

Lake Union HERALD

AUGUST 2007



Making a
SPLASH!

Lake Union Members Dive Head-First Into Outreach...



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in every issue...

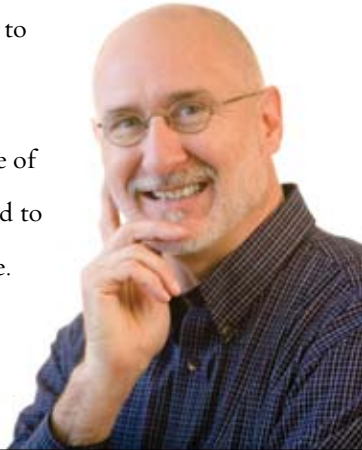
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in this issue...

To make a difference is an innate desire. It implies that we matter, that we have purpose. This issue highlights, in news and features, some within the Lake Union who have not only dreamed of doing so, but have made that connection with God that has produced substance to their dreams.

We trust that their passion and vision will be a source of inspiration and encouragement as you partner with God to accomplish His difference-making purpose for your life.

Gary Burns
Gary Burns, Editor



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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

Partnering with Christ

My cousin is a shy little lady. She once lived in the Queens borough of New York City. She wanted to share her faith, but wondered how could she do it with such shyness. She prayed and was inspired with an idea. As she rode the subway trains around the city, she left a little religious pamphlet on the seat where she had been sitting. She did this for years until she moved back to Ohio.

The teenage boy was a student in a public high school. He contemplated how he could represent Christ without being the brunt of jokes and tormented for his beliefs. He prayed much, and the Lord gave him many opportunities. He hit upon the idea to invite his classmates and a representative of each of the other high school classes to enjoy a party at his house. It was an old-fashioned Adventist-style social gathering. He believed he could witness through the food served, the music played, and the activities planned (I held this party each year in my parents' old farmhouse, and it became THE high school social function of the year). It never mattered that all the kids were Caucasian, and I was the only African-American.

A colporteur (a religious book and Bible salesman) sold a book, authored by Uriah Smith, to a man. That man gave it to my parents. After studying the book and researching its contents, 16 of my ancestors (including my parents and grandparents) became baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The man who originally purchased the book never joined the Adventist family.

Another man was one of the major vice kings in a large mideastern city. An Adventist lady gave him Bible studies; he was baptized, married the lady, and began to witness to his former underworld comrades. He died looking for the soon return of Jesus.

In one way or another, these individuals all partnered with Christ to be witnesses. In some cases, we know the outcome of their witness. In other cases, we must await the meeting on the Sea of Glass to count results. But in each case they were willing to be inspired by the Holy Spirit to be a partner to spread the Good News. Divine assistance is promised to such.

“The humble worker who obediently responds to the call of God may be sure of receiving divine assistance. To accept so great and holy a responsibility is itself elevating to the character. It calls into action the highest mental and spiritual powers, and strengthens and purifies the mind and heart. Through faith in the power of God, it is wonderful how strong a weak man may become, how decided his efforts, how prolific of great results. He who begins with a little knowledge, in a humble way, and tells what he knows, while seeking diligently for further knowledge, will find the whole heavenly treasure awaiting his demand. The more he seeks to impart light, the more light he will receive. The more one tries to explain the word of God to others, with a love for souls, the plainer it becomes to himself. The more we use our knowledge and exercise our powers, the more knowledge and power we shall have” (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 354, par. 1).

Won't you sign on today as a partner with Jesus Christ? He awaits your willingness. He will supply the inspiration.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Michigan For the first ten years of her life, **Dagmar White** attended the Battle Creek Tabernacle and was a student through the fifth grade at its elementary school. Then circumstances changed for her family, and an Adventist education was no longer a priority.



Dagmar White

As an adult, she began to respond to the Holy Spirit's influence by searching for something more meaningful for her life. One positive influence was her sister, Helena, who had been baptized at the Battle Creek Tabernacle about four years earlier. When the church scheduled a health seminar, Dagmar received an invitation to attend. She thought their *Foods for Thought* lectures were an enjoyable experience as she listened to the information provided by Esther La Tour.

She continued to attend the Battle Creek Tabernacle after the health seminar, and joined the Sabbath school class taught by Kay (Collins) Mayes, Bible worker. It was a spiritual blessing to her. Since Dagmar loved to read, Kay gave her the book, *My Son, Dan*, written about her late husband, evangelist Dan Collins. Dagmar also picked up the book, *The Passion of Love*, that explained salvation through Christ's death on the cross. In that book, she found a Bible study enrollment card, which she filled out and mailed.

When Kay visited Remnant Publications in Coldwater, Michigan, a representative told her they had received a request for a Bible study course from Battle Creek. As soon as Kay looked at the card, she recognized Dagmar's name. At her first opportunity, Kay asked Dagmar if she would like to receive personal Bible Studies. Dagmar's excited response was, "Would you do that?"

After Dagmar received several Bible Studies in her home, the Urbandale Church began a series of Bible prophecy lectures with evangelist Terry Nelson. Kay suggested to Dagmar that she would be blessed by attending. Since it was close to where she lived, she decided to give it a try. After a few nights, Dagmar was hooked! Bringing her Bible

each night to search the scriptures, her heart was moved by the Holy Spirit to take her stand for Jesus. When a commitment call was given for those who desired to surrender their life to Jesus, Dagmar came forward.

Dagmar was later baptized on June 11, 2005, by Bruce Moore, Battle Creek Tabernacle senior pastor. Today, she praises God for His love and grace. Dagmar continues to grow into His likeness and leads others into eternal life.

Nancy Nelson, prophecy correspondent, as told to Bruce Babienko, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent

Wisconsin **Connie Beech** had never heard of Seventh-day Adventists until she met Josh Dobson and his family. She felt it was fortunate to be introduced to Adventism by such positive influences. Connie says, "I have always known the Dobsons to be friendly, caring, trustworthy, and patient people."



Connie Beech (left) and Dolores Huyvaert were baptized at the close of the Raymond evangelistic meetings.

The first time Connie attended a function at the Raymond Seventh-day Adventist Church was when Josh invited her to a weekend seminar presented by Walter Wright, Lake Union Conference president and family ministries director. Her experiences visiting the church, then and later, were positive. Connie remarked, "The one thing I have always noticed is how comfortable I felt whenever I attended a church function. The Raymond Seventh-day Adventist Church always made me and my family feel welcome. Within a few minutes of meeting the members, I felt like I had known them for years."

When Emanuel Baek presented the Amazing Facts Prophecy Seminar, it had a profound affect on Connie. She

said, “Although I had already changed my lifestyle in many ways, the seminar gave me new insight and understanding of the Bible and the Church’s stance on other issues. I met so many wonderful people because of the seminar, and my relationships with fellow church members grew richer and stronger after spending many hours together.”

Connie remembers her baptism fondly. She recalls, “Baptism was an amazing experience for me. Everything about it—from the difference I felt before and after baptism to the outpouring of love and support I felt from the church body.”

Connie is thankful for her new church family. She said, “I can honestly say I see the world through different eyes now. I know that being a Seventh-day Adventist is right for me, and I cannot thank God enough for the many wonderful and loving people surrounding me who helped me find the truth.”

Diane Thurber, *Lake Union Herald* managing editor, as shared by Connie Beech, Raymond Seventh-day Adventist Church member

Illinois **Earl Traylor**, a long-term employee of the LaClede Steel Company, attended the Alton Seventh-day Adventist Church every weekend he wasn’t scheduled to work—for more than 20 years. He tried to get Sabbaths off so he could come to church. He was close to joining the church many years ago, but had some difficulties such as his work schedule. His wife Jackie was a member, and she did not give up on him.

Retired from the steel company, Earl began to attend church regularly. He was diagnosed with some extreme health conditions, and a year ago Earl fell and broke his

hip. He was admitted to the hospital. Lloyd Stone, his wife Denise, and another couple, Mike and Kathy Reed, began to visit him in the hospital. They took some books, visited with Earl, and had prayer with him each time they came.

When Earl was moved from the hospital to a rehabilitation facility, the two couples continued their regular visits. In church one Sabbath, they asked members to send cards and letters, and to pray for Earl.

It has been a year now since Earl gave his heart to the Lord and was baptized. Four individuals, doing simple things to help their brother, brought this man to the foot of the cross. In loving him, they touched Earl for Jesus.

Rachel Terwilligar, assistant to the president for communication, Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists



Tracy Beckford completed two sets of Bible studies and then decided to give her heart to Jesus. From left: Jeff Bishop, Bobbi Bishop, Tracy Beckford, and Justin Childers, Cedar Ridge Church pastor

Indiana **Tracy Beckford** left her home in Jamaica in 2003 and came to the United States to live with her father and step-mother, Peter and Pansy Beckford, who are both members of the Cedar Ridge Seventh-day Adventist Church in Paoli, Indiana. Desiring to learn more about the Bible, Tracy began to study two years later with Justin Childers, Cedar Ridge Church pastor. After completing one set of studies, Tracy’s desire to learn resulted in her completing another set of Bible lessons with head elder Jeff Bishop and his wife Bobbi.

Tracy believed what she learned as she studied with her new friends, and she desired to give her heart to Jesus. She was baptized on October 14, 2006, and continues her journey with Jesus at the Cedar Ridge Church.

Justin Childers, Cedar Ridge Church pastor



Michael Reed

Lloyd Stone (right), Alton Seventh-day Adventist Church communication leader, studied with Earl Traylor (left) who attended the church for more than 20 years before he was baptized.

An Oasis in Chicagoland

BY ELISA BROWN

A dictionary definition for an oasis is “a refuge, relief, or pleasant change from what is usual.” And for more than 100 young adults who packed to capacity the McAninch Arts Center at the College of DuPage, the Illinois Conference Camp Meeting offered an oasis for young adult worship in May.

Supported by the conference’s youth and young adult leadership, a group of passionate, Chicagoland young adults organized this first-ever camp meeting event fashioned for their peers. Especially tailored for 18–35 year olds, the Sabbath gathering featured worship band, *Oikos Principle 2.0*, and A. Allan Martin, co-founder of www.GODencounters.org.

“During the sermon, I learned a lot. I felt as though the speaker was speaking directly to me. Just the jumpstart I need,” noted Debi Kotz, a stay-at-home mom. “Besides being with a group

of friends I had met previously, I also met a whole new group of people [who] were so extremely friendly—people I would very much like to get to know.”

Sensing the need to create community in the Chicagoland area where young adults can be involved in service and grow spiritually, the young adult camp meeting organizers created a ministry. The ministry is OASIS (www.myspace.com/oasis07). Their goal is for

OASIS to be a refuge—a pleasant change from the frantic pace of life—as well as a place where young adults can grow in their relationship with God and with each other.



A new ministry for Chicagoland young adults was formed following the Illinois Conference Camp Meeting. The OASIS ministry volunteer team was established to create community and a way for young adults to grow spiritually and become involved in service.

“I am still a visitor to this church,” continued Debi, “but I can see that OASIS will definitely reach others, specifically young adults, and show them that being a Christian does not mean you have to be stuffy.”

“The fact that OASIS is a group of [young adults] is great,” endorsed Christina Mathai, a young adult from the Northbrook Church. “Through different programs and things with local churches, many people can get to know about OASIS and

hopefully get closer to God. [OASIS] will really encourage all young people.”

Currently, OASIS is meeting monthly to develop opportunities for young adult ministry and fellowship. In addition to local activities, young adults are invited to join OASIS on *Cruise With a Mission* (www.cruisewithamission.org), December 16–23. This is a “vacation with a purpose” specifically for young adults ages 18–35, where there will be service and mission opportunities at each of the Caribbean ports of call.

When asked what the highlight was for her, Debi shared, “I just liked seeing young adults who actually love God and want to do something about it.”

For more information or to become involved and support this emerging ministry please contact oasis07@gmail.com or www.myspace.com/oasis07.

Elisa Brown is an OASIS ministry leader.



OASIS Hospitality Team leaders Cristina Ruiz and Chad Fabruada organized the food for brunch and snacks in the afternoon with the help of a small team of volunteers.



Re-Directed Mission Plans

BY JESSICA STOTZ

With 77 days remaining until graduation, the Wisconsin Academy senior class of 2007 loaded the bus early on Sunday morning, March 11. The 26 students and seven faculty and sponsors were bound for Port Arthur, Texas, to aid in relief efforts following Hurricane Katrina's less-publicized counterpart, Hurricane Rita. After spending four years holding fund-raisers, hosting dinner theaters, and cleaning stadiums, it was finally the seniors' turn to use their class funds for a mission trip.

Though the seniors first planned to rebuild a school in the Fiji islands, a political coup there early in the school year left the class searching for another option. Door after door closed until finally the students were informed they would have to take a trip within the United States. The seniors were surprised and didn't know where God was leading, but kept moving forward. Through contacts with the Wisconsin Conference Adventist Community Services director, Floyd Brock, Lutheran Disaster Response expressed a need for roofing repairs and drywalling assistance in southeastern Texas. Plans fell into place, and the Wisconsin Conference offered to cover some expenses using funds collected following the Katrina and Rita hurricane disasters.

Arriving in Port Arthur after two long days of driving, the seniors unloaded their things and prepared for the coming day. The next morning they waited for job assignments, but were dismayed to hear that due to federal grants roofing was quite inexpensive for needy residents, and roofing jobs (approximately half of the work assigned to the group) were no longer needed. This left students moving from job to job daily—painting, doing yard clean-up, or installing drywall. They were able to impact dozens of families in just a matter of six work days.



The Wisconsin Academy class of 2007 helped paint a house in Texas during their class trip. This was just one way they helped hurricane victims they encountered.

The best view of the impact the seniors were making came on Friday, March 16. At high noon, a "last-nail" ceremony full of hymns and psalms re-dedicated a small home in Port Arthur. It was announced that the time had come for the homeowner to move back home for the first time since the storm. The program was led by members of the

Southeast Texas Interfaith Organization (SETIO), and it offered the class another amazing opportunity to share by presenting a check to SETIO in excess of \$20,000 from the Wisconsin Conference.

The class's transportation to Texas was not simply another coach bus; it was the class gift, purchased on eBay and repaired using class funds. In addition to their mission trip, using the money earned from their fund-raisers, friends and family, and the donations of constituents throughout the conference, the seniors were also able to contact former principal John Thomas in Africa. They learned of the need of an orphanage to house children of AIDS-stricken families, so they sent a check for \$15,000 to cover all expenses of the orphanage.

Despite the seniors' initial disappointment, God blessed the money earned through their work so they could funnel it to numerous locations and needs.

Jessica Stotz is a 2007 graduate of Wisconsin Academy.



Thinking About Thinking [PART 2]

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY



Why would anyone choose to be a negative thinker? Especially when you consider the alternative—being a positive thinker! For many, being a negative thinker comes out of childhood experiences. We got into this habit of thinking something wouldn't work out for us, that we weren't good enough, or that if we tried we'd fail. It doesn't take too many times of raising your hand with an answer, getting it wrong, and hearing the kids laugh at you before you interpret the world from a more negative slant. This misinterpretation of the world around us as being scary, hard, and awful leads us to negative thinking patterns.

By the time a child is 11 years old, most have stopped making attempts at artistic creativity, usually because early attempts were ridiculed or didn't measure up. I believe there's a correlation here to our creative thinking in general. The negative thinking habits we pick up as we are growing up are usually the ones we keep using as adults. They protected us as children, and we continue to turn to them as a coping mechanism.

Unfortunately, negative thinking colors our world. Every day we can dwell on thoughts like: *How could another person do this to me? This person is hurting me. This person is talking about me. Now, more people know and won't like me, love me, accept me. ... I need to be sure this doesn't happen to me again* (and be ready to be angry if it does happen again). Or...

We can commit to change our negative thinking patterns and use our God-given gift of creative thinking. We can decide to focus our thinking on the positive rather than wasting our energies on negative thinking. When we find ourselves caught in a negative thinking rut, we can challenge ourselves to open our minds and expand our vision of things to think about.

Actually, we are called to use our God-given power of thinking. Ellen White was a thinker. She had much to say about the powers, wonders, and responsibilities of positive thinking. She

wrote, "The mind is a trust from God. The powers of the mind are to be cultivated. They are to be so wisely used that they will increase in strength. Each one is to use his entrusted talents in a way that the greatest good will be done" (*Mind, Character, and Personality*, Vol. 2, p. 665).

Ellen also encourages us with a promise, "The positiveness and energy, the solidity and strength of character manifested in Christ are to be developed in us through the same discipline that He endured. And the grace that He received is for us" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 73).

To become a creative, positive thinker again means taking a step to be vulnerable and open. You can find that, with just baby-steps toward more positive thinking, it is an exhilarating feeling to find, or be back in touch with, this positive part of yourself!

I invite you to accept God's desires for your heart and mind. "Let the soul be drawn out and upward that God may grant us a breath of the heavenly atmosphere. We may keep so near to God that in every unexpected trial our thoughts will turn to Him as naturally as the flower turns to the sun" (*Steps to Christ*, pp. 99, 100).



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 a licensed marriage and family therapist.

Going green can
add four to five years
to your life!

The Adventist Advantage

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Plant-based diets can
slash cancer rates by
50 percent.

From Norway to the Netherlands, California to Copenhagen, and Poland to Japan, the storyline reads the same: Adventists enjoy better health, have a lower risk of many chronic diseases, and consequently live longer. But how much longer?

Depending upon the geographical region, the increased life expectancy of an Adventist is about four years for women, and seven years for men. This differential between Adventists and their neighbors arises from the fact that death rates from cardiovascular disease and cancer, the major killers in Western society, occur at a rate among Adventists that is 30 to 50 percent lower than their non-Adventist neighbors.

So what makes the difference? Adventists have been the subject of scientific investigations for four decades. To date, more than 300 publications in scientific journals have reported on Adventists and their health. Researchers note that many Adventists avoid alcohol, tobacco, and other harmful drugs. Regular exercise, a good quality of life, and the faith factor have also been suggested to explain the lower mortality rates in Adventists. Furthermore, a significant number of Adventists emphasize a diet in which plant foods play a significant role.

In the Adventist Health Study, scientists observed that Adventist men in their 40s who ate meat at least four times a week experienced four times the risk of a fatal heart attack compared to vegetarian men. On the other hand, consumption of whole-wheat bread instead of white bread was associated with a 40 percent decreased risk of heart disease.

Consumption of red meat among Adventists increased their risk of colon cancer by two- to three-fold, while le-

gumes decreased their risk almost 50 percent. Adventists who regularly ate meat, eggs, or cheese had higher rates of breast and prostate cancer, while eating tomatoes, legumes, soy products, and dried fruit decreased the risk of prostate cancer by 40 to 50 percent.

Furthermore, men who drank two or more cups of coffee a day had a significantly higher risk of fatal bladder and colon cancer, and daily consumption of meat doubled the risk of developing both diabetes and dementia. In African-Americans, the frequent consumption of green salads, fruits, and nuts was associated with a 40 percent lower risk of mortality.

Not carrying excess weight can add about three to four years to one's life, while engaging in moderate exercise may confer an additional two to three years of life. In addition, eating a vegetarian diet may add as much as five years to a man's life and four years to a woman's life. Hence, if one has all three of these lifestyle factors one could enjoy an additional decade of life.

Making healthy choices enables us to not only live longer but also to enjoy a better quality of life.

Winston Craig, Ph.D., R.D., is a professor of nutrition at Andrews University.





EXTREME GRACE

To Walk with Jesus

BY DICK DUERKSEN

“MARTA, WHEN YOU COME THROUGH THE GATES OF HEAVEN, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO UP THERE?”

Marta had obviously thought that question through many times before I asked it beside her cooking fire in Mucapane, Mozambique. She immediately leaned forward and began to speak intensely in her language, Shangana.

Many years ago Marta, the village *curandera* (spirit healer), had fallen in love with Jesus and become the village *evangelista*. It all began with a dream, one of many dreams Marta experienced as she worked with the spirits to find the right potions and cures for her neighbors. They paid her well, because her cures worked. The spirits guided her and gave her a good life, so good that she had even started saving money to purchase a truck. A truck would make her the most important person in the village, and everyone would look up to her!

Then she had the dream. She was in her truck, driving up, up through the clouds, on through the stars, right to the terrible walls of a giant heavenly city. She drove to the gate, but it was closed. She got out and pounded for entry, but all was silent. She screamed loud enough for everyone inside to hear, but the gate stayed closed to the *curandera* from Mucapane. She tried to jump over the wall, and that's when she woke up.

When Marta awoke, she knew she had to learn how to get into the heavenly city. She asked around, talking to people who should have known, but discovered they were all confused and no help at all. Then someone told her of a farmer in Machumbutana who knew the truth about the city. So, the village *curandera* walked miles down the dirt path to the huts of Machumbutana, hoping to find the city's key.



What Marta found was a group of searchers studying Scripture, praying to Jesus the Savior, worshiping on Saturday, and planning for Heaven.

She listened, studied Scripture with her new friends, and fell in love with Jesus.

Till the dream returned.

This time the gate was open, but a powerful giant with “huge shoulders, crossed arms, and a bad frown” blocked the entrance. He told her she had to leave the old life, get rid of all her *curandera* tools, and teach her neighbors about Jesus and His city.

So, Marta took all her “stuff” into the street and started a fire. She even burned the money she had saved for a truck. “It was bad money, and I didn’t need a truck to get to Heaven anyway.”

Everyone came to the fire, and that morning Marta started a Jesus congregation in Mucapane. They met beneath a cashew tree, studied pieces of a Bible, and planned for Heaven.

“Marta, when you come through the gates of Heaven, what do you want to do up there?”

“I want to see Jesus,” the bright-eyed church planter said. “I want to walk with Jesus. I want to touch Him, to hold His hand, to listen to Him, to talk to Him. I want to take a long walk in Heaven with Jesus!”

Dick Duerksen is the official “storyteller” for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact Dick at dduerksen@maranatha.org.

Marta's church in Mucapane will be the third of the 1,001 churches Maranatha Volunteers International is building for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Mozambique. The new brick building will serve as church, school, and health education center. Mostly, it will be a place where people fall in love with Jesus.

Dick Duerksen



Why Differences?

BY GARY BURNS

Maryann and I had been married ten years when we welcomed our first child. Most of our friends had their second or third by that time. We were a part of a tight social group at our church, and were very involved in each other's lives.

We had a lot of great parenting advice to give our friends until we had our own. After getting over our initial reality check, we were beginning to figure things out when we had our second. What worked for our first child didn't seem to work the same way with the second. After making some adjustments we settled into a new groove when the third one came along, and we had to start all over again. We finally came to a very profound conclusion: They each came different, with differences in personality that we noticed within the first seconds of their debut.

Each of our children is gifted in unique ways. They process information differently, they have different temperaments, they express themselves differently, and if that were not enough, they even love us differently.

I've always been fascinated by what God said to Jeremiah:

"Jeremiah, I knew all about you before I even created you. I designed that you would speak on my behalf to the nations" (see Jeremiah 1).

I wonder if Jeremiah's parents had any idea the plans God had for their son.

God came to Mr. and Mrs. Manoah to let them know that they were going to have a special son.

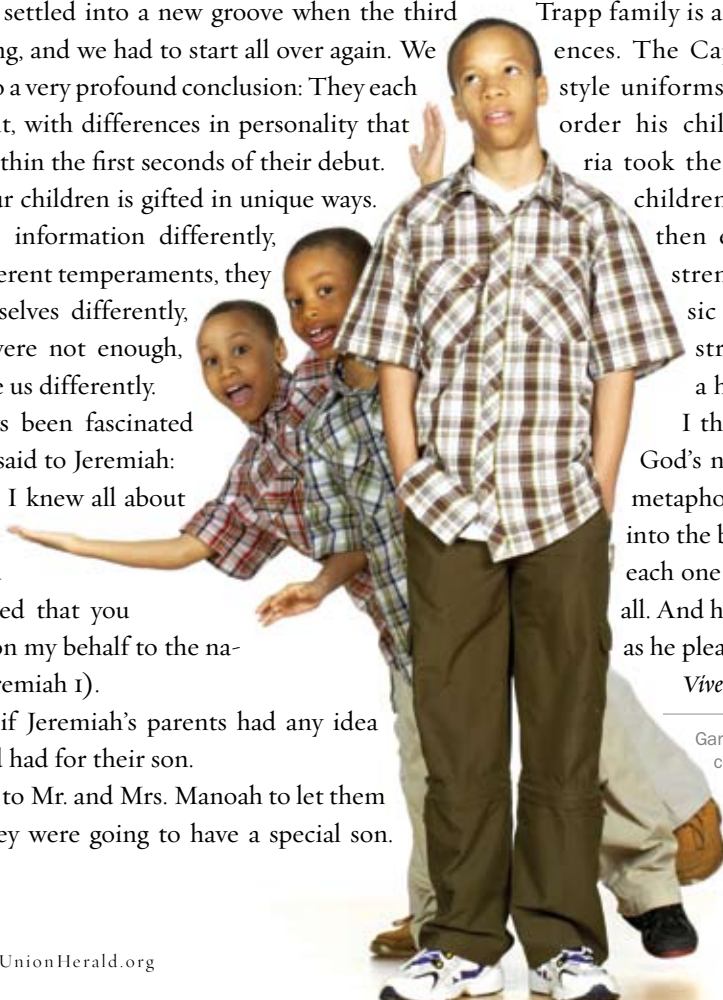
And their immediate response was, "Lord, we beg you, please teach us how to raise our son." Samson came with some very specific instructions, as did John the Baptist and Jesus. But we had to observe, listen, and PRAY!

In *The Sound of Music*, Maria's introduction to the von Trapp family is a classic example of contrasting differences. The Captain put his children into military-style uniforms, and blew his whistle commands to order his children into perfect compliance. Maria took the whistle away, began to listen to the children, identified their differences, and then encouraged their good qualities and strengthened their weaknesses. The music metaphor was a great way to demonstrate each one's unique contribution to a harmonized whole.

I think Maria is a more accurate picture of God's nature than the Captain. Using another metaphor, Paul says, "He placed each one of us into the body (the church), just as he designed—each one playing his unique part for the good of all. And he has given (gifts) to each one of us, just as he pleased" (see Romans 12).

Vive la Différence!

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.



Partnering with Christ to Reach a Community

BY JACQUELINE MASON

On Thursday, April 26, Independence Boulevard Church members reported for duty at their church in Chicago. A U-Haul truck was rented, and church deacons, along with Ralph Shelton (their pastor), left to pick up 21,000 *Ten Commandments Twice Removed* books, which were made available to them for distribution.

They later returned to the church where they were greeted by scores of volunteers. The volunteers went right to work praying over, labeling, and stuffing each book with information about the upcoming telecast aired by Three Angels Broadcasting Network via satellite from the Aire Crown Theater (Chicago, Illinois) as well as at their church on Sabbath, May 5.

Working from morning to night on Thursday, and concluding their work on Friday, their goal was to be ready for Sabbath. During the morning worship, the pastor appealed to the congregation to distribute the books immediately following their morning worship. He offered a prayer of consecration, and nearly everyone responded to the distribution call.

Lenna Crosby, distribution coordinator, divided the church members into teams. With maps in hand, each of the 12 bands left to contact residents of the entire 60624 ZIP Code near their church.

More than 17,000 books were distributed in one day. Some members used unique ways to distribute their books. One group asked the Pathfinder club to play drums to draw people's attention. Others pulled travel luggage loaded with books down the sidewalks as they distributed the books. Another used a shopping cart to carry a box door to door.



Alvin Ricks, John Virgil, and Michael Shelton helped load 21,000 books into the rented U-Haul. The books were taken to the Independence Boulevard Church to prepare for distribution.

One member, a Chicago Transit Authority bus driver, distributed two cases in one week while covering her route. Another member testified that a bus driver asked if he could have one, and then allowed each person on the bus to secure a book.

The members returned with testimonies of joyful experiences, and some went out more than once to cover streets on that day. The guest speaker for the day, William

E. Joseph Jr. (Detroit City Temple Church pastor), was pleasantly surprised that the members returned after the distribution to attend an evangelism training seminar and an evening preaching service.

Independence Boulevard Church members are now excited about partnering with Christ to draw individuals from their community to Him. Their goal is to hold a huge Revelation Seminar this summer in the same community. They now believe that leading their friends and neighbors to Christ is a process not an event. With the distribution of nearly 21,000 pieces of literature (seven pieces in seven days on April 7), and the 21,000 books also distributed, they believe the meetings this summer are right on time for the Holy Spirit to touch the hearts of those in their community.

Jacqueline Mason is the communication secretary at the Independence Boulevard Church in Chicago.





LA BENDICIÓN DE LOS CAMPESTRES

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“Cada campestre puede ser un banquete de amor desde el principio hasta el fin porque la presencia de Dios está con su pueblo” (Loma Linda Messages, p. 537).

Mi primera reunión con los adventistas no fue en una iglesia sino en un campamento. Un día mi mamá nos habló, a mis hermanos y a mí, informándonos que quería llevarnos a un retiro fuera de la ciudad por una semana. Eso me pareció bastante extraño porque no estábamos acostumbrados a salir de la ciudad de Nueva York. Pero como yo era joven, inmediatamente me gustó la idea.

Recuerdo la preparación que hicimos para ese viaje y que hasta empecé a contar los días que faltaban para nuestra partida. Sentía una gran curiosidad al salir porque no sabía qué esperar. Cuando por fin llegamos, me acuerdo como si fuera ayer, el letrero que vi a la entrada del campamento: “Camp Berkshire – Owned and Operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church”. Esa fue la primera vez que vi el nombre de la Iglesia Adventista. Recuerdo también haber hecho la pregunta: “¿Qué es esta iglesia?”

Al pensarlo ahora, me doy cuenta que mi mamá usó mucha sabiduría al llevar a nuestra familia al campamento en vez de a la iglesia para nuestro primer encuentro. Ella se había bautizado en la Iglesia Adventista el año anterior cuando aún vivíamos en Puerto Rico y estaba deseosa de que su familia se uniera a ella. Los hermanos le recomendaron que nos llevara al campestre hispano para preparar nuestros corazones. El resultado fue que nuestra familia gozó mucho en esa semana y yo me acerqué más a Dios.

En mi posición ahora como vicepresidente de la Unión tengo el privilegio de asistir a los campestres hispanos en las



La familia Galarza asiste al campestre hispano de la Asociación Regional del Lago

cinco asociaciones de la Unión del Lago. En estas reuniones veo a hermanos sonrientes y ansiosos de recibir las bendiciones del cielo. Veo a jóvenes hispanos reuniéndose con otros jóvenes para conversar y jugar. Veo a familias comer y platicar al aire libre sin la distracción de la televisión. Veo a administradores y pastores de todas las iglesias trabajar juntos, organizar y supervisar los campamentos

para que todo marche bien. Veo también a hermanos hacer su obra misionera y traer visitas al campestre para que éstas puedan acercarse más a Dios y a su pueblo.

Para mí es muy interesante ver cómo nuestros campestres adventistas resultan ser una gran fiesta espiritual. Sin duda es porque sentimos la presencia de Dios y de los ángeles en nuestro alrededor. Llegará el día cuando el Señor regresará en las nubes para llevarnos al cielo. Por mi parte yo espero que nosotros no dejemos de reunirnos ahora en nuestros campestres aquí, para prepararnos para ese gran campestre espiritual con Jesús.

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



Bathroom Angel

BY KARA KERBS

There is a story I love to hear my mother tell that happened when I was seven years old. Our church was having a series of meetings. The speaker and his wife, James and Sarah,¹ were parked next to the church in their travel camper. One day, Sarah became sick and was confined to her bed. Her health talk, music, and beautiful chalk drawings were missed each night.

Sarah was treated by doctors and improved, but her white blood cell count would not return to a safe and healthy level, leaving her feeling weak and susceptible to minor illnesses.

Sarah had struggled with her health for years, and she and her husband feared this sickness might result in death.

Church members were supportive during this time, providing food and care, but Sarah needed additional help soon to save her life. So a plan began to form in my mother's mind. She knew the benefits of hydrotherapy,² so she asked two nurses to administer it if Sarah was willing. The nurses agreed, and Sarah was tenderly brought to our house, where the bathtub was larger than her camper's bathtub.

After James and the pastor brought Sarah into the house, they prayed earnestly and asked God to intervene. James looked worried, and Sarah's eyes revealed a dull, lifeless look. Then the men left, and the treatment began. I remember seeing my mother and one of the nurses scurry back and forth to the kitchen for more hot water from the stove while the other nurse hovered over Sarah.

Once, while the nurse was replacing the cold cloth, Sarah looked over with a puzzled look and weakly asked, "How

many people does it take to care for me?" The three ladies just chuckled and thought nothing more of it. The bathroom in our home was very small and would seem crowded with three to four people in it.

Later, Sarah was carefully tucked into bed, her eyes already much brighter. Again, the nurses and my mother prayed with Sarah for her healing.

After the prayer, Sarah asked, "Who was the other young woman helping you?"

"Why, it was just the three of us," my mother stammered, looking puzzled.

"I saw the two nurses and you standing in the bathroom, but I saw a woman in a white uniform with short, dark hair behind you. Who was she?" Sarah implored.

Of course, there was no such woman in our house that day. It could only have been an angel.

God did save Sarah's life from this sickness. And my mother and the two nurses were blessed because they partnered with God in ministering to their sick friend.

Kara Kerbs is the new assistant women's dean at Indiana Academy and author of a new book, *A Way of Escape*, which includes other angel stories.

1. Not their actual names

2. Hydrotherapy is the therapeutic use of water in medical treatment of certain diseases. It may include alternating hot and cold compresses to relieve suffering.



God's Appointment for a Hug

BY RAMONA TRUBEY

My husband Charles and I cruised the Florida Turnpike on a typical warm and sunny day, feeling quite pleased with ourselves for choosing February to visit our daughter and her family in Orlando, since Indiana weather reports showed piles of snow with temperatures hovering near zero. We were enjoying our family fun in the sun, but decided that day we would visit a friend in a nursing home in Fort St. Lucie, Florida.

As we sped down the Turnpike, we suddenly spotted an airborne car from the oncoming traffic lanes heading straight for us. To our relief, the car hit the ground before clearing the guardrail, bounced around, then slid about 50 feet with tires smoking and throwing sod before it came to a stop. Charles immediately pulled our car to the side of the road, and waited for a break in traffic before he darted across the Turnpike to the scene.

With debris still swirling around the car, a young girl jumped out. She was crying, shaking, and wondering what had just happened. Not able to find her cell phone in her disoriented state, she asked Charles for his so she could call 911. I could see she was very upset and in need of comfort and support, so I also crossed the road. A police officer arrived about the same time.

As the police officer talked with her, we learned she was a college student on her way to work at Disney World, and she was very anxious to call her parents in Massachusetts. The experienced officer suggested that, since she and her car seemed to be fine except for a flat tire, she should wait to call them until she calmed down. The girl was near hysterics.

As the police officer stepped back, I stepped forward without saying a word, and just opened my arms. The girl

ran into my embrace, crying and shaking, and said, "Oh, thank you! Oh, thank you! I needed that hug." I stood there just holding her and comforting her until she calmed down.

Together, we found her cell phone, and I stayed by while she dialed her parents. After talking with them for a couple of minutes, she turned and fell into my arms again, just wanting to be held and hugged. She stayed there until the police officer asked her to come to his car while he completed the police report.

My husband and another spectator changed the flat tire. After dusting off his hands, Charles said, "Let's go." As we turned to leave, the young driver ran after us. She grabbed me and held me, and said, "Oh, thank you for stopping. Thank you for the help, and thank you so much for the hugs." I held her a few more moments before crossing the road to continue our journey.

We had an appointment with our friend in the nursing home, but had been unaware that God had another appointment for us to give loving hugs to one of His children. We may not know when they are needed, but God does.

Ramona Trubey is a member of the Cicero Seventh-day Adventist Church in Indiana.

Balloons with Scripture verses and handwritten notes attached to honor loved ones who died were released as a symbol of hope for survivors.



Healing Broken Hearts

BY DIANE THURBER

On November 6, 2005, shortly after 2:00 a.m., an F3 tornado struck Evansville and surrounding communities as residents slept. According to the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, the tornado with 200 mph wind speeds and a 41-mile path was the deadliest in the United States since 1999, and the deadliest in Indiana since 1974.



“By all indication, the death toll should have been several hundred. More than 1,000 homes were damaged or destroyed, hundreds were wounded, and 23 were killed instantly. One entire family was killed, and several who died were taken with multiples of other family members. Two more died in coming days. One 13-year-old boy became paralyzed,” recalls Debbie Burns, Evansville First Church member.

“The residents and neighboring communities quickly sprang into action. Amazing and heroic rescues took place, many unnoticed to the eyes of men,” Debbie added. “Approximately 200 different rescue units were called in to help, and thousands volunteered their time to clean up the 41 miles of destruction.”

The Indiana Adventist Community Services (ACS) Disaster Team members, who were state emergency trained, arrived

on the scene. Debbie says, “Many local agencies had never worked with Adventists before or seen what we do following a disaster. All eyes were on what the Adventists were doing and how they reached the hurting community. As Christ’s disciples, the volunteers hugged and prayed with the hurting, and provided food and non-food items.”

One of those remarkable volunteers was Debbie. She was eager to help restore a hurting community. “Debbie is a one-of-a-kind individual who has put her own health concerns on the back burner because of her desire to help others. She deserves the highest praise,” said Drew Speier, WFIE14 news anchor.



C.J. Martin lost his life when the tornado struck in southwest Indiana.

Debbie’s face became familiar in the Evansville community as she diligently worked with others to make sure no one forgot the precious lives lost, the suffering of those left behind, and the blessings and hope that have arisen out of the tragedy. She represented the Adventist church on the Long Term Recovery Committee of Southwestern Indiana (LTRCSI), a committee comprised of 47 churches and agencies. Debbie helped agencies and

community residents better understand the Adventist church’s desire to assist disaster recovery and relief efforts.

When LTRCSI initiated a survivor support group, Debbie provided encouragement and refreshments at the first few meetings. There, she met some individuals who she says continue to change her life. One of those individuals was Kathryn Martin, who buried three



Debbie Burns (right) from the Evansville First Seventh-day Adventist Church met C.J.’s mother, Kathryn Martin (left), and Bridgett Naas (center) when they worked together for survivors on the Remembering November 6th Committee.

family members, including her two-year-old son, Claude John “C.J.” Martin.

A bill was brought before the Indiana General Assembly called “C.J.’s Law,” named after Kathryn’s son. The bill requires all mobile homes sold after July 1 to be hardwired with a weather radio. Debbie accompanied Kathryn to Indianapolis where this bill was introduced, and she spoke on its merits. The bill passed, and is now at the federal level.

Another project born from the tragedy was “C.J.’s Bus,” a mobile recreational unit that will roll into disaster areas to entertain children and help them cope after natural or man-made disasters. When a national foundation was set



Debbie Burns is a board member on a national foundation which will manage C.J.'s Bus, a mobile recreational unit that will roll into disasters to help children cope after a natural or man-made disaster.



Debbie Burns

As they reached out to a hurting community, Adventist Community Services volunteers were recognized by many local agencies for their genuine concern and helpful assistance.

up for this project, Kathryn invited Debbie to accept a position on the founding board.

As they have worked together, Kathryn has learned more about Debbie's commitment to help. She said, "Debbie is a wonderful person, whose support is beyond anything I would have ever thought one person could provide. There is one specific time that I recall when I was feeling down, and needed to go to my son's grave. Debbie offered to go with me. When we arrived, Debbie held me as I cried, and then stated a prayer. She asked that we receive some help from God above for C.J.'s Bus. Approximately two hours later, I received a telephone call letting me know that someone donated a bus! Thank God for bringing Debbie Burns into my life."

In January 2006, Debbie says God impressed her to plan a one-year anniversary service. Randy Anderson, LTRCSI president, asked her to assemble a committee to help plan the service. Debbie became president of the "Remembering November 6th Committee."

Under Debbie's leadership, the committee raised money for area volunteer fire and rescue departments. One way they accomplished this was to publish and sell a 64-page, full-color commemorative book with photos and informa-

tion about the 25 victims, stories from survivors and rescue workers, and information and photos about the positive things that took place during the first ten months after the tragedy. Debbie, a professional photographer, took many photos published in the book.

When mothers who lost family members built the Tornado Memorial Park and a playground at Eastbrook Mobile Home Park, where most of the tornado victims' lives were claimed, Debbie was there. She says, "What a special day when the park was dedicated, and we all watched the children playing. An angel monument stands in the park listing all 25 names of those who perished, and there are four granite benches that bear the names of the five young children who died."



Debbie Burns (left) accompanied Kathryn Martin to Washington, D.C., where Kathryn was awarded the National Jefferson Award, The Jackie Kennedy Onassis Award, and The National Weather Service's Mark Trail Award. While there, Kathryn was able to announce that C.J.'s Law is now at the federal level.

Marsha Tweedy was devastated by the sudden deaths of her daughter, son-in-law, grandson, and soon-to-be-born granddaughter when the tornado struck. Marsha says, "Debbie was one of the first people I met at the opening of the Eastbrook Mobile Home Park playground and memorial. She was and has been very comforting to me. She would never tell me, 'I know how it is' or 'Just give yourself time to heal.' She would just hug me and cry with me. Her words were said with meaning and compassion. ... I also know that without her faith she wouldn't have the strength to do all that she has done."

The tornado destroyed Baker's Chapel in the tiny town of Degonia Springs, Indiana. The New York Says Thank You Foundation came on the anniversary of 9/11 to help rebuild the church. Debbie was there, too, and worked with community residents and new friends from throughout the country.

The first-year anniversary weekend brought the community together for a variety of events. Baker's Chapel members joyfully met in their new sanctuary. The Red Cross held a ribbon ceremony, where Debbie was honored to accept a basket of ribbons for the survivors. A radio station read the names of those who died, walls were raised on a Habitat for Humanity home for a survivor, a new flag was raised at sunrise at the new park, and many live TV interviews were conducted. Debbie sent countless updates to the media to keep the public informed of the events and projects.

The Remembrance and Reflection Service, held the night of the first-year anniversary, brought together more than 1,000 people to find hope and comfort. Five Seventh-day Adventists, including Debbie, participated in the service.

Bela Kobor, former Evansville First Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor, said, "Debbie has become a frequent face on our local TV news channel. This experience brought out talents and abilities in her that she never realized she had. Debbie has also brought some of the survivors to visit in our church and has formed lasting friendships with many of the survivors, always looking to help their felt needs. Because Debbie has suffered so much pain in her own life, she is able to empathize with the needs of others. Because of her community connections, our church has received a lot of positive PR." When Evansville First Church young people invited area residents to contribute to *Hope for Humanity* (formerly *Ingathering*), Bela says they "were able to testify about how our church, along with others in the community, helped after the disaster."

Kathy Durnell, a survivor and a colleague on the commemorative book project, said, "I know that many times all the work she put into these projects came at great personal sacrifice and a tremendous amount of stress for Debbie. There were times that it didn't look like one project or another was going to happen, but it was clear that because of her strong faith Debbie knew who to turn it all over to, and she did so on a regular basis.

"What is perhaps most amazing to me is the fact that neither she, her family, or the small town she lives in were directly affected by the disaster and that her only connection to the disaster was the love that she had for her community and the burden in her heart to help those who were hurting in the aftermath of the tornado. Everything she did brought a lot of healing to the survivors and to our community as a whole.

"All in all, I would say to Debbie the same thing I wrote on the certificates we gave to the rescue workers at their reception. 'All that you did will never be known ... but all that is known will never be forgotten!'"



A wall was erected at Baker's Chapel in DeGonia Springs, Indiana. Hundreds of people from around the country came to help rebuild the church destroyed by a tornado. Debbie Burns was there to lend a helping hand.

As Debbie worked with many people—survivors of disasters nationwide, those whose loved ones perished, rescue workers, community and government leaders, and the media—she partnered with Jesus to heal broken hearts. God opened doors for Debbie to witness of God's Sabbath, share the benefits of a healthy diet, demonstrate faith in what God can do, and tell of Christ's love for a hurting world.

Debbie reflected, "Along this journey, which is far from over, I have come to see what lies beyond our church doors. The church and world is full of hurting people, but it does not have to take a disaster to bring a community together, to share our faith, or to show how much Jesus loves each one. ... Each one of us has the opportunity to reach out and touch our neighbors, our church members, and our community. We all have the ability to share Jesus with others, to reach the hurting around us."

When asked whether her story could be told, Debbie humbly said, "It is God working through me. I hope other Adventists will see if one person can do it then they can do it, too. I pray it does encourage others to be involved. As we near the soon return of Jesus, we know that more disasters will happen. I encourage our members to get their family prepared, and get trained with Adventist Community Services Disaster Response. We did. Become a part of changing the world, one person at a time."

Diane Thurber is assistant director of communication for the Lake Union Conference.

To learn more about C.J.'s Bus, visit www.CJsBus.org. To purchase the commemorative book or a DVD of the Remembrance and Reflection Service, you may e-mail Debbie Burns at Nov6Memorial@aol.com.



SPLASH with God's Blessing

BY GARY BURNS

Late one night, over two bowls of ramen noodles, Richmond Pajela and Bryan Fellows began to share how much they needed Christ in their lives. Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) juniors at the time, they had struggled to find their divine purpose. As their conversation continued, they began to express their desire to share the gospel message with others, recognizing this would in turn help them grow closer to their Savior. That night a concept for a new ministry was born: SPLASH (Spiritually Passionate Leaders Always Sharing Him). Propelled by the leadership and teachings of their youth pastors, David Ferguson and Sergio Manente, they began to share their desire for ministry with their friends and school staff.

The Pennsylvania Conference got wind of the excitement and teamed up with the small but growing SPLASH team to conduct several small youth revivals in the conference. It was exciting for the young leaders to see what God was doing with their dream, but what was to come next was even more amazing.

As Richmond and Bryan neared the end of their senior year, they searched for a university that would support their desire to serve their Lord. As they “shopped” around, God seemed to point directly at Andrews University. After much prayer, they made the big move. Almost immediately, their small ministry took off with added fervor at their new location, making their dreams a greater reality than they ever thought possible.

After only one year at Andrews, the ministry has grown to include five departments within their organization: Missions, Leadership, Events, Evangelism, and Publications.

Their Missions department is planning a large evangelistic thrust for Spring 2008 where college youth will use their gifts in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Leadership department, with the help of Andrews Academy and Oliver Archer (Pioneer Memorial Church associate pastor for youth ministries), shares leadership principles to foster more leaders like themselves. The Events department is planning a major youth event called *Point Blank* at Wisconsin Academy at the end of September, dealing with the topic of God's purpose for our lives. This highly spiritual and musical event is aimed at reaching Adventist youth from across the Lake



Union as well as other Christian teens from the area. The Evangelism and Publications departments are working toward new ways to share Christ with young people, through media ministry, drama, books, and weeks of prayer.

One of the new and exciting additions to this amazing ministry is CPR³ (Crisis Point Response, Relief, Recovery). This ministry lends a loving hand when people are in need. When disaster strikes, CPR³ and its mobile staff are there to aid. Whether a house fire or a catastrophic disaster such as Hurricane Katrina, CPR³ will be there to be God's hands and feet (see www.cpr3.org).




Like the two-by-two teams of Scripture, Richmond Pajela (left) and Bryan Fellows encourage and support each other in their resolve to be radical disciples and leaders for Christ.

Bryan and Richmond started SPLASH because God had gifted them and motivated them to lead. They were not going to sit around and wait until some committee was inspired to give them an opportunity to lead. They stepped out in faith, and with God's blessing are changing the world. "We wanted to know God for who He said He was," says co-director Bryan Fellows. And that they have. Their goal is to inspire and ignite a flame in their peers and to share what a God-driven life can be like. Through innovative ways of evangelism, they are making a "splash" in communities across America.

It all started with two academy juniors, a couple packs of ramen noodles, and a desire to grow in God. What is God wanting to do with you?

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

Readers may learn more about SPLASH by visiting www.splashministries.com.



Coming to Wisconsin Academy
September 21-22, 2007

We know that as we praise our God, He will fill us with His presence and help us better understand what He wants us to do for Him. To help lead us is J.B. McMillen, a man dedicated to God who sees life from a different angle. Also, James Weigley is excited about sharing God and his personal experience as a college student at Southern Adventist University.

Musical Guests: Maria Long, *The Cause*

Can you think of a better place to be? Come join us as we worship our awesome God. Visit the point blank website at www.splashministries.com.



Spiritual Ambassadors Improve Quality of Life for Fellow Employees

Frieda Bertello has an eagle eye. The executive assistant to Tim Cook, CEO of Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, can spot a troubled employee a mile away.

As a “spiritual ambassador,” Bertello offers a healing hug, a note, or a pat on the back which translates to comfort, encouragement, and closeness to God. She’s not alone; there are nearly 200 spiritual ambassadors throughout the hospitals of Adventist Midwest Health—Adventist Hinsdale, Adventist La Grange Memorial, Adventist GlenOaks, Adventist Chippewa Valley, and soon, Adventist Bolingbrook.

“God gives us gifts to benefit the community,” Bertello said, “and I have

found that when you help someone else, *you* benefit as well.”

Bertello has provided many helpful prayers and songs for such events as the *Blessings of Hands* ceremony for nurses, *Cancer Survivor’s Day*, and the chapel dedication at her hospital. She is a big

believer in the healing power of a simple note or a gentle touch. “If I know someone is hurting, I will pray for guidance on how to help,” she said.

Begun in June 2004, this interdenominational program is open to any employee who is a good listener and is available to hear feelings non-judgmentally and empathize with a staff member’s experiences.

“Spiritual ambassadors value community, encouragement, and the integration of spirituality in their daily work,” said John Rapp, regional vice president, Ministries and Mission. “Each ambassador represents God and facilitates growth in the staff’s capacity to identify, connect with, and call upon

the Source of meaning, purpose, and hope in an employee’s life.”

“From sending birthday cards to fellow employees, leading daily devotionals, or offering prayers, the various deeds the ambassadors offer provide the same benefit—a spiritually nurturing environment,” said Tricia Treft, manager, Pastoral Care, Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital.

“In our hospitals, a person can bring their faith to work, which we all feel enhances our whole-person care,” said Treft, who leads the program for the region. “The resulting impact on the employee goes on, spiritually, to impact patients and enhance healing.”



Spiritual ambassadors Donna Kanak (left) and Frieda Bertello read a Bible passage in the chapel at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital.

For the past two years, Mercedes Bentley, a nurse in ICU (Intensive Care Unit) at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, has been the spiritual ambassador for her unit. Because she deals with life and death on a daily basis, Bentley believes her ambassador role extends not only to fellow employees, but to patients and families, too.

“I’m in a position to help in a crisis,” she said. “Sometimes, there’s a need for prayer and sometimes there’s nothing to say, and the best thing to do is just listen.”

Spiritual ambassador Donna Kanak, clinical educator and quality management specialist at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, has the opportunity to introduce new employees to the spiritual culture of her hospital.

“My role is a little different,” Kanak said. “Others are on their units and work with the same people over an extended time, but I teach nursing orientation, which is short-term. As a result, I like to begin each class with a devotional from *Daily Guideposts* which I feel sets the tone for new people.”

Kanak is blessed with a beautiful singing voice and occasionally sings at chapel services and special events, and from time to time she leads chapel services and records the prayer-for-the-day.

Julie L. Busch, public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health



Mercedes Bentley (far left) and Veronia Chicas (third from left) are spiritual ambassadors in Adventist GlenOaks Hospital’s ICU department. Here, they pose with Tricia Treft, chaplain, and John Rapp, regional vice president, Ministries and Mission.



International and Community Development Program Holds Intensives at Andrews

In May, students came to Andrews University from as far away as St. Lucia and South Africa for a three-week intensive in the Masters of Science in Administration (MSA) program in International Development. A total of 17 students attended three week-long classes in Developmental Anthropology, Concepts of Communication, and Research Methods and Applied Statistics.

This year, ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) South Africa sent three development workers to Andrews for the MSA intensive. One of them was Derek Glass, who, after several years of working in development, entered the MSA program looking to increase his effectiveness. He said, "I'm taking this intensive so that I can do my job in a more professional way—so that I can better help the world."

Fellow South African Randall Gelderbloem added that "the International Development program taught grant writing and other skills which are very relevant and will be a big help in Africa."

Oystein LaBianca is coordinator of graduate programs in the Behavioral Sciences department, which houses the MSA program. He has seen the May intensive develop since its inception three years ago, and believes that the

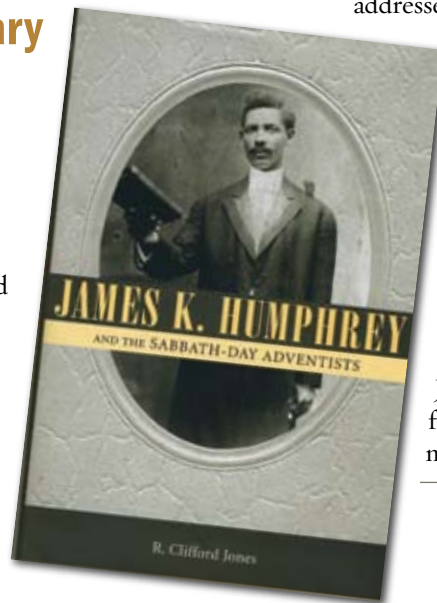
program's strength lies in its diversity. He says, "The success of the intensive is in no small part due to the exciting mix of students—those from North America with a passion to enter the development field, those from overseas already full-time employed in community development work, and our on-campus students. The latter group seems also to be especially pleased with the intensive as they, too, are finding the mix of students to be very enriching."

And LaBianca sees only more growth and improvement ahead. He says, "I believe as word of this exciting program keeps spreading, our enrollment will keep growing, and Andrews in May will become the place to be in the spring for a lot of people from all around the world."

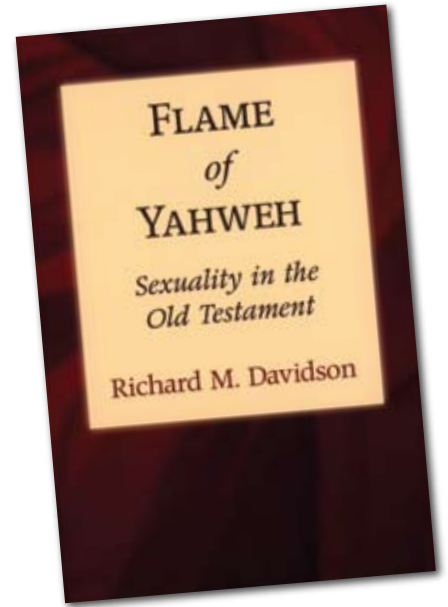
Robert Moncrieff, student news writer, University Relations

Two Seminary Professors Publish Books

James K. Humphrey and the Sabbath-day Adventists, by R. Clifford Jones, Ph.D., is the story of an African-American minister who broke from the Seventh-day Adventist Church during the Harlem Renaissance.



Robert Moncrieff, student news writer, University Relations



According to the dust jacket, Humphrey's break with the Seventh-day Adventists "provides clues to the state of black-white relationships in the denomination at the time."

Jones is a professor of Christian Ministry, and is the associate dean of the Seminary. He also serves as the coordinator of the African-American concentration in the Doctor of Ministry program.

Flame of Yahweh: Sexuality in the Old Testament, by Richard M. Davidson, is a study of gender relationships and sexual activity in the Old Testament. Topics addressed include sexual-

ity in Eden, the elevation versus denigration of women, exclusivity versus adultery and premarital sex, and sexuality in the Song of Songs. Davidson is the chair of the Old Testament Department, and J. N. Andrews Professor of Old Testament Interpretation.

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Project ACE Expected to Produce Software Experts

Indiana—In an attempt to better prepare Indiana Academy (IA) students for the ever-changing world of technology, IA will launch *Project ACE* this fall. The goal is to provide quality training for students in Adobe products that will allow them to become Adobe Certified Experts (ACE). “An ACE is an individual who has passed an Adobe Product Proficiency Exam for a specific Adobe software product. ACEs are eligible to promote themselves to clients or employers as highly skilled, expert-level users of Adobe software. The ACE designation is a recognized worldwide standard for excellence in Adobe software knowledge” (Source: www.adobe.com).

As students become ACE certified, they will have the potential to increase their earning power, for both academy and college, by entering the field of web-page design. IA’s *Project ACE* curriculum will include instruction in the following Adobe programs:

Dreamweaver CS3, FlashCS3, and Photoshop CS3.

In order to complete this plan, the following materials are required: Adobe Creative Suite 3, 25 new Computer Lab CPUs, and 25 computer monitors. If you would like to partner with Indiana Academy in this endeavor, or if you have any specific questions about the details of this project, please feel

free to contact Peter Cousins, principal, at 317-984-3575, ext. 222, or e-mail pmcousins@verizon.net.

Peter Cousins, Indiana Academy principal



Students in fifth through eighth grades at the Woodland Adventist School researched countries where ADRA has a presence. Rachel Onjukka, grade 7, shows her poster along with a Vietnamese food display.

Woodland International Food Fair Benefits ADRA

Michigan—On Sunday, March 25, students of Woodland Seventh-day Adventist School hosted an International Food Fair.

First, each student picked a country to research. Everyone in fifth through eighth grades did a research paper on



Rachel Moravetz with her dad David, who was a missionary in Thailand, display some items from Thailand.

their country, and ninth graders did a PowerPoint presentation of their country. After they finished their papers, they each picked an Adventist Development & Relief Agency International (ADRA) project in their country. Then they worked on posters and decorations for their booth.

The afternoon of the fair, students arrived early at the church to set up. They set up tables, helped others with decorations, and set out their food. By 4:00 p.m., people started to arrive. The first stop was the exchange center. There, visitors received passports and exchanged dollars for tickets. The rate of exchange was \$1 for four tickets.

“Always get your passports stamped at



Constance Prince chose to represent Rwanda as her country. The children raised \$488 for ADRA at the International Food Fair.

each booth you visit,” they were told, “otherwise you will be caught by the passport control agents and be heavily fined!” One time, just for fun, Tom Onjukka spoke through the microphone, “April Moravetz, you have been caught illegally traveling without a passport. Please report to the passport control agents to pay your fine!” Everybody laughed and laughed at that!

The students really enjoyed the fair and were glad they could do something to help other people. All together they raised \$488 for ADRA. Visit www.adra.org to learn how you may support ADRA projects.

Sarah Moravetz, Woodland Seventh-day Adventist School student





[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Du Quoin Church Adopts Local Police Department

Illinois—On Sabbath evening, April 14, Jose Medina, pastor; Donna Sills, church treasurer; and members of the Du Quoin Seventh-day Adventist Church “adopted” the Du Quoin Police Department. All but three of the department’s officers were present at the special candlelight ceremony where the church promised to pray for and support the police officers.

The ceremony included special gifts, recognition of the officers, and a promise by the church to remember their birthdays and special holidays as well as an open invitation to use church facilities. A local attorney, Mark Macklin, donated his time to draft the ceremonial adoption papers.

The police officers, including James Booker, chief, and Mike Ward, assistant chief, were surprised and impressed by the warmth and generosity of the Du Quoin Adventist Church members, and promised to visit the church and build a closer working relationship with the Adventist community. The pastor praised the work of the police and assured them the church would pray often for their safety and judgment when dealing with the public.

The police precinct adoption plan was adapted from the original model that was the brainchild of Three Angels Broadcasting Network production manager, C.A. Murray, when he served

as communication director for the Northeastern Conference in New York City. Earlier Murray discussed his idea with then New York City mayor and current Republican presidential candidate,

Rudolph Giuliani, who liked the concept and worked with him to implement it in the days before and after the infamous World Trade Center terrorist bombings in 2001. “The adoption plan helped establish the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a caring, community-focused organization in a city that can sometimes be very impersonal,” says Murray. Some 30 of the 60-plus Adventist churches in the city followed suit, adopting police and even fire departments. One year later, on the first anniversary of the bombings, the Adventist church was the only religious institution to be asked to place an ad in the *New York Daily News* special anniversary edition.

The *Du Quoin Evening Call* covered the local adoption in a front-page story. As the ceremonies concluded, the Du Quoin police officers stood in a line in the hall, humbly shaking hands and thanking church members for their Christian love and thoughtfulness.

The Du Quoin Seventh-day Adventist Church communication department

[UNION NEWS]

Camp Akita Bike-A-Thon Connects Individuals to Jesus

Illinois—The eighth annual Camp Akita Bike-A-Thon came to a conclusion on Sunday, May 20, at Marseilles, Ill., after the completion of the last ride in the northern part of the state. The event started in Southern Illinois on April 22. More than 125 participat-

ed in the two 50-mile bike rides.

The annual bike-a-thon is not only a fund-raiser, but also a friend-raising event. This year more than \$15,700 was raised to build “Kabins 4 Kids” at Camp Akita. Prizes were awarded to those who raised the most from their sponsors. Top prize winners this year were twins, Enrique and Ariana Vaughn, who rode in memory of their grandmother, Erna Kleiboer. Logan Foll took second place, and Larry Welch, third.



Norma Gregory completed 50 miles in Southern Illinois on her newly-acquired recumbent bike.

Illinois Conference employee, Norma Gregory, took first prize among staff who participated. Riding in both parts of the state for her sponsors, she put 100 miles on her newly-acquired recumbent bike. She rides and raises money each year so she can give one week of summer camp to a very special young person. Most of Norma’s sponsors were people from the community, including those her retired husband, Elmer, visits with at McDonald’s restaurant each morning for breakfast. One of Elmer’s breakfast friends logged on to the Internet (www.campakita.com) and looked up all the Camp Akita details. When invited to go to Camp Akita, Elmer’s friend decided it was time she saw the camp that Norma and her husband, Elmer, talked about all the time. At the camp she met youth director Jeff Deming. Learning that he would preach at the Gregorys’ church the following Sabbath, she accepted the invitation to attend church with them.



Twins Enrique Vaughn (left) and Ariana Vaughn (right) were first place winners. They raised the most money from their sponsors to build "Kabins 4 Kids" at Camp Akita. Enrique and Ariana rode in memory of their grandmother, Erna Kleiboer. They are pictured here with their mother, Luzetta Vaughn.

Soni Macy participated in the ride as a volunteer and produced a DVD of the bike-a-thon. A couple who sponsored Macy visited Camp Akita and volunteered there after the bike-a-thon. The couple indicated they were looking for a special project to get involved with, and quite possibly a new church family.

Adventist Midwest Health provided T-shirts for the bike-a-thon. The T-shirts proudly displayed the organization's logo and name. Riders who wore them were often asked about the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Several districts in Southern Illinois had a camp-out the weekend of their ride, and a picnic on the day of the ride. Next year, Camp Akita Bike-A-Thon coordinators plan to invite residents of the communities all along both trails to join in the ride, which will give members one more opportunity to "Touch Every 1 for Jesus."

Rachel Terwilligar, assistant to the president for communication, Illinois Conference

First Wisconsin Adventist Radio Convention Is Successful

Wisconsin—On March 11, 34 participants gathered for the first Annual Wisconsin Adventist Radio Convention in Rice Lake, Wis. The operators

of nine low power FM stations from Minnesota and Wisconsin gathered to pray, to learn, and to share. The stations have a combined potential listening audience of 310,000.

Don Martin, a Seventh-day Adventist attorney from Washington, D.C., who specializes in FCC (Federal Communications Commission) statutes, was the featured speaker at the conference.

Len Fast, from Rice Lake, convened the meeting. Fast has provided expert consulting and support services to Christian radio operators throughout the area. Although his livelihood comes from health care administration, his heart is in Christian radio.

Attendees were instructed about FCC regulations, rules, and the possibility of inspections. Many indicated it was good they did not know everything about running a radio station before they began or they might have been overwhelmed.

The most thrilling time of the conference came during a sharing time. The Superior (Wis.) Church had no money for a radio station. Gerry Carlson won a concrete pump at a trade show. He tried to run a business with it, but the business was a "no go." Carlson decided to dedicate the pump to God for the radio station, and it sold the next day. This sale brought in thousands of dollars for the radio station.

In Moose Lake, Minn., a family was baptized after listening to the station, and the lady of the house is now the station manager.

Stanley Gustatson had recently become a Christian and was enthusiastic to grow in the Word. One day, he noticed a sign in front of the Tomahawk (Wis.) Seventh-day Adventist Church and tuned his radio to try out the church's Christian radio station. (The station is a low power FM station and



Chuck Kohley, Tomahawk Church pastor, and Stanley Gustatson, the first person to be baptized in Wisconsin as a result of radio ministry, stood next to the church sign that first drew Stanley's attention to Christian radio.

part of the Adventist network, *Radio 74*. Church members erected the station in 2003 with guidance from Ron Myers, director of *Radio 74*.) As Gustatson listened to the station, he rediscovered *Amazing Facts*, a program he had heard a few times before, and other programs which helped him to grow in the Word.



Attorney Don Martin provided expert instruction in radio operation and FCC regulations for attendees of the Adventist radio convention held in Rice Lake, Wis.

In Fall 2005, Gustatson attended the Tomahawk Church a few times. Then in Spring 2006 he attended an evangelistic series conducted by Chuck Kohley, Tomahawk Church pastor. He was baptized, and became the first baptism in Wisconsin as a result of radio ministry. Gustatson is now one of the Sabbath school teachers in the Tomahawk Church and actively shares his faith in the community.

Chuck Kohley, Tomahawk Church pastor, and James Fox, Wisconsin Conference communication director

Sabbath School Workshop Challenges Leaders

Michigan—A bold Sabbath school effort took place on Sabbath, May 19, at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy. Ninety Sabbath school teachers and leaders representing 34 area churches gathered for the West Michigan Regional Joint Sabbath School Workshop.

The seminar offered training for all Sabbath school demographics—children, youth, young adult, and adult. Presenters included Linda Gallimore, Michigan Conference Children's Ministry director; Judy Shull, Grand Rapids Adventist Academy teacher; Ron Whitehead, Center for Youth Evangelism director; Angelo Austria, WAYIM (Warren Adventist Youth Impact Ministry) executive director and Adventist Youth Network liaison; and Paul Pellandini, Michigan Conference Adult Sabbath school director.

Whitehead addressed more than 40 leaders and teachers as he presented the seven principles for youth ministries. He opened by asking, "When does a young person in your church ever get a visit?"

"When he is in trouble," someone answered.

"And what does that say about how you value a young person in your Sabbath school class? This generation evaluates you by the kind of relation-

ship you maintain with them," Whitehead stated. He added, "The Adventist church is in crisis with its ability to hold its youth and young adults between the ages of 16 and 35. Over 51 percent are

leaving the church, and Sabbath school leaders are so important to help turn this sad story around." As Whitehead spoke, Benny Moore of the Wyoming Spanish Church translated Whitehead's message to some Spanish-speaking leaders.

At Gallimore's breakout session, entitled, "Nuts & Bolts for Beginners, Kindergarten, and Primary," she taught how to structure a complete Sabbath school program. Many ideas were presented on how to use a thematic approach to the Bible stories to enrich the Sabbath school.

Shull shared ways to structure the Sabbath school program for older children. She emphasized the importance of regular Bible study with our young people each week, and reviewed the *Real Time Faith* Earliteen lessons, an alternative to the *Grace Links* curriculum.

Other seminars stressed the significance of missions and Sabbath school, provided an overview of Ellen G. White's instructions for Sabbath school from the compilation *Sabbath School Worker*, and emphasized the importance of using different teaching techniques to reach the many personalities in Sabbath school each week. A question and answer time with a group discussion followed.

Austria and five young adults from his Warren Church Sabbath school group shared their vision for how to prepare and



At her workshop, Judy Shull reviewed the *Real Time Faith Earliteen* lessons, an alternative to the *Grace Links* curriculum.

involve young people in the mission of the church in Michigan and beyond.

Sabbath school resources used at the Wyoming Church were shared: a budget, a spending requisition form, a quarterly adult program schedule edited on the Internet, and a one-stop Sabbath school web resource for all divisions, which includes links for Sabbath school lessons, teacher's helps, programs, supplies, and extracurricular activities. The Wyoming Adult Sabbath school website may be viewed at www.sabbathschool.pbwiki.com.

Afterward, attendees stated how much they were challenged, blessed, and encouraged by the workshop, and they affirmed plans for annual conferences. Alta Rop, Muskegon Church Sabbath school superintendent, said, "The West Michigan Sabbath School Workshop helped me a lot. It has inspired me to conduct more Sabbath School Council meetings."

A regional training event, "Teaching Methods for Sabbath School," is being planned for later this year. The next West Michigan training event is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 1, 2008. Gary Swanson, associate director of Sabbath school and personal ministries for the World Church, and other national youth leaders have committed to be presenters. For more information, contact Phyllis Thomas at pthomas@misda.org or call 517-316-1500.

Tom Mejeur, Wyoming Church general Sabbath school superintendent and West Michigan Regional Joint Sabbath School Workshop planning partner



Ron Whitehead, Center for Youth Evangelism director, addressed workshop attendees. He said, "The Adventist church is in crisis with its ability to hold its youth and young adults between the ages of 16 and 35. Over 51 percent are leaving the church, and Sabbath school leaders are so important to help turn this sad story around."

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. Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 43.

Anniversaries



Martin and Irene Fishell celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 18, 2007. A family celebration will be held at a later date. They have been members of the Pioneer Memorial (Mich.) Church for 20 years, and the Berrien Springs (Mich.) Village Church for 40 years.

Martin Fishell and Irene Bolenbaugh were married June 18, 1947, in Allegan, Mich., by Pastor Donald Hunter. Martin has been a Certified Public Accountant; is a veteran of World War II; and currently is Planned Giving/Trust officer with Adventist Frontier Missions. Irene has been an elementary school teacher.

The Fishell family includes David and Karen Fishell of Grand Junction, Colo.; Randy and Diana Fishell of Smithsburg, Md.; and five grandchildren.



Kenneth and Joann Grubb celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 27, 2007, by a reception in the fellowship hall at the Bloomington (Ind.) Seventh-day Adventist Church. They have been members of the Bloomington Church for 45 years.

Kenneth Grubb and Joann Hacker were married May 18, 1957, in Dolan, Ind., by the late Hugh W. Scales. Kenneth is retired from Otis Elevator. Joann is a homemaker.

The Grubb family includes Tammy and

Dan Hays of Spencer, Ind.; Aaron and Robin Grubb of Morgantown, Ind.; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.



Jim and DeLauna McKee celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 30, 2007, by a "Campmeeting at Sea" Cruise in the Caribbean Sea. They have been members of the Pioneer Memorial (Mich.) Church for 34 years.

Jim McKee and DeLauna Keith were married June 30, 1957, in Sharon, Kan., by Pastor Monte Culver. Jim has been a high school math and science teacher for 39 years, the last 22 at Andrews Academy, Berrien Springs, Mich. Following retirement he taught physics for the Berrien County Math and Science Center for two fall quarters. DeLauna has been an elementary school secretary for 25 years, the last 22 at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School, Berrien Springs. She enjoyed helping plan and sponsor the eighth grade Outdoor Education Week at Camp AuSable (Grayling, Mich.) for many years.

The McKee family includes Ron and Karla McKee of Eureka, Calif.; and two grandchildren.

Weddings

Jaime R. Razzouk and Patrick M. Ahler were married Apr. 29, 2007, in Hinsdale, Ill. The ceremony was performed by Pastor John B. Rapp.

Jaime is the daughter of Akram and Sinka Razzouk of Hinsdale, and Patrick is the son of Michael and Diane Ahler of Palm Bay, Fla.

The Ahlers are making their home in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Obituaries

ARANY, Robert H., age 87; born June 26, 1919, in New York, N.Y.; died May 22, 2007,

in Flat Rock, N.C. He was a member of the Green Bay (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mary K. "Kitty" (Gunn); sons, Thomas R. and Larry B.; sister, Dorothy Chapman; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jim Hakes, and interment was in Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery, Black Mountain, N.C.

BERRY, Lois M. (Patterson), age 95; born Jan. 13, 1912, in Ithaca, Mich.; died June 20, 2007, in St. Louis, Mich. She was a member of the Alma Twin Cities Church, Alma, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Truman T. Jr.; daughters, Faye McDonald and Carol McGuire; sister, Nora Mae Smith; eight grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and 20 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Oscar Montez and James Micheff, and interment was in Richlawn Cemetery, Breckenridge, Mich.

COBB, Verna J. (Hall), age 59; born May 25, 1947, in Owosso, Mich.; died Jan. 30, 2007, in Traverse City, Mich. She was a member of the Grayling (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Jeff and Joe; daughters, Judy Kunkel and Rebecca Tenold; mother, Nina (Shepherd) Hall Clark; brothers, Duane, Don, and Gene Hall; sisters, Jessi Wold and Tina Maccaroni; and two grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Gene Hall, with private inurement.

EWERS, Arlys A. (Weeden), age 80; born July 1, 1926, in Hillsboro, Wis.; died Nov. 14, 2006, in Richland Center, Wis. She was a member of the Richland Center Church.

Survivors include her sons, Orville, Blaine, Sam, Branson, Duane, and Wayne; sisters, Shirley Anderson, Patty Karrercker, and Beatrice Joseph; and 11 grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Scofield, and interment was in Richland Center Cemetery.

FITCH, Rachel R. (Dean), age 96; born July 30, 1910, in Highland Twp., Mich.; died May 7, 2007, in Frankenmuth, Mich. She was a member of the Otter Lake (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Dale H.; daughters, Jacquelyn J. Acre and Janice L. Jones;

eight grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Melvin Santos, and interment was in Otter Lake Cemetery.

FOLL, LoyGeorge, age 94; born Feb. 2, 1913, in Noble, Ill.; died Mar. 29, 2007, in Avon Park, Fla. He was a member of the Noble Church.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth (Nelson); daughters, Mary Knapp and Susan Wyatt; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor George Brown, and inurement was in Green Hill Cemetery, Noble.

HOOD, Consuelo G. (Gonzalez), age 87; born Aug. 29, 1919, in El Paso, Texas; died May 13, 2007, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Eddy M., Paul W., John R. Sr., and Henry D.; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Arne Swanson and Dwight Nelson, and inurement was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

JOSLIN, Audrey M. (Wirth), age 74; born Sept. 11, 1932, in Evart, Mich.; died Apr. 5, 2007, in Edmore, Mich. She was a member of the Edmore Church.

Survivors include her husband, Ralph; son, Jeff; daughters, Jeannette Smith, Laurie Koch, and Patty Greene; brother, Robert Wirth; sisters, Kathryn Rajeci, Ellen Conklin, and Marjorie Carmichael; and nine grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Gotshall, and interment was in Cedar Lake (Mich.) Cemetery.

KROULIK, Ruth M. (Wilkinson), age 87; born Feb. 15, 1920, in Harrisville, Mich.; died Apr. 26, 2007, in Saginaw, Mich. She was a member of the Saginaw Church.

Survivors include her sons, Dale, Kenneth, and Erwin; daughter, Esther Trombley; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Quillin, and inurement was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Saginaw.

MERCER, Jeanette R. (Suessmith), age 76; born May 9, 1930, in Lacrosse, Wis.; died Mar. 22, 2007, in Warren, Mich. She was a member of the Warren Church.

Survivors include her husband, William H.; son, Thomas; daughter, Linda Ghilardi; brothers, Walter and Leonard Suessmith; and four grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Paul Larsen, and interment was in Oak Grove Cemetery, Lacrosse.

MORRISON, Kenneth C., age 81; born Feb. 5, 1926, in Mattoon, Ill.; died May 20, 2007, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia (Harker); and brothers, Donald, Jerry, and Wayne.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Larry Lichtenwalter, and interment will be at a later date at Ft. Custer National Cemetery, Augusta, Mich.

ODURO, Doris Ababio, age 40; born July 2, 1966, in Asotwe, Ghana, Africa; died Mar. 20, 2007, in Platteville, Wis. She was a member of the Lancaster (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her husband Samuel Owusu-Ababio; sons, Aaron, Michael, and David Ababio; daughter, Rachel Ababio; mother, Cecelia (Afriyie) Oduro; brother, Michael Oduro; and sisters, Joyce Williams and Sarah Oduro.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors David Scofield, Don Corkum, and Samuel Koranteng-Pipim, and interment was in Greenwood Cemetery, Platteville.

PARKHURST, Eugene L., age 72; born Feb. 5, 1935, in Anderson, Ind.; died Mar. 20, 2007, in Melbourne, Fla. He was a member of the Indianapolis (Ind.) Glendale Church.

Survivors include his wife, Eve (Szekely); sons, Gregory and Jorey; and daughter, Shawn Guadalupe.

Memorial services were conducted by Wayne Gosling, and interment was in Florida Memorial Funeral Home and Cemetery, Rockledge, Fla.

RICE, George, age 78; born Dec. 16, 1928, in Coming, Ark.; died May 5, 2007, in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.

Survivors include his sons, Russel and Carl; seven grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bryant, and interment was in Coming Cemetery.

SCHILSTRA, Albert, age 95; born May 13, 1911, in Westfield, N.D.; died Feb. 28, 2007, in Wyoming, Mich. He was a member of the Wyoming Church.

Survivors include his son, Chuck; daughters, Carol Bishop and Judy Fredrick; eight grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Phil Colburn and David Glenn, and interment was in Grandville (Mich.) Cemetery.

SMITH, Earl H., age 71; born Jan. 20, 1936, in Clare, Mich.; died Apr. 6, 2007, in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was a member of the Lakeview (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Edie (Stevens); sons, Karl, Bill, Nick, and Robert; stepson, Glen Avery; daughters, Peggy Howard, Gail Pellot, and Janie Smith; stepdaughters, Marie Home, Robin Vest, Debra Vallejo, and Colleen Smith; brothers, Ray, Duane, and Russell; sister, Donna Smith; 18 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor David Gotshall, with private interment.

STUART, Crystal C. (Tripp), age 87; born Dec. 23, 1918, in Shell Lake, Wis.; died Jan. 9, 2006, in Rhinelander, Wis. She was a member of the Clearwater Lake (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Paul; daughters, Dale Parker and Sherince Parker Towne; brother, Vernon Tripp; sisters, Opal Carlson, Ruby Amett, Violet Rucker, and Joy Parker; 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Mihail Baciu, and interment was in Spooner (Wis.) Cemetery.

SWOGGER, Evelyn M. (Smith), age 82; born Jan. 21, 1925, in Flint, Mich.; died June 7, 2007, in Durand, Mich. She was a member of the South Flint Church, Burton, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Mark A.; daughters, Brenda Stroub and Karen Tolhurst; sisters, Maradean Fischer and Ruth A. Groesser; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

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

THOMAS, Richard J., age 74; born July 14, 1932, in Russell, Ark.; died Apr. 14, 2007, in Flint, Mich. He was a member of the South Flint Church, Burton, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Rose L. (Heckman); sons, Keith and Chuck; daughters, Rose Dowling and Lynette Thomas; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

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

TOWNE, Sherince "Sherry" (Stuart) Parker, age 63; born Oct. 5, 1943, in Spooner, Wis.; died Oct. 14, 2006, in Rhinelander, Wis. She was a member of the Rhinelander Church.

Survivors include her sons, Wayne and Russell; daughters, Theresa Kullman, Anita "Susie" Blotnicki, and Cherie Parker; brother, Paul Stuart; sister, Dale Parker; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Chuck Kohley, and private interment was in Spooner Cemetery.

UTZ, Mary Ann L. (Curtis), age 86; born Apr. 12, 1921, in Fox, Ky.; died May 2, 2007, in Spencer, Ind. She was a member of the Spencer Church.

Survivors include her husband, John B.; daughters, Sylvia E. Haygood, Ginny Tracy, and Gleda Sejanovic; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dean Whitlow, and interment was in Splinter Ridge Cemetery, Spencer.

WAAGEN, Clairece V. (Riley), age 84; born Sept. 23, 1922, in Gays Mills, Wis.; died Feb. 1, 2007, in Poplar Bluff, Mo. She was a member of the Beloit (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Floyd Jr., Benjamin, and Conrad; daughters, Kathryn Snell, Hattie Henrics, and Debra Landsness; brother, Rodney Riley; sisters, Barbara Riley and Nellie Steele; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Larry Mahlum, and interment was in Milton Junction (Wis.) Cemetery.

WALLER, Josephine V. (Hendrickson), age 85; born Apr. 28, 1921, in Beloit, Wis.; died Dec. 8, 2006, in Beloit. She was a member of the Beloit Church.

Survivors include her sons, Edward and Thomas; daughters, Trina Pierce and Irene Bender; sisters, Leona Babb, Donna Newman, and Hattie Hendrickson; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Pavel Goia, and interment was in Flora Lawns Memorial Gardens Cemetery, South Beloit, Wis.

WILKINSON, Gerald H., age 89; born May 14, 1917, in Birch Run, Mich.; died Apr. 13, 2007, in Cleveland, Tenn. He was a member of the Saginaw (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Marian (Satterlee); son, Jim; daughters, Clarice Esquilla and Irene Wilkinson; sister, Ruth Kroulik; seven grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Paul Smith and Jack Blanco, and interment was in Chattanooga (Tenn.) National Cemetery.

Sunset Calendar

	Aug 3	Aug 10	Aug 17	Aug 24	Aug 31	Sep 7
Berrien Springs, Mich.	9:02	8:53	8:43	8:32	8:22	8:11
Chicago, Ill.	8:08	7:59	7:49	7:38	7:27	7:16
Detroit, Mich.	8:50	8:41	8:32	8:21	8:10	7:58
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:56	8:49	8:40	8:29	8:19	8:08
La Crosse, Wis.	8:27	8:17	8:07	7:56	7:44	7:32
Lansing, Mich.	8:58	8:49	8:38	8:28	8:16	8:05
Madison, Wis.	8:17	8:08	7:58	7:47	7:35	7:25
Springfield, Ill.	8:11	8:02	7:53	7:43	7:33	7:23

Classifieds

All ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$27 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$37 per insertion for all others. A form is available at www.lakeunionherald.org for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order/check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors.

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As the sun was setting,
people brought to Jesus all who were suffering
any kind of sickness. And with His touch,
He healed every one.

— LUKE 4:40 —

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For up-to-date information and schedule of events, please visit our website at www.andrews.edu/alumni.

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Announcements

Churches, schools, conferences, institutions, and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at 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.

Andrews University

A.U. Alumni—New Job Placement Website Available! Looking for a job or in the position to hire Andrews alumni? Andrews' new job placement website is for you. To post or search for full time, part time, seasonal employment, and internship possibilities, go to www.collegecentral.com/andrews. Choose the **alumni icon** if searching for a job or the **employer icon** if interested in posting a job. We are excited about this new service and the possibilities it offers our current students and alumni alike. Your participation, especially as employers, is greatly appreciated in making this service a success.

Indiana

Enroll at Indiana Academy (IA): If you want to attend an Adventist academy with a strong spiritual emphasis and an excellent academic program, IA is the place for you! Unique work opportunities such as Certified Nursing Assistant training and a year-round Magabook program help to make an Adventist education at IA affordable. Visit our website at www.iasda.org, or call Bill Hicks, development director, at 317-984-3575 ext. 228, to learn more about IA or to request an enrollment package and consultation.

Canoe Trip: Join Indiana youth on a summer canoe trip down the Current River in South-Central Missouri, **Aug. 9-12**. For information regarding this trip, which is sponsored by the Indiana Conference youth department, go to www.trcamp.org and click on youth events.

Home School Outdoor Education Week is **Aug. 20-24** at Timber Ridge Camp. For additional information or to register, contact Dean Whitlow at dwhitlow@hughes.net or 812-829-2507.

Hispanic Family Retreat is **Aug. 31-Sept. 3** at Timber Ridge Camp. For information, contact Sheri DeWitt at the Indiana Conference office at 317-844-6201.

Prayer Conference for local church leadership is **Sept. 14-15** at Timber Ridge Camp. Learn how to use prayer to strengthen your church's spiritual growth and about effective evangelism in the community. This will be accomplished by practicing prayer as well as learning about it. For registration information, contact Sheri DeWitt at the Indiana Conference office at 317-844-6201.

Women's Ministries Fall Weekend Retreat is **Sept. 21-23** at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park. Guest speaker will be Carla Baker, North American Division women's ministries director. For registration information, contact Julie Loucks at the Indiana Conference office at 317-844-6201; or Shari Blackburn, Indiana Conference women's ministries director, at 260-450-2534.

The Indiana Academy (IA) Alumni Association welcomes all graduates/attendees to the IA campus for Alumni Homecoming, **Oct. 12-13**. Honor classes are 1957, '67, '82, and '97. In addition, the classes of 1977 and 1987 will be recognized. Special recognition will be given to the golden-age classes of 1929-1956. For more information, contact Jimmy Arnett, alumni president, at 219-629-1177,

or e-mail jimmyArnett@vcf.com. Or you may contact Bill Hicks, IA development director, at 317-984-3575 ext. 228, or e-mail bhicks@isda.org. As part of the weekend activities, the 17th annual Alumni Golf Classic and Auction will be held Fri., Oct. 12. For information regarding the golf/auction event, contact Lawrence Johnson at 765-649-7256, or e-mail ljohnson@mustinbuilders.com.

Lake Region

The Adventist Disaster Response Training Course entitled "Donation Operation" will be offered **Sept. 7-9** at the St. Paul Sharon Church. Upon completion of the course, attendees will receive a certificate. The church location is 80 Leech St., St. Paul, Minn. For more information about the course, contact Ralph Shelton, Lake Region Conference ACS director, by phone at 773-331-0911, or e-mail rschel412@aol.com.

The Capitol City Church will celebrate 100 years of ministry with a Grand-Gala-Centennial-Homecoming-Celebration-Banquet in the city of Indianapolis on Sun., **Oct. 21**, at 4:00 p.m. All members of our constituent and regional churches are invited. The venue for this historical event will be the illustrious Oakhill Mansion in Carmel. The theme for our centennial celebration is "Remembering One Hundred Years, Celebrating the Present, Embracing the Future—With Jesus as Our Guide." For more information and reservations, contact Leon Bryant, pastor, at 317-714-2957; Clayton Loney, chairman, at 317-946-4668; Ann Ross, asst. chair, at 317-545-0942; George Austin, asst. chair, at 317-255-1155; or Sylvia Wilson, church secretary, at 317-251-1053. During the year, all former pastors and former members are invited to join us for monthly High Sabbath Celebration days as well as for the banquet event. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lake Union

Offerings:

- Aug 4** Local Church Budget
 - Aug 11** Oakwood College/Andrews University/Loma Linda University
 - Aug 18** Local Church Budget
 - Aug 25** Local Conference Advance
- Special Days:**
- Aug 25** Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day

Michigan

New Haven Church Anniversary: The New Haven Seventh-day Adventist Church members will celebrate their tenth anniversary on **Aug. 10-11**. On Fri., Aug. 10, at 7:00 p.m., Michael Hasel, director of the Institute of Archaeology at Southern Adventist University, will speak about his recent experience excavating in Israel. Michael Hasel, Boyd Lundell, and Chris Ames, all pastors of New Haven, along with Loren Nelson, ministerial director of the Michigan Conference, will speak throughout the day on Sabbath, Aug. 11. There will be food and praise music for all. Come and join us. The church is located at 30844 Clark St., New Haven, Mich. To R.S.V.P. and see the schedule of events, go to www.nhchurch.org.

A Michigan Singles Retreat will be held at beautiful Camp AuSable (Grayling, Mich.) **Oct. 25-28**. Mark your calendar and join fellow singles (18 and older) for a relaxing retreat. Pastor Jim Michieff and staff have planned a Christ-centered, uplifting program. Come and meet new friends, or renew previous acquaintances, but most of all fellowship with us while enjoying Northern Michigan! Registration forms will be available mid-Sept. at www.misda.org. For more information and prices, contact Lyn White at the Michigan Conference at 517-316-1570, or e-mail lwhite@misda.org.



North American Division

Student Bible Kit. Many academy or high school graduates will attend public colleges and universities this coming Sept. Recently, a Bible kit for Adventist students attending public secular colleges or universities was developed as a pilot project. Pastors may wish to have a special recognition/dedication service for those students in their church and present the kit as a gift to the young adult heading off to a public college or university. For nearly 50 years similar kits have been presented to Adventists entering military service. The NSO Kit has helped sustain links between the member in uniform and the Church. The Student Bible Kit consists of a full Bible, New Living Translation version, bonded-leather with matching color nylon carrying case, a modern version of *Steps to Christ*, a small book on the Sabbath

and creation, a Bible Textonary, a card on how to obtain a complimentary subscription to *Dialogue* magazine, and information on Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF). The Student Bible Kit is available from Advent Source (www.adventsource.org) in limited quantities. A small charge to cover handling and shipping fees will be assessed per kit. For further information, contact Chaplain Gary Councell by e-mail at gary.councell@nad.adventist.org.

Maranatha Volunteers International's 2007 Convention will be held **Sept. 21-22** at the Rolling Hills Community Church in Tualatin, Ore. (a suburb of Portland). All are invited to attend this inspirational weekend. Featured speakers will come from India, Mozambique, Ecuador, and Chile. Come and see how God is moving in different parts of the world and how you can be involved. For more information, contact

Maranatha Volunteers International at 916-920-1900, or visit website www.maranatha.org.

Adventist Festival of the Laity Coming in September. Are you looking to improve your ministry skills in Sabbath school, personal ministries, or prison ministries? Join us in Orlando, Fla., **Sept. 26-29** at the North American Division Adult Ministries Festival of the Laity. During the festival you may attend eight general sessions, dine at six meals, and listen in on 45 seminars! The seminars are included in the \$149 registration fee. The hotel fee is \$99 per night. For more details, visit www.festivalofthelaity.com, or call 800-732-7587. We hope to see you at the festival!

Oak Park Academy Alumni Meeting will be held at Gates Hall in Nevada, Iowa, on **Oct. 5-6**. Honor classes: 1937, '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, and

'82. For more information, go to www.opainiowa.com. If you have questions, contact Shari McNeilus at 800-770-5638, or e-mail shari@sominn.com.

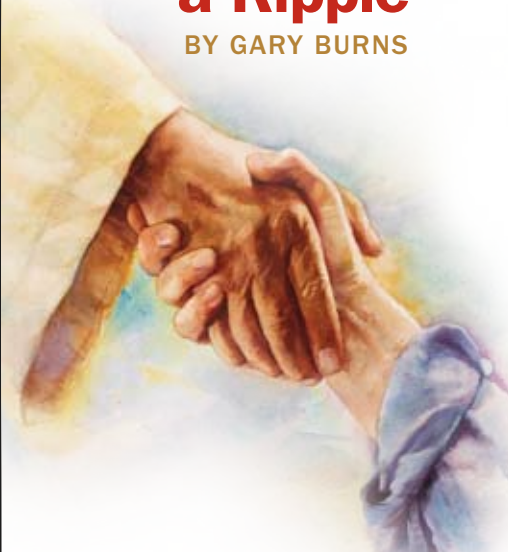
Dakota Adventist Academy Alumni (Bismarck, N.D.): Come and reminisce with old school friends from DAA/PVA/SRA at the alumni gathering **Oct. 5-7**. Honor classes are: 2003, 1998, '88, '83, '78, '68, '58, '53, and '48. If you have questions, contact Robin Weisz, Alumni president, at 701-962-3799, or e-mail rweisz@state.nd.us.

College View Academy Alumni Weekend is **Oct. 12-14**. Honor classes: 1947, '57, '67, '77, '82, '87, and '97. Special feature Sat., Oct. 13, 11:00 a.m.: Byard Parks, class of 1987. All former students welcome. Come enjoy a great weekend. More information at www.sdasl.org.

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More Than a Ripple

BY GARY BURNS



Ellen White stood at the ship's rail breathing in the cool, fresh Atlantic breeze on her return trip from Europe. As she reflected in God's ever-abiding presence, her attention was drawn to the deep cut of the prow of her vessel, her eyes rolling with the white foam on the crest of the wave. Gazing along the deep blue wake stretching over the horizon, it occurred to Ellen that it was the power and weight of the vessel that cut the vast "V" in the surface of the water. Her heart, ever alert for impressions of the Spirit, was saddened as she thought of countless people who claim to know Christ, yet glide through life without leaving so much as a ripple of influence for Him.

A familiar verse came to mind: "Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time" (see 1 Peter 5:6). Ellen's heart made the connection. She

saw in this newly discovered object lesson the opportunity to carry the weight and authority of the Gospel through a partnership with God.

When we seek to make a difference in our own strength, depending on our own talents, abilities, and wisdom, we barely make so much as a ripple. But when we accept the weight of our responsibility and embrace what it means to hide ourselves in Jesus, we can place the very highest demands upon God. Partnered with the power and weight of the Almighty, we can expect the truth to cut its path in the very souls of those around us.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union conference communication director.

Ellen White first recounted this experience in a sermon in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, on January 14, 1889. The experience was later published in the June 18, 1889, issue of the *Review and Herald*.

My Second Chance

BY JAVIER JIMENEZ

Before I enrolled at Greater Lansing Adventist School (GLAS), I was really lost in life. I was into gangs, doing drugs, and was in and out of court on a yearly basis. I got into trouble with the cops, and my life, at the age of 15, was going nowhere really fast.

An East Lansing Church member, Jesusa Vasquez, who worked with my mother, told her about this great school that she should look into for me. She told her that it was a Christian school and that it would be just what I needed.

When I first heard about the school, I thought that they would not accept me, since I had countless suspensions from other schools and a police record. On top of that, my previous grades were a mess. I felt hopeless, and I thought that I would never make it past the tenth grade.

I am so glad that GLAS accepted me and helped me change all of that. They have shown me that with God all things are possible. Since day one, I was amazed at how friendly and devoted all of the teachers were toward me and by how much they helped me. I really believe I was involved in a life-changing experience. When I first started, I knew nothing about math, music, art, English, or Bible. This school introduced me to God and helped me improve academically beyond a point I didn't think was possible. I really struggled with math, but thanks to my teacher, Matt Kohls, I know more than ever before.

I struggled a lot in music class, but thanks to my teacher, Megan Allen, and my classmates, I really improved. I never knew how to read music, and I thought it was an impossible task. Now I can

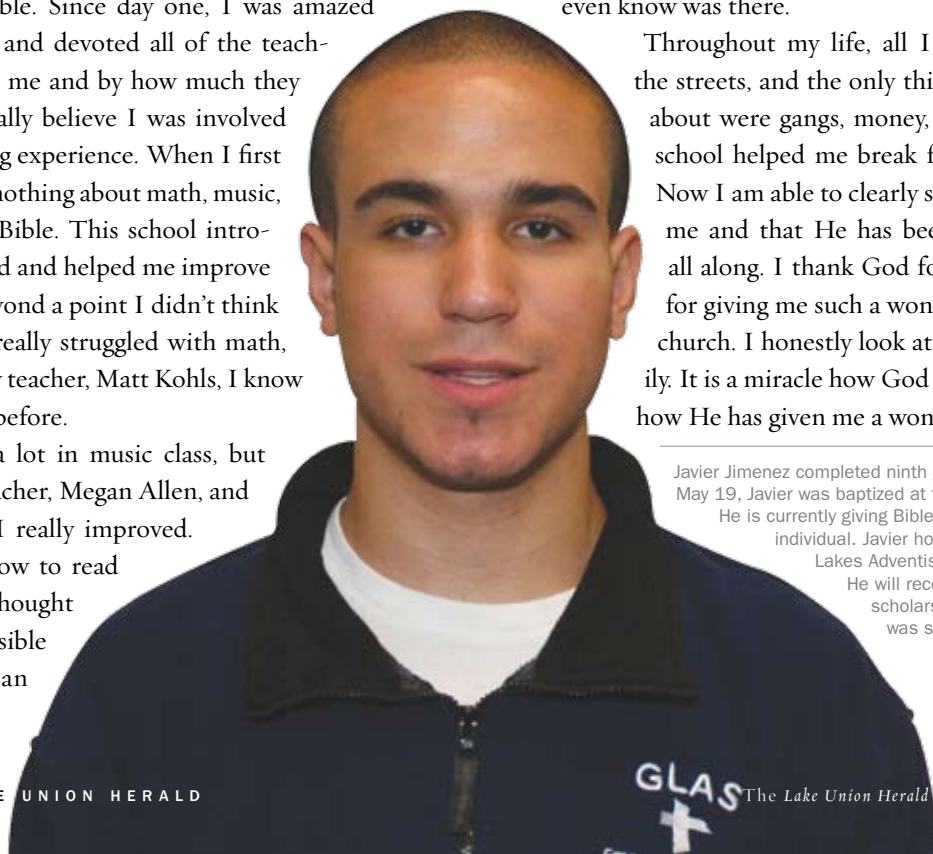
read music just fine, without asking for any help.

My teacher, John Studley, helped me in art class. I did things I never thought I could do. I can actually paint a picture on canvas from scratch and have it look decent!

Chad Bernard, GLAS principal, had my back since I first started. He motivated me to read my Bible, and he really went the extra mile to help me. He introduced me to the Church, and made me into a man that I never thought I could be. I am really thankful to GLAS and everything it has done for me. I'm also thankful for the way the staff treated me, actually seeing something in me that I didn't even know was there.

Throughout my life, all I ever knew were the streets, and the only things I really cared about were gangs, money, and myself. This school helped me break free of that cycle. Now I am able to clearly see that God loves me and that He has been protecting me all along. I thank God for being alive and for giving me such a wonderful school and church. I honestly look at them as my family. It is a miracle how God has saved me and how He has given me a wonderful way out.

Javier Jimenez completed ninth grade last May. On May 19, Javier was baptized at the Lansing Church. He is currently giving Bible studies to another individual. Javier hopes to attend Great Lakes Adventist Academy this fall. He will receive a \$100 scholarship, since his story was selected for publication.





Chris Akinsanya

Akintunde Christian “Chris” Akinsanya, 18, is from Indianapolis, Indiana, where he attends the Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church. Born in Chicago, Illinois, to Hazel and Abayomi Akinsanya, Chris says his ambition is to be a Seventh-day Adventist pastor or missionary.

While Chris enjoys reading and playing basketball, he also enjoyed missionary trips to both India and Ecuador during this past school year. “Chris is a very dedicated young man concerning his faith,” says Gary Macomber, Indiana Academy men’s dean. “He is very methodical in spending time in worship, and many of the young men in the dorm came to him for spiritual advice or counsel.”

Chris graduated with honors from Indiana Academy in May. He was a member of the National Honor Society, and served as the Student Association religious vice president as well as Junior Class vice president. The most important thing he learned in academy was to “keep God first in your plans and decisions.” His favorite class was Bible. He especially enjoyed discussions on world views, marriage and family relationships, and Bible study.

Chris plans to continue his education this fall at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama.

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Katie Ferguson

Katie Lynn Ferguson, 19, was born in Mission Viejo, California. She is the daughter of Calvin and Donna Ferguson of Arcadia, Indiana. A member of the Cicero Seventh-day Adventist Church, Katie’s ambition is to have a career in the medical field serving God.

Katie graduated from Indiana Academy in May. She was a member of the National Honor Society, the Indiana Academy’s *Lady Eagles* basketball team where she served as captain, the academy choir and *Keynotes*, and Katie is a Certified Nursing Assistant. She has served as Student Association president and secretary as well as Junior Class president. Katie’s favorite high school class was English. She enjoys singing, playing her guitar, rappelling, snowboarding, working with children, and serving as a lifeguard and water safety instructor.

Katie preached in India this past school year. “Katie is a wonderful Christian young lady,” says Andrew Lay, Indiana Academy music teacher. “She is a talented, spiritual leader who will go far as she helps others.”

After working at Camp Au Sable this summer, Katie plans to attend Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska.

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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As the sun was setting,
people brought to Jesus all who were suffering
any kind of sickness. And with His touch,
He healed every one.

— LUKE 4:40 —

When Jesus was on Earth, the blind, the deaf, the paralyzed found comfort and renewal in His outstretched hand, regardless of means or status. He established a ministry centered on the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of people who were desperate for a healing touch.

With Christ as our example, Adventist Health System employees and physicians reach out to touch the hearts and heal the lives of more than 4 million patients each year. We pray that the compassion of His hand will be felt in the touch of ours.

