



Lake Union HERALD

MAY 2008

Securing Our FAITH

[SPECIAL CAMP MEETING PREVIEW]

Bonus: Summer Camp Sneak Peek



"Telling the stories of what God is doing in the lives of His people"



Cover photo by Tyler Burns for the Lake Union Herald



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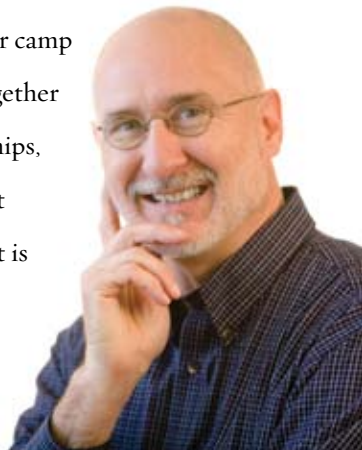
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in this issue...

The theme for this special camp meeting and summer edition is "Securing Our Faith." When we come together for spiritual renewal, inspiration and building relationships, it helps secure the faith of our families. Reading about it and looking at the pictures is one thing—experiencing it is something else entirely. Don't miss out!

Gary Burns
Gary Burns, Editor



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Let's Ask the Kids

I wanted to write on summer camps for this issue, but having no experience with them I decided to investigate. I was surprised to learn that we have experienced campers and camp staff members within our office family.

Chelsey Cameron, an eighth grader at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School and daughter of Kathy (administration/women's ministries), is a real fan of summer camp. As I listened to her enthusiasm, she said, "It's so much fun being together with other kids your age and who share your religious beliefs. You make so many new friends that it's really cool. A lot of them come back each year so you can actually build close relationships. We look forward to seeing each other at least once each year. We have arts and crafts, music, sports of all kinds and religious activities. My favorite activities are wakeboarding and woodworking. I created a cute little box and a small stool suitable for holding plants. I really enjoy working with my hands."

A number of the children of our office staff started out as campers and went on to work in camp ministry. Wendy Eberhardt, the daughter of Karen Bekowies (education), is presently the director of youth ministries and camp director for Indian Creek Camp in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. Wendy has spent much of her life in the camp program—first in Ohio, then in Pennsylvania. Karen often shares reports of Wendy's answers to prayers and the powerful way God is working in the lives of the campers and camp staff.

Ryan and Justin Thurber, sons of Diane (communication), started their camp experience as little campers when their dad, Gary Thurber, was youth director in Michigan. Both boys agree, "That was the best job our dad ever had!"

Last year Ryan was boys' director and Justin was a wrangler at Timber Ridge Camp in Indiana. Ryan has recently just completed a year as assistant boys' dean at Union Springs Academy—an extension of his training at camp.

Reneé Pierce, daughter of Rodney (administration) and Rose Anne Grove (education), worked as a waterfront instructor at Wawoka Woods in Oklahoma where her dad served as youth director and her mom was the camp secretary and craft director.

Josie, Tyler and Ryan Burns worked at camp in South Dakota where their dad Gary (communication) was camp director. The boys also worked at North Star Camp in Minnesota after leaving the Dakotas.

Those are just a few. But, I also learned that a number of our office staff attended camp when they were young. I was fascinated to discover that Elisa Flores (treasury) attended the very last summer camp that was permitted in Cuba in 1964. One could tell that recalling her experience brought fond memories of friends and faith as evidenced by her smile. "It was a spiritual time. We were so close—all of us from all over Cuba," she said.

I asked Chelsey if she plans to go to camp again this summer, and she said, "Oh, definitely. If you don't go to summer camp, you have really missed a great experience."

Although I never had the experience of attending summer camp when I was growing up, I can see that something very special takes place on those sacred campgrounds that builds character and secures faith, and for many provides direction for a life of ministry.

We have six beautiful camps in the Lake Union, each with dedicated staff ready to help secure the faith of a young person in your life this summer.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Indiana “I was an alcoholic for 30 years, during which time I lost everything,” related **Ed Summerlin**, telling of his life. It was during a period when he found himself once again in a detox unit that, instead of the usual feeling of total hopelessness, Ed was overcome by a strong sense that this time he could be released from the grip of addiction that had for so long plagued him.



During weeks of Bible study, Ed Summerlin was humbled by the revelation there is a wonderful new life in Jesus, regardless of how dark one's past has been.

Jeff and Kathy Summerlin, Ed's son and daughter-in-law, who themselves are relatively new Adventists, had been praying for him and, around Thanksgiving 2005, they invited him to accompany them to church. As Ed listened to the sermons, he became convinced that the unexplainable sense of hope he had experienced during his time in detox had actually been God's calling.

During the weeks of Bible study that followed, Ed was humbled by the revelation there is a wonderful new life in Jesus, regardless of how dark one's past has been. On October 6, 2007, Ed took his stand in baptism. Now Ed can be found in church every Sabbath with Jeff and Kathy.

Mary Wadsworth-Cooke, communications secretary, LaPorte Church

Indiana Just prior to his baptism, **Joshua Fruth** shared the following thoughts about his journey with Jesus.

“Well, it all started in the spring of '06. I had gotten back from college and was looking for something. It seemed that I was missing an important piece in my life, but I had no idea what that piece was.

“So my mom (Denise Fruth), being a good mom, strongly encouraged me to take baptismal studies, and I finally caved in! I didn't think it would hurt any, and I had grown up in the [Adventist] church. I went and talked to



Prior to his baptism, Joshua Fruth told the Cicero Church members about his decision to make Jesus a priority in his life. Also pictured in background: Aaron Clark, assistant pastor

Larry McConnell (Cicero Church Bible instructor) about the whole idea.

“We started having studies, and I still wasn't completely sold. But as I talked to Larry, read my Bible, and prayed more and more, I found that God had been there the entire time.

“God had never given up on me. He gave my life purpose and made me His 'No. 1,' so I decided that the only thing to do, the only thing I *wanted* to do, was to make Him my 'No. 1.'”

Joshua Fruth, member, Cicero Church. Originally published in the Cicero Church *Family Ties* newsletter, January 2008. Used with permission.

Michigan November 24, 2007, was a special Sabbath at Vassar Church because two of our young people were welcomed into membership through baptism. **Nathan McKenny**, age nine, stated that his older sister, Sarah, was instrumental in helping him make the decision. Nathan studied with Ron Barber, the Bible instructor, and Frank Lugo, the pastor.

Nathan has been a member of the Adventurer club, the children's choir, has served as a junior deacon, and has attended Vacation Bible School. His favorite part of church is when he can help usher. Nathan's favorite text is John 3:17: “For God did not send



Nathan McKenny studied with Ron Barber (left), a Bible instructor, and Frank Lugo (right), pastor. His baptism day was even more special because his grandmother, Vera Markhart, attended church to observe his baptism.

His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved” (NKJV).

The day was made even more special for Nathan, he says, because his grandmother, Vera Markhart, was able to attend his baptism.

Katelynn DeArk was the second baptismal candidate. Katelynn stated that she was led to Christ through Bible studies with Cheryl Barber.

The day was made more meaningful to her because it was also her tenth birthday. To Katelynn’s delight, both of her grandparents, Jim and Pam DeArk from Georgia, as well as her 90-year-old great-grandfather, Ken Morick from the Detroit Metropolitan Church, were present for her baptism.



Katelynn’s baptism day was even more meaningful because it was also her tenth birthday. From left: Ron Barber, Bible instructor, Katelynn DeArk and Frank Lugo, pastor

Katelynn has been a member of both the Adventurer club and the children’s choir. Her favorite part of church is the prayer and praise. She stated that her favorite text is John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (NKJV).

Katelynn asks that we join her in praying that her sisters and brother will eventually follow her example.

Julie Murphy, Sabbath school superintendent, Vassar Church

Michigan I (**Jerry Taylor**) was raised in an Adventist environment, and learned the Adventist beliefs early in life. As a teenager, I decided the world was more fun. I turned my back on the church and pursued my own pleasures in a worldly environment.

After a time of unsettled life experiences, I landed a well-paying job that provided me an opportunity to travel throughout the U.S. I had money to support my family and pursue my hobbies of hunting and fishing. I worked seven days a week driving a moving van. Any free time I had, I spent indulging my hobbies.

One night, a couple years ago, I had a very traumatic dream! I dreamed I witnessed the Second Coming of Christ. It was very real, very powerful, and really started me thinking about my life. Shortly thereafter, I had another

dream, just as disturbing and just as realistic. I dreamed I saw fire and brimstone raining down from Heaven; I could feel the intense heat all around me. However, my house was spared destruction. I woke up shaking and very afraid.

About this time, I was given an Amazing Facts sermon series about end-time events by speaker Doug Batchelor. I took these DVDs in the truck with me, and listened to them repeatedly. I was convicted of the truth and the urgency of the message. I had no choice but to follow the truth! I told my boss that I could no longer work on the Sabbath. After a series of attempts to reach a compromise on work hours, he realized I meant what I said. I was released from my job. I was unemployed, my bills continued and my family was concerned. I was praying hard!

This was a testing time for me. It was time to act on my change of priorities in this life. Through answered prayer, I was able to sell some of my favorite “toys” (like hunting equipment, etc.) to pay the monthly bills. After hitting the bottom of the barrel, the Lord gave me a job moving people with my own truck. I do not work on Sabbath, and my clients like my honest, careful work enough to work around my Sabbath. I am busy, and make enough money to support my family.

Now that God is my number one priority, and after completely surrendering to His will, He is taking care of me! I spend time with Him every day, and the hunting



After his baptism, Jerry Taylor said, “The love of God floods my very soul. Praise the Lord for His mercies and leading!”

and fishing passions are no longer important to me. My baptism was a very high day for me. The feeling of burying my past sins and taking the vow of service to God gave me a feeling of finally getting back home after a long absence. The love of God floods my very soul. Praise the Lord for His mercies and leading!

Jerry Taylor, Livingston Church member, as shared with Kassandra McFarland, communication secretary, Livingston Church

Share the Good News!
Do you know of someone who recently made a decision for Christ? Submit your story to the editors at our website:
www.lakeunionherald.org

In Our Hearts and Minds

BY JONATHAN JACOBS

On a street corner in the heart of Chicago, a group of teenagers shout, “Free book!” Many pass by, driven by a schedule or a deadline which blinds them to everything except their destination. Some pause a moment, perhaps out of curiosity or genuine interest to see young people on a street corner doing something other than selling drugs.

One of the young teenagers lowers her volume and asks in a friendlier tone, “Would you like a free book?” Noticing the confused yet intrigued face upon this stranger, the teen says, “It’s the *Ten Commandments, Twice Removed*. There is a series going on at the McCormick Place Theatre. Here’s a free ticket!” The young woman reveals an admission ticket hidden within the book.

“This is free, right?” the stranger asks. After a nod of confirmation the stranger goes on his way, and the youth restarts her proclamation, “Free book!” with a bit more confidence.

This was the scene when a group of freshmen and sophomores from the Greater Lansing Adventist School traveled to Chicago last May. Their mission was to aid in spreading word of the Ten Commandments Weekend and a special series produced by the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN). The group from Lansing was part of a larger assembly of volunteers from around the nation, who came together to hand out free books and tickets to the people of Chicago.

The tickets handed out granted admission to a series



Jonathan Jacobs and other young people from the Greater Lansing Adventist School distributed the book Ten Commandments, Twice Removed on a mission outreach trip to Chicago, Illinois.

of sermons delivered by a team of God’s servants, which included Doug Batchelor of Amazing Facts and Wintley Phipps, a world-renowned vocal artist, and was hosted by Danny Shelton, the co-founder of 3ABN. Each sermon focused on one of the Ten Commandments found in Exodus 20. Each commandment was presented as a present day instruction, rather than a writing from a God of the

past. Many of the individuals seated in the Aries Crown Theatre were recognized by the volunteers who handed them their ticket.

Enter the same group of teenagers, on the same street corner, four hours later. A teenage volunteer asks a tall man if he would like a book. The man snatches the book. The young volunteer glances at his T-shirt and is reminded why he decided to become part of this mission. It was not to try to place a few verses in schools and government buildings, but as his shirt says, to “Put them back where they belong: in our hearts and minds.”

Jonathan Jacobs is in the tenth grade at Greater Lansing Adventist School in Michigan.



The Gift of Perseverance

BY MOLLIE TIMMINS

Eagerly, I squinted through the flying dust as our driver propelled us along at dizzying speeds, blaring his horn constantly. At last, we were on our way to a small village along the Mekong River to live among our people group—the Cambodian Cham! *At last!* I thought, *now we can unpack and settle in.*

As I stepped out of the truck, my husband Greg came to meet us. He had arrived before us on the motorcycle. “Honey,” he said, “I just need to prepare you before you go into the house. ... It’s a construction zone. We can’t move in yet.”

I swallowed the words that bubbled up inside me: *But they knew we were coming and said it would be all ready!*

“They said they can clear out one of the bedrooms for our stuff,” Greg reassured me. “We’ll stay in a guest-house in Chhlong until then.”

I had been sick before our move, and that week I had a relapse. Greg got sick, too. We lay around on our beds with fever, headaches and sore, congested lungs.

After five days, we were finally able to move into our home. Living in village conditions was a lot of work. It took most of the hours in the day just to survive. To compound this, the morning after we moved in the Mekong flooded, and we awoke to a fetid lake under and around our house. Driven upward by the rising water, entire ant colonies made our home their ark. I’ve never seen so many ants in one place before.

This would have been difficult even if we were in good health, but our sickness made it almost unbearable. Greg had to haul water from cisterns, slogging through floodwater three-feet deep. Simplest tasks like washing dishes were huge ordeals. I would often stay up late into the night doing laundry. Three, sometimes four, hours later I would fall into



From left: Caleb, Greg, Hannah and Mollie Timmins formerly from Petoskey, Michigan, are missionaries who currently serve the Cambodian Cham people group.

bed, nursing my bleeding knuckles.

After a week of pushing myself physically and emotionally beyond exhaustion, I finally broke down late one night after collapsing into bed next to my feverish husband. My head pounded, and my tears flowed. It felt good to cry. I wondered why God was allowing all of this to happen. Hadn’t He called us to the Cham? Did He really expect us to work in these conditions? I felt I couldn’t go on another day.

As Greg and I talked, a thought came forcefully to us: *We are exactly where God wants us and exactly where Satan doesn’t want us.* Satan’s tactics had brought us to the point where we would love

nothing better than to pack up our bags and go back home. As Greg and I took hold of God’s strength through faith, I smiled through my tears as comfort enveloped me. We wouldn’t be packing our bags. If Satan was this mad about us being here, God must have some very special Cham children waiting to hear the good news of salvation.

Mollie Timmins, along with her husband Greg and children, Hannah and Caleb, have served as Adventist Frontier Missions missionaries since November 2006. Before joining AFM, the Timmins family lived in Petoskey, Michigan. Their e-mail address is gregandmollietimmins@msn.com.

Adventist Frontier Missions is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian lay ministry dedicated to establishing church-planting movements worldwide among people groups with no Adventist presence. AFM currently works with 18 unreached people groups in 16 countries. To learn more, visit www.afmonline.org





FAMILY TIES

Summertime, Summertime

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

When I'm driving in my car, I generally listen to WGN radio in Chicago. I heard one of the hosts talk about a trip he took with his family. One Sunday they got on the train, rode to a stop some miles from home, got off, bought hot dogs at a nearby stand, hopped back on the train and rode it back home. Later in the day they took the train to another destination and had a grand time—all for about \$12. His point was that it doesn't have to cost a lot to do something fun as a family.

This experience reminds me that summertime is just around the corner. This is a great time to make plans for when school is out. One of the best things you can do for your children is to view summer as a time to expand their world and make memories. The experiences you provide will help your children retain what they have learned in school and be more ready for school to start in the fall.

This summer, why not plan a family activity each week? Activities need to last at least 30 minutes, but they can last much longer. Don't wait for a financial windfall, start putting money aside for summer activities now. My suggestion is to find things to do that you can afford, as it certainly takes away from the fun when you have to pay for an experience after the fact.

When at home, show your children how to operate appliances appropriate to their age. Have them assist in cooking and housekeeping. Remember that home should be a safe place to learn and practice many new skills. Summer is a great time to encourage reading, build collections and work on hobbies. A child who learns to concentrate on activities often becomes very competent, and constructive activities increase self-confidence and raise self-image. Build family closeness and reading abilities by planning time to read together on a regular basis.



School-age children can help plan a trip, be it for a day or a week. They can help plan what to take, assist in packing, use the phone and the Internet to get information, figure out the route and learn to read the map.

During the summer months, children benefit from a balance of free time and organized activities. Some parents keep children so busy with lessons and excursions that they don't have

quiet time, or time to spend alone. On the other hand, we know that when children spend time in organized activities, they will be more in control and will find it easier to resist negative peer pressure. Children tend to get into trouble when they are bored or are looking for stimulation. The child with interesting, challenging, constructive and planned fun doesn't have time for, or as much interest in, negative activities. When your child is involved in healthy activities, he or she is more likely to meet and associate with healthy peers.

A child who has fun in a wholesome way is a happier child. And happier children are more receptive to their parents. Your family will benefit from your putting together plans for summertime learning and adventures together!

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

HEALTHY CHOICES

*Organic vegetables
are not more
nutritious.*

Organic Food: Is It Worth It?

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

*Organic foods
are kind to
the environment.*



With the increasing concern about environmental issues, some have turned to buying organic. Many people choose organic foods because they want to protect their families from chemicals such as synthetic pesticides, hormones and antibiotics, and help lessen the burden of pollution of planet Earth. The organic food industry is now growing about 25 percent a year.

But questions remain. Can organic food production be sufficient to feed large populations? How can you guarantee a food is really organic? And what makes a food organic anyway? Is the 20 to 30 percent higher price for organic food really worth it? Are organic foods any healthier?



For fruits and vegetables to be labeled organic, they must be grown without synthetic pesticides, synthetic fertilizers or sewage sludge, and they must not have been irradiated or genetically engineered. Organic milk comes from animals that, for the past 12 months, were fed 100 percent organic feed and were not given antibiotics or growth hormones. For packaged food, the "Organic" label means at least 95 percent of the ingredients are organic. The label, "Made with Organic Ingredients" means that at least 70 percent of the ingredients are organic.

Those people who experience occupational exposure to pesticides and herbicides, such as farmers and migrant workers, face the greatest risk to their health. Human studies have found that pesticide use is associated with an increased risk of leukemia and liver cancer, birth defects, adverse pregnancy outcomes and Parkinson's disease.

Nevertheless, there is little data that pinpoints the risk to consumers from eating vegetables and fruits contaminated with any particular pesticide residue. The pesticides now used in farming are metabolized quickly by the body,

and it's hard to find traces of the chemicals. In addition, it's hard to detect any damage from a particular pesticide when we are exposed to tiny amounts of so many chemicals.

The produce found to be most contaminated with pesticides includes peaches, apples, bell peppers, strawberries

and cherries, while the least contaminated includes onions, sweet corn, peas, bananas, cabbage and broccoli. About 15 percent of the vegetables and 35 percent of the fruit consumed by Americans last year was imported, mostly from Latin America and Asia. Imported produce contains, on average, about three times the pesticide residue level found on domestically produced food.

Are organic fruits and vegetables more nutritious? There is no evidence that organic foods are more nutritious or taste better than conventionally grown foods.

In summary, pesticides are potent chemicals, and we should minimize our intake of them whenever possible. Fruits and vegetables contaminated with pesticides should be thoroughly washed before eating. Choosing organic produce, whenever it is available at a reasonable price, is a healthy alternative. Regularly eating red meat and being overweight pose greater risks to your health than consuming foods that have been exposed to pesticides.

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



EXTREME GRACE

Did I Tell You About the Time...

BY DICK DUERKSEN

The leaders always wanted us in the camp meeting *meetings*. Something about, “You’re here to get a spiritual blessing, not to just stand around and talk.” So we stayed outside, paying occasional attention as scratchy PA systems battled canvas and conversations.

That all turned around the year I became a ministerial intern. The conference youth director assigned a couple of us to care for the younger youth at camp meeting. We swallowed hard and tried to find ways to get the kids involved. Our solution included doing the things we wished we could have done during camp meetings past.

We played lots of softball, rafted rivers, created a daily live radio program, baked cookies and had long discussions on whatever the kids wanted to talk about. Evenings were full-on Bible studies under the trees, usually continuing the conversations of the day, but doing so directly from Scripture.

We were feeling good about the week because the kids were having a good time, and because the evening Bible studies were awesome! We were beginning to connect well enough that we had some “right” to talk about where Christ was in their lives.

The kids came for the cookies, the games, the studies and just to see what was happening.

Friday night “what was happening” was an ancient preacher who had been relegated to “tell the kids some stories.” He was at least 110, and we leaders groaned, and then prayed for a miracle. “Lord, please help the kids be kind.”

The preacher assigned to us was E.L. Minchin, long retired from the General Conference youth department, a circuit-riding preacher who kept his Bible slung low on his hip.

I do not remember his text. What I remember is the silence. Less than a minute into his sermon all conversation was gone, replaced with rapt wonder as youth and leaders faced South Pacific head-hunters, Mongolian bandits, Ethiopian camel-drivers and sinking islands.

Once in a while the kids would remember to breathe, usually right after an angel saved us from the devil’s claws.

The stories captured our imaginations and put flesh on God. “You could hear angel wings in the tent.”

After taking us on the wildest ride of our lives, he stopped, looked each person straight in the heart, and said, “God is calling some of you to be preachers—to speak His words to the world. You’ll go places you’ve never dreamed of going. You’ll face problems greater than you can solve. You’ll be the guests of kings, princes, actors and farmers. You will be God’s hands, God’s arms, God’s voice and God’s presence in thousands of lives. God wants YOU to be His Preacher. If God is asking you to be a preacher, are you ready to accept His call?”

Never having thought about any of these kids as pastors, I held my breath and waited.

The first to stand was the son of a local dentist who surprised me by even being in the meeting. Then there was another young man, and another, and then three girls. Before long the pews looked like an EKG with short and tall kids standing in lines—guys and girls—linking arms and committing to be there if God needed them as pastors.

There was a prayer and much hand shaking, and then he was gone—a one-night miracle-worker whose way of walking God’s walk made us all want to grab our passports and take off for the mission field.

I walked long and slowly through the camp’s forest that night, re-living the evening I had chosen to become a pastor, wondering if my life might include some stories worth telling, and kicking myself for not seeing ministerial potential in our softball players.

That was the only time I heard E.L. Minchin preach, but on the Internet I have found copies of old programs where he and Eric B. Hare led seminars on how to tell stories ... and “how to invite youth to become pastor.”

“And did I tell you about the time in Sarawak when...”

Dick Duerksen is the official storyteller for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact Dick by e-mail at: dduerksen@maranatha.org.

The Best Robe

BY CYNTHIA AND J.W. WARREN

Evident in many religions and cultures is the value placed on appropriate dress. In the Old Testament, before Adam and Eve chose to disobey God's single restriction, they were covered in "the garment of innocence." Afterward, that "garment of innocence" disappeared, "and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves" (Genesis 3:7). After their embarrassing fig-leaf encounter with God, it must have come as a horrible shock to realize that the life of their animal companions had been sacrificed in order for God to provide new garments of skin (Genesis 3:21).

In the New Testament, Jesus' parable of the "Lost Son" confirms the idea that God provides one's garment. When the son returned, stripped of his dignity and covered with the filth of his rebellion, "his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him'" (Luke 15:20, 22). The father's answer to his declaration of unworthiness was to give him the best robe, declaring him to be his son. What an amazing picture of grace!

The parable of "The Wedding Banquet," in Matthew 22, portrays a scene where the king notices one of the guests is not wearing a wedding garment. "'Friend,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' The man was speechless" (Matthew 22:12). The man was speechless because there was no excuse. The garment had been generously supplied, yet he had refused to put it on.

What do these three scenes teach us about dress? In each case, the garment, the robe and the covering was provided by God. Adam and Eve offered fig leaves. The lost son came in rags and filth. The guest came into the wedding banquet without wedding clothes—possibly, without clothes at all.

The garments provided were symbols of innocence, of belonging, of righteousness. The garments were a metaphor for the character of Christ. Peter suggests we often fall into the trap of trying to make up for our lack of character by depending on extravagant externals to bring us value and worth. Rather, we should present ourselves with Christ-like character (1 Peter 3).

Though often incongruent, we have learned to give and receive external signals of communication to help establish identity and contextualize message. The wardrobe and makeup departments on any studio lot play a vital role in telling the story. Those artists who know their craft well can help the actors speak volumes without uttering a word. The same is true in the Christian life. Those who understand the art of representing Christ well can extend the reach of the gospel.

Some years ago, our daughter gave us a cruise to the Bahamas. Once settled on board, we casually strolled about the ship enjoying our gift-vacation. We were humbly surprised when a complete stranger smiled and declared, "I know you are Seventh-day Adventists!" We learned that she was taken often as a child, by her grandmother, to an Adventist church. Though she chose not to practice Adventism, she remained respectful of the modesty and simplicity of outward appearance she had observed. We have often reflected what a huge disappointment we might have been to this dear child of God had we chosen not to dress and act as "persons belonging to God."

The joy and peace that come as we allow our heavenly Father to cover us with His garment of righteousness and grace is bound to effect how we present ourselves to others—which is often the first component of an effective witness for Christ.

Cynthia and J.W. Warren co-founded Spring Hope Ministries to celebrate and promote the joys and benefits of the Adventist lifestyle. They have three adult children and reside in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

SHARING *our* HOPE

Hope in Times of Sorrow

BY OLIVER PAGE

A flood of tears is coupled with wrenching screams for help, added to an overwhelming dose of bitter anguish, and mixed together with a double portion of angry bewilderment. This harrowing scene, often multiplied several times a day, reflects the pain of loved ones left behind as they sit with Raymond and Annetta Cantrell of the Cantrell Funeral Home in Detroit, Michigan. The Cantrells, throughout many years of their ministry in the funeral business, have learned to share their faith to bring hope and comfort to families grieving the loss of loved ones.

When families are most vulnerable, the Cantrells engage in a gentle witness of Christ's love by offering each family a resplendent "keepsake" Bible, warmly referred to as "God's love letters." This gesture developed after noticing a sense of hopelessness experienced by many grieving family members. There are times when families do not accept the Bibles offered. However, after refusing the Bible during the service, some family members have come back privately and requested "their" Bibles! The Cantrells observe, "When death comes, the loved ones left behind, of whatever faith or religious background, are receptive and changed individuals, even for a moment. It

is during that moment a window of opportunity is opened to share God's love."

The Cantrells also make other literature available. Books, such as *The Great Controversy*, *Desire of Ages*, *Steps to Christ*, etc., are eagerly picked up by the hundreds who pass through. Annetta relates, "Families are very receptive to these publications, and often the supply is quickly exhausted." Raymond frequently invites client families to the Burns Church or to their home to savor Annetta's cooking. The Cantrells express their belief that, "God is working on the hearts of men and women everywhere," noting that all they have to do is "present God in a loving way to each and every grieving family."



Annetta and Raymond Cantrell are owners and managers of the Cantrell Funeral Home in Detroit, Michigan. The Cantrells are members of the Burns Church.

Oliver Page

When ministering to families faced with the unpleasant task of making funeral arrangements, Raymond first offers prayer. He begins by requesting God's presence and asking God to comfort the grieving and to enter every heart present. Treating each family with respect and inviting God's presence gives them hope and enables them to continue with the arrangements. There are times when, despite the wide range of funeral arrangements available, the family is still financially overwhelmed. In each case of an indigent family, Raymond chooses to "error on the side of mercy." Indigent families are able to arrange for the funeral of their loved ones with the expectation that they will repay

the funeral cost when they are able. While some families repay, and others don't, the Cantrells continue to minister, and God richly blesses them despite any losses incurred.

Pouring out so much of himself to grieving families each and every day, one wonders the source of Raymond's strength. With tears welling up in his eyes, Raymond points upward and says, "All of my strength comes from above, and my help comes from the Lord."

Oliver Page, Ph.D., is the communication leader of the Burns Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Editor's Note: If you know someone who is sharing the hope of Jesus in a unique way at work or in their community, send a story to herald@luc.adventist.org.



UNIDOS EN LA MISIÓN

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“Cuando seguimos los planes del Señor, colaboramos con Dios. Cualquiera que sea nuestro cargo: presidente de asociación, predicador, maestro, alumno o simplemente miembro de iglesia, el Señor nos considera responsables de cómo aprovechamos nuestras oportunidades para dar la luz a quienes necesitan la verdad presente” (Testimonios para la iglesia, tomo 9, p. 71).

Dios está obrando en una forma maravillosa para terminar su obra. Como ejemplo podemos mencionar el desarrollo de una iniciativa especial que comenzó en el mes de marzo. Recientemente los administradores de las asociaciones de nuestra Unión han estado orando y discutiendo la idea de realizar una obra especial para la ganancia de almas en el año 2009. Para determinar la dirección que debemos seguir, decidimos reunirnos por dos días para comenzar a planear una estrategia de evangelismo. Estuvieron presente los presidentes, secretarios, tesoreros, directores ministeriales y coordinadores hispanos de las cinco asociaciones, además de los administradores de la Unión, quienes coordinamos y dirigimos las reuniones.

En verdad fue algo maravilloso ver el espíritu de unidad y de cooperación entre los dirigentes de estas asociaciones. Como resultado final se decidió llevar a cabo una campaña de evangelismo en el año 2009 en la cual TODAS las asociaciones unirían sus esfuerzos para evangelizar a los millones que viven en nuestro territorio.

Ese espíritu de unidad y de esfuerzo está también infiltrando los esfuerzos evangelísticos en las iglesias locales. Por ejemplo, en este mes de mayo se dará una campaña evangelística de una semana en la ciudad de Gary, en el estado de Indiana. Lo interesante es que seis iglesias, dos conferencias y la Unión del Lago están apoyando y dirigiendo el esfuerzo. Este esfuerzo es diferente porque tiene como propósito aprovechar y usar las diferencias culturales en las seis iglesias para lograr mejores resultados.

La Red 2008 es otro ejemplo de la unión de esfuerzos con el propósito de ganar almas para Jesús. Hemos tenido campañas satélite en forma regular por años. Este año se presentó la oportunidad de tener la campaña vía satélite en dos grandes ciudades: Chicago, en el estado de Illinois, y



Dirigentes de las cinco asociaciones y la Unión del Lago unidos al hacer planes de evangelismo para el año 2009.

Phoenix, en el estado de Arizona. El resultado es que no solamente se han unido para este proyecto las asociaciones de Illinois, de Lake Region y la Unión del Lago sino también la Unión del Pacífico, la Asociación de Arizona y la División Norteamericana.

Yo creo que el Espíritu Santo está ayudando a lograr esta unidad. La oración de Cristo para su pueblo que vive en los últimos días es que seamos uno en propósito, así como Cristo y el Padre lo son. Tenemos

el gran desafío de predicar el mensaje de los tres ángeles a toda criatura. En verdad no hay manera de cumplir con este mandato a menos que se rompan las barreras que nos separan y tanto hermanos como pastores nos unamos como un solo ejército, bajo el liderazgo de nuestro gran comandante, nuestro Señor Jesús.

Tenemos una gran oportunidad y no la debemos despreciar. Mi oración es que las iglesias en nuestra Unión se contagien con este espíritu y planeen trabajar unidas para así apresurar la venida del Señor.

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

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING

Touched by His Words

BY KENNETH A. DENSLAW

Back by popular demand, the Illinois Conference will have three camp meeting events in 2008. These gatherings vary in size, length and location. This year the theme is “Touched By His Words.”

Northern Illinois Camp Meeting

This one-day convocation will be held again this year on the campus of the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, on May 17.

Two of our featured guests for the day will be Ron Halvorsen Sr. and Robert Lemon. Before retiring, Ron Halvorsen was the Church Growth director of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He now conducts evangelistic meetings and is the prayer coordinator for It Is Written. Ron is well-known for conducting prayer seminars around North America. Robert Lemon is the treasurer of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. He has served the church for more than 30 years, including ten years in Africa.

Steve Moseley will present “The Chosen Garment: The Whole Gospel in One Act.” In this dramatic presentation, he will take us on a whirlwind tour of the Bible that is deeply moving and will make the Bible come alive. A highlight of the day will be the choir and testimony time in the afternoon. Choirs from throughout the Illinois Conference will share wonderful music. Interspersed will be testimonies from our five-year mission to “Touch Every 1 For Jesus.”



Steve Moseley will present “The Chosen Garment: The Whole Gospel in One Act.” His dramatic presentation will make the Bible come alive.

Akita Camp Meeting

This week-long camp meeting is held June 15–21 at Camp Akita, near Galesburg, Illinois. It is a cross between a traditional Adventist camp meeting and a family camp. There is lots of time in worship, but also time for family activities like canoeing, the climbing wall, hikes in the woods, horseback riding, swimming and a great favorite—the Blob.

Guest speakers for the week are Dan Matthews, Lael Caesar and Walter Wright. Dan Matthews is best known for his years as anchorman for *Christian Lifestyle Magazine*. He represents the telecast, *Faith For Today*, as speaker emeritus. Lael Caesar holds a Ph.D. in Hebrew and Semitic Studies, and teaches in the

department of Religion and Biblical Languages at Andrews University. Walter Wright is no stranger to the members of the Illinois Conference. He is the president of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. In addition to his administrative work, he has conducted evangelism and family seminars in 12 countries on four continents.

Steve Moseley will again be with us for the Akita Camp Meeting and present “The Chosen Garment.” Also enjoy the music of our guest musician, Trent DeLong, who re-



cently received the Christian music Angel Award for his album, "Great Is the Lord."

The children's programs are always excellent at Akita Camp Meeting. It is a great time and place to bring your family for some quality time together.

For more information about the Northern Illinois Camp Meeting or the Akita Camp Meeting call 630-856-2850 or visit www.illinoisadventist.org. Reservations can be made at reservations@illinoisadventist.org.

Hispanic Camp Meeting

The Illinois Conference Hispanic Camp Meeting always takes place over Labor Day weekend, which will be August 29–September 1 this year. This camp meeting will be held on the grounds of Camp Wakonda, near Westfield, Wisconsin.

For reservations, contact the Hispanic Ministries Department, Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 619 Plainfield Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527; call 630-856-2854; or e-mail: hispanicministries@illinoisadventist.org.

Kenneth Denslow is the president of the Illinois Conference.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CAMP MEETING

May 17
 College of Du Page
 425 Fawell Boulevard
 Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
 Call: 630-856-2850
 E-mail: reservations@illinoisadventist.org
 Website: www.illinoisadventist.org

AKITA CAMP MEETING

June 15–21
 Camp Akita
 1684 Knox Rd.
 Gilson, IL 61436
 Call: 630-856-2850
 E-mail: reservations@illinoisadventist.org
 Website: www.illinoisadventist.org

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

August 29–September 1
 Camp Wakonda
 W8368 County Road E. (P.O. Box 7310)
 Oxford, WI 53707
 Call: 630-856-2854
 E-mail: hispanicministries@illinoisadventist.org



Joe Arner



Lael Caesar



Trent DeLong



Ron Halvorsen Sr.



Robert Lemon



Dan Matthews



Walter Wright

INDIANA CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING

An Eternal Gift

BY GARY THURBER

For spiritual renewal, building friendships, providing incredible experiences for our children and making lasting memories, there is nothing like camp meeting.

Much prayer and thought is given by our presenters concerning their worship messages and presentations. As a result, a wonderful opportunity is provided for each of us to be challenged and grow in our walk with God.

As the week unfolds, it is always inspiring to see the new friends the Lord brings into our lives. These people not only are an enjoyment to be around, but they also can be a real encouragement to us in our faith walk.

Great care is given to provide our youth and children excellent programming. All day long exciting activities and spiritual feasts are prepared for them. They, too, make life-long friends and have cherished memories from their camp meeting experiences.

So many families make camp meeting a tradition. Those who do have a rich storehouse of blessed experiences and friendships. Karen Goolsby from the Laporte Church has this testimony about what camp meeting has meant to her and her family throughout her life.

“It has sometimes been discussed that perhaps camp meeting should be done away with, suggesting that it is old-fashioned and no longer appeals to people today. But



I think there are very important reasons that camp meeting is still relevant to Adventist culture.

“As a child, camp meeting gave me a picture of a bigger world church than just my local church. It brought me new friendships and drew me closer to God. My parents took the little money they had left

over and the only week for vacation they had and took us to camp meeting. That helped me to realize how important it was.

“For my children and now for my grandchildren, I see that they, too, look forward to camp meeting with great anticipation, spending time with family and friends, and learning about God in a relaxing atmosphere.

“Throughout the years, as new members have joined me in coming to camp meeting, I have found that they, too, love it because of the fellowship and wealth of information that is available to them, through health and family seminars, classes about the Bible and accessibility to the Adventist Book Center. Also, camp meeting helps new members be able to understand the structure of the conference leadership.

“Camp meeting has given me time to renew and develop



Photos by Judith Yeoman



INDIANA CAMP MEETING

June 8–14
 Indiana Academy
 24815 State Road 19
 Cicero, IN 46034
 Call: 317-844-6201
 E-mail: c2jloucks@aol.com
 Website: www.indysda.org

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

June 14
 Cicero Seventh-day Adventist Church
 24445 State Road 19
 Cicero, IN 46034
 Call: 317-856-5770
 E-mail: prarosario@aol.com

friendships, as I come away from my regular routine and spend time with old and new friends.

“I have been coming to camp meeting since I was a small child and have not missed a year. I would like to thank everyone who has made camp meeting possible over the years—from the students who help set up tents, clean dorms, restrooms and dishes to the volunteers who provide music and teach in the children’s divisions. I also want to thank the conference workers and pastors, and their wives, who give time and energy to provide seminars, classes and organization of camp meeting in general. It is an eternal gift to all who come!”

Why not begin now to make plans for you and your children to be a part of camp meeting in Indiana this year?

Gary Thurber is the Indiana Conference president.



Steve Darmody



George Guthrie



Ron and Collene Kelly



Jud Lake



Jeannie and Lonnie Melashenko



Richard O'Fill

LAKE REGION CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING

Go and Tell

BY JEROME L. DAVIS

For members of the Lake Region Conference, camp meeting is a very, very special occasion. Here are just three reasons why:

1. It is a time for our members to relax from the stresses of daily living and enjoy good preaching, good music and outstanding seminars.

2. It is a time for fellowship with brothers and sisters from the various parts of the Conference.

3. Children have plenty of time to play and learn about the things of God from their teachers in their Kindergarten, Primary, Junior and Earliteen classes. They also learn lessons from the outdoors in nature.

Last year our members left camp meeting with feelings of rejuvenation and thanksgiving for God's blessings in their lives.

This year's encampment will be just as spirit-filled, if not more so. Our theme will be, "Go and Tell." We've selected this theme in harmony with the North American Division's (NAD) goal of 100,000 individuals baptized for Christ in 2009 (Year of Pastoral Evangelism). In preparation for this, the NAD is recommending in 2008 for "conferences and churches to focus on the biblical teaching of righteousness by faith in Christ and on the infilling work of the Holy Spirit at camp meetings, convocations, seminars and retreats."



Each morning will begin with "Power Hour" at 6:00 a.m. This is the time when our campers share with one another God's blessings in their lives. They will also testify how they have led someone to Christ or plan to do so as disciples of Christ. Immediately following this service, our Lake Region pastors,

during the 6:30 a.m. "Preaching Hour," will challenge God's saints to "Go and Tell" the good news to someone else when they leave camp meeting. Our ministers will also deliver inspiring messages centered around this theme at the 7:30 a.m. "Evangelistic Hour."

Christian education, under the leadership of Ruth Horton, will again be one of our main features. Teachers of the Lake Region Conference will be commissioned for service in the schools where they labor and the churches where they serve.

Pamela Daly, children's ministries director, will have her team in place as they lift up the name of Jesus to our boys and girls. These 400 children look forward to camp meeting each year with great anticipation. They, too, will be challenged to "Go and Tell" their friends the good news of Christ's love for them.



Photos by Gary Burns

Ralph Shelton is our newly-elected youth ministries and Pathfinder director. He will have his co-workers in place as they focus on kingdom building. Their emphasis will not only be to challenge our youth to mold characters that will prepare them for the coming King, but also to guide them on how to share Jesus with their peers. Yes, our young people also must "Go and Tell."

Each of our other departmental directors will focus on the camp meeting theme as they and their facilitators lead out in the various workshops and seminars throughout the week. These leaders include Doris Gothard (women's ministries), Art and Kim Nowlin (family life), Charles Osborne (inner city), P.C. Willis (Sabbath school, personal ministries, prison ministries), Eddie Allen (stewardship), Edward Woods III (religious liberty), Debbie Young (A.S.I.) and Ray Young (communications).

Our bookstore will be open Monday through Friday. We will have available Bibles, magazines, literature, CDs, tapes and other Christian materials. Additionally, the Natural Connection (Lake Region Conference health food store) will have in stock both frozen and canned vegetarian foods for purchase.

We feel privileged and blessed to have two outstanding speakers for the Sabbath Divine Worship services. Ronald Smith, executive secretary of the Southern Union Conference, will speak the first Sabbath (June 21). Joseph Grider, senior minister of the Belfort Seventh-day Adventist Church in Houston, Texas, will be featured the second Sabbath (June 28). Camp meeting will conclude Saturday evening with the traditional ordination service.

If you have not registered for Camp Meeting 2008, you may do so by contacting the Treasury Department of the Lake Region Conference at 773-846-2661.

May God bless each and every one of you, and may He inspire each of us to "Go and Tell."

Jerome Davis is the president of the Lake Region Conference.

LAKE REGION CAMP MEETING

June 20-28
 Camp Wagner
 19088 Brownsville Street
 Cassopolis, MI 49031
 Call: 773-846-2661



Joseph Grider



Ronald Smith

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING

Camp Meeting Memories

BY LOREN NELSON

My first camp meeting recollections are from Oregon in 1969. My wife Linda, who grew up in the Oregon Conference, told me about the camp meeting in Gladstone, Oregon. Her family joined the church during an evangelistic effort with George Vandeman. When they attended their first camp meeting, the whole family moved into a tent for ten days. She told how she and her siblings looked forward to camp meeting from then on. Each year the family took vacation time to be at camp meeting, along with thousands of others.

Speakers like H.M.S. Richards, George Vandeman, J.L. Schuler, D.A. Delafield, Eric B. Hare, Josephine Cunnington Edwards and the like came to the campgrounds. So, my anticipation was great that first year. I was assigned to the youth tent. Nearly 2,000 young people packed that large tent. It was so big it had to be brought from Los Angeles. The main tent was far larger and took two or three days to erect. The pastors took three days to put the benches in the main tent and under the trees outside.

Later, when our children were born, they had identification to tell people they resided at cabin 1380 on top of the hill that overlooked the campground. They learned to love camp meeting and looked forward to it each summer as much as we did. They enjoyed seeing friends they met the previous year and vowed to meet again the next summer. They heard their mother talk about the great story teller, Josephine Cunnington Edwards, and got to meet her personally when I was a leader in the Primary department one year. They purchased her tapes at the Adventist Book Center and played them over and over until the tapes wore out.

Even today our children have lasting friendships that started at camp meeting. One year at the New York Camp Meeting our main speaker could not come, so a local person

was asked to speak. Her name was June Strong. She wrote the missionary book for the next year, and shared from her rich background. June challenged each family to pray for their little ones that, if time were to tarry, God would prepare their future mate in some other home so our children would always serve Jesus as Lord and Savior.

The Nelson family took that challenge seriously and started to pray that very summer for our two children. Little did we know that just a few short steps away, on the very same campground, the Rempher family started to pray for their three daughters and son. In fact, the middle two daughters were in the very same Primary tent with our son. We started that prayer in 1977 and kept praying that prayer until 1996, when our son Loren III and Suzanne Rempher were married. Suzanne was one of the Rempher girls whose parents began praying for their future mate that same year at camp meeting. Our daughter Leslie was already married to Matt Falor, whom she met at Great Lakes Adventist Academy. They were married in 1992.

One family camp meeting tradition revolved around our son, Loren III. He always celebrated his birthday at the Oregon Camp Meeting for the first seven years of his life. His grandmother always made a special cake with all the trim-



mings. But on his sixth birthday, she played a joke on him and gave him a Walla Walla sweet onion with a candle in the middle of it, instead of the traditional cake. We had so much fun laughing and teasing him that we forgot to bring the real cake out until it was time to go to another meeting. The cake was not eaten until after supper that year! The whole family remembers that year of camp meeting more than any other to this very day.

Another remembrance is when our daughter Leslie found new friends and invited them “home” for a meal without even asking Mom or Dad for permission. We learned to never be surprised at what would happen at camp meeting.

Yes, camp meeting has been an important family tradition. Our son was ordained to the gospel ministry a number of years ago at our sister camp meeting in Wisconsin. Camp meeting holds so many fond memories for our family. Oh how many times we were challenged to make a recommitment to our dear Lord and Savior, Jesus. How many times we were called back from wandering from our main focus in life. We remember how many friends we met that we look forward to seeing again at camp meeting. For those who have passed away, we look forward to the great reunion when Jesus returns.

Won't you join us for camp meeting this summer? Additional Michigan Camp Meeting information is available at www.misda.org.

Loren Nelson is the ministerial director of the Michigan Conference.



Lael Caesar



Mark Finley



Jay Gallimore



Quentin Purvis



Angel Rodriguez



David Shin

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

May 23–25

Camp Au Sable

2590 Camp Au Sable Drive

Grayling, MI 49738

Call: 517-316-1561

E-mail: dscarone@misda.org

CEDAR LAKE CAMP MEETING

June 20–28

Great Lakes Adventist Academy

7477 Academy Road

Cedar Lake, MI 48812

Call: 517-316-1581

E-mail: cstephan@misda.org

Website: www.misda.org

UPPER PENINSULA CAMP MEETING

August 1–3

Camp Sagola

2885 SR-M69

Sagola, MI 49881

Call: 906-639-2440

E-mail: campsagola@gmail.com

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING

Revive Us, Oh Lord

BY JAMES FOX

Wisconsin Camp Meeting begins on Friday night, June 20, and closes on Saturday night, June 28, in beautiful Westfield, Wisconsin. The theme for Wisconsin Camp Meeting 2008 is “Revive Us Lord.” This is more than a theme; it is a prayer for spiritual renewal that we invite all attendees to pray.

The opening weekend begins with Don Corkum, Wisconsin Conference president, giving the Friday evening address.

Ron Kelly, Cicero Church pastor and Indiana Conference family ministries director, will open each day with Morning Manna.

In the worship service, we will feature Roscoe Howard.

He has served his Lord as pastor, diversity trainer, conference youth leader, and is now president of the Mid-America Union of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. He is an effective and powerful preacher.

Jennifer Jill Schwirzer will touch hearts with her musical gift. She is presenting a gospel concert at 2:30 p.m. on the opening Sabbath, and will provide special music in varied divisions throughout the weekend.

Quality camp meeting seminars abound this year:

Clarence Ing from Weimar Institute will lecture each day on health.



Bruce and Dorothy Hayward will give valuable family life pointers and instruction.

Ed Reid will hold two seminars; one on eschatology or prophetic last day events, and the other on stewardship and family finances.

Clarence and Dianna Schilt will present “How to Die Right and Live to Tell About

It” in a morning seminar. This will be a biblical presentation on putting off self and putting on Christ. The afternoon sessions will offer practical tools and applications on how to live the biblical principles presented in the morning sessions.

In the late afternoon we will feature “Living in the Spirit.” This program will be a combination of prayer, testimony and spirituality.

Evenings services in the Pioneer Pavilion will feature Lee Venden, senior pastor of the Village Church in Walla Walla, Washington. His messages about Jesus and righteousness by faith have been a blessing to many.



Ken Kirkham



James Fox



Ken Kirkham



Bessie Kmieciak

Jere Patzer, North Pacific Union president, is a wonderful preacher and a cancer survivor. His wife is a native of Wisconsin and will be “coming home” for the camp meeting experience. Jere will be our featured presenter for the closing weekend.

The camp meeting experience exceeds the sum of its parts. By the power of the Holy Spirit, men and women, and boys and girls, are made whole at camp meeting.

If the language of your heart is “revive me, Lord,” if you are seeking to be nearer to Christ and experience His peace of mind, make Wisconsin Camp Meeting your June destination.

For more information, contact Aileen King at akking@wi.adventist.org, or call 608-241-5235, extension 104.

WISCONSIN CAMP MEETING

June 20-28
 Camp Wakonda
 W8368 County Rd. E.
 Oxford, WI 53952
 Call: 608-241-5235, ext. 104
 E-mail: akking@wi.adventist.org
 Website: www.wakonda.org

James Fox is the ministerial director and communication director of the Wisconsin Conference.



Roscoe Howard



Clarence Ing



Jere Patzer



Ed Reid



Jennifer Jill Schwirzer



Lee Venden

Illinois: Camp Akita

Live It Up!

Website: campakita.com

The Illinois Conference is pleased to introduce our new youth director, Art Preuss. Art joined us in January when he came over from the Southern New England Conference, where he has served the past few years as the associate youth director. While there, he worked closely with the Pathfinder program and the summer camp program. He and his wife Vivian have roots in Brazil, but Art grew up in Massachusetts. They both speak English, Portuguese and Spanish. Vivian has just completed a degree in nursing.

This summer marks the eighth summer camp season at Camp Akita. We are ready for another great year of camp experience. Art and his summer camp staff look forward to a busy summer leading kids to know Jesus and to be touched by His love. The theme for this year is “Live It Up!” which comes from the counsel of the Apostle Paul when he wrote a letter to the young man, Timothy, encouraging him to live his life in a very special way (see I Timothy 4:11–16).

Art says, “This summer the staff at Camp Akita will be working hard to show you what it means to “Live It Up!” while enjoying the beautiful surroundings and the activities that Camp Akita has to offer.”

Offered for the first time this year is a special camping program for single mothers and their children. The program is co-sponsored by the Illinois Conference youth and women’s ministries departments.



Several changes have been taking place at Camp Akita. The most obvious one is the road leading into the camp. The new entrance winds through the trees and goes directly to the new buildings on the campus. There are a couple of new cabins being

constructed right now to provide additional housing for campers. We also have acquired several additional horses.

So, kids, come and join the fun at Camp Akita at one of our camp programs this summer.

Write today for a cool brochure: Camp Akita, Youth Department, Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 619 Plainfield Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527. For more information, call 630-856-2857, e-mail info@campakita.com, or go online to register at www.campakita.com. Camp brochures have also been sent out to all of the Illinois Conference churches.



Kenneth A. Denslow is the Illinois Conference president.

CAMP DATES

- Single Moms and Kids Camp**, June 12-14 (All ages)
- Akita Family Camp Meeting**, June 15-21 (All ages)
- Cub Camp**, June 22-29 (Ages 7-9)
- Junior Camp I**, June 29-July 6 (Ages 10-12)
- Junior Camp II**, July 6-13 (Ages 10-12)
- Wilderness Adventure Camp**, July 1-27 (Ages 14+)
- Teen Camp I**, July 13-20 (Ages 13-15)
- Teen Camp II**, July 20-27 (Ages 13-15)
- Hispanic Youth Camps**, July 27-August 3 (Ages 9-13)

CAMP AKITA

Youth Department
 Illinois Conference
 619 Plainfield Road
 Willowbrook, IL 60527
 Call: 630-856-2857
 E-mail: info@campakita.com



Indiana: Timber Ridge Camp

When We All Work Together, God Blesses!

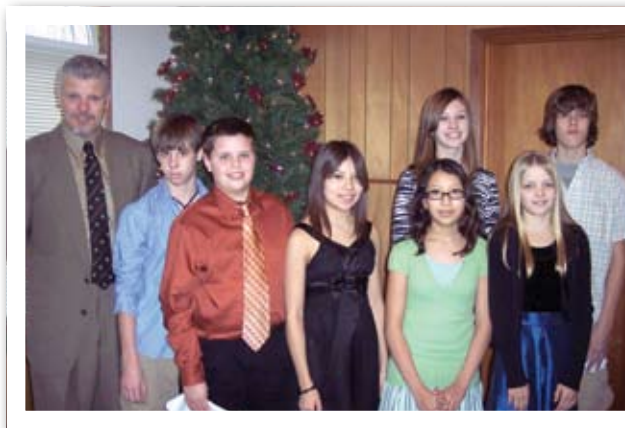
BY CHARLIE THOMPSON

Q • What do Indiana Academy, a local church, a youth ministry event and summer camp have in common?
• **Answer:** A lot!

December 1st was an exciting day for Monticello (Indiana) Church members. Several important things happened that day. First, the youth director from the Indiana Conference (me!) was visiting. Second, a group of dedicated students from Indiana Academy visited to share their musical talents. Third, and most important, seven young people were being baptized!

It all started when Monticello Church members made a commitment to send their young people to spend a week at Timber Ridge Camp (TRC). The young people worked hard at fundraisers throughout the year, and enough money was raised to spend a week at TRC.

When the young people arrived at camp, the TRC staff was prepared and praying that God would touch the hearts of every camper with whom they came in contact. During the week, through campfires, camp counsel and one-on-one



contact, these young people heard about and witnessed what a relationship with God could become. On Friday night they, along with many others, took a stand for Jesus. At TRC, we give young people an opportunity to make a decision, and invite them to come forward as a symbol of their commitment before God and their peers.

When word of these decisions reached Blake Hall, Monticello Church pastor, and others in the church, they decided it was time to get involved and fan the flame that was started at camp. These young people, who gave their hearts to Jesus and took their stand for Him, prepared for baptism by learning what it means to become a true disciple and an active member in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

As a result of a visit by some Indiana Academy students who shared their faith at the Monticello Church, there is an interest by some or all of the young people in attending the academy.



The Monticello Church is not through nurturing these young people. The church has started a Pathfinder club, sent their young people to a caving weekend at TRC, spent the weekend at the Indiana Conference Youth Rally, and, yes, they are sending them to TRC again this summer. In addition to camp and local church involvement, several of these young people participated in a conference-sponsored canoe trip.

When we all work together and allow God to lead, He can and will do great things for and with our youth! Support your conference youth programs, send your youth to summer camp, take time locally to lead them to Christ and keep asking God to guide you as you nurture our youth.

Camp brochures may be picked up at local churches, or applications may be requested from www.trccamp.org. Completed forms should be mailed to: Indiana Conference Youth Department, P.O. Box 1950, Carmel, IN 46082-1950. For additional information, send e-mail to youth@indysda.org; or call Trish Thompson at 317-844-6201. After June 15, call Trish at the camp at 812-829-2507.

Charlie Thompson is the youth director for the Indiana Conference.

TIMBER RIDGE CAMP DATES

Single Moms and Kids Camp, June 19–22 (*All ages*)

Blind Camp, June 22–29 (*All ages*)

Family Camp I, June 22–29 (*All ages*)

Cub Camp, June 29–July 6 (*Ages 7–10*)

Junior Camp I, July 6–13 (*Ages 10–13*)

Junior Camp II, July 13–20 (*Ages 10–13*)

Teen Camp, July 20–27 (*Ages 13–16*)

Family Camp II, July 27–August 3 (*All ages*)

TIMBER RIDGE CAMP

Youth Department

Indiana Conference

P.O. Box 1950

Carmel, IN 46082-1950

Call: 317-844-6201

Call: 812-829-2507, after June 15

E-mail: youth@indysda.org

Website: www.trccamp.org

Lake Region: Camp Wagner

Making Melodies in My Heart

BY KATHY J. HOWARD

There was a cute little song that I learned this past summer at Camp Wagner entitled, “Making Melodies in My Heart.” This tune was the summation of the spiritual aura that was felt by many as we enjoyed our time in Cassopolis, Michigan. For, you see, Camp Wagner is the place where fun begins! It also provides a time for our youth to get close and personal with the King of Kings.

Every morning began with campers meeting at the flag-pole to start the day with Jesus. Each unit proved their loyalty to God by memorizing and sharing a different verse of Scripture each day. The directors read from devotionals or gave personal testimonies that left the campers and me thinking about how awesome God really is! It also helped those of us who are Pathfinders not to break our No. 1 law, “Keep the morning watch.” I often found myself humming a tune that encouraged a few campers to join in and sing with me! We were not auditioning for “American Idol,” let’s just consider it a “joyful noise!”

Our next opportunity to gather and worship was after breakfast and inspection. Camp Council, under the picnic



shed, was the meeting place for the campers to bring their Bibles, lead out in song service and prayer, and receive a spiritual blessing from the speaker of the morning. The director had us spellbound! One particular series of talks was about the life of Joseph and how God used a bad situation for good. We also realized how much God loves us, and will protect

us if we would only believe and trust in Him.

We went throughout the day attending classes, earning Pathfinder honors, playing games, splashing in the swimming pool, enjoying field trips and just having lots of good, clean fun! At the close of the day, we lowered the flag, and sometimes gathered around a warm, crackly bonfire as the sun slowly slipped out of sight. We marveled at how won-



derful it felt just knowing that God was always near! We shared favorite songs and learned some new ones along the way—each one pointed to a relationship that was developing with our Savior. After a thought from the director, no circle was broken before an invitation was given to choose to follow or rededicate our lives to God. One evening, the campers and staff shared an agape feast, accepting God’s unconditional love. What a wonderful friend!

Come and join us this summer! I can promise you will have the time of your life. Ask for Director Cutie Pie; I’ll be the one “making melodies in my heart to the King of Kings!”

Contact 773-846-2661, ext. 206 for a registration form, or write: Youth Department, 8517 South State Street, Chicago, IL 60619.

Kathy J. Howard is the assistant director at Camp Wagner.

CAMP DATES

Single Moms with Kids Camp, July 10–13 (*All ages*)

Junior Camp 1, July 13–19 (*Ages 8–15*)

Junior Camp 2, July 20–26 (*Ages 8–15*)

Junior Camp 3, July 27–August 2 (*Ages 8–15*)

Basketball and Drum Corps, August 3–August 8 (*Ages 10–17*)

CAMP WAGNER

Youth Department

Lake Region Conference

8517 S. State Street

Chicago, IL 60619

Call: 773-846-2661, ext. 206

Michigan: Camp Au Sable & Sagola

God Was There

BY LIVVY KNOTT AND LYN WHITE

You often hear pastors tell us that God longs to pour out His blessings upon us, but if He actually did, they would be too numerous for us to handle them. When I heard that, I told God to try me—and boy, have His blessings been pouring down.

This summer God blessed me in the most powerful ways; ways that not only made me see how great and loving He is, but ways that went straight to my heart and changed me. God has never been so real to me before. I've never before been in a room where you could see, hear and feel God so strongly, yet that is what I've longed for—and what I believe we all long for in our very deepest heart.

I was at Camp Au Sable for Tween Camp last summer, and it was Friday night—the night everything leads up to. The staff prepares a special vesper program, and everything is made to be just right. So I was sitting there watching the skits, video clips and listening to the songs, and as the program progressed, any apathy that may have crept in at the beginning completely faded away.

The well-done program brought tears to my own eyes, and I know to the eyes of people around me. But it was when the pastor began to speak that we were all especially touched. He asked for people to stand up and share anything that God had impressed them with; and somehow, God gave that group of 12- and 13-year-olds courage and a voice to speak. People began to stand throughout the chapel, spill-



ing over about what God had done in their lives.

God was there. I could see Him—see Him in the kids standing up around me, waiting their turn to talk of their Jesus. And that's where I heard God—in the testimonies of my brothers and sisters in Christ, some saying that they had just decided to fully commit their lives to Him in baptism. God was there, I could feel Him. I felt Him in the tears sliding down my own cheeks as I tried to grasp exactly what God was doing in the room at that moment, and when I did grasp it, the tears only flowed harder.

God was pouring out His blessings—just like I had asked Him, too! And as the most intense joy I have ever felt in my life enveloped me, I couldn't help but wonder: *Why didn't I ask God to bless me sooner?*

Livvy Knott is from the Berrien Springs area. She attended Tween and Teen camps in 2007.

It won't take you long to discover that Camp Au Sable is located in an amazing setting and is obviously a gift from God. The scenery at camp is awe-inspiring and therapeutic. As you experience camp, you will find healing for your soul.



CAMP AU SABLE DATES

Adventure Camp, June 8–15 (Ages 8–9)

Junior Camp, June 15–22 (Ages 10–11)

Tween Camp, June 22–29 (Ages 12–13)

Teen Camp, June 29–July 6 (Ages 14–16)

Specialty Camp, July 6–11* (Ages 10–16)

Family Camp 1, July 13–20 (All Ages)

Family Camp 2, July 20–27 (All Ages)

Family Camp 3, July 27–August 3 (All Ages)

Mini Family Camp, August 6–10 (All Ages)

*This is a five-day camp. Campers are picked up on Friday.

CAMP SAGOLA DATES

Junior Camp, July 13–20 (Ages 8–12)

Youth Outpost, July 20–27 (Ages 13–16)

CAMP AU SABLE

Youth Department

Michigan Conference

P.O. Box 19009

Lansing, MI 48901-9009

Call: 517-316-1500

E-mail: lwhite@misda.org

Website: www.campausable.org

CAMP SAGOLA

2885 SR-M69

Sagola, MI 49881

Call: 906-748-0059

E-mail: campsagola@gmail.com

Website: www.campsagola.org

Come, experience adventure, explore, discover, tame your fears and reduce stress while taking time to hear the still, small voice of God.

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

Registration for Camp Au Sable began in March. The best way to register is online at www.campausable.org. If you have any questions, you may e-mail Lyn White, Youth Ministries Department secretary, at lwhite@misda.org.

If you live in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and would like to attend Camp Sagola, please contact Nathan Stearman at campsagola@gmail.com, or call 906-748-0059.

Lyn White is the Michigan Conference Youth Ministries Department secretary.

Wisconsin: Camp Wakonda

Run the Race

BY MIKE EDGE

One young person who received a swim band last summer wears it all year long. She can tell me on any given day how many days it is till camp, and how many months it is until she is eligible to be a staff member. A four-year staff member recently admitted publicly that working as a staff member has helped her choose a career. “I want to work at camp the rest of my life.”

What is it that causes this commitment to the camping experience? At Camp Wakonda it is the magical mix of ceramics, model rockets, water-skiing and cake decorating, combined with special campfire programs, horses and friends. Add to it committed staff whose highest goal is to model Jesus in such a way that leads each camper to love Him. The result is a week where Christian living is fun, and growing closer to Jesus is exciting.

Last year’s theme was “En Garde” (always ready). The focus was on the Word of God. From the decorations and evening campfire programs to the special Sabbath afternoon activity where campers interactively learned about the Waldenses and their love for God’s Word, our focus



was Scripture. Each Friday evening as the young campers finished supper, the boys’ and girls’ directors took a cabin unit aside. In a special ceremony they presented the campers with their very own Bible. Those Bibles are a treasured part of the camper’s experience.

Last summer each camper was given the call to commit their lives to Jesus. Sixty-seven percent chose to dedi-

cate or re-dedicate their lives to Jesus. Sixty-two campers chose to study for baptism.

Each summer miracles happen on a regular basis. Fear is overcome through love; failure is conquered by success. Hearts hurt by personal life challenges find healing through the loving touch of Jesus offered by dedicated and trained staff members.



Already, plans are being made for this summer. Our theme is “Run the Race.” With an Olympics background, campers will be guided to “run the race”—the race of life; the race that will lead them to eternity with Jesus. New activities will be added to the many favorites, and new campfire plays will highlight heroes of faith who took the challenge to live for Jesus seriously.

Because of its popularity, two weeks are planned for Family Camp. This means that Mom, Dad and the kids can all come to camp and experience the magic of Camp Wakonda. So whether you are between the ages of eight and 16 and want to come to camp without your parents, or are of any age and want to spend a special week together as family, Camp Wakonda is for you.

What’s so special about camp? Is it the newest activity that is the craze? Is it the friends who spend a week together once a year? Is it the swimming, skiing, archery and horseback riding? Is it the evening campfire? Yes, but it’s much more. It’s an opportunity for campers to see the love of Jesus portrayed and in action.

For more information, visit our website: www.wakonda.org, or call 608-241-5235 and ask for Aileen.

Mike Edge is the youth director for the Wisconsin Conference.

CAMP DATES

Junior Camp, July 6–13 (Ages 8–10)

Tween Camp, July 13–20 (Ages 10–12)

Teen Camp, July 20–27 (Ages 13–16)

Family Camp I, July 27–August 3 (All ages)

Family Camp II, August 3–10 (All ages)

CAMP WAKONDA

Youth Department

Wisconsin Conference

P.O. Box 7310

Madison, WI 53707-7310

Call: 608-241-5235

Website: www.wakonda.org



Adventist Hinsdale Hospital Employee Receives Adventist Health System's Community Service Award

Sher Fox likes to say she's got the best job at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital.

"My people are here because they choose to be," said Fox, director of volunteer services. "There's no monetary gain for them, yet they play such an important role at the hospital." Fox oversees 450 volunteers who logged more than 48,000 volunteer hours in 2006.

Fox, a 15-year employee, recently received the prestigious Community Service Award from Adventist Health System. Adventist Hinsdale Hospital is among 36 hospitals in the Adventist Health System. The system employs 43,000 people and treats nearly 4 million patients annually at facilities across the United States. The Downers Grove resident was recognized at AHS's 18th annual Conference on Mission, held Feb. 28–Mar. 1 in Lake Mary, Fla.

The award honors employees for their exemplary dedication—both personally and professionally—to extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. It also recognizes the generous contributions and positive impact they have had on improving their community's quality of life.

"No matter how busy Sher is, she always has time for each person," said Mary Kelling, president of the volunteer board at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. "I think she's so successful in keeping volunteers because she always says, 'We're so glad you're here.' She always makes the volunteers feel so important."

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital CEO Todd Werner nominated Fox for the award because she follows the golden rule of doing unto others as you would have others do unto you.

"Sher is a wonderful role model for Christian service," Werner said. "She is never too busy to listen and work with each and every volunteer."

Fox's legion of volunteers includes an escort who uses a motorized wheelchair to get around because a genetic disorder prevents him from walking. Volunteering at the hospital twice a week gives him increased mobility and a sense of accomplishment, Werner



AHH Volunteer director Sher Fox receives the Community Service award from Todd Werner, AHH CEO; Donald Jernigan, president and CEO Adventist Health System; and Walter L. Wright, then Adventist Health System board chairman.

noted, describing the example as one of many who demonstrate Fox's willingness to work with volunteers from all walks of life, regardless of ability.

"I believe everyone has a talent to offer," Fox said. "I will try to find a fit for every volunteer."

In the conference's keynote address, Monica Reed, CEO of Florida Hospital Celebration Health, described Jesus' approach to healthcare as "holistic and revolutionary."

"Jesus calls us to a level of social responsibility that is creative and ground-breaking," Reed said. "In Christ, there is help and hope and healing."

Since joining Adventist Hinsdale Hospital in 1993, Fox has observed many changes in her cadre of volunteers. Most notably, there are more college students and more male volunteers.

One of Fox's long-time volunteers has logged 20,000 volunteer hours—an incredibly high number that she doesn't expect to see again anytime soon. And that's unfortunate.

"The volunteer population is aging and it's not replenishing itself because so many people are in the workforce," Fox said.

Fox praised the high school

students who comprise her junior volunteers.

"We have a thriving teen program," Fox said. "Sure, we have the kids who are college bound and know even before they're out of high school that they want to be doctors. But we also have the kids who are undeclared and come just because they want to help."

Werner called Fox a strong, moral Christian leader.

"Sher is a wonderful advocate for each volunteer," Werner said, "which is why they all feel so close to her."

Lisa Parra, public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health

2008 Faculty and Staff Awards Presented

Andrews University's faculty and staff were joined by the Board of Trustees for their annual faculty and staff service awards presentation, followed by a reception in the Howard Performing Arts Center on Mon., Mar. 3.

Six faculty members were honored with the Daniel A. Augsburg Excellence in Teaching Award, an award recognizing faculty whose teaching reflects the high standards of excellence modeled by Augsburg in his 60 years of teaching at Andrews University. This year's recipients were Richard Davidson, professor of Old Testament interpretation and chair of the Old Testament Department; Stephen Thorman, professor of computer science and physics; Gary Gifford, associate professor of leadership and educational administration; Armand Poblete,

instructor of information systems; Margarita Mattingly, professor and chair of physics; and Carlos Flores, professor of music.

The Spiritual Life Award, which is bestowed upon any employee who has made a significant contribution to the spiritual life on campus, was presented to Jane Sabes, associate professor of history and political science. Described by her nominators as an ever-strong spiritual influence on students and colleagues alike, Sabes, who was surprised by the announcement, said, "I thought I was coming tonight to help pass out brochures!"

Three staff members were recognized with the Staff Excellence in Service Award. The award is given "in recognition of outstanding service to the university, the church, and the community, and for demonstrating, by precept and example, a Christ-centered life." This year's recipients were Lori Guerrero, dispatch supervisor for the Department of Public Safety; Jillian Panigot, an administrative assistant in the Physical Therapy Department; and Shelly Erhard, guest relations coordinator for the Office of Enrollment Management.

Erhard, who was affectionately referred to as Director of First Impressions in a video tribute, says her word creed is, "To be the first friendly face that makes someone feel welcome when they come to Andrews University."

Greg Offenbeck was given special rec-

ognition for his 30 years of continuous service with Andrews University.

The awards portion of the evening concluded with recognition of employees with five, ten, 15, 20 and 25 years of service with the University.

The evening also included various musical selections performed by Justin Jeffery, Juan Carlos-Rodriguez, Chenoa Jimenez and the *University Singers* conducted by Stephen Zork.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist,
University Relations

Cleon White Appointed Principal of Andrews Academy

Cleon White was appointed principal of Andrews Academy by the Andrews University Board of Trustees. White, who served as interim principal since July 2007, replaces Allan Chase, who accepted a position as the assistant superintendent of education for the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Although White has served as vice principal for Andrews Academy since 2002, he has also filled a number of roles since first joining the staff at the academy in 1976. He has taught chemistry and mathematics, and served as an advisor of the Student Association. White has spent 23 years of his career at Andrews Academy along with four years teaching at Hermiston Junior Academy in Oregon from 1981 to 1984.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist,
University Relations



Sarah Lee

Jane Sabes was honored with the 2008 Spiritual Life Award. She is recognized for her ever-strong spiritual influence on students and colleagues alike.



Sarah Lee

Stephen Thorman, Gary Gifford, Carlos Flores, Richard Davidson and Margarita Mattingly were recipients of the 2008 Daniel A. Augsburg Excellence in Teaching Award. (Not pictured: Armand Poblete)



Sarah Lee

Cleon White, Andrews Academy principal

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Academy Students Join Prison Ministry Workforce

Indiana—On Sun., Feb. 17, Indiana Academy (IA) students joined a total workforce of approximately 300 people to assist with Christmas Behind Bars, a prison outreach ministry, under the direction of Lemuel Vega of Bluffton, Ind. Each year volunteers with the organization visit as many as 35 county

jails and eight penitentiaries. During these outreach opportunities, volunteers share the love of Jesus through music and the spoken word. In an age where many prison ministries are finding doors closed to them, Christmas



Dee Seikel and the other students at Indiana Academy joined a total workforce of approximately 300 people to assemble 12,000 care bags for prison inmates.

Behind Bars, which has been in existence for more than 11 years, has seen an increased interest in its work, and has been invited to return on a regular basis to many facilities. While the ministry is called Christmas Behind



(Foreground): Indiana Academy students, Deanna Sturguss and Audrey Heinlein, kept up with the quick pace of the assembly line crew.

Bars, its work extends throughout the calendar year.

One unique feature of the ministry is the fact that volunteers are also permitted to distribute gift bags to the inmates, which include some basic hygiene items, snack foods, letters of encouragement and, most importantly, quality Christian literature, Bible study request cards and Bibles.

Sorting the many items required for the gifts, then packaging them into grocery-sized paper bags, requires a well-organized army of volunteers. A goal for the “Bagging Day” that took place on Feb. 17 was to prepare 12,000 bags in a five-hour time period. Under the direction of Vega, Ron Kelly (Cicero Church pastor) and Kurt Bandel of the Cicero Church, volunteers converged upon the Creative Assembly and Packaging complex near IA, whose management team graciously provided warehouse space for the bagging process.

Along with many students and staff from IA, a cross-section of persons was involved in the event.

Preschool children working alongside persons in their 80s provided a multi-generational approach to ministry. Joining in the effort were volunteers from cities across Indiana. Also assisting was at least one former inmate who has benefited from the ministry of Christmas Behind Bars and a chaplain from an Indiana county jail, who spoke to the volunteers to express his support and appreciation for the program.



Indiana Academy students Larry Brooks (striped shirt) and Elisa Wright (bright blue shirt) quickly filled bags that passed by on the assembly line. One of the items Elisa tossed in was breath mints.

After singing songs of praise and praying together, the volunteers were divided into six teams and quickly swung into action. Working in an assembly-line fashion, a sweet spirit of cooperation and goodwill was evident throughout the warehouse.

The question remained: Would it be possible to pack-

age 12,000 bags in such a short amount of time? The time passed quickly, and at approximately 1:00 p.m., just four hours after beginning the work, a welcomed announcement was made; the 12,000 bags had been completed!

Nathanael Hainey, a senior at IA, reflected on the day, “It was nice to see so many people coming together to help those who are often overlooked, but have a need for God just as much as everyone else.”



After the paper bags were filled and those bags were placed in larger plastic bags, Christian Pinango carted them away.

At the conclusion of the event, Kelly stated: “God’s church needs to recapture the joy of working together.” Truly, for the many volunteers from IA and several Seventh-day Adventist churches from across the conference that joy was experienced, and

will be multiplied many times by the inmates who receive the gift bags.

For more information about the ministry of Christmas Behind Bars, you may reach Lemuel Vega at 888-536-8342 or contact@christmasbehindbars.com.

Beth Bartlett, registrar, Indiana Academy

Church Hosts Breakfast for Local Chamber of Commerce Perc Club

Michigan—Nearly 60 people attended the Feb. 15 Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce Perc Club Breakfast, which was hosted for the first time by the Buchanan Seventh-day Adventist Church. Monroe Lemay, Chamber executive director and a Buchanan Church member explains: “The Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce provides leadership in



Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce Perc Club members go through the breakfast serving line.

promoting the spirit of the community through increased communication and cooperation among businesses, organizations and individuals in order to enhance the growth, prosperity and quality of life in the Buchanan area. As a result, we provide Monthly Perc Club Breakfast Meetings, which are breakfast gatherings sponsored by a local business or organization for the purpose of introducing their business, either through a presentation or walk-through tour to other members.”

At the Feb. 15 event, a vegetarian breakfast buffet, which included scrambled eggs, French toast, roasted potatoes and Morningstar Farms links and patties, was offered to the guests along with other vegetarian breakfast food for sampling. Recipes for the samples were available for the guests to take, and not one was left over.

Since the theme of the breakfast was “Putting Faith into Action,” four presentations were given covering the church, its role in the community, and how lessons of faith and service can be used in business and at home.

The first presentation was given by Karl Tsatalbasidis, pastor, which included the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s beginning, statistics about its institutions and information about its world-wide outreach programs. Ed Jackson, a church member and retired Wal-Mart district manager, gave the next portion of the program. Jackson talked about leadership and motivational topics, and how they relate to church, business and home. Also, church member Esther Jones gave a presentation on how the Buchanan Church reaches out to the community and beyond. Tsatalbasidis

closed the presentations by emphasizing how important health and lifestyle is to our Church.



Church member Esther Jones gave a presentation on the church’s outreach involvement with Operation Christmas Child.

Display tables were set up to show the work of Adventist Community Services and Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), the Adventist Health System, Operation



Members of the Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce Perc Club listen to presentations at their February breakfast, hosted by the Buchanan Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Christmas Child and CROP Walk. Each guest received a packet of information brochures about the Seventh-day Adventist Church to take home after the breakfast.

“This has been one of our largest attended Perc Club Breakfasts, 60 in total,” stated Lemay. “By far, one of our most interesting programs, and I would have to say [the] most versatile in nature. Many of our corporate Chamber members have commented on how little they knew about the Seventh-day Adventists, and how pleasantly surprised they were to see how much involvement and dedication the Faith has abroad as well in our own community. ... ‘I truly regret not making it to the last Perc Breakfast’ is

a common statement among those who didn’t attend.”

The Perc Club breakfast was the first of many ways that the Buchanan Church plans to introduce itself to the community of Buchanan. In August church members will take the Michigan Conference health van to the Old Mill Festival held in town,

to continue the health topic from the breakfast presentation.

Judi Doty, Buchanan Church member and Lake Union Herald back pages editor

Couples Celebrate God's Gift of Marriage with Agape Feast

Michigan—Feb. 15 marked the sixth annual Couples Agape Feast sponsored by the family life committee of Pioneer Memorial Church (PMC). “This is one of PMC’s best kept secrets!” exclaimed Elsie Buck, and then her husband Ed chimed in, “We have attended every year, and this one was by far the best one yet.”

With more than 120 present, the evening celebrated God’s gift of marriage with the theme, “The Power of Affirmation.” Couples were invited to attend if they wanted to strengthen and celebrate their marriages with a spiritual/romantic evening on Friday night, the beginning of Sabbath, in remembrance of the first night that God’s first marriage partners spent together.

As couples entered the Commons area, they were met with a display of a large, open family Bible, twinkling lights and warm candle light, hundreds of roses, delicious aromas and tables decorated with linen tablecloths, china, silver, crystal

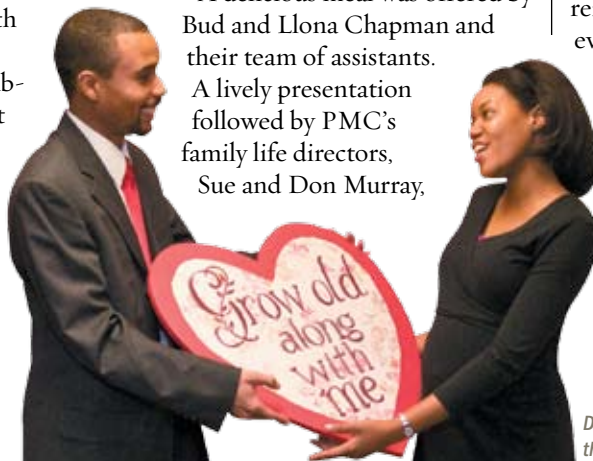


Donald and Lahai McKinnie and Eliasib and Yerusi Fajardo celebrated God’s gift of marriage at the sixth annual Couples Agape Feast.

and festive centerpieces. A PowerPoint presentation offered couples encouraging words, dazzling graphics and poignant questions related to love and marriage from a Christian perspective, which was accompanied by soft background music.

A delicious meal was offered by Bud and Llona Chapman and their team of assistants.

A lively presentation followed by PMC’s family life directors, Sue and Don Murray,



evening’s tone and theme.

While most committee members were too busy that evening to sit back and enjoy the event personally, they were dedicated to its success. David Steen said, “My intention when working on making the Agape Feast happen is to make this a night for couples to remember. I want them to have an evening to relax together with each other and with friends. I want it to be a beautiful evening with sights, sounds, smells and tastes that not only glorify God but enrich the mind and uplift the spirit.”

Next year’s Couples Agape Feast is scheduled for Feb. 13, 2009.

Susan Murray, Pioneer Memorial Church family life committee chair, and David Steen, Pioneer Memorial Church family life committee member

Donald and Lahai McKinnie renewed their commitment to one another.

Marriage Mentoring Training Offered

Michigan—It has been called the “Sleeping Giant” of the Church! Across the country couples are developing mentoring relationships with other couples in their churches. Throughout history mentoring has been the primary means of passing on knowledge and skills, and a new ministry at Pioneer Memorial Church has been established to improve new couples’ chances for lifelong love, and to vitalize our church family.

Intended for engaged and newly-married couples in their first three years of marriage, happy and more

experienced couples are committed to empowering these couples through sharing resources and relational experiences. The first training for those interested in becoming marriage mentors was held on Sun., Feb. 22, with six couples in attendance.

“The training was really helpful. It was cool and encouraging sitting with older couples, and it made us appreciate the joy of marriage longevity and that it is still possible today. The training revealed our strength, fallibility and need to depend on the Master. It was also a moment of reflecting on some core marriage values.

“Being a mentor is a privilege, interesting journey we guess, sharing our joys and sad moments, strength

and weaknesses, hopes and fears with another couple in view of helping them believe that they, too, can live happily by making Christ the center of attraction in their marriage,” shared Ugo-chukwu and Esther Elems.

Another marriage mentoring training session is scheduled later this spring. For more information about being a mentor couple, being mentored or starting this ministry in your church, contact Don or Susan Murray, Pioneer Memorial Church Marriage Mentoring Ministry coordinators, at 269-983-8092 or via e-mail at solutionseekers@sbcglobal.net.

Susan Murray, Marriage Mentoring Ministry coordinator, Pioneer Memorial Church

Pennies for Peru Project Blesses Many

Michigan and Wisconsin—In Nov. 2007, Chrystique Neibauer, an Estey (Mich.) Church member, and Melissa Hoffman, a Clare (Mich.) church member, felt impressed to raise money for a projector for the Seventh-day Adventist church in Urubamba, Peru. They decided the easiest way to get people to give money was to ask for their pennies, so they passed out 89 containers in the Estey, Clare, Edenville and Gladwin (Mich.) churches, and so began the Pennies for Peru project.



Ruben Lampa, a pastor in Peru, and his wife, became good friends of Chrystique Neibauer and Melissa Hoffman when they visited there. The two missionaries from Michigan promised to send more money to support his ministry soon.

The containers filled with pennies. Other donations from members of those four churches and some non-church members as well as from four members of the Wisconsin Rapids (Wis.) Church and a spaghetti fund-raiser dinner in the Edenville Church raised more than Neibauer and Hoffman ever dreamed of. In two months, they not only had the \$1,500 needed for a projector for Ruben Ccari Lampa, pastor of the Urubamba Church, but another \$1,168.01! In the past two years Lampa, who has 28 churches, has baptized 400 people and has set his sights on 1,000 this year!

The girls decided the extra money would go to the Huampani (Peru) Church which Hoffman helped build four years ago on a Maranatha trip and where two years ago Neibauer painted a mural of John baptizing Jesus.

In January, these two “missionaries” stuffed their four allotted suitcases full of things for the people of Peru, took a minimum of things for themselves, and just barely made the airline weight

restrictions. They packed 15 dress pants donated by an Edenville Church member. Hoffman and Neibauer also purchased vitamins to take. Another blessing was received when some physicians and dentists in Michigan donated things like toothpaste, tooth brushes, soaps, surgical gloves, pain-relievers, etc., to take as “care packages,” something the two have done themselves in the past.

On this trip Hoffman and Neibauer saw windows installed in the church where there



In two months, approximately \$2,700 was raised through the Pennies for Peru initiative. These funds were used to aid the ministry plans of Ruben Lampa, a pastor in Peru who has 28 churches. Pictured here is one of his churches.



had been none, and know of many other changes that will come, like concrete rooms for the children’s classes instead of the corrugated metal they now have, and a much needed TV and DVD player—all because of the Pennies for Peru project.

Two hundred dollars also went to the Hearts Café, a non-profit organization in Ollyantaytambo, which gives all of its profits to women’s and children’s projects in the Sacred Valley.

While Neibauer and Hoffman have no idea when they will again return to Peru, they have promised the pastor, and others who are devoted to this last-day work there, that they will send more money as it comes in. More Pennies for Peru containers are still to be turned in, and others are saving again.

If these two church members can do this in two months, think what each of us could do if we set our minds to it.



With funds raised through the Pennies for Peru project, much-needed audio/visual equipment was purchased to enhance the pastor’s ministry.

Rhonda Whetstone Neibauer, communication secretary, Wisconsin Rapids Seventh-day Adventist Church

For additional information about the Pennies for Peru project, visit www.cqgraphicdesign.com/pennies_for_peru_cq.html. To learn more about Hearts Café, visit www.heartscafe.org/index.html.

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 51.

Anniversaries



Verlen and Kathleen Sherwin celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 5, 2007, by having a dinner for 200 guests, hosted by their children, at the Brooke Lodge Conference Center in Augusta, Mich. They have been members of the Urbandale (Mich.) Church for 47 years.

Verlen "Pete" Sherwin and Kathleen "Kay" Limberg were married Aug. 4, 1957, in Port Huron, Mich., by Pastor James Cunningham. Verlen "Pete" has been a cabinet maker and self-employed residential builder opening his own business, Sherwin Construction, in 1962. Kathleen "Kay" has been a nurse (B.S.N.) and worked for 32 years at the Battle Creek Health System.

The Sherwin family includes Tim Sherwin of Riverside, Calif.; Teri and James Rodgers of Jackson, Mich.; Tom and Meredith Sherwin of Yucaipa, Calif.; Traci and Eric Umali of Grand Rapids, Mich.; and 12 grandchildren.

Obituaries

BAUMAN, Ulrich "Uldis" E., age 71; born May 8, 1936, in Riga, Latvia; died Dec. 18, 2007, in Niles, Mich. He was a member of the Michiana Fil-Am Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Liene (Vikсне); son, Alfred; and two grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Albert Malones, and interment was in Fishkill (N.Y.) Rural Cemetery.

BROCKELSBY, Janice E. (Nevel), age 73; born Feb. 24, 1934, in Richland Cty., Wis.; died Feb. 20, 2008, in Green Bay, Wis. She was a member of the Madison (Wis.) East Church.

Survivors include her sons, Richard and Gordon; daughters, Elaine Riley, Pegi Short and Melissa Brockelsby; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

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

BROWN, Shirley (Whorral), age 50; born Feb. 12, 1957, in Heber Springs, Ark.; died Jan. 16, 2008, in Dowagiac, Mich. She was a member of the Glenwood Church, Dowagiac.

Survivors include her stepsons, David and Jimmy Weaver, and Chuck, Delmon and Rick Brown; stepdaughters, Sheila (Brown) Miller and Sherry (Brown) Roden; mother, Jessie (Nicholson); brother, Gary Whorral; 22 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Christien Hodet and elders Earl Jenkins and Harry Sponseller, and interment was in Harrison Cemetery, Decatur, Mich.

FLUGSTAD, Kathryn E. (Luck), age 85; born May 18, 1922, in Pittsville, Wis.; died Dec. 28, 2007, in Lancaster, Wis. She was a member of the Lancaster Church.

Survivors include her son, Michael; daughters, Karen Klatt-Thorsby, Sherry Klein and Sandy Kennedy; 13 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Richard Williams and Pastor David Scofield, and interment was in Mound Cemetery, Pittsville.

GRAHN, Doris I. (Beebe), age 91; born May 8, 1916, in Blue River, Wis.; died Dec. 31, 2007, in DeForest, Wis. She was a member of the Madison (Wis.) East Church.

Survivors include her son, Larry P.; daughters, Loyala J. Grahn, Rosann J. Knopp, Cherie J. Hall and Janie E. Pauls; foster child, Herbert J. Grahn; 16 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by

Pastor Bill Ochs, Larry Grahn and Jason Loucks, and interment was in Sand Prairie Cemetery, Richland Center, Wis.

HASS, Herbert E., age 88; born July 21, 1919, in Chicago, Ill.; died Feb. 27, 2008, in Madison, Wis. He was a member of the Madison East Church.

Survivors include his wife, Carol J. (Kunce); son, David; stepson, James Killerman; stepdaughter, Lillie Yingling; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bill Ochs, and interment was in Roselawn Memorial Park Cemetery, Monona, Wis.

HINKEL, LaVerne, age 87; born Sept. 1, 1920, in Richland Cty., Wis.; died Jan. 6, 2008, in Richland Center, Wis. He was a member of the Richland Center Church.

Survivors include his brother, Marvin; and sister, Mary Alice Hinkel.

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

LEAK, Debbie (Merkel), age 54; born Feb. 15, 1953, in Niles, Mich.; died Feb. 8, 2008, in Buchanan, Mich. She was a member of the Edwardsburg (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Ken; sons, Kenneth M., Michael S. and Alex E.; brothers, Eugene, Fred, Norman and Phillip Merkel; sister, Marilyn Wood; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Isaias Santos and elder Kenneth Scribner, and interment was in Mission Hills Cemetery, Niles.

LUTZ, Harold E., age 84; born Mar. 22, 1923, in Holly, Mich.; died Feb. 8, 2008, in Fenton, Mich. He was a member of the Holly Church.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn (Bigford); daughter, Sherry Lindsted; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Gene Hall, and interment was in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly.

MATTHEWS, Augusta E. (Shaw), age 84; born Sept. 21, 1923, in Coatopa, Ala.; died Jan. 25, 2008, in Livonia, Mich. She

was a member of the Metropolitan Church, Plymouth, Mich.

Survivors include her daughter, Nichole Matthews; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bob Stewart, and interment was in Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Livonia.

PURKEY, Anne (Hejnal), age 87; born May 12, 1920, in Menominee, Mich.; died Feb. 18, 2008, in Houghton Lake, Mich. She was a member of the Houghton Lake Church, Prudenville, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Booth; sister, Gladys Franko; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Jim Wyckhoff, and interment will be in Lake City (Mich.) Cemetery.

RHODES, Helena S. (Metz), age 78; born Dec. 11, 1929, in Milwaukee, Wis.; died Jan. 22, 2008, in Berrien Center, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Gordon W.; son, Galen; and daughter, Carrie Rhodes.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Arne Swanson, with private inurnment.

RUSSELL, James S., age 94; born Mar. 14, 1913, in Toronto, Canada; died Jan. 10, 2008, in St. Joseph, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his sons, Malcolm and Glenn; daughters, Janet Russell and Ardis Wazdatskey; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Dwight K. Nelson, and inurnment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

RYZENGA, Evon L., age 50; born Sept. 4, 1957, in Holland, Mich.; died Feb. 7, 2008, in Hamilton, Mich. She was a member of the Allegan (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her mother, Marilyn (Hop); brother Dale Ryzenga; and sisters, Beverly Coyte, Bonnie Sagman, Karla Gemmill, Lori Veing and Kristi Van Dine.

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Memorial services were conducted by Elder Arthur Covell, and interment was in Restlawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Zeeland, Mich.

SCRIBNER, James G., age 65; born Mar. 10, 1942, in Berrien Springs, Mich.; died Jan. 20, 2008, in Dowagiac, Mich. He was a member of the Glenwood Church, Dowagiac.

Survivors include his wife, Cora Jean (Parker); sons, Brian, Kevin and Todd; father, Gordon; mother, Bethany (Hutchings); brothers, Kenneth and Chuck; sister, Jan Horn; and six grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Christien Hodet, with private inurnment at a later date in Dewey Lake Cemetery, Silver Creek Twp., Dowagiac.

SMITH, Marlene (Burton), age 51; born Jan. 29, 1956, in Jamaica; died Aug. 1, 2007, in Chicago, Ill. She was a member of the Shiloh Church, Chicago.

Survivors include her husband, Maxwell; son, Marlon "Randy" Reid; father, Leslie B. Burton; brother, Michael Burton Sr.; and sisters, Theresa "Betty" Burton and Josselt "Josie" Counter.

Funeral services were conducted by Keith Burton and Pastor Famous Murray, and interment was in Washington Memory Gardens Cemetery, Homewood, Ill.

WRIGHT, Glenna M. (Tatro), age 98; born July 17, 1909, in Enosburg Falls, Vt.; died Dec. 13, 2007, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her daughter, Carol L. Bradfield; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor James Bradfield, with private inurnment, Spring of 2008, in Otsego (Mich.) Cemetery.

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: \$28 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$38 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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THE INDIANA CONFERENCE OFFICE is now accepting applications for the full-time position of Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools.

Sunset Calendar

	May 2	May 9	May 16	May 23	May 30	Jun 6
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:44	8:52	8:59	9:05	9:11	9:16
Chicago, Ill.	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:12	8:18	8:22
Detroit, Mich.	8:33	8:41	8:48	8:55	9:01	9:05
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:40	8:47	8:53	9:00	9:05	9:10
La Crosse, Wis.	8:09	8:17	8:25	8:32	8:38	8:44
Lansing, Mich.	8:40	8:47	8:55	9:02	9:08	9:13
Madison, Wis.	8:00	8:08	8:16	8:22	8:29	8:34
Springfield, Ill.	7:54	8:01	8:08	8:14	8:19	8:24

Classifieds

For more information and a detailed job description, contact Mark Haynal at mhaynal@indysda.org or 317-370-7151.

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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.

Indiana

Pathfinder Fair: Feel the passion and potential of many young people at this annual state-wide event held **May 2-4** at Timber Ridge Camp. For details, contact Dean Whitlow at 812-829-2507, or e-mail dwhitlow@hughes.net.

Adventurer Family Weekend is a special learning and camping weekend for families with Adventurer-age children at Timber Ridge Camp, **May 16-18**. For registration information, contact Dean Whitlow at 812-829-2507, or e-mail dwhitlow@hughes.net.

Golf Fundraiser: Gather your friends and business associates to participate in the fourth annual Indianapolis Junior Academy and Cicero Elementary School golf outing on **May 21** at Bear Slide Golf Club in Cicero. Format: four-person scramble. Proceeds will benefit the two schools. You can support this event in many ways even if you do not play golf. Sign up before May 1 by e-mailing Mark Fogg at mark.fogg@unitedagc.com. Or you may go directly to the registration forms at <https://indc.netadventist.org/local/editor/IJAgolf08.pdf>.

B.I.K.E. (Bike Indiana Kilometer Excursion): Join this long weekend (**June 5-8**) of biking between 50 and 70 miles a day in Putnam County, Ind. A highlight of this year's tour will be an opportunity to canoe down Sugar Creek. Sabbath is a layover day of rest and fellowship. Bring your own tent, etc., for overnight camping. All meals and a sag wagon (mobile snack shop) will be provided. Go to www.trcamp.org to download registration forms, or call the Indiana Conference youth department at 317-844-6201.

North Vernon Seventh-day Adventist Church will celebrate their 100-year centennial on **Aug. 8 and 9**. All former

pastors, members, friends and current members are invited to come. The church is located at 3105 N. Hwy. 7, North Vernon, Ind. If you have questions, contact Pastor Manuel Ojeda by cell phone: 812-603-8731, or e-mail: manuelojeda25@hotmail.com; or Mary Ellen Perkins at 812-591-3805.

Legal Notice: Notice is hereby given that a regular Quadrennial Session of the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in the Chapel building at Indiana Academy, Route 19, Cicero, Ind., on Sun., **May 18, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m. Duly accredited delegates and delegates-at-large will be authorized to receive reports; elect a conference president, secretary-treasurer, departmental directors, a Conference Executive Committee, a K-12 Board of Education, a Standing Nominating Committee, and a Standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee; to enact, amend, or repeal Bylaws and vote recommended changes to the constitution for the Indiana Conference and Indiana Academy; and to issue credentials and licenses for the ensuing four years. Delegates will transact such other business as may properly come before the delegation. Each church will be entitled to one delegate for the church organization and one additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof. The Organizing Committee will meet the same day, Sun., May 18, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., at Indiana Academy. Gary Thurber, president
George Crumley, secretary-treasurer

Legal Notice: Notice is hereby given that a regular Quadrennial Session of the members of the Indiana Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., a corporation, will be held in connection with the Quadrennial Session of the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day

Adventists at Indiana Academy, Route 19, Cicero, Ind., on Sun., **May 18, 2008**.

The first meeting of the Association will be called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a board of directors for the ensuing quadrennial term, to restate and amend the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates of the Quadrennial Session of the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are likewise delegates to the Association meeting.

Gary Thurber, president
Gary Case, secretary

Lake Region

Fourth Annual Free Kidney Diagnostic Screening and Intervention will be held at Chicago Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, 7008 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, on **May 18**, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The health outreach, sponsored by the Shiloh Church Health Ministry partnering with the American Kidney Fund's Minority Intervention and Kidney Education (MIKE) Program, will provide comprehensive education, diagnostic screening, resource referral and supportive follow-up. If you have a family history of diabetes and high blood pressure, then you should be tested, for you are at a greater risk for kidney disease. For registration and pre-screening instructions, call Alleen Reese at 773-238-5646.

Planting for the Harvest—a soul-winning seminar for every church member. Presented by PROJECT: Steps to Christ at the Community Fellowship Church, Sabbath, **May 31**, at 2:30 p.m. You will learn how to effectively: (1) reach every home in your community with the everlasting gospel; (2) win souls no matter what your age, health or how busy you are; (3) sow seeds of truth for the final harvest; (4) hasten the soon coming of our Lord. For more information, call Casseta McGill at 248-967-6837. The church address is 27800 Southfield Rd., Lathrup Village, Mich., 48076.

Lake Union

Offerings

- May 3** Local Church Budget
- May 10** Disaster & Famine Relief
- May 17** Local Church Budget
- May 24** Local Conference Advance
- May 31** World Mission Budget Offering

Special Days

- May 3** Community Services Sabbath
- May 10** Youth Sabbath

North American Division

150-Year Anniversary Celebration of Ellen White's "The Great Controversy Vision": Make plans to come to Dayton, Ohio, for a once-in-a-lifetime celebration on **May 10**. This historical anniversary celebration will take place in Kettering, Ohio, on the lawn behind the Kettering Adventist Church. Featured speakers will include Jim Nix, Jon Paulien, Jan Paulsen, Smuts Van Rooyen and Charles D. Bradford. Concerts throughout the day will be provided



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If you are a creative teen or young adult who has something to say, it's time to get it off your chest. The *Lake Union Herald* is looking for stories of faith and challenge written by readers between the ages of 14 and 30. A \$100 scholarship will be awarded for each published entry. It's time that you are heard!

Send 400 words of hope, inspiration, and challenge to: herald@luc.adventist.org. Place "One Voice" in the subject line.

by *The Heritage Singers; Ponder, Harp, and Jennings*; and *Take 6*. The youth/young adult division will meet in the Kettering Church auditorium. Their speakers include Michael Knecht, Karl Haffner, Clarisa Worley Sprout and Jose Rojas. Music will be provided by Kettering College of Medical Arts, and Spring Valley, Mount Vernon and Indiana Academies. For more information, visit www.ohioadventist.org/article/php?id=134. Lunch will be provided. Free lunch meal tickets are available. The first 3,000 ticket orders will be honored. There is no limit to the number of tickets for a family or group. E-mail your order to information@ohioadventist.org (preferred method). Or phone your order to 1-740-397-4665, ext. 165. The ticket order deadline is Fri., May 2, at noon, provided tickets are still available.

The Hope of Survivors will host a Hope & Healing Conference at the Holiday Inn Select, 3 Appletree Square,

Bloomington, Minn., **June 27-28**. The purpose is to provide information and encouragement to those who have been abused by a pastor or spiritual leader. Advance registration is required. Please register online at www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com/registration.asp. There will be a \$40 per person, non-refundable charge for meals (lunch and dinner) served on June 28. Speakers include: Steve and Samantha Nelson; Tom Lemon, president of the Minn. Conference; Jennifer Jill Schwizer; and Stephanie Dawn (providing music).

Eagle (Idaho) Seventh-day Adventist Church invites all members (past and present), family and friends to the 100th anniversary of its organization, Fri. and Sabbath, **July 25 and 26**, 538 West State St., Eagle. For more information, contact Myrna Ferguson at 208-939-6568, or e-mail myfer40@msn.com.

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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Producing Miracles

BY GARY BURNS



I ran across an old photo today of the 1928 camp meeting at Devil's Lake, North Dakota. I received the photo some years ago while we were visiting family on their Western Dakota ranch.

I was amazed to hear Aunt Hazel tell how things were back then, as she pointed out several of my mother's older brothers and sisters in the photo. Travel and accommodations were very primitive by today's standards. Yet these hearty pioneers of faith valued coming together to encourage one another and to pool their resources to advance God's kingdom.

Typically, camp meeting was the time when big dreams and initiatives were shared for home and foreign missions. Plans for evangelism and raising new churches and schools were formed. In response, people gave sacrificially to see their dreams accomplished.

I wonder what it must have been like for a simple Scotts-Irish horse trainer/carpenter/handyman to support five children at the beginning of the Depression.

Ten years and four children later, Grandad and Grandma loaded mom with her brothers and sisters in the shelter built on the back of a truck (a scene right out of "Grapes of Wrath"), and made their way west in search of Christian education.

The last child was born before they arrived in the Walla Walla Valley, where Grandad managed to finance all ten children, and a few fatherless ones from the community (my dad being one of them), through Christian education. Self-sacrificing partnership with God produces miracles. I know. I'm one of them.

Gary Burns is the communication director of the Lake Union Conference.

Playing for the King

BY BRYAN FELLOWS

I love baseball! I love playing baseball, watching baseball and I love the feel of a baseball. You see, I live in a dorm that overlooks two baseball fields, and whether I'm going to the cafe for food, chapel for convocation, Civ & Ideas with Professor Strayer or just going to chill with some friends, I guarantee there is someone out there on one of those fields with a baseball.

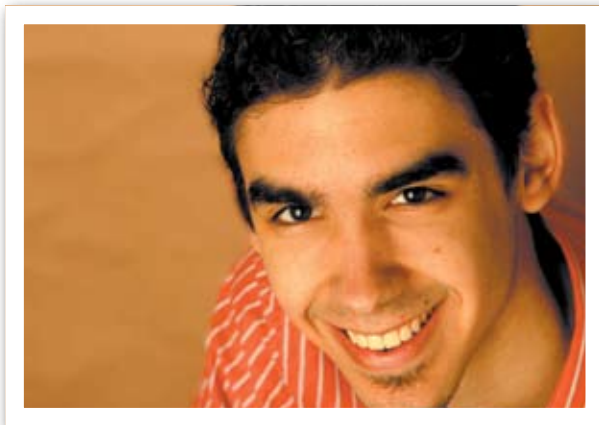
Sometimes I watch the guys play, and I notice that if a ball is hit toward second base and the second baseman misses it, the center fielder runs to cover his teammate. So as I was thinking about this, it hit me! No, not the ball, but a realization that God hasn't called me only to ministry, but He's called us all, and most importantly He's called us to be a team!

When the ball of opportunity comes our way, we need to seize those divine moments. Sometimes we miss them. Sometimes we're not equipped. Sometimes our gifts lie in other areas. But as a team, the Body of Christ can work together to pick up and throw that ball of opportunity to get the game-winning out.

Why am I involved in youth ministry? Why is it that when I should be studying or sleeping, often times I'm awake trying to come up with new ideas to share our God with my peers?

Because when I surround myself with a team of like-minded leaders who are better equipped than me, led by the Spirit and power of God, my leadership becomes *we* leadership. We leadership ultimately becomes His leadership, and the powerful "wow" moments that occur are life-changing.

To see God make inside-out changes to a person brings tears to my eyes. To see little Sudanese refugee boys forget their craving for food and cry out, "Jesus loves me this



I know" with all their hearts makes me realize there is no other place I'd rather be than on the winning team. It makes me realize that when I play for this team, I'm playing for the King of the universe!

If I don't fill my craving soul with Jesus, I will forever be empty. I've been empty all my church-going life, because Jesus was nothing more than a

Sabbath school story to me. But when I involve myself in ministry, and I see God work, that story comes alive. Jesus becomes real, and my life begins to take on meaning.

So I work and work and work, because I firmly believe that when a team of young out-of-the-box leaders, excited and passionate for Christ, impact the world, life as we know it will forever be changed. The splash that will be made will catapult us into the final milliseconds of our current context. That is the team I play for and the vision I have.

To be "7-day Adventists" should be our motto. To be beacons of hope should be our mission. To be followers of Christ should be our call. And on that day looking up into the sky, with outstretched hands, we'll touch the face of God.

Bryan Fellows is a sophomore at Andrews University studying communications and youth ministry. He is also the co-director of SPLASH, a youth ministry Bryan started with his roommate, Richmond Pajela. Bryan's number one goal in all he does is to make Jesus famous.



Chett Clayton

Chett Thomas Clayton, an 18-year-old senior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA), is from Alpena, Mich. Chett and his parents, Bevin and Jeanne Clayton, are members of the Alpena Church. Chett has attended GLAA for two years, and after graduation he plans to pursue a career in nursing and chaplaincy at Southern Adventist University.

"I have never seen such a passion for witnessing as in this young man," says Skip Hann, development, recruiting and alumni director at GLAA. Chett desires to make a difference in the lives of his peers and point them to Christ. He says he has learned even more while at GLAA about how important it is to share God's love with others, to treat everyone equally, and that everyone can work for God.

During his junior year, Chett assisted in a student-led evangelistic campaign and was a speaker at another. He also assisted with three seminars for the community. He has been actively involved in witnessing at GLAA, and this year coordinated groups to conduct Sabbath school and church in Michigan churches. Chett was the junior class senator, and this year is boys' club senator. His favorite class was Bible III, because he loved learning about prophecy and enjoyed the "Ultimate Witness" opportunities that allowed students to show someone why they believe what they do.

Chett enjoys evangelism, snowmobiling, snowboarding, water-skiing, wakeboarding, horseback riding, all sports and running.



Kasia Nephew

Kasia Lynn Nephew is an 18-year old senior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA). She and her parents, Jim and Jeanne Nephew, are members at the Pine Mountain View Church in Iron Mountain, Mich., where Jim is the pastor.

Kasia has dreamed of being a missionary to a faraway place ever since she was a little girl. As she grew, Kasia realized she can witness wherever she is. "It's the little things that make a difference," says Kasia. Taking time for others, talking to them in the dorm or halls, and just being there for them is the way she fulfills that dream right now.

As girls' captain of the *Aerokhanas* gymnastics team this year and girls' club pastor her junior year, Kasia has had lots of memorable times at GLAA. "I've learned to make the most of the opportunities God gives you," she says. Recently, Kasia enjoyed presenting the Sabbath school lesson at a local church where she also called for the offering.

Kasia's favorite classes have been Leadership and Bible IV. "These have helped me focus on others and think about the future," says Kasia. She sees herself in a medical field one day and ultimately fulfilling her dream to go to the mission field.

Kasia enjoys rock climbing, riding horses, gymnastics, singing and teaching others.

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 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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