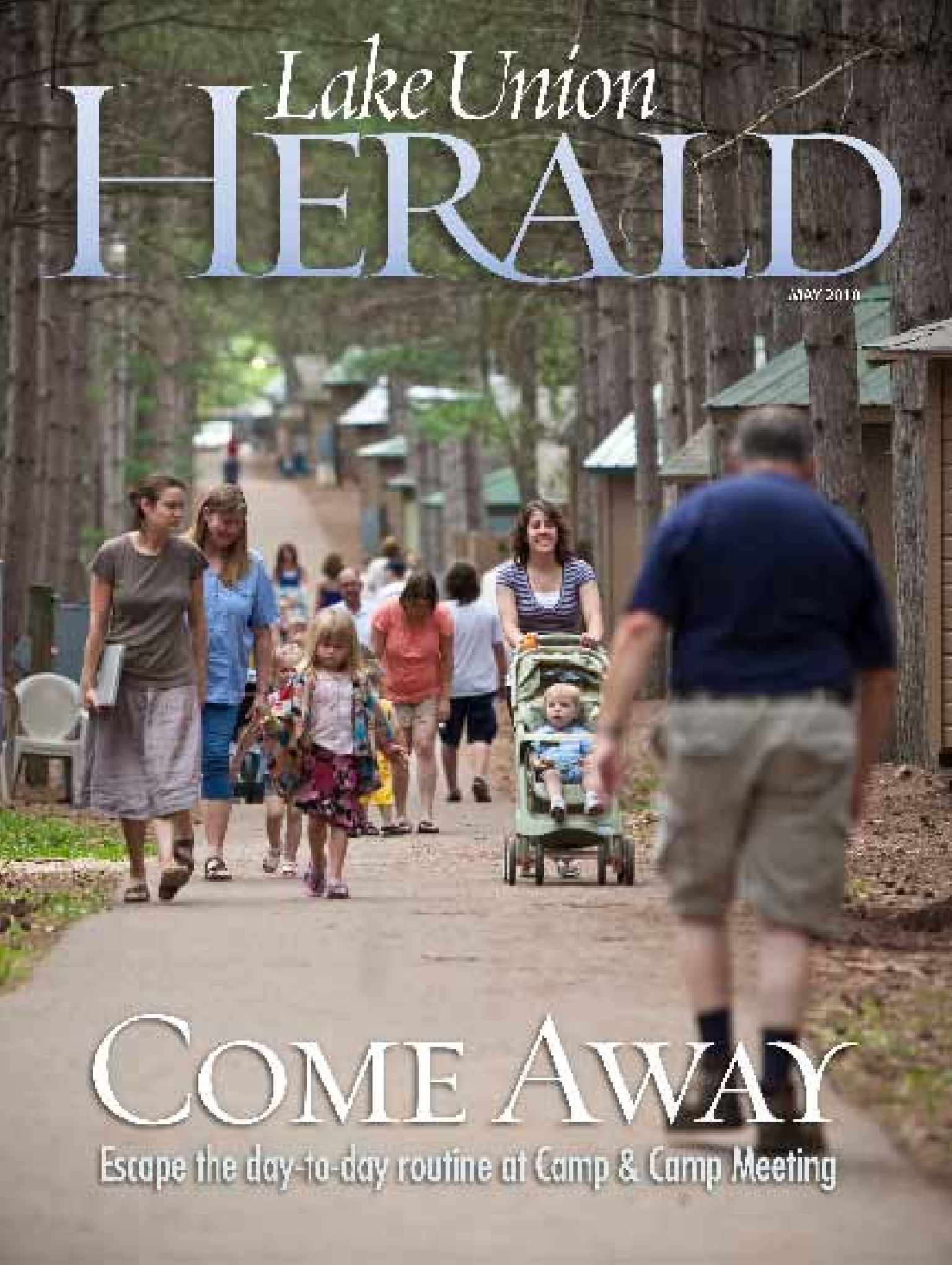


Lake Union HERALD

MAY 2010



COME AWAY

Escape the day-to-day routine at Camp & Camp Meeting

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



The cover photograph was taken by Gary Burns at Wisconsin Camp Meeting.

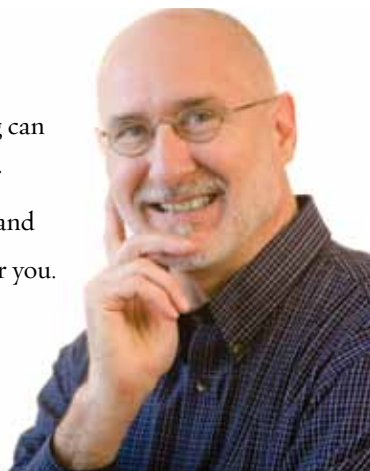
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In this issue...

In a world of ever-changing social networks, nothing can replace the experience of coming together in a camp or camp meeting setting. Create wonderful relationships and memories this summer at a camp or camp meeting near you.


Gary Burns, Editor



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I Did It... God's Way

As I write this editorial, Barbara and I are on vacation with our family—and yes, we really love being grandparents. Somehow, it includes all the fun of raising our own children—but with less responsibility. When we visit our grandchildren, we bask in their excited responses when we arrive, we bring them presents (thanks to Gamma) and enjoy building our relationship as we play with each child. We love the cute behaviors and seeing the developing life skills.

From time to time we also see those not-so-cute behaviors that are often quite similar to some episodes we experienced with our daughters at the same ages—potentially the same as our parents saw in us when we were children. Of course, we have to smile to ourselves—children are so much like their parents. We encourage our daughters and their husbands to continue loving, stay consistent and remember that the parents must be in charge—not the child.

The battle of surrendering the will starts early with infants, but is unfortunately not just a childhood issue—it continues throughout our lifetime. I appreciate the insight into this struggle that Ellen White gives; “The warfare against self is the greatest battle that was ever fought. The yielding of self, surrendering all to the will of God, requires a struggle; but the soul must submit to God before it can be renewed in holiness.

“The government of God is not, as Satan would make it appear, founded upon a blind submission, an unreasoning control. It appeals to the intellect and the conscience. ‘Come now, and let us reason together’ is the Creator’s invitation to the beings He has made (Isaiah 1:18). God does not force the will of His creatures. He cannot accept an homage that is not willingly and intelligently given. A mere forced submission would prevent all real development of mind or character; it would make man a mere automaton. Such is not the purpose of the Creator. He desires that man, the crowning work of His creative power, shall reach the highest possible development. He sets before us the height of blessing to which He desires to bring us through His grace. He invites us to give ourselves to Him, that He may work His will in us” (*Steps to Christ*, pp. 43, 44).

As our grandchildren grow they will continue to struggle with the warfare against self. They join their parents and grandparents in the very same endeavor. Our wonderful God has done, and continues to do, everything possible to woo us, to love us and to capture our hearts. And we can join Him in that work as a community of faith. As we collectively allow Christ to do His excellent work in us, we can’t help but become like Him—giving tangible and practical evidence of His love and grace.

Every once in awhile we’ll hear the hit song from the 60s, “My Way,” with those sustaining lyrics at the end, “I did it my way.” However, in Heaven and for eternity, we’ll be singing a different tune with humility and gratitude, “I did it God’s way.”



A Special Day

On Saturday, January 30, 2010, Samoy Monique Mainda stood before the congregation at Pioneer Memorial Church as she was accepted into fellowship by profession of faith. We share her perspective with our readers—Editors.

BY SAMOY MONIQUE MAINDA

Praise be to God on this beautiful and special Sabbath day. To most people in various cities and other parts of the world this day is just another Saturday, but for me it is a special day and will remain so for the rest of my life. I say so because it is marking a new beginning in my life. The calendar page of my life has been turned.

A little background of my life will give you some insight into where I have come from.

I grew up in a wonderful and loving Christian home during my early childhood. My parents gave me a wonderful upbringing and instilled values in me that I have cherished till this day. At the age of eight, my mother used to tell me to always stay on fire for God, love Him continually and never give up on my faith. That brought joy to my heart. However, my nice, warm Christian home experienced family turbulence. My parents separated, my father moved to Washington, D.C., and my mother, sisters and I stayed in South Carolina. I continued to have faith in God and prayed that He would intervene and my parents would reunite again.

Between the ages of eight and 13 years, I visited my dad and other family members in D.C. during summers. Things turned out for the worst during this growing-up period of my life. A family member started molesting me during those summer visits. I was crushed; I felt ashamed, disgusted and thought it was my fault. I contemplated suicide; and worst of all, I felt let down by God. I thought God would take care of me and help me with everything, but I felt He had not done that. I thought, *God has let me down. No one wants me.* The damage to my self-esteem was very severe. I was angry at God, bitter and scared. I never told anyone. I should have, but I was ashamed.

I tried to pray, meditate and petition to God for intervention, but that dark secret haunted me every day. On the outside I was a joy to be around; but inside, I was bitter and gloomy. When I was 19 years old, I finally decided not to let this beat me. God was on my side, and He helped me break the chains by telling my parents what had been going on. I started the healing process and began to read my Bible again. As part of my therapy, I attended many Bible study groups and was in the church choir. I was then baptized by immersion at the Refuge Temple in Greenville, South Carolina.

In 2003, I met Fred Mainda, who I came to learn was a Seventh-day Adventist. I told him of my religious background. I did not know anything about the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, but Fred constantly called me and explained about his church. The more we talked about God and His Sabbath day, the more I felt alive and at peace with God. I felt a breath of fresh air in my life. During our courtship, I learned more about the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but I was not ready to convert—even after our wedding. But, God was still working in me with my faith and beliefs.

Fred never stopped praying for me, and he encouraged me to search the Lord further. I then joined him here at Berrien Springs where he invited me to attend church with him on Sabbath. After awhile the Lord opened my heart,



Skip MacCarty, associate pastor, read Samoy's testimony to her new church family at Pioneer Memorial Church, as they received her into fellowship on her profession of faith.



On the day of her baptism, Samoy Mainda shared, "I have come a long way from my dark days to this bright day full of hope and joy. I ask you to remember me and our family in your prayers to keep us strong in the faith." Pictured is Samoy's family. From left (back): Joseph, Hannah and Jerusha Mainda; from left (front): Fred and Samoy Mainda

and I began to change. I felt wrong by not keeping God's Sabbath, for I understood that it is a special day. That was something my family couldn't understand or explain, though later they supported me.

I now stand before you with my loving husband who never gave up on me, our little girl, Hannah, my brothers-in-law, George Agoki and Philip Mainda, other family members and friends. I have come a long way from my dark days to this bright day full of hope and joy. I ask you to remember me and our family in your prayers to keep us strong in the faith.

I give special thanks to Skip MacCarty, one of the pastors, for giving me Bible studies, prayers, encouragement and guidance to this day.

There are a couple of favorite verses in the Bible I want to share with you and particularly those who may be transitioning or seeking to renew their faith with the Lord. These two verses encourage me on endurance.

"Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you

will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised" (Hebrews 10:36).

"May the Lord lead your hearts into a full understanding and expression of the love of God and the patient endurance that comes from Christ" (2 Thessalonians 3:5).

These verses encourage me on faith.

"Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him" (Hebrews 11:1, 6).

Faith brings joy!

"Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us" (Romans 5:1).

Thank you all.

Samoy Monique Mainda is a new member of the Pioneer Memorial Church family.

Just Like Jesus

BY CARMEN MAGRAY

Alaina Halvorsen is a kindergartner in my classroom, and she has a smile that lights up her whole face. If you want to see that smile, just stop and wait outside my classroom door with me around 9:40 in the morning and it will come. I know this because I see it every day. You see that's the time that we go outside for recess. All the kids in grades K-6 hurry out of their classrooms and delve into their lockers to quickly grab their winter clothing. They begin layering on their snow pants, boots, hats and anything else that they can get into to keep warm.

Amid the rush of activity, Alaina just quietly sits on the floor in front of her locker and waits and watches as everyone else scurries with activity. They excitedly chatter about their ideas for snow forts and sledging possibilities as they hop up and down trying to pull on their snow pants and wriggle into their winter coats. Alaina is confident that help for her is on the way, and she is not disappointed.

Soon Alaina sees her special friend, Madeline Konshak, a sixth grader, coming toward her and a smile spreads across her face. She knows that help has arrived. Madeline quickly bends down to Alaina's level and begins the process of helping her dress for outside play. She patiently helps Alaina put on her winter coat, hat, ear muffs and mittens. After Alaina is dressed, Madeline helps Alaina put on her boots, a task that's difficult for Alaina because of the braces that are on her legs.

Madeline doesn't seem to mind how long it takes or that they're always the last ones outside for recess, because when



When Carmen Magray sees the friendship of Alaina Halvorsen (left) and Madeline Konshak (right), and the way Madeline assists Alaina, she is reminded of what God does for her every day.

they do come outside for recess Alaina is holding Madeline's hand, and they're walking at her pace busily talking about each other's day. They spend the whole recess together.

Wherever Alaina wants to go Madeline makes sure she gets there. When a snowbank is too tall, Madeline picks her up and puts her on the other side of it. When she wants to climb the stairs to go up the slide, Madeline is there to hold her hand and steady her.

I am reminded that God does this for me every day. When I have a problem that feels too big for me to overcome, like Alaina's snowbank, I just need to wait and be patient. God, my Special Friend, will come to help me. He'll meet me at my level, walk with me all the way

and pick me up just when I need it. You don't need to tell me why Jesus said that we need to be like little children to enter the kingdom of Heaven. I see it every day.

Carmen Magray is the K-2 teacher at Green Bay Adventist Junior Academy.



Harvesting in the Arctic

BY DIANE THURBER

Years ago, Bill Neish moved to Canada's Arctic. He lived in each of the three main communities, but mostly in Iqaluit, Nunavut, a community of 7,000 people. Reflecting on those years, Bill says, "I am sad that I was so focused on my career and retirement and not what really matters ... eternity!"

Approximately nine years ago, Bill met Lisa in California. A year later they were married. They visited Iqaluit together, but Lisa says, "I never contemplated the thought of living in the Arctic."

The Neishes settled in Michigan, where Bill was a General Conference auditor. They were both very happy in their new life, but something kept bothering Bill. He couldn't get the Nunavut people out of his mind, and suggested to Seminary friends that they should consider working in Iqaluit because there was no Adventist presence there. He knew that if someone decided to take up the call they would need help, and he was convinced he might return to Nunavut some day.

Listening to a sermon one Sabbath, the Neishes were challenged to completely surrender to God and go wherever He led them. Lisa mentioned that they should consider going to the Arctic if God called them.

One day Bill's friend, Scott Manly, inquired about Nunavut's need of a pastor and learned Bill had committed to return there if God ever found a pastor to go. Bill said, "I was excited that God had provided a pastor who wanted to move north and was amazed I hadn't done much to convince him—so I knew that God was at work. I was now scared about returning."

After a year, Bill received a phone call from a former co-worker in Nunavut who offered him a job. Bill says, "Everything was taken care of for me," but the Neishes were surprised when Bill's friend located a job for Lisa, too.

Arriving in Nunavut, Bill and Lisa found creative ways



Scott and Amy Manly (left) and their children help Lisa and Bill Neish package 800 cookies made for their neighbors. Included was a Bible verse and note with their contact information.

to build relationships in the community. Last October, the Neishes and Manlys baked and bagged more than 800 cookies, and included a note and Bible text with their names, addresses and phone numbers—a gift for their neighbors for Canadian Thanksgiving. Bill says, "No one turned us down, and we got to meet 200 of our neighbors."

During Halloween, the Neishes handed out peanut butter balls and rice cakes, along with copies of *My Little Friend*, *Primary Treasure* and *Guide* magazine.

Another initiative is visiting and singing in the only hospital for 25 fly-in communities in the Territory. They witness tears as the songs "Jesus Loves Me" and "Amazing Grace" are sung, and they pray with many people.

In November, 560 pounds of literature arrived. More than 30 Bible studies resulted from the door-to-door contacts made during many cold hours each day. Bill says, "Who knew there was such a harvest in the cold fields of the Arctic!" Anywhere from ten to 20 adults and children are now joining them for worship each Sabbath.

In all these things, Bill and Lisa say they see "God at work, challenging us to work more fervently with God-sized plans." They both believe the words of Joshua 3:5: "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you."

Diane Thurber is the assistant communication director of the Lake Union Conference. To learn more about the outreach initiatives in Nunavut, e-mail nu_sda@yahoo.com.





FAMILY TIES

The Family Bible

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

When the Pilgrims arrived in the New World, in 1620, they brought along supplies, a consuming passion to advance the Kingdom of Christ and the Word of God. Perhaps their most precious cargo was copies of the Word of God, specifically, the Geneva Bible.

All but forgotten in our day, this version of the Bible was the most widely read and influential English Bible of the 16th and 17th centuries. The first full edition of the Bible appeared in 1560, but it was not printed in England until 1575 (New Testament) and 1576 (complete Bible). More than 150 editions were issued, the last probably in 1655.

The Geneva Bible preceded the King James Version by 51 years and was the product of the best Protestant scholars of the day. It was the first Bible printed in Scotland in 1579, and that year (in Scotland) a law was passed requiring every household of sufficient means to buy a copy.

It became the Bible of choice for many of the greatest writers and thinkers of that time, including William Shakespeare, Oliver Cromwell, John Donne, John Milton and John Bunyan, author of *The Pilgrim's Progress*. William Bradford also cited the Geneva Bible in his famous book, *Of Plymouth Plantation*.

The Geneva Bible is unique among all other Bibles. It was the first Bible to be mechanically printed and mass-produced, with chapters and numbered verses. It became the most popular version of its time because of the extensive marginal notes written by Reformation leaders such as John Calvin, John Knox, Miles Coverdale, William Whittingham, Anthony Gilby and others. These notes were included to explain and interpret the scriptures for



the common people. It eventually became known as history's very first study Bible.

Our copy of the Geneva Bible was printed in 1585, and it has been in my husband's family since that time. Although we don't know what member of the family originally owned it or when it was brought

to America, we know it belonged to the Norrises (1600s), Tedburys (1700s), Eustaces (1800s), Arnolds (late 1800s and early 1900s). It was passed on to my husband through his mother's side of the family in 1975.

The solid base of a family includes the beliefs shaped by faith, the love that surrounds it, the commitment that drives it and the traditions that inspire it. Our Geneva Bible is an important part of this family's tradition and legacy as Christians. It serves as an important depository of family history in several ways. When I page through the leaves and see notations (including weddings, births and deaths), some handwritten by family members more than 400 years ago, I am in awe. What a miracle that this Bible has been cared for and passed down for centuries in the hands of common men and women—our family!

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.

Note: In 2006, a Restored Edition of the 1599 Geneva Bible was published by Tolle Lege Press and is available at www.reformationbookstore.com. Sign up for daily Geneva Bible readings at their Web site.

Almonds are useful in weight management programs.



Almonds: High Fat and Healthy

Almonds lower the risk of heart disease.

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Almonds are a popular treat. Yes, they are high in fat; but they're good for you. The fat is mostly the healthy monounsaturated fat. In addition, a serving of almonds provides a significant amount of magnesium, zinc, copper, manganese, iron, calcium, fiber, riboflavin and niacin.

While California now produces 80 percent of the world's crop, almonds originated from the Mediterranean region. In Palestine, the almond was a symbol of watchfulness and promise, due to its flowering in early spring. Almond blossoms were a model for the Menorah in the Temple. Cups filled with oil, shaped like almond blossoms, appeared on each branch of the candlestick.

The ancient Israelites valued almonds for their oil as well as for food. Almond oil was used for lamps and for anointing. In ancient cultures, almond oil was used to treat dry skin conditions such as eczema. Almond oil has emollient properties and improves skin tone. Today, almond oil is used in bakery goods, perfumery, candies and confectioneries.

While dry roasted almonds are a real treat, almonds are used in a variety of dishes such as pastries, curries, cookies, cupcakes, cereals and various desserts. Almonds can be processed into a beverage (almond milk) that functions as a dairy substitute for vegans and people with lactose intolerance. Almond butter is a popular spread, especially for those with a peanut allergy.

Almond flour is useful for carbohydrate-restricted diets or patients with diabetes. It is gluten-free, and it is popular for gluten-sensitive people and people with wheat allergies and celiac disease. Almonds are a rich source of phytosterols and the antioxidant vitamin E.

Almonds possess cardioprotective properties. A regular



consumption of almonds (raw or dry roasted) lowers blood levels of total cholesterol and LDL cholesterol within a month, while not changing HDL cholesterol or triglyceride levels. It is claimed that almonds have anti-inflammatory properties. Their skins do contain a high level of polyphenolics. Almonds can reduce C-reactive protein, a marker of artery-damaging inflammation.

In a six-month study, overweight and obese adults experienced greater reduction in body fat, waist circumference, body weight and systolic blood pressure on a low calorie diet supplemented with almonds than the changes observed with a high carbohydrate diet. The almond-enriched diet improved a preponderance of abnormalities associated with the metabolic syndrome, including its ability to lessen the rise in blood sugar after eating. Data from the Nurses' Health Study shows that women who eat at least one ounce of nuts or peanut butter each week have a 25 percent lower risk of developing gallstones.

Will eating nuts cause weight gain? An almond-enriched, low-calorie diet can help overweight individuals shed pounds more effectively than a low calorie diet high in complex carbohydrates. Participants who ate nuts at least two times per week were 31 percent less likely to gain weight over two years than were participants who never or almost never ate nuts.

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



EXTREME GRACE

A Camp Meeting Surprise

BY DICK DUERKSEN

“When you pray for something,” Julene asked, “and it actually comes true, why are you so surprised?”
The prayers began in July.

Julene flew home after speaking at a women’s conference. The weekend was exhausting, but no more so than the many other appointments she had taken. This one was especially rewarding. Many of the women took a renewed stand for Jesus and committed themselves to a new level of Christian love in all their relationships.

Plumb tuckered out, Julene hugged her family, lay down and was instantly asleep. In the morning, she was unable to get out of bed. Her hearing was distorted, her vision blurred, her speech slurred and her legs unresponsive. She spent the day in bed expecting that everything would come together “shortly.”

Nothing came together.

Friends and doctors were called, and finally her husband, Rouru, took Julene to the hospital where she was hooked up to IVs and tested for a hundred different “possibles.” Nothing fit the symptoms, so they assigned Julene a bed and tested some more.

That’s when the prayer chains ramped up. Women in her church prayed—specific petitions that God would guide the caregivers to understand Julene’s condition and treat her wisely. Friends in the community joined the praying and e-mailed others to do the same. Within hours hundreds were praying for Julene.

“I’m asking God to heal you so often I’m afraid He’ll be unhappy with me,” one mom told Julene.

Casseroles arrived at Julene’s home as Christian love poured out for a family whose love has touched so many.

Then one morning a doctor gave Julene the news: “We believe you have an incredibly aggressive form of Multiple Sclerosis, and we’re not sure exactly how to treat it. You may never recover your senses or skills. You will probably never be able to do the things you have been doing as a wife, mother, professor, speaker and leader. We’re sorry.”



Dick Duerksen

The diagnosis was totally devastating for Julene, her family and her friends. “I’m very sad,” she told her dad. “I had so many goals, and now I don’t know if I’ll even be able to remember them.” That kicked the prayers into high gear, with the petitions moving from “soft” requests to “pointed” calls for miracles.

Julene got a little better, and then a whole lot worse. For the next nine weeks Julene was in the hospital; her family edged toward despair.

Prayer teams called Julene’s name in Michigan, Florida, California, New Zealand, Zambia, Australia, Norway and only God knows where else! The first answers came quietly, masked in the words of doctors and nurses who proposed unique treatments and encouraged new exercises. Other answers slowly strengthened Julene’s muscles and coordination—one halting step at a time.

Eight months and a squillion prayers later, Julene walked out of her fourth chemotherapy treatment and said, “Let’s go to camp meeting.”

She left her wheelchair home and walked to the auditorium supported only by her walking sticks, a journey that quickly became a parade. There was surprise in the auditorium, applause in the kindergarten and a standing ovation from the youth.

“I never thought I’d see you walk again,” whispered one astounded petitioner. “It’s not over,” Julene answered, “but God has been very busy and the MS is in remission. I can feel you praying!”

The prayer service had a new energy that evening. “She’s walking, she’s talking, she’s even teaching!”

“It’s a miracle!”

“I can’t believe this is really happening!”

“Maybe God really does answer prayer.”

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



Dear God...

BY DON JACOBSEN

This has been a week of discovery for me. I know You know all about that, but I love to talk to You about it anyway.

You know that it's a temptation for me to use my prayer time like a fast food drive-through ... I drive up, give my order and drive away. But, also like a drive-through, I'm not finding that very satisfying. You know I want to know You better. If I can press the parallel, I want to get better acquainted with the Master Chef.

Then, this week—the discovery. I discovered a pattern in your Word I hadn't noticed: Whenever You showed up and did something dramatic, it was on purpose—so the people could get to know You better. It wasn't just for entertainment. It wasn't just to create bedtime stories for my kids. It wasn't just to provide interesting history. It was so I could read the stories and know You better. I learned that's why You did that stuff ... like the Red Sea event: "When Israel saw the great power that the Lord used against the Egyptians, the people ... believed in Him" (see Exodus 14:31).

Israel crosses the Jordan in flood season: "This is so that all the people of the earth may know that the Lord's hand is mighty..." (see Joshua 4:24).

Three young Hebrew lads end up in a pressure cooker from which they are miraculously delivered, and a heathen head of state sends out this notice to his entire nation: "I am pleased to tell you about the miracles and wonders the Most High God has done for me" (see Daniel 4:2).

Through Peter, God restores a young woman to life; and when "this became known through-

out all of Joppa, many believed in the Lord" (see Acts 9:42).

All through Your Book I am finding this pattern—people got to know You through the things You did. So, I'm learning to bypass the spiritual drive-through and simply come to Your Word as I pray and watch You at work. My prayer time has become a lot more valuable when I am praying through the Book, and saying, "God, please show me what You want me to learn about You from these stories as I read them."

I'm sure I'll always have a prayer list because there are people and situations, family and friends, my pastor, my nation and a host of other matters that I care about deeply, and I want to intercede on their behalf. But I want to make those requests after I've worshiped, after I've received fresh insights about Who I'm talking to, after my heart has been gentled by discoveries of who You are.

As I read Your biography I learn to trust. As I see You at work my faith in You increases. As I watch Your story I learn how powerful You are, what omnipotent means. As I observe Your love in action it completely changes my understanding of what it means to love.

So Lord, please keep me away from the drive-through. Help me to remember just to park and bask in who You are.

Your friend.

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

The Sign

BY JUDITH YEOMAN

Visit Fort Wayne Church on Sabbath morning and you will discover a special class for guests and friends with questions about Christianity, Scripture and the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The class prepares people for baptism, disciples them afterward and provides a safe place for “vacationers” considering a return to church. The teacher is Ramon Ulangca, pastor of this growing congregation who believes, “It takes about two years for new people to integrate into a church.”

Recently, Steve Poenitz, ministerial director for the Indiana Conference, joined the group of about 15 people as they sat around the table and shared their personal testimonies. “I was amazed,” says Steve. “These precious [individuals] passionately told their stories of coming to Christ.”

David Tackett is a member of this class. He was raised in the church but left early on to pursue a career in rock music.

His rock band was on the verge of signing a major contract when the atheist girlfriend he was living with became pregnant. That brought David’s plans to a screeching halt. One evening David tuned the TV to a channel that carried the wild music he liked. The lyrics to some songs were so filthy regular stations refused to air them. However, he didn’t realize the station was gone, and that another station called 3ABN had taken its place.

As David watched, he realized he was hearing Bible truths from the church of his childhood. He called his dad, an Adventist in Spencer, Indiana, and asked what he should do.

“Go to the church and you’ll see the pastor’s name and phone number on the sign,” his father replied.

So began David’s journey back to God. Early on, the pastor introduced him to Matt Ensign, a member of the Fort



When David Tackett shared his testimony at the Fort Wayne Church and invited others to accept Jesus, his wife, Michaelyn, responded. They are now actively growing in Jesus at the Fort Wayne Church. Also pictured are their children (from left): Brett, Missy and baby Elizabeth

Wayne Church who knew David when they were children. Because of their shared history they instantly reconnected, and Matt accepted the task of preparing David for baptism. The pastor told David, “Baptism is like getting married to Jesus, but before you can get married to Him you need to make sure your other relationships are in order. How’s your relationship with Michaelyn?”

David took the hint, and so he and Michaelyn were married ... and David was baptized. Ramon then told David, “My job isn’t done until you’ve led someone else to Jesus.” He invited David to start by telling his story to the congregation for the worship service and to finish by inviting others to accept Jesus. He did, and two young ladies surrendered their lives to Christ. One was a single mom named Misty. The other was Michaelyn. Today both ladies are baptized and actively growing in Jesus.

One day David asked his dad, “How’d you know to tell me to go to the church and look for the pastor’s name and number on the sign?”

After a long pause his dad responded, “I don’t know.” David’s dad had never seen the sign before, so he had no way of knowing what was on it. How marvelous are God’s ways!

Judith Yeoman is the correspondent for the Indiana Conference.



El Poder de la Influencia

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“Aquel que siente su debilidad, y lucha con Dios como lo hizo Jacob, diciendo: “No te dejaré, si no me bendices” (Gén. 32: 26), avanzará con la refrigerante unción del Espíritu Santo. Lo rodeará la atmósfera del cielo. Andará haciendo bienes. Su influencia será una fuerza positiva en favor de la religión de Cristo” (Review and Herald, November 23, 1905).

Al principio de este año fui a la ciudad de Los Ángeles, en California para asistir a las reuniones anuales de promoción de El Centinela y otros materiales de la Casa Editora Pacific Press. Después de las reuniones me invitaron para ir a una iglesia donde se estaba llevando a cabo una reunión especial para jóvenes. Me informaron que era una reunión para la cual no se había hecho promoción usando los medios comunes como volantes o anuncios en las iglesias. El único método de promoción había sido por los medio sociales electrónicos Facebook, Twitter y el sitio Web www.adventistyouthspace.com. En realidad, como yo no había usado mucho esos medios de comunicación, no esperaba que muchos asistieran. De manera que fue para mí una gran sorpresa encontrar la iglesia completamente llena con más de 700 jóvenes. Y lo interesante es que la mayoría de los presentes eran adolescentes que habían invitado a otros jóvenes para adorar a Dios y escuchar su palabra.

Al meditar en lo que había observado en Los Ángeles comprendí cuán poderosa es la influencia de los jóvenes sobre otros jóvenes. Es por esto que la Unión del Lago ha puesto todo el liderazgo de nuestro Congreso de Jóvenes en manos de los líderes de jóvenes de las cinco asociaciones. El lema del congreso es “Conéctate”, y tiene como propósito establecer relación con Jesús y conectarnos con otros jóvenes para Cristo. Todavía hay tiempo para que los jóvenes se anoten para este evento. El Congreso de Jóvenes (que será completamente bilingüe) será del 4 al 6 de junio de 2010 en Andrews University. Como se ha anunciado ya, tenemos el privilegio especial de contar con excelentes oradores como José Vicente Rojas, Mannie Cruz, Carlos Acosta, Harold Altamirano, Milton Coronado, María López, Elden Ramírez y Zoraida Vélez. Además, habrá seminarios



Jóvenes que asistieron un culto especial en la Iglesia Hispano Americana en Los Ángeles, California.

preparados especialmente para los jóvenes como también tiempo para recreación y oportunidad para compartir nuestra fe en la comunidad.

Para registrarse para este evento pueden ir al sitio web www.conectate2010.org o llamar al 1-877-321-LUHY. También tenemos una página en Facebook – sólo busque por “Congreso de Jóvenes Unión Lago”.

Quiero animar a los jóvenes a que usen su influencia para invitar y traer a otros jóvenes a este congreso especial. Nuestro deseo que este evento ayude a todos los asistentes a establecer una conexión con Jesús y que puedan usar su influencia para la salvación de muchas almas para el reino de Dios.

Carmelo Mercado es el vice presidente general de la Unión del Lago.



Raised Expectations

BY KASSANDRA MCFARLAND

I have very low expectations of God. Or, I should say, I had very low expectations of God. The only problem was ... I didn't know it.

Nine o'clock, he's late again, I thought. Throughout the week I noticed that when my 15-year-old had free time, open access to basketball hoops and friends to team up with, he wasn't the most responsible boy on campus when it came to making his appointments on time.

With a long-suffering and put-upon sigh that can only come from a mother of a teenager, I continued to wait. In a little more than a half hour, all the gates on the Great Lakes Adventist Academy campus would be closed for the Sabbath. There was no traffic allowed from sundown to sundown, and if we got locked in we would miss an opportunity to enjoy spending time with our friends at their lakeside cottage.

Irritated at my teenage son's irresponsibility, my first text message read, "Where are you?"

Surely, he was on his way; so I calmly awaited his reply. As minutes ticked by with no response or sign of his appearing, new text messages were fired off—each progressing in urgency with each additional minute of delay. If we were late arriving at our friend's house, I was sure it would make us look like terribly inconsiderate people.

Soon, my frustration turned to anger and I began calling

... over and over and over. On the first call, I left a voice mail. After that the call wouldn't connect, or it would be cut off mid-ring. Once, the number was no longer in service; and finally, an automated message announced I couldn't connect to the network! Nearly every single call failed to connect!

Thinking that my son was disconnecting the calls, ignoring me or that he turned his phone off, I became furious. It was now going on 9:30, only eight minutes until sundown. More text messages were sent as my anger began to slowly boil.

As Sabbath approached, with still no answer, I decided to park in a parking lot outside campus, so when my son finally decided to grace us with his presence we could still have the option of leaving. I sent our new location via text message, thinking it would be read and responded to ... at his convenience, of course.

Around 9:45, after the sun set, I attempted one last phone call. I was unable and unwilling to wait for him any longer, but wanted to leave a message explaining that we were leaving without him and to stay at the camper and be ready for church in the morning. To my surprise, the call

went through fine and my son answered.

“Where ... are ... you?” I ground out.

“Outside my class,” he responded.

“You were supposed to meet me at nine o’clock. Didn’t you get my text messages?” I yelled. “Now we’re going to be late!” My anger had now reached a full rolling boil.

“What’s the worst that can happen if we’re late?” he shouted back in defense.

“Our friends are waiting for us; I don’t know where I am going, and it’s dark! Not to mention that they will probably think we are the rudest people in the world!” I replied.

Shaking with frustration and disappointment at my son’s perceived lack of respect for me and others, I angrily reminded him that he and his brother were supposed to wait at the campsite during the evening class until I finished my duties for the day. Then, they were going to meet me at our agreed upon spot and at the agreed upon time. I pointed out that if they had obeyed me, none of this would have happened!

“Well, I’m glad I went!” he yelled as he hung up on me for the first time ever.

A couple of minutes went by before I could hear anything except the ringing in my ears, or see any other color but red. My world faded to black, and as it returned I took a deep breath and prayed that God would help me not to strangle on the Sabbath day. I thought that doing so would violate a commandment or two.

I sat in silence, but the voice of God was loud in my ears. He said to give my son a chance to explain; there was a good reason for why he was late. I didn’t want to listen. I wanted to be angry, and I wanted my son to know I was angry. I wanted him to understand he can’t just be rude and inconsiderate to people. I told God my son needed to know how to be prompt, and how to keep his word. He needed to be responsible! And it was my duty as his mother to teach him how.

As I struggled to regain my composure, I spotted my firstborn child, now a teenager, making his way across the field right in front of us. He walked with a slight limp, his right leg bearing just a little bit more weight than his left—not because he was injured, but out of habit that only a mother’s eye would recognize. I could see the dread and fear in his bearing as he approached the passenger door, and my anger cooled down noticeably. Cautiously, he opened the door and got in, steeling himself for the angry words he was sure were coming.

Instead, by God’s grace, I said nothing. I gently put the car in gear and began the journey to our long-overdue ren-

devous with friends. After a few minutes of tense silence, I looked over to my son and sternly said, “Don’t ever hang up on me again. If you have something to say, say it. I don’t have to like it and it might make me angry at the time, but have the courage to say it anyway, do you understand?” He nodded briefly in acknowledgment.

In a calmer voice I asked, “So what was so important about your class tonight? Why are you glad you went?”

To which he replied, “I responded to the altar call to be baptized.”

Once again my world dissolved, and my vision faded. Only this time all I saw was a pinprick of light which grew until it exploded into a bright white glow. I felt the heat of it in my heart, and I saw it in my mind at the same time. It was unlike anything I’ve ever experienced before, and I began to cry. The prayers of a mother for her child were being answered. My son had chosen Jesus to be his Lord. There are no words to describe how I felt at that moment.

TO MY SHAME, IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME THAT MY TEENAGER COULD GIVE HIS LIFE TO JESUS AND MEET THE SAVIOR OF HIS SOUL. YET, THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED ON JUNE 25, 2009, AT 9:30 P.M. IN THE TEEN TENT AT THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING.

As I looked over at my son he was crying too; my big, strong, independent teenage boy who refuses to cry had tears running down his sunburned cheeks. He had defied my wishes, disappointed me, made me angry and he was sorry. His tender heart was always moved when he thought he may have disappointed me. And yet, the tears were also because he was making the most important decision he could ever make in his life. In spite of every possible obstacle, my son was choosing to obey Jesus’ call. That is a deeply personal and emotional choice in itself, and was the main reason for the depth and intensity of his emotions.

ISN'T IT TIME TO RAISE OUR EXPECTATIONS OF WHAT GOD CAN DO, TIME TO RESPOND TO THE CALL OF JESUS NO MATTER THE OBSTACLES, AND TIME TO EXERCISE OUR FAITH IN GOD'S WORD?

As the importance of it all came to me, I laid my hand gently on his arm and whispered through my tears that I was proud of him and that I was sorry for the way I treated him. We talked quietly for a while, and I shared that putting Jesus first was the most important thing he could do and that I was not at all disappointed. I assured him that his determination to respond to God's call in spite of me was a courageous decision and made me very happy. I asked for forgiveness. It was freely and joyfully given.

Late that night as I lay awake in the guest room of my dear friends' cottage, my mind replayed the events of the day. As I thought about the unreasonable anger I felt and the way I acted, I couldn't help but repent and ask God to forgive me. God then revealed to me how the great controversy had just played out in the life of my son that very day. He revealed that He had His hand over the situation and was in complete control despite every heavenly and earthly attempt to interfere or stop Him. I knew that the reason my calls wouldn't connect was because God was not going to let anything interrupt the work He was doing in my son's heart. What a powerful and loving God we serve!

That night God also gave me a revelation of my own character. It wasn't a pretty picture. I saw clearly my lack of faith and what low expectations I have of what God can do in the lives of my sons and others.

See, I had brought my children along to camp meeting expecting only that they would become familiar with people, enjoy the activities and possibly to make a few friends, but nothing more than that. My biggest hopes were that perhaps my sons would want to join me again the following year and they would become attracted to spiritual things more and more over time. Not once did the thought enter my mind that God would so touch their hearts that they would meet Him, hear Him and accept Him as their Lord. Never would I have dared to hope for my son to make the decision to be baptized!

To my shame, it never occurred to me that my teenager could give his life to Jesus and meet the Savior of his soul. Yet, that is exactly what happened on June 25, 2009, at 9:30 p.m. in the teen tent at the Michigan Conference Camp

Meeting. Despite every power of evil, every possible deterrent or distraction, and even with the threat of punishment from someone he would never choose to defy willingly, my son chose Jesus to be the Lord of his life. Nothing would stand in his way!

I am humbled by his example.

Isn't it time to raise our expectations of what God can do, time to respond to the call of Jesus no matter the obstacles, and time to exercise our faith in God's word? Isn't it time to



Jake McFarland missed an appointed meeting time with his mother and opted to go to the teen class at camp meeting last summer. Frustrated because his decision caused them to miss an appointment with friends, his mother asked, "So what was so important about your class tonight?" Jake replied, "I responded to the altar call to be baptized."

claim the promise that God can do "abundantly more than we can ask or imagine?" (Ephesians 3:20)

What do *you* expect Him to do? Let's put our faith in the Lord's word and watch Him as He fulfills it in ways that we can't even imagine.

Kassandra McFarland is the secretary for the Department of Women's Ministries in the Michigan Conference.

Jake McFarland was baptized on December 12, 2009.

Illinois Conference Camp Meetings

BY GLENN PAUL HILL

Excitement is building as the Illinois Conference is in a period of intense public evangelism. Meetings with live speakers are taking place in more than 30 locations across Chicagoland. The Chicagoland Convocation (our first “camp meeting”) comes as a grand conclusion of many of these meetings. It will be an event to remember for years to come.

In addition, we are having the more traditional family camp meetings—in English (at Camp Akita) and in Spanish (location to be announced). Don’t miss the chance to be a part of these faith-building opportunities.

Glenn Paul Hill is the communication director of the Illinois Conference.



Mark Finley



Judd Lake



Don Livesay



Susan Zork



Chicagoland Convocation (May 22)

(a.k.a. Northern Illinois Camp Meeting)

Location

Wheaton College*
501 College Avenue
Wheaton, Illinois

*Chicagoland Convocation is not a program of
Wheaton College.

Registration Information

Phone: 630-856-2874 for meals
Web site: www.illinoisadventist.org/convocation

Family Camp Meeting at Akita (June 13–19)

Location

1684 Knox Rd.
Gilson, Illinois

Registration Information

Phone: 630-856-2874 for reservations
E-mail: reservations@illinoisadventist.org
Web site: www.illinoisadventist.org

Campestre Hispano (Septiembre 3–5)

(Hispanic Camp Meeting)

Localidad

El lugar será anunciado posteriormente.

Información para inscribirse

Llame: 630-856-2854
E-mail: hispanic@illinoisadventist.org



Indiana Conference Camp Meetings and Hispanic Fellowship Day

BY VAN G. HURST

“Be like Jesus, this my song, in the home and in the thron...” You may have sung this song at church many times, but do you know what it is to be like Jesus all day long?

Camp meeting is one time during the year when Adventists come together to fellowship and learn to be like Jesus. The theme for Indiana Camp Meeting 2010 is “Selfless Service for the Savior.” To be selfless is to be like Jesus. To give selfless service is to be like Jesus. To do it for the Savior is to glorify God.

It is with joy that we extend a special invitation for you to come and take a deeper look into what it means to be like Jesus. And may it be your song not only during camp meeting, but all year long!

Van G. Hurst is the president for the Indiana Conference.



Dan Augsburger



Van Hurst



Willie Oliver



Bill Watson-Payne



Martin Weber



Anthony Wuerfel (Youth)

Indiana Conference Camp Meeting (June 13–19)

Location

24815 State Road 19
Cicero, Indiana

Registration Information

Contact: Julie Loucks
Phone: 317-844-6201
E-mail: treasury@indysda.org
Web site: www.indysda.org (Register online)

Indiana Conference Hispanic Fellowship Day (June 19)

“Hermandad Hispana 2010”

Localidad

24445 State Road 19
Cicero, Indiana

Información para inscribirse

No registration necessary for this one-day event.

Phone: 317-856-5770

E-mail: prarosario@aol.com

Web site: www.indysda.org



Eddie Allen (Hispanic Fellowship Day)

Hispanic Camp Meeting (Septiembre 3–6)

“Campestre Hispano 2010”

Localidad

Timber Ridge Camp
1674 Timber Ridge Road
Spencer, Indiana

Información para inscribirse

Phone: 317-856-5770

E-mail: prarosario@aol.com

Web site: www.indysda.org



Lake Region Conference Camp Meeting

BY JEROME L. DAVIS

One of our highlights in the Lake Region Conference over the past several years has been our camp meetings. Each year we get comments like, “Wow, what a wonderful time we had. Can we go 12 days next year?” or “Thank you for a spirit-filled gathering. This one was probably the best.”

Due to the 59th General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a convocation that overlaps the usual dates for the Lake Region Conference Camp Meeting, we will not have our traditional gathering this year in Cassopolis, Michigan. We do encourage our members to fellowship with believers as they attend the General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia, a gathering which is very much like camp meeting only on a much larger scale. We are expecting tens of thousands of people from around the world. The Lake Region Conference is encouraging its employees to attend part or all of the General Conference meetings and will be providing some assistance for them to do so.

I will miss our time together at Camp Wagner this summer and look forward to next year when we will be back on schedule for our local camp meeting and our time of fellowship together as a Lake Region family. We pray that

next year will provide some relief for our members from the stresses of the economy and other anxieties they must deal with on a regular basis and look forward to spending time together in nature with our Creator. We look forward to our children and grandchildren experiencing the greatness of God as their teachers instruct them through biblical lessons illustrated in stories, songs, arts and crafts.

So please keep these two very important dates in mind:

1. **General Conference Session**, June 23–July 3, 2010
2. **Lake Region Conference Camp Meeting**, June 17–25, 2011

May God’s richest blessings continue to rest upon each of you.

Jerome Davis is the president of the Lake Region Conference.

For information about the General Conference Session, visit <http://www.gcsession.org>.



Michigan Conference Camp Meetings

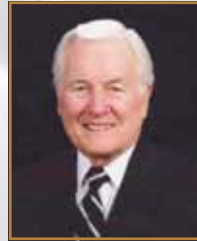
BY CINDY STEPHAN

One of the great Adventist gatherings is summer camp meeting, and many appreciate the spiritual refreshment it offers.

The Michigan Conference presents three camp meetings. Cedar Lake Camp Meeting is a nine-day camp meeting on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy planned with many wonderful speakers, seminars and music, along with fantastic children's programs. The theme this year is "Proclaim His Grace." There also is a three-day camp meeting in the Upper Peninsula at Camp Sagola, along with a weekend Hispanic Camp Meeting held at Camp Au Sable.

We invite everyone to please pray for our 2010 camp meetings and for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Cindy Stephan is the Communication Department administrative assistant in the Michigan Conference.



Herbert Douglass II



Jay Gallimore



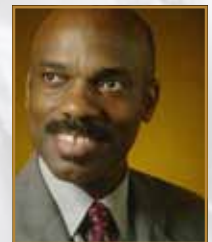
Jim Gilley



Bill Knott



Philip Samaan



Randy Skeete

Hispanic Camp Meeting (May 28–30)

Localidad

Camp Au Sable
2590 Camp Au Sable Drive
Grayling, Michigan

Información para inscribirse

Phone: 517-316-1562
E-mail: dscarone@misda.org

Cedar Lake Camp Meeting (June 11–19)

Location

Great Lakes Adventist Academy
7477 Academy Road
Cedar Lake, Michigan

Registration Information

Phone: 517-316-1581
E-mail: jmurphy@misda.org
Web site: www.misda.org

Upper Peninsula Camp Meeting (July 29–31)

Location

Camp Sagola
2885 SR-M69
Sagola, Michigan

Registration Information

E-mail: campsagola@gmail.com



Louis Torres



Wisconsin Conference Camp Meetings

BY JAMES FOX

You are invited to attend Wisconsin Conference Camp Meeting 2010 at Camp Wakonda. It is a rural refuge for God's people to experience renewed bodies and refreshed spiritual lives. Each year thousands gather for worship, fellowship, inspiration and training. Camp meeting is a transformational experience. Each year people make decisions to follow Christ, and many are baptized in the lake at Wakonda.

This year the theme is "Proclaiming God's Grace," the same theme as the General Conference Session in Atlanta, which is June 24 to July 3. We invite all those who come to Wakonda to prepare their hearts for the special outpouring of God's Spirit.

Wisconsin Camp Meeting 2010 with Jesus in your heart is beyond verbal description—it must be experienced. It is the best thing for growing Christians. For more information, visit <http://wi.adventist.org/camp-meeting-2010>.

James Fox directs the communication, evangelism and ministerial departments for the Wisconsin Conference.



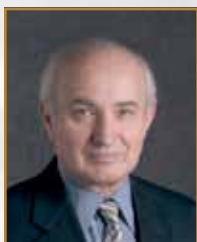
David Asscherick



Barry Black



Monte Church



Miroslav Kis



C.A. Murray



Ben Schoun



Wisconsin English Camp Meeting 2010 (June 11–June 19)

Location

Camp Wakonda
W8368 County Road E
Oxford, WI 53952
Phone: 608-296-2126

Registration Information

Contact: Aileen King
Phone: 920-484-6555
Web site: www.wakonda.org/Camp_Wakonda/Camp_Meeting.html

Wisconsin Hispanic Camp Meeting 2010 (August 18–August 22)

Localidad

Camp Wakonda (See address above)

Información para inscribirse

Contact: Evelio Miranda
Phone: 503-951-1266

The Hmong Camp Meeting 2010 (August 5–August 8)

Location

Camp Wakonda (See address above)

Registration Information

Contact: Ko Saelee
Phone: 651-216-1785

A Director's Question

BY MIKE EDGE

Each summer, hundreds of campers enter Adventist camps with anticipation and excitement, and leave a week later with memories. Those hours in between are packed with exciting activities, wonderful evening campfire programs and tasty food. But have we made a difference in their lives? Have we accomplished the mission of our camp to lead campers to Christ through nature, activities and the life-witness of the staff?

It is easier to see the impact of what I do on the camp staff members, for I have more direct interaction with them. Daily, through worships, staff meetings, intentional and chance conversations, I pour my life into them and it shows. But what of the campers?

During the Sunday evening program at Teen Camp this past summer, I was leading out in some icebreaker activities, one of which asked campers to stand up according to the number of years they had attended camp. One, two, three, etc.—only one camper remained standing who had attended camp for eight years.

That evening I went to the girls director and asked her to inquire whether this young lady, who had been coming to Camp Wakonda for eight years, would be willing to write something to share of her experience.

A few days after Teen Camp ended, I received the following testimony from this camper, Skyler Haubert, who gave me permission to share it.

“My summers at Camp Wakonda can be described in one word: memorable. For eight years I have been coming to camp, and I can honestly say it is my best childhood memory. Every year I look forward to camp—making friends, eating delicious food and most importantly, rekindling my relationship with God.

“I was eight years old when my mom first asked me to go to a Bible camp. She said ‘You ride horses, go canoeing and do arts and crafts.’ She told me if I went I wouldn’t know anybody, and I would have to make new friends. But being the outgoing person I am, I said, ‘Sure!’

“That summer and every summer since I have made the most wonderful friends who have been like sisters, and I still keep in touch with them today. Spending a summer at Camp Wakonda is like no other experience. Through the fun-filled, action-packed days the amazing staff still manages to strengthen your relationship with God.

“Every year there is a certain lesson I bring home and cling

to all year. I’m not a regular church goer, but [Camp] Wakonda has taught me to trust God and love Him with all my heart. The staff has such a light in them that makes you want to know that Light. When you leave camp, your light is burning so brightly that everyone can see it; it’s amazing. The lessons you learn at [Camp] Wakonda are loving and seeking God, and shining His light upon others. No matter where you come from or who you are or what your relationship with God is, when you leave Camp Wakonda you are a changed person. It’s a beginning to your journey with God. Being in a place where you’re not bothered with the things of everyday life is so serene. Being with people who love God and want to share His love is empowering and inspiring.

“Camp Wakonda [means] a place ‘set apart.’ I will never forget the memories and the great friends I have made; especially my Best Friend, God.”

My eyes fill with tears as I again read the story and prepare for summer camp 2010.

Two weeks ago, I received a phone call from the grandmother of a camper from Chicago, who invited me to attend her grandson’s baptism—as a result of the decision he made while at camp.

It’s time for hiring staff, designing camp brochures, planning programs, activities and schedules. Soon campers of all ages, from all backgrounds will enter these grounds that are set aside to bring people to Jesus. And I am convinced that many meet Jesus here.

Hopefully, again this summer, not only will campers leave with a suitcase full of memories and dirty clothes, but will leave changed by Jesus who lives ... and who uses our camp and its staff to share His wonderful love.

I invite you to consider attending one of the camps at Camp Wakonda, or one of the other excellent camp programs in the Lake Union this summer.

Mike Edge is the president of the Wisconsin Conference.

Illinois Conference Summer Camp

CAMP AKITA

BY ART PREUSS

Don't miss the fun waiting for you at Camp Akita this summer. In addition to swimming, being launched from the blob, horseback riding and climbing the wall, there are a variety of other activities. We hope to bring each young person closer to Jesus through special programs, activities and time with dedicated staff. Camp brochures/applications can be picked up at your local church.

Art Preuss is the youth director of the Illinois Conference.

CAMP AKITA DATES

- Cub Camp: June 20–27 Ages 7–9
- Junior Camp 1: June 27–July 4 Ages 10–12
- Junior Camp 2: July 4–11 Ages 10–12
- Teen Camp 1: July 11–18 Ages 13–17
- Teen Camp 2: July 18–25 Ages 13–17

Location

1684 Knox Rd 1200 N
Gilson, IL 61436-9430
Phone: 309-876-2060
Fax: 309-876-2061
Web site: www.campakita.com

Registration Information

Phone: 630-856-2857
E-mail: youth@illinoisadventist.org



Indiana Conference Summer Camp

TIMBER RIDGE CAMP

BY CHARLIE THOMPSON

Throughout the years, Timber Ridge Camp has been a destination where young people come each summer to enjoy numerous activities, including but not limited to: swimming, horseback riding, mountain biking, sailing, riding the banana boat and attending campfire programs. But the most important reason to visit Timber Ridge Camp is to get to know your Best Friend, Jesus, better than ever!

Camp brochures/applications may be picked up at local churches, or may be requested from www.trcamp.org. Completed forms should be mailed to the address provided below. For additional information, call Trish Thompson at the number provided.

Charlie Thompson is the youth director of the Indiana Conference.

TIMBER RIDGE CAMP DATES

Single Moms and Kids Camp: June 23–27 *All ages*
Single moms are invited to spend four fun-filled days enjoying everything Timber Ridge Camp has to offer! All the activities are available for the kids, plus the staff works hard to pamper the moms as much as possible. To register, call Tammy Begley, women's ministries leader, at 317-919-5318.

Cub Camp: June 27–July 4 *Ages 7–10*

Junior Camp 1: July 4–11 *Ages 10–13*

Junior Camp 2: July 11–18 *Ages 10–13*

Teen Camp: July 18–25 *Ages 13–16*

Family Camp: July 25–August 1 *All ages*

Blind Camp: July 25–August 1 *All ages*

Blind Camp is a week of new adventures for visually impaired youth of all ages. This week is sponsored by the National Camps for Blind Children. Contact Christian Record Services for the Blind at 402-488-0981 if you know someone who would like to attend.

Location

Timber Ridge Camp
1674 Timber Ridge Road
Spencer, Indiana

Registration Information

Contact: Trish Thompson

E-mail: youth@indysda.org

Phone: 317-844-6201

Phone: 812-829-2507 (after June 17)

Address: Youth Department, P.O. Box 1950,
Carmel, IN 46082-1950

Web site: www.trcamp.org



Lake Region Conference Summer Camp

CAMP WAGNER

BY RALPH SHELTON

The Camp Wagner staff is dedicated to providing an enjoyable, balanced program with physical, mental and spiritual activities. Each camper will be cared for by our exemplary staff to ensure their safety and spiritual well-being. This experience will enable each camper to make new friends through positive relationships while enjoying a well-designed spiritual program. Enjoying God through nature is what we expect each camper will experience. Bring your Bibles. Wonderful stories and illustrations from God's Word will be presented daily by Lake Region Conference pastors.

Did you know Camp Wagner is accredited by the American Camp Association and has been named one of the most improved camps by the Adventist Association of Camp Professionals? Our certified and trained camp staff makes Camp Wagner the place to be this summer.

I invite you to fill out a camp registration form and/or support a child from your home, church or community with

transportation and/or camp accommodation fees so they can experience this life-changing event. Your investment will pay huge dividends in the Kingdom. Remember, remain "Forever Faithful" until He comes.

Ralph Shelton is the Lake Region Conference youth ministries and camp director.

CAMP WAGNER DATES

Junior Camp 1: July 11–17 Ages 8–15

Junior Camp 2: July 18–24 Ages 8–15

[Mission Possible: Evangelism Emphasis]

Junior Camp 3: July 25–31 Ages 8–15

[Banquet Emphasis]

Drum Corps Camp: Aug 1–7 Ages 10 and up

Note: A discount is offered if camp fees are paid in full by May 22. Scholarships are available, but the camper or sponsor must call the office for approval.

Location

19088 Brownsville Street
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Registration Information

Contact: Josie Essex

Phone: 773-846-2661, ext. 206

E-mail: jesssex@lakeregionsda.org



Photos by Michael Shelton

Michigan Conference Summer Camps

CAMP AU SABLE AND CAMP SAGOLA

BY KEN MICHEFF

Come and discover beautiful Camp Au Sable this summer! Many have said that Camp Au Sable is where they found Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Hundreds leave camp each year renewed and revived, and with lasting friendships. You can't put a price tag on it. The value can only be measured in eternity. Discover what thousands already have. Come to Camp Au Sable. We want you to come visit in person if you can, and be sure to visit us at our new Web site: www.campausable.org. (Read more about the camp's new Web site at www.lakeunionherald.org.) You will like what you see!

Ken Micheff is the youth director of the Michigan Conference.



CAMP AU SABLE DATES

Adventure Camp: June 13–20 Ages 7–9
Wilderness Survival Canoe Camp:
June 13–18 Ages 16–19 (New)
Junior Camp: June 20–27 Ages 10–11
Tween Camp: June 27–July 4 Ages 12–13
Teen Camp: July 4–11 Ages 13–17
Specialty Camp: July 11–16 Ages 10–17
Family Camp 1: July 18–25 All ages
Family Camp 2: July 25–August 1 All ages
Family Camp 3: August 1–8 All ages
Mini Family Camp: August 11–15 All ages

Location

250 Camp Au Sable Drive
Grayling, MI 49738

Registration Information

Contact: Stephanie Quick
Phone: 517-316-1570 (before May 24)
Phone: 989-348-5491 (after May 24)
E-mail: squick@misda.org
Web site: www.campausable.org (Online registration)

CAMP SAGOLA DATES

Junior Camp: July 11–18 Ages 8–12
Teen Camp: July 18–25 Ages 13–17

Location

2885 SR-M69
Sagola, Michigan

Registration Information

E-mail: campsagola@gmail.com
Web site: www.campsagola.org

Wisconsin Conference Summer Camp

CAMP WAKONDA

BY MIKE EDGE

Bring a friend and experience an unforgettable week at Camp Wakonda. Horse riding, swimming, water-skiing, crafts, climbing and nature discovery will fill your days with excitement and new skills. Evening campfire programs will be a highlight to cap off a great day. Dedicated staff are ready and waiting for you, and will lead you in the fun activities, and to know Jesus better.

Camp brochures/applications may be picked up at your local church.

Mike Edge is the president of the Wisconsin Conference.

CAMP WAKONDA DATES

Junior Camp: June 27–July 4 Ages 8–10
Tween Camp: July 4–11 Ages 10–12
Teen Camp: July 11–18 Ages 13–16
Family Camp 1: July 18–25 All Ages
Family Camp 2: July 25–August 2 All Ages

Location

Camp Wakonda
W8368 County Road E
Oxford, Wisconsin
Phone: 608-296-2126
Fax: 608-296-4329
Web site: www.wakonda.org

Registration Information

Contact: Aileen King
Phone: 920-484-6555
E-mail: akking@wi.adventist.org



Photos by Mike Edge



Bruce Powell

Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital employee Charlotte Carter (right) receives her Employee of the Year award from Rick Mace, chief executive officer.

Hospitality desk representative's smile puts patients at ease

Just the other day a distressed individual approached the hospitality desk at Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital and found warmth in Charlotte Carter's welcoming smile. Carter led the person to the intended destination and rejoiced inside when he left in a much-heightened mood.

"That put a smile on my face," said Carter, who has worked at the hospital since it opened in 2008.

For Carter, a hospitality desk representative, her job is more about vocation and less about a paycheck.

"People come in here maybe to see patients who aren't feeling too well, but when they come back down I always wish them a good day and maybe even pray with them, if the situation calls for it," Carter said. "If they're regular visitors, I say, 'I'm glad to see you,' and ask, 'Did you eat today?' They really appreciate that."

Hospital administrators recognized Carter's enthusiasm and dedication

by naming her the 2009 Employee of the Year. Adventist Midwest Health's annual Employee of the Year celebration was held Feb. 10 at Maggiano's Little Italy in Oak Brook, Ill. Each hospital Employee of the Year receives a plaque and a \$1,000 check.

Carter greets people as they come through the door and provides needed assistance or directions. Perhaps they require an escort to the emergency room or help locating a patient's room. No request is too small.

"I'm a people person," Carter said, "and I'm delighted to serve. That's why the good Lord put me here on this Earth. It's my calling to help others."

Her supervisor, Elizabeth Quinones, interim director of patient access, praised Carter's joyful work ethic and commitment to the organization's mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ.

"Her tender spirit is infectious," Quinones said. "She's happy all the time and always has a smile on her face. Charlotte's joy is palpable to everyone around her."

The other Adventist Midwest Health employees of the year are:

Adventist GlenOaks Hospital—Charly Abraham, staff pharmacist: "It's a blessing to work at an organization with such a devoted staff." According to his supervisor, pharmacy director, David Tsang, "Everyone who works with Charly gets along with him. He's energetic, highly reliable and very accountable."

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital—Ulises Gonzalez, transporter in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU): "I meet a lot of people and patients, and I don't want to see them in pain. I never say no

to anything. I always try to help. That comes naturally to me." According to his supervisor, Rose Ziffra, manager of the PACU, "If you watch him, you'll get dizzy. He goes from one nurse to another offering his help. He cleans the unit, which is not his job, and he waits to eat his lunch until everyone else is finished. He's very approachable and he interacts well with our patients. It's an honor to work with him."

Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital—Pam Brown, day surgery unit secretary: "Whatever I can do to help make things easier for the nurses, I will do." Her supervisor, Ellen Hilsabeck, clinical coordinator of day surgery, called her "the best. Everyone at the hospital knows her. She goes above and beyond her duties to help patients, families and her co-workers. She is very compassionate and kind—just a model employee."

Adventist Midwest Health's Tallgrass office—Allyson Grey, project coordinator of organization development: "Our leaders work so hard to provide the best possible care for our patients. I feel very fortunate to be able to support such talented leaders in all they do to extend the healing ministry of Christ to our patients and their families." Her supervisor, Vinnie Garufi, called Grey "a superstar employee who sets impressive goals and achieves them. She is detail-oriented and always ready to help out in any way she can, even if it's not in her job description."

David L. Crane, president/chief executive officer of Adventist Midwest Health, said the honorees follow the instructions set forth in Micah 6:8. "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God," Crane said, quoting the Bible. "Each one of you does that."

Lisa Parro, senior public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health



This is a rendering of the new Undergraduate Learning Center, with the new Buller Hall on the left connected via bridge to the renovated Nethery Hall on the right.

Three major building projects announced

For the next couple of years, the sounds of construction will ring through the heart of the Andrews University campus. Recently, the Andrews University Board of Trustees voted and unanimously approved a finance and construction plan for three major building projects: Buller Hall, Nethery Hall and a new residence hall. The combined price tag of all three projects is \$17 million.

The construction of the new \$8.6 million Buller Hall and a \$3.2 million major renovation of the 70-year-old Nethery Hall will result in a new Undergraduate Learning Center. “The Undergraduate Learning Center will provide our students with a new educational experience, right in the heart of campus. It is a promise to offer our students the best Adventist college education we can provide under God, with the help of the most able faculty we can find,” says Niels-Erik Andreasen, president. “The Undergraduate Learning Center is our statement to students, ‘Andrews is investing in you.’”

Buller Hall is named in honor of the lead donors, Allan and Mildred Buller of Ohio, both of whom are Andrews alumni and have served on advisory boards to administration for decades. With their donation and others, the total funds raised for this project is close to \$6 million. Andreasen says the Office of Development is working to raise the additional \$2.6 million, in hopes donations and gifts will entirely cover the cost of Buller Hall.

Demolition of Griggs Hall, immediately followed by groundbreaking on Buller Hall, is scheduled to begin in early May 2010. Buller Hall will be constructed in an architecture style reflective of the collegiate Gothic architecture of Nethery Hall. The two buildings will be connected by an interior walkway and exterior courtyard that are both philosophical and practical. The bridge will tie together the departments and disciplines that make up the core of the undergraduate learning experience while also providing a protected walkway between the two buildings in times of inclement weather. Some other notable features of Buller Hall include an amphitheater-style classroom—bringing into one space the core undergraduate classes which are now spread throughout the campus—a small chapel and academic departmental lobbies, some with fireplaces.

The renovation of Nethery Hall is scheduled to begin immediately following Buller Hall’s completion in May 2011. It includes installation of heating and air-conditioning, a complete renovation of restrooms, installation of energy-efficient windows and renovation of office spaces. Nethery Hall renovations will be completed in August 2011.

Although both are part of the Undergraduate Learning Center, Buller Hall and Nethery Hall are on separate project budgets. Construction of Buller Hall was originally projected to cost \$9.4 million, though bids have come in at \$8.6 million. The Nethery Hall renovations will cost \$3.2 million. “This

is a very good time to build things and a very good time to arrange financing,” said Andreasen. He added, “A board member said, ‘Andrews is either lucky or blessed.’ I choose to believe the second.”

Andreasen has also appointed a Quality Improvement Team charged with reviewing the undergraduate education experience at Andrews and proposing changes to make the undergraduate education experience as high quality as the Undergraduate Learning Center. The team will consider the global learning opportunities available to students; the essentials of a uniquely Andrews University education; the resource allocation for faculty who teach the core undergraduate classes; and ongoing evaluation of the general education curriculum.

The third project, construction of a new as-yet-unnamed residence hall, will meet the growing housing needs of the graduate female student population. The new 35,000-square-foot hall will be constructed as a companion tower to Burman Hall. When Burman Hall was originally built, the infrastructure was put in place to later add a second tower, with both towers sharing a common lobby area. The five-story, 94-bed residence hall will offer private and shared suites, some with kitchen facilities. The cost is \$5.8 million and construction is scheduled to begin in April, lasting approximately one year.

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

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]



Carl Bruggen, Jr.

One Sunday a month the Bloomington Church members serve dinner to more than 100 homeless from their community.

Bloomington Church members reach out to homeless

Indiana—A dinner served to the homeless people of Bloomington, Ind., has led a former Adventist to reconnect with his church. It all began when,

during one of the dinners, Kisha Miles, a Bloomington Church member and an Indiana University law student, invited the dinner attendees to the last night of the church's Easter evangelism meetings. A few of the dinner guests accepted her invitation. Among them was Donald Thomas, a former Adventist. He attended the meeting and has attended church services faithfully ever since.

Serving a dinner to the homeless the first Sunday of each month was initiated by members of Adventist Students for Christ (AS4C), students who attend Indiana University in Bloomington. The meals are served at Trinity Episcopal Church, which generously opens its doors each Sunday for various groups to serve the homeless.

This outreach has benefited from church-wide participation. Under the leadership of Miles and AS4C members, with assistance from Bloomington

Church members, meals are prepared and served during the school year (September through April). While the students are on summer break, Bloomington Church members, led by Mike Riley (head elder), provide the meals. The Pathfinders, under the direction of Teresa Mathis (Pathfinder leader), have prepared apple and peach pies, cookies and cakes decorated with Christian symbols.

A devotional talk and prayer are given before each dinner. In addition to the meal, guests are offered clothing, personal care items and Christian literature. The Bloomington Church family has enjoyed working together to provide this service to the homeless people in their community, and they rejoice that a former Adventist has returned to his faith.

Ann Jaramio, member, Bloomington Church

Terre Haute members refreshed by Sabbath seminars

Indiana—It was anything but just another Sabbath at the Terre Haute Church as members of the Lewis and Greencastle Churches, plus other guests, came together to celebrate a special event on Friday evening, Jan. 15, with Richard Davidson, Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Old Testament, and Jo Ann Davidson, Ph.D., associate professor of Theology, at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich. Drawing from their extensive knowledge and first-hand experience of traditional Jewish customs, obtained during a prolonged stay in the Holy Land, they presented a four-part weekend seminar entitled, "Sabbath: Day of Exquisite Delight!"

To open the Sabbath hours, those present were introduced to the joy and glory of the Sabbath. Attendees then celebrated this sacred gift from God



Jo Ann and Richard Davidson presented a four-part weekend seminar entitled "Sabbath: Day of Exquisite Delight!" for members and guests of the Terre Haute Church.

in a new way for most. The Davidsons invited those present to join them in their traditional welcome of the Sab-

bath. Woven throughout the ceremony were rich Hebrew customs. The seven-branched candlestick was lit; and then using scripture and prayer, blessings were exchanged between husband and wife followed by blessings upon the children. Next, attendees feasted on golden, braided Challah bread and sweet grape juice as they toasted the arrival of Sabbath.

On Sabbath morning the Davidsons shared more about the rich Sabbath blessings God wants to give humanity. They taught that Sabbath is a gift from God to be joyously shared with Him, rather than a day to just follow a bunch of rules to earn a blessing; it's meant to be a cherished period of time each week where individuals are privileged, rather than mandated, to rest from everyday burdens and responsibilities and to celebrate the birthday of God's creation and the God-given institution of the family. Those present explored Psalm 92, a love song for the Sabbath, which gave a new insight into the Sabbath as a criti-

cal piece of a relationship with Him.

After a delicious fellowship meal, the seminar concluded with practical suggestions, based on Biblical principles, to make the Sabbath a special day that families not only love but long for, rather than seeing it as just a boring 24-hour period to endure, as families count down the minutes before they can get back to life as usual.

More details on the Jewish culture and their celebration of the Sabbath revealed just how much the Sabbath still means to them. For example: The

days of the week are not called by name. Instead, they are referred to as “Six days before Sabbath, five days before Sabbath,” and so on; Traditionally, the Jews celebrate the Sabbath by using only their best tableware and decorative items, such as fine silver and crystal to commemorate the royal significance of this God-given day; and Jews may be found singing for hours after the sun has set, relishing the Sabbath as long as possible.

Many of those who were privileged to attend this event came away with a

refreshing joy for the Sabbath, spawning new family traditions for celebrating this special gift. They also have a deeper appreciation for God’s unfathomable love and the blessings He wants to share if we will not only keep but celebrate this day with Him.

If you would like to have the Davidsons present the Sabbath seminar in your church, you may reach them at 269-471-2861, or davidson@andrews.edu.

Karen Peckham, communication leader,
Terre Haute Church



Nearly 100 came to the opening night of a prophecy seminar held at Hacker’s Lanes in Frederic, Wis. There some made a decision to commit their lives to Jesus and join the fellowship of believers at the Seventh-day Adventist Church. From left: Larry Peterson, Chris Saunders, Kathie Saunders, Elaine Duren, Gary Duren, Wally Petz, Janice Petz and Curtis Denney, pastor

Prophecy seminar held in bowling alley, amazing results

Wisconsin—On Oct. 9, 2009, Curtis Denney, pastor, began a prophecy seminar at the Hacker’s Lanes Banquet Center in Frederic, Wis. Hacker’s Lanes? A bowling alley? Yes! In a small town like Frederic, population 1,260, Hacker’s Lanes was the only place big enough to accommodate the large crowds Frederic Church members were hoping and praying for. And they were not disappointed.

Opening night nearly 100 people came through the door; this included children, teenagers, young families

and 70-year-olds. There were even a couple of retired pastors and a computer programmer. Church members were there, too—praying, supporting and getting acquainted with the visitors.

Of course, all this took careful planning, beginning with a church business meeting, budgeting, three months of prayer warrior training for church members, much-anxious searching for a meeting location, 18,000 brochures in the mail and lots of prayer.

After 31 days and 28 messages, Frederic Church members rejoiced to see eight precious individuals baptized with a number of others continuing to study. Chris and Kathie Saunders told me that when they got the brochure in

the mail, they were immediately interested. Chris, although not an Adventist at the time, had attended an Adventist school in seventh and eighth grade, and he was somewhat familiar with Adventist beliefs. Both Chris and Kathie were concerned about end-time events and were searching for truth.

Wally and Janice Petz received the invitation to the series in the mail, looked at it a couple of times, laid it aside, took it to their church and asked their friends what they thought, and finally decided to go. Once that decision was made, the Petzes were there every night but three. Janice said, “God put enough curiosity in us to keep going. We’ve gone to other studies, but this was different, clearer. We were astonished. He explained it so we could understand it.” When I asked Walter and Janice if they were glad they came, they replied, “Amen!”

Gary and Elaine Duren met in Hutchin, Minn., and were married in 1964. Gary, a member of another faith, and Elaine, a Seventh-day Adventist, decided to raise their children to know God but to make their own choices. Now, 45 years later, Gary and Elaine decided to come to the prophecy seminar. Elaine wrote, “It was with lots of help from God and my mother that led us to our decision to be baptized and join the church.”

Ron Wood, teacher/principal, Frederic
Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School

Shoes collected for Haiti earthquake victims

Illinois—Mattoon Church members recently answered the request for shoes for Haiti. The Podiatric Association had an article in the paper asking for gently-worn shoes for Haiti. Sandals and new shoes were also welcome.

Church members moved into action by collecting almost 250 pairs of shoes and sandals, new and used. The picture shows part of the last load bound for a



local podiatrist's office where the used shoes will be sanitized, and the Podiatric Association will then ship them to Haiti.

We hope to transform some faces into happy ones to go with those bare,

waiting feet. The church thanks all who gave to make this effort a success; among the generous givers were employees of Ameren.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church organization ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) has already sent relief by way of drinking water, portable latrines and medical supplies to the earthquake-struck Haiti. To partner with ADRA and bring aid to those suffering worldwide, visit www.adra.org.

Steve Nelson, pastor, Mattoon Church

[UNION NEWS]

Wisconsin praises God for 372 baptisms

Wisconsin—372! It's just a number. Why would this number be significant? Three hundred seventy-two is the number of persons who became members of Adventist churches here in Wisconsin in 2009. But it's still just a number; why should I care? There were 372 persons who made life-changing decisions to become part of your Church in 2009.

Some left their jobs in order to be faithful; some experienced family conflicts as they made their commitments to God. They all need an emotionally warm, spiritual place where they grow in grace, knowledge and Christian fellowship. All 372 of them publicly declared their allegiance to God, their belief in His Word and their desire to become a member of the Seventh-day

Adventist Church. There were 372 miracles of Divine grace in 2009!

Some of the miracles happened at summer camp at Wakonda, in our church schools, in our churches, in home fellowship meetings, in public evangelistic meetings like "Milwaukee Storm," in Hispanic churches and some in English-speaking churches. But this is the first time it happened 372 times in the Adventist Church in Wisconsin in one year!

God is the One who is particularly to be praised for this milestone achievement, and He is the One who is most interested in all 372 of these persons who joined the Church in 2009. God is into numbers when each increment is another person for His family.

It is important to remember: Healthy churches grow. All churches can work on becoming more healthy so that they can expect greater growth, and all church members can partner in this growth for God.

In 2010, we can pause and praise God for the great things He has done. Church growth is everyone's responsibility; and when it happens, it signifies congratulations to everyone!

Let's analyze what we did in cooperation with God in 2009 and try to increase the blessing of God in 2010.

James Fox, ministerial director, Wisconsin Conference



Mary Ann Miller (left), Andrew Moens (center) and Donna Moens (right) were baptized and joined the Sturgeon Bay Church family in 2009.

Wisconsin Academy constructs new dorms

Wisconsin—On Monday morning, Mar. 1, excited female students at Wisconsin Academy began the move into their new dormitory. At exactly 7:59 a.m., the first two ladies, Adele Marsh and

Violet Lewis, passed through the doorway with their boxes and suitcases in tow. Melody Romero brought the first "teddy bear" to the building at exactly 8 a.m.

The moving-in ceremony was the culmination of a series of carefully planned steps for renewing the Wisconsin Academy campus.

In 1998, the Wisconsin Conference constituency voted to replace the caf-

eteria by building a totally new facility as an addition to the gymnasium. The new facility would include a new kitchen, dining facility and computer lab. This new facility was completed in 2002.

In the year of the constituency vote, Richard Habenicht had already filed a development plan for the use of our Wisconsin Conference office property in Sun Prairie, Wis. When the govern-



James Fox

New matching boys and girls dormitories complete the renovation of Wisconsin Academy.

ment sought to take the land by eminent domain for highway development, the Conference was in an excellent position to obtain maximum compensation for the land. By 2006, the State of Wisconsin and the Community of Sun Prairie had paid the Conference approximately \$6.56 million dollars for the purchase of that property. These funds were placed in reserve for mission and a series of building projects.

With their reserves in hand, the Conference began a multi-year building plan. In 2007, the Conference office was the first project. Constructed between May 2007 and May 2008, Roger Driver, Conference treasurer, and Floyd Brock, community services director, worked as general contractors for the project. They finished on time and under budget.

The boys dormitory destruction began in June 2008. The construction of the new dorm began just a few weeks later. With new energy-saving geothermal and solar heating, the new boys dorm was ready for occupancy in March 2009. The project was on time and just a little over budget. During this time of construction, the young men moved into temporary accommodations in a separate area (from the girls) of the old girls dorm.

The girls dormitory destruction began mere days following the 2009 graduation services. Faculty and staff all worked in preparation for the destruction of the old building. There was asbestos tile that needed to be abated. There was carpet, ceiling tile and other building materials that needed to be stripped from the building and placed in appropriate dumpsters. The pastors took a day to assist in this process during Camp Pitch 2009. Marshall Bowers,



James Fox

From left: Melody Romero and Elizabeth Kosowesky enjoy their new room.

Wisconsin Academy principal, said these energetic workers did in a day what would have taken two weeks for summer staff at Wisconsin Academy to do.

By July 2009, the construction on the new dorm had begun. In August, scores of young ladies moved into temporary accommodations in the classroom sections of the gymnasium. As they watched the construction progress, they encouraged the workers and they prayed to God for a speedy conclusion. At 7:59 on Monday morning, Mar. 1, their prayers were answered.

Lindsay Musselman, a junior from Great Lakes Adventist Academy, held the opening service of the Spring Week of Prayer at Wisconsin Academy on that special Monday morning. At 7:15 a.m., 134 students, faculty and staff, conference office workers and interested persons gathered to worship. Musselman, who comes from Indian River, Mich., delivered a sweet talk about how important it is to give our all to Jesus and emphasized that He will accept us, forgive us and re-create us. Her prayer and goal for the week was, "We will all be changed," through Jesus.

As Musselman finished her talk, Bowers led out in a brief dedication service of the new dormitory. He invited Don Corkum, then Wisconsin Conference president, to lead a prayer of dedication. Driver and Brock were recognized as the tireless (or tired) general contractors for the Conference office and both dorms. After giving all the praise to God, they handed the keys to the new dormitory to Marcia Sigler and Dee Kessen, deans. The move was on!

The construction of new cafeteria, dormitories and Conference office cost nearly \$8 million dollars. While the



James Fox

Dee Kessen and Marcia Sigler, girls deans, take a moment to enjoy the move.

majority of this was realized through the sale of the Sun Prairie property, the members of the Wisconsin Conference were generous with nearly \$1.6 million in donations.

The girls dormitory is the only one of the four buildings that has not yet been dedicated free of debt. In May 2009, Wisconsin Conference members made a series of donations, pledges and commitments. The term of the commitments was to be two years. By God's grace, the giving is on track even during these challenging financial times. While the Conference borrowed some funds in order to finish the building, the amount borrowed will be paid off as everyone fulfills their pledges.

Enrollment was up this year in anticipation of the new dormitories at Wisconsin Academy. When the final pledges are fulfilled in 2011 and the final debts are retired, Wisconsin Academy will be ready to fulfill its role as a Christian training center for young people for decades to come.

Praise the Lord, great things He hath done!

James Fox, ministerial, evangelism and communication director, Wisconsin Conference



James Fox

Don Corkum (second from left), then Wisconsin Conference president, offers the dedicatory prayer for the new girls dormitory. Marshall Bowers (left), Roger Driver (mid-right) and Floyd Brock (far right) join in the service.

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.

Birthdays



Mable (Jones) Harvey celebrated her 105th birthday quietly at home in Vandalia, Mich., on March 16. She has been a member of the Calvin Center (Mich.) Church for 40 years.

Mable was married to the late James Harvey.

Mable has been a teacher in Chicago public schools for about 40 years and taught at the Mizpah Seventh-day Adventist School in Gary, Ind., before retiring. She has volunteered many years teaching reading in the community and also at the Calvin Center School in Cassopolis, Mich. She also has held many offices in the church, such as Home and School leader, Sabbath school teacher, and even now she is a Sabbath school superintendent at the Calvin Center Church.

Mable has two children: Gail Ellis of Cassopolis; Kenneth Jones of Chicago; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Obituaries

BEREAN, James F., age 81; born May 17, 1928, in Olivet, Mich.; died Nov. 26, 2009, in Fremont, Mich. He was a member of the Muskegon (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, JoAnn (Stephens); son, James E.; stepsons, Dale and Stephen Corke; daughter, Lori Ann

Proctor; stepdaughters, Doreen Corke, Cindy Wolfer and Sharon Gradziel; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Don Williams, and interment was in Maple Grove Cemetery, Fremont.

BOWERS, Robert L., age 94; born Nov. 20, 1915, in Richmond, Ind.; died Mar. 2, 2010, in Freedom, Ind. He was a member of the Indianapolis Southside Church.

Survivors include his son, George R.; daughter, Gwen A. Corridan; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were conducted by Seth Corridan, and interment was in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Greenwood, Ind.

CAMPBELL, Calvin T., age 81; born Dec. 1, 1928, in Ancrim Mines, N.Y.; died Mar. 3, 2010, in Holly, Mich. He was a member of the Holly Church.

Survivors include his sons, Daniel and Douglas; daughter, Arlene Campbell; brother, Andrew; sister, Isabel Schad; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Brandon Korter, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Holly.

CROAK, Wallace H., age 87; born Jan. 30, 1923, in Willmar, Minn.; died Feb. 4, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his wife, Ellen (Widmer); sons, Randall and Lowell; daughter, Linda Jean Royal; stepdaughters, Lona Chapman and Jo Ellen Conley; four grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Arne Swanson, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

GRAHAM, Beatrice (Fleming), age 82; born Mar. 15, 1927, in Pepin, Wis.; died Dec. 21, 2009, in Milwaukee, Wis. She was a member of the Milwaukee Central Church.

Survivors include her sons, Michael, Chuck, Ken and Don; daughter, Janice Marcus; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Frank Bacchus and John Strehle, and interment will take place July 25 in Pepin Cemetery.

PERRY, Louise A. (Kaiser), age 80; born Mar. 25, 1929, in St. Johnsbury, Vt.; died Jan. 31, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her stepson, Norm Perry; daughter, Donna L. Burland; sisters, Shirley Kalmansson and Eldora Kaiser; and one grandchild.

Memorial services will be conducted at a later date, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

PETERSEN, Verna (Fletcher), age 86; born Aug. 8, 1923, in Royalton, Wis.; died Feb. 17, 2010, in Amery, Wis. She was a member of the Almond (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Beth Nelson and Sue Maloney; sister, Audrey Thompson; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Curtis Denney, and interment was in Ostrander Cemetery, New London, Wis.

SEILER, Edward J., age 66; born Jan. 1, 1943, in New Castle, Pa.; died Apr. 6, 2009, in Alpena, Mich. He was a member of the Alpena Church.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor James Howard, and interment was in McWilliams Funeral Home Cemetery, Alpena.

SCHOUN, Naomi (Backus), age 85; born Dec. 26, 1924, in Hanover, Mich.; died

Feb. 22, 2010, in Jackson, Mich. She was a member of the Jackson Church.

Survivors include her son, John C.; sister, Esther Kratzer; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Gene A. Hall, and interment was in Horton (Mich.) Cemetery.

SHIMEL, Sandra D. (Buell), age 47; born Dec. 31, 1962, in Wildwood, Ga.; died Feb. 3, 2010, in Custer, Mich. She was a member of the Ludington (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Ralph D.; daughters, Shireen and Johanna; father, Dexter Buell; mother, Lois Beverly (Weir); step-mother, Cathy Buell; brothers, Harold, Lloyd, David and Brent Buell; sister, Jeanni Logan; and half sister, Kathleen Buell.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Ron Mill, with private interment.

WISTHOFF, Ramona E. (Ostrander), age 91; born Oct. 2, 1918, in Chicago, Ill.; died Nov. 21, 2009, in Angola, Ind. She was a member of the Angola Church.

Survivors include her son, Kenneth; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Arlin Cochran and Don English, with private interment.

WOTRING, Ronald A., age 62; born Dec. 6, 1947, in Adrian, Mich.; died Feb. 23, 2010, in Cleveland, Tenn. He was a member of the Adrian Church.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda (Hawkins); son, Ronald; daughters, Angela and Melissa Wotring, and Amber Harmon; brother, Roger; sisters, Patricia Kuhlman, Carol Fancher, Marjorie Wotring and Susan Martin; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dwight Herod, and interment was in Chattanooga (Tenn.) National Cemetery.

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Miscellaneous

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No More Missed Opportunities

School Notes

BY JUDY SHULL

My class at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy had just concluded filming their weekly television program at the local public access cable station. The station manager asked, "Are your students especially gifted?" I only shook my head no and smiled. I wish I had shared the real reason the students were different—they have Jesus in their hearts and that changes them. I missed an opportunity to share our faith with someone.

I determined there would be no more missed opportunities. The next time there was a Bible assignment to work on, I took a special education student aside and told him that when our weekly public school special education consultant visited she might want to know more about

what we believe. "You know, this is what we talk about all the time—taking chances to share what we know about Jesus," I said. "It's okay to answer her questions. ... Let's pray about it," I suggested. We asked Jesus to provide the right words to say.

The student cheerfully bounced down the hall to the special education room. Later, the consultant stopped by to let me know the student really knew the Bible study answers that day. "I don't know what happened," she said. But I knew. We had prepared for an opportunity to share.

Now I watch for these unexpected opportunities to reach people for Jesus. I believe He will give us His words to say.

Judy Shull teaches fifth and sixth grades at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy in Michigan.



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. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at www.LakeUnionHerald.org.

Indiana

Golf Fundraiser: The sixth annual Indianapolis Junior Academy and Cicero Elementary School Golf Fundraiser is Thursday, **May 20**, at the Bear Slide Golf Club in Cicero. Mark your calendar for a fun day of golf, give-a-ways, excellent food and great items to bid on at the auction. All proceeds will benefit the two schools. There is a fee per player. Register before May 13 by e-mailing Mark Fogg at mark.fogg@unitedagdy.com. Sponsors are needed. If you have any questions, please call Mark at 317-809-5105.

B.I.K.E. (Bike Indiana Kilometer Excursion) is **June 2-6**. You don't have to be a Lance Armstrong to enjoy the thrill of this annual bicycle tour! There is a SAG wagon for support that carries lunch, snacks and drinks; it also has a bike rack if you need a break. For additional information, e-mail Charlie Thompson, youth director for the Indiana Conference, at cpbhk@yahoo.com, or call the youth department at 317-844-6201.

Lake Region

The Mizpah Seventh-day Adventist School (Gary, Ind.) and members of the Lake Region Conference school system are presenting "An Evening with Larnelle Harris" on Saturday, May 22, at the West Side Leadership Academy, 9th Ave. and Gerry St., Gary, Ind., 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Concert proceeds benefit the Mizpah Church School. Purchase tickets at Apple Valley Natural Foods or www.plusline.org (Events Registration). For more information, contact 219-886-1800.

Lake Union

Offerings

- May 1** Local Church Budget
- May 8** World Budget (Disaster & Famine Relief)
- May 15** Local Church Budget
- May 22** Local Conference Advance
- May 29** World Budget (Spring Mission Appeal)

Special Days

- May 1** Community Services Sabbath
- May 8** Youth Sabbath
- May 15** Single Adults Sabbath

The Lake Union is inviting young people from our five conferences to attend our 2010 Lake Union Youth Congress that will be held on the campus of Andrews University **June 4-6**. Invited guests include Jose Vincent Rojas, Manny Cruz, Elden Ramirez, Harold Altamirano, Carlos Acosta, Milton Coronado, Sergio Torres, Maria Lopez and Zoraida Velez. We are inviting youth from all cultural backgrounds to come so presentations and seminars will be made in English and in Spanish. Registration fee includes materials, teeshirts, meals and the seminars of your choosing. For more information, call the toll free number 1-877-321-LUHY (5849), or register online at www.connectlu.youth.org.

North American Division

The Madison College Alumni Homecoming, June 18-20, will honor classes of 1940, '45, '50, '55 and '60, and those attending. Weekend includes Friday evening, Sabbath and Sunday breakfast, and will be held at the Madison Academy campus. For more information, contact Jim Culpepper, secretary/treasurer, at 615-654-3311.

59th General Conference Session: "A General Conference Session is a unique occasion. There is no moment in the life of the Church which demonstrates so vividly—so tangibly—the extraordinary way God's Spirit is moving among us. ... Through these gatherings we powerfully affirm that we are one people, united in faith, and bound by our shared desire to be instruments of God's purpose in the world." (Jan Paulsen, G.C. president) You are invited to attend this 59th General Conference Session from **Wednesday, June 23, through Sabbath, July 3**, at the Atlanta, Georgia, World Congress Center and Georgia Dome. For more information on hotels, food service, exhibits, schedules, etc., visit <http://www.gcsession.org/>.

Amateur Radio Operators: The quinquennial business and fellowship meeting of the Adventist Amateur Radio Association International will be held **June 27**, at 2:00 p.m., in Room B-317 (Building B), in connection with the General Conference Session in Atlanta. All radio amateurs are welcome to attend. Visit us during the Session in the exhibit area, Booth 1738, Adventist World Aviation. For more information, contact Jim Hoffer, KW8T, secretary-

treasurer, at kw8t@myactv.net, or visit www.aarai.org.



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	May 7	May 14	May 21	May 28	Jun 4	Jun 11
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:50	8:57	9:04	9:10	9:15	9:19
Chicago, Ill.	7:56	8:03	8:10	8:16	8:21	8:25
Detroit, Mich.	8:38	8:46	8:53	8:59	9:04	9:08
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:45	8:52	8:58	9:04	9:08	9:13
La Crosse, Wis.	8:15	8:23	8:30	8:37	8:42	8:47
Lansing, Mich.	8:46	8:53	9:00	9:07	9:11	9:16
Madison, Wis.	8:05	8:13	8:20	8:27	8:32	8:37
Springfield, Ill.	7:59	8:05	8:12	8:18	8:22	8:26



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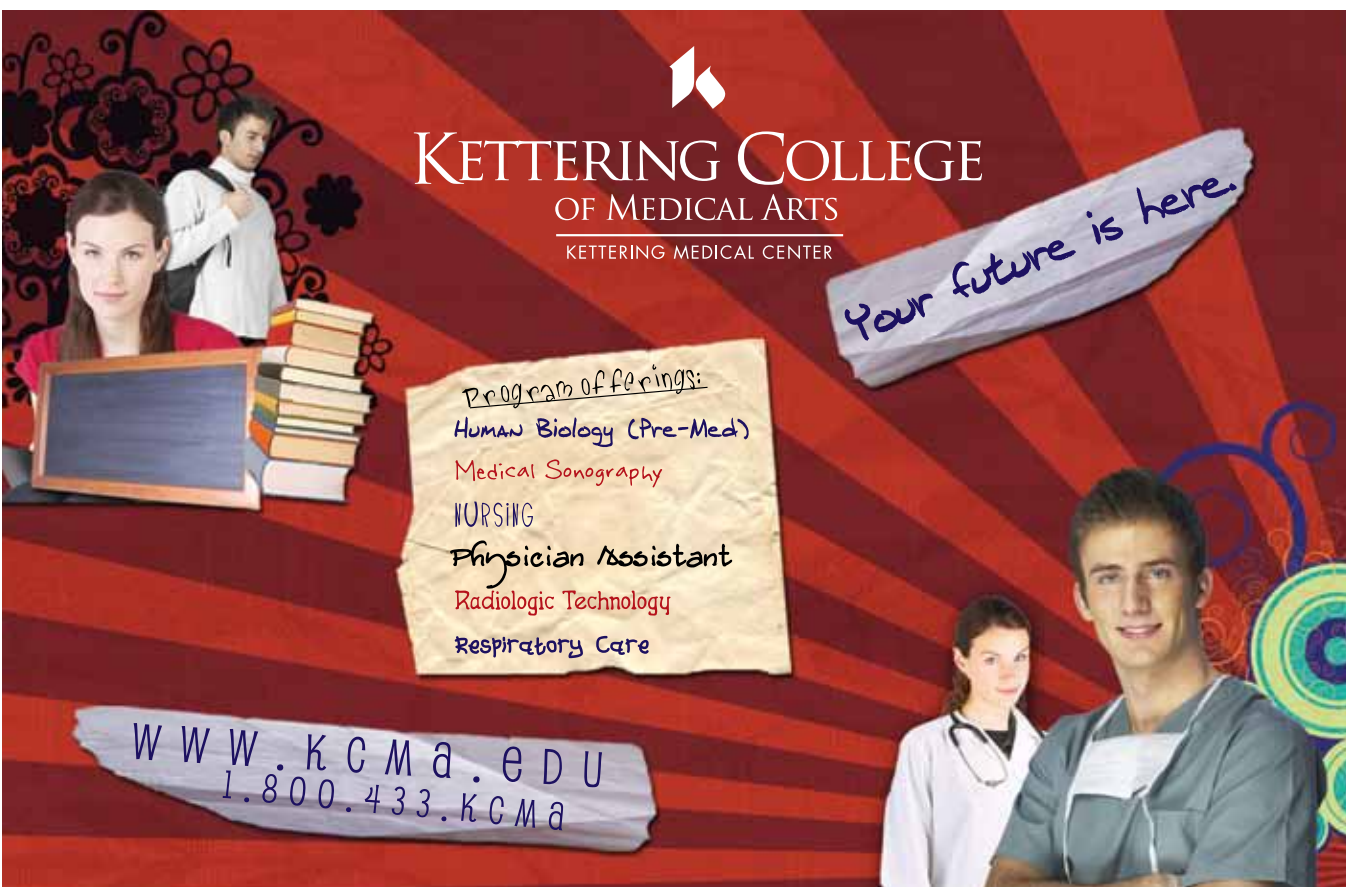
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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Finding a Father

BY DIANE THURBER



Toby* slipped his hand in the camp director's hand, and his gaze was steady as he waited for a response to his statement, "I wish you were my dad."

It was junior camp. Everything that could challenge a counselor was thrown at Toby's counselor that week, and it seemed Toby was always in the mix. Exhausted, the counselor and boys director asked the camp director to intervene. Each time there was an altercation or Toby wandered off, the radio relayed "Pastor Gary? Are you there Pastor Gary?"

Toby seemed to long for one-on-one time with someone who didn't dismiss him. And my husband, Gary, grew fond of Toby, too. He wondered why Toby was so troubled, and gently coaxed out his life story. Toby's parents were divorced, and caretakers passed him around frequently.

Toby was only at camp so his mother could marry and go on her honeymoon with a guy Toby hardly knew. He felt unwanted and unloved, but at Camp Au Sable he was learning about God's love through caring staff members.

With a breaking heart, Gary said softly, "I would love to be your dad ... but we know your mother is coming back for you Sunday." Toby nodded. Gary determined that before Toby left camp he would understand what the Heavenly Father's love can be like.

When you support camping ministry, you partner with Jesus in a setting where young people make life-changing decisions to follow Him ... and sometimes they find a Heavenly Father.

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

*Toby is not his real name.

Miracle VBS

BY JAE MCGEE

I flopped dejectedly onto the couch. No VBS! As the 17-year-old director of Jackson's Vacation Bible School (VBS), this was a discouraging blow. During the previous months, I had been eagerly preparing a VBS program for church and community children, but being a young person I needed adult sponsors and volunteers. Hardly anyone volunteered. Many people had moved away, and others just didn't have time. I gave the VBS to God, feeling that if He wanted an '09 VBS, then He would provide the staff and children.

A couple of months later, I received a call. A church member had been sitting outside his apartment watching the neighbor children play. The Holy Spirit suddenly impressed him to have the church do a VBS in the apartment complex's clubhouse. I nearly shouted with excitement. In a matter of three weeks, invitations were passed out, schedules were made, snacks, games and crafts

were created, and Bible lessons were planned. A small staff was recruited for teachers, crowd control and supervision.

We used "The Amazing Creation Station" VBS curriculum for our main program. I was a seven-year-old attendee myself the last time the program had been used at the Jackson Church; but thankfully, I remembered a great deal of it. Since we had limited money, time and staff, my mom and I got creative and diverged somewhat from the original program ideas. We came up with easier, cost-efficient snacks to go along with the lessons. Vanilla and carob pudding represented day and night, while peanut butter, celery sticks and carrots arranged on graham crackers represented land and plants. On the last evening we gave the kids a sample from each day's snack. It was like eating all of creation. Of course, the little boys were delighted with so much food!



For games we chose simple, common activities and tried to relate them to the day's lesson. For example, giant balloons served as Earth balls. The day we discussed the creation of birds the children played "Duck, Duck, Goose." Everyone, including the staff, had a blast.

Our VBS staff worked well together. We made sure to pray before and after each session. Because of the size of the

staff the VBS was only four days, and almost everyone had multiple jobs. I had to lead out in the Primary group, which was the largest, wildest class of VBS. But I enjoyed every minute of it! My character grew because I sometimes had to work with grumpy moods and rebellious spirits.

God truly blessed our VBS. We had nearly 50 community attendees. Several of the children begged us to come again next summer. A mother also asked us to come and do follow-up meetings, which two of our staff members began faithfully accomplishing. The mother hoped that by us doing extra meetings her husband would come to the Lord.

I am thankful that I got the chance to serve God. I enjoy leading little ones to Jesus and helping them learn to love and serve Him.

Jae McGee is 17 years old and a senior in a home school. She is now a member of the Williamston (Michigan) Church. This coming fall Jae will attend Lansing Community College to begin a degree in nursing.



Brandon LaMore, 18, from Grand Rapids, Michigan, is a senior at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy (GRAA). His greatest ambition is to become an overseas missionary. Brandon's mission focus and love of service, construction and farm work has expanded with each mission trip he has taken. Brandon has been to the Yakama Indian Reservation; Mexico; Lesotho, Africa; and the Dominican Republic for such trips. Long before the trips began, Brandon was active in Pathfinders (eight years), played his dulcimer in countless churches and nursing homes, served as a greeter and helped with the sound system at church. His focus has always been service to others.



Brandon LaMore

While at GRAA, Brandon enjoyed his literature class because he loves to read. Unfortunately, most classes require homework in addition to reading, so the most important thing he learned from his academy experience was "no matter what, get all your homework done on time." His most memorable GRAA experience was the mission trip to the Indian reservation. Brandon would like to be remembered as a gentleman as well as for his love of mission work and the outdoors.

Brandon is the son of Brian and Roseann LaMore. He is a baptized member of the Wyoming Church.



Stephanie Schlotthauer

Stephanie Schlotthauer, 17, originally from Paradise, California, is a senior at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy (GRAA). She has been actively involved in service to others through school, church and community projects. Stephanie's goal is to let Christ's light shine through her in her day-to-day activities. She wants people to remember her as being friendly and always willing to help. Stephanie has served as Student Association social vice president, senior class treasurer, and has been on two mission trips with GRAA. She has served at food banks and soup kitchens in the community. Three Angels Fellowship, where she is a baptized church member, appreciates her involvement on the social committee and praise teams.

While at GRAA, Stephanie was fascinated by her Anatomy and Physiology class, which goes along with her goal to be a trauma surgeon someday. She learned at school that every person is important; and whether it be large or small, what you do matters and will affect you or someone else. Stephanie's most memorable experiences involve all the trips she has taken as part of the school. She says she will have those memories with her forever.

Stephanie is the daughter of Ken and Verna Schlotthauer.

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.

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