A detailed oil painting of Jesus Christ with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a white robe and a purple sash. He is gently holding a small black lamb against his chest. The background is a soft, textured wash of blue and purple colors.

# Lake Union HERALD

APRIL 2016

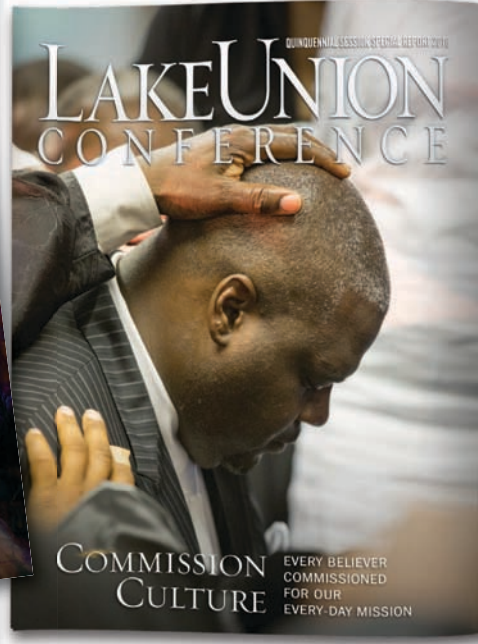
COMMISSIONED  
TO LOVE TO SEEK  
AND TO SAVE

*Signature*

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



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## In this issue...

Another five years has past and the time has come for the Lake Union Conference to hold its 22nd business session in the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Michigan. I'm sure the founders of the Lake Union never dreamed we would be here long enough to have a 22nd business session. And that is why the focus of this 22nd business session is on fulfilling the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:18-20. Our theme is "Commission Culture — Fulfilling Our Daily Commission." Each one of us is commissioned, every day, to go, make disciples, leading them to be baptized, and teaching them to be like Jesus.

Following page 16, you will find an inserted copy of the Lake Union Session Report given to each delegate to the session. You will find the list of delegates on the last page of the report. We wanted everyone to have a copy, so we put your copy in the Herald. Though you may not be a delegate, we do want you to be a part of the process of holding your union leaders and directors accountable to stay focused on mission and to provide resources that help you accomplish your daily commission. So I encourage you to speak to the delegate that represents you, and share your perspective on mission with them. Let them know your vision for mission and your suggestions for how we can better serve you and the rest of the 86,652 members in the Lake Union.

  
Gary Burns, Editor



The *Lake Union Herald* (ISSN 0194-908X) is published monthly (except for June, July and November, December) by the Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs, Mich., and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription price is \$12.50. Vol. 108, No. 4. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: *Lake Union Herald*, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287.

# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BY DON LIVESAY, LAKE UNION PRESIDENT



## The Miracle of Healing in Dying

While preparing to participate in the funeral of a dear friend who died without warning, news came that another long-term friend had just died from a very aggressive cancer. While at the funeral that day I connected with another friend in her second year of a longer terminal process. As a 33-year cancer survivor, I find it easy to talk to those experiencing the early stages of cancer. But that experience has not automatically equipped me to know just what to say to those who have reached a definite end-of-life process. We both wonder, “Why me?”

“Living Well and Dying Faithfully,” was the title of a recent address to a group of Adventist Healthcare professionals by Benjamin Reaves, assistant to the president for Mission and Ministries, Adventist Health System. It was a powerful exploration of how we can minister to those who are dying. The focus was on helping the dying live life to the fullest extent in the time remaining. Or, as my joyful friend mentioned above says, “I’m living life to the full — one day at a time!” She is evidence that real healing is available to those who are dying. Healing can come in the form of resolving unfinished business, sharing experiences with and saying goodbye to significant people, leaving a legacy of positive memories and tangible benefits, and living with a real sense of joy, peace and hope.

A good example of end-of-life healing is found in Genesis 49, where Jacob blessed his sons. That also must have been a healing moment for the “Jacobsons.” Another example is found in the words of Jesus from the cross. *I say to you today, you will be with me in paradise* — the assurance of salvation. *...behold your son...behold your mother* — providing for his family. *It is finished* — at peace with an accomplished mission. *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit* — dying with full submission and abiding trust in his heavenly Father (see Luke 23:43; John 19:26, 27; John 19:30; Luke 23:46).

Benjamin gave a wonderful illustration. When you overfill a cup, the fluid that spills out is the same that was poured into the cup. Without God, the pain and trauma of death and dying that pours into one’s life is often the same agony and suffering that spills out to those around. But, for some, a miracle takes place. As the pain and trauma of death and dying pours into the believer’s life, God changes that flow into comfort, both for the afflicted and those who are near. Although death and tribulation will come to all, we can choose to be a part of the miracle of “what goes in is not what comes out.”

Paul says it this way: *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ* (2 Corinthians 1:3-4 NKJV).

Our hope is built on nothing less than Christ’s righteousness. We can have the miracle of hope, peace, comfort and healing through every experience of life — past, present and future!



# FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

## Are We Drifting?

BY KARL HAFFNER

**W**hat do you suppose is the greatest danger facing our church? What might threaten our very existence — close our doors — shut us down for business? I don't think it would be doctrinal in nature. Our denomination has published 28 fundamental beliefs. They're carefully thought through. They're very biblical. I don't think doctrines will ultimately be our undoing.

I don't think it's organizational in nature. We belong to a very structured organization that I think is divinely ordained by God. I was reminded of this at the recent General Conference Session, a gathering of over 75,000 Seventh-day Adventists from all around the world. We have conferences and unions, divisions and the General Conference. And it just struck me that this is a very solid and structured organization.

Do you know what I think it is? I think it's missional in nature — what organizational gurus refer to as mission drift, where we just get fuzzy on the focus, where we lose clarity on what we are called to be and what we are called to do; where we just get off track a bit from our original mission. If we drift from our mission, our demise is certain. I don't think that's too strong, is it?

So, what is our mission? Well, our Master, our Leader, has articulated just what that mission is in Matthew 28:18-20. We call it The Great Commission. That's where Jesus says, "Here's the mission." Just before he ascends to the Father he tells his disciples, "This is what I want you to be about." We are to go and reach lost people with the good news of Jesus Christ, and then, teach them the ways of Jesus. Reach and teach — baptize people in the name of the Father, Son



Karl Haffner

and Holy Spirit and then disciple them so that the character of Christ might be fully formed in each person. That's our mission! We call it The Great Commission.

I like the title of a Sermon Spice video', "The Everyday Commission." It's not a program, rather, it's a lifestyle. I love a line from that video that says, "You can live this mission as you are going." A lot of times we think The Great Commission is this grandiose lofty ideal that's framed and hung on a wall somewhere, but it really doesn't seep in to the places we live and what we actually do.

So if there is a threat to the longevity of this church, I would say it's we lose focus on the every-day mission that God has given us. So my question is, "Are we doing this?" Are we living The Great Commission each day? Or, are we just providing great religious programming? Are we just talking to ourselves and enjoying community? Or, are we really fulfilling the every-day commission? I wonder.

It is not our mission to do lots and lots of good things, which we do. Our mission is to fulfill The Great Commission wherever we are — to reach lost people for the Kingdom of God and then teach them the Jesus way of life. That is what we are about.

# MISSION DRIFT WILL HAPPEN IN EVERY SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH UNLESS WE ARE ACTIVELY PREVENTING IT.



We need to ask ourselves the question about our church, “Does it beat with the heartbeat of its original founder? Here is the heartbeat of our original founder: “Go, and make disciples in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.” This is our every-day commission.

Mission Drift: “Mission drift unfolds slowly. Like a current, it carries organizations away from the core purpose and identity. The pressures of mission drift are guaranteed. It is the default — the auto-fill. It will happen unless we are focused and actively preventing it.” Mission drift will happen in every Seventh-day Adventist church unless we are actively preventing it. How do we prevent it from happening to us? What are we to do? I point us back to the story of Jesus giving us this commission to begin with, to see what the disciples in the early Christian church did when they were given this mission.

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-10 NIV).

You’ve probably heard the saying that Christians can be so heavenly minded they are of no earthly good. I think maybe that comes from this conversation the two angels have with the disciples. “What are you doing? He just gave you your mission. Get to work. Don’t stand here looking up into heaven. Get on mission!” So they do.

Now notice, the first thing that they do, is they get together. Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying.... They all joined together constantly in prayer, which was the first step in fulfilling their mission.

As you think about your own context, prayerfully saying, “God, we just want to be on mission. We just want to do what you designed us to do. We want to beat as one with your original heartbeat to win lost people for the Kingdom of God.”

So what do we do? I suggest we start where the disciples did and devote ourselves to prayer, and that our prayer focus be on mission, fulfilling our every-day commission.

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Karl Haffner is the senior pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at Kettering, in Kettering Ohio. This article was condensed from a sermon entitled, “Mission Drift,” and is available for viewing at [bit.ly/ket7sda](http://bit.ly/ket7sda).

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1 [bit.ly/MT281920](http://bit.ly/MT281920)



# FAMILY TIES

## Who Can I Turn To?

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

Often when things aren't working for us, we keep doing the same thing but just try harder. When it comes to relationships that aren't working, or when we are struggling with personal issues, often we are not sure what to do differently or where to go for help. Sometimes we talk to others about our angst — not fully realizing the people we often turn to are not part of the problem, they are not part of the solution, and generally they cannot be objective.

There are many types of mental health professionals to which we can turn about a concern relating to our emotional lives, if we suspect we have mental health issues, and/or relational issues. Perhaps these descriptions will assist you in asking for the help you need and deserve.

A *psychiatrist* is a physician with training to deal with the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders and may prescribe medication. Some psychiatrists will have completed further study in one of the psychotherapeutic disciplines alongside their medical training, but most will refer patients to other mental health specialists.

*Psychologist* is a generic term and can cover many different specialties. For example, a *clinical psychologist* has training in working with people who experience mental health problems or psychological distress. They make diagnoses and provide individual and group therapy, but they do not prescribe medication. A school psychologist is trained specifically to work within the school system to benefit students.

A *pastoral counselor* is a clergy member with training in clinical pastoral education. They use both psychological and theological resources when counseling individuals and couples.

A *licensed professional counselor (LPC)* has at least a master's degree and has completed training to work with individuals, families, and groups in treating mental, behavioral, and emotional problems and disorders.



A *marriage and family therapist (LMFT)* has at least a master's degree and works with individuals, as well as families and couples in intimate relationships to nurture change and development. They emphasize family relationships as an important factor in psychological health.

A *social worker (LCSW, ACSW)* applies social work theory, knowledge and methods to restore or enhance the functioning of individuals, couples, families and groups as well as organizations and communities. MSW signifies they have a master's degree.

There are a number of other professionals including your *primary care physician, physician's assistants* and *nurse practitioners* are often qualified to provide medication but will refer to the above mental health professionals for counseling.

When a mental health professional has the designation of 'licensed' it signifies they have met designated supervision hours and have passed a rigorous examination in order to practice their profession. They can provide understanding, offer strategies, and introduce you to new relational skills, many of them within a Christian context. They all operate by a set of ethical standards, including confidentiality. Your costs for their services will depend on the state you live in, your insurance coverage, their credentials, as well as other factors.

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

*Cold water stimulates the circulatory system*



*Hot water relaxes us*

## Water Therapy

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

**W**ater has many functions. It provides music to our ears, beauty to our eyes, peace to our minds, healing to our bodies, and quenches our thirst. Many are invigorated by listening to the roll of the ocean waves or the gentle ebb and flow of the tide. To watch a tall cascading waterfall can be very awe inspiring. The peaceful splash of a fountain and the gentle flow of a creek also can bring peace to a stressed mind. A nice warm shower or time spent in a Jacuzzi or sauna can provide relaxation while a cold shower invigorates. Ten minutes spent in a whirlpool can increase feelings of well-being and diminish anxiety.

Liquid water, along with its other forms (ice and steam), are used to manage pain, relieve anxiety, treat disorders or promote well-being. The therapeutic use of water has a long history. Bathhouses were known in ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman culture. Hippocrates prescribed bathing in spring water for sickness. Roman physicians Celsus and Galen treated patients with warm and cold baths to prevent disease. The Islamic bathhouse (Hamman) was used for cleansing, relaxation and pleasure. In Austria in the early nineteenth century, Priessnitz became internationally famous for his water cure. Water treatments also were popular at Battle Creek Sanitarium during the time of John Harvey Kellogg. Water treatments are still popular today at spas and lifestyle centers, and are useful for pain management, soothing headaches, sore muscles and joints, lowering fevers and promoting relaxation.

The use of hot water relaxes a person while cold water stimulates. Within limits, the greater the variation from body temperature, the greater the effect produced. Alternating hot and cold water can stimulate the circulatory system and improve immune function. A protocol with 3 minutes of hot followed by at least 20 to 30 seconds of cold produces results. Therapeutic water treatments involve friction rubs, compresses, wet wraps, foot-baths, whirlpools, showers and sprays. Effectively administered water treatments require time and knowledge.



Cold water is commonly used to reduce inflammation. Cancer patients given cold water treatments see their white blood cell counts increased. Cold water treatments for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease have reduced frequency of infections, increased white blood cell counts, and improved well-being. Water therapy has been used for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, fibromyalgia syndrome and frostbite.

Nasal saline irrigations can relieve symptoms of acute sinusitis. Patients with congestive heart failure enjoyed improved cardiac function after a warm bath or mild temperature sauna. Children suffering from asthmatic bronchitis get some relief from specific water treatments. Warm water provides pain relief for colonic spasm. Ice packs can be used for back pains, sprains, knees injuries and treatment of hemorrhoids. Steam is frequently used as a carrier for essential oils that are inhaled to treat respiratory problems.

Water treatments also support a quicker recovery after exercise. Those subjects who recovered with a shower and whirlpool bath for 30 minutes had lower blood pressures and heart rates, and less fatigue than those who rested for 30 minutes lying down.

Water treatments also support a quicker recovery after exercise. Those subjects who recovered with a shower and whirlpool bath for 30 minutes had lower blood pressures and heart rates, and less fatigue than those who rested for 30 minutes lying down.

Winston J. Craig, Ph.D., RD, is a professor emeritus of nutrition with Andrews University. He resides in Walla Walla, Washington.



# PRESENT TRUTH

*Following the Lamb wherever He goes*

## Commissioned to Save

BY ELLEN WHITE

*The Gospel Commission is given to every believer of every age, however, never has the need been so great for “all hands on deck” as today.*  
— The Editors

*But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:8 KJV).*

These were the last words of the Saviour to his disciples, and in them we see the commission which was given them, and the work that they were to do. They were to be witnesses unto Christ to the uttermost parts of the earth. The very same charge has been given to us as was given to them, and how desirous should we be to fulfill our Lord's commission to save those that are lost and to glorify God in the world...

They were to wait for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Man of himself can do nothing. His only efficiency is in Christ. The Lord has said to his disciples, *Without me ye can do nothing* (John 15:5 KJV). We cannot win souls to Christ unless we ourselves are acquainted with God. The only way by which we shall draw men to Christ is by drawing nigh to God ourselves....

We must have the light of Christ in our own hearts in order to give it to others. We want the light to practice by, a living principle in the soul, that the character may be transformed.... We are to learn that humility is before honor. The apostle writes, *Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up* (James 4:10 KJV). We are not to have a put-on humility. There is such a thing as humility on stilts, a humility that parades itself before men to be seen of them. The humility that God will honor is that humility which is the result of the soul's realization of its helplessness. This is

the lesson that the workers in all branches of the cause need to learn. When this is learned, they will exert an influence that will be a savor of life unto life.

We want to be joined to Christ by living faith. There are too many who are satisfied with having their names on the church book, while their names are not registered in the books of heaven. It is not your profession, but your course of action, that will determine whether or not you are Christians. We are nearing the judgment, and we should strive to spend the little time that intervenes between the present and the coming of Christ, in an intelligent manner. We should seek to have the mind filled with valuable knowledge, not with wood, hay and stubble. By wise cultivation our ability should increase, that we may have growing power to understand the sacred teachings of Christ.

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Ellen White, co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, "Christ's Instruction to His Followers," *Review & Herald*, April 19, 1892.

*This column is designed to promote searching the Scriptures on current topics — in community, through prayer. Invite others to join you in prayerful response to these thoughts:*

- *What was Christ's two-fold purpose in commissioning us?*
- *List the requisites for being equipped to fulfill our commission.*
- *What determines if your name is written in the books of heaven?*
- *How should we prioritize our time? What should be our focus?* — The Editors



# The Joy of Asking

BY ALVIN J. VANDERGRIEND

Jesus thought asking should be joyful. Ask, he said, *and you will receive, and your joy will be complete* (John 16:24 NIV). Wow!

Asking God for things, however, isn't always enjoyable. Praying through lists of prayer requests can be boring. When others lead in prayer and ask for things that we are not interested in our minds wander. And what about the times we ask and ask and ask and do not receive. That isn't very enjoyable.

How are we supposed to understand Jesus' promise that asking leads to joy? The explanation is in the phrase, *in my name*. Jesus didn't say that asking alone would give us joy. What he said was that asking *in his name* would give us joy.

Asking in Jesus' name is much more than adding the words "in Jesus' name" to the end of our prayers. It means that we come to the Father with new hearts and Spirit-cleansed lives; that we come as spokespersons for Christ; and that we come asking for the very things that Christ desires — those things that will bring glory to the Father and build his kingdom. When we come that way, we will receive what we ask for and will have complete joy.

That wasn't how the disciples asked. They asked in an Old Testament way, which meant that they based their prayers on the promises God had made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Now Jesus is offering them a better way to pray — *in his name*.

We experience *complete joy* when asking in this way for several reasons. First, asking is communication with our heavenly Father who is the love of our life. To ask him is to step into the atmosphere of his love. It is to be reminded that he loves us *with an everlasting love* (Jeremiah 31:3) and that he is both willing and able to give us what we ask.

We also experience joy in asking because we receive. When we ask in accord with God's will, we can have everything God has promised — everything,

that is, *we need for life and godliness* (2 Peter 1:3). We can have the graces that we need for spiritual growth: faith, hope, love, wisdom, guidance, insight, joy and peace. We can have the power to be effective in ministry. We can have *Christ, the hope of glory* (Colossians 1:27 NIV). Asking and receiving is very exciting when we draw on God's sufficiency to supply our needs.

We also will find joy in asking when we ask for others. When we pray for others, we partner with God in providing his blessing. At seminars I often give attendees five minutes to pray silently for persons they know who are not yet followers of Christ. When invited to share what they experienced when praying this way, attendees often say, "I had a feeling of joy." When I ask why, the usual response is something like: "I know God will be doing things in their lives because I prayed." What they experience at that moment is the joy of asking.

Maybe asking has not always been joyful for you. Not all asking is joyful. But asking *in Jesus' name* and getting what we ask for from our loving heavenly Father is joyful. *Taste and see that the Lord is good*, wrote David (Psalm 34:8 NIV). So, is your mouth watering?

Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you how to pray in accord with God's will. Pray in Jesus' name!

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, *Joy of Prayer*. Reprinted with permission.



## Am I Too Young?

BY FAYTHE A. HIXON

**I**t was a day like any other, nothing was out of the ordinary, everything seemed normal. If someone told me a month from then that that day would change my life, I would have never believed them. But I soon found out that my life did change that day.

When I arrived at school I followed the same routine as always. Before I knew it we were at our desks ready for worship. We had just received the new *KidsView* for that month. We listened intently to my teacher as she read the story. The story was about a group of kids from Minnesota who wanted to start a club. When they had finished debating what they would raise money for they all decided on raising money for ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency). This got my attention. I kept processing that it was just a group of kids. How could just a group of kids come up with such a thoughtful idea? This led me to start thinking about my own life.

I realized that there wasn't anything real exciting or productive about what I was doing in my life. All I did was go to school and then sit around doing nothing. I wondered, "Is this really what God intended for me to do? Sit around and do nothing all day?"

There was something else that stuck out about the story. It said that every twenty seconds a child dies from lack of clean water. For some reason that one sentence was all that was going through my mind for a long time. I would be doing something and then it would pop in my mind. I never cared about world problems like this before so why start now? I'm too young to do anything about it anyway. I don't have a job what can I do about it? Then something occurred to me, what if God is trying to tell me something.



Faythe A. Hixon

I prayed about the direction of where this was all going. It was about three weeks before I had said anything to anyone about my recent inspiration. The first person I told was my grandma, Maureen Hixon.

My grandma had talked to a lady this summer who worked for ADRA. We contacted her and she was more than happy to help. She gave us information about the well as well as getting us into the system at ADRA. The whole project will cost \$5,000, ADRA goes to the location where they will be putting the well in, and they meet the

people and get to know them. They put special piping in leading to the village so that the water won't be contaminated again. They teach all of the people about proper hygiene. When they leave all of the villagers will have full access to clean, safe, water, and will be healthier because of it.

I plan to go to different churches every month and give a presentation about what my project is about, I am planning on having a fundraiser dinner in the near future, as well as other things to raise money. I want to raise all of the money by June. When I finish school for this year, I want the well to be put in as soon as possible. If all goes well, I will be able to go to Africa to see the well put in, as well as meet the people I am helping.

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Faythe A. Hixon is thirteen years old and attends the Hillside Christian School in Wausau, Wisconsin.



## Nuevos planes y nuevos métodos

POR CARMELO MERCADO

*“Se necesitan hombres que oren a Dios pidiendo sabiduría, y que, bajo la dirección de Dios, puedan infundir nueva vida en los antiguos métodos de trabajo y que puedan inventar nuevos planes y nuevos métodos para despertar el interés de los miembros de la iglesia y para alcanzar a los hombres y las mujeres de este mundo” (Evangelismo, p. 81)*

**E**n el mes de febrero tuve el privilegio de asistir a una reunión en la cual los directores ministeriales y los coordinadores de los grupos étnicos de las asociaciones de la División Norteamericana se reunieron para dialogar acerca de cómo avanzar la obra de evangelismo en dichas asociaciones. Tuvimos la oportunidad de escuchar varias presentaciones de diferentes temas como la plantación de nuevas iglesias, el ministerio en las escuelas seculares, evangelismo público y la participación de pastores laicos.

Lo que me interesó en manera especial fueron los diferentes métodos nuevos que se están utilizando. Un ejemplo de esto es lo que presentaron dos jóvenes, Jeff Tartarchuk y Juan Martínez, quienes establecieron un negocio y un ministerio en Berrien Springs, Michigan, llamado *CrossFit Berrien*. *CrossFit Berrien* es un gimnasio que está abierto al público donde uno puede ir para hacer ejercicios especializados con el propósito de fortalecer el cuerpo y lograr un nivel de salud más elevado. Muchas personas de la comunidad asisten al gimnasio; la mayoría de ellos es de la generación comúnmente conocida como *millennials*. Los *millennials* son las personas que nacieron dentro de los años 1980 y los primeros años del nuevo milenio.

Un gran desafío de la iglesia es poder alcanzar a esta juventud, ya que de acuerdo a las estadísticas más de una tercera parte dice no estar conectada con ninguna iglesia, y esta generación es la más numerosa en este país. Lo interesante es que los dueños de *CrossFit Berrien* son fieles que además de abrir su gimnasio para el ejercicio ofrecen también un programa de estudios bíblicos los viernes de noche con exposiciones sobre la salud, conciertos y en varias



*Jeff Tartarchuk, uno de los dueños de CrossFit Berrien, explicando su negocio y ministerio en una reunión auspiciada por la División Norteamericana.*

ocasiones invitan a sus clientes a participar en viajes misioneros. Con el tiempo han desarrollado un buen espíritu de comunidad con sus clientes. Ellos tienen la esperanza de poder eventualmente plantar una nueva iglesia adventista.

Desde que comencé mi ministerio en el año 1979 he visto muchos cambios en la manera de vivir de la gente. Éstos se deben en parte a la llegada del Internet, de

la computadora y del teléfono inteligente (*smartphone*). El resultado es que la gente ha dejado gradualmente de tener como prioridad la lectura de la Biblia y la asistencia a la iglesia.

El desafío que tiene la iglesia en la actualidad es cómo ganar para Cristo a los jóvenes de esta generación. Creo que es urgente que desarrollemos métodos y planes nuevos que tengan que ver en primer lugar con las necesidades de los *millennials* y así, con el tiempo, poder llevarlos a los pies de Cristo.

Doy gracias a dios por los dueños de *CrossFit Berrien* y mi oración es que apoyemos a nuestros jóvenes para que ellos puedan también crear métodos nuevos de evangelismo que resulten en la ganancia de almas.

---

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.



## Three Blessings in One Day

BY KEN STUBBS

**M**any baseball experts will tell you that one of the most exciting plays in the game is the triple play, where three outs are recorded with one swing of the bat. On November 28, 2015, the congregation of the Holland Seventh-day Adventist Church witnessed a beautiful triple play of their own. On that glorious Sabbath, a father was re-baptized, a mother baptized, and a daughter dedicated for the Lord, with Gene Hall, senior pastor serving all three.

The father, Matt Bernick, has been a member of the Holland church for a number of years and attended the Holland church school through the seventh grade. Matt's eighth-grade year found him in the Saugatuck school system and that is where his troubles began. He hooked up with the wrong crowd and began experimenting with drugs at age 13. It wasn't long before he was caught with drugs in his possession while on one of the Saugatuck school buses.

When it came time for Matt to enter high school, his parents pleaded with him to attend Great Lakes Adventist Academy. Matt begged with them to remain in public school, telling them, "If you send me there, I will get kicked out." So Matt attended Saugatuck High School and his drug problem increased.

Matt graduated in 2011 and, over the next two years, his life began spiraling downward to the point where he didn't know what to do. His parents were separated at the



*Pictured from left to right: Connie, Matt, Meladie (baby), Makayla and Mike Bernick*

time, so he lived in a cottage with his mother.

By the time Matt was 20, he was so into drugs that he said there were many times when he almost overdosed. He now realizes that the hand of God must have saved him from death.

While at a fast-food restaurant, Matt recognized Makayla, a girl from one of the buses he rode while attending Saugatuck High. She was in her senior

year of high school. Makayla eventually moved into the cottage with Matt, the one thing he felt he had going for himself until they were forced to move from the cottage. With no other place to go, they ended up in the wet and moldy basement of his drug dealer's home.

The following summer, Makayla announced to Matt that she was pregnant. Matt was now forced to make other living arrangements. With the help of his parents, who had since reconciled, Matt and Makayla were able to move into a trailer. With his father's encouragement, they started attending the Holland Seventh-day Adventist Church



*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:2 NKJV).*

where they were met with open arms. Matt's father also encouraged him to start a daily devotional time with God.

Matt and Makayla were married on September 12, 2014, and their daughter, Meladie, was born on March 24, 2015. Matt will be the first to tell you that God used the birth of his daughter to help save his life.

So, on that wonderful day in November, the Bernick family became one of the finest triple plays in the history of the Holland church. Matt, Makayla and Meladie attend each week and Matt's parents are living testimonies for parents and youth everywhere that God will never leave you. Both Matt and Makayla are now involved with the youth to help them make better decisions and avoid making some of the same mistakes.

At his re-baptism, Matt quoted from 2 Timothy 3: 1-5 where Paul wrote about the ungodly culture of our day.

Matt indicated Paul was describing where his life had been and, in his letter to the Romans, Paul describes where God is leading Matt today. *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:2 NKJV).* Praise God!

Years ago, there was a commercial where people wanted to, "be like Mike," referring to basketball star Michael Jordan. If you are a young adult in a similar position as Matt and think there is no hope, open a Bible and read Hebrews 13:5-6. You'll be encouraged to be like Matt and let your Helper, who promises to never leave you nor forsake you, bring you home.

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Ken Stubbs is communication secretary for the Holland Church.



## Five ways Adventist Health System hospitals are sharing CREATION Health

More than 200 employees from across Adventist Health System gathered to learn more about CREATION Health and share ideas on how to practically apply it in their hospitals and communities during the CREATION Health Integration Conference in Orlando on January 19.

CREATION Health is a biblical-based wellness program that explains how Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust in God, Interpersonal relationships, Outlook and Nutrition all play a role in supporting optimal health for mind, body and soul. It is also, as AHS's president/CEO, Don Jernigan, pointed out in his opening remarks, a tangible expression of the organization's mission to extend the healing ministry of Christ. "Although Adventist Health System has grown considerably since we were first established in 1973, our vision of health care as ministry remains the same," Jernigan said. "By living and teaching CREATION Health in our communities, we have the opportunity to introduce people to Christ and the abundant life He has in mind for them."

During the conference, presenters shared many of the ways that they are integrating CREATION Health at their hospitals to benefit patients and employees. Some of them include:

Hosting CREATION Health Camps for children referred by pediatricians due to obesity or high-risk factors for chronic diseases. Fun, hands-on activities introduce children to the principles of healthy living.

Starting a CREATION Health Community Clinic that provides affordable medical services for the uninsured. Educational posters, brochures and special events focus on disease prevention and management.



Adventist Health System is finding creative ways to share CREATION Health with their communities

Training CREATION Health Coaches in every hospital department to support colleagues on their wellness journeys. This can include bringing in healthy snacks, organizing walking or weight-loss challenges, or sending out inspirational emails.

Providing rural patients with free transportation to medical appointments through a CREATION Health Bus. Riders learn about the principles of healthful living from DVDs that are played during the trips.

Incorporating the principles of CREATION Health into the construction and design of patient

lobbies, employee break rooms, chapels, and other hospital areas.

"The list could go on and on because CREATION Health touches every aspect of our lives," said Mandy Persaud, who organized the conference and serves as director of corporate relations and mission enculturation at AHS. "It is inspiring to see the many ways that it is making a difference in our communities, and I am looking forward to seeing what new ideas arise in 2016 to help us extend the healing ministry of Christ."

Rainey Burlington is a communications specialist for Adventist Health System

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## Research project leads to Boston internship

Saharsh Dass, senior biology major and math/chemistry minor, participated in the prestigious all-expenses-paid Summer Institute for Training in Biostatistics (SIBS) internship at Boston University (BU) in the summer of 2015. This six-week internship is designed to teach undergraduates the principles of applied biostatistics from recognized experts in the field and enable interaction with award-winning faculty who make learning biostatistics interesting, relevant and fun.

“Shandelle Henson, my research advisor, sent an email to all biology and mathematics majors with information on eight summer internships in biostatistics,” says Dass. “I applied to all of them.”

Henson, chair of the Department of Mathematics, frequently involves students in various aspects of her research through the interdisciplinary Seabird Ecology Team, a research group funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). As an NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellow on this team, Dass uses mathematical models to predict animal behavior.

“Although animal behavior is quite variable at the level of the individual,” explains Henson, “there are often clear patterns of behavior at the level of the group. Many behaviors can be predicted in advance with a high degree of accuracy if one knows the approximate state of the environment.”

Dass credits his work with Henson with providing him the SIBS experience.

“The research exposure that I had working on this interdisciplinary project was one of the main reasons why I was accepted,” he says.

SIBS interns were exposed to biostatistics, epidemiology, statistical genetics and clinical trials.



Saharsh Dass, senior biology major (far right), spent six weeks in a prestigious internship at Boston University last summer.

“We had lectures from faculty from BU and Harvard in the morning, and in the afternoon had hands-on training using the Framingham Heart Study dataset,” says Dass.

Framingham, near Boston, was the site of a longitudinal study started in 1948 which sought to discover why people died of various cardiovascular diseases. Dass was able to visit the center where this research took place.

He was able to connect with a vibrant Adventist church while in Boston and even met up with other young adult believers including recent Andrews University alumni living in the area.

“I want to give all the credit to God for helping me to connect the dots and showing me how I can multiply my talents by using them appropriately,” he says.

His professors are proud of Dass and his accomplishments, and are excited to see his skills developing.

“Saharsh is becoming a serious and skillful researcher,” says Henson. “I love to see his curiosity and joy in learning. I’m also proud of his character and integrity, his integration of his studies with his own deep faith, and his commitment to careful science.”

Dass looks to a statement by Ellen White for encouragement and hopes that it encourages others as well:

“The talents, however few, are to be put to use. The question that most concerns us is not, How much have I received? but, What am I doing with that which I have? The development of all our powers is the first duty we owe to God and to our fellow men. No one who is not growing daily in capability and usefulness is fulfilling the purpose of life” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 329–330).

Danni Francis is a student writer for Integrated Marketing and Communication.

# COMMISSIONED TO

# Love

## THE HIGHEST HONOR AND GREATEST JOY

### Commissioned to Grow in Grace 26 Ways

“If you will go to work as Christ designs that his disciples shall, and win souls for him, you will:

1. feel the need of a deeper experience and
2. a greater knowledge in divine things, and
3. will hunger and thirst after righteousness.
4. You will plead with God, and
5. your faith will be strengthened, and
6. your soul will drink deeper drafts at the well of salvation.
7. Encountering opposition and trials will drive you to the Bible and
8. prayer.
9. You will grow in grace and
10. the knowledge of Christ, and
11. develop a rich experience.
12. The spirit of unselfish labor for others gives depth,
13. stability, and
14. Christlike loveliness to the character, and
15. peace and
16. happiness to its possessor.
17. The aspirations are elevated.
18. There is no room for sloth
19. [no room for] selfishness.
20. Those who thus exercise the Christian graces will grow and
21. will become strong to work for God.
22. They will have clear spiritual perceptions,
23. a steady [faith]
24. a growing faith, and
25. an increased power in prayer.
26. The Spirit of God, moving upon their spirit, calls forth the sacred harmonies of the soul in answer to the divine touch.

“The church of Christ is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. Its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. And the obligation rests upon all Christians. Everyone, to the extent of his talent and opportunity, is to fulfill the Saviour’s commission.... And the effort to bless others will react in blessings upon ourselves. This was the purpose of God in giving us a part to act in the plan of redemption. He has granted men the privilege of becoming partakers of the divine nature and, in their turn, of diffusing blessings to their fellow men. This is the highest honor, the greatest joy, that it is possible for God to bestow upon [us]. Those who thus become participants in labors of love are brought nearest to their Creator.

Those who thus devote themselves to unselfish effort for the good of others are most surely working out their own salvation.... The only way to grow in grace is to be disinterestedly doing the very work which Christ has enjoined upon us—to engage, to the extent of our ability, in helping and blessing those who need the help we can give them. Strength comes by exercise; activity is the very condition of life. Those who endeavor to maintain Christian life by passively accepting the blessings that come through the means of grace, and doing nothing for Christ....not only fails to grow up into Christ, but he loses the strength that he already had” (*Steps to Christ*, pp. 78-80).



[ LOCAL CHURCH NEWS ]

## Church focused on training mission

Illinois—“Every church should be a training school for Christian workers” (Ellen White, *Christian Service*, p. 59). This was demonstrated by the Apostle Paul, as recorded in Acts 19:8–10, when he spent three months at Ephesus doing an evangelistic church plant and two more years training the new believers in the school of Tyrannus. The result? — an explosion of the Gospel throughout the entire region.

But what does a training-center church really look like? The North Aurora church has been working towards this goal for the past five years. “Our goal is to empower every member in the church to become the most effective worker possible, in whatever role God calls them to serve,” says Dan Vis, pastor at North Aurora. “We believe the best investment we can make as a church is to invest in our members.”

Each year in the fall, a new class of students is encouraged to join the “FAST” Sabbath school class. In this class, students spend nine months doing intense training in Bible memorization, personal discipleship (prayer, study, time management and witnessing), and small group evangelism. Students also learn how to disciple others and lead the next class through the curriculum. They are currently working through their sixth class with each group led by graduates



The goal of the North Aurora church is to empower every member to become the most effective worker possible, in whatever role God calls them to serve.

from the preceding years. “The great, great, great, great grandchildren are being disciplined before our eyes!” says Vis. There are now about 15 experienced trainers and about 50 graduates of this class at North Aurora.

They also run a summer evangelism school called “Chicago Outpost.” Each year, a half dozen or so members invest seven weeks learning more about visitation, door-to-door work, giving studies, discipleship, interpersonal relationships, leadership and more. An in-depth study is done of all the Seventh-day Adventist fundamental beliefs and the prophetic message. These graduates exert a positive influence on the North Aurora church family, bringing others along on visits and/or Bible studies whenever possible. The Bible worker team is able to run the entire evangelism school and in fact, they are

frequently invited to do training in other churches.

The North Aurora church is currently in the process of expanding the church website to offer more online training. They have over 20 classes available to church members, as well as powerful online discipleship tools to encourage Bible reading, memorization, prayer and time management. Over the next couple of months additional training classes for all individuals holding offices in the church will be uploaded. And for the first time this summer, they plan to offer the Chicago Outpost program digitally to members who cannot take time off from work to attend in person.

Shona Cross is communication secretary for the Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

## Radio station opens in Wisconsin Rapids

Wisconsin—In December of 2007, for the first time in 25 years, the Federal Communications Commission, or FCC, opened up the opportunity for anyone in the Wisconsin Rapids area to submit a full-power radio station construction permit for the 91.7 frequency. As you can imagine many wanted on board for this great opportunity.



Ben Moore, member of the Wisconsin Rapids Seventh-day Adventist

Church felt impressed to apply. After speaking with their church board and the Wisconsin Conference Office, the Wisconsin Rapids Seventh-day Adventist Church united, joining the ranks with the 39 other entities vying for the spot. To their unbelief, the Lord stepped in and for the first time in 25 years they were chosen and granted the full power station.

Many challenges have faced WRAO-FM (Wisconsin Rapids Adventist Outreach Christian Radio

91.7) such as a filed lawsuit from a neighboring station, court litigation, paper work, and many lost hours delaying the process for several years, but by God's grace the station should be full power in the coming weeks.

This station has the capability to reach up to 300,000 people with the Three Angel's Message but as Dean Thomas, WRAO Radio Station manager says, "Our signal will reach as far as the Lord wants it to reach... It's

God's voice calling from the heart of Wisconsin."

Diedra Roat is communication secretary for the Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

## [ EDUCATION NEWS ]

### Students help make shoes for Ugandans

Wisconsin—Bible Labs, a time of service for others, is a monthly event at Petersen school in Wisconsin. When teacher Leah Anderson learned about the need for shoes in Uganda, she ordered the kit and planned a shoe-cutting party. The students collected old jeans, traced the 10 pattern pieces for the shoes, and cut them out. One student kept a tally of shoe parts, and a quality control student pinned and bagged the shoe pieces in sets, ready for the



Peterson students traced shoe patterns, and cut them out, before sending them to shoe-makers in Uganda to sew re-cycled tire pieces on as soles.

shoemakers in Uganda to sew recycled tire pieces on as soles.

Most children in Uganda have no shoes, and small sand fleas, called jiggers, enter the bare feet and lay their eggs. If left untreated, jiggers cause infections and paralysis and, in extreme cases, result in amputation. "I'm glad we can make these shoes," said a student after seeing feet infected by jiggers. The school kids hope to send enough jean pieces to make 40 pair of shoes for the children of Uganda.

Juanita Edge is director of communication for the Wisconsin Conference.



IJA students interact with the therapy dogs

### Valentine Celebration of Life

Indiana—Golden retriever therapy dogs Rosebud and B-Dawg visited Indianapolis Junior Academy on Friday, Feb. 12, greeting children at the door and participating in Friday



Indianapolis Junior Academy Principal Daniel Ortega interviewed on the news

morning's worship services. Thor, one of five of their new puppies born last November was also in attendance. The event celebrated the recovery of three children who experienced tragedy and injury last October in a car accident that killed their school principal Norris Ncube and two of their classmates,



IJA students play with three month old puppy, Thor

Joshua Ncube and Malia Siziba.

Jessie Ncube, Deon Siziba and Anita Nikoma have returned to school, and have experienced much love and support from their classmates and teachers. They are learning new things again and recovering from their loss.

Colleen Kelly is the communications and marketing specialist at the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

[ CONFERENCE NEWS ]

## Indiana appoints new conference evangelist

Indiana—Eric Freking has been appointed by the Indiana Conference Executive Committee in February 2016 to be Indiana’s conference evangelist, a new position and approach to evangelism. Pastor Freking will be offering six evangelistic meetings around the state of Indiana each year. He also will offer weekend training seminars for Indiana churches to help the members be better equipped to win souls. Freking is pastor at New Albany Seventh-day Adventist church in New Albany, Ind., and is married to Beatriz Freking. They have a daughter named Eden.



Eric Freking

Colleen Kelly is communications and marketing specialist for the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.



Lake Region Conference Pastoral Team gathers to pray at Spring Partnership Meeting

## Call to prayer at LRC spring meeting

The Lake Region Conference (LRC) Pastoral Team met on Monday, February 15, for its annual one-day early spring meeting from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In this partnership meeting participants entered into a season of corporate prayer led out by area leaders of the Chicagoland, Hispanic, Illiana, Michiana and Motor City areas.

The focus of prayer followed the A.C.T.S. model: Adoration to our Creator God (1 Chronicles 29:11, 95:2) for his mercies upon us and his creative and sustaining power in the universe; Confession of sins to our Savior God (1 John 1:9), surrendering pride, independence and self-will to him; Thanksgiving to our beneficent God (Psalms 100:4, 5) for hearing the prayers of his servants and for already granting answers to prayers; and Supplications (Philippians 4:6) to our Father God on behalf of the LRC congregations, requesting the outpouring of his Spirit as well as the wisdom and courage to do now what we have failed to do in the past.

Between each season of prayer, members of the LRC administration gave important updates regarding the 2016 strategic plan. The aim of the strategic plan is Christ Alone, which also serves as the theme of this year’s camp meeting, June 17, 2016. The LRC’s strategic plan motto is to “Encounter Christ, Engendering Change



Nicole Mattson

## New Education Director in Indiana

Nicole Mattson has accepted the invitation to be the education director for the Indiana Conference beginning at the conclusion of the current school year. For the past several years

she has taught grades 1-3 in Grand Junction, Colo.. Previously, she taught for 12 years at Battle Creek Academy. Mattson’s vision for Indiana’s future includes collaboration with fellow educators, planting more church schools, and giving strong support for every Adventist student to receive an Adventist education. Her goals include enabling classrooms to exhibit signs of 21st-Century learning, beginning with an electronic newsletter system for teachers and updated website features that will facilitate better communication and build public confidence.

Both Nicole and her husband Terry deeply enjoy God’s second book nature, and are involved in various outdoor activities. Returning to the Lake Union territory will also allow them to enjoy their soon-to-be five grandchildren who live in southern Michigan. They plan to relocate the beginning of June.

Steve Poenitz is president of the Indiana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

and Empowering Communities.” Special guest, Maurice Valentine, who now serves as the executive secretary of the Lake Union Conference, encouraged everyone regarding the need for public evangelism. “Evangelism is the engine of the church,” he stated. “Evangelism is

what keeps the church moving towards its mission.”

The goal is to add 700 new souls to God’s kingdom through baptism in 2016. Participants left this early spring meeting recognizing that God has already equipped his church with the

resources it needs to accomplish his work within the territory of the Lake Region Conference.

Paul Young is communication director for the Lake Region Conference.

## [UNION NEWS]

### Richard Moore is new Associate Treasurer for the Lake Union

Richard Moore joins our Lake Union team as associate treasurer on April 1, replacing Doug Gregg who has retired. Moore comes to us from the North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI) and Adventist Information Ministry (AIM) where he has been employed as business manager since 2011.

Previously, he served as pastor in the Wisconsin, Bermuda and South-eastern California conferences. He also has served as assistant treasurer in the Wisconsin Conference.

Moore was born and raised in San Diego, Calif. He graduated from Oakwood University, with a BA in Theology and Business Administration. He



Richard Moore

earned a Masters of Divinity degree and is currently completing an MBA degree, both from Andrews University.

He guest lectures at the Seminary on topics such as Stewardship, Church Budgeting, Capital Stewardship

Campaigns and Understanding a Pastor’s Salary and Benefits. He also conducts Invest for Life seminars at local churches.

His philosophy on life is simply to treat everyone equally. “I believe in treating all people the same, regardless of position – from the janitor to president, or whether you’re green or purple,” he says. “I try not to be judgmental about people.” He’s also passionate about sharing Christ. “If I can encourage somebody in their walk with Jesus or encourage them to start a relationship, I’m doing my job.”

Moore, head elder at the Michiana Fil-Am church in Berrien Springs, Mich., is married to Betty, a nurse practitioner; they have two children, Ricky and Brianna. We welcome them to our Lake Union family.

Debbie Michel is the associate director of communication for the Lake Union Conference.

### Jon Corder is new Associate Treasurer for the Lake Union

Jon Corder, North Pacific Union Conference Association treasurer since 2011, is joining the Lake Union as associate treasurer. He replaces J. Richard Terrell who served in this capacity for 15 years and is now retired. Corder expects to transition to the new role by May 1.

Corder has been active in church financial leadership for several decades. At the North Pacific Union Conference Association he was responsible for the revolving fund, Charitable Gift Annuity and Trust programs, as well as directing the yearly audit process for all association funds.



Jon Corder

He began his career at Pacific Union College in Angwin, Calif. For nearly

a decade, he served in such roles as assistant chief accountant, director of student finance and controller. In 1987, he moved his family to Spokane, Wash., to begin work at the Upper Columbia Conference (UCC), where he was under-treasurer until 1997. He then served as Upper Columbia Academy vice-principal for finance for two years before returning to the UCC as vice-president for finance, a position he held for nearly nine years. He then served for three years in that role for the Oregon Conference before joining the North Pacific Union as association treasurer.

Corder brings not only his Master of Business Administration expertise to this new Lake Union role, but also more than three decades of church financial

experience. His wife, Cheri, currently works with the Oregon Conference as departmental director for Women, Families, Health and Adventist Com-

munity Services ministries. The Corders have two adult children. We welcome the Corders to our Lake Union family.

Debbie Michel is the associate director of communication for the Lake Union Conference.

## Nicholas Miller is new director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the Lake Union

Nicholas P. Miller is joining the Lake Union team in May as director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty. He will continue halftime in his role as professor of church history at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

Miller has degrees in theology (B.A., Pacific Union College), law (J.D., Columbia University), and American Religious and Legal History (Ph.D., University of Notre Dame). He has taught courses on church history, religious liberty and Adventist theology for about ten years.

Prior to that, he was a lawyer in private practice, specializing in church-and-state cases. He appeared before



Nicholas P. Miller

the United States Supreme Court in the religious school funding case of Mitchell v. Helms, helped draft and pass the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000, and was the executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Council on Religious Freedom.

Miller has published more than 30 scholarly and professional articles on topics of church history, theology, religious liberty, and church and state. He has written on the religious influences on American religious freedom in *The Religious Roots of the First Amendment* (Oxford University Press, 2012); was lead editor and a contributor to *Homosexuality, Marriage and the Church* (Andrews University Press, 2012); and, most recently, authored *The Reformation and the Remnant: The Reformers Speak to Today's Church* (Pacific Press, 2016).

He enjoys surfing and scuba diving, mountain climbing, biking and playing the trumpet; he plays basketball and soccer with his students and children, Patrick, Kelli and Nicole. He is married to Leanne, a singer, violinist and practicing pediatrician. We welcome the Millers to the Lake Union family.

Debbie Michel is the associate director of communication for the Lake Union Conference.



## Lake Union Implements New Health Initiative

In a renewed focus on reaching cities with God's love, the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

has launched the Adventist Community Health Initiative (ACHI).

The goal of the ACHI, under the guidance of Randy Griffin, is to partner with local churches around the Union to provide free healthcare services

beyond what churches could typically offer at a health fair.

During this last year, the Lake Union has acquired dental and medical equipment with future plans of acquiring eye-care equipment, but Griffin



said it's important for churches to know they will have to help shoulder the logistical responsibilities in hosting the area health clinics. Churches will also need to help find the professional volunteers as well as a suitable venue.

"We want to do this with you, not for you," said Griffin. "We don't have volunteer professionals waiting to move from one location to another, so we do rely on the local churches to help find and recruit the professionals to help with these events. Likewise, we don't want to bring in a group of 'outside' people, put on the event and simply have the church stand back and watch. Churches have to get involved."

Griffin said that this method stands in contrast to mega-events underway across the nation, in that these events can be facilitated more than once or twice a year.

Two such events were recently held in the Lake Union. The first was on Sunday, Feb. 28, in Lansing, Mich. They organized a health expo where they enlisted the help of more than 150 volunteers, including physicians, dentists, optometrists, nurses and hygienists. Nearly 200 people attended. Services offered included free dental work, free eye exams as well as glasses, medical consultations, massages, and health counseling.

The following Sunday, March 6, District five churches in the Michigan conference hosted a similar event in the gymnasium of Great Lakes Adventist Academy, in Cedar Lake, Mich.. Using the mobile equipment, over 300 people from the surrounding community received services from two physicians, five optometrists, five dentists, six hygienists, 10 nurses and over 100 other volunteers.

Griffin, who is a dentist, said that the response to these two events has been overwhelmingly positive. These services fill a critical need for patients who either can't afford the work or who do not have insurance to help with the expenses that can typically cost upwards of \$1,000 or more.

“Our goal has been to let people know the Adventist church cares and that we want to provide for their needs,” said Griffin. “We hope that they will see Jesus through us and that they will want to ask more questions. We want them to get to know us, and us to know them.”

Lansing church organizer, Sheri Christie, noted that they had several visitors attend a follow-up class as well as church. “The church received calls from community members that didn’t even attend the event thanking us for what we did for the community,” said Christie. “Former members who haven’t attended church in years helped us or received services and were so thrilled; they told their friends about the upcoming clinics.”

While patients gain an appreciation for the church, Griffin said he hoped that church members also benefit. “We want to energize churches and get members excited about evangelism.”

For more information, contact Randy Griffin at [randy.griffin@lakeunion.org](mailto:randy.griffin@lakeunion.org).

#### Upcoming clinics

Aug. 14 – Grand Rapids Refugee group

Aug. 21 – Benton Harbor/St. Joseph

Aug. 28 – Grand Rapids Hispanic

Sept. 25 – Lansing/Michigan State University

Oct. 9 – Battle Creek

Oct. 16 – South Bend

Oct. 30 – Cicero

Debbie Michel is the associate director of communication for the Lake Union Conference.



## [ NAD NEWS ]



Dan Jackson

## NAD Announces New Outreach Initiatives

During the 2015 Year-end Meeting, the North American Division Executive Committee voted three very significant outreach initiatives. NAD President Dan Jackson recently highlighted the purpose and vision for these projects.

“I believe that in order to be effective in reaching others that we must have a united vision which leads us all in the same direction,” said Jackson, in a recent message to promote the initiatives. “We also need an ongoing and active conversation which empowers our pastors, congregations and institutions to reach people within their sphere of influence.”

He added that the purpose of these initiatives is not to intrude on the work that church members are doing locally, but to ask for their cooperation in building a grand collaboration of effort and spirit for mission throughout the division.

The Initiatives are:

**Compassion 10 Million:** Engaging every member in mission by investing 10 million hours sharing the love of God and the compassion of Jesus in practical ways with our communities, outside the walls of our churches, during 2016. For more info and some funding

opportunities, check: [www.compassionmovement.org](http://www.compassionmovement.org)

**Plant 1000:** Planting 1,000 new community churches across the United States, Canada, Bermuda and the islands of Guam and Micronesia. Sadly, there are many who live in cities and towns without access to a Seventh-day Adventist Church. The goal is to have a church for every 25,000 inhabitants in North America. If your congregation is interested in planting a new community church, feel free to go to: [www.nadchurchplant.org](http://www.nadchurchplant.org)

**Day of Hope and Compassion:** The weekend of April 16-17 (Saturday and Sunday) is set aside to celebrate the fact that Adventists are the people of Hope and Compassion. During this weekend, the hope is for every member to be engaged in some type of mission outreach in the community: (1) Intentional acts of compassion in our neighborhoods and communities; (2) Distribution of literature which is practical and will help to improve the lives of families and individuals in our neighborhoods; (3) A social media campaign which will proclaim Hope and Compassion through posts and photos in Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media outlets (hashtags: [dayofhopecompassion10m](https://www.facebook.com/dayofhopecompassion10m)). The purpose of the Day of Hope and Compassion is to activate Adventists in our churches, schools and hospitals, all at the same time, in Jesus’ lifestyle of love, service and mission. For more information and ideas, please go to: [www.compassionmovement.org](http://www.compassionmovement.org).

As churches plan for these initiatives, Jackson said that there is a tremendous amount of influence and effectiveness in the people of God praying and working united.

“If we all engage and invest in working together across the division,” said Jackson, “we will help transform communities, our message will spread, and our churches will be filled with people who are saved and expect the Second Coming of Jesus.”

Debbie Michel is the associate director of communication for the Lake Union Conference.

[NAD NEWS]



*Christian Record provides reading materials in audio, braille, large print, and digital download, Bibles and Bible study guides to persons who are blind or unable to physically hold a book. It also offers winter and summer camping experiences to hundreds of children and adults.*

## Christian Record Services for the Blind undergoes restructuring

The Christian Record Services for the Blind (CRSB) Board of Directors voted to implement a reduction in force on Thursday, Feb. 11, following a two-day strategic planning meeting in Lincoln, Neb., in January. The Board engaged in an extensive, in-depth analysis of Christian Record's operations and financial resources, which included, among other things, input from CRSB staff, field representatives, camping professionals, and Christian Record clients.

CRSB employees were informed of the reduction by Daniel R. Jackson, Board chair (also president of the North American Division); Diane

Thurber, CRSB president; and Shelly Kittleson, vice president for finance, in Lincoln.

"We deeply regret having to take these measures because of the pain that has been created," said Jackson. "Dedicated individuals have given many years to the ministry. But we had no other option if we were going to preserve a compassionate ministry for the blind."

The Board determined to restructure the organization by eliminating certain positions at Christian Record headquarters, ceasing print production – except braille materials which will continue – and ceasing current field operations.

"I am so grateful for the opportunity I have had to work alongside these faithful Christian Record employees who have become friends, and I am very saddened to say 'farewell' to some of the most committed, talented workers I've witnessed anywhere in my ministry journey with the Adventist Church," stated Thurber. "These individuals and those who labored before them have laid the foundation on which this ministry can continue to serve the blind until Jesus comes and restores sight to people who are blind."

Each departing employee will receive a termination settlement or severance along with other benefits.

"Though news of a termination is not what anyone wants to hear or relay, it was the Board's goal to be fair, according to the Working Policy of the Church, and to go beyond policy when possible to ensure employees are well cared for," stated Thurber. "Officers of the North American Division and General Conference voted special appropriations to strengthen the benefits provided to departing employees."

While the restructuring reduces the number of Christian Record employees, it also eliminates budget shortfalls, reallocates funds to upgrade or purchase new equipment and software, strengthens some services, and allows Christian Record to implement new initiatives to reach more persons who are blind.

"It is Christian Record's desire to expand its reach in the U.S. and abroad,

and we recognize this will not be possible without the Lord's guidance and blessings," said Thurber. "We solicit the prayers of all Christian Record supporters and volunteers, and invite renewed support for this ministry so it can continue to help the blind 'see' Jesus. It is Christian Record's desire to extend this challenge of engagement and inclusion to the local church, so all members can benefit from the joy of service, friendship, and fellowship with the blind."

"Christian Record Services for the Blind has been and will continue to provide valuable spiritual materials and services for the visually impaired, by God's grace," said Ted N.C. Wilson, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "We pray that new and efficient methods of outreach will increase the special ministries for the sight-impaired as we approach Christ's soon coming when we will all see Jesus!"

The Board also voted to sell Christian Record's current facility and surrounding property and hopes to relocate the ministry to an appropriately-sized facility by early summer. Christian Record will continue to be headquartered in Lincoln.

Christian Record provides reading materials in audio, braille, large print, and digital download, Bibles and Bible study guides to persons who are blind or unable to physically hold a book. It also offers winter and summer camping experiences to hundreds of children and adults. To learn more about Christian Record's services, how to extend the love of Jesus to persons who are blind in your churches and communities, or to donate to this life-changing ministry, visit [www.crsb.org](http://www.crsb.org) or send your donation to P.O. Box 6097, Lincoln, NE 68506.

To download resources for the Christian Record Annual Day of Giving (Annual Offering) on April 9, visit [www.crsbday.org](http://www.crsbday.org), or call 402.488.0981 x213.

Jeri Lyn Rogge is communication director for Christian Record Services for the Blind.



# Announcements



Churches, schools, conferences, institutions and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.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 <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>.

## Andrews University

**Andrews Academy Music Department** invites you to attend the presentation of the Easter cantata, *"The Seven Last Words of Christ"* by Theodore Dubois, performed by the AA Chorale, soloists and organ. It includes a drama of the crucifixion scene. One single presentation will be held at Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University on Friday, **April 8**, at 7:00 p.m.

**Straight 2 the Heart Level 2 discipleship training** at Andrews University, **April 14-17**. Be part of the power and passion of leading people to Jesus. *Straight 2 the Heart* takes us beyond information about Jesus to heart transformation as we encounter Jesus's "bearing our griefs and carrying our sorrows." On completion of the 25 hours training, professionals and lay people are ready to use the easy to follow prayer sheets to facilitate prayers leading to trust, healing and encouragement — new life in Jesus from the inside out! For more information on enrollment, fees and requirements, email Stephenie at [straight2theheartandrews@gmail.com](mailto:straight2theheartandrews@gmail.com).

**Howard Performing Arts Center Events:** For more information on the following events and to purchase tickets, contact HPAC Box Office by phone at 888-467-6442 Toll free or 269-471-3560, email at [hpac@andrews.edu](mailto:hpac@andrews.edu), or on its website at <https://howard.andrews.edu/events/>. Please verify dates and times of programs as these events are subject to change.

**April 1, 7:00 p.m.:** Music & Worship Conference Choir Concert

**April 10, 4:00 p.m.:** Second Sunday Concert — Chi Yong Yun, Solo Recital. Andrews University Department of Music professor Chi Yong Yun

performs in an evening of piano pieces. Chi Yong Yun is the director of piano studies and assistant professor at Andrews University. (Tickets required.)

**May 1, 4:00 p.m.:** Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra Concert. The Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra joins the SMSO side-by-side for two of Brahms's most beloved Hungarian Dances — Nos. 5 and 6. Wagner's beautiful and intimate *"Siegfried Idyll"* begins this concert, which ends in blazing glory with Bruckner's *"Seventh Symphony."* (Tickets required.)

**May 3, 7:00 p.m.:** Andrews Academy Choral & Orchestra Spring Concert

**May 5, 7:00 p.m.:** Ruth Murdoch Elementary Instrumental Concert

**May 8, 4:00 p.m.:** Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra Spring Concert

**May 10, 7:00 p.m.:** Ruth Murdoch Elementary Choral Spring Concert performed by students

## Lake Region

**Calling All Pathfinder Directors, Staff and Pathfinders!!!** Please join us for our 12th Annual Pathfinder Honors Retreat, to be held **May 13-15**. The London Swordbearer Pathfinder Club is the sponsor for this event. This year's theme is "In His Presence -- Jesus!" There will be a variety of honors offered this year: Archery, Drilling & Marching, Amphibians, Nutrition, Communications, Waterfalls and much, much more. The location for this event is the conference camp grounds -- Camp Wagner, Cassopolis, Mich., which is just south of Kalamazoo. For more information about the event and the fee, please call Teresa Rodgers at 313-283-7775 or Robert Jackson Jr. at 248-877-8300 or email [gardner.angelina@yahoo.com](mailto:gardner.angelina@yahoo.com).

## Lake Union

### Offerings

**April 2** Local Church Budget

**April 9** World Budget (Christian Record Services)

**April 16** Local Church Budget

**April 23** Local Conference Advance

**April 30** NAD Evangelism

### Special Days

**April 2** Missionary Magazines (*Signs, Message, El Centinela*)

**April 9** Stewardship Sabbath

**April 16** Literature Evangelism Sabbath

**April 23** Education Sabbath

### 2016 Children's Leadership Conference:

Be a part of one of Lake Union Conference's most extensive training events in Children's Ministries. This exciting training event is hosted by the Center for Youth Evangelism and the North American Division Kid's Center on **April 22-24** at Andrews University. Anyone with a passion for making Jesus irresistible to children is invited to attend. Our featured presenters include Linda Koh, G.C. Children's Ministry; Sherri Uhrig and Melanie Cruz, NAD Children's Ministry; and Marc Raphael, Mt. Rubidoux SDA Church. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.cye.org/events/clc>.

**Legal Notice:** The 22nd 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, 2016**. 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, 2015; the election of officers, associate treasurers, departmental directors, associate directors and 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

Maurice R. Valentine, secretary

## Michigan

**Academy Days at Great Lakes Adventist Academy** are **April 24-25**. Come join us for two days of fun and friendship as you experience boarding school life. Students in grades 8 through 11 are encouraged to register today by calling 989-427-5181 or by visiting our website at <http://www.glaa.net>.

**"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion** will take place **June 3-5** for alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich. Honor classes: 1936, '46, '56, '66. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit <http://www.glaa.net/>.

**The 50th Anniversary of Warren SDA Church** will be held **Aug. 27**. If anyone has pictures or any information we can use for this event, please contact Bev Shoemaker at phone: 586-254-2368; cell: 586-634-9267; or email: [bev.shoemaker.52@gmail.com](mailto:bev.shoemaker.52@gmail.com). Send photos, greetings, etc., to: 50th Anniversary, Warren SDA Church, P.O. Box 100, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

## Wisconsin

**WA Alumni Homecoming:** We are proud to announce Wisconsin Academy's annual Alumni Homecoming weekend **April 22-24**. All WA alumni and friends are welcome. We will be especially honoring classes of 2006, 1996, '91, '86, '76, '66, '56 and '46. For more information, email [nmishleau@yahoo.com](mailto:nmishleau@yahoo.com) or call 920-623-3300.

**Youth in grades 8-12** are invited to attend a one-day, student-planned, student-led youth rally at Wisconsin Academy on **May 7**. Plan to be inspired by special guests. In the afternoon, there will be opportunities for outreach in the local community and several breakout sessions. The fee for the event includes lunch and supper in the cafeteria. For more information, call us at 920-623-3300.

# MILEPOSTS

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 <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>. Conference addresses and phone numbers are listed in the masthead on the inside back cover.

## Obituaries

**BEARDSLEY, Mary Ellen (Henwood)**, age 93; born Jan. 15, 1922, in Grand Junction, Mich.; died Oct. 17, 2015, in Lawton, Mich. She was a member of the Gobles Pinedale Church, Gobles, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Fred and Jim; daughter, Dixie Scott; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Tom Hubbard, and interment was in Pine Grove Cemetery, Gobles.

**BERCAW, Lane N.**, age 67; born Mar. 2, 1948, in Paris, Ill.; died Feb. 1, 2016, in Terre Haute, Ind. He was a member of the Paris Church.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley J. (Wilson); sons, Jamin and Seth; daughter, Shonna Davis; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Adam Gaines, and interment was in Grandview (Ill.) Cemetery.

**HANSEN, Patricia J. (Crane) Young**, age 85; born March 4, 1930, in Billings, Mont.; died Jan. 9, 2016, in Niles, Mich. She was a member of the Stevensville (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Russell Young; daughter, Renee Pinette; brothers, Norman and Melvin Crane; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by David Gotshall, with private inurnment.

**HICKERSON, Stanley**, age 63; born July 15, 1952, in Riverside, Calif.; died Jan. 15, 2016, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his wife, Kathryn (Hubbard) Gillette; son, Derrick Gillette; daughters, Ellen Bronson, Tiffany Smith,

Kimberly Greene, Emily Castro and Emily Groff; father, Bryce; mother, Jean (Vernoy); sisters, Kathy Miller, Ruthie Gage and Shelli Baze; and five grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Esther Knott and Jose Bouget, with private inurnment, Berrien Springs.

**KING, Kenneth A.**, age 82; born Sept. 17, 1932, in Athens, Tenn.; died June 27, 2015, in Mt. Vernon, Ill. He was a member of the Salem (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include his stepsons, Tony, Michael, Charles and Kenneth Nason; stepdaughters, Kimberly (Nason) Grooms and Patricia (Nason) Amerson; six step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Larry W. Clonch, and interment was in Mt. Vernon (Ill.) Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

**NOBLES, Jeanette C. (Strasel)**, age 62; born Nov. 20, 1953, in Saginaw, Mich.; died Dec. 20, 2015, in New Era, Mich. She was a member of the Shelby (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, David A.; father, Alan Strasel; mother Ada Strasel; brothers, Jim, Paul, Steve and Lee Strasel; and sisters, Nancy Drummond and Lisa Muller.

Memorial services were conducted, with private inurnment.

**SLACK, Inez (Jamison)**, age 89; born Sept. 25, 1925, in Gary, Ind.; died Aug. 28,

2015, in Gary. She was a member of the Mizpah Church, Gary.

Survivors include her sons, Barry, Michael and Duane; daughters, Cheryl Hampton and Darlene Akubuiro; 14 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

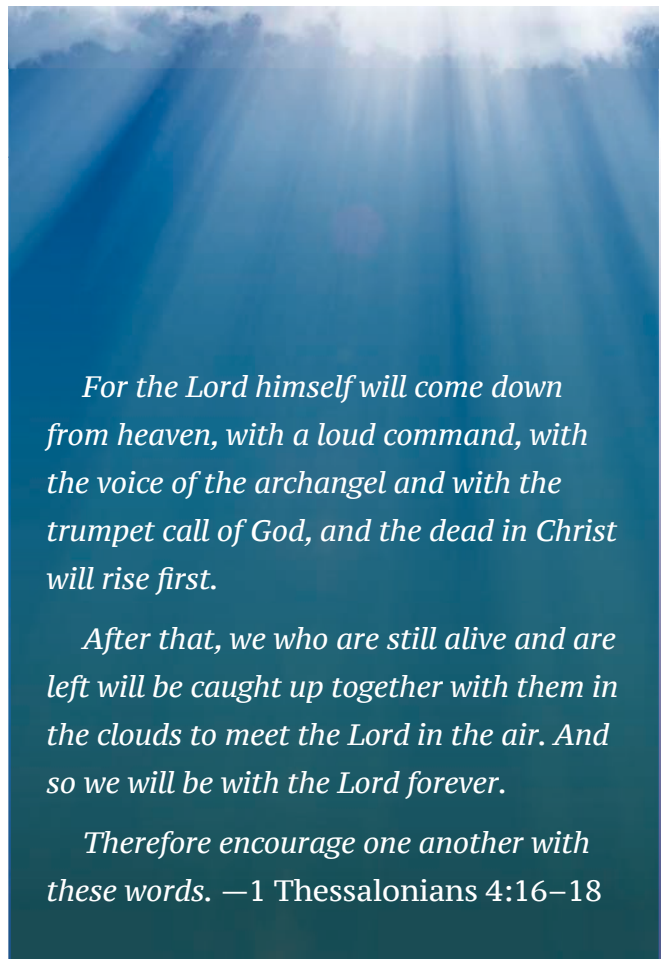
Funeral services were conducted by Philip C. Willis Jr., and interment was in Fern Oaks Cemetery, Griffith, Ind.

**STEELE, Robert**, age 86; born Oct. 5, 1929, in Boscobel, Wis.; died Sept. 29,

2015, in Naples, Fla. He was a member of the Prairie Duchein (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Nellie M. (Riley); son, Rodney; daughters, Shannon Steele and Sheryl Welch; brothers, Edward and Donald; sister, Janet Lund; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Samuel Garbi, and inurnment was in Cave Springs Cemetery, Mt. Zion, Wis.



*For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.*

*After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.*

*Therefore encourage one another with these words. —1 Thessalonians 4:16–18*

## Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Apr 1	Apr 8	Apr 15	Apr 22	Apr 29	May 6
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:10	8:18	8:26	8:34	8:41	8:49
Chicago, Ill.	7:16	7:23	7:31	7:39	7:46	7:54
Detroit, Mich.	7:58	8:06	8:14	8:21	8:29	8:37
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:08	8:15	8:22	8:29	8:36	8:43
La Crosse, Wis.	7:31	7:40	7:48	7:56	8:05	8:13
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	7:36	7:43	7:50	7:57

All classified ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$36 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$46 per insertion for all others. A form is available at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org> for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order or check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>.

## Employment

**IT IS WRITTEN** is seeking applications for a full-time Planned Giving Field Representative. The candidate must be a highly motivated individual, able to work from a home office, travel routinely to communicate with supporters, and represent the ministry at assigned events. NAD Trust Services Certification is preferred but not required to apply. If interested, please visit <http://www.adventistmedia.com> to download an application; email application and résumé to [mmendoza@adventistmediacenter.com](mailto:mmendoza@adventistmediacenter.com).

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks committed Adventist Social Work Program Director effective January 2017. Essential qualifications include an M.S.W. (relevant doctorate preferred), and two years' professional social work experience. Successful teaching also valued. Email letter of interest and CV to Denise White, Chair of Human Development, at [dewhite@ucollege.edu](mailto:dewhite@ucollege.edu).

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks Vice President for Student Services beginning in July 2016. The VPSS leads out in the vision, strategy and execution of the college's student services goals. Qualified SDA candidate will be student-centered and an experienced leader in higher education. See <https://www.ucollege.edu/staff-openings>. Send résumé to Vinita Sauder at [visauder@ucollege.edu](mailto:visauder@ucollege.edu).

**GRIGGS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY** seeks Director of K-8 Program. The person in this position will supervise teachers, coach parents, and support NAD elementary schools. Addressing K-8 curriculum will be a key element in this position. The qualifications needed for this position include elementary

teacher certification (denominational certification required/state certification preferred). The candidate should have a master's degree related to education. For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/948>.

**GRIGGS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY** seeks Director of Student Services. This position provides a variety of student services that will include supporting student's needs, communications, academic support and student retention. The candidate should have a related degree and experience in an educational environment. Education: master's degree preferred. For more information, visit <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/949>.

**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** seeks Doctor of Nursing Practice Director. This full-time faculty position will serve as Director of the DNP program, and provide the administrative/management and direction for the DNP program with focus in FNP and DNP preparation. They also would teach in the DNP program and in the undergraduate program if needed. For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/661>.

**BETTER LIFE BROADCASTING NETWORK** is accepting applications for Director of Operations. This full-time position will assist with day-to-day management responsibilities. For a full description, visit <http://betterlifetv.tv>. Send questions and résumés to: [resume2216@betterlifetv.tv](mailto:resume2216@betterlifetv.tv).

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks Development Officer/Grant Writer. Responsibilities include grant writing, donor relations, event coordination and data entry. Exceptional

written and verbal communication skills are essential. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree with strong consideration given to those with experiences in grant writing and donor relations. Submit cover letter and CV/ résumé to [sgrady@swau.edu](mailto:sgrady@swau.edu).

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks qualified and visionary professional to serve the Department of Music as Director of Keyboard & Theory Studies. Responsibilities include teaching keyboard, theory and church music classes. Ideal candidate will possess a doctoral degree, be an accomplished performer, and have professional experience as a church musician. Send CV and cover letter to Jonathan Wall at [jwall@swau.edu](mailto:jwall@swau.edu).

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks a Seventh-day Adventist Librarian for a Faculty position. The ideal candidate will have experience with college library/archives instruction and technology. ALA approved MLS or equivalent required, additional subject master's degree preferred. Position begins July 1, 2016. Send CV and cover letter to [thomsenc@swau.edu](mailto:thomsenc@swau.edu).

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks Professor in Counseling Education for graduate/undergraduate and provide supervision. Doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision from CACREP-accredited program or doctorate in clinical/counseling psychology from APA-accredited program and experience in counselor education prior to July 1, 2013. Licensed/eligible for licensure in Tennessee and two years' clinical mental health or PK-12 school counseling. Cover letter and CV (include teaching philosophy, research interest, unofficial university transcripts, and three reference letters) to Ileana Freeman: [ileanaf@southern.edu](mailto:ileanaf@southern.edu); 423-236-2960; <http://www.southern.edu/hr>.

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks Director of Physical Therapy Assistant Program. Will teach courses, set up new program, and seek program accreditation under Commissions on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Ed-

ucation (CAPTE). Graduate in physical therapy with Tennessee license/eligibility as a PT or PTA. Five years' clinical and teaching experience in APTE program. Send cover letter including teaching philosophy, research interest along with curriculum vita, and unofficial transcripts to Volker Henning, Associate VP Academic Administration, P.O. Box 370, C<sup>o</sup>llegedale, TN 37315; [henning@southern.edu](mailto:henning@southern.edu); 423-236-2912; <http://www.southern.edu/hr>.

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks Professor for School of Social Work to teach undergraduate/graduate courses focused on generalist and social work practice. Will participate in service to university and community. Must have classroom experience, doctorate degree in social work/related field, experience with e-learning, and commitment to integration of faith and social work practice. Cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy and three references to: Kristie Wilder, Dean for SOSW, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; [kwilder@southern.edu](mailto:kwilder@southern.edu); 423-236-2206; <http://www.southern.edu/hr>.

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks Vegetarian Culinary Arts Professor to teach vegetarian culinary arts classes, advise students, and participate in service to the university/community. Master's degree in culinary arts/nutrition or related field required, experience in culinary arts (restaurant, education, culinary business owner), and chef training/certification(s) desired. Cover letter, curriculum vitae, and statement of teaching philosophy and three references to: Robert Bengé, Dean for School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; [rcbenge@southern.edu](mailto:rcbenge@southern.edu); 423-236-2855; <http://www.southern.edu/hr>.

## Real Estate/Housing

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**HOUSE FOR SALE** 6 miles east of Andrews University. Totally remodeled inside and out. Sq. ft.: 1,770; 4 bedroom; 2 full baths; new furnace and A/C; 1.1 acres with new fruit trees and blueberry bushes; 28'x30' garage; huge new deck; new 4-seasons room. Asking \$168,900. For more information, call Jim at 269-445-7820, or visit <https://www.coldwellbanker.com>, MLS#15059416.

## For Sale

**PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER CLUB NAME CREST:** Order your Pathfinder and Adventurer club name crest at <http://www.pathfinderclubnames.com>. For more information, call 269-208-5853 or email us at [pathfinderclubnames@gmail.com](mailto:pathfinderclubnames@gmail.com).

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**MOVE WITH AN AWARD-WINNING AGENCY.** Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves for you. Call us for all your relocation needs. Contact Marcy Danté at 800-766-1902, or visit our website: <http://www.apexmoving.com/adventist>.

**RELOCATING FROM ONE STATE TO ANOTHER?** The move counselors at Stevens Van Lines Clergy Move Center can help! Through our national contract with the General Conference, we extend our moving services to all Adventist families. Quality is inherent. Call us direct for a no-cost/no-obligation estimate at 800-248-8313. Or learn more about us at <http://www.stevensworldwide.com/sda>.

**HTTP://ADVENTISTSINGLES.ORG:** Free 14-day trial! Join thousands of active Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, detailed profiles, match notifications! Two-way compatibility match, 10 photos, confidential online mail. Witnessing opportunities to the world through articles, friendships, chat, forums. Matching Adventists since 1993! Adventist owners. Thousands of successful matches! Top ranked.

## Travel/Vacation

**ADVENTIST HERITAGE TOUR** (Sept. 11-18, 2016): Explore scenic New En-

gland and enjoy a spiritually enriching experience learning about Adventist history. Tour guide is an Andrews University history professor, Brian Strayer. Round trip tour from Anderson, Ind. To learn more, call Jesse at 765-722-0644 or visit <http://www.AndersonSDAchurch.com/Tour>.

## Miscellaneous

**WANTED TO BUY AND FOR SALE** used SDA books new or old, Your Story Hour tapes and games. For more information, contact John at 269-781-6379 or [jfeschico@aol.com](mailto:jfeschico@aol.com).

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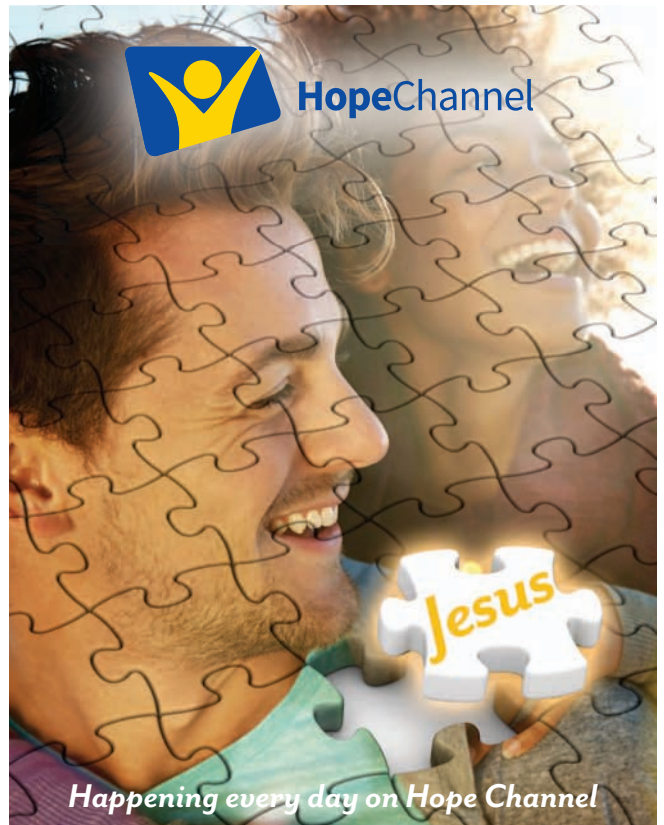
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online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit <https://www.southern.edu/graduatestudies>.

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**BLACK HILLS SCHOOL OF MASSAGE** will begin our next 600-hour, state-recognized program on May 16. Experience the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota while preparing for the MBLE national certification exam. For more information, visit our website, <http://www.bhhec.org/school-of-massage>, and our Facebook page, or call 605-255-4101.



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## PARTNERSHIP with GOD

### An Eternal Investment

BY GARY BURNS



It costs more to educate a child today than it did when I was in school. Mine may be the last generation able to work our way through school without student loans.

I don't have the answer, but I do know what can help. Make a decision to form a partnership with God to help educate this generation. Your partnership may come in the form of donating your time in volunteer work, making regular and systematic financial contributions, providing scholarships for a special career focus, or to create education opportunities where there are none.

Our church has a special children's offering every Sabbath for our local school. What form of giving brings more delight than placing your offering into a little outreached hand? The children's offering does help, but it really

represents our cast-off cash — a dollar here, a dollar there. Our few dollars hardly fulfill our obligation to Christian education. So, try this. Make a monthly financial commitment to Adventist education. Determine what portion of that commitment will be given in cash during the children's offering and what portion will be submitted along with your tithe. Stop at your financial institution and draw out the cash portion of your commitment in whatever denomination of bills you prefer (Fives are fun!).

Rather than giving by impulse or spare change availability, make a calculated, sacrificial commitment to Adventist education in partnership with God. You'll be making an eternal investment in some young person's life.

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

# Church Miraculously Remains Open

BY KIMBERLY DIETZ

“Father, we need a miracle, we ask that you do not allow the banners to be taken down from the pillars of the church!” my prayer partner’s voice came over the phone. “Amen!” I agreed.

It was less than a week after a church business meeting in which it was voted to close our church, technically still a “company”, where I held my membership. I had prayed long and hard about moving my membership to that particular church. Although there were at least five other SDA churches that were closer to home, I really felt the Lord wanted me to be there.

But now that it was slated to close, I couldn’t understand why. While it was true that we did have a high heat bill, God had always provided in the past. It was also evident in the providential way the church plant came about that God was with us. To me, the church seemed so very alive, there was much growth and good things were happening! Furthermore, the building was located in the heart of downtown, if the banners were taken down, it would not go unnoticed.

Thankfully, there were still others who shared a similar vision. After much prayer and heart-searching, God led us to one another and we began to unite our voices in fervent prayer and Bible study. Plans were already being made to begin the closing process, so we knew nothing short of a miracle would keep the church open.

Looking back over the past several months, I believe we witnessed not just one miracle, but a whole series of them! Once we began to unite our voices in prayer to keep the



Kimberly Dietz

church open, we started to see results. That very next Sabbath, there was a noticeable increase in visitor attendance. The pattern continued to subsequent Sabbaths. New people, both Adventists and non-Adventists, began to attend, many of them totally oblivious of the plans to close the doors.

Another miracle we witnessed was a new-found unity among the members who hoped to keep the church open. Differences between us became insignificant in comparison to the looming consequences of what would happen if the church ceased to exist. Souls were at stake, and we knew it.

There were many more miracles as a part of this story, but for the sake of space I will simply report that God answered our prayers! By His grace, we were allowed a re-vote and we are now once again able to focus on evangelism and church growth.

For those reading this, whatever impossibility you may be facing in your life or ministry, remember the promise in 2 Chronicles 7:14: *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.* What a privilege to serve such a loving and compassionate Savior who still hears and answers prayer!

Kimberly currently serves as a Literature Evangelist in Southwest Michigan. She is a member of the Kalamazoo Downtown Community SDA Company.

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Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

# Why Wait Till I Go Home?

BY JOSEPH REEVES

Along with 300 other young attendees, Lusanni Acosta gained new inspiration at the Lake Union Youth Evangelism Congress in Chicago this past February 12-14. Listening to the stories of presenters and the ideas of fellow attendees re-energized her to share Jesus in a fresh way. As a masters level civil engineering student at Western Michigan University, Lusanni had no lack of friends in need of Jesus back at her home in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



Lusanni Acosta

“But why wait till I go home?” she thought to herself. “There are people right here in this [hotel] who need Jesus.” With her hand on a GLOW tract, she prayed that God would lead her to somebody who needed to be encouraged that day.

Catching eye contact with a hotel worker who was cleaning up from lunch, she offered him a GLOW tract entitled, “Where is God When I’m Hurting?” The man lit up. “What religion is this?” he asked. “Christian.” The man immediately shared how Jesus turned his life around. Because of Jesus he quit his drinking and sexually promiscuous lifestyle. When he asked more about Lusanni’s church, she simply told him that her church was in Michigan.

Later that day, one of Lusanni’s new friends urged her to go back and tell the man that she was a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. After finding a GLOW tract in Spanish, she went back to the man with a tract in Spanish. “Seventh-day Adventist?” he asked in surprise. “I’ve heard about Seventh-day Adventist. I know they keep the Sabbath according to the Bible.” The Spanish tract she handed him explained the Bible Sabbath he had heard about. She walked away with more courage than ever to scatter seeds of truth and love when she returned home. *In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good* (Ecclesiastes 11:6).

Joseph Reeves is youth pastor of the Village church in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

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