of veins and surrounding tissue to create a real time "map" of the subdermal region. This image is then captured, processed, and projected back onto the patient's skin, showing precisely where blood vessels lie. OnTarget is already sending shockwaves through the bioengineering community, and Lovhoiden now sits as a minority shareholder on the Board of Directors for Conenhill, a company seeking to produce commercial units of the device.

Not bad for a man who, as a youth in Norway, resolved to do "anything but teach," and much preferred things like cross-country skiing to engineering. Lovhoiden, now twenty years wiser, admits that his post in engineering academia is a "perfect fit," and as you listen to him elucidate the intricacies of OnTarget, you realize that he's right. Teaching comes as naturally as cross-country skiing for this Norwegian.

*Aaron Beaumont, University Relations student news writer*



# A BOX FULL OF LOVE

BY JUDI DOTY

**W**hat does a small church, shoeboxes, and Christmas have in common? Those who have heard of Operation Christmas Child (OCC) will know!

OCC was started eleven years ago by Franklin Graham with shoebox gifts for children in Bosnia. Now the gifts bring joy and hope to many impoverished children around the world.

In the fall of 1997, Esther Jones, a member of the Buchanan (Michigan) Seventh-day Adventist Church, presented the OCC ministry idea to church members through an introductory video. She invited members to become a part of this special Christmas gift giving—a fun project to minister to children around the world with just a simple shoebox. She explained how children in countries of the world who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine are in great need to learn about Jesus.

By filling a shoebox with little gifts and personal items, members could show these children the love of Jesus through their kindness. She encouraged all who could to fill one shoebox with school supplies, personal items, toys, stuffed animals, Bibles, Sabbath school papers, candy, etc.—things that would bring a smile to the faces of these children who have been through so much in their young lives.

Esther was hoping to amass 40 shoebox gifts to take to an Indianapolis collection center. A few days later she asked Ed Jackson, another member of the church and an executive for Wal-Mart, if he could provide the church with some empty shoeboxes for the project. He said he'd see what he could do, and borrowing the video he shared the idea with his associates at several Wal-Mart stores. "Within a week, word had spread about the project and we soon outgrew the hauling capacity of my minivan with over 500 shoeboxes," explained Esther. "That's when our friends at Wal-Mart again stepped in and provided transportation of the boxes to Indianapolis." For three years Wal-Mart provided transportation, until

the 3,000-box goal was passed and the Niles (Michigan) Seventh-day Adventist School became a regional collection center.

Esther's children attended the Niles Adventist School. The school had the space and a staff willing to share that space for service, so it soon became a shoebox collection site for a territory with a 50 to 70-mile radius each November. Over 35,000 shoebox gifts have been received at the school in the past seven years and over 10,000 more were expected during the collection held November 15–22, 2004. Students and staff participate by making shoebox gifts, and, along with volunteers, pack the shoeboxes into cartons, and load the cartons into the two-plus Roadway semi trailers now provided each year by Samaritan's Purse (the organization that operates OCC).

Many children who receive these gifts have never heard of Jesus before. OCC encourages contributors to include Bibles and other Christian materials in their shoebox gifts. As the gifts are handed out to the children, each is given a little book telling the story of Jesus in their own language. Because their life span is cut short



with AIDS, war, or poverty, these children don't have much time to learn what the love of Jesus is all about. Local ministers and missionaries provide follow-up Bible lessons to these children and their families to help them learn more.

One boy from Zambia started jumping up and down and clapping his hands when he received a Bible in his shoebox gift. He had been praying to Jesus for a Bible, and Jesus answered his prayers! Another little boy, at a different delivery site, came up to the group unpacking cartons of shoebox gifts and said, "I hope you have a box there for me with shoes in it—I've been praying for shoes." Upon opening his box, he found exactly what he had been praying for, a pair of shoes—and they were his size! In another place, a little girl was earnestly praying for a whole Bible because all she had was a tattered part of the New Testament. She was so excited to find a whole Bible in her box that she didn't even look at the toys. She just kept showing everyone her whole Bible. Just recently in Beslan, Russia, terrorists seized a school and massacred more than 300 children and adults. Only a few months prior to this, OCC had distributed shoebox gifts at this school. It is believed that many of these children accepted Christ—children were

seen praying together prior to the massacre. How urgent it is to share the gospel, and what a powerful message a shoebox can send.

Gifts are not only exciting to the children who



*Students assembling some of the 900 cartons that will be packed with the expected 10,000-plus shoebox gifts to arrive at the Niles (Mich.) Seventh-day Adventist School Collection Site for Operation Christmas Child. From left: Jamie Howell, Rebecca Johnson, Ryan Edwards, Prince Mangena, and Adrian Willauer*

receive them, but those who send them get a blessing, too. Ladies in a St. Joseph (Michigan) church knitted mittens to put in each of their shoebox gifts. Later, they received a picture of the children in a Russian orphanage, all wearing a pair of the mittens sent by these ladies.



*Students from the Niles (Mich.) Seventh-day Adventist School assist with counting and packing shoebox gifts during the annual collection week in mid-November. From left: Jennifer Mangena, Samantha Snively, Janessa Howell, Kara Baker, Cheyenne Gustafson, and Joni Hughes*

In 2003, OCC collected over 6.6 million shoebox gifts worldwide and distributed them to children in some 95 countries. This year, their goal is to collect seven million shoebox gifts.

Every age can become involved in bringing the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift—to these hurting children. "For people who are suffering, Christmas can be a wonderful reminder that God has not forsaken them. Wherever our gifts go, we can be sure that they will bring smiles to children and glory to God," remarked Esther. Please pray that the gifts of love will touch the hearts of the children who receive them and their families. Just imagine the stories we will hear in Heaven from these shoebox gifts!

*Judi Doty, Lake Union Herald back pages editor, with Esther Jones, Operation Christmas Child Regional Collection Site volunteer coordinator*





## Another Chance

BY GARY BURNS

For the past six years, Leon Jones has brought the gospel through music to the Burns Adventist Church community in Detroit, Michigan. I had the privilege of attending this year's "Community Jam." It was a day filled with music, food, and fun, all of which carried one important message—the gospel offers a new life.

Leon's passion for sharing the gospel came from personal experience. As a member of the Burns church, back in the days when Marshal Kelly was pastor, Leon's musical giftedness eventually brought opportunities to play in clubs and other questionable venues. As a result, his attendance became irregular and his spiritual commitment uncertain. Leon's lifestyle choices eventually landed him in prison in 1977.



Leon Jones

While there, Leon was contacted by members of Prison Fellowship, a national prison ministries organization founded by former Nixon aide, Charles Colson, and he began the process of recovery and healing.

Leon shared his new life with those around him and determined, along with fellow inmate, Robert Evans, to do all he could to share the gospel and help others.

He returned to the Burns church in 1981, his love for Jesus strong and with a passion to help his community.

In 1986, Leon and Robert formed a recording group to provide a vehicle for their new-life message. "Music is the instrument we use to reach people," Leon stated with a sense of mission. "We chose 'Resurrection' for the name

of our group because we had experienced death to an old way of life and resurrection to a new way of life," he recalled.

After two years sharing the story of their changed lives through music, they were encouraged by Charles Colson, four-time pro bowler Bill Glass, and others, to formally establish their ministry in prisons, rehab centers, youth homes, and communities. They



officially formed Another Chance Ministries, a non-profit corporation. They began participating in local programs and ministries associated with Prison Fellowship. Colson liked what he saw and set up a tour for them in the Midwest.

“My ministry is not only to inmates, but to victims,” says Leon. “We can do more in an effective and practical way to empower people to share the gospel. My calling, as a member of the church, is to mobilize people in their community, reach the person who would never come into a church, and share the gospel with that person. We are in denial about practical issues within our church. God has taken my experience and refined it to use it to glorify Him. I want to encourage others to take our religion to the streets. I see Jesus moving about in communities, even amongst the religious leaders, to transform and restore humanity.”



*Community Jam 2004 was enjoyed by many members of the community.*

In October of this year, Leon received a special award from Jennifer Granholm, the Michigan governor, for community involvement. At the ceremony, he spoke about putting programs in place to help ex-offenders return to their communities. “Unless we do something, they *will* become repeat offenders,” Leon pleaded. “Policies and legislation should be passed that will allow offenders to contribute to the community as part of their rehabilitation and as part of the process of their release. They have a message to share with those



*Leon Jones performing with “Resurrection”*

who are on the verge of coming into the [prison] system. Offenders have a responsibility to better themselves while they are in prison,” he stated.

Speaking about the church, Leon says, “I have a real concern, because if we don’t do something for these people, they become a threat to themselves as well as a threat to us. It is time for the church to have programs that can make a real difference. Most churches mean good, but they don’t have the people in place to do what needs to be done. You can’t put a band-aid on a belly wound. There is a real sense of urgency for us, as a remnant church, to recognize and understand that we must be about our Father’s business of distributing the gospel and the three angels’ messages. We’ve gotten caught up in a lot of other things.”

Leon believes the church has a responsibility, as ambassadors of Christ, to be represented in more situations. “We’ve been silent for too many years on issues that really matter. Jesus was in the mix. He was stirring things up, not to cause trouble, but to get people to think,” observes Leon. “We haven’t encouraged critical thinking in these critical times. It’s all right there—in black and white—in

those little books we read. We’ve been silent on issues that effect our communities and the entire world. We really have the answer. We should proclaim it!”

He also suggests we need to be more visible as individuals within our communities, as liaisons connected to city counsels, government officials, and civic leaders. He even suggests that we invite the community to our churches for town hall planning sessions and match community needs and suggestions with our resources and ministries. Another suggestion is to approach businesses with a plan to sponsor at-risk kids in youth and children’s ministry programs, such as Pathfinders.

Leon’s conversion experience in prison has not only given him another chance and a new life, but a greater sense of his responsibility to his community and a deep compassion for those who do not know what he knows about a loving, compassionate God who can change lives—a God who offers another chance.

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*Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director and Lake Union Herald editor.*



# Projecting Jesus with Compassionate Living

BY TONY CAMPOLO

whoever declared the Jubilee was simultaneously declaring himself the Messiah—the Son of God.

He starts to read, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. He has called upon me to bring good news to the poor, sight to the blind, deliverance to the captives; to heal the brokenhearted. He has called upon me to declare the acceptable year of our Lord.”

The crowd is shocked. He sits down. The Bible says the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were upon Him. Do you understand why?

You say, “All He did was read the Scripture.” They knew it was more than that. They’re staring at Him because they knew whoever declared the Jubilee was calling himself the Messiah—the Son of God.

And then He says, “This day, this Scripture is fulfilled in your eyes.” It’s as though He was saying, “In case you didn’t get it folks, I’m it.”

By the time He finishes, they’re mad. They drag Him to the edge of town and they’re going to throw Him over the edge of a cliff. And then there’s this incredible scene where Jesus turns on the mob. He just turns and stares down the crowd. He walks straight at this angry mob, and as He does, can’t you see them just split?

Jesus came to declare the Jubilee. Jesus came with good news for the poor.

Please understand that there are a lot of issues to be raised. And the evangelicals have raised the abortion issue as it should be

raised. But we’ve got to remember what Jesus says about abortion. Well, He doesn’t say anything. Well, what about homosexuality? That’s a big issue. What does He say about that? He doesn’t say anything about that either. Not that He didn’t know about these things, they just weren’t on His big ten hit list. Number one on His big ten hit list of sins were religious people who go around condemning everybody else—who condemn the gays—who condemn women who are frightened and don’t know where to go and have abortions. That’s who He condemns. He understands more than we understand. Not that He’s not against these things. I’m just saying, these are not His big ten.

The thing that really concerns Him is poverty. Is that not true? There are 2,000 verses in Scripture where we are called upon to respond to the needs of the poor. It’s funny the way we ignore *that* one. In fact, the only description Jesus gives of Judgment Day is in how we’ve responded to the poor.

I wish it were theological. I mean, I wish He would give me a theological test on Judgment Day, ‘cause if He did, I’m in. I’m what they call Orthodox Evangelical. I believe the Bible from cover to cover. I even believe the leather is genuine!

I just wish He would ask some theological questions, like, “Campolo, before we let you in ... The virgin birth—strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree—checkmark.” If they were the questions—I’m in. They’re

**T**he Jews knew they were supposed to observe Sabbath. They observed the seventh day. Sometimes they observed the seventh year, but biblical historians will tell us never once did Jews observe the year of Jubilee. They were Sabbath breakers.

The 61st chapter of Isaiah says this: “You people who never observed the Sabbath year—the year of Jubilee; when the Messiah comes, the Messiah will institute the Jubilee. You will know who the Messiah is, not because he performs miracles, you will know who the Messiah is because he will declare the Jubilee.”

Let’s move ahead to the fourth chapter of Luke. Jesus returns to His hometown, Nazareth. I’m sure the synagogue was packed that Friday night. Everybody He’s ever known growing up is there. He asks for the Scriptures. He opens the Bible. And what does He open it to? The 61st chapter of Isaiah. Now please understand, they knew their Bible in those days. They knew

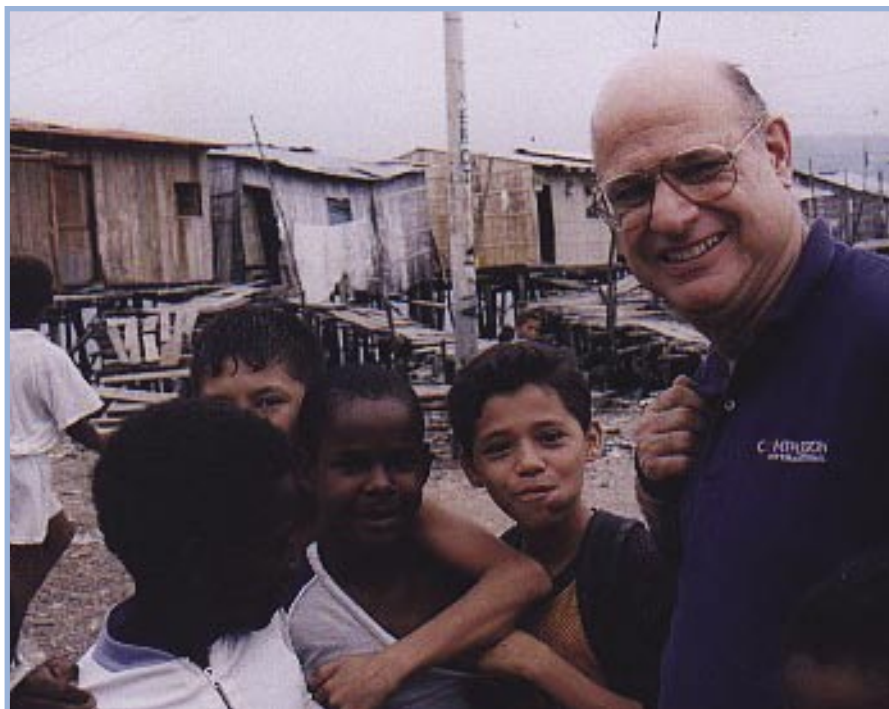
not the questions. The questions are: "I was hungry—did you feed Me? Naked—did you clothe Me? Sick—did you care for Me? I was the stranger, the alien—did you take Me in?"

You say, "It sounds like works salvation." No. You're saved because you have a personal relationship with Jesus. Having said that, what Jesus is saying is, "You can't have a personal relationship with Me without having a personal relationship with the poor." You can't love God without loving the poor. You can't be connected to Jesus without being connected to the poor.

Saint Francis of Assisi said that the poor are sacramental. When you confront the poor, the same Jesus who died on the cross for you, the same Jesus who was resurrected and is coming again—that same Jesus mystically comes through the poor to you. It doesn't make them Christians. They just become vehicles, sacramental vehicles, by which you encounter Jesus. That's why when you reject the poor you are rejecting Jesus, because Jesus comes to you through the poor. You see, if He came to you any other way, you wouldn't be able to do anything for Him.

So the Eternal Christ, the Lord of Lords, the One who owns the cattle on a thousand hills, and the wealth in every mine—that same Jesus says, "I will present Myself to you in a way that you can serve Me. I will wrap Myself up in poor people and whatever you do to them, you do to Me."

Please grasp this. I worry about the Seventh-day Adventists. I travel in your circles, and you're all getting rich. And you think that this tithing thing you do is going to get you off the hook. Why don't you change the hymnbook? I've seen your hymnbook. Why don't you change it? Why don't you rewrite it so it says, "One-tenth to Jesus,



I surrender. One-tenth to Him I gladly give." All together on the chorus, "I surrender one-tenth ... ."

*Listen* to me. When Jesus calls a man, when Jesus calls a woman, says Dietrich Bonhoeffer, "He bids him come and die."

We spend all kinds of money on buildings to honor somebody who says, "I dwell not in temples made with hands." If Jesus has a choice between a stained glass window and feeding some starving kids in Haiti, what do you think He would do with the money? You *know* what He would do.

We put an embargo on Iraq. The Red Cross tells us that a half-million children, under the age of 12, died as a direct result of that embargo. How could we, as Christians, stand by and let that happen? We should have mortgaged our buildings and forgotten the government. The church knows that if your enemy hungers, you do what? You feed him. If he's naked, you clothe him. And if he's sick, you minister to him. Doesn't it say that? You say, "You don't bring down dictators that way." That's *exactly* how you bring them down. According to

Scripture, "For in so doing, you heap coals of fire ... ."

You can't kill off a half-million children and expect them to cheer you when you march into town. What if we had done the right thing? Would it have not changed the attitude of the entire country toward America? It's as Chesterton said, "It's not that Christianity has been tried and failed. It's that Christianity has not yet been tried."

We have to start living according to the Bible. We have to start living according to biblical truth. We have to become the peacemakers, and we have to start doing things God's way. This is crucial to see. "Whatever you do to the least of these, you do to Me."

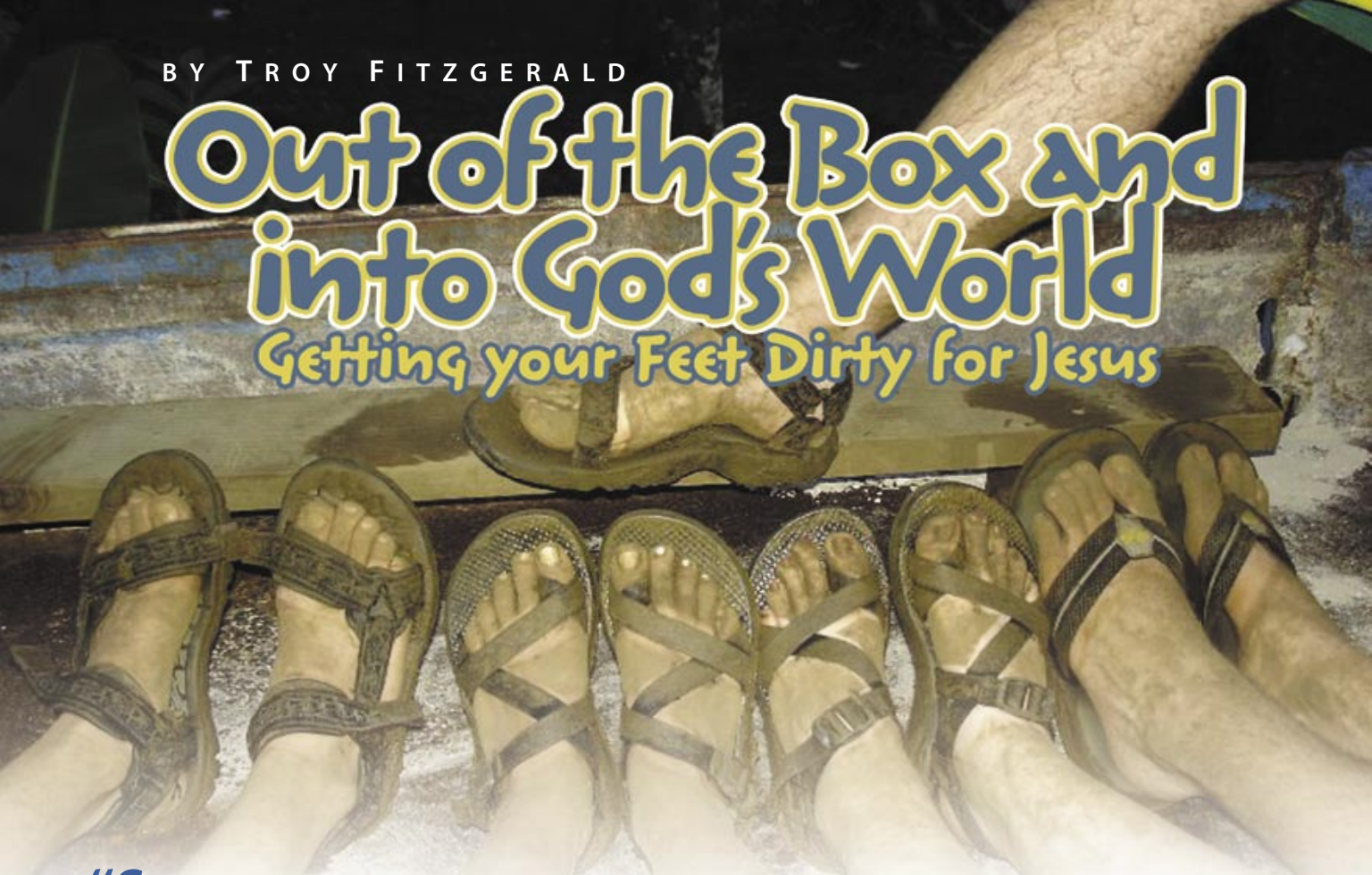
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*Keynote address by Tony Campolo at the first International Conference on Adventists in the Community, held October 14–16, 2004, at the General Conference. Printed with permission. Tony Campolo is professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University in Pennsylvania, the author of 32 books, and founder and president of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education.*

BY TROY FITZGERALD

# Out of the Box and into God's World

## Getting your Feet Dirty for Jesus



**"S**uddenly it hit me—I need to pay more attention here to what I am doing. People are dying and they don't know who Jesus is."

"God really gave me a chance to think about things ... to really know what I believe."

"I really started to come to the realization that I needed to change my teaching to make it Christ-centered."

"I found a lot of faults about myself. There are just so many weak points that were just brought right out in the open."

"I learned that with the help of God, I can do things that previously I didn't think I could do."

"I had so much time to read the Bible, to study, and to pray."

"I had one of my little girls on my lap and somebody was praying; she turned around to me and said, 'Teacher, can you teach me how to pray like you pray?'"

"I saw a lot of miracles."

So many stories. So much to learn about learning. So many

beautiful young people who spent themselves for the Savior.

These responses were gathered as part of a five-year study of students across America who dedicated one year of their lives to missionary\* service. The purpose of the study was to determine the impact of the experience on young adults, and to determine what aspects of the experience are transformational.

### Meeting the Challenge of High Expectations

High expectations usually create a greater determination to succeed. I liken this dynamic to the functional difference between a thermometer and a thermostat. A thermometer simply registers the temperature of its own environment. A thermostat sets the standard for the desired temperature, then employs every resource available to make the desired temperature a reality.

Students were expected to do things beyond the range of their perceived abilities. Sophomore English majors taught secondary students in Pohnpei. Nursing students ran medical clinics. Theology majors planted churches. Young men and women served around the world as teachers, deans, pastors, principals, chaplains, Bible workers, engineers, and project managers. In spite of apparent insufficiency, they surpassed their own previous expectations.

Students claimed to have been "pushed," "stretched," and "challenged,"—well beyond what they thought they could handle—emerging with confidence to do things they never dreamed of doing back home. Jesus must have shocked His disciples when He said, "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because

I am going to the Father” (John 14:12,13 NIV). It’s hard to imagine the disciples buying into that bold claim after witnessing Jesus feed the multitudes, heal lepers, and raise people from the dead. Maybe Jesus was exaggerating. Or, maybe the greatest event in God’s kingdom occurs when the Spirit of the risen Christ saturates believers with both the humility of a servant and the boldness of a champion.

### Perseverance Through Adversity Results in Transformation

Riddled with personality conflicts, ethical and moral dilemmas, loneliness, frustration, ambivalence, despair, and often what seems to be a long list of unanswered prayers, students experienced life to the extreme. Some compared it to the weather in the islands—unmerciful downpours of rain that give way to beautiful sunshine in a matter of moments.

Almost all of the students were unwilling to trade the trials that a year of service taught them.

James understood this dynamic when he said, “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything” (James 1:2–4 NIV). Paul echoes the same sentiment saying, “...but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope” (Romans 5:3, 4 NIV).

### Practicing Spiritual Disciplines Produces Spiritual Growth

Spiritual disciplines are the exercises of the spiritual life—Bible reading, prayer, service, repentance, fasting, worship, solitude, stewardship, evangelism, leaps of faith, and moments of sacrifice. In some cases, students were required to teach Bible, lead out in worship, facilitate small groups, organize service projects, and many more activities that deepen the strength of the soul. When students “pray like never before,” or discover “the



most effective ways to communicate the gospel in another culture,” it’s hard to imagine a better venue for training young people to be disciples of Christ. “I came to own my beliefs because I had to search them out for myself,” stated one student. Another student claimed, “For the first time in my life, I felt like my faith in God belonged to me.” Christ gains lifetime workers when students conclude, “my life is now about serving others.”

One of the assumptions of this study was that service might be an effective vehicle to transform young adults spiritually. This is certainly true from my perspective. It was during my own year of service that I fell in love with the joy of service.

It has made an inefaceable impact on my life and has given me a pattern to engage in learning about God’s amazing grace by giving it away through service to others. It’s not a new technique for our churches and schools, nor is it a foreign concept:

“True education means more than the perusal of a certain course of study. It means more than a preparation for the life that now is. It has to do with the whole being, and with the whole period of existence possible to man. It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come.”<sup>1</sup>

In summary, these college students believe their relationship with God grew as a result of their service. They maintain that their year of service caused them to cling to God, and rely on Him in ways that would not have occurred in their normal setting. Many students reflect on how their worldview expanded or how serving others developed their leadership skills. Ultimately, the impact of serving for a year fostered life-changing spiritual growth.

*Troy Fitzgerald is the Walla Walla Church youth pastor.*

<sup>1</sup> Ellen White, Education. (Mountain View, Calif.: Pacific Press Publishing Assoc., 1952), p. 13.

*\*This study includes task force workers and student missionaries. Whether they served domestically or overseas, they did the work of missionaries.*



# S-O-S

## Lake Union Members Answer Distress Calls

BY DIANE THURBER



**H**ow do you prepare for a hurricane, let alone multiple hurricanes? Two to four major hurricanes were predicted for the 2004 Atlantic hurricane season. And arrive they did—with a fury that hadn't been seen or felt for many years. Slamming through the Caribbean and criss-crossing the South, Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne left marks on the homes and hearts of those brushed by their force. Awakening to a different reality after the storms, hurricane victims turned to outside sources for relief and support.

Adventist Community Services disaster response teams made a huge impact. In Florida, conference teams distributed over 80,000 meals, 2,664 tarps, 38 semi-truck loads of paper and food goods, 23 semi-trucks of ice and water, and donated \$20,000 in roofing material and \$25,000 of fresh food.

But they couldn't assist all the cries for help, and neither could local agencies attempting to meet

the needs of residents in the South and throughout the Caribbean. Individuals far and wide took action in a variety of ways as S.O.S. calls were heard from effected areas. Some Lake Union Conference members heard the distress calls and quickly responded.

### Illinois Crew Assists Florida Victims

On September 14, 2004, Springfield (Illinois) Adventist Church member Ed Skinner, his son, his father, and two of Ed's employees from Midwest Pallet in Beardstown, Illinois, headed for Florida with two telehandlers, a semi-truck with a dump trailer, and their camper, to help with clean-up efforts following the Pensacola-area hurricane disasters.

Ed's business builds and repairs pallets; irreparable pallets are ground up in huge wood grinders for mulch, then bagged and sold at home improvement centers. Ed knew the wood grinders would be helpful with clean-up of downed trees, so they were also included.

When the group arrived mid-afternoon in Crestview, Florida, they were welcomed and put directly to work. No time was wasted getting accustomed to the twelve-hour daily ritual!

With no local accommodations, no electricity, and no drinking water, the 35-foot, fifth wheel camper was home to the five-man crew. They were thankful to have been forewarned—others were sleeping in their trucks and bathing in ditches!

For over seven weeks they assisted with county clean-up efforts, fifty miles east of Pensacola. The devastation in the area was unbelievable. Sand had blown into town and was piled up in six-foot-high dunes—mimicking snowdrifts.

The crews hauled away brush, debris from the flooding, furniture, carpet, and whatever no-longer-valuable belongings were piled by the street.

The population in the area is mainly retirement age; therefore,

construction crews—stretched thin by more work than they could handle in a timely manner—had to be hired. Crews unfamiliar with the area had trouble locating the correct work areas, since many highway signs were blown away by high winds.

Through all this, many hurricane victims remained unbelievably positive. “Thank You” and “God Bless You” signs lined the roadways, reminding the hard-working crews they were appreciated for all they were doing to help! Many residents rushed out to the streets to thank the operators and offered bottled water, soda, fresh cookies, fried chicken, etc.

Help is still needed throughout the area—money, materials, or household items—and work crews to help rebuild would be welcome. To make donations for hurricane victims, contact the Florida Conference at (407) 644-5000.

### **Grenada Hurricane Victims Receive Unexpected Support from Michigan**

Excitement was in the air at the 110-member Marshall (Michigan) Adventist Church in October. Ciprian Bolah, who previously attended the Marshall Church while studying in the United States, and his wife, Velma, had finally arrived from Grenada for a visit. Hurricane Ivan delayed their arrival, but the extra time provided an opportunity for the Bolahs to assess the small island’s damages. Marshall members were eager to respond.

Besides the tremendous personal needs of Grenada’s 93,000 residents who found 90% of their homes destroyed, the storm destroyed the nutmeg trees that produced the island’s largest export income. Island residents were rendered destitute by the destruction of the nutmeg trees.

Not only was the agricultural island’s food supply destroyed, but looters soon cleaned out inventory in local markets. Residents of Grenada



*Velma and Ciprian Bolah packaged donations for the 21-day boat trip to Grenada.*

were forced to depend on outside help until a new crop could be raised.

The Bolahs’ short weekend visit to Marshall gave little time for members to round up supplies to help Grenada residents, but everyone was spurred into action on Sabbath morning. A list of needed items was placed in the church bulletin, and Kelly Kinsley, Marshall head elder, rallied members to the cause during the home missionary period.

Armed with lists of needed supplies, which included dry foods, health care needs, seeds, and hardware, everyone soon set to work to acquire the various items before the Bolahs’ departure. High priority items included chain saws (which had to be new to be cleared for shipment), hammers, roofing nails, and flashlights with extra batteries.

Cash gifts covered shipping costs, and the church members’ supplies were augmented by the donations of local businesses. When the daughter of a Marshall member approached a Farm Bureau supervisor about the cause, he remarked, “This is a wonderful time. We’d be glad to donate all the bulk seeds on our shelves.” Dry food products were also donated by the Apple Valley Market.

The home of Mike and Phyllis Chucta served as collection center

for the donated goods, where they were packaged for the 21-day boat trip to Grenada.

The gifts made a huge impact on the lives of members in the Samaritan and Belmont Seventh-day Adventist Churches. Needs assessments were coordinated by Ciprian, who attempted “to reach members and non-Adventist individuals in remote villages who hadn’t received relief from other agencies.”

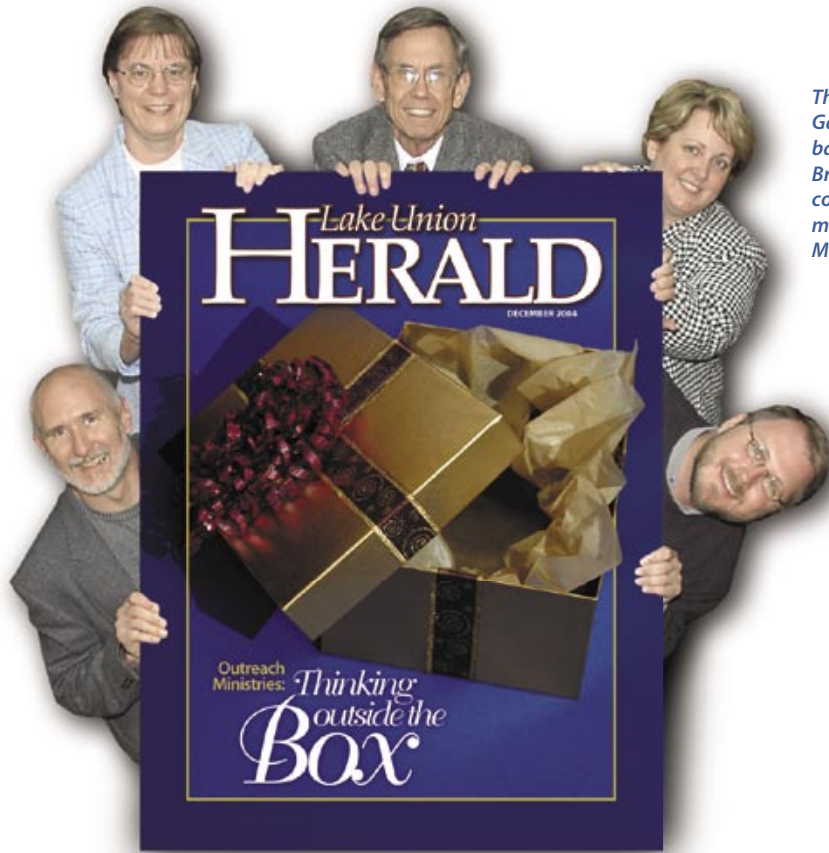
Ciprian remarked, “This [the donations by Marshall members] is extremely touching! It was really amazing and unbelievable to see the way they rallied together so quickly. The most touching of all was seeing the way they did it with such joy and enthusiasm.” He continued, “This will go a long way to help us cope with the disaster.

When you know your brothers and sisters are standing up with you, it really helps you cope.”

Next time you hear a distress call—take action, and discover the blessings in store for you.

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*Diane Thurber is the Lake Union Herald managing editor; written with contributions from Joi Avante, Illinois Conference news writer, Phyllis Chucta, of Marshall, Michigan, and Debbie Skinner, of Springfield, Illinois.*



*The Herald Staff, from left: Gary Burns, editor; Judi Doty, back pages editor and circulation; Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent; Diane Thurber, managing editor; and Mark Bond, designer.*

## The People Behind the Herald

BY GARY BURNS

**H**ow things have changed! The information available to us, the way we communicate, and the way we do business is changing so fast one can hardly keep up. Our world seems to get smaller and smaller as we become more connected with people and places around the world instantaneously.

And technology gives us opportunities to share the gospel and advance the kingdom in ways we never would have imagined. Who would have thought a magazine could be produced without typewriters or typesetters? Without a light table or darkroom? Without Exacto knives and rubber cement? Welcome to the digital

and virtual office of the *Lake Union Herald*.

Our production starts with direction from Union administration. The *Herald* is a tool administration uses to communicate with you, the reader. In it, we “tell the stories of what God is doing in the lives of His people.” We seek input from our conference presidents so there is balance within our territory and so conferences can build each other up by sharing God’s blessings.

An editorial calendar is formed and themes are assigned to each issue. This calendar is published on the web for everyone’s consideration. Editorial direction

is given to our managing editor, Diane Thurber, who works from her home office in Noblesville, Indiana. She directs a team of about 35 contributing writers and section editors, scattered throughout five states. They represent conference communication directors and assistants, public relations officers at institutions, and writers.

One writer is Bruce Babienco, a retired pastor and former communication director of the Michigan Conference. Bruce volunteers time to write stories about new members.

Judi Doty, our back pages editor, works closely with Diane. Judi is responsible for all the





*A virtual ta*

announcements, mileposts, and classified ads. She is the home base for the *Herald*, working at the Lake Union office as the communication department secretary. In addition, she is our head proofreader.

Another proofreader is Candy Clark. Each month, Candy reviews the entire magazine during two separate stages of the production cycle to look for errors and inconsistencies. Her corrections, along with Judi's, are sent to Diane for final inclusion in the *Herald*.

The one responsible for the look of the *Herald* is our designer, Mark Bond. Mark takes all the stories, articles, features, news items, advertisements, and editorials, and assembles them together in a setting that is nothing less than a work of art. Diane and Mark spend about a week each month going over design elements and corrections. When they are finished, Mark sends the *Herald* to Color Press in Walla Walla, Washington, where it is converted into signature plates from which proofs are made. These are sent to Mark for final approval of color and positioning before the presses run. A stitched *Herald* proof is also sent to Diane to make sure the final product looks the way it is supposed to. Once everything is approved, about 33,000 copies of the *Herald* are printed and mailed directly to your home, as well as Adventist institutions around

the world. The entire issue is then posted to the web, where it is available to be read online, or downloaded and printed.

So how is it that we can produce the *Herald* without typewriters and typesetters, light tables or dark rooms, Exacto knives or rubber cement? And how can I edit while on the road or in the air? And how can Diane be the managing editor while staying at home with her family in Indiana? And how can so many contributing writers and section editors be scattered over such a large territory? And how can Mark design the *Herald* from his barnyard office in the middle of Montana? It's all made possible through Manage Everything, a cutting edge, web-based program offered by MCM Design Studios and Color Press.

Through this program, every member of the *Herald* team can logon to submit articles, upload photos, and edit copy. In addition, the *Herald* staff and conference communication directors have access to every article of every issue while it goes through the editing and production stages to ensure accuracy and to help us remain faithful to our mission. The *Herald* remains complete and accessible from anywhere in the world, at any time of the day.

As I write this article I am away from the office, yet Judi,

Diane, Mark, and I are in constant communication with each other through instant messaging, and voice and video conferencing, from Michigan, Indiana, Montana, and wherever I happen to be at the time.

You too can be a part of our team and a part of the process. Visit our website at [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org). Click "Schedule," and you will be directed to a place where you can find the subjects of upcoming issues and learn how to submit news or stories for publication. You can also contact any member of the staff to give your input and suggestions. We welcome your participation.

As you can see, it takes a lot of people covering a large territory to put the *Herald* together each month. I appreciate the staff and all the correspondents listed at the end of the *Herald*. Take a moment to look through the list. You need to especially note our communication directors from each conference pictured above. They are the leaders in providing the good news and stories you enjoy each month.

Thank you all, for another great year "telling the stories of what God is doing in the lives of His people."

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*Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director and Lake Union Herald editor.*

## Peterson-Warren Alumni Invest in Christian Education

**Lake Region**—Excitement and anticipation grew as people arrived at Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA) for Alumni Sabbath, Sept. 18, 2004. Alumni came from as far away as Alabama for this special occasion.

As the gymnasium filled for Sabbath school, former classmates renewed friendships and caught up on old “class news.” The morning service was presented by Eric Thomas of Lansing, Mich., who challenged alumni to give back by looking “from whence they came.” He impressed upon listeners that PWA should be getting better and better each year, and stressed this can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all those present.

After delivering a powerful message, he informed alumni that commitments totaling \$10,000 were needed to purchase new playground equipment. Within twelve minutes of making the request, hands were raised pledging to meet the challenge.

Usually, after the emotions die down, people forget that commitments were made. However, after Thomas’ appeal a special collection was made and to everyone’s delight, a total of \$12,000 was collected that very day! Praise the Lord who reigns on high!

Later that night a full cast presented the professional play, “Tricks of the Enemy,” to a sold out audience. The play emphasized that the devil has many tricks he uses on us if we are not grounded in the truth. After watching the play, all should now understand why our church schools are important.

A special “Thank you!” goes to alumnae Alice Dent, Sharon Smith, and Shirley Tatum for organizing the day’s events on behalf of the school. We hope to see you next year.

*Juanita Martin, Peterson-Warren Academy principal*

## Week of Prayer Speaker Challenges Students

**Michigan**—Students were challenged and inspired every morning with stories and scripture by David Shin, Village Church youth pastor, during our fall Week of Prayer, Sept. 20–24. The theme for the week was “Making God First, Last, and Best in Your Life.”

Shin spoke from his heart, giving both personal testimonies and Bible stories about individuals who



*David Shin, Week of Prayer speaker, challenged students to seek God first.*

put God first. He challenged students to seek God first, even when they don’t feel like it or are distracted by other things. He also encouraged students to step out in faith and let God do His work in their lives.

Shin is new at the Village Church in Berrien Springs. He comes most recently from Kalamazoo, where he was an associate pastor. His energy and enthusiasm is contagious, and his love for Jesus and young people is evident in both his actions and words. We were blessed to have him start our year off on the right path as he helped us realize we need to put God first in our lives.

On Friday, the last day of Week of Prayer, several students presented Shin with a Village Adventist Elementary School sweatshirt as a token of appreciation for being their speaker.

Shin received requests for baptismal studies from 40 students in grades 5–8. It was a great week of spiritual emphasis. We are blessed to have Shin as part of the Village pastoral staff.

*John Chen, Village Adventist Elementary School principal*

## Youth Learn Lifestyle Improvement Skills

**Michigan**—Seventh- and eighth-graders from 30 Mich. schools participated in this year's *LIFT* program at Camp Au Sable, Oct. 3–6. *LIFT* (Lifestyle Improvement for Teens) is a three-day retreat designed to teach students the importance of spiritual, emotional, and physical health for personal growth and outreach.



Candy Clark

*Students made healthy snacks while learning how nutrition effects brain function, mood, and sleeping patterns.*

Each morning and afternoon, classes were offered on a variety of topics relating to physical and spiritual health. Students learned how to make healthy snacks, ways to resolve family problems, creative ways to get exercise and have fun at the same time, and effective natural remedies for common illnesses. Classes were also offered to teach new ways to study the Bible, share your faith, and seek a stronger relationship with God.

Each morning, Joshua Szynkowski, a ninth-grade home school student from Pullman, Mich., talked to the students about daily communication with Jesus. The days were filled with classes and activities such as horseback riding, go carts, and canoeing.

In the evening, Chris Davisson, seventh-grade teacher at Village Elementary in Berrien Springs, Mich., asked students to expound on ways they shared God's love in their church and community. This allowed teachers and students to learn new witnessing ideas in and around their homes.

Craig Harris, Cadillac (Mich.) Church pastor, spoke in the evening. He explained in unique and humorous ways that if we place God first in our lives, His presence will be reflected for the world around us to see. His challenge to the students was to grow with God, and shine His love and grace on everyone they meet.

*Candy Clark, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent*

## Adventist Young Person Interacts with Dignitaries

**Illinois**—Kelly Razzouk, former General Conference United Nations (U.N.) Liaison Officer and Hinsdale (Ill.) Church member, was given a rare invitation to attend a luncheon held at the U.N. honoring Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland.



*From left: Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland, and Kelly Razzouk*

Each year, the U.N. chooses to honor one international figure with their esteemed U.N. Day Award. Mary Robinson was chosen as this year's recipient for her tireless commitment to human rights. Robinson served as president of Ireland for seven years and went on to be the U.N. high commissioner for human rights. She was the first head of state to visit Rwanda after the genocide and the first high commissioner to visit China, where she signed an agreement leading to improved human rights in that country.

Razzouk, currently a senior at Southern Adventist University, was one of the youngest people invited to the event. Invitees included diplomats and ambassadors, as well as affluent New Yorkers. She felt honored to be in attendance. "I have long admired Mrs. Robinson's work in the field of human rights, and it was once again a privilege to interact with leaders and tell them about our church," said Razzouk.

Not only was Razzouk able to attend the event, but she had a rare opportunity to spend a few minutes in conversation with the former president. She told Robinson about her work last year at the U.N., and of her future plans to work in the field of human rights.

Robinson continues to be a powerful and compelling voice for human rights around the world. In her address, Robinson emphasized the important role that human rights defenders play in society. "You are the voice of the first three words of the U.N. charter—'We the peoples,'" she said, "representing the indigenous, those in refugee camps, and those living in extreme poverty."

The Adventist church has long advocated for human rights, including the right to freedom of religion as outlined in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

*Kelly Razzouk, as shared with Diane Thurber, Lake Union Herald managing editor*

# Scavenger Hunt Stocks Food Pantry

**Illinois**—Excitement was in the air on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 18, as three teams from the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Marion, Ill., scattered to collect food, personal care articles, and nonfood items for the Marion Ministerial Alliance (MMA).



*First-place finishers, the Marion Pathfinders, collected the most non-perishable items for the MMA Project Manna Food Pantry.*

The MMA, an interdenominational, cooperative Christian ministry was organized by local pastors to meet emergency needs of Marion residents. Through this ministry, Project MANNA (Ministerial Alliance Nutrition & Nurture for All) provides hot, nutritious meals for an average of 60 people daily at the Soup Kitchen. Each Tuesday at the Food Pantry, emergency food boxes are prepared and distributed. A total of 10,293 meals have been provided during the first eight months of this year, and 1,755 families have been served from the Food Pantry. Financial aid is distributed on an emergency basis for rent, utilities, medical and transportation needs, and temporary shelter. Chaplaincy work is also coordinated through this organization for the county jail and several nursing homes.

The church's Young Adult Sabbath School class designed a three-team activity to collect articles for MMA to aid the truly needy. In the weeks leading up to the scavenger hunt, group leaders exchanged e-mails challenging each other to a friendly competition.

Somehow, in all the talk, someone mentioned a special reward for the team that collected the most items; pie was suggested. It was announced that pie would be available for the winning team, and whipped-cream pies would await the "losing" teams. The rhetoric was intense, but it was all in good fun to motivate the team players to gather as much as possible and literally to "save face," or should I say, "save the face" of their leader.

Points were assigned for the desired items based on their dollar value. The team with the most points at 5:00 p.m. was winner, and each team hurried to collect the most items and points.

The teams returned to the church and unloaded their treasures in the church fellowship room, stacking items on tables. When the points were tallied, the Pathfinder club team had collected the most items and points, followed by the Young Adult class, and the Adult Sabbath School class.

A pizza feast was held for participants and pies were enjoyed by the winning team members. Whipped-cream pies were tossed at the group leaders for the two "losing" teams.

Items were reloaded into a 15-passenger van, filling all but the driver and front passenger seats. As we loaded the van, I noticed an unusual number of paper towel rolls. I was reminded that every time I drove up to retrieve items collected by team members, they had at least one roll of paper towels. I thought it a bit odd, but dismissed it as a coincidence.

The scheduled delivery to the MMA was Tuesday, Sept. 21. When we delivered the items to the MMA, we found the collected paper towels were no fluke or coincidence, but rather God at work. The MMA needed paper towels but had put off purchasing any, hoping God would put it in someone's heart to supply their need as He had done in the past. He did! We were awed as we saw God's hand at work through us.

Priscilla Huff, executive director of Marion Ministerial Alliance recently wrote, "Thank you for your stupendous donations of non-perishable items delivered to our Project Manna Food Pantry. I know each of you took personal interest in reaching those in crisis in our community."

Marion Church members encourage you to discover the fun you can have as you help needy individuals in your community.

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*Carol Barnhurst, Marion Church correspondent, as told to Joi Avante, Illinois Conference news writer.*



Carol Rick, and Barbara and Gary Robertson, greeted booth visitors.

## Planting Seeds at the 4-H Fair

**Indiana**—Thousands of children, teens, and adults played with “globs of fat,” a diseased brain, and heart models at the *Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP)* booth at the Hamilton County 4-H Fair last summer. Hundreds of fair-goers had their blood pressure taken and received simple lifestyle suggestions for lowering blood pressure.

The Cicero (Ind.) Church members, who volunteered to help at the booth, experienced an exciting adventure as they met and helped booth visitors with their health concerns. They also passed out hundreds of copies of the book, *The Passion of Love*.

This outreach initiative was coordinated in preparation of a *CHIP* program that will begin in Cicero after the first of the year. The blessing and guidance of God has been seen constantly in this endeavor for Him.

*John Taylor, Cicero CHIP director*

## Sharing Good News and Grillers at the Fair

**Indiana**—“Would you like to answer a Bible question?” This was the challenge fair-goers heard from Madison (Ind.) Church representatives at the Jefferson County 4-H Fair.

Janelle accepted the challenge, answered the question, and received her prize. The next evening, Janelle and her mother returned to the booth. The mother remarked, “Janelle’s been talking about this all day, so we just had to come back!” And come back they did! They were regular visitors at the booth for several nights.

The questions visitors answered were categorized—easy, medium, and difficult. Several parents volunteered

to help their children with the answers, and they also found some of the questions quite challenging. The children enjoyed trying to get points by tossing bean bags at the “Jesus Loves Me” smiling faces.



Jefferson County fair-goers learned about the Bible, nutrition, and vegetarian soy substitutes from Madison Church representatives.

The adults were attracted to *The Passion of Love* display backdrop, and 220 books were distributed. A nutritionist was interested in the food pyramid display and requested further information. *Vibrant Life* magazines were popular handouts, along with the *Creation Health* book. Each evening, a vegetarian food product was featured and we discovered Grillers and Chicken Nuggets were the most popular!

The Madison Church appreciated several boxes of food donated by The Kroger Company, and members praise the Lord for the opportunity to interact with the community through the booth at the fair!

*Shirley Wright, Madison Church communication director*

## Fishing for Jesus in the Caribbean

**Michigan**—This summer, eleven members of the St. Joseph (Mich.) Church departed for the Caribbean. “A vacation?” you might ask. No, they were commissioned to transport a most precious cargo—God’s love and glad tidings of salvation to the Dominican Republic.

Six adults and five young people—Tina and Ceaira Derosier, Sheri and Brennen Gent, Glenda and Jovon

*continued...*



Glenda Winnell presented helpful health perspectives to the 150 attendees.



*Victor Perez, Higuey Church pastor, his wife Sandra, and the head elder and translator expressed appreciation to the St. Joseph Church evangelistic team.*

Winnell, Linda Haulcomb, Donald Milliken, Barbara and Yvonne Echeverria, and Jim Schlaman—answered the gospel commission to “Go tell.” Through the ministry of Global Evangelism, and ten Dominican churches, these laity publicly shared their testimony of God’s greatness in their lives, inviting others to open themselves to an encounter with the Almighty.

Weeks of car washes, yard sales, cleaning churches, bagging groceries, selling phone cards, and generous donations from fellow church members, friends, and

family generated the \$1,500 per person needed to cover airfare, visa, meals, lodging, and ground transportation expenses for this endeavor.

For sixteen nights, these eleven ambassadors for God touched hearts and lives with their Bible-based preaching and musical selections. What the St. Joseph volunteers hadn’t expected was the overwhelming appreciation for missions which quickly developed within each of them. And the other gifts they received? Seeing a nightly attendance of 200–400 per site, Bible-based truths being new to more than half of those attending, 141 persons reported baptism at five sites, with an average of 20 individuals per site expressing the desire for baptism in the near future!

Once again the promise proved to be true—“...you will find Me when you search for Me with all your heart” (see Deuteronomy 4:29).

Another group is headed for the Dominican Republic in January 2005. If the Spirit prompts you to be a part of this lay movement, contact Tom Martin, Global Evangelism coordinator, at [tomsloewtyper@aol.com](mailto:tomsloewtyper@aol.com).

*Jane Sabes, St. Joseph Church communication director*

## WOMEN’S MINISTRY NEWS

### Indiana Women Enjoy Annual Retreat

**Indiana**—If you missed the Indiana Women’s Retreat at the beautiful Oakwood Inn in Syracuse, Ind., you will want to start planning now for next year’s retreat. You missed friends getting together (some make it an annual event), mothers and daughters spending time together, sisters sharing, and in one case three generations of women coming together to pray, sing, laugh, relax, have fun, and enjoy each other, nature, and making new friends. Oh, the food was great too!

This year, more than 150 women came from all over Ind., and from Mich. and Ohio too. The guest speakers were the Micheff sisters: Brenda (Micheff) Walsh, host of *Kid’s Time* on 3ABN, who shared many personal stories; Cinda (Micheff) Sanner, who talked about the gift of hospitality and gave well-received hints (“I can do that!” was overheard a lot.); and Linda (Micheff) Johnson, who gave encouragement to moms concerned about the life-paths their children have taken.

The Micheff sisters, who have sung together since they were young children, provided special music throughout the weekend. One of my favorite times



*The Micheff sisters provided an inspiring concert at the retreat.*

all weekend was singing around the piano on Friday evening after the meeting.

A special offering is taken each year during the retreat. This year’s offering was designated to benefit the children’s ministry programming the Micheff sisters are involved with at 3ABN. Approximately \$2,150 was contributed by those present.

It’s wonderful to come apart and pray for family, friends, and loved ones, and to share our burdens, joys, and concerns with our sisters in Christ who experience the same trials we do on a daily basis.

So if you are a regular attendee of the annual women’s retreat, praise the Lord! And if you haven’t tried it I ask, “What are you waiting for?”

Start planning now for the 2005 retreat, to be held Sept. 23–25 in beautiful Brown County, Ind. You have almost a whole year to make plans to enjoy a special retreat with good friends—and with your Best Friend.

*Sheri DeWitt, Indiana Conference news writer*

## MILEPOSTS

Within the Lake Union the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at [luc.adventist.org/mileposts](http://luc.adventist.org/mileposts). Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 39.

### ANNIVERSARIES



**WAYNE AND JEAN JOHNSON** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 18, 2004, by a reception with family and friends at their home in Hillsdale, Mich. They have been members of the Prattville (Mich.) Church for two years.

Wayne Johnson and Jean Hamstra were married June 27, 1954, in Marne, Mich., by Elder Stanley Hyde. Wayne has been a building contractor, literature evangelist, Publishing assistant director for Michigan Conference, Publishing director for Chesapeake Conference and Bermuda Mission, and pastor in the Bermuda, Pennsylvania, and Michigan conferences. Jean has been a homemaker, and owner of Eagles Nest foster care home for ten years.

The Johnson family includes Dan and Laurie Johnson of Ortonville, Mich.; Rick and Deb Johnson of Pittsford, Mich.; Kelli Johnson engaged to Michael Beard, both of Southfield, Mich.; and five grandchildren.

### WEDDINGS

**LINDA K. CHERRY AND WILLIAM A. DIFFIN** were married Apr. 24, 2004, in Las Vegas, Nev. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Anthony Mayberry.

Linda is the daughter of Leonard and the late Dorma Helcher of Flint, Mich., and William is the son of the late

Donald and Helen Diffin of Flint, and Lois Bruce of Taylorsville, Miss.

The Diffins are making their home in Clio, Mich.

**SARAH M. CHAFFEE AND TROY M. HOMENCHUK** were married July 18, 2004, in Clear Lake, Wis. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Howard Homenchuk.

Sarah is the daughter of Craig and Pamela Hasbrook of Clear Lake, and Troy is the son of Howard and Geraldine Homenchuk of Courtenay, British Columbia, Canada.

The Homenchuks are making their home in Chicago, Ill.

### OBITUARIES

**DEVNICH, DAVID H.**, age 65; born Mar. 19, 1939, in Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Canada; died Sept. 10, 2004, in Valparaiso, Ind. He was a member of the Northwest Church, Crown Point, Ind.

Survivors include his wife, LaVerne (Choban); sons, Kirk and Kendall; daughters, Colleen Daniels and Kimberly Buechele; brothers, Calvin and Douglas; sisters, Jeannette Lucas, Marian Williams, and Marlene Holdal; and three grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Elder Don Schneider, with private inurnment.

**HUFF, EVA L. (ASHLOCK) HERDMAN**, age 75; born May 23, 1929, in Poona, India; died Aug. 20, 2004, in Bridgman, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Richard L. Huff; sons, David and Douglas Herdman; brothers, Tom and Jim Ashlock; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Esther Knott and Dwight K. Nelson, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

**MANG, RUTH P. (MORRIS)**, age 78; born Sept. 13, 1925, in Bristol, Ind.; died Sept. 10, 2004, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Dowagiac (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Irwin C.; son, Errol T.; daughter, Karen S. Spruill; brother, Eldon L. Morris; sisters, D. Arlene Wagoner and Lois E. Fox; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor William E. Dudgeon, and interment was in Marcellus (Mich.) Cemetery.

**SHOW, RUTH E. (SAWYER)**, age 85; born Mar. 10, 1919, in Pocahontas, Ill.; died July 8, 2004, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Harry K.; son, Richard; sisters, Martha Moomaw, Helen Morrow, Margaret Gerdt, and Winifred Dilliard; and three grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Richard and Veda Leshner, and inurnment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

**STINEWAL, DOROTHY M. (STONE)**, age 88; born Feb. 21, 1916, in Antigo, Wis.; died Feb. 27, 2004, in Antigo. She was a member of the Antigo Church.

Survivors include her son, Eugene Stone; daughters, Betty Cossette, Carol Henderson, Darlene Zoern, and Shirley Stinewal; brothers, Elmer and Samuel Stone; sisters, Delores Wimmer and Edith Rahe; 17 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor William Bossert, and interment was in Star Neva Cemetery, Neva, Wis.

**TEMPLE, JOHN L.**, age 68; born Sept. 21, 1935, in Silverwood, Mich.; died Aug. 14, 2004, in Brookfield, Ill. He was a member of the Gaylord (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his brother, C. Robert; and sister, Joanne Temple.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Martin Feldbush, and interment was in West Burlington Cemetery, Silverwood.

**WADE, CARLOS R. SR.**, age 72; born Feb. 2, 1932, in Springfield, Ill.; died July 29, 2004, in Ann Arbor, Mich. He was a member of the Ann Arbor Church.

Survivors include his wife, Susan (Mason); sons, Carlos Jr., Anthony, Ronald, Leon, Lester, and Carlos III; daughters, Sandra Bryant, Bonita Smith, Jessarose Bell, and Tiffany Wade; brothers, Kenley Sr., Aaron, and Michael; sisters, Muriel Guthrie and Rosemarie Petty; 23 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Jeff Freeman, with private inurnment.

**WERNICK, LOUISE (WESTERBECK)**, age 83; born May 28, 1921, in Burlington, Iowa; died Aug. 23, 2004, in Kalispell, Mont. She was a member of the Hastings (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Jerry L.; daughter, Beverly A. Colburn; brother, Glenn Westerbeck; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elders Philip R. Colburn and Francis W. Wernick, and interment was in Greenlawn Memorial Park Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Ind.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

All ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$25 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$35 per insertion for all others. A form is available at [luc.adventist.org/classifieds](http://luc.adventist.org/classifieds) for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order/check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors.

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## Lake Union Conference Tithes Comparison Year-to-Date

39 Sabbaths ending September 30, 2004, compared to 39 Sabbaths ending September 30, 2003

Number of Members:		Conference	2004	2003	Increase –Decrease	% Inc. –Decr.	Average Tithes Per Member	
6/30/04	6/30/03						2004	2003
12,541	12,333	Illinois	6,990,410	6,882,039	108,371	1.57%	557.40	558.02
6,716	6,620	Indiana	4,645,895	4,556,643	89,252	1.96%	691.77	688.31
27,097	26,509	Lake Region	7,974,912	7,738,549	236,363	3.05%	294.31	291.92
24,525	24,538	Michigan	19,508,868	19,391,572	117,296	0.60%	795.47	790.27
<u>6,683</u>	<u>6,646</u>	Wisconsin	<u>4,310,184</u>	<u>4,152,630</u>	<u>157,554</u>	<u>3.79%</u>	<u>644.95</u>	<u>624.83</u>
77,562	76,646	Totals	\$43,430,269	\$42,721,433	\$708,836	1.66%	\$559.94	\$557.39
<b>Average Weekly Tithes:</b>			\$1,113,597	\$1,095,421	\$18,175	1.66%		

## Sunset Calendar

	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17	Dec 24	Dec 31	Jan 7
Berrien Springs, Mich.	5:15	5:14	5:16	5:19	5:23	5:29
Chicago	4:20	4:20	4:20	4:24	4:28	4:34
Detroit	5:01	5:00	5:01	5:04	5:08	5:14
Indianapolis	5:20	5:20	5:22	5:25	5:29	5:35
La Crosse, Wis.	4:29	4:28	4:29	4:32	4:37	4:43
Lansing, Mich.	5:02	5:01	5:02	5:05	5:10	5:16
Madison, Wis.	4:23	4:23	4:23	4:26	4:32	4:38
Springfield, Ill.	4:34	4:34	4:35	4:38	4:43	4:49



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**KNOWING JESUS**, a four-part sermon series for Adventist Preaching by Don Schneider, NAD president, is filled with personal stories that demonstrate the joys of knowing Jesus. Call (800) ACN-1119 or visit [www.acn.info](http://www.acn.info) before Jan. 1 for holiday prices—two-DVD set regularly \$24.95, now \$21.95 plus shipping and handling.

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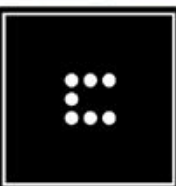
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### SENIOR PREVIEW EVENTS

January 23 & 24, 2005

April 3 & 4, 2005

### Registration Deadline

January 7, 2005

March 18, 2005

### LAKE UNION JUNIOR PREVIEW EVENT

March 6 & 7, 2005

To check out our visit program or to register for a visit, go to <http://connect.andrews.edu/visit> or call 800.253.2874

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Churches, schools, conferences, institutions, and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at [luc.adventist.org/announcements](http://luc.adventist.org/announcements) and submit the announcement online. Readers may verify dates and times of programs with the respective sources, as these events are subject to change.

### ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

#### HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

**EVENTS: Mon., Dec. 6, 7:00 p.m.** and **Tues., Dec. 7, 5:00 p.m.**—Two voice studio recitals given by the students of our music faculty; **Sat., Dec. 11, 8:00 p.m.**—The Andrews University Orchestra, under the direction of Claudio Gonzalez, will present a concert.

### INDIANA

#### THE INDIANA ACADEMY CHRISTMAS

**CONCERT** will be held **Dec. 11** at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Chapel. All the musical ensembles will be joining together to present the beautiful music of the Christmas season.

**ABC CHRISTMAS SALE:** You won't want to miss the three-day Christmas sale at the Indiana ABC, located at 24845 State Road 19 in Cicero. The sale begins **Sun., Dec. 12**, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will continue on **Mon., Dec. 13**, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and then on **Tues., Dec. 14**, when you can take advantage of the new Tues. evening hours. The ABC is now open every Tues. evening until 7:00 p.m.! There will be many holiday specials on food, Bibles, storybooks, and CDs. For further information, contact Lloyd Jacobs toll free at (866) 222-6687.



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**A WINTER SKI FEST** will be held at Timber Ridge Camp **Jan. 27-30** for youth in grades 7-12. For further information, call the Indiana Conference youth department at (317) 844-6201.

### LAKE UNION

#### OFFERINGS:

**DEC. 4** Local church budget  
**DEC. 11** Inner City  
**DEC. 18** Local church budget  
**DEC. 25** Local conf. advance  
**13TH SABBATH:** Euro-Asia Division  
**SPECIAL DAYS: DEC. 4** Bible Sabbath

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## 1948 — Adventist Missionaries expelled from China



In 1948 there were 9,749 SDA churches and the Adventist membership worldwide was 672,658. (There were 22,088 members in China.) Gandhi was assassinated in New Delhi, India. The State of Israel was established. A loaf of bread cost 14 cents. The average cost of a new home was \$13,500. W. H. Branson, one of the missionaries expelled from China in 1948, became General Conference President in 1950.



## 1963 — Missionary plane put into service in Peru

When the *Fernando Stahl*, the first denominationally-owned missionary airplane, was put into service in Peru, the Adventist membership worldwide had grown to more than 1.4 million, with nearly 14,000 churches. A Cessna 172 airplane could be purchased for \$8,750. A pair of prescription eye glasses was \$14.50. The price of a piece of pie at a fancy cafeteria was 9 cents. And the price of a leatherbound Bible was \$9.50. In 1963 Martin Luther King delivered the "I Have a Dream" speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, and President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas.



# GREAT MOMENTS IN ADVENTIST MISSION: GLOBAL MISSION

### IS YOUR MISSION OFFERING KEEPING UP WITH CHANGING TIMES?

The world in 1948 was certainly different from the world we know today. Throughout the passing years, however, Adventist missionaries have continued to carry out the gospel commission in spite of setbacks and adversities. New methods and technologies are being used every day. And the Lord keeps blessing His church.

Have you thought about your mission giving lately, or have you been putting the same amount into the tithe envelope or offering plate since the days of The Youth Instructor? The world has changed a lot since 1948; maybe this is also a good time to update your giving decision. Adventist Mission is depending on it.

## 1992 — Adventist believers baptized in Albania



As Adventist membership worldwide approached 7.5 million, with more than 35,000 churches, Meropi Gjika became the first member to be baptized in Albania in more than 40 years. She had kept the Sabbath and hidden her tithe away for more than 4 decades.



(Her adult granddaughter was baptized with her.) In the United States the price of a snack bag of potato chips was \$2.85. A new Mustang convertible was \$13,488. The United States lifted trade sanctions against China, US troops were sent to Somalia, and Bill Clinton was elected president.



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## Making a world of difference.



## THE FAITH OF A CHILD

BY BREANNA JARDINE

It's amazing how strong the faith of a small child is. When difficult obstacles arise, many children immediately pray to Jesus without hesitation, as they were taught by their parents. It's as if they understand that a higher power is needed to interfere because it's out of human control.

Psalms 9:10 says, "And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee; for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee." To me this verse says that God rewards those who trust in Him, and I like to think that because of the faith of a little child He responds a little more relentlessly to their prayers.

It was my ninth birthday on that hot summer day in July. Excitedly, I helped my mother prepare for all my guests that were expected to arrive within the hour. The cake was made, the table was set, all the decorations hung, and the only thing left was to tie the balloons outside on the front porch. Of course, this being my special occasion, I took it upon myself to perform this last task.

It proved to be a somewhat

difficult task too. Twenty-some different colored helium-filled balloons, all bunched together, needed to be separated and taped in strategic locations around the railing of the porch.

As I attempted to separate the balloons from one another, my small hands lost their grip and the balloon ribbons slipped right through them. I watched, completely horrified, as all my beautiful balloons floated away to wherever the wind took them. Collecting myself, I managed to chase after them to the side of the

house. It was useless. They were not within my reach anymore. I wanted to cry right there, but a little voice in my head instructed me to pray.

I dropped to my knees to pray and began immediately. "Dear Jesus," was the simple prayer I prayed, "Please help me get my balloons back if that's okay. I love You. Amen."

Even before I said "Amen," I could sense that everything was okay. I opened my eyes, and to my amazement, my balloons seemed to be hovering in the air right in front of me. I reached up and grabbed them, shouting excited bursts of thank-you's to God for hearing and answering my prayer while yelling at my mom to come witness the incredible event that just took place.

Every time I am tempted to think God doesn't hear me, I remember my balloons, and that's proof enough for me that He does listen. If you have faith, He will perform miracles.

---

*Breanna Jardine is a 19-year-old freshman at Andrews University, where she is pursuing a degree in marketing.*



## Profiles of Youth

**Corvoisier Hislop**, a 17-year-old senior at Broadview Academy (BVA), is a baptized member of the North Shore Seventh-day Adventist Church in Chicago, Ill.

Corvoisier spent his freshman and sophomore years at North Shore Junior Academy, where he was the drummer in the school's band. He is now a vital part of BVA's music department, where he is a member of the concert choir. Corvoisier also enjoys sports, and is especially talented in basketball as a shooting guard.

Corvoisier knows the power of Christ in his life, and starts each day in personal time with the Lord. When faced with the possibility of having to attend another school and leaving his friends at BVA behind, Corvoisier and his buddies sought the Lord's help. He witnessed the power of prayer through the miracle-answer that was supplied. He and his friends are together again, and he is preparing to graduate this spring from BVA with an excellent grade point average. Spending his entire academic experience in church school helped Corvoisier to grow into the Christ-centered young man he is today.

Upon graduation, Corvoisier will attend Andrews University where he plans to study physical therapy.

**Rachel Shaw** is also an 18-year-old senior at BVA. Her father, Steve Shaw, is pastor of the Casper (Wyo.) Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Rachel Shaw

Rachel came to BVA as a freshman in 2000. She has served as the vice president of her freshman class and president for both her sophomore and junior classes. This year, she holds the offices of Girl's Club president and Student Association social vice president.

Music is an important part of Rachel's experience in academy. She is a member of the Eternal Ring handbell choir, joining when it was reconstructed in 2003.

During Rachel's sophomore year, her roommate was an exchange student from Korea. Her new friend did not believe in God or understand a person's relationship with Someone unseen. That year, Rachel began praying for her roommate and desired to live her life to reflect Christ's image. Today, her friend is requesting a Bible for her birthday, baptism is in the near future, and her mother attends a Seventh-day Adventist church in Seoul, Korea. Rachel has learned the power of prayer and the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.

Upon graduation, Rachel plans to attend Andrews University to prepare for a career in dentistry.

## Address Correction

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Corvoisier Hislop

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## THE LAKE UNION HERALD STAFF

Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103; (269) 473-8242; [herald@luc.adventist.org](mailto:herald@luc.adventist.org)

Editor ..... Gary Burns  
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 Proof Reader ..... Candy Clark  
 Art Direction/Design ..... Mark Bond [mark@bondesign.com](mailto:mark@bondesign.com)

## CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

AHS, Midwest Region ..... Michael Krivich [Michael.Krivich@ahss.org](mailto:Michael.Krivich@ahss.org)  
 Andrews University ..... Rebecca May [MayR@andrews.edu](mailto:MayR@andrews.edu)  
 Illinois ..... Ken Denslow [KDenslow@illinoisadventist.org](mailto:KDenslow@illinoisadventist.org)  
 Indiana ..... Gary Thurber [GThurber@indianaadventist.org](mailto:GThurber@indianaadventist.org)  
 Lake Region ..... Ray Young [LakeRegionComm@cs.com](mailto:LakeRegionComm@cs.com)  
 Michigan ..... Michael Nickless [MNickless@misda.org](mailto:MNickless@misda.org)  
 Wisconsin ..... James Fox [JFox@wi.adventist.org](mailto:JFox@wi.adventist.org)

## CORRESPONDENTS

Adventist Health System, Midwest Region .. Lynn Larson [LLarson@ahss.org](mailto:LLarson@ahss.org)  
 Andrews University ..... Beverly Stout [StoutB@andrews.edu](mailto:StoutB@andrews.edu)  
 Illinois ..... Veryl Kelley [VKelley@illinoisadventist.org](mailto:VKelley@illinoisadventist.org)  
 Indiana ..... Judith Yeoman [JYeoman@indianaadventist.org](mailto:JYeoman@indianaadventist.org)  
 Lake Region ..... Tonya Nisbeth [TNisbeth@lakeregionsda.org](mailto:TNisbeth@lakeregionsda.org)  
 Lake Union ..... Bruce Babienko [BBabienko@luc.adventist.org](mailto:BBabienko@luc.adventist.org)  
 Michigan ..... Jody Murphy [JMurphy@misda.org](mailto:JMurphy@misda.org)  
 Wisconsin ..... Kitty Cray [KCray@wi.adventist.org](mailto:KCray@wi.adventist.org)

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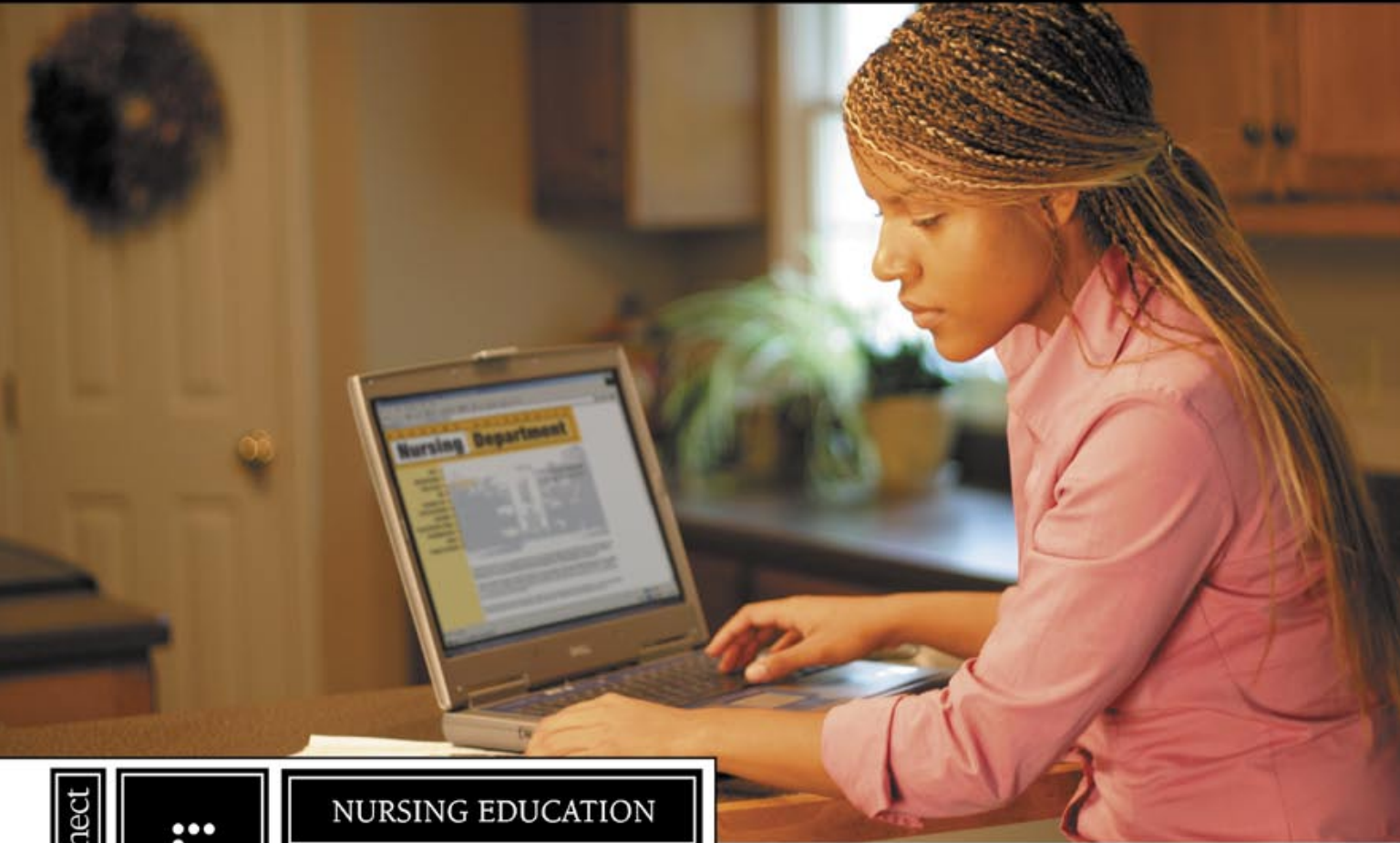
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