



*Lake Union*  
**HERALD**

MAY 2006

*It Only Takes a*  
**Spark**  
Special Camp Meeting  
& Summer Camp Issue





in every issue...

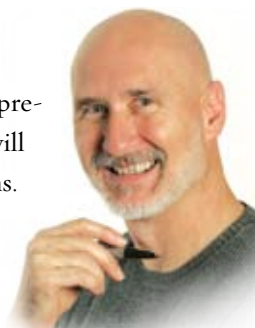
- 3 Editorial by Walter L. Wright, Lake Union president
- 4 New Members Get to know some new members of the Lake Union family.
- 6 Youth in Action
- 7 Beyond our Borders
- 8 Family Ties by Susan E. Murray
- 9 Healthy Choices by Winston J. Craig
- 10 Extreme Grace by Dick Duerksen
- 11 Adventism IOI by Gary Burns
- 12 Sharing our Hope
- 13 ConeXiones en español by Carmelo Mercado
- 36 Adventist Midwest Health News
- 37 Andrews University News
- 38 News
- 42 Mileposts
- 43 Classifieds
- 48 Announcements
- 49 Partnership with God
- 50 One Voice
- 51 Profiles of Youth

in this issue...

**O**ur May issue features some of the most exciting and rewarding events of the year for members throughout our area. It's the closest thing we have to the fellowship the children of Israel enjoyed at the Feast of Tabernacles. What an incredible opportunity to gather together as God's people to worship, fellowship, and encourage one another in Christian love!

Camp meeting and summer camp—two events that just may provide the spark your family needs. We hope you will enjoy the preview of this summer's lineup presented in this issue, and that it will provide the information you need as you make your summer plans.

*Gary Burns*  
Gary Burns, Editor



features...

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>CAMP MEETINGS:</b>       | <b>SUMMER CAMPS:</b>          |
| 14 Illinois Camp Meeting    | 24 Camp Akita: Illinois       |
| 16 Indiana Camp Meeting     | 26 Timber Ridge Camp: Indiana |
| 18 Lake Region Camp Meeting | 28 Camp Wagner: Lake Region   |
| 20 Michigan Camp Meeting    | 30 Camp Au Sable: Michigan    |
| 22 Wisconsin Camp Meeting   | 32 Camp Wakonda: Wisconsin    |

34 Lake Union Conference Quinquennial Session Snapshots

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## SUMMER CAMP *and* CAMP MEETING 2006

I've never been much of a pup tent guy, but I do love camping. And I mean all types of camping. Thinking back now, I have had some outstanding camping experiences. These have ranged from big church camp meetings in places like Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Soquel in central California, Cedar Lake in Michigan, and South Queensland, Australia, to youth camps in Oahu, Lone Star in Texas, Wiwona in northern California, and Soweto in South Africa.

They all had several things in common: great fellowship, fun, food, and a healthy emphasis on the spiritual. South Queensland is the very largest camp I have ever seen, and the emphasis is on family and activities to include all ages. The Big Camp in Auckland, New Zealand, is a Polynesian delight with all the South Pacific cultures on display.

Last summer, I had the pleasure of speaking at a very small camp meeting for the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference in Canada. They had what I consider a unique feature. At the last meeting, everyone comes together to view a video of all the camp highlights from the opening of camp right up to the last meeting. You can imagine my surprise as the sermon I had just completed was flashed on the screen as the very last feature!

If you like beautiful retreat settings then you will love Camp Au Sable in Michigan or Camp Akita in Illinois. If you are into the old-time camp meeting flavor, then you want Cicero, Indiana, or Camp Wakonda in Oxford, Wisconsin. And if you want to be around when the preaching is so powerful that the tent poles shake, you must visit Camp Wagner in the Lake Region Conference, right up the road in Cassopolis, Michigan.

Yes, the family, and especially our youth, are blessed at the various camps and camp meetings conducted by our Church. Life-changing decisions are made; youth are rescued from Satan; baptisms are held; and some of the best food ever to cross your palate is served. The Lord is much in evidence as we gather together in His name. Even the many and varied workshops send us home equipped to witness for Christ.

I hope to see you out there somewhere in the Lake Union this summer. Let's hit the old "sawdust trail" together and just see what God has prepared for His children at Camp Meeting 2006! There may not be many more before Jesus makes His appearance. We should take advantage of this summer together.



# Welcome NEW MEMBERS

**Illinois** In October 2003, Mike Weakley conducted a Revelation seminar at the Ottawa Church where he was pastor. During the seminar, **Jean Pabian**, her daughter, and grand-daughter attended almost every meeting. They were excited to learn more about Bible prophecy and the Second Coming of Jesus. When the series was finished, Jean continued learning more with Mike and his wife Alice, who began *The Voice of Prophecy Speaks* DVD studies with her.

At first Jean was somewhat confused. What she was learning was new and different than what she had been taught and assumed true most of her life. But as she continued to study, a new picture of God and His wonderful plan began to emerge.

After finishing *The Voice of Prophecy Speaks* series, Jean wanted to study Bible prophecy deeper, so she began the Seminars Unlimited study materials. Jean also attended many of the meetings during the church's Fall 2004 evangelistic series and then expressed her desire to be baptized. She wanted her husband **Jeff Pabian** to join her in baptism, however, he had not shown the same level of interest in what Jean had been learning. Though he was friendly, Jeff seemed uninterested and non-committal about Bible matters.

When the meetings ended, the Weakleys continued to study with Jean and included Jeff in their overtures of friendship. One day, while visiting with Jeff and Jean, Mike asked Jeff if he would like to join the study with his wife. To their surprise, Jeff said, "Yes, I think I will." From that time on, Jeff was an avid student and learner. His first study was on the state of the dead. Just two weeks later his father

passed away; Jeff and Jean both expressed that what they had learned from the Bible helped them through their grief. Jeff and Jean continued their studies and were baptized on November 11, 2005.

When Jeff and Jean married, it was a

simple civil service before the Justice of the Peace. With a new faith in Jesus, they wanted a new commitment in marriage before God. They renewed their marriage vows following their baptisms.

Jeff and Jean are finding ways to share their newfound faith in Jesus with relatives, neighbors, friends, and the community—but it has expanded beyond that. In January, Jeff and Jean experienced mission service on a ten-day trip to Cuba. They came back even more excited about their faith in Jesus and His soon coming.

Mike Weakley is the pastor of the Ottawa Church and Bruce Babienco is a *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent.

**Michigan** The Lord has blessed the Monday night Bible study/small group held at the home of Mick and Joy Maul, members of the Three Angels Fellowship in Grand Rapids. The Holy Spirit has worked through the lives of dedicated church members who are committed to sharing His message of love.

**Patty Hendricks** was a close friend of Penny and Ivan Witchel. A few years ago, Penny and Ivan became Seventh-day Adventists and began sharing their faith with Patty. Patty began attending church and soon started Bible studies with her friends. As the studies progressed, she met other church members whose loving faith had a positive influence on her walk with Jesus. It wasn't long before Patty made her decision to be baptized and joined the Three Angels Fellowship in Grand Rapids. Her changed life is another example of what can happen when loving church members express their faith through friendship.

**Shannon Oliver** had just finished attending Spring Week of Prayer at Grand Rapids Junior Academy. The services stirred his heart and led him to decide to unite his life with Jesus Christ in baptism. The pastor, Bob Joseph, visited with him and his parents, Buddy and Debbie Oliver, and affirmed Shannon's desire to be baptized. Shannon was so happy on the day of his baptism in the Maul's pool, even though the depth of the water came over his nose and the pastor had to hold him up until he was immersed. Today, he continues to grow in his faith as a disciple of Jesus.

**Janet Kent** became interested in understanding more about the Bible because of the influence of her husband **Forrest Kent**. He became interested while listening to a series of evangelistic sermons that Linda Blanford shared with him.

When the pastor held a series of meetings in the Three Angels Fellowship hall, Forrest was unable to attend. Each night, after the service, Linda waited while the sermon was



Jeff and Jean Pabian renewed their marriage vows following their baptism. From left: Mike Weakley, pastor; and Jeff and Jean Pabian



Bob Joseph baptized Patty Hendricks, while (from left) Carson Brown, Janet Kent, and Susan Brown rejoiced.

copied on a cassette tape so she could take it to Forrest. By the end of the series, Forrest was ready to be baptized.

At first, Janet was a little hesitant about her husband's decision, but soon began attending church with him. The pastor noted how the warmth and friendliness of the members drew her in, and soon she too desired to give her heart to Jesus. After a series of studies, Janet followed her husband in baptism.

Mick and Joy Maul are co-leaders of a small group Bible study and Bruce Babienco is a *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent.

**Michigan** I (Wynetta Kendzior) attended a church as a child and learned all the typical things most children learn by attending church. When I graduated from high school, I moved out of my parents' home at seventeen, determined to live a life according to my own terms. That's when I stopped attending church.

For the next ten years I moved in and out of my parents' home, occasionally attending church with my mom. However, I still lived the way I wanted to. It wasn't exactly a "Christian life."

Eventually I wanted church to be part of my life again. By that time mom had stopped attending altogether. I did not feel comfortable attending my home church, so I chose another one and attended faithfully. It was a smaller and more laid-back congregation than my previous church. I felt comfortable, but did not realize my lifestyle was not what Jesus wanted it to be.

One evening an old family friend, Fred McLemore, came to my mom's home to give Bible studies. I sat and listened to his presentation about the Sabbath. Until then, I believed Sunday was the "Lord's Day." By the end of the series of Bible studies, my Mom was convinced the Sabbath was Saturday, not Sunday as she had been taught. I was not convinced; I believed you could worship any day of the week.

A couple of years later, I met the love of my life and eventually married him. Yet, I still continued to live "just

the way I wanted." Then my dad began attending a weekly Bible study with my mom at the home of Mick and Joy Maul. I remember mom praying my dad would go to church, but he would always answer, "No, I already know it all anyway." I never thought I would see my dad in church or reading a Bible, yet there he was in a small Bible study group and actually owned his own Bible! What was more amazing to me was the new Christian life I began to observe in my parents.

After the birth of my daughter Kaitlyn, my marriage began to crumble and I felt lost. I tried to keep our home together for Kaitlyn's sake. Five months after she was born, I was pregnant again—and this time with twins!

When Jonathan and Benjamin were born, I felt like a single mom even though I was still married. Life was very hard and I depended on my parents a great deal, which only made my husband angry.

One evening after work, I stopped at my parents' home to pick up Kaitlyn and discovered she was at their Bible study. When I picked her up, my interaction with the Bible study people changed my life. The Christian love they showed me and Kaitlyn was unbelievable.

The problems in my marriage increased and it ended in divorce. I began attending church with these loving Christians, which gave me a joy and peace I had not known. Through Bible studies, I learned more than I had ever known. The pastor combined Biblical events with history. Everything I studied began to make sense—even attending church on Saturday! Everyone sought to help me understand each Bible truth. I realized I was not in control of my life, and I needed to surrender my life to Jesus Christ.

On a beautiful Sabbath in August 2004, I was baptized in the Maul's swimming pool. It was a thrilling experience. I seek to rear my children to know Jesus. I am thankful for the friends I have in Christ, and continue to learn more truth from the Bible at our Monday night Bible study. God is so good!

Wynetta Kendzior is a member of the Three Angels Fellowship in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Bruce Babienco is a *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent.



Wynetta Kendzior is raising her three children to know Jesus. She is pictured with Kaitlyn, Benjamin, and Jonathan.

## Serving God with All Your Heart

BROADVIEW ACADEMY GIRLS  
WITNESS AT A BAPTIST CHURCH

BY ROBIN WEEMS



photos by Rachel Terwilliger

In her sermon, Stephanie Williams talked about priorities and putting God first.

The bus was loaded—26 girls, luggage, and food—and headed downstate to a church in Kilbourne, Illinois, for an outreach program. Our first stop was at a bed and breakfast, where we unpacked and got acquainted with the host. After settling in, we headed off to the church, where we were greeted with open arms, lots of food, and a sizzling bonfire where veggie dogs and marshmallows were roasted. After a balloon toss, a game of hide-and-seek in the dark, and a hayride, it was time to turn in.

Early Sunday morning, it was our time to serve God with all our hearts. The pastor of the Baptist Church had invited us to present the worship service. All 26 girls had a special part in the worship service at the church—scripture reading, prayer, a flute and violin solo, a duet, song service, a children's story, and



The girls, along with their dean, Robin Weems, boarded the bus, prepared to serve God with all their hearts.

a skit. It was evident each girl prepared for this special day, pointing to our special theme, "Serving God with All Your Heart."

"The Giving Person" was the name of our skit. Jessica Panatsis was the Giving Person, Jesus, who gave all He had in order to save us. Aisha Robinzine presented our children's story. All eyes gazed upon the glove which illustrated us, as people, and the hand inside illustrated God. Aisha related that only with God inside us, like a hand in a glove, can we be completely strong and serve wholeheartedly.

Stephanie Williams brought the message entitled "Me and My World," and told about prioritizing her life and putting things in the correct order with God first and foremost above everything else. She told how she thought twice about even coming on the trip, but knew deep down inside God wanted to use her to serve with all her heart to

tell others about His love. As Stephanie spoke, every heart was tuned in. As she brought a little of her personal relationship with God into the message, tears came to my eyes. All tied in to our scripture reading from Ephesians 6:7, "Don't just do what you have to do to get by, but work heartily, as Christ's servants, doing what God wants you to do" (*The Message*).

There were three churches represented that day in the congregation. We were invited to come again to put on a Vacation Bible School program during the summer. The pastor said members would invite children from other neighborhoods and churches as well. A member from another church also invited us to come put on the same type of service there. The people were in awe at the high level of spirituality these young girls possessed. They were very touched and blessed by the service and at how it was plain to see God was and is working in the lives of these young ladies.

Broadview Academy is such an amazing place! I thank God each and every day for His continuing presence on this campus and in the lives of these young people.

Robin Weems is the Broadview Academy girls' dean.







# A “Mex—Amigos” Christmas

BY ROBERT BENSON

What did you do this past Christmas holiday season? Did you do any of the following: foreign “mission service,” build churches, work in dental clinics, conduct health expos, lead Vacation Bible Schools, or present public crusades? Wished you could have? You still can!

Rich Sutton of Mesick, Michigan, has coordinated *Mexico Missions* church building projects during Christmas break for 16 of the last 18 years and is responsible for over 20 different churches being built.

Rich noticed youth leaving the church, so he decided to take youth to a foreign country for a church building project. After the first mission trip, Rich didn't go again until a couple years later when his daughter Amy strongly encouraged him to do so. He has been going ever since. Rich's passion is to build an Adventist church in every community he enters in Mexico.

What was the last mission trip like? On Saturday evening, December 17, 2005, the *Mexico Missions* caravan pulled out of Mesick, Michigan, and began its trip south, picking up team members in other locations along the way. After three and a half travel days, the team arrived in Entabladero, Veracruz, Mexico, and set up camp at 3:00 a.m.

Sutton's original goal to build churches continues. Two beautiful churches were completed with combined costs of approximately \$15,000. Why so cheap? Block walls, steel roofs, plus volunteer labor are the reason.

The local pastor's wife estimated approximately 50 children would show up for Vacation Bible School. But when American children took small stuffed animals, gifts, and written invitations door to door, 115 kids showed up!

Approximately 125 people attended a public crusade nightly, preceded by health talks. The meetings were held in the public square and were loud enough the police across the street listened in. The town drunk came to the meet-



Mexican church members appreciate the Huyalejo church built by Mexico Missions.

ings, said he wanted to give up drinking, and asked for prayers. Eighteen others wanted to be baptized by immersion.

Tom Onjuka, a pastor and dentist, pulled teeth and did fillings while Tina Sutton, a dental hygienist, cleaned teeth. A Health Expo was added this year. Approximately 130 people came through the nine stations; 40 were scheduled for in-home Bible studies.

After all these contacts were made, the “walls” of separation tumbled down and some 40 Mexicans came to the Adventist church for the very first time.

All types of people go on the mission trips. There are mechanics, block layers, welders, cement “mixers,” cooks, pastors, dental and other health professionals, Vacation Bible School programmers, translators, and youth.

So, what are your youth or you doing this coming Christmas? Plans are already underway for the *Mexico Missions* trip next December. Is God calling you to go do something for Him? Visit [www.mexico-missions.org](http://www.mexico-missions.org) to learn more.

If you are interested in going on the next mission trip to Mexico or making a charitable contribution to help in the work which has expanded to include a mission school building in Bolivia, contact Rich Sutton at [richpamsutton@yahoo.com](mailto:richpamsutton@yahoo.com); or call (231) 824-6001. All contributions toward these projects are tax-deductible through the Mesick Church.

Robert Benson is the Holly (Michigan) Church pastor.





# Who's Hurting Whom?

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

**M**arriage may have been made in Heaven, but it has to be lived here on Earth ... with our families. Spouses get into many unresolved disputes over whose family is more important. Sometimes spouses stop visiting the spouse's family, and unfortunately parents and other family members can undercut a marriage with lasting consequences. But only if you let them.

Here are some questions to determine whether this is happening in your marriage.

- ▶ Is the subject of many discussions or arguments the way in-laws or extended family treat you or the demands they put on your lives?
- ▶ Do you keep secrets from your spouse about conversations you've had with your family?
- ▶ Do you find yourself blaming your spouse's minor faults on his or her parents' poor child-rearing practices?
- ▶ Does one of you complain that the amount of attention paid to, or time spent with, your respective families is unequal?
- ▶ Do you feel pressured to agree to plans with your own family without checking first with your spouse?
- ▶ Do you find it very difficult to say no to requests from your parents?
- ▶ Do you find it easy to say no to requests from your spouse's parents?
- ▶ Do you celebrate all holidays and special occasions at either your parents' or your spouse's parents' home?
- ▶ Do you feel your spouse never sets limits on his or her parents' demands, even when it's clear they are unreasonable?

If you are concerned about your responses to some or all of these questions, Bill Doherty, author of *Take Back Your Marriage*, suggests ways to protect your marriage and still maintain loving contact with both families. He suggests:

- ♥ If you are in an argument with your spouse about one of your families, avoid retaliating with an attack on the other's family.
- ♥ Try not to say anything critical about your in-laws' personalities or family traits that your spouse has not already mentioned. Don't be an eager critic of your in-laws, or you will stir up defensive loyalty in your mate.

♥ The blood (or adoptive) relative should generally take the lead in setting limits on his or her family. Don't make your spouse be the bad guy with your family, and don't become the bad guy with your in-laws.

♥ If you complain about feeling controlled by your in-laws, there's a good chance the problem is that your spouse has difficulty being assertive with his family. Be assertive (as opposed to aggressive) in letting your spouse know what you need. Trust your spouse to take action. It's interesting, but troubling, that people generally live down to our expectations. If you feel caught between your spouse and your family, get out of the middle by seeking an understanding with your spouse, and then have a united front with your family. When you stay in the middle, you are being disloyal to your spouse.

It's important to establish healthy boundaries with parents and in-laws. It is easy to fall into a pattern of acting and reacting by habit. If loyalty issues between your spouse and parents arise, they need to be dealt with early in your marriage. However, it's never too late to start doing something differently. When you choose to be respectful and behave respectfully, you can be free to enjoy your relatives—flaws and all—because you are not letting them harm your marriage.

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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.

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**Author's Note:** If you answered more than two of the above questions as "yes," you may have a problem; to more than four, means you should take a serious look at where your loyalties lie; eight or more, it's serious.

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Doherty, William J., *Take Back Your Marriage*, Guilford Publishers, Inc. (2001)



## The High Cost of Inactivity

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

*Inactivity increases the risk of heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and cognitive decline.*

**T**here is a high price tag to pay for being a couch potato. The lack of exercise can adversely affect the function of the brain, heart, blood vessels, bones, liver, and the intestinal tract. An inactive person is more likely to suffer from anxiety and depression, and find stress harder to manage.

Those who don't exercise lose fitness and often become overweight, adding pounds every year. This is mostly abdominal fat, which increases the risk of heart disease and diabetes. On the other hand, one hour of brisk walking every day can cut the risk of obesity by 25 percent.

Muscles atrophy when not used. For every decade after age 50, you lose about six percent of muscle mass with a ten to 15 percent loss of strength. To build muscle, it is important to do strength training exercises at least twice a week using weights that you lift ten to 12 times per session. By gently overloading a muscle, one can make muscle fibers thicker and stronger. Strength training also helps prevent bone loss.

Inactivity also diminishes insulin sensitivity, leading to elevated blood sugar levels. Regular exercise can reverse these trends. In a large study, every hour per day watching television increased the risk of diabetes 14 percent. On the other hand, every hour per day of brisk walking decreased the risk 34 percent. Unfortunately, diabetes is no longer just a middle-age disease. Because of the sedentary lifestyle of American children, we are increasingly seeing diabetes among youth.

Inactivity also raises the risk of cancer. Men and women who are physically active can reduce their risk of colon cancer by 30 to 40 percent. Regular exercise also appears to lower the risk of breast cancer by about 20 percent.

Older people who are not physically active are at a greater risk for cognitive decline and dementia. In animal studies, the brains of physically active mice had more nerve connections and a better oxygen flow. Elderly people who exer-

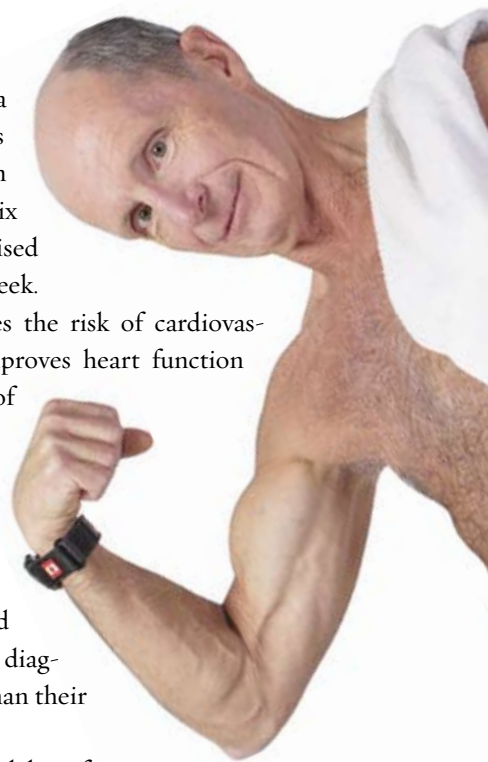
cised three or more times a week were 32 percent less likely to be diagnosed with dementia over the next six years than those who exercised fewer than three times a week.

Inactivity also increases the risk of cardiovascular disease. Exercise improves heart function and increases flexibility of blood vessels and decreases blood pressure. Exercise also decreases the risk of blood clots. Active persons are 25 percent less likely to have a stroke, and 50 percent less likely to be diagnosed with heart disease than their sedentary counterparts.

To achieve the best health benefits, one needs at least 30 minutes a day of moderate-intensity exercise, such as brisk walking and cycling. As a bonus, regular exercise boosts the immune system and reduces the risk of upper respiratory tract infections.

Winston Craig is a professor of nutrition at Andrews University.

*Strength training exercises build muscle and prevent bone loss.*



# EXTREME GRACE

## The 8/14 Window

BY DICK DUERKSEN

One summer I burned to death every Friday night. Mary Lou, our scriptwriter, had chosen the story of British pastor, John Wycliffe—who was burned at the stake for translating the Bible so everyone could read it—as the culminating moment of each summer camp week. I was assigned the hero's role and dutifully died each Friday, my coat filling with scorching air as the straw “dummy” who replaced me became a pyre of commitment.

Each week hundreds of campers, ages eight to 14, would applaud John Wycliffe's commitment to God. Then, practically to a person, they would kneel and commit their own lives to follow God, “to martyrdom if necessary.”

Those campers are today's church leaders.

Christian evangelists talk much of the 10/40 Window. This is a shorthand description of the part of the world that contains the largest population of non-Christians, the least evangelized nations. The area extends from ten degrees to 40 degrees north of the equator, and stretches from North Africa across to China.

- ▶ **Four billion people live there—two-thirds of the world's population.**
- ▶ **Ninety percent of the poorest of the poor live there.**
- ▶ **Approximately 2.7 billion non-Christians live there.**
- ▶ **Close to 1.6 billion of these folks have never heard the Gospel. Not even once!**

Dozens of Christian groups have taken on evangelization of the people of the 10/40 Window—some with prayers, others with missionaries, schools, clinics, sewing centers, preachers, and friends. Thousands are hearing of Christ for the first time each day. Victory, in terms of the Gospel Commission, is still far off in the distance, but teaching, leading, and baptizing are all on the upswing.

However, while affirming the value of the 10/40 Window, I'd like to suggest another way of looking at the world. Look into the 8/14 Window as a perfect focus for evangelism and service. The 8/14 Window is a shorthand descrip-



tion of the most valuable group in the world—children between the ages of eight and 14.

One hundred percent of the children live here, ready to be influenced for eternity.

Consider for a moment the children of the 8/14 Window in the United States. Most will have little to do this summer except

play video games, get into trouble, and go to summer camp. Those who go to a Seventh-day Adventist summer camp will ride horses, ski behind boats, eat tons of “haystacks,” develop a trusting relationship with their counselor, watch John Wycliffe burn, and (very likely) choose to give their lives to Jesus Christ.

Every future church leader will come from the 8/14 Window. Every evangelist. Every mother. Every father. Every pastor, judge, teacher, electrician, nurse, and cowboy. Today, 100 percent of these kids are in the “age of decision,” which just happens to be the very best time for us to catch their attention with What Matters Most: Jesus.

Camp staff members (counselors, boat drivers, wranglers, and cooks), most of whom know Jesus personally and who have signed on as camp evangelists, are trusting God to use them as models for an irresistibly attractive Christianity!

This summer, pray for the camp staff. And pray for the kids in the 8/14 Window! They are the John Wycliffes of tomorrow.

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





## The Ten Commandments

BY GARY BURNS

**N**ot long after The Great Disappointment of 1844, God began to lead the little company of Adventists to the messages of the three angels of Revelation 14. They discovered that God's eternal law was a transcript of His character and thus had been the special object of Satan's attack.

Adventists saw their role as a prophetic voice to call all Christians back to their Creator and obedience to His immutable law. Human nature being what it is—this knowledge, this sense of being right—has produced institutional pride. For the way the message of moral accountability has been delivered, Adventists have often been rejected and accused of opposing the gospel of freedom.

By 1888, a distorted emphasis on the law had produced a crisis in Adventism. There was much debate regarding the law and righteousness by faith. Interestingly, in 1883, Ellen White tried to redirect the church's emphasis by commissioning a new version of a previous depiction of the plan of salvation. As you can see, the cross became the central theme in the new work and the focus on the Ten Commandments was completely eliminated.

In the past few years, the Ten Commandments have been the subject of political debate. This has been of particular interest to Seventh-day Adventists, who have related to the discussion with mixed emotions.

In response, Don Schneider, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, stated: "While I am grateful for the

coming emphasis on the Ten Commandments, I certainly hope that no one feels that an appropriate course of action would be to require people to keep all of God's law against their will. God gave us the power of choice. We must never take away any individual's right to this God-given principle.

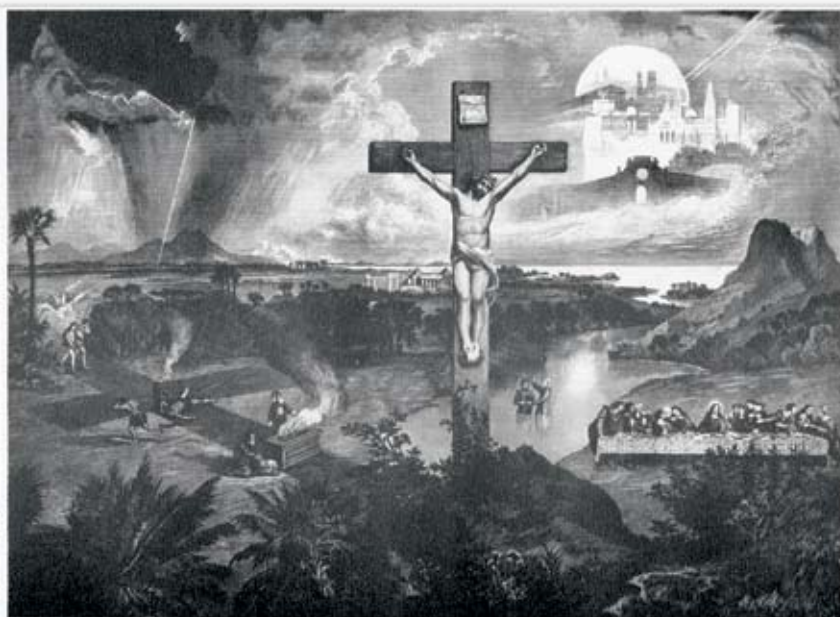
"It is my prayer that the balance between God's law and religious liberty will be maintained as Seventh-day Adventists join others in proclaiming the righteous requirements of God as reflected in His Ten Commandments."

The cross represents the supreme sacrifice to protect liberty of conscience and the freedom to make a personal choice. The life of Jesus gives us a model of how to live by the principles of God's character, as expressed in the Ten Commandments, while lovingly serving those who choose otherwise.

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



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**THE WAY OF LIFE**  
FROM PARADISE LOST TO PARADISE RESTORED.



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**CHRIST, THE WAY OF LIFE**

# Retired Teacher Still Grades Papers

ELWIN SHULL FINDS A TEACHING MINISTRY

BY JUDITH YEOMAN

Last year Keith Hannah, a member of the Cicero (Indiana) Church, had an incredible encounter with a hitchhiker. Early one morning, Keith prayed, “If there is anything I can do for someone else today, to lighten their burden, please put me in the right place at the right time.”

Little did Keith know who God had in mind to place in his path. Traveling to Timber Ridge Camp, Keith saw a car sitting alongside the highway. Cautiously, he pulled beside the man and breathed a prayer for safety. This encounter caused Keith to step out of his comfort zone, but he was able to be God’s instrument to help and encourage that day. (Read Keith’s incredible, faith-building story at the Indiana Conference website, [www.indianaadventist.org](http://www.indianaadventist.org), in the January 2006 issue of *Conference Connection*.)

In talking with his new hitchhiker friend, Keith learned he had taken correspondence lessons from someone in Carmel and those lessons led to his decision to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Yet, the hitchhiker had never met the person who gave him lessons.

It turns out that person is Elwin Shull, a Cicero Church member and former teacher at Indiana Academy. The hitchhiker Keith encountered is not the only person who has benefited from Elwin’s volunteer ministry. For the past seven or eight years, Elwin has burned the midnight oil or arrived very early in the morning to grade Bible lessons in his little office space at the Conference headquarters in Carmel.

When you visit with Elwin, it is easy to see Jesus is his personal Friend and how glad he is to serve his Master in this capacity! Elwin volunteers his time to grade approximately 200 lessons a month. Six others assist him on a part-



Elwin Shull is delighted to share positive news from those taking Bible lessons.



Elwin Shull grades approximately 200 Bible lessons each month.

time basis: George and Virginia Dunder, Irene Inman, Barbara Taylor, Tootie Tee-ter, and Don Schroeder.

The Bible lessons Elwin uses are *Foot Prints*, a set developed by John Morrison, former Indiana Conference ministerial director. The Bible students often write notes as they return their lessons to be graded, thanking Elwin and the others for their time and effort. One note said, “It really makes me feel like someone cares.” Another wrote, “I enjoy these Bible studies very much and I thank you for the books you’ve sent to me. You have been most helpful and I don’t know what I would do without the support and guidance I receive from the lessons in my walk with the Lord.”

Many send names of friends who have asked for lessons. The first person Elwin learned was baptized as a result of the Bible studies says she took them because she wanted to raise her little girl to know Jesus. After completing the lessons, she attended a series of *NET* meetings and was baptized into the Frankfort Church.

At the present time, two lady ministers from Indianapolis are taking lessons. Please pray for Elwin and the others as they continue to bind the hearts of people to Jesus with their dedicated volunteer service. No doubt Elwin will meet many former students in Heaven—some he met here and others he only corresponded with.

Judith Yeoman is the Indiana Conference correspondent.





## EL MINISTERIO DE ASI

POR CARMELO MERCADO

Cuando acepté el llamado para ser vicepresidente de la Unión, aprendí que una de mis responsabilidades, además de ser coordinador hispano a nivel de la Unión, era de apoyar un ministerio de laicos conocido como ASI. ASI es la abreviatura del título oficial de la organización: “Adventist-Laymen’s Services and Industries”. Cuando era pastor de distrito yo había oído algo acerca de esta organización, pero en verdad no conocía a ninguno de sus miembros. Sólo sabía que era un grupo dirigido mayormente por laicos.

En el año 2004 tuve el privilegio de asistir a mi primera convención de ASI, que se llevó a cabo en Cincinnati, Ohio. En esa reunión me maravillé al ver la cantidad de laicos que participaban y apoyaban una variedad de ministerios de sostén propio.

ASI tiene más de 1000 miembros, y representa a una variedad de personas que tienen sus propios negocios, ministerios u oficios. Tienen un lema especial: “Compartiendo a Cristo en el Trabajo” (Sharing Christ in the Marketplace). Su propósito es evangelístico; es decir, animar a cada uno de sus miembros a compartir a Cristo en el contexto de su negocio.

Los esposos Manuel y Ester Alva son un ejemplo de miembros que practican este lema en su trabajo. Ambos son médicos, egresados de la Universidad de Montemorelos, y decidieron ejercer su carrera en Hinsdale, Illinois. Durante mi entrevista con Manuel, él me relató que antes de hacerse miembro de ASI él no veía su trabajo como algo espiritual. Un médico amigo invitó a los esposos Alva y a sus hijos para que fueran a una convención de ASI en el año 2002 en Columbus, Ohio. Allí recibieron una perspectiva completamente diferente de lo que Dios quería que ellos hicieran en sus vidas. También sus tres hijos, al estar involucrados en el ministerio Jóvenes para Cristo (Youth for Christ), recibieron una gran bendición en ASI. Al



Manuel y Ester Alva, miembros de ASI

regresar a su oficina, los esposos Alva se dieron cuenta que debían ser representantes de Cristo en el trato con sus pacientes. Ellos ven a cada paciente como a una persona que necesita a Cristo, y con frecuencia oran a Dios para que el Espíritu Santo los guíe a ellos y a sus pacientes.

La hermana White dice lo siguiente: “El Señor emplea diversos instrumentos para el cumplimiento de su propósito; mientras algunos con talentos especiales son escogidos para dedicar todas sus energías a la obra de enseñar y predicar el Evangelio, muchos otros, a quienes nunca fueron impuestas las manos humanas para su ordenación, son llamados a realizar una parte importante en la salvación de las almas” (Ministerio de Bondad, 67, 68).

Si usted, amigo lector, tiene un trabajo o ministerio de sostén propio, le invito a unirse a esta maravillosa organización. Sólo tiene que llamar a mi oficina (269-471-8248) para que le enviemos una solicitud. También le invito a visitar la página web de ASI ([www.asiministries.org](http://www.asiministries.org)) para recibir información de la próxima convención nacional que se llevará a cabo del 2 al 5 de agosto del presente año en Dallas, Texas.

No dudo que si usted y su familia llegan a formar parte de ASI, sus vidas nunca serán iguales.

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



# Illinois Conference

## Touching Everyone for Jesus

BY KENNETH A. DENSLow

Whether it is the one-day camp meeting at Broadview Academy or the full-week camp meeting at Camp Akita, members are spiritually fed during these important Illinois Adventist family events.



Camp meeting attendees filled the Broadview Academy gymnasium at the Northern Illinois Camp Meeting last year to hear guest speaker Dwight Nelson, Pioneer Memorial Church senior pastor.

Meal tickets for breakfast, lunch, and supper may be purchased until May 6. Contact Broadview Academy by mail: P.O. Box 307, La Fox, IL 60147; by phone: (630) 232-7441; by e-mail: [cafe@broadviewacademy.org](mailto:cafe@broadviewacademy.org); or online: [www.broadviewacademy.org](http://www.broadviewacademy.org).

### NORTHERN ILLINOIS CAMP MEETING

Northern Illinois Camp Meeting will be held on Sabbath, June 10, at Broadview Academy. The first meeting of the day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a rousing Sabbath school program. Singing, lesson study, and reports from the world field will all focus on the camp meeting theme, “Touching Everyone for Jesus—A Five-Year Strategy.”

The camp meeting guest speaker is Barry Black, chaplain of the United States Senate. Black began working in the Senate on July 7, 2003. Prior to coming to Capitol Hill, he served in the United States Navy for over twenty-seven years, ending his distinguished career as chief of Navy chaplains.

You’ll want to make arrangements to stay by for a picnic lunch with your family, or join in on one of the many church potlucks so you can attend the afternoon meeting at 2:00 p.m. You’ll also want to make arrangements for your evening meal. Black closes the full day of inspirational fellowship with the evening meeting at 7:00 p.m.

### AKITA CAMP MEETING

Beginning June 18, with the evening meeting starting at 7:00 p.m., Akita Camp Meeting will be jam-packed with activities to bring your family closer to Christ. Guest speakers this year include Ranko Stefanovic, professor of religion at Andrews University; Merlin D. Burt, director of the Ellen G. White Estate Branch at Andrews University. David Smith, Union College president and Broadview Academy alum, will conclude the week-long camp meeting with messages Friday evening and on Sabbath, June 24.

Whether you enjoy a canoe trip down the Spoon River, take your BMW (Beautiful Morning Walk) each morning, attend morning seminars and evening meetings, participate in waterfront activities, or conquer the climbing wall, one thing is certain—you’ll be back each year for this special, family spiritual retreat.

“I can’t wait until I can get my grandchildren to Camp Akita,” states Jacque Weiland. “I know once they come, I won’t be able to keep them away! One of our most precious



The Chicago-area Omega Quartet were guest musicians for the Northern Illinois Camp Meeting last year. From left: Will Rivera, Benjamin Cruz, Julio Rivera, and Ruben Brignoni



# Meeting 2006

**Northern Illinois: June 10, Broadview Academy, La Fox, Ill.  
Akita: June 18-24, Camp Akita, Gibson, Ill.**



David Smith



Barry Black



Ranko Stefanovic



Merlin D. Burt

experiences at Akita Camp Meeting is fellowship with believers. Last year, we had different people over to our motor home each meal. What a blessing it is to become personally acquainted with church leaders and our church family.”

Last year, Kindergarten and Primary children had a great time in the Jerusalem Marketplace, under the leadership of David Sitler, a pastor, and his wife Cinda. At each meeting children and adults wore period costumes. Every child belonged to a tribe and learned about family life in Bible times. The mascot at the Marketplace was Jethro, the donkey. He was a little rascal who got lost each evening so the children could find him. Imagine the delight of the children when a real, live, little Jethro and his mommy came to the Jerusalem Marketplace from a nearby farm! Even a new local, “Rackey” the raccoon, came to visit.

“The entire New Testament has 32 explicit references to Christ as the lamb,” stated evening speaker and author, Brian Jones, at the 2005 Akita Camp Meeting. “We are redeemed by the blood of Christ as a lamb with-



*There is nothing like attending an old-fashioned camp meeting, complete with a tent for meetings in the out of doors.*



*Baptisms are always a special event at camp meeting, especially in the beauty of Camp Akita.*



*The Kindergarten division enjoyed meeting Jethro the donkey, the Marketplace mascot, last year.*

out blemish. [Twenty-eight of the references] are galactically crowded into the Book of Revelation. Surely we can conclude from this that the central theme of Revelation is *not* behold the dragon, or behold the beast, or behold the whore, or behold the horror, but *behold the Lamb.*” Jones also presented at one of the morning seminars. Each morning you’ll have your choice of two seminars to attend during camp meeting.

Although there is limited cabin housing available at Camp Akita, there are plenty of RV spaces and ample ground for those who prefer to rough it in a tent.

Reservations are required for all who plan to attend Akita Camp Meeting. Housing and meals reservation forms are available. Write: Akita Camp Meeting, Illinois Conference, 619 Plainfield Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527; phone (630) 856-2850; or e-mail: [reservations@illinoisadventist.org](mailto:reservations@illinoisadventist.org). This form is also available online at [www.illinoisadventist.org](http://www.illinoisadventist.org) at the Camp Meeting link.

Kenneth A. Denslow is the Illinois Conference president.



# Camp Meeting

## Indiana Conference

# Going Home

BY GARY THURBER

Camp Meeting is something you experience on so many levels. First and foremost, it is a time for spiritual renewal. What a blessing it is to come together as one large church family and open God's Word, pray, and enjoy the fellowship of believers. It is a gathering like no other.

Camp meeting also gives families a time to build memories that last a lifetime. Diana Clark, who now lives near Collegedale, Tennessee, still comes every year to Indiana Camp Meeting with her family. In the next few paragraphs, she shares her story.

"For the past seventy years and covering a span of five generations, our family has attended camp meeting. My grandparents Herschel and Violet Nicholson of Bedford, Indiana, were baptized in 1936 and started attending camp meeting, which at that time was held at Battleground, Indiana. My mother, Betty Bowden, and her sisters, Jeanette Thompson and Wanda DeBolt, also attended camp meeting, which was moved to Cicero, Indiana. I grew up attending with my two sisters, Twinkle Cummings and Trenace Orender. When I had



A weekday congregation enjoyed one of last year's memorable speakers.



Tent meetings are always a highlight for the young people.



Each year, pastors faithfully pitch tents.

my daughters, Jennifer Towles and Stephanie Clark, camp meeting was part of our family tradition every June. Now my two granddaughters, Mariah and Ciarah, are part of this tradition as well.

"My earliest memory of camp meeting is when the *King's Heralds* would walk around the grounds with flashlights and sing to us at nighttime. This experience is remembered so fondly that I still enjoy their a cappella sound to this day.

"When I was very young we stayed in a tent, then later rented one of the cabins near the auditorium. After a few years we had a cabin on Bunker Hill, then we upgraded to a room in the old girl's dorm, which my daughters called "the apartment." The purchase of a travel trailer put us out on the grassy knoll where we enjoyed an awning and a kiddie pool. Later, we had a room in the "Holiday Inn" (boy's dorm), and as my age progressed, I secured a room in the "Hilton" (new girl's dorm) complete with the luxury of air conditioning. I'd finally arrived!

"As you can see, I've sampled every available accommodation and discovered that it really doesn't



# Meeting 2006

June 11-17, Indiana Academy, Cicero, Ind.



Shawn Boonstra



David Asscherick



Hans Diehl



Roger Coon



Ron and Collene Kelly



Rudy Micelli



Ruthie Jacobsen



Evelyn Cole-Kissinger

matter where you stay (with the exception of a tent during a thunderstorm)—the blessings are the same.

“The love and enjoyment of camp meeting is something for which I have always been grateful and my life has been enriched because of it. Summer will be here soon, and it’s time to start thinking of camp meeting. I can hardly wait!”

Why don’t you decide now to build your own family memories at camp meeting? As the Second Coming of Christ nears, it is more important than ever to come apart as a church family.

## INDIANA CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING

Our theme this year is “Going Home.” Highlights this year include:

- ▶ David Asscherick, ARISE director
- ▶ Shawn Boonstra, It Is Written director/speaker
- ▶ Evelyn Cole-Kissinger, a lifestyle consultant who teaches in the Department of Nutrition and Wellness at Andrews University
- ▶ Roger Coon, retired associate director of The Ellen G. White Estate, Inc.

- ▶ Hans Diehl, CHIP founder/president
- ▶ Ruthie Jacobsen, NAD prayer ministries director
- ▶ Rudy Micelli, a recording artist, will bless us with a musical concert on Sabbath afternoon, June 17.

A variety of workshops and seminars will be presented, including “Your Child? Essentials of Discipline,” with James Dobson, which will be shown Monday through Thursday. A guided discussion and review will be hosted by Ron and Collene Kelly, Indiana Conference family ministries directors.

Visit [www.indianaadventist.org](http://www.indianaadventist.org) and click the “Camp Meeting” link on the home page for more information. For lodging information and registration, call Julie Loucks at (317) 844-6201.

## HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

In conjunction with the Indiana Camp Meeting, Hispanic Adventists converge on Sabbath for special messages, music, and fellowship. This year, Hispanic Adventists will meet **June 17** at the Cicero Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 24445 State Road 19 in Cicero.

For additional information, contact Orlando Vazquez, Indiana Hispanic ministries coordinator, at (317) 209-8246; or e-mail: [yorland@juno.com](mailto:yorland@juno.com).

Let us join together in prayer, asking our Savior to pour out a special blessing as we look forward to Indiana Camp Meeting 2006.

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Gary Thurber is the Indiana Conference president.





# Lake Region Conference

## Celebrating 61 Years of Service

BY JEROME L. DAVIS

As a young lad, I recall how thrilling it was to follow the Roger Maris saga as he chased “The Mighty Babe.” For 34 years, Babe Ruth’s record of 60 home runs in a season stood the test of time. When Maris hit home run number 61 in 1961, what a time of celebration it was for him, his teammates, and many fans who were rooting for him! I was one of those fans.

But more important than baseball, I am very excited about our camp meeting this summer, when the Lake Region Conference (LRC) family will celebrate 61 years of dedicated service to the Lord. Due to heavy financial obligations, we were not able to have camp meeting last year, and thus there was no commemoration of our 60th anniversary. However, the 61st year represents a new beginning and, consequently, we have some big plans for this encampment.

E.E. Cleveland, world-renowned evangelist, will conduct daily seminars on “hot issues” in Seventh-day Adventism as he discusses doctrines of the church. Mack W. Wilson, Gary Mizpah Adventist Church pastor, will facilitate a presentation entitled, “Attitude Management—God’s Way.” Several other LRC pastors, who have been successful in soul winning, will share ideas on how to lead men and women to Christ. As attendees arise each morning, they will be privileged to attend the early morning (6:00 a.m.) “Power Hour” coordinated by Doris Gothard, Lake Region women’s ministries director.



Camp meeting fellowship is definitely “sweet.”



A camp meeting Kindergarten teacher led her class in daily crafts.

The general topic this year is, “Living Beyond Yourself,” featuring studies from Galatians. Our local pastors will also preach dynamic sermons each morning at the 6:30 a.m. devotional hour. They will follow this up with inspiring messages at the 7:30 p.m. evangelistic hour.

Some of the other special highlights this year will be:

### **“The Journey” Women’s Ministries Seminars by Dora Brown**

Dora is a licensed nurse practitioner and a member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. Her topics will include, “Pain and Rejection,” “Sticks, Stones, and Unkind Words,” and “If You Are Teachable, You Are Fixable.”

### **“Growing Up with Jesus Twice” Women’s Ministries Seminars by Penny Turner**

Penny is president and founder of Choices International, a faith ministry providing support for individuals and families who know the pain and trauma of various abuses. Her topics will include: “What Do You See in God’s Mirror,” “Intelligence or Counter Intelligence,” and “Maturity, Memory, and Ministry.”

### **Health Ministries Training**

Steve J. Veres, North American Division Adventist Community Services health program coordinator, will conduct a three-day, four-hour training session to demonstrate to churches how to develop health ministries in their local congregations.

# Meeting 2006

June 23–July 1, Camp Wagner, Cassopolis, Mich.



Jerome L. Davis



Debbie Young



Penny Turner



Dora Brown



Steve J. Veres



Fredrick Russell



E.E. Cleveland



Faith Crumbly



James North



Mack W. Wilson

## Teacher Commissioning Service

LRC teachers will be commissioned for service in the schools where they labor and the churches where they serve.

### Sabbath School

Faith Crumbly, *Sabbath School Leadership* magazine editor, will be the featured guest.

### National Service Organization (NSO)

James North, professor of Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, will discuss the role of Adventist youth and the military.

### Divine Worship

Fredrick Russell, senior minister of the Miracle Temple Adventist Church in Baltimore, Maryland, will speak the first Sabbath.

Debbie Young, president of the Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI), will be featured the second Sabbath.

### Books and Resources

The Illinois Adventist Book Center will sell Spirit-filled books, magazines, literature, and CD's, from Monday through Friday.

## Healthy Food

The Natural Connection (LRC health food store) will stock vegetarian canned goods and other foods for purchase.

## Children's Village

Phyllis Washington, LRC children's ministries director, will have her team in place once more as they lift up the name of Jesus to our boys and girls. These 400 children range from Beginners to Kindergarteners, Primaries to Juniors, and Earliteens.

## Youth Programming

Anthony Kelly, youth director, also will have his team in place. This year's focus will be "Kingdom Building" as they seek the challenge of molding the character of our youth in preparation for the coming King.

If you have not registered for camp meeting, it may not be too late. For further information, contact the LRC Treasury department at (773) 846-2661.

May God bless each and every one of you.

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Jerome Davis is the Lake Region Conference president.





# Michigan Conference

## Thinking of His Blessings

BY JAY GALLIMORE

The following memory from last year's camp meeting was shared by David A. Fernández II, a member of the Grand Blanc (Michigan) Company.

"As I sit and reminisce over last summer, I can't help but think about camp meeting. Its impact on many of my friends and me has not diminished. We were invited to daily grow closer to Jesus.



The auditorium was filled to capacity during camp meeting last year.

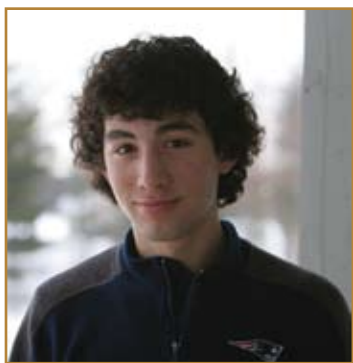
you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing, and perfect will' (Roman 12:2 NIV). We all must respond to this text when we are tempted to listen, read, or watch something Jesus never would.

"It was such a blessing for lots of us to discover there are more real Seventh-day Adventist Christian teenagers out there than we knew. Most of the kids in the teen tent were there for

"Last summer, God put together a wonderful team of dedicated pastors who gladly sacrificed part of their summer to serve the Lord in the teen tent. They will never know the extent of the blessings the Holy Spirit poured out from their messages. Most of us came with doubts about what we would get out of coming to the meetings or even more importantly, doubts about our salvation. Thanks be to God, He clearly worked in

a reason: they were seeking God with all their hearts. 'You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart' (Jeremiah 29:13 NIV).

"Some who had questions have had them answered. Some still have questions, but with newly bolstered faith received at camp meeting, they are now trusting God will reveal His answers to them in His own time. After our camp meeting experience last summer, renewed and blooming Christian



David A. Fernández II grew closer to Jesus at camp meeting last year.

our lives that week, drawing us much closer to Jesus than we had been before. The gift of salvation was logically explained, and now it is 'so simple—it's the gospel,' said Nathan Renner, one of the pastors. We learned why rejecting the world completely in every way, shape, and form is crucial if we want to understand Jesus' sacrifice.

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then



The teen tent meetings were well attended by young people who came to listen and learn from the pastors who led out.



# Meeting 2006

**Hispanic: May 26–28, Camp Au Sable, Grayling, Mich.**  
**Cedar Lake: June 16–24, GLAA, Cedar Lake, Mich.**  
**Upper Peninsula: July 28–30, Camp Sagola, Mich.**



Jay Gallimore



David Asscherick



Doug Batchelor



Elaine Kennedy



Quentin Purvis



Peter Neri



Danny Shelton

young people are just beginning a wonderful walk with Jesus, as they eagerly wait for the coming of the Lord. “Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him” (Matthew 29:42, 44 NIV).



Danny Velez, a pastor, baptized a young girl during camp meeting.

I invite you to come to one of the Michigan Conference camp meetings this summer and experience the blessings God has waiting for you.

**Hispanic Camp Meeting:** May 26–28, Camp Au Sable, Grayling, Michigan

Ivan Omaña and Evelyn Omaña are guest speakers for Hispanic Camp Meeting. To register, phone Lorena Flowers at (269) 449-1394; or send e-mail to: Lorenaf@andrews.edu.

**Cedar Lake Camp Meeting:** June 16–24, Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Michigan

Main speakers for the Cedar Lake Camp Meeting include:

- ▶ David Asscherick, Troy Church associate pastor and ARISE (A Resource Institute for Soulwinning and Evangelism) director
- ▶ Doug Batchelor, Amazing Facts Ministries president and speaker
- ▶ Jay Gallimore, Michigan Conference president
- ▶ Elaine Kennedy, adjunct professor of Geology at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas
- ▶ Quentin Purvis, Lansing Church pastor and District Seven superintendent
- ▶ Danny Shelton, Three Angels Broadcasting Network president

Visit [www.misda.org](http://www.misda.org) to download a camp meeting schedule or to register online; or call Ruth Bradfield at: (269) 565-0663.

**Upper Peninsula Camp Meeting:** July 28–30, Camp Sagola, Sagola, Michigan

Peter Neri, Indiana Conference vice president and ministerial director, will be the speaker.

For information, call Kevin Miller at (906) 639-2440.



Juniors enjoyed the waterslide during afternoon recreation last year.

Jay Gallimore is the Michigan Conference president.



# Wisconsin Conference

## Sixty Years of Blessings

BY JAMES FOX

Families plan their vacations a year in advance so they can get to Camp Wakonda early. Some stay in RV's rather than the old tents. A few tech junkies just have to get an e-mail "fix" at the Fireside Lodge Ministry Center and are frustrated their cell phones have marginal reception at best; but most people come to Wisconsin for a good, old-fashioned camp meeting experience.

Al and Crystal Koehler have come to camp meeting together since 1941. Crystal began in 1934 when she was a girl of ten. "Camp meeting was wonderful for children," recalled Crystal. "My uncle would take Mother and I in his big car with their six children and we would sing all the way there!"

Crystal continues, "There were meetings just for children. They would tell us about Jesus and they would use flannel boards. We could just see the Bible stories come to life. I made my decision for Jesus and was baptized at camp meeting in Silver Lake in 1937."



Al and Crystal Koehler are looking forward to camp meeting this June; they have attended every year for the past 60 years.



Crystal Koehler (front row, 2nd from left) attended camp meeting for the first time in 1934.



Crystal Koehler was baptized at camp meeting in 1937 at Silver Lake.

Al Koehler grew up as a faithful Lutheran. His interest in Adventism began about the same time as his interest in Crystal. He attended camp meeting for four years before he and Crystal were married in 1945. "I have always enjoyed Wisconsin Camp Meeting," Al shared. "There is always a great list of speakers, [and] there are special programs. I told Elder Corkum a few years ago, 'You organized a good one!' But the next year, it was better still." Al loves the health emphasis and the deep spirituality that exists at camp meeting.

And of course, he loves the camaraderie. Camp meeting is the place where you reconnect and catch up on old times. Al worked at Wisconsin Academy as dairy manager for the farm, beginning in 1946. He met many students, co-workers, and Conference leaders during his years at the farm and Harris Pine Mills. "Every Valentine's Day, eight couples would join together for a meal in Madison. Last



# Meeting 2006

June 16–24, Camp Wakonda, Oxford, Wis.



Ken Mittleider



Mike Tucker



Vicki Griffin



Richard Davidson



Jaime Jorge

year, we were the only couple still going out,” Koehler remarked. “At camp meeting, we catch up on our friends.”

Al Koehler’s favorite camp meeting came in 1946 when the Conference secretary/treasurer called him to work at the academy’s farm. “There was a mixture of spiritual and material blessings that year,” quipped Al. “I just don’t know if I can name one favorite camp meeting,” said Crystal. “They have all been good.”

After 60 years of shared camp meeting experiences, the Koehlers are clear about one thing—with the Lord’s blessing, they will be at Camp Wakonda for Wisconsin Camp Meeting in June 2006.

And they won’t be alone! From June 16–24, 2006, thousands of people will visit Camp Wakonda near rural Westfield, Wisconsin. Camp meeting has been a haven of rest and spiritual recreation for thousands over the years. Special guests for 2006 include:

- ▶ Ken Mittleider, former Wisconsin Conference president and retired General Conference vice president, will be the morning devotional speaker.
- ▶ Ron Smith, *Message* magazine editor, will be the opening weekend speaker.
- ▶ Mike Tucker, Faith for Today speaker/director, will be the evening speaker during the mid-week and family life seminar presenter.

- ▶ Vicki Griffin, Michigan Conference health ministries director, will present seminars and lectures on health and wellness.
- ▶ Lonnie Melashenko, Voice of Prophecy director/speaker, will be our featured speaker for the closing weekend.
- ▶ Richard Davidson, professor of Old Testament at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, will present the 11:00 a.m. sermon in the main tent and conduct Bible study seminars each day during the week.
- ▶ Jaime Jorge will be our concert soloist and musical guest on opening weekend.

Seminars do abound: Richard Davidson on Bible study; Richard O’Ffill on outreach; Vicki Griffin on health and wellness; and Mike and Gail Tucker on family life. Also featured: church planting, lay pastor training, prayer and praise, community services disaster preparation, home schooling, and so much more!

For reservations or further information, contact Aileen King at (608) 241-5235, option 4; or e-mail: [akking@wi.adventist.org](mailto:akking@wi.adventist.org).

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James Fox is the Wisconsin Conference communication director.



# ILLINOIS Summer Camp *Camp Akita*

## The Hands and Feet of Jesus

BY JEFF DEMING

Summer camp ministry is one of the most exciting areas of ministry I have been involved with. I am so grateful for the ministry and training opportunities the camps gave me that I worked for during my high school and college years. I am also fortunate that in my journey as a youth pastor God gave me opportunities to work with camp ministry as an associate director.

This past summer I was a director for the first time. In addition to all the activities, staff needs, and the many details of running a summer camp program, I re-learned the value and reason for camps on a Sunday morning while one group was preparing to leave.

It was Junior Camp II, and I was standing outside the lodge glancing at my watch trying to make sure the schedule stayed in tact. I shifted from foot to foot, waiting for the kids to be ushered out and on their way home so the staff could scurry with activity to make the camp ready for a new group of campers to arrive. I tried very hard not to look impatient or hurry the kids too much.

The tractors and hay wagons were ready to take the campers to the front gate to their waiting parents. The staff formed the last “hug line” outside the lodge to say good-bye to the campers. Everything was ready, and all that ran through my mind was, “We have to be more efficient in our times and we have to get things moving.”



Camp Akita staff are “chillin” on the swimming dock.

photos by Amy Deming



Campers give and receive one more round of hugs before they leave for home.

Then the moment happened—the vision statement of camp ministry played out right before my eyes. Justin and Martin walked out of the lodge. As they came to the first staff members in the “hug line,” tears welled up in the eyes of those two campers. Justin and Martin were with us for two weeks, and over the course of that span they became family—firmly placed in our hearts.

My thoughts went back to the evening before when Justin took our guys’ director’s name badge and sunglasses and walked around, acting the part of the guys’ director. He did a great job mimicking him and had all the director’s actions and mannerisms down perfectly. During this charade, Justin walked up to me and informed me



Another hay rack is loaded with campers reluctant to go meet their parents for the trip home.

that in a few years he would come back to be our guys' director. I smiled.

Now the process of saying good-bye was almost complete. I watched each staff member hug those two boys and all the remaining campers. As they got closer to the hay wagons, I saw the hugs become tighter and longer. In that moment, I was humbly reminded of what the true importance of summer camp is—the connection of love and value that staff can give to campers as they take the time to listen and learn from the campers. I was filled with awe and admiration as I saw our staff be more concerned not with time and schedules, but with being “the hands and feet of Jesus” to His kids as they hugged them.

I can hardly wait until the campers arrive once again this summer and fill our camps and hearts with their enthusiasm, laughter, and smiles. We will be ready and waiting with open arms!

Please register online at: [www.campakita.com](http://www.campakita.com). Link to our summer camp page to register and receive a ten dollar discount. Brochures were sent to campers who previously attended summer camp, as well as the young people in the Illinois Conference.

If you would like a brochure, please contact the youth department by phone, e-mail, or fax.

## Youth Department Illinois Conference

619 Plainfield Rd.  
Willowbrook, IL 60527  
Phone: (630) 856-2857  
Fax: (630) 734-0929  
E-mail: [youth@illinoisadventist.org](mailto:youth@illinoisadventist.org)

Jeff Deming is the Illinois Conference youth director.

## CAMP AKITA DATES

**Akita Camp Meeting:** June 18–24

(children with their family only)

**Adventure Camp:** June 25–July 2 (Ages 7–9)

**River Expedition Canoe Trip:** June 25–July 2 (Ages 13–17)

**Junior Camp I:** July 2–9 (Ages 10–12)

**Waterski/Wakeboard Expedition:** July 2–9 (Ages 13–17)

**Junior Camp II:** July 9–16 (Ages 10–12)

**Rock Climbing Expedition:** July 9–16 (Ages 13–17)

**Teen Camp:** July 16–23 (Ages 13–15)

**Hispanic Junior/Youth Camp:** July 23–30 (Ages 7–12/13+)

**Teen Extreme:** July 30–Aug. 6 (Ages 13–16)

**Wilderness Adventure to Colorado:** Aug. 3–14 (Ages 14+)



“Bye! See you next year!”



# INDIANA *Summer Camp* Timber Ridge Camp

## God Works Miracles at Camp

BY CHARLIE THOMPSON

**W**e all know camp is one of the best places for a young person to make a decision for Christ. It seems the younger the camper, the easier it is to make a positive decision to follow Jesus. Teen campers seem to struggle most with peer pressure and the embarrassment of making a public stand for Jesus.

At Timber Ridge Camp (TRC) this past summer, during the Friday night campfire at Teen Camp, the campers were being true to form. At the close of our special campfire program I asked for teens who had never given their hearts to Jesus to come forward.

At first, not one teen came forward. I began to pray silently that the Holy Spirit would work on those who needed to take a stand. I finally decided to move forward to the second part of the call. I opened my mouth to begin when I saw movement out where

It takes a high level of commitment for anyone to make a public stand for Jesus. However, for a teen to come forward in front of 134 of her peers, especially after such a long battle, seems an impossibility. However, when you factor in the convincing, powerful presence of the Holy Spirit, nothing is impossible!

Again, I paused and prayed, waiting for others to come forward. This time I saw movement from another part of the campfire bowl. Another young lady came forward. It seemed the dam had burst as one by one the teens, with tears in their eyes, came forward to give their heart to Jesus.

The second part of the call was for those to come forward who wanted to become a part of Jesus' family by being baptized. Even more teens came forward. They boldly proclaimed their desire, in spite of what others may have thought of them.

The third part of the call was for those to come forward who had given their heart to Jesus, and maybe had even been baptized, yet had fallen away from their relationship with Jesus.

Finally, the invitation was given for those who were walking daily with Jesus but who wanted to reaffirm their decision by coming forward. Teens and staff moved forward to take their stand.



*The TRC staff can't wait to meet you this summer!*

a group of teens were sitting. As I paused, a young lady came forward to stand with me. This was the last young person I expected to come forward, yet there she was! She had tears of joy on her face, making her stand for Jesus.



*Charlie Thompson (center), Indiana Conference youth director, baptized Kaleb Eisele (left) and Amanda Barcus (right) at Teen Camp last summer.*





Hailey Townsend improved her horseback riding skills at Timber Ridge Camp.

At the end, 135 teen campers and all our staff came forward. As I glanced around, the presence of the Holy Spirit was evident on all the faces. I believe God still works miracles in the hearts of all—even the jaded teen campers!

The story doesn't stop there. The next morning, during the break between Sabbath school and church, a young man approached me, and said, "Pastor Charlie, I want to be baptized today."

I knew the young man. I knew he had gone through baptismal classes at his church, and I felt a strong impression we should do as he requested. We called his parents; they made the trip to TRC and witnessed their son enter the watery grave of baptism to be born again as a true son of God. Again, I was amazed to see a teen take his stand in front of so many peers.



DJ Ito (in baseball cap) made great friends at camp last summer.

To some, this story may seem fantastic, even wishful thinking or impossible! I have to tell you that week after week, year after year, God works this miracle at Timber Ridge Camp and other camps around our union and the world. Summer camp is not just fun and games, but child evangelism to the highest degree. I am honored to be a part of this important ministry.



Jumping into the lake from the giant swing is a favorite activity at TRC.

Early registration for camp is advisable since some camps fill to capacity. Camp brochures with applications were sent to all Indiana young people in March. Completed forms should be mailed to:

**Indiana Conference Youth Department**

P.O. Box 1950  
Carmel, IN 46082-1950

Additional brochures may be picked up at local churches or applications may be requested from [timberridgecamp.org](http://timberridgecamp.org) or [youth@indianaadventist.org](mailto:youth@indianaadventist.org). For additional information, call Trish Thompson at (317) 844-6201. After June 18, call Trish at (812) 829-2507 at the camp.

Charlie Thompson is the Indiana Conference youth director.

**TIMBER RIDGE CAMP DATES**

**Single Mom's & Kid's Camp:** June 22–25

**Blind Camp:** June 25–July 2\*

**Cub Camp:** July 2–9 (Ages 7–10)

**Junior Camp I:** July 9–16 (Ages 10–13)

**Junior Camp II:** July 16–23 (Ages 10–13)

**Teen Camp:** July 23–30 (Ages 13–16)

**Family Camp:** July 30–Aug. 6

\*Blind Camp registration is coordinated by Christian Record Services.

To request an application for Blind Camp, call (402) 488-0981; or visit [www.christianrecord.org](http://www.christianrecord.org).

# Summer Camp

## Camp Wagner

## A Life-Changing Experience

BY DWAYNE DUNCOMBE

Camp Wagner is known and referred to as the place “where the fun begins,” but this past summer, in particular, our beloved camp became even more than that for campers and counselors alike. Over the past seven summers, I have seen God perform some amazing things in the lives of individuals who were involved in our summer ministries program. I was especially moved this past summer to witness the overall level of spiritual commitment that seemed to pervade the entire staff in a marked way.

During our early morning staff worship, for example, there were new levels of excitement and vigor that attended the singing, and a new fervor that characterized the prayers. Something was happening! Each counselor then took this spreading energy into their units during unit praise, the group devotion designed for each unit. Campers were zealous to learn their daily memory verses and anxious for the opportunity to share what they learned.

The impact of this spiritual enthusiasm could also be felt at Camp Council, where campers learned about God’s purpose and meaning for their lives daily. Timely messages were brought to the campers by members of the staff. These talks accompanied an ongoing play that focused on

the transformation of a young boy whose life and behavior were dramatically changed when he became aware of his value in the sight of God. Campers were encouraged to see the value they have and the unique contribution God has called them to make in this world.

The distinct atmosphere this past summer caused me to reflect in deep ways about the magnitude of what summer camp has the opportunity to provide. Camp is much more than just a few weeks of exciting activities, it is a life-changing

experience. Camp Wagner aims to be a place of spiritual nurture for young people; campers are introduced to Jesus while staff members are developed into spiritual leaders. Our goal at Camp Wagner is to create a fun and safe environment for young people to enjoy the summer and also to form a life-changing experience that will encourage each camper to have friendship with Jesus for a lifetime.



Camper Byron takes aim in archery class.

Tucked away in the serene, country landscape of southwest Michigan, Camp Wagner is an oasis for many inner-city young people, some of whom are from the surrounding major cities of Chicago, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; and Indianapolis, Indiana. Many of these youth who come to our camp for the first time have never spent a night away from the big sounds of the bustling city and find Camp Wagner a welcome retreat.





*Anthony Kelly, Lake Region Conference youth director, baptized nine young people at camp last summer. Many more made commitments to give their heart to Jesus.*

When asked about their most fun times at camp, a group of veteran campers recalled the s'mores made by the fireside at the end of every hay ride, the thrill of riding a horse for the first time, and the times they dunked their counselors and directors in the dunk tank on carnival night. Campers from last summer included their memories of the new Tae Kwon Do program launched under the direction of Milton Curry. Witnessing Camp Wagner's goals being realized in real ways such as these fond reflections, as well as my memory of the united spiritual focus of the staff this past summer, is what makes summer ministries worthwhile.



*These boys were in rare form in the new Tae Kwon Do class.*

By the time camp ended this past summer, nine young people were baptized, while many more made formal commitments to give their heart to Christ. Even among staff members, other types of decisions were made. One senior counselor who wrestled with God for a long time about his life purpose finally received his answer—he was convicted God was calling him to devote his entire life to youth ministries. What an awesome ending to a great summer! And yet, it's only the beginning.

For registration and fee information, visit [www.lrcministry.org](http://www.lrcministry.org) or [www.lakeregion.org](http://www.lakeregion.org); or call Josie Essex at (773) 846-2661 ext. 206.

Dwayne Duncombe is the Lake Region Conference assistant youth director and Camp Wagner assistant camp director.



*Counselor Mickey posed for "Tacky Day."*

## **CAMP WAGNER DATES**

**Junior Camp I:** July 9–15 (Ages 8–11)

**Junior Camp II:** July 16–22 (Ages 8–15)

**Junior Camp III:** July 16–29 (Ages 12–15)

**Drum Corps Clinic:** July 30–Aug. 5 (Ages 10–17)

**Basketball Clinic:** July 30–Aug. 5 (Ages 10–17)

**"Over the Hill Gang":** Aug. 3–6 (Ages 16–18)

MICHIGAN

# Summer Camp

## Lessons of Faith at Camp

BY JIM MICHEFF

“**T**he traditional Friday night program had ended; campers were thinking about what had been presented to them. The campers were given a commitment card that they were to mark to express their commitment to Jesus.

“My campers and I walked back toward our cabin to pray, reflect, and talk about what we experienced during the program. I took the cards they had filled out to my room and had no sooner set them on my dresser when I heard a knock at the door. The door opened and one of my campers stepped in and asked to talk to me. This was a very sweet girl who was rather quiet and shy. It was her first time at camp, and she did not know much about God or the Bible. She came from a split family where a lot of pain and emotional burdens seemed to be placed on her shoulders. She sincerely cared about her loved ones with maturity beyond her years. If this child could deeply care enough for her family, then how could I, an adult, not have this same child-like faith and concern for others?”



Enjoy the horses at Camp Au Sable.



Almost everyone wants to ride the torpedo on Lake Shellenbarger.

“She asked questions about the Bible and how she could know the truth and share it with her loved ones. Goosebumps ran up and down my arms as I stood there listening to her. I was in awe of how this little girl could grasp and understand so much about the reality of life and how much Christ is desperately needed in the lives of people. I explained to her how she could pray for those she loved and that Jesus would always be by her side whenever she needed Him. No matter what she was going through, or how she was feeling, she could always pray and read His Word.

“I realized the faith and hope of this child is the same faith I needed in order to live the life Christ has intended for me to live. If only we could all mature more in Christ by becoming more like a child...”



Campers ascend the climbing wall and overcome challenges.





Many campers enjoy being able to do things that aren't available at home.

“Jesus states in Matthew 18:3-4, ‘I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.’

“After we prayed together, I had the most remarkable peace and joy a person could experience. She taught me one of the most valuable lessons in those few minutes. It was a gift from God I will never forget.”

Stories similar to the one above, written by Cara Corn, a counselor at Camp Au Sable, are repeated throughout the summer. Camp is a place that leaves an indelible imprint on staff and campers alike. To experience camp is to experience the love of Jesus.



Camp Au Sable is a great place to make new friends and renew friendships.

Come, explore the exciting possibilities waiting for you at Camp Au Sable—new friends, morning worship with our camp pastor, interesting classes, go-carts, horses, and exciting water adventures. Not only do we have six weeks of youth camps, but we have four weeks of family camps.

Registration began March 28. The best way to register is online at [www.campausable.org](http://www.campausable.org). If you have any questions, call Lyn at (517) 316-1570.

Jim Micheff is the Michigan Conference youth director.

## CAMP AU SABLE DATES

**Adventurer Camp:** June 11-18 (Ages 8-9)

**Junior Camp:** June 18-25 (Ages 10-11)

**Tween Camp:** June 25-July 2 (Ages 12-13)

**Teen Camp:** July 2-9 (Ages 14-16)

**Specialty Camp:** July 9-14\* (Ages 10-16)

**Family Camp I:** July 16-23 (All Ages)

**Family Camp II:** July 23-30 (All Ages)

**Family Camp III:** July 30-Aug. 6 (All Ages)

**Mini Family Camp:** Aug. 9-13 (All Ages)

\*A five-day camp



Go-carts are a blast!

## CAMP SAGOLA DATES

Every year, two simultaneous seven-day camps are offered at Camp Sagola. This year they will be held the week of **July 16-23**. If you live in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and would like to attend Camp Sagola, please contact Nathan Stearman at [nstearman@gmail.com](mailto:nstearman@gmail.com); download a brochure at [campsagola.org](http://campsagola.org); or call (906) 748-0059.



WISCONSIN

# Summer Camp Wakonda

## Camp Is for Growing Christians

BY MIKE EDGE

It was Saturday night at teen camp—a sometimes stressful night for a camp director. A night when much is happening, emotions run high and quiet comes slowly. As I worked on the evening details I wondered, “Did anything of significance really happen this week? Were lives changed? Did anyone get to know Jesus better? Is camp really worth it?” And yet, as I wondered, God was working.

Not far away, eight teen guys sat quietly in the forest, their minds whirling. Not with plans of pranks and daring, but with questions—Does God really care? Jesus is coming soon, am I ready? I feel God is talking to me, what do I do? Over the next hour, their counselor listened to



Campers enjoy water activities in the cool, refreshing lake on hot summer days.



Young people can learn to ski at camp.

their questions, prayed for guidance, and led them to the One who holds the answers to our deepest questions. In an evening of business and stress, God came again and through a still small voice in the forest reached out and touched lives.

Camp Wakonda is a place where campers of all ages can feel safe to explore, to experience, and to share. Each week campers this past summer heard the call of our theme song:

*You belong to a family, you belong to a home,  
Where the pain of broken vows  
And broken hearts is never known.  
You belong to a Father  
Who still loves you when you're wrong  
And in His strong, and all-forgiving arms—  
You belong.*





Whether you come to camp for the first time or have been coming for several years, excitement is in store for you. Experience horseback riding, swimming, ceramics, and a dozen other exciting activities. Each day is full of activities, capped off with a special evening campfire program. Plus, it is a time for making new friends, getting close to camp staff, and to Jesus.

Not only is camp for kids, but it is for the entire family. In fact, Family Camp is our fastest-growing camp. One Family Camp father recently commented, "There were so many smiles and so much to smile about, and all at a very reasonable cost to us." Plan your vacation and come to camp with your whole family.



*There is time to learn more about Jesus at camp.*



*Camp offers an adventure of a lifetime.*

This summer our theme is "Treasure Island." If you want to discover true treasure, come; spend a week this summer at Camp Wakonda.

For more information, check out our website: [www.wakonda.org](http://www.wakonda.org); or call (608) 241-5235 and ask for Aileen.

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Mike Edge is the Wisconsin Conference youth director.

## **CAMP WAKONDA DATES**

**Blind Camp:** July 2–9

**Junior Camp:** July 9–16 (Ages 8–10)

**Tween Camp:** July 16–23 (Ages 10–12)

**Teen Camp:** July 23–30 (Ages 13–16)

**Family Camp:** July 30–Aug. 6 (All ages)





## 2006 LAKE UNION QUINQUENNIAL SESSION SNAPSHOTS

# Constituents Overwhelmingly Affirm Lake Union Administration

BY GARY BURNS

**A**t the 20th business session of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, held April 2 in the Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, delegates responded with a standing ovation to the announcement that Walter L. Wright was elected president. Delegates voted by secret ballot, and due to the obvious pile of “yes” votes, Don Schneider, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America and chair of the business session, asked the delegates if they could forego the actual count of the ballots, to which they wholeheartedly agreed.

Upon his election, Wright was invited by Schneider to meet with the nominating committee as they considered the rest of the positions to be filled at the union office. The nominating committee came back with their recommendations in short order, reinstating each of the officers, departmental directors and associates for the next quinquennium, as well as those who will serve on the union executive committee.

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







### **LAKE UNION OFFICERS**

- Walter L. Wright, president
- Rodney A. Grove, executive secretary
- Glynn C.W. Scott, treasurer
- Carmelo Mercado, vice president/Hispanic ministries director

### **LAKE UNION DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS AND ASSOCIATES**

- Gary Burns, communication director
- Gary Randolph, education director
- Garry Sudds, education associate director
- Harvey P. Kilsby, information systems director
- Vernon L. Alger, public affairs and religious liberty director/  
trust services director
- Douglas L. Gregg, associate treasurer
- J. Richard Terrell, associate treasurer/stewardship director

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **Ex Officio Members**

- Walter L. Wright, Lake Union Conference president
- Rodney A. Grove, Lake Union Conference executive secretary
- Glynn C.W. Scott, Lake Union Conference treasurer
- Carmelo Mercado, Lake Union Conference vice president
- Douglas L. Gregg, Lake Union Conference associate treasurer
- Niels-Erik Andreasen, Andrews University president
- Ernie Sadau, Adventist Midwest Health president/CEO
- Kenneth Denslow, Illinois Conference president
- Gary Thurber, Indiana Conference president
- Jerome Davis, Lake Region Conference president
- Jay Gallimore, Michigan Conference president
- Donald Corkum, Wisconsin Conference president

#### **Illinois Conference Members**

- Rosemarie Cazeau
- Diane Mitzelfelt
- Justo Morales\*
- Duane Rollins\*

#### **Indiana Conference Members**

- George Crumley\*
- Dacyl Galicia\*
- Brent Schalk

#### **Lake Region Conference Members**

- Stephen Abrams
- Clifford Allen
- Eddie Allen\*
- Janet Barrientos
- Michael Horton\*
- Gary Loster
- Charles Osborne\*
- Loyetta Warren

#### **Michigan Conference Members**

- Helbert Almeida
- Douglas Carlson\*
- Fred Earles\*
- David Glenn\*
- Carol Hainault
- Richard Lane
- Raymond Mayor
- Judith Sherwin

#### **Wisconsin Conference Members**

- Richard Habenicht\*
- Christopher Peters
- Abraham Swamidass\*

\*Conference Employee



## AMH Encourages Others to Pray Without Ceasing

On the first Thurs. of May, our nation calls for a National Day of Prayer. Adventist Midwest Health (AMH) continues to take part in this annual event by sponsoring several community events. And while employees and the community gather at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, and in Glendale Heights, Ill., for a breakfast co-sponsored by Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, we know that one day is not enough to glorify God or truly intercede on behalf of others. It takes dedicated administrators, employees, and family members to support the mission.

In health care ministry, we value the prayers that lift up physicians, nurses, caretakers, and administrators to extend the healing hand of Christ. The power of prayer gives clinicians, patients, and family members the strength when physical healing seems unattainable.

Commitment to prayer is evident in two Food Service employees at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital (ALMH). Bettye Griffin and Willie Harris begin their day with prayer. They pray they will make a difference in people's lives and especially for the patients in the hospital to get well.

With more than 40 years of experience each at ALMH, Bettye and Willie meet together daily before work to lift their petitions and praise to the Lord.

"These dedicated, long-term employees live our mission," notes Tim Cook, CEO, who nominated these employees to participate in the Adventist Health System (AHS) Conference on Mission in Orlando, Fla., last Feb. "They applied their spirituality to their work ethic, and are an encouragement to all at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital."



Brian Shephard, videographer, and Christine Stewart (right), AHS Corporate Communications assistant director, met Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital Food Service employees Bettye Griffin (second from left) and Willie Harris to videotape a "United in Mission" segment for AHS's Conference on Mission.

Each day, before the sun rises, Bettye drives Willie to work and they bow their heads in prayer in the parking lot, seeking divine guidance for world leaders, hospital administration, and their lives. It's a good combination illustrating people united in mission. Sometimes co-workers Mattie Green and Debra Lumpkin join them in prayer.

"Willie's and Bettye's story was one of five chosen by Adventist Health System to be highlighted at the Friday evening vespers program. The program concentrated on stories that reflected individuals 'United in Mission,'" explained Christine Stewart, AHS Corporate Communications assistant director.

The Conference on Mission is an annual event that brings the leadership of Adventist hospitals and the Seventh-day Adventist Church together to discuss important topics related to mission within AHS. This year's conference theme was "Confident in our Identity/Committed to Inclusivity."

Prayer also supported team mem-

bers on the 2006 AMH mission trip to Ghana, West Africa. According to Rodney Grove, an AMH board member and participant, "We experienced numerous problems on this trip that made it more difficult than other mission trips I've been on. From missing a passport and visa a week before the trip, to delays in flights, or ordered materials not arriving on time for construction, we saw the results of prayer and everything worked out well.

"We normally have a liaison in the country, but because of a change in government, everything we had prepared for didn't take place. We had to reinvent the wheel after we arrived and we did that surrounded in prayer," said Grove, who also is Lake Union Conference executive secretary.

In continuing the focus of healing the body, mind, and spirit, AMH encourages others to pray to connect with God as well as those for whom prayers are said.

Lynn Larson, Adventist Midwest Health public relations specialist



## Administrative Transitions at Andrews University

On Mar. 6, the Andrews University Board of Trustees convened in Berrien Springs for its spring meeting. The Board went into an executive session to examine the direction and future of the university, focusing on the need for synergy and collaboration between the university's financial and academic functions.

The Board felt that while there had been modest improvement in revenue and student population, the speed and scope of the changes were not adequate, and the best way to achieve future plans was through the opportunities afforded by new leadership.

As a result, Patricia Mutch, vice president for academic administration, and Edward Wines, vice president for financial administration, tendered their resignations, which are effective June 30, 2006.

Gerald Karst, chair of the Board of Trustees and general vice president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, spoke generously of the two administrators' work at the institution.

Also on that day, the resignation of the university's president, Niels-Erik Andreassen, was announced; however, on Mar. 30, the Board met once again and voted to reinstate Andreassen as president, making the following statement:

"On Mar. 30, the Board took two significant actions. First, the creation of the position of Provost was voted to function as the Chief Operations Officer, focusing on day-to-day operations and execution of strategy. Second, the Board asked Dr. Andreassen to continue his service as President, and he agreed.

"With the two actions of today, the Board believes that the revised administrative structure will assist in achiev-

ing the mission and financial goals of Andrews University and will permit the President more time to focus on the global role of Andrews University and its relationship to its external constituencies.

"We believe that this revised administrative structure will be a critical contribution to the institution's success in the future."

For more information about Andrews University and this time of transition, log on to [www.andrews.edu/transitions](http://www.andrews.edu/transitions).

University Relations press release

## Andrews University Hosts Inter-Religio Symposium

While the words to the popular Christian campfire jingle "Father Abraham" may indeed be trite, their message is a crucial one: there is no one son of Abraham, something subscribers to the three Abrahamic faiths—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—tend to forget. Rather than embracing a common heritage, the orthodox use doctrinal and ideological differences as license to exclude and stereotype.

In response to rampantly skewed attitudes and general misconceptions among the three religions, on Mar. 28, Andrews University hosted "Our Father Abraham," a symposium spotlighting Jewish-Christian-Muslim relations with the aim of replacing narrow-mindedness with mutual respect and open dialogue.

Jointly sponsored by the International Religious Liberty Association, the Seminary, and *Shabbat Shalom*, "Our Father Abraham" commenced with a morning

presentation by professor of Rabbinic Literature at the Schechter Institute, Mordechai Arad, who stressed the historical commonalities among the three religions. This theme of mutual heritage was echoed by the day's speakers, including Jacques B. Doukhan. Professor and director of the Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies at the Seminary, Doukhan's chapel message, "Whose Son Are You?" posited that "brotherhood is a sign of sonhood." Coordinator of the Kroc Institute's Program in Religion, Conflict, and Peacebuilding (PRCP) at the University of Notre Dame, Rashied Omar, along with president of the Islamic Education and Resources Network (ILearn), Soraya M. Orady, both advised proponents of all three faiths to obliterate stereotypes by jointly tackling issues of social injustice independent of any doctrinal or ideological agenda.

Other symposium speakers included Jon Paulien, professor of New Testament interpretation at the Seminary; professor, lecturer, and contemporary ethics Ph.D. student, Abigail Doukhan; Øystein S. LaBianca, professor and director of the Institute of Archaeology at Andrews University; and John Graz, director of the General Conference's Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department. The symposium ended with a panel interview and roundtable discussion.

Elizabeth Lechleitner, University Relations student news writer



Special guests and symposium speakers enjoyed a meal of Middle Eastern fare under an authentic Bedouin tent at the Horn Archaeological Museum.

## [ EDUCATION NEWS ]

### Michigan Students Assist Hurricane Victims

Michigan—Students across Michigan joined forces with their teachers and others in their community to do their part in Hurricane Katrina relief for a Bible Labs project. Items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, towels, soap, shampoo, and other personal hygiene items were desperately needed by hurricane victims. These items were collected and assembled into comfort kits.

Comfort kits for men included shaving cream and a razor. Comfort kits for women included many miscellaneous items from thread and needles to Band-Aids and first aid cream. Coloring books and crayons, puzzles, or small stuffed animals were added to the comfort kits made especially for children.

All the items making up the kits were packed with enthusiasm and love into large Ziploc bags. The students sometimes found it difficult to get everything to fit into just one bag!

When the Michigan teachers met in Lansing for an in-service day, they brought with them bags and boxes full of kits. These kits lined the sidewalk outside the Greater Lansing Adventist School.

God's blessing was on this Bible Labs project. One teacher brought me



Jade Bennison, a Greater Lansing Adventist School student, helped mark boxes of comfort kits. More than 370 kits were prepared by Michigan students.



Greater Lansing Adventist School students helped pack boxes with comfort kits for Hurricane Katrina victims.

a box of towels and some other items needed for the kits. "I am so sorry," she told me, "we just were not able to afford to buy all the items needed to finish these kits." Tears filled my eyes when, just a few minutes later, another teacher from across the state handed me \$60 as she said, "I am so sorry; my students raised money to make kits, but I did not have the time to buy the supplies." God had just put together two schools to make complete kits!

A conference truck was needed to transport the kits to the office. A week later, seventh and eighth graders from Greater Lansing Adventist School, along with their teacher, Matt Kohls, arrived to sort, count, box, seal, and label the kits for shipment. Three hundred seventy-three kits were packed that day and have already been sent and distributed to those in need.

Some schools are still turning in kits. Currently, there are about 50 additional kits ready to ship out when another disaster strikes.

Thank you, young people! And thank you, adults, for your support in this project.

Linda Fuchs, Michigan Conference associate superintendent of education



Jesse Hoffman, a student from the Mio School, was happy to put his hands to work to help others.



Boxes filled with items collected by Michigan students were sent to Hurricane Katrina victims.





The BCA Concert Band was one of seven Mich. schools to receive national recognition.

## BCA Concert Band Receives National Recognition

Michigan—The Battle Creek Academy (BCA) Concert Band, under the direction of Michele Stark, recently

received national recognition—one of only seven Mich. schools—for “exceptional achievement in concert performance.”

During the 2005 BCA Concert Band Tour, the band attended the Dixie Classic Festival for Band and Orchestra and received a “Superior”

rating for their performance at adjudication. The Dixie Classic, “First Choice of America’s Music Educators,” was formed in 1983 and has a long-standing reputation of service and music integrity.

In Apr. 2006, the Concert Band traveled south on tour with stops at Indianapolis Junior Academy for two concerts, then on to Atlanta, Ga., for two days with performances in several locations as well as the adjudication concert. The final tour performance was in Calhoun, Ga., at Georgia-Cumberland Academy.

Michelle Cain, Battle Creek Academy development director

### [LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

## Cicero Members Encourage Healthy Lifestyle Plan

Indiana—When Jan Roland considered the life ahead of her, she saw trouble. “At 60 pounds overweight, cholesterol 100-plus points too high, dizzy spells, and shortness of breath,” the Atlanta (Ind.) resident said, “At 64, I was feeling all I had to look forward to [were] major health issues.”

Then Roland attended a CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) program sponsored by the Cicero Church, and she now believes her life prospects have greatly improved. In fact, she became such a believer of the

program she volunteered to work with the Cicero team as they presented the CHIP program at the New Life Assembly of God church in Noblesville last Oct.

CHIP counselors stress that CHIP is not a diet plan. It is a health and lifestyle improvement plan. Weight loss just happens to be a pleasant side effect!

John Taylor, Cicero CHIP leader and a science teacher at Indiana Academy, says he’s seen the program work for many people. The group last Oct. really got into the program and enjoyed it as a team. The 32 participants bonded together during the five-week lifestyle program as they sampled different foods and learned new habits together. As a group, they lost 153 pounds, an average weight loss of eight and a half pounds per person. The final blood draw revealed cholesterol dropped 33.5 points per person, a 16 percent reduction.

Donna Ferguson, a registered nurse and program instructor, said some program participants with diabetes have been able to reduce their dependency on insulin, and their blood pressure was reduced through the program, lessening the risk of stroke.

Glen and Carol Rick, two Cicero CHIP organizers, said the program



Scott and Shari Vallieres (right) learned valuable lessons at the CHIP program.

helps people back off some Western lifestyle eating habits and “it encourages people to eat fewer fatty foods and get more exercise. Since Adventists already promote a healthy lifestyle, we want to share it with others!”

Taylor said he gets intangible personal rewards from organizing the program. “When you hear people talk like Jan [Roland], it’s so wonderful to know people benefit from it. And personally, it comes from my Christian experience. That’s the way He worked. Christ was always going around healing people.”

Judith Yeoman, Indiana Conference correspondent, as shared by Bob Hansen and William Fouts, of the Noblesville Daily Times, and Collene Kelly, Cicero church member



John Taylor, Cicero CHIP leader, instructed the participants at the New Life Assembly of God Church.

## New Prayer Ministry Blesses Members

Michigan—Have you ever had a friend share a burden with you and ask you to remember him in prayer? Did you walk away making a mental note to add him to your prayer list, only to have it slip your mind as other concerns crowd in? The Berrien Springs Village Church deacons have taken this to heart, agreeing that the best time to pray for someone is right then.

On Sabbath, Dec. 10, the deacons began a new prayer ministry. During Sabbath school and both church services, the deacons' room is open for private and group prayer. Anyone who has a special request, needs encouragement, or wants to praise the Lord for His blessings, is welcome to stop by and pray with any or all of the deacons on duty. At 8:25 and 11:25 a.m., special prayer is offered for the pastors as each service begins.

Jane\* took advantage of the blessing the deacons offered. As she headed toward the deacons' room she spotted Nancy,\* a mother of a young adult son. Jane stated she was on her way to the deacons' room to pray for her sons and asked Nancy to join her. The two deacons standing by, Nevin and Don, offered understanding and simple, heartfelt prayers for the young men they represented. Jane felt the blessing immediately. As any mother would understand, her sons' salvation is always on her heart. But it was Nancy's words that drove that blessing home. "I really needed that this morning," she said. "My son didn't come home last night."



Every Sabbath morning, Berrien Springs Village Church deacons gather to pray. Anyone with special requests are invited to join them. Those who have accepted their invitation have been greatly blessed.

"We all need prayer, and what better way to say 'how have you been' and 'I care about you' than to stop and have prayer with each other?" said Tony Cave, head deacon. "When we bow our heads and close our eyes in prayer, we automatically bring each other before the throne of God and present each other with a special bond of love to our Creator. There is nothing we can do for someone that is greater than this."

Candy Clark, Berrien Springs Village Church correspondent

### [ UNION NEWS ]

## Blind Campers Enjoy Camp Activities

Michigan—Have you ever wondered what you would do if you were blind? Do you think you might be tempted to stay indoors and avoid the ice and snow during the winter months? Probably some would, but not the 32 blind campers who arrived at Camp Au Sable in Grayling, Mich. Some traveled up to 30 hours on a bus, coming from several provinces in Canada, Fla., S.C., N.Y., and Mich. to enjoy a fun-filled, action-packed week.

The campers hiked, visited the nature center, cross-country skied, rode horses, swam at the Super 8 Hotel, and played games. They also enjoyed a peanut carnival, ceramics, crafts, walking around the boardwalk, shopping at the camp store, table bowling and air hockey tournaments, and evening meetings.

Each year, the blind campers raise a portion of the money needed for their

travel, and National Camps for the Blind and Christian Record Services (CRS) sponsor their week at camp. This is the eighth consecutive year Camp Au Sable has hosted Winter Blind Camp, and the staff has been blessed each year.

Pat Page, CRS—Canada director, along with her husband Ralph, have been instrumental in coordinating this retreat. The week wouldn't be possible without many volunteers who offer their assistance as well. This year, along with adult volunteers, 13 Canadian student volunteers raised money to come. They took a week off school to assist and completed their schoolwork during a designated study hall time during camp.

CRS was started in 1899. The organization receives 95 percent of its funding through public donations, which makes it possible to provide free services for those who need assistance. CRS provides: a free lending library with inspirational reading materials



Thirty-two blind campers attended Winter Blind Camp at Camp Au Sable where they enjoyed a myriad of activities.

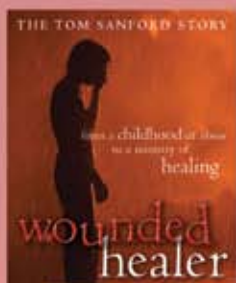
in Braille, large print or audio books, personal visitation, scholarships, summer camp opportunities, and winter camp opportunities which includes a downhill ski camp in Colo.

This year the blind campers appreciated donations from the Super 8 Hotel and Arthur P. Kerle, D.D.S., of Grayling, Mich., along with donations from Canadian companies. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution to CRS, please contact Larry Hubbell at (248) 634-4379 for more information.

Tammi Baker, Camp Au Sable store manager

\*not her real name





## For God's Wounded Children

As a child Tom Stafford was wounded in body and spirit by a rageaholic father. As an adult he's offered healing to thousands of like-wounded boys and girls through the ministry of his "miracle ranch"—Project PATCH. In *Wounded Healer*, author Kay Rizzo shares the story of how the ranch came to be and unforgettable stories of faith, struggle, and redemption. Paperback. 0-8163-2108-6. US\$12.99, Can\$17.99



## Hear the Word of the Lord!

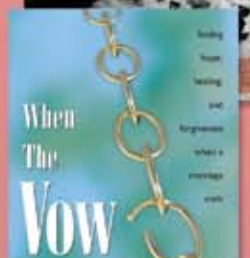
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# MILEPOSTS

Within the Lake Union, the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org). Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 51.

## Anniversaries



**Jeremiah and Mary L. Simington** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 11, 2006, by a wedding anniversary program and reception at the Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church, Minneapolis, Minn. They have been members of the Glendale Church for 16 years.

Jeremiah Simington and Mary L. Samuels were married Dec. 11, 1955, in Winston-Salem, N.C., by Elder Warren Banfield. Jeremiah worked for the R.J. Reynolds Co. for ten years. After graduating from St. Mary's College of Nursing, he worked at Minneapolis Veteran's Home and Stillwater Prison for 24 years. Mary, after graduating from Winston-Salem State University in 1969 with a nursing degree, worked at the State of Minnesota Health Dept. and the V.A. Medical Center for 32 years prior to retirement.

The Simington family includes Beatrice C. and Reginald Acker of Winston-Salem; Robin and Charles Branch of Woodbury, Minn.; Teresa and Samuel Cross of Robbinsdale, Minn.; Jerry and Karen Olson of Fargo, N.D.; Reginald and Cathy Olson of Lakeville, Minn.; Michael Simington of Richfield, Minn.; 15 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

## Obituaries

**BAKER, Wanda L. (Geer)**, age 66; born Feb. 13, 1939, in Chicago, Ill.; died Jan. 10, 2006, in Zolfo Springs, Fla. She was a member of the Portage (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Francis Jr.; sons, Todd J. and Francis R. III; daughters, DonnaLee Schumacher and Melody K. Baker; father, Ezra W. Geer; mother, Vivian (Rigg) Geer; sister, Elizabeth Cross; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Art Swisen, and interment was in Friendship Cemetery, Zolfo Springs.

**ERHARD, Eloyce E. (Barber)**, age 59; born Aug. 8, 1946, in Boulder, Colo.; died Feb. 2, 2006, in Hendersonville, N.C. She was a member of the Jackson (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her stepson, Todd O. Erhard; stepdaughter, Tina R. Hanson; foster child, Bill Jones; mother, Lorraine (Lucas) Barber; brothers, Kent and Douglas Barber; and two step-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Gene Hall and local elder Don Harris, and inurnment will be in Jackson.

**JENKINS, Beatrice (Owens) Guiles**, age 95; born May 24, 1910, in Oakley, Mich.; died Jan. 29, 2006, in Flint, Mich. She was a member of the First Flint Church.

Survivors include her son, Ronald Guiles; daughters, Lillian Henderson and Joyce Lloyd; sister, Audrey Meijerhauffer; many grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Douglas Carlson, and interment was in Flint Memorial Park Cemetery.

**MITCHELL, Dorothy R. (Warren) Stillman**, age 90; born Nov. 20, 1915, in Downsville, Wis.; died Feb. 1, 2006, in Columbia City, Ind. She was a member of the Wolf Lake (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, George and Richard Stillman; daughter, Carol (Stillman) Fisher; brother, Wilbur Federwitz; five grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Harry C. Hartmann, with private inurnment.

**MORGAN, Inez E. (McClean)**, age 97; born Nov. 6, 1908, in Gratiot Cty., Mich.; died Jan. 13, 2006, in Saginaw, Mich. She was a member of the Saginaw Center Road Church.

Survivors include her son, Willard D. Morgan; stepson, Herbert Morgan; sister, Doris Langhome; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

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Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert C. Quillin, and intombment was in Roselawn Cemetery Mausoleum, Saginaw.

**OURADA, Esther A. (Hurley)**, age 100; born Sept. 15, 1905, in Green Bay, Wis.; died Mar. 3, 2006, in Green Bay. She was a member of the Green Bay Church.

Survivors include two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Delmar Austin, and interment was in Fort Howard Memorial Park Cemetery, Green Bay.

**PAYNE, Margaret A. (Herzel)**, age 86; born Oct. 3, 1919, in Kalamazoo, Mich.; died Oct. 26, 2005, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Berrien Springs Village Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Nancy Hummel and Carol Barnhurst; brother, Edward Herzel; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Larry Lichtenwalter, and inurnment was in Plainwell (Mich.) Cemetery.

**SIMS, Edna L. (Rice)**, age 96; born Sept. 17, 1909, in Columbia, Mo.; died Mar. 6, 2006, in Flint, Mich. She was a member of the First Flint Church.

Survivors include her sons, Clyde Jr. and Larry; daughter, Norma Studdard; sisters, Macie Gibb, Annabelle Anderson, and Jean Visser; 15 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Douglas Carlson, and interment was in Meadowview Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Davison, Mich.

## Sunset Calendar

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26	Jun 2	Jun 9
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:47	8:55	9:02	9:08	9:13	9:18
Chicago	7:53	8:01	8:08	8:14	8:20	8:24
Detroit	8:36	8:44	8:51	8:58	9:03	9:07
Indianapolis	8:43	8:50	8:56	9:02	9:07	9:11
La Crosse, Wis.	8:13	8:20	8:28	8:35	8:41	8:46
Lansing, Mich.	8:43	8:51	8:58	9:05	9:10	9:15
Madison, Wis.	8:03	8:11	8:19	8:25	8:31	8:35
Springfield, Ill.	7:57	8:04	8:10	8:16	8:21	8:25



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## Miscellaneous

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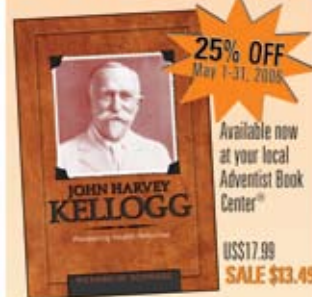
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Churches, schools, conferences, institutions, and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org)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

## Indiana

**Pathfinder Fair:** Enjoy this exciting, annual event at Timber Ridge Camp, **May 5-7**. For additional information, contact Dean Whitlow by phone: (812) 829-2507; by e-mail: [dwhitlow@direcway.com](mailto:dwhitlow@direcway.com); or call the Indiana Conference youth department at (317) 844-6201.

**Golf Fundraiser:** Indianapolis Junior Academy (IJA) and Cicero Elementary School (Cicero) are hosting a golf fundraiser to benefit the two schools on **Fri., May 19**. Additional information and registration forms are available from the schools. Call IJA: (317) 251-0560; or Cicero: (317) 984-3252.

**Adventurer Family Weekend:** Spend a weekend camping with your family at Timber Ridge Camp, **May 19-21**. For registration information, contact Dean Whitlow by phone: (812) 829-2507; by e-mail: [dwhitlow@direcway.com](mailto:dwhitlow@direcway.com); or call the Indiana Conference youth department at (317) 844-6201.

**Indiana Academy Graduation:** Attend Indiana Academy's graduation services, **May 26-28**. For further information, call (317) 984-3575.

**Single Mom's and Kid's Retreat:** Single moms and kids are invited to enjoy a relaxing and fun retreat at Timber Ridge Camp, **June 22-25**. For registration information, call the Indiana Conference at (317) 844-6201.

**Legal Notice:** Notice is hereby given that a special constituency meeting of the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in the chapel building at Indiana Academy, Route 19, Cicero, Ind., on Sun., **June 18, 2006**, at 10:00 a.m. Duly accredited delegates and delegates-at-large will be authorized to review, discuss, and make decisions regarding the recommendations of the conference executive committee with regard to the sale of the conference office property located at 15250 North Meridian

Street, Carmel, Ind., and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegation. Each church will be entitled to one delegate for the church organization and one additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof.

Gary Thurber, president

George Crumley, secretary/treasurer

**Legal Notice:** Notice is hereby given that a special constituency meeting of the Indiana Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., a corporation, will be held in connection with a meeting of the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at Indiana Academy, Route 19, Cicero, Ind., on Sun., **June 18, 2006**. The purpose of the meeting is to review, discuss, and make decisions regarding the recommendations of the conference executive committee with regard to the sale of the conference office property located at 15250 North Meridian Street, Carmel, Ind., and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates of the special constituency meeting of the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are likewise delegates to the Association meeting.

Gary Thurber, president

Gary Case, secretary

## Lake Union

### Offerings:

- May 6** Local Church Budget
- May 13** Disaster and Famine Relief
- May 20** Local Church Budget
- May 27** Local Conference Advance

### Special Days:

- May 6** Community Services Sabbath
- May 13** Youth Sabbath

**Teacher Retirees from a Lake Union K-12 School:** Would you be interested in attending the 2006 NAD Teacher's Convention, **Aug. 6-9**, in Nashville, Tenn.? If so, call (269) 473-8274 for more information.

## Michigan

**Grand Haven Adventist Church School** is hosting its 50-year school reunion, **July 14-16**. Looking for all former students and teachers to attend. For more information, call coordinator Carol Moffit at (616) 847-0766; or e-mail: [acmoffit@sbcglobal.net](mailto:acmoffit@sbcglobal.net).

## North American Division

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**Oakwood College (Huntsville, Ala.) Accreditation:** Dr. Carol Easley Allen, chair, and the faculty and staff of the Oakwood College Dept. of Nursing, are pleased to announce The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission has awarded five years of initial accreditation to the new baccalaureate degree nursing program at Oakwood College (2005-2010). For further information, contact Oakwood College Dept. of Nursing at (256) 726-7000.

**2006 GODencounters Conference to emphasize sacred space.** The 2006 GODencounters Conference will be held **May 26-June 3** at Forest Lake Seventh-day Adventist Church, 515 Harley Lester Ln., Apopka, FL. Featured worship leaders and artists include Michael Card, Terry Hershey, Matthew Gamble, and Elia King. Except for Sun., general sessions will be held each evening at 7:30 p.m. followed by Encounters Café. Sabbaths will be highlighted by duplicate worship sessions at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Young adults are especially invited to this free event sponsored by the Florida Conference Young Adults Ministries department. For more information or to register free of charge, go to [www.GODencounters.org](http://www.GODencounters.org); or call (407) 644-5000 ext. 129.

**Alumni of Plainview Academy** (1910-1965), formerly of Redfield, S.D., make plans to attend our annual Alumni Reunion weekend, **June 23-25**. It will be held on the campus of Dakota Adventist Academy in Bismarck, N.D. Honor classes are those who

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graduated (or attended) the classes ending in six or one. A special invitation is extended to ALL former Plainview students, faculty, staff, parents, and friends. Our "Family" is getting smaller—we need you! You will receive a blessing. For information, contact Plainview alumni secretary Charlene (Scholl) Binder at (402) 489-1702; or e-mail: [rdbinder@juno.com](mailto:rdbinder@juno.com).

**Seventh-day Adventist Korean Language Institute alumni missionaries, where are you?** If you served in South Korea during the past 20 years, please send us your contact information in preparation for a reunion **Summer/Fall 2006**. E-mail: [marilynazarus@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynazarus@hotmail.com) or [sali@puconline.org](mailto:sali@puconline.org).

**"Tell Them Now!" the 59th annual ASI International Convention** will be held **Aug. 2-5** in the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center, Grapevine, Texas (close to DFW airport). For information/online registration, logon to: [www.asiministries.org](http://www.asiministries.org); write to: Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904; or e-mail: [asi@nad.adventist.org](mailto:asi@nad.adventist.org).





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# PARTNERSHIP *with* GOD

## The Signet of God

BY GARY BURNS

I love to find treasures in God's Word that open up new thoughts about His love for me. God is always seeking creative ways to express His affection. I love the illustration He used to help Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah, understand the amazing relationship God chose to establish with His servant. "I will treat you like a signet ring on my finger ... for I have chosen you." What an incredible perspective! God's view of us is always so much better than our own.

A signet ring (sign-et) was a sign of power and authority. It represented the identity of the king. It was, in fact, the king's seal. Any document that bore its impress was the official word of the king.

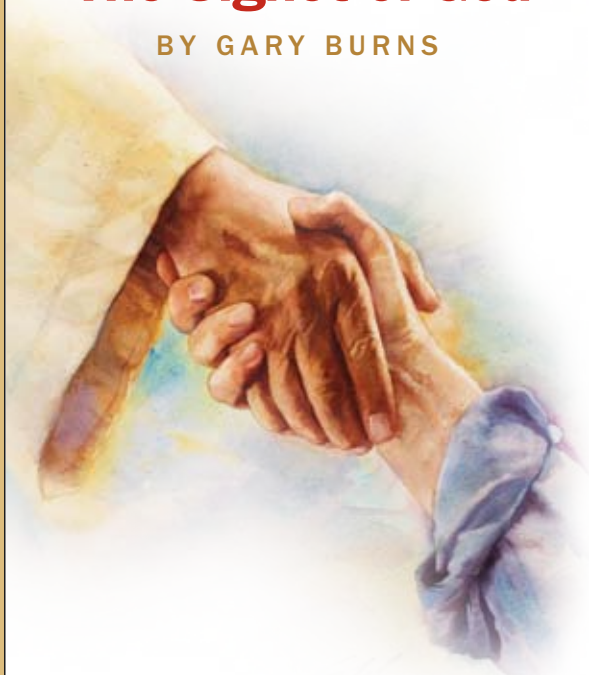
The seal established its authenticity.

When God gave Joseph the ability to interpret Pharaoh's troubling dreams

about the groups of seven cows and the sheaves of grain, Pharaoh said, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?" Then Pharaoh did an amazing thing to this forgotten captive. He removed his signet ring, placed it on the prisoner's finger, and said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt."

Is that what God is longing for us to understand about the partnership He desires? Imagine yourself in that role—a signet ring on the finger of God. You are the impress of God—a symbol of His power and authority to redeem—His representative of grace.

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



# GOD'S WORDS Heal for Eternity

BY CAITLYN CHISM

Shortly before I started Kindergarten, I visited my sister's school. I would tag along and meet kids her age. That's when the teasing about my ears first started. I was called "Dumbo" and "Satellite Dishes." I was also told that someday I would fly using my ears.

When I finally started Kindergarten, I met a girl named Kelly\*. No one ever played with or talked to her, so I tried to be her friend, even though I was teased because of it. Since we were both teased, we drifted apart as friends. As we grew, she followed a different path than mine. I went to church, and I think that helped me a lot. Kelly started to tease other people and she slowly turned into a bully. I did not, even though I was still being teased. Sometimes I would talk back to my teasers, but I didn't like the feeling inside later.

Someone called me "Boots" in eighth grade because I wore men's work boots to school. They were the only shoes I had at the time. As I was teased, I kept calm and didn't say anything. I was taught right and wrong.

I had no friends from Kindergarten through eighth grade. I am not joking. I was just the "weird" kid in their eyes.

When I left public school and began attending Indiana Academy, I wasn't around the people who were teasing me. I still get teased once in a while, but who doesn't?

I have been involved in my church. I think that saved me. God saved me. Philippians 4:13 is a big help. It is a reminder that God can help us through anything, and if we hold on, there will be a reward for us. I have learned there are worse things than teasing. Words hurt, but God's words heal for eternity.

Now, when I see people getting teased, I know what they are going through. I pray for them, whether I know them or not. Kids who are

teased could do many things and may find one way works better than another for them. Here are some suggestions: count to ten; avoid the person; repeat encouraging words; walk away; and, talk to someone after it happens.

Usually people who tease others want attention, love, or are trying to feel better about themselves. The way they make that happen is to make others around them feel really low in self-esteem.

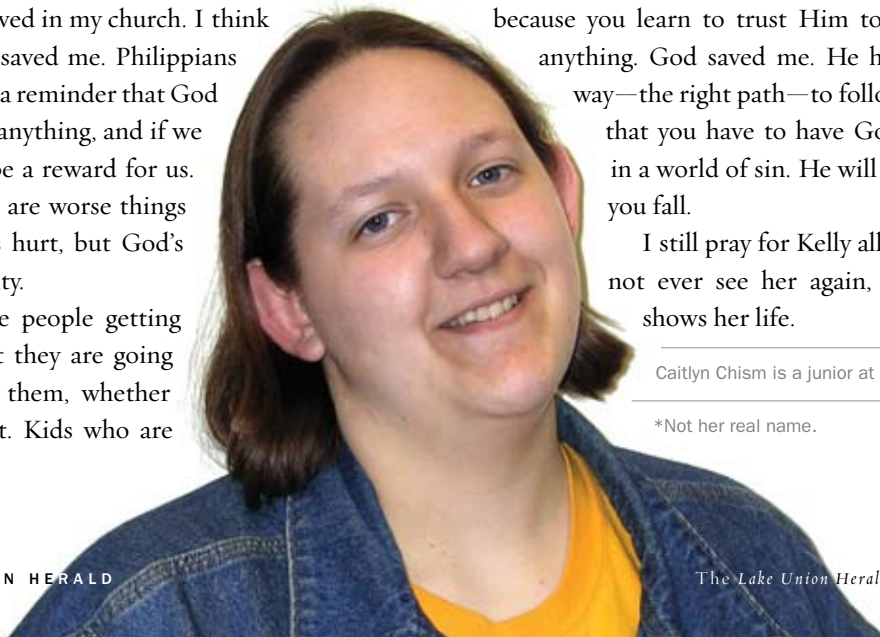
There is hope. Teasing will not last forever, even though it feels like it will. Your trust in Jesus will grow stronger because you learn to trust Him to get you through anything. God saved me. He has shown me the way—the right path—to follow Him. I learned that you have to have God or you are lost in a world of sin. He will pick you up when you fall.

I still pray for Kelly all the time. I might not ever see her again, but I hope God shows her life.

---

Caitlyn Chism is a junior at Indiana Academy.

\*Not her real name.





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**Andrew Alava**, known by his friends as "Drew," was born in Chicago, Illinois. A senior, Andrew is the son of George and Nesse Alava, members of the Chicago Fil-Am Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Andrew Alava

It's a good thing Andrew enjoys singing and playing his guitar because his goal is to become a youth pastor. The skills he has with the trumpet, saxophone, and the piano will also serve him well in this goal. He's got a jumpstart on his career since he works for Jason Calvert, Broadview Academy's pastor.

After a recent performance, Andrew received some real encouragement. He was told he had the full attention of the audience and that his talents brought them closer to God. When asked, he said he believed his most memorable experience was about to happen. He planned to join a team going to Panama on spring break where he would preach and do community service. "I'm excited about the trip," Andrew stated. "I'm also excited about the opportunities I will have to preach when I get back."

Andrew is a solid Christian leader on the Broadview Academy campus. He is very willing to get up front, take a stand on issues, and speak out for his Best Friend, Jesus Christ.



Melissa Faifer

**Melissa Faifer** is also a senior at Broadview Academy. An Illinois native, born in Berwyn, Melissa is a member of the Joliet Seventh-day Adventist Church. The daughter of Diana Easton, Melissa loves to write and enjoys studying—especially English and Bible. She wants to be a teacher, but not just any teacher. She wants to serve as a missionary—in Japan perhaps—teaching religion or ESL (English as a Second Language).

Melissa is right on track with her studies under the new program at Broadview Academy. Although she appears to be a quiet, reserved individual, she can do an awesome presentation in front of an audience. One of the most important things she's learned from her academy experience is to put her trust in God.

Her most memorable experience was a leadership retreat at Camp Au Sable. She plans to put the skills she learned at this retreat into practice this summer in the Dominican Republic where she will spend 20 days with a team, giving presentations and telling children's stories.

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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Visit [www.netAdventist.org](http://www.netAdventist.org) or call **1 (800) 9-TAGNET** to make your church the source of a world of Adventist resources and information.

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