

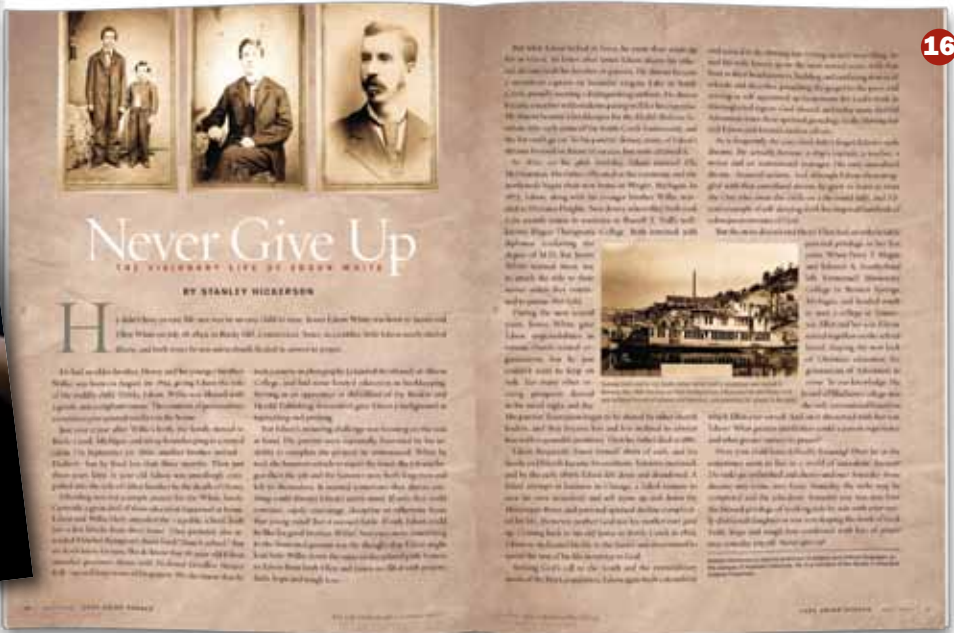
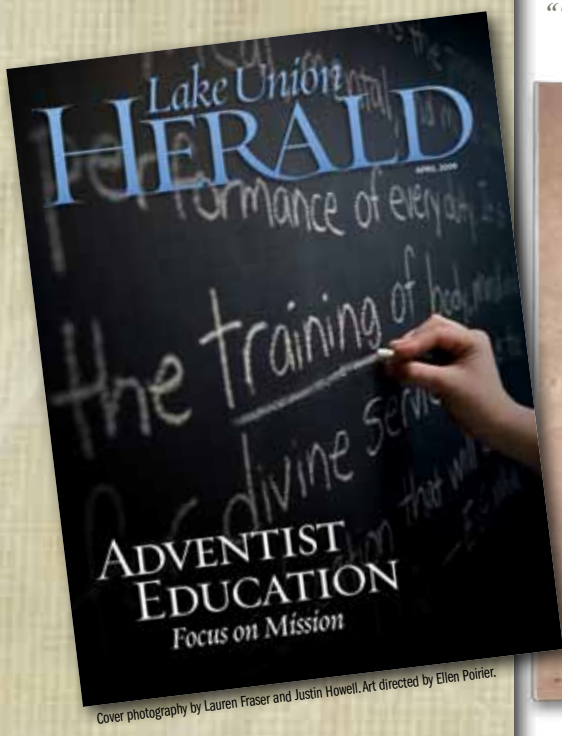
Lake Union HERALD

APRIL 2009

ADVENTIST EDUCATION

Focus on Mission

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



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The effectiveness of Adventist education is dependent on the united efforts of home, church and school to accomplish the mission of preparing young people for service. It is through the cooperative and harmonious development of the person that the image of the Creator is restored. Families, churches and schools throughout the Lake Union are realizing amazing results as they come closer and closer to this ideal.

Gary Burns
 Gary Burns, Editor



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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BY DON LIVESAY, LAKE UNION PRESIDENT

A Providential Education

Ken struggled with a major decision as he wrestled with the plow, trying to guide the team of horses in a straight line. The field was just outside Mt. Vernon, a small rural community in southern Illinois. It was the middle of the Great Depression, and the smell of the freshly-turned earth and the promise of a good harvest motivated each stumbling step.

But the real struggle of this young farm boy was not with the plow or the horses. Some years before a friendly neighbor invited him and his sister June to church. They accepted the invitation, but Ken's family was so poor that the only thing he had to wear was his other pair of bib overalls. Barefooted, he entered the church that first Sabbath to begin a spiritual journey that would transform his life. Week after week their faithful neighbor picked Ken and June up to take them to Sabbath school and worship; and soon, Ken and June both committed their lives to Jesus and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Now Ken faced another decision—a seemingly impossible decision. His new church family encouraged Ken to attend Broadview Academy. But where would the money come from? And how could he survive away from the security of his home in a big, unknown world?

Ken's hands clung to the plow as he steadied his steps in the soft, moist earth, his thoughts repeating over in his mind. It was not only a time to plow, it was a time to pray. Suddenly, he heard a voice as clear as day, "Kenneth, if you will go to Broadview Academy I will be with you."

His struggle was over. A few months later, Ken made the trip north to Broadview Academy. God was faithful to His promise. Not only did God see him through to graduation, but in marriage, through World War II and then Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University).

As he neared graduation, Ken returned home to visit his mother who was suffering in the final stages of cancer. Being at home under these circumstances provided an opportunity for reflection. As Ken thought about how God was faithful to him all through the years, his thoughts returned to that day behind the plow. Ken began to tell his dad the story of his struggle that day and how God answered him. His mother overheard the conversation and struggled to raise up on one arm and said, "What time of day was it when you heard the voice?"

Ken could picture the scene as if it were yesterday. "It was about three in the afternoon."

"That's the time of day I would go into the woods and pray for your future," his mother said.

As you may have guessed, Ken was my father. In his lifetime, he led hundreds of people to Christ and influenced thousands to share their faith. Adventist education was the vehicle God used to take a poor boy from a farm in southern Illinois and fashion him into an effective minister, a participant in the Gospel Commission.

Adventist education played a providential role in my father's life, my life, my wife Barbara's life and in the lives of our children. It is God's provision to prepare young people for service, to fulfill their purpose and to accomplish His mission.



Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Indiana **Miles Manderson** was born on April 2, 1999, in Auckland, New Zealand. When he was four years old, his family moved to the United States to seek the best treatment for their daughter, Kennedy-Rose, who was born with a very serious and little-understood birth defect. Since the Mandersons had extended family in La Porte, Indiana, their choice was to join them there to seek medical advice for Kennedy-Rose.



Miles Manderson's long-time wish to be baptized was finally realized when Eric Freking, La Porte Church pastor, baptized him in the lake by his home.

When Miles was five years old, he told his mommy and daddy, Damas and Dina Manderson, that he wanted to be baptized. His grandmother came from New Zealand for a visit, and she studied with Miles to prepare him for baptism. In Miles' words, this is how it happened: "Because I wanted to have a closer relationship with God, and because my grandma from New Zealand came to give me Bible studies every day and night, I gave my heart to Jesus. We sang hymns every night, and it taught me a lot about Him and it made me very happy."

Further studies in final preparation for his baptism were conducted by Eric Freking, La Porte Church pastor. On August 30, 2008, nine-year-old Miles' wish finally came true when he was baptized in the lake adjacent to his home! It was a lovely occasion when the church members gathered to witness Miles' baptism.

Mary Wadsworth-Cooke, communications secretary, La Porte Church

Michigan **Jeremy Bayer**'s journey to Christ took on a new dimension when Amber came into his life. Jeremy recognized Amber from their Arizona community when a mutual friend introduced them.

Jeremy soon found himself wanting more than a casual friendship with Amber, whose faith in God appeared consistent and stable compared to his rather "bumpy" spiritual journey.

They married and soon moved to Detroit, Michigan, where Amber's Adventist heritage led them to attend the Metropolitan Church. Jeremy studied the Bible on and off over the next five years with Bob Stewart, pastor. During this time, Amber and Jeremy had three children—Dylan, Brodie and Katy.

As Jeremy continued to study, he let go of some long-held beliefs that he found were not supported in the Bible. Through the studies, Jeremy sensed the Holy Spirit urging him to take the next step forward in baptism. He reasoned that it would be nice to be baptized along with his children, but realized that would be a long time coming.

Early in September 2008, Jeremy made his decision and asked Bob if he could be baptized. Amber shed tears of happiness and excitement as she listened to Jeremy publicly express his faith and watched him come up out of the water to begin a new life as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. Now the Bayers family is united in Christ.

Joy Hyde, communications secretary, Metropolitan Church



When Jeremy Bayer was baptized, his wife Amber shed tears of happiness. Now the Bayers are a family completely united in Christ. From left (back): Jeremy and Amber Bayer; (front) Dylan, Katy and Brodie Bayer



The Holy Spirit used the encouragement and friendship of the Hispanic group members, who meet at Madison East Church, to win the heart of Azarias Morales (left) and lead him to return to the Lord. Also pictured: William Ochs, Madison East Church pastor

Wisconsin **Azarias Morales** was born into an Adventist home in Chiapas, Mexico. When Azarias was very young, his parents divorced. Soon after, his mother got into some difficulty with the law and was put in prison. Since there was no one to take care of Azarias, he was forced to join his mother in her prison cell. A caring church took interest in their situation and helped Azarias' mother get out of prison. Out of a sense of gratitude for these caring people, she joined their fellowship.

Sometime later, the teachings of Scripture that she had been familiar with came to mind, and she decided that the place for her to be was in a Seventh-day Adventist Church. Azarias loved the Adventist congregation he attended with his mother, but as he grew older he drifted away from God and the church. When he was 19, Azarias met another young man who was preparing to become an Adventist pastor. This new friend kept encouraging him to come back to God. Although he did not listen or respond right away, the words of this young man kept echoing in Azarias' mind.

Two years later, Azarias and his brother started attending the newly established Hispanic group, which meets in the Madison East Church. As Azarias continued to attend worship services there, his faith began to grow anew. With the encouragement and friendship of the members, the Holy Spirit led him to return to the Lord and the faith of his mother, and Azarias was baptized on January 10.

William Ochs, pastor, Madison East Church, as shared with Bruce Babienko, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*

Michigan **Vasso Karapatsakis** felt the Holy Spirit's tug on his heart when he saw someone baptized at Camp Au Sable. Before Vasso left the camp, he filled out a form requesting baptism. Soon after Vasso returned home to the Metropolitan Church in Detroit, he witnessed another baptism. This time Vasso raised his hand when his pastor, Bob Stewart, asked if anyone would like to study for baptism.

Studying his Bible had a profound impact on Vasso's life. He discovered that in addition to being baptized with water, God wanted to transform his life by His Spirit. Through the lessons, Vasso embraced the sanctity of the Sabbath.

Vasso hopes the changes God has accomplished in his own life will attract near and dear family members and friends to Jesus. He really wants them to come to a growing, loving relationship with Jesus. Vasso's younger brothers, Nabeel and Ethan, also look to him for guidance and as an example. As a student at Plymouth High School, Vasso recognizes the potential to positively influence his friends and teachers there.



Vasso Karapatsakis, a new Metropolitan Church member, encourages all young people to study their Bibles more and learn more of the love Jesus has for them.

Vasso says baptism is the "most important decision a person can make, more important than getting married or anything else."

Joy Hyde, communications secretary, Metropolitan 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

Witnessing for the Lord

BY DEBRA BARR

When the “Mosaic” class at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy (GRAA) reached out to the community, they had seven Bible study interests after just 30 minutes. Those terrified of knocking on that first door were excited once they received their first positive response.

With the beginning of a new semester, teacher Lori Castillo set out to make witnessing real to her students. With the help of Phil Mills, pastor, Lori introduced the class to experiences that will not only reach those in the neighborhood, but will also change the lives of the students. Since Phil credits such outreach activities as the influencing factor in his own conversion, he jumped at the chance to help provide the GRAA students with a similar experience. He knew firsthand that “when the power of God uses you, it makes such a difference in your own life.”

Before making that first contact, the students prayed, studied and were tested on the historical books of prophecy, so they would be able to answer any question that might come their way. Once prepared, the next step was to ask strangers to study the Bible, and that step was the most terrifying. However, the very first “yes” made it exciting to be “telling the world” about their Jesus.

“When we went to the door, it was an exciting yet scary experience; but when we finished witnessing, we felt happy we accomplished God’s work,” remembers Joycelyn Davis and Kevin Ma.

“We really thought it was interesting to hear someone



Mission-driven students at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy experience the joy of leading others to Jesus. From left (back): Ricky Griggs, Brianna LaMore, Phil Mills (pastor), Kevin Ma and Lori Castillo (teacher, “Mosaic” class); (front): Matthew Langton, Marlee Langton, Megan DeYoung, Abigail Tejada, Chandelle Lescaj and Joycelyn Davis

who didn’t believe that there was even a God,” stated Abigail Tejada and Chandelle Lescaj.

“Our last house we went to, we found a lady who was interested in Bible studies. It was very nerve-racking waiting at the door; but once we got talking to her, it turned out to be very rewarding,” remarked Megan DeYoung and Brianna LaMore.

“Overall, our students had not even given Bible studies

before. This was our first outing; we can’t wait to see each and every one of our students grow in confidence as they do more door to door, especially when they start to get to know these people one on one, giving them Bible studies. Our biggest goal and prayer is that we are able to [lead more individuals] to our Lord Jesus. I believe that it will be a life-changing experience for us all. Please keep us in your prayers as we work for our Father’s Kingdom,” said Lori.

The new friends the students are making will be invited to learn more about Jesus and His plan for their lives at a series of meetings presented by the seniors in April. In Isaiah 43:10, believers are called to be a witness for the Lord. Thanks to mission-driven leadership, the young people at GRAA are learning to be mission-driven students.

Debra Barr is the principal at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy in Michigan.



Side by Side We Stand

BY ARLENE LEAVITT

A group of 36 from Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA) headed for San Francisco de Macoris, in the Dominican Republic, in November 2008. We teamed up with ShareHim, a ministry that coordinates evangelism around the world, and preached about Jesus at 15 different sites simultaneously.

Each afternoon teams traveled by bus to the sites. Bumping along roads with potholes bigger than we had ever seen, we prayed for God's amazing power to touch the lives of those who would hear us.

One night Joe Rivera's (GLAA '08) translator didn't show up. Stalling for time, Joe put a Jesus video on and called me. Hearing panic in Joe's voice, I promised to try to get help. Unsuccessful, I called Joe back and told him to pray and start preaching; then the medical team and I began to pray earnestly for Joe. As Joe began to preach a man came forward to help translate. The man could hardly speak English; but, according to Joe, "The Holy Spirit gave this man the ability to speak!" Joe's call at the end brought everyone to their feet in commitment to Jesus Christ.

Many of the sites were primitive. With a tarp hung up over chairs, our feet sank in the soft, muddy ground while we sprayed mosquito repellent liberally. Despite challenges, the people we met made a lasting impression on our group.

During the day the medical team visited the meeting sites and provided free medical clinics. These were powerful tools to reach the people, and the evening attendance always rose. In the end, 74 people were baptized and many more are preparing.

Andrea Szykowski (GLAA '10) said, "On the last Sat-



A group of 36 from Great Lakes Adventist Academy traveled to the Dominican Republic to preach about Jesus at 15 different sites. They also conducted medical clinics that helped swell the evening meeting crowds.

urday night of our evangelistic campaign, Olivia Titus sang a song in English for our friends at our church. 'Side by Side' was the song we chose. 'I'll meet you in Heaven...', we sang as our emotions rose, realizing how final our good-bye probably was. This had been our goal from the very beginning—our ultimate reason for going to share with the people of the Dominican Republic.

We sat down, our hearts full of hope for these people. All of a sudden, about ten people got up and starting singing the same song back to us in Spanish! When they were done, our translator told us, "These people sang that to you because they want you to know that they will see you in Heaven!" Amazement and praise to God rose up in our hearts, spilling out from our eyes, just to think that they wanted to be in Heaven with us! I have memories and friends, old and new, that will last forever."

"The mission trip was an amazing experience, but one of the biggest blessings was watching my friends grow closer to Christ," said Bethany Leavitt (GLAA '11).

We are looking forward to standing side by side with our new friends from the Dominican Republic in Heaven soon.

Arlene Leavitt is the assistant alumni/development director for Great Lakes Adventist Academy.



How Could I Have Missed It?

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

The idea came to him the evening before his son's funeral. Standing on the funeral home porch, Don Hooton told his Sunday school director how clueless he and his wife had been about the signs of their teenage son's steroid use. "I didn't know any better," he said, "just like 99 percent of parents out there." Since Taylor Hooton's death, ruled a suicide, Don has made truth his purpose. Steroids killed his son.

Recently, I heard Don say that only 20 percent of teens across the country who he's talked to say that anyone ever talked with them about the dangers of steroid use. That unnerved me and prompted me to share this column with you.

Steroid use has made headlines for many years in sports news, but it is also a real and constant danger for teens, both male and female. Steroids are synthetic substances similar to the male sex hormone testosterone. They do have legitimate medical uses, and the type of steroids (corticosteroids) often prescribed to reduce swelling are not anabolic steroids and don't have the same harmful effects.

Generally called "roids" or "juice," anabolic refers to muscle-building steroids; and androgenic refers to the class that increases male characteristics. Identified by how they are introduced into the body, there are ten major classifications of anabolic steroid preparations. Some steroid users pop pills, others use hypodermic needles to inject steroids (either oil-based or water-based) into the muscle. There are patches, gels, aerosols, sublingual (under the tongue), homemade transdermal preparations, androgen-estrogen combinations, and even over the counter and counterfeit anabolic steroids.

It's not uncommon for a person to take two or more kinds of steroids at once, which is called stacking. In Taylor's room, his dad found a packet of Clomid, a female fertility drug, he had been taking to boost his body's production of testosterone. Traces of an anabolic steroid and citalopram, a drug prescribed for depression, were also in his system.

Taylor had experienced extreme fluctuations in emotions, from euphoria to rage, as well as irritability and

depression. His parents noticed his anger and depression and were taking active steps to assist him. After his death, they also recalled the acne on his back and the changes in his hair, which appeared unusually oily. They assumed these were part of normal adolescence. Unfortunately, Taylor was an expert at hiding much from his parents.

What else should you look for? Other signs include quick weight gain with larger muscle mass, jaundice, swelling of the feet and lower legs, shaking or trembling, persistent body odors, purple or red spots on the body, tiredness and fatigue. Disfiguring effects can include baldness, eventual testicular atrophy, induced gynecomastia (development of breasts in males) and eventually liver damage and cancer, heart attacks and even strokes. Girls can become more masculine, their voices deepen, they grow excessive body hair even though they may experience baldness, and their breast size decreases. By injecting steroids by needle, teens can add HIV and hepatitis B and C to their list of dangerous outcomes.

While we know that knowledge does not necessarily change behavior, our children deserve to know the dangers of steroid use. My plea is that readers will have these important conversations directly with their pre-teens and teens. There is no substitute for parental involvement. Let your kids know they are so valuable, so precious, that you believe they deserve to know, from you, how to stay safe.

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



Fiber can substantially reduce your risk of death.



Fiber can help you manage diabetes and heart disease.

Fabulous Fiber

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Consumer interest in high fiber foods has increased substantially during the past few years. Companies are creating many foods that claim a high fiber content. Polydextrose used for sweetening donuts, cellulose added to your bread or carob bean gum to thicken your pudding or sour cream—these are all dietary fibers, but not exactly the optimal way to get fiber into your diet.

How much fiber do we need? It depends upon our age and gender. Approximately 20–35 grams a day is recommended for optimal health, with less for small children. One-half cup of beans typically provides four to eight grams, while a serving of whole grain breads, cereals or muffins may have two to seven grams of fiber. Fruits and vegetables typically supply three to five grams per serving, while an ounce of nuts has three grams. And the fiber provides more health benefits than just alleviating constipation.

A Dutch study recently found that for every additional ten grams of daily fiber intake, there was a decline of nine percent in all causes of death in the participants. The greatest benefit of the extra ten grams of fiber was a 17 percent drop in risk of death from heart disease.

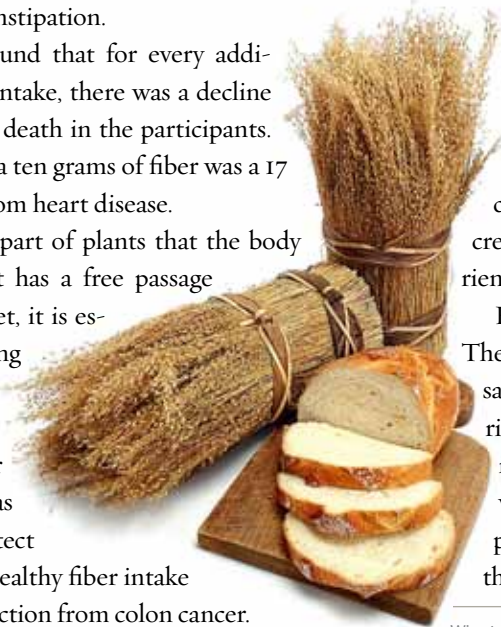
What is fiber? Fiber is the part of plants that the body does not digest and absorb. It has a free passage through the small intestines. Yet, it is essential for good health. Getting plenty of fiber helps prevent hemorrhoids, since fiber will help form softer and bulkier stools. Fiber-rich foods, such as popcorn and nuts, actually protect against diverticular disease. A healthy fiber intake is also believed to provide protection from colon cancer.

There are different types of fiber. The water-insoluble

fiber found in wheat, rice, nuts and some legumes and vegetables helps stimulate peristalsis and assists with bowel regularity. The water-soluble fiber found in fruits, peas and beans, flax, carrots and squash, oatmeal and barley have gelling properties that slow down starch digestion and glucose absorption. This translates into lessened insulin needs. Diabetics who ate a diet high in soluble fiber were shown to have a 30 percent decrease in blood glucose levels. A high fiber meal can also reduce insulin levels in those with insulin resistance.

Foods that are rich in soluble fiber help lower blood cholesterol levels and the risk of heart disease. An analysis of two dozen clinical trials revealed that those who increased their fiber intake for two months experienced significant reductions in blood pressure.

Foods rich in fiber help manage your weight. They require significant chewing and increase satiety, since you feel full sooner with foods rich in fiber. Fiber-rich foods are usually lower in fat and calories, and provide a higher food volume to calorie ratio. This usually means people eat less and hence weigh less when their meals are rich in fiber.



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



EXTREME GRACE

When the Economy Falls Apart...

A GLIMPSE INTO GOD'S STOREHOUSE

BY DICK DUERKSEN

I was ten when my father died and ripped the heart from our home. Dad was training to be a pastor. He loved God, told great stories and was everyone's friend. The three of us—Mom, my brother Jack and I—did our best to live without him, but everything fell apart before we could take a breath.

Mom sold our horse, our old broken-down cart and our furniture and said we were “going camping” in the woods. It was fun for a few weeks, but then we started begging to go back to town and play with our friends. And Jack was always asking when he could sleep in his old room again.

We didn't understand how poor we were till the afternoon Mom came home weeping.

“Boys,” she said with a voice that sounded like crushed gravel, “I have terrible news. When your father started school he borrowed a large amount of money from Benjamin, the merchant. The merchant is demanding full payment by tomorrow night.”

Mom went quiet, pulled us closer than we could get and sobbed till we were sure her body would break.

“There is no money to give. Nothing.”

Her sobs grew louder, and for a moment I was glad we had moved far out into the woods where no one could hear her cry. Then she looked straight through our eyes and drove a knife into our lives.

“The merchant says he'll only cancel the debt if I give him my sons as slaves.”

We wept, argued and schemed all night. By morning we had slipped from our hideout and were standing near the teacher's bench in the School of the Prophets, right where Dad would have been attending classes with teacher Elisha.

Mom sobbed our story as Elisha's students listened in silent amazement. Jack and I stood nearby, heads hanging low in hopes no one would notice we were there.

“What do you have in your house?” Elisha asked.

“Only a small jar of oil. Everything else is gone.” Mom's

voice was like the whisper of an early morning dove.

“Go then,” the prophet boomed, “gather all the jars you can from everyone in the village and fill them with oil. Don't just gather a few!” Then the teacher turned back to his class as if we hadn't even come.

We gathered jars all day—small, medium, large and one super-huge pot from merchant Benjamin. God gave us miraculous strength so we could carry the jars, but then the miracle happened.

Mom took her “almost empty” jar of oil from its hiding place and carried it over to the merchant's super-huge pot. She lifted the oil high and prayed for God to “give me back my sons.” Her voice cracked several times in the prayer, like a dry tree suffering in a big wind.

The next hour was like watching the Jordan in full flood. Oil flowed till the first pot was full; then, without turning the jar right-side-up, Mom moved to the next and the next and the next pot till we had filled the entire collection nearly over their tops. We were whooping and shouting and hollering and laughing like God was re-creating earth right in front of our eyes!

When they were all full we ran back through town to the teacher's bench, and then stumbled over ourselves trying to describe the endless oil. Finally, Mom made the big ask: “What do we do now?”

“That's easy,” Elisha smiled. “Sell the oil in the village. Pay your debts with the proceeds, and use the rest to live well as God has provided.”

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



Dear God...

BY DON JACOBSEN

Dear God,

Thanks for letting me hear from one of my old teachers yesterday. (Seems like these days most of my former teachers are old.) It gave me cause to stop and rejoice over the influence some had on my life. Paul Heubach, Gordon Balharrie, Mrs. Lay, Pop Wallace, John and Thelma Lamberton, W. L. Schoepflin and a train load of others—I am so indebted to them.

It also reminded me about that time in Fairbanks, Alaska, when I was invited to speak to the students at the local high school. Even this many years later, I remember being terribly impressed with that school—a beautiful facility with huge double-pane windows, an ice skating rink, and warm school buses spilling out their kids at a covered loading area...

The next morning I remember driving over to our little church school. It wasn't much. The folks had begun to build a new little school building, but all they got finished was the basement. Now, two years later, they were still having school there.

Earnest parents had built the desks and the square plywood chairs. It was ten degrees cooler on one side of the room than the other. The anemic library consisted of a bookshelf not quite full. Even the aging upright piano was out of tune. I remember asking myself something like, *I wonder if we're doing right by our kids. I wonder if this is fair. I wonder if they're being cheated.*

But it was worship time, and the answer soon began to come clear to me. The kids—all dozen or so of them—stood beside their desks and began to sing, "What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought, since Jesus came into my heart..."

I had been invited to give the worship thought for the morning, and I remember I could hardly speak. This was a sacred place. Not ornate, but sacred. Not plush, but hallowed. They might not have access to the latest gizmos, but they could meet Jesus here. They might not learn how to ice skate at recess, but they would be taught how to walk with Him.

"I will go there to dwell in that city, I know," they sang, "since Jesus came into my heart..." These kids were discovering where they were headed and the only way to get there. By now I wasn't even hearing the dissonance of the piano; I was hearing the sweet intent of the second graders, the fifth graders and the seventh grader. I was feeling sorry for a bunch of kids across town who weren't getting the whole story, at least not at school.

I still felt bad about the building—we would eventually remedy that—but I was remembering priorities. I was thankful for members who were willing to pay taxes to support the school across town plus thousands more to support this one. A teacher willing to work with meager tools to give her students gifts of eternal consequence. Parents who would go without, in order that their kids might discover something that could never be taken away.

God, I think that morning taught me a deep reverence for a place where Christian teachers can stand before their students, fan a relationship and plant a vision. One of these days I want to sit at Your feet and have You tell me all the stories of the times that happened. And I'll tell You mine.

Amen.

Your friend

Don Jacobsen is the former president of Adventist World Radio. He writes from Hiawassee, Georgia.

A House of Prayer for All People

BY DOROTHY DEER

The Hinsdale House of Prayer opened on Friday, February 6, at 5 p.m., and stayed open 24/7 for the following week. It attracted more than 200 people seeking God in prayer. Visitors represented all ages and a variety of prayer groups. Whole families came to worship together.

Jen Hadraba, a young adult member of the Hinsdale Adventist Church, shares her experience: “After everyone left at 2 a.m., I actually stayed up for another three hours. It was Thursday, near the end of the week, and I was reading what other people wrote, reading the walls and the journals. It was like, I had a lot of stuff to release and I was finally able to. I broke down and cried. I needed to really let go of things. I slept for only one hour and then watched the sunrise. ... I will never forget that day for the rest of my life. It was awesome! It was so awesome—God was right there. I could feel Him there. It was one of the best days of my life.”

Debbie Engelkemier, a local church elder, said, “The time I spent in the House of Prayer was amazing—to hear 16- and 17-year-old boys pray out loud together for 20 minutes, to watch people pour their hearts out to God, to see evidence of young children praising God, to participate in the experience.” Special attention has been given to make the praise room in the house of prayer a special place for worship. Engelkemier says it reminds her of the wilderness tabernacle with the lighting and flowing fabric with “God above, always shining His light so people knew He was present above the sanctuary. The House of Prayer in Hinsdale is a shining light in our community.”



*Logan Starkenburg, of the ACTS Sabbath school class at Hinsdale Church, reads *The Radical Prayer* by Derek J. Morris.*



Propped on pillows, Diana Wilson finds time to read the Bible at the House of Prayer.

“The goal is to have this place open for everyone who needs God at any time for any reason,” said Lidija Djordjevic, associate pastor of the Hinsdale Adventist Church. “Seeing people come burdened and leave with peace, observing recurring visitors, hearing how much this place means to them, watching them bring their friends and coworkers—there is no greater joy than this! But this could not have happened without so many people willing to invest their time, energy and resources.”

This joint project involved people from Hinsdale Fil-Am, Downers Grove and Elmhurst churches; Hinsdale Adventist Academy; ACTS Sabbath school team; OASIS area youth; Sunday Night Prayer Group; and numerous individuals with a passion for

prayer. The House of Prayer was created on the main level of an old house the Hinsdale Adventist Church has owned for many years but seldom used in the recent past.

The next 24/7 Week of Prayer will be May 1 to 8 to coincide with the National Day of Prayer on May 7. For information on regular weekly hours and future 24/7 weeks of prayer, check the church Web site: www.hsdac.com/HouseofPrayer.htm.

Dorothy Deer is the communications ministry director at Hinsdale Adventist Church.



LA IGLESIA SALUDABLE

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“Todos debieran conocer los agentes que la naturaleza provee como remedios, y saber aplicarlos. Es de suma importancia darse cuenta exacta de los principios implicados en el tratamiento de los enfermos, y recibir una instrucción práctica que le habilite a uno para hacer uso correcto de estos conocimientos” (Ministerio de curación, p. 89).

La primera vez que leí las palabras citadas arriba fue al tomar una clase en la Universidad Andrews que trataba sobre los beneficios de los remedios naturales. En esa clase aprendí, por primera vez, que hay ocho remedios naturales: el aire puro, el sol, la abstinencia, el descanso, el ejercicio, un régimen alimenticio adecuado, el agua y la confianza en el poder divino, todos esenciales para mantener el cuerpo sano y saludable.

Luego, cuando entré en el ministerio, llegué a promover estos principios en la comunidad, y como resultado pude ver a personas dar testimonio de cómo la aplicación de esos remedios había mejorado sus vidas. Al pasar los años, sin embargo, no sólo me preocupé por la salud del cuerpo físico, sino también el cuerpo espiritual, o sea, la iglesia que también sufre y necesita sanidad.



No se pierda nuestro entrenamiento para laicos en mayo.

Hace un tiempo tuve la oportunidad de asistir a un seminario titulado: “Desarrollo Natural de Iglesias”, en el cual descubrí que en la Biblia y en el Espíritu de Profecía existen ciertos principios con respecto al crecimiento de la iglesia que son semejantes a los principios de la salud del cuerpo. Fue especialmente interesante descubrir que así como hay ocho remedios naturales para sanar el cuerpo humano, también hay ocho remedios naturales que son esenciales para mantener a la iglesia en forma saludable.

¿Cómo está su iglesia? ¿Le gustaría aprender cuáles son los remedios que puede aplicar para verla crecer? La Unión del Lago le invita al Entrenamiento de Laicos que se llevará a cabo en la Universidad Andrews del viernes 29

hospedaje). Para inscribirse para el evento hable con su pastor, o llame a mi oficina al 269-473-8249. En cuanto al hospedaje le sugerimos que llame a la Universidad (269-471-3360), para averiguar los precios y hacer su reservación. Si necesita comunicarse con alguien que hable español, hay una persona hispana disponible los miércoles desde las 9:30 de la mañana a las 5:00 de la tarde, hora del este.

Este entrenamiento será en verdad un evento inolvidable y animamos a los hermanos hispanos de nuestra Unión a que aprovechen esta oportunidad para recibir instrucción práctica de cómo cumplir con éxito la gran comisión de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

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



Focus on Our Mission

MISSION-DRIVEN SCHOOLS, CHURCHES AND HOMES

BY GARRY SUDDS

Established in 1872, the Seventh-day Adventist school system is now the largest protestant educational system in the world. By 1899, Ellen White affirmed: “Our church schools are ordained by God to prepare the children for this great work. ... Let the children be educated and trained to do service for God, for they are the Lord’s heritage” (*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, p. 203*).

The word “ordained” is a significant one. It implies that our schools were set apart by God for a high and holy purpose. It implies that what happens there is special and unique. Is that still true today?

According to the parents, grandparents and board members who contributed to this issue of the *Lake Union Herald*, the answer is a resounding, “Yes!” Their personal testimonies are evidence that God’s high and holy purpose is still being accomplished through Seventh-day Adventist schools.

Having said that, I believe now is the time to sharpen our

focus and align our educational system more closely with the original objectives for which it was created. We have begun that process here in the Lake Union by bringing educators, pastors and administrators together to study our mission and to see how we can more effectively work together to accomplish it.

A brief look at the history of early Adventist education in North America reveals the following three objectives: 1) to assist each student in developing an intimate relationship with Jesus; 2) to prepare each student for a life of serving

God according to His plan and purpose; and, 3) to equip Adventist children to stand against the evils of the world that surrounds them.

A popular proverb of unknown origin says, “It takes a village to raise a child.” In Adventism that means the home, the church and the school are partners in providing for the education and development of our children. Very little is ever accomplished unless it is intentional. That means we must focus on our mission. To fully prepare our children for service, we must have mission-driven homes and mission-driven churches in partnership with our mission-driven schools.

Our Father in Heaven has such high expectations for each of His children. There is something that He has designed for each one to do. “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:10, 11 NIV). And what a privilege we have, as parents, teachers, pastors and church members, to be His agents to teach His children and youth that they are specially designed, and that He has a unique purpose for each of their lives.

Academic excellence is as integral to our mission today as it was with our founders. “If placed under the control of His Spirit, the more thoroughly the intellect is cultivated, the more effectively it can be used in the service of God” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 333).

Academic excellence is an important component of our mission and is integral to God’s purpose. “Christ can be best glorified by those who serve him intelligently. The great object of education is to enable us to use the powers which God has given us in such a manner as will best represent the religion of the Bible and promote the glory of God” (*Gospel Workers*, p. 384).

It is our privilege to partner with God and one another to help each student strive to reach their full potential in the pursuit of academic excellence. It is also our privilege to inspire them to see that the reason for one’s academic pursuit is to honor God by giving Him the “first fruit” of one’s life, and to help them understand that their gifts, talents, intelligence and opportunities come from Him. “All the good things we have are a loan from our Savior. He has made us stewards” (*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 3, p. 397).



When Jesus said, “By myself I can do nothing; ... for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me” (John 5:30), He demonstrated a principle that has even greater application to us. Jesus gave us a practical illustration of this principle in the metaphor of the vine and branches. “Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:4, 5 NLT).

The best way to teach this principle to our children is to demonstrate it—to lead by example. More than just an intellectual principle, it is an attitude, a posture, a world view and self image. It is upside down, counter and backwards to our culture and the popular academic community. Yet, the true disciple of Christ finds it to be the greatest source of power and the highest potential for achievement. “As the will of man cooperates with the will of God, it becomes omnipotent. Whatever is to be done at His command may be accomplished in His strength. All His biddings are enablings” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 333).

We are all influenced by our consumer culture and the quest for the “American dream.” So, it is easy to forget that the great aim of Adventist education is not that our children and students acquire good grades, which at some point will translate into good jobs, big homes, nice vehicles and the good life. The real aim of Adventist education is to help students discover their greater potential and purpose as they learn to abide in Christ and depend upon Him. That is the difference between the “good life” the world advertises and the “abundant life” God gives to those who live in partnership with Him.

As we work together on mission, we will realize the fulfillment of this familiar statement: “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!” (*Education*, p. 271).

Garry Sudds is director of education for the Lake Union Conference.



Never Give Up

THE VISIONARY LIFE OF EDSON WHITE

BY STANLEY HICKERSON

He didn't have an easy life, nor was he an easy child to raise. James Edson White was born to James and Ellen White on July 28, 1849, in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Twice, as a toddler, little Edson nearly died of illness, and both times he was miraculously healed in answer to prayer.

He had an older brother, Henry, and his younger brother, Willie, was born on August 29, 1854, giving Edson the role of the middle child. Unlike Edson, Willie was blessed with a gentle and compliant nature. The contrast of personalities sometimes precipitated conflict in the home.

Just over a year after Willie's birth, the family moved to Battle Creek, Michigan, and set up housekeeping in a rented cabin. On September 20, 1860, another brother arrived—Herbert—but he lived less than three months. Then just three years later, 11-year-old Edson was unwillingly catapulted into the role of oldest brother by the death of Henry.

Schooling was not a simple matter for the White family. Certainly a great deal of their education happened at home. Edson and Willie likely attended the #3 public school, built just a few blocks from their home. They probably also attended Fletcher Byington's short-lived "church school." But we don't know for sure. We do know that 18-year-old Edson attended grammar classes with Professor Goodloe Harper Bell—we still have some of his papers. We also know that he

took a course in phongraphy (a kind of shorthand) at Albion College, and had some limited education in bookkeeping. Serving as an apprentice at the offices of the Review and Herald Publishing Association gave Edson a background in typesetting and printing.

But Edson's recurring challenge was focusing on the task at hand. His parents were repeatedly frustrated by his inability to complete the projects he commenced. When he took the hammer outside to repair the fence, the job was begun then the job and the hammer were both forgotten and left to themselves. It seemed sometimes that almost anything could distract Edson's active mind. If only they could convince, cajole, encourage, discipline or otherwise focus that young mind! But it seemed futile. If only Edson could be like his good brother, Willie! And even more concerning to the frustrated parents was the thought that Edson might lead little Willie down the same undisciplined path. Letters to Edson from both Ellen and James are filled with prayers, faith, hope and tough love.

But what Edson lacked in focus, he more than made up for in vision. In letter after letter Edson shares his ethereal dreams with his brother or parents. He almost became a steamboat captain on beautiful Goguac Lake in Battle Creek, proudly wearing a distinguishing uniform. He almost became a teacher with students paying well for his expertise. He almost became a bookkeeper for the Health Reform Institute (the early name of the Battle Creek Sanitarium); and the list could go on. To his parents' dismay, many of Edson's dreams focused on financial success, but none attained it.

In 1870, on his 28th birthday, Edson married Ella McDearmon. His father officiated at the ceremony, and the newlyweds began their new home in Wright, Michigan. In 1872, Edson, along with his younger brother Willie, traveled to Florence Heights, New Jersey, where they both took a six-month course in medicine at Russell T. Trall's well-known Hygeo-Therapeutic College. Both returned with diplomas conferring the degree of M.D., but James White warned them not to attach the title to their names unless they continued to pursue that field.

During the next several years, James White gave Edson responsibilities in various church-related organizations, but he just couldn't seem to keep on task. Too many other exciting prospects danced in his mind night and day.

His parents' frustration began to be shared by other church leaders, and they became less and less inclined to entrust him with responsible positions. Then his father died in 1881.

Edson frequently found himself short of cash, and his family and friends became his creditors. Tensions increased, and by the early 1890s Edson felt alone and abandoned. A failed attempt at business in Chicago, a failed venture to own his own steamboat and sell items up and down the Mississippi River, and personal spiritual decline complicated his life. However, neither God nor his mother ever gave up. Coming back to his old home in Battle Creek in 1893, Edson re-dedicated his life to the Savior and determined to spend the rest of his life in service to God.

Sensing God's call to the South and the extraordinary needs of the Black population, Edson again built a steamboat

and named it the *Morning Star*. Living on next to nothing, he and his wife Emma spent the next several years, with that boat as their headquarters, building and outfitting dozens of schools and churches, preaching the gospel to the poor, and serving as self-appointed spokespersons for God's work in this neglected region. God blessed, and today many faithful Adventists trace their spiritual genealogy to the *Morning Star* and Edson and Emma's tireless efforts.

As is frequently the case, God didn't forget Edson's early dreams. He actually became a ship's captain, a teacher, a writer and an institutional manager. His only unrealized dream—financial security. And although Edson often struggled with that unrealized dream, he grew to learn to trust the One who owns the cattle on a thousand hills, and Edson's example of self-denying work has inspired hundreds of subsequent servants of God.

But the story doesn't end there! Ellen had an unbelievable parental privilege in her last years. When Percy T. Magan and Edward A. Southerland left Emmanuel Missionary College in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and headed south to start a college in Tennessee, Ellen and her son, Edson, served together on the school board, shaping the new look of Christian education for generations of Adventists to come. To our knowledge, the board of Madison College was the only institutional board on



Sensing God's call to the South, Edson White built a steamboat and named it Morning Star. With the boat as their headquarters, Edson and his wife Emma built and outfitted dozens of schools and churches, and preached the gospel to the poor.

which Ellen ever served. And on it she served with her son, Edson! What greater satisfaction could a parent experience and what greater answer to prayer?

Does your child have difficulty focusing? Does he or she sometimes seem to live in a world of unrealistic dreams? Do tasks go unfinished and chores undone? Someday those dreams may come into focus. Someday the tasks may be completed and the jobs done. Someday you, too, may have the blessed privilege of working side by side with your easily-distracted daughter or son in reshaping the work of God. Faith, hope and tough love combined with lots of prayer may someday pay off. Never give up!

Stanley Hickerson is adjunct professor of religion and biblical languages on the campus of Andrews University. He is a member of the Board of Adventist Historic Properties.



An Adventist Education: A Matter of Life or Death?

BY GREG SMITH

Is an Adventist education a matter of life or death? It depends on how you look at the idea. It certainly can be a part of a path that leads to life or death.

If I were to ask you what the term “Seventh-day Adventist” means, I am sure that most of you could answer it fairly easily. How about “The Remnant”? Who they are and where they are going? Or the question of the “end of the world” and how we are looking forward to it? Do you know the answers? What would you think if you saw a sea of blue jackets in the Meijer Hall Gold Room and they all said “Cedar Lake Academy” on the back? Would you wonder what Cedar Lake Academy is or why all of those people seem to know each other so well?

Proverbs 16:9 says, “A man’s heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.”

This was my welcome to Andrews University and a few hairs and pounds ago. I was 17, fresh off of a summer in Europe and a public school education from Edwardsburg High School. Not being from an Adventist family, there was little spiritual or religious training, mainly the big holidays and

an occasional Sunday here and there. So, coming to Andrews was quite a culture shock for me. I did not know the language or the food. I only knew the rules as stated in the handbook, like dating in packs of 100 as a freshman, only so many home leaves, in your room at 7:00 p.m. to study, no smoking and no jewelry. So why did I come to Andrews? It was for the aviation program, and it was close to home. Maybe my parents were not ready for me to move across the country yet, maybe I was not either. Either way, I was here and feeling pretty small and insignificant.

During one of the freshman orientation programs at the airport, I met a fellow aviator and tried to start a conversation with him. I started to tell him of my great adventures in Europe from over the summer. He looked at me and said, “I don’t do things like that.” *Great*, I thought, *now what do we talk about?* After some cultural fumbling around, I settled in with some classmates that have since become close and lifelong



At age 17, Greg Smith (right) was fresh off a summer in Europe and a public school education when he arrived at Andrews University to study aviation. He experienced quite a culture shock, but professors like Gary Marsh (left) extended a warm hand of welcome. Greg now realizes God used the Adventist school system to get his attention, and friends he met at church and school to lead him to God's throne by His grace.

friends—friends like Ricardo, Eric and Jeff—who accepted me as I was.

The classes I took were mainly at the airport, but there was the required religion course. It was easy to pick one, because there was a class designed especially for students like me. Basically, a baptism class covering the church doctrine and beliefs. I did question some of the doctrine and asked outside sources to see if it was biblical or not—it was. It all made sense to me and became a part of my head knowledge. I eventually did figure out the term “Seventh-day Adventist” and other cultural aspects of “those” Adventists.

My first year at Andrews was spent primarily at the airport in maintenance classes. Our class became a tight-knit group, trying to learn and have fun at the same time. My teachers there knew of my background and accepted me also. I was invited to various evangelistic functions as well as into their homes. Gary, Richard, Stan and Ray extended a warm hand of welcome.

After my first year at Andrews, I decided for a change of scenery and left for Western Michigan University, where the people and food were more normal, so I thought. After a couple of weeks there, an uneasy feeling settled into me that kept urging me to go back to Andrews and finish the program. I followed my feelings (looking back, Holy Spirit) and returned in time to register for my second year of classes.

I finished my two-year aviation maintenance program and continued on to get a BET. Through the years at Andrews, I attended mandatory chapels, various religious classes and some social events. The real connections came from the department secretary, some professors and, of course, my aviation friends. They all answered my many questions about the “end of the world” and why it scared me, what really did happen to the dinosaurs and many other questions.

It wasn't until three years after I graduated from Andrews that I finally gave in to the Holy Spirit and gave my life to Jesus. During that time I was still in contact with school and church friends, I was still being led to God's throne by His grace. When I was finally baptized, a new phase of my adventure with Jesus began and is still going on. As I look back over my Adventist education, I can see where I had *my* plans and where God has *His*. Proverbs 16:9 is so true.

So, back to the initial question. Is an Adventist education a matter of life or death? I know that God wants me and you! He wants us so much that He will use all tools to get our attention and hearts. God used the Adventist school system to get my attention, so, for me, it is a matter of *life*. How about you? Where has an Adventist education led you in your relationship with God?

Greg Smith is a member of the Berrien Springs Village Church and a representative to the Andrews Academy Operating Board.

A Family of Faith

BY STACY STOCKS

Amna grew up in a missionary family in the midst of the genocide in Darfur. Not an ideal location for a young girl to grow up, but when God called the Millewa family to serve the people there, they left their home in Khartoum, Sudan, and obeyed. When they arrived in Darfur, there was still opportunity to share the gospel message with anyone willing to listen. They were encouraged to find many people were eager to hear the message of Jesus and His love for them. Despite the threat of retribution from the community toward anyone accepting Christianity, this group of new believers grew and strengthened.

Education was important to Ibrahim Millewa, Amna's father, but there was no Christian school in Darfur. Amna remembers how difficult it was to be the only Christian in her school. As time went by, Ibrahim knew this was not the best environment for Amna. One day, her principal punished Amna, for not participating in a class that was against her beliefs, by giving her 25 lashes. Amna believes an angel was with her on that day because even though she felt the initial blow, she felt no more pain after that. Amna didn't even know she was bleeding until it was pointed out to her. She still bears the scars on her side today. There was nothing Ibrahim could do about this attack because the principal's action was supported by the authorities.

One day Ibrahim received a warning that he had 30 minutes to vacate the church premise. He and another church member grabbed a few hymnals and Bibles and ran out moments before the church was destroyed. The situation in Darfur became so intense that Ibrahim knew the time had come for him to get his family out of the country. He took his family safely to Egypt, and then, for the next few months, he went back to Darfur to continue to share the gospel. Finally, it became evident that he would have to leave Darfur and not return.

In December of 2003, a UN immigration organization helped the Millewa family relocate to Columbus, Indiana, where they had relatives. Despite all they had experienced,



this family had an amazing faith that God would take care of them and continue to bless their family with safety and religious freedom.

Arriving in Indiana with very limited resources, Amna attended her local public high school and soon made friends. She found keeping her faith in a predominantly Christian public culture a different kind of challenge. Her parents soon became very concerned about the changes they observed in her.

Ibrahim was convicted that he needed to provide an Adventist education for his daughter. With the family resources

limited, it seemed like an impossibility. Stepping out in faith, they packed Amna's bags and headed to Indiana Academy hoping for a miracle. Their part of the miracle was to enter into a covenant with God to dedicate everything they had to realize the dream He had put in their hearts. God multiplied their efforts and blessed their spirit of sacrifice.

It was difficult for Amna to leave the security of her new friends, but the privilege of attending an Adventist school soon made a difference. She discovered that being a student at Indiana Academy has helped her to grow spiritually, physically and mentally. Her experience has opened her eyes to who God really is and what it means to have a relationship with Him. "Before coming to Indiana Academy, believing in and serving God was just a habit I had been taught growing up," Amna realizes. "Now, I have a personal relationship



with Him. I want to dedicate my life and my future career to serving Him.”

Providing an Adventist education has not been easy, and at times it seemed impossible. By faith, the Millewa family put their lives and their finances in God’s hands and trusted Him to provide for their needs. Amna welcomed the opportunity to sell Magabooks and worked hard at janitorial jobs to help supplement her tuition. Many times it appeared that their resources would not be enough and Amna might have to leave school. Each time the Millewa family presented their need to God and trusted Him to provide. Each time, God impressed individuals to provide anonymous donations to the worthy student fund on her behalf. One particular instance was the night before final exams. She asked the Lord for help, then left it in His hands and studied hard. The next morning Amna stopped by the business office, by faith, to see if she could get financial clearance to take her exams. She was delighted to discover an anonymous donation was made just the day before.

With the decline in the economy, Amna’s father was laid off his job before the beginning of the new school year. There were no resources for Amna to return to the school she had learned to love. Having experienced the love and support at

Indiana Academy, she was not looking forward to returning to the public high school. Amna continued to pray that God would provide. He answered her plea through another anonymous donor, and soon Amna was back at Indiana Academy, preparing to graduate with the rest of her class.

Through this experience, Amna has grown in her faith. She recognizes that she and her family have been blessed through their sacrifices and that God has been faithful in providing for their needs. She has developed into a positive role model and mentor to her younger siblings. She is an inspiration on campus and is known as a spiritual leader.

Amna sings about her experience, “IA you are the one that showed us, how to shine the light. You helped us to grow in Christ and love. You helped us to find who we truly are.”

Amna recognizes that God has watched over her and provided for her all along the way. She has learned that God blesses our commitment, and she is forever grateful to her parents for putting God first in their lives and giving her the opportunity to have an Adventist education and a better future—an eternal future.

Stacy Stocks, an educator from Pendleton, Indiana, is the administrative assistant for Mark Haynal, superintendent of schools, Indiana Conference.

Answered Prayers

BY TONYA AND JEFF STREET

We started homeschooling our children when we were in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Our church school was about one hour from our house, so when I calculated the one hour to take them to school, one hour back home and another two hours to pick them up and return back home, I figured if I just gave my kids that much time at homeschooling, we'd be even! As our family grew to five children—Justin, Jessalyn, Jenna, Jerica and Joshua—finances became a second motivator to homeschool.

Homeschooling is a lot of fun! I absolutely loved having the children home all day and, with that amount of time, we were able to teach our children a lot of non-traditional things. We did a lot of research to ensure we gave them a fun, complete and well-rounded education. Our kids helped us build a house, some in very small ways. Justin, our oldest, learned how to roof, plumb, lay siding, paint, use a saw, etc.

We never planned to homeschool past the fifth grade, but finances were an issue so we just kept going. We sent Justin to a Christian school for tenth grade because the tuition was so reasonable. But to send the older ones to school meant I would have to work full time. I knew that I could not homeschool and be at work that much!

It was an answer to prayer when a friend visited and said he thought Battle Creek Academy (BCA) would be willing to work with us. The first year at BCA was a challenging one for the entire family. I think the hardest adjustment for the children was being indoors so much! It can also be difficult for kids to catch up in friendships with others who have gone to school together since kindergarten, but it wasn't long before our kids had many friends.



Jeff and Tonya Street are thankful the Lord heard their prayers and gave them the guidance, courage and opportunity to send their children to a Seventh-day Adventist school. From left: Jeff, Tonya, Joshua, Jerica, Jessalyn, Jenna, Justin and horse Bandit

BCA is doing a wonderful job with our kids. Teaching them to know Christ is their major goal at the academy, and teachers bring God into every subject. We appreciate that our children are hearing more perspectives on building a relationship with God. Being around other kids who share the common goal of being ready for Heaven is such a blessing.

Justin, who started at BCA as a senior, was able

to go on a mission trip. He told me that sending him to BCA was the best decision we ever made. This year Jessalyn is a sophomore, Jenna is in seventh grade, Jerica is in the fourth grade and Joshua is in second grade. They are all a part of the BCA family, and we are thrilled.

Each year we prayed to God for guidance to provide our children with the education they needed. We are thankful the Lord heard our prayers and gave us the guidance, courage and opportunity to send our children to a Seventh-day Adventist school.

Tonya and Jeff Street are both nurses who work in Kalamazoo, Michigan. They share their country home in Climax, Michigan, with five children, 11 horses, five dogs, one parrot, four peacocks and one fainting goat. The Streets are members of the Battle Creek Tabernacle.

Granny's Mission

BY BETTYE J. SCOTT

Alneta Fortson is on a mission. Upon completing her career as an office manager and group supervisor for the Social Security Administration, she retired. Like many grandparents who find themselves retired, but not tired, Alneta's first thoughts were to stay home, relax and travel at her leisure. However, requests soon came to shuttle her grandchildren to and from the Chicago Seventh-day Adventist School (Chicago School).

Rather than make the long trek back to her suburban home, Alneta answered the call to volunteer; and so began her mission and service to Chicago School. From volunteer office assistant to running the school library to assisting in classrooms as needed, not to speak of being a sought-after, first-rate field trip chaperon, Alneta's mission is to be there for her grandchildren and any child who needs her.

Alneta is not alone. The number of grandparents and retired individuals choosing to volunteer in schools is on the rise. According to Ellen R. Delisio, the author of *Calling All Grandparents*: "They can't move through a school without attracting embraces, the way a beloved relative draws family members when entering a room. ... They do a lot of talking—and a lot of listening too—to kids who might not have a sympathetic adult ear at home."

Although not trained as formal educators, Alneta and other grandparents who frequent Chicago School help create a nurturing family atmosphere for students. As Alneta points out, "This is my way of helping and giving to others as Christ instructed, of being the granny for those whose grandparents are not present." It is also a way of showing



Realizing the value of Adventist education, Alneta Fortson volunteers at Chicago Seventh-day Adventist School, where it is her mission to be there for her grandchildren who attend the school and any child who needs her. Here she helps her granddaughter BryAnna Johnson with an assignment.

her children and grandchildren that she believes in this school and its mission.

Alneta is motivated to assist in every aspect of her grandchildren's education and development. However, her motivation goes beyond just volunteering. She wants her grandchildren in an environment where they are exposed to an atmosphere that reflects Christ. In her words, "Adventist education is not optional for my grandchildren." Alneta states that the sacrificial giving of finances and time is worth it. The children are not only receiving a quality education, but they are also exposed to a spiritual, character-building atmosphere and opportunities.

Whether assisting in Home and School activities, after-school research or hosting a busload of vivacious young people for a cookout at her home, Alneta proves to other grandparents the real meaning of mission-driven grandparenting. Along with Mae Evans, Wilma Townsend and several other grandparents who share their time, Alneta believes in fulfilling God's commission as volunteers to ensure that all the children are taught of the Lord.

Bettye J. Scott is the principal at Chicago Seventh-day Adventist School.



Hospital honors fire departments for lifesaving work

Adventist GlenOaks Hospital honored local paramedics and firefighters during its first annual "Run of the Year" dinner, hosted by the hospital's emergency department staff. The Addison Fire Protection District received the "Run of the Year" award for their prompt response to a 9-1-1 call Sept. 29, 2008. When firefighters and paramedics arrived at the Addison home of 56-year-old Alan Bolek, he was in full cardiac arrest. Emergency personnel performed a defibrillation and treated him with medication to increase his heart rate.

"Usually, patients in full arrest end up with brain swelling, because oxygen is not getting to the brain," said Billie Sweeney, the hospital's emergency medical services coordinator. "But Mr. Bolek was only down for five minutes when the emergency response team got his heart beating again. If they didn't respond so quickly, he wouldn't have

been able to walk out of our hospital."

Bolek was rushed to Adventist GlenOaks Hospital's Shanahan Emergency and Trauma Center. In the cardiac catheterization laboratory, he was diagnosed with extreme cardiomegaly, an enlarged heart that made it difficult for the electricity of the heart to function properly. Aziz Ahmed, an interventional cardiologist who is medical director of the hospital's cardiac catheterization laboratory, performed an angiogram, which involves placing a small balloon into a blocked coronary artery and inflating it to open the vessel for improved blood flow. Stephen Laga, a cardiothoracic surgeon, treated Bolek with an automatic implantable cardiac defibrillator and a pacemaker.

Bolek, who made a full recovery, attended the event with his wife Lynda. The couple joined hospital leaders in presenting the award to the Addison Fire Protection District personnel who responded to their call.

Community emergency responders play an important role in fulfilling the hospital's mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ, noted Becky

Gierling, nurse manager of emergency services at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital.

"Time and time again, these paramedics go above and beyond the call of duty," Gierling said. "They are our community partners, helping us restore health in a compassionate, spiritual environment. We are thankful to have them as part of the Adventist GlenOaks family."

Joseph Shanahan, M.D., medical director of Emergency Services at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, also praised the department.

"Without this team's knowledge and accuracy, Mr. Bolek might never have made it out of our emergency department," Shanahan said. "Our community can be confident they will receive the care they need in an emergency."

In addition to the Addison Fire Protection District, representatives from the following agencies were recognized for being named "Run of the Month" in 2008: Bloomingdale Fire Department, Glenside Fire Department, Glen Ellyn Volunteer Fire Department and Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service, Inc.

"Many of you would say, 'We're just doing our job,'" said Brinsley Lewis, CEO of Adventist GlenOaks Hospital. "But for us at the hospital, it's much more than that. You are an extension of our emergency department. What you are able to do at the scene of an emergency directly affects our ability to treat any patient that comes through our doors. You are truly heroes in our community."

Lewis presented the department with a \$500 check for the purchase of a new intraosseous drill, a lifesaving device used to infuse fluid or medication directly into patients' bones in critical situations.



Adventist GlenOaks Hospital honored local paramedics and firefighters during its first annual "Run of the Year" dinner. From left: Addison fire chief Leigh A. Fabbri; Addison residents Lynda and Alan Bolek; Addison firefighters/paramedics Christopher Mansfield, Scott Heinrich (lieutenant), Troy Vogelmann, Jim Burke (captain) and Erick Fritsch; Joseph Shanahan, M.D.; and Adventist GlenOaks Hospital CEO Brinsley Lewis

Lisa Parro, public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health

Grant gives recycling initiative a boost

In December 2008, Andrews University was awarded a \$1,815 grant by the Berrien County Resource Recovery (BCRR) office, a grant in excess of the typical \$1,500 amount, to improve the recycling facilities on campus. Members of the Village Green Preservation Society (VGPS) wrote the grant proposal, which will fund the installation of recycling bins in Meier, Burman and Lamson residence halls. Heather Knight, provost, agreed to match the funds.

Ben Oliver, president of the VGPS, says, "The dormitories are one of the greatest nuclei of the campus. We hope recycling there will empower individuals in the community and other departments on campus to follow that example."

Tom Goodwin, professor of biology and VGPS sponsor, says Reliable Disposal, the company responsible for collecting Andrews University's waste, recycles recyclable items that are clearly separated from trash. If recycling is mixed with trash, however, it goes straight to the trash pile. As the necessary separation has yet to be institutionalized across campus, the installment of recycling bins in the residence halls represents an important step toward environmental responsibility at Andrews University.

Oliver says many students are already used to recycling in their home towns and neighborhoods. "This program will allow them and all others to really behold the University's newfound vision to be stewards of our borrowed Earth. But what is invaluable is the reform of habits and thoughtfulness to recycle, and hopefully the desire for Andrews students to continue their new custom wherever they go," he says.

Funding and equipment is crucial to move the campus toward being more "green," but it is only part of the equation. That's why the VGPS seeks to



Using monies from a \$1,815 grant from the Berrien County Resource Recovery, members of the Village Green Preservation Society including (from left) Tybee Wall, Benjamin Oliver, Jeff Habenicht and Melody Johnson obtained and distributed new recycling containers for the campus residence halls.

educate students and faculty about best practices for keeping the environment clean. Through student assemblies, co-curricular choices, the distribution of pamphlets and group meetings, the VGPS hopes to create an ethic of recycling and reusing that increases "green" awareness and leads to more "green" actions.

"I'm pleased to see movement on campus to line up practical considerations with what we believe as Christians," says Goodwin. "Hopefully we can sustain it."

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist,
Office of Integrated Marketing &
Communication

Textbooks go paperless

For students at Andrews University, the catch phrase "going green" carries significant meaning. Beginning in fall 2009, students will have a new "green" option when they buy their textbooks.

Cindy Swanson, Andrews University textbook manager, is pioneering the use of Universal Digital Textbooks (UDTs), or "e-books." Swanson learned of the new technology at an October 2008 training seminar. Convinced of the environmental benefits and student advantages, she has worked on the project ever since. Beginning with the fall 2009 semester, some required class textbooks will be available as UDTs. The eco-friendly concept, Swanson says, is quickly becoming the "new wave of the future."

How do e-books work? Students purchase activation cards at the Andrews University Bookstore. The receipt contains an access code to view online PDF textbooks.

Simply put, students will be able to read class material online instead of buying actual textbooks.

The e-books are user-friendly and a cost-effective alternative for students. More importantly, UDTs are considered "the green alternative to printing," requiring no paper, no ink and significantly less shipping material.

"For students to be successful, we must give them all of the resources possible," says Swanson. "I don't foresee a day of no textbooks. Right now, I just want to try this and see how it goes."

Ashleigh Jardine, student news writer, Office
of Integrated Marketing & Communication



Beginning with the fall 2009 semester, some required class textbooks will be available as Universal Digital Textbooks. The "e-books" are eco-friendly and will be a cost-effective alternative for students.

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Indiana Academy hosts purity retreat for girls

Indiana—What difference can one day make? “I know God can and has worked in my life in just 24 hours. [Your] talk helped me to make a covenant with God to stay sex-free till I’m married,” a student at Indiana Academy wrote.

On Jan. 30–31, a group of five committed women (Beth Barlett, Colleen Lay, Cara Kirk, Josie Minikus and Gail Macomber) led a purity retreat for 40 young ladies at Indiana Academy. The retreat lasted 24 hours and involved large group presentations by the leaders, small group activities and alone time to read and journal from the book, *And the Bride Wore White*, by Danah Gresh, who created this retreat.



From left: Josie Minikus, a 2009 Purity Retreat leader, gives a hand massage to Audrey Heinlein, senior. The girls were given massages to help them feel loved and pampered during the tea party.

“When I came into this [retreat], I came with a cold heart. But now I’m leaving with a new promise ... thank-you for the blessed weekend. It was the best of a lifetime,” one student commented afterward.

Another student expressed, “I wasn’t sure if I wanted to come at first, but I can’t quite express in words how glad I am for coming.

There's More Online!
 >> More Photos >> More Inspiration
 >> www.LakeUnionHerald.org



Forty girls attended the 2009 Purity Retreat at Indiana Academy where they were taught purity is much more than virginity.

I’m so grateful for each one of our [five women leaders] for encouraging us and teaching us new things. ... You played a part in my life and my journey to purity. Thank-you.”

The students were asked to do various activities, such as write a wish list of their husband-to-be, write a letter to God talking about struggles in their lives with purity, study into God’s view of sex in the Bible, and worship the incredible Love that should fill their lives—Jesus. Students were taught that purity is much more than virginity, but involves what is watched, listened to and how they dress. Each of these

important lessons were illustrated through a tea party, stabbing potatoes with straws, writing letters to God, playing games with magazines and tennis balls, and watching a scientific experiment with glue.

The local Cicero Church donated money so students could receive gifts and a copy of the book, *And the Bride Wore White*. “You have treated us like princesses,” a young lady wrote.

So what can 24 hours do in the life of a young woman? One student summarized it beautifully: “I am changed.”

But what about those who felt they had already lost their purity? The retreat pointed out Paul’s comforting words in Philippians 2:15: God desires “that you may *become* blameless and pure” (emphasis added). Each person has stumbled with purity but has the opportunity to *become* pure by daily saying “no” to lust. One person commented, “I realize that the road I’ve been traveling was wrong and I want to change ... my life and my journey to purity.”



From left: Sarah Heinlein, freshman, and Ashley Trubey, freshman, enjoy a tea party where the girls were taught they are like precious China teacups in God’s eyes, not disposable styrofoam cups.

Kara Kerbs, girls dean, Indiana Academy

If you would like more information about the 2009 Purity Retreat, contact Kara Kerbs at ia4god@yahoo.com.

[YOUTH NEWS]

Youth 'hit the seas' for God

Michigan—While many young adults would think of a tropical cruise as simply a vacation, a time to relax and rejuvenate, 110 young adults who spent seven days on Cruise with a Mission (CWM) have a different perception. Kicking off the week of Dec. 14, 2008, a group of Andrews University students, along with 40 others from the Lake Union Conference, joined young adults from across the country to depart from Tampa, Fla., on a five-city international outreach tour in the Caribbean. This annual ministry, now in its second year, is organized by the Center for Youth Evangelism on the campus of Andrews University.

Some may wonder if Cruise with a Mission is more recreation than ministry, but CWM director Japhet De Oliveira is quick to unpack the purpose of the voyage. "CWM is focused on relationships. While on the ship you can plug into countless spiritual and practical moments as needed. Off the ship, the list is endless. Everyone needs a vacation, so why not do some extra good with it?"

Cruisers set sail with scheduled

ports of call at Key West, Fla.; Belize City, Belize; Santo Tomas de Castilla, Guatemala; and Costa Maya, Mexico. Their mission was carried out through participation in dental and medical projects, organization of a vacation Bible school, painting, assistance with environmental efforts, prayer walking, visiting orphanages and more.

With ample opportunities for service and sun on the trip, spiritual expression and worship were also key aspects of Cruise with a Mission. CWM producer Ron Whitehead describes it as "a powerful worship experience with training," including an evening worship program, seminars and open forums. A team of chaplains and a worship director provided small group fellowship with prayer focal points and time for sharing, with the goal of keeping young adults focused on their mission.

The group raised more than \$10,000 to help various mission



Joanne Cross (right) volunteered for a medical mission during the cruise. Observing young adults like Joanne, CWM director Japhet De Oliveira said, "For myself, there is nothing quite like seeing energized young adults committed to service. I am renewed by that passion."

projects, purchase medical equipment for local doctors and acquire resources for other related projects. Witnessing that sense of service and community, De Oliveira said he was inspired by the willingness of the young adults. "For myself, there is nothing quite like seeing energized young adults committed to service. I am renewed by that passion."

The local organizations and governments welcomed the contributions of their youthful visitors. De Oliveira says, "They look forward to us returning next year."

Adrian Brown, a young adult who attended the voyage, planted trees in Key West, painted an Adventist primary school in Belize and conducted a vacation Bible school in Guatemala. "Cruise with a Mission was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! I can't think of any way else to describe it. The praise and worship sessions, seminars and sermons were elevating. It was indeed a memorable experience."

Cruise with a Mission 2009 is open for registration. The deadline is September 2009. "Everyone needs a vacation, so why not do some extra good with it?" says De Oliveira. Learn more at www.cruisewithamission.org.

Andre Weston, intern, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University



[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Pioneer Memorial Church turns 50

Michigan—Sabbath morning, Feb. 14, 2009, dawned cold and cloudy, exactly as it was Feb. 14, 1959, 50 years earlier, on the first Sabbath services in Pioneer Memorial Church (PMC). But the excitement and warmth of fellowship dissipated any chill as the church filled twice for commemorative worship services and again in the afternoon for “Pioneer Hope,” a program of music and a multimedia retrospective of the congregation’s 50-year history.



Sabbath. Charlotte Groff and Ray Roberts shared anecdotes about their experience as wide-eyed college students worshipping in the new sanctuary.

Dwight Nelson, who has served as senior pastor of the congregation for half of the church’s 50-year history, opened his homily with a humorous quote from Abraham Lincoln: “People who boast about their ancestors

are like a field of potatoes—the best part is underground.” Nelson quickly followed up with “the pearl of the messianic psalms,” Psalm 110, which encourages believers with the promise

in North America, as well as greetings from Jan Paulsen, president of the World Church. Paulsen said, “Pioneer has been a spiritual home for generations of faculty and students who have grown in faith and commit-

ment, who are given an opportunity to exercise spiritual gifts, and go from this place to serve God in every imaginable sphere of church activity around the world.” Former pastor, John Kroncke, and his wife Peggy also shared highlights from their years of ministry via video from their home in Las Vegas, Nev.

Approximately 40 people who attended the

first service 50 years ago were seated on the platform during the worship service. Among them were Jim Garber and Perry Nelson who were baptized as 12-year-olds on that first



From left: Dwight Nelson, senior pastor, introduced James Garber (pictured with his mother Betty) and Perry Nelson, who were baptized during the first service held in Pioneer Memorial Church.



At PMC’s 25-year celebration, church pastors (new and former) enjoyed a moment together. From left: Dwight K. Nelson, James Rhoads, J.L. Tucker and John Kroncke

The worship services included recorded greetings from Don Schneider, former member and elder at PMC and current president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church headquarters

that “the young will come pouring into His camp, heralding a future as copious as the dew.”

“The mission for the future of Pioneer Memorial Church is to pour everything into transforming and equipping young adults to serve Christ wherever God leads them,” said Nelson.

James Hanson, retired music faculty, directed the 50th anniversary choir in performing Johannes Brahms’ “How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place,” which was sung 50 years ago. The worship service concluded, as it did 50 years ago, with the congregation singing “The Lord’s Prayer.”

A large heated tent provided ample seating for the nearly 1,000 members who stayed by for the 50th birthday



Charlotte Groff and Ray Roberts were college students when they attended the first service in PMC. They were interviewed on Sabbath by Dwight Nelson (right), senior pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Church.

potluck dinner following the second service.

Today the 3,500-member congregation gathers throughout each week in worship and ministry. There are two worship services every Sabbath morning and approximately 50 different Bible study classes for children and adults. Pioneer has an active family life ministry, which provides Bible-based resources, training and fellowship designed to protect and encourage families. Small-group ministries meet through the week and prayer meeting is held every Wednesday. Pioneer also serves the under-resourced in our community through Neighbor-to-Neighbor, and has an active social work consulting team. The pastoral staff of eight pastors and chaplains is active in the local ministerial association for the Adventist Church and Berrien County Association of Churches.

Rebecca May, director of campus relations, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University

Homebound Ministry extends church fellowship and friendship

Michigan—Almost six years ago when Marian Holder, a retiree and member of Pioneer Memorial Church (PMC) in Berrien Springs, Mich., approached Esther Knott, pastor for small groups, with a concern, she had no idea what God had in store for her. Holder had observed that her elderly neighbors, also PMC members, were unable to attend church. The wife was sick and the husband stayed at home to care for her. “They shouldn’t be robbed of fellowship,” Holder complained. “Why don’t we have something in place for people like them?”

There was a pause, and then Knott returned with a question for Holder, “Why don’t you do something about it?”

After a bigger pause, Holder replied, “Let me go pray about it.”

“Before I even reached my prayer ‘spot,’ God had impressed me that this would not be *my* ministry but *His*, and that He would show me how to proceed,” says Holder. With the help of Knott, Holder put together a list of ten names from the church directory, which quickly expanded to approximately 75 members who were homebound and unable to fellowship at regular services.

Through the years, eight other members have joined in the ministry. Their focus is to give spiritual nourishment to fellow believers who cannot attend church. “We sing the hymns they choose, read familiar Scriptures and pray with them,” explains Holder. Each visit is reported by Holder to the church office. The goal is to coordinate things so no one gets missed. On communion Sabbaths, church elders are enlisted to help bring communion to the members at home. At Christmas this ministry delivers baskets of goodies to show these special brothers and sisters in Christ that they are still loved and cared for by their church family.

Holder tells of her heartwarming experiences: “I think of Helen, an accomplished pianist before that dreadful disease called Alzheimer’s limited her ability to just sit and talk. I searched for her in the facility she called home. ‘Come and see what I brought for you,’ I said. She followed me to her room. As I laid the bowl of water, towel, bread, juice and Bible on the table, her stressed face wore a smile and she knew instantly to sit on her bed in readiness for the service. Hallelujah! No earthly sickness can wipe away the ingrained habit of a life spent serving the Savior.”

Then there was Dennis, an engineer by profession. Depression and other painful life experiences caused him to have to live alone, away from his family. Holder chose not to focus on his “worldly treasures” that took



Almost six years ago, Marian Holder (right) sensed a need for a ministry to the housebound elderly in her church and community. A ministry was formed, and now Marian and others regularly visit approximately 75 individuals like Betsy Krantz (left) who are housebound and can't attend worship services.

up every inch of his living space from floor to ceiling. She squeezed her way through, following his voice to where he awaited her. “When I showed him the baked goods I had brought, he forced a smile. I asked, ‘Would you like me to sing a hymn or two and offer you communion?’ He asked ‘Why?’ ‘Because Christ’s Blood was shed for you and me, you are my brother in Christ.’ That touched him and he instantly mellowed. Seeing the [communion] elements, tears rolled down his cheeks. I washed his hands not feet, because many of the homebound people are fitted with medical devices. The evidence of water, towel, bread, juice and the Bible brought us in harmony with the Holy Spirit. Less than two days after my visit, Dennis passed away. Jesus is always on time—trust *Him*.”

Holder says she looks forward to the time when her soprano voice will be part of the heavenly choir. She says, “Helen will play that grand piano, and Dennis will be the engineer on the maintenance team for the Garden of Eden without sin. We will hold hands in purity and agape love, and live eternally with our long expected Savior—Jesus Christ.”

Sue Rappette, facilities coordinator, with Marian Holder, Homebound Ministry coordinator, Pioneer Memorial Church

Monticello Church recognizes United Way director

Indiana—Spring floods devastated White County, Ind., in 2008. As the damage rose, Ellen Bartlett, director of White County United Way, spent countless hours volunteering at the Monticello Church's community services center. She distributed food, clothing, furniture and household goods to those who had lost so much to the flood waters. During this time, Bartlett also performed her regular duties at United Way, which stayed open continually for two weeks to provide assistance to the community.



Ellen L. Bartlett, director of White County United Way, receives an award from Blake Hall, Monticello Church pastor, during the church's annual community relations day.

She also helped the church members obtain supplies to be given out. White County has repeatedly acknowledged

that the Monticello Seventh-day Adventist community services organization has been a wonderful asset to the area.

Bartlett was invited to attend services at the Monticello Church on Sabbath, Nov. 8, 2008. "It is a small gesture by the church to acknowledge one who has done so much for their community," stated Blake Hall, pastor, as he presented Bartlett with an award during the services. Bartlett responded by saying, "I just did what little I could to help; the people in our community lost so much."

The Monticello Church holds an annual community relations day to honor the good deeds of someone in their community.

Hall says, "It has done much to create good will between the community and the members of our church."

Judy Yeoman, correspondent, Indiana Conference, as shared by Blake Hall, pastor, Monticello Church

[UNION NEWS]

Lake Union ministry leaders honored at Adventist Ministries Convention

At the recent Adventist Ministries Convention held in Myrtle Beach, S.C., three ministry leaders from the Lake Union territory received awards for excellence in ministry and were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. An additional ministry leader received a Distinguished Service award.

Kyoshin Ahn received an award for excellence in ministry. During Kyoshin Ahn's term of leadership of the North American Korean Church Council, he worked tirelessly to build bridges and understanding between Korean im-

migrants and churches and conference leadership. He currently serves with distinction as executive secretary in the Illinois Conference.

Ken Denslow, Illinois Conference president, says, "Having served as the president of the Korean Council, Dr. Ahn came to us as an experienced administrator. His attention to administrative detail and his unique perspective on ministry make us a stronger organization. But what I admire most about Dr. Ahn is his passion for the Word of God."

Vicki Griffin received an award for excellence in ministry. She has served as health ministries director for the Michigan Conference for more than eight years. Griffin assembled top-notch Adventist specialists in the field of nutrition, medicine and research into a cooperative, integrated team to

produce the Lifestyle Matters health education modules for health evangelism at the local church level. This has enabled small as well as large churches to conduct inexpensive wellness programs that are balanced, scientifically sound and biblically-based. Michigan Conference now has a corporate wellness program called "Lifestyle Matters at Work," directed by Evelyn Kissinger, M.S., RD. The *Balance* magazine series has been produced in conjunction with Adventist Health System and is now used in 17 urgent-care clinics, physicians' offices and hundreds of church-based outreach programs.

Jay Gallimore, Michigan Conference president, says, "The Michigan Conference is pleased that the North American Division recognized Vicki Griffin, our Health and Temperance director, for her contributions to

ministry. She, along with her husband Dane, have been instrumental in producing three high-quality health outreach programs for churches. In addition, they are producing a series of magazines called *Balance*. About 250,000 of those have already gone out. Some of the programs and magazines are already in their second and third printing. The materials are popular throughout the U.S. with many inquires and orders coming from the international community. *Balance* magazine was selected to be given to all the World Health attendees at their upcoming convention in Geneva, Switzerland. Vicki is regularly invited to lecture to the medical students at Michigan State University and has twice addressed the national nurse practitioners' convention. We are grateful for God using Vicki and Dane to give us these great tools to minister to our communities through our churches. You can find out more about the materials by visiting www.lifestylematters.com."

Darryl Hosford received an award for excellence in ministry. He is president of SimpleUpdates, a business started in 1995 to host Web sites, large and small, for ministries and businesses all over the world. SimpleUpdates is the chosen provider of the North American Division that provides free Web sites to more than 7,000 churches and schools in North America using Adventist Church Connect and Adventist School Connect (see www.adventistchurchconnect.com and www.adventistschoolconnect.org).

Hosford and the SimpleUpdates team provide timely and dependable service. As quoted by a local pastor, "I'm loving the service you provide!" Hosford's team is always ready to serve and provides new features as needed. Hosford also offers training to help people understand the importance of updated Web sites. He was honored for his commitment and vision to grow the gospel through Internet technology and for providing the church in North America with technology to spread the news of the soon coming of Jesus Christ to the world.

Gary Burns, Lake Union Conference communication director, says, "Darryl began SimpleUpdates with his wife Sherryl from their home across the street from our home—what wonderful and delightful neighbors! Darryl has taken their good-neighbor spirit to the Internet community, and today SimpleUpdates has grown to be a major ministry tool that makes it possible for even the smallest and inexperienced church to have a presence on the Web. Helping others accomplish greater things in a simple way has been the theme of their ministry."

Paul F. Saint-Villiers received a Distinguished Service award for excellence in ministry. For the past 16 years, Saint-Villiers has served in a dual role as director of trust services and stewardship in three conferences. He first served in New Jersey, then Chesapeake, and he is currently in the Illinois Conference. Saint-Villiers helped

design the custom tithe and offering envelopes, with the educational side flap, that are used in many conferences today. He has regularly conducted stewardship seminars in local churches with 28 congregations being served in 2007. Saint-Villiers has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Personal Giving Plan (PGP), and in 2008 he purchased and distributed more than 300 of the PGP DVDs conference wide. He was honored at the convention for his service to pastors and local churches.

Denslow stated, "Paul isn't just a stewardship director, he is a steward. His belief and his practice is that what he has is really just on loan from God. He has consistently taken this message to the churches of the Illinois Conference."

The Adventist Ministries Convention is the premier event for administrators and directors in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. This year's convention featured keynote speakers like George Barna, Gwendolyn Carter, Ron E.M. Clouzet, Karl Hafner, Derek Morris, Frederick Russell, Don Schneider and Vicky I. Zygouris-Coe.

Adventist Ministry Convention general sessions were recorded by the Hope Channel. To order DVDs, contact *AdventSource* at 402-486-8819.

Diane Thurber, assistant communication director, Lake Union Conference

Some information was adapted from the Adventist Ministries Convention program.



Kyoshin Ahn



Vicki Griffin



Darryl Hosford



Paul Saint-Villiers

[NAD NEWS]

Message touches lives at Inauguration

The official inauguration of Barack Obama started on Jan. 19, but plans for outreach started long before that.

The previous Saturday, *Message* magazine was spread throughout the local Baltimore and D.C. neighborhoods. “We felt that *Message* should have some type of presence there,” said Washington Johnson, editor.

However, putting together and organizing such an event was no small task. Colin Brathwaite, church ministries director for the Allegheny East Conference, helped bring all the pastors and churches together so that the distribution could be a success.

Joan Cummings, director of publishing for the Allegheny East Conference, helped coordinate the buses and people that signed on to help distribute the magazine.

“I have never done anything like this before, and I wasn’t sure what to expect,” said 69-year-old Dorothy Walker, who traveled with a group of six. “I was inspired to do it, thinking about all God has done in risking the



As visitors from throughout the nation converged on Washington, D.C., for the historic inauguration of Barack Obama, Adventists followed through with plans to distribute *Message* magazine. “We don’t have to wait for an occasion like this,” Lauren Timpson said, “but when something like this happens we should be there sharing the gospel.”

life of His Son for our salvation. As I get older, I want to do more on God’s behalf. I’m not a good communicator or teacher but through the magazine.

“The inauguration was a momentous occasion,” continued Walker. “I was an adult before desegregation, and I lived through Kennedy forward. I never expected to see a Black man as president. At the same time, I know about prophecy concerning the United States. We have to remember that we are on God’s timetable.”

Wade Cross, who was at the whistle-stop in Baltimore, also shared his experience: “It was great to see the people beckoning for the magazines.

One lady in a wheelchair, with both legs amputated, asked for several copies. She wanted to pass them out in her apartment building.”

Lauren Timpson gladly passed out many copies of *Message*. “We don’t have to wait for an occasion like this,” she says. “But when something like this happens we should be

there sharing the gospel.”

“Waking up at 3:00 a.m. to go on a mission to educate the world—literally—about the truth that lies inside of *Message* magazine was quite uncommon for me,” said Laila Davis, who took pictures of the event. “But seeing the response we received from people, who were all but clawing at our magazine stacks by the thousands, was absolutely unbelievable and incredible!”

Message magazine’s impact was not limited to the streets of Baltimore and D.C.; it went global. On CNN’s homepage, there was a picture of a woman holding *Message* in her hands as she cheered loudly among the myriads of people gathered in D.C. for this special event.

There was much to cheer about Inauguration Day; not only for this country’s first African-American president, but also that 100,000 copies of *Message* were distributed. Because of the quality of the magazine, many people thought that there was a charge. They were all reassured that the cost was the same as what we paid for our salvation—nothing.

David Robinson, intern, Review and Herald Publishing Association



One hundred thousand copies of *Message* magazine were distributed to Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, Md., neighborhoods prior to the Inauguration. The magazines were eagerly accepted by many.

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 listed in the masthead on the inside back cover.

Weddings

Sharon N. Carter and Douglas H. Wilson were married Sept. 7, 2008, in Vassar, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Nathan Renner.

Sharon is the daughter of David and the late Karen Carter of Clio, Mich., and Douglas is the son of L.J. and Judith Wilson of Millington, Mich.

The Wilsons are making their home in Fairgrove, Mich.

Obituaries

ALDERFER, Wilma J. (Bodey), age 84; born Feb. 2, 1924, in Walnut, Ind.; died Dec. 7, 2008, in Rochester, Ind. She was a member of the Rochester Church.

Survivors include her husband, Weldon C.; son, Roger L.; daughter, Gloria Smith; sister, Mary Ellen Trump; one step-grandchild; and four step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Don English, and interment was in Richland Center Cemetery, Argos, Ind.

BACCHIOCCHI, Samuele, age 70; born Jan. 29, 1938, in Rome, Italy; died Dec. 20, 2008, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his wife, Anna (Gandin); sons, Daniel and Gianluca G.; brother, Marco; sisters, Maria DeMeio and Marta Magg; and five grandchildren.

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

BRADFORD, Del W., age 66; born July 26, 1941, in Greenway, Ark.; died May 27, 2008, in Hamlet, Ind. He was a member of the La Porte (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Sharon Mae (Burch); sons, Jeffrey and Robert; daughters, Kelly Bradford and Shelly Johnson; brothers, Edgar, James and Gilbert Bradford, and Ronald and Donald Heider; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Interment was in Pine Lake Cemetery, La Porte.

BREYER, Joseph W., age 80; born Aug. 30, 1927, in Milton, Wis.; died July 4, 2008, in Crossville, Tenn. He was a member of the Broadview Academy Church, LaFox, Ill.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis J. (England); sons, Kenneth J. and David P.; daughter, Cheri L. Woodcock; half sisters,

Adaline (Truman) Gibson, Charlotte (Truman) Rhodes and Gertrude (Truman) Daszkiewicz; 11 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Harold Oetman, and interment was in New Era Cemetery, Crossville.

CRAWFORD, MayBelle (Redfield), age 102; born Aug. 13, 1906, in Reinersville, Ohio; died Jan. 25, 2009, in Orangevale, Calif. She was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her daughter, Aletha Christiansen; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; four step-great-grandchildren; and three step-great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was in Shepard Memorial Park Cemetery, Hendersonville, N.C.

CURTIS, Ruth E. (Oswald), age 100; born May 19, 1908, in Bay City, Mich.; died Nov. 15, 2008, in Saginaw, Mich. She was a member of the Saginaw-Center Road Church.

Survivors include her stepsons, Ronald, Lynden and Gary Curtis; daughters, Elaine McElmurry, Marilyn Mossman, Leore Bethune and Sandra Kelso; brother, Robert Oswald; 13 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert C. Quillin, and interment was in Heavenly Rest Cemetery, Kawkawlin, Mich.

EVANS, Beryl P. (Pearce), age 85; born Oct. 30, 1923, in London, England; died Dec. 7, 2008, in Grand Blanc, Mich. She was a member of the Holly (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Timothy L., Nicholas T. and David J.; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Gene Hall, Robert Benson and Brandon Korter, Elders Dan Towar and Earl Zager, and Chaplain Adam Doyle, and interment was in Lakeside Cemetery, Holly.

FOSTER, William "Billy" J., age 74; born Jan. 23, 1934, in Jonesboro, Ark.; died Feb. 5, 2008, in La Porte, Ind. He was a member of the La Porte Church.

Survivors include his sons, Michael, Larry and William; daughters, Robin Jackson and Cameo Foster; brothers, Ronnie, Teddy and Gene Wise; sisters, Opal and Debbie Wise; 14 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Wayne Morrison, with private inurnment.

HAWTHORNE, Roger L., age 67; born Oct. 3, 1940, in Coopersville, Mich.; died Sept. 24, 2008, in Grandville, Mich. He was a member of the Wyoming (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Karen (Day); daughters, Shel Lynn Hawthorne and Sherri Lawrence; and father, Robert.

Memorial services were conducted by Elder Phil Colburn, and inurnment was in Wright Twp. Cemetery, Coopersville.

HULTGREN, Dorothy A. (Carlson), age 81; born Aug. 29, 1927, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Jan. 11, 2009, in Muskegon, Mich. She was a member of the Allegan (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Leonard Jr.; and sister, Pauline Manning.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Don Williams and Joshua Manning, and interment was in Fort Custer National Cemetery, Augusta, Mich.

KESTER, June (Pechar), age 85; born June 26, 1923, in Chicago, Ill.; died Dec. 3, 2008, in Monticello, Ind. She was a member of the Monticello Church.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Blake Hall, with private inurnment.

PENDLETON, Rachel E. (Willson) Allen, age 88; born Nov. 21, 1919, in Bennett's Switch, Ind.; died May 18, 2008, in La Porte, Ind. She was a member of the La Porte Church.

Survivors include her sons, William, Jack and David Allen; seven grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors David Allen and Eric Freking, and interment was in Pine Lake Cemetery, La Porte.

PETERSON, Lillian M., age 98; born Jan. 6, 1910, in Portage Cty., Plainfield, Wis.; died Dec. 26, 2008, in Portage Cty. She was a member of the Almond (Wis.) Church.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Charles Kohley and David Guerrero, and interment was in Spiritland Cemetery, Almond.

RINGER, Robert W., age 89; born Aug. 30, 1919, in Buffalo, N.Y.; died Jan. 1, 2009, in Chattanooga, Tenn. He was a member of the Fairplain Church, Benton Harbor, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Marlene V. (Van Puybrouck); son, Wesley; daughters, Linda Ebeling and Jan Grentz; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Fred Fuller, and interment was in Collegedale (Tenn.) Cemetery.

ROP, Alta R. (Perry), age 78; born Nov. 6, 1929, in Lansing, Mich.; died Oct. 26, 2008, in Muskegon, Mich. She was a member of the Muskegon Church.

Survivors include her sons, Richard and Donald; daughter, Gay Duliborn; sisters, Ellen Case, Wanda Wilson and Mary Perry; nine grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Ron Mills, and inurnment was in Ever Rest Cemetery, Muskegon.

SIEWERT, David B., age 48; born Sept. 16, 1960, in Chicago, Ill.; died Dec. 11, 2008, in Stevensville, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Kimm (Luckner); son, Lukas; daughter, Lilli Siewert; father, Bernhard; mother, Anneliese (Krienen); and sister, Marion Vance.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Arne Swanson, and inurnment was in Hickory Bluff Cemetery, Stevensville.

SKANTZ, Thelma I., age 91; born Feb. 28, 1917, in Worcester, Mass.; died Nov. 6, 2008, in Belleville, Mich. She was a member of the Belleville-Liberty Church.

Survivors include her husband, C.W.; sons, Ronald J. and C.W. Jr.; daughter, Linda Burilovich; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Eduard Petreaca, with private inurnment.

SPRAYMAN, Nina L. (Smalley), age 90; born July 13, 1918, in Hillsboro, Wis.; died Oct. 31, 2008, in Vestaburg, Mich. She was a member of the Cedar Lake (Mich.) Church.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Mickey Mallory, and interment was in Cedar Lake Cemetery.

TOWNSEND, Gertrude L. (Quinn), age 75; born Mar. 4, 1933, in Kansas City, Mo.; died Oct. 24, 2008, in Muskegon, Mich. She was a member of the Fremont (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Robert A.; sons, Robert M. and Gerald R.; daughter, Trudy A. Townsend; brothers, Carl and Richard Quinn; sister, Dorathy Carnes; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Don Williams and Ron Mills, and interment was in Sunrise Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Muskegon.

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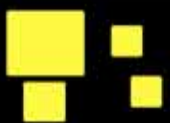
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 Downers Grove Elementary School
 Gurnee Christian School
 Hinsdale Adventist Academy
 Marion Elementary School
 North Aurora Elementary School
 North Shore Junior Academy
 Sheridan Elementary School
 Springfield Elementary School
 Thompsonville Christian School

INDIANA CONFERENCE

Contact: Mark Haynal, 317-844-6201

Web site: www.indysda.org

Aboite Christian School
 Adventist Christian Academy
 Cicero SDA Elementary
 Cross Street Christian
 Door Prairie Adventist School
 Elkhart Adventist Christian School
 Evansville SDA School
 Indiana Academy
 Indianapolis Junior Academy
 Indianapolis Southside Christian Academy
 Northwest Adventist Christian School
 Pleasantview Christian School
 South Bend Junior Academy
 Spencer Adventist Christian School
 Terre Haute SDA School

LAKE REGION CONFERENCE

Contact: Ruth Horton, 773-846-2661

Web site: www.lakeregionsda.org

Calvin Center Elementary School
 Capitol City Elementary School
 Chicago SDA Elementary
 Fairhaven Elementary School
 Mizpah Elementary School
 Peterson-Warren Academy

Peterson-Warren Elementary
 Sharon Junior Academy
 South Suburban School

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

Contact: Linda Fuchs, 517-316-1500

Web site: www.misda.org

Adelphian Junior Academy
 Alpena Elementary School
 Andrews Academy
 Ann Arbor Elementary School
 Battle Creek Academy
 Battle Creek Elementary School
 Berrien Springs Village Elementary
 Bluff View Christian School
 Cedar Lake Elementary School
 Charlotte Elementary School
 Eau Claire Elementary School
 Edenville Elementary School
 Escanaba Elementary School
 First Flint Elementary School
 Gobles SDA Junior Academy
 Grand Rapids Adventist Academy
 Grayling SDA Elementary
 Great Lakes Adventist Academy
 Greater Lansing Adventist School
 Hastings SDA Elementary
 Holland SDA Elementary
 Ionia SDA Elementary
 Ithaca SDA Elementary
 Jackson SDA Elementary
 Kalamazoo SDA Junior Academy
 Lenawee SDA Elementary School
 Metropolitan Junior Academy
 Mount Pleasant SDA Elementary
 Munising SDA Elementary
 Muskegon SDA Elementary
 Niles SDA Elementary
 Northview SDA Academy
 Oak Hollow Christian School
 Oakwood Junior Academy
 Onaway SDA Elementary
 Owosso SDA Elementary
 Petoskey SDA Elementary
 Pine Mountain Christian School

Prattville SDA Elementary
 Ruth Murdoch SDA Elementary School
 Traverse City Elementary
 Tri-City SDA Elementary
 Troy Adventist Academy
 Warren SDA Junior Academy
 Waterford Adventist School
 Wilson SDA Junior Academy
 Woodland SDA School

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

Contact: Ken Kirkham, 608-241-5235

Web site: <http://wisc.netadventist.org>

Bethel Junior Academy
 Fox Valley SDA Elementary
 Frederic SDA Elementary
 Green Bay Junior Academy
 Hillside Christian School
 Maranatha SDA Elementary
 Meadow Creek Adventist School
 Milwaukee Junior Academy
 Otter Creek Christian Academy
 Petersen SDA Elementary
 Rhinelander Christian School
 Three Angels Christian School
 Wisconsin Academy
 Woodland Adventist School

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

Contact: 800-253-2874

Web site: www.andrews.edu

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in all of its church-operated schools, admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools; and makes no discrimination on the basis of race in administration of educational policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs.

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* Web site at www.lakeunionherald.org and submit the announcement online. Readers may verify dates and times of programs with the respective sources, as these events are subject to change.

Andrews University

The **Andrews University Alumni Association** is looking toward Homecoming 2009, which will take place **Sept. 24-27**. Honor classes are 1929, '39, '49, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 and '99. We need to hear from you—we are collecting nominations for Honored Alumni 2009 and welcome your submissions. Honored alumni are typically acknowledged during their honor class reunion, in order to be recognized with their peers, although we encourage you to nominate anyone you feel worthy, as they will be considered for future years as well. To make your nomination, visit www.andrews.edu/go/honoredalumni/.

Illinois

Broadview Academy Alumni Association Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend is **Apr. 24 and 25**. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars. Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes are 1949, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 and '99. Fri. night Vespers, Sabbath school and church. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, **WE NEED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESSES—POSTAGE IS**



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TOO EXPENSIVE. Send it to: shona@cross.co.za, or call Shona Cross at 630-428-4182. More information to come. Don't miss it!

Hinsdale Adventist Academy Visitor's/Step-Up Day, for students entering grades 1-8 in the fall, will be held on **Wed., Apr. 29**, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Meet next year's teachers and classmates, and experience what Hinsdale Adventist Academy is all about! For more information and to make a reservation, call 630-323-9211.

Indiana

Lay Training Seminar is **Apr. 17-18** at Timber Ridge Camp with guest speaker David Hartman, pastor of the Highland Church in Tenn. Learn winning ways to witness as you share Christ and His End-Time truths with confidence, in a way that fits your unique temperament. To register, contact Sheri DeWitt at 317-844-6201 or sdewitt@indysda.com.

Indiana Academy: All students in grades 8-11 are invited to Indiana Academy Days, **Apr. 19-20**, to meet staff and students and experience an awesome educational opportunity! To register, contact Stan Detweiler, vice principal, at 317-984-3575, ext. 247, or e-mail stndtwl@yahoo.com. For more information, check out the Web site at www.iasda.org.

Indiana State-Wide Pathfinder Fair is **May 1-3** at Timber Ridge Camp. For details, contact Dean Whitlow at 812-829-2507 or dwhitlow@hughes.net.

Golf Fundraiser: The Fifth Annual Indianapolis Junior Academy and Cicero Elementary School golf outing is **May 21** at Bear Slide Golf Club in Cicero. All proceeds will benefit the two schools. Register before Apr. 15 by e-mailing Mark Fogg at mark.fogg@unitedagy.com. For additional information, call Mark at 317-513-3774.

Lake Region

Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Church Health Ministries Kidney Screening: Do you know how well your kidneys work? *Kidney disease is where diabetes and hypertension intersect.* Join us for a **free** kidney screening, sponsored by the American Kidney Fund's MIKE Program, on **Apr. 19**, 8:00 a.m. to noon. The screening will take place at Shiloh Church's elementary school, 7008 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago. For more information, contact Alleen Reese at 773-238-5646.

"Tell the Story ..." All Pathfinder clubs are invited to the Fifth Annual Pathfinder Honor Retreat sponsored by the London Swordbearer Pathfinder Club. The date for this year's blessed event is **May 15-17**, and the location will remain the same—Camp Wagner. There will be quality honor instruction, meals, daily line call, cabin inspections and awesome worship services. **YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!** For more information, please call Teresa Rodgers at 734-461-0569 or Angie Gardner at 313-915-8758; or e-mail micaahg234@aol.com.

Lake Union

Offerings

- Apr 4** Local Church Budget
- Apr 11** Christian Record Services
- Apr 18** Local Church Budget
- Apr 25** Local Conference Advance

Special Days

- Apr 4** Missionary Magazines (*Signs*,

Message, El Centinela, La Sentinelle)

- Apr 11** Stewardship Sabbath
- Apr 18** Literature Evangelism Sabbath
- Apr 25** Education Sabbath

Michigan

The 2009 Health Professionals Retreat, a family-oriented, spiritual renewal weekend, will be held **Apr. 30-May 3** at Camp Au Sable. Guest speaker: David Fernandez, M.D., FACS; theme: "The Wonder of It All." Come enjoy a Sabbath evening vespers concert with vocalist Scott Michael Bennett, and many opportunities for relaxation and recreation. Michigan Conference and AMEN (Adventist Medical Evangelism Network), a national organization of Christian physicians and dentists whose purpose is to share Christ in their workplace through medical evangelism, co-sponsor this event. For a registration brochure or more information, e-mail Sheri Christie at schristie@misda.org or call 517-316-1527.

"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion will take place at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA), **June 11-14**, for alumni and warmly welcomed schoolmates of 1959 and earlier. Honor classes: 1929, '39, '49 and '59. For further information, contact the GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181, or visit www.GLAA.net. Please pass the good word.

North American Division

Safe TV® Presents "God's Three Greatest Gifts": Carlos Pardeiro, president of Safe TV®, invites you and your family to join him, along with Dwight Nelson, Lonnie Melashenko and Monte Church, for a great time of fellowship as the marvels of God's love are shared, revealed in creation, salvation and the Second Coming of Christ.

Sunset Calendar

	Apr 3	Apr 10	Apr 17	Apr 24	May 1	May 8
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:12	8:20	8:28	8:35	8:43	8:50
Chicago, Ill.	7:18	7:26	7:34	7:41	7:49	7:57
Detroit, Mich.	8:00	8:08	8:16	8:23	8:32	8:40
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:10	8:17	8:25	8:32	8:39	8:46
La Crosse, Wis.	7:34	7:42	7:50	7:59	8:08	8:16
Lansing, Mich.	8:06	8:14	8:22	8:30	8:38	8:46
Madison, Wis.	7:26	7:34	7:42	7:50	7:59	8:07
Springfield, Ill.	7:25	7:31	7:38	7:46	7:53	8:00



Held live, **Apr. 3, 4 and 5**, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Central Time, from the Safe TV® studios, we encourage you to participate by calling in with your questions regarding these subjects. Let your friends and family know so they, too, can join us for "God's Three Greatest Gifts." For more information about this Safe TV® event, please visit www.safetv.org, or call 1-888-777-9392 or 479-361-2900.

The Oakwood University Alumni Association extends a warm welcome to all graduates and friends of Oakwood for the 2009 Annual Oakwood University Alumni Weekend Homecoming Celebration. This **Apr. 9-12** event will be held on the campus of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala. This year's speakers are Ron Smith, Divine worship service; Jeffery Watson, youth worship service; and Linda Penick, Fri. evening vesper service. For further information, visit our Web site at www.oakwoodalumni.org, or contact Alumni Relations at 256-726-7039.

Madison (Tenn.) College Alumni Homecoming will be held **June 26, 27 and 28**, honoring class of 1959 and those attending/graduating from 1950 to 1964. Fri. evening, Sabbath and Sun. breakfast, all at the Madison Academy campus. For more information, call Jim Culpepper at 615-654-3311.

The 100th Anniversary Celebration for the Beiseker Level Land Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held **July 31 to Aug. 2**. The church is located in Beiseker, Alberta, Canada. Please come and celebrate with us! To register or for more information, please contact beisekersdachurch@me.com, or call Jim Tetz at 403-947-2909.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Academy Alumni Weekend will be held **Apr. 24-26**. Honor classes: 1939, '49, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 and '99. Speakers for the weekend include Steve Bohr and Don Schneider. Special feature will be the dedication and tours of the new boys dormitory on Sabbath afternoon. For more information, call 920-623-3300, or e-mail development@wisacad.org.

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Academy Day May 1, 2009
(for students entering grades 9-12)
** pre-registration recommended**

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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Partners in Mission

BY GARY BURNS



My first assignment as a new pastor was to three and a half little churches in northwest Ohio. The largest church, Defiance, had a little schoolroom attached to the main sanctuary. Named after the fort that held off the attacks of the British during the War of 1812, the people there continued to defy the odds. During the time we were there, this little band of believers ensured that every child who wanted to go to school had a desk with their name on it.

The plan was that the entire church took on the responsibility of educating the children. Partnering with parents or guardians, every member committed to what amounted to seven percent of their income to support the program. This partnership, between members, parents,

guardians, teachers and students, ensured that the mission of preparing young people for service in the context of a relationship with Jesus Christ was accomplished.

This partnership with God, and with each other, created a sense of community where everyone took an interest in the education process. We prayed through, worked through and sometimes cried through every challenge together.

Some of those children are now married with children of their own and are active in God's service around the world. The younger ones are still in college or graduate school, but what a joy to see how our commitment years ago made such a difference in their lives.

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

God Cares About the Little Things

BY LAUREN HOWELL

Imagine talking to a person that is not a believer about how God blesses you. Would it be hard for you to think of something to say? Can you think of something He has done in your life? Not everyone has some huge, visible miracle that has turned his or her life around.

My parents have attended an Adventist church since I was three years old. They brought me up learning the Bible and attending church schools. I grew up in a good home with my father, mother and my younger brother, and I thought I was pretty normal.

Going to Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA) changed my life. I realized how much I took for granted—like a home that is not broken. I also didn't realize what a blessing it is to grow up knowing about God. God made it possible for me to attend this school. My parents were looking at our bills and figured that the cost of school combined with other bills totaled way more than we could afford. And yet, I am in my fourth year here.


I also believe God brought me to GLAA to wake me up spiritually. Before, I thought being an Adventist was just something I had to do because my parents and friends were Adventists. I didn't read the Bible except for Bible class. I didn't really have a relationship with God. In fact, the whole idea kind of scared me. I thought God just watched me from Heaven with a stern look on His face. Then I went off to school, and I was blessed by all the vesper programs, testimonies, weeks of prayer and church services.

Some people may be angry with God for not blessing them in the

way they want. You may not understand why God allowed something bad to happen to you or why someone you loved died or why something you prayed so hard for didn't happen. When I feel this way, I try to remember that God can see the big picture. He knows the beginning to the end. He feels sad when we are disappointed, and He wants us to understand that He knows what is good for us and how we can work for Him.

We don't realize how much God does for us every day. When Jesus comes again to take us with Him, then we can finally understand and see all of the work He did in our lives and how He was with us every step of the way. You may be surprised how many times God saved your life or made something happen that would brighten your day.

I believe that God cares about everything we feel and go through. He takes care of all of the little details in our life, knowing how it will affect us in the future. Although we may not always understand, God does what is best for us, and He never forgets about the little things.



Lauren Howell is a senior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy.

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Wisconsin: Donald Corkum, president; Roger Driver, secretary/treasurer; street address: N2561 Old Highway 16, Fall River, WI 53932; mailing address: P.O. Box 100, Fall River, WI 53932; (920) 484-6555.

Contributors: Writer guidelines are available online at www.LakeUnionHerald.org.

Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

Adam Douglas LaFave, 18, from Grandville, Michigan, is a junior at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy and has been a student there since kindergarten. Adam has been class president in the past as well as junior president this year. He was recently inducted into the National Honor Society. Adam enjoys music, exercising, hanging with friends and sports. Last summer, he was a regular volunteer, painting the new building for the high school.



Adam LaFave

The most important thing Adam has learned from his academy experience is to be accepting of all different types of people and to try to be friends with everyone. He wants to be remembered as always being able to make people laugh, a fun person to be around, optimistic and a good example to others, all honorable goals for someone who wants to become a psychiatrist.

Adam enjoys having daily devotions and going to Bible camps and on mission trips, where he can spread God's love by doing good for others. He likes having one-on-one time with God in prayer where he can tell Him anything.

The son of Doug and Lori LaFave, Adam is a baptized member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.



Tasha Nieto

Tasha Nieto, 18, from Comstock Park, Michigan, is a senior at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy where she has attended seven years. Tasha has been a class and/or S.A. officer for the past three years. She is currently senior class pastor and photo editor for the yearbook. She is a member of the National Honor Society and wants to become a registered nurse.

A well-rounded student, Tasha enjoys singing, playing sports, reading and hanging out with her friends. She wants to be remembered as always being helpful while being sweet, weird and hyper at times. Tasha will always remember Bible camps where everyone got closer to God, while also getting closer to each other.

Tasha would love to continue growing with God and one day draw people closer to God. One of her goals is to be a witness for God and to have Him use her. She believes that "when times get tough and everything seems to be against you, God is there and will help you out. He has a very special plan for each one of His children." For this reason, she tries to put God first in all that she does.

Tasha is the daughter of Kathleen Meyer. She is a baptized member of the Frost Church.

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

Address Correction

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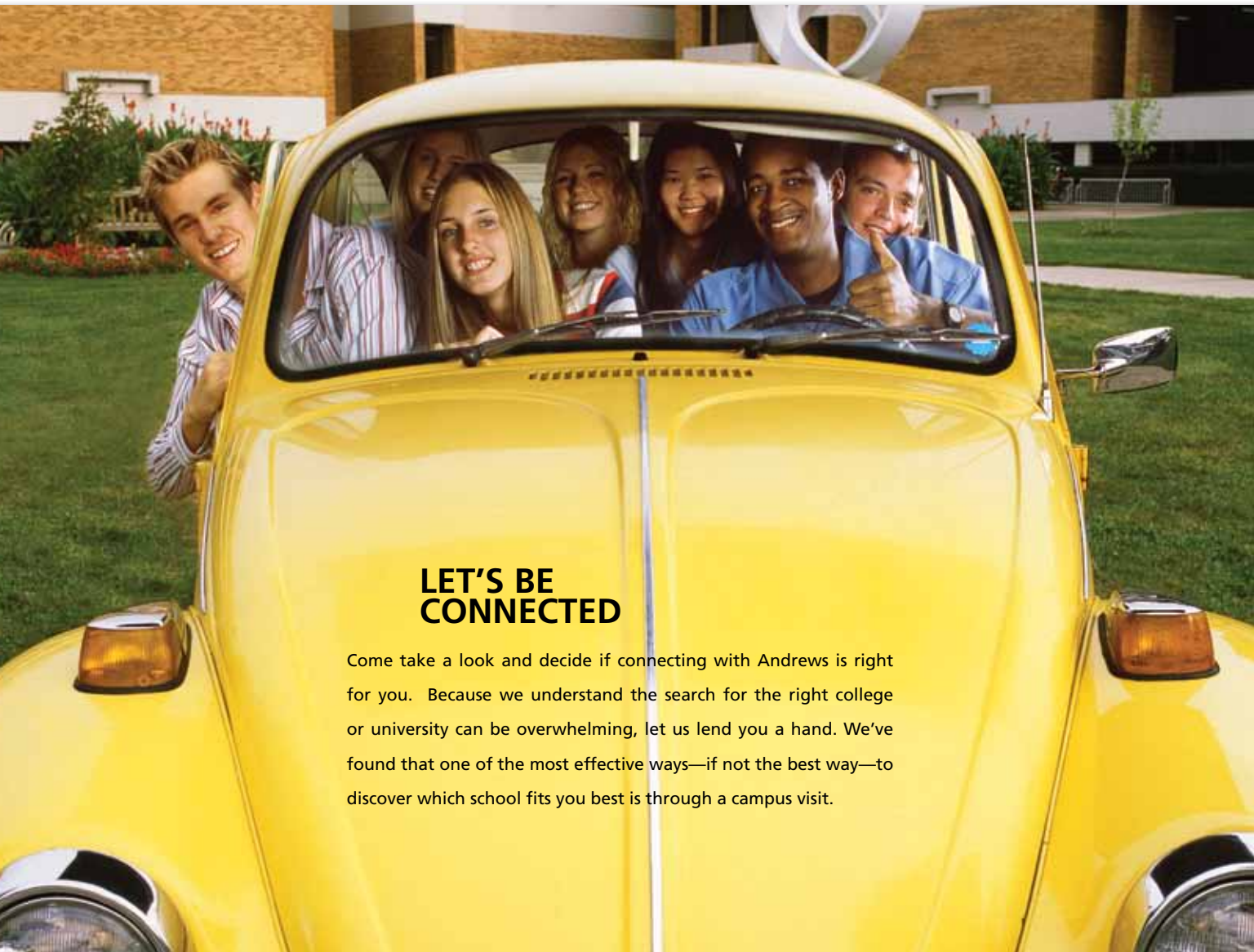
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April 5–6, 2009
October 18–19, 2009
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November 8–9, 2009

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April 17–19, 2009
April 16–18, 2010

For more info, visit standout.andrews.edu.

To register for a preview event or an individual visit, go to connect.andrews.edu/visit or call 800.253.2874