

# Lake Union HERALD

SEPTEMBER 2005



## A VIEW

Through the Arch

*The 58th General Conference Session*





Gary Burns took this photo of Global Missions' Spotlight on Missions program co-hosted by our own Emily Beth Bond. The presentation was a part of the first weekend's Sabbath afternoon programming.



## in every issue...

- 3** Editorial by Walter L. Wright, Lake Union president
- 4** New Members Get to know some recent additions to the Lake Union.
- 6** Youth in Action
- 7** Beyond our Borders
- 8** Family Ties by Susan E. Murray
- 9** Healthy Choices by Winston J. Craig
- 10** Extreme Grace by Dick Duerksen
- 11** Adventism IOI by Ann Fisher
- 12** Sharing our Hope
- 13** ConeXiones en español by Carmelo Mercado
- 22** Adventist Midwest Health News
- 23** Andrews University News
- 24** News
- 30** Mileposts
- 32** Classifieds
- 37** Announcements
- 38** One Voice
- 39** Profiles of Youth

## in this issue...

**N**o other event in the world is like it—delegates and guests from approximately 200 countries gather every five years to conduct the business of the church in the tradition of the apostles in Jerusalem. The very first counsel addressed the issue of what to require of the new Gentile Christians.

Although a number of historical actions were taken at the 58th General Conference Session, much more than committees, reports, appointments, and actions happened in St. Louis. Take a good look at your church in the pages that follow. It is a remarkable, colorful, and loving family of nearly 14 million, who celebrates the saving and unifying grace of Jesus whenever they gather together. Although many witnessed the event on the Hope Channel, 3ABN, and the Internet, nothing can replace the experience of being there. We hope the pages of the *Herald* will give you some idea what it was like for some of us who were there.

  
Gary Burns, Editor



## features...

- 14** A Partnership in Healthcare Ministry by Lynn Larson
- 16** @GC: A Photo Essay by Gary Burns
- 19** A Page's Perspective by Kristen Denslow
- 20** A Family Affair by Jerry D. Thomas

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# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

## LOVE *Makes All the Difference*

**W**e recently had a 12-day marathon experience. Jackie and I arrived in St. Louis on Tuesday afternoon, June 28. I scurried off to my first meeting at 2:00 p.m. with the General Conference executive committee. We thought we might have to meet the rest of the day and start in again at 8:00 a.m. the next morning. There was such a wonderful spirit of cooperation that we finished by 6:30 p.m.—our work was complete in one afternoon. This was to be the enduring spirit for the remainder of the time at this historic Seventh-day Adventist 58th General Conference Session.

Each division's caucus met to recommend their representatives for the nominating committee. I was privileged to be one of the members from the North American Division chosen to serve on the nominating committee. It was my very first time to be accorded such an opportunity. A total of 200 members were elected, and 196 were present at each meeting. The events that followed were most amazing to me.

Picture this: 196 people from many different nations and cultures, speaking many languages, in a room praying for consensus on five and one-half pages of offices to be filled! There was much prayer, and then we went to work. I listened as many struggled to be understood in the English language. Some needed translation. We heard French, Spanish, Russian, German, and Swahili. If you are not careful in that setting, ethnocentricity will invade your thinking. By the way, I learned that jaw-breaking word back in my freshman year in college. I am sure you know it indicates an attitude of superiority in one's feelings about culture, ethnicity, and language. In other words, "Why don't these people get with it and learn English; it is clearly superior." But when you have prayed for unity, such thoughts cannot take root.

I found myself looking on with wonder at the thought, "These are my brothers and sisters from around the world, and the blessed Savior has made us one." We finished our agenda in record time by the following Tuesday afternoon. But we were reluctant to leave each other. There was bonding and love and respect that we didn't want to give up just yet. The Spirit of God had walked in our midst, and what started out as an uncomfortable beginning evolved into a feeling of camaraderie and empathy.

"And they will know you are Christians by your love" (See John 13:35).

# Welcome NEW MEMBERS

**Michigan** March 19, 2005, was the new-birth day for two very dissimilar people, **Amanda Brezzell** and **Kelly Linder Sr.** Both were baptized at the Metropolitan Church in Plymouth, Michigan, by Robert Stewart, pastor, and that is where any similarity between the two ends.

Amanda, the daughter of Shirley and Alvin Brezzell, is a lovely little eight-year-old girl who wanted nothing more than to be baptized ever since she saw her older sister, Clarissa, baptized. Shirley encouraged Amanda in her desire for baptism, but told her to wait until she was older. Amanda did not let her longing rest. She wanted “to give her heart to Jesus” and continued to ask her mother for permission.

Shirley approached the pastor and told him of Amanda’s yearning. Robert shared Shirley’s reservation about Amanda’s age, but agreed to study with Amanda during a baptismal class at Metropolitan Junior Academy. Throughout the studies, Robert was impressed with Amanda’s spiritual maturity, knowledge of the Bible, and her love for her Savior, Jesus. Because of her spiritual qualities and great desire, Robert believed Amanda was ready to be baptized.

Kelly’s spiritual experience is as different from Amanda’s as is their physical appearance. Kelly is a grandfather and a self-acknowledged “tough guy” motorcycle rider. He is married to DiAnna, who became a Seventh-day Adventist 18 years ago. DiAnna prayed earnestly Kelly would be baptized, too. Although he attended church and Sabbath school with DiAnna off and on during those years, he never gave in to the Holy Spirit’s calling to be baptized.

In 2004, DiAnna transferred to Metropolitan, and Kelly began to attend with her. Kelly enjoyed the services and felt a connection with the pastor. In the fall he attended the *Hope for Our Day* series. When he heard the appeal to make a commitment to learn more about the Bible, Kelly came forward.

When Kelly began Bible studies with the pastor, he was so eager, and asked if they could double up on the weekly lessons. With a month left to complete the studies, Kelly suffered a stroke and there was great concern for his life. In response to many prayers, Kelly survived with hardly any noticeable effects from the stroke.

DiAnna’s faithful prayers were finally answered. On the day of his baptism, DiAnna shared how her husband had



*Kelly Linder and Amanda Brezzell enjoy Kelly's Gold Wing motorcycle. They were baptized at the Metropolitan (Mich.) Church on the same day.*

become a changed man, how he reads his Bible for several hours a day, goes to church every Sabbath, and enjoys the prayer group.

While they were in the baptistry together, Robert commented to Kelly that “Jesus loves tough guys!” Amanda and Kelly are truly brother and sister because they are both in the family of God. And, they share the same new-birth day. No matter your age, size, gender, or disposition, our Lord Jesus died to save us all!

Joy Hyde, Metropolitan Church communication secretary and church clerk

**Michigan** **Sue Norris** looked out the window to her backyard lawn one Monday morning and said to herself, “Since my husband has to work this Saturday, I am going to worship at the Delton Adventist Church.” The thought had come to her before, and she often promised herself she would worship there. However, each time Sabbath arrived, she found some excuse not to attend.

On Wednesday night she heard a knocking sound. At first, she thought it was her daughter, **Janice Mead**, who



*From left (front): Sue Norris, her mother-in-law Evelyn Norris, and Janice Mead; (back) Bill Cowan, former Delton Church pastor.*



From left: Jarrod Slaughter, Delton Church head deacon who helped give Bible studies to Danial Norris; Danial Norris; Scott Manly, Delton Church pastor; Karen Austin, also newly baptized; and Jessica Schultz, a Delton member

liked to tease her and lived in the next apartment. Sue's husband also heard the sound. Sue felt she should go downstairs to check on her husband's 91-year-old mother, Evelyn Norris, thinking maybe she needed help and was trying to get her attention. When she arrived, Evelyn told her she had not been knocking and suggested it might be Satan trying to get control of her life. Evelyn encouraged Sue and her three sons, Dillon, Douglass, and Noah, to begin attending the Adventist church.

Sue, however, considered a different possibility. She remembered the Bible saying that Jesus knocks on our heart's door. She believed Jesus knew she was ready to accept Him as her Savior and thought He was trying to get her attention. She decided to go to church the next Sabbath and telephoned her daughter, Janice, to tell her. She was happy to learn Janice wanted to attend with her.

After attending for three weeks, Sue and Janice told Marilyn Rorabeck they wanted Bible studies to prepare for baptism. Marilyn told her husband Herb, a head elder, who passed the information on to Bill Cowin, pastor. Bill took twenty-six lessons of the *Good News* Bible studies to the Norris home the following Tuesday. In just three weeks Sue and Janice completed all twenty-six lessons.

The Delton Church does not have a baptistry so Bill arranged for their baptism at the Urbandale Adventist Church. Following Janice's and Sue's baptisms, Bill gave an invitation for others to invite Jesus into their lives, and prepare for baptism. Janice's brother, **Danial Norris**, responded. After completing his studies, Scott Manly, current Delton Church pastor, baptized Danial.

These decisions for Jesus brought new life and blessings into the Delton Church family. You, too, can find the joy of salvation by inviting Jesus into your life and preparing for your own baptism.

Herb Rorabeck, Delton Church head elder, with Bruce Babienko, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

**Wisconsin** Arlene Krueger and her son, Mark, had been members of the Wausau Church for many years. Her husband, **Ron Krueger**, attended with them for years without ever becoming a member himself. When Mark became head elder of the congregation, Ron experienced the joy of observing his son's spiritual growth.

Ron was very much a part of church life. When the membership voted to build a new church, Ron helped with the church's construction. His participation gave him a sense of belonging, even though he was not a member.

One winter day, as church crews were framing the inside walls in the sanctuary area, Ron approached William Bossert, Wausau Church pastor. With a new, inspiring resolve in his voice, he said, "I want to be the first one baptized in the new church." William was more than eager to grant Ron's request.

Almost a year later, the congregation finally moved into the new sanctuary, although the baptistry area was not yet finished. Ron revealed the urgency of his spiritual quest by personally taking the responsibility to finish the project. He worked on completing the walls, floor, and plumbing, and even finished the painting so it would be ready for his baptism.

To make his baptism an even more special occasion, Ron invited his thirteen-year-old grandson, **Josh Cleveland**, a student at the church's Hillside Christian School, to be baptized with him. They had a special relationship because Ron drove Josh to school every morning. Josh thought it would be great to be baptized and join the church on the same day as his grandpa. So he began to prepare his life for that special commitment to Jesus.

On Sabbath, March 5, 2005, every Krueger relative in the area came to worship in the Wausau Church to witness the important day in Ron's and Josh's life. It was a very special day of celebration, not only in Wausau, but also in the courts of Heaven, I'm sure!



Ron Krueger and William Bossert, Wausau Church pastor



Josh Cleveland and William Bossert, Wausau Church pastor

William Bossert, Wausau Church pastor, with Bruce Babienko, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

# Is Jesus Really Coming Back?

BY DIANE THURBER

For some young people, summer camp is an opportunity to experience service, sacrifice, and leadership for perhaps the first time in their life.

Phillip Somers felt God must have something special planned when he discovered he was assigned to be a CIT (Counselor in Training) for Blind Camp, even though he volunteered to work during different camps. Phillip says, "I was very tempted to call Pastor Charlie and tell him I would like to do a different week, or back out. I was scared because I had never seen a blind person, except on TV."

Phillip could only imagine what his responsibilities would be at camp. He thought he would help the campers eat, get their clothes, and lead them around. "That was all that really came to mind since I didn't know what to expect. Boy, was I in for a surprise," he exclaimed.

During orientation, Phillip learned how to correctly lead and approach someone who is blind. "And we were told to be patient," he remembers.

The campers arrived, and Phillip soon found himself busy. Some of his responsibilities were like he imagined, but there were many others.

"Anyone who has ever worked at summer camp knows the hardest working staff are counselors. From the time a camper wakes up until it's time to go to sleep, counselors are on duty. CITs are an extra pair of eyes, hands, and feet when necessary, not to mention the moral support knowing help is close by," said Charlie Thompson, Timber Ridge Camp director.

Phillip's week was filled with many unforgettable experiences, and he was surprised by all that the campers were able to do. But, Phillip says, "I think my favorite [memory]



Timber Ridge Camp staff and 2005 Blind Camp participants; Phillip Somers is seated on the front row, second from the end on the right.

would be canoe wars. We would have one guy in the front and one in the middle. The one in the front controlled the ramming speed ... and the one in the middle controlled the weapons—some of the guys brought squirt guns. Our motto was, 'It's all fun and games until someone's canoe gets tipped.'" Well, a canoe did tip and Phillip and another CIT soon found themselves rescuing campers from the water. "We pulled in close so we could get them in our canoes, but our guys weren't cooperating. So we pulled on our life jackets and jumped in." They soon had their campers back in the canoes and, with the help of others, pulled the almost-sunken canoe to shore. Phillip remembers, "There was so much action on my very first day."

Matt visited camp for the first time and didn't seem to know too much about Jesus. He asked Phillip, "Is Jesus really coming back?" Phillip said, "Yes, He is. Why do you ask?" The camper said, "I heard stories that He was and I just wondered where He was." The camper told Phillip he didn't like it here on Earth and, after a long wait, shared a few prayer requests with Phillip.

Phillip says being a CIT helped him learn to cherish his sight and to give thanks for it. And through this experience he says, "I know I have gotten closer to God."

Diane Thurber is the *Lake Union Herald* managing editor. Phillip Somers is from Cicero, Indiana, and is a freshman at Indiana Academy.





# Doing God's Business in the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BY MALCOLM JESSUP JR.

**T**he day right after Christmas I got up early to begin the trip of my life with the Michigan Conference Teen Mission group. After traveling roughly 12 hours by plane from Detroit to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, we continued our journey with a two-hour truck trip to the Adventist University where we would stay.

I figured we would stay in terrible living conditions, but the university turned out to be very decent. There was running water, fine eating facilities, well-kept dorm rooms, and air conditioned classrooms.

The next morning came quickly and was spent organizing medicine, toys, dental equipment, and other things. By the afternoon we were ready to venture out to our first clinic. We loaded up the bus and van and set out.

I was first assigned to the medical clinic to help the doctors. There, I saw things I had never seen before. People came in with scabies all over their bodies and just about everyone had parasites. This was just a taste of what I was in store for over the next two weeks. I had to deal with things like this, seeing people suffering and too poor to afford help. Ministering to these people about Jesus by helping them was truly a great experience.

By far, my favorite clinic was optical. After standing in line, patients came inside, sat down in front of the auto refractor, and got the readings after their eyes were checked. Then the doctor would give the patient the final word on their eyesight. After that, they took a prescription to us and we picked out which pair of glasses they needed.

This was the interesting part; not only did I get to use the Spanish I learned in school, but it also made me realize poor people are picky too. When I brought people reading or prescription glasses, they kept telling me they were “muy grande” (very big). When I would try to find a smaller pair

of glasses and couldn't, I just brought them the whole box and tried to say, in my best Spanish, that big glasses were all we had. After hearing that, they either took the glasses or just walked out. It left me wondering why a person would be so picky about glasses—especially when they needed them so badly.

At the dental clinic, I got to pull teeth, stick people in the gums with needles, and clean and polish teeth. I think out of all the clinics, this one served the most people.

This 12-day trip gave me the experience of what Jesus did while He was on this planet. It showed me that helping others is a blessing in itself. Almost every person who came to the clinics smiled, praised us, and thanked the Lord we had come to help them. It just showed me God can bless you wherever you are.

We touched people's lives on this trip. I hope and pray the people we helped saw Jesus through our work and accepted Him as their Lord and Savior. Missionary work is simply doing God's business.

Malcolm Jessup Jr. graduated from Peterson-Warren Academy last spring. He plans to pursue a career in mechanical engineering. Malcolm estimates his mission group served over 10,000 people in 18 different locations.



The Michigan Conference Teen Mission group posed on the Catholic Lighthouse stairs.



Students cleaned and polished patients' teeth.





# FAMILY TIES

*A home with a little dust and a lot of laughter will win the heart of God every time!*

# LOVE IN EVERY ROOM

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

“A house is a physical building, walls that shelter, protect, and sometimes even divide. A home is the invisible structure, radiant love that embraces each member of the family and reaches out to draw in friends, neighbors, and strangers,” says Karla Dornacher, author of a book sharing the title of this column.

Karla’s delightful book, handwritten, is a tribute to every woman who pursues the high and holy calling of the keeper of the home. It seems to me that this distinct honor is a rather illusive concept in this day and age. Many women are pursuing, and rightfully so, all manner of accomplishments which enrich human life. This recognition that God is in us, the heartbeat of the home, could use more attention.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:11 we read, “Encourage each other and build each other up.” Women’s words are powerful—they can bless and build up or wound and destroy. Some may have seen this message on a T-shirt, “If mama ain’t happy, no one’s happy.”

Perhaps there is no greater need for encouraging others than in our own homes. God can show us practical ways to express His love to others. It might be flowers, a quiet embrace, a phone call, or note of gentle encouragement. “Whether your note is penned on beautiful stationery or on a sticky note in a child’s lunch box, you are the scented ink God uses to spread the fragrance of Christ’s love,” suggests Karla.

To paraphrase Psalm 133:1, “Behold how good and pleasant it is for families to live together in harmony.” Isn’t this the true mission of the home? A place where others sense God’s love when they visit, where there is refreshment and rest for your soul as well as for physical needs—this is true hospitality to be first shared with our own families and then for those who would knock at our door.

In other words, invite others to share in your life and the blessings you have been given. “If we will open our hearts and homes to the divine principles of life, we shall become channels for currents of life-giving power. From our homes will come healing, bringing life and beauty and fruitfulness where now are barrenness and dearth,” (*The Ministry of Healing*, p 355).

When my father and step-mother joined the Adventist church in Bend, Oregon, I had just come to live with them. At thirteen, it was a huge transition for me. Among my most favorite and comforting memories of that transition are older church members who showered us with love, acceptance, good food, and good fun. They recognized this was a difficult time in my life. Those dear couples have passed away, but the memories—sights, sounds, smells—of their homes remain a warm comfort today. Truly, the women in those families understood how to provide an environment of loving openness—an important part of my journey toward understanding the “mission of our home.”



Susan Murray is an associate professor of family studies who teaches behavioral science and social work at Andrews University. She is a certified family life educator and licensed marriage and family therapist.

Karla Dornacher, *Love in Every Room*, Nashville, Tenn.: Thomas Nelson (1998).

This article is reprinted from the Adventist Association of Family Life Professionals (AAFLP) newsletter, Vol 41:2, Spring 2005. Family professionals, as well as those who want to understand more about healthy family functioning or support family ministry, are welcome to join AAFLP and will receive the newsletter as part of their membership. For further information, visit website: [www.adventistfamilyministries.org](http://www.adventistfamilyministries.org).





## Going for the BOTTLE

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

**Water pollution is a threat to our health.**

**B**ecause our rivers, lakes, and underground water are increasingly at risk of pollution, many are concerned about the quality and safety of their drinking water.

Unfortunately, most of the water contaminants are invisible. Contaminated water may not look bad, smell bad, or taste bad. It is the responsibility of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate the purity of community drinking water. The most widely-occurring contaminants in the water supply are chlorine disinfection byproducts. High exposure to these byproducts increases the risk of developing bladder cancer, and doubles the risk of miscarriage in pregnant women.

**Bottled water is not an absolute guarantee of purity.**

About three percent of the rural population has well water that exceeds the EPA standard for nitrates. High nitrate levels in groundwater usually result from agricultural run-off, chemical fertilizers, and feed-lot wastes. Nitrates can be converted in the body to nitrosamines, which may cause cancer.

Water that comes in contact with old pipes and lead solder joints can be contaminated with lead, especially if the water is warm, acidic, or softened. Children with elevated blood lead levels may experience growth retardation, learning disabilities, behavioral problems, and anemia.

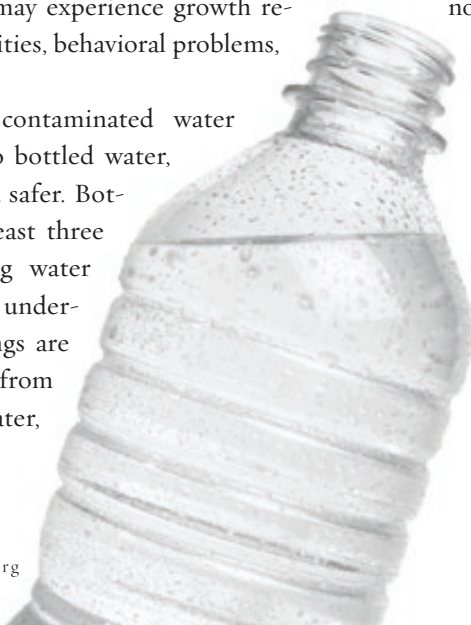
Concerns regarding contaminated water have led many to turn to bottled water, believing it is cleaner and safer. Bottled water comes in at least three different formats. Spring water is water flowing from an underground spring. The springs are supposed to be protected from pollution. Drinking water,

such as Aquafina and Dasani, is derived from city water supplies and is usually filtered or disinfected before being bottled. Purified water normally has been distilled or treated by reverse osmosis or some other purification process. Purified water may be collected in bulk from a dispensing machine in the supermarket.

Many Americans drink bottled water regularly. A major reason for the popularity of bottled water is the taste. Bottled water is disinfected with ozone, a gas that leaves no residual taste, so that it is more palatable than chlorinated water. But bottled water may not be any cleaner than tap water. About one-quarter of all bottled water being sold is actually treated tap water drawn from a public water supply.

Many people treat their tap water with a home filtering device. The filters used for these water purifiers need to be replaced periodically to function effectively. Since pure water is essential to good health, securing a clean water supply should be a high priority.

Winston Craig is professor of nutrition at Andrews University.





# EXTREME GRACE

## Report from Jerusalem: WHAT GOD REQUIRES

BY DICK DUERKSEN

Victory stories filled the auditorium today, bringing cheering delegates to their feet with shouts of “Alleluia!” as they heard that hundreds, maybe thousands, of Greeks, Romans, and other Gentiles are accepting Jesus Christ and becoming “Christians.”

“Christians,” is the term opponents in Antioch are using to describe those who choose to follow Christ, a word that may soon take on worldwide significance.

As the celebration died away, one of the believers requested to speak. “I cheer the work of the apostles among the Gentiles in the North,” he said, “and believe this provides a unique opportunity for us to teach new believers the full meaning of discipleship. These Gentiles must live exactly like their Jewish brethren. They must be circumcised and required to obey the Law of Moses.”

There was applause, especially from those who belong to the party of the Pharisees. After much discussion, statesman-fisherman Peter silenced the assembly with a passionate speech.

“God, who knows the heart, has shown that He has accepted these believers by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as He has to us. He made no distinction between us and them, for He purified their hearts by faith. ... NO! We cannot ask this of them for we believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”



An energetic discussion on “what God requires,” consumed the rest of the day. Then church leader James spoke, “God has shown His concern by taking from the Gentiles a people for Himself, and it is my judgment that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.”

The assembly voted to send a letter commending the Gentile believers on their commitment to Jesus, and saying, “It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: Abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from

the meat of strangled animals, and from sexual immorality.”

This letter will likely become the standard for lifestyle diversity among Christians in the coming years. “Belonging,” is about accepting Jesus. “Christianity,” is putting God first, honoring your body, and valuing others.

The full context of this report is available in Acts 15.

Dick Duerksen is an assistant vice president for mission development at Florida Hospital.



# Stand Up for the Bride

BY ANN FISHER

As I sit at my computer the morning after the closing General Conference ceremonies in St. Louis, I'm so grateful for my Adventist Church family and what it stands for.

The Bible uses three metaphors to describe God's church—family, body, and bride—because they are so easy for us to identify with. In each metaphor, God is the central figure. He is the Father of the family, the Head of the body, and the Bridegroom of the bride. There is no such thing as a perfect family, body, or bride. And because we—all slightly irregular, dysfunctional, and wounded sinners in need of God's grace—are the church, it's not perfect either.

Even if you are new to the Adventist family, you may have discovered that fact already. Every church has its purifiers and unifiers. Purifiers are what Karl Haffner calls “decaffeinated finger pointers,” whose mission is to point out family flaws. Those who criticize the church are essentially saying, “I love You, Jesus, but I can't stand your family. I love You, but your wife is ugly. I accept You, but I reject your body.” Don't let Satan, the “accuser of our brethren,” succeed in drawing your eyes away from Jesus, our only perfect example.

Unifiers don't hold grudges or listen to finger pointers. Their mission is to foster fellowship, unity, and peace. They see difficult family members as opportunities to develop loving characters. They know family members can disappoint you, treat you badly, and be difficult to get along with, but they take the Bible seriously when it says, “You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others” (Colossians 3:13 NLT).

Speaking to the diverse, global Adventist family in St. Louis, Jan Paulsen, newly re-elected world church president, said, “I have a word of caution to anyone who is looking for bad grapes in the church: only God can safely grade

people.” Paulsen appealed to Adventist churches to open their doors—to be inclusive, not exclusive. “It is important to understand God is not owned by any one people, even by the people He calls His own. I want Adventist churches to be known as houses of prayer for *all* people,” Paulsen said. “I want the Adventist family around the world to be known as a compassionate family.”<sup>1</sup>

Ellen White wrote in 1902, “We should remember that the church, enfeebled and defective though it be, is the only object on earth on which Christ bestows His supreme regard. He is constantly watching it with solicitude, and is strengthening it by His Holy Spirit” (*Selected Messages 2*, p. 396).

I have a little verse written in the back of my Bible that says, “If every person in my church were just like me, what kind of church would my church be?” Let's make our church a safe place where all people are accepted and loved. And let's stand up for the bride, for God loves her and gave Himself for her. Jesus says, “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples” (John 13:35 NLT).

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Ann Fisher writes from Walla Walla, Washington.

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1. Source: *Adventist News Network*

## Friendships Make a Difference

BY DIANE KOBOR

Jennifer Jordan and Angie Brandenburg have been best friends since childhood. Now they and their children are learning and growing together at the Evansville First Church in Indiana.

Their relationship with the Adventist church began four years ago when Jennifer contacted Bela Kobar, Evansville First Church pastor, to learn more about our church and school. Jennifer and her two children, Joshua and Brittany, began attending church services and studying the Bible.

When it came time for camp meeting in 2002, we invited Jennifer to come as our guest. She really enjoyed the meetings and making new friends, and her kids also loved it. That fall, she enrolled her children in our school.

Jennifer is not shy about talking about Jesus. Eager to include others in what she was learning, she sometimes shared the *Last Day Events* DVD with the most unlikely people. Jennifer also called up our members on their birthdays and encouraged them to come to church if they were absent.

She invited her friend, Angie, to come see this new church family she was becoming a part of. Angie liked what she found and, in 2004, also enrolled her daughter, Elizabeth, in our school, and Angie often helps with transportation for field trips. Their children also love Pathfinders, Timber Ridge Camp, and Outdoor School.

Angie is the studious type. She had Bible lessons with Bela last year, but she doesn't just study Bible prophecy—she digs into every detail of history. One obstacle for Angie



Jennifer Jordan and Angie Brandenburg decided to be baptized while at camp meeting. From left: Bela Kobar, Evansville First Church pastor; Jennifer Jordan; Angela "Angie" Brandenburg; and Diane Kobar, Evansville Adventist School principal

was a conflict with work obligations on Sabbath. Just before camp meeting this year, Angie's prayer was answered; her employer agreed to let her have Sabbaths off.

The two families came to camp meeting this year. The kids loved the field trips, Bible lessons, and Sabbath programs. They had so much fun with their new friends they didn't want to take time to eat!

The speakers for camp meeting were great, and Angie gathered up plenty of books, tapes, and CDs to take home, and now she spends hours pouring over these new treasures!

While at camp meeting Glen Leer, a physician, asked Jennifer, "Why aren't you an Adventist yet?" By the end of the week, both Jennifer and Angie had decided to set a date for their baptisms.

On June 25, 2005, the first Sabbath after camp meeting, Jennifer and Angie were baptized at the Evansville First Church. Gregg and Beth Buck, friends from camp meeting, drove seven hours so they could be there to join in as we sang, "Take Me to the Water to Be Baptized." The blessings aren't over yet! On that special day, two more people were inspired by their example and made their decisions to be baptized too.

Who could you invite to be included in the life of your church or school—and invite to camp meeting next year? They don't need to be an Adventist to receive great blessings there. Just ask Angie and Jennifer!

Diane Kobar is the Evansville Adventist School principal and ministry partner at Evansville First Church where her husband Bela is pastor.



# Manteniendo la integridad de la iglesia

POR CARMELO MERCADO

La Asociación Regional del Lago llevó a cabo una sesión administrativa el domingo 24 de julio.

En esta sesión el presidente de nuestra Unión, Walter Wright, presentó un informe sobre ciertas actividades que salieron a la luz después de una auditoría y de una investigación interna, que aún continúa. En dicha sesión se les informó a los delegados que la investigación había revelado serias irregularidades en el manejo de las finanzas de la Asociación.

Como resultado de las irregularidades halladas en las auditorías de los años 2001, 2003 y 2004, la junta ejecutiva de la Unión del Lago votó en su reunión de febrero de 2005, iniciar una investigación minuciosa de la Asociación Regional del Lago. Esta investigación interna ha resultado, hasta la fecha, en los siguientes cambios de personal: Lillian Williamson, asistente del tesorero, fue despedida; Leroy B. Hampton, tesorero, renunció; Hugo Gambetta, vicepresidente de Ministerios Multiculturales, fue despedido; Vernice Shorey, contadora, fue suspendida. Los siguientes pastores fueron puestos bajo suspensión administrativa en espera de acciones adicionales de parte del comité ejecutivo de la Asociación: Ciro Avilés, Osmín Hernández, William Rojas y Alfredo Solís.

En la reunión se expresó preocupación por el posible impacto que estos acontecimientos podrían tener en la obra hispana. Los dirigentes de la Unión queremos expresar nuestro más completo apoyo a la obra hispana para que pueda crecer aún más. Como vicepresidente de la Unión, quiero que sepan que nuestro Departamento Hispano hará todo el esfuerzo posible para apoyar a las iglesias hispanas en estos momentos de transición.

Sé que hay muchos hermanos en nuestras iglesias hispanas que están muy preocupados y confundidos por

estos acontecimientos. Permítanme darles las sugerencias siguientes para ayudarles a mantener su fe en Dios y en su iglesia:

1. Orar. La tendencia natural es tratar de conocer los detalles por los cuales se tomaron dichas acciones; recuerden que la investigación aún continúa. Les aseguro que nosotros, como líderes, estamos haciendo todo lo posible para manejar esta situación de una manera profesional y justa. Les pido que oren por los líderes de la Asociación, por los empleados que han sido afectados hasta este momento y por las iglesias, para que en todo se manifieste la voluntad de Dios.
2. Obtenga su ánimo de la palabra de Dios, que nos da instrucciones claras de cómo debemos actuar, en momentos cuando la Iglesia pasa por dificultades. 1 Corintios 1:10 dice, por ejemplo: "Os exhorto, pues, hermanos, por el nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, a que os pongáis de acuerdo y que no haya más disensiones entre vosotros, sino que estéis completamente unidos en la misma mente y en el mismo parecer." También les invito que lean el tomo 1 de Joyas de los Testimonios, pgs. 391-397 y tomo 2, pgs. 77-90.
3. Evite las especulaciones y el juzgar motivos. La única razón por la cual se está llevando a cabo la investigación es para estar seguros que se mantenga la integridad de la iglesia de Dios. El apóstol Pablo dice en Efesios 5 que Cristo ama tanto a la iglesia que se entregó a sí mismo por ella, con el fin de presentar "una iglesia gloriosa que no tenga mancha ni arruga ni cosa semejante, sino que sea santa y sin falta."

Mi deseo y oración es que Dios nos llene hoy con su Espíritu Santo para que podamos seguir en los pasos de Jesús.

Carmelo Mercado es el Vicepresidente general de la Unión del Lago.

# A Partnership in Healthcare Ministry

BY LYNN LARSON

Adventist Midwest Health (AMH) facilities co-sponsor health fairs in various cross-cultural settings to meet the healthcare needs of all people. In May 2005, more than 2,000 members of a Hindu temple participated in a health screening, the second one there, which was co-sponsored by Adventist GlenOaks Hospital.

Adventist GlenOaks Hospital partnered with the Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) in Bartlett, Illinois, to provide a health fair and Teddy Bear Clinic. More than 450 children had the opportunity to meet emergency medical services providers, tour an ambulance, and discuss emergency room procedures with staff.

“The Teddy Bear Clinic is a great way to diffuse a fear of hospitals in children,” explains Tina Johnson, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital Marketing site manager. “Many physicians on the Medical Staff of Adventist GlenOaks, and other Indian-Asian physicians in the Chicago area, donated their time, and based on screening results from free Cholestec tests were able to triage and treat patients at the health fair or suggest specialty treatment for diabetes, heart problems, or high cholesterol,” notes Johnson. “Certified nurse midwives were on hand to offer women instruction on proper self-breast exams.”

According to Brinsley Lewis, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital CEO, “This endeavor, which was well attended, illustrates our mission as a faith-based organization to work with people of all faiths in extending healthcare ministry.”

“During a recent Mission Peer Review, the surveyors were very pleased with the community outreach of this large non-Christian faith group in helping meet our mission of extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ,” noted Jonathan Leach, Adventist Midwest Health Ministries and Mission regional director.



*Adventist GlenOaks Hospital co-sponsored a health fair for members of the BAPS temple, which featured free screenings for blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol. Physicians were also on hand to triage patients and make recommendations for follow-up treatment.*

Walter Wright, Lake Union Conference president and Adventist Health System board chairman, noted the fine detail and breathtaking artistry of the handcrafted marble and limestone of the temple amazed him. The Mandir features 15 domes, 108 carved columns, and unique designs in the ceiling carved by many stonecutters. The BAPS temple and cultural center sits on 30 acres in Bartlett, Illinois, a far northwestern suburb of Chicago.

Although the temple has become an architectural site of notoriety, the Hindu Mandir is not a monument or museum, but an active place of worship for the Hindu community. It is made of 7,000 tons of Italian Carrara marble and Turkish limestone that were hand-carved in India, shipped to the United States, and reassembled in Bartlett.

“The architecture of the temple is inspirational,” noted Leach. “It was built without steel with interlocking stones that fit together like a very intricate jigsaw puzzle.”

Wright said he felt totally accepted and welcomed there, and noted the guide said the temple was a place “for a person of any faith to meditate.”



The BAPS Mandir, a Hindu temple, is located in Bartlett, Illinois.

According to Leach, “Through our interaction with BAPS, we have found the members of the community very open to the spiritual dimension. This has given us opportunities to share our perspective, as well as to listen to understand their religion. We are thankful, [with] all the faith-based hospitals that surround the BAPS temple, that they have chosen us to partner with them for their wellness needs.”

As a result of its successful partnership with Adventist GlenOaks, BAPS has pledged a \$10,000 grant to the hospital to fund a yearlong diabetes awareness and care program. BAPS volunteers participated in 10K walks across North America to raise funds used in community outreach programs in the areas of health, education, environment, and family care.

“BAPS selected Adventist GlenOaks Hospital to receive this gift because we share the passion they have of providing free healthcare and education to the less fortunate in our community,” noted Brinsley Lewis, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital CEO. “This gift will enable us to sponsor community screenings for diabetes and offer free nutritional counseling, especially to women experiencing gestational diabetes.”

Delora Hagen, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital chaplain, says, “We are here to develop relationships with the community, and if we don’t understand each different culture it is so much more difficult to relate in a way that is understood.



Jonathan Leach (right), AMH Ministries and Mission regional director, viewed the intricate designs of the BAPS Mandir with members of the temple.

“For example, some cultures believe hot tea, rather than ice chips, should be given to a woman in labor. We need to meet these needs so they understand we are here to provide wellness for them.” Through our care and compassion, we hope they catch a glimpse that we offer a way to healing in body, mind, and spirit.

Hagen relates, “When Gottfried Oosterwal, a medical anthropologist, presented on Cross-Cultural Caring at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital last year, he said, ‘We should treat other people the same by treating them the way they want to be treated in their culture.’ By our willingness to understand the way a patient wants things to be, we have experienced new energy among the staff at the hospital.”

Lynn Larson is writer/media liaison for Adventist Midwest Health.



Members of the Mission Peer Review Team toured the BAPS temple in Bartlett, Ill., the largest BAPS Hindu temple in North America.

A Photo Essay of the Lake Union Conference During the General Conference Session

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GC

BY GARY BURNS

Join us as we take a backwards glance through the Arch at the kaleidoscope of color that was seen in St. Louis.

For those of us who attended the 58th General Conference Session in St. Louis, it was an incredible experience—mostly about people. However, hundreds of thousands around the world had a digitally generated virtual encounter through the Hope Channel and the Internet. Technology has made the best seat in the house the seat in your house. But no technology can give you the experience of walking the halls of the America's Center, and embracing a newfound brother or sister.







Approximately 2,000 chosen representatives came from all points of the globe to conduct the work of the church. It's amazing to think that our delegates from the Lake Union participated in "the full measure of authority and influence that God has vested in His church." Although not infallible, it is God's chosen method to use "representatives from all parts of the earth" to guard against regarding individuals or small groups as having "sufficient wisdom or power to control the work."

(See *Testimonies*, Vol. 9, pp. 260, 261.)



Other events to augment the work of the church included the SON-screen Film Festival. There are a growing number of young artists whom God has gifted to tell His stories using the arts. I participated in a panel that spoke to issues regarding the use of the arts to accomplish our mission.





Our Lake Union family was involved in all aspects of the session, from playing an active role as priest (Jalen Robinson of Chicago, Illinois), being a delegate (Ivy Posada, Illinois Conference), honorary delegate (Hubert Pierce, Michigan Conference), and host of Global Missions' *Spotlight on Missions* program (Emily Beth Bond, daughter of the *Lake Union Herald* designer).



We are grateful to the many talented GC Session photographers who contributed to this issue. You can download these and other photos with captions and credits at <http://nad.gcsession.org>.



# A Page's Perspective

BY KRISTEN DENSLow

Upon alighting from the Andrews University mini bus on June 27, twenty-five students peered across the steaming city of St. Louis and wondered what it would have in store for them over the next two weeks. These students were selected by an application process to serve at the General Conference (GC) business session as pages and were assigned to several different departments, including Session Management, Communication, Nominating Committee, and Secretariat.

The group spent their days in St. Louis traversing the dome on foot while enviously eyeing those possessing Segways. According to statistics carefully tracked by one page, the students accrued an average of 6.6 miles of walking per day.

When I first found out I had been selected as part of this group, I had absolutely no idea what to expect. I had been to sessions in the past, but never in such a capacity. I was assigned to the Communication department, located in the sixth floor press box overlooking the Edward Jones Dome. From our perch, we were able to observe the frenetic activity that is the GC Session.

We trekked through the massive dome on missions and exchanged smiles with other khaki, black, and white clad pages who were frantically attempting to register guests, manage delegates, and distribute materials. We assisted media representation from around the globe—sometimes by using hand signals for lack of other communication devices—to make sure they got their stories and photos to share the session with their brothers and sisters back home. We copied, faxed, took notes, and answered phones while observing the communication hub of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Being an active part of the session in St. Louis was very different from my previous experiences as an observer. Instead of casually dropping in on the evening meetings and scoping out exhibits, I was involved in the very process of making the church happen. It is absolutely fascinating to watch a business session involving over 2,000 delegates. I was able to watch these delegates discuss and vote on a number of issues, including the addition of a 28th Fundamental Belief. I observed delegates heatedly debate the policies of the church and then fellowship together as a group on Sabbath.

As a life-long Seventh-day Adventist Christian, sometimes it is easy to forget how exciting it really is to be a part of a unique church like ours. Spending two weeks in St. Louis gave me an incredible perspective regarding the church.

Despite being a group with vast differences, the church is able to function in the unity of its mission. It is a rare experience to see people of all different cultures and backgrounds come together on common ground. People from India, Zimbabwe, Germany, and Brazil worked together, deliberating over issues that effect every single one of them. I met fascinating individuals from all over the world, each with their own story. We bonded over a shared set of beliefs and a sincere love of Jesus Christ.

Looking back over the session, I can honestly say it was a privilege to take part in such an endeavor. I realize now how blessed I am to be part of such a diverse church with such unique people. After almost two weeks watching the church at work, I was able to worship on Sabbath morning with 70,000 people—each with a different background, but united in Christ.

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Kristen Denslow is an English major at Andrews University.

# A Family Affair

BY JERRY D. THOMAS

From where I sat in the press room of the Edward Jones Dome, six floors above the arena, the General Conference (GC) Session was a kaleidoscope of color, a thing of beauty. I could say to myself, “Look at my church. From this distance, the colors of skin and fabric blend together in a tapestry woven with love, bound by a commitment to a common mission. Ethnic or national origin is immaterial. It is a global church, God’s church on this Earth.”

But it wasn’t until I was up close, on the front row next to the stage, surrounded by individuals who make up my church, that I realized its true beauty. It is not our blending together that is so remarkable. What is remarkable is that our blending does not erase our differences.

Those who think the Adventist church is cult-like, that its members are somehow brainwashed into all thinking alike, have not been to a church business session like this one. There are serious differences within our church and there is little hesitation to voice those concerns. During the business sessions, delegates found themselves in disagreement over policies, over statements, and over individual words. While most of the work of the nominating committee was quickly ratified and approved, the process itself drew serious questions.

It is clear that the Adventist church does not function the same way in every church around the world and painfully obvious that all Adventists don’t think alike.

The evidence that this church is led by God is that in spite of our differences, we can come together and agree on elected leaders, statements of belief, and policy changes. We can argue, we can disagree—then we can worship together and move forward with our mission.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SESSION

### Re-Election of Jan Paulsen, World Church President

Elected to serve another five years as our church’s leader, Paulsen called on Adventists to make their churches impact their communities. He continued his call for more involvement of youth in church decision-making. I was especially struck by a statement he made at his press conference when asked about trends in Adventist giving. Paulsen said, “No Adventist wants to meet Jesus with his banking account intact.”





### Inclusion of Women in Church Leadership Positions

This GC Session made history as delegates elected the first woman to the position of GC vice president. Ella Simmons, former provost of La Sierra

University and vice president of academic administration at Oakwood College, was elected to serve with responsibilities in the area of education. Later, Rosa Banks, former North American Division director of human relations, was elected to serve as an associate GC secretary, also a first for women in our church. These elections are recognition of the valuable contributions women are making in the administration of our world church.

### New Statement of Belief Voted

The 28th Fundamental Belief voted—Growing in Christ—is not new, but it is a clear statement of our belief in God’s power over evil forces in our world and the value of prayer and Bible study. This vote showed our recognition of differing needs in our global church, where some struggle daily with demonic powers. Even the last minute compromises on the exact words of the statement showed sensitivity to cultural differences.



### Independence Day Celebrations

It was a treat for delegates to be in St. Louis over the Fourth of July weekend. The city’s celebration stretched over three days and delegates were treated

to air shows in the afternoon and fireworks displays after the evening meetings. The uniquely beautiful setting of the Arch and the Mississippi River made for memories to treasure.

### Parade of Nations

The high point of any GC Session is the Parade of Nations on the last Saturday night. Our church now has members in 204 of the 225 countries in this world, and representatives of each were proud to cross the stage and wave their flags as the crowd cheered and praised God for the miracle of seeing the gospel spread around the world. Like the opening ceremony of the Olympics, the flag bearers in their native costumes circled the floor of the auditorium as 50,000 Adventists waved glow sticks.



It was a sight to behold and a feeling that can barely be described. As the nations of each division cheered their flags, there was a sense of celebrating both what makes us all so different and what binds us so tightly together—our mission to the world.

In the end, what remains with me from the GC Session is a sense of how large our church is. Not in the now 13.9 million members or the more than 20 million people who worship in our churches each Sabbath. When I looked around that auditorium, through the hallways, and in the exhibit hall, I could see that our church is large enough to include people of differing races and cultures. It’s large enough to include lovers of soy milk and lovers of cow’s milk. Large enough for those who are opposed to women’s ordination and those who see a place for women in leadership.

The 58th GC Session in St. Louis showed me the vast spectrum of people and practices within our church family. It made me proud to be a part of such a large family, proud to be a part of God’s family on Earth.

Jerry D. Thomas is the Southwestern Union Conference communication director.



## Cancer Survivors Celebrate Life

Walter Wright, Adventist Health System board chairman and a cancer survivor, addressed Cancer Survivors Day attendees at Brookfield Zoo on June 12. More than 1,200 cancer survivors and their guests attended the celebration, sponsored by Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. The event

focused on the joy of life and included a picnic lunch and program.

Wright, who celebrated his birthday at the event, shared lessons he learned about his relationship with God during his treatment. Participants stood for roll call, signifying one to 40 years of being survivors.



Walter Wright, Adventist Health System board chairman, addressed Cancer Survivors Day attendees at Brookfield Zoo.

Lynn Larson, Adventist Midwest Health writer/media liaison

## Community Celebrates 50th Anniversary With Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital

More than 1,800 people attended the colossal golden anniversary celebration for Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital on June 26. A Teddy Bear Clinic with free bears for the children; interactive, fun, and informative health-oriented displays; and entertainment including the Bill Pollock Band, Radio Disney, Circus Boy, a rock-climbing wall, and an animal show appealed to the crowd.

“The enthusiastic support of employees to celebrate our anniversary with the community made this a wonderfully successful event,” notes Tim Cook, CEO, Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. The hospital is

counting down the next 12 months to the completion of its new Patient Care Center.

Lynn Larson, Adventist Midwest Health writer/media liaison



## Mission Institute Held on Andrews Campus

On June 5–25, the Institute of World Mission (IWM), located in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary on the campus of Andrews University, held one of its five annual mission institutes for outgoing and current missionaries on the Andrews campus.

For three weeks 45 missionaries, most of whom are heading out on six-year-long assignments, participated in workshops, learning important cross-cultural skills in preparation for their work in the mission field.

Twenty missionary children also participated in a simultaneously-run orientation program, first started in 2001, designed to help them make the difficult cultural adjustments they'll face.

The Mission Institute sets five basic goals for its participants, around which all the workshops are designed. Their goal is for the missionaries, in a cultural setting, to: 1) grow spiritually; 2) learn to think biblically; 3) reason missiologically; 4) live holistically; and, 5) learn how to serve internationally.

"I've really appreciated the shared goal and [the IWM's] approach to being a missionary and what our goal and function is as a missionary," said Debbie Bullock, one of the Institute's participants. "The biggest thing I've



Forty-five missionaries and 20 children participated in the June 2005 Mission Institute held on the Andrews University campus.

experienced is that I've really felt affirmed in our call, that we're doing the right thing." Debbie and her husband, John, will be training ministers in Sudan.

The IWM first started in 1966, per an action by the General Conference, holding a yearly training institute on the Andrews campus. In 1981, the IWM became its own freestanding department, and has expanded to hold five annual Mission Institutes—two on the Andrews campus, one in Europe, one in Australia, and one in Africa or Asia. The IWM also assists missionaries with a variety of other programs, including re-entry retreats for returning career and student missionaries, short-term mission training, tentmaker training, and leadership across cultures seminars.

IWM staff, who are also recognized as faculty members of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, include director Lester Mecklin, who recently replaced retired director, Pat Gustin, associate director Cheryl Doss, and associate director Wagner Kuhn.

Beverly Stout, University Relations  
Lake Union Herald correspondent

## Teacher in the Spotlight

### L. Monique Pittman

Anyone who has taken a class from Andrews University English professor L. Monique Pittman, or "Dr. Mo," as students often call her, can't help but catch her contagious affinity for all things literary. She is without a doubt the English department's resident powerhouse of enthusiasm. Pittman enjoys nothing more than sharing her love of language with eager students.

Before accepting her current assistant professorship at Andrews University in 1999, Pittman served in a similar position at Pacific Union



L. Monique Pittman

College ('96–'99), where students first acknowledged her academic excellence and gracious spirit. By electing her *Advisor of the Year* and *Honors Teacher of the Year*, Andrews University students continue the tradition of awarding outstanding professors.

Pittman attributes her passion for learning and language to several early influences, beginning with her parents, who exposed her to literary, cultural, and artistic influences early in life. Thanks to a "fabulous, but crazy-mad" high school English teacher, Pittman became enthralled with language and what one could accomplish with the deft turn of phrase. During an undergrad women's literature class she took at Andrews University, Pittman decided to pursue a career in teaching. After completing her B.A. at Andrews University, Pittman returned home to Virginia and attended the College of William and Mary for her M.A., subsequently pursuing her Ph.D. at Purdue University, where she focused on 16th century (Renaissance) literature and 18th century British literature.

A lifelong student, Pittman continues to engage in regular research, periodically contributing articles to scholarly journals such as the *Literature Film Quarterly*, where she critiques the tendency of modern film adaptations of Shakespeare to subscribe to stereotypes and portray destructive gender constructs under the disturbing pretext of following Shakespearean precedence.

Pittman thanks Andrews University for creating a faith-based community that facilitates the exploration of difficult questions and champions intellectual pursuits while remaining ever anchored in the "bedrock of belief." Pittman also posits that Andrews has long underscored her subscription to the credence that one should continually strive to do everything to the best of one's abilities and ultimately to the glory of God.

Elizabeth Lechleitner, University  
Relations student news writer

## [ EDUCATION NEWS ]

### Outdoor School is Fun!

Indiana—“Outdoor School is totally awesome,” exclaimed Jacquelynn. “I like making new friends and getting reacquainted with my old friends,” she added.

The adventures at Outdoor School provide students the opportunity to learn about God’s second book and how to work together to accomplish a task. This year, the teens managed to overturn a tarp without touching the ground—while they were all on it.

Outdoor School is more than just having fun, meeting friends, canoeing, fishing, and horseback riding. It is coming closer to God through the worships given and nature classes taught. This year the young people learned about the wetlands. They examined what makes up a wetland and then identified several different types of wetlands at Timber Ridge Camp. They looked into microscopes to see the creatures God has placed in the wetland and learned how vital wetlands are to our existence and the existence of animals around us. They also learned how important it is to protect the wetlands that are left. The young people left with an appreciation for God’s creation of the wetlands, something we sometimes think of as an eyesore.

Adult sponsors also enjoy Outdoor School. It provides time for them to meet, talk, and recommit themselves to serving God. This year, there were

several answers to prayer that drew those in our group closer to God. It was totally awesome to see Him working in our lives and to know how much God loves and cares for us.

Our school has attended Outdoor School for several years and the students enjoy it so much. They look forward to it and really miss it if for some reason they can’t go. Give Outdoor School a try and see what it can do for you and your school.

For information about the next Outdoor School offered at Timber Ridge Camp, contact Lutricia Whitlow by e-mail: lwhitlow@direcway.com, or call (812) 829-2507.

Sally Seymour, Lucille Lutz  
Elementary School principal

## [ LOCAL CHURCH NEWS ]

### Cookies for Camp

Indiana—When Austin and Lauren Bell, and Noah Guffey, went to Timber Ridge Camp last summer, they had an experience they could not wait to share with their friends back home. They brought back the week-in-review video as well as a barrel full of stories for their friends in the Monticello Church. They sang new camp songs at church, too. As a result, their friends also wanted to experience the many activities the camp had to offer, including the dynamic and Spirit-filled worships and campfires.

Marilyn Thompson, Monticello’s Primary Sabbath school leader, heard from her class of young people their



From left (back): David Gould, Austin Bell, Alyssa Parish, and Tammara Draper; From left (front): Austin Parish, Matthew Gould, Noah Guffey, Jeffery Gould, and Lauren Bell

great desire to all make it to camp the next summer. She knew, however, that it would be a struggle for all those kids to be able to afford the camp registration fee. She then came up with the idea to organize a fund-raiser the young people could do to earn their way to camp. The parents agreed, and soon they settled on a plan for the young people to sell cookie dough in their community.

No one knew how it would go, but the young people were very excited and motivated. Together, they sold over 300 tubs of cookie dough! This ended up being more than enough to cover the cost for all eight kids to go to Timber Ridge Camp this past summer. In addition, through the Lamb’s Offering taken at the church each week, the Monticello Church family was able to send Tammara Draper, a friendship camper from their community.

The young people who sold cookie dough were: Austin and Lauren Bell, Noah Guffey, Alyssa and Austin Parish, and Matthew, Jeffrey, and David Gould.

Camp this summer was something extra special for the Monticello young people, and an experience with Jesus they will never forget. By the way, the young people have already begun selling *Creation* magazines for their next adventure together.

Sabbath school teachers, like Marilyn Thompson, bind our young people to Jesus with their dedicated service, creative endeavors, and encouragement.

Lynette Bell, Monticello Church correspondent



Outdoor School attendees



## South Bend Family Rejoices

Indiana—In Apr. 2003, when physicians at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis examined Jesús Navarro, they learned he was a very sick boy in need of a



Jesús Navarro

kidney transplant. His kidneys had failed to grow with the rest of his body and were only functioning at about five percent of normal capacity. He was on dialysis four times a day.

Jesús' family learned the operation would cost \$75,000, with an additional \$1,000 for medicine in the months afterward. It was more than they could financially manage. South Bend Hispanic Church members stepped in to help.

A series of fund-raising events were planned, including special meals served, donations for yard sales, and radio marathons. An account was set up at a local bank and donations for Jesús' surgery began to accumulate. A story was also published in the Aug. 2004 *Lake Union Herald* and unknown members throughout the Lake Union also contributed through the National Transplant Assistance Fund (NATF). NATF is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to providing fund-raising assistance to families who incur financial challenges due to organ/tissue transplant or other catastrophic illness.

On July 1, 2005, Jesús finally received a new kidney. While he anticipated his mother, Ernestina, would donate a kidney, it turns out it was his father who was actually able to do so.

Luis Beltre Sr., South Bend Hispanic Church pastor, says Jesús and his father are doing well. He said, "Praise the Lord! Everything is going good."

Jesús' parents, Ernestina and Cruz Navarro, are elated and would like to thank everyone who helped make the transplant a reality, including their church family, the South Bend community, their church family in Fort Wayne,

and the many unknown donors from throughout the Lake Union. They also solicit your prayers during the recovery phase.

In July, as the family was celebrating Jesús' miracle, his brother, Alberto, experienced the traumatic loss of fingers during a fireworks accident. Your prayers are requested for his recovery as well.

Diane Thurber, *Lake Union Herald* managing editor

## Timber Ridge Camp Honors Couple for Faithful Service

Indiana—For the last 20 years, Kenny Pickett has been the manager at Timber Ridge Camp (TRC). Whether it's leading trail rides, taking visitors on hay rides, or just being helpful and friendly when guests arrive, Kenny has shown his loving Christian spirit with his faithful service.

If you've ever been on a hay ride at TRC, it was always Kenny at the wheel of the Kubota tractor. At a recent Adventure Family weekend, one of the young campers saw Kenny sitting on the tractor wearing his TRC bucket cap and commented, "Mr. Pickett is the coolest guy I know! I just love him!"

Jim Thompson, a long-time supporter of TRC, shared, "Mr. Pickett is like a father to my wife and me. On many occasions when we would have to make a trip home and wouldn't get back to the camp until late at night, he would always be sitting up in his living room as if he was waiting for us to get back 'home.' I have always felt that he genuinely cares for everyone at camp."

Not only has Kenny taken care of guests, he has taken care of our summer camp, including building and vehicle maintenance, and grounds upkeep. Kenny has a reputation of being able to design and build anything you could imagine. TRC is the envy of summer camps across the U.S. because of the big yellow water swing attached to our diving dock, designed and built by Kenny from raw materials.

Kenny also oversaw the construction of our new nature center, helping build a quality building and saving thousands of dollars along the way.

Working alongside Kenny has been his wife Donna. Her mission has been not only to show hospitality to all who eat a meal at TRC, but to introduce the benefits of healthy cooking. To honor the Picketts, the cafeteria has been named Pickett Dining Hall.

For nearly two years Dean Whitlow has been a ranger, assisting Kenny at TRC. They have been a team in developing the camp and this has been a training time for Dean. When Dean was hired as TRC ranger, Kenny stated that, "another must increase while I decrease." It was his desire to help prepare Dean to take over the operation of the camp.

On Feb. 10, the Conference Committee voted to adopt Kenny's recommendation that Dean become the new TRC camp manager. While Dean has assumed his new leadership role, Kenny still fills an important role as mentor as he assists in caring for TRC. When guests arrive, they can still expect to see Kenny cruising the camp and caring for their needs.

Church and school groups wishing to make reservations at TRC may now contact Dean Whitlow by phone at (812) 829-2507 or by e-mail: [dwhitlow@direcway.com](mailto:dwhitlow@direcway.com).

Charlie Thompson, Indiana Conference youth ministries director



The TRC cafeteria was named Pickett Dining Hall in honor of Donna (middle) and Kenny (right) Pickett. Dean Whitlow (left) is the new TRC camp manager.



[UNION NEWS]

## 3ABN Makes a Wish Come True

Illinois—The Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy. It is the largest wish-granting charity in the world, granting more than 127,000 wishes to children around the world since 1980. The Idaho Chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation recently contacted Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) to inform them of a special request.

Eight-year-old Sarah Wolfe, a devout Seventh-day Adventist who currently receives treatments for a brain tumor, made a request not to go to Disney World or meet some super star actor or athlete, but to be a guest on 3ABN's *Kids Time* and perform with the *Kids Time Singers*.



Sarah is seated on the lap of Danny Shelton, 3ABN president and founder, along with (from left) Mollie Steenson, 3ABN general manager and *Kids Time* host, Brenda Walsh.



*Kids Time* director Brenda Walsh prepared Sarah for her television debut.

Sarah has endured seven surgeries for tumors in her brain and spinal column, loss of the ability to walk, and loss of the ability to talk. She continues to reflect the strength and courage that only a soul surrendered to the hope and faith of Christ could and would exemplify. She often consoles her family, especially her mom, Denise Wolfe, by saying "It's allright; I told Jesus and He knows all about it. It will be allright."

Mollie Steenson, 3ABN general manager, said, "It is a blessing to partner with Make-A-Wish Foundation to grant this special request for little Sarah. I am overwhelmed that our programming has made such an impact on the community, especially the children. That Sarah would choose to be on *Kids Time* above any other wish she could have made in the world is truly humbling."

On Tues., June 14, at 9:00 a.m. at the 3ABN studios in Thompsonville, Ill., Sarah's fondest wishes came true during the taping of her grand, world-wide television debut on her favorite program, *Kids Time*. The program with Sarah aired on July 16, 2005.

Three Angels Broadcasting Network news release



Sarah gave Danny Shelton, 3ABN president and founder, a hug when she visited the studio.

## LRC Internet Camp Meeting 2005 Highlights

Lake Region—Camp meeting plays a crucial role in maintaining the spiritual health of its members and encouraging in them a more vibrant Christian witness. However, the Lake Region Conference (LRC) did not plan to hold camp meeting this year due to a number of financial challenges. This was a great concern to the administration and ideas started to emerge suggesting weekend revival meetings as an alternative, but the costs were still prohibitive.

It was then that Ray Young, LRC communication director, approached George C. Bryant, acting LRC president, with an idea. How about holding camp meeting at the Ypsilanti (Mich.) Church and video streaming the nightly services via the Internet? The Ypsilanti Church has been using this mechanism for a couple years, broadcasting their weekly Sabbath worship services with responses from around the country and as far away as China.

In a couple days, Bryant gave Young the approval to proceed. Young then approached Claude Shaw, Ypsilanti Church pastor, with this unique oppor-



Maydis Caldwell Skeete and John Anthony, Ypsilanti (Mich.) Church members, hosted the Internet Camp Meeting each night.

tunity. That weekend, Shaw convened the church elders for a special meeting to present the concept. Timing was critical as the proposed dates would be those originally planned for the LRC camp meeting, June 17–25, 2005—just three weeks away. Out of town at the Florida camp meeting, Young joined the meeting by cell phone to answer questions and give reassurance to concerns expressed about the planning timeline. After about 30 minutes, the elders voted to move ahead.

Then the hard work began. Nine nightly meetings and two Sabbath services would be streamed from the Ypsilanti Church, allowing anyone with a computer, anywhere in the world, to experience camp meeting sponsored by the Lake Region Conference and hosted by the Ypsilanti Church. How would we get the word out? Who would tune in? How many people could log on at the same time? There were so many questions and only three weeks to pull it together. Could it be done? Young knew that with God in the driver's seat all things were possible, since he believed the inspiration for the idea was God-given anyway.

Detroit-area pastors who could easily drive to the Ypsilanti Church



Al Rodgers is video director for the Ypsilanti media team whose members are setting the pace for Internet ministry in the Lake Region Conference.

were asked to participate. They were asked to bring with them a member from their church who could offer a witnessing or conversion testimony, and also someone to provide two musical selections.

The pastors who contributed as speakers were: William Joseph, City Temple (Detroit, Mich.); Ralph Shelton, Conant Gardens (Detroit, Mich.); Garth Gabriel, Community Fellowship (Southfield, Mich.) and Highland Park (Mich.); Claude Shaw (Ypsilanti, Mich.); Philip Willis Sr., LRC administration; and George Bryant, acting LRC president.

Lay speakers included: Doris Gothard, LRC women's ministries director; Paul Musson, a physician who recently planted the Eternal Life Ministries church (Flint, Mich.); evangelist Randy Skeete, (Ypsilanti, Mich.); and youth evangelist, Brandon Perry, Breakin' Bread Productions (Ypsilanti, Mich.).

Following the theme "Go Ye," from Matthew 28:18–20, each speaker brought a different perspective to magnify the meaning of the Gospel Commission for us today. Maydis Skeete and John Anthony hosted the nightly and Sabbath services. Each team participant fulfilled their role with precision and dedication, from the camera crew, deacons, greeters, and musicians to the praise team, prayer warriors, stage manager, and kitchen personnel who provided an evening meal for workers arriving straight from work.

The *Ypsilanti Navigators* pathfinder club invited the community through distribution of fliers, and communication throughout the conference constituency was facilitated by regular alerts in the *LRC UPDATE*, an online news and information service provided by the LRC communication department.

With everyone in place, the LRC/Ypsilanti Camp Meeting went live on Fri., June 17, at 7:00 p.m. On that first night, 160 locations logged on, in addition to those who attended in person.



Ypsilanti (Mich.) Church members and visitors take in the message presented by Philip Willis Sr. on the last Sabbath of the Internet Camp Meeting services.

Each night an average of 150 Internet computer locations tuned in for camp meeting, with 200 tuning in on Sabbath for the worship service.

Each service was archived and available for viewing about one hour after the live broadcast on the church website, [www.ypsisda.com](http://www.ypsisda.com), by clicking on media center. At this writing, there have been over 600 Internet logins to view the archived messages.

The following email response exemplifies the many comments from attendees and Internet viewers of the blessings received from the online camp meeting experience.

"Hello, Lake Region Conference Communications. Thank you so much [for] the messages that have been on the online broadcast. My family and I have truly been blessed. Please send us the free CD gift. We have so very much enjoyed and been blessed by the 'Go Ye' Camp Meeting services. Thank you. Fred and Arnetha Ball, San Carlos, CA."

God uses a variety of ways to let people know about His love and soon coming. When we are willing to be used and step out in faith to respond to the Divine directive, "Go Ye," we will not be disappointed. No matter how daunting the task, God will bless our efforts and individuals will be won for His kingdom.

Lake Region Conference news release



Seven hundred thirty-five delegates gathered in Berrien Springs for the Lake Region Conference special constituency session on Sun., July 24.

## Internal Audit Irregularities Shared at Special Constituency Meeting

Lake Region—The Lake Region Conference held a special constituency session on Sun., July 24, 2005, in Berrien Springs, Mich. The special session was called by a required 20 percent of the constituent churches for the purpose of electing a new president.

Prior to the actual meeting, it was determined the Lake Region Conference Constitution and Bylaws had no provision for delegates to elect a president at the specially-called meeting. There was provision for a special committee, made up of the executive committee and remaining active mem-



Calvin Rock, a retired General Conference vice president, reminded delegates to keep their focus on the cross.

bers of the nominating committee of the previous session, to elect a new president. However, the delegates voted to have the Constitution and Bylaws committee review the process for electing a president and bring a recommendation back to the delegates at a future session.

The session opened with a devotional message from Calvin Rock, a retired vice president of the General Conference, who reminded attendees their focus must always be on the cross. Several times throughout the day, session delegates were brought back to that theme and times of prayer. The discussion of the day was helpful as delegates were given an opportunity to participate and express their concerns regarding the governance of their conference.

The session concluded with a report from Lake Union administration on issues relating to the Lake Region Conference, followed by a time for questions and answers. The sobering report described activities that came to light during the ongoing audit and internal investigation into the conference. Most of the delegates were aware the situation was serious from a statement read in the churches and published on the Lake Union website on July 16, which indicated six individuals had been placed on administrative leave of absence.

As a result of noted irregularities in the 2001, 2003, and 2004 audits, the Lake Union executive committee voted to initiate an in-depth financial investigation of the Lake Region Conference at their Feb. 2005 meeting. Although moral and civic responsibility prevented sharing specific details of the internal investigation, Lake Union administration indicated it had revealed serious irregularities in the handling

of accounts. When asked by a delegate how many people were being investigated, Walter Wright, Lake Union president, responded that they were not investigating people, but accounts and records; the appropriate people were then being held accountable for the irregularities found.

To date, this investigation has resulted in the following personnel



Walter Wright, Lake Union Conference president, chaired the constituency session at the request of George Bryant, Lake Region Conference acting president.



Rosa Banks, General Conference vice president and human relations specialist, was a guest observer at the session.



Delegates were given an opportunity to ask questions and express their concerns at the session.

changes: Lillian Williamson, assistant treasurer, terminated; Leroy B. Hampton, treasurer, resigned; Hugo Gambetta, vice president, terminated; Vernice Shorey, accountant, suspended. The following pastors were placed on administrative leave of absence, pending further action by the conference executive committee: Ciro Aviles, Osmin Hernandez, William Rojas, and Alfredo Solis.

Recent reports in the press indicated the Lake Region Conference is under investigation by federal law enforcement agencies. When this issue went to press, the Church had no knowledge of the nature or timing of any such investigation, but will fully cooperate when requested. Press reports also referenced missing assets. This appears to be a misdirected reference to a recommendation in a financial statement concerning accounting practices that have now been implemented.

One observer commented, "It would be easy to speculate, but I think the whole matter suggests that the Conference became aware of a problem, the Conference executive committee then acted in what appears to be a responsible manner, and appropriate information was shared with delegates from the churches. The system, while possibly broken for a while, seems to now be working."

Delegates expressed concern for the possible impact on the work within Hispanic ministry initiatives. Wright pledged the full support of the Lake Union to ensure the Hispanic work

would not only continue, but could look forward to the implementation of sound policies, better representation, and a greater commitment of resources for the work.

During the transition in personnel, the Lake Union administration is giving personnel resources and support to the Lake Region Conference; Carmelo Mercado, Lake Union vice president, is providing additional support for the Hispanic pastors and churches.

Gary Burns, Lake Union Conference communication director

## [WORLD CHURCH NEWS]

### ADRA Contributes to St. Louis Charities

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA) donated 100 percent of funds from the sale of agency merchandise, such as T-shirts and hats, to three local poverty-fighting organizations in the city of St. Louis. ADRA hosted an exhibition, "Protesting Poverty," at the 58th World Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The three organizations, Sunshine Ministries, Operation Food Search, and Lydia's House, each received \$10,000, which will be used by them to meet the needs of people living below the poverty threshold.

Sunshine Ministries provides outreach programs based on mutual respect, personal responsibility, and trusting relationships. Programs include a men's homeless shelter, C.A.R.E. program providing basic essentials such as food, clothing, household items, and career counseling, and an after-school program for youth.

Operation Food Search will use the funds to help supplement its food distribution program for people who would otherwise go undernourished. According to Operation Food Search, almost 12 percent of the population in the St. Louis region is food insecure, meaning they do not have full access to a sufficient amount of food to ensure a full and healthy life at all times.

Lydia's House provides transitional housing for women and children suffering from domestic violence, as well as provides them with an opportunity to create a new life free from the fear of abuse.

"As the world focuses on the G-8 summit, ADRA is doing its part in St. Louis to raise awareness on the issue of global poverty, including poverty here at home," said Charles Sandefur, ADRA International president. Along with donating funds to these organizations in St. Louis, ADRA asked visitors to the exhibit to allocate \$400,000 to specific projects in developing countries."

ADRA is present in 125 countries, providing community development and emergency management without regard to political or religious association, age, or ethnicity. Additional information about ADRA can be found at [www.adra.org](http://www.adra.org).

ADRA news release



Chuck Sandefur, ADRA president, presents \$10,000 checks to representatives of St. Louis charitable organizations. From left: Chuck Sandefur, ADRA president; Sunny Schaeffel, Operation Food Search representative; Jim Clakson, Sunshine Ministries executive director; Dawn Stringfield, Lydia's House executive director

Those who are wise  
will shine like the  
brightness of the  
heavens, and those  
who lead many to  
righteousness, are  
like the stars for  
ever and ever.

—Daniel 12:3—

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.

## Weddings

**Heather M. Durst and Brian E. Henning** were married May 8, 2005, in Grand Rapids, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Volker Henning.

Heather is the daughter of Doug and Cheri Durst of Cedar Springs, Mich., and Brian is the son of Volker and Linda Henning of Collegedale, Tenn.

The Hennings are making their home in Ringgold, Ga.

## Obituaries

**BERNARD, Robert E.**, age 74; born Aug. 21, 1930, in Lansing, Mich.; died June 7, 2005, in Flint, Mich. He was a member of the South Flint Church, Burton, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Janet (Kern); sons, Glenn, Richard, Bob, and John; daughters, Jeanice Hall, Gina Brockriede, and Julie Herrick; sisters, Doris Stevenson and Emma Jean DeWitt; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Melvin Santos and Chad E. Bernard, with private inurnment.

**COLLINS, Doris A. (Elsworth)**, age 75; born Jan. 24, 1930, in Alma, Mich.; died May 29, 2005, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her sons, Timm and Tedd; daughter, Sue Nygren; sister, Ruth Easlick; nine grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Esther Knott and Elder Edwin Buck, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

**FERGUSON, Joshua D.**, age 23; born May 18, 1981, in Bedford, Ind.; died Jan. 1, 2005, in Jasper, Ind. He was a member of the Bedford Church.

Survivors include his father, David; mother, Jana (Chastain); and sisters, Amanda and Amber.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Helm, and interment was in Fairview Cemetery, Jasper.

**JONES, Ralph S.**, age 86; born Mar. 25, 1919, in Rockland, Wis.; died June 10, 2005, in Sparta, Wis. He was a member of the Hylandale Church, Rockland.

Survivors include his wife, Anita (Olyphant); sons, Richard and Michael; daughter, Shelaine

Bennett; sister, Jane Lamonte; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Dale Ziegele and Larry Mahlum, and interment was in Fairview Cemetery, Rockland.

**LAKE, Sarah A.**, age 88; born Aug. 4, 1916, in Lead, S.D.; died May 30, 2005, in Tawas City, Mich. She was a member of the Tawas City Church.

Survivors include her son, Raymond; daughter, Joan Proper-Wilder; sister, Rhoda Lake; and many grand-, great-grand-, and great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Philip R. Colburn, and interment was in Greenwood Cemetery, Grand Rapids, Mich.

**TAMM, Elizabeth L. (Serewis)**, age 60; born Oct. 14, 1944, in Osten, Poland; died June 27, 2005, in Ann Arbor, Mich. She was a member of the Metropolitan Church, Plymouth, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, David K.; son, Jonathan D.; daughter, Stephanie M. Tamm; and sisters, Jolanta Serewis-Skakun, Malgorzata Wachtel Berg, and Barbara Serewis-Kowalczyk.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bob Stewart, with private inurnment.

**WELSH, Ruth E. (Wash)**, age 75; born Dec. 1, 1929, in Woodford Cty., Ky.; died July 7, 2005, in Louisville, Ky. She was a member of the North Vernon (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Arthur Jr.; sons, James E. and Tom; daughters, Sherra L. Rogers and Alice V. Davis; sister, Frances Clark; ten grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Michael Stough II, and interment was in Grandview Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Madison, Ind.

**WYMER, Wallace L.**, age 83; born Nov. 6, 1921, in Sickles, Mich.; died May 11, 2005, in Port Charlotte, Fla. He was a member of the Twin Cities Church, Alma, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Lilly V. (Peterson); sons, Richard and Fred; daughters, Susan Haller and Carolyn Garrett; brother, Ora; 19 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Don Williams, and interment was in Chapel Gardens Cemetery, Elwell, Mich.

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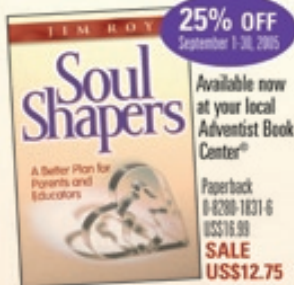
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it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures." (4T, 390) Get equipped for the job! Call **PROJECT: Steps to Christ** at (800) 728-6872 to learn how; e-mail: [info@projectstc.org](mailto:info@projectstc.org); visit website: [www.projectstc.org](http://www.projectstc.org).

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**FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT:** Active senior community, near Orlando with rolling hills and stately trees, now accepting names for one- and two-bedroom apartments. Activities, church on grounds, near camp meeting, heated pool. Transportation, meals, and housekeeping available. Conference owned. For more information, contact Sharon or Areta at (407) 862-2646 or (800) 729-8017.

**FREE VOCAL MUSIC CONCERTS WITH PERSONAL LIFE EXPERIENCES.** A voice professor from Andrews University, with his wife and sister, will give free Saturday evening vocal music concerts with testimonies. Music CDs are available. For more information, contact Vladimir Slavujevic at (269) 473-2826; e-mail: [slavujev@andrews.edu](mailto:slavujev@andrews.edu); or visit website: [www.andrews.edu/MUSIC/slavujevic.html](http://www.andrews.edu/MUSIC/slavujevic.html).

**BALTIMORE JUNIOR ACADEMY 90TH ALUMNI WEEKEND** will be held Oct. 7-9. Fri. vespers with current academy students; Sabbath services with Mark McCleary; Sat. evening banquet featuring Paul Heflin and honoring Ethelind Tilghman Sewell ('42) and Paul Vieny ('37); Sun. morning Alumni Constituency Meeting. For more information, visit website: [www.bjacademy.org](http://www.bjacademy.org).

### Human Resources

**GREENHOUSE MANAGER NEEDED** to join growing team at Palouse Hills Christian School, grades 1-8, Moscow, Idaho. Horticulture, greenhouse, and management experience mandatory for this 13,000 sq. ft. covered, wholesale operation. For more information, contact Sybil Anderson at (208) 882-2440 (days), (208) 835-2347 (evenings), or e-mail: [ndrsn@hotmail.com](mailto:ndrsn@hotmail.com).



"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

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**LIFESTYLE CENTER OF AMERICA** needs a lifestyle medicine physician to join their growing team in the Arbuckle Mountains of Okla. Desire a mission-driven physician with several years of clinical and administrative experience. Internal medicine, Cardiology or Endocrinology appreciated. For more information, contact George Guthrie, M.D., at (800) 596-5480 ext. 3720, or visit [www.lifestylecenter.org](http://www.lifestylecenter.org).

**MARKETING/PR DIRECTOR NEEDED** at Lifestyle Center of America, a premier diabetes medical resort. The qualified applicant will have at least eight years proven marketing experience, two years

team management experience, and degree—prefer MBA in marketing. Submit résumé to Lifestyle Center of America, Attn: Diana Wildermuth, Route 1, Box 4001, Sulphur, OK 73086, or e-mail: [dwildermuth@lifestylecenter.org](mailto:dwildermuth@lifestylecenter.org).

**LIFESTYLE CENTER OF AMERICA** in Okla. needs CFO. The qualified applicant will have at least eight years proven accounting experience, two years team management experience, and degree—prefer MBA in accounting. Submit résumé to Lifestyle Center of America, Attn: Diana Wildermuth, Route 1, Box 4001, Sulphur, OK 73086, or e-mail: [dwildermuth@lifestylecenter.org](mailto:dwildermuth@lifestylecenter.org).

**CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES**, General Conference ministry for the blind in Lincoln, Neb., seeks a controller. Accounting experience required. Denominational or not-for-profit experience helpful. For information, contact Hu-

man Resources at (402) 488-0981, or e-mail: [prhr@christianrecord.org](mailto:prhr@christianrecord.org).

**BUSINESS/OFFICE MANAGER NEEDED** for graduate anesthesia school (CRNA) in north-central Tenn. The school's aim is "Reflecting Christ in Anesthesia Education." Responsibilities include financial, human resources (HR), and administrative. College degree and accounting experience required. Administrative and HR experience highly desirable. Relocation expenses and benefits available. For information, call (615) 868-6503.

**RN NEEDED** at Lifestyle Center of America, a premier diabetes medical resort with a mission to restore health through lifestyle intervention. Prefer RN with medical office management experience. Submit résumé to Diana Wildermuth, Lifestyle Center of America, Route 1, Box 4001, Sulphur, OK 73086; or e-mail: [dwildermuth@lifestylecenter.org](mailto:dwildermuth@lifestylecenter.org).



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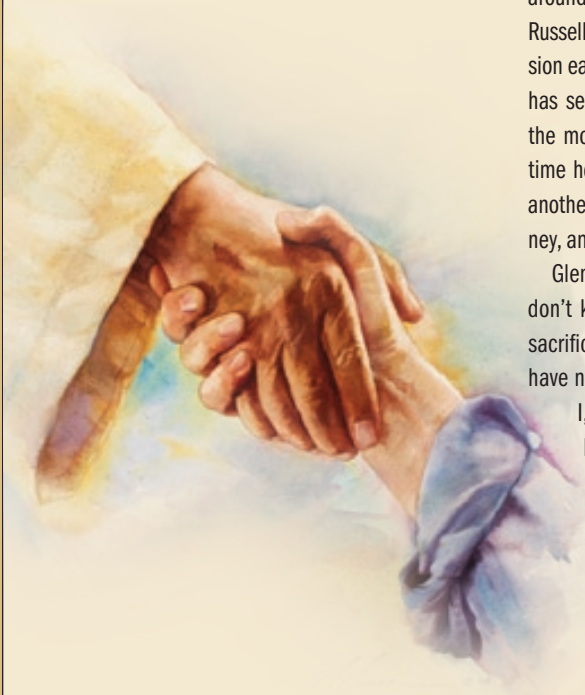




September 26th  
 thru  
 October 16th

## PARTNERSHIP *with* GOD

### Love's Sacrifice BY GARY BURNS



I was reminded once again how much we are missing here in America as I encountered the riches of our Adventist family from around the world. My lifetime friend, Glenn Russell, came to the General Conference Session each weekend to visit the many friends he has served and lived with around the world—the most recent being from Zimbabwe. Each time he returned to my room, he showed me another gift, carried the difficult and long journey, and presented to him as a token of love.

Glenn would shake his head and say, "I don't know what to do. I know the personal sacrifice this gift represents. These people have no money, and yet they bring me gifts."

I, too, have been overwhelmed by the loving, sacrificial gifts of people I've met in impoverished countries. One of my cherished gifts is a small, well-used plastic bag of raw peanuts in the shell. It was given to me by a dear great-grandma in Purima, Guyana. A direct descendant of the

Sabbath keepers O.E. Davis encountered deep in the interior nearly a hundred years ago, her grateful heart gave me all she could give—peanuts from her own garden.

Whether in the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Venezuela, Guyana, Colombia, India, or the Philippines, each time the loving and generous people I have met have out-given me. Their personal sacrifices always represent a much larger percentage of their worth than mine.

The part that puzzles me, and amazes the young people I take along on these trips, is how happy these people are with what we consider to be so little, and how eager and delighted they are to sacrifice in order to give.

I have heard over and over again, by members and leaders alike, how much the church in North America has given to the world church. But somehow I think in the ledgers of Heaven, we have a long, long way to catch up. The more we have the harder it seems to acknowledge all we have is His.

Gary Burns is the *Lake Union Herald* editor.



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.

## Historic Adventist Village

For more information on these events, contact Stanley Cottrell, Village director, at (269) 965-3000; or visit website: [www.adventistheritage.org](http://www.adventistheritage.org).

**Sept. 18, 2:00 p.m.:** Historical play—"Men of Vision"; reenactment—History of Battle Creek.

**Oct. 1:** 150-year anniversary; Merlin Burt, speaker; Move to Battle Creek—First Publishing House; 145-year anniversary of choosing the name, "Seventh-day Adventist"; organizing the publishing work; and, "Time to Begin the Sabbath" (sun-set to sunset).

**Oct. 2, 2:00-5:00 p.m.:** Heritage Festival—arts/crafts/food, historical reenactment—Chet Damron as Abe Lincoln.

**Oct. 29:** Adventist Heritage Ministries Partnership Weekend; 150-year anniversary of *Testimonies for the Church*.

**Dec. 10 and 11, 4:00-7:00 p.m.:** Victorian Christmas—carols, choirs, Village lantern tours, Food Bank offering, Chet Damron as the storyteller.

## Indiana

**A Women's Fall Retreat**, in beautiful Brown County at the Abe Martin Lodge, will be held **Sept. 23-25**. Guest speaker will be Tamyra Horst, author of seven books, which the ABC will have available at the retreat. Guest musicians will be the *Message of Mercy* singers. For more information or to register, contact Marjorie Driscoll at (812) 526-5856, or e-mail: [marjoried@iquest.net](mailto:marjoried@iquest.net).

**TRAT (Timber Ridge Annual Tour):** Ride 170 miles on a bike in three days with plenty of rest, fellowship, and a spiritual program on Sabbath! It all starts at 7:00 a.m. Thurs. morning, **Oct. 6**, and concludes Sun., Oct. 9. For additional information or to register, contact the Indiana Conference Youth department at (317) 844-6201.

**The Indiana Academy (IA) Alumni Association** welcomes all graduates/attendees to the IA campus for Alumni Homecom-

ing, **Oct. 7-8**. Honor classes are 1955, '80, and '95. In addition, the classes of 1965, '75, and '85 will be recognized. For more information, contact Marjorie Driscoll, alumni president, at (812) 526-5856, or e-mail: [marjoried@iquest.net](mailto:marjoried@iquest.net). As part of the weekend activities, the 15th Annual IA Alumni Golf Classic will be held Fri., Oct. 7. For information regarding the golf event, contact Jimmy Arnett, tournament director, by e-mail: [Jimmy\\_Arnett@vfc.com](mailto:Jimmy_Arnett@vfc.com).

## Lake Region

**LEGAL NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that a Special Constituency Session of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on Sun., **Oct. 2, 2005**, at 9 a.m., at the Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Church, 7000 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. The purpose of the Session is to consider proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws as recommended by the Constitution and Bylaws committee. Only those changes that have been duly processed and recommended by the Constitution and Bylaws committee will be considered at the special session. Please contact conference administration or members of the Constitution and Bylaws committee to suggest changes. Delegates to this session are the duly-appointed representatives of the various churches of the conference.

George C. Bryant, acting president

## Lake Union

### Offerings:

- Sept. 3** Local church budget
- Sept. 10** Fall Mission Appeal
- Sept. 17** Local church budget
- Sept. 24** Local conference advance

## Thirteenth Sabbath Offering:

- Sept. 24** Northern Asia Pacific Division
- Special days:**
- Sept. 3** Men's Day of Prayer
- Sept. 4-10** Nurture Periodicals (*Adventist Review, Insight, Guide, Primary Treasure, Little Friend*)
- Sept. 11-17** Family Togetherness Week
- Sept. 18-24** Hispanic Heritage Week

**Reconnect** with those who sang in *Harambe* and/or *Our Father's Children* in 1975. Let's reconnect for Andrews University Alumni Weekend, **Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2005!** Contact e-mail: [interfaith2000@yahoo.com](mailto:interfaith2000@yahoo.com).

**Vengan al retiro "ENCUENTRO"** Invitamos a TODOS los jóvenes hispanos de nuestra Unión al retiro llamado "ENCUENTRO", que se llevará a cabo **del 11-13 de noviembre de 2005**, en GRACE ADVENTURES, un lindo campamento en Mears, Michigan. Este evento es auspiciado por la Unión del lago. El costo para el fin de semana es \$75 por persona si se matricula antes del 14 de octubre, u \$85 si lo hace después de esa fecha. Esto incluye hospedaje, comidas y una camiseta. Haga su reservación con tiempo ya que el espacio es limitado. Para más información llame a la oficina del Pastor Carmelo Mercado, al teléfono (269) 473-8249.

## Michigan

**Singles Retreat at Camp Au Sable:** Mark your calendar and plan to attend this fun-filled event, **Oct. 21-23**. You won't want to miss this opportunity to fellowship with other singles in Mich. Speaker for the weekend: Christian Martin. Other activities include: go-karts, horseback riding, canoeing, hiking, etc. Space is limited so register early! For more information and cost, contact the Family Ministries department at (517) 316-1500 (ask for Lyn White), or contact Elodia Jones at (517) 227-1781, or e-mail: [ElodiaJones@peoplepc.com](mailto:ElodiaJones@peoplepc.com).

## North American Division

**Sunnydale Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend** is **Sept. 29-Oct. 2**. Honor classes are: 1955, '65, '70, '80, '85, '90, '95. Activities start with the Silver Showcase, Thurs. evening, Sept. 29. For additional information, call (573) 682-2164, or visit website: [www.sunnydale.org](http://www.sunnydale.org).

**Dakota Adventist Academy:** Come and reminisce with old school friends from DAA/PVA/SRA at the alumni gathering at Dakota Adventist Academy, Bismarck, N.D., **Sept. 30-Oct. 2**. Honor classes: 2001, 1996, '86, '81, '76, '66, '56, '51, and '46. For more information, contact Judy Liebelt, Alumni president, at (701) 428-3382.

**The National Association of Seventh-day Adventist Dentists (NASDAD)** will hold its 62nd annual meeting, **Oct. 12-15**, in Washington, D.C. NASDAD officers and members enthusiastically invite all dentists, dental hygienists, and their families interested in the world-wide dental mission outreach of NASDAD to join them for a weekend filled with spiritual, educational, and recreational activities. Reservations at the JW Marriott will need to be made early! For more information, please contact the NASDAD office at (909) 558-8187, or e-mail: [nasdad@llu.edu](mailto:nasdad@llu.edu).

**Oak Park Academy Alumni Reunion:** Plan to come! The reunion will be held **Oct. 21 and 22** at Gates Hall in Nevada, Iowa. For more information, visit website: [www.opainiowa.com](http://www.opainiowa.com), or contact Bill Sager at (863) 452-2593.

**Thunderbird Adventist Academy** is trying to locate all graduates from the class of 1956 for their 50th reunion. If you are a 1956 graduate, contact Eugene Wahlman at 12223 N. 39th Way, Phoenix, AZ 85032; phone: (602) 867-0264; or e-mail: [genenan@mailstation.com](mailto:genenan@mailstation.com).

## Sunset Calendar

	Sept 2	Sept 9	Sept 16	Sept 23	Sept 30	Oct 7
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:20	8:08	7:56	7:44	7:31	7:19
Chicago	7:25	7:13	7:01	6:49	6:37	6:24
Detroit	8:07	7:55	7:43	7:31	7:18	7:05
Indianapolis	7:17	7:05	6:54	6:43	6:31	6:19
La Crosse, Wis.	7:41	7:29	7:16	7:03	6:50	6:37
Lansing, Mich.	8:14	8:02	7:49	7:37	7:23	7:10
Madison, Wis.	7:33	7:21	7:08	6:56	6:43	6:30
Springfield, Ill.	7:31	7:19	7:08	6:56	6:45	6:33

# LESSONS LEARNED *in God's Waiting Room* BY RECEL REMOROSA-DUARTE

I t's been five months now since I arrived in beautiful America, five months being a stranger in this place so different from what I was used to.

I used to think we would enjoy a contented life in the Philippines, just being together as couple. But when Jon accepted the opportunity to return to the States for his Ph.D. program, I was left alone. But as a spouse to an international student, I looked forward to coming to America as a dependent visa holder. We thought the visa process would only take a month or two, but it was ten months until I got my F2 visa.

I am homesick for the Philippines each time I am alone at home and I miss terribly my ever-loved niece. In America, the struggles of being a wife sometimes put me into discouragement and hopelessness.

Because of my dependent status, I am unable to obtain a job and earn money. Not using my professional skills and abilities has made me weary. A job would permit me to help family who are in need back in the Philippines.

Keeping our faith in God alive and burning all the time is what Jon and I are trying to have in our lives. We were active churchgoers back in the Philippines and that is what we want to continue in our lives now.

But because of the demands of our time, I often find myself feeling I need a job to compete with others around me who are busy working. I don't like to just stay at home 24 hours a day, doing routine household chores, because it makes me feel useless and paralyzed. I hate to see myself just facing books to read, TV to watch, or surfing the computer.



Sometimes I regret coming to America, but each time Jon asks me to remember the reasons why I am here. I realize I have many desires and many things I wanted to do—to continue making our faith in God stronger in these last days by being together, supporting each other, and letting things happen one at a time.

It is always worthy to wait for goals to be realized, especially when patience has been tested. When Jon finishes his Ph.D. program, maybe we will still have time to be here, find a job, and realize our other goals of sharing our blessings to those in need, paying back the goodness we once received from individuals around us, and above all, giving back the glory and honor to our God who always showers everyone with goodness and mercy. By seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, I know everything will just come into order. (See Matt. 6:33).

Recel Remorosa-Duarte is from Bloomington, Illinois. She is looking for ways to use her mass communication skills to help others in her community and at the All Nations Church, where she currently attends with her husband Jon.

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**Wisconsin:** Donald Corkum, president; Roger Driver, secretary/treasurer; street address: 3505 Highway 151 North, Sun Prairie, WI 53590; mailing address: P.O. Box 7310, Madison, WI 53707-7310; (608) 241-5235.

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**Leah Schultz**, 18, from Augusta, Wis., graduated from Wisconsin Academy (WA) in May. During her three years at WA, Leah kept very busy. Leah was a member of the National Honor Society all three years and president her junior year. She was pastor of her class and the Girls' Club. This last year, Leah was Student Association president, planning fun activities for the school.



Leah Schultz

This past summer, Leah worked at Camp Wakonda as a girls' counselor. "Leah is the type of person that goes through life with a giggle. She is a hard worker and a good influence on others; it has been a privilege to work with her this last summer," said Mike Edge, Wisconsin Conference Youth and Camp Wakonda director.

This fall Leah will attend Andrews University and will begin a public relations degree.

Leah is the daughter of Gary Schultz and his wife Nancy, a 1973 graduate of WA. Leah has many cousins, aunts, and uncles who also attended the academy.



Shannon Laursen

**Shannon Laursen**, 19, graduated from Wisconsin Academy (WA) in May. During his three years at WA, he was a member of the gymnastics team. He was also sports coordinator for his class all three years.

"Wisconsin Academy is more than just a school to me and my family—it is a family tradition. My two older brothers and my sister attended the academy, along with various aunts, uncles, and cousins," said Shannon. He continued,

"WA is a home. I believe that it has given me a good start for my life, along with allowing me to make friendships that will last a lifetime."

This fall Shannon plans to attend the tech school in Eau Claire, working toward a career as an electrician. Currently, Shannon is working for an electrician to help prepare him for his career.

WA Food Services director Debbie Shufelt said, "Shannon is one of those students that you know you can count on in a jam. He is always willing to help and is a hard worker."

Shannon is the son of Deland and Cheryl Laursen of Clear Lake, Wis.

These students were selected and profiled by faculty members at their school. To recommend outstanding students for recognition, speak with your pastor or a faculty member. Visit [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org) for selection criteria.

**Address Correction**

Members of the Lake Region Conference and paid subscribers should contact the *Lake Union Herald* office with their address changes. Members from the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin conferences should now contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all *Lake Union Herald* address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right.

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**Indiana:** (317) 844-6201 ext. 241

**Wisconsin:** (608) 241-5235 ext. 113

Members outside the Lake Union may subscribe by sending a check for \$8.50 (per year) to P.O. Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. **Note:** If you are a member of a church in the Lake Union but are not receiving the *Lake Union Herald*, please request it through your church clerk or your local conference secretary.

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