

# Lake Union HERALD



APRIL 2011

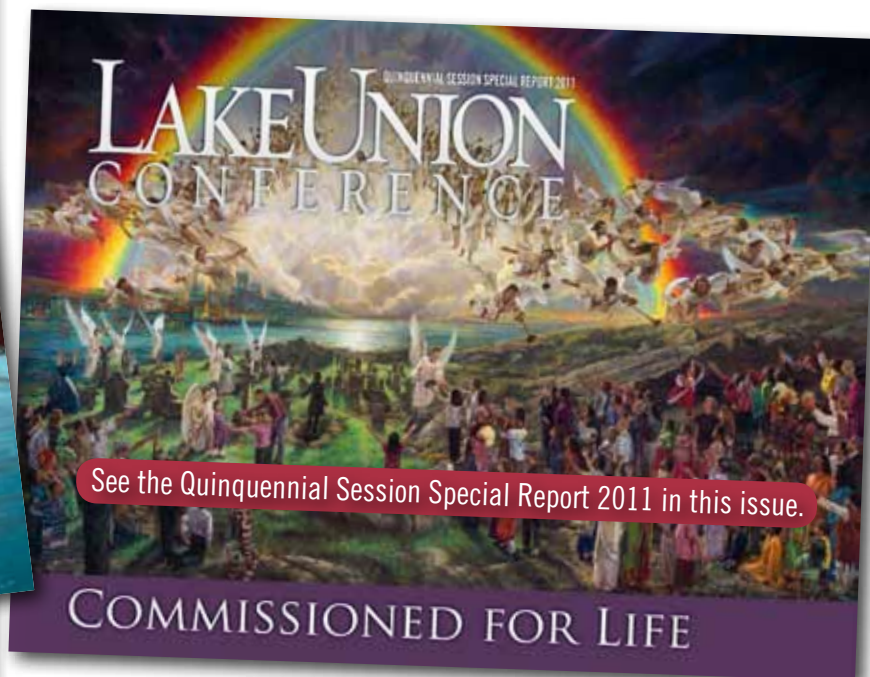
REJOICE!  
GOT REASON?



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



Lisa and Dan Clark were baptized by Lisa Isensee, pastor, at the the Middleton SDA Company in Wisconsin on July 24, 2010. Photo by Juanita Edge.



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## In this issue...

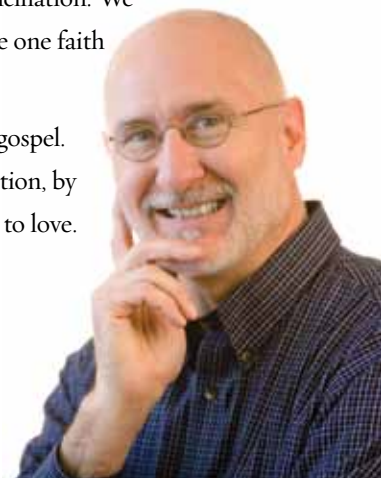
It is time for the quinquennial session of the Lake Union Conference, which will convene May 15. Following page 16 of this edition of the *Herald*, you will find a copy of our Session Report inserted.

If the Seventh-day Adventist Church functioned as a secular corporation, we would create all kinds of incentives to increase “sales.” We would employ tactics to fan the flames of enthusiasm and instill a sense of loyalty to the corporation. We would use intimidation, pressure and censure to motivate people to accomplish our goals. We would employ the principles of competition to pit one church against another, one conference against another, to win productivity awards.

But we're not a secular corporation. We are the Body of Christ—each member a living representative, called to a priestly ministry of reconciliation. We are one body with one hope. We have one Lord. We share one faith and one baptism, united by one God and Father of us all.

We have one co-mission—to proclaim the everlasting gospel. We serve at the Spirit's initiation, under the Spirit's direction, by the Spirit's power. It is the love of Christ that compels us to love. We are His body.

  
Gary Burns, Editor



The *Lake Union Herald* (ISSN 0194-908X) is published monthly by the Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs, MI, and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription price is \$9.00. Vol. 103, No. 4. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: *Lake Union Herald*, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287.

The *Lake Union Herald* is available online.



## It's All About Mission

**A**s I write this editorial, we have just concluded our February meeting of the Lake Union Executive Committee. One of the committee actions was to continue the practice of reverting excess Lake Union funds back to the conferences. Through careful budgeting and financial management, we were able to revert \$1 million back to the conferences—a bit up from previous years. This reversion is in addition to the \$2.16 in evangelism, educational and other subsidies that typically flow back to the conferences.

I am thankful that previous Lake Union administrations have established a history of careful and streamlined operations. Since the local church is the place where real ministry takes place, we must maximize the flow of resources to those who are carrying out our mission on the front lines. By careful stewardship, we have been able to direct as much of God's money as possible to those engaged in mission through the local conference. Your Lake Union administrative team is dedicated to continue to maximize this kind of support. In addition, we will continue to use Lake Union resources to provide additional ministry support and services that maximize mission potential at the local level.

On May 15, local church and conference representatives from around the Lake Union will meet in the Pioneer Memorial Church for our Quinquennial Constituency Session. This is a time of accountability, a review and implementation of governance processes, and an opportunity to seek God's vision for His church in the Lake Union for the next five years. We are sensing God's call to direct our energies and attention to The Great Commission by seeking revival and reformation, improving our commitment to Adventist education, engaging more young adults and youth in our shared ministry, and providing safer and more secure environments in our churches and schools.

Included in this edition of the *Lake Union Herald* is our report on the ministry entities of the Lake Union. Our territory is blessed with five conferences, eight academies, 83 elementary schools and junior academies, Andrews University, five Adventist Health System hospitals, many supportive ministries, and a host of dedicated members. While these reports may include some information on the ministry that has taken place during the past five years, our emphasis is primarily on the future. Our very name, "Adventist," speaks to our focus on the blessed hope of God's future for His church. While never forgetting how God has led us in the past, our primary focus must be on what God is doing now and what He is calling us to do in the future as He leads us to accomplish His purpose in giving us His Great Commission. Our hope is in His precious promise, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses throughout the entire world. I will be with you always, even to the very end" (see Acts 1).



## Jesus the One

BY TYLER CANTRELL

I was born into a loving family who were very much a part of the Seventh-day Adventist system. My childhood years were spent in Nebraska under the conservative and protective wings of a fervent remnant church where I was forced to memorize Bible verses and taught discipline in Pathfinders. When I was in eighth grade we moved to California, and my world was forever changed. Everything I had been taught as a child was put to the test.

I found something new in a small, crowded little church built in the parking lot of the main church. I grew in faith and found a personal experience with Jesus. It was the first time I came to know a God who loved me personally—a God who wasn't looking for an excuse to strike me down at the first hint of unfaithfulness. In my enthusiasm for this new relationship, I failed to appreciate the foundation of what I was taught because of feelings of bitterness resulting from the emphasis on works and judgment in place of grace.

I lived with this tension between the grace that is freely given at the Cross to those who come to Christ in penitent repentance and the harsh application of the laws and doctrines by the critical and over zealous. It seemed to me as if my religion had bi-polar disorder—one day being full of grace and mercy and the next being dragged into court to face a harsh sentence. And I know I wasn't alone. Spiritual bi-polar disorder is a devastating and discouraging disease. So what is the cure?

Jesus is the Author and Finisher of our faith—the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Who is like our Creator and Redeemer? What can plunge the depths of His understanding or reach the limits of His grace? Nothing, surely nothing, can compare with our loving God. This is the center, heart and soul of truth. This is the foundation of our



*Tyler Cantrell was one of approximately 180 attendees at the One Project in Atlanta, February 7 and 8.*

faith—Christ the cornerstone who paid the ultimate price for the sins of the entire world. The cure is simple: Jesus. All.

If each of us fully embraced the life and gospel of Jesus Christ, who wouldn't want to be a part of what we have? What impact would we have on the world if we actually followed the life of Jesus as His true disciples and lived in truth, full of love and compassion?

As a child I was taught “key” memory verses, but I was not shown the bigger picture of Jesus and His character displayed throughout the pages of Scripture. The focus was not on Him or my relationship with Him. Somehow, I missed the clear and beautiful words of Jesus calling to His disciples, “Come and follow Me.” Somehow, I missed the incredible faith it took for them to drop everything and follow this Teacher. I failed to see how that kind of relationship could work in our culture today. What if Jesus came into our workplace and said, “Come and follow Me?” Would we be willing to drop everything we own and “cherish” to go after the Savior? Isn't He worth it?

Well, I heard Jesus' call to me. And I am beginning to appreciate all Jesus is doing in my life as I choose to follow Him. Through a series of providential circumstances, I followed Him to the One Project in Atlanta—a gathering of youth professionals seeking to make Christ all in their lives and ministry.





Tyler Cantrell (left) says, “My experience at One Project was so encouraging and included a wonderful celebration of communion together. I experienced in that communion a most bitter cup of sweet relief—the sweet forgiveness that washed over my mountain of sin, leaving nothing but freedom and the cleansing power of the love of Christ.”

When Japhet De Oliveira, director of Center for Youth Evangelism, told me about the One Project, I was very hopeful. I had struggled with the idea of staying in the church when, in my experience, it had been difficult to see the character of Christ and a desire for His presence displayed by those in local leadership. The idea that there may still be people in the Adventist Church who passionately pursue the presence of Christ in their lives was something I yearned for.

I did not know how I was going to get down to Atlanta or who I would stay with or what I was going to experience, but I came with hope—hope that Christ still moved in powerful ways and desired an intimate personal relationship with me, hope that the Creator of the universe still desired to sit with me, a fallen human being under His Grace, and speak of great things that I did not know.

My experience at One Project was so encouraging, and included a wonderful celebration of communion together. I experienced in that communion a most bitter cup of sweet relief—the taste of sweet forgiveness that washed over my mountain of sin, leaving nothing but freedom and the cleansing power of the love of Christ. I am overwhelmed by the tide of unbelievable grace and forgiveness in my life that I’ve never experienced before—as if the weight of my world is suddenly in the hands of Him who has been granted all authority.

My life, my goal, my mission is to live in Christ Jesus—to know that my problems are not mine alone to handle and trust, that nothing in my life is too big for Jesus to handle. I realize full well that I can do nothing to repay Him, yet I can’t help but praise and serve Him. I long to give Him nothing less than my all.

With this heartfelt desire, we began the long drive home. And Jesus providentially provided a rendezvous with two of His seeking children. He gave me the privilege of sharing His love and helping them see the truth about His character. It is an exciting journey in service to Him. I can’t stop praising Him. It is just so powerful that I can’t fully explain how much it means to see God’s power working through me and in the lives of others.

I don’t know what the future holds, but I know God is working in my world and is passionately pursuing His children. The Father has spared no expense, including the life of His Son, to bring His children home. And He calls each of us to join His heart in that cause. Now, I know by experience there is no higher privilege than to proclaim the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

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Tyler Cantrell is a student at Andrews University and works with the Center for Youth Evangelism. For information about the One Project, visit [www.the1project.org](http://www.the1project.org).

## Sunday Projects

BY JESSIE LOPEZ

**T**he Andrews University Office of Campus Ministries has created a new outreach program for students this school year. Inspired by Jesus' words, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve..." Sunday Projects provides both community service and evangelistic opportunities in the local community and neighboring towns. The ministry focuses on practical needs and participates every other Sunday in hands-on activities, ranging from children's ministries to providing food baskets and even an occasional painting job.

Sunday Projects has assisted local thrift stores, churches and families in need since the beginning of the 2010–2011 school year, with the help of Debra Panozzo, adult and family volunteer coordinator for Berrien County, Michigan. During one of the first projects, students organized the children's program at the First Presbyterian Church in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

"We finally have people who are willing to tell the stories of the Bible to our children!" exclaimed the church pastor, who was so impressed with the group she has invited them to lead the children's program twice a month.

The experience was also touching for University students and has inspired several to lead out in the program ever since. "It is very obvious that these kids have never heard many well-known Bible stories such as Jonah and Noah's Ark, so it is a cool feeling to walk away each Sunday knowing that something has been accomplished," says University student Amanda Corea.

Corea, an international community development and modern languages major, looks forward to Sunday Projects week after week for the satisfaction of knowing that "what we do affects people."



*Pablo Ariza, Mariella de Armas and Tatiana Romelus participated in Sunday Projects during the Thanksgiving basket distribution.*

"We are all children of God and should work together more often as such," she says. "We would get so much more accomplished as a Christian community!"

Another favorite project took place during the Thanksgiving holiday. With the help of the Berrien Springs Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church outreach team and a Pathfinder group from the Benton Harbor Spanish Seventh-day Adventist

Church, Sunday Projects organized and delivered food baskets to local families in need. They called the project, "The Thanksgiving Bag Give-Away," and handed out not only groceries and holiday treats but also Bibles.

Sunday Projects is growing and continues to spread the gospel through acts of service in the community. Your prayers would be appreciated for this ministry. To get involved or learn more, visit the Sunday Projects Facebook page by entering "Sunday Projects" in the search box or by e-mailing [sundayprojects@andrews.edu](mailto:sundayprojects@andrews.edu).

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Jessie Lopez is the Sunday Projects coordinator. Additional information included by Ashleigh Jardine, student news writer, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication.



# EXTREME GRACE

## NASCAR Christians

BY DICK DUERKSEN

**T**revor Bayne, just barely 20 years old, won the Daytona 500 on February 20, driving the 21 car for the Wood Brothers.

A reporter asked, “Yesterday was your 20th birthday and today you’re on the top of the NASCAR world as the youngest Daytona champion ever! How does it feel?”

Trevor responded, “Nobody deserves it more than these Wood Brothers guys!”

“I’ve got awesome people supporting me with Ford Racing and Ford Motorcraft, and everybody on this car, and then obviously Ralph Fenway for the chassis and Ralph Yates for the engine.”

If the interview had lasted a bit longer, Trevor would have listed every sponsor whose decal graces his winning Ford. You would have heard about Goodyear tires, Sunoco Fuel, Quick Lane, 3M, Holley and a dozen others.

Every NASCAR driver is that way. Ask him a question and he’ll talk about his sponsors.

“This Dupont Chevrolet was awesome today.”

“Joe Gibbs Racing can really be proud of our FedEx Toyota.”

“I was able to race well because the fellows in the garage tuned our number 14 Office Depot Chevrolet perfectly.”

Ask anything, and credit goes to the sponsor.

I wonder what I sound like when people ask me questions. Do I immediately give credit to God, my Sponsor, or do I talk about myself, my achievements, my car, my house, my family—and then maybe slip in something about God far down in the conversation?

My friend Dwayne is a Christian with GOD decals all over his body. Meet him for the first time, and he’ll tell you how God has given meaning to his life. Somehow he always weaves his Sponsor into the very heart of every conversation.

One afternoon, I heard Dwayne explaining to a ski lift operator how God could help with the stress that was obviously making this a “bad day” for the young man.

Later, Dwayne led a special prayer for the family of a tourist he met while waiting his turn on a zip-line.



Trevor Bayne finishes first in the Daytona 500.

Dick Duerksen

Dwayne makes me feel guilty. No, I’m not embarrassed to be a Christian, but I’m just not as eager to talk about my Sponsor as Dwayne.

One night I walked with him across the border between Zimbabwe and Zambia.

It was late, and we were the last people to cross before the gates would close. I wanted to hurry. Dwayne wanted to talk to each officer about God.

“Hi, Dick and I are Seventh-day Adventist ministers and we’re conducting the evangelism meetings in your town each night. Has your family been attending? God is really touching people’s lives.”

Dwayne sounded like a victorious NASCAR driver and his open and up-front talk about God made me uncomfortable.

Then I watched the guards and officers. All of them stopped, listened and talked to Dwayne about God. The conversations were deep—questions about why we worshiped on Saturday, excitement about the new schools we were building, asking directions to the meetings.

No one was offended by Dwayne’s God-talk. Instead, they were drawn to someone who was so obviously happy with his Sponsor.

One woman told how happy she was that her son had attended and wanted to be baptized. Then the immigration team asked Dwayne to pray for them.

“God,” Dwayne began, “thank you for loving each of these officers just as much as you love your own Son. Thank you for giving them the hope of salvation...”

Dwayne is making me a NASCAR Christian.

By the way, if you ask Trevor how it feels to be the Daytona 500 champion, the first thing he’ll say is, “God has been so good to us.”

Dick Duerksen is the “official storyteller” through words and picture for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact the author at [dduerksen@maranatha.org](mailto:dduerksen@maranatha.org).





## Silence Can Be Deadly

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

A husband needed to be up early one morning to catch a business flight, and he hoped his wife would wake him at the appointed time. They, however, were in the middle of conflict that led to what's called "The Silent Treatment." Not wanting to be the first to break the silence, he left a note on his wife's side of the bed. It said, "Please wake me at 5 a.m."

By the time the sun roused him the next morning, it was 9 a.m. He was furious. He threw back the covers and shouted to his wife who was nowhere to be found, "Why didn't you wake me up like I asked you to?" That's when he saw, stuck to the lamp by his side of the bed, a note that read, "It is 5 a.m. Time to wake up!"

It doesn't take much to make us angry and create emotional distance from one another. The silent treatment usually begins over something inconsequential. We just want the other person to go away. We don't want to deal with the person or the situation. We certainly don't feel like talking about it. So, we say nothing and shut the other person out. Sometimes we reason that if anything is said it will likely lead to something we regret, something perhaps even unforgivable. Instead, we say nothing at all.

On the other hand, realistically speaking, we are adults. We have some understanding of human behavior and how to appropriately use language. We have learned how to avoid many of the pitfalls that happen during arguments, and have other communication skills as well. So if we know all this, why do we give our spouse the silent treatment? Why does our spouse give it to us? Could it be because we both believe we are right? For some of us, the stronger our conviction the more we hold out.

For a while, silence can feel like a security blanket. It buffers us, protects us, gives us some space of our own. It offers

us an excuse to behave in a certain way. But the truth is that it is one of Satan's most deadly disguises. The silent treatment can be ultimately destructive. It is used to punish and sometimes provoke. At its worst it ostracizes, manipulates and is abusive.

Research indicates that when someone is ostracized, the anterior cingulate cortex (the part of the brain that detects pain) is affected in the same way as when one is hurt physically. This means that when we give someone the silent treatment, which hurts them emotionally, there are corresponding physical implications.

If there is a pattern of giving or receiving "The Silent Treatment," in your marriage or with others, I invite you to think about what drives you into silence. Have a conversation with your spouse or others, when emotions are not running high, and seek understanding. Discuss what you need when you are silent and find out what they need. Don't lose precious time together. Silent treatments lessen intimacy, increase power struggles and breach important levels of respect.

We serve a God who both seeks and speaks. We have a model in Jesus. He didn't retreat or refuse others. He remains faithful today—never retreating, never giving us the cold shoulder or refusing us. What a gift to be the kind of spouse who does the same.



Susan Murray is a professor emeritus of behavioral sciences at Andrews University, and she is a certified family life educator and a licensed marriage and family therapist.



**Lack of a social support system can result in lower white blood cell count.**

**Physical and psychological stress can suppress immune function.**

## Sleep Matters

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

**M**om was right when she said, “You’ll get sick and you won’t be able to do those math problems if you don’t get a good night’s sleep.”

Many people think sleep is time wasted and don’t worry about what they may be losing by skimping on sleep. But sleep does more than cure sleepiness. New research shows the brain is very active during sleep, forming new connections within the brain and consolidating memory.



People stay up all night to study, work or have fun, and accept fatigue as a normal part of daily life. Burning the candle at both ends is not healthy. Adequate sleep is just as important for our health as a healthy diet and regular exercise. When we don’t get adequate sleep there are both short- and long-term consequences.

The prefrontal cortex is responsible for many higher-level cognitive functions and is particularly vulnerable to a lack of sleep. Concentration, working memory, mathematical capacity, complex thought and logical reasoning are all aspects of cognitive function compromised by sleep deprivation. A lack of adequate sleep exacts a toll on perception and judgment, affects mood and reduces efficiency, productivity and our ability to focus. It may increase the risk of errors, and serious accidents and injury. Falling asleep at the wheel from fatigue causes more driving fatalities than alcohol. Drowsy driving causes about 1 million crashes, 500,000 injuries and 8,000 deaths each year in the U.S.

Chronic sleep deprivation is usually associated with increased stress, increased blood pressure, impaired control of blood glucose and weight gain. Getting too little sleep upsets the balance of ghrelin and leptin, hormones that regulate appetite and eating. Thus sleep deprivation leads to

many problems, including obesity, Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and a 15 percent reduced life expectancy.

Subjects who are sleep deprived report feeling less optimistic and more stressed, sad, angry and mentally exhausted, and more prone to anxiety and depression. These symptoms improve dramatically when subjects return to a

normal sleep schedule. Individuals who experience stress, anxiety and depression also find it more difficult to fall asleep, and their sleep tends to be shallow and less restful.

The Institutes of Medicine report that more than 1 million injuries and up to 100,000 deaths each year result from preventable medical errors. Many of these result from insufficient sleep among health professionals who work very long shifts. Nurses working shifts longer than 12 hours make 2 to 3 times as many errors as those working shorter shifts. Doctors-in-training have been found to make 36 percent more serious medical errors and 460 percent more serious diagnostic errors when working extended shifts of 24 or more consecutive hours, compared with shifts limited to 16 hours.

A regular sleep schedule is vital. The synchronization of the sleep-wake cycle with your internal biological clock’s circadian rhythm is essential. Exposure to light late in the evening resets our internal clock so we prefer to sleep later. Light also suppresses melatonin production, which affects the quality of sleep.

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



# Paul's Prayer Ladder

BY ALVIN VANDERGRIEND

“FOR THIS REASON I KNEEL BEFORE THE FATHER”

Paul's bracing prayer for the family of God found in Ephesians 3:14–19 gives us an outline of how to pray for others—a prayer ladder to ascend. There are six steps:

**Pray for inner strength by the power of the Holy Spirit.** Proverbs 4:23 calls the heart “the wellspring of life.” And Jesus taught that “the good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart” and warned that “the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart” (see Luke 6:45). What happens in the inner person is of crucial importance. Our prayers are able to affect what happens in other believers.

**Pray that Christ may live in believers' hearts through faith.** Christ desires to live and act on Earth today in and through believers. He does so to the degree that they yield to His promptings and have His mind, His will, His vision, His courage, His love, and His power. When we pray this way for others, we ask that Christ may more and more live in us and accomplish His will through us.

**Pray that believers will be grounded in God's love.** The people we pray for need to be rooted in love, nourished by God's love as a plant is nourished by its roots. They need to be established in love, to have God's love as the solid foundation of their lives.

**Pray that believers grasp the scope of Christ's love—** that is, to grasp “how wide and long and high and deep” it is. An unknown prisoner reached for the meaning of this phrase when he wrote,

*Could we with ink the oceans fill  
And were the skies of parchment made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill  
And every man a scribe by trade—  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the oceans dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole  
Though stretched from sky to sky.*

**Pray that believers may experience the love of Christ.** Specifically we pray for them “to know this love that sur-

passes knowledge.” This is the “knowing” of a personal relationship.

**Pray that believers may be filled with the very nature of God.** In these words Paul's ladder of prayer reaches its highest rung. To pray for a filling “to the measure of all the fullness of God” is to ask God to pour Himself into us, the children of His earthly family, with a spiritual fullness like God Himself possesses.

What more could we ask as we pray for others? Have you asked God for these things for others, and for yourself?

## Reflect

How much effort do you invest in praying for the spiritual well-being of others? What will it take for you to become more like Paul in your intercessory prayers?

What difference do you expect to see as you pray in this way for the people around you?

## Pray

Praise God for His power and love, which alone make this kind of prayer possible.

Confess any personal failure in prayer brought to light by this passage.

Ask God for a greater comprehension of His power and love so that it will be natural for you to pray these requests for others.

Thank God that He is willing and able to pour His fullness into you.

## Act

Using the ladder of prayer, intercede for people whom God has placed on your heart.

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Alvin J. VanderGriend is co-founder of the Denominational Prayer Leaders Network and currently serves as evangelism associate for Harvest Prayer Ministries, in Terre Haute, Indiana. This article is an excerpt from his book, *Love to Pray*. Reprinted with permission.



## Música que eleva

POR CARMELO MERCADO

*“Así como los israelitas cuando andaban por el desierto alegraban su camino por medio del canto sagrado, Dios invita a sus hijos de hoy a alegrar por el mismo medio su vida de peregrinaje. Hay pocos medios más eficaces para grabar sus palabras en la memoria que el de repetirlas en el canto... El canto, como parte del servicio religioso, es tanto un acto de culto como lo es la oración.”—Eventos de los últimos días, pp. 88-89*

**E**n el artículo de este mes quiero presentar la historia de un grupo de jóvenes hispanos que han formado un ministerio especial. Le pedí al director del ministerio, el pastor Andrés Flores, que me explicara el origen y el propósito de este ministerio llamado “Calls of Worship” (Llamados a la adoración).

“El congreso de jóvenes Conéctate 2010 fue el evento que vio nacer al grupo de adoración llamado Calls of Worship. Este congreso fue único debido a que por primera vez se presentó una programación completamente bilingüe para así alcanzar a los jóvenes latinos.



“El grupo de adoración llamado ‘Calls of Worship’”

Andrés Flores

“Dios llamó a un grupo talentoso de líderes de adoración y músicos a esta nueva agrupación. Muchos de ellos, como Camille Aragonés, por ejemplo, son cantantes establecidos en nuestra Iglesia. Camille participa frecuentemente en programas de televisión en el canal adventista 3ABN; sin embargo, el formar parte de Calls of Worship tiene un sentido especial para ella porque ‘significa tomar parte en un ministerio que me enriquece y que profundiza mi caminar con Dios al entregarle mi corazón a él en adoración junto con mis hermanos y hermanas en Cristo’.

“Al prepararse para formar parte de Conéctate 2010 los jóvenes del grupo desarrollaron una filosofía diferente para dirigir los cantos de alabanza. En lugar de considerarse ellos mismos como líderes de adoración, eligieron ser siervos de adoración a Dios y a los jóvenes que asistían al evento. Más

de 800 jóvenes se unieron en cantos de alabanza. ¡Fue algo extraordinario ver a los jóvenes entregarse apasionadamente en adoración a nuestro Dios!

Los integrantes del grupo han sentido el llamado a continuar el ministerio para inspirar a otros jóvenes a involucrarse en el ministerio de adoración en sus iglesias locales. Su deseo es alcanzar

a los jóvenes y animarlos a vivir la adoración como un estilo de vida y no sólo como un evento semanal. Alice Hyde, miembro del grupo, dice lo siguiente: ‘¡Formar parte de Calls of Worship significa mucho para mí! Pensar que Dios ha puesto en nuestros corazones el deseo de hacer una diferencia importante en nuestras iglesias a nivel mundial es profundamente satisfactorio’.

Durante todo el año 2011 el grupo Calls of Worship estará dedicado a alabar a Dios y a entrenar a nuevos líderes de adoración en las federaciones de jóvenes, campamentos, convocaciones de reavivamiento y series de evangelismo.

¡Gloria a Dios por el privilegio de adorarlo en comunidad y de proclamar su mensaje a través de la música!

Carmelo Mercado es el vice president general de la Unión del lago.





## Body Bag

*We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.* —1 Corinthians 15:51, 52

I am sitting at the table, thinking. I'm thinking about life and all the odd twists and turns that it takes. I'm so deep in thought that my eyes rest, unfocused, on a bag lying on the kitchen table. Slowly, the bag begins to come into focus and I find myself staring at a body bag. Not just any kind of bodies, but broken bodies. There are arms, legs, torsos and heads. These once perfect bodies were now broken into pieces.

I reached into the bag and pulled out one of the gingerbread legs and popped it into my mouth. I then reached for a head with the raisin eyes and mouth. Then I dug around for my favorite part, the "Red Hots" belly button.

These gingerbread men were lovingly made for me by my grandmother. She baked a few dozen cookies because she remembered they were my favorite. She sent a few gingerbread men home with us in a Ziploc bag. By the time the airline was through with them, they were only a pile of parts—broken, twisted and crumbled.

As I sat there staring at the body bag, I began to think about what this world does to us. How many of us find ourselves like my bag of gingerbread men? We are broken, twisted and crumbling.

I am not even 30 yet, and I have a laundry list of issues in my life. My knees hurt so badly that I can no longer run long distances. My neck needs constant work. My appendix gave out on me. My hair is leaving me for greener pastures. Right now I am waiting for a new pair of glasses because my eyes are struggling to see as they once did. And these are only a

few of the physical issues I complain about.

Some of you are thinking, *Boy, you are in tough shape.*

Others are thinking, *Son, you ain't seen nothin' yet.*

I have good news. The Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52 that "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

We have hope.

I could do nothing for the gingerbread men under my care. They were broken, and I had no other choice but to eat them. God, on the other hand, promises He will make us new. He will heal us. He will change us. If you are broken, run to Jesus. He is our hope.

Adam Case is pastor of the Wisconsin Academy Church.

Reprinted from *The Pastor's Post* (January 25, 2011) with permission.

# Jesus Found Me

*Jesus knows us individually, and is touched with the feelings of our infirmities. He knows us all by name. He knows the very house in which we live, the name of each occupant. He has at times given directions to His servants to go to a certain street in a certain city, to such a house, to find one of His sheep.*—Ellen White

It was the summer of 2009 when these inspired words became a reality in my life. I was in complete ignorance of the will of God for my life. I was helpless and had no understanding of God's plan for my future. I studied the Bible by myself for hours at night, listened to sermons online and watched YouTube videos about the anti-Christ. Though this was six months before a knock came to my door, I was already watching an Adventist preacher online speaking about end-times! God was preparing the path, unbeknown to me.

I remember on one occasion watching a YouTube video about two Bible characters. My heart was moved, and with tears I decided to follow Jesus wherever He led me. A week later a knock was heard at my door. At that time I did not know this was God's providence at work. I now realize this was not the first time God was "knocking" at my heart's door; He has been for the last 21 years of my life—I finally heard His call.

Soon, I started receiving Bible studies. Every time I received truth from the Word of God I shared what I learned with my family. The Spirit moved on our hearts.

During the months I learned these vital biblical truths, God opened the door for me to attend different C.A.M.P.U.S. (Center for Adventist Ministry to Public University Students) retreats. Interestingly, the most personally touching experiences were actually the rides to the retreats. It seemed as if God Himself was in the very vehicle with us, as His children sang hymns.

At the retreats, I loved hearing the testimonies of other ordinary young people who gave their lives to the Lord. I felt like I was right at home, for God found me and pointed me to His fold. Six months after that first knock on my door, I decided to give my heart entirely to the Lord through

baptism. Four months after that, my mother was baptized as well.

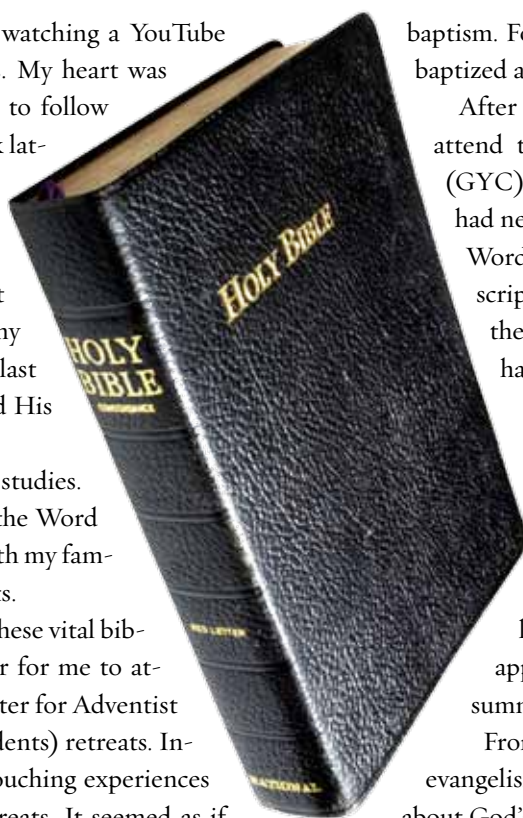
After being baptized, I felt impressed to attend the Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC) meetings in Louisville, Kentucky. I had never seen so many youth on fire for the Word of God. Months earlier, I studied the scriptures by myself at night thinking I was the only one; but God showed me He still had 7,000 youth on fire for His Word!

After GYC the Lord called me into literature evangelism for the summer. My life was changed from door to door. My walk with Jesus grew more in that summer than ever before. God had special plans. Months earlier He directed one of His disciples to approach my door, so that the following summer I would do the same for others.

From the ups and downs of literature evangelism, I learned a lot about myself and about God's unfailing love. God directed my path to the yearlong C.A.M.P.U.S. missionary training program in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It has been a wonderful journey God has taken me on thus far. I give thanks to the Lord and praise Him because He faithfully lays clear paths before my feet.

---

Christian Bull is a member of the East Lansing (Michigan) Church.





Lisa Parro

Kay Nietzel (left), NICU clinical coordinator, and Anthony Bell, neonatologist, hold Chelsey Harris-Hansbrough in Adventist Hinsdale Hospital's neonatal intensive care unit.

## 'Miracle' baby released from Adventist Hinsdale Hospital

The earliest surviving premature baby ever delivered at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital was discharged Jan. 22 from Adventist Hinsdale Hospital's neonatal intensive care unit and is growing stronger every day. Chelsey Harris-Hansbrough, delivered at 23 weeks and three days gestation, weighed less than a pound when she was born Oct. 9, 2010.

Babies born at 23 weeks gestation have a 18 percent chance of survival, according to the National Institutes of Health Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Her original due date was Feb. 2. Chelsey weighed just 440 grams (15.5 ounces) when she was born, making her one of the tiniest surviving babies ever delivered at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. After more than three months in the hospital, Chelsey was discharged at 38 weeks old, weighing 5 pounds, 4 ounces. Chelsey's twin sister, Chazey, was delivered on Oct. 1, 2010, but died in utero. It is a bittersweet time for parents Charles Hansbrough and Tamika Harris, of Hammond, Ind.

"I was scared when I delivered

Chelsey, but I felt that God wouldn't take both of my babies," Harris said. "I knew Chelsey would make it."

Chelsey was delivered by C-section with Evangelia Zikos, a neonatologist, attending the resuscitation. Her multidisciplinary care team included obstetrician/gynecologist Steven Daube and neonatologists Anthony Bell, Stavros Ionides, Jennifer Hesser, Millen Peev, Zehra Rizvi and Vibha Thaker.

Born with an infection in the blood stemming from a resistant bacteria, most likely due to her mother being on a prolonged course of antibiotics when her membranes ruptured, Chelsey has otherwise had a relatively uneventful stay in the neonatal intensive care unit. She did overcome a few hurdles, including the infection at birth and prolonged intake both of oxygen and parenteral hyperalimentation, the administration of an intravenous solution designed to provide nutritional support. Chelsey also was examined for retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), a serious eye disorder that primarily affects premature infants.

"Chelsey's prognosis is excellent," Peev said. "None of her ultrasounds showed any intracranial bleeding, which is most reassuring. Also, she doesn't show any need for outpatient physical therapy."

Harris is grateful for the care she and Chelsey received at Adventist Hinsdale

Hospital. Both parents drove 45 minutes every day from her home in Indiana to the hospital to be with Chelsey in the neonatal intensive care unit. Adventist Hinsdale Hospital provides Level III neonatal care, recognized by the state as the highest level of care.

"The nurses who took care of Chelsey have been exceptional," Harris said. "They call all of the babies their babies. I told them they could claim her while she's in here because that means they'll take good care of her."

According to Chelsey's primary nurse, Gina Miller, RN, Chelsey is a tiny fighter who has overcome the odds not just to survive but to thrive in a short period of time.

"Miracles happen every day at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and Chelsey is one of them," Miller said. Along with Miller, Jill Prosek, RN, also was one of Chelsey's primary nurses.

"By the grace of God, Chelsey waited to be delivered eight days after her sister was delivered," Hansbrough said. "That's the miracle."

In the United States, about 12.8 percent of babies are born prematurely (before 37 weeks gestation), but just six percent are born at less than 28 weeks gestation, according to the March of Dimes. Adventist Hinsdale Hospital's Maternal-Fetal Medicine Center offers a comprehensive range of fetal diagnosis and treatment services and provides complete obstetrical care for pregnant women who are at risk for medically complicated pregnancies. There were 2,218 babies delivered at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital in 2010, including 66 sets of twins and five sets of triplets.

"Every day during our daily chapel service, we pray for our patients and their families," said Tricia Trefth, manager of pastoral care at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. "One of our chaplains who specializes in caring for families of patients in our nursery, NICU and pediatric units holds them up in prayer on a daily basis."

Lisa Parro, senior public relations specialist,  
Adventist Midwest Health



## Thorpe named dean of distance education

Alayne Thorpe has been appointed dean of distance education for Andrews University. Concurrently, she also serves as the interim president of Griggs University, whose ownership was transferred to Andrews University in November 2010. Upon the physical move of Griggs University to the Andrews campus, Thorpe's role will become solely focused on being the dean of distance education at Andrews.

For the past 30 years, Thorpe has served in a variety of capacities for Griggs, beginning as a course developer/editor, soon taking on a director-level role and spending much of her career with Griggs as senior vice president for education. Owned and operated by



Alayne Thorpe

the Seventh-day Adventist Church and headquartered in Silver Spring, Md., since 1909, Griggs provides values-based distance education to students around the world from preschool through college and graduate levels. Since 1988, Thorpe has also served as a part-time adjunct professor in English and education for both undergraduate and graduate levels at Washington Adventist University, University of Maryland and University of Maryland University College.

Thorpe is a triple alum of the University of Maryland. She holds bachelor (1977) and master (1980) degrees in English and a Ph.D. in Modern British Literature (1987).

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



## Students produce Envision magazine

After a semester of writing, photographing, editing and designing, *Envision* magazine's winter/spring 2011 issue is finished and available.

The magazine, created and designed exclusively by Andrews University students, features inspiring stories as well as various articles, poetry, photography and artwork. This is the second issue of the magazine.

"This magazine is a showcase of Christian collegiate youth," says Debbie Michel, associate professor at the Department of Communication and *Envision* editor-in-chief. "There's so much talent in the community that needs to be seen. But on a spiritual level, the talent that the stories are encased in serves as an attractive vessel for the testimonies and the gospel."

Sponsored by the Department of Communication, the Christian collegiate lifestyle magazine was officially released on Thursday, Feb. 3. Ideas for this issue of *Envision* began to take shape at the beginning of the school year. It involved an interdisciplinary group of students from Beginning Media Writing, Advanced Studio Photography, Educational Psychology and InDesign courses.

The current issue includes topics like paying for graduate school, decorating dorm rooms, surviving the winter blues and even recipes for preparing vegan meals.

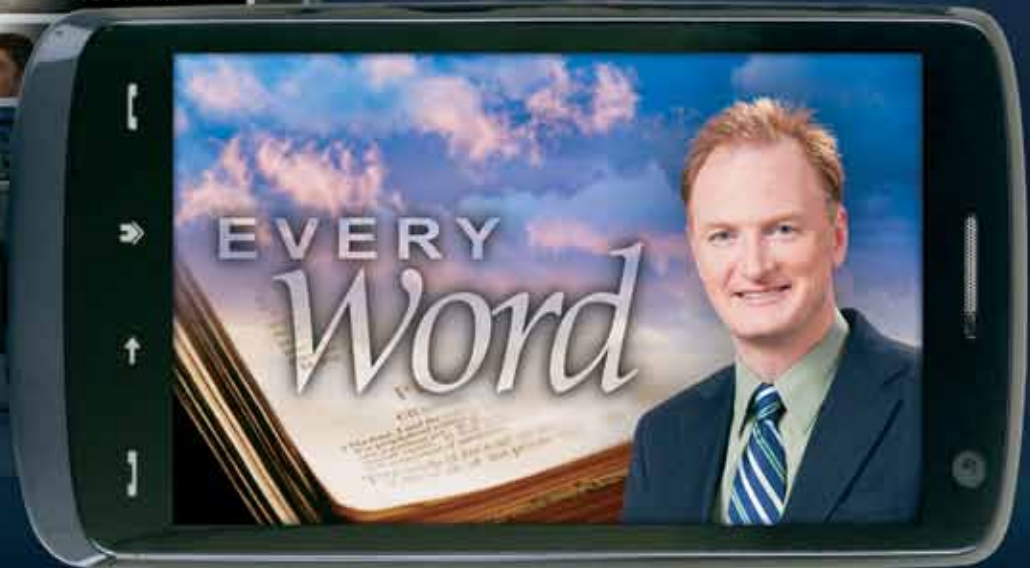
The magazine gives practical experience to a host of communication, photography and journalism majors looking for real-life opportunities in the field.

*Envision* is available for sale on campus at the Andrews Bookstore and Gazebo. In Berrien Springs, it's available at Apple Valley, Harding's Supermarket and the Adventist Book Center. The third issue is in the early stages of production and scheduled for release in the fall. To become involved and/or to learn more about *Envision*, visit [www.envisionmagazine.com](http://www.envisionmagazine.com).

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



*It is written,  
“Man shall not live by  
bread alone, but by  
**every word**  
that proceeds from  
the mouth of God.”*



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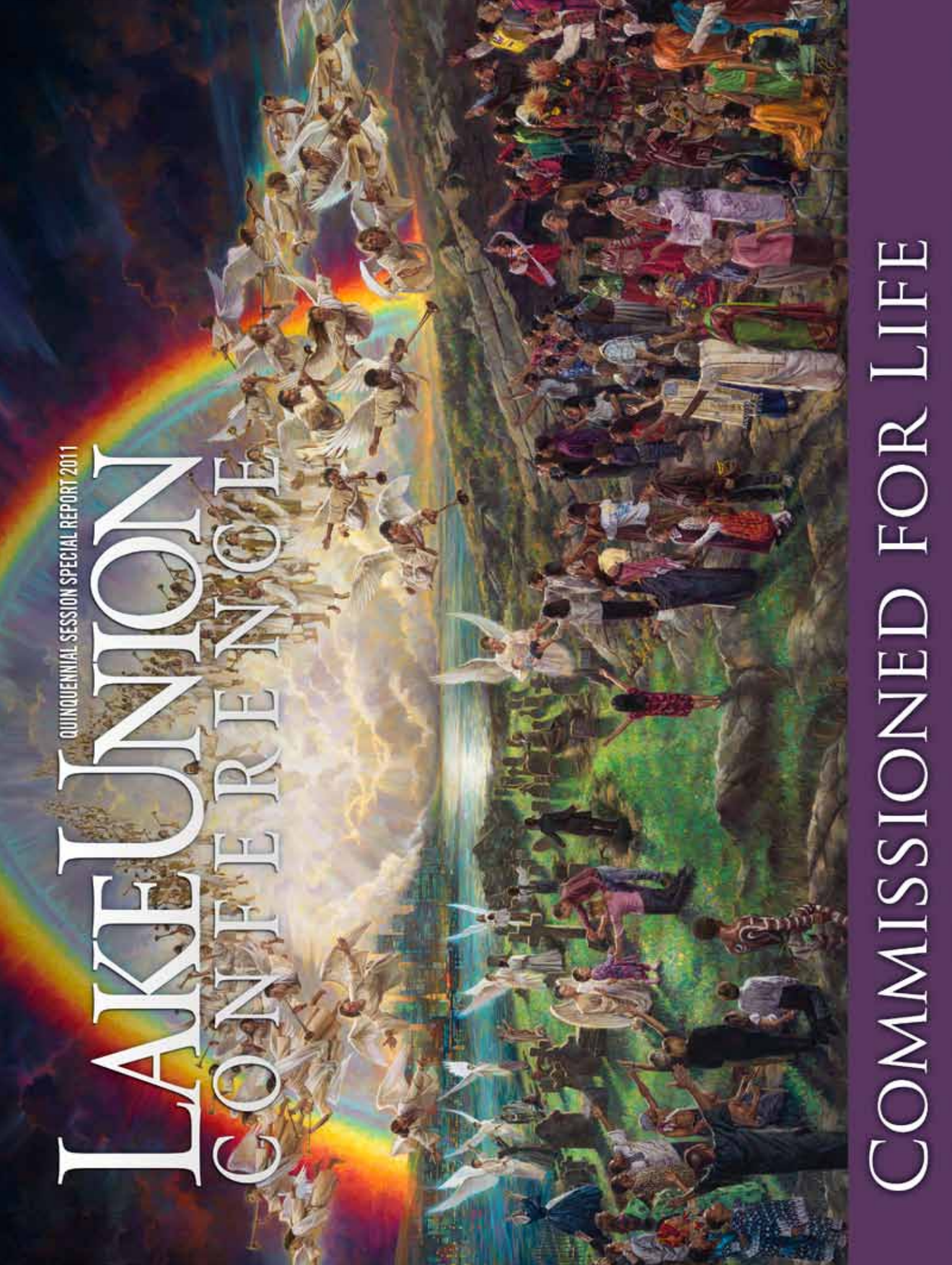
*It Is Written has just launched two new ways for you to  
plug into the Word of God—no matter where you are!*

- 1 EVERY WORD:** Join Pastor John Bradshaw for a one-minute daily devotional designed for busy people. Watch from your computer, phone or iPad via [www.itiswritten.com](http://www.itiswritten.com), iTunes or YouTube.
- 2 NEW MOBILE-FRIENDLY WEBSITE:** This mobile-optimized website provides free instant access to a complete media library, including *Every Word*, the weekly *It Is Written* telecast, *A Better Way to Live*, *A New Day With Jesus*, and more! Just point your cell phone's browser to [www.itiswritten.com](http://www.itiswritten.com)



QUINQUENNIAL SESSION SPECIAL REPORT 2011

# LAKE UNION CONFERENCE



COMMISSIONED FOR LIFE



# A Commission Culture

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Lake Union Conference—a union of the Illinois, Indiana, Lake Region, Michigan and Wisconsin conferences—provides this special report on the support ministries of the various departments in the union office. The real stories of our mission come from the local churches where front-line ministry takes place.

As this quinquennium comes to a close, it is important that we evaluate our responses and consider new, effective and efficient ways to implement our resolve to be partners with God, and embrace His vision for our immediate future.

## Our Co-Mission

To follow Christ is to live His plan. As His disciples strained to see the last glimpse of their beloved Savior and dearest Friend, His final words, “In a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. . . you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth,” made a deep impression on their minds (see Acts 1). They were reminded of what He said just a few days prior, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:18–20). As they left that scene on the mount, the realization of what we refer to as “The Great Commission” began to sink in.

## Redeeming, Retaining, Reclaiming

Telling the good news of salvation through our Lord, Jesus Christ, became their passion and the driving focus of their lives. It created a whole new culture—a mission culture. People and

churches who live this culture exhibit three impassioned actions:

1. They relentlessly engage in sharing Christ to everyone. Motivated by the heart of Christ that burns within them to love all people everywhere, they are engaged in *redeeming* the lost for Christ.

2. They invest themselves in discipling those who have come to know Jesus—new believers, and those who have been “in the way” for some time. Discipling is the honorable and ethical way of *retaining* members in the Church.

3. They care deeply for those who have become discouraged, been hurt or have been drawn away from Christ and His church. Sanctified love makes them willing to sacrifice themselves to *reclaim* those who have fallen away.

Paul reminds us that all the dimensions of the church—no matter how varied, diverse or seemingly important—come down to one simple basic: love. Love redeems, love retains and love reclaims. That is why your officers at the Lake Union are prayerfully considering how we can be more effective in our Great Commission to love.

Love leads us to:

- Be more about people and our mission than about sustaining our institutions.
- Facilitate mission and provide support to the local church—the primary and most important place mission takes place.



This month's cover, "The Blessed Hope," is a Nathan Greene painting. His artwork can be seen at [www.NathanGreene.com](http://www.NathanGreene.com). © Hart Catalysts, all rights reserved.

*All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. — Matthew 18:18–20 KJV*



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*We have the joy and privilege of lifting up Christ, the true and perfect representation of the Father. And as He promised, if we lift Him up, He will draw all to Himself.*



Don Livesay, president



Cynthia Baskin, administrative assistant

- Provide educational opportunities: to help our children to know and grow in Christ, to lead them to embrace Christ's Great Commission, to prepare them for a lifetime of service and mission, and to provide high quality education to every classroom.
- Seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit personally and corporately to bring revival and reformation.

#### **Our Role**

The Lake Union provides support for our mission through:

- Prayer
- Administrative oversight
- Representation, connection and governance through Andrews University, the North American Division and the General Conference
- Shared human resources
- Reduction of exposure to risk
- Curriculum development and education support
- Youth ministry coordination and facilitation
- Public Affairs and Religious Liberty
- The Revolving Fund distribution
- Communication resources and development
- Multicultural ministries coordination and facilitation

- The development of information systems technology
- Ministry support and coordination for women, pastors
- Assistance to the conferences in governance, financial revision and resources
- Faithful stewardship to provide the most financial resources as possible through the local conferences
- Maintaining our global connection in mission to prepare a world for Jesus' soon return

Our mission must be our focus and priority. We must create a culture that exemplifies the life of Jesus with a single purpose to live the Father's plan. Jesus said we are the light of the world and we are the salt of the Earth. That means we are the face of God to a world that does not know Him. A world that has been exposed to a misrepresentation of His character and, in many cases, has rejected the God they did not know.

We have the joy and privilege of lifting up Christ, the true and perfect representation of the Father. And as He promised, if we lift Him up He will draw all to Himself.

Don Livesay is the president of the Lake Union Conference.



# It's All About People

## SECRETARIAT

**I** saw the report about a week ago. In North America, Protestants and Catholics alike are still in decline. Membership continues to drop and even fewer attend. There are occasional bright spots in that report, however, and Seventh-day Adventists are one of them. According to Alex Bryant, executive secretary of the North American Division, we are growing at a rate of 4.3 percent. In the Lake Union, we are close to that average, which is remarkable considering there are still more individuals transferring out to healthier economic areas than transferring into our territory. We closed the quinquennium by surpassing the 83,000 membership mark.

It would be easy to put together a Secretariat report that is full of statistics. They are necessary and important as we look at progress and set direction. The Bible shares quite a lot of statistical information—how many men in the tribes, the number of soldiers who went to battle and how many didn't return, baptismal figures and how the church grew.

As a church, it seems we gather reports for everything. One could easily become frustrated with the number of departments that require information. But when every statistic is seen as a person, they take on a whole different importance. Every baptism is a new child of the Father. Every service record is a person God has placed in a specific ministry, whether it be teaching or grounds-keeping. Every ethnic or gender report is about someone who brings a special flavor to our congregations. Truly, statistics are people and people are the church.

Churches need structure or chaos reigns. Structure brings meetings, and it is the responsibility of Secre-

tariat to both prepare for and keep official records of the meetings. In addition, the executive secretary serves as the chair of all committees in the case of illness or absence of the president as happened during the first half of this quinquennium. In those instances, the challenges of both offices rest upon the executive secretary.

Because the administrative team of the Lake Union believes that as many resources of the organization as possible should be left at or returned to the local conferences, Secretariat also gives loose oversight to the various departments serving ministries in our conferences and churches. This would include areas such as evangelism, ministerial, church ministries, Sabbath school, etc. While this does not provide a complete or thorough resource as in past decades, it does free up personnel and dollars for local use.

We are also using technology to free up resources. All of our conferences are now on eAdventist for membership tracking. This has brought more accuracy, made

transfers quicker, and saved postage, paper and time. Employee service records and the retirement process are computerized, and more efficiency is being developed. In addition, we have begun the process of making our committee process greener by using e-mail for transmitting information. As we move into the future, we are studying ways to make our Executive Committee almost paper-free.

Another area in which we have begun moving toward computerization is the labor intensive and time-consuming process of background checks and volunteer screening. This will not only save time and personnel, it will make the process more efficient for less dollars. Our institutions and events will be safer places to worship, learn and socialize. It will also provide online training in child abuse and harassment prevention as well as professional training for our workers.

While freeing up resources for local use is important, our emphasis is on inviting others to meet Jesus in the

# As a “chosen generation and royal priesthood,” we have the privilege of creating a culture where Jesus can be found.

safe, caring, vitalized churches and schools throughout our territory. We fostered multi-ethnic collaboration that spawned outreaches in Gary, Indiana; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Chicago, Illinois. DVD evangelistic series were provided for all pastors and office personnel for the Year of Evangelism effort. Other outreach DVDs and materials were made available to those holding lay seminars. And as we move forward, we are anxious to find more effective ways of reaching our large cities.

As the history of this world comes ever closer to an end, it would be easy for us to lose our focus. But we have a special opportunity. As a “chosen generation and royal priesthood,” we have the privilege of creating a culture where Jesus can be found; and where Jesus is found, peace and comfort encompass us.

Rodney Grove is the executive secretary and ministerial director of the Lake Union Conference.



Rodney Grove, executive secretary,  
ministerial director



Cynthia Baskin, administrative  
assistant





# Faithful Stewardship

## TREASURY, ASSOCIATION / REVOLVING FUND, STEWARDSHIP

Since the local church is the primary place where mission is accomplished, the Lake Union Conference (LUC) officers, conference presidents and executive committee adopted a reversion methodology to appropriate as many resources as prudently possible to the local conferences for distribution. This support is exercised by creating an annual budget based on 95 percent of the prior year's income. In addition, each department seeks to minimize expenses and improve efficiency to provide additional surplus funds to the local conferences.

### TREASURY

To provide financial strength and effective operations for the work within the LUC, the Executive Committee voted to maintain a working capital reserve not to fall below 130 percent (approximately \$4.8 million) (Graph G). All reserves in excess of 130 percent are appropriated back to the local conferences to accomplish our primary mission. During this quinquennium, we returned more than \$3.3 million in addition to the regular reversion dollars prescribed by North American Division (NAD) policy. Additional financial reversions back, or expenses paid, in support of the local conferences, include: \$295,309 for North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI) field school, \$62,938 for youth ministries, \$305,500 for church buildings, \$1.6 million for regional conference capital/equalization and \$1.3 million in auditing cost.

### Financial Highlights

A total of nine percent of gross tithe received by the five local conferences comes under the responsibility of the LUC (Graph A). The ministries supported this quinquennium from the LUC office include the following: \$73 million for church programs; \$14.3 million for education programs, including K-12 operations, Andrews University operations, early childhood education, and education general; \$4 million for special programs, including communications, software support and development, religious liberty, trust services and women's ministries; \$9.2 million for other programs, including regional capital reversion, defined benefit retirement plan and miscellaneous appropriations (tithe/non-tithe); \$10.5 million for support programs, including auditing services, meetings/conventions, *Lake Union Herald* and general administration (Graph B).

Total income and expenses include appropriations

from the NAD for programs that directly or indirectly support our five local conferences (Graphs C & D). Fluctuations in total income are directly attributable to tithe income, auditing cost subsidy from the NAD, investment earnings, *Lake Union Herald* advertising and LUCIS accounting software sales.

Our secondary source of income of \$2.5 million, on average, comes from NAD appropriations for evangelism and education. These appropriations are distributed to the local conferences on a pro rata basis.

Our highest expense year was 2008, due primarily to unrealized market decline of \$415,000. In each of the next two highest expense years (2006 and 2009), the LUC made additional special appropriations to the five local conferences that totaled \$914,000 and \$987,000 respectively.

By controlling costs and operating under a conservative budgeting process, we increased our net worth and

*The Lord truly  
blessed His work  
in the Lake Union  
during the past  
quinquennium.*



Glynn Scott, treasurer



Doug Gregg, associate treasurer



J. Richard Terrell, associate treasurer, stewardship director

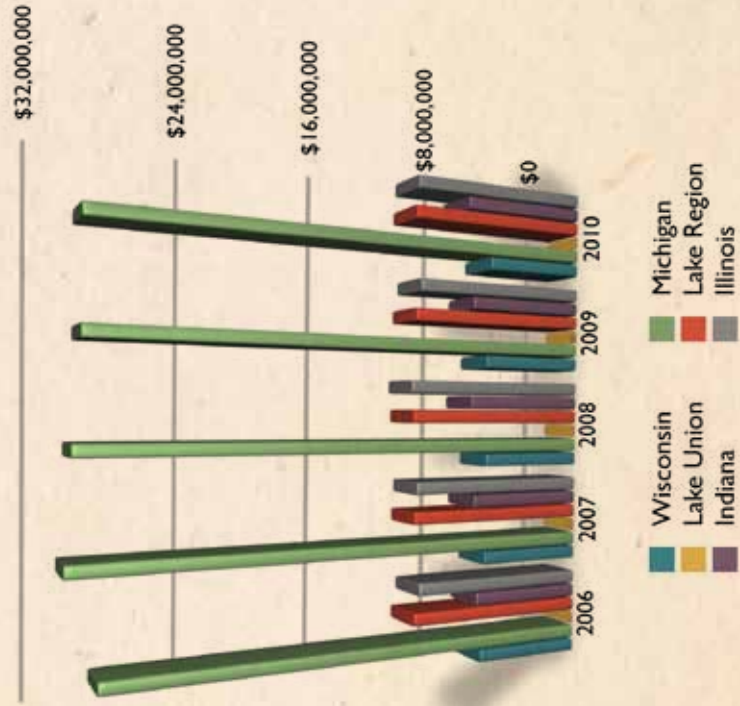


Barbara Livesay, associate director human resources

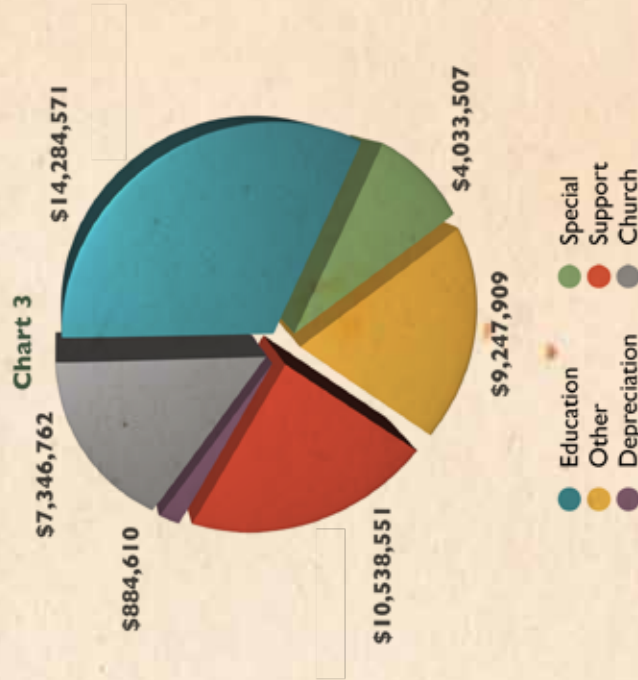


Elisa Flores, administrative assistant

Total Tithe Received [Graph A]



Tithe Usage 2006-2010 [Graph B]





realized operating gains (Graphs E & F). The Lord truly blessed His work in the Lake Union during the past quinquennium. We can take encouragement from God's Word as we remain faithful in service until the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: "Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: 'For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith...'" (Hebrews 10:35-38 NKJV).

"Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen" (Revelation 22:20, 21 NKJV).

**Total Income [Graph C]**



**Total Expenses [Graph D]**



**Net Worth [Graph E]**



**Gain or Loss [Graph F]**



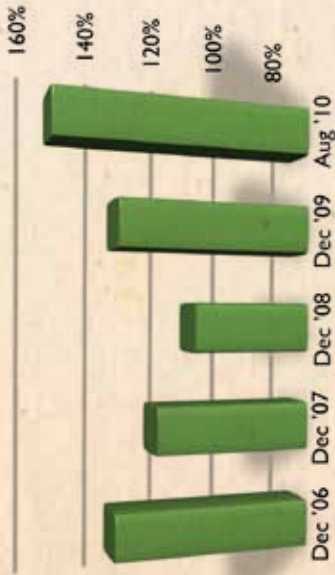
**ASSOCIATION/REVOLVING FUND**

The Lake Union Revolving Fund provided more than \$24 million to 156 church entities for various building projects during the past quinquennium. These funds were realized through the investments made by Lake Union Conference members and church organizations.

These investments resulted in an increase of total assets by 20.2 percent to \$27,797,771 (Graph H). Liabilities increased by 0.054 percent to \$19,942,042 (Graph I) with a resulting total net asset increase of 87 percent to \$7,855,729 (Graph J).

As a result of investing and lending activities from 2006-2010, the Revolving Fund Trust had an overall operating gain of \$3,651,998 (Graphs K and L).

**Percent of Working Capital [Graph G]**



**Total Assets [Graph H]**



**Net Assets [Graph J]**



**STEWARDSHIP**

As a resource center for the conferences in the Lake Union, the Stewardship Department acts as a liaison between the North American Division (NAD) and the General Conference Stewardship Departments to provide training and materials as requested.

During the past quinquennium, a weekend Biblical Stewardship Conference was held in the youth chapel at the Pioneer Memorial Church with approximately

300 people in attendance, including conference administrators, pastors and church stewardship leaders from all five conferences of our Lake Union territory as well as visitors from New York and Ohio. The NAD stewardship director, G. Edward Reid, led out with General Conference stewardship director, Erika Puni, and associate director, Maria Ovando-Gibson, with Kathy Reid assisting. DVDs of the conference are available through the LUC Stewardship Department.

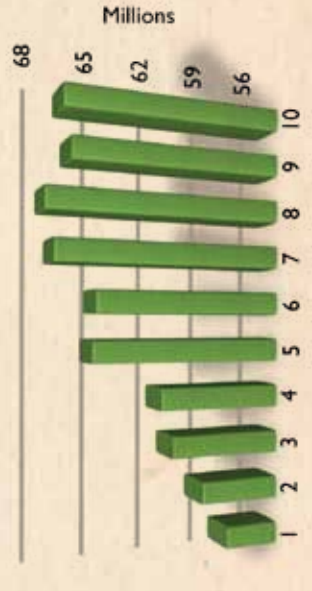
It is our goal to fully equip each conference director with support and resources to inspire and educate each local member with the blessings of being a faithful steward.

Glynn Scott is the treasurer and J. Richard Terrell is an associate

**Total Liabilities [Graph I]**



**Tithe 10-Year Comparison [Graph K]**



**Conference and Church Funds 10-Year Comparative Report [Graph L]**





# A Co-mission of Co-operation

## HISPANIC MINISTRIES AND ASI

Lake Union Hispanics and Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI) members are committed to fulfilling the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As a result, they were very active in this past quinquennium sharing the good news in our union and overseas.

### HISPANIC MINISTRIES

"Far beyond the sun, far beyond the sun, I have a home, a beautiful home, far beyond the sun."<sup>1</sup> These words are the English translation from the chorus of one of the most beloved hymns of the Spanish hymnal. There are more than three million Hispanics who live within the territory of the Lake Union Conference, most of whom moved from their native countries with a hope to live better and have more prosperous lives for their families. Our 9,000 Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist members in our union understand and have a similar desire, but they also have a far more eternal hope,—which they long to share with others who don't have the "Blessed Hope"—to prepare for the heavenly home that is "far beyond the sun."

The Lord has certainly blessed the Hispanic work in the Lake Union Conference these past five years. Here we list a sample of the events held to support the fulfillment of The Great Commission.

### Evangelism

Undoubtedly, one of the most unprecedented His-





# Undoubtedly, one of the most unprecedented Hispanic events held in our union was the televised NET evangelistic series titled, “La Esperanza es Jesus” (“Hope Is in Jesus”).



Carmelo Mercado, vice president



Josefina Sanchez,  
administrative assistant

panic events held in our union was the televised NET evangelistic series titled, “La Esperanza es Jesus” (“Hope Is in Jesus”). The event was held in the Central Hispanic Church in Chicago, in August 2008, with key presenter a renowned evangelist, Alejandro Bullón. This event was indeed memorable not only because of the hundreds of people who were baptized and the thousands who attended the series, both on site and via satellite, but also it was memorable because of the united effort of churches and pastors from both the Illinois and Lake Region Conferences. The union encourages the united efforts of conferences in doing evangelism in our cities, and so we have seen other inter-conference bilingual evangelistic meetings take place such as in Gary, Indiana, preached by then union president Walter L. Wright, and in Racine, Wisconsin, preached by Eddie Allen, vice president for multilingual ministries, Lake Region Conference. We can also be thankful for the commitment to promoting soul-winning as a lifestyle that our Hispanic churches and pastors have, which has resulted in establishing more than 15 new churches and the baptisms of more than 3,000 people.

## Hispanic Youth Ministry

We are thankful for the Hispanic youth leadership in our churches and the youth federations. To support their efforts, the union sponsored several youth activities. In Spring 2007, a youth evangelism training event was held at Andrews University titled, “No Limit,” an event designed to teach young people how to hold an evangelistic series. Later in the summer of that year, a group of young people went on a mission trip to hold an evangelistic series in Lima, Peru, which for several of them was their very first series. The Lord blessed their efforts. As a result, many of these young people came back and held evangelistic series in their local churches.

The one event that stood out for the young people in this quinquennium was the Bilingual Youth Congress, known as “Conectate,” held last year at Andrews University. The event was designed to especially reach Hispanic youth of second and third generations, so all the plenary sessions and seminars were taught in both English and Spanish. More than 800 young people packed the Howard Performing Arts Center auditorium throughout the weekend, and more than 1,500 individuals from more than 30 countries watched via Web





cast. Our young people also went out in the community on Sabbath afternoon to do a variety of outreach projects. The weekend concluded on a high note as we saw 20 young people commit their lives to Jesus in baptism.

### Other Hispanic Events and Activities

Women's ministries has always been an important area of ministry in our Hispanic churches. We are thankful for the valuable leadership of the Hispanic women's ministries leaders in our conferences who have, besides holding their local conference women's ministries retreats, given support to a union-wide Hispanic women's ministries retreat at Andrews University. The retreats have consistently been seen as awe-inspiring events, which in the past have included guest speakers such as Sara Bullón from Brazil and Liz Enid Polanco from Puerto Rico, internationally renowned Hispanic women.

The Lake Union has supported the churches in their desire to upgrade and even purchase or build their own facilities, thanks to the assistance provided by the Hispanic Building Fund. To further assist the pastors in their fundraising efforts, two workshops on fundraising were held in Hinsdale, Illinois. Led by Lilya Wagner, president of PSI (Philanthropic Service for Institutions), a ministry dedicated to helping Adventist organizations reach their fundraising goals, Hispanic pastors from throughout the union came and received valuable and timely instruction.

We also support our Hispanic members who wish to further enhance their education. We regularly provide, from our Hispanic Scholarship fund, undergraduate

Hispanic students scholarships, and also support Hispanic pastors who are enrolled in the Masters of Pastoral Ministry program led by the Institute of Hispanic Ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

The Hispanic work has not been without its challenges, which at times seemed insurmountable; but we can thank God that He always fulfills His promise to "supply all your needs, according to His riches in glory" (see Philippians 4:19). We ask for your prayers that God will lead us to be faithful to Him so we can finish this work and hasten His soon return.

### ASI MINISTRIES

ASI is a membership-based organization of the Seventh-day Adventist laypeople, with members who are enthusiastic about actively participating in the church's worldwide mission. ASI members seek to experience God's love in their own lives and share that love with the people they encounter in their everyday work and activities—hence ASI's motto, "Sharing Christ in the Marketplace."

The Lake Union ASI Chapter is a dynamic chapter comprised of laypeople who are directors of self-supporting ministries, business owners, health professionals, etc. Our chapter is happy to report we have had a very busy and exciting five years of ministry. ASI members were personally involved in the construction and evangelistic outreaches in the Princeton (Illinois) and Wisconsin Rapids churches, which resulted in several baptisms. We also provided assistance in the Wisconsin Hallelujah Hustle fundraising project to help the com-

munity secure a lifesaving defibrillator for the Westfield Fire Department. In Detroit, we supported the funding of a soup kitchen. ASI has a strong interest in supporting our teenage youth, and so we established an academy scholarship fund for students involved in evangelism. Chapter members also provided training to laypeople in DVD evangelism using the ASI "New Beginnings" series.

Mission service overseas has been a strong integral part of the chapter's work. In Thailand, members sponsored radio broadcasts, and a pastor and Bible worker in the Lampong province. In 2009, the Lake Union Chapter helped the 2009 Wisconsin Academy graduating class join ASI members in San Clemente, Chile, to build a church, conduct health outreach, teach English to young people in a local school, and support an evangelistic series which resulted in the baptism of more than 20 people. So successful was the project that the Lake Union Chapter voted to assist follow-up evangelism by supporting a local Bible worker and also sent me to hold an evangelistic series. In addition, Reg Mattson, Lake Union Chapter president, taught English classes, and Manuel and Esther Alva shared health principles for several communities in Chile. Fred and Sandy Miller and Chuck and Barbara Randall, all members of the Lake Union Chapter, raised money and traveled the whole length of Cuba in January of this year, meeting with four different conferences. Their presence was a great source of support and encouragement to the pastors and conference leaders and the work they are doing.

The ASI Spring Fellowship retreats are held every year on the third weekend in April at different sites in



the Lake Union, with the purpose of coming together to listen to reports, attend seminars and get inspiration from invited guest speakers.

We invite all Lake Union members to personally discover what ASI is all about. The next ASI Spring Fellowship retreat will be held at the Downers Grove (Illinois) Church, April 15 and 16, with renowned speaker and author, George Knight. You can still register for this event by calling the Lake Union office at 269-473-8200. You can also discover more about ASI by visiting the Lake Union ASI Chapter Web site: [www.asi-lakeunion.org](http://www.asi-lakeunion.org).

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Carmelo Mercado is the general vice president, ASI coordinator and Hispanic ministries director of the Lake Union Conference.

1. Inter-American Division, "Aunque en esta vida," in *Himnario Adventista*, Pacific Press Publishing Association: Boise, Idaho, 1962.

## **LAKE UNION ASI OFFICERS**

Regil Mattson, president, Lake Union Chapter

Trudi Starlin, general vice president

Darry Campbell, vice president for evangelism

Thomas Morrissy, vice president for finance

Michelle Catarama, vice president for membership recruitment

Julia O'Carey, vice president for communication

Kevin Miller, vice president for projects/events

President (in transition), Illinois Chapter

Van G. Hurst, Indiana Chapter

Deborah Young, Lake Region Chapter

Jim Micheff, Michigan Chapter

Michael G. Edge, Wisconsin Chapter



## **ASI EVENTS**

### **April 15–16, 2011, Spring Fellowship**

*Downers Grove, Illinois*

For information: [www.asi-lakeunion.org](http://www.asi-lakeunion.org):

269-473-8200

### **August 3–6, 2011, ASI National Convention**

*Sacramento, California*

For information: [www.asiministries.org](http://www.asiministries.org)



# Salt and Light

## COMMUNICATION, PRAYER MINISTRIES, NATIVE MINISTRIES

**T**here is no greater privilege on Earth than the opportunity to share the good news of our hope in Jesus Christ with others. Working at the union office removes us from the front lines where the real work of ministry takes place; but we rejoice in our supporting role to provide encouragement and resources to assist those on the front lines. We are grateful for the privileges God gives us to continue in the personal work of evangelism to those God brings into our path.

### COMMUNICATION

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth. ... You are the light of the world” (see Matthew 5:13–16 NIV).

Salt and light are two metaphors for communication. Both have an irrepressible influence. If used appropriately, both can have a positive influence. They also have the potential to bring death. The same is true about what and how we communicate. Jesus says we are salt and light—not that we *should be* salt and light, we *are* salt and light. Each of us has the potential for positive or negative influence in our personal and church families, our place of work and in our communities.

The Department of Communication exists to help our members embrace the gospel commission and communicate the gospel more effectively. By “telling the stories of what God is doing in the lives of His people” (the *Lake Union Herald* mission statement), we seek to bring glory to the One to whom glory is due while bringing hope, inspiration and encouragement to our members. Producing the *Lake Union Herald* is a real team effort. In

addition to our staff, more than 80 online members of our team serve as writers, editors, correspondents, proofreaders, designers, photographers and communication directors. Many of our readers have also contributed stories and articles that have blessed and encouraged us all. Thank you.

Through the *Lake Union Herald* and our *Lake Union Herald* Special Report films we communicate with our members as well as the public. From time to time, people share experiences with us of how they have come in contact with the *Lake Union Herald* through a friend, office or place of business. Recognizing the reach of the *Herald*, it is our responsibility to present Jesus in His true light while promoting His kingdom and exalting His character. Our objective is to be an integral instrument in the work of evangelism and nurture.

In addition to the *Lake Union Herald*, we serve Lake Union members and institutions by providing communication resources, professional guidance and training. As a service, we provide photography, film production,

editing, DVD authoring, DVD duplication, equipment loans and Web hosting to conferences, churches and schools to help accomplish their communication initiatives.

Throughout our union territory, Adventist television and radio stations communicate our message in a number of communities; and in many cases, this is the result of the vision or dream of an active lay entrepreneur. More and more churches are streaming live video of their worship services and creating Podcasts, opening the virtual doors of the church to people in their own communities and around the world.

What an exciting time in which to live where every member can literally participate in sharing this gospel of the kingdom around the world! What opportunities to communicate the good news of a crucified, risen and soon-coming Savior is God opening up to you, and how can we support you as you follow His leading in your life?

# One of the richest communication resources available to each of us is the privilege of prayer.



Gary Burns, communication, native ministries director, prayer ministries coordinator



Diane Thurber, assistant director of communication



Judi Doty, secretary

## PRAYER MINISTRIES

One of the richest communication resources available to each of us is the privilege of prayer. Prayer is God's chosen method by which He accomplishes His purpose on Earth. "The natural cooperates with the supernatural. It is a part of God's plan to grant us, in answer to the prayer of faith, that which He would not bestow did we not thus ask" (*The Great Controversy*, p. 525).

It is evident that God is calling all His people to pray. We are responding to God's call by making prayer our first work. Prayer is taking a more prominent role in every aspect of church life.

Prayer ministries in the Lake Union Conference is engaged in weekend prayer retreats, conferences and teen prayer summits. We also visit a number of churches throughout the union by request and help supply the local church with practical prayer resources.

Coming into God's presence in prayer changes our perspectives on our world. We develop a heightened awareness of our own sin while experiencing a greater love and compassion for sinners. We are moved to spend ourselves on behalf of each and every one of God's children, not willing that any be overlooked. That is why we

are involved in the work of evangelism and encourage an emphasis on serving every kindred, tribe and people within our own communities.

## NATIVE MINISTRIES

There are approximately 300,000 American Indians representing approximately 800 different tribal groups within the Lake Union. We encourage members to seek opportunities to build cultural bridges and mend broken fences wherever possible. Our Native Ministry summits and American Indian Living camp meetings provide for shared experiences where greater appreciation and understanding is achieved and faith is encouraged and strengthened.

The Michigan and Wisconsin conferences have the highest representation of American Indian tribal lands in our territory and each have provided workshops and training opportunities for evangelism during this quincentennial. In addition, Chicago has become a gathering place for Native Americans from across America, and we are seeking ways to connect with young professionals who have come there.

Just recently, a special event was held at the Saginaw

Chippewa Tribal Center in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, with the support of the Saginaw Chippewa tribe. Fred Rogers, a pastor in the Carolina Conference, member of the Cherokee Nation and speaker for this evangelistic event, has done considerable research and compared some common beliefs held by American Indians prior to the European invasion having their roots in the biblical record.

Several local churches and schools also conducted mission initiatives on tribal lands. These events increased awareness and produced a greater appreciation for Native American life and culture. Many who participated in these opportunities were forever changed and made ongoing commitments to spend themselves on behalf of their Native American brothers and sisters.

Phyllis Washington, director of children's ministries for the North American Division, has developed materials that have been well received by the Native American communities where implemented in the Lake Union and provide an excellent opportunity to serve children and families.

Gary Burns is the director of communication and native ministries, and prayer ministries coordinator of the Lake Union Conference.



# God's Plan—Our Mission

## EDUCATION

While our Father has a general mission for all of His followers—to take the everlasting gospel to the entire world—He also has a specific role and purpose for each child. The work of Adventist schools is to integrate faith into the context of learning in such a way that we encourage each child to reach her/his God-given potential. The product of Adventist education is people, like Jesus, who are committed to a life of loving service. They see themselves as mission-driven kingdom builders.

Some have expressed the opinion that to focus so heavily on the spiritual would result in lowered academic standards. God's intended purpose for His chosen people in the Old Testament was that they be the "head and not the tail" of all nations. Not only do we have a biblical mandate for excellence, the promise is that fidelity to Christ and the principles of His kingdom will ensure excellence. Consider Daniel and his friends.

Today, the Seventh-day Adventist Church finds itself at the same crossroads as did the Jewish nation. God is calling His people to turn from a fallen system of self-serving independence to a victorious life of self-surrendered service. The focus of the Lake Union Office of Education is to know and embrace God's divine plan for educating His children. We are committed to building a community of:

- Mission-Driven teachers who understand the sacredness of their calling
- Mission-Driven students who see themselves as "champions for Christ"
- Mission-Driven pastors who value and partner with Adventist education in the work of redemption
- Mission-Driven creators and providers of resources where faith is integrated with learning

### Focus on Curriculum

The Lake Union understands the economic challenges facing our schools. As new curriculum is adopted or published, we make every effort to help provide a free, or at a reduced cost, teacher's edition to each of the schools. We just finished a several year roll-out of *Pathways: A Journey to Excellence through Literacy*, which is an integrated language arts program.

A new creation-based inquiry science program for grades one to eight is currently being developed entitled, "By Design: A Journey to Excellence Through Science." This curriculum is based on national science standards and will be presented in the context of the Seventh-day Adventist worldview. The curriculum includes a variety of inquiry-based science labs to engage students with hands-on experiences to enhance understanding and to develop an appreciation for God's mighty creation. When the grades one to eight program has been completed, the North American Division will give consideration to continued development for grades nine to 12.

### Focus on Academic Performance

With all this emphasis on mission, how are our students doing academically? Each year the Iowa Test of Basic Skills

is administered to our students to help teachers and curriculum planners determine strengths and weaknesses of our students. Because this is a nationally normed test given to both public and non-public school students across the country, this test also provides an unbiased measure of how our students perform as compared to other students and school systems. The results indicate our students receive a quality academic education. Students are, on average, more than one grade equivalency above the achievement level of their peers as measured by national norms.

Further good news came from the Cognitive Genesis four-year independent study of more than 30,000 North American Adventist school students in grades three to nine, and 11. Students were given the Cognitive Abilities Test to determine the predicted academic ability of each student. These students were then given the actual achievement test as referenced earlier. The results of the two tests were compared and the findings were remarkable. Students in Adventist schools in the Lake Union, on average, achieved well above their predicted ability level in all grades. This achievement level was evident regardless of school size. Results further showed that the longer a student remains in an Adventist school, the better they achieved.



We continue  
to strive to  
restore in our  
young people  
the image of  
their Maker.



Garry Sudds, education director



James Martz, associate education director



Barbara Livesay, associate director of early childhood education



Rose Anne Grove, certification registrar



Joanna Sudds, secretary

We continue to strive in our young people the image of their Maker, to promote the development of body, mind and soul, so that the greatest want of the world will be met—men and women who will not be bought or sold, who in their inmost souls are true and honest, who do not fear to call sin by its right name, whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, who will stand for the right though the heavens fall (see *Education*, p. 57).

#### Focus on Early Childhood Education and Care

In the last two years, the role of Adventist K–12 education in the Lake Union territory has expanded. The former K–12 program has been greatly enlarged with the addition of 27 early childhood education centers. Each of these centers represent another opportunity to effect our mission at the earliest age.

**Our mission:** To Provide young children with developmentally appropriate experiences in safe, nurturing environments that are Christ-centered and consistent with the principles of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Each Adventist school and pre-school is a center for evangelism. It has its foundation in the biblical imperative for purposeful training of the young child. We are admon-

ished to teach the words of Holy Script “diligently unto thy children,” and to “train up a child in the way he should go” (Deuteronomy 6:7 and Proverbs 22:6).

“Too much importance cannot be placed upon the early training of children. The lessons learned, the habits formed during the years of infancy and childhood, have more to do with the formation of the character and the direction of the life than have all the instruction and training of after years” (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 380).

Due to the changing demographics of families in North American culture and society, the need for birth through Pre-Kindergarten programs has increased. To meet this challenging demand for Christ-centered quality care, the North American Division established an Early Childhood Education and Care Advisory to provide resources and guidelines to assist unions and conferences in facilitating accountability, safety and education to offer the highest quality for all church/school operated early education programs. The Lake Union Office of Education is committed that our programs will focus on bringing these children and their families closer to our Savior and to an understanding of the mission and the message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

We are also committed to provide spiritual and educational resources to our early childhood teachers and center directors. We are inviting each of them to be a part of our mission-driven education, to be teachers who understand the sacredness of their calling and ministry.

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





# A Ministry of Accountability

## INFORMATION SYSTEMS

If you were to stop in and observe the staff at the Information Systems Department, you would find a variety of activities underway. You might find Lance Mack, our resident church treasurer expert, working on a design for a new feature in LUCIS Software. Or you might find Kong Yoong, who grew up in Malaysia and went to Southeast Asia Union College in Singapore, patiently explaining the nitty-gritty of bank reconciliation to a new academy treasurer. Harvey Kilsby, who has served the Lake Union for nearly 40 years and is an expert in church policy and accounting practices, recently retired. However, he might still be found grappling with a tax issue that was just foisted on employers by the federal government. And you might find me working on an improvement for the installation process of the software.

These short anecdotes into the Information Systems Department's operation provide a glimpse of the various ways the department serves the conferences, academies, churches and schools of the Lake Union territory. And though the Information Systems Department is still involved in a variety of technology needs after more than 35 years, it concentrates on designing, developing and supporting software for all levels of the Adventist Church. The current version of LUCIS Software handles the financial management and reporting requirements of the Church from the smallest congregation to the union office itself.

LUCIS Software passed a number of mile markers this past quinquennium. In 2005, we released the Windows version for churches and schools. The DOS Church and School Accountant served the churches and schools well for many years, and a system was created to migrate data to the new platform. Planning and supporting the conference-level church auditors as they

transitioned churches and schools within their territory to the new version was a significant part of the LUCIS team's effort during this past quinquennium. New enhancements were added to the software to improve efficiency and simplicity for the local organizations. A major change to improve the look and feel of the new Windows environment is nearing completion and should be released this year.

A number of added enhancements will benefit the field at large, including a much-improved budget entry process, adding extensive documentation, readily available helps in each screen, a simpler installation system, an invoicing feature, 1099-Misc reporting, tweaking of a number of entry screens to improve data entry efficiency and tutorial features for guiding novice users.

After more than 30 years of providing LUCIS Payroll we have reached the conclusion, after much deliberation; faithful stewardship dictated we discontinue our plans for redevelopment of the LUCIS Payroll in defer-

ence to the General Conference Adventist Payroll System (APS). Because the APS software was developed to interface with other software, it is compatible as a companion product to the LUCIS General Ledger. An interface is in place for immediate compatibility, and we encourage our current LUCIS Payroll customers to use the APS in conjunction with the LUCIS General Ledger.

As we move to the future, we reaffirm our commitment to provide the highest quality software and support to the field. While we continue to maintain and enhance our existing software systems, we have begun the process of developing the next generation of LUCIS Software for churches and schools. A Web-based product would enable users to operate on any platform while reducing support time, simplifying the upgrade process, and providing an opportunity to redesign the interface.

It is our mission to provide churches and schools

*It is our mission to provide churches and schools with the easiest to use accounting software.*



Sean Parker, information systems director



Kong Yoong, systems analyst/programmer



Lance Mack, systems analyst/programmer

with the easiest to use accounting software that follows Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) guidelines and is General Conference Auditing Service (GCAS) approved. The LUCIS team strives to make client needs our first priority by being available for problem solving and developing program enhancements in response to the field. Its a matter of accountability—to those we serve, to one another and before our God.

For more information about LUCIS Software, visit <http://elucis.org> or to learn more about how the Information Systems Department serves the church, visit <http://is.lakeunion.org>. Our goal is that the LUCIS Software will provide an accurate and reliable framework for treasurers so their accounting will be “like that of Daniel in the courts of Babylon. When all his business transactions were subjected to the closest scrutiny, not one faulty item could be found” (*Gospel Workers*, p. 424).

Sean Parker is the information systems director of the Lake Union Conference.



Accounting software for Seventh-day Adventist organizations



# Ministries of Support

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY, TRUST SERVICES

Our global social, political and economic climates are changing with unprecedented rapidity and unpredictability. While so many have placed their confidence in temporal systems filled with risk and uncertainty, we place our confidence in the One who knows the end from the beginning and has promised to never leave us nor forsake us.

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY (PARL)

During the past quinquennium, we have continued our defense of constitutional and statutory rights for the exercise of religious freedom. The major problematic issue continues to be the conflict between employers' schedules and employees' observance of God's Sabbath.

During the 111th Congress (ended December 31, 2010), there was no legislation introduced to provide religious freedom in the workplace. The last time there was an absence of legislation pending in Congress to protect employees' religious exercises was in the 102nd Congress (1991-1992). While the Equal Employment Opportunity Act provides that an employer must make "reasonable accommodation" of an employee's religious exercises, it is not required to do so if the employer would suffer "undue hardship." The courts have ruled that almost any accommodation, including requiring another employee to work when not already scheduled, is considered "undue hardship." The only effective remedies are swapping shifts with other employees, which is not often easily accomplished, and secondly, being such a good employee as to be in-

dispensable to the employer, but legislation is definitely needed!

Other workplace/religion issues have been more favorably resolved. Objection to labor union membership or conscientious objection to financial support of a labor union is protected by statute and by court decisions. Although occasionally an employee might be challenged by the employer or the union, employees in such situations are ultimately being accommodated.

Even though a person's employment may be terminated for not working on Sabbath with no remedy for wrongful termination, such employee is still entitled to unemployment compensation. This principle has been established by four U.S. Supreme Court cases, two of them involving Seventh-day Adventists. There have also been consistently successful results in appellate decisions relating to unemployment compensation availability to employees whose employment is terminated due to religious conflict. During the past quinquennium, PARL Department personnel have successfully represented church members before administrative law judges on this issue when employers have objected to the terminated employees receiv-

ing unemployment compensation. In contrast to previous quinquenniums, we have not had to go to courts of appeal to ward off challenges by either the employer or the state to protect terminated employees' rights to receive unemployment compensation in these situations.

Protecting door-to-door solicitation of funds and the distribution of literature is an ongoing issue. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that distributing literature from door to door is a constitutionally-protected activity. However, a 2002 decision by the Court, in ruling that such activity was protected, said, "Had this provision been construed to apply only to commercial activities and the solicitation of funds, arguably the ordinance would have been tailored to the Village's interest in protecting the privacy of its residents and preventing fraud." Many cities, in attempting to preserve privacy, have outlawed the sale of literature and the solicitation of funds for religious and other purposes. We have a continuing issue with the protection of the church's activities performed by literature evangelists, students and churches engaged in ingathering-type activities. Sometimes communication with the city attorney resolves the problem,

# We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience. —Ellen White



Vernon L. Alger, public affairs and religious liberty, trust services director



Patricia Young, secretary

but too often the only remedy is to go to another city. With the recent changes in the U.S. Congress, particularly the House of Representatives, there are new members and many new staff in important positions related to the protection of religious freedom. The PARL Department will become acquainted with them. Also, the four state legislatures have new members and committee staff to contact.

The PARL Department is watching with interest a recent report from a congressional committee recommending that legal restrictions against churches engaging in and financially supporting campaign activities be reduced or removed. Such a change would substantially increase religious involvement in the political arena with money being the controlling factor. This action and other pending issues require constant monitoring.

Ellen White said in *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 5, page 713, “We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience.” The PARL Department is active in the support of legislation and litigation when appropriate to preserve religious

freedom, and also opposes such activities when the result would be to diminish religious freedom.

## TRUST SERVICES

The General Conference Planned Giving and Trust Services Department operates a denomination-wide program involving certification of trust officers; accreditation of conference and institutional programs; a system of continuing education; an audit program with the results evaluated by the Certification and Accreditation Committee at the General Conference; and estate planning assistance benefiting church members and the church. The trust program of the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been observed by other entities—some of which have requested permission to model their programs after the church’s.

An estate plan can provide for surviving dependents, arrange for the necessary care and support of minor children, and provide opportunities to make gifts to individuals, the church and other beneficiaries during life or after death. The Lake Union Trust Department serves the five local conferences in an advisory capacity as each confer-

ence trust department informs its members regarding options available to meet their estate-planning goals and to reflect charitable intent in a manner consistent with the members’ desires and with the principles of the church. We daily monitor the tax law changes as they relate to estate planning, and provide this information and other resources to the local conference trust officers for use as they confer with members. We are also responsible for presenting or providing access to annual continuing education meetings where certified trust officers can obtain the 20 hours per year of mandatory continuing education. We are grateful for God’s blessing in providing dedicated individuals at our conference trust departments who are willing to take the specialized training and continuing education to become and to continue as certified trust officers. During the five-year period ending December 31, 2009, Seventh-day Adventist organizations received proceeds in excess of \$12.6 million from the trust department programs operated in the Lake Union.

Vernon L. Alger is the director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty and Trust Services Departments of the Lake Union Conference.



# Rocking the Church

## W O M E N ' S M I N I S T R I E S

**L**ake Union women have committed themselves to sharing God's love hand in hand in their local conferences and around the world.

As mothers and sisters, women are often seen in their natural roles as nurturers. In fact, there is an old poem, "What Rules the World," by William Ross Wallace, which talks about women shaping the world. A popular phrase out of the poem says, "The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world."

Women make up about 56 percent of our church's demographics. We want to nurture (or rock) our churches with our God-given gifts.

Let's begin with the home. Our family units can be strengthened by mentoring and training women as homemakers, spiritual guardians and parents. Visitors can be welcomed to church, and integrated into small groups, Bible studies and community projects. Women can plan and implement evangelism locally and abroad with tools like *Share-It™*, Heart Call or Project Engage to reclaim members.

Here is an example of one woman's vision. Paulette Taylor, a busy professional, has a passion for women. While living in Germany, she began a women's group. Upon returning to the United States, she wondered how she could enhance her local church. The Glendale (Indiana) Church, a multicultural church, asked her to be part of their committee of 12. Her role was to empower women. The number and types of activities have grown during the years. A few of the ministries are: The Julian Center—a women's and children's abuse shelter; a mentoring program for girls called "You Make a Difference in My Life"; Socks for Seniors; Operation Thank-You, a special Sabbath program to recog-

nize soldiers; International Day; New Mommy; As You Are Baptized gives a welcome packet to each female baptized; baptism follow-up program; women's events twice a year, and training for other new leaders. Thank you, Paulette. You exemplify what many women are doing in their home churches and inspire many to begin.

In 2010, Camp Au Sable hosted Michigan's women's ministries retreats. It takes three consecutive weekends to accommodate all the ladies. Ruth-Ann Thompson focused on accepting and recognizing our differences, healing and forgiveness, and praising God for restoration. The Lake Region Conference women's ministries had a training seminar in South Bend during the Leadership Convention. Indiana's women met at a state park for fellowship and training. And every summer they invite single mothers and their children to a week at Timber Ridge Camp. In Illinois, as part of their women's retreat in Chicago, teenage girls were invited to attend a new track on self-esteem. The colorful trees were an added bonus at the retreat in Wisconsin where Jo Ann Davidson enthralled the ladies with her biblical knowledge and stories. There was also a union-wide Spanish retreat held in Berrien Springs, Michigan, sponsored by the LUC Mul-





*Before we can do ministry and evangelism, we must first fill our lives by spending time with God. Women encourage women to seek God.*



Janell Hurst, women's ministries coordinator

cultural Ministries Department and women's ministries. Then the conference women's ministries coordinators, Hispanic coordinators and Seminary wives were invited for a weekend seminar dealing with new ministries where Susie Hill provided spiritual leadership. These retreats serve as a nurturing educational launching pad. The women are armed with new leadership skills and passion as they go back to their churches and minister.

As God's joy fills our hearts, it spills over as a blessing to those around us. In this role, the Lake Union Conference becomes a resource and mentor to women at all stages of their lives. A couple of new resources are Enditnow and Journey to Joy.

Enditnow (Adventists Say No to Violence Against Women) has raised local and global awareness of repression against women. God never intended for women to be trodden and thrown out. One in every three women faces domestic abuse, sex trafficking, sexual assault, female genital mutilation, child marriage, emotional and verbal abuse, or honor killings. The initial phase is to raise awareness. Next, we hope each community will utilize local resources to educate and stop abuse. Wisconsin women's ministries has a special empowerment weekend coming April 8-10

which will focus on forgiveness.

*Journey to Joy* is a wonderful new Bible study for small groups. It is written by Carla Gober to deal with the issues and emotions women deal with as seen through Scripture. A topic is personally studied during the week along with suggested thought-provoking activities. Once a week, as a culmination to the topic, the ladies who meet listen to a presentation by Carla and participate in discussion. There is a leader's guide and DVD, and individual workbooks. This resource is available at [AdventSource.org](http://AdventSource.org) and [AdventistBookCenter.com](http://AdventistBookCenter.com).

Before we can do ministry and evangelism, we must first fill our lives by spending time with God. Women encourage women to seek God. Next, we see many churches have women involved in church ministries, community needs and evangelism. The North American Division would like to have a clearer picture of how women are impacting each church and conference. Forms can be obtained at [www.nadwm.org](http://www.nadwm.org). Upon completing your church's women's ministry report, send it forward to your conference women's ministry director.

Janell Hurst is the women's ministries coordinator of the Lake Union





# A Chosen Generation

## YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

There are eight youth ministry professionals working with local churches for the salvation of youth and young adults within the Lake Union conferences. They all believe that family and the local church have the most spiritual influence over youth and young adults today. They are always looking and praying for new ways to strengthen the Christian home and local church. They believe that we are living in the “last days,” and the “adversary” (Satan) has pulled out all the stops to seek ways to compromise and destroy today’s youth.

Who are the Lake Union Conference youth professionals? They are a creative and passionate group of servant leaders who want to see Jesus return as soon as possible.

Youth evangelism in the Lake Union can be experienced by the following ministries:

**Summer Camp Ministry:** Hundreds of young adults are employed every summer to play and pray with thousands of young people in six beautiful Lake Union camp/retreat centers. Each summer, hundreds of young people accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and seek knowledge within Scripture for baptism. Summer camp ministry is not just fun and games, it is serious youth evangelism. Camp ministry is one of the most effective young adult leadership training and mentoring investments within our Union and the Adventist church.

**Short-Term Mission Trips:** The Lake Union Youth Ministry Department believes that there is no such thing as a bad mission trip. Every time one is organized for youth and young adults, we see tremendous spiritual

growth in the participants. Have you ever heard a young person return from a mission trip and say, “That was a waste of time and money.” No; they say, “When can I go again?” Once a young person experiences doing good for others, they see the presence of God in their own life much more clearly.

**Pathfinders and Adventurers:** The strongest youth ministry programs we have within the local Adventist church are the ministries to Adventurer and Pathfinder youth. Because of the dedicated, well-trained adult layperson involvement organized by conference leadership, thousands of youth have learned so much about the Creator and His creation—nature. The next Lake Union Camporee is set for September 15–17, in Berrien Springs, Michigan. The next union-wide training event is set for October 21–23 in Berrien Springs, Michigan. The next International Camporee is set for August 11–16, 2014, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

**Youth Evangelism:** Every youth/young adult program and activity offered within the Lake Union has





# Our union believes we should support our youth and young adults to better understand the Word of God and the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Ron Whitehead, youth and young adult ministries director

only one purpose: We want to make sure every youth and young adult knows Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and we want to equip and resource them to share Him with the world. Here are a few examples of how this is accomplished: Bible summits, Bible conferences, weeks of prayer, AY evangelism efforts, door-to-door ministry, campus ministry, and the list goes on and on. The Lake Union is the only union in the world that sets 15 percent of its annual evangelism budget aside to support youth and young adults in their evangelism plans.

**Young Adult Ministry:** This age group (18–35) includes some of the most talented, dedicated, creative people on the planet. The Lake Union values their participation in making sure the world knows about Jesus. The Lake Union celebrates and honors all ministries for this group such as, but not limited to, Public and Adventist Campus Ministry, Student missions, 180 Symposium—think tank focus groups, Cruise with a Mission, Youth Leadership Development training and Churches of Refuge.

Our union believes we should do whatever necessary to make sure our youth and young adults know Jesus

Christ as their personal Savior (see Acts 4:12 and *The Desire of Ages*, p. 390).

Our union believes we should support our youth and young adults to better understand the Word of God and the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (see Psalms 119:105 and *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 4, p. 441).

Our union believes we should support our youth and young adults to become more involved in sharing the gospel to our union and the world (see Matthew 28:19–20 and *Welfare Ministry*, p. 109).

This generation is so important because we are living so close to the end of time. We need this generation to be fully engaged in the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist church. They are so gifted in technology, creativity and communication, and they have a passion for service (see John 14:6). But “the adversary” (Satan) understands just how important this generation is for God’s last days message. He is doing his best to compromise and destroy this generation. We, as a “union of believers,” must step up to repel “the adversary” and seek ways to support our youth and young adults like



never before. Let us “press together” to do whatever is necessary to support this “chosen generation” (see Deuteronomy 6:4–9).

Ron Whitehead is youth director of the Lake Union Conference.



# Prayer Changes Everything

## ILLINOIS CONFERENCE

**G**od is present here in Illinois. This conference is full of praying members who have witnessed the difference the presence of God's Holy Spirit can make. The past quinquennium has been extraordinary. We have been through hard times and extreme joys together, and the result is a tight-knit community ready to go forward in strength to reach more and more of God's wonderful people and bring them home.

### **Touch Everyone for Jesus in Our Community**

Under the outstanding leadership of our immediate past president, Kenneth Denslow, we adopted this slogan as the conference theme for the five-year period. We have deliberately set about to reach everyone in our communities in a meaningful way, using postal zip codes to divide up the territory systematically. Members have been equipped in many different ways, including a conference-wide prayer initiative to teach members the importance of ongoing, prevailing prayer. They also had training on how to conduct evangelistic series like *ShareHim*, CHIP classes, depression recovery programs, Bible studies, cooking schools and health seminars, correspondence Bible Study schools from the local churches, and so on. Pathfinders continue to learn how to reach out door to door in their communities.

Not only did all this learning take place, but the prayers were spoken in unity across the state. Members in the thousands mobilized to reach out to their neighbors, including 12-year-old Hannah Crosby from the

Rushville congregation who had one decision for baptism after conducting an evangelistic series for children. Statistics will not do justice to the lives changed here in Illinois—not only of the folk reached out to, but of the members themselves who were transformed by His grace through the experience.

All this effort culminated in a huge campaign in Chicagoland in 2010. More than 30 churches in the greater Chicagoland region conducted their own evangelist series simultaneously with dynamic evangelists, including Mark Finley and Ron Clouzet, invited in to present the programs. The efforts were united with those of the Lake Region Conference, and it was thrilling to work side by side to reap souls in the harvest. The 2010 Chicagoland Convocation was a good time and place to celebrate the new members who joined us. Some were baptized by the pastors who worked with them and welcomed to this movement toward Jesus' Second Coming.

### **Touching Students through Education**

We praise God for the thousands of students who



*Kyoshin Ahn, executive secretary*

went through the doors of our almost 100-year-old Broadview Academy and learned principles they still carry with them today, and we are proud of them all. Although it became necessary to close Broadview Academy, in 2007, for financial reasons, Christian education remains important to the people of Illinois. We continue to provide an excellent education to many students through the eight elementary, two junior high and one high school in the conference. Children learn to know Jesus—like Kali, an eighth grade student at Cresthill Christian Junior Academy. She presented three worldviews on the Second Coming of Christ and the end of the world during her school's Christmas program. One of the worldviews Kali presented was the belief that her parents, who sat in the audience, followed. She ended her talk by saying she believed the view taught in the Bible, and very clearly outlined what that was. Her parents were very positive and appreciate the education Kali receives. She is a testimony of Christian education to her parents and to the community.



## Touching Youth for Jesus

The young people of Illinois are an inspiration! We have witnessed five years of growth in the area of Pathfinders and youth programs.

At Camp Akita, we are enjoying our new camp facilities and are preparing to build extra cabins to raise our capacity at summer camp. Camp Akita summer camp is where our youth come to meet Jesus, like Nelson, a young Amish man who came to work at the camp caring for the horses. He was baptized two summers later!

Our Pathfinders dig deep into God's Word and fellowship in major weekend events such as Honor Academy, a lock-in that has an attendance of 330 and up, and Bible Achievement. One club who frequents the conference, union and division level of the Pathfinder Bible Achievement is the Thompsonville Truth Seekers who have advanced to the division level twice, in 2004 and 2008.

One of the groups involved in local outreach is from the Hinsdale Church 747 ministry. On Saturday nights, the youth and young adults lead out in praise and worship in the Word. They also go out into their neighborhoods and become involved with programs such as Feed My Starving Children, which sends packages of food to third world countries.

Every fall our youth also embark on a mission trip. Last year, 22 young people traveled to Costa Rica to not only help build schools and a church but to build a culture and tradition of service and missions in the Illinois Conference.

It is a privilege to be a part of this growing, praying, active community, and we thank God for His bountiful blessings in our territory. It is our hope and prayer that we will continue to serve Him with all our hearts as together we look forward to His soon coming.

Kyoshin Ahn is the executive secretary of the Illinois Conference.





# Many Ministries Working Together

## INDIANA CONFERENCE

The state of Indiana, with its largest city of Indianapolis centrally located, is considered by many as the crossroads of America. From 2006 through 2010, lives have been touched with the love of Christ as revealed in the distinctive teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. A number of ministries were instrumental in reaching out to those looking for something more than what this world has to offer. It is because of the benevolence of God's faithful people that these ministries received the needed resources to reach a changing demographic in Indiana.

During this five-year period, the cross of Christ drew 1,330 new members to the Adventist church in Indiana through baptisms and professions of faith. Pastoral leadership and lay members working together through various ministries led people to make decisions for Christ. Our membership at the beginning of 2006 was 6,869; and at the end of 2010, it has grown to 7,647 members within the state. Praise God for a growing church.

The Hispanic work has been in a strong growth mode during the last five years. At the start of the quincentennial, our Hispanic membership was at 731. During this period of time, there have been 591 baptisms and professions of faith in the Hispanic community. At the end of 2010, their membership has grown to 1,181 members. Antonio Rosario, our conference's Hispanic coordinator, has emphasized small groups and has actively been involved in training for his pastors and members throughout the state.

Indiana Conference runs an active statewide youth

program. From youth rallies to Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs along with ski weekends, bike trips, caving and an active summer camp program, young people have many opportunities to be involved with their church. This last summer Timber Ridge Camp had 530 campers, which is a large number for a small conference. Last year, 101 young people gave their hearts to the Lord as a result of our summer camp program. Charlie Thompson is committed to the youth of Indiana and is encouraging our young people to serve Christ.

Our Trust Services Department worked hard promoting wills and trusts among our constituency during the last five years. Gary Case, director, logged many miles in his vehicle as he wrote 208 wills during this period of time. In 2010 alone, there were 47 wills written through our Trust Department. There has been a total of \$858,493 this quincentennial that has benefited the Lord's work so ministry can continue to reach out to the needs of people within our state.

Adventist education is another ministry that Christ has blessed in Indiana. Our education staff is committed to Christ-centered values. These values have been modeled and articulated to the 114 seniors we have graduated from Indiana Academy since the last Lake Union Constituency meeting. Our schools have taught 422 students on average per year during the last quincentennial. We are seeking new methods, through Marvin Whitney's oversight as education director, of making Adventist education available to local churches and home schools while preserving the mission, vision and value of traditional Adventist education. One of these methods is an online program called "Switched On School House" used in our church-based elementary home school programs.

Ministry in Adventism is not a stand-alone concept. Steve Poenitz, Indiana Conference ministerial director and evangelism coordinator, works exceptionally well with the pastors and elders uniting the strength of each



Van G. Hurst, president



ministry. Christ says that if He is lifted up He will draw all people to Him. Such networking is illustrated in the Indianapolis Outreach Coalition, which organizes outreach in the Indianapolis area that is larger than the resources of any one church. An example is networking with the Cicero Church for a sanctuary booth at the Indiana State Fair. The coalition will continue to organize follow-up and outreach efforts to the many zip codes in the Indianapolis Metroplex.

Christ and His sacrifice is being lifted up to those of the Muslim faith through the training of our lay members, personal contacts, television and Internet programming. This emphasis in reaching the Muslim community is being led by a lay husband and wife team along with support from Steven Manoukian, pastor of the Brownsburg and Chapel West churches.

Clinton Meharry, our health temperance director, and Susan Landess, who coordinates the CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) program within Indiana, have put a lot of planning and effort into promoting a healthy lifestyle within our conference. The right arm of the gospel has been aptly exemplified and demonstrated through the lives of Clinton and Susan.

The generous hearts of God's people have been observed through their returning a faithful tithe to the Lord's work during the last five years, reports George Crumley, Indiana Conference treasurer. During this time period a total tithe of \$37,580,999 has been returned by our members. This is an average of \$7516,199 per year. It is because of their faithfulness in tithes plus offerings that we are able to impact people with the good news of a loving and soon returning Savior.

I want to acknowledge and express appreciation to all of our administrators, ministers, Bible instructors, teachers, office staff and departmental directors who

are so devoted to the work God has called them to do in Indiana. They give so much to enhance the ministry in our conference and build God's kingdom. We also extend our thanks to the Executive Committee who prayerfully guides us.

As you can see, it is not because of one person that God's work moves forward. It is the result of many people working together, using the gifts God has given them to make a difference with those they come in contact with in Indiana—the crossroads of America.

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





# What a Mighty God We Serve

## L A K E R E G I O N C O N F E R E N C E



Jerome L. Davis, president

**W**e have many reasons to count our blessings for all the Lord has done for us during these past five years. It has been my privilege to serve as president during this time, and I have seen firsthand God's providence in directing the affairs of this conference. Truly, we can say, "What a mighty God we serve!"

Five years ago we were servicing a \$2.5 million loan from the Lake Union Revolving Fund loan. Last year the loan was paid off. Now we're using those payments to build up reserves. What a mighty God we serve!

Stunning events have taken place in the world field since our last Lake Union Session in 2006, events which indicate the coming of our Lord is nearer than when we first believed:

1. The devastating earthquake in Haiti that took thousands of lives, including many Seventh-day Adventist Christians
  2. The oil spill in the Gulf, which killed untold numbers of God's creatures
  3. The loss of thousands of jobs as the result of the recession
  4. The toppling of the government in Egypt
- These are all powerful reminders that this Earth is waxing old like a loose garment, and Jesus is soon to come. As our Lake Region family witnessed these events, we are building our hopes on things eternal (not earthly) as we seek to save those who are lost. Conse-

quently, through aggressive evangelism our membership has grown to nearly 30,000; and we can say confidently, "What a mighty God we serve!"

In a great many ways the Lake Region Conference is a microcosm of the world church. On any given Sabbath, services are conducted in a number of languages, including English, Ghanaian, Spanish, French, Korean, Nigerian, Haitian and Chinese. The growth among our non-English speaking churches has been tremendous. This work continues to grow under the leadership of our vice president, Eddie Allen. This past summer nearly 100 Hispanic lay members received graduation diplomas for successfully completing courses through the Lay Training Bible Institute. Now these lay men and women are giving Bible studies to family, friends and neighbors. What a mighty God we serve!

"Evangelism" is still the watchword in our conference. I am very pleased with the soul-winning endeavors we've enjoyed with our sister conferences. We participated in some type of joint missionary/community outreach project with each of our sister conferences—

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. We labored together to spread the gospel to hundreds of people in the Lake Union territory. My prayer and vision is that we will work even more harmoniously during the next quinquennium. When those outside our faith see the Adventist church is one church, their testimony also will be, "What a mighty God we serve!"

Christian education remains a great challenge in Lake Region, as it is in every conference. I take my hat off to all our parents, teachers, principals and school boards for everything they have done to ensure our boys and girls are taught of the Lord. It is our intention to see that every parent/guardian who has a desire that his/her child receive a Christian education in a Seventh-day Adventist school will have their dream fulfilled. Ellen White says, "All the youth should be permitted to have the blessings and privileges of an education in our schools, that they may be inspired to become laborers together with God" (*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 6, p. 197). This is possible because we do serve a mighty God. My report would not be complete without giving



thanks to all of our administrators, ministers, Bible instructors, teachers, office staff and departmental directors who labor so untiringly to make our conference all the Lord would have it to be. We thank our Executive Committee for keeping us focused. What a mighty God we serve!

In closing, we know the future holds greater challenges for Lake Region, but we have assurance that He who is with us is greater than he who is against us. As we review the past five years with thanksgiving to God for His mercy and grace, we look forward to tomorrow with great anticipation knowing He will never leave us nor forsake us. That's why we all can say:

*What a mighty God we serve*

*What a mighty God we serve*

*The angels bow before Him*

*Heaven and earth adore Him*

*What a mighty God we serve!*

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Jerome L. Davis is the president of the Lake Region Conference.

1. Walker, Hezekiah, "What a Mighty God We Serve" in *Family Affair Vol.*
2. Live at Radio City Music Hall, Hezekiah Walker & The Love Fellowship Choir, Verity Records, 2002., compact disc.





# Evangelism in Spite of Economic Obstacles

## M I C H I G A N C O N F E R E N C E

**D**espite catastrophic economic challenges and a shrinking population, God has been abundantly blessing the Michigan Conference during these past five years! Hence, we have continued with our strong evangelistic thrust, including old-fashioned tent meetings. Churches have been built, ground has been broken, new churches have been planted and mortgages have been paid off.

At the start of 2008 a new "Praise and Report" annual event was initiated, whereby local church leaders share how God has blessed them during the past year. Besides statistics and plans for the future, a major part of these events is the wonderful testimonies shared by those who have become Seventh-day Adventists during the previous 12 months. These include stories of how a non-denominational pastor together with his wife, mother and uncle all became Adventists through a Revelation seminar. Or, the account of the Greek Orthodox member who was encouraged by a Muslim friend to contact an Adventist, because he was "the nicest Christian you'll meet," and how this man, his wife and daughter joined our church, then shared the message with his mother-in-law, who also was baptized. Or, the testimony of a young man who went online and saw that "SDAs were the most hated and persecuted church"; but then concluded that if the devil hated

it so much "it was worth checking out, seeing that you're safe loving what the devil hates!" Tens of thousands of copies of *The Great Controversy* have been mailed to entire communities as members have sacrificially given. "GLOW" (Giving Light to Our World) tracts are now being distributed all across the country, resulting in Bible studies and baptisms.

By means of our summer magabook programs, tens of thousands of truth-filled literature has been placed in thousands of homes and hundreds of thousands of dollars have been earned for scholarship programs as more people have become a part of God's kingdom.

Many faithful literature evangelists are still going door to door and our Bible workers are still seeking the lost as they motivate and mentor church members to share their faith.

New schools have been established, such as the

Bluffview Christian School in Bessemer; new buildings constructed as in Grand Rapids; major renovations have been done, as at Great Lakes Adventist Academy. While our students annually perform well above the national average, they are sharing their faith, too. We praise God for 14-year-old Trevor Peterson and 13-year-old Scott Collins who conducted a series of evangelistic meetings at their Tri-City Seventh-day Adventist School in Saginaw. Likewise, the Great Lakes Adventist Academy Witnessing Class is in the community on a regular basis sharing their faith and giving Bible studies.

During the past several years, our Secular Campus Ministries program trained and inspired a new generation of deeply-dedicated and highly-educated youth to reach out to their peers on major college and university campuses, both in Michigan and beyond. Students from the U.S., the Far East and Africa have paid to learn how to become



Jay Gallimore, president

an “army of workers rightly trained,” and then have gone back to impact their local communities. The “Generation of Youth for Christ” (GYC), which spontaneously arose in Michigan as a result of Holy Spirit-directed youth, continues to make a major positive impact on the global church, inspiring and properly training youth for service.

Begun in early 2006 by our Health and Temperance Department, the *Balance* magazine has become a new, easy and inexpensive way to introduce the community to balanced nutrition, spiritual help and practical information. Recently, a series of these magazines was effectively used in the Homes of Hope outreach program, in which lay members make friends with neighbors and begin to lead out in practical in-home Bible studies. A brand new series of *Balanced Living* health tracts has just begun to come off the press. These pocket-size tracts, covering physical, emotional and spiritual health topics, can be used at health fairs and expos, for canvassing or personal sharing, at supper clubs and evangelistic meetings.

Known for its active and attractive Pathfinder programs, under the leadership of the now retired Pathfinder director, Terry Dodge, the Michigan Conference initiated what has developed into a division-wide Bible Achievement Program, which encourages a fun but non-competitive approach to motivating our children to seriously study Scripture. In addition to learning practical skills and earning honors, our Pathfinders have been active in their local communities, through annual food drives for holiday gift baskets for the needy, community service projects and magabook distribution. Additionally, at Camp Au Sable, the conference offers life-changing programs for youth, including the “Lifestyle Improvement For Teens” (LIFT) event for seventh and eighth graders.

During the course of the past quinquennium a variety of additional training events have been conducted: a spe-

cial Bible symposium for pastors, where our biblical principles of prophetic interpretation were highlighted and validated; Bible workers training sessions; church officer leadership workshops; personal ministries training events; and health evangelism seminars.

We continue to serve our members through special mother/daughter retreats, big brother get-togethers, women’s retreats, “Michigan Men of Faith” gatherings, singles retreats, Pathfinder workshops, marriage retreats, literature evangelism training sessions, senior retreats and local youth rallies.

Our members continue to respond to the physical needs of others locally, by active participation in our many Adventist Community Service centers and community gardens, and beyond our borders they have continued giving to and volunteering with our disaster response teams.

New initiatives in the conference include: our new Bible worker training school, Emmanuel Institute, with its 10-day evangelism intensives, three-week seminars and 14-week flagship programs; and a Muslim interfaith venture, which has opened doors of friendship and understanding not just in Michigan, but overseas as well.

We are so thankful for God’s blessings, His amazing grace and the wonderful working of the Holy Spirit through the lives of our members and their work in this state, across the nation and on mission trips to India, Chile, Kenya, Ecuador, Zambia, Peru, the Dominican Republic and more. We know that as we continue to focus on the Father, and to trust in His written Word, our members will continue to lovingly and passionately share the truth about Jesus and His imminent return wherever the Holy Spirit provides the opportunity.

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Jay Gallimore is the president of the Michigan Conference.





# Sharing the Good News

## W I S C O N S I N C O N F E R E N C E

**T**here's an excitement in Wisconsin, and it doesn't have to do with the Packers or politics. Rather, it has to do with people—people across the conference who are focused on loving Jesus and sharing His love with others. As we look back over the past five years, we rejoice to see God's hand working in people's lives for His glory.

We rejoice that from 2006–2010 there were 1,503 new members added through baptisms and professions of faith. This was, in part, due to an unprecedented number of lay people involved in evangelism. In 2009 alone, 91 evangelistic series were conducted by lay people and pastors. The result was 374 baptisms, the highest number of baptisms in Wisconsin for any calendar year to date. The baptismal rate among the Hispanic population is greater than in any other ethnic group in Wisconsin. Each church held two to four evangelistic series each year. The Hispanic youth group, JAHWI (Jóvenes Adventistas Hispanos de Wisconsin), successfully trained the youth to hold evangelistic meetings for other youth. Small groups are actively bringing people to Christ.

We have an ongoing ministry for the Hmong with a company in Madison and a small group in Milwaukee. Two ministers of another denomination were recently baptized into the Green Bay Church. One is Hmong, the other Lao. They are now giving Bible studies to their previous church members.

During these past five years many lay people have re-

ceived *ShareHim*, lay pastor, small groups and Natural Church Development training, and are using their skills to take the gospel to neighbors and friends.

Evangelism in Wisconsin takes many forms. Let me share a few that are currently being conducted.

- Ten low-power radio stations are sharing God's Word in northern Wisconsin.
- Camp Wakonda continues to lead more than 180 people each year to commit their lives to Jesus, and receives an additional 50 requests for Bible studies for baptism each summer.
- Pathfinder clubs provide positive Christian activities and train more than 150 young people a year to be leaders for Christ. In 2009, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, served as host to 37,000 Pathfinders and leaders at the Courage to Stand Pathfinder Camporee. More than 500 Pathfinders were baptized on Sabbath.
- Milwaukee Storm, a coordinated evangelistic effort across our largest metro area, led more than 100 people to baptism during 2009.
- A unique, relational DVD Bible study series devel-

oped by one of our pastors is being used by lay people across the conference to share Jesus in their living rooms.

- Vacation Bible School has ministered to more than 2,000 young people during the past five years.
- In 2009, a group of 32 pastors and members traveled to Peru to conduct public evangelistic meetings, resulting in 120 baptisms.
- Our annual men's and women's retreats draw hundreds of members and visitors for weekends of spiritual growth and Christian fellowship.

Christian education is a key component in the effort to share Jesus in Wisconsin. During the past five years, K–10 enrollment averaged 235 and Wisconsin Academy enrollment averaged 94. Each of our schools are centers of ministry and lead young people to Jesus. Wisconsin Academy seniors trade their spring break for a mission trip. In past years, the seniors helped victims of hurricanes in Texas and Mississippi rebuild their homes and their lives.

Many of our youth don't have the opportunity for



Michael G. Edge, president



Adventist education. Each January, 50 to 80 public high school students meet at Camp Wakonda for the annual high school spiritual retreat. On the University of Wisconsin campuses in Madison and Stevens Point, students are involved in weekly Adventist campus ministry.

During the past five years, we have been blessed with two new dorms at Wisconsin Academy, a camp meeting pavilion at Camp Wakonda and a new conference office building. Monies came from the sale of the previous conference office property and the generous and sacrificial giving of hundreds of members in the Wisconsin Conference.

Yes, there's an excitement in Wisconsin as pastors, teachers, Bible workers and members in churches use their talents to share the good news of Jesus' love. Jesus is coming soon! While finances may be tight, there is no shortage of the power of the Holy Spirit to change lives. I praise the Lord for what He has done and what He will do through His people in Wisconsin.

Michael G. Edge is the president of the Wisconsin Conference.





# Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ

## A D V E N T I S T M I D W E S T H E A L T H

So many exciting changes have taken place since 2006. Our four suburban Chicago hospitals, as well as Chippewa Valley, our critical access hospital and skilled nursing facility in Wisconsin, have advanced and grown to meet the needs of our communities. I was blessed to join the organization in October 2006, shortly after Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital opened its patient care center. The following year, we gathered at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital to celebrate its innovative new emergency department. In 2008, we welcomed our first patient at Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital, the first new hospital in Illinois in a generation. Just last year we had a groundbreaking ceremony for the patient pavilion at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, ushering in a new era for our flagship hospital. The past five years have brought a whirlwind of improvements in facilities and technology; at the same time, we look forward to a bright future.



David L. Crane, president, CEO

Undoubtedly, the nuances of health care reform will result in additional challenges for our organization. But, with God's help, we are re-examining our processes and implementing plans to stay ahead of the curve. Our commitment to our mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ has never been stronger. No matter what the future holds, we will continue delivering the best care to our patients.

### Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital

After three decades of planning, Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital opened its doors. In November 2007, local leaders, clergy members, hospital administrators and community residents attended a spiritual dedica-

tion ceremony, where special guest Rear Admiral Barry C. Black, chaplain of the U.S. Senate, gave a special blessing. "Help us build a place where people will not only be healed, but where people will be whole," Barry prayed. "May this house of healing be a redemptive force in a troubled world."

Two weeks later, more than 2,000 residents celebrated the opening at a special open house. The 138-bed hospital and Level II trauma center officially opened January 14, 2008. The hospital continues to bloom, offering new services in imaging, cardiology and sleep disorders. The Creation Health Center for Chronic Disease Management opened in 2010 as a multi-specialty outpatient center to treat chronic diseases. Recently, the

center became accredited by the American Association of Diabetes Educators, giving residents increased access to critical diabetes education services.

### Adventist GlenOaks Hospital

Adventist GlenOaks Hospital celebrated 30 years of service to the community in March 2009. The hospital hosted an event for employees and the community, honoring seven employees who have worked at the hospital since it opened in 1980. A new work of art—the hospital's mission statement, "Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ," created on canvas by a renowned local artist—was unveiled in the hospital lobby.

In 2007, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital opened a re-

vamped emergency department with a unique concept: there is no waiting room. Upon arrival, patients are escorted directly to any of 19 private, spacious treatment suites where their condition is promptly assessed and treated. The Shanahan Emergency and Trauma Center is the only such department in the country. The center is named for Joseph Shanahan, the hospital's medical director of emergency services.

Since 2009, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital has been accredited by the Society of Chest Pain Centers and is one of just two accredited chest pain centers in DuPage County. This recognition ensures that patients receive specialized care during the critical early stages of a heart attack when treatments are most effective and throughout their stay.

### **Adventist Hinsdale Hospital**

A \$75 million project that will bring private patient rooms, updated nursing units and improved surgical suites is underway at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. Scheduled to be completed in early 2012, the new patient pavilion will include a new lobby, chapel and new corridors to segregate patient and visitor traffic. The upgrades will improve staffing efficiency and help attract and retain the best possible physicians and nurses.

The hospital also continues to make significant quality achievements. In 2009, the hospital received accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers, and also earned a certification as a primary stroke center. The hospital received a Chest Pain Center accreditation in 2010. These accreditations ensure that patients receive safe, highly-specialized care and treatments. Though we'll soon provide care in a brand-new space, we will never change our dedication to extending the healing ministry of Christ. One way

we live our mission is by sending missionaries to third world countries to provide needed medical care. This year the team went to Costa Rica with nine doctors, including four from our family medicine residency program. At home, we live our mission through programs like Adventist St. Thomas Hospice, which emphasizes compassionate care and quality of life.

### **Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital**

Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital furthered its commitment to patients and the community with the opening of its 225,000 square-foot patient care center in 2006. With private rooms, sofa beds for guests and Internet access, the patient care center inspires health and healing. The hospital added wound care to its growing list of services in 2008. In 2010, this comprehensive center moved to the main hospital campus and added hyperbaric oxygen therapy services. Like Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital also is an accredited Chest Pain Center and is accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers.

The hospital also offers quality spiritual care to patients and employees. It serves as the home of the newly accredited Adventist Midwest health clinical pastoral education center, which prepares chaplains and lay ministers utilizing a comprehensive educational process. The center is accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, a national achievement bestowed upon few health systems. Clinical pastoral education provides professional development not only for AMH's own pastoral care staff but also for community members.

David L. Crane is the president and chief executive officer of Adventist Midwest Health.





# A Commitment to Scholarship, Service and Leadership

## A N D R E W S U N I V E R S I T Y

Just over five decades ago, the General Conference Fall Council decided to develop a comprehensive university to serve the needs of a growing world church, a place firmly committed to the denomination and a place to guide the development of Adventist higher education throughout the world.

The church turned to Emmanuel Missionary College in Berrien Springs, Michigan, to fulfill this responsibility, in 1959. The graduate programs in education and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, then situated in Takoma Park, Maryland, were organized under one charter in October 1959. The name Andrews University was chosen in 1960 to reflect early church leader J. N. Andrews' commitment to scholarship, service and leadership. Andrews University was now a G.C. institution.

This past school year, we marked 50 years as Andrews University. We are thankful for God's guidance, the commitment of our best Adventist scholars and the strong continuing support from our church. As we look forward, Andrews University remains committed to serving the church locally and around the world by providing an outstanding Adventist education for students that they might **"Seek Knowledge, Affirm Faith and Change the World."**

This past quinquennium has been a pivotal time in God's plan for the sacred work of education on our campus. Amidst a time of global challenges and both demo-

graphic and economic shifts, Andrews has been given many good gifts from God.

Andrews has exhibited academic strength this past quinquennium, receiving institutional accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges and Universities. In addition, the School of Business Administration, the School of Education and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, plus a number of other departments and programs, have all undergone recent successful accreditation or re-accreditation.

The Andrews campus has been blessed with noticeable and needed improvements, thanks to the financial generosity of our friends. In 2007, the single largest gift ever given to Andrews University was designated to accomplish three major building projects: a new campus entrance, a major renovation of Dining Services, and construction of a state-of-the-art milking parlor. The gift also provided three endowed chairs: two in the School of Business Administration and one in the Seventh-day Adventist Theo-

logical Seminary. Endowed chairs help the university recruit, attract and support a strong faculty.

During the last decade, Andrews has been blessed with a 30 percent increase overall on its Berrien Springs campus. In 2009, we experienced a record enrollment high with 3,589. In addition to the 3,500 students studying on the main campus in Berrien Springs, Michigan, there are an additional 4,000 pursuing an Andrews degree through our affiliate and extension programs. Another 3,000 students joined us in fall 2010 when ownership of Griggs University was transferred to Andrews, deepening and widening Andrews University's role as educational servant to the world church.

The graduate programs, especially in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and School of Education, have grown steadily in global leadership and enrollment.

Our distinctive rankings in *U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Colleges* have continued this year. Andrews University tied as fifth most racially diverse and tied as sixth most internationally diverse national universities in the 2011 report. Of more than 4,500 institutions of higher



Niels-Erik Andraesen,  
president

education in the United States only 262 are recognized as national universities, with Andrews as the only Seventh-day Adventist institution included in that list.

These gifts are also reflected in our vibrant, student-led faith community. There has been intentionality and renewed vigor in our spiritual community following the 2005 appointment of an assistant to the president for spiritual life.

The experiences within that community offer worship options to fit the needs of our diverse student population represented, including our monthly Fusion vespers—one of the most powerful and student-led worship experiences at Andrews. Additionally, students get involved in more than 75 ministries each year, commit to student missionary opportunities, take part in scholarly dialogue such as the H.M.S. Richards Lectureship and have access to conferences designed to train Adventist leaders, including the annual Ellen G. White & Current Issues Symposium and the Music & Worship Conference.

Students worship each Sabbath in more than 30 area churches, in addition to the 1,500 who worship in Pioneer Memorial Church and New Life Fellowship on our campus. Additionally, our undergraduates benefit from a full array of co-curricular worship experiences, ranging from residence hall worships to weekly chapels.

Faith is also powerfully affirmed in our classrooms, and the connection between faith and academics is manifest from the freshman experience through the graduate program.

A provost position was created in 2006 to handle the day-to-day administration to best complement the president's international consulting work in support of Adventist education and his significant role in major fundraising. In addition, the University's Board of Trustees has crafted new governance processes and structures to best strength-

en and connect the work of its energetic and engaged lay and church-appointed members.

Plans for the immediate future at Andrews include strengthening the undergraduate experience as the campus seeks to understand and implement new ways to best teach our students by focusing on innovative learning communities, unparalleled opportunities for undergraduate research, and the continued integration of faith and learning.

This bold step to improve undergraduate learning was initiated by President's Council members in 1995. In turn, this group took the lead as additional key donors for a new Undergraduate Learning Center. The new Center will create a vibrant place where ideas, minds and experiences intersect to provide an exceptional undergraduate education. When the Center is completed in 2011, a bridge will connect the new Buller Hall and a renovated Nethery Hall, creating a philosophical, symbolic and practical link.

The world church has consistently looked to Andrews to find new educational solutions responsive to a growing and changing church, and a global community. When the world church was looking for the best way to secure a bright future for Griggs University (formerly known as Home Study International) and its global student body, it turned to Andrews. Ownership of Griggs was transferred to Andrews in October 2010, and the transition is underway. This new partnership places Seventh-day Adventist education in the forefront of distance learning as we will work together to enhance educational offerings for our newly expanded global student body.

We must help our most able and dedicated young people choose an Adventist education. To best do that, Andrews must challenge these students with superior learning opportunities while making it more affordable for them to attend. These young people are the raw material from



which our church will be led in the 21st century.

With gratitude for God's ongoing guidance and the continuing support of our world church, we look forward to an even stronger future for Andrews University.

Niels-Erik Andraesen is the president of Andrews University.



# Lake Union Quinquennial Session Delegate List

## **NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION**

**Delegates at Large**  
Daniel R. Jackson  
Alex G. Bryant  
Tom Evans

## **LAKE UNION CONFERENCE (LUC)**

**Delegates at Large**  
Stephen Abrams  
Clifford Allen  
Eddie Allen Sr.  
Niels-Erik Andreasen  
Maria Elena Baranov  
Douglas Carlson  
RoseMarie Caszau  
Ray Cook  
David L. Crane  
George Crumley  
Jerome L. Davis  
Michael G. Edge  
Jay Gallimore  
Douglas Gregg  
Rodney Grove  
Richard Habenicht  
Diane Hahn  
Michael Horton  
Van G. Hurst  
Richard Lane  
Barbara Livesay  
Don Livesay  
Gary Loster  
Raymond Mayor  
Clinton Meharry  
Carmelo Mercado  
James Michieff Jr.  
Justo Morales  
Charles Osborne III  
Christopher Peters  
Janet Quinones  
Brent Schalk  
Glynn Scott  
Judith Sherwin  
Robert Stewart  
Abraham Swamidass  
Lloyetta Warren  
Illinois Conference president

## **LUC CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

**Delegates at Large**  
Vernon L. Alger  
Ray Daniel  
Fred Earles  
Ed Pierce  
Jon Williams

## **LUC DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS**

**Delegates at Large**  
Gary Burns  
James Martz  
Sean Parker  
Gary Sudds  
Richard Terrell  
Ron Whitehead

## **ILLINOIS CONFERENCE**

**Regular Delegates**  
Silvia Abel-Caines  
Kiyoshin Ahn  
Bing Alabata  
Sarah Aragon  
Helen Bacchus  
Gilberto Bahena  
Dale Barnhurst  
Famer Benjamin  
Viorel Catarama  
Gevin Cross  
Dora Crowell  
Nancy Dedic  
Elizabeth DeLeon  
Lidija Djordjevic  
Roger Driver  
Rosa Espinosa  
Thomas Ferguson  
Gordon Fraser  
Pamela Gaston  
Alan Grant  
Merle Greenway  
Glenn Hill  
Ruth Horton  
Emmanuel Lacson

Diana LaMar  
Homer Ma  
Naomi McKenzie  
Rodney Metcalf  
Art Nelson  
James Newbold  
Raymond Newbold  
Manny Ojeda  
Johnne Perlick  
Maureen Plumb  
Raymond Plummer  
Ivy Posada  
Rodolfo Rosales  
Paul Saint-Villiers  
Ernesto Sanchez Sr.  
Kristine Schauf  
Ron Schultz  
Deborah Scott  
Odea Singh Jr.  
Clarence Small  
Pat Smith  
Garry Starkey  
Mollie Stenson  
Michael Weakley  
Gerald Weiland II  
Gail Wein  
Patricia Williams  
Renae Young

## **LAKE REGION CONFERENCE**

**Regular Delegates**  
Arthur Alexis  
Karen Allen  
Harold Allison  
Joyce Allison  
Seth Amponsah  
Vanston Archbold  
Oliver Archer  
Carl Bandy Sr.  
Theodore Banks  
Stephen Barber  
Donald Bedney  
Cheryl Bell  
Eric Bell  
Roy Bellinger  
Stanley Biles  
Carlos Blake  
Lamar Boler  
Joseph Brooks Jr.  
Leon Bryant  
Keynal Cadet  
Shawna Campbell  
Arturo Campero  
Sally Carr  
Robert Casey  
Ralph Childress  
Sharon Cochran  
Joyce Coffee  
Earl Cole  
Gerald Coleman  
Larry Collins Jr.  
Yvonne Collins  
Carol Connor  
Valerie Crawford  
Pamela Daly  
Frank Davis

Jorge Del Aguila  
Elsie Dixon-Roper  
Sheila Edens-Brown  
Heather Edwards  
Gail Ellis  
Ana Ruth Escobar  
Julius Everett Sr.  
Margaret Finley  
Judith Fisher  
Samuel Flagg  
Tresa Fletcher  
Garth Gabriel  
Leon George  
Birdine Gilliam  
Doris Gothard  
John Grier  
Linda Grier  
Gerald Hall  
Bennett Hamilton  
Clarence Howard Jr.  
Curtis Hudson  
Ted Hunter  
Rose Mary Jackson  
Lynette Jefferson  
Philip Jenkins  
Margaret Jessup  
Dawn Johnson  
Robert Johnson  
Christopher Jones  
Elodia Jones  
Vickie Jones  
Daniel Kindred  
Dolby Knott  
Gale Laidler  
William Lee  
Mitchell Lindsey  
Abraham Lloyd  
Lawrence Logan  
Clayton Loney  
Edgar Lopez  
Esther Loria  
Michael McCullough  
Theresa McGill  
Juanita Martin  
Lloyd Martin Jr.  
Wendell Martin  
Martha Martinez  
Bill Monk  
Famous Murray  
Godson Nasari  
Zebtron Ncube  
Maureen Nedd

Jason North  
Arthur Nowlin  
Kim Nowlin  
Lawrence Oladini  
Courtney Osborne  
Cynthia Palmer-Currin  
Hayward Penny  
Marlon Reid  
Valerie Reid  
Carmelita Richardson  
Evelyn Robinson  
Astor Rogers  
Bettye Scott  
Stephanie Scott  
Landy Sosa  
Richard Sylvester  
Heather Thomas  
Joselyn Torres  
Iheanyi Ufomba  
Norman Usher  
Richard Washington  
Irish Williams  
John Williams  
James Willis  
Phillip Willis Sr.  
Jose Wilson  
Edward Woods Jr.  
Edward Woods III  
Mark Whyte  
Debbie Young  
Ray Young

Raymond Davis  
Donald DeCamp  
Andre Diaz  
Terry Dodge  
Kevin Drew  
Ingrid Dumitrescu  
Ron du Preez  
David Fernandez  
Liesbeth Fernandez  
Daniel Ferraz  
Linda Fuchs  
David Garcia-Marenko  
Todd Gardner  
Phil Giddings  
David Gotshall  
Al Green  
Vicki Griffin  
Art Hack  
Carol Hainault  
Gene Hall  
Dan Hansen  
Dick Harris  
Tamie Hasty  
Cleveland Henry  
Gary Hillebert  
Cooper Hodges  
Jim Howard  
Everett Jamieson  
Paulina Janevski  
Dan Johnson  
Charles Jones  
Justin Kim  
Sung Chul Kim  
Barbara Kitson  
Esther Knott  
Samuel Koranteng-Pipim  
Paul Kulakov  
Sandy LaFaive  
Paul Larsen  
Donn La Tour  
Charlene Lavallee  
Mark LaVanture  
Larry Lichtenwalter  
Mickey Malloy  
Laurence Matelski  
Regil Mattson  
Michael Matrzela  
Kamil Metz  
Ken Michreff

## **MICHIGAN CONFERENCE**

**Regular Delegates**  
Elvis Agard  
Penny Ance  
Debra Barr  
Kevin Barrett  
Sal Bingham  
Leroy Bruch  
Audrey Burns  
Jennifer Burrill  
Roy Castelbouno  
Steven Chamption  
Donald Clay  
Julie Clayburn  
Ron Clouzet  
Jair Cruz  
Lyle Davis

Cherry Habenicht  
Rodney Hahn  
Teresa Harrison  
Mike Hazlett  
Keith Hendricksen  
Lisa Isensee  
Linda Johnson  
Ed Kingaman  
Charles Kohley  
Charlotte Kohley  
Tim Krawczyk  
Donna Maldonado  
Fred Miller  
Sandy Miller  
Dale Mishleau  
Jennifer Ogden  
Ozro Peck  
David Rawls  
Susan Slikkers  
Keith Sopp  
Larry Storz  
John Strehle

## **ADVENTIST MIDWEST HEALTH**

**Regular Delegates**  
Mike Goebel  
Brinsley Lewis  
Rick Mace  
Donald L. Jernigan  
Ron Wehrje  
Rick Wright

## **ANDREWS UNIVERSITY**

**Regular Delegates**  
Karen Allen  
Elynda Bedney  
Spencer Carter  
Jim Jeffery  
R. Clifford Jones  
Keith Mattingly

## **WISCONSIN CONFERENCE**

**Regular Delegates**  
Linda Bishop  
Norm Britain  
Charles Byrd  
Adam Case  
Wayne Clark  
Ethel Conner  
Scott Erb  
Samuel Garbi



## [ EDUCATION NEWS ]

## Battle Creek Academy students adopt family

Michigan—When Jean Andersen, sixth and seventh grade teacher at Battle Creek Academy (BCA), asked her students last fall what they wanted to do for Christmas, they voted to buy gifts for a needy family instead of exchanging gifts among themselves. They wanted to adopt a family from the community—so they could “witness to them.” The students decided to use the money they had recently earned selling magabooks to buy the Christmas presents.

Andersen was inspired by testimonies she heard at past teacher conventions about selling Christian books. At first she thought, *How cool for them. But that is definitely not for me.* However, God had other plans for her and her students.

She approached her class with the magabooks plan at the beginning of the school year, thinking that if the students responded to the idea she would go along with it. The students were enthusiastic about the project. After special training by Matt Hasty from the Michigan Conference, the class members learned what to say when they approached people and eagerly looked forward to getting out with their books. With the help of Elvis Agard, school principal; David Tenold, youth pastor; and several parents and grandparents, the students went door to door in Battle Creek selling their books—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, *More CHOICES* cookbook and *Storytime for Kids*. In addition to talking with the people they met about the books, the kids prayed with them also. They also left the book, *Happiness for Life*, with those who couldn’t buy books.

Selling books turned out to be a wonderful experience for the children. “I loved it and found it very touching,” said one student. Another said, “I was scared at first, but I know that God was right there whispering what to say, right in my ear.” Andersen was “inspired and



From left: Teacher Jean Andersen, Madelyn Agy, Molly Hidley, Jennifer Merino and Brooke Metcalf wrap presents to deliver to the grateful family.



From left: Molly Hidley, Sarina Sheldon, Ryan Owiti and Shad Grentz show presents purchased for their adopted family.

amazed at the students’ boldness and the positive responses they received.”

In early December, Anderson contacted the organization, Santa’s Helper, for a family to adopt. They were assigned a family of six—two adults and four children. Using the money they earned selling magabooks, Andersen and five students headed to the stores to find the perfect gifts. They purchased a couple of gifts for each family member and food for a nice Christmas dinner. The students wrapped the presents; and on Dec. 15, 2010, they delivered them along with the food to the grateful family.

It was a wonderful experience for both her and her students, says Andersen. “We received a double blessing. Helping a family during the holidays shifted our focus from ourselves to others and showed us in a personal way that it is better to give than to receive.” And raising the money by selling books was a wonderful witnessing opportunity. “Even though I said ‘Not me,’ God had other ideas,” she adds. “When God calls, always answer ‘Yes.’” The class is planning to sell books again in the spring.

Charlotte Erickson, director of communications, Battle Creek Tabernacle



## Celebration planned for 100 years of Adventist education in Detroit

Michigan—To recognize and commemorate 100 years of Adventist training of future Christian missionaries in Detroit, Southfield, Inkster and Plymouth, Mich., the Metropolitan Church will host the Centennial Celebration on Apr. 30. The guest speaker will be Nathan Greene, a renowned artist and former student of Southfield Junior Academy. There will be a potluck lunch and a special offering for the Worthy Student Fund. In the afternoon, recording artists Scott Michael Bennett and Camille Aragonés, former Metropolitan Junior Academy students, will provide a concert.

Beginning in 1911 with 21 students, the first Seventh-day Adventist “church school” opened in Detroit in a slightly renovated barn on the property of the first Detroit Adventist Mission. The location of the Trumbull Adventist Mission, which opened in January 1892, was on Trumbull Avenue between Perry and Bagg (now Temple) streets. Leona Boat Glidden taught all grades one through eight.

Sometime later the school expanded to ten grades and moved to the two-



Scott Michael Bennett

room Detroit Union School on Field Avenue. That school closed in the spring of 1947, and the following September the Southfield Junior Academy opened at 15350 Southfield Road. In 1953, the Metropolitan Church was built adjacent to the academy building.

In the spring of 1960, under the leadership of W.W. White, a pastor, four additional classrooms and a basement were added to the structure. By the fall, two of those classrooms were fully functional. The whole building was serviceable in the 1961–1962 school year. The building was utilized to teach eleventh-grade classes for two years between 1961 and 1963. This Southfield Road site remained functioning until the 1978 school year. Somewhere in this tenure, the school became a constituency with several churches in the area.

In the fall of 1978, the Westfield Junior Academy opened in a rented empty public school facility on 27100 Avondale Road, just off Inkster Road and east of



Camille Aragonés

Cherryhill Road in Inkster, Mich. The Westfield school remained in operation until the constituent churches decided to open their own schools in the spring of 1981.

The Metropolitan Church purchased property at 15585 N. Haggerty Road, north of Five Mile Road in Plymouth, Mich. In January 1982, the Metropolitan School opened in modular buildings on the new property on Haggerty Road while the church was being completed. In 1993, a new brick and mortar four-classroom building, with a library, offices, storage rooms, highly-rated kitchen and a full-court gymnasium with stage opened. On Jan. 20, 1996, the Metropolitan Church dedicated the school debt free. Today the school has four teachers and 50 students in grades K–10 on the Metropolitan Church property.

For information about the Centennial Celebration, call 734-420-4044, or visit [www.southfield-metro100years.com](http://www.southfield-metro100years.com).

Craig Morgan, principal, Metropolitan Junior Academy

## Hollywood filmmaker Terry Benedict visits Hinsdale Adventist Academy

Illinois—On Friday, Jan. 14, critically acclaimed filmmaker, Terry Benedict, visited Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA) to talk to the students about his award-winning movie, “The Conscientious Objector,” and to encourage students to be creative in pursuit of their goals. Benedict’s crowning work, “The Conscientious Objector” is a documentary of WWII combat medic,

Desmond Doss, who was a devout Seventh-day Adventist. Doss wanted to serve his country even though he refused to carry arms. He is credited with saving the lives of 75 fellow soldiers under heavy fire in Okinawa in 1945. For his bravery in combat, he received the Congressional Medal of Honor—the first and only conscientious objector to do so.

Benedict visited HAA because he is a Seventh-day Adventist and a close friend of the school’s administrative principal, George Babcock. Benedict spent time with the students to talk about his film and encourage students



Journalism students interview Terry Benedict for the WHAA Newscast.

to pursue their dreams. He told the students: “Education is not only about the three Rs, but about nurturing the creative spirit.”

The HAA senior class held a

screening of the film on Saturday, Jan. 15, at the Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church with Benedict present to take questions. The screening was free of charge, but offerings and dona-

tions were accepted to help support the senior class mission trip to Roatan, Honduras.

For more information about Hinsdale Adventist Academy, visit [www.haa.org](http://www.haa.org).

To learn more information about Terry Benedict and Shae Foundation, visit [www.shae.foundation.org](http://www.shae.foundation.org).

Journalism class students, high school, Hinsdale Adventist Academy

## [ LOCAL CHURCH NEWS ]



Niles Westside K-2 class sent supplies to bless Haitian children.

### Sabbath school class donates to Haiti orphanage

Michigan—"The project started quite by accident," recalls Esther Jones, Kindergarten-2 Sabbath school teacher at Niles Westside Seventh-day Adventist Church. She sat listening to Kathy Dockerty, also a K-2 teacher, share week after week with the children about the deplorable conditions in Haiti and the serious needs of the Haitian people in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake. Jones realized an opportunity was presenting itself for the children to help; and since the K-2 Sabbath school leaders tried to involve the children in sharing what they have with others, this was a perfect opportunity to get involved.

Jones remembered that Randy and Leslie Dowell recently returned home from working at Nan Creve Com-

munity Growth Center, a Seventh-day Adventist run orphanage in Haiti. She made a call to Leslie asking about the orphaned children's practical needs that the K-2 children might be able to assist with. Jones learned the orphanage had 60 orphans, and they were in need of lightweight blankets to keep the children warm at night. She tried to imagine not having blankets for her own children. It was at that point Jones felt impressed to help provide blankets for these orphaned children.

Jones asked the church family to sponsor the cost of 60 blankets. In just several weeks the \$159 needed was raised, and blankets were purchased. But the blessing didn't stop there—the money donated nearly doubled the amount needed for the blankets. There was \$151 extra!

The K-2 children had hands-on involvement by packaging 60 washcloths and bars of soap, and they sorted toothpaste, toothbrushes, coloring books of Jesus with children, crayons, stuffed animals, pens, pencils and candy—all to be sent with the Dowells on their return trip to the orphanage. A scrapbook with pictures of the K-2 children was also made to send to the orphanage with the Dowells.

The K-2 children enjoyed putting together all the things for the Haitian children, but the experience was made exciting and real when, on Dec. 18,

2010, Leslie and Randy came to the K-2 class and showed pictures and told stories of the children at the orphanage. They brought a bowl of the food (rice and beans) the Haitian children eat daily, and told how children outside the orphanage receive this food only every other day. The pictures and stories helped the Sabbath school children better understand how their small gifts and offerings can make a big difference in the lives of the Haitian children.

Leslie related that aid money through other organizations hasn't yet reached the Haitians, but by donating in the way the Niles Westside K-2 class has, the needed items are sure to get to the children.

The extra money raised for the blankets is being used to purchase other much-needed items for the orphanage, such as worm medication, burn medication and children's underwear.

If you would like more information on the Nan Creve Community Growth Center in Haiti, please contact Jean Florvilus at Orphans International Helpline, P.O. Box 123, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, or call 269-471-2629.

To contact Leslie or Randy Dowell, you can write to their e-mail at [ldowell@gmail.com](mailto:ldowell@gmail.com).

Kristine Horvath, member, Niles Westside Church

### Cicero Church members portray the gospel in living tour

Indiana—The story of redemption was beautifully displayed via costumed actors and actresses at various stations on the snowy grounds around the Ci-

cero Church during the two December evenings of the Journey to Bethlehem tour. Nearly 90 young people from preschool to college, along with 80 adults, portrayed biblical characters, including Adam and Eve, the high priest at the sanctuary, Noah, Abraham and Isaac, Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar, Pilate, a Ro-



From left: Members portraying Joseph, Baby Jesus and Mary were Brad Kirk, Ziggy Reutebuch and Cara Kirk.

Janeil Hurst



man centurion at the cross and Mary at the tomb.

Large slides of the Second Coming were shown at the final stage of the tour. “The general emphasis was the Great Controversy with a highlighting on God’s provision in all times,” says Ron Kelly, pastor, Cicero Church. “We wanted the gospel to shine through

from the beginning to the end.”

In response to several methods of invitation, nearly 500 attended the tour with 20 percent from the community. Not long after the holiday season, Nick Harris, a Cicero Church member who portrayed a Roman centurion in the Journey to Bethlehem tour, was at the county courthouse. A sheriff’s

deputy saw him and said, “Hey! I know you! You were the soldier at the cross!” The deputy continued by expressing his deep appreciation for the tour and said he hoped the church would do it again next year.

Judith Yeoman, correspondent, Indiana Conference



Members of a Battle Creek Tabernacle Sabbath school class recently received a certificate of appreciation from the Michigan Department of Transportation for ten years of community service.

## Sabbath school class recognized for faithful community service

Michigan—In 1999, Lloyd Erickson was asked to teach a Sabbath school class at the Battle Creek Tabernacle. There were approximately six charter members. The group named themselves the “Reflectors” because of their desire to be reflectors of God’s love. One of their goals was to become involved in some kind of community work. The following spring they decided to adopt a stretch of highway.

The Michigan Department of Transportation assigned the class a two-mile stretch of M-66 on the east side of Battle Creek, across from Bailey Park and C.O. Brown Stadium. Ten years later, the class is still picking up trash three times a summer.

During the years, the class has grown to more than 30 members. “We’ve tried to encourage our members to be missionary minded,” says Erickson. “Unfortunately, that has resulted in a number of members leaving the class to serve in other places, or even other departments of the church.” A physician moved to a small town in Minnesota; a nurse and his wife moved back to the Dominican Republic to minister in their home country; another member left to become a principal of an Adventist academy. And several members became leaders in other Sabbath school departments.

But the nucleus of the class still meets early Sunday mornings at Bailey Park in April, July and September to pick up garbage. They discovered that April is always the hardest month because the trash accumulates during the winter months, and July can also be difficult because of the hot weather. But

the group believes that even picking up trash can be an opportunity to witness. Once, a Pennfield Township official called into the local radio station to thank the Adventists for the good job they were doing. And many drivers honk their horns and wave as they pass the members working in their bright green vests.

“Picking up trash has changed me forever,” says Phyllis Essex. “I can’t walk down my own road now without a trash bag in my hand. I have to pick up every piece of garbage I see.”

The class recently received a certificate of appreciation from Michigan Department of Transportation for ten years of community service. “We’ve been involved in other projects over the years,” says Erickson. “But as long as we’re able, we’ll continue to pick up trash.”

The group discovered that in addition to cleaning up the highway, the endeavor brought the class members closer together. “We work hard and have a lot of fun,” Erickson adds.

Charlotte Erickson, director of communication, Battle Creek Tabernacle

## Carmel Church partners with Architecture Missions Group

Indiana—Dec. 18, 2010, was a high Sabbath for the congregation of the Carmel Church (formerly Carmel Hope Fellowship) and the Architecture Missions Group (AMG)

in the Andrews University School of Architecture as they celebrated the grand-opening of the first phase of the new addition to the church. The new addition, designed by architecture students from Andrews University, is a multipurpose room, which is currently being used for worship services and fellowship hall. It will eventually expand to include a formal sanctuary. The new addition also includes a children’s class-

room, two restrooms, a parents’ room, a storage area and a spacious kitchen.

The City of Carmel approved occupancy on the Tuesday prior, so there was a real flurry of activity as willing volunteers busily prepared the new rooms so everything would be ready just four days later for the first Sabbath services in the new addition. Besides Sabbath school and a special Christmas program for the worship service, the



Vernon Young

*The new addition was designed by architecture students from Andrews University in the Architecture Missions Group. AMG aims to serve churches by providing architectural design services that churches normally would not have access to.*

events of the day included a fellowship dinner and a social in the evening.

To celebrate the new addition that offers much-needed space and more opportunity for outreach activities, an open house was held Mar. 26.

“Through a great sacrifice from our members and money from the former Noblesville Church, plus generous contributions from several friends of the Carmel Church and support from the Indiana Conference, this phase in God’s house in Carmel has been finished,” says Alex Rodriguez, pastor, Carmel Church. “Our prayer is that the Lord will bless our church in becoming a shining light to our community.”

The Architecture Missions Group (AMG) aims to serve churches, often in remote areas, by providing architectural design services that the churches normally would not have access to.

Kevin Rosado, who was a student when the Carmel Church project got underway, says it was the mission opportunities that drew him to Andrews University in the first place. He first heard about the Carmel project through Martin Smith, professor of architecture, and decided to join the team.

The AMG began working with the Carmel Church in 2008. They approached the project in the form of a design charrette, an intense two-day design period.

“We brainstormed different ideas for each of the needs for the building and the budget” the first day, says Rosado. At the end of the day, the group presented two of the best ideas to the church committee to discuss the designs. Day two involved creating the final presentation and finalizing the design for construction documents. “The church members were very pleased with our work, and they felt that we had listened to their needs as a church. But it was the church members’ help and input that made it easy for us to have the right design solutions,” says Rosado.

The Carmel Church was the first AMG North American church project that advanced through construction, which began in spring 2010. AMG has done drawings and prospective sketches for projects in Bolivia, Peru, Mexico and the Congo, to name a few. In most cases, a lack of funding prevents the start of construction, but the Carmel Church raised all the funds necessary to begin phase one. Construction was done by a local firm and completed in time for the Dec. 18, 2010, celebration during the Christmas season.

Phase two of the project, still in the planning stage, will add a sanctuary and several classrooms to the multipurpose room.

“At first I thought that it would be fairly easy to come up with a design solution for a church,” says Rosado, “but now I think it is one of the most com-

plicated building types to work with. Designs are often driven by the budget, and churches are typically working on a very tight budget. At the same time, a church is one of the most interesting buildings to work with, in the sense that you are designing not only to accommodate a diverse group of people but that your design can inspire people to worship.”

Rodriguez says the faculty and students in the School of Architecture were a pleasure to work with. “Your faithfulness along with many others who sacrificially took part has made God’s house in Carmel, Indiana, a reality.”

It is not unusual for undergraduate architecture students to participate in a real-world design experience before graduation, but the service aspect is less common. To be associated with the church is even less common. The Architecture Missions Group combines this experience with the only accredited architecture program among Adventist colleges in North America to provide a unique service to churches worldwide.

Smith, who supervised the project, said, “The biggest joy for me was seeing the creativity of the congregation, and how God has led it each step of the way.”

Plans are being discussed for the next phase of Carmel Church’s building program, which will include a sanctuary and additional classrooms.

Susie DeHart, building committee chairperson, Carmel Church; and Keri Suarez, media relations specialist, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University

## Former prostitute leads three individuals to Christ

Lake Region—Cereatha Vaughn knows what it is like to be a drowning sinner on the streets of Detroit, Mich. Abused by her biological father

at a tender age, she grew to become emotionally and physically ensnared in the horrific dark world of drugs and prostitution. She felt as though she was drowning in her circumstances.

Just when there seemed to be no way out, Vaughn found a Savior who rescued her from her hopelessness. Through the healing and restoring

power of Christ, she turned pain into purpose and lives to tell of her victorious battle in a remarkable and unique evangelistic series entitled, “Let’s Play C.A.R.D.S. (Christ Always Rescues Drowning Sinners).”

Recently, members and guests of the Highland Park (Mich.) Seventh-day Adventist Church were impacted



by Vaughn's nightly messages with titles such as, "The Hand that Was Dealt to You," "Any Wine Left?" and "You're Busted!" Her testimony wove in and out of experiences with dilemma and depression. Vaughn spoke candidly about abuse and bondage and her eventual escape. She is a living testimony to the good news of God's grace and how our heavenly Father is able to rescue drowning sinners.

The Highland Park Church two-week event was Vaughn's first experience conducting a public evangelistic event, and several attending made their decision to be baptized as a result. Vaughn had the privilege of conducting

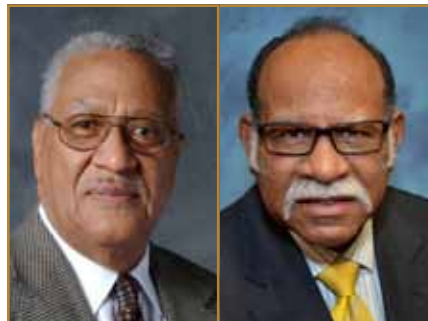
their baptisms at the Burns Seventh-day Adventist Church in Detroit where she serves as an elder.

Vaughn is compelled by the love of Christ to share her victory with others who are drowning in desperate hopelessness. She is now the founder/director of Yo' G.I.T.T.Y. Ministries (Yo' God Is Talking To You), which she formed to take the everlasting, transforming gospel of Christ back to the streets of Detroit. Vaughn can be reached for more information via e-mail at: [cereathav@yahoo.com](mailto:cereathav@yahoo.com) or by phone at 313-663-0879.

Felicia Hunter, church clerk, Highland Park Church



Josie Jeans, evangelist, gathers her ministry team and some of the newly baptized members. Pictured are (back row): Virda Lee, Herbert Hawthorne, Joyce Coffee, J.D. Parker (Emmanuel Church pastor), Julian Sutton, Austin Beckon, Anissa Beckon, Kelvin Beckon, Annie Wilson; (front row) Galette Grogan, Dolores H. Hodges and Josie Jeans; team members not pictured: Veronica Majors and Banette Moore



C.D. Brooks

Walter Arties

## Hyde Park Church to host International Day

Lake Region—What is now known as "International Day" at the Hyde Park Church in Chicago, Ill., began in 1989 when Doris Lewis, Keitha Sutherland and Hyacinth Reece-Headley desired a program with an emphasis on unity and diversity. Their program idea was presented to their pastor, Norman K. Miles Sr. (the former president of Lake Region Conference), who agreed the program they envisioned was a great idea.

The program started out as an Adventist Youth event and has now grown into an international emphasis day that includes a full day of programming focusing on unity and diversity. After Miles relocated to New Jersey, Hyde

Park Church's present pastor, Michael Horton, continues to support this special day. He believes that as Adventists we are a world church with a world mission. Most of our members reside in countries in Africa, South America, Asia, Australia and in other parts of the world. We are, therefore, to cherish this opportunity to put a much-needed spotlight on the global nature of our church in this post modern era. Hyde Park Church is also blessed to be rich in geographic diversity, with members from countries such as Malawi, Rwanda, Nigeria, France, Brazil, England, and, of course, a number of Caribbean islands such as Jamaica, Costa Rica and Barbados, etc.

For last year's International Day, a flag was hung for every country represented in the Hyde Park Church. Members wore their native attire, and all the choir members represented Africa by wearing African dress.

On Sabbath, May 7, the Hyde Park Church located at 4608 South Drexel Boulevard in Chicago, will once again host International Day, with Sabbath school beginning at 9:00 a.m. (CDT). Divine Worship service begins at 11:00 a.m. (CDT), with C.D. Brooks as guest speaker. Brooks is the former speaker of the Breath of Life television ministry and a well-known evangelist. As an evangelist, Brooks traveled the world

preaching the everlasting gospel of Christ's righteousness and of His soon coming. After decades of faithful service, he was elected associate secretary of the Ministerial Association of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Brooks has enjoyed this International Day Sabbath so much that he has been guest speaker at the event for the last decade. His presence gives encouragement to the church's evangelistic efforts.

The evening service will feature in concert recording artist and founder of the Breath of Life Ministry, Walter Arties. Arties was frequently a working partner with Brooks, singing the beautiful songs of Zion and helping bring hearts and minds to the altar of surrendering their lives to Jesus Christ. The concert is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. (CDT) followed by a Vesper thought from Brooks.

After the sun sets on Sabbath, the Hyde Park Church will host "The Taste of Hyde Park" with food from around the world. All are welcome to participate in this event. For additional information, call 773-373-2909.

Elaine Christopher, communications secretary, and Doris Lewis, International Day coordinator/planner, Hyde Park Church

## [UNION NEWS]



ARM club president, Bruce Moyer, and treasurer, Eleanor Howell, present check to Andrews Academy principal, Cleon White.

## Adventist Retirees of Michiana enjoy fellowship and support mission projects

The vitality of Christ still flows through Adventist retirees of southwest Michigan and northern Indiana as they usually meet on the second Sunday of each month at the Village Church in Berrien Springs, Mich., for fellowship, potluck and support of various mission projects. Many senior citizens continue to give of themselves in many ways habitually to the

churches and communities where they live.

Andrews Academy recently honored the retirees with a memorable dinner at the school with entertainment by the bell choir, led by Dean Boward, and they were lifted heavenward by senior student violinist, Rachel Lynne Brantley, freshman soprano soloist, Sofia Tsatalbasidis, and dinner music was by Joelle McIntyre. The new school board chairman, Brent Geraty J. D., gave special recognition to retiring principal, Cleon White, and shared goals and specific action items for the future of the school. White has served the academy with distinction for 32 years with the last four years as principal.

Adventist Retirees of Michiana (ARM) club president, Bruce Moyer, and treasurer, Eleanor Howell, presented a seed-money check from the club to White to inspire more personal gifts. As a result of this challenge, more than \$1,500 has come in to support the mission of the school. This brought the two generations closer together as love has opportunity to be demonstrated in both directions.

Coming topics for the retirees are,

“Where Are We Going with Healthcare?”, “Art in Mission” and “The Story of the *Andrews Study Bible*” as well as a visit with our U.S. representative, Sharon Tyler. Field trips are enjoyed, birthdays are celebrated, corn and watermelon feeds held in the grove, memories shared, friendships cultivated, devotions given that touch the heart, and mission projects promoted that cause us to lay up more treasures in Heaven—these are some of the blessings that come from the ARM club.

Any Adventist older than 55 or retired from any line of work or service is welcome to come and to enlarge their circle of friends. If you are retired and the retirees of your church do not get together, talk it over; and if you are alive in Christ, start with even two and double yourselves. This may be an outreach as well as a time of renewal for all seniors.

For additional information about ARM, phone Bruce or Shirley Moyer at 269-473-5124 or e-mail [brucemoyer3537@gmail.com](mailto:brucemoyer3537@gmail.com).

Norman Wagness, public relations director,  
Adventist Retirees of Michiana

## [WOMEN'S NEWS]

## Andrews student receives NAD Women's Ministries Scholarship

Andrews University student Chantel Atkinson is the recipient of a North American Division (NAD) Women's Ministries scholarship. Scholarship winners were announced at the beginning of December 2010; other recipients hail from Weimar College, Southwestern Adventist University, Union College and Atlantic Union College.

Atkinson, an architecture major, is a Canadian student from Ottawa, Ont. She is involved in Bilingual Kids Outreach Ministries and Silent Praise. She also participates in the University's architecture club and intramurals.

Atkinson has enjoyed her experience at Andrews, despite the financial difficulties of being an international student. “As a Canadian student, it is nearly impos-

sible to get funding when you don't get a discount from family members and you don't have an American sponsor or co-signer or go to a Canadian school,” she says.

While searching for scholarships online, Atkinson discovered the Women's Ministries Department at the Seventh-day Adventist Church North America headquarters and felt God put a scholarship opportunity directly in her path. She claims receiving the \$500 award was “truly a miracle” because without it she could not have enrolled in her last semester of the architecture program.

“Receiving this scholarship means so much to me because it is just another way that God taps me on my back and lets me know that He has all my worries taken care of,” says Atkinson. “I really appreciate that the Women's Ministries Department has outstretched their hand to a fellow young woman to encourage me to achieve my goals and to believe in my potential to become a strong, God-



Chantel Atkinson was awarded a scholarship by the Office of Women's Ministries at the North America Seventh-day Adventist Church headquarters.

fearing woman in this world. ... I praise God for what He has provided.”

Women's Ministries Department scholarships are awarded to women who are committed to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and those who would otherwise be unable to afford Christian education. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, financial need, leadership skills and community outreach.

To learn more about the Women's Ministries Department, visit [www.nadwm.org](http://www.nadwm.org).

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



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

## Weddings

**Colette A. Medlin and Shaun T. Davison** were married Oct. 10, 2010, in Indianapolis, Ind. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Gregory Taylor.

Colette is the daughter of Robert and Monica Medlin of Otway, Ohio, and Shaun is the son of James Davison of Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Jaqui and David Bowden of New Haven, Ind.

The Davisons are making their home in Indianapolis.

## Anniversaries

**John and Delores Williams** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sept. 26, 2010, by a private dinner with a few very close friends at Martin's Steak House, Naperville, Ill. They have been members of the Hyde Park (Ill.) Church for 14 years.

John B. Williams and Delores J. Dunigan were married Sept. 23, 1950, in Chicago, Ill., by the Cook County Justice of the Peace. John has been a United States Postal Service letter carrier, retiring Dec. 1983, after 32 years of service. Delores has been women's and men's clothing buyer for Litton's Clothiers in Chicago, retiring July 1981, after 20 years of service.

## Obituaries

**BROWN, Ronald J. "Chip,"** age 31; born Nov. 3, 1979, in Royal Oak, Mich.; died Dec. 8, 2010, in Port Huron, Mich. He was a member of the New Haven (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Sara (Buford); father, Ronald; mother, Darlene Toner; step-brother, Aaron Mitchell; sisters, Jennifer Martin and Jackie Brown; and stepsister, Valerie Elswick.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Leon Brown, and interment was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Port Huron.

**CASON, Alice Kay (Franklin),** age 64; born Nov. 13, 1945, in Evanston, Ill.; died July 7, 2010, in Chicago, Ill. She was a member of the Hyde Park Church, Chicago.

Survivors include her husband, Jackey

E.; daughters, Jacqueline A. Peebles and Marjorie L. Newman; mother, Priscilla M. (Franklin) Sanders; sisters, Marjorie P. Giles, Norma P. Long, Jane L. Sutton and Lynda Johnson; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Michael K. Horton, and interment was in Mount Hope Cemetery Association Cemetery, Chicago.

**COCKRELL, Lettei M.,** age 98; born Dec. 1, 1911, in Rocky Mount, N.C.; died Nov. 2, 2010, in Columbus, Wis. She was a member of the Wisconsin Academy Church, Columbus.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Stephen Aust, and interment was in Pineview Cemetery, Rocky Mount.

**ELLIOTT, Clara (Brown),** age 76; born July 5, 1933, in Marks, Miss.; died Sept. 22, 2009, in Chicago, Ill. She was a member of the Hyde Park Church, Chicago.

Survivors include her husband, Anderson (Pete) Jr.; sons, Darrel, Craig and Reginald; brothers, Samuel, James E., John H. and Arthur Brown; sisters, Bertha Brown, Mary Etta Christian, Inez Flanagan, Paula Johnson and Oseola Brown; 19 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Michael K. Horton, and interment was in Cedar Park Cemetery, Calumet Park, Ill.

**FRIESTAD, Arlene I.,** age 90; born Aug. 30, 1920, in Marseilles, Ill.; died Nov. 16, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs. Arlene was Dean of Women at Andrews University from 1954 until her retirement in 1985.

Survivors include her sisters, Delores Prokupek and Margery Taggart; and Darlene Weaver, Arlene's dear friend and caregiver.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Esther Knott, and interment was in Ottawa Avenue Cemetery, Ottawa, Ill.

**GREGORY, Elmer L.,** age 76; born Nov. 9, 1934, in Maryville, Tenn.; died Nov. 29,

2010, in La Grange, Ill. He was a member of the La Grange-Brookfield Church.

Survivors include his wife, Norma (Evens); stepson, Kelly Hemphill; daughters, Vickie Peugh and Arlene Radcliff; step-daughter, Sharri Hemphill; brother, Darrell; sister, Carolyn Riddle; seven grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Elder Kenneth A. Denslow, and interment was in Maryville Cemetery.

**HARDING, Dallas T.,** age 88; born Aug. 16, 1922, in Hamilton, Ohio; died Nov. 5, 2010, in Danville, Ind. He was a member of the Marion (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include his son, Dallas T. Jr.; daughter, Gloria Jean Kleintank; sister, Treva Adams; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Steve Manoukian, and interment was in Stilesville Cemetery, Stile, Ind.

**KIRKEY, Larry D.,** age 49; born Sept. 16, 1960, in Flint, Mich.; died Aug. 21, 2010, in Vassar, Mich. He was a member of the Vassar Church.

Survivors include his son, Larry Joseph Lyle; father, Lyle D.; mother, Margaret A. (Reed); and sisters, Connie M. Sutherland and Carol A. Miller.

Funeral services were conducted by Jeff Akenberger, and interment was in Millington (Mich.) Twp. Cemetery.

**KRANTZ, Betsey E. (Bush),** age 89; born Jan. 23, 1921, in Holland, Mich.; died Nov. 14, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Holly (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Kelvin C.; daughters, Glenda S. Hubbell, Nila J. and Joyce E. Krantz, and Ellen G. Edwards; brother, Carlton G. Bush; sisters, Eleanor J. Howell and Claris E. Robinson; 13 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dan Towar, and interment was in Oakhill Cemetery, Holly.

**LEPPER, Randy G.,** age 56; born Jan. 8, 1954, in Indianapolis, Ind.; died Nov. 12, 2010, in Indianapolis. He was a member of the Glendale Church, Indianapolis.

Survivors include his brothers, Ronald, Gilbert, Harley, Charles, David and Timothy.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Greg Taylor, with private inurnment. Because of his organ donations, two lives were saved and two people regained their sight.

**MATTSON, Mary Jane (Mangus),** age 72; born May 25, 1938, in Edmore, Mich.; died Dec. 1, 2010, in Stanton, Mich. She was a member of the Cedar Lake (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Douglas and Herman; daughters, Debra Puffer, Della Brainerd and Patricia Mattson; brothers, George and Loren Hendrick; sisters, Margaret "Annie" Reed and Betty Lou Rowley; 14 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Mickey Mallory.

**TIMM, Lloyd A.,** age 75; born May 21, 1935, in Bon Homme Cty., S.D.; died Oct. 22, 2010, in Traverse City, Mich. He was a member of the Traverse City Church.

Survivors include his wife, Norma (French); and son, Steven.

Funeral services were conducted by Paul Kulakov, Arthur Covell and Jan Follett, and interment was in Pleasant View Cemetery, Spruce, Mich.

**TONIOLLI, Ruth S. (Davis) Myers,** age 84; born June 3, 1926, in Mt. Auburn, Iowa; died Nov. 14, 2010, in Maryville, Ill. She was a member of the Oakhill Church, Caseyville, Ill.

Survivors include her son, Frank Myers; daughters, Nancy Johnson and Ellen L. Killian; brother, Lee Davis; sisters, Edytha Hicok and Elaine Davis; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dale Barnhurst, with private inurnment.

**WILDMAN, Durward B.,** age 80; born Oct. 10, 1930, in Mishawaka, Ind.; died Nov. 30, 2010, in Mohrsville, Pa. He was a member of the Hinsdale (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Joan (Lane); son, Gregory; daughters, Joni Baker and Patti Carlson; brothers, Don, Louis and Gordan; sisters, Beverly Moble and Janet Schlunt; and five grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Ron Schultz, and interment was in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Mausoleum, Elwood, Ill.



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](http://www.LakeUnionHerald.org) and submit the announcement online. Readers may verify dates and times of programs with the respective sources, as these events are subject to change. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at [www.LakeUnionHerald.org](http://www.LakeUnionHerald.org).

## Andrews University

**2011 Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop, July 31-Aug. 5.** Pastors and spouses, health professionals, anyone interested in natural remedies or hydrotherapy invited to attend. Six-day workshop; limited space. For more information, visit [www.andrews.edu/go/nrhw/](http://www.andrews.edu/go/nrhw/) or e-mail [fran@andrews.edu](mailto:fran@andrews.edu).

## Indiana

**Annual Lay Training, Apr. 15-16,** at Timber Ridge Camp. Guest presenter, Toni Minikus. This is a great opportunity to learn how to share Bible studies in small groups or with individual neighbors or friends. To register, call the Indiana Conference ministerial department at 317-844-6201.

**Sabbath School Workshop, Apr. 30,** begins at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel on Indiana Academy campus. Guest presenter, Faith Johnson Crumbly. To register, e-mail Charlie Thompson at [cpbhk@yahoo.com](mailto:cpbhk@yahoo.com) or call Trish Thompson at the Indiana Conference at 317-844-6201. Registration deadline is Apr. 25.

**Timber Ridge Camp 50th Anniversary, Oct. 14-16:** All former youth directors and staff who have been a part of the 50 years of ministry at TRC are invited to join in this special weekend celebration. For detailed information and to make your reservation, contact Dean Whitlow at 812-829-2507 or [dwhitlow@hughes.net](mailto:dwhitlow@hughes.net). Accommodations are limited so register early!

## Lake Region

**Seventh Annual Pathfinder Honors Retreat:** Pathfinders! Directors! Staff! Master Guides! PLA! PIA!—come to the Seventh Annual Pathfinder Honors Retreat **May 13-15** at Camp Michawana, Hastings, Mich. Featured presenter, Brandon Dent Jr. For more information, call Robert Jackson Jr.

at 248-877-8300, Angie Gardner at 313-915-8758 or Teresa Rodgers at 313-283-7775.

**Women's Retreat:** "Women of Strength" is the theme of this **Oct. 27-30** event at Grand Geneva Retreat & Spa, 7036 Grand Geneva Way, Lake Geneva, Wis. Register today online through PlusLine at <http://www.plusline.org/event/detail.php?id=1066791>. For room reservations, call 1-800-558-3417. Ask for Lake Region Women's Retreat to get the special group room rate. Spouses welcome. Visit [www.LRCWM.org](http://www.LRCWM.org) for more details.

## Lake Union

### Offerings

- Apr. 2** Local Church Budget
- Apr. 9** Christian Record Services
- Apr. 16** Local Church Budget
- Apr. 23** Local Conference Advance
- Apr. 30** NAD Outreach Project

### Special Days

- Apr. 2** Missionary Magazines  
(*Signs, Message, El Centinela, Priorities*)
- Apr. 9** Stewardship Sabbath
- Apr. 16** Literature Evangelism Sabbath
- Apr. 23** Education Sabbath

**ASI Spring Conference:** Come join ASI members and non-members **Apr. 15-16** at Downers Grove (Ill.) Church. Presentations by Dr. George Knight; ASI testimonies; Scripture memory power workshop by Rich Constantinescu; art workshop by Nathan Greene. For more information, visit [www.asilakeunion.org](http://www.asilakeunion.org); or contact Carmelo Mercado at 269-473-8200.

**Legal Notice:** The 21st business session of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in the Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, on **May 15, 2011**. The first meeting of the session will convene at 9:00 a.m. on May 15. This session is being held for the purpose of receiving reports for the five-year period ending December 31, 2010; the election of officers, assistant treasurers, departmental directors and associate directors, an executive committee for the ensuing five years; to consider proposed constitutional changes; and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Don Livesay, president  
Rodney A. Grove, secretary

## Michigan

**Great Lakes Adventist Academy** invites all students in grades 8-11 to come for the awesome experience of Academy Days, **Apr. 17-18**. Visit classes, make new friends, enjoy current students and experience boarding academy life. Registration is from 4:00-5:00 p.m. on Sunday. To register, visit our Web site at [www.glaa.net](http://www.glaa.net), call Mrs. Hilda Reichert at 989-427-5181, or e-mail [glaa@misda.org](mailto:glaa@misda.org).

**Your presence at Battle Creek Academy Alumni Weekend on Apr. 29-30** will help make our celebration complete. Honor classes: 1921, '31, '41, '51, '61, '71, '81, '86, '91 and 2001. Brenda Walsh is guest speaker for Fri. Vespers and Sabbath church service in the Battle Creek Tabernacle. Sabbath Vespers in the Tabernacle with the Michieff sisters. For further information, contact Sallie Meyer at [SMeyer@batcreekacademy.com](mailto:SMeyer@batcreekacademy.com).

**100 Years of Adventist Education in Detroit:** To recognize and commemorate

100 years of Adventist training of future Christian missionaries, the Metropolitan Church will host the Centennial Celebration on **Apr. 30**, starting at 9:30 a.m. The church is located at 15585 N. Haggerty, Plymouth. The guest speaker will be Nathan Greene. Afternoon music concert by Scott Michael Bennett and Camille Aragonés. There will be a potluck lunch; special offering taken for the Worthy Student Fund. For more information, call 734-420-4044 or visit Web site [www.southfield-metro100years.com](http://www.southfield-metro100years.com).

**"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion** will take place **June 9-12** for alumni and warmly welcomed schoolmates of 1961 and earlier at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake. Honor classes: 1931, '41, '51 and '61. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. Also, contact GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181 or visit [www.GLAA.net](http://www.GLAA.net) for further information. Please do pass the good word.

## Wisconsin

**Wisconsin Academy Alumni Weekend 2011:** Alumni and former faculty of Wisconsin Academy are invited to Alumni Weekend 2011. The dates are **Apr. 22-24**, starting with Fri. night vespers. Honored classes are 1931, '41, '51, '61, '71, '81, '86, '91 and 2001. Please plan to attend. For more information, call 715-977-0214 or e-mail [lschultz.development@gmail.com](mailto:lschultz.development@gmail.com).

**M.I.D.W.E.S.T. Center of Evangelism is taking applications for the Fall 2011 term.** Learn how to become an effective soul winner like Jesus in this three-and-a-half-month training program. The program is a joint effort by LIGHT and Rekindle the Flame ministries. Visit Web site: [www.rekindletheflameministries.org](http://www.rekindletheflameministries.org) and click MIDWEST for information, or call 715-310-2196.

# Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Apr 1	Apr 8	Apr 15	Apr 22	Apr 29	May 6
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:10	8:17	8:25	8:33	8:41	8:49
Chicago, Ill.	7:16	7:23	7:31	7:39	7:47	7:55
Detroit, Mich.	7:58	8:05	8:13	8:21	8:29	8:37
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:08	8:16	8:22	8:29	8:37	8:44
La Crosse, Wis.	7:31	7:40	7:48	7:56	8:05	8:14
Lansing, Mich.	8:04	8:12	8:20	8:28	8:36	8:44
Madison, Wis.	7:23	7:32	7:40	7:48	7:56	8:04
Springfield, Ill.	7:22	7:29	7:37	7:44	7:50	7:58



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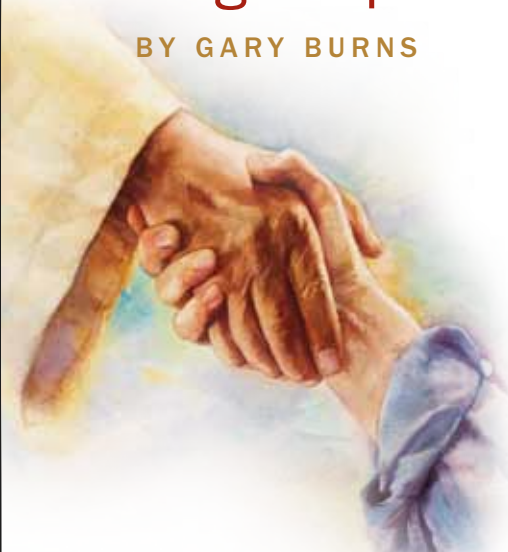
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## PARTNERSHIP with GOD

### It's All About Saving People

BY GARY BURNS



Recently, I've enjoyed reading about the experience of our early advent believers. I've been amazed at their dedication to the mission. Their love compelled them to sacrifice whatever they could in order that others might hear the truth about our loving and soon-coming Savior.

As I reflected on their personal sacrifice, the epilogue clip someone shared with me from the film, "Schindler's List," came to mind. Oscar Schindler, a German factory owner, personally saved more than 1,100 Jewish workers from death by buying their freedom. As a member of the Nazi party, Oscar prepares to escape his own capture by the liberating forces and whispers to his friend remorsefully, "I could have got more. I could have got more. If I had just..." He sees the car ready for his es-

cape, "This car. What good would have bought this car? Why did I keep the car? Ten people right there! Ten people. Ten more people!" He pulls the Nazi pin off his jacket. "This pin. Two more people! This is gold. Two more people. He would have given me at least one more person. One more person ... for this!" Oscar staggers in remorse and weeping, "I could have got one more person!"

Those who started this advent movement of destiny truly had a partnership with God in which everything they had and everything they were belonged to Him. They shared their Savior's heart for lost people. Oscar's haunting words are a good reminder to me, "I could have got one more person, and I didn't."

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



## An Object Lesson from the Squirrels

BY MALISSA MARTIN

When I read the morning paper, I usually sit at the kitchen table; but this particular morning, I decided to read at my desk. When I turned to face the window, I saw two squirrels sitting on the neighbor's fence. One's tail wagged in confidence while the other's appeared petrified.

The fence belonged to a family who owned a big, mean and surly pit bull. This dog barked at you for even thinking of looking at him. All of a sudden, the confident squirrel turned to the fearful one. I don't know squirrel language, but it seemed to say, "Stay right here. I'll be right back"; then it leaped off the fence and disappeared. I watched as the lone squirrel stood motionless on the fence. It appeared to have no plans to move, forward or backward. After what seemed like a long time the other squirrel returned, raced up the fence, chattered something to the other and then they both leaped into the treacherous dog's territory.

I was on the edge of my seat fearing the dog was going to have squirrel for breakfast. I watched in awe as the first squirrel led the other one across the yard to safety beyond the fence. Once they were out of the dog's reach, I let out a sigh of relief.

The entire scenario made me think of how God leads us through life's problems. We can only see the big surly beast in front of us and are incapacitated with fear. But God is the all-wise, all-powerful confident One. Nothing is too



hard for Him. He only sees opportunity for rescue and freedom.

I wonder what was going through the mind of the squirrel that appeared to be frozen with fear. What gave him the confidence to follow his partner?

Sometimes I face problems and feel like a fearful squirrel sitting on the fence above a ferocious dog. I pray for God to come and help me, but sometimes He appears to have abandoned me.

I'm reminded to not give up! Like the confident squirrel, I know my God has gone ahead of me to prepare a plan of escape. Now is the time for me to exercise faith—to

trust and obey. Maybe this time of waiting is for my own safety as well as my spiritual growth. Learning to trust and obey now may be just what I need to follow Him safely through the dangers that lie ahead.

"Yet those who wait on the Lord Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles..." (Isaiah 40:31 NKJV) Now that's the way to go!

Malissa Martin is an author and graduate student at Wayne State University in Detroit where she is studying journalism.

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Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

## Spreading the Word

BY ASHLEIGH JARDINE

**H**olly Navarro is the president of Adventist Students for Christ (ASC) on the campus of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she is a junior nursing student. "Our goal is to share God's love with the people around us and to share the gospel," says Holly. "We're trying to get our name out there and show people that God cares about them."



Holly Navarro

The ASC group has experienced dramatic changes since 2008 when young adults from the local Seventh-day Adventist churches joined the ministry in their efforts. Since the expansion, the group holds weekly meetings at the campus chapel for fellowship, songs and Bible studies. They also plan activities to engage students and provide opportunities to share the gospel. One such activity is the "Muffin Ministry."

"We were going over some old activities ASC used to do, and we really liked the Muffin Ministry," says Holly. "Basically, we wrap up muffins and pass them out to students during the day. I thought it was an awesome idea, because sometimes students don't have the time or money to stop and eat."

The ASC group asked three local churches to donate muffins for the project and came up with the idea of including an encouraging Bible verse with each muffin as well as an invitation to the Friday-night Bible study meetings. One Sunday, the group met in the center of campus and passed out more than 300 muffins in just two hours.

"ASC has helped me see what being part of the Body of Christ is all about," says ministry leader, Kenneth McGee. "Each relationship helps me see how Christ is working in the lives of others."

The group also hosts events like "Veggie Fest" to promote a vegetarian diet on campus. Local churches assist by preparing food samples, and by providing recipes and even cookbooks. The event is an ASC favorite and has special appeal to students who are already vegetarians and share similar health values.

Holly is a member of the Downtown Kalamazoo Seventh-day Adventist Church and looks forward to serving Christ as a registered nurse.

Ashleigh Jardine is a freelance writer from Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she is pursuing a degree in physical therapy from Andrews University.

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